Highlights

- By the end of September, South Asia region has recorded 7,029,450 confirmed cases and 104,559 deaths. This represents a 235% increase compared to the previous reporting month. While the cases continue to decline in some countries such as Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, cases continue to rise in India, Maldives and Nepal. With over 6.2 million cases India reported a sharp increase of new infection (306%) compared to the previous reporting period
- As part of its infection prevention and control, UNICEF and partners reached 19 million people (82% of the target) with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services
- With the increasing rates of health workers getting infected, the PPEs are critical in protecting them to ensure continued services. An estimated 283,511 health workers (61% of target) have benefitted from the distribution of personal protective equipment (PPEs).
- While schools are re-opening in most countries in the region, UNICEF continue to support governments to provide a homebased and online learning. A total of 60 million children (63% target) have been reached with homebased learning.
- An estimated 150 million people (94% of the target) have been engaged through risk communication and community engagement using various platforms
- UNICEF has reached 26 million women and children with essential health care services including immunization, prenatal and postnatal care.
- Over 1 million children, parents and primary caregivers are provided with community-based mental health and psychosocial support services
- With increasing cases and needs, UNICEF is appealing for $283.8 million to reach 150 million people with risk communication, critical supplies, adequate health care, continuous education, child protection and social protection services to address other socio-economic impacts of the disease.

UNICEF’s Response Budget in South Asia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Funding status</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community engagement</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPC &amp; Critical Supplies</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essential Health Care services</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home based learning</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data and Research</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNICEF in South Asia
COVID-19
Situation Report No.16

Situation in Numbers

- 4,928,461 No. of new cases over the reporting period (SAARC DMC Sept 30, 2020)
- 7,029,450 Total cases of COVID-19 (SAARC DMC Sept 30, 2020)
- 1,000,000,000 # of targeted population to be reached with risk messages by UNICEF response (ROSA Response Plan 2020)
- 94,000,000 # of targeted children to be reached with home learning (UNICEF 2020)

UNICEF Appeal 2020
For South Asia
US$ 293.95 million

Funding Status (in US$)

- Funding gap, $122,522,681
- Funds received, $137,087,403
- Other resources, $24,553,786

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Funding Overview and Partnerships
As part of a Global COVID-19 Appeal, UNICEF South Asia appeal stands at US$ 293.95 million to support government efforts and interventions to prevent the spread of the virus and respond to those that have been affected through provision of critical supplies and ensuring continuous access to essential health services and responding to the social economic impacts of the disease. This appeal is in line with the escalating needs due to the spread of COVID-19 in South Asia. UNICEF South Asia has so far received $137 million from the Asia Development Bank, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, CERF, CIDA, DFAT, DFID, Facebook Foundation, Global Partnership for Education (GPE), Government of Denmark, Government of Finland, Government of Germany (KFW), Government of Japan, London Stock Exchange, World Bank, UN Solidarity Fund, Standard Chartered Bank, Government of Sweden (SIDA), Unilever and Government of USA (USAID). In this COVID-19 response, partnership with IFIs has substantially expanded, with all country offices in the region benefitting from the generous contribution of the Banks to support government responses.

In view of the worsening situation, additional funding is still urgently required to support government, communities and children to scale up intervention for preparedness and response to stop the spread of the virus and support government service delivery system and respond to social impacts of the pandemic which threaten to reverse development gains.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs
During the reporting month South Asia region recorded a total of 4,928,461 new cases bringing the cumulative total to 7,029, 450 confirmed cases and 104,559 deaths. This represents a 235% increase compared to previous reporting month. While the cases continue to decline in some countries such as Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, cases continue to rise in India, Maldives and Nepal. With over 6.2 million cases India reported a sharp increase of new infection (306%) compared to last month. Daily new infections have been averaging 90,000 cases for the past weeks1. India ranks as the second worst affected countries in the world behind the USA and cases are concentrated in ten states particularly in high density and low capacity locations. Over the past month Nepal has registered the second highest percent increase (300%) increase in new cases with a daily rates averaging 1000 new cases. There are concerns that the new surge in infection in Nepal could completely overwhelm the health system if active cases cross the 25,000 mark. Across the region testing capacity remains weak particularly in Afghanistan where less than 110,000 people (0.3% of the population) have been tested. Therefore the number of actual number of cases could be significantly under reported. With over 10% of the affected people being health workers in Afghanistan, health facilities continue to report challenges maintaining essential health services and treat patients with COVID-19.

The economic impacts of the pandemic continue to hit the poor families hard, jeopardizing livelihoods, protection, nutritional status and wellbeing of their children. According to the third-round economic survey conducted in Sri Lanka, more than 87% of the survey sample families reported that income stopped during lockdown and they are having trouble resuming to the same levels while 45% of the families reported reduction of income. Similarly, 12% of the total households reported losing their jobs and have not found an employment yet while 72% of respondents indicated that their household has either withdrew from savings, borrowed money or pawned/sold assets in June more than they usually would, to pay for their basic needs. In Nepal, the recent survey results estimate that three in ten households have lost some source of income due to COVID-19, more than half of which (54 per cent) are households with children. If left unresolved, the crisis could push an additional 2.5 million children and their families below the poverty line.

As the monsoon season approaches the end, over 20 million people (36% being children) were affected by floods across the region; over 12 million people in India, 5.4 million people in Bangladesh, 2.2 million in Pakistan and over half million people in Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan4.

2 https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports/
3 http://www.COVID-1919-sdmc.org/
Summary Analysis of Programme Response
The Regional Office and Country Offices response plans have been developed in alignment with the 2020 WHO Global Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan (SPRP), Humanitarian Response Plans (HRP) and the 2020 UNICEF COVID-19-2019 Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal. The key priority for the RO/CO response plans is on the immediate measures that must be undertaken to ensure preparedness and response actions to prevent and respond to the COVID-19 outbreak in each country focusing on the following areas; (1) risk communication and community engagement, (2) Improve Infection and Prevention Control (IPC) and provide critical medical and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) supplies, (3) Support the provision of continued access to essential health and nutrition services for women, children and vulnerable communities, including case management, (4) access to continuous education and child protection services, and promoting cash transfers to address the social impact of the epidemic.

