



Figure 1: Flood affected child in Bor returning to learning @UNICEF_Hill

South Sudan Country Office

Humanitarian Situation
Report No. 164

Reporting Period: January - December 2021

Highlights

- 92,790 affected children and caregivers were supported to access mental health and psychosocial support during 2021.
- UNICEF distributed 1.8 million textbooks and 22,5195 teacher guides supporting 5.4 million children with improved Education
- A total of 241,108 Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) cases (54% girls) were treated in inpatient and outpatient therapeutic programs.
- UNICEF scaled up emergency response to vulnerable communities impacted by nutrition insecurity, conflict and floods across the country.
- 39 water points has been rehabilitated in Jonglei and Upper Nile state providing access to safe water to 26,716 individuals.
- 2.5 million children received the polio vaccine
- UNICEF reached 7.6 million people with lifesaving messages, to build resilience of families, including health, Nutrition, and immunization.

Situation in Numbers

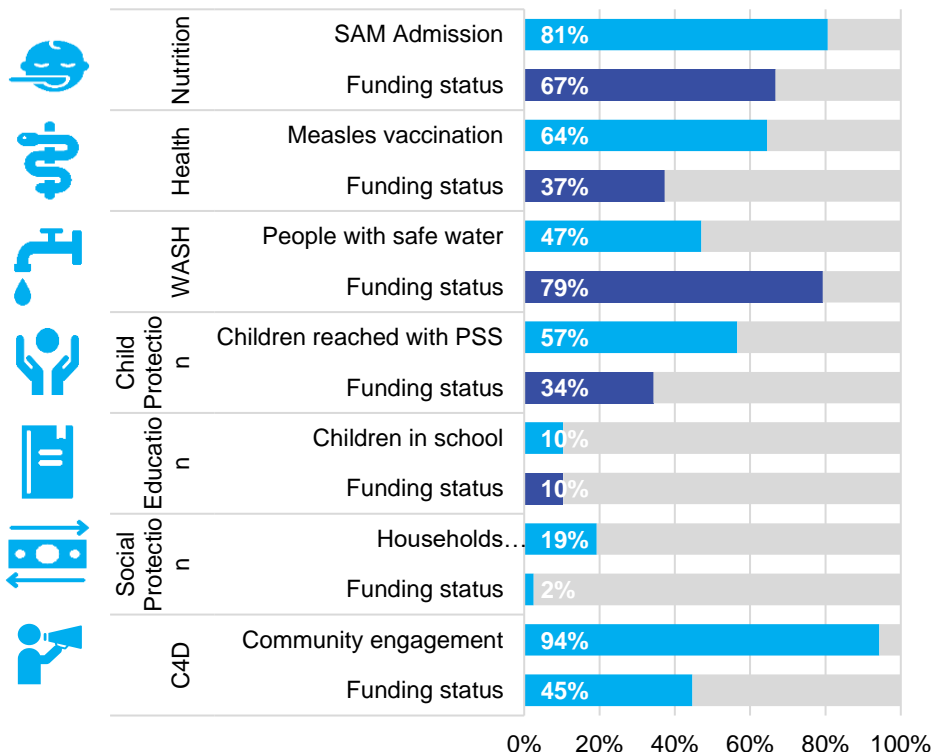
4.5 million
Children in Need of Humanitarian Assistance

8.3 million
People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance (OCHA, HNO, January 2021)

1.71 million
Internally Displaced People (OCHA, Snapshot, September 2021)

1.4 million
Children expected to suffer from acute malnutrition (UNICEF, HAC, 2021)

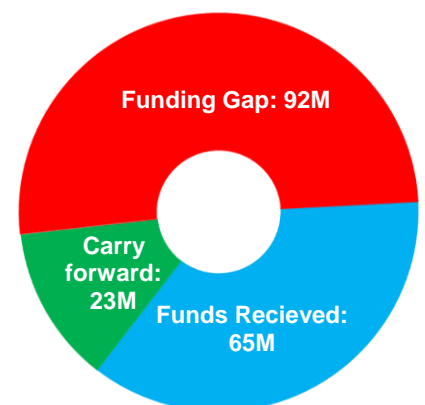
UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



UNICEF Appeal 2021

US\$ 180 million

Funding Status in \$ (US)



*Funding available includes funds received in the current year; carry-over from the previous year; and repurposed funds with agreement from donors

