

UNICEF Kenya Country Office
 March to May (MAM) 2024 Rains
 Flash Update No.1
 1 April to 3 May 2024



Distribution of Non-Food items to flood-displaced households in partnership with Kenya Red Cross in Nyakach, Kisumu County @2024/kenyaredcross

Situation update:

Kenya is currently experiencing above-average rainfall during its March-April-May (MAM) long rains season that has resulted in flooding and landslide affecting 38 out of the 47 counties (80% of the country), as per the National Disaster Operations Centre (NDOC) updates. These include **Nairobi**; Western Kenya (Bungoma, Busia, Kakamega); **Rift Valley** (Baringo, Bomet, Kajiado, Kericho, Laikipia, Nakuru, Narok, Trans Nzoia, Uasin, West Pokot, Gishu); **Nyanza** (Homabay, Kisumu, Kisii, Migori, Nyamira, Siaya); **Eastern Kenya** (Embu, Isiolo, Kitui, Machakos, Makueni, Marsabit, Meru, Tharaka-Nithi); Coast (Kilifi); **North-eastern Kenya** (Garissa, Mandera, Wajir, Tana River); **Central Kenya** (Kiambu, Nyeri, Kirinyaga, Murang'a). The peak of the MAM rains season is between mid-April to end-May in a typical year. The Kenya Meteorological Department has warned that the rains are likely to continue up to end of June in the coastal areas, and mid-July in the Western region.

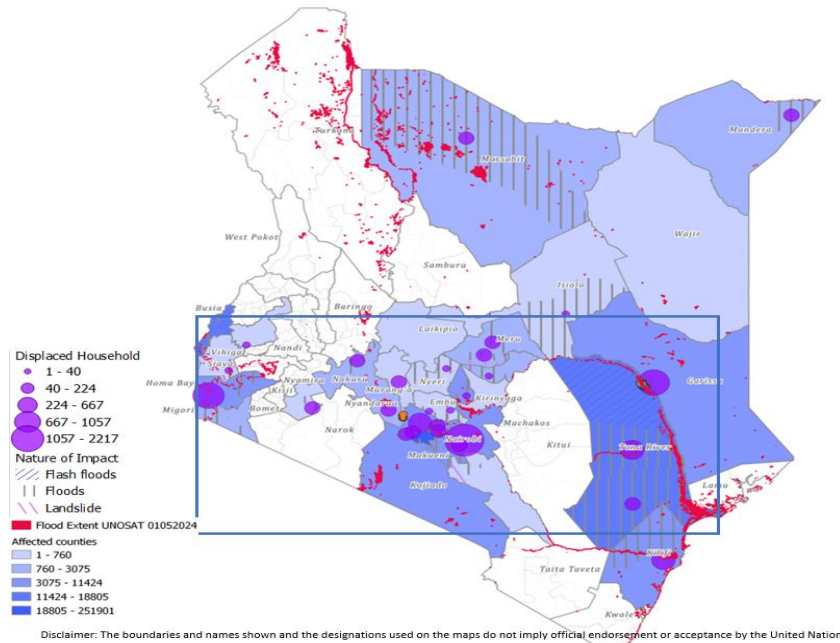
The National Disaster Operations Centre has reported that as of the 04 May 2024, the number of people impacted by the heavy rains continues to rise, with an estimated 223,198 people (44,640 households) affected including 206,240 people (41,248 households) displaced, 72 people missing, 164 people injured, and 219 people killed by flood events across the country. As of 3 May 2024, Nairobi County has been the most affected, with 72 per cent of the total number of people affected and 54 per cent of the displaced households reported, mainly in the urban informal settlements.

The Ministry of Interior and National Administration has issued an advisory highlighting areas that are likely to experience flooding in the next weeks. These include Western Kenya, along lakes and rivers in Homa Bay, Siaya, Busia, Nyando, Nyakach and Muhoroni and low-lying areas in Narok, Kajiado and Mombasa. Hilly areas traditionally prone to mudslides particularly in Makueni, Nyeri, Muranga and West Pokot Counties are also likely to flood.

