



Flooding in Bgr. Photo: UNICEF/South Sudan/Hill.

South Sudan Humanitarian Situation Report No. 150



Reporting Period: October 2020

Highlights

- More than 986,000 people have been affected by flooding in areas along the White Nile since July. Over 76 per cent of the people affected by the flooding are in Jonglei, Lakes and Unity states.
- From January to October 2020, a total of 166,955 children suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were treated in inpatient and outpatient therapeutic programs. The performance indicators of SAM treatment were above the acceptable minimum Sphere standards, with a cure rate of 94.8 percent, a death rate of 0.3 percent and a defaulter rate of 3.6 percent.
- UNICEF and partners continued to prepare for a measles vaccination campaign to stem outbreaks, including in flood-affected areas. The campaign will be launched in November.
- As of 30 October, a cumulative total of 2,903 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 58 deaths were recorded with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 2 per cent. UNICEF continues to support risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) as well as the infection prevention and control (IPC) interventions.
- Cumulatively UNICEF and partners have reached over 6.9 million people with COVID-19 prevention and control messages through interpersonal and mass communication methods.

Situation in Numbers



4.1 million children in need of humanitarian assistance
(UNICEF HAC, December 2019)



7.5 million people in need
(OCHA, HNO-November 2019)

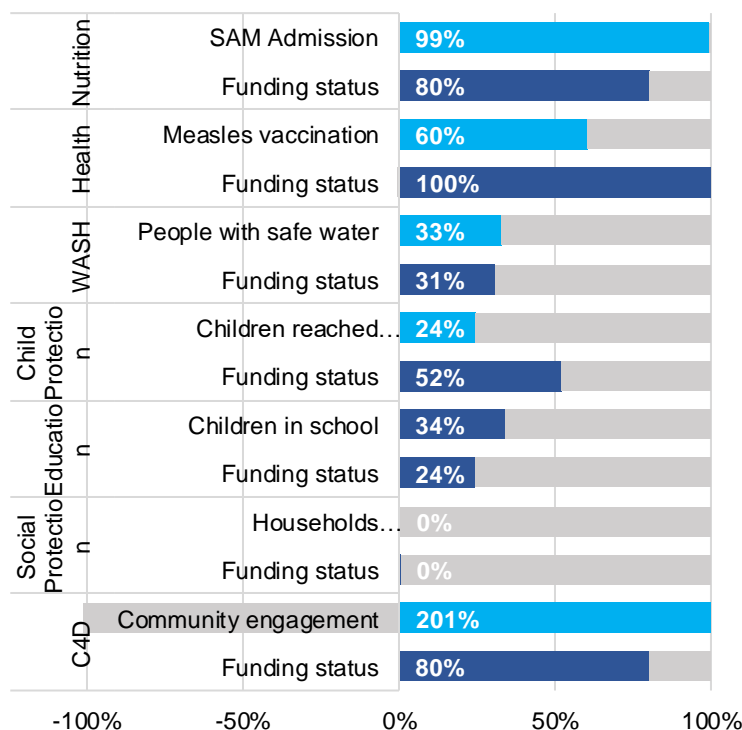


1.7 million Internally displaced people (IDPs)
(OCHA, HNO-November 2019)

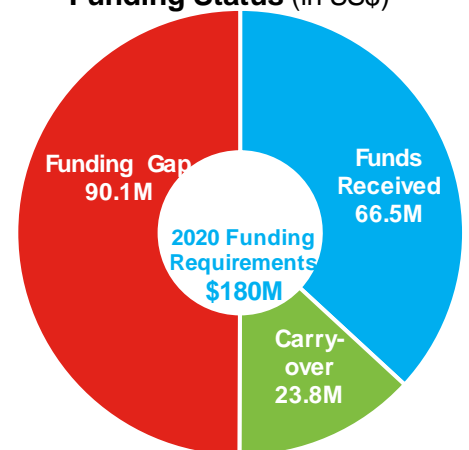
2.24 million South Sudanese Refugees in neighboring countries

(UNHCR Regional Portal, South Sudan Situation 30 September 2019)

UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



Funding Status (in US\$)