Funding Overview and Partnerships

In 2021, UNICEF appealed for US\$180 million to provide life-saving services for girls, boys, women, and men in South Sudan, of which 49 per cent was funded. UNICEF expresses its gratitude to all public and private donors who have supported the humanitarian programmes. Without adequate funding, UNICEF would be unable to continue supporting integrated humanitarian programmes and the provision of critical and protective services for women, children and men displaced by conflict and flooding, affected by gender-based violence, facing life-threatening diseases (including COVID-19), and those impacted by extreme food and nutrition insecurity.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Communities in South Sudan are facing the worst humanitarian crisis since its independence in 2011. Over 8.3 million people, and 4.5 million children need assistance and protection. Women and children are feeling the greatest impact. 2021 saw increases in flood affected areas, Sub-national violence as well as levels of food and nutrition insecurity. Women and children have been especially impacted, leaving them exposed to significant protection risks (including child recruitment, exploitation and sexual violence), and life-threatening diseases.

The impacts of Climate change were widespread, with over 835,000 people affected by severe floods, to levels not seen for decades. Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile States were particularly affected, where hundreds of thousands of homes, schools, and health facilities were cut off or destroyed by flood waters. Populations faced malnutrition, disease outbreaks, including Hepatitis E, and increased preventable disease, especially malaria and diarrhea. whilst physical access to provide humanitarian assistance became increasingly challenging.

Surges of sub-national conflict and violence had significant impact on the lives of women and children in 2021. Over 90,000 individuals were displaced in Western Equatoria, and many children and women fled their homes amidst high levels of violence and reported human rights abuses, including killing and child recruitment. Cattle raiding and communal violence especially in Jonglei, Unity and Warrap states had grave humanitarian implications, including abductions, sexual violence, as well as attacks of humanitarian workers and services.

In 2021, 1.4 million children faced life-threatening acute malnutrition, whilst approximately 7.2 million people were at risk hunger driven largely by conflict and climate change. Malnutrition is at record highs, with areas reporting over emergency thresholds (15% GAM). Highest admissions were reported in Jonglei (24%) followed by Unity (15%) and Northern el Bahr Ghazal (9.8%). UNICEF treated 241,108 children with SAM (54% girls) in therapeutic programs. A full-scale multi-sectoral response scale was activated to save lives and avert catastrophic of those worst affected areas.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health

UNICEF supported the fragile health system to provide essential services, with focus on mothers and children in hard-to-reach areas. In 181 facilities, cold chain infrastructure was expanded to improve access to vaccination services. 2.5 million children received the polio vaccine and circulation of vaccine driven polio virus has been interrupted for the last 8 months. Also, to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus, 241,647 girls and women of childbearing age in Jonglei and Upper Nile received 2 doses of Tetanus Diphtheria vaccine, while 486,598 children aged 6 months–15 years in humanitarian situations were vaccinated against measles in Jonglei, Upper Nile, Unity and Western Equatoria States.

UNICEF worked closely with the Government of South Sudan and implementing partners to support integrated primary health care in all counties of Jonglei and Upper Nile states targeting an estimated 1.8 million people. The support includes distribution of essential drugs and medical equipment for regular programmes and emergency preparedness and response. In 2021, 652,190 women and children were provided with long lasting insecticide treated nets (LLINs), whilst 1.7 million people utilized the primary healthcare services (796,189 male and 929,169 female) of which 888,358 were children under 5 years of age (457,208 girls). 39% of consultations were attributed to malaria, 17% to pneumonia and 13% to diarrhoea, while other communicable and non-communicable diseases accounted 31% of consultations.

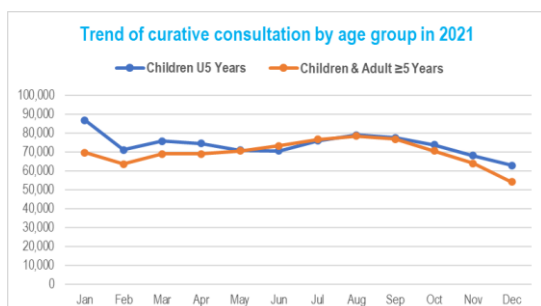


Figure 2: Curative Consultation: 2021

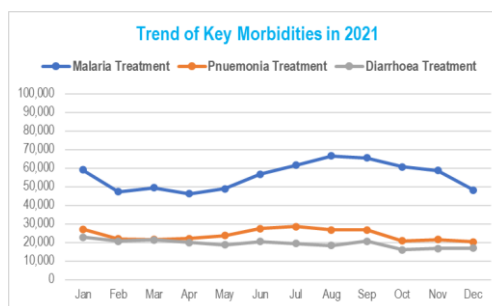


Figure 3: Key Morbidity Trend: 2021

As part of COVID-19 response, in addition to vaccines and injection devices, UNICEF distributed PPE and WASH/IPC supplies to health facilities and provided technical support through joint supportive supervision and field monitoring.

