

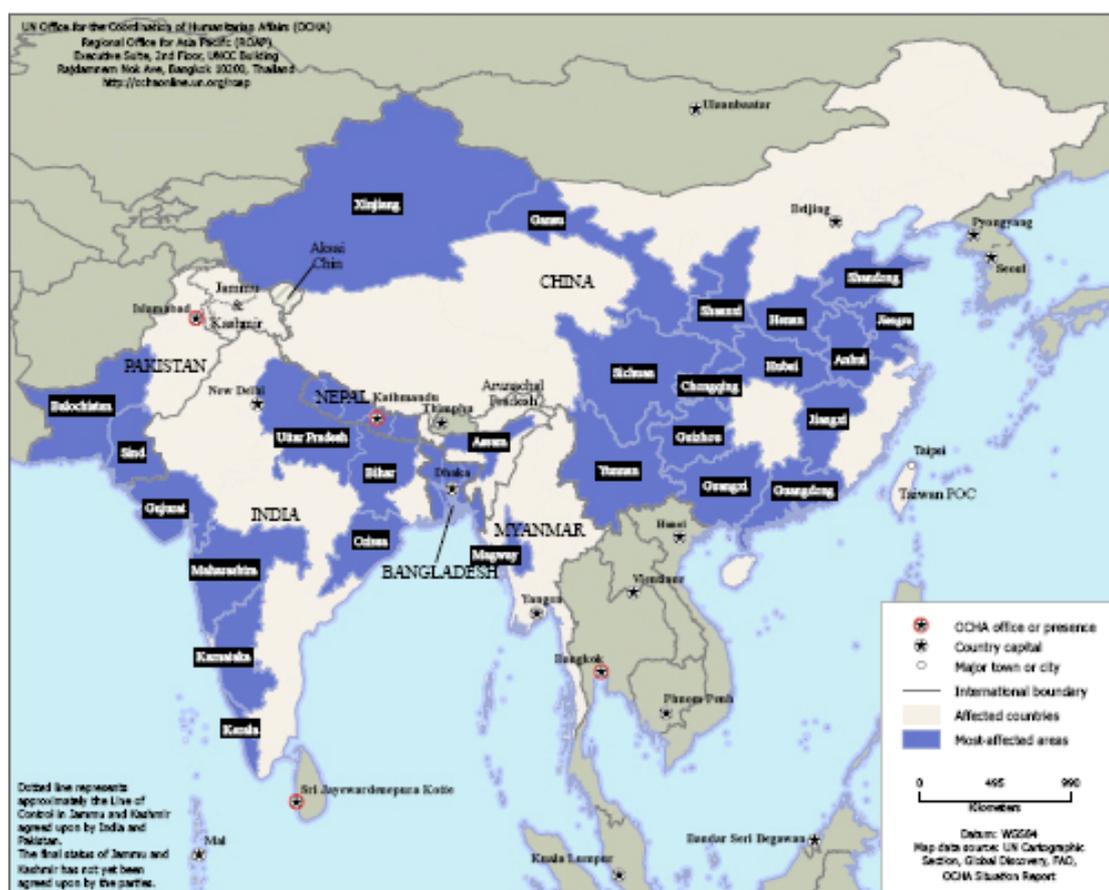
UNICEF HUMANITARIAN ACTION UPDATE

SOUTH ASIA FLOODS

25 SEPTEMBER 2007

UNICEF IS RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN AND WOMEN IN THE AREAS OF HEALTH AND NUTRITION, WATER AND SANITATION, EDUCATION AND CHILD PROTECTION

- Heavy floods and landslides in Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan have affected millions of children and their families.
- Thousands of villages have been marooned, leaving millions of people displaced.
- While flood waters have begun to recede, the threat from hunger, disease and malnutrition continues for the affected populations.
- UNICEF's biggest priority is to prevent serious disease outbreaks and to protect the health and nutritional status of women and children. UNICEF also focuses on getting children back to school.



The names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

Map Ref: OCHA ROAP Floodline v.1 070615

1. ISSUES FOR CHILDREN

Heavy seasonal monsoon rains have caused widespread flooding across South Asia devastating communities and livelihoods and causing displacement of thousands of people throughout India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Pakistan. Across the subcontinent around 50 million people have been affected in what has been described as among the worst flooding in years – with yet more rains forecast in coming weeks.

Relief and recovery efforts are well underway in all affected countries – however the incidence of diarrhoeal and other waterborne diseases continues to rise. Access to fresh water, food and shelter for all affected populations remains the primary concern. In addition, millions of children across the affected regions are unable to begin the new academic term as their schools have been destroyed, damaged or are being used as shelters.

India has been worst hit by the floods with over 3,000 deaths and 50 million people affected according to Government estimates. As many as 42,279 villages have been flooded, with more than 1.7 million homes damaged or destroyed in 241 affected districts. The worst-hit states are Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, and Orissa.

Nearly 22 million people in 10,943 villages in 22 districts in **Bihar** have been affected by flooding. In **Uttar Pradesh** 2,546 villages in 21 districts with a population of 1.2 million people have been affected. As per official data, the affected population in **Assam** stands at 10.8 million and 127 casualties have been reported. In **Orissa**, a total of 1,917 villages in 12 districts with a population of around 1.6 million are reported to be affected. There has been a cholera outbreak in three southern districts of Orissa and more than 130 people have already died of this disease.

In **Bangladesh**, an estimated 10.6 million people have been affected by the floods and over 800 people have died. Bangladesh is prone to floods as the country lies on the world's most active delta, and it is currently bracing itself for new flooding after major rivers swelled alarmingly. This year's floods have already put nearly half of the country under water, displaced over 9 million people and caused considerable devastation to crops, crop land and infrastructure. The fresh floods threaten major damage on newly sown paddy rice and vegetable fields on over a million hectares of land across the inundated districts.

