



**Consolidated Emergency Report 2018**

Prepared by UNICEF Afghanistan  
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**Cover Photo:** UNICEF/2019/Afghanistan

**Caption:** A girls accesses clean water in one of the provinces of Afghanistan.

## Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACO	Afghanistan Country Office
BPHS	Basic Package of Health Services
CBE	Community Based Education
CHF	Common Humanitarian Fund
CPANs	Child Protection Action Networks
CPiE	Child Protection in Emergency
DACAAR	Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees
ECW	Education Cannot Wait
EiE	Education in Emergency
EiEWG	Education in Emergency Working Group
EPHS	Essential Package of Health Services
ERM	Emergency Response Mechanism
HAC	Humanitarian Action for Children
HMIS	Health Management Information System
HNO	Humanitarian Need Overview
HPM	Humanitarian Performance Monitoring
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
IDP(s)	Internally Displaced Person (people)
IMAM	Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
IYCF	Infant and young child feeding
MHT	Mobile Health Team
MNCH	Maternal New Born Child Health
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
MRM	Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism
MUAC	Mid-Upper Arm Circumference
NFI	None Food Items
NGO	Non-governmental organization
PCA	Programme Cooperation Agreement
PND	Public Nutrition Department
REACH	Rural Expansion of Afghanistan's Community-based Healthcare
RMNCAH	Reproductive Maternal Neonatal Child Health
RNA	Rapid Nutrition Survey
RUTF	Ready-to- Use Therapeutic Food
SAM	Severe acute malnutrition
SMART	Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions
SMS	School Management Shuras
SQUEAC	Semi-Quantitative Evaluation of Access and coverage
UNAMA	United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WinE	WASH in emergency





Rahmatullah, 10 years old, is excited about his new warm clothes. He and his family left their village in Darre-Suf to Samangan due to the ongoing conflict in their home town. “Coming here, I felt so cold, I was shivering under the rain, but it feels warmer now putting on my new clothes.” Like many other conflict affected children, Rahmatullah has had to drop out of school and support his father to fend for the family. Photo: UNICEF Afghanistan/2019/Noorzad.

## Map of Afghanistan

### NATURAL DISASTERS (SLOW AND SUDDEN ONSET)

SEVERITY OF NEEDS



## 1.0 Executive Summary

In 2018, UNICEF and its partners provided humanitarian assistance to over two million children and other affected persons. This included people displaced by violence and conflict, Afghan refugees returning from neighbouring countries, vulnerable children in hard to reach areas as well as vulnerable people experiencing harsh winter conditions. These achievements, however, took place against a backdrop of immense humanitarian, social and political challenges.

Ongoing conflict, the worst drought in decades, and deepening poverty all contributed to a deteriorating humanitarian situation across Afghanistan in 2018. An estimated 4.2 million people including 2.4 million children needed urgent lifesaving humanitarian assistance.<sup>1</sup> During the period January to October 2018, an estimated 551,000 people were displaced. While the number of people displaced due to conflict declined during the year, the effects of the drought contributed to significant numbers of people on the move. Between June and August 2018, 223,000 people were displaced within Badghis and Herat provinces as a result of the drought, leading to the emergence of 19 vast and sprawling informal settlements in these areas.

According to the 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), the first three quarters of 2018 saw a 26 per cent increase in verified incidences of grave violations against children compared to the whole of 2017 (2,477 in 2017, 3,110 in January to October 2018). Overall, from January to September 2018, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) documented 8,050 civilian casualties (2,798 deaths and 5,052 injured). Children formed 90 per cent of civilian casualties due to explosive remnants of war, being exposed to death or disability, with a substantial number becoming orphaned.

UNICEF made an appeal of US\$38.8 million in 2018 to reach over a million people who were in dire need of emergency nutrition, health, WASH, protection and education interventions. By the end of 2018, UNICEF and partners surpassed the target and provided humanitarian assistance to a total of 2,044,028 people which is 60 per cent more than the planned target of 1,276,616 people. In addition, UNICEF and cluster partners reached 2,660,465 people against the planned target of 2,826,398 people.

On the political front, parliamentary elections took place as scheduled in October 2018, amid some organizational, technical and security difficulties. Of the approximately 5,000 polling centres, which also served as voter registration sites, over 50 per cent were in schools. UNAMA reports indicated that these elections recorded the highest level of civilian harm compared to the four previous elections held in Afghanistan, with 108 verified election violations that caused 435 civilian casualties (56 deaths and 379 injured). This resulted in school closures in some areas, and reluctance by parents to send their children to school, impacting temporarily about 500,000 children during the year, with girls' schools disproportionately affected.