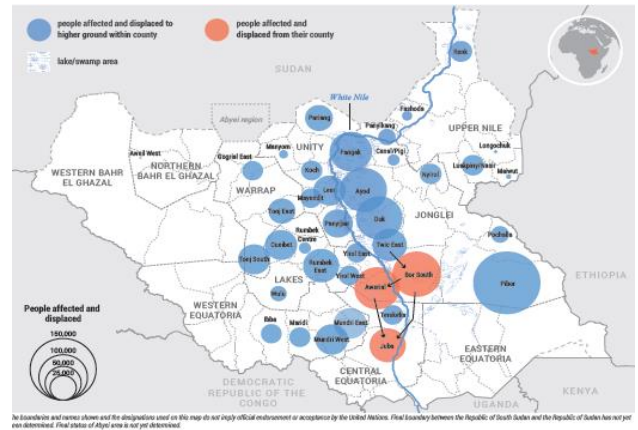
UNICEF Appeal 2020
US\$ 180 million

Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF is appealing for US\$ 180 million to sustain the provision of life-saving services for women and children in South Sudan. UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to all public and private donors for the contributions received; however, the 2020 HAC still has a funding gap of 50 per cent. Without adequate funding, UNICEF and partners will be unable to scale up integrated programming and provide critical and protective services for women, children and men displaced by conflict and inter-communal violence, affected by gender-based violence, facing life-threatening diseases (including COVID-19), and impacted by extreme food insecurity.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

As of 30 October, a cumulative total of 2,903 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 58 deaths had been recorded with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 2 per cent. The latest numbers show that more than 986,000 people have been affected by flooding in areas along the White Nile River since July 2020. Jonglei state is the most affected (490,000 people), followed by Lakes (147,000 people), Unity (101,000), Upper Nile (76,000), Warrap (60,000), Western Equatoria (60,000), Central Equatoria (40,000) and Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal (15,000). The reporting period was also marked by reports of localized disease outbreaks, mainly vaccine-derived polio virus and an increase in measles cases. The security situation continues to deteriorate throughout South Sudan. Home incursions and petty opportunistic crimes against International and Local NGOs and the local population were reported to be on the increase. Armed crime seems to be more prevalent in the regions with multiple perpetrators. The most significant incident to have occurred in the Equatorias was the altercation between the South Sudan Peoples Defence Forces (SSPDF) and Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF) troops in Magwi County. Ethnic violence remained a key trend in Western Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap and Lakes States, with sporadic incidents recorded during the reporting period. A total of two UN agency vehicles were ambushed and the occupants robbed in Kuajiena, Jur River. In addition, an NGO vehicle was ambushed, in Cueibet-Lakes state this resulted in 1 death and 1 injury. Tensions between NGOs and local youths over employment opportunities remained high in Upper Nile and Unity states. Humanitarian workers were evacuated amidst continued reporting of incursions into NGO facilities in the region.



Flood affected populations. Source-UNOCHA

Nutrition

UNICEF is providing preventive and curative nutrition services for children and women in South Sudan in partnership with nutrition implementing partners. From January to October 2020, a total of 166,955 children suffering from SAM (62 per cent of the target) were treated in inpatient and outpatient therapeutic programs. This is a reduction of about 20 per cent SAM admissions in 2020 as compared to 2019. Many factors, including localized conflict, displacement, suspension of facilities, flooding and adaptation changes due to COVID-19, were associated with the reduction in SAM admissions in 2020. The performance indicators of SAM treatment were above the acceptable minimum Sphere standards, with a cure rate of 94.8 per cent, death rate of 0.3 and a defaulter rate of 3.6 per cent. During the same period, infant and young child feeding counselling services reached a total of 1,343,055 pregnant women and caregivers of children 0-23 months (122 per cent of the target).

The nutrition programme activities have been ongoing in all states as per the adapted guidelines for nutrition sector service delivery in the context of COVID-19. Mothers/caretakers were trained on Family mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) to determine the nutrition status of their own children at a family level and ensure self-referrals to the nearest nutrition site. In addition, the nutrition response is ongoing in all the flood affected counties as per the comprehensive response plan at state levels. Communities are collaborating with nutrition sector implementing partners to reinforce the structure of nutrition sites and digging ditches among other key activities in some locations. Through the Nutrition Cluster Partners, a total of 400,707 children under five suffering from Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) were admitted in targeted supplementary feeding programmes. Compared with the same time period 2019, 12 per cent less children with MAM were newly admitted in the programme.