Safe drinking water is in short supply. About 59,000 tubewells, roughly representing 12% of the total in the affected districts are inundated. The number of children getting sick from diarrhoea is increasing. Skin disease and eye infections are also spreading rapidly due to exposure to stagnant and polluted floodwater over a long period of time. Children and women are particularly at risk, since children play in the flood water and women are more in charge of the household chores.

The effect of the floods on children's education is that for many school-going children chances of returning to school after the summer break have become uncertain. So far, 8,015 primary schools have been affected by the floods, with 7,780 being closed down. 526 primary schools are currently being used as flood shelters. Displaced and separated children are at high risks to various forms of abuse, exploitation and involvement in hazardous labour.

The situation of 9.2 million displaced and stranded people, of whom 4.5 million are children, is likely to get worse in the next few months unless urgent action is taken to mitigate the immediate after-effects of the floods. Most families have managed to make reasonable short-term living arrangements in shelters. The most urgent need for these people is food and cash. Without a harvest in the near future, the shortage of food and difficulties in finding work could continue toward the end of the year.

In **Nepal**, torrential monsoon rains caused landslides in the hilly parts of the country and severe flooding in the southern plains. The most severely affected districts are: Kalilali (Far Western Region), Banke and Bardiya (Mid Western Region), Dhanusa, Mahottari, Rautahat, Parsa, Sarlahi, Siraha and Saptari (Central Terai Districts).

Assessments by the Nepal Red Cross Society indicate that more than 97,000 families (approximately 580,200 people) in 49 of Nepal's 75 districts have been affected. Around 25,000 families are currently displaced because their houses have been damaged or totally destroyed by the floods.

Some affected areas are still inaccessible due to continued inundation, rainfall and damaged roads. Health problems are emerging in five districts; Rauthaut, Dhanusa, Bardiya, Banke and Kailali and illness is expected to increase in other affected districts. Communication systems, transportation network and public service institutions have been damaged hampering relief and rescue operations. Schools in the affected areas have also been damaged and education materials destroyed.

In **Pakistan**, an estimated 2.5 million people have been affected by the floods provoked by four days of heavy rains after cyclone Yemyin hit the provinces of Balochistan and Sindh in the south of Pakistan. These provinces are also among Pakistan's most disadvantaged, which makes children and women there particularly vulnerable. One out of ten infants dies in Balochistan before completing his/her first year of age. Forty per cent of children under five are underweight. Maternal mortality is twice the country's average at 600 deaths of women per 100,000 live births. Indicators for children in northern Sindh, in the districts worst affected by the floods, are similar. UNICEF is therefore concerned that children will particularly suffer from lack of access to food, safe water and medicine given the disruptions caused by the floods in half of the districts of Balochistan province and in western districts of the neighbouring Sindh province.

Even though the overall flood situation in Pakistan is now under control and the excess water in the rivers is receding, over 377,000 people are unable to return to their damaged or destroyed homes.

2. UNICEF RESPONSE: ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONSTRAINTS

INDIA

UNICEF, which has state offices in all flood-affected states, has from the first heavy rains monitored the situation in close collaboration with its government and NGO counterparts. Up to end-July respective state authorities were able to cushion the impact of floods with their interventions with limited external assistance. Toward the end of July, however, the number of affected, displaced and homeless people increased rapidly and dramatically, and the humanitarian crisis deepened.

In the four most affected states, UNICEF and NGO partners have been supporting the respective state Governments in supplementing the relief effort in the areas of health, nutrition, education, and water and sanitation.

UNICEF had pre-positioned stocks of essential supplies worth about US\$500,000 in flood-prone states. These included ORS sachets, halozone tablets, plastic sheets, bleaching powder, family hygiene kits, toilet seats and disposal delivery kits and other relief items. The response of UNICEF was very quick due to long-term arrangements with suppliers and pre-positioned supplies. These supplies were immediately provided to flood-affected people through UNICEF's network of local partners and local authorities.

UNICEF ACTION TO DATE

Nutrition

[Bihar](#)

A rapid assessment of children to identify severe and acute malnutrition has now been completed in 9 districts. Among nearly 55,000 children (6m – 5yrs), 1,404 were found to be

severely malnourished. To date, 8,743 mothers have been counselled and supported to give more frequent feeds to the malnourished children.

The referral service to rehabilitate children with severe and acute grade of malnutrition started on 30th August in two Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs) in Muzaffarpur and East Champaran. The facilitators are providing on-the-job training to the staff.

Children between 6 months and 5 years of age and pregnant/lactating mothers were provided nutritious meals through 194 community kitchens across 8 districts.

Assam

Active case finding pertaining to malnutrition levels of children in Anganwadi centres has been initiated (26,738 children have been weighed so far), followed by appropriate counselling of mothers.

Health

Bihar

A comprehensive disease surveillance and containment plan is in place for early detection and prevention of outbreaks of gastroenteritis, malaria, measles, and leptospirosis.

Since the beginning of the relief operations, over 476,000 people have been treated by medical teams mobilized jointly by the Government of Bihar and UNICEF. There have been 60,449 cases of fever, 754 cases of fever with rash, 139 cases of jaundice, 30,815 cases of ARI (cough) and 31,625 cases of diarrhoea. As of September 20, more than 134,000 children have been immunized against measles and 93,587 children were given Vitamin A supplementation. The medical teams, equipped with the necessary drugs and logistical support to reach out to remote areas, were formed through NGO partners.

UNICEF and the Government of Bihar also provide essential maternal health services to the displaced populations and in areas where health facilities have not yet resumed functioning. UNICEF is supporting this endeavour by providing tents, midwifery kits and emergency health kits.

