



END OF YEAR 2019: SOUTH SUDAN SITREP #139

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- In 2019, unprecedented flooding washed away crops, destroyed homes and contaminated water supplies impacting over 900,000 people, of which 490,000 were children. UNICEF has reached over 110,000 people with critical and lifesaving Health, Nutrition, WASH, Education, Child Protection and communication for development services in four flood affected States.
- In collaboration with UNMISS and the National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) Commission, in 2019 UNICEF South Sudan supported the release of 303 children associated with armed groups, enrolling them in reintegration programmes.
- UNICEF and partners, including government authorities, worked to ensure the 2019 South Sudan Certificate of Primary Education exams were successfully delivered to 55,193 children across South Sudan, including in areas controlled by forces in opposition to government and in flood affected areas. In Upper Nile alone, 3,169 children completed the primary examinations for the first time since 2012.

1.47 million

Internally displaced persons (IDPs)  
(OCHA South Sudan Humanitarian Snapshot, September 2019)

2.24 million

South Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries  
(UNHCR Regional Portal, South Sudan Situation 30 September 2019)

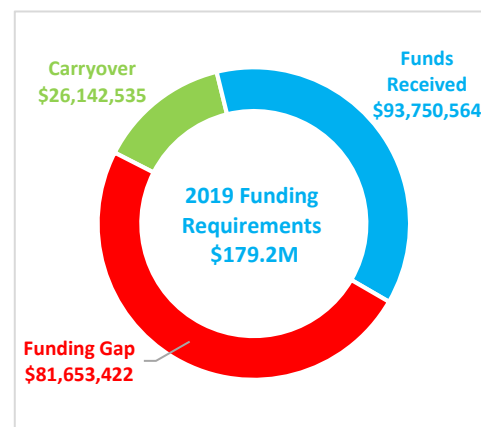
6.35 million

South Sudanese facing acute food insecurity or worse  
(August 2019 Projection, Integrated Food Security Phase Classification)

UNICEF's Response with Partners in 2019

Indicators	Cluster for 2019		UNICEF and partners for 2019		
	Target	Cumulative results (#)	Target	Cumulative results (#)	Target achieved (%)
<b>Nutrition:</b> # of children aged 6 to 59 months admitted for SAM treatment	220,700	236,213	220,700	237,123	107.0%
<b>Health:</b> # of children 6 months-15 years in humanitarian situations vaccinated for measles			475,000	919,160	193.5%
<b>WASH:</b> # people accessing the agreed quantity of water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	3,000,000	1,832,978	800,000	496,574	62.1%
<b>Child Protection:</b> # of children reached with psychosocial support services	476,750	314,461	275,000	244,261	88.8%
<b>Education:</b> # of children accessing quality formal or non-formal early learning, pre-primary, primary or secondary education	786,324	713,399	729,000	618,174	84.8%

Funding Status



## Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

In 2019 South Sudan remained an extremely complex and difficult context to deliver results for children. While a significant decrease in armed hostilities compared to previous years has led to certain improvements in humanitarian access, an array of constraints continue to hinder secure, predictable and principled humanitarian access to and for vulnerable women and children.

In September 2018, the main parties to conflict signed the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS). This led to a significant reduction in armed conflict in the country and fewer active restrictions of movement in 2019. This has improved secure and predictable access to previously hard-to-reach areas, including Lower Unity, Upper Jonglei, and parts of Upper Nile, Western Bahr el Ghazal and Western Equatoria. Critical riverways have been opened for the movement of humanitarian staff and supplies and obstructions at checkpoints on main supply routes have been eased. This has increased the efficiency and reduced the cost of delivering humanitarian assistance and services, which previously were often dependent on expensive air operations.

At the same time, UNICEF's programmes remain obstructed by a range of ongoing access restrictions. In 2019, UNICEF and partners reported 234 incidents affecting access, hindering our ability to provide lifesaving assistance to an estimated 4.8 million people, 2.4 million of them children. Armed hostilities have continued sporadically throughout the year in southern Central Equatoria between the government and the National Salvation Front (NAS - a non-signatory to the R-ARCSS). This has resulted in forced displacement, increased humanitarian needs, and grave protection concerns while also preventing or delaying UNICEF's and partners' ability to address the needs of vulnerable women and children. It has also hampered preparedness efforts against the outbreak of the Ebola virus in South Sudan in one of the priority areas bordering the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In September 2019, fighting also erupted in Maiwut in Upper Nile also causing large-scale displacement and needs while constraining UNICEF's and partners' ability to respond.