According to Ministry of Health updates, the heavy rains and floods have also resulted in the fourth wave of the Cholera outbreak, with One (1) cholera case confirmed by culture on 26th April 2024 in Garsen Sub-County, Tana River County, since then, 34 cases have been line-listed. Of these, 32 cases have recovered while 2 are still hospitalized. Children are the most affected, with 47 per cent of the cases being between one and 10 years of age. Access to learning has also been interrupted, with 1,967 schools affected by floods. The reopening of schools for the 2nd term of 2024 which was scheduled for the was 29 April has been postponed indefinitely due to the massive floods.

Disruptions to transport over major highways out of Nairobi due to flooding, including the road to Garissa and Dadaab has led to major traffic accidents, with 7 deaths reported and 13 people missing, after a boat capsized in the flood waters on the Madogo-Kona Punda section of Nairobi-Garissa Road. The Kenya National Highway Authority has announced the closure of Embu-Meru (A9) Road at Mutunduri, various sections of Oletepesi-Magadi Road (B19), and Athi River-Namanga Road at Kimalat area. Additionally, Kenya Urban Roads Authority announced the partial closure of Enterprise Road, Eastern Bypass and Thika Road at Kahawa Sukari area. Electricity and telecommunications services have also been interrupted. Access to 8 health facilities has been cut-off and submerged by floods in Tana River County (Assa, Chewele, Kau, Mbalambala, Mororo and Waldena dispensaries in Garsen; Kisumu County- Ombaka dispensary and Kajiado County- Entasopia Health Facility.

KENYA: MAM Impact as of 30 April 2024



According to OCHA updates, the floods have adversely affected food security and livelihoods, with over 4,824 livestock having been lost; 27,717 acres of croplands destroyed, and 264 small businesses damaged by 24 April 2024. The immediate needs of the affected population include food, water, sanitation, and hygiene services (WASH), shelter, evacuation support, medical services, water purification chemicals/bottles and other non-food items.

Inter-agency coordination:

National and local government authorities are working with humanitarian partners to scale up response to the affected people. The Government of Kenya has established a National Flood Emergency Multi-Agency team under the leadership of H.E. Deputy President Righathi Gachagua and the Multi-Agency Emergency Response Centre will be based at Nyayo House, under the Ministry of Interior. Its primary role is to monitor flood situations across the country and initiate immediate interventions to save lives and protect property from destruction.

H.E. President William Ruto has directed the multi-agency team to step up flood response efforts. The ministries of Interior and East African Cooperation, Arid and Semi-Arid Lands and Regional Development, along with the National Youth Service, have been directed to respond promptly to flood-related situation, with the key aim of coordinated efforts in mitigating the impact of floods on affected communities. Kenya has allocated 4 billion shillings (about USD 30 million) for immediate response to the devastating flooding caused by heavy rains in several parts of the country, Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua said Friday. County-level response coordination is ongoing through the County Steering Groups and the subcounty disaster committees.

The inter-agency coordination structure under the leadership of Humanitarian Coordinator established during the 2023 El Niño floods is supporting multi-sectoral coordination through the 8 humanitarian coordination hubs, where UNICEF is co-lead for Garissa and Kisumu hubs. Multi-agency rapid assessments have been completed in Garissa, Kisumu, Tana River, and Turkana counties. OCHA, through the Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG) is leading inter-agency and sector-level response planning and has developed a response plan with a total appeal of USD 23.1 million for immediate response needs. UNICEF is supporting inter-agency and county-level preparedness planning through its sector lead role for Education, Child Protection, Nutrition and WASH, and is also providing coordination support to the health sector.

UNICEF Response:

UNICEF is supporting ongoing efforts to scale up critical humanitarian interventions in the Government led response for the affected population, in close collaboration with humanitarian partners. UNICEF has developed an Emergency Preparedness and Response plan for the MAM floods, targeting 200,000 affected people (25% of the 800,000 likely to be affected as per the worst-case planning scenario in the inter-agency response plan) and 75,000 displaced people (25% of the 300,000 likely to be displaced), based on coverage of the gaps for the next 3 months. This plan will be reviewed as the humanitarian situation evolves. By 30 April

2024, over 50,000 people have been reached with critical life-saving and protective interventions, including WASH, Health, Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), Social Protection and Education.