Uttar Pradesh (U.P.)

101 mobile clinics were operational in Uttar Pradesh. So far, more than 128,000 people, including 46,000 children, have been treated. Immunisation, chlorination, ORS distribution and health hygiene education is part of the clinics' work and 1 million ORS packets, 10,000 impregnated bed-nets for malaria prevention and 200,000 IEC leaflets on diarrhoea management have been distributed. A total of 21,000 children have been vaccinated.

Assam

UNICEF carried out rapid assessments in the flood-affected districts. Health camps were subsequently organised to provide health check-ups and measles vaccinations for the affected population.

Along with partners, the UNICEF team facilitated health camps on *chars* (riverside islands) off Dibrugarh district where supplies were distributed to affected populations.

Measles immunisation and administration of Vitamin A started on the 23rd of August in the six worst-affected districts. An estimated 60,000 children are being covered.

On the 21st of August, the media reported an outbreak of gastrointestinal disease in Guwahati. The Government took immediate action by setting up a health camp in the local school with doctors and other paramedical staff posted round-the-clock with ambulance services. Stool samples were examined and water safety and hygiene supplies were rushed to the affected area. Active house-to-house surveillance started through medical teams. Public information messages were released through local media. The outbreak has been contained.

Orissa

UNICEF collaborated closely with the Government agencies in response to the cholera outbreak in Southern Orissa. UNICEF pre-positioned emergency supplies were used for immediate distribution. Additionally, UNICEF provided 4,000 units of Ringer Lactate IV fluid and non-pharmaceutical items (including gloves, aprons, plastic sheets, plastic buckets and mugs) to Diarrhoea Treatment Centres (DTCs).

UNICEF deployed a team of doctors to Rayagada and Koraput districts to assist the administration in epidemiological assessment and treatment protocols. A WASH officer is also positioned in Koraput district assisting the administration in assessing water quality and sanitation issues.

UNICEF conducted training of NGOs and volunteers in Koraput district for mobilisation of communities on preventive aspects of the outbreak.

UNICEF, WHO and UNDP also created a technical team to support the affected districts to improve the epidemiological surveillance, provide technical support for treatment protocols for managing cases and create a public health fire wall.

Water and sanitation

Bihar

To date Government agencies have disinfected 46,526 handpumps, installed 1,850 new hand pumps with raised platforms in the affected villages, and installed 1,185 temporary hand pumps and 417 toilet sets in relief camps with UNICEF support. Through NGO partners, UNICEF has supported hygiene campaigns, hand pumps disinfection, setting up temporary shelters with toilets and promotion of Ecosan toilets.

Uttar Pradesh (U.P.)

Installation of 15 Ecosan toilets was completed in Barabanki and Bahraich districts. The NGO partners have disinfected water sources in 1,100 villages and residual solid waste was safely disposed of in 150 villages. Over 250,000 people received Halogen tablets, about 12,500 families received temporary shelter and 3,500 families were given jerry cans.

Assam

Implementation of the Total Sanitation Campaign in the six districts is geared up to address sanitation needs of the affected people who are setting up or repairing their homes.

Orissa

UNICEF helped to provide temporary toilets in Rayagada in coordination with OXFAM and worked closely with the Government agencies, OXFAM and CRS to develop a coordinated response strategies.

Education

Bihar

In all, 525 Alternative Learning Spaces (ALS) have been set up covering about 60,000 students. Most of the ALSs are in camps, embankments, inundated or damaged schools and on roadsides or sites where displaced people live. As the flood situation is dynamic, ALS are being relocated to schools and other sites, depending on the flood situation and the movement of displaced people. About 3 million children in 16,000 schools in the flood-affected districts will be given accelerated hygiene and health education.

Uttar Pradesh

UNICEF is planning to provide additional TLMs, seating mats and recreation materials.

Child Protection

Bihar

A rapid assessment, carried out in 85 villages of Samastipur and Madhubani districts, indicates a rising trend of children migrating for child labour; it identifies children vulnerable to abuse, exploitation and neglect and the need for providing psychosocial support. UNICEF and partners plan for counselling to children in schools and psychosocial support to families and children in camps in Samastipur and Muzaffarpur.

Communication and social mobilization

Bihar

A communication and social mobilization strategy has been implemented to communicate key messages related to hygiene, sanitation, health, nutrition and child protection to families and communities so that they can practice key child survival behaviours. This has been achieved through partner NGOs, mass media and government functionaries.

Uttar Pradesh (U.P.)

In six districts, 900 volunteers are in the process of being trained on key health and hygiene behaviours and 130,000 folders describing key health and hygiene behaviours were dispatched for distribution. UNICEF in partnership with National Cadet Corps (NCC) and Art of Living Foundation (AOL) continues to provide relief support.

Orissa

UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA have initiated an Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and social mobilization campaign in the affected areas of Rayagada and Koraput involving the available NGO networks.

Coordination

UNICEF continues to take a leading role in coordinating the NGO and INGO response during floods and in post-flood rehabilitation. UNICEF also continues to support the inter-agency meetings and the Unified Response Strategy (URS) in the proactive and coordinated response in the flood affected states.

PLANNED UNICEF ACTION

UNICEF is now continuing its medium-term response for next three months in the worst hit state Bihar. In **health**, the emphasis will be the containment of diseases and establishment of disease control measures. **Water and sanitation** activities have an overall objective to reduce the risk of outbreaks of diarrhoea diseases with intensive interventions to ensure water quality, improve environmental sanitation and diarrhoea management. **Nutrition** interventions will aim at ensuring adequate resources and services to prevent deterioration in and improve the nutritional status of pre-school children, pregnant women and breast-feeding mothers in the critical post-flood period. Additional interventions will include Vitamin A distribution on a six-month basis from the regular Government programme supported by UNICEF; counselling on Infant and Young Child Feeding practices; and advocacy efforts with community support. The immediate action in education is to assist the Government in resuming schooling in all schools in the flood-affected areas in the state, with focus on girls and children in marginalised communities. UNICEF will also provide essential school supplies. UNICEF is also planning an Information, Education and Communication Campaign, which will include combined water/sanitation and health messages on preventive health, water quality surveillance and soap use.

