

UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children 2021

Overview





Syrian Arab Republic, March 2020

UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta H. Fore (right) speaks with students at Tal-Amara school in southern rural Idlib. The school is the only elementary school in Tal-Amara village.

FOREWORD

Humanitarian Action for Children 2021

It is a simple truth that in times of crisis, children suffer most. The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic is no exception. Poverty is rising, inequality is growing, and the pandemic is upending the essential services that secure the health, education and protection of our children and young people.

Before the pandemic hit, conflict, poverty, malnutrition and climate change were already driving unprecedented growth in the number of children in need of humanitarian assistance. Now COVID-19 is making this situation even worse.

While this reality can feel overwhelming, there is also reason to hope.

Through 59 appeals aiming to reach over 190 million children, UNICEF's *Humanitarian Action for Children 2021* sets out an ambitious agenda to address the major challenges facing children living through conflict and crisis. By working together, we can build a better future for every child.

Help us respond to the major challenges facing children in emergencies.

The pandemic threatens a lost generation.

COVID-19 unleashed a learning crisis, with school closures disrupting the schooling of 91 per cent of students worldwide. This made learning even more difficult for children displaced or

affected by humanitarian crises. In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, over a million children have already dropped out of school, and a million more are at risk of taking the same path.

At the same time, economic instability and disrupted services are rolling back decades of progress in the fight against malnutrition. In Yemen, there has been a near 10 per cent increase in cases of acute malnutrition.

To avert a lost generation, we are seeking investment in the 2021 Humanitarian Action for Children appeals. We urgently require timely, predictable and flexible funding to save children's lives, preserve their dignity and protect their futures.

Child rights are under attack.

From Afghanistan to Cameroon to Mozambique, attacks on children are increasing at a disturbing rate – and the perpetrators of these attacks are rarely held to account.

At the same time, negative coping mechanisms are exposing girls to sexual abuse, child marriage and pregnancy. In the Niger, nearly 76 per cent of all girls are married before the age of 18.

We must work together to ensure all humanitarian action upholds child rights and prioritizes child protection. This means ending attacks on children and the civilian infrastructure critical

for their survival, and holding perpetrators of these attacks to account. It also means investing in mental health and psychosocial support and combatting gender-based violence.

More children are displaced than ever before.

Conflict, climate change and economic instability are forcing more children than ever before from their homes. In the Central Sahel, over a million children have been forced to flee because of armed conflict and insecurity – a 64 per cent increase from 2019.

At the same time, discrimination and xenophobia are making life even harder for displaced, refugee and migrant children, who are routinely denied essential services. Ninety-nine countries have now closed their borders.

We are calling on governments to include displaced, refugee and migrant children in national systems, policies and plans. This starts with fighting stigma and discrimination. It also means listening to children and young people and including them in decision-making.

COVID-19 has made it even harder to reach those in need.

Whether the result of deliberate action in conflict, or new pandemic restrictions, humanitarian access is increasingly under threat.

Basic services are even more stretched and lockdown measures are constraining our efforts to reach the most vulnerable populations. Routine immunization services have been disrupted in more than 60 countries due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which could result to outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases.

At the same time, humanitarian workers are increasingly in the line of fire, with the impacts of these atrocities surpassing all previous years on record, and compounded by the risks of COVID-19.

Humanitarian Action for Children 2021 proposes new solutions to overcome these barriers and uphold our shared duty to guarantee humanitarian relief – including by protecting humanitarian workers.

Climate change and environmental degradation threaten our shared future.

From severe droughts to flooding, the number of climate-related disasters has tripled in the last 30 years. In East Asia, the Mekong region was hit with more than four storms in just one month.

These disasters have a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable children and families – threatening food security, increasing water scarcity and forcing people from their homes.

We ask that you work alongside us to build climate-resilient programmes and invest in the social protection systems that will make communities better prepared for future shocks.

UNICEF action in 2020

Thanks to your help, UNICEF and our partners are working tirelessly to address these challenges.

Following the onset of COVID-19, we immediately mobilized to reduce transmission of the virus and ensure the continuity of life-saving services. This included equipping 1.8 million health workers with protective personal equipment and oxygen concentrators; providing safe water to thousands of people affected by floods in South Sudan; and treating over 350,000 severely malnourished children in the Central Sahel.

Across humanitarian settings, even in the most dangerous and hardest-to-reach places, we also scaled up access to COVID-19 testing, as well as vital medicines and vaccines to continue our fight against preventable diseases. This includes shipping over 2.5 million test kits to 56 countries, including Yemen, which received 18,000 kits.

We redoubled our efforts to ensure that every child learns, expanding access to education for Rohingya refugees and innovating with partners to provide online and distance learning to millions of out-of-school children.

We have also continued to strengthen the links between humanitarian action and development programming – designing and delivering programmes that respond to immediate needs whilst also building resilience. For example, in the Central Sahel, we are supporting governments to expand social protection systems and make them more shock-responsive and child-sensitive.

And this year, we revised UNICEF's Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action to guarantee effectiveness and transparency in all we do and hold us to account for equitable and urgent action to protect child rights.

Next year, UNICEF turns 75. As in our founding year, the world is once again at a critical juncture. Without urgent action, we risk a lost generation – but by working together to tackle these challenges, we can build a better world for every child.



Henrietta H. Fore
UNICEF Executive Director

FUNDING REQUIRED IN 2021

Humanitarian Action for Children 2021

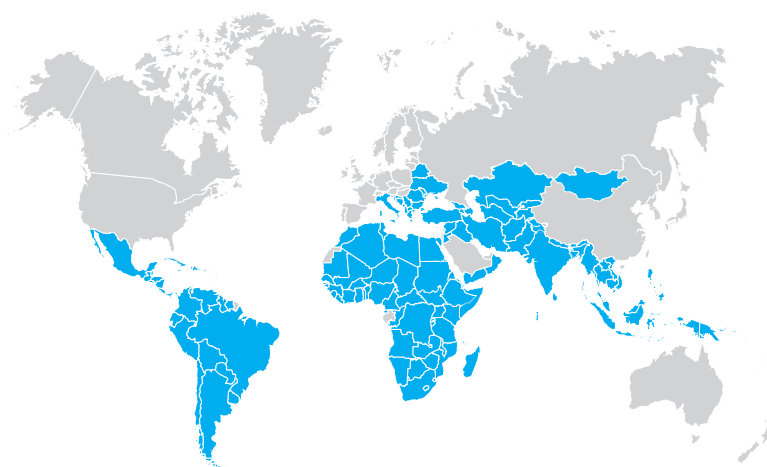
East Asia and the Pacific Region		US\$
Regional Office		117,218,483
Myanmar		61,733,951
Total		178,952,434

Eastern and Southern Africa Region		US\$
Regional Office		64,250,000
Angola		14,330,000
Burundi		27,000,000
Eritrea		18,650,000
Ethiopia		188,008,147
Kenya		32,699,272
Lesotho		6,700,000
Madagascar		15,350,000
Mozambique		52,797,933
Rwanda		6,000,000
Somalia		129,847,795
South Sudan		197,805,600
Uganda		24,999,995
Zimbabwe		74,719,456
Total		853,158,198

Europe and Central Asia Region		US\$
Regional Office		71,971,750
Refugee and migrant crisis in Europe*		36,447,000
Kyrgyzstan		14,950,000
Tajikistan		17,863,876
Ukraine		14,650,000
Total		155,882,626

Latin America and the Caribbean Region		US\$
Regional Office		48,887,160
Brazil		22,946,227
Children on the move from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and COVID-19*		94,657,928
Children on the move and COVID-19 in Mexico and Central America*		59,687,450
Haiti		74,989,095
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela		201,790,000
Total		502,957,860

Middle East and North Africa Region		US\$
Regional Office		42,080,000
Islamic Republic of Iran		14,044,120
Iraq		70,823,356
Lebanon		94,028,000
Libya		49,144,680
State of Palestine		25,171,140
Sudan		199,253,595
Syrian Arab Republic		330,826,577
Syrian refugees*		1,043,071,652
Yemen		576,854,041
Total		2,445,297,161



This map is stylized and not to scale.