UNICEF is currently supporting the most vulnerable through the deployment and distribution of essential supplies left over from the 2023 El-Nino flood response stocks. However, the available stocks are limiting and largely inadequate to meet the scale of the current emergency. Investments previously made under the UNICEF resilience programme in the Nairobi informal settlements as part of COVID-19 recovery interventions, as well as through drought and El Nino response and recovery interventions in the Arid and Semi-Arid lands (ASALs), are providing respite to the ongoing floods.

WASH:

- UNICEF has supported distribution of WASH supplies to flood-affected communities in Tana River, Garissa, and Mandera counties, reaching 3,371 households (16,855 people). In addition, hygiene promotion interventions to support prevention of waterborne disease outbreaks, including Cholera, are ongoing in Wajir, Mandera, Isiolo, Tana River, Marsabit, Lamu, Garissa, Samburu, and Turkana counties.



H.E Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, flanked by Mohamed Abdullahi, Chief of UNICEF Zonal Office in Garissa, hands over a UNICEF jerry can to a flood-displaced beneficiary during his floods assessment mission to Garissa on 02 May 2024 @2024/kenyaredcross

- As part of COVID-19 recovery and resilience-building interventions in 2023, UNICEF supported 14 health facilities in Mathare and Mukuru urban informal settlements in Nairobi County with pipeline connection to the Nairobi Water and Sewerage company network, as well as with construction of 5 water kiosks for household water supply, with a catchment population of over 45,000 people. Furthermore, the 14 health care facilities were supported with 10,000 Litre water tanks for safe water storage. Climate-resilient installation of the WASH infrastructure has reduced the risk of damage by the ongoing severe floods; thus, flood-affected people are continuing to benefit from sustainable access to safe water, which is contributing to prevention of waterborne disease outbreaks.



A woman collects water from a damaged pipeline at the Mathare informal settlement in Nairobi County: @UNICEF Kenya/2024/LOdhiambo

- To strengthen the Humanitarian-Development Nexus, UNICEF has supported Turkana, Garissa, Wajir and Marsabit Counties with installation of solar-powered water systems in 24 boreholes as part of drought response in 2023, providing year-round sustainable access to safe to communities and surrounding schools and health facilities. These water supply systems are mitigating the impact of floods though providing sustainable safe water access to over 150,000 people.

- As WASH Sector co-lead, UNICEF is supporting the convening of sector coordination meetings under the leadership of the Ministry of Water Sanitation and Irrigation and Ministry of Health at the national and county level to plan and respond to the WASH needs of the affected communities. The mapping of WASH non-food items shows the in-country availability of Water Purifiers adequate for 44,000 households but limited availability of water flocculant and disinfectant which is critical for household water treatment and other WASH Supplies to support communities affected by floods.

Nutrition:

- A total of 210,535 children under five and 54,736 pregnant and breastfeeding mothers were screened for malnutrition (mass screening) during the month of March 2024. In Marsabit, Garissa and Turkana Counties. In March 2024, a total of 5,839 severely malnourished children were admitted for treatment in 10 ASAL counties including refugee camps, in readiness for scaling up flood response.
- A total of 1,439 cartons of Ready to use therapeutic foods (RUTF) have been prepositioned in the subcounty hubs of Marsabit, Garissa, Turkana, Samburu, Baringo, Mandera and Wajir, sufficient for treatment of 1,439 severely acutely malnourished children (one carton per child). Distribution of additional 2,750 cartons of RUTF is ongoing through KRCS in 24 hubs spread across 9 counties (Marsabit, Turkana, Mandera, Garissa, Samburu, West Pokot, Tana River, Wajir and Baringo), sufficient for the treatment of 2,750 children. As of 1st April 2024, the health facilities (1824 health facilities) reported RUTF closing stock of 33,562 which is adequate to support treatment of 33,562 children with severe wasting.
- UNICEF as Nutrition sector co-lead is supporting the convening of sector coordination meetings at national level and in 34 flood-affected counties to plan for MIYCN-e assessments, integrated health and 2 nutrition outreaches, screening, and referral of malnutrition cases in the displacement camps. Mapping of partners and resources available to support nutrition response as per the nutrition sector preparedness and response plan has been conducted. UNICEF in collaboration with KRCS and other partners has supported situation analysis and development of a costed nutrition floods preparedness and response plan through the Emergency Nutrition Advisory Committee and the Nutrition Information Technical Working Group at national level.