Health

UNICEF continues to work closely with the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and other partners to support life-saving emergency integrated primary health care services in all the 25 counties of Jonglei and Upper Nile States. The support also includes the distribution of essential drugs and medical equipment to 191¹ health facilities as part of

¹ After almost a year of discussions with local authorities, UNICEF did not manage to handover 2 health facilities from MSF to Livewell (PEHSP-Implementing Partner). This resulted in these 2 health facilities being removed from the PEHSP List.

efforts to improve the quality of service delivery. UNICEF is also working with Implementing Partners to ensure the continuity in the delivery of essential health services within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this regard, UNICEF continues to support the implementation of COVID-19 prevention interventions including the establishment and functionality of triage and screening points/areas for early recognition and referrals of suspected COVID-19 cases as well as adherence to stringent Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) measures in all supported health facilities. A total of 188 triages for COVID-19 screening (98.4 per cent of the target) were set up in Provision of Essential Health Services Project (PEHSP) facilities and a total of 1,276 health facility staff have been trained on COVID-19 screening and triage (108 per cent of the target). To enhance standard IPC practices in health facilities, 1,470 health care workers (111 per cent of the target), have been trained on basic IPC/WASH in health facilities, packages of personal protective equipment (PPE) and IPC/WASH were supplies distributed in all 191 PEHSP health facilities and 1,690 Boma health workers (BHWs) were trained on community COVID-19 BHW training package (92 per cent of the target). The Boma Health Workers training package includes maintaining community health services, hygiene promotion and community surveillance/alert reporting. During the reporting period, UNICEF supported flood response programmes in the affected counties of Duk, Pochalla, Pibor, Twic East (Jonglei State) and Mathiang and Renk (Upper Nile) reaching an estimated 94,130 people with curative consultations. Since the beginning of the year 12,203 individuals received primary health care consultations through Integrated rapid response missions (IRRM). UNICEF has completed the distribution of essential drugs and medical equipment supplies for the third quarter to all the World Bank supported health facilities in the 25 counties in Upper Nile and Jonglei States (despite challenges of a few dropping of f points/airstrips which were not usable due to the heavy flooding). The planning for the delivery of supplies for the fourth quarter to all the 193 health facilities has been finalized.

In October 2020, UNICEF and Partners provided curative consultations to a total of 146,316 individuals (69,034 males and 77,282 females, the number includes 64,829 children under the age of 5 and 81,487 adults. This brings the cumulative total consultations for the period January - October 2020 to 1,474,311 out of which 646,335 were children under 5 (311,418 males and 334,917 females). Most children and women seen during the consultations were for the treatment of malaria (33 per cent), followed by acute respiratory infections (16 per cent) and diarrhea (11 per cent). During the reporting period, 9,803 children aged 6 months-15 years were vaccinated against measles bringing the cumulative number of children 6 months-15 years vaccinated against measles for the period January - October 2020 to 312,272. In addition, to support malaria prevention efforts, a total of 17,508 long lasting insecticide treated nets (LLINS) were distributed during the reporting month bringing the cumulative total to 164,787 LLINs distributed to 82,394 families comprised of 329,574 children and pregnant women.

WASH

During the period January to October 2020, the WASH programme provided life-saving interventions through the provision of access to safe water, basic sanitation and hygiene services to the vulnerable and affected people in host communities, Protection of Civilian sites (PoCs) and internally displaced people in collective sites. As a result, a total of 268,523 individuals have so far been provided with access to safe drinking water through water trucking, construction of new and rehabilitation of non-functional waterpoints. UNICEF has also continued to provide support in the operation and maintenance of water yards, surface water treatment (SWAT) systems and urban water systems. Likewise, a total of 94,336 vulnerable people have so far been supported with access to basic sanitation facilities through the construction and rehabilitation of emergency communal latrines and household latrines. In relatively stable communities in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Eastern Equatoria, community led total sanitation (CLTS) is being implemented as the approach to improve the sanitation coverage. Follow up is being conducted for the previously triggered village in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Eastern Equatoria to establish communities that have attained open defecation free (ODF) status. To date, a total of 415 villages with 200,242 people have been reported to have achieved ODF status. A total of 338,811 people have been reached with key hygiene promotion messages, in addition a total of 309,539 individuals have benefited from the distribution of core-pipeline supplies and WASH NFIs including jerri-cans, buckets, soap and water treatment chemicals.