It does not reflect a position by UNICEF on the legal status of any country or area or the delimitation of any frontiers. The dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the Parties. The final boundary between the Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined.

South Asia Region		US\$
Regional Office		18,447,360
Afghanistan		143,644,000
Bangladesh		198,802,600
India		53,870,000
Nepal		25,530,000
Pakistan		55,729,224
Total		496,023,184

West and Central Africa Region		US\$
Regional Office		70,528,330
Burkina Faso		154,968,652
Cameroon		83,074,000
Central African Republic		75,700,000
Chad		59,500,890
Congo		11,922,435
Democratic Republic of the Congo		384,412,089
Ghana		26,948,402
Guinea		11,800,000
Mali		108,295,507
Mauritania		17,711,799
Niger		74,858,228
Nigeria		187,778,750
Senegal		16,160,000
Sierra Leone		12,734,000
Total		1,296,393,082

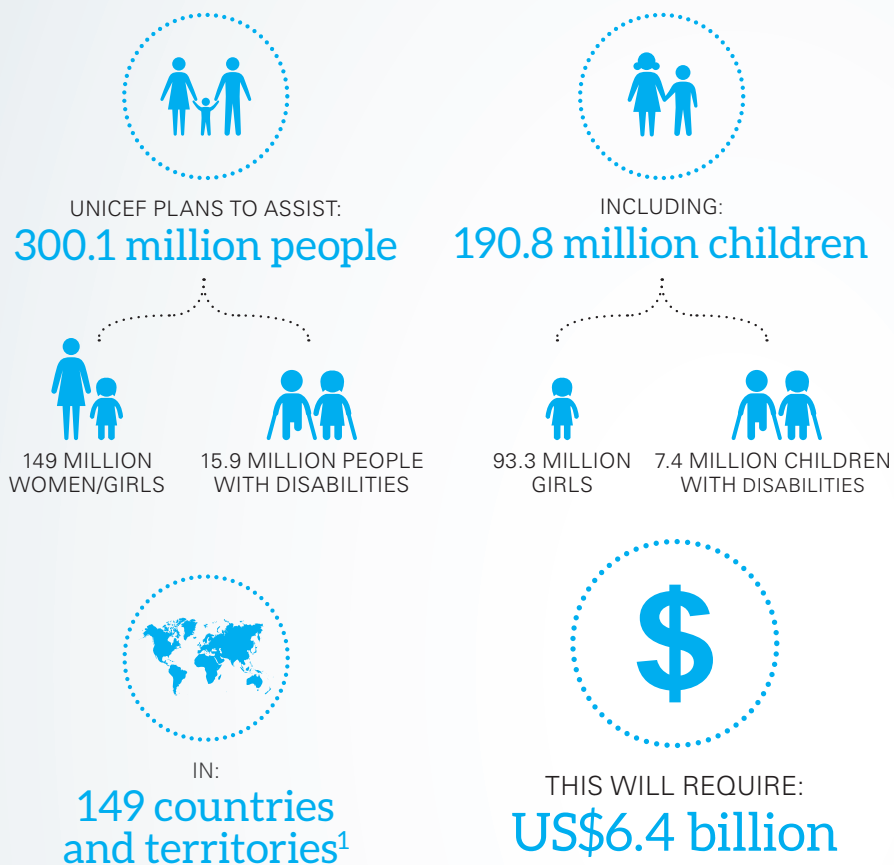
Global support		463,002,310
Grand total		6,391,666,855

*Multiple countries included in the appeal.
Electronic users can click on each name to go to that office's online content.

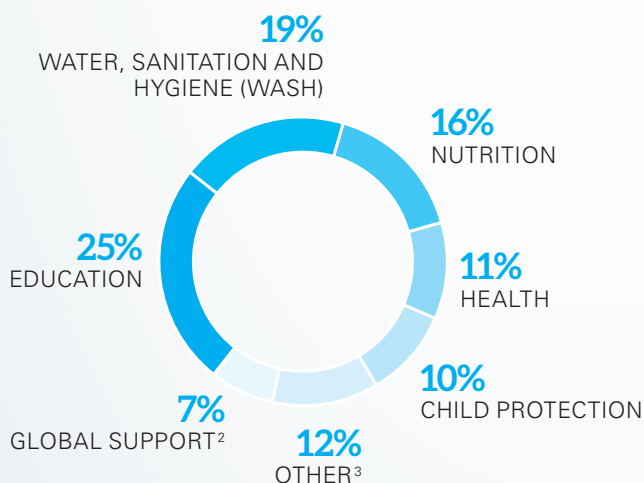
PLANNED RESULTS IN 2021

Humanitarian Action for Children 2021

The information below summarizes the global requirements for UNICEF humanitarian programmes, the total number of people and children to be reached and the planned results in *Humanitarian Action for Children 2021*.



Percentage of total requirement per thematic priority:



¹ The 2021 appeal covers 144 countries and 5 territories.

² Global support includes unfunded needs that are critical to preparing and enabling countries to deliver vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostic tools in 2021.

³ This includes costs from other sectors/interventions e.g., social protection and cash transfers (5%), communication for development (3%), adolescent and youth (1%), and HIV and AIDS (<1%).

All figures are provisional and subject to change upon finalization of the inter-agency needs and planning documents.

UNICEF and partners will work towards the following results in 2021:



NUTRITION

6.3 million children to be treated for severe acute malnutrition



HEALTH

27.4 million children to be immunized against measles



WASH

45 million people to have access to safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene



CHILD PROTECTION

19.2 million children and caregivers to have access to mental health and psychosocial support



GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN EMERGENCIES

17 million children and women to have access to gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions



EDUCATION

93.3 million children to have access to formal or non-formal education, including early learning



CASH-BASED TRANSFERS

9.6 million households to be reached with cash assistance



COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

495.8 million at-risk/affected children and adults to be engaged through communication for development/community engagement

CHILDREN IN CRISIS

The map below highlights some of the major crises affecting children and their families at the end of 2020.

The COVID-19 pandemic has triggered an unprecedented global health, humanitarian, socio-economic and human rights crisis, exacerbating the vulnerabilities of affected children. As of 10 November 2020, there are over 50 million confirmed cases and over 1.2 million reported deaths globally.

Central Sahel crisis (Burkina Faso, Mali and the Niger)

Across the Central Sahel, some 13.5 million people (7.2 million children) are in need of humanitarian assistance due to insecurity, forced displacement, lack of access to basic services and the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.



The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and migration flows across the region

After six consecutive years of economic contraction, the humanitarian situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela continues to intensify. Some 7 million people (3.2 million children) inside the country and 12.2 million people (4.3 million children) on the move from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela urgently require humanitarian assistance.



The Democratic Republic of the Congo

The scale and complexity of humanitarian needs and protection concerns in the Democratic Republic of the Congo are staggering. Over 11 million children are in need of humanitarian assistance. In 2020, two separate Ebola outbreaks struck the country and significant containment efforts were needed within the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to prevent Ebola from spreading to neighbouring countries.



Arrows represent the movement of people to neighbouring countries due to conflict.

This map is stylized and not to scale. It does not reflect a position by UNICEF on the legal status of any country or area or the delimitation of any frontiers. The dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the Parties. The final boundary between the Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined.

