

SITUATION

32 per cent of the population= 2.4 million people in humanitarian crisis (20 per cent increase in the last six months) due to continued civil insecurity, displacement and food insecurity.

1.46 million people displaced, mainly by conflict

241,000 children acutely malnourished, 75 per cent of them are in the conflict-stricken southern regions. Global acute malnutrition rates are 21 per cent nationally (deterioration from 15 per cent in the last six months).

In the south, 1 in 4 children is acutely malnourished and 1 in 23 severely malnourished, at exceptionally high risk of death.

Routine immunization coverage among the lowest in the world (measles coverage in Central South in 2008 was 26 per cent)

School enrolment amongst the lowest in the world, 30 per cent throughout Somalia and 22 per cent in Central South (Gross enrolment rate)

Only 30 per cent of the population has access to safe water

Conflict continues to maim and kill children and women. Campaigns to recruit thousands of children into armed forces/groups - including girls- became more aggressive

UNICEF RESPONSE IN 2010

UNICEF, with partners, is a major provider of water, education, health and nutrition services in Somalia.

With more than 100 national and international NGO partners, and working directly with communities, UNICEF achieved significant results for children.

UNICEF is supporting water systems through operations and maintenance/ chlorination benefiting over 1.2 million people mostly IDPs and other vulnerable communities. 12 of these systems are large-scale urban water supply systems run through public private partnerships benefiting 465,000 people.

UNICEF, through the Nutrition Cluster which it leads and alongside over 60 national and international partners, scaled up geographic and case coverage of acute malnutrition, achieving a 300 per cent scale-up of access to nutrition services in 3 years. UNICEF supports about 90 per cent of the emergency nutrition response in Somalia.

UNICEF and partners treated 213,000 acutely malnourished children in 2010, of them 138,750 with moderate acute malnutrition and 74,250 with severe acute malnutrition. This translates into 94 per cent of children with severe acute malnutrition and 46 per cent with moderate acute malnutrition reached.

An estimated 2.5 million people in emergency-affected areas can access basic health care through a network of about 250 Maternal and Child Health (MCH) clinics and 550 health posts managed by partners.

The nationwide Child Health Days (CHDs) campaign reached 1.5 million children under five and 1.3 million women of child-bearing age at least once with an essential package of life-saving health and nutrition services, including children and women in all districts of Mogadishu and the Afgoye corridor, despite insecurity. CHDs provide immunization (measles; diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus; oral polio vaccine), vitamin A supplementation, de-worming, oral rehydration salts, water purification tablets, nutritional screening, referral for children under five, and tetanus toxoid vaccination for women of child-bearing age.

UNICEF supports access to quality education for about 190,000 children by providing school supplies and text books. UNICEF is currently the sole provider of primary school materials in Somalia.

UNICEF and partners supported 107,300 children to enroll in school; including 99,650 children in emergency affected areas of Central South Somalia. In Somaliland 4,650 children and in Puntland 3,000 children from IDP settlements were enrolled. Over 3,600 teachers received critical training in pedagogy, life skills, child rights, psycho social care and support, as well as in emergency education.

Over 300 IDP and vulnerable host communities were mobilized to prevent and respond to child protection violations. Over 1000 gender-based violence cases were documented and referred to services through community mobilization. By October, 1000 cases of grave child rights violations were documented and 60 per cent referred to services, through a network of 40 monitors from 20 local human rights monitoring organizations.

Community initiative for children/youth at risk of recruitment and former child combatants is benefiting an estimated 500 children (in Mogadishu, Merka and Dhusamareb) with vocational training, non-formal education and Psycho-social care and support.

Over 38,000 internally displaced people affected by conflict and flooding in Central South Somalia received shelter and non-food items.

UNICEF OPERATIONS AND CURRENT STAFFING

Staff: 161 staff based in Somalia and 87 in Nairobi

Staff inside Central South Zone: 15 national staff in Baidoa, Wajid, Mogadishu

Offices: Mogadishu, Baidoa, Galkayo (hub for central south), Bosasso, Hargeisa (also hub for central south), Jowhar (closed)

Work spaces: Garowe, Wajid