In response to COVID-19, the WASH Section continued the roll out of IPC/WASH activities through partners in different locations across the country including prioritized health facilities in Bor, Torit, Rumbek, Wau, Malakal, Yambio field offices and PoCs in Juba, Bor and Bentiu. To date, a total of 737,748 people have been reached with critical WASH supplies which include soap, buckets and water purification tablets to reduce the risk of COVID-19. In addition, a total of 102 health facilities are being supported with IPC services. So far triage and screening areas have been set up in 34 health facilities. A total of 75 health facilities have been provided with PPE and 527 health workers have been trained on infection prevention and control measures. A total of 2,523,214 people have been reached with hygiene promotion and COVID-19 prevention and control messages on a weekly basis in IDP camps/ PoCs/refugee settlements, communities and other public places. A total of 363 hand washing facilities were established in communities and health facilities and 90,105 were people provided with locally fabricated cloth masks.

As part of the Cluster response a total of 59,354 children admitted for SAM treatment were discharged with a WASH hygiene kit from functional Outpatient Therapeutic feeding Program (OTP) sites/Stabilization centres (44 per cent of the HRP target). A total of 1,574,793 people were reached with access to safe water (52.5 per cent of the HRP target), while 100,089 women and girls (9.1 per cent of the HRP target) were reached with safe access to sanitation and hygiene facilities. A total of 3,288,925 people (117 per cent of the HRP target) were reached with hygiene promotion messages

focusing on risk communication and COVID-19. In addition, a total of 168,872 people affected by flooding were reached with WASH services.

Education

On the 5th of October 2020, UNICEF, supported the Ministry of Education and General Instruction (MoGEI) to reopen 1,423 schools in all states for candidate classes (Grade 8 in the Primary School and 4th Year in the Secondary school) benefitting at least 110,000 learners. The candidates' grades will continue with their learning in preparation for the final examinations which are scheduled for the end of the year. The remaining of the learners will continue learning through the distance learning programme broadcasted on radio. UNICEF through the support of Cluster partners distributed Education and IPC materials to support the safe reopening of schools. The supplies included face masks, soap, buckets for hand washing as well as recreation, dignity, student and teachers' kits. The materials will enhance learning as well as safety of children in schools. Cluster level assessments highlighted that 410 schools across 8 states had been affected by flooding causing a delay in the reopening of these schools. The ongoing localized flood response programmes includes the support and advocacy for the re-opening of the affected schools.

Child Protection

During the reporting period, UNICEF and partners reached 5,575 children (2,360 boys and 3,215 girls) with psychosocial support (PSS) services in child friendly spaces, schools and communities in Jonglei, Upper Nile, Central, Eastern and Western Equatoria states, raising the total to 30,982 children reached since January 2020. There is an increase on focused PSS interventions, which include home visits given the limited face-to-face interactions as part of COVID-19 mitigation measures. In this regard, a total of 1,598 children (789 boys and 809 girls) were reached with home based skills building courses in Upper Nile, Jonglei, Central and Eastern Equatoria states during the reporting period. A total of 19 children (12 boys and 7 girls) were newly identified, registered and documented as unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) in Jonglei state and 7 boys were reunified during the reporting month. A total of 61 children (34 boys and 27 girls) were registered and received case management services according to the vulnerability criteria, in Central and Eastern Equatoria. A total of 21 Caseworkers (13 women and 8 men) were trained on the Case management standard operating procedures (SOPs) and information sharing protocols. A total of 541 individuals (150 girls, 144 boys, 134 women and 113 men) were reached with mine risk education (MRE) key messages in the communities.

During the reporting period, UNICEF and implementing partners reached 4,304 people (1,105 girls, 1,129 boys, 1,233 women and 837 men) with Gender-Based Violence (GBV) prevention, response and risk mitigation messages. A total of 551 women and 132 girls received case management, psychosocial support (PSS), and skills-building courses in Women and Girls' Friendly Spaces (WGFS), and referrals for other specialized and non-specialised services. A total of 2,217 people (529 girls, 480 boys, 716 women and 492 men) were reached with awareness raising messages on GBV and COVID-19. In addition, a radio live show for community members in Northern Bahr El Gazal was organised to discuss key actions that will be implemented for positive social norms transformation and to create awareness on child marriages and the consequences this harmful practice has on girls and communities. In Aweil, 136 women and 42 girls were identified and enrolled in the skills-building programme and 140 girls from 3 schools received sanitary pads and basic hygiene supplies.