NEPAL

The initial assessment carried out by Nepal Red Cross Society Chapters and updated as of 4 August 2007 indicates 95 people dead, 1 person missing and 51 injured; 21,571 families are

displaced and some 333,518 people (56,305 families) are affected. A total of 9,629 houses are reported completely destroyed and 17,251 houses partially damaged. Some affected areas are still inaccessible due to continued inundation, rain fall and damaged roads. Information on the damage, emerging needs and consequences of a slow-onset disaster is still imprecise.

Assessments have identified the following as immediate needs: shelter, clean drinking water and ready-to-eat food. Health problems are emerging in five districts; Rauthaut, Dhanusa, Bardiya, Banke and Kailali and illness is expected to increase in other affected districts. Communication systems, transportation network and public service institutions have been damaged hampering relief and rescue operations. Schools in the affected areas have been damaged and education materials destroyed.

UNICEF ACTION TO DATE

UNICEF has been working with other UN agencies, related government ministries, the Nepal Red Cross Society and other relief agencies at the central as well as district level, to assist in the flood relief efforts by providing technical support as well as emergency supplies.

Emergency supplies provided by UNICEF include water purification tablets as well enough flocculent powder to purify water for some 60,000 people for two weeks in the flood- and landslide affected areas of the country. These include the districts of Banke, Bardiya, Dhanusha, Mahottari and Rautahat in the Terai to the landslide affected hilly districts in the Karnali Zone. Other supplies include 6,000 packets of oral rehydration salt dispatched to these districts through the Red Cross and other partners to address the onset of diarrhoea and dysentery that may arise due to water contamination.

UNICEF has also provided non-food items such as tarpaulins, water buckets and blankets for the flood-hit areas from its stock of pre-positioned relief supplies in Kathmandu, Biratnagar, Bharatpur and Nepalgunj. There are still some stocks of these pre-positioned relief materials that will be released to meet the increased demands.

With increasing demands for the water purification tablets, UNICEF is in the process of ordering more supplies.

UNICEF staff based in the Nepalgunj Field Office is assisting the District Health Office to conduct the assessment of health needs of the affected population.

PLANNED UNICEF ACTION

- To participate in joint government/NRCS needs assessment exercises to assess requirements in water and sanitation, child nutrition, protection, and education.
- In partnership with District Education Offices distribute teaching kits to 500 schools and student kits to 20,000 children.
- Disseminate health and hygiene messages in the local languages over radio in the affected districts.
- Train local health workers to identify and treat malnutrition and provide therapeutic food for treatment.

UNICEF's strategic objectives are:

- Determine the immediate and medium-term needs of the affected population in the areas of water and sanitation, child nutrition, child protection, education, and health.
- 20,000 most vulnerable families are provided with shelter and hygiene; prevention and treatment of diarrhoea, water related disease and malaria; and treatment of malnutrition.
- Education materials provided to support the reopening of schools affected by the floods.

- Raise awareness on good health and hygiene practices to prevent the spread of disease.

BANGLADESH

UNICEF ACTION TO DATE

The first round of the current floods in Bangladesh started in early July, and became severe toward the end of July. With a short break, the second spell of flooding recurred from the last week of August. UNICEF launched immediate response activities with its pre-positioned stocked items in different locations of Bangladesh in coordination with its sectoral government counterpart ministries and departments. The 38 NGOs pre-qualified by UNICEF for emergency activities also proved to be instrumental in launching an immediate response.

Table 1: UNICEF Response to date

Intervention	No of affected families	Total quantity of relief items	Status
Supplementary Feeding (SF) 1st round	42,495	63.74 MT	Completed
SF 2nd round	15,920	23.93 MT	Completed
SF 3rd round	16,944	25.41 MT	Completed
Family Kits	9,000	9,000 kits	Completed
Plastic sheets	47,000	47,000 pieces	Completed
Essential medicines	45 districts covered		Ongoing as needed
Water and Sanitation	38 districts covered		Ongoing as needed
Recreational kits	40,000 children	5,540 kits	Completed
Emergency education kits	36,000 students	1,440 kits (1 kit for 25 students)	Completed

Another 30,000 plastic sheets and 12,000 family kits will reach 42,000 families by the middle of October.

Additional UNICEF support and supplies were planned and procured while relief operations to counter the first phase were underway along with close monitoring and collaboration with the government, UN agencies and other national and local actors. When the second wave of floods hit Bangladesh, UNICEF strategized immediate and short term (4-6 weeks) response that could make a difference for children and families with medium term and longer term response and rehabilitation to follow on the basis of national and UN needs assessments.

The Disaster and Emergency Response (DER) group (Chaired by the Government and represented by the UN agencies, national and international NGOs) has conducted a RENA (Rapid Needs Assessment). Five teams with representation from WFP, UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO & UNDP (accompanied by some NGOs) have returned from four zones of Bangladesh (divided from worst to least affected zones). Each team submitted separate report which is in the process of being compiled into one consolidated report. The assessment report will help better understand the immediate and early recovery needs by the donors, government, UN agencies and NGOs.

