



Humanitarian **Action for** Children

A child's mid-upper arm circumference is measured for malnutrition screening at a UNICEF-supported health center on February 3, 2022, in Dollow.

Somalia

HIGHLIGHTS¹

- In Somalia, an estimated 7.7 million people, including 5.1 million children², will need humanitarian assistance in 2022 due to the devastating impact of the ongoing drought, conflict, insecurity, floods, desert locust infestation and the COVID-19 pandemic.
- More than 90 per cent of Somalia is affected by severe to extreme drought conditions; an estimated 4.5 million people are experiencing severe water shortage³, while 1.5 million children under the age of five will be severely malnourished by the end of 2022, accounting for 45 percent of the total child population, with 386,400 children likely to be severely malnourished⁴.
- UNICEF appeals for US\$222.3 million to provide humanitarian services to 2.5 million people, including 1.6 million children in Somalia⁵. The funds will allow UNICEF to scale up multi-sectoral basic services delivery focusing on hard-to-reach areas, implement humanitarian response approaches such as the Minimum Response Package (MRP), and Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) supported by an Integrated Emergency Response Team(iERT); and strengthen its leadership role in cluster coordination and information management.

IN NEED million million people_{6,7} children⁸

2018

2022

TO BE REACHED

1.6

million million

people

children¹⁰

KEY PLANNED TARGETS



1.1 million

primary caregivers receiving infant and young child feeding counselling



2.5 million

people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water



300,000

children/caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support



300,000

children accessing educational services 2018

2022

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

US\$ 222.3 million

2018

2022

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

The humanitarian crisis in Somalia continues to deepen, with the country facing one of the worst droughts in 40 years, heightened conflict, and severe food insecurity crippling what is left of a country that has faced persistent and recurrent humanitarian shocks for over 30 years.

According to the September (2022) Food Security and Nutrition Unit's technical release, approximately 6.7 million people across Somalia are expected to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse acute food insecurity outcomes (IPC4) between October and December 2022¹¹. Furthermore, in Baidoa district, the acute malnutrition threshold for famine (IPC Phase 5) has been exceeded, making the situation in the Bay area very precarious. Mortality (Crude Death Rate) has surpassed the Emergency (IPC Phase 4) threshold in Bay Agropastoral of Burhakaba and Baidoa districts, and death rates among children have exceeded the Emergency (IPC Phase 4) threshold in Bay Agropastoral of Baidoa district¹².

In 2022, out of the total 1,233,000 people displaced internally, 857,000 left their homes due to the worsening drought¹³. The country's dire humanitarian situation is expected to get worse over the next few months, with grave concerns about rising death rates.

According to the nutrition cluster, a significant increase in the admission of severe wasting cases has been observed across the country. Between January and June 2022, admissions of severe wasting have increased by 49 per cent, 39 per cent, and 17 per cent in comparison to the same time in 2021, 2020, and 2017.

In Somalia, an estimated 71 per cent of the population lives below the poverty line. At least 58 per cent of internally displaced and 46 per cent of the host community members earn between US\$0 to US\$15 per month¹⁴. In total, 7.7 million people, including 5.1 million children, will need humanitarian assistance in 2022¹⁵.

By the end of 2022, an estimated 1.5 million children under 5 years of age are likely to be wasted, including 386,400 severe cases¹⁶. In addition, an estimated 6.5 million people lack access to essential health services¹⁷. Approximately, 6.4 million people need access to emergency water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services of which 3.5 million will need safe drinking water, 5.1 million sanitation services, and 6.4 million hygiene supplies¹⁸. Furthermore, high displacement rates and heightened risks of gender-based violence create psychosocial and mental health challenges for 2.3 million children¹⁹. More than 3.1 million children are out of school while 900,000 are at risk of dropping out of school²⁰.