A strong call for concrete and sustainable peace in Afghanistan was a common point emphasized by all members of the international community at the Geneva Ministerial Conference on Afghanistan held in November 2018, aimed at renewing partnership and cooperation for Afghanistan's peace, prosperity and self-reliance. With regional and international efforts, there are positive signs on the peace negotiations raising hopes among communities. During 2018, the sanctions imposed on Iran also had a direct impact on the humanitarian situation especially in the Western Region. A record number of 708,000 undocumented returnees from Iran were registered from January to November 2018, compared to 22,000 undocumented returnees from Pakistan over the same period. Unaccompanied minors were part of those returning, with over 60,000 registered in 2018.

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<sup>1</sup> HAC 2018 (revised in July 2018)

Strategic roads that link the different regions and provinces of the country were highly insecure in most of 2018, hence reducing access not only for programme implementation and monitoring, but also hindering and delaying arrival and dispatch of emergency programme goods and supplies.

According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, as of September 2018, 9.8 million people (43.6 per cent of the rural population) were estimated to be in food crisis and emergency (IPC Phase 3 and Phase 4). An estimated 2.6 million were classified in IPC Phase 4 nationwide. These people required urgent action to reduce their food deficits and to protect their livelihoods. The current Phase 3 and 4 estimates correspond to a 17.4 per cent increase (from 26.2 to 43.6 per cent) compared to the previous analysis for the same period in 2017.

In April 2018, 22 provinces were identified as worst affected by the drought. UNICEF scaled-up its operations to respond to 1.7 Million people in the affected provinces mainly in Herat, Badghis and Ghor in the Western Region. The number of displaced drought-affected people in Internally Displaced People (IDP) sites continued to fluctuate due to continued movements of IDPs. A total of 223,000 people were estimated to have been displaced as a result of the drought, of which 148,000 are in Herat, 70,000 in Badghis and 5,000 in Ghor province according to UNOCHA Humanitarian Snapshot of October 2018. New arrivals continued to settle in the various sites amongst existing IDPs.

UNICEF prioritised emergency response and winterisation activities and delivered urgent and lifesaving services to the displaced communities in 2018. UNICEF led Nutrition and WASH clusters, the Education co-cluster and the Child Protection sub-cluster continued to provide strategic guidance and capacity building to partners and cluster members, including advocacy with donors and steering collective engagement at operational level. UNICEF expanded its use of sub-district health centres and mobile teams to provide crisis-affected people in hard-to-reach areas with essential health services. UNICEF was in the frontline ensuring the delivery of humanitarian assistance in an integrated manner.

As part of efforts to strengthen the linkages between humanitarian action and development programming, UNICEF also strengthened a number of local and community groups and networks such as child protection networks, hygiene promotion volunteers, and community-based education actors, to identify possible durable solutions to affected populations. A wider and diversified partnership with state authorities and community service organisations including third party extenders enabled UNICEF to reach out to remote locations, leading and contributing to multi-sector and multi-agency needs assessments, while advocating against issues affecting children were other strategic focus of UNICEF in 2018. As a part of its commitment to localization, UNICEF worked with Ground Truth in assessing support to national and local NGOs.

Much has been done, but a lot more remains to be accomplished. The children of Afghanistan deserve a better future. It is for this reason that all humanitarian actors must help them achieve their goals and dreams, and not relent in supporting all efforts at bringing peace in Afghanistan.

UNICEF would like to thank all partners who made our work possible in 2018 and look forward to working together in 2019 to continue addressing the needs of children in Afghanistan.

## 2.0 Humanitarian Context

At the beginning of 2018, an estimated 4.2 million people needed humanitarian assistance mainly as a result of increased violence and the impacts of natural disasters (drought and winter). However, by the end of 2018, it was estimated that 10 million people did not have access to essential health services and 3.5 million children (60 per cent of them girls) were out of school. It was also reported that one third of children had experienced psychological distress related to the loss of family and the constant risk of death or injury due to conflict and attacks on schools. There was also increased reporting of child marriages among the Internally Displaced People (IDP) population. A total of 161 (155 girls and 6 boys) child marriage cases were recorded in both Badghis and Herat, which were the two most affected provinces by the drought emergency. An estimated two million children under five years were also suffering from acute malnutrition, including 600,000 children had Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM).

More than two thirds of the country (22 out of 34 provinces) was affected by severe drought that impacted water availability for both human consumption and for agricultural lands and pastures. The drought had a devastating effect on pre-existing water sources, with 750,000 people experiencing acute water shortages and an increase in the use of unprotected water sources for drinking, exposing children to waterborne diseases. With the drought, the twenty-two drought affected provinces were classified as emergency with Global Acute Malnutrition rates of over 10 per cent and with some provinces recording Global Acute Malnutrition rates of over 15 per cent. Inadequate dietary diversity and insufficient amounts of food coupled with poor hygiene also contributed to health risks and the deaths of older children.