Health and Nutrition

UNICEF has supported the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) with 260,000 IV saline and other essential drugs that were pre-positioned as part of emergency preparedness and response planning. 400,000 bags of IV saline and essential drugs are in the procurement pipeline to replenish stock and for further assistance to the MOHFW to meet post-flood health needs. The MOHFW has deployed 3,521 mobile health teams that are providing health services to the affected populations. UNICEF ordered essential drugs worth \$125,000 with support from Canadian CIDA. An additional \$ 2 million has been rescheduled and frontloaded to UNICEF by CIDA for essential drugs emergency response.

UNICEF in collaboration with WFP and other partners until now distributed 114 Metric Tons of BP5 biscuits and reached approximately 62,222 children aged 6 - 35 months and 31,111 pregnant and lactating women in 93,333 families.

Another 119 MT BP5 biscuits will start reaching an estimated 39,952 children aged 6-35 months and 19,976 pregnant and lactating women in 59,928 families.

A National Immunisation Day scheduled for the 27th of October by the MOHFW with support from UNICEF will include one dose of high potency vitamin A for under-five children.

Water and Sanitation

UNICEF WES counterpart DPHE (Department of Public Health Engineering) is prepared for immediate response at this stage of the floods and do not require further support except for cash assistance to meet transportation and labour cost which UNICEF is ready to support.

The Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) is the lead government department assisting in the flood relief in affected areas in Bangladesh. UNICEF is maintaining regular contact with DPHE to provide material and cash assistance to serve the flood-affected population. UNICEF pre-positioned 20 million Water Purification Tablets (WPTs), 30 MT of bleaching powder, 15,000 jerry cans, 1000 HDP tanks and 4000 sets of temporary tubewells. These materials have been distributed and stocked in 45 districts. DPHE was also provided with 10 mobile water treatment plants. Four of these have been mobilized to provide water to the most affected district (Sirajganj and Jamalpur). In addition, UNICEF has placed an order for 10,000 jerry cans and 10 MT of bleaching powder to manage the situation during and after the floods.

Education

UNICEF, in collaboration with BRAC a national NGO, distributed 1,440 pre-positioned educational kits to reach 36,000 children of various age groups. Government and NGO sources show more than 8,000 primary schools and about 7,000 pre-primary schools affected (fully or partially damaged by the floods). Department of Primary Education (DPE) is preparing an action plan to rehabilitate and reconstruct the damaged schools. UNICEF will be supporting the provision of teaching and learning materials at school level and learning materials for students. Proposals are being submitted to the Consolidated UN Response to Floods to help resume school activities and reengage children in learning.

Child protection

UNICEF is working with NGOs to reduce the trauma of displaced and separated children in the shelter camps. 5,300 UNICEF pre-positioned recreational kit bags have been distributed by partner NGOs and have reached an estimated 30,000 children in three age groups (3-5; 6-10; and 10-14 years).

811 adolescent development centers are damaged by the floods and materials destroyed. Their regular activities are suspended due to loss of materials used for different sessions including health and hygiene facilities for adolescent girls. For the protection of affected girls immediate replacement of materials and activation of support facilities is necessary. UNICEF will partner with BRAC, to implement this post flood rehabilitation activities. BRAC will install safe drinking water facilities in the centers including hygiene and sanitary facilities (provide sanitary napkins, soap, detergent etc) for the members (adolescent girls) in the Centers.

Also psychosocial sessions for children will have to be intensified as populations start moving back to their homes once the flood waters recede. As parents start looking for jobs or collecting relief, children will be by themselves and unprotected for longer periods. Community-level psychosocial support, vigilance and monitoring are needed to protect the children from abuse and exploitation.

PLANNED UNICEF ACTION

UNICEF has submitted proposals to be included in the Consolidated UN Response to the Floods. The proposed budget for Education, mainly for supplies of learning materials in 22 worst affected districts, is \$429,048. The proposal for nutrition includes fortified high energy biscuits for children, pregnant and lactating women in 22 worst affected districts and is seeking funds to the tune of \$750,000. Water, sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) has put forth a proposal of \$212,546 to provide safe water, sanitation and hygiene education to an estimated 1,245,000 people in 16 affected districts.

UNICEF will assist the reconstruction of 100 Para Centres (Community Learning Centres for children) damaged by floods in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT). The cost per centre will be about \$1200. The fund is being rephased from a previous plan for renovation of 214 Para Centres as part of project interventions in CHT.

In **Water and Sanitation**, UNICEF intends to carry out the following activities:

Transportation of materials and manpower in 24 districts; raising of tube wells in 24 districts (Average 300 tube wells per district); construction of temporary tube wells in 600 shelters; construction of temporary latrines in 600 shelters; construction of temporary bathing places in 600 shelters; procurement of soap and soft cotton cloth for 200,000 families; coordination with NGOs, monitoring and supervision

In **Education**, UNICEF has planned to do the following:

Mobilize communities and education officials in hard to reach communities to create safe and child-friendly learning and recreational spaces for the flood affected out of school children; supply psychosocial, recreational and learning kits for schools and safe spaces; conduct training of teachers, facilitators and caregivers on the use of the recreational and learning materials and kits.

Child Protection is planning with Save the Children Australia and NGO partners on mobilizing Child Protection Vigilant Teams in the flood affected areas. These teams are planned to work alongside relief operations. The Vigilant teams would usher children to stay in safe places and encourage recreational activities for them while families collect relief and are living in shelter homes. Snacks and drinks will be made available to attract children to the recreational centers.

PAKISTAN

UNICEF ACTION TO DATE

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Provision of safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene continue to be major issues for the affected people in Balochistan and Sindh. According to reports from cluster members Of the WASH cluster component of the Flash Appeal US \$4.74 million, only UNICEF has received any funding against the appeal. Hence as the cluster lead, UNICEF has an obligation to assist in fundraising to meet the balance which currently reflects over \$2 million shortfall.