UNICEF supported the national vaccine deployment and vaccination plan (NDVP-C19) providing support to the COVID-19 task force at national and subnational level. In 2021, 195,558 people (3.3% of the Population) were fully vaccinated. Vaccination was rolled out in 10 states, 80 counties and 323 health facilities. A total of 500,470 doses of Covid-19 vaccine of both AstraZeneca and Johnson & Johnson vaccine were distributed to all 80 counties in four phases (Aug to Dec 2021).

Nutrition

Nutrition service delivery has been significantly impacted by severe flooding in Jonglei, Upper Nile, and Unity States. Floods affected 75 nutrition sites, which were damaged, submerged or cut off by flood waters causing disruption to service delivery, as a result 1,167 children are missing from the SAM program. Of those affected, 47 sites were relocated to higher ground. In 2021, 13 SMART surveys were conducted in priority counties. The highest GAM was reported in Aweil south 23.1%, followed by Pibor 21.6%, and Akobo 19%. The Food security and Nutrition Monitoring System (FSNMS), nationwide assessment was completed in Nov/Dec 2021. The preliminary findings were utilized for 2021 Humanitarian overview (HNO). The assessment report will be shared soon.

UNICEF in partnership with nutrition partners is providing prevention and care for children suffering from Severe acute malnutrition (SAM). In 2021, 241,108 cases SAM (54% girls) were treated in inpatient and outpatient therapeutic programs, representing 99% of the annual target and 77% of people in need (burden). The highest admission was reported in Jonglei (24.3%) then Unity (15.2%) and Northern el Bahr Ghazal (9.8%). Performance indicators of SAM treatment were above acceptable minimum Sphere standards, with a cure rate of 95.9%, death rate of 0.2 and defaulter rate of 2.3%. Infant and young child feeding counselling services reached 2,144,873 pregnant women and caregivers of children 0-23 months. As part of the continued scale up in 10 priority counties, 44,335 children with SAM were admitted, with the highest admission recorded in Akobo (22.6%) and Pibor (22.0%) and the infant and young child feeding counselling services reached 404,561 pregnant women and caregivers of children 0-23 months.

In 2021, two integrated rapid response missions (IRRM) were conducted in Ezo and Nagero in Western Equatoria, to provide nutrition services to children and women displaced by conflict. 83 SAM (52 girls) and 285 MAM (171 girls) were identified and treated at the outpatient therapeutic programmes and targeted supplementary feeding programmes. 7,574 caregivers were reached with key maternal, infant, and young child nutrition (MIYCN) messages. Furthermore, outreach nutrition services have been provided in Duma and Namutina resulting to reach over 2,000 children U5 and PLW.

Child Protection

In 2021, UNICEF and implementing partners reached 99,524 people (27,338 girls, 22,501 boys, 28,982 Women, 20,703 Men) with gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response messages, including individual case management, psychosocial support, referral to specialized services and social norm transformation. 148 (35 girls, 113 women) received specialized GBV services and psychosocial support through Women and Girl friendly Spaces; 2,093 (676 Girls and 1417 women) improved their capacity through skills building on livelihood and wellbeing courses. 32 Women and 8 girls identified as vulnerable, received start up kits in form of sewing machines after undergoing skills building courses. Under the Communities Care Programme (CCP), 25,286 people (7,228 girls, 6,376 boys, 7,223 women, 4,678 men) were reached with community actions to support positive change in beliefs and perceptions about GBV.

Education

In 2021, as part of phase one school re-opening, UNICEF supported 67,247 Primary-8 candidates (29,414 females) to sit national exams. The support included transportation of exam papers, and transportation for candidates and government officials to remote locations. UNICEF also supported the registration of 315 candidate students (121 females) who missed Primary-8 exams due to insecurity, and transported exams to the area. A further 33,036 candidates (11,973 females) were supported to complete Secondary School Leaving Certificate exams, across the country.