ROSA IPC/WASH strategy focuses on accelerating the infection prevention and control programmes particularly in health care facilities (HFC) and schools for the safe return of students. In addition, the region has prioritised addressing critical issues relating to clinical waste in HCF through proper waste management practices. Recognizing the specific impact on women, adolescents and children, the strategy includes engagement with women leaders and organizations to reach communities, and integration of measures for Gender Based Violence (GBV) prevention and response across sectors. With more cases concentrated in urban centres, UNICEF is adapting its response approaches to focus on these densely populated areas with low capacity and providing cash transfers to address the social impact of the epidemic.

Afghanistan Country Office;
Risk Communication and Community Engagement

- A total of 4,189 community health workers have been oriented on COVID 19 through social mobilizers and health extenders and 169 community health supervisors to engage communities on COVID 19 prevention and treatment. Similarly, 507 members of different networks and platforms in the community oriented on COVID 19 to engage communities. These platforms include ICN, religious leaders, nutrition counselors, mobile health team, school management Shuras, child protection action network, community influencers. These members have reached to 19,993 (10,000 male and 9,993 female) individuals in the community as of now.
- Different messages were broadcasted through 182 radio and TV channels reaching to more than 6 million people in the country. In addition, community-based theater conducted in two schools and one public park at Paroon city of Nooristan province to students and youths with key CoVid 19 precautionary messages with focus on wearing Mask and following social physical distance and frequent handwashing as new procedure for school re-opening. A total of 2000 students and youths were reached.

Improve Infection and Prevention Control (IPC) and provide critical medical and WASH supplies

- WASH Covid-19 Response have reached over 714, 261 people as an effort to prevent transmission of virus through distribution of hygiene supplies (324,063 people), hygiene promotion (112,743) and WASH services in health care facilities and communities (277,455).

Access to continuous education, child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) services

- Schools have re-opened in Afghanistan since the 12th of September under the school safety guidelines. However, UNICEF is concerned that the proposed safety measures will have significant implications on the implementation of the planned reopening of 9,013 Community based education classes.
- A total of 9,863 people including (girls: 4,783, boys: 4,770) received psychosocial support structured and semi-structured activities including door to door and helpline PSS provision
- Child Protection community-based awareness raising on the protection of children and positive coping mechanisms in the COVID-19 situation was provided to 56,233 community members including 31,887 children (girls: 15,012, boys: 16,875).
- Child Protection response was provided to children and their families affected by the flood in Charkar city of Parwad province to 50 children. It includes provision of PSS to 50 children, 28 separated and unaccompanied girls and boys were provided with family tracing, reunification services and re-integration is going on; provision 10 of tents to the affected families; and 40 children benefited from the recreational kits and cloth.
- UNICEF provided and supported trainings on PSEA, gender and GBV risk mitigation mainstreaming reaching out to over 265 beneficiaries including nutrition cluster members, front line workers, and community leaders

Social Protection/Humanitarian Cash Transfers
• Registration and cash distribution to 1600 Households in Herat province is completed. An additional 400 households (targeting people with disabilities) are currently being registered and will receive a one-off cash transfer in the next two weeks.

Bangladesh Country Office;

Risk Communication and Community Engagement

• RCCE pillar members are continuing their focus on prevention messaging as the COVID-19 situation has not improved, and many people are reluctant to take up prevention measures, especially wearing masks. Community-level engagement, including interpersonal communication by frontline workers, religious leaders and community volunteers, is on-going. In the Dhaka North City Corporation, the Community Support Team is on-going with FAO, BRAC, a2i, WHO and UN Women and RCCE-related technical support from UNICEF to slow community transmission. Print materials are being distributed to promote preventive messages along with combating stigma and discrimination, reaching over one million people so far.

• With the opening of the UNICEF-supported severe acute respiratory infection isolation and treatment centre (SARI ITC) on 31 August, a key priority has been to inform the neighbouring community about the services available and safety measures in place. An estimated 200,000 people have been engaged by local influencers (25 religious leaders and 20 business owners) backed by support from the local government officials as well as regular loudspeaker messaging and community consultations. As a result of the campaign, partners report an increased sense of acceptance and ownership of the SARI ITC, and a reduction in rumours and misinformation.

• COVID-19 RCCE activities reached 284,208 people (110,500 females, 20,076 in host communities) through interpersonal communication and 7,063 adolescents (4,051 girls) through 977 adolescent radio listeners clubs. Van-based messaging and TV announcements also continued. Radio programming covered various COVID-19-related issues including hygiene promotion, gender-based violence (GBV) awareness, maternal nutrition and breastfeeding. Meanwhile, 1,382 people visited the 14 information and feedback centres in the camps and 4 in the host community, registering complaints, comments, and queries.

Improve Infection and Prevention Control (IPC) and provide critical medical and WASH supplies

• UNICEF continue to support the government with procurement of medical equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) to fill the gaps. So far, supplies worth US$ 12 million have been provided to strengthen the National COVID-19 Response Plan. Recently arrived PPE includes 20,000 aprons; 33,000 gowns; 60,900 surgical caps; 1,344,600 medical masks; 62,940 N95 masks; 617,100 pairs of gloves; 5,500 face shields and 11,714 pairs of goggles along with medical equipment including 2,050 oxygen concentrators; 2,050 flow splitters and 25,500 nasal prongs.

• With over 2.2 million people living in the over 13,000 urban slums in Bangladesh, UNICEF is strengthening WASH COVID-19 interventions targeting the urban poor. Since August, more than 55,000 members of the urban poor have benefited from the construction of handwashing facilities including accessible facilities for people with disabilities; the formation of adolescent groups to advocate on handwashing practices; and improved menstrual hygiene management (MHM) services including the construction of MHM Corners at community health care facilities, MHM material disposal facilities and MHM education.

• Since the opening of the 200-bed UNICEF-supported SARI ITC 125 patients have been treated, and 106 samples were tested, among which 5 tested positive for COVID-19, 72 were negative and 29 reports are pending.

• COVID-19 mitigation measures have increased the demand for water in the camps. This is a particular challenge in water-scarce areas of Teknaf Upazilla. UNICEF supplied 15,000 additional litres of water a day for 22,883 Rohingya refugees in Camp 22 and adjacent host communities by increasing the amount of water pumped from the surface water treatment plant. To ensure continued access to functional latrines, 330 frontline workers desludged 6,660 latrines in the reporting period, 45 per cent of the total latrines in the UNICEF-supported camps and an increase from the 33 per cent reported in August.

Support the provision of continued access to essential health and nutrition services for women and children

• With the introduction of new guidelines on IPC at health facilities and the national training module on IPC for Health Care Providers maternal, neonatal and child health service coverage has started to slowly improve, with a complex interplay between supply and demand of services needing to be addressed. For example, 264,098 consultations were provided for children under 5 in July. This is up from 185,124 consultations in May, but still still below the three-year average of 656,706.