Refugee and migrant situation in Europe

Between January and August 2020, nearly 50,000 refugees and migrants (25 per cent children) arrived in Europe, a trend likely to continue in 2021. Children on the move – particularly the 10,000 children who are unaccompanied and separated – are highly vulnerable and require urgent care and protection.



Sudan

There are over 9.3 million people (5.4 million children) enduring complex, intersecting challenges in the Sudan. The economic crisis is causing widespread malnutrition; ethnic tensions are erupting into violence; flooding remains life-threatening; and diseases, including COVID-19, cholera, polio and chikungunya, remain prevalent.



Protracted conflicts in the Middle East (the Syrian Arab Republic, Syrian refugees in the sub-region and Yemen)

The Middle East region remains the epicentre of two of the most protracted and severe emergencies in the world. Following a decade of conflict and humanitarian crisis, localized hostilities in the Syrian Arab Republic continue to intensify, and 11 million people (4.8 million children) inside the country require humanitarian assistance. The Syrian refugee crisis in the sub-region remains the largest displacement crisis in the world, with 5.6 million registered refugees (2.5 million children) living in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. After more than five years of conflict in Yemen, 80 per cent of the population – over 24.3 million people (12.4 million children) – require humanitarian assistance.



Protracted humanitarian settings (Afghanistan, Somalia and South Sudan)

Globally, protracted humanitarian crises have become increasingly common. In Afghanistan, the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance has increased from 9.4 million in 2019 to 14 million in 2020. In Somalia, the conflict continues to disrupt the lives of children and increase their vulnerability to protection violations. And in South Sudan, the population is facing the cumulative effects of years of prolonged conflict, chronic vulnerabilities and weak essential services.

Mozambique

The humanitarian situation in Mozambique has deteriorated with the intensification of conflict in Cabo Delgado province. Over 425,000 people (191,000 children) are displaced, more than 135,000 are food insecure and basic services have been severely disrupted.



Rohingya crisis in Bangladesh and Myanmar

Over 1 million people (450,000 children) in Myanmar are affected by the decade-long conflict and are increasingly vulnerable to gender-based violence, exploitation, abuse, detention and trafficking. In Bangladesh, more than 860,000 Rohingya refugees from Myanmar living in Cox's Bazar District remain highly dependent on international aid and vulnerable to the impacts of COVID-19.



RESULTS ACHIEVED IN 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted an already complex humanitarian landscape and compounded existing challenges, such as insecurity and inadequate humanitarian access. The chart below captures some of the key results achieved against the humanitarian targets beyond the COVID-19 response; and the chart on p. 9 captures some of the key results achieved against the targets set in the global COVID-19 appeal.

Further reporting on 2020, including country-specific indicators, is available on the respective country web pages at <www.unicef.org/appeals> and the global COVID-19 appeal page at <www.unicef.org/appeals/covid-19>.

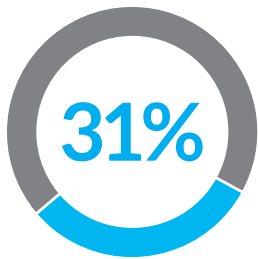
Results achieved against targets beyond the COVID-19 response⁴



NUTRITION

1.5 MILLION

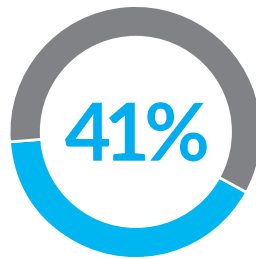
children treated for severe acute malnutrition



HEALTH

3.4 MILLION

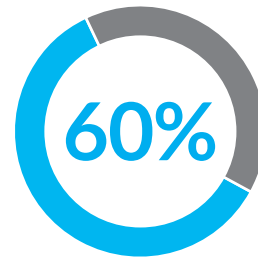
children vaccinated against measles



WASH

14.2 MILLION

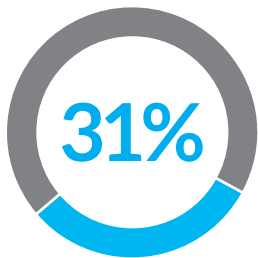
people accessed safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene



CHILD PROTECTION

1.5 MILLION

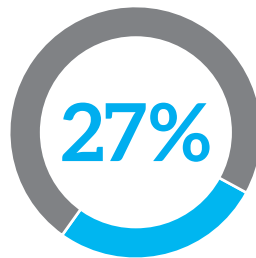
children and caregivers accessed mental health and psychosocial support



EDUCATION

2.4 MILLION

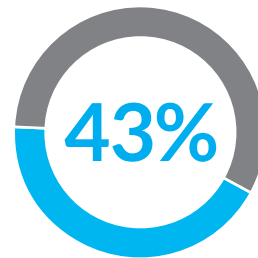
children accessed formal or non-formal education, including early learning



CASH TRANSFERS

667,000



people received cash assistance



⁴ All results were achieved by UNICEF and partners as of mid-2020.



Results achieved against targets set in the global COVID-19 appeal⁵

RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
3 BILLION
 people reached with COVID-19 messaging on prevention and access to services

© UNICEF/UNI356712/FILIPPOV

WASH/INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL
73.7 MILLION
 people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services

© UNICEF/UNI322226/RYENG

WASH/INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL
1.8 MILLION
 health care workers within health facilities and communities provided with personal protective equipment






© UNICEF/UNI395227/SAEED

HEALTH
74.8 MILLION
 children and women receiving essential health care services in UNICEF-supported facilities




© UNICEF/UN0357146/KABUYE

HEALTH
2.3 MILLION
 health care providers trained to detect, refer and appropriately manage COVID-19 cases

© UNICEF/UNI377008/SARRAF/AFP

EDUCATION
261.2 MILLION
 children supported with distance/home-based learning






© UNICEF/UNI362248/EVERETT

CHILD PROTECTION
74.7 MILLION
 children, parents and primary caregivers provided with community-based mental health and psychosocial support






© UNICEF/UN0360084/CHOUFANY

PREVENTION OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE
22.6 MILLION
 children and adults accessing safe and accessible channels for reporting sexual exploitation and abuse

© UNICEF/UNI394737/DEJONGH

SOCIAL PROTECTION
45.5 MILLION
 households benefiting from new or additional social assistance measures provided by governments to respond to COVID-19 with UNICEF support