The MoGEI announced 3rd May 2021 as the official date for phase two of school reopening across South Sudan. UNICEF and education partners worked collaboratively with the State Ministries of Education to successfully reopen schools, including provision of COVID-19 preventive equipment such as face masks, soap, and buckets. UNICEF also distributed 1,752,777 even grade textbooks and 22,5195 teachers guides, teachers' kits, dignity kits, children's kits, early childhood development kits, recreation kits, and chalks. As part of the European Union's OUTREACH programme, Return to School Initiative, to support teachers to return to school and resume regular teaching, UNICEF disbursed a one-time cash incentive of 21,400 South Sudanese Pounds (SSP) to 34,327 teachers.

WASH

In 2021, UNICEF provided life-saving interventions through the provision of access to safe water, basic sanitation, hygiene promotion and distribution of critical WASH Non-Food Items (NFIs) to vulnerable host communities and internally displaced persons (IDPs), including those affected by floods. A total of 698,041 individuals gained access to safe drinking water through drilling of new boreholes and rehabilitation water facilities in communities, schools, health facilities and nutrition centres. UNICEF also provided support for operation and maintenance of surface water treatment (SWAT) systems and urban water systems.

UNICEF supported 142,136 individuals to gain access to basic sanitation facilities through rehabilitation of latrines in health facilities and construction of communal and household latrines. Of these, 39,745 individuals were achieved through Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approaches in Northern Bahr Ghazal and Eastern Equatoria States.

UNICEF scaled up WASH activities in the high food and nutrition insecure priority counties, as a result, 86,732 individuals gained access to safe water through drilling and installation of 15 new boreholes and rehabilitation of 97 boreholes. 16,752 individuals gained access to basic sanitation through construction of latrines in communities and rehabilitation of latrines in nutrition centres. 66,199 individuals gained access to lifesaving NFIs, including WASH kits for care givers, Menstrual Hygiene Management kits, soap, and water treatment chemicals. Through hygiene promotion messaging 193,724 individuals were reached with key messages to enhance their hygiene behaviours.

UNICEF also provided emergency WASH services to flood affected individuals. In Jonglei and Upper Nile States, 39 water points were rehabilitated, with community led operation and maintenance, through training of 128 Hand Pump Mechanics and 67 Water User committees. As such, 26,716 individuals were provided with safe water. Fifty-one hygiene promoters were trained to disseminate key messages, reaching 60,104 individuals. Critical WASH NFIs were distributed to affected households as part of the first phase response benefitting 38,625 individuals. In Unity State, approximately 175,000 individuals need urgent WASH assistance. UNICEF received CERF to provide WASH services to affected individuals settled in IDP sites D and E in Rubkhona for which activities will kick off in January 2022. Overall, 560,414 individuals were reached with key hygiene promotion messages to help enhance hygiene behaviours to avoid WASH related illnesses. WASH NFI items from the core pipeline supplies were distributed to a total of 179,955 individuals including MHM kits provided to caregivers at nutrition sites and in communities affected by floods

Social & Behaviour change (SBC) formerly Communication for Development (C4D)

In 2021, SBC/C4D engaged 1,801 mostly young people as mobilisers to engage in communities with Interpersonal Communication on COVAX and other critical themes. UNICEF reached 7,579,988 people with lifesaving messages, this includes 1,722,642 people with messages on Education, 1,994,698 people with positive Health and Hygiene Behavior messages, 1,832,068 people with messages on Nutrition, and 2,030,580 people with RI messages across 10 states. More than 2,000 RI sessions were supported by the Integrated Community Mobilization Network (ICMN) each month, whilst 10,400 defaulters were traced and vaccinated.

As part of COVID-19 response, UNICEF conducted community rapid assessments (CRA) in which 87% of respondents expressed willingness to get vaccinated. UNICEF reached an estimated 2,237,976 families and 15,195 community influencers (religious leaders, uniformed personnel, teachers, and community leaders) on awareness of signs and symptoms and how they can protect family members from infection. 30 radio stations were engaged nationwide reaching about 3,807,393 people, whilst an estimated 817,340 individuals (489,621 females) were reached through megaphone announcements. 2,801 Jingles were broadcasted in phase immunization campaigns. A community feedback study was also completed and 534 rumours were tracked, documented, and addressed.