• Immunization coverage has improved further with 5,053,182 children vaccinated in August 2020, 130 per cent higher than in April 2020, the most affected month due to COVID-19. BCG vaccination coverage was 110 per cent of the monthly target and pentavalent 3 coverage was 122 per cent, with 71,138 children catching up on their pentavalent
3 who missed their dose in April and May. Almost all of the 129,409 planned immunization sessions (99.5 per cent) were held in August, which 38 per cent higher than May, the most affected month

- Nutrition service delivery continued to increase in August and September. In April, only 31 per cent of facilities were screening for malnutrition; this has now increased to 54 per cent. Admissions for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) have increased for the past four months after a low of 50 admissions in April. The admission rate (children identified with SAM during screening and admitted) was 78 per cent compared to 6 per cent in April and 34 per cent in January. For more details, please visit the National Nutrition Services Website, which has real-time data visualization of priority nutrition indicators.

Access to continuous education, social protection, child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) services

- The Ministry of Primary and Mass Education has issued School Reopening Guidelines for primary education institutions. The guidelines are aligned with the Global Framework for Reopening Schools by UNICEF and partners and encourage schools to develop localized plans to ensure safe operations. Challenges remain on ensuring proper implementation of the reopening guidelines across the system including appropriate WASH facilities, hygiene practices, teachers’ capacity to address children’s psychosocial and wellbeing needs and teaching at the right level while addressing learning loss. UNICEF is gearing up for the safe reopening of its 2,500 learning centres (LCs) in the camps, considering a potential reopening in October 2020. The LCs have been closed since March of 2020 as a part of government measures to contain the spread of COVID-19

- UNICEF is supporting the National Academy of Primary Education to continue online teachers’ education. The academy is also planning for the professional capacity building of teacher educators in the use of education technology (EdTech) and IT-pedagogy integration. Prior to the design of the EdTech training, a survey was conducted to understand the EdTech use capacity, access, perception, behaviour, confidence and IT device ownership among teacher educators. The analysis of the survey results is in progress and will inform EdTech support for remote learning continuity among teacher trainers and trainee teachers.

- Due to continued GBV risks faced by women and children, UNICEF is supporting a multi-sectoral GBV prevention and response in communities affected by COVID-19. Sixteen centres were established in urban slum areas in June 2020 to act as Safe Places for women and children during the COVID-19 pandemic. So far, 1,200 parents have been provided with parenting tips and 1,382 children including adolescent girls and boys have accessed Safe Place services including 400 adolescents who attended ability-based training, 196 children with disabilities who received psychosocial support and mobility services and 36 adolescent boys and girls provided with vocational training. Twenty-four staff (18 female) working with women and adolescents were trained on GBV prevention and case management.

- Seven out of 18 safe spaces for women and girls have resumed since mid-August, reaching 121 individuals (49 women and 72 girls) with lifesaving GBV prevention and response services, including skills training. Imparting skills to survivors of GBV provides autonomy and a sense of purpose; strengthening the resilience of women and girls in dealing with issues affecting them. Volunteers, community groups and Majhis have reported an increase in early marriage and domestic violence, especially intimate partner violence, since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bhutan Country Office;
Risk Communication and Community Engagement

- To date, over 756,970 people have been reached with lifesaving messages on COVID-19 prevention and access to services through digital media (268,970) such as Facebook and UNICEF website and through community engagement (488,000). About 18,000 influential persons and volunteers were mobilized for community engagement at various levels.

- Following Bhutan’s first lockdown on 11 August, UNICEF Bhutan launched #viewfrommywindow campaign with the aim to encourage them to be Stay Home heroes. 229 young people and children participated in the campaign that ended on 6 September.

- In total 57 ECCD facilitator stories from all 20 districts shared on UNICEF Bhutan social media pages, enabling facilitators to showcase the good work and innovations in ECCD during COVID-19 and providing best practices for other colleagues in the field.

- Since the campaign #COVID19STORIES was launched on April 9, the CO has posted more than 370 (325 in August) stories from children as young as six years old, young people and adults. The campaign has received more than 450 (400 in August) stories and videos from young people from across the country and abroad out of which about 220 stories were received from children (18 and below). The campaign provides an opportunity for children and young people to advocate for and share prevention messages on COVID-19.
**Improve Infection and Prevention Control (IPC) and provide critical medical and WASH supplies**

- With support from ADB grant, 2500 additional boxes of surgical masks were procured (in addition to 15,000 procured in August). The total of 17,500 boxes of surgical masks are expected to be delivered by end September 2020.
- Procurement of 2,000 soap bars initiated on request from MoH for distribution to pandemic frontline workers working at containment centres in southern border areas.
- 480 pedal operated waste bins colour-coded for different types of waste were distributed to 22 hospitals benefiting about 3,400 outpatients/inpatients which is expected to help prevent and control infections within the healthcare settings.

**Access to continuous education, social protection, child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) services**

- Following easing of lockdown, from 14th September Classes IX to XII are reopened. Some sections of colleges are also returning to the campus. Even during lockdown, ECCD facilitators continued to provide remote support to parents and children. Now with lockdown lifted, they can resume home visits. The video lessons are now uploaded in Sherig YouTube channel for children with internet connection to access.
- 758 (684 in August) children (294 girls) and 358 (133 female) adults have been referred to counsellors in their respective districts and provided with counselling services through the Sherig Counselling online platform set up to provide counselling and psychosocial support in response to COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, since the reopening of schools for Class X and XII students from July 1st, 5336 children (2578 girls) have been reached through counselling classes.
- To ensure continuity of services, 35 children with disabilities (15 girls) were supported with individual intervention packages to be used by parents and caregivers with support from social workers. These children were earlier receiving interventions from the Ability Bhutan Society Centre which closed after the outbreak of COVID-19.
- A mapping of GBV and child protection services in 10 dzongkhags and 4 thromdes has been carried out to help front liners and others in providing efficient referrals and services to GBV survivors.