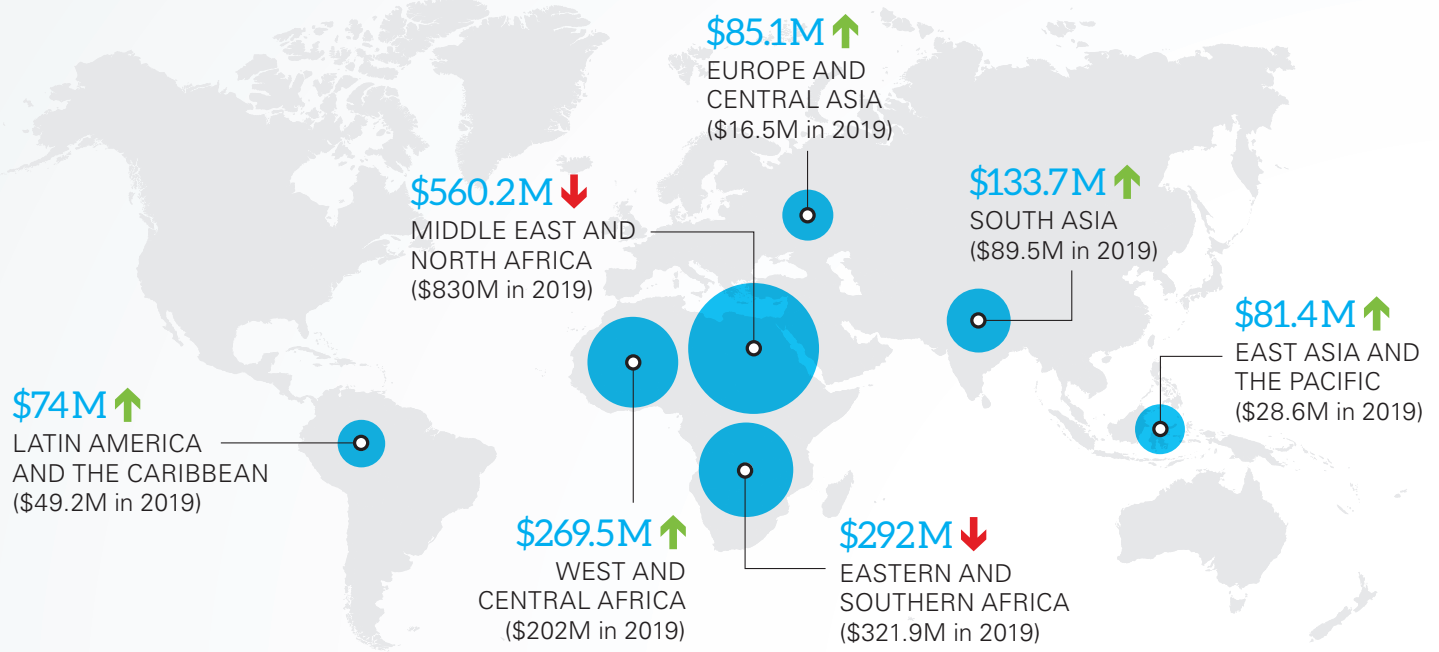



© UNICEF/UNI367044/TAXTA

⁵ Results are as of 21 October 2020 from 128 countries.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING IN 2020⁶

Funds received by region (US\$ millions)



The year 2020 was marked by a dramatic increase in humanitarian needs, largely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The response to COVID-19 has been unlike any response that the humanitarian community has faced before. The pandemic added substantial needs to a humanitarian landscape already characterized by significant crises. And in many cases, the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 exacerbated the dire conditions that millions of children and families affected by conflict, deprivation and disaster were already experiencing.

At the start of 2020, UNICEF requested US\$4.2 billion through its Humanitarian Action for Children appeal. The funding requirements continued to grow over the course of the year, reaching US\$6.3 billion for 153 countries (52 appeals) by 1 November. The significant increase in requirements was primarily due to the growing needs of children and families following the outbreak of COVID-19.

Humanitarian requirements also rose in 2020 as existing crises grew in complexity – for example in Zimbabwe, which was confronting multiple natural hazards and an economic downturn, and in East Asia and the Pacific, where children were affected by Tropical Cyclone Harold. New needs also emerged in several countries, including in Lesotho due to drought, and in Lebanon, in the aftermath of the Beirut explosions.

Nearly one third of the total 2020 appeal was devoted to humanitarian needs in education and WASH, followed by nutrition (13 per cent) and child protection (7 per cent).

By November, UNICEF had received US\$1.69 billion in humanitarian donor contributions for the 2020 appeal, of which 44 per cent was dedicated to the COVID-19 response. In addition to the humanitarian contributions for COVID-19, resource partners also provided other resources towards the global response.⁷ With US\$951.8 million available from the previous year, the appeal was 49 per cent funded.

In 2020, the top five humanitarian donors were the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Japan, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the European Commission. Among private sector partners, the top supporters were UNICEF National Committees in the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Canada and Japan.

The amount of flexible thematic funding received for humanitarian responses at the global, regional and country levels remained low as a share of total funding received in 2020 at 9 per cent (US\$148.5 million). Global humanitarian thematic funding – the most flexible type of humanitarian resources after regular resources – totalled US\$27.9 million. In contrast, the global COVID-19 appeal received greater levels of flexibility from resource partners that surpassed the levels seen for other emergencies.

⁶ All figures presented are provisional as of 1 November 2020, unless otherwise indicated, and represent humanitarian fund commitments by resource partners as per the agreement amount at the time signed in the current appeal year. The figures include the revised agreement for COVID-19 response with currency revaluation. Figures are subject to change.

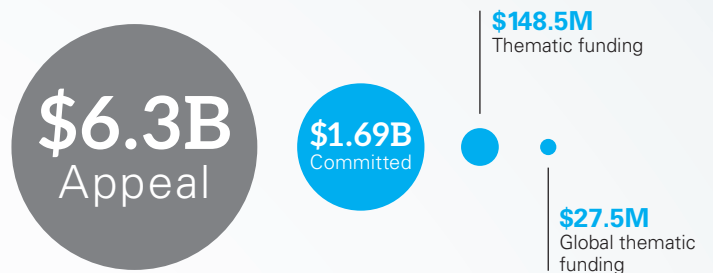
⁷ For more information, see the COVID-19 funding overview in 2020 on p. 13.

In terms of regular resources for humanitarian response, the Emergency Programme Fund supported UNICEF’s response to acute emergencies by fast-tracking resources to affected countries within 48 hours of a crisis. In 2020, US\$39 million was allocated to over 20 countries and UNICEF global support. For example, these funds supported the emergency response in northwest Syrian Arab Republic; facilitated uninterrupted WASH and education support in Ukraine; enabled the provision of critical nutrition supplies in Somalia; and supported the scale up of the COVID-19 response. Regular resources such as these are critical, especially in sudden-onset emergencies and unpredictable contexts, such as the COVID-19 crisis.

In emergency settings such as Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Pakistan, Rwanda, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen, UNICEF programmes were gravely underfunded, limiting the organization’s capacity to reach children most in need. Yemen remained the largest humanitarian crisis in the world, yet only received 18 per cent of the US\$535 million requested. In the education, nutrition and child protection sectors, UNICEF struggled to attract adequate levels of support to meet global humanitarian needs.

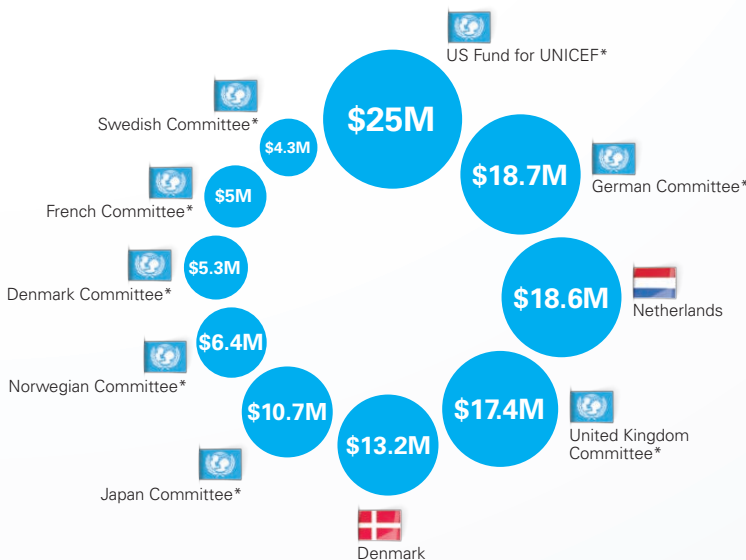
As the world continues to face the devastating and wide-ranging impacts of COVID-19, UNICEF and its partners will continue to work tirelessly to support the most vulnerable children and their families, including displaced people, refugees, migrants and people caught up in conflicts or disasters. And we urgently need support from our partners to do more – to continue to save lives and expand our reach wherever necessary, while reducing underlying vulnerabilities and building long-term resilience to future shocks.