Cash-Based Programming

In 2021, UNICEF continued its efforts to support operationalizing and mainstreaming humanitarian cash programming. UNICEF concluded the implementation of the voucher project which focused on provision of hygiene materials in response to COVID-19, 180 households received vouchers to access soap and a hand washing bucket in Aweil, Bor and Bentiu counties. In addition, 1106 extremely vulnerable households in Bor and Malakal received unconditional cash assistance to cover their basic needs. The households for the unconditional cash support project were identified and registered by UNICEF through a collaborative effort with local partners and community leaders. A part of the WASH voucher pilot in the Juba Protection of Civilian (POC) site, 9,125 households were registered on the SCOPE platform who will be targeted to be assisted to access water through a voucher modality in collaboration with WFP. The greatest challenge in 2021 was the continued depreciation of the SSP against the dollar, resulting in the rising price of basic commodities and reduced purchasing power for vulnerable households targeted with cash programmes.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF continued to co-lead three Clusters and one Area of Responsibility (AoR) out of a total of ten Clusters and three AoRs currently active in the country. UNICEF co-leads the Child Protection AoR, 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) at a national level. UNICEF continued to participate in the inter-agency protection of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) taskforce, which functions under the auspices of the Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG)/ Resident Coordinator (RC)/ Humanitarian Coordinator (HC), and plays an active role of advocating for the better protection of children against sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA).

Human Interest Stories and External Media

In 2021 UNICEF South Sudan ran eight external communication and advocacy campaigns. The campaign around the International Day against the use of child soldiers in February focused on mental health and included [launching a series of videos](#). In February-March the advocacy work for schools to reopen schools after the COVID19 related closure included the [Dear Teacher campaign](#). It contributed to the reopening of schools on 3 May 2021. For World Water Day in March the Country Office (CO) organized a webinar for National Committees for UNICEF calling them to support the [largely underfunded WASH programmes in South Sudan](#). Coinciding with the 10th anniversary of South Sudan, the CO launched early July an advocacy appeal to the international donors to continue to support the humanitarian community in assisting the record high number of 8.3 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, including 4.5 million children. The campaign included the release of a [Child Rights Crisis Report](#) and was covered widely by media, including by 40 international media outlets. As part of its advocacy plan to prioritize reduction of acute malnutrition among children over treatment, UNICEF South Sudan rolled-out a campaign for World Breastfeeding Week in August, which included a special feature on the country website, a joint [press release](#) with the Ministry of Health, radio shows with UNICEF Child Reporters and a billboard campaign in the streets of Juba. For World Children's Day in November UNICEF Child Reporters decided to campaign for the right for every child to have a childhood. They ran various advocacy activities, including [child-take-over events](#), [celebration event](#) organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare and a special TV show on SSBC. A [landing page and special feature](#) were created on the website bringing together various pieces of content, including video messages of children presenting their advocacy calls. In December UNICEF South Sudan celebrated the 75th anniversary of UNICEF with a [press release](#), the broadcast of Public Service Announcements on major national radio stations and a special event for UNICEF staff which included UNICEF Child Reporters.

Throughout the year the CO continued to communicate on COVID-19 and UNICEF's response through vaccination and risk communication. Major activities included the event organized jointly with the Ministry of Health and WHO for the [arrival of the first COVID-19 vaccines on 25 March](#). UNICEF South Sudan issued several [press releases](#), published [stories](#) and organized media work, leading among other to a coverage by [New York Times](#), [German public television](#) and [Danish public television](#). The second part of the year was also marked by extensive communication work on flooding affecting a growing number of people, mainly in Upper Nile, Jonglei and Unity States. The CO created a [new programme feature on climate change and flooding](#) on its website and hosted several international media mission leading to coverage on [National Geographic](#), [CNN](#), [BBC](#) and [CGTN](#). The hosting of two well-known international photographers led to inspiring photo essays on [CNN online](#) and [Politeken](#).

During the year 2021 UNICEF South Sudan issued [31 press releases](#) and published [69 stories](#) on its website. International and national media mentioned UNICEF programmes in South Sudan 377 times. UNICEF South Sudan social media handles (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube) reached 19.5 million people (unique reach).