- A total of 278,146 people are being provided safe drinking water by the WASH cluster out of which UNICEF supported interventions are covering 227,240 people.
- Total number of persons being provided safe water through water tankering is 128,383 out of which UNICEF is providing safe water to 95,838 persons.
- Total number of people being provided safe water through restoration of water supply systems is 128,402 out of which 127,402 people are being covered through water schemes restored by UNICEF.
- Number of persons provided safe drinking water through provision of Nerox filters, Aquatabs and PUR sachets by UNICEF is 21,361.

- The total number of latrines constructed so far in the flood-affected areas of Sindh and Balochistan are 1,963 benefiting 39,260 people. Out of these, 1,687 latrines have been constructed with UNICEF support which is benefiting 33,740 people.
- A total of 194,592 people have been reached so far with appropriate hygiene messages (hygiene sessions and distribution of leaflets). Out of these, 178, 047 persons have been reached through UNICEF interventions.
- A total of 30,840 families have been provided with utensils for water collection and storage. UNICEF distributions have supported 27,140 families.
- Hygiene kits have been provided to a total of 7,700 families out of which UNICEF has provided to 4,500 families.
- Fifty water supply schemes have been restored by the government's Public Health Engineering Department in Balochistan and recently UNICEF has supplied materials to restore another 60 water supply schemes which would benefit 108,000 people in Balochistan upon completion.

Nutrition

Child malnutrition is of particular concern in the flood-affected districts in Balochistan since about 43 per cent of children are underweight (MICS 2004). The figure for Sindh is 40 per cent. About 18 per cent of children in Sindh are acutely malnourished, 14 per cent in Balochistan (National Nutrition Survey 2001-2002, latest official data). These figures are high according to WHO criteria.

Sindh

The nutrition intervention project implemented by local NGO HOPE with UNICEF support in the flood-affected areas in Dadu district is fully operational. In the last two weeks, a total of 2,164 children and pregnant and lactating women were screened for supplementary feeding in 12 centers. Fortified food (Unimix) was provided to 1,215 children and lactating and pregnant women. During the reporting period, 116 children were identified as severely malnourished and referred to the therapeutic feeding center attached to the district hospital. A majority of families did not want to keep children at the TFC due to additional cost and a lack of time from the mothers. Recently, community-based therapeutic feeding facilities have been integrated into the feeding programme. As a result all severely malnourished children without medical complications are treated at home. These children are given ready-to-use therapeutic food and basic medicines as required.

In addition, sessions have been conducted on the importance of appropriate feeding, including exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months, re-lactation, complementary feeding and hygiene and sanitation.

Balochistan

In Balochistan, in five flood-affected districts: Khuzdar, Sibi, Naseerabad, Jafarabad, Kech; a total of 3,020 children were screened. 1620 children were given Unimix. The screening was carried out by medical staff working at districts headquarters hospitals. In the coming weeks the screening will be carried out by female community health workers. Community-based therapeutic care facilities for severely malnourished children will be established by implementing partners, such as Save the Children in Bolan districts and BRSP in Khuzdar district.

In these five districts, 33 severely malnourished children were admitted at the therapeutic unit attached with the district hospitals. The Therapeutic Feeding Centres at five district headquarters hospitals are playing a vital role in preventing deaths from severe malnutrition.

Health

Child mortality in rural Balochistan and Sindh is high, with about 16 out of 100 children dying before their fifth birthday. About 500,000 of the children affected by the floods are under five and are particularly at risk of infectious diseases and epidemics. Outbreak of diarrhoea and other waterborne diseases is feared.

1. Vaccination campaigns:

- a. Vaccinated 102,221 children against routine antigens (including measles), as compared to a target of 109,000, in flood-affected districts of Sindh (94 per cent target achieved).
- b. Vaccinated 122,000 children against measles, as compared to a target of 124,800, in seven flood-affected districts of Balochistan (98 per cent target achieved).
- c. 80,000 children received vitamin A during Measles outbreak prevention campaign in seven flood affected districts in Balochistan.

2. Provision of essential medicines:

- a. Supplied New Emergency Health Kits (Basic Unit 5, Suppl Drugs 5, Suppl A Drugs 5, Suppl 2 Renewable 5, Suppl 2 Equipment 7) to Director General Health Services (DGHS) and 8 District health teams in Balochistan
- b. Distributed 200,000 ORS sachets to DGHS, Districts and partners in Balochistan
- c. Provided 1,000,000 Pakistani Rupees (about US\$ 16,600) cash assistance for procurement of medicines in the local market in Balochistan
- d. Supported the provision of Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (EmONC) services in Kamber through partnership with Action Aid.

3. Provision of supplies:

- a. Distributed 10,000 bed nets and 2,000 rapid diagnostic kits for malaria in Balochistan
- b. Distributed hospital equipment, including 100 portable beds, in Balochistan
- c. Distributed 6,500 baby blankets in Sindh and 45,560 in Balochistan
- d. Distributed 320 survival blankets and 15,000 quilts in Balochistan

4. Awareness raising campaigns:

- a. Printed and distributed 200,000 leaflets, carrying messages for prevention of diseases and promotion of healthy practices, in Balochistan.
- b. Formation of community groups in Balochistan (in 65 villages, 129 community groups formed and 3,898 community members trained on health and hygiene promotion in Bolan, Jhal Magsi, Naseerabad districts) for awareness creation
- c. Supported advertisements in local newspapers on health education in Balochistan.
- d. Printed and distributed 50,000 posters on malaria control in Balochistan.
- e. Supported health and hygiene awareness messages to communities through 1,800 Lady Health Workers (LHWs) in flood-affected districts of Sindh.
- f. Provided 400,000 leaflets in Urdu and Sindhi through LHWs for health and hygiene awareness in Sindh.
- g. Supported the provision of health and hygiene messages and prompting health practices-prevention/management of diarrhea, vaccination through threeFM Radio channels in Sindh.