Under the Communities Care Programme (CCP), 84 people (8 girls, 10 boys, 37 women, 29 men) were engaged in social norms transformation discussions and action courses to support positive changes in beliefs and perceptions about GBV within their communities. During the reporting period Child Protection Area of Responsibility (AoR) partners reached over 90,000 people with child protections services. This includes 10,135 children who received psycho-social support services, 2,212 children who were supported through case management and family tracing and reunification and 64,480 people who were reached with lifesaving messages including risk education. A total of 11 state level referral pathways were updated to support timely and safe access to child protection services. Despite these achievements, the Child Protection Area of Responsibility is critically underfunded and thus in urgent need of additional funding for children to receive life-saving services.

Integrated Rapid Response Mechanism (IRRM)

To date, a total of 11 integrated rapid response missions were conducted in Pading (2 missions), Palouny, Pagak, Jekow, Maruwa, Pakwa, Nyilwal, Tonga, Atar 3 and Pigi, reaching 94,132 individuals, including 11,405 children under the age of five. Cumulatively over 31,097 children were vaccinated against measles, and over 33,896 children were vaccinated against polio. Nearly 11,405 children were screened for malnutrition, out of which 377 children were suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM). The children were treated at in-patient and out-patient therapeutic centers. In addition, over 28,053 people received hygiene promotion messages which included the prevention and management of COVID-19.

Cash-Based Programming

UNICEF continues to work with partners to operationalize and mainstream humanitarian cash programming and identify opportunities within the Education, WASH, Child Protection and C4D sectors. UNICEF commenced the implementation of the WASH vouchers project focusing on the provision of hygiene materials in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The initiative is targeting 9,400 vulnerable households who are receiving cash assistance in Aweil, Bor and Bentiu

counties as well as 500 extremely vulnerable households in Malakal (Renk). The beneficiaries were identified and registered by UNICEF through a collaborative effort with WFP using the SCOPE platform. Local vendors were also identified in each targeted location in a bid to support local traders and markets. Furthermore, UNICEF was one of the lead agencies to develop the UN's socio-economic response plan for COVID-19, which includes a focus on social protection safety nets through cash transfers for vulnerable households. In an effort to expand its overall cash programmes, UNICEF is finalizing long-term agreements (LTAs) with financial service providers (FSPs), and has started processes for integrating prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) as part of capacity assessments for Financial Service Providers (FSPs).

[Communications for Development \(C4D\), Community Engagement & Accountability](#)

Risk communication and community engagement interventions are being implemented to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in all the 10 states. During the month of October 2020, a total of 544,617 people (319,471 females and 225,146 males) were reached with COVID-19 key mitigation messages through house to house visits by community mobilisers. In addition, 365,978 people were reached through megaphone walks in the communities and other strategic locations like markets and street corners. A total of 86 Community mobilizers and 208 community influencers (religious, youth and community leaders) were oriented on COVID-19 risk communication. Through a partnership programme with 40 radio stations, a total of 6,326 radio jingles on COVID-19 were broadcasted in 10 widely spoken languages in the country and 169 talk shows focusing on COVID-19 and its impact were held. Communication materials focusing on signs and symptoms of COVID-19, prevention and proper use of facemasks were printed, and distribution to partners is ongoing in all the 10 states, with materials printed in 5 languages. During the reporting period, a total of 1,700 posters, 350 banners, 35,000 fliers were distributed. All these materials including radio jingles can be accessed on the link below: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ELlfwl2UC7PwyB0aUi-qTjzWjmhfp1Ce/>.

A total of 23 rumors were collected through daily reporting and all the rumors were tracked and responded to within 72 hours. The C4D section supported awareness creation and social mobilization activities for Back-to-Learning initiatives for candidate classes through production of 2 radio jingles which were translated into 10 languages, radio talk shows, meetings with community influencers, street announcements through community mobilisers and mobile microphones. As a part of supporting the distance learning programme, 480 radios were distributed in the PoCs in Bentiu, Rubkona, Guit and Abiemnom counties.

[Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy](#)

UNICEF is co-leading three Clusters and Area of Responsibility (AoR) out of a total of 10 clusters and 3 AoRs currently active in the country. UNICEF at a national level co-leads the Child Protection AoR and the Education Cluster with Save the Children, the Nutrition Cluster with Concern, Action Against Hunger (ACF) and the World Food Program (WFP) and the WASH Cluster with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). UNICEF continues to participate in the inter-agency protection of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) task force, which functions under the auspices of the Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG)/Resident Coordinator (RC)/Humanitarian Coordinator (HC), and plays an active role to advocate for better protection of children against sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA).