Floods are a chronic and acute problem in South Sudan exacerbating needs in areas where populations are affected by multiple concurrent shocks. Seasonal flooding during rainy season in South Sudan is a fact of life for many communities. In 2019, however, unprecedented flooding has washed away crops, destroyed homes, contaminated water sources and cut off or constrained access to critical basic services in some parts of the country impacting over 900,000 people, of which 490,000 were children. Impacts to women and children include loss of productive assets and increased malaria cases in areas already experiencing conflict, displacement, food insecurity and disease outbreaks and weakening household resilience.

According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), the year 2019 has continued to experience high food insecurity with an estimated 6.35 million people (54 per cent of the population) classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse acute food insecurity, among whom an estimated 1.7 million people faced Emergency (IPC Phase 4) acute food insecurity and 10,000 people in Catastrophe (IPC phase 5) at the peak lean season. Furthermore, the prevalence of acute malnutrition has deteriorated significantly from 13.3 per cent in 2018 to 16.2 per cent in 2019, which was above the 15 per cent emergency threshold. With the deterioration of the nutrition situation, it is projected that over 1.3 million children under five years will suffer from acute malnutrition in 2020 including close to 292,000 from severe acute malnutrition (SAM). This is attributed to high food insecurity, poor quality and diversity of food, high morbidity (mainly malaria) and diarrheal infections.

As of 31 December, a total of 4,325 suspected measles cases and 30 deaths (Case Fatality Rate - 0.7 per cent) were reported, with 215 confirmed IgM positive cases in 22 counties and four Protection of Civilian sites (PoCs). There has been a resurgence of Guinea Worm disease with 15 cases confirmed in 2019.

## Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF is co-leading three Clusters and one Area of Responsibility (AoR) out of a total of 10 clusters and three AoRs currently active in the country. UNICEF co-leads at national level both 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). Memoranda of Understanding have been signed between UNICEF and each co-lead agency at country level to guide effective and efficient coordination

and ensure clear roles and responsibilities of each party. UNICEF co-led clusters and AoR are all part of the Inter-Cluster Working Group (ICWG) led by OCHA at the national and sub-national levels.

UNICEF participates in the in-country interagency prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) Task Force, which functions under the auspices of the Deputy SRS/ Resident Coordinator (RC) / Humanitarian Coordinator (HC), and plays an active role to advocate for better protection of children against sexual exploitation and abuse.

## Humanitarian Strategy

In 2019, in line with UNICEF's [Humanitarian Action for Children \(HAC\)](#) and the inter-agency [Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\)](#), UNICEF continues to strengthen and expand its programmes. UNICEF provides life-saving humanitarian assistance through a timely and effective integrated package of nutrition, health, WASH, child protection and education services delivered through interconnected, complementary responses. To ensure that support has a wide reach, services are delivered through static operations, direct outreach and rapid response modalities. UNICEF's operations are led by its 13 field offices to enable wide coverage and quality programming across the country. UNICEF's leadership of the nutrition and WASH clusters and child protection area of responsibility and its co-leadership of the education cluster enable strategic planning, coordinated response, capacity building of partners and advocacy both at the national and state levels.

Local partners make up approximately 51 per cent of UNICEF's partnerships in South Sudan and UNICEF is investing in increasing the localization of aid in South Sudan through capacity building and targeted resource allocation. Following the signing of the R-ARCSS in September 2018, UNICEF is investing in building the capacities of central and sub-national state authorities.

In 2019, the integrated rapid response mechanism (IRRM) prioritized hard-to-reach communities with urgent, life-saving interventions. WFP, FAO and UNICEF deployed IRRMs to areas of the country that fit the criteria of extraordinary humanitarian needs in otherwise inaccessible locations. A partnership with WFP on biometric registration has strengthened data collection, management, follow up, displacement tracking and harmonized reporting in 2019.

Between January – December 2019, UNICEF completed a total of 32 IRRM missions with WFP/IOM using biometric registration (BMR) in hard to reach areas reaching a total of 318,868 Individuals and 64,417 children under five years. In Jonglei state, 22 missions were successfully completed in the areas of Chuil, New Fangak, Old Fangak, Kurwai, Keew, Kuernyang, Juaibor, Wai, Katdalok, Mogok, Kandak, Jiech, Normanyang, Pagil, Nyanapol, Bout, Kaituny, Buong, Yuai, Pathai, Pieri and Partet. Eight missions were completed in Upper Nile state in the areas of Tonga, Wathjak, Ying, Raing, Nyangore, Ulang, Mathiang and Udier. One mission was carried in Lakes state in Dor, Mingkaman County and one mission was completed Unity state in Padeah/Leah with IOM.