**India Country Office;**

**Risk Communication and Community Engagement**

- Social media reach was 179 million over the reporting month. Total campaign reach is 1.5 billion with 30 million engagements and more than 462 million video views.
- UNICEF enabled central and state governments to scale up RCCE interventions in 15 states. Here are notable field examples:
  - Andhra Pradesh launched a state-wide campaign on 100% use of mask with budget leveraging of USD 400,000 from the government for campaign implementation.
  - “Sahyog Se Suraksha” campaign reached all 52 districts in Madhya Pradesh.
  - An innovative RCCE “community engagement” partnership with civil society organisations reached close to half a million people on accessing life-saving information in 61 districts of 16 states, while 3 national NGOs (AIH, VHAI and SEWA) engaged with 586 CBOs and 66 CSOs to improve routine immunization and essential health services in 59 districts across 14 states.
  - UNICEF’s collaboration with 124 Community Radio Stations reached 2.7 million people in 20 states on key prevention behaviours.
- Over 40 million people were reached with COVID-19 messages on prevention and access to services, while over 18 million people were engaged through digital and non-digital platforms. Feedback mechanisms for two-way communication have enabled almost 2.3 million to share their concerns through a variety of digital platforms.
- In Chhattisgarh, WASH Alliance has created partnership with 100 CSOs to implement social media campaigns amplifying the dissemination of messages, sharing of events, success stories and IEC materials. In partnership with Bihar Disaster Management Authority and Education Department of Government of Bihar UNICEF reached 30 million children through ‘Safe Saturday’ session through television (Doordarshan-Bihar).

**Improve Infection and Prevention Control (IPC) and provide critical medical and WASH supplies**

- UNICEF procured a total of 3,015 Oxygen Concentrators through Supply Division, which have now been handed over to the MoHFW. These concentrators will be distributed to 19 States and Union Territories of India.
- Over 400,000 field level workers have been trained in WASH service continuity and IPC related to COVID-19, covering members of CSOs in Bihar, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal; urban sanitation workers in Maharashtra and Bihar; Swachhagrahis in Assam, Chhattisgarh, and Rajasthan, PRI representatives of multiple states and frontline...
workers in Bihar, Jharkhand, Karnataka, and Rajasthan. Government officials like PHED and health department staff, village quarantine center caretakers, Panchayat secretaries and teachers have been trained in other states. West Bengal supported in virtual training of 153 functionaries of nutrition rehabilitation centers (NRCs) on IPC. 13,500 healthcare facility staff and community health workers in Bihar and 250 in MP were trained on IPC.

- UNICEF supported state governments, development partners, and civil society organizations to reach out to 3,124,464 vulnerable people in rural and urban areas across 15 states.

Support the provision of continued access to essential health and nutrition services for women and children

- UNICEF in Maharashtra has supported community engagement activities in G North and M East wards of Mumbai in partnership with Doctors for You; the operationalization of fever OPDs reaching 20,203 people in 20 health posts; ensured implementation of infection prevention and control, bio-medical waste management and WASH in 13 Hospitals and 8 dispensaries in the city of Pune; supported operationalization of Dalvi Hospital as dedicated COVID Hospital with 164 beds and Central oxygen support with 10 beds having ventilators; further, established Isolation wards (10 beds each) in three Dedicated COVID-19 hospital/Health Centers.

- UNICEF also supported Capacity building of health personnel in various states. For example, in Gujarat, skill based training for COVID-19 care for Doctors; in Uttar Pradesh checklist on home isolation guidelines was developed and trained 530 SMNet personnel on its implementation which led to monitoring of 34,398 COVID-19 positive cases in “Home Isolation” from 75 districts; In Rajasthan, UNICEF contributed to build capacity of staff of 100 COVID Care Centres, DCHC and DCH. In Bihar, Doctors from eight divisions and more than 2500 staff were trained on Psycho Social Care and Stigma & Discrimination.

- SMNet line-listed more than 200,000 pregnant women with expected date of delivery nearing one month and 400,000 under two years children in seven flood-affected districts in Bihar, shared with National and State Disaster Relief Force, to enable evacuation to safe location for institutional delivery. In West Bengal, the pilot of “Telephone Outreach to Pregnant & Postpartum Women” was scaled up in High Priority Districts by leveraging Government workforce. In Uttar Pradesh, SMNet carried out telephonic monitoring of 6,943 of SNCU discharged newborns as community follow up; also 2,291 telephonic calls were made to monitor coverage and quality of HBNC visits.

Access to continuous education, social protection, child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) services

- UNICEF India continues to provide technical support to state government and partners in continuity of learning at home reaching to around 41.3 million children (51% girls) out of the targeted 60 million children in 17 states. Apart from providing technical support in development of digital content for broadcasting educational lessons through TV, radio and other digital mediums, multiple pathways and outreach strategies are being developed towards access and use of e-learning materials to support continuity of learning of students with the support of parents, academic coordinators, volunteers and partners.

- UNICEF in coordination with other ministries, state departments of education are accelerating efforts to support continuity of learning specially in reaching children from marginalized and disadvantaged communities and in reaching the un-reached. For Eg: In Bihar with the continued technical support from UNICEF, Bihar Madrassa Education Board is reaching to around 1.5 million children from minorities communities and around 10,000 teachers are given online training in the totally revamped modern and mainstream syllabus.

- UNICEF continued to support virtual training on Safe School Protocols reaching over 1,50,000 teachers, government officials, NSS volunteers in multiple states (Bihar, UP, Gujrat, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand). Disinfection and construction of WASH facilities conducted in over 10,000 schools and 50 AWCS in Bihar, Gujrat and UP. Advocacy for fund leveraging and WASH school readiness protocols were developed in Jharkhand, MP and Chhattisgarh. Virtual trainings on MHM continued in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

- Several States have reported concerns about spike in cases of trafficking and child labour. In Jharkhand, 7 cases of trafficking reported and prevented and 35 cases of child labour reported and 27 rescued. Activation of block and village level child protection committees to increase vigilance for prevention of child marriage, child labour and child trafficking is being supported. In Bihar for example, a State Task Force (STF) with 18-line Departments has been activated to prevent trafficking and child labour pan-state.

- UNICEF in partnership with Government provided alternate care arrangements to 596 children across 8 states. In Jharkhand 273 children from Child Care Institutions (CCIs) have been sent back to their families and their following is being ensure through the systems in place.

- As part of UNICEF’s broader year-long commitment to the Generation Equality Campaign and raising awareness about adolescent girls as changemakers, a 5 episode mini-series (20 minute each featuring 4 girls in each
episode) - Life under COVID-19 – is being developed https://youtu.be/lTwthTX5eWQ. It highlights how young girls are being impacted and adapting to the changes caused by Covid-19, such as being out of school and trying to continue learning, dealing with caretaking responsibilities, child marriage, and possible violence and abuse, both online and offline.