UNICEF's support focused on people affected by drought and conflict and returnees from Iran and Pakistan. Services were provided both in camps for internally displaced persons and in places of origin, particularly for the drought response. UNICEF provided an integrated package of support that included gender-sensitive and culturally-appropriate education and WASH services, child-friendly spaces and mobile health and nutrition services. UNICEF also provided funding, technical assistance and supplies, such as vaccines, ready-to-use therapeutic food and drugs for health facilities and mobile health teams; and non-food items such as new-born, clean delivery and family kits and winter clothing for children. UNICEF also strengthened the capacities of cluster members and coordinated and advocated for flexible funding for the WASH and nutrition clusters, enabling them to reach over two million people. UNICEF reprogrammed funds from its core resources to ensure the delivery of essential services.

## 3.0 Key Results

UNICEF and partners provided humanitarian assistance to a total of **2,044,028** people in 2018 which is 60 per cent more than the planned target of **1,276,616** people. In addition, UNICEF and cluster partners reached 2,660,465 people against the planned target of 2,826,398 people. The WASH and Nutrition clusters, Education in Emergency Working Group and the Child Protection sub-group Cluster led by UNICEF provided emergency services to 2,660,465 affected people compared to the cluster target of 2.8 million people – achieving 94 per cent of the planned results.

The table below shows the 2018 cluster and UNICEF targets including the results attained. These results have been achieved through contributions against the humanitarian appeal, as well as resources from UNICEF's regular resources which were reprogrammed in the year to fill in the gaps in humanitarian response in areas where there were funding gaps.

## 2018 Cluster and UNICEF Achievements<sup>2</sup>

Sector Indicators/Targets <sup>3</sup>	SECTOR		UNICEF	
	Target	Results	Target	Results
<b>NUTRITION</b>				
Number of children under 5 years with SAM admitted for treatment	294,535	277,660	294,000	277,660
Number of children aged 6 to 59 months who received vitamin A supplementation	5,000	12,762	5,000	12,762
<b>HEALTH</b>				
Number of children aged 9 months to 10 years who received measles vaccination			105,073	157,214*
Number of affected pregnant/lactating women and children who benefited from essential health services and health education			64,664	53,407
<b>WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE</b>				
Number of people accessing safe drinking water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	1,550,000	1,483,930	450,000	1,000,032**
Number of people accessing sanitation facilities	500,000	513,316	150,000	207,538
<b>CHILD PROTECTION</b>				
Number of children accessing psychosocial support through child-friendly spaces	101,905	113,918	75,000	81,208
Number of children protected and supported through case management and family reunification	23,958	12,879	12,879	6,427
Number of affected children and their families who receive warm winter clothes and other non-food item support			200,000	154,329
<b>EDUCATION</b>				
Children and adolescents accessing quality education	351,000	246,000	120,000	93,451

### Notes:

\* UNICEF Health results were higher than planned for measles vaccination due to the increased Health response to drought-affected children specifically in Herat and Badghis which were the two provinces affected by the drought.

\*\* UNICEF WASH results were higher than planned due to the increased WASH response to drought-affected people, including water trucking and the provision of sanitation facilities to the communities in displaced locations.

\*\*\* Out of 1,000,032 people who were provided access to safe drinking water, 472,691 people benefitted through hygiene promotion services.

<sup>2</sup> Results in the Humanitarian Performance monitoring tables throughout the document were achieved with contributions against the appeals, as well as resources from UNICEF's regular programmes where necessary.

<sup>3</sup> The HAC was revised in July 2018 to include the drought humanitarian needs and funding requirements



### 3.1 Analysis of Results by Programme

#### 3.1.1 Nutrition

UNICEF as the Nutrition Cluster lead agency supports the treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) in children throughout the country. Treatment of SAM was provided through both in-patient and outpatient therapeutic programme facilities across the country.

In 2018 as part of the cluster response, UNICEF provided SAM treatment to 277,660 children under the age of five in twenty-four priority provinces under the Humanitarian Response Plan. This was 94 per cent of the cluster target for 2018. This achievement was made possible through the provision of services through the health system and through mobile health and nutrition teams.

In 2018, UNICEF continued to scale up the integrated management of acute malnutrition services across Afghanistan mainly focusing on emergency priority provinces. Nutrition services in Afghanistan are mainly delivered through NGOs implementing the Basic Package for Health Services (BPHS), Essential Package of Hospital Services (EPHS) and the government through the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) with the technical support from UNICEF, WHO and WFP. Currently service provision through BPHS/EPHS implementing partners covers 143 in-patient departments for Severe Acute Malnutrition and 1,308 out-patient department facilities for Severe Acute Malnutrition.