## Summary Analysis of Programme Response

**Health:** In 2019, UNICEF and implementing partners provided static health facility and life-saving emergency integrated primary health care services through 2,087,868 curative consultation in South Sudan (948,250 and 1,139,618 males and females respectively). Among these, 37 percent (372,572 and 407,051 males and females respectively) were children under the age of five, who were most affected by malaria (35 per cent), pneumonia (20 per cent), diarrhoea (16 per cent) and other diseases (21 per cent). Overall, and among the general population, malaria remains the biggest cause of morbidity, with 729,304 cases confirmed and treated through UNICEF support. However, due to funding constraints, only 46,732 families (186,928 people) were provided with Long-Lasting Insecticide Treated Nets (47% of the 100,000 families planned). In addition, due to quality concerns, the mass LLIN distribution campaigns were suspended with quarantining of 4.1 million nets procured by the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria's principal recipient, Population Services International (PSI). Nevertheless, UNICEF's leading role in initiating consultations has been critical in successfully unblocking the situation, and in ensuring WHO has worked with MoH and PSI to lift the quarantine. More than 27,000 LLITNS were dispatched for distribution to flood affected areas in Upper Nile and Jonglei in December to support malaria prevention efforts. These results were mainly attributed to UNICEF playing the role of lead agency for Provision of Essential Health Services Project (PEHSP) in former states of Jonglei and Upper Nile. In addition, integrated Rapid Response Mechanism (iRRM) and integrated Community Case

Management / Boma Health Initiative (iCCM/BHI) were other modalities used for provision of healthcare services to the hard to reach areas.

UNICEF continued to strengthen disease outbreak preparedness and response programmes with implementing partners through support to the procurement of vaccines and cold chain equipment. As a result, 919,160 children aged 6 months-15 years were vaccinated against measles through reactive vaccination campaigns and IRRM missions. This represented a 194% achievement of the 474,300 children planned target.

UNICEF continued to support the MOH to provide quality provision of integrated maternal and newborn health services to contribute towards the reduction of the high maternal mortality in South Sudan. Through direct UNICEF support to different health facilities, 119,242 pregnant women attended health facilities (HFs) for their first antenatal care (ANC1), out of which 51,582 completed antenatal care attending HFs for ANC4. In addition, 23,110 deliveries were conducted by skilled birth attendants in 2019 (compared to 15,407 deliveries over 2018) while only 16,526 women attended postnatal care within 48 hours of giving birth.

UNICEF provided support to the delivery of services for prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV (PMTCT), through training of frontline health care workers, supportive supervision, and support to community mother support groups to follow up on beneficiaries' treatment adherence and women lost to follow up. Through UNICEF supported PMTCT services, 43,548 pregnant women attending ANC1 with unknown HIV status were counselled and tested for HIV. Among these, 1,044 (2 per cent) women tested positive but only 599 initiated antiretroviral therapy (ART). Supply shortages, issues in last mile delivery and fear of stigma were among the top factors for opting out of testing and initiation of ART. This has also translated to very high rates of lost to follow up (LFU) which has limited the number of HIV exposed infants being enrolled on Early Infant Diagnosis (EID) services (41 infants). UNICEF worked with community-based organizations of persons living with HIV to strengthen acceptance and retention of HIV positive mothers on treatment.

**Nutrition:** During 2019, a total of 237,123 children from six to 59 months were admitted for treatment for severe acute malnutrition (SAM), reaching over 100 per cent of the target and 91 per cent of the 2019 burden. This good achievement has been possible due to a significant leap in the numbers of outpatient therapeutic sites that provide treatment of acute malnutrition, from 858 in 2018 to 1,145 in 2019. In addition, relative calm in the country contributed to service resumption in areas of Southern Unity, parts of Jonglei and the greater Baggari of Wau County. Performance indicators of SAM treatment were within the acceptable threshold of SPHERE standards, with a cure rate of 91.4 per cent, a defaulter rate of 5.3 per cent and a death rate of 0.4 per cent. Collaboration between UNICEF, WFP and WHO and over 39 nutrition partners ensured continuum of care through seamless referral mechanisms for girls and boys across the different treatment programmes for children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and SAM.

A total of 1,672,942 caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months and pregnant women were reached with adequate counselling on appropriate infant and young child feeding (IYCF) during 2019, representing an achievement of over 100 per cent of the expected target of 1,506,765. UNICEF in partnership with the MOH, nutrition partners and WHO provided vitamin A supplementation and deworming through campaigns to 2,766,172 (1,386,012 boys; 1,380,160 girls) and 2,286,267 children (boys 1,105,278; 1,180,989 girls) respectively. To improve the quality of CMAM and Maternal Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) services and adherence to the national protocols for prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition, UNICEF trained 3,706 (2,568 males, 1,138 females) and 4,189 (1,831 males and 2,358 females) health and nutrition workers on CMAM and MIYCN respectively.