2020 funding overview (US\$)



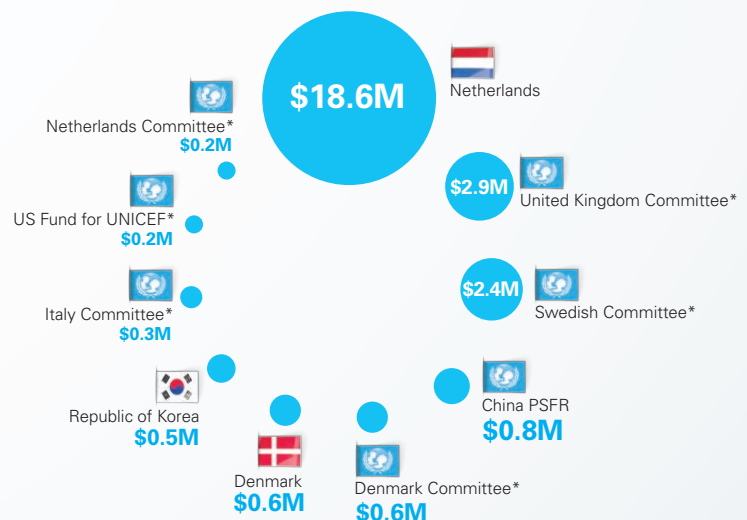
Top 10 donors

Humanitarian thematic funding (global, regional and country levels)



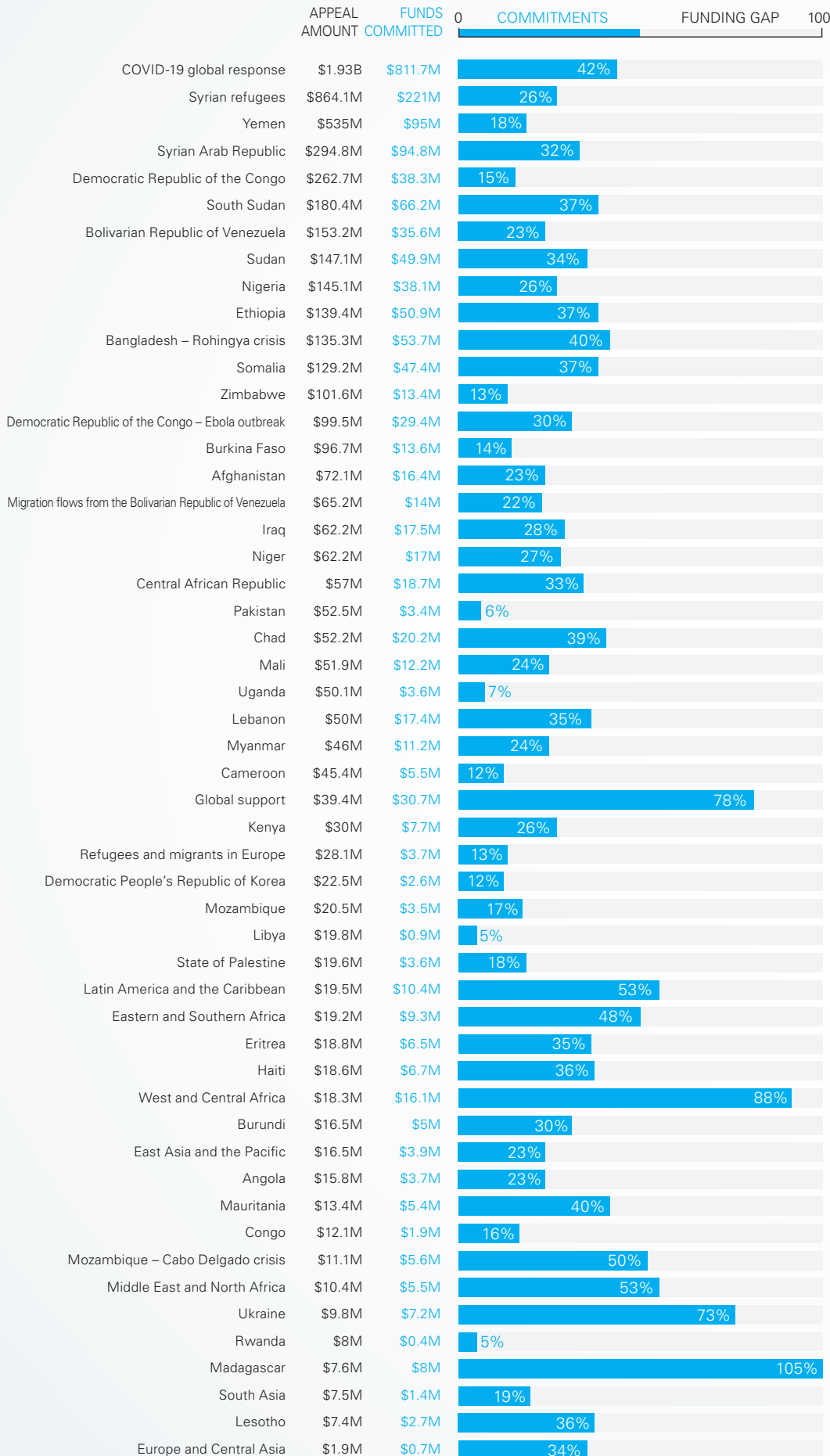
Top 10 donors

Global humanitarian thematic funding



*Refers to National Committee for UNICEF.

Humanitarian Action for Children: Funding commitments and shortfalls in 2020
(US\$ millions)⁸



Top 10 Donors in 2020

United States ⁹	\$401.3M
United Kingdom	\$176.1M
Japan	\$171.9M
CERF	\$136.2M
European Commission	\$124.3M
World Bank ¹⁰	\$86.9M
Germany	\$49.7M
US Fund for UNICEF*	\$48.7M
Canada	\$47.7M
Saudi Arabia	\$46.6M

Top 5 Multi-year donors¹¹

United Kingdom
US Fund for UNICEF*
Australia
World Bank
United States

*Refers to National Committee for UNICEF

⁸ Presented figures are provisional as of 1 November 2020 and represent emergency fund commitments by resource partners as per the agreement signed in the current appeal year. Funding updates include global humanitarian thematic funding allocations made in 2020. Figures subject to change.

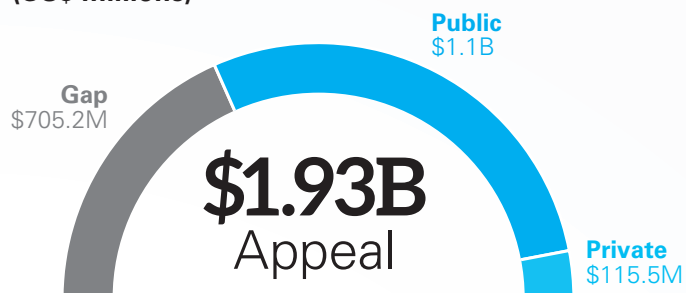
⁹ United States figures are based on contributions and expenditures while the full committed amount for 2020 (as of 1 November 2020) is US\$621.8 million

¹⁰ Including funding through agreements in collaboration with programme country governments.

¹¹ Multi-year funding is funding provided for two or more years based on agreements signed in 2020.

