



Reporting Period: 25 August 2020 – 22 September 2020

# Somalia

## COVID-19

### Situation Report No. 9

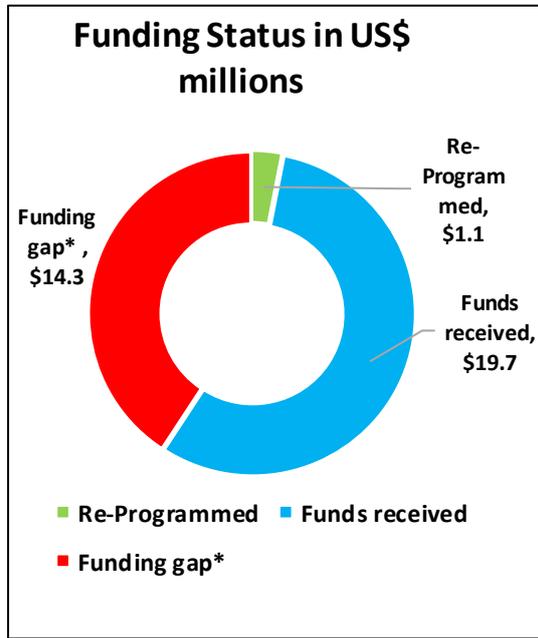
unicef   
for every child

### Situation in Numbers

**3,588** Confirmed cases in Somalia

**99** Deaths  
(Ministry of Health, 22 September 2020)

**US \$ 35 Million** needed to implement UNICEF's response



### Highlights

- As of September 22, 3,588 COVID-19 cases were reported in Somalia with an overall downward trend. The death rate remains below 3% with 99 fatalities and the recovered cases increased to 2,946. For the disaggregated data, women represent 27%, men 73%. Children account for less than 4.7% of the total confirmed COVID-19 cases.
- Over 20,156 tests were carried out to date, and the testing capacity has improved in terms of geographic coverage though remains weak with gaps in coverage.
- UNICEF has continued to ensure continuity of essential health and nutrition service provision amidst of the COVID 19 pandemic. During the reporting period, UNICEF through partners provided infant and young child feeding (IYCF) counselling to 13,257 mothers and caretakers and supported 53,738 children and women to access lifesaving health services.
- UNICEF has reached 813,692 people with essential WASH supplies across the country since the advent of the pandemic in Somalia. During this reporting period, 69,592 people were reached with WASH services, of which 1,240 were schoolgirls receiving Menstrual Hygiene Management kits in Bay, Bakool regions.
- 1,930 children and primary caregivers were provided with community-based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support.
- Radio spots continued to air throughout Somalia. The spots highlighted COVID-19 prevention measures, targeting an estimated 10 million.

### Funding Overview

UNICEF's COVID-19 appeal is US\$ 35 million with US\$ 19.6 million in funding received to date. UNICEF wishes to express its sincere gratitude to all donors for their contributions and pledges, which make the COVID-19 response possible. In addition to the resources mobilized, UNICEF has reprogrammed \$1.1 million from existing funds, addressing 3 % of the need; nevertheless, UNICEF Somalia faces a funding gap of \$14.3 million (41 per cent of the funding requirements).

## Situation Overview & Humanitarian Need

As of September 22, up to 3,588 COVID-19 cases were reported in Somalia as downward trends continue progressively. Following the steady improvement of the testing capacity that targeted 52 districts that were silent, the cumulative number of tests increased to 20,156 where more than 60% of the silent districts have started testing samples for COVID-19.

Currently, Somalia's COVID-19 prevention and response efforts are being challenged by the ongoing multiple humanitarian emergencies in the country. The triple threat from COVID-19-related humanitarian consequences, flooding and Desert Locust is aggravating Somalia's fragile humanitarian situation. The heavy flooding affected 1.3 million people, with more than 30 people killed, 650,000 displaced and contributed to increased acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)/cholera, while above average rains created a conducive environment for further locust breeding.

Thus, UNICEF continues implementing its COVID-19 response to support the efforts of the Government and other partners while many still strive to recover from past shocks that affected children and women's access to health care, water and sanitation.