UNICEF in collaboration with CSOs and UN agencies is initiating a paradigm shift to prevention of acute malnutrition in order to tackle the deterioration of the nutrition situation through a multisectoral approach in 2020. UNICEF is working with MOH to develop a multisectoral nutrition strategic plan (MNSP) and has already developed a road map to provide workplan and budget for development of MNSP 2022-2030.

**Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH):** In 2019, UNICEF and partners have provided access to safe drinking water supply to a total of 496,574 people through emergency and recovery approaches, including the drilling of 54 new water facilities, rehabilitation of 626 non-functional boreholes, construction of mini water yards, water trucking and operation and maintenance of nine Surface Water Treatment (SWAT) systems. In response to the floods alone, at least

11,200 people and 10,933 households received essential hygiene items (soap, buckets, jerrycans etc) and were provided with access to clear drinking water.

At least 202,208 people have been supported with access to basic sanitation facilities, including Community-led Total Sanitation (CLTS) through the construction and rehabilitation of 7,367 emergency communal latrines, 7,686 household latrines and 96 institutional latrines. To strengthen the community institutions and sustain WASH services, 432 WASH committees and 114 hand pump mechanics were trained on operation and maintenance of WASH facilities and 366 community hygiene promoters for conveying key hygiene promotion messages. An additional 444,305 people are estimated to have been reached with hygiene promotion messages with support from UNICEF communication for development employing media outlets including radio, as well as house-to-house visits, mass campaigns, and additional approaches and total of 361,319 individuals have benefited from the distribution of core-pipeline supplies and WASH non-food items including jerrycans, buckets, soap and water treatment chemicals.

The Accelerated Sanitation and Hygiene for All (ASWA-II) programme in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Eastern Equatoria has begun, aiming at scaling-up access to basic sanitation services in host and most vulnerable communities. A total of 67 villages were declared open defecation free through the community led total sanitation (CLTS) approach.

Regarding youth engagement, a total of 125 youths (50 men; 75 women) were trained and engaged on hygiene promotion, mass campaigns, latrine/drainage cleaners, water-quality testing, garbage collection and non-food item (NFI) distribution in Wau and Bentiu internally displaced persons' sites and POCs.

With the resurgence of Guinea Worm disease in 2019, UNICEF has intensified WASH-related responses including distribution of water filters to mobile communities, drilled and rehabilitated boreholes and intensified hygiene promotion/awareness with implementing partners, including the Ministry of Physical Infrastructure, Ministry of Health and the Carter Centre, in endemic villages.

**Education:** During 2019, UNICEF, in partnership with 26 international and national non-governmental organizations, supported the enrolment of 618,174 children (260,822 girls) and provided them with the essential age appropriate education services. At least 126,804 out-of-school children (OOSC) (50,721 girls) accessed learning opportunities, which contributed to a reduction in the national caseload of over 2 million OOSC.

To accommodate the additional OOSC, UNICEF supported the establishment and rehabilitation of 576 safe and protective classrooms in 288 Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS). UNICEF also procured and distributed essential education supplies, including 1,458 early childhood development (ECD) kits, 831 recreational kits, 10,181 students' kits, and 8,863 dignity kits. In addition, 6,753 children received supplementary reading materials and 4,055 teachers were provided teaching kits to supplement teaching instruction in the classrooms and improve learning outcomes.

UNICEF's Global Partnership for Education (GPE) supported the development, procurement, and distribution of Teaching and Learning Materials (TLMs) such as textbooks, mother-tongue literacy primers, and teacher guides that underpin implementation of the new South Sudan curriculum

In 2019, 6,368 teachers (1,234 females) were trained on education in emergencies basic pedagogy and learner centred methodologies. A total of 1,724 teachers (245 females) were trained on life skills, and an additional 4,270 Parents-Teachers Associations (PTA) (1,281 females) in UNICEF supported schools were trained on their roles and responsibilities to improve the capacity to manage the schools.

UNICEF and partners, including government authorities, worked to ensure the 2019 South Sudan Certificate of Primary Education exams were delivered to 55,193 children (22,350 girls) across South Sudan including in opposition-controlled areas between 25 – 29 November 2019. In Upper Nile alone, 3,169 children (1,042 girls) completed the primary examinations for the first time since 2012.

**Child Protection:** In 2019, UNICEF and partners reached 244,261 children (137,101 boys; 107,160 girls) with psychosocial support (PSS) activities in child-friendly spaces, schools and other community-based interventions. A total of 974 unaccompanied and separated children have been registered (496 boys; 478 girls) across the country of whom,

377 children (179 boys, 198 girls) were reunified by UNICEF and partners. UNICEF in collaboration with child protection partners developed the two publications: The Case Management Handbook and the Facilitator's Manual for Psychosocial Support. These tools are the first of their kind and are now being used as the standard across the whole country. Accompanying training packages for using the tools have also helped to build the capacity of child protection actors to deliver high quality programmes that meet and exceed the child protection minimum standards. The successful launch of the Child Protection information management (CPIMS+) system for case management in South Sudan is another highlight of the year.