From July 2018, the emergency nutrition services were scaled up across twenty-one drought affected provinces. As a result of the scale up, the number of static health facilities providing treatment of acute malnutrition increased from 550 to 720. With the support of UNICEF and humanitarian partners, a total of 59 Mobile health and nutrition teams were also deployed in underserved populations in the hard to reach areas as well as in IDP sites in Herat and Badghis provinces. In addition, in order to increase accessibility of services and maximise coverage of emergency nutrition services, UNICEF supported the provision of acute malnutrition treatment services at sub health centre level. Health sub centres are decentralized health facilities which are close to the community and usually provide services to about 7,000 families. A total of 158 treatment facilities have been providing SAM treatment services in Badghis, Kandahar and Helmand provinces since mid of 2018.

Although the number of Afghans returning from Pakistan reduced significantly, UNICEF maintained provision of emergency nutrition services to Afghan returnees from Pakistan. UNICEF, in coordination with cluster partners, provided a package of nutrition services which included MUAC (mid-upper arm circumference) and oedema screening for children under five and referral of acute malnourished cases; provision of two weeks ration of Ready to Use Therapeutic Feeding for SAM cases with a referral to facilities; Vitamin A supplementation for children aged 6 to 59 months; deworming for children 24 to 59 months and Infant and Young child feeding (IYCF) counselling services for pregnant and breastfeeding mothers and caregivers. These services were delivered at the Torkham border, in Kabul and in Kandahar city. As a result of these activities, a total of 4,818 boys and girls were screened for acute malnutrition, 240 children were identified with SAM and 174 children with Moderate Acute Malnutrition and were referred to facilities delivering Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM). In addition, 5,089 children aged 6 to 59 months received Vitamin A supplementation, 3,968 children aged 24 to 59 months received deworming tablets and 8,672 pregnant and breastfeeding women and caregivers received Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling services.

#### 3.1.2 Health

UNICEF continued to advocate with the health cluster, headquarters and at country level to improve technical standards for the core commitments for children especially for new-borns. UNICEF worked closely with the MoPH, Provincial Directorate of Public Health and other field service implementers to

have coordinated and targeted services for the children in need. UNICEF provided inputs into the finalisation and printing of the document 'New-born health in humanitarian settings, Field Guide'. This is now informing the development of country level standards and the reporting framework. UNICEF is financially and technically supporting the operation of 15 Mobile Health Teams (MHTs) in the emergency provinces of Kunduz, Faryab, Badghis, and Herat. Supplies were provided for children at risk of measles. A total of 157,214 vaccines were provided to emergency affected children across Afghanistan. In addition, a total of 53,407 pregnant women were provided with prepositioned clean delivery kits, family kits and new-born kits in emergency affected populations across Afghanistan.

UNICEF distributed to the health cluster and the MoPH 50,000 copies of the Essential Guidance In Emergencies Booklet. The 50,000 emergency booklets for behaviour change communication were distributed as follows: 34,000 to Nangarhar; 6,000 to Kandahar encashment centres; 10,000 to Northern Region provinces for returnees. Eleven key mobile health teams disseminated key Reproductive, Maternal, New-born, Child and adolescent Health (RMNCH) messages using mobile outreach teams during emergencies. These emergency booklets have "must know" multisectoral pictorial information including new-born care, immunization, handwashing and education which are provided to the caregivers for the children to ensure minimum information for child care.

### 3.1.3 Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

The UNICEF led WASH Cluster response reached over 1.9 million people in 2018 surpassing the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) target of 1.63 million by 16 per cent. Out of the number reached, 1,483,930 people were assisted with access to safe drinking water; 513,316 with access to emergency sanitation and 1,062,878 were provided with lifesaving hygiene awareness including provision of family hygiene kits. UNICEF's contribution to the cluster was significant, contributing to 57 per cent of cluster targets, with over 1 million people reached with emergency water supply interventions while 207,583 people benefitted from emergency sanitation services. As many as 472,691 people benefitted through hygiene promotion services while 29,136 families received family hygiene kits. The effectiveness of the WASH response in 2018 was largely because despite the large geographical spread of drought affected areas (with 70 districts in 13 provinces severely affected and almost 300,000 people displaced), there was no outbreak of waterborne diseases.

Out of the 1.1 million people assisted by UNICEF, 846,000 (76 per cent) were drought affected. UNICEF responded in a timely manner in both displaced locations and at the place of origin. A total of 161,000 people were reached in displaced locations and a further 685,000 at the place of origin. This prevented further displacement. More than 80 per cent of the 200,000 drought displaced people in Herat and Qalae-Now are living in private land. These families were supported continuously since July 2018 with water tankering, sanitation and provision of hygiene consumables. UNICEF covered about 60 per cent of the humanitarian need. Emergency WASH assistance also reached to 375 Accelerated Learning Centres and child friendly spaces.

Two national level inter-agency contingency plans were developed in coordination with cluster partners and the ICCT. The first was on the scenario of high influx of Pakistan returnees and the second was on addressing the impact of the drought. The second contingency plan was supported by three regional workshops held in the North, South and Western regions.