[Human Interest Stories and External Media](#)

A large communication drive advocating for ending child marriages was carried out during the week of the International Day of the Girl Child. Key interventions included the setting up of billboards all over the capital (Juba) and public service announcements (PSAs) which were aired on the largest networks. In addition a [press release](#) was issued, and a [joint OpEd](#) between the UNICEF South Sudan Representative and a girl was crafted and published. A strong social media package was rolled out and the web had a special [child marriage feature](#) with a blog series. UNICEF also focused on communication activities related to the [reopening of schools](#) after the closure due to COVID-19, and the [distribution of solar powered radios](#) for the radio distance learning programme which will continue until all schools have re-opened. The external communication section continued to raise awareness on the needs of the flood affected populations and supported a media trip for national journalists in Bor county. The media trip generated good coverage nationally and internationally on [BBC](#). The External Communication section organized information sessions on children's rights to speak up as part of organizing a network of child reporters in South Sudan. A total of 10 of the 30 children attending the sessions were engaged for World Children's Day. A follow-up live Question and Answer (Q&A) session with UNICEF USA was conducted on Instagram after the successful virtual field visit in September. October also saw the celebration of [world teacher day](#) by UNICEF.

[Next SitRep: 20 December 2020](#)

UNICEF South Sudan Crisis: www.unicef.org/southsudan

UNICEF South Sudan Facebook: www.facebook.com/unicefsouthsudan

UNICEF South Sudan Appeal: http://www.unicef.org/appeals/south_sudan

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Annex A

Summary of Programme Results (October 2020)

	Cluster/Sector Response			UNICEF and IPs			%
	2020 target	Total results	Change since last report ▲ ▼	2020 target	Total results	Change since last report ▲ ▼	
Nutrition							
# of children aged 6 to 59 months affected by SAM admitted for treatment	268,045	166,955	▲ 16,646	268,045	166,955	▲ 16,646	62.3%
# of children reached with vitamin A supplementation	2,933,723	1,697,683	▶ 0	2,933,723	1,697,683	▶ 0	57.8%
# of caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months who received counselling on maternal, infant and young child nutrition	1,098,241	1,343,055	▲ 152,889	1,098,241	1,343,055	▲ 152,889	122.3%
Health							
# of children aged 6 months to 15 years vaccinated against measles				518,000	312,446	▲ 9,803	60.3%
# of pregnant women and children provided with insecticide-treated nets in malaria-endemic areas				340,000	329,574	▲ 35,016	96.9%
WASH							
# of people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	3,000,000	2,078,791	▲ 103,634	817,000	268,523	▲ 2,502	32.8%
# of people accessing safe and appropriate sanitation facilities	3,000,000	507,400	▲ 26,863	303,500	94,336	▲ 3,230	31.0%
Child Protection							
# of children reached with psychosocial support services	250,000	103,376	▲ 26,425	127,000	30,982	▲ 5,575	24.0%
# of children and women accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions				100,000	48,248	▲ 4,304	48.2%
Education							
# accessing quality formal or nonformal early learning, pre-primary, primary or secondary education	793,874	298,977	▲ 0	729,000	248,456	▲ 0	34.0%
# of teachers trained on education in emergencies, basic pedagogy and learner centered methodologies	6,322	1,305	▲ 375	2,500	892	▲ 5	35.5%
Social Protection							
# of households reached through the cash transfer programme				42,030	0	= -	
Communication for Development							
# of people accessing mechanisms to voice their needs/concerns/ feedback, including on Ebola				2,400,000	4,826,197	▲ 912,967	201.0%

Annex B

Funding Status²

REPORT AS OF 31 OCTOBER 2020					
Funding Requirements (as defined in Humanitarian Appeal of 31 Jan 2020 for a period of 12 months)					
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds Available		Funding Gap	
		Funds Received*	C/F from 2019	Funding Gap (\$)	%
Health	6,006,000	4,876,245	1,158,362	(28,607)	0%
Nutrition	57,484,671	39,444,413	6,759,679	11,280,579	20%
WASH	45,587,830	11,142,491	2,815,078	31,630,261	69%
Education	42,888,722	1,202,622	9,167,607	32,518,493	76%
Child Protection	21,822,956	8,086,522	3,413,972	10,322,461	47%
Social Protection	3,862,413	-	16,074	3,846,339	100%
Community Engagement	2,753,798	1,714,597	487,321	551,881	20%
Total	180,406,390	66,466,891	23,818,092	90,121,407	50%

² *The figures indicated above are gross (including global recovery, but not programmable at CO level).