A total of 133,712 individuals (50,193 boys; 44,145 girls; 17,531 men; 21,843 women) living in high-risk mine areas were reached with life-saving mine risk education messages. Through IRRMs, 144,018 community members (23,070 boys; 17,422 girls; 30,548 men; 72,978 women) received life-saving child protection messaging, including on prevention of family separation, recruitment into armed groups and grave child rights violations.

UNICEF, in collaboration with UNMISS and the National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) Commission, successfully released 303 children associated with armed groups (224 boys; 79 girls) and enrolled them in reintegration programmes in Western Equatoria, Central Equatoria, Unity and Northern Bahr al-Ghazal States. UNICEF has continued providing reintegration support to children who were released in 2017 and 2018, as well as those who were informally released or escaped from armed forces and armed groups. UNICEF supported 378 (369 boys; 9 girls) new cases of children formerly associated with armed forces or armed groups to receive economic reintegration services, including animal husbandry, agricultural training, vocational training, and small business startup training, whilst 1,347 (1,035 boys; 312 girls) existing cases received ongoing support. In parallel, 680 existing cases of vulnerable children (342 boys; 338 girls) in the same communities as those reintegrated continued to be supported as well as 707 (362 boys; 345 girls) new cases, with economic strengthening services as part of the 1:1 approach based on the Paris principles.

UNICEF and partners reached 90,415 individuals (24,238 girls; 19,694 boys; 29,964 women; 16,519 men) through GBV prevention and response services, including awareness raising and community dialogues on GBV and available services, individualized case management, PSS, access to women and girls-friendly services and referrals for case management and other specialized services. A total of 550 individuals (12 boys; 120 girls; 234 men; 184 women) were trained on GBV prevention and response, case management or addressing social norms. In total, 4,865 people (100 boys, 1,944 girls; 49 men; 2,772 women) participated in skills building courses. UNICEF and partners also conducted 20 safety audits. A key GBV and CAAFAG publication was also released this year, the Practical Guide for the Socio-Economic Reintegration of Girls Formerly Associated with Armed Forces and Groups, which was developed by UNICEF and CAAFAG partners. Under the GBV prevention and response program, regarding Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), 2,763 individuals (552 boys; 499 girls; 885 males; 827 females) were reached during awareness sessions. Through community-based mechanisms, 43 cases of SEA were also reported.

**Communication for Development (C4D):** In 2019, UNICEF in collaboration with the State Ministries of Health, County Health Departments, WHO and partners carried out a series of immunization campaigns as part of overall support for Expanded Programme for Immunization across the country. The campaigns included two rounds of Polio National Immunization Days, Periodic Intensification of Routine Immunizations, Measles Reactive Vaccination in about 15 measles affected counties and campaigns, and campaigns on Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus Elimination (MNTE) and Meningitis A in 33 selected counties. In support to the campaigns, UNICEF C4D with its existing Integrated Community Mobilization Network (ICMN) together with UNICEF supported County Health Departments volunteers and partners provided awareness creation and demand generation through communication, social mobilization and community engagement activities including stakeholder's engagement, radio messaging, display of information, education and communication materials. Over 2,800 mobilizers were trained and carried out megaphone announcements, house-to-house mobilization focusing on face-to-face interactions with parents/caregivers of under-five and women of child-bearing age, sensitization of community leaders and church and mosques announcements educating communities on the importance of immunizations. During those campaigns, a cumulative estimate of 1.6 million households (7,200,000 people) were reached with key lifesaving messages. Additionally, through GAVI-Health System Strengthen to improve routine immunization, UNICEF C4D together with State Ministries of health and County Health Departments conducted a series of Health Facility based EPI vaccinators training on interpersonal communication skills. A total of 624 EPI health

facilities vaccinators from 383 health facilities across 30 counties in Greater Lakes, Central Equatoria State, Western and Northern Bahr el Ghazals, Unity and Jonglei were reached.

As part of UNICEF C4D regular programming through Integrated Community Mobilization Network in 2019, a total of 1,113,733 individuals at household and community level were reached with key lifesaving messages on health and hygiene behaviours, routine immunization, importance of education, nutrition and importance of notifying when a child is born. The ICMN community mobilizers also supported flood response across the flood affected areas and epidemic outbreaks such as hepatitis E in Bentiu POC, Yellow Fever outbreak in Sakure, Yambio, Rubella outbreak in Wau, Aweil and Renk, and cross-sectoral support to BTL campaigns, commemoration of Menstrual Hygiene Day, release and reintegration of children associated with armed forces and groups (CAAFAG) in Yambio and Pibor, and commemoration of 'Red Hand Day,' Global Handwashing Day, World Breastfeeding Week, HIV/AIDs Day and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Also, as part of roll out of Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP), over 50 UNICEF staff were trained on AAP including country Management Teams members.