Health:

- UNICEF with support from KRCS and in collaboration with Ministry of Health and county governments has reached a total 29,870 people (5,008 boys, 5,866 girls, 7380 men and 11,616 women) with life-saving health interventions through integrated medical outreaches in 36 sites during the month of April 2024 in 6 flood-counties (Mandera, Wajir, Garissa, Turkana, Tana River and Marsabit). These include immunization services, screening and management of acute and moderate malnutrition, immunization services, supplementation of Vitamin A and deworming, treatment of common ailments. In addition, 20,218 people (7883 men and 12,335 women) have been reached with key messages on household practices for health promotion and health education on prevention, including malaria and diarrhoea.
- UNICEF is actively participating in the Floods Emergency Taskforce coordination weekly meetings under the Ministry of Health and partners to provide technical support and advocacy to the response.
- UNICEF is supporting Cholera and Malaria prevention in Lamu County, which was most affected by Cholera during 2023 El Nino floods, through provision of health commodities, including Long-Lasting Insecticide-Treated Nets, as well as technical support to the County Department of Health.

Education:

- UNICEF as a co-lead for Education in Emergency Working Group (EiE WG), in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Save the Children is supporting preparedness and response including the mapping of education partners, identification of resources, and capacity building of county level working groups. A sector rapid assessment targeting all 47 counties was initiated on 25 April 2024 to assess the impact of MAM rains on learning and school opening readiness, and data collection is in progress.
- UNICEF has prepositioned in its warehouse in Nairobi 800 education kits as well as 18 sets of high-performance tent and floor for temporary learning spaces to ensure school readiness and continuity of learning for at least 40,000 learners. The items are ready for immediate dispatch once the sector rapid assessment results become available. In addition, 200 recreational kits are under procurement, which will support up to 18,000 learners and school communities to restore normalcy in flood-affected areas.



Children playing at the flooded entrance of Mcedo Beijing School at the Mathare informal settlement in Nairobi County: @UNICEF Kenya/2024/LOdhiambo

Child Protection:

- In collaboration with the Directorate of Children Services (DCS) UNICEF as Child Protection sector co-lead is supporting the convening of weekly sector coordination meetings at both national and county levels to plan and respond to the needs of the flood-affected populations. Mapping of available services in the flood-affected areas to support displaced families, children at risk of violence and abuse as well as support to the tracing and reunification of separated children as well as support to sector partners to assess and identify cases of separation of children from their families and GBV risks for flood-affected children is ongoing.
- UNICEF is supporting DCS in the identification and documentation of all children in the flood-displacement camps, including tracking the relocation to IDP sites to minimize the risk of family separation. Messaging on protection of children affected by the floods including those displaced is ongoing, focusing on prevention of separation and protection of women and girls from GBV while in the IDP sites.

Social Protection:

- With funding from Norway, 600 floods-affected households in Garissa County are receiving a 3-month humanitarian cash assistance which includes e-vouchers for WASH supplies. This support is targeting households with young children to support prevention from malnutrition.
- Through the Kenya Cash Working Group and Food Security and Livelihoods Sector Group, UNICEF is supporting a needs assessment to check market functionality and coordinate geographic intervention across different actors.

Risk Communication and Community Engagement:

- UNICEF is actively participating in the national technical working group on risk communication and community engagement for reactivated for flood response under the Ministry of Health (MoH) at national level and has supported creation of social media material that is being shared on MoH and partner social media platforms.
- UNICEF has supported 18 flood-affected counties with hand-held megaphones and life-saving key message through posters and leaflets for household education on prevention of waterborne diseases.
- UNICEF is supporting Cholera prevention interventions in all the sub counties of Lamu County, which was the most affected during the 2023 El Nino floods, through technical and financial support to the County Department of Health for the training and deployment of 200 Community Health Promoters to conduct structured household visits to disseminate lifesaving messages including practical demonstrations on water treatment and safe storage at household level, which includes distribution of WASH supplies such as jerry cans, buckets and water treatment chemicals to the households. Support is also being provided for engagement with religious leaders and community leaders to conduct community engagement activities including structured community dialogues, as well as dissemination of preventative messages on local FM radio stations.