SECTOR NEEDS



2.4 million

people in need of nutrtion services ²¹



6.5 million

people in need of health assistance²²



6.4 million

people in need of WASH services ²³



2.3 million

children in need of protection services^{24,25}



3.1 million

children in need of education in emergency support²⁶

STORY FROM THE FIELD



Obsinale arrived at Hargeisa Hospital's Stabilization Center very malnourished, along with her twin sister. "I was afraid I might lose them both; even if Mersinale was the one who was severely sick and weak, Obsinale was also not in her full strength," says their mother, Fatuma. Both were receiving treatment for malnutrition at a UNICEF-supported stabilization center. The stabilization center beds are full, and children are starting to be admitted on the floor. The drought in Somalia is forcing millions of children to starve. UNICEF, with partners, is providing lifesaving treatment and supplies, but it is not enough.

Obsinale, a one-year-old girl, is recovering from malnutrition in Hargeisa Hospital Stabilization Center.

HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY27

UNICEF is substantially expanding its multi-sectoral humanitarian response, coordinating with other UN agencies, the Somali government, and partners. UNICEF leads the nutrition and WASH clusters and co-leads the education cluster and child protection sub-cluster, providing dedicated full-time support to coordination and information management. UNICEF has prepositioned emergency supplies in nine prepositioning hubs for a rapid humanitarian response. In addition, UNICEF implements its programmes in some of the hardest-to-reach areas, ensuring its robust field presence in three offices and expanding its partnerships.

Building on lessons learned from implementing the joint Minimum Response Package (MRP) with WFP and IOM in Baidoa and Banadir districts since April 2022, a rapid response mechanism is used to deliver a timely and effective minimum response package in hard-to-reach districts (displaced/returning IDP children and families and host communities) and provide essential life-saving services. UNICEF has established three Integrated Emergency Response Teams based in Biadoa, Mogadishu, and Kismayo.

UNICEF pursues a balanced approach between providing an immediate life-saving response, investing in systems strengthening, and building the resilience of services and communities. UNICEF will expand its programme monitoring to engage communities in the design, reach, and monitoring the quality of services. Furthermore, UNICEF supported programmes are informed by solid risk analysis and humanitarian access monitoring. UNICEF prioritizes gender, disability, equity, and mainstreams PSEA²⁸ and AAP²⁹ in its programmes.

UNICEF will also continue to provide life-saving health and nutrition interventions through community-based activities for affected populations. In 2022, UNICEF is expanding its Risk Communication and Community Engagement strategies to reach families affected by emergencies. UNICEF also supports nutrition services targeting children and pregnant/lactating mothers with nutrition screening, vitamin supplementation, promotion of safe infant and young child feeding practices, and treatment for severe wasting³⁰.

UNICEF's water and sanitation programme focuses on establishing safe, sustainable water supply systems including strategic boreholes drilling, maintaining, upgrading, and expanding water structures, sanitation facilities and distributing hygiene kits and information³¹.

On the protection of children, UNICEF continues with prevention campaigns and specialized services targeting survivors of gender-based violence. In 2022, UNICEF aims to scale up its mental health and psychosocial support program. Children associated with armed groups will have access to psychosocial support and life skills to facilitate their reintegration.

Vulnerable children and youth will participate in safe and protective educational programmes that allow for the continuation of learning, the development of literacy and numeracy skills, and opportunities for structured recreation and play.

Vulnerable children and families will receive social protection services, including humanitarian cash transfers, in line with the Grand Bargain commitments and leveraging UNICEF's current support to the Government's social transfers delivery mechanisms.

Progress against the latest programme targets is available in the humanitarian situation reports: $\underline{\text{https://www.unicef.org/appeals/somalia/situation-reports}}$

This appeal is aligned with the revised Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, which are based on global standards and norms for humanitarian action.

2022 PROGRAMME TARGETS



Nutrition

- 360,000 children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment
- 1,142,000 primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling³²



Health³³

- 1,279,326 children aged 6 to 59 months vaccinated against measles
- 1,310,857 children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities³⁴
- 36,804 pregnant women receiving delivery services by skilled birth attendants



Water, sanitation and hygiene

- 2,500,000 people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs³⁵
- 230,000 people use safe and appropriate sanitation facilities
- **2,500,000** people reached with hygiene promotion activities and hygiene kits distribution
- 875,000 people reached with sustainable access to safe water