- To ensure continued learning, YuWaah and UNICEF, in collaboration with partners, organized online sessions on career guidance and psychosocial support, which have reached over 942,000 young people, across the country.

Maldives Country Office;
Risk Communication and Community Engagement

- During the reporting period Maldives saw a constantly high (relatively) daily infection rates which have also been quoted as the highest per capita infection rates in the world. Based on this data as well as daily social listening done by HEOC with the support of UNICEF, public engagement to ensure continued upkeep of key life-saving behaviours via messages on social media, bi weekly press events and HEOC officials attending radio/TV shows as well as movement restrictions on the streets of the capital Male’ were quickly done. As a result, as of 27 September, daily infection rates have gone done significantly. Furthermore, 145,804 people were able to seek assistance from the government through the emergency hotline 1676 and email address

Improve Infection and Prevention Control (IPC) and provide critical medical and WASH supplies

- UNICEF donated and distributed PPE items (gowns, masks, shields) to the sub-national level, to all 20 Atoll and Regional (district) Hospitals, as well as one island community that has increased COVID-19 community transmission. These essential items are critical to protect the frontline workers and control the spread of infection. The current distribution is being used by over 4,000 frontline and health staff working across the country, including the COVID-19 designated facilities.

- UNICEF has procured additional surface disinfectants worth USD 30,000 for schools in preparation for reopening of schools in the Greater Male’ for secondary grades in October so that schools can implement the IPC protocols continuously.

Support the provision of continued access to essential health and nutrition services for women and children

- With the aim of ensuring continuation of essential child health services, UNICEF supported the placement of a public health officer in the urban health facility where 30% of children seek immunization services and growth monitoring promotion. In the first three weeks of September, 198 boys and 210 girls under two years received 1,172 doses of EPI vaccines, delivered with adequate COVID-19 safety measures.

- With the human resource support provided by UNICEF, data on growth monitoring and infant young child counselling is now being received from health facilities in islands with no community transmission. The islands where community transmission is ongoing, such as the capital Male’, services with safe measures in place, are being provided. In the capital Male’, in the given period, 221 girls and 171 boys (392 children) received growth monitoring and messages on appropriate feeding.

- UNICEF, with the government has produced a number of resources on safe breastfeeding during COVID-19, and dissemination to 190 health facilities is ongoing. Social media messages on nutrition continue to reinforce key messages and promote breastfeeding during COVID-19. For instance, the “breastfeeding during COVID-19” post shared on Facebook on 7 September, reached a total of 46,907 people and 454 engagements were recorded for the “breastfeeding during COVID” post shared on Facebook in September.

Access to continuous education, social protection, child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) services

- UNICEF continue to support the Ministry of Education with the “Back to School Campaign – “Ufalun Schoolah” which aims to build trust, awareness, and share information on the safe return to schools following months of school closures. UNICEF is providing additional support to MoE to step up the back to school campaign as the ministry prepares to reopen schools in Male for secondary grades on 4th October. This includes developing 16 videos on individual arrangements in the 16 schools in the greater Male’ region for Infection Prevention and Control and one video on learning arrangements in all the schools when schools reopen.

- To date, UNICEF has supported certification of a total 3,708 (2,513 female and 1,195 male) teachers in Google G-Suite to enable them to teach online, surpassing the target of 2,000 by end of August 2020. Further, a total of 30 instructors have been certified at trainer level. To date, a total of 50 percent of the atolls have certified G-Suite trainers.

- UNICEF has supported the provision of psychosocial support for children with disabilities and their parents through a partnership with Care Society. This intervention thus far has reached a total of 95 children with disabilities, registered at the Care Society and 80 parents of children with disabilities out of a target of 100.
• UNICEF continued its technical support to Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services (MoGFSS) to strengthen the capacity of social workers and to build the in-house capacity for case supervision. A total of 280 hours of supervision support have been provided thus far. A total of 120 high-school students were reached with MHPSS sessions; especially looking at how to deal with stress related to studies and exams.

• UNICEF supported the partnership between MoE and Maldavian Red Crescent (MRC) to orient teachers on PSFA and a total of 6,332 teachers (5,249 local teachers and 1,083 foreign teachers) were trained. Furthermore, an extended training on psychological first aid was conducted for staff from all schools that do not have a trained counselor. The training program focuses on children’s reactions to stress and how to communicate with children and their parents.

Nepal Country Office;
Risk Communication and Community Engagement

• Child and family tracker representative survey conducted in August 2020 indicated that just 21 per cent of survey households are practicing 2 meters distancing all the time and 32 percent most of the time. Similarly, 67 per cent people wearing mask most of the time and all the time. There is a need for translating the high level of knowledge on health safety measures especially distancing and mask use at market and public places into universal, everyday practice. With the opening of shops, offices, transportation sectors and with upcoming festivals, strong need for reinforcing the effective health safety measures at all level.

• The influx of returnees to big cities for work has increased the fear and stigma among residents and returnees. Long queue for COVID-19 test among returnees without proper distancing observed and discussed widely in media requires proper actions from the government.

• With the rapid increase in the number of positive cases among health workers, there are incidents of the vandalism of health facilities and protests from the communities against allowing health workers to reside nearby in different parts of the country. Stigma and discrimination against health workers who are involved in the treatment and care of the COVID-19 patients or are tested positive continue. UNICEF in collaboration with Ministry of Health and Population, Nepal Scouts, Higher Institutions and Secondary School Association (HISSAN) engaged around 100 Nepal Scouts volunteers and Public Health Students reaching more than 100,000 people in Kathmandu Valley with COVID-19 preventive messages through megaphone announcements and face to face dialogue. Similarly, 8,147 Nepal Red Cross Society Volunteers engaged to reach out more than 50,000 people with the COVID-19 preventive, mental health and stigma and discrimination messages.

• During the reporting period, UNICEF reached more than 15 million people (42 per cent female) with key messages on: 1) maintaining at least 2 meters distance with each other, 2) proper use of masks 3), sanitising, 4) stigma and discrimination against health workers and COVID-19 positive people. These messages were disseminated through radio, television, megaphone announcement and social media platforms.