COVID-19 FUNDING OVERVIEW IN 2020¹²

COVID-19 Humanitarian Action for Children appeal (US\$ millions)

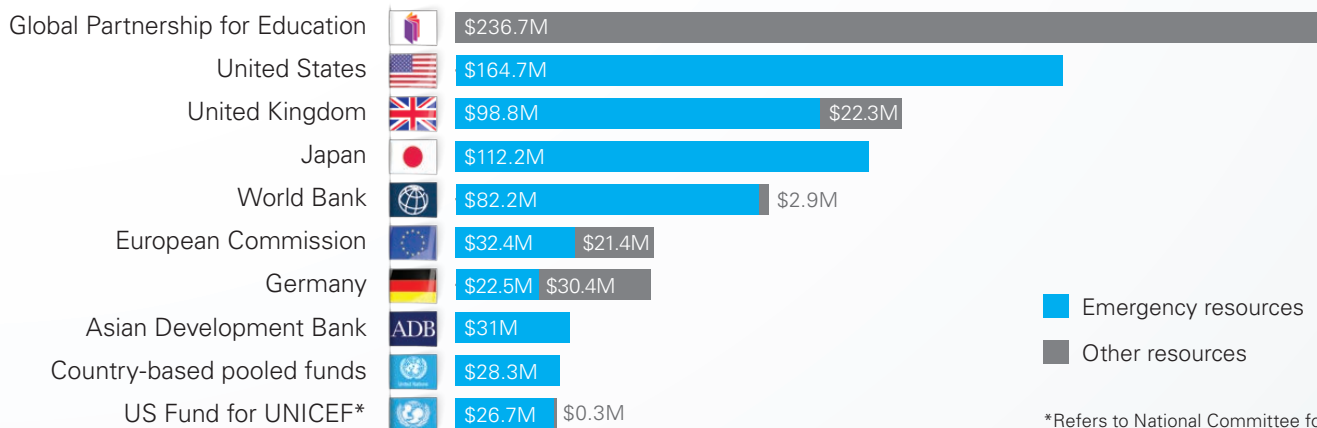


In 2020, all of UNICEF’s 128 country offices implemented humanitarian interventions, underscoring the truly global nature of the COVID-19 pandemic. This included many small/medium and/or upper-middle income countries where UNICEF supported humanitarian response for the first time in recent years. UNICEF National Committees played a critical role in supporting the response and complementing government support for social inclusion, social protection, education, child protection, health, child rights education and communication for development.

Throughout the year, UNICEF adapted and expanded its response to COVID-19 and appealed for a total of US\$1.93 billion¹³ to protect millions of lives and halt the spread of the pandemic in 153 countries and territories.

UNICEF partners responded generously with unprecedented levels of support. As of 1 November, the global COVID-19 appeal was 63 per cent funded thanks to contributions from both the public and private sectors. The funding committed against the appeal included US\$811.7 million in humanitarian contributions. Moreover, resource partners provided an additional US\$413.3 million in other resources to help address this unique global pandemic.

COVID-19 top 10 resource partners

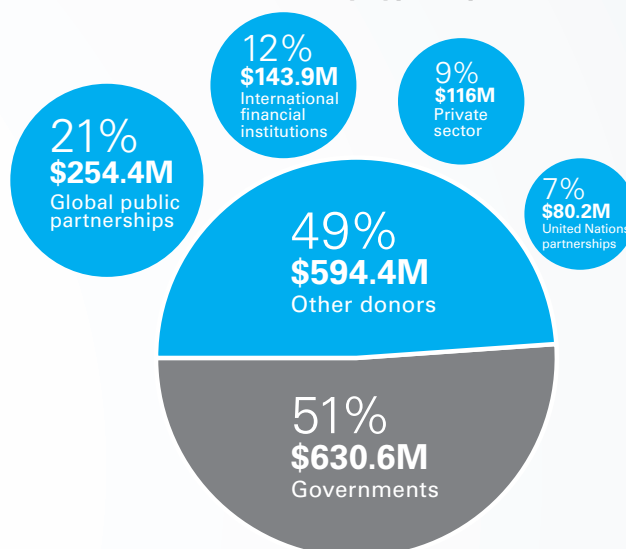


■ Emergency resources
■ Other resources

*Refers to National Committee for UNICEF.

Traditional Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Assistance Committee governments provided half of all funding committed. The top resource partners for the COVID-19 response were the Global Partnership for Education, the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan and the World Bank. Global programme partnerships and international financial institutions also stepped up and provided resources to respond to the pandemic, including support to continuous education activities.

COVID-19 commitments by type of partner



With the complexity and fast-moving spread of the disease globally, flexible resources were essential to supporting more efficient and effective humanitarian response. Of the total funds committed, US\$131.5 million was provided flexibly. The private sector showed great flexibility, securing over 40 per cent of this type of funding. UNICEF is deeply grateful to all resource partners that responded to the call for flexible resources.

¹² Presented figures are provisional as of 1 November 2020 and represent fund commitments by resource partners as per the agreement signed in the current appeal year. Figures are subject to change.

¹³ The total amount required for the COVID-19 response includes the portion reflected in the US\$9.5 billion Global Humanitarian Response Plan supporting 63 countries.

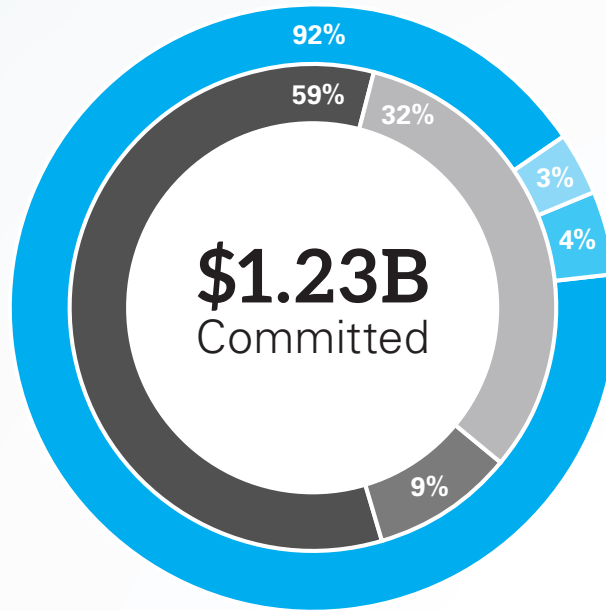
Top 10

COVID-19 flexible donors

	United Kingdom	\$25.2M
	Germany	\$22.4M
	US Fund for UNICEF*	\$16M
	CERF	\$16M
	COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund	\$10M
	Denmark	\$7.3M
	Japan Committee for UNICEF*	\$4.7M
	Sweden	\$4M
	German Committee for UNICEF*	\$3.8M
	Australia	\$3.6M

*Refers to National Committee for UNICEF

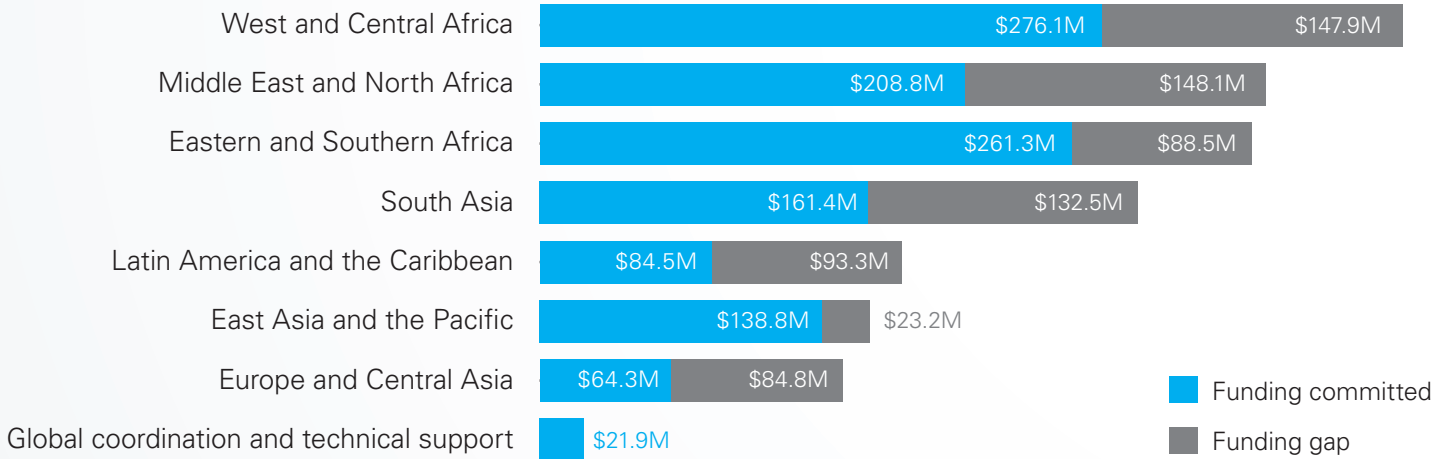
Flexibility by type of partner (US\$)