Next SitRep: 22 February 2022

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

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

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

Who to contact for further information:

Hamida Lasseko
Representative
UNICEF South Sudan
Email: hramadhani@unicef.org

Yves Willemot
Chief of Communications
UNICEF South Sudan
Email: ywillemot@unicef.org

Annex A | Summary of Programme Results Indicators 2021

Sector Indicator Disaggregation		Total Needs	UNICEF and IPs Response			Cluster/Sector Response		
			2021 Target	Total results	Change since last report ▲▼	2021 Target	Total results	Change since last report
Nutrition								
# of children aged 6 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment	Girls	120,304	242,549	131,249	12,331 ▲	242,549	131,249	12,331 ▲
	Boys	122,245		109,859	10,239 ▲		109,859	10,239 ▲
# of children reached with vitamin A supplementation	Girls	1,283,921	2,588,550	1,284,520	0	2,588,550	1,284,520	0
	Boys	1,304,629		1,129,460	0		1,129,460	0
# of caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months who received counselling on maternal, infant and young child nutrition	Females	1,138,303	1,138,303	2,144,873	194,340 ▲	1,138,303	2,144,873	183,319 ▲
Health								
# of children aged 6 months to 15 years vaccinated against measles*	Girls		450,000	238,464	96,331 ▲			
	Boys			248,134	100,262 ▲			
# of pregnant women and children provided with insecticide-treated nets in malaria-endemic areas	Females (and children)		300,000	652,190	176,406 ▲			
# of children aged 0-59 months receiving treatment for diarrhoea	Girls		165,000	85,101	12,629 ▲			
	Boys			89,852	13,321 ▲			
WASH								
# of people accessing the agreed quantity of water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	Girls		817,000	698,041	43,605 ▲	782,167	2,243,386	966,649 ▲
	Boys					799,351		
	Women					726,230		
	Men					692,251		
# of people accessing safe and appropriate sanitation facilities	Girls		303,500	142,136	5,773 ▲	3,000,000	319,667	29,185 ▲
	Boys							
	Women							
	Men							
Child Protection								
# of children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support	Girls		80,000	92,790	17,593 ▲	250,000	335,542	14,819 ▲
	Boys							
	Women							
	Men							
# of children and women accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions	Girls		100,000	95,505	8,190 ▲			
	Boys							
	Women							
	Men							
Education								
# of children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Girls	3,400,000	797,024	292,879	47,110 ▲	770,000	93,271	0 ▲
	Boys							
# of teachers trained on education in emergencies, basic pedagogy and learner centred methodologies	Females	66,000	4,355	2,583	125 ▲	4,000	472	188 ▲
	Males							
Social Protection								
# of households reached through the cash transfer programme	HHs		30,000	6,286	0	198000		
	Females		90,000	11870	0			
	Males		60,000	7,566	0			
	Girls		27,000	7540	0			
	Boys		18,000	7330	0			
Communication for Development								
# of people accessing mechanisms to voice their needs/concerns/ feedback, including on Ebola	Females		4,000,000	1,944,432	302,023 ▲			
	Males			1,827,903	339,308 ▲			

*The indicator (# of children aged 6 months to 15 years vaccinated against measles) has been updated since the last report

REPORT AS OF 31ST DECEMBER 2021						
Funding Requirements (as defined in Humanitarian Appeal of 31 Jan 2021 for a period of 12 months)						
Sector	Requirement	Funds Available		Funds Available	Funding Gap	
		Humanitarian Resources Received in 2021	Resources available from 2020 (Carry Over)		\$	%
Health	6,006,000	1,083,141	1,154,547	2,237,687	3,768,313	63%
Nutrition	60,000,000	35,884,189	5,365,032	41,249,222	18,750,778	31%
WASH	35,388,764	20,490,161	9,330,016	29,820,177	5,568,587	16%
Education	46,839,920	2,023,019	2,801,317	4,824,336	42,015,584	90%
Child Protection	23,720,800	4,895,090	3,443,705	8,338,795	15,382,005	65%
Social Protection	4,117,000	-	102,659	102,659	4,014,341	98%
Community Engagement	4,000,000	979,833	807,311	1,787,144	2,212,856	55%
Total	180,072,484	65,355,433	23,004,588	88,360,021	91,712,463	51%

* The Fund Received are gross (including global recovery) whilst the Carry Forward are programmable at CO level (figures are provisional).