The WASH cluster has an international cluster coordinator and a national information management officer supported by UNICEF. The cluster is also supported by a national cluster co-lead from government (Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD)) and two co-leads from NGOs, namely the Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees (DACAAR) and Norwegian Church Aid. To streamline the quality of assistance, the WASH Cluster developed Afghanistan specific WASH in Emergency guidelines and supported 17 additional provinces to establish local coordination systems

and contingency plans. These are important steps towards national capacity building and the overall objective of transferring the Cluster leadership to MRRD.

To strengthen the humanitarian development linkage, 37 emergency events were also supported with durable solutions (sustainable water supply network) benefitting 78,056 people. Durable solutions were primarily targeted in areas with protracted IDPs and returnees living with host communities.

#### 3.1.4 Child Protection

In 2018, Child protection emergency response identified two key entry points in addressing the protection needs of children. These community-based child protection structures, known as Child Protection Action Networks (CPANs), were functional within 34 provinces and 142 districts of Afghanistan – identifying children in need of support, assessing their needs, referring them to services and assuring they have case managers to follow-up on their wellbeing. The number of social workers, including those assigned to emergency-affected areas, quadrupled in 2018. A total of 116 community-based CPANs were established in areas affected by emergency, conflict and displacement and 430 Child Friendly Spaces were established to provide psychosocial support, structured play, recreational activities and basic literacy/numeracy skills acquisition in areas affected by emergencies. These two approaches were critical in enabling UNICEF to reach 81,208 children within conflict and emergency affected areas with psychosocial support services, which was higher than the targeted number of 75,000.

A total of 6,427 children in conflict and emergency affected areas were identified as needing a higher level of support and services, including being assigned case managers/social workers to address their child-protection related issues (mostly child marriage, unsafe migration, family separation and child labour), which was less than the targeted number. This is attributed mainly to the nature of the emergencies befalling Afghanistan in 2018 that displaced families who remained intact and required a response focused on basic needs, such as food, shelter and water. Over half of these children, some 3,000 boys, were unaccompanied minors forcibly returned from neighbouring countries, mostly Iran, Turkey and Pakistan. Their case managers assured family reunification and continuous support for a minimum of six months in places of reunification, connecting these youngsters and their families with vocational, income generating, cash transfer and educational services.

In 2018, a total of 252 children were apprehended by government security forces as active combatants or helpers of Anti-Government Elements, mostly associated with the Taliban. UNICEF advocacy assured that all these children, after their initial period of incarceration in adult prisons, received transfers to Juvenile Rehabilitation Centres where they received free legal aid, psychosocial support, education and social support services. Over 90 per cent of these children reported that conflict and natural disasters were their main reason for joining the fighters, who paid them well.

452 children were prevented from recruitment into government forces (mainly into the National Police) through the work of 34 UNICEF supported Child Protection Units in all police recruitment centres across the country. These children, most of whom were from conflict and drought affected areas, were referred to local CPANs in their districts and received further support.

UNICEF also supported awareness creation concerning coping mechanisms detrimental for children, particularly child marriage/betrothal of children, child labour, unsafe migration and child recruitment into armed forces. A total of 42,961 people were reached with community awareness messages on children rights and negative coping mechanisms. As a result, attendance in Child Friendly Spaces increased and, in some cases, communities allowed their adolescent girls to participate in “Adolescent Girls’ Clubs”, which was organized through Child Friendly Spaces after hours.

Throughout the year, the Child Protection sector monitored incidents of grave violations and, whenever possible, referred children to local, district and provincial CPANs, especially for cases of sexual exploitation/batcha bazi, child recruitment/use, and attacks on schools or hospitals.

Throughout 2018, the link between emergency response and development work in the Child Protection sector became more prominent. Local CPANs and social workers were galvanized and involved in working with IDPs and conflict or disaster affected populations. This enabled the programme to leverage funding and human resources to support humanitarian interventions. UNICEF's Child Protection programme received funding for 'Children on the Move'. Therefore, social workers and financial resources were diverted to support Child Friendly Spaces in IDP camps and to establish a mobile team to monitor child protection concerns among the displaced IDP communities. UNICEF and partners identified cases of child marriage and appropriately responded to them through community awareness against child marriage while making appropriate referrals to government departments.

### 3.1.5 Education

A minimum intervention package was agreed among Education in Emergencies Working Group members, including:

- Providing Temporary Learning Spaces through either community-based schools or tents to increase the absorption capacity of an already weak education system;
- Training and providing salaries for teachers based on agreed upon minimum standards for education;
- Providing teaching, learning and classroom materials – agreed upon minimum package; and
- Social mobilization activities with a focus on the right to quality education in emergencies and at least 60 per cent of girls' enrolled.