Child protection, GBViE and PSEA

- 300,000 children and parents/caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support
- 165,384 women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions
- 4,950 girls and boys released from (or at risk of recruitment by) armed forces and groups reintegrated with their families/communities and provided with adequate care and services
- 675,554 people with access to safe channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse



Education

- 300,000 children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning
- 300,000 children accessing appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene facilities, hygiene services, key preventive messages on COVID-19 in learning facilities and safe spaces
- 1,200 teachers trained in basic pedagogy and psychosocial support



Social protection

 24,216 households reached with cash transfers through an existing government system where UNICEF provided technical assistance and funding



C4D, community engagement and AAP

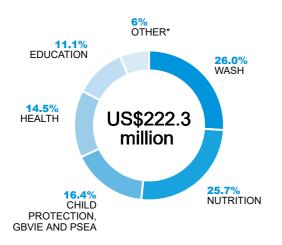
- **12,000,000** people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services ^{36,37}
- 780,000 people sharing their concerns and asking questions/clarifications for available support services to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms³⁸

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2022

UNICEF has increased its appeal to US\$222.3 million to meet the rapidly growing humanitarian needs of 2.5 million people, including 1.6 million children in Somalia. This represents an increase of US\$45.3 million due to the worsening drought that now affects 6.7 million people across the country.

Building on the humanitarian sector's success in preventing famine in 2016 and 2017, more should be done to respond to exponentially increased humanitarian needs, which would need major investment and strengthened humanitarian, development, and peace actor linkages. Thus, as needs continue to rapidly grow, UNICEF Somalia requires additional timely and flexible funding to respond effectively and efficiently to the ongoing crisis. Furthermore, with a higher financial appeal, UNICEF and its partners will aim to scale up integrated multi-sectoral services in hard-to-reach areas. Finally, UNICEF will continue to strengthen activities that support accountability to the affected people (AAP) and its humanitarian cluster coordination and information management. Without the required funding, UNICEF won't be able to help families get access to basic services like clean water, health and nutrition services, learning opportunities, critical child protection support, and responses to gender-based violence.

Thus, flexible humanitarian funding will be vital to meet the pressing needs of children and their families in Somalia, who are experiencing the devastating impacts of the worsening drought, armed conflict, and large-scale population displacement.



Appeal sector	Revised 2022 HAC requirement (US\$)		
Nutrition	57,108,056		
Health	32,292,079		
WASH	57,764,420		
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	36,418,242		
Education	24,690,960		
Social protection	7,248,382		
C4D, Community engagement and AAP	3,479,677		
Cluster Coordination	3,301,820		
Total	222.303.636		

^{*}This includes costs from other sectors/interventions: Social protection (3.3%), C4D, Community engagement and AAP (1.6%), Cluster Coordination (1.5%).

Appeal sector	Original 2022 HAC requirement (US\$)	Revised 2022 HAC requirement (US\$)	Funds available (US\$) ³⁹	Funding gap (US\$)	2022 funding gap (%)
Nutrition	40,627,208	57,108,056	49,825,993	7,282,063	12.8%
Health	29,558,054	32,292,079	26,138,920	6,153,159	19.1%
WASH	38,051,654	57,764,420	52,938,308	4,826,112	8.4%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	31,295,754	36,418,242	16,638,152	19,780,090	54.3%
Education	23,448,960	24,690,960	17,795,564	6,895,396	27.9%
Social protection	7,248,382	7,248,382	550,000	6,698,382	92.4%
C4D, Community engagement and AAP	3,479,677	3,479,677	1,345,076	2,134,601	61.3%
Cluster Coordination	3,301,820	3,301,820	1,879,719	1,422,101	43.1%
Total	177,011,509	222,303,636	167,111,732	55,191,904	24.8%