5. Capacity Building:

- a. Supported the training of 18 pharmacists from flood affected districts of Sindh in "strengthening essential drugs and surgical supplies management for emergencies"

Education

The start of the school year scheduled for mid-August has been delayed in some areas since schools have been either destroyed, damaged or are being used as shelter for the IDPs.

School enrolment rates are the lowest in the country, particularly for girls (only one out of five girls goes to primary school in Balochistan). Lack of funding for some members of the education cluster is a source of concern since it can limit the ability to support local education authorities at the start of the school year.

Balochistan

Sixteen (16) districts of the province were affected with varying degrees of damage due to the floods in July 2007. A significant number of educational facilities suffered damages and educational services were completely disrupted. 218 schools in these districts were completely destroyed while 951 schools were partially damaged.

In the districts affected by the floods where UNICEF was previously working (i.e. Khuzdar, Sibi, Lasbela and Kalat) temporary shelters for learning have been provided and minor/major repairs have taken place with strong community participation. The provision of school supplies/learning materials is under way and teacher training/mentoring activities are being planned.

Kech/Turbat district is a new district for UNICEF. An agreement with a national NGO for the establishment of 74 transitional shelter schools is being negotiated. A temporary school shelter design based on local construction designs and techniques has been finalized through a project engineer and in consultation with the NGO partner organization. US\$ 75,000 funding is available for this agreement from Regular UNICEF Resources. An additional amount of US\$ 10,000 has been made available by the UNICEF Education section from Regular Resources which will be utilized for the revival of education activities in Jhal Magsi district, where more than 90 per cent of schools have been affected by the floods.

In UNICEF project districts all affected schools are being provided with school supplies on a needs basis. In non project districts supplies are being provided subject to the availability of resources. UNICEF has provided 153 School in a Box kits, 96 tarpaulin roles and 125 Recreation Kits to the flood affected districts in Balochistan.

Sindh

Two districts, Dadu and Kambar, have been badly affected by the floods. These are both non UNICEF project districts. An emergency education strategy has been prepared by UNICEF in collaboration with the Sindh Education Department.

Seventy temporary school shelters will be set up in the two affected districts in coordination with IOM. In addition, 245 School in a Box kits, 100 Recreation Kits, 500 plastic mats, 150 blackboards with stands, 300 boxes of chalk/stationery, 1,000 educational posters and 80 fire extinguishers will be provided (50 per cent to both districts).

A project agreement with an NGO is being negotiated to do fumigation, cleaning and minor repairs in 350 schools affected by the floods in Dadu and Kambar. A consultant is providing support to the flood affected areas and to organize high quality field level coordination.

Child Protection

Vulnerable women and children are not being prioritized during distribution of relief items. Women have reported lack of privacy, especially those who were residing in improvised camps on the roads. Children also face the issue of separation from their families as fathers stayed near their communities and sent their children to safer places or to live with relatives in nearby towns. There is concern that early marriages could become an issue when the families return to their communities and need money to reconstruct their homes and buy seeds and fertilizers. Young girls risk being given away in marriages in exchange for money.

- In Balochistan 1,000 pairs of children's shoes; 1,000 children's clothes; 1,000 food items (biscuits, water and juice); and 1,000 torches were distributed to vulnerable women and children and their families during the initial emergency response. The

Child and Adolescent Protection Programme also used supplies from colleagues, notably the Health section, to distribute to vulnerable women and children. In Sindh, UNICEF distributed 400 tarpaulin sheets, and 400 blankets to 400 street children to assist them during the initial rains.

- In Balochistan, the Provincial Social Welfare Department has finalized the UNICEF supported Rapid Protection Assessment Report identifying separated, unaccompanied and orphaned children and single women and female-headed households.
- Of the 1,411 registered vulnerable children in Balochistan: 67 per cent are orphaned by their father; 17 per cent are orphaned by mother; 13 per cent have lost both their mother and father; and 3 per cent are separated from their parents and are staying with other family members.
- The vulnerable women and children registered during the Assessment in 24 per cent of the flood-affected villages in nine districts of Balochistan have been made available to NGOs, CSOs and other relief organizations upon signing an undertaking for ethical and responsible use of information in order to ensure and verify that the protective issues of vulnerable women and children are being addressed.
- Preliminary results from the Rapid Protection Assessment undertaken by Sindh Provincial Social Welfare Department with UNICEF's support has identified 5,900 separated and orphaned children and 2,230 single women and female-headed households in Kamber District.
- To date, no unaccompanied children have been identified in the flood-affected districts of Balochistan and Sindh.
- UNICEF has formed new partnerships with five NGOs, two in Sindh and three in Balochistan and the District Social Welfare Department of district Jhal Magsi for the establishment of 80 mobile child protection teams and 40 child and women friendly spaces to protect 300,000 vulnerable girls, boys, women and their families in nine flood-affected districts.
- A meeting was held with Lt. General Farouk Khan, Chairperson of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), to explore possibilities to provide training to the military on humanitarian service delivery. As a result, the Protection Cluster has developing key protection messages for NDMA to share with all military in the flood-affected areas.
- In Balochistan UNICEF is supporting the Social Welfare Department in conducting a one-day training workshop for Protection Cluster members and civil society organisations on 'Protection Issues in Emergencies'.
- Training sessions on "Humanitarian Responses to Vulnerable Groups in Emergencies", including sessions on gender-based violence, were organized by the District Government of Larkana, Sindh and the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) with support from UNICEF for NGOs, civil society, and civil authorities. These sessions were attended by 69 officials from various departments of the districts governments of Kamber, Dadu and Larkana, and NGOs working on relief.
- With UNICEF support, the Provincial Commission on Child Welfare and Development in Balochistan has sent letters to the Executive District Officers (Community Development) to ensure that vulnerable groups get access to relief items on a priority basis.