As a first line of response, UNICEF utilized over US\$75 million of its regular resources for the COVID-19 response, which allowed for immediate action and the scale-up of humanitarian interventions in 130 countries.

This also included Emergency Programme Fund loans totalling US\$15.8 million to all seven regions to meet critical needs and scale up the response until additional funding was secured.

COVID-19 Humanitarian Action for Children funds committed by geographic area



Regions such as West and Central Africa and Eastern and Southern Africa, which had the largest funding requirements, received the largest portion of support. Regions with larger funding gaps included Europe and Central Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Health, WASH and education were the top funded sectors. Flexible funding played a critical role in supporting sectors such as child protection and social protection, which struggled to attract support.

UNICEF's response to the COVID-19 pandemic would not have been possible without partnership. To date, UNICEF

has transferred funds committed to the global response to 1,898 implementing partners. Compared to other Humanitarian Action for Children appeals, funds received by UNICEF towards the COVID-19 response appeal were more likely to be transferred to government ministries and agencies, reflecting the critical role of governments in this public health emergency. In addition, compared to other Humanitarian Action for Children appeals, funds received by UNICEF against the global appeal were more likely to be transferred to national non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, reflecting both UNICEF's commitment to localization, and the critical role of local civil society actors in this response.

Mauritania, 2020

A UNICEF nutrition specialist carries a malnourished baby in the nutrition rehabilitation centre in Dar Naim in Nouakchott.



GLOBAL SUPPORT FOR UNICEF'S HUMANITARIAN ACTION

The UNICEF Office of Emergency Programmes coordinates the organization's global support for humanitarian action, including through a security team and the 24-hour, 7-day Operations Centre. UNICEF's global humanitarian architecture includes its 7 regional offices and 10 headquarters divisions, which directly support humanitarian action at the country level.

In 2021, this support will cost US\$503 million. UNICEF will cover 8 per cent of this cost through its core resources and will require US\$463 million in flexible and multi-year funding to cover the remaining needs. US\$410 million or 89 per cent of the global support funding requirement will directly support Access to COVID-19 Tools – Accelerator (ACT-A)¹⁴ at the global level.

Global support in 2020

In 2020, four Level 3 emergencies required organization-wide mobilization, including global resource mobilization: the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, protracted emergencies in the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen, and the global COVID-19 pandemic. The Office of Emergency Programmes also worked closely with UNICEF regional offices to coordinate support for three Level 2 emergencies: the complex humanitarian situations in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the Central Sahel (Burkina Faso, Mali and the Niger) and internal displacement in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

A key milestone in 2020 was the release of the revised Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action (CCCs) — UNICEF's core policy for humanitarian action and a vital framework that guides and shapes the organization's humanitarian response in complex and life-threatening environments. This new edition of the CCCs responds to a critical need: to provide timely and quality humanitarian support in the midst of fast-moving emergencies. It reaffirms key principles and standards that guide UNICEF humanitarian action and ensure that children are protected, that their dignity is respected, and that no child is left behind, even in the most adverse circumstances. The CCCs give every UNICEF country office and partner a consolidated and detailed framework to monitor the situation of women and children and take appropriate preparedness and response actions in the face of humanitarian needs.

¹⁴ This is a global collaboration to accelerate the development, production and equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines. ACT-A has three pillars: vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics; and a cross-cutting health systems connector. UNICEF is playing a key strategic role and is actively engaged across all three pillars and the connector by co-leading several working groups and serving as the official procurement agency and procurement coordinator for the COVAX Facility.

Emergency Programme Fund

Revolving funds disbursed to field offices through a loan mechanism within 48 hours of a sudden humanitarian crisis, before donor resources are available



US\$39 million disbursed¹⁵

through the **Emergency Programme Fund** to 12 country offices, 6 regional offices and headquarters divisions

Surge support

Including the Emergency Response Team, the Rapid Response Team and standby personnel



130 personnel

completed 205 deployments



53 countries

with an average of 75 days deployment duration

Moving forward

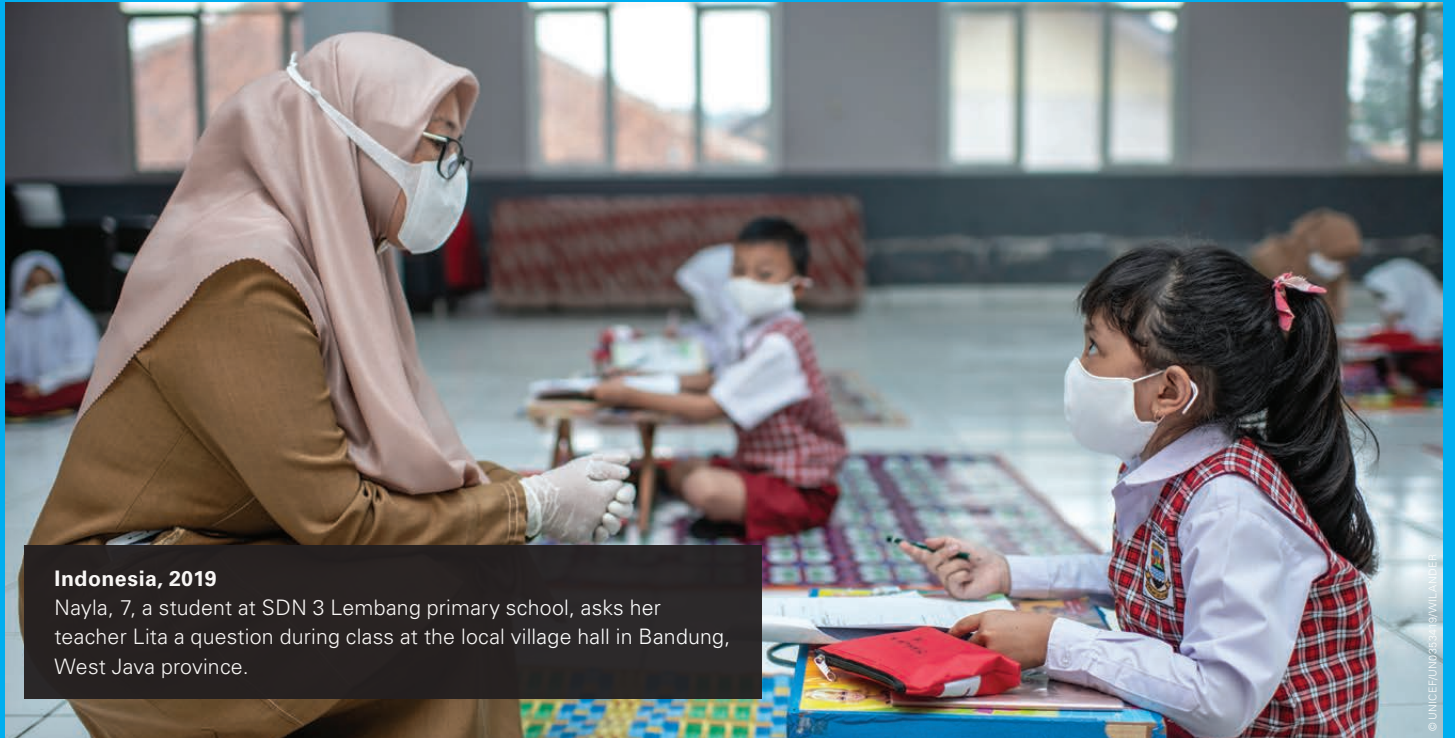
UNICEF remains committed to establishing effective linkages between its humanitarian action and development programming, contributing to peacebuilding and supporting countries to strengthen capacities and systems. UNICEF will perform a critical enabling role to support countries to deploy new vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics for COVID-19 in 2021.