UNICEF continued to support the Ministry of Education by co-leading the Education in Emergencies Working Group (EiEWG) with Save the Children and ensured active functioning of the coordination mechanisms at national and four subnational levels (Herat, Nangarhar, Kandahar and Kabul). Through the EiEWG, UNICEF co-leads over 20 partners and ensures participation of in the Education sector in all humanitarian platforms at the national and decentralized level.

Under UNICEF leadership, in 2018, Education in Emergencies (EiE) partners reached 246,000 school aged children (124,600 girls and 121,400 boys) with access to community based education schools out of the 351,000 targeted under the 2018 HRP. In addition to providing the education services to the affected children, UNICEF, as co-lead for EiE supported the process of standardizing EiE response by developing different tools and documents such as drafting the EiE monitoring tool, teacher training manual, and comprehensive school safety framework.

UNICEF as the main lead organization in the EiEWG, supported with its partners 93,451 school aged children (52 per cent being girls) with the provision of teaching and learning materials, the establishment of 1,438 temporary classrooms (including Community Based Schools/Accelerated Learning Classes), recruitment and training of 1,067 teachers and catch up classes. This enabled IDP, returnee and host community children to access formal education or non-formal schooling through community-based education.

UNICEF was the first responder to the education needs of children affected by the drought in the drought affected provinces of the Western Region reaching over 7,000 children by December 2018. This was done through a systemic approach, closely working in collaboration between the EiEWG, WASH and Child Protection Clusters. Specifically, 116 teachers were trained in Badghis and Herat Provinces on EiE which included managing difficult classroom environments and child-centred teaching. A total of 325 School Management Shura members, IDP elders and education staff were trained to encourage



the enrolment of boys and girls in temporary learning spaces and support the monitoring of the spaces to ensure safe delivery of education. Although there were good achievements and progress from all the EiE partners in 2018, the indicators clearly show that EiE remains a severely underfunded sector within the humanitarian response, at only 17 per cent funded by end of 2018, representing around 30 per cent of the 2018 planned targets for the key two activities: access to learning spaces and distribution of EiE supplies.

### Humanitarian leadership and coordination

UNICEF leads the Nutrition and WASH Clusters. UNICEF also leads the Child-Protection Sub-Cluster and jointly shares the coordination responsibility with Save the Children International for the Education in Emergency Working Group. WASH Cluster has two NGO co-leads. However, positions have been vacant since August 2018 and are yet to be filled. WASH also benefits from the only Cluster to have a full time national co-lead from the MRRD. Dedicated national Information Management Officers also provide support to all UNICEF managed clusters and working group. The WASH Cluster has been very successful in coordinating the humanitarian partners in emergency preparedness and response as it mobilized 29 active partners to reach 1.9 million affected people with humanitarian assistance surpassing the HRP target by 16 per cent. Despite widespread needs due to drought, effective coordination of WASH response prevented any major outbreak of diseases in 2018.

## 4.0 Results Achieved through Humanitarian Thematic Funding

In 2018, the flexible nature of thematic funding enabled UNICEF in Afghanistan to allocate resources to priority areas, ensuring that they were used to meet some of the most underfunded areas of the programmes. The following are some of the results achieved using allocations made through thematic funding.

In the complex operational environment of Afghanistan, the flexibility of the humanitarian thematic funding allowed UNICEF to carry out its humanitarian response in a neutral and impartial manner in an environment where security concerns continued to hamper UNICEF's response in some of the most critical locations where children's needs were high.

In addition, UNICEF and partners continued to pay attention to value for money when planning and responding to humanitarian needs. UNICEF Afghanistan procured supplies from local, regional and headquarter sources in line with UNICEF and public procurement principles to support humanitarian and development programme delivery. Through local Long-Term Agreements for goods and services, UNICEF is able to secure prices for a year at a time to ensure orders can be placed easily with fastest delivery and achieve economies of scales through consolidated procurements.

Specific results achieved by sector using thematic funding are as follows:

### **WASH:**

In WASH, thematic funding contributed to the following achievements:

- 41,600 people accessed safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene;
- 8,635 people (1,230 families) accessed gender sensitive emergency sanitation facilities;
- 19,660 people were reached with hygiene promotion and an estimated 1,200 families also received hygiene kits which included basic hygiene materials such as jerry cans, buckets, soaps for handwashing, to name a few, Including materials for mensural hygiene management.
- 15 community based Accelerated Learning Centres received emergency WASH services within their learning environment benefitting at least 450 children.

- Thematic funding enabled the continuation of water supply through water tankering, reaching more than 33,000 people in drought affected villages in Kunduz province. This funding was timely and filled the gap while UNICEF was waiting for the approval of CERF funding.