Furthermore, to prevent additional disease outbreaks and improve child health, UNICEF conducted a previously postponed integrated measles / bOPV / Vit. A / Albendazole campaign, using modified protocols, in Banadir, one of the regions most affected by COVID-19, between 30<sup>th</sup> August and 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020.

## Coordination and Partnerships

UNICEF continues to contribute to the overall UN leadership in the COVID-19 response through existing platforms such as the UN Country Management Team, Humanitarian Country Team and Security Management Team. UNICEF is also using its cluster leadership role as a platform to enhance coordination in key intervention areas relevant to both COVID-19 preparedness and response. UNICEF is actively participating in the coordination meetings led by the Ministries of Health with support from WHO, such as the UN COVID-19 Taskforce, while co-leading the RCCE Taskforce.

## Summary Analysis of Programme Response

### Risk Communication and Community Engagement

During the reporting period, a total of 736,890 people were reached through house to house visits, health facility awareness sessions, community meetings, SMS messaging, mosque announcements, sound truck announcement and distribution of IEC. A total of 11,202 people (8,177 female) were directly engaged through community meetings and health facility awareness sessions which have supported the dissemination of the key messages in the community. Radio spots continued to be aired throughout Somalia and disseminated key COVID-19 messages targeting an estimated 10 million people.

### Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and WASH

During this reporting period, 69,592 people were reached with WASH services, of which 1,240 were schoolgirls receiving Menstrual Hygiene Management kits in Bay, Bakool regions.

As COVID-19 continues to be particularly challenging for IDPs, UNICEF supported two affected districts of Kaxda and Daynile in Banadir region with access to safe water through construction of water infrastructure and piping to 22 water points within the IDP settlements reaching 58,696 people and additional six shallow wells rehabilitated in Gedo region that reached 3,090 people. Five health facilities were provided with water through trucking and six schools connected to water through rehabilitation of shallow wells. In total, 63,552 people have access to safe water.

To improve sanitation in institutions and mitigate spread of COVID-19, eight health facilities and fourteen schools had their 34 latrines rehabilitated and provided with handwashing stations in Gedo, Lower and Middle Shabelle regions improving sanitation and hygiene services for 6,622 people.

In Addition, 50 healthcare workers were trained on Infection Prevention and Control in Dolow, Gedo region

## Provision of Healthcare and Nutrition Services

UNICEF and its implementing partners continued to ensure the provision of essential health services in supported areas: throughout the reporting period 1,055 health facility staff (621 F / 434 M), including cleaners and security personnel, were equipped with masks and gloves to ensure staff and patient safety and 456 frontline health workers (241 F / 215 M) with gowns and face shields to provide COVID-19 as well as essential health services.

Implementing partners also provided trainings on COVID-19 related issues and essential health service continuity to a further 517 frontline health workers (300 F / 217 M), and infection prevention control workers to an additional 616 health facility staff (343 F / 273 M). As a result, 43,138 children under-5-years benefitted from vaccination and 37,467 women from maternal services. UNICEF supported HFs and CHWs also treated 829 suspected COVID-19 patients (231 U5s / 292 F / 306 M) and followed-up 153 suspected patients with telephone calls and/ or home visits.

Emergency nutrition programme focused ensuring that the most fragile areas of Somalia are covered with programmes critical to accelerating the reduction and prevention of excess morbidity and mortality related to SAM. Over 160,000 children with SAM (45 percent of whom are boys) were admitted into the SAM treatment programme between January and mid-September, 5589 of whom were admitted in the first half of September. The highest admissions are registered in Afgoye, Baidoa and Beletweyne denoting the impact of the floods that have significantly affected riverine cropping areas of Middle Shabelle, Hiraan, Middle and Lower Juba.

Additionally, UNICEF continues to provide a range of nutrition preventive and promotive services, having reached 13,257 mothers and caretaker with individual infant and young child feeding counselling. Moving forward, the nutrition program will sustain the integrated response and adjust the response to reach children most in need in line with global standards.