In October, UNICEF C4D in collaboration with South Sudan Council of Churches conducted a high-level faith-based social and behavior change workshop in Juba. The event was part of UNICEF's 'Global Faith and Positive Change for Children' initiative and counted 52 participants from across South Sudan. The event focused on addressing the challenges of the conflict and maximize opportunities for more positive and impactful influence towards improving wellbeing of children and families in the country. UNICEF South Sudan signed a Joint Memorandum of Understanding with South Sudan Council of Churches and the World Food Programme to support peace building and community resilience and social cohesion efforts in South Sudan. Through the MOU, different faith-based communities and actors were brought together to identify new ways to influence positive social and behavior.

**Cash-Based Programming:** In 2019, UNICEF launched a South Sudan cash strategy, increased their internal capacity on cash-based programming and began a Water Voucher project in Wau. Since September, UNICEF and Oxfam, in collaboration with the Urban Water Corporation and WFP has been targeting water vouchers to vulnerable families in Wau. Thus far 8,728 people (2,182 households) have been provided with water through voucher systems through kiosks. Complementary water infrastructure work including elevated reservoirs tank has been completed to expand the number of operational kiosks from five to nine; three customer care centres have been set up. Over 3,218 people have been reached with messages to raise awareness around the use of the vouchers and key hygiene messages through hygiene promoters/community mobilisers.

UNICEF supported the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare (MoGCSW) in a national mapping and analysis of social protection programmes using the Inter Agency Social Protection Assessments (ISPA) Core Diagnostic Tool (CODI). Following this exercise, the National Social Protection Working Group (SPWG) supported by UNICEF, has started the development of a national monitoring and evaluation framework and in 2020, will develop a roadmap for formalizing the inter-linkages among various management information systems used by different programmes. Additionally, UNICEF as member of the Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) led by REACH and the Inter-Agency Cash Working Group, supported data collection in Yambio and Malakal in an effort to share timely market information and improve coordination among cash actors in the country.

**Ebola Preparedness:** In 2019 UNICEF played an important role in the EVD preparedness efforts in South Sudan as the lead agency for Risk Communication/PSS and WASH/infection prevention and control (IPC) pillars, actively supporting priority interventions as well as the National and State level coordination mechanisms.

During the year, a total of 14 surge staff (coordination, health, risk communication and WASH) have been deployed to provide technical assistance to implementing partners, monitor implementation of priority interventions and support national and sub national level coordination. UNICEF worked with 18 implementing partners in seven high risk states to implement EVD interventions in the areas of risk communication and community engagement, WASH/IPC, case management and safe and dignified burials. UN-UN agreements were also signed with WFP and IOM to support EVD logistics and border health respectively.

Supporting the case management pillar, UNICEF-supported partners established four isolation facilities and seven holding units in high-risk areas. UNICEF also supported the training of 65 health care workers on comprehensive Ebola

clinical care and the provision of refreshment training to additional 97 health care staff. To strengthen skills and build confidence of the staff, 24 drills and 16 mentorship sessions were conducted in the isolation facilities to. In addition, seven ambulance teams (22 staff) were trained on safe patient transfer. UNICEF also supported the revision of Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) for case management and ambulance transportation.

Supporting the WASH/IPC pillar, UNICEF and partners improved access to WASH and IPC services across high risk states by upgrading WASH facilities, distributing IPC supplies and training health workers in 168 frontline health facilities, four isolation units and six holding units. At least 320 health workers from isolation units and frontline line health facilities were trained and mentored on basic IPC WASH standards, while 12 WASH professionals from implementing partners received training of trainers in IPC WASH, enabling them to become training multipliers. IPC WASH assessments, mentorship and joint supportive supervision were also conducted routinely throughout the year in health facilities and State level Technical Working Groups (TWG) in all high-risk states.