UNICEF will roll out the updated CCCs globally, across all country and regional offices, headquarters divisions and partners. The CCCs will be accompanied by advocacy, management, planning and training tools that managers, staff members and partners can use to meet the commitments in both humanitarian and development contexts. The CCCs will also inform UNICEF's new strategic plan, annual work plans, emergency response plans, country programme documents, performance reports and partnerships with governments and civil society organizations.

UNICEF invested in its capacity to conduct forward-looking risk analysis with the development of the Horizon Scan process, which consolidates views from across the organization

¹⁵ US\$4.5 million in Emergency Programme Funds were disbursed to headquarters offices for COVID-19 activities and to support Emergency Response Team recruitment (headquarters support to country emergencies).

Emergency Response Team support to the COVID-19 education response in East Asia and the Pacific



Indonesia, 2019

Nayla, 7, a student at SDN 3 Lembang primary school, asks her teacher Lita a question during class at the local village hall in Bandung, West Java province.

Countries in East Asia and the Pacific were among the first to be impacted by COVID-19 and the public health emergency caused by the pandemic. Across the region, the disruption to children's access to education was unparalleled. By the end of March 2020, all countries in the region – including the 27 countries supported by UNICEF programming – had closed down schools, affecting the educations of over 325 million children.

In the face of this unprecedented emergency, national health and education systems in the region confronted the challenge of continuing learning opportunities despite school closures and protecting children as schools began to reopen. There was an urgent need to invest in education systems to mitigate the impacts of the shutdown on children and ensure that students could continue to learn in safe environments. Nearly all countries in the region established distance learning programmes with strict quarantine measures and as the number of new cases of COVID-19 began to decline, schools were gradually reopened in April and May.

To support the implementation of an effective education response to the COVID-19 outbreak in East Asia and the Pacific, UNICEF remotely deployed an Emergency Response Team member. This team member provided technical guidance and direction for effective planning, implementation and monitoring of education-in-emergencies plans. In addition, they upheld priority areas of the regional emergency coordination mechanism and supported the consolidation of emerging good practices that were shared systematically across the region and globally.

The response in numbers



On average, schools were closed for just over **4 months** in countries in East Asia and the Pacific (excluding the Pacific Islands).



UNICEF supported **113,000 schools** to implement safe school protocols in Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Pacific Islands, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam.



UNICEF supported **71 million affected children** with distance learning programmes during school closures in Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pacific Islands, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam.

on emerging humanitarian situations requiring expanded preparedness and readiness actions. In 2021, UNICEF will continue to improve its ability to anticipate threats to children around the world and direct resources for stronger operational preparedness and response that saves lives and support long-term development goals.

Globally, UNICEF will continue to advocate for the implementation of World Humanitarian Summit and Grand Bargain commitments to help reduce fragmentation and increase efficiencies and synergies across the humanitarian system. This advocacy will focus on strengthening the linkages between humanitarian action and development programmes before and during crises.

GLOBAL SUPPORT

for UNICEF's humanitarian action in 2021

UNICEF's Office of Emergency Programmes coordinates the organization's global support, which includes **four major components**:



1 REGIONAL SUPPORT US\$10.5 million


Delivered by UNICEF's seven regional offices to country offices to support humanitarian action, capacity building and technical support.

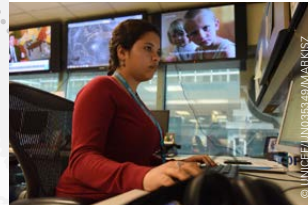
- East Asia and the Pacific
- Eastern and Southern Africa
- Europe and Central Asia
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- Middle East and North Africa
- South Asia
- West and Central Africa

2 OPERATIONAL SUPPORT US\$17.5 million

 Communication




 Office of the Security Coordinator and Operations Centre (OPSCEN – 24 hours/7 days)



 Human resources¹⁶



3 HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMME SUPPORT US\$64.8 million

 Global cluster/sector coordination¹⁸



 Partnerships¹⁹



4 COVID-19 GLOBAL SUPPORT US\$410 million

 Vaccines



 Diagnostics



¹⁶ Conducted through the headquarters Emergency Unit and three models of deployment.

¹⁷ This includes procurement, warehousing and logistical support.

¹⁸ This includes information management.

¹⁹ With United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, civil society and academia.

²⁰ For nutrition, health, WASH, child protection, education, HIV and AIDS and cross-sector priorities.

²¹ On the CCCs, equity, protection of civilians, knowledge management, innovation, high-threat environments, humanitarian advocacy and cash-based transfers.



Total cost of global support in 2021:
US\$503 million

Total cost covered by UNICEF core resources:
US\$40 million

2021 global support funding requirement:
US\$463 million

 **Supply and logistics**¹⁷



 **Finance and administration**




 **Information and communications technology**



 **Resource mobilization**




 **Programmatic support**²⁰




 **Policy and guidance**²¹



 **Results-based management**



 **Mobilizing global support**



 **Therapeutics**



These funds will enable UNICEF global support for Access to COVID-19 Tools – Accelerator (ACT-A), a global collaboration to accelerate the development and production of and equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines.

Additional information on UNICEF's humanitarian action can be obtained from:

Manuel Fontaine

Director
Office of Emergency Programmes
UNICEF New York
Tel: +1 212 326 7163
Email: mfontaine@unicef.org

Grant Leaity

Deputy Director
Office of Emergency Programmes
UNICEF New York
Tel: +1 212 326 7150
Email: gleaity@unicef.org

Meritxell Relano

Deputy Director
Geneva Office of Emergency Programmes
UNICEF Geneva
Tel: +41 22 909 5601
Email: mrelano@unicef.org

Carla Haddad Mardini

Director
Public Partnerships Division (PPD)
UNICEF New York
Tel: +1 212 326 7160
Email: humanitarian.ppd@unicef.org

Cover photo: South Sudan, 2020

Friends sit by a UNICEF-supplied mosquito net in Bienything in Akoka county, Upper Nile state, South Sudan. UNICEF and partners distributed 1,000 mosquito nets in Bienything. While the exact numbers are disputed, Bienything – which is approximately one hour by boat down the Nile River from Malakal – currently hosts many internally displaced people following severe flooding in nearby areas in July and August that destroyed crops and left houses inundated with water.

Back cover photo: Honduras, 2020

A boy from the Miskito ethnic group looks out from a bus window as his family returns to La Mosquitia, Tegucigalpa, after losing their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

United Nations Children's Fund
Office of Emergency Programmes
3 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017, USA

www.unicef.org/appeals

ISBN: 978-92-806-5193-5

© United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
December 2020