Improve Infection and Prevention Control (IPC) and provide critical medical and WASH supplies

• With a significant increase in COVID-19 positive cases within the Kathmandu valley and high-density urban areas across all Provinces, demand for WASH services in isolation centers as well in healthcare centers is growing. Over 50% of the COVID-19 positive people are in home isolation and there is no or weak monitoring system for tracking isolation practices at home and community level. Therefore, community level WASH/IPC packages and counselling are needed which will require a big undertaking under the leadership of local governments.

• UNICEF continued providing key medical supplies and equipment including 85,000 protective coveralls; 2,000 protective goggles; 1,095 IR thermometers; 842 blankets; 2,394 bed nets; and 7 medical tents to support designated COVID-19 facilities. To ensure provision of essential health service (EHS), UNICEF further equipped 11,590 health workers with critical personal protective supplies such as 347,700 surgical masks, 277,010 surgical gloves; and 34,406 bottles of hand sanitizer. In addition, UNICEF provided 4,801 sets of health kits to support home isolation in high density urban municipalities including the Kathmandu Valley. UNICEF also prepositioned 20,000 health kits for emergency response and provided 50 sets of Newborn Incentive Kits to Simikot Rural Municipality/Humla.

• UNICEF supported the National Health Training Centre (NHTC) to run a mobile-based COVID-19 training for community health workers. A total of 4,015 Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs) completed the mobile-based interactive voice recording (IVR) training on COVID-19.. In addition, 55 health workers were trained on case investigation and contact tracing (CICT) and 240 frontline health workers working in isolation centers were trained on mental health.

• UNICEF reached almost 3,150,000 people through hygiene behavior change messages. In addition, 127,553 people (i.e., 67,603 males and 59,950 females including 12,755 youth below the age of 18 and 114,798 adults) in
communities, institutions such as health care facilities, quarantine centers, isolation centers and points of entry/holding centers reached directly with at least one or more WASH services including supplies.

Support the provision of continued access to essential health and nutrition services for women and children

- A total of 172 paramedics, 166 nursing staff and 18 others completed RMNCH training. The basic and essential services including immunization are functioning continuously throughout the country. As of 28 September, a total of 151,365 women and children utilised EHS, including 24,198 women with ante-natal care (ANC) services; 13,927 women delivered in health facilities; and 113,240 children were immunized (49 per cent boys and 51 per cent girls).
- To date, a total of 391 health facilities across all provinces (183 in Province 2; 14 in Bagmati; 41 in Gandaki; 71 in Province 5; and 82 in both Karnali and Sudurpaschim provinces) were assessed for their EHS functionality.
- In partnership with CWIN, UNICEF has been supporting the organization of on-line mental health wellbeing sessions targeting children and adolescents. As of 28 September, 90 mental health workers have been trained and conducted 1076 sessions, reaching a total of 22,023 people (6,301 girls, 6,113 boys and 9,609 parents/caregivers) and 220 people received tele-psychiatric consultation. In addition, UNICEF collaborated with Kanti Children’s Hospital to conduct mental health wellbeing counselling sessions in Province 2. A total of 240 frontline health workers (107 male and 133 female) assigned in the isolation/quarantine centres were counselled.
- 620 outpatient therapeutic centres (OTCs) and 18 nutrition rehabilitation homes (NRH) are functional and from these centres 4,655 children with severe acute malnutrition were treated using Ready to Use therapeutic food. 1,605 cases were admitted to the outpatient treatment programmes in the last two weeks. A total of 775,995 pregnant and lactating women received counselling through telephone (33,902 in the last week)
- A total of 141,347 children 6-23 months in the most flood prone areas and food insecure areas of Karnali Province and Province 2 received Supercereal (15,837 in the last week). Similarly, 84,839 pregnant and lactating women in five districts of Karnali province and four districts of Province 2 received Supercereal for the prevention of malnutrition (12,485 in the past two weeks).

Access to continuous education, social protection, child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) services

- UNICEF distributed self-learning packs to 14,057 pre-school and primary level children (51 per cent girls) out of the total of 34,000 targeted from the schools which were used as quarantine centres to ensure the learning continuity of children during the school closure. UNICEF supported the radio schooling for grades 4-10 reaching 58,000 children (49 percent girls).
- 380 teachers and education actors (324 males, 56 females) from 108 schools have been trained on COVID-19 related safety measures for school reopening, alternative ways of teaching-learning and psychosocial support. Out of about 5,000 schools used as quarantine centres, 62 schools have been disinfected to prepare for reopening ensuring the safety protocols.
- Parenting education program is ongoing national-wide in Nepali, Bhojpuri and Maithili languages through 87 radio channels and digital media reaching 2.8 million. To promote listenership, 1,436 listener groups have been formed with 11,483 members. The program provides information on parenting education and tips on ensuring early learning of children.
- A total of 2,070 people (1,103 males, 945 females, and 22 third gender) were reached with psychosocial counselling service through existing helplines, online platforms and one to one counselling. Concerns over health and increasing feelings of fear, anxiety and stress from various causes, including exposure to discrimination and violence are the reasons the support were sought. Parents have continued to share that due to the closure of schools, children are spending most of their time on electronic gadgets and interacting less with family members and showing aggressive behaviors. Out of 2,070 people who were provided with counselling service, 84 people with suicidal thoughts and 110 people experiencing gender-based violence were supported and regularly followed up.
- Likewise, a total of 7,145 people (5,966 males and 1,179 females) from 204 quarantine centers and isolation facilities and an additional 7,772 people (3,662 males and 4110 females) in communities including parents and adolescents were reached with awareness raising interventions on stress management and psychological first aid.

Data Collection and Social Science Research

- According to the recent survey data, the income distribution among households with children continues to shift downward significantly. In August, the percentage of households without any earning increased by almost 11 per cent since July. Children mostly in households belonging to the bottom two quintiles are experiencing negative changes in their diets. In terms of behavior pertaining to COVID-19, 55 per cent of households wash their hands all the time and handwashing practices vary by province, income level and education status. Only 40 per cent of
respondents wore their masks all the time and 53 per cent follow social distancing all the time. Yet, less than 50 per cent feel that they are at risk.

Social Protection/Humanitarian Cash Transfers

- An innovative cash transfer is being rolled out by UNICEF through mobile wallets, benefitting some 10,000 children. Besides providing relief to some of the most vulnerable families and children, this intervention provides new horizons for adaptation and improvement of social protection systems in Nepal.
- Similarly, UNICEF is coordinating and advocating for providing multi-purpose cash as a social protection response to the most vulnerable populations affected by the COVID-19 lockdown and loss of employment and income. UNICEF presented on “Case for Cash Transfer” at the Early Recovery Cluster meeting, highlighting the need for communities to access cash to meet food and non-food needs.