### **Child Protection:**

Thematic Funding was used to support direct responses to child protection needs in areas affected by conflict and disasters, assuring that:

- Over 81,000 children in emergency affected areas received psychosocial support in over 430 Child Friendly Spaces.
- Some 6,500 children in emergency affected areas who needed a higher level of support had case managers who supported and followed-up on these children and their families.
- 250 children apprehended in association with Anti-Government Element forces (Taliban and ISIS) received a packet of services that will increase the likelihood of their reintegration into mainstream society.
- Over 3,000 children forcibly returned from abroad were reunited with their families and supported in returning to school or acquiring income generating skills.
- 252 children apprehended with anti-government armed forces received a packet of services, including free legal aid, psychosocial support and counselling, education, rehabilitation and family reunification after release

In addition, the thematic funding was used to support Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) activities in the Central, Eastern, Western, Northern and Southern regions of Afghanistan:

- 1,809 cases of MRM grave violations were documented in all the five regions, 1,557 of which were verified and 252 remaining unverified.
- The Child Protection Units of the Afghan National Police prevented 452 children (448 boys, 4 girls) from recruitment by armed groups. The highest number was in the Central Region and the lowest in Southern Region. This is attributed to the training provided to police officers on age assessment guidelines.
- Community orientation on grave violations was conducted for 42,961 people through community sessions ("town hall meetings").
- A total of 83 MRM consultation meetings were held. Their focus was on preventing grave violations in the community, especially child recruitment and attacks on schools, increasing reporting and opening a dialogue on effects of conflict on children. 91 schools were reopened after these meetings, as a result of elders negotiating it with Armed Opposition Groups in the area.

### **Education:**

In Education, thematic funding was quite timely as it supported most of the humanitarian interventions since the Education in Emergencies programme had a funding gap of 83 per cent in 2018.

UNICEF specifically, in partnership with five national and international NGOs and directly through the Government at provincial and districts levels, contributed to providing access to EiE to 93,451 emergency-affected children. Through the prioritised drought response in the latter part of 2018, UNICEF worked closely with operational partners on the ground, namely NRC, World Vision and government entities who were providing camp management and food distributions in areas with Temporary Learning Spaces. Out of the 93,451 children reached, through reprogramming of its own resources and ensuring technical assistance on the ground, UNICEF was the first responder to the education needs of drought affected children in Herat and Badghis provinces of Western Region in 2018 reaching over 7,000 children by December 2018, and as such was recognised by the Humanitarian Coordinator.

The increased incidents of “Education under Attack” required strengthened collaboration and advocacy between the existing MRM, led by UNICEF and UNAMA with the EiEWG and Child Protection Sub-Cluster. However, in 2019 increased advocacy and programming is required to lead to tangible actions to protect schools from attack and occupation, given the upcoming presidential elections. Despite increased advocacy for EiE and fund mobilisation for the EiEWG partners, UNICEF covered its EiE interventions mainly through its regular resources – to attract specific EiE funds, a targeted fundraising and communication strategy will be applied in 2019. Rapidly increasing trends on incidents reported related to “Education under Attack” resulted in high-level advocacy from UNICEF side, in collaboration with relevant humanitarian partners, aiming at increased awareness raising, as well as implementation of concrete mitigation and response measures, including a high-level forum on the issue, briefings to the Humanitarian Country Team and increased surveillance and monitoring, in collaboration with the Child Protection Sub-Cluster and MRM Task Force, of education related incidents during the election period of October 2018.

## 5.0 Lessons Learned in Sector Programming

### Engaging communities and affected people:

**WASH:** There were 472,691 people who were provided with lifesaving hygiene awareness through community engagement and social mobilization more broadly contributing to significant behaviour change. Behaviour change was possible in camps through engaging with affected people and through holding competitive learning sessions. These sessions were organized in small groups by hygiene promoters within IDPs camps where women, young aged boys and girls, adolescents were having contest discussions where the champion of each group was receiving handwashing soap at the end. This helped IDPs to learn and perceive proper behaviour that enabled them to be safe against water borne diseases.

**Health:** UNICEF worked in coordination with Community Health Shuras, a community oriented voluntary body involved in mapping unserved villages in four districts of Faryab province. In addition, these groups were actively involved in monitoring the of provision of health services by mobile health and nutrition teams in their catchment areas.

**Nutrition:** UNICEF in partnership with government engaged communities and affected people in the mapping for deployment of integrated health and nutrition mobile teams in the IDP sites in Badghis and Herat provinces affected by drought. Furthermore, during the project monitoring visits, parents and caregivers of the programme beneficiaries were interviewed to get their feedback to ensure constant improvement of services delivery for the affected people. Additionally, UNICEF and nutrition cluster used AWAAZ Afghanistan hotline services for beneficiary feedback information in-order to take necessary remedial actions for the affected communities and ensure their engagements throughout the services delivery. AWAAZ Afghanistan is a humanitarian helpline connecting Afghans (IDPs, returnees) and refugees affected by conflict and natural disaster with information on assistance.