Supporting the Risk Communication pillar, UNICEF supported implementation of social mobilization and community engagement interventions across the Ebola high-risk areas. In 2019, over 1,356,189 people were reached with EVD preventive (interpersonal and group communication) by 928 trained community mobilizers. A total of 2,800 community leaders and influencers that include local chiefs, religious leaders, traditional healers, women and youth groups were also sensitized. UNICEF has also worked to actively track and act on rumors and misconceptions about EVD in at-risk communities. Over 150 reports and misconceptions were tracked throughout the year, with 90 percent of the rumors managed within 72 hours. A total of 34,683 jingles and 60 talk-shows have been aired throughout the year by 18 local stations across the EVD high risk areas, educating communities on preventive measures and addressing misconceptions and rumors. Additionally, over 500,000 Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials were printed and distributed. In collaboration with MoH and implementing partners, UNICEF has also completed an Ebola Knowledge Attitudes and Practices (KAP) study, collecting important behavioral data across 10 sites in high-risk areas. The implementation of a KAP II and a comprehensive behavioral study of communities during the investigation of EVD alerts is ongoing and will be completed in 2020.

In 2019, UNICEF has also supported the development of curricula and the implementation of trainings on Psychosocial Support (PSS) and Child Protection (CP) for social workers and other frontline actors. In total, 78 Child Protection and members of the Social Mobilization Response Team been trained during the year in topics that included impact of EVD on communities and their protection mechanisms, communicating with children and psychological first aid. UNICEF and child protection partners have also supported the revision of the case management SOPs and alternative care guidelines, adapting them for a potential EVD outbreak.

## Supply and Logistics

During 2019 in support of the country office program, an approximate value of US\$ 28 million of multi sectoral supplies were dispatched by UNICEF South Sudan Country Office to over 250 partners throughout the country and warehouse to warehouse transfer.

In addition, and approximate value of US\$ 13 million worth of supplies are available in UNICEF warehouses to support ongoing requirements.

## Media and External Communications

The reduction of media interest in South Sudan in 2018 continued in 2019 but stabilized on a lower level than seen previous years. Despite this, UNICEF contributed to 316 mentions in national and international media, a 54 per cent increase from last year. This is mostly attributed to more proactive media work. UNICEF South Sudan released 17 news notes in 2019.

A highlight of the year was the launch of a [child soldier animation](#) on the international child soldier day 12 February. The animation is based on a true story from South Sudan. The animation was seen by hundreds of thousand people across the world. Instagram artists were engaged to create Instagram stickers (GIFs) as a way of people to show their stance against children being used by armed forces and armed groups.



The Third International Conference on Safe Schools was another highlight. The South Sudan country office took part in an innovative advocacy installation. Wood from a school destroyed by conflict was turned into a sculpture of a South Sudanese child. Together with sculptures from Iraq and Ukraine, world leaders were asked to commit to keeping schools safe. The campaign was ranked third best in the world in 2019 by [Campaign Me](#).

Over the course of eight weeks, UNICEF followed three children suffering from severe acute malnutrition from admission to recovery. This resulted in a comprehensive content package for the release of UNICEF's flagship report State of the World's Children on 15 October. The content was featured in the global UNICEF channels and by National Committees for UNICEF. UNICEF South Sudan also organized a national launch of the report in Juba, focusing on the importance of preventing malnutrition.

The year ended with another great moment, namely the commemoration of World Children's Day in November. In the capital Juba, UNICEF organized a large event with around 700 children under the headline #EndChildMarriage. Children were marching in the streets demanding their rights to be respected and local musicians were performing songs on the topic. Similar events took place all over the country thanks to UNICEF's many field offices.

UNICEF South Sudan's social media platforms continued to gain popularity. UNICEF's South Sudan Facebook page had 125,000 followers at the beginning of the year and finished with 132,000. UNICEF's Instagram account for South Sudan grew the most with a 36 per cent increase in number of followers compared to 2018. The Twitter and YouTube accounts also realised growth.

## Security

During 2019, armed hostilities between government forces and various armed opposition groups - particularly the SPLA-in-Opposition (SPLA-iO) under Dr Riek Machar - have significantly reduced in traditional hotspot areas in Upper Nile, Unity and Jonglei states due to their commitment to the signed Revitalized Agreement for the Resolution of Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS). As per the agreement, the establishment of a Unity Government was expected on 12 May 2019 but later extended twice, first to 12 November 2019 and then to 22 February 2020 given issues on security arrangements, number of States and border demarcation. The implementation of the R-ARCSS has continued to face financial challenges amplified by the reluctance of the international community and traditional donor States to provide the funding. Furthermore, it is assessed that the extension leading to the February 2020 deadline (100 days) and the immediate aftermath of the formation of the Unity Government will be largely peaceful with sporadic localized fighting between parties to the conflict particularly at cantonment sites especially when issues raised by soldiers particularly from SPLA-iO are not immediately addressed.

Inter-Communal Violence (ICV) related to cattle raiding continued in Warrap and Lake states in which civilians from both sides were either killed or injured. This is reflective of continual patterns relating to cattle raiding and conflict over resources which are exacerbated by the widespread proliferation of weapons and overall lawlessness despite the Government's disarmament campaign. It is assessed that ICV incidents related to cattle raiding and fight over resources are likely to increase during the dry season from December 2019 to May 2020.