Pakistan Country Office;
Risk Communication and Community Engagement

- Results from the weekly social media sentiment data, records from the polio helpline (1166) and other surveys indicate that parents are concerned about school preparedness to ensure adequate COVID-19 screening and safety measures for teachers and staff as well as a lack of a “Plan B” if COVID-19 cases in schools are identified; Across all income settings, parental support for sending older children back to school increases because parents believe that their older children will be more likely to adhere to preventive measures in schools; The perceived threat from COVID-19 has decreased substantially resulting in complacency about COVID-19 risks. Such perceptions are caused by a host of factors such as: the easing of lockdown restrictions by the government; the reported decline in the daily number of recorded cases as well as deaths; community belief that the virus is either not real or not as dangerous as publicly communicated and the belief that religion or home remedies will protect people from COVID-19, even after infection. Similarly, survey results indicate that over 60 per cent of the respondents did not adopt preventive practices since these measures put their job, relationship or other important things at risk; 16 per cent of the respondents admitted to sending their children to work due to the loss of income caused by COVID-19 while 65% admitted to having borrowed money due to loss of income caused by COVID-19
- Through existing polio alliances and the health programme 286,522 (26,477 new) religious leaders have been engaged and mobilized to promote the risk perception of the Corona virus, emphasize the importance of handwashing, use of mask and physical distancing as well as convincing other religious leaders on risk perception. The religious leaders use the information provided to talk to their followers during the Friday sermons and to make announcements in mosques with key preventive messages on COVID-19. Cumulatively 19.3 million at risk people have been reached with preventive messages on COVID-19 with 291,465 reached during the reporting period.
- The Polio helpline (1166) which is being used for COVID-19 has received over 7 million calls and over 3.8 million calls responded. Of the calls received: 7.13 per cent were related to medical conditions; 2.68 per cent suspected cases; 5.32 per cent others, 2.18 per cent hospitals/tests, 11.10 per cent symptoms, 2.28 per cent treatment, 0.18 per cent plasma donation. There is a total of 250 helpline agents, of which UNICEF supports 85 agents and the rest are supported by Digital Pakistan.

Improve Infection and Prevention Control (IPC) and provide critical medical and WASH supplies

- UNICEF has rehabilitated and installed WASH facilities which include Ultraviolet (UV) water filters, toilets and handwashing stations in 568 (42 new) Health Care Facilities (HCFs, Sindh: 38, KP: 87, Punjab: 373 and Balochistan: 70). More than 1.6 million people (209,767 new) have gained access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities in these HCFs contributing towards reducing the risk of COVID-19 infection among healthcare workers. Over 7.9 million people (312,598new) have been supported with hygiene promotion services including COVID-19 prevention and control information. Over 4.2 million (416,282 new) people have used the 1,320 (67 new) handwashing stations at communal points in affected areas. To date, UNICEF supported the training of 5,829 (200 new) frontline sanitary workers to enhance the capacity of sanitary and frontline health workers on WASH/IPC in HCFs and high-risk communities.
- WASH/IPC in Schools remains a top priority in the WASH sector coordination meetings (both at federal and provincial level) with focus on IPC strategy for school reopening. A WASH/IPC package for safe re-opening of schools has been developed with a unit cost for different types of WASH interventions. In collaboration with education a linkage between the Education Ministry and Ministry of Climate Change at Federal Level has been established for information sharing, leveraging of funds and joint resource mobilization for safe school reopening.
Support the provision of continued access to essential health and nutrition services for women and children

- UNICEF is supporting the Provincial and Regional health departments to ensure continuation of essential primary health care services including immunization, Ante-Natal Care (ANC), Post-Natal Care (PNC), delivery services, childcare and curative care for adults in 136 targeted health facilities reaching 285,826 people in the reporting period (Balochistan: 2,048; Sindh: 129,415; KP: 4,067; Punjab 150,296) with a total reach of 1,861,711 since the onset of COVID-19. Measles immunisation reached a total of 8,172 children (under 1 year) (Balochistan:101; Sindh: 4,614; KP: 558; Sindh: 2,899) during the reporting period with a total of 49,897 children vaccinated against measles in the 136 UNICEF supported health facilities. UNICEF has provided basic PPEs (gloves, sanitisers and masks) to 7,741 frontline health workers during the reporting period (Balochistan:9,200; KP: 5,941 and Sindh: 1,800) and reached a total of 83,222 frontline workers.

- UNICEF supported IPC training reached 84,409 frontline health workers in total (9,982 trained in the reporting period) and supported the training of 76,823 frontline health workers and community volunteers on COVID-19 and case identification and referral of suspected cases (2,211 trained during reporting period).

- Country-wide 2,633 UNICEF supported health sites provided nutrition services, an increase of 17 sites compared to previous report. A total of 77,550 SAM children have been admitted for treatment with 9,840 children (5,425 girls and 4,415 boys) admitted for treatment during the reporting period (Balochistan 3,662; Sindh 2,351; KP 1,575 and Punjab 2,252). The quality of treatment of severe wasting is in line with international (SPHERE\(^5\)) standards with the cure rate estimated at 90 per cent, defaulter rate 7.8 per cent against a maximum acceptable level of 15 per cent and death rate as low as 0.3 per cent when compared to the maximum acceptable of 5 per cent.

Access to continuous education, social protection, child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) services

- The total number of children directly benefiting from UNICEF supported alternate learning opportunities has reached 86,883 children. In Balochistan, 366 content-based videos on Mathematics, Science and English subjects have been shared with Parent Teacher School Management Committees (PTSMC) and teachers for primary level classes (KG-5th) through WhatsApp to support the continuity of learning. The “My Home My School” campaign has established 18,605 home centres which are providing continuity of learning to 56,253 children (33,346 boys, 22,907 girls). In total, 277,964 parents have been reached with messages encouraging learning activities. In addition to this, 64 School Management Committee (SMC) members, teachers were reached with COVID-19 prevention information via SMS and other social media platforms during the reporting period, taking the total to 1.56 million people.