- Distribution of 50,000 brochures printed by UNICEF on protective measures to be undertaken for vulnerable groups were shared with PDMA, civil authorities, NGOs and other relief agencies in Balochistan.
- The UNICEF Pakistan's Child and Adolescent Protection Programme received generous funding from the Netherlands National Committee for UNICEF's Child Protection component in the UN Flash Appeal of US\$ 590,000.00 which will be used to deliver protective services to 300,000 vulnerable women, children and their families in the nine flood affected districts for three months.
- UNICEF is the lead agency for the Protection Cluster. Meetings are being held on a bi-weekly basis in Islamabad and weekly in Quetta.

3. FUNDING REQUIREMENTS AND RECEIPTS

The **Pakistan** UN Country Team issued a Flash Appeal requesting a total amount of US\$ 38,303,544 to address the urgent humanitarian needs of the displaced and the affected population over a period of three months, with a particular emphasis on vulnerable groups. UNICEF's portion of the Flash Appeal amounted to US\$ 6,354,145.

Table 1: Funds Received against Pakistan Flash Appeal

Appeal Sector	Requirements by Sector (US\$)	Funds Received (US\$)	Unmet requirements (US\$)	% Unfunded
Health	1,000,000	797,484	202,516	20%
Nutrition	750,000	456,006	293,994	39%
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	2,800,000	2,375,907	424,093	15%
Education	872,000	435,261	436,739	50%
Protection	590,000	590,000	0	0%
Emergency Telecommunications	342,145	0	342,145	100%
Total*	6,354,145	4,654,658	1,699,487	27%

*The total includes a maximum recovery rate of 7%. The actual recovery rate on contributions will be calculated in accordance with UNICEF's Executive Board Decision 2006/7 dated 9 June 2006.

For **Nepal**, OCHA coordinated a small appeal through the addition of project proposals to the 2007 UN Common Appeal for Transition Support. UNICEF's "Relief to Flood Affected Populations in the Southern Districts of Nepal" project proposal of US\$ 1,424,731 is reflected in an updated version of the UN's Common Appeal for Transition Support for Nepal 2007.

UNICEF released US\$ 500,000 from its internal Emergency Programme Fund to enable rapid response to this emergency. The Nepal Country Office also allocated an additional US\$ 260,000 from core funding to procure water purification tablets, flocculent powder and hygiene kits plus and tarpaulin sheets, medicated bed nets, and plastic buckets.

In addition, UNICEF has received US\$ 342,460 from the Norwegian Government, US\$ 250,000 from USA/OFDA and US\$ 933,653 from UNICEF's Global Thematic Humanitarian fund.

Since the appeal was circulated, the government has requested UNICEF to support the rehabilitation of 60 water supply schemes damaged by floods and landslides. UNICEF also decided to engage NGOs and district water supply offices to train local Female Community Health Volunteers and Junior Red Cross volunteers to distribute water purification products,

and promote and demonstrate their proper use in flood-affected communities. The government also requested UNICEF to provide 50,000 bednets and distribute them to the flood victims, since the risk of malaria increases as the flood waters subside. The funds received in excess of the appeal amount (see table 2) will be used for the above-mentioned relief activities.

Table 2: Funds Received against Nepal CAP

Appeal Sector	Requirements (US\$)	Funds Received (US\$)
Relief to flood-affected population in districts of Southern Nepal	1,424,731	1,526,113
Total*	1,424,731	1,526,113

*The total includes a maximum recovery rate of 7%. The actual recovery rate on contributions will be calculated in accordance with UNICEF's Executive Board Decision 2006/7 dated 9 June 2006.

Bangladesh and India have not issued any appeals. UNICEF released a loan of US\$ 5 million from its Emergency Programme Fund to **India** to cover the costs of humanitarian response, primarily in health, nutrition, water and sanitation and child protection.

Bangladesh funded a large part of its response through regular resources and other available funds. To support the additional needs, UNICEF received US\$ 750,070 from the CERF. The UNCT in Bangladesh is currently in the process of preparing a consolidated proposal to donors for funding of priority rapid response and early recovery activities aimed at mitigating the humanitarian consequences of the floods to be undertaken over the next year. It is being finalized based on a joint damage and needs assessment and in close consultation with the Government and NGO partners.

Table 3: Funding requirements for India per sector (US\$)

Appeal Sector	Requirements (US\$)*
Planning and coordination	29,000
Health and nutrition	2,440,161
Water and sanitation	1,710,839
Education and child protection	385,000
Cross-sectoral	285,000
Emergency Unit	150,000
Total	5,000,000

*These requirements have been met through a loan from UNICEF's internal Emergency Programme Fund and the allocation of global thematic funds.

Table 4: Funding requirements for Bangladesh per sector (US\$)

Appeal Sector	Requirements (US\$)*	Funds Received (US\$)	Unmet requirements (US\$)	% Unfunded
Health and nutrition	5,749,170	4,833,678**	915,492	15.9%
Water and sanitation	1,697,572	1,481,025	216,547	12.8%
Education	653,222	47,152	606,070	92.8%
Child Protection	339,029	131,029	208,000	61.4%
Non- food items	2,239,103	850,778	1,388,325	62%
Total*	10,678,096	7,343,662	3,334,434	31.2%

*This includes US\$ 750,070 of CERF funding

Details on the South Asia floods emergency response programmes can be obtained from:

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