Criminality and harassment in Juba and across the country remained a concern.

## Funding

REPORT AS OF 31ST DECEMBER 2019					
Funding Requirements (as defined in Humanitarian Appeal of 31 Jan 2019 for a period of 12 months)					
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds Available		Funding Gap	
		Funds Received	C/F from 2018	Funding Gap (\$)	%
Health	11,201,300	3,228,666	3,221,412	4,751,221	42%
Nutrition	50,202,200	61,775,465	10,742,757		0%
WASH	45,587,000	15,100,980	1,678,452	28,807,568	63%
Education	43,740,000	5,937,869	7,693,857	30,108,274	69%
Child Protection	28,500,000	7,707,583	2,806,058	17,986,359	63%
<b>Total</b>	<b>179,230,500</b>	<b>93,750,564</b>	<b>26,142,536</b>	<b>81,653,422</b>	<b>46%</b>

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

- HAC funded includes substantial carry-forward (C/F) funding from 2018, however figures are still provisional.

## Next Situation Report: February 2020

UNICEF South Sudan Crisis: [www.unicef.org/southsudan](http://www.unicef.org/southsudan)

UNICEF South Sudan Facebook: [www.facebook.com/unicefsouthsudan](https://www.facebook.com/unicefsouthsudan)

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

<b>Who to contact for further information:</b>	Mohamed Ayoya	Yves Willemot
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	UNICEF South Sudan	UNICEF South Sudan
	Email: <a href="mailto:mayoya@unicef.org">mayoya@unicef.org</a>	Email: <a href="mailto:ywillemot@unicef.org">ywillemot@unicef.org</a>

## Annex A

### SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS 2019

	Cluster for 2019		UNICEF and partners for 2019			%
	Target (Jan-Dec)	Results (December)	Target (Jan-Dec)	Results (December)	Change since last report	
<b>NUTRITION</b>						
# of children aged 6 to 59 months admitted for SAM treatment	220,700	236,213	220,700	236,213	14,320	107.0%
# of caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months reached with infant and young child feeding counselling	984,700	1,672,942	984,700	1,672,942	166,177	169.9%
<b>HEALTH</b>						
# of children 6 months-15 years in humanitarian situations vaccinated for measles			475,000	919,160	21,199	193.5%
# of children and women provided with long-lasting insecticide treated nets (LLITN) distributed			200,000	186,744	17,822	93.4%
<b>WASH</b>						
# people accessing the agreed quantity of water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	3,000,000	1,832,978	800,000	496,574	13,087	62.1%
# of people accessing appropriate sanitation facilities	3,000,000 <sup>1</sup>	501,701	300,000	202,208	5,072	67.4%

<sup>1</sup> 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan WASH Strategic Objective 1.

CHILD PROTECTION						
# of children reached with psychosocial support services	476,750	314,461	275,000	244,261	14,288	88.8%
# of girls, boys, women and men reached with gender-based violence prevention and response services			146,000	80,840	1,008	55.4%
EDUCATION						
# of children accessing quality formal or non-formal early learning, pre-primary, primary or secondary education	786,324	713,399	729,000	618,174	2,334	84.8%
# of teachers trained on education-in-emergencies basic pedagogy and learner-centred methodologies	16,500	15,250	5,500	6,360	912	115.6%

## Annex B

### Ebola Humanitarian Performance Monitoring and Funding Table

Ebola Humanitarian Performance Monitoring				
Sector	Indicators	Target	Results	% achieved
WASH	# of health facilities provided with essential WASH services in areas at risk of EVD	60	168	280%
WASH	# of public places where handwashing stations are installed and utilized in areas at risk	100	240	240%
WASH	# of staff in health facilities trained on IPC/WASH in areas at risk of EVD	240	320	133%
C4D	# of community health workers trained in risk communication and community engagement for EVD preparedness	850	928	109%
C4D	# of people reached with EVD prevention and control messages (interpersonal and group communication)	1,047,353	1,356,189	129%

Ebola funding Table as of 31 December 2019						
Sector	Total Requirements	Funds available			Funding gap	
		Funds Received	Carry-Over from 2018	Total funds received	US\$	%

Health	100,650	306,733	0	306,733	-206,083.00	-205%
WASH	1,161,880	3,743,977	0	3,743,977	-2,582,097.00	-222%
C4D	3,176,410	5,128,153	0	5,128,153	-1,951,743.44	-61%
Child Protection	95,000	376,260	0	376,260	-281,260.00	-296%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,533,940</b>	<b>9,110,679</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,110,679</b>	<b>-5,021,183</b>	<b>-111%</b>