- Using a training package developed by UNICEF, 41 social workforce professionals (11 female and 30 males) have been trained in psychosocial support and stigma prevention in KP during the reporting period. This brings to a total of A total of 3,324 social workforce professionals (1,705 women and 1,619 men) have been trained in psychosocial support and stigma prevention in all provinces through package developed by UNICEF, including 104 trained in last two weeks. This includes 28 female and 76 males in KP and Gilgit-Baltistan. To date, a total of 53,374 parents, caregivers, children and individuals (3,133 girls, 3,451 boys, 24,246 women, 22,544 men) have received Psychosocial Support and Services (PSS) by trained social workforce professionals in Punjab, KP, Sindh, Balochistan and GB with 1,412 reached within the reporting period (Punjab: 832, KP: 487, Sindh: 66, Balochistan: 833 and GB: 27). This includes 523 Individuals (37 Girls, 55 Boys, 267 women and 164 men) who received specialized counselling sessions in KP and Sindh.

Sri Lanka Country Office;
Risk Communication and Community Engagement

- Since the onset of the COVID-19 outbreak in Sri Lanka, UNICEF engaged in vigorous risk communication campaigns continuously over printed, digital and social media reaching over 15.5 million people. However, in order to provide targeted risk communication to prevent the spread of COVID-19 while minimizing risk, there is a high need to establish the level of understanding amongst children and young people of and their knowledge, perception of risk, and actions regarding COVID-19 prevention.

- UNICEF will be conducting a targeted assessment during the 4th quarter of 2020 and a new set of RCCE campaign materials will be designed and implemented based on insights gathered. The assessment will capture the level of understanding of COVID-19 in terms of how it spreads and precautionary measures, access to information, as well as the role parents and teachers play in providing support and proper information.

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5 Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response
Improve Infection and Prevention Control (IPC) and provide critical medical and WASH supplies

- Since the end of the lockdown, the field health services have almost returned to normal. The routine services in the field Maternal Child Health Clinics have resumed to provide services for antenatal mothers, newborns, infants, children and women in the routine antenatal clinics, postnatal clinics, child welfare clinics, immunization clinics, nutrition clinics and well women clinics. Outreach clinic centers are utilized to conduct these clinics. In the new normal it is required to ensure safe health care practices in all the outreach clinics. Family Health Bureau conducted a rapid assessment of availability of facilities for hand washing in all the outreach clinics (3,359 clinics) in the country. It enables identification of gaps in the availability of hand washing facilities at critical points in the clinic centers viz, entrance, and the examination room and availability of continuous supply of water. The assessment results found that there are MCH clinics without adequate hand-washing facilities. UNICEF disbursed USD 68,000 to 5 districts and construction of hand-washing facilities in the MCH clinics have been initiated.

- After initiation the 1st phase of hygiene promotion programme in urban settlements, the 2nd phase of the IPC and hygiene promotion programme was initiated with the Urban Settlement Development Authority (USDA) and the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing.

- Sri Lanka has extremely good breastfeeding indicators, however, the country is not performing well on complementary feeding, which leads to many other childhood issues with nutrition. Support for infant and young child feeding is provided by the public health staff mainly public health midwives and the public health nursing sisters and the medical officers of health. This group of officers are continuously trained to support caregivers in infant and young child feeding. In the new normal context, conducting face to face training is challenging. There is a need to produce online training program on Infant and Young child feeding to maintain the quality in-service training continuously.

- UNICEF supported the Family Health Bureau of the Ministry of Health to develop an online training package on Infant and Young child feeding for the field health staff. A company has been recruited to provide technological support in the production and work on development of the training package has initiated.

Access to continuous education, social protection, child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) services

- UNICEF is currently finalizing with the MoE a national survey to assess the access, engagement and effectiveness of the various teaching-learning modalities adopted, including online/digital platforms, which were used in primary education during the prolonged school closure. The survey will also measure students’ well-being and readiness for returning to school-based learning. The survey will help understand the situation of learning continuity and draw recommendations to inform the government and the education actors in improving teaching-learning approaches including blended learning models in future humanitarian/emergency contexts. In coordination with the Presidential Task Force (PTF) and MoE, UNICEF has also started working with UNDP to undertake a digital readiness study for general education to inform the development of a digitization strategy for learning.

- As all the schools were reopened in August 2020, in coordination with the Provincial Department of Education (PDE), UNICEF is supporting three disadvantaged provinces (Central, Uva and East) for effective learning recovery of primary grades, including through adjusted curriculum and formative assessment. In Northern province, in partnership with the PDE and a private service provider, a capacity building programme for teachers on online/digital teaching techniques is ongoing. This initiative will help promote blended approach to teaching-learning, which will inform the scale up to the entire Northern Province as well as at the national level.

- Divisional mental health forums were activated in Eastern, Northern and Uva provinces with the involvement of all divisional stakeholders and started to reach children in their divisions on psychosocial supports. Around 5,816 children already supported through various psychosocial supports during COVID-19.

- UNICEF reached 17 children homes with psychosocial assessment and provision of relevant supports. Around 231 children in childcare centres reached in psychosocial supports and 65 childcare institutions staffs trained on self-care and Psychosocial first aid.
## Funding Status

| Sector       | Requirements ($) | Humanitarian resources received ($) | Other Resources ($) | Funds available | Funding gap | $ | % |
|--------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Afghanistan  | 81,430,000       | 60,141,655                         | 1,024,000           |                | 20,264,345  | 25            |
| Bangladesh   | 87,972,506       | 24,646,548                         | 11,497,090          |                | 51,828,868  | 59            |
| Bhutan       | 2,616,000        | 2,680,866                          | 223,400             |                | -288,266    | 0             |
| India        | 40,000,000       | 20,550,751                         | 5,160,000           |                | 14,289,249  | 36            |
| Maldives     | 10,281,375       | 3,260,500                          | -                   |                | 7,020,875   | 68            |
| Nepal        | 14,355,000       | 8,005,994                          | 1,381,902           |                | 4,967,104   | 35            |
| Pakistan     | 50,200,000       | 12,758,535                         | 4,937,584           |                | 32,503,881  | 65            |
| Sri Lanka    | 4,600,000        | 2,879,210                          | 30,000              |                | 1,690,790   | 37            |
| Regional Office | 2,500,000   | 2,163,344                          | -                   |                | 336,656     | 13            |
| Total        | 293,954,881      | 137,087,403                        | 24,253,976          |                | 132,613,501 | 45            |

**Next SitRep: 30th October 2020**

UNICEF continues to monitor the situation very closely and situation reports will be issued on regular basis as the developments unfold.

**Internal and External Media**

**Education heroes in South Asia' ROSA initiative:**
https://www.facebook.com/unicefpakistan/photos/a.191248050895440/3433279506692262/


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