ENDNOTES

- 1. Due to the increased humanitarian need caused on by the worsening drought, UNICEF has increased its target of reaching 1.6 million people, set at the beginning of the year, to 2.5 million. Furthermore, as there are also modifications to the humanitarian assistance delivery approaches, UNICEF modified its Humanitarian Action Children appeal to ensure that its targets and priorities are aligned with the interagency famine prevention strategy released in June.
- 2. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Somalia Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) 2022.
- 3. Somalia WASH cluster update, June 2022.
- 4. Somalia IPC and Famine Risk Analysis Technical Release 4 June 2022.
- 5. UNICEF has increased its target by 56% in order to significantly scale up its response, focusing on 32 priority one districts with a population of 4.6 million people.
- 6. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Somalia Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) 2022. The estimate includes 64 per cent children, 15 per cent persons with disabilities, 49.5 per cent are women.
- 7. Internally displaced persons, persons with disabilities and minority clans are the most affected in terms of exclusion from humanitarian assistance.
- 8. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Somalia Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) 2022. The estimate includes 15 per cent of children with disabilities, 49.5 per cent are girls.
- 9. This figure was calculated based on the highest WASH target of people reached with emergency water services (2,448,013) to avoid double-counting. Gender disaggregation used for humanitarian planning purposes in 2022 is: 49.5 per cent female, 64 per cent children, and 15 per cent children living with disabilities and/or difficulties. UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.
- 10. This figure was calculated based on estimate of 64 per cent of children of the highest WASH target of people reached with emergency water services (2,5 million) to avoid double-counting. This total includes 49.5 per cent girls and 15 per cent children with disabilities.
- 11. Multi partner technical release on Somalia, Food security and Nutrition unit, 12 September 2022.
- 12. Joint FSNAU and FEWS NET Food Security Alert on Famine Projection in Bay Region of Somalia, 5 Sep 2022
- 13. Displacements monitored by UNHCR Protection and Return Monitoring Network (PRMN)
- 14. World Bank estimate 2020.
- 15. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Somalia Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) 2022.
- 16. Somalia-Updated IPC and Famine Risk Analysis Technical Release 4 Jun 2022
- 17. Health Cluster estimate to inform Humanitarian Needs Overview 2022.
- 18. WASH cluster estimates to inform Humanitarian Needs Overview 2022.
- 19. Child Protection Sub-cluster estimate to inform Humanitarian Needs Overview 2022.
- 20. Education Cluster report, July 2022
- 21. Nutrition sector estimate used for Humanitarian Needs Overview 2022 (49.5 per cent girls, 15 per cent children with disabilities).
- 22. Health sector estimate used for Humanitarian Needs Overview 2022
- 23. WASH sector estimate used for Humanitarian Needs Overview 2022
- 24. Gender-based violence sub-sector estimates that 2,289,689 people will need GBV services in 2022.
- 25. Child protection sub-cluster estimate used for Humanitarian Needs Overview 2022.
- 26. Ibid.
- 27. UNICEF leads cluster coordination for the WASH, nutrition and education clusters and the child protection area of responsibility.
- 28. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA).
- Accountability to Affected People(AAP).
- 30. Multi-sectoral engagement on nutrition is an essential strategy to holistically address the needs of malnourished children. To reach higher coverage in the resource-constrained environment, various approaches have been adopted including simplification, strengthening of the nutrition supply chain, expansion of partnerships.
- 31. In drought induced IDPs setting, the immediate response focuses on life-saving interventions but also includes building the resilience of affected communities through early warning systems (for risks and hazards) and risk prevention/reduction approaches: functional WASH information management systems, community engagement, appropriate design and technology for drought/ esilient water systems, crisis resilient service management, nutrition-sensitive WASH interventions and considerations for conflict-mitigation.
- 32. Infant and Young Children Feeding practices (IYCF).
- 33. The 1, 278,326 target includes children vaccinated through targeted campaigns.
- 34. Access to outpatient consultations and referrals.
- 35. The indicator "number of people reached with emergency water services" is being used for 2022 humanitarian performance monitoring 2022. According to WASH cluster reports, more than 150 strategic boreholes are currently nonfunctional, and UNICEF has increased its emergency water provision target considerably in order to reach people in drought affected areas.
- 36. 11,752,897 people rounded up to 12 million
- 37. The population targeted is higher than the total number of people/children to be reached because the target includes mass media outreach.
- 38. 783,527 people rounded down to 780,000.
- 39. Funds available include humanitarian and other types of funding.