## Access to Continuous Education and Child Protection Services

141,816 (59,387 girls) children (41% girls) have been reached with alternative learning through radio, TV and online learning platform. In Somaliland, with UNICEF support, Somaliland Ministry of Education rolled out grade 6 radio learning that has so far benefitted 25,204 (11,168 girls) children. In Somaliland 8 primary schools remain closed due to damages caused by heavy rains with storms affected Salahley districts. MoEs with the Education in Emergencies Working Group are currently undertaking a rapid assessment to establish the extent of damages

As Somalia starts to safely re-open schools, the limited resources to avail adequate handwashing facilities and face masks remains as a main challenge in most of the districts.

## Human Interest Stories and External Media

Distributed [COVID-19 prevention messages](#) and featured [UNICEF Somalia's response](#) through social media platforms ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#)). Social media activity also continued to showcase the crucial support of donors and partners

## Annex A

### Summary of Programme Results

Sector/COVID 19 Response Pillar	Overall needs	UNICEF and IPs		Cluster/AoR Response	
		2020 Target	Results achieved during the reporting period	2020 Target	Total Results
<b>Risk Communication and Community Engagement including social science</b>					
Number of people reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services		10 Million	10 Million		
<b>WASH</b>					
Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services		1.2 million	6,095 (2,974G   1,553B   833W   735M)		
Number of healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)		3,000	50		
<b>Health</b>					
Number of healthcare facilities staff and community health workers provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)		720	728 (415W   313M)		
Number of healthcare providers trained in detecting, referral and appropriate management of COVID-19 cases including among children, pregnant and breastfeeding women		600	248 (144W   104M)		
Number of children and women receiving essential healthcare services, including immunization, prenatal and postnatal care, HIV care and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) response care in UNICEF supported facilities.		750,000	53,738 (15,914G   12,846B   24,978 W)		
<b>Nutrition</b>					
Number of primary caregivers of children aged 0-23 months who received IYCF counselling through facilities and community platforms.		97,500	13,257		
<b>Education</b>					
Number of children supported with distance/home-based learning		150,000	141,816 (59,387G   83,429B   )		
Number of schools implementing safe school protocols (COVID-19 prevention and control)		250	-		
<b>Child Protection</b>					
Number of children, parents and primary caregivers provided with community based mental health and psychosocial support		100,000	1,930 (520G   546B   480W   384M)		
Number of UNICEF personnel and partners that have completed training on GBV risk mitigation and referrals for survivors, including for sexual exploitation and abuse		500	112 (62W/50M)		

## Annex B Funding Status

COVID-19 UNICEF Somalia Appeal Specific Requirements and Funding Levels					
Appeal Sector	Requirements*	Funds available**		Funding gap	
		Funds Received Current Year	Reprogrammed	US\$	%
Objective 1 - Limit Transmission (integrated health, WASH, C4D prevention)	11,994,472	9,267,161	806,001	1,921,310	16%
Objective 2 - Minimize Mortality and Morbidity (Health Response)	3,761,400	2,057,608	0	1,703,792	45%
Objective 3 - Prevent Secondary Impacts					
Health	10,444,128	4,268,347	0	6,175,781	59%
Nutrition	600,000	450,000	0	150,000	25%
Education	6,400,000	2,385,793	265,760	3,748,447	59%
Child Protection	1,800,000	1,221,418	0	578,582	32%
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,000,000</b>	<b>19,650,327</b>	<b>1,071,761</b>	<b>14,277,912</b>	<b>41%</b>

\* The Funding gap corresponds to the sectors where initial requirements for the Somalia UNICEF COVID-19 appeal remain un-covered. In other sectors initial requirements have seen a strong donor response beyond requirements, and as a result funds received plus funding gap exceeds the initial total requirements. UNICEF is reviewing the timeline of the appeal and the extent of needs and revised requirements to continue ensuring a response to COVID-19 primary and secondary impact needs.

Next SitRep: 22 October 2020

UNICEF Somalia Crisis: <https://www.unicef.org/somalia/>

UNICEF Somalia Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <http://www.unicef.org/appeals/somalia.html>

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