Supply and Logistics:

- UNICEF has put in place a Supply and logistics strategy and plan to support immediate needs. This is updated continuously to support emerging needs.
- Logistical support to partners is in place, with active monitoring of alternative routing due road damage and closure.

Areas of concerns/challenges:

- Rapidly evolving humanitarian situation with increasing number of displaced population and displacement camps, with limited access to basic social services in both rural and urban settings, especially in areas traditionally not prone to flooding.
- Cholera outbreak, with a high risk of increased cases of other waterborne and vector borne diseases, including Malaria and diarrhoea.
- Increased risk to damage and destruction of WASH, school, and health infrastructure
- Increased risk of malnutrition rates going up due to loss of food and livelihood sources
- Lack of a protective environment especially for women and children, with a high risk of children being separated from their primary caregivers and exposure to violence and abuse including gender-based violence risks for women and children especially in the IDP sites.
- Continued disruption to learning as schools continue sheltering IDPs in affected areas.
- School closure for potentially longer period may lead to learning loss and increase protection risks among learners, especially adolescent girls.
- Increased risk to disruption of school feeding programme because of supply chain interruption.
- Limited integration of cross-cutting areas in the response, including disability, gender, PSEA and AAP approaches
- Sub-optimal preparedness and inadequate resources to upscale response across all sectors for critical supplies, cash-based assistance, psychosocial support, and service delivery.
- Limited humanitarian access to most affected areas due to damage of major roads and insecurity in some areas, which will affect timely delivery of life saving supplies to affected communities. Higher logistical costs are anticipated due to re-routing and re-shipment of supply consignments.
- Delays and uncertainties associated with offshore procurements for items that are not available in the local market.

Funding Requirements:

UNICEF requires a total of USD 14.8 million for preparedness and response. A total of USD 1.6 million available funding from USAID BHA, UBRAF, Education Cannot Wait (ECW), and the Governments of Japan, Catalonia, Norway and Ireland are supporting immediate response needs, leaving a funding gap of 13.2 million (89 per cent). The pipeline funding is approximately USD 2.14 million from Irish Aid and FCDO to support UNICEF sectors delivering critical lifesaving and protective interventions.

Sector	2024 Flood Response Requirements	Funds available		Funding Gap without Pipeline		Funding Gap with Pipeline		2023 Pipeline Funding
		*Humanitarian Funding Received	OR/RR Resources used	\$	%	\$	%	
Nutrition	3,345,000	0	850,000	2,495,000	75%	2,495,000	75%	-
Health	3,423,074	0	490,313	2,932,761	86%	2,149,471	63%	783,290
HIV/AIDS	215,000	0	15,000	200,000	93%	200,000	93%	-
WASH	1,755,537	0	173,893	1,581,644	90%	1,298,354	74%	283,290
Child Protection	750,000	0	5,000	745,000	99%	645,000	86%	100,000
Education	682,615	0	8,000	674,615	99%	497,783	0%	176,832
Social Protection	3,374,219	0	0	3,374,219	100%	2,874,219	85%	500,000
RCCE	1,216,079	0	55,000	1,161,079	95%	1,161,079		
Cross Sectoral (Hub Coordination, FOE,PME,Ops)	70,000	0	10,000	60,000	86%	60,000	86%	-
Total	14,831,524	-	1,607,206	13,224,318	89%	11,380,906	77%	2,143,412

*Includes cost-recovery costs

Contact Information:

Name	Designation	Email Contact	Phone Contact
Ms. Shaheen Nilofer	Representative	snilofer@unicef.org	+254 79 289 0194
Mr. Mahboob Ahmed Bajwa	Deputy Representative, Programme	mabajwa@unicef.org	+254 73 378 6975
Mr. Dominic Stolarow	Chief of Field Operations and Emergency	dstolarow@unicef.org	+254 70 596 4402