

# Humanitarian Action for Children

unicef

# **Malawi**

Over 3.3 million people are classified as in need of urgent humanitarian support due to consecutive poor harvests. These needs have been exacerbated due to Cyclone Idai which made landfall on 14-15 March. Heavy rains and fierce winds have resulted in severe flooding across 15 districts, affecting an estimated 869,000 people including 443,000 children. The most affect districts are Nsanie and Phalombe. The Government of Malawi declared a State of Disaster on 8 March. Displaced people have moved to over 100 different camp areas and seeking shelter in schools. The Government's Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) has deployed search and rescue teams to the hardest hit areas. The heavy rains and floods have severely impacted the country's agricultural production. Electricity and water supplies have also been impacted by the rains and floods and other critical infrastructure destroyed. The risk of disease outbreaks, which include cholera and measles, has significantly increased as a result of the floods.

### **Humanitarian strategy**

UNICEF is focusing on providing immediate life saving and life sustaining assistance to populations affected by severe food insecurity and flooding, while also investing in resiliencebuilding interventions. UNICEF is supporting the scale-up of Government-led responses that address the needs of the most affected children and families, including those with disabilities. In coordination with partners, UNICEF is seeking to reduce duplication of management costs by building on common pipelines where feasible. UNICEF will focus on delivering services through multi-sectoral responses in WASH, Health/HIV AIDS, Education, Child Protection, Nutrition and Social Protection, supported by communication and community engagement activities. UNICEF is supporting Governmentled assessments through the use of innovation, including drones. UNICEF is establishing an operational field presence closer to the affected population to ensure the implementation of robust, well coordinated, flexible Government-led responses. Linkages of humanitarian and development approaches is being prioritized through collective outcomes and risk-informed programming. Capacity will be strengthened through existing surge response mechanisms, including cluster coordination, while UNICEF increases coverage and reach through working with Government and through additional partnerships. UNICEF will also work towards strengthening protection from sexual exploitation and abuse by establishing coordination structures to ensure crisisaffected populations have access to reporting mechanisms and assistance.

# Results from 2019

In response to the cyclone, a UNICEF boat was loaned to DoDMA within the first two days of the flooding, to assist with search and rescue efforts. A UNICEF rapid response team was deployed to the affected areas with a coordination structure established in Blantyre. UNICEF deployed drones to assist with the search and rescue and to provide real time images of flood damage. To date, UNICEF has provided WASH supplies to nine affected districts, including portable plastic toilets, soap and water treatment chemicals. Information on cholera prevention has also been distributed. In the worst affected Nsanje District, 4,000 displaced people have been reached with safe water through expansion of existing reticulated water points. Nearly 14,000 displaced people were provided access to portable water in Chikwawa District. Hygiene promotion and awareness in the nine districts is also underway, including the distribution of messages. Community Based Child Care Centres, for children under five and "Children's Corners" for older children have been established in 21 sites. Recreation kits have been distributed in 34 sites. UNICEF is dispatching additional supplies to the flood affected districts including tents for displaced people currently living in classrooms, various WASH supplies and learning materials.

Total people in need
3.3 million<sup>3</sup>
Total children (<18) in need
1.7 million<sup>4</sup>
Total people to be reached
1.2 million<sup>5</sup>
Total children to be reached

# 2019 programme targets

#### **Nutrition**

710.000

- 58,421 children under 5 years old with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) admitted into therapeutic feeding programme.
- 400,075 children aged 6 to 59 months provided with Vitamin A supplementation.

#### Health

- 379,195 children under 5 immunised against measles.
- 424,071 children and women in humanitarian situations provided with access to health care services.

#### WASH

- 495,960 people affected by drought, floods and choleraprovided access to safe water as per agreed standards
- safe water as per agreed standards
  40,000 people affected by cholera and floods provided access to emergency sanitation facilities

## **Child Protection**

- 150,000 children receive psychosocial support through safe spaces.
  7,000 people reached by gender-based
- 7,000 people reached by gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response services

#### Education

- 95,500 School aged children in disaster affected areas including adolescents access quality education (including through temporary structures).
   2,000 in and out of school adolescents
- 2,000 in and out of school adolescents gain access to relevant alternative education services.

#### HIV & AIDS

 10,000 Women in disaster affected areas retained on HIV treatment for 6 months

## Cash based assistance

 14,500 Vulnerable households receive cash emergency top ups

#### **Communication for development**

 495,960 People affected by disasters reached with key messages and call to action on life saving practices

	UNICEF 2019 targets	UNICEF 2019 results	
NUTRITION			
Children under 5 years with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment in therapeutic feeding programme	58,421	8,698	
Children aged 6 to 59 months provided with Vitamin A supplementation	400,075	42,495	
HEALTH			
Children and women affected by humanitarian situations provided access to health care services	424,071	33,858	
Children under five immunized against measles	379,195	0	
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE i			
People affected by drought, floods and cholera provided access to safe water per agreed standards	495,960	20,000	
People affected by cholera and floods provided access to emergency sanitation facilities	40,000	13,370	
CHILD PROTECTION			
Number of children receiving psycho-social support (PSS) through safe spaces	150,000	20,000	
People reached by gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response services	7,000	749	
EDUCATION			
School-aged children in disaster affected areas including adolescents provided access to quality education services	95,500	5,000	
Adolescents in disaster affected areas, in and out of school, provided access to relevant alternative education services	2,000	0	
HIV & AIDS			
Women in disaster affected areas retained on HIV treatment for 6 months	10,000	0	
CASH BASED ASSISTANCE			
Vulnerable households receive cash emergency top ups	14,500	0	
COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT II			
People affected by disasters reached with key messages and call to action on life saving practices	495,960	20,000	

Results are through end February unless otherwise noted

# **Funding requirements**

UNICEF is requesting US\$15.3 million to meet the urgent humanitarian needs caused by severe food insecurity and flooding caused by Cyclone Idai. 6 Without timely and adequate funding, UNICEF will be unable to support the national response to the country's current crisis the areas of health, nutrition, WASH, child protection and education.

Sector	2019 requirements (US\$)
Nutrition	4,450,000
Health	2,563,130
Water, sanitation and hygiene	2,800,000
Child protection	600,000
Education	2,050,000
HIV & AIDS	150,000
Cash based assistance	1,500,000
Communication for development	500,000
Sector/Cluster Coordination	684,000
Total	15,297,130

Who to contact for further information: **Johannes Wedenig** Representative, Malawi Tel: +265 1770660 Ext 2201 Email: jwedenig@unicef.org **Grant Leaity**Deputy Director, Office of
Emergency Programmes (EMOPS)
Tel: +1 212 326 7150 Email: gleaity@unicef.org

Carla Haddad Mardini Director, Public Partnership Division (PPD) Tel: +1 212 326 7160

Email: chaddadmardini@unicef.org

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>i</sup> Results are as of 25 March 2019. <sup>ii</sup> Results are as of 25 March 2019.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 1}$  2019 Flood Response Plan and Appeal, Government of Malawi  $^{\rm 2}$  lbid

Ibid
 Malawi: Acute Food Insecurity Situation for July-September 2018 and projections for October 2018-March 2019
 Calculated using percentage of children under 18 per 2018 population Census.
 Calculated using UNICEF targets for WASH (safe water), child protection (community safe spaces) and health (immunization).
 Of the total funding requirement, US\$ 8.52 million is for the Cyclone Idai response.