**Education:** UNICEF contributed to providing access to education in emergencies to 93,451 emergency-affected children with access to Community Based Education (CBE) and Accelerated Learning Programmes. The key component and the success factor of the EIE response was engaging with communities. The CBEs were established under the direct supervision and participation of School Management Shuras (SMS) where the community agrees to provide sheltered physical space and becomes responsible for the maintenance and school safety, equipment, materials and students, supports children's education and supports girls to attend the school as well as become actively involved in the formation, running and work of the SMS.

**Child Protection:** UNICEF worked and supported (technical and financial support) local CPANs and community-based social workers in identifying children and families in need, assessing their situation, referring them to services and providing follow-up case management for those most in need. Using the existing child protection structures and strengthening them with additional staff proved to be very effective. This allowed child protection actors to shift and amplify their work in emergency affected areas without having to build new/additional structures to respond to people's needs.

#### **Partnering with national and local humanitarian actors:**

**WASH:** In 2018, more than 85 per cent of the UNICEF WASH response was delivered through provincial departments of the MRRD. This approach enhanced the technical capacity of the government to provide not only emergency services but also facilitate emergency preparedness at the onset of sudden emergencies no matter what the scale is. It also contributed to cost effective service delivery and towards one of UNICEF's objectives of smooth transition and transforming the capabilities including building the technical capacity of relevant government entities.

**Health:** WHO, BPHS implementer and Provincial Public Health Directorate as main actors in the health sector were closely involved in the implementation of four mobile health teams supported by UNICEF in four districts of Faryab Province. As the main members of the Provincial Public Health Coordination Committee, they supported the identification of unserved areas in four districts of Faryab Province. They were also involved in the performance review of UNICEF supported mobile health and nutrition teams during quarterly reviews meetings.

**Nutrition:** UNICEF continues coordination and partnership with government, nutrition cluster, UN agencies such as WFP & WHO and humanitarian implementing partners at the national and sub-national level for effective planning, services delivery and quality assurance. Coordination and partnership with national and sub-national humanitarian actors greatly contributed to the wider scope of UNICEF nutrition interventions to maximize the coverage of nutrition in emergency services in the targeted areas. The SAM services provided in the targeted areas strengthened linkage between SAM in-patient and out-patient services as well as with Moderate Acute Malnutrition services supported by WFP.

**Education:** UNICEF, working in partnership with national and international NGOs namely NRC, World Vision, AWEC and COAR and INTERSOS as well as directly through the Government at provincial and districts levels, contributed to providing access to education in emergencies to 93,451 emergency-affected children. In addition, as part of inter-agency collaboration, UNICEF jointly with UNHCR provided services to emergency affected families in Daag area of Kabul city. A community of returnees from Pakistan were based in the Daag area almost six kilometres away from the nearest formal school. As part of the joint response UNICEF established 14 temporary community-based classes providing direct access to 330 children while UNHCR started construction of a school building on the piece of land provided by the community. As a result, more than 330 children were provided with direct access to education in the CBEs established with UNICEF support while in parallel the work on construction was on going. The construction work will be completed before the commencement of the new school year and the students will move to the formal school. This was a good example of the EiE response, provided in a coordinated manner by two UN-Agencies in an emergency affected area in 2018.

**Child Protection:** UNICEF Child Protection coordinated the Child Protection sub-cluster in five zones (Herat, Mazar, Kabul, Jalalabad and Kandahar), as well as at the central level. In addition, UNICEF closely collaborated and involved government counterparts – the Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation, Afghanistan's Independent Human Rights Commission, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior – and other UN and INGO/NGO partners, particularly IOM, UNHCR, IRC, NRC, UNFPA and UN Women - to assure the protection of IDP families and children. This collaboration



resulted in Standing Operating Procedures signed by the government and international partners that identify each actor's responsibilities in child protection.

#### Humanitarian and Development linkages:

**WASH:** There were 37 emergency events which were supported with durable solutions in 2018. The durable solutions replaced water trucking which is a supply driven humanitarian intervention. In its place, a more demand driven development intervention was put in place which entails investing in sustainable water supply networks. This benefited a total of 78,056 people.

**Health:** Implementation of Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams in four districts of Faryab Province were supported through contracting with Faryab Province BPHS implementer. This has built the capacity of the BPHS implementer for long term support to the health sector. UNICEF supported Mobile Health and Nutrition Teams in a synergistic manner, increasing coverage of primary health care services to marginalized pocket of population with specific focus on maternal and child health.

**Nutrition:** Delivery of nutrition services in partnership with humanitarian actors further maximized the coverage of nutrition services especially in the hard to reach areas where the development partners (BPHS/ EPHS) were not mandated to reach. This included the delivery of integrated nutrition and health lifesaving emergency services through mobile teams in the IDP settlements in Badghis province by humanitarian partner and decentralization of nutrition services through sub-health centers for drought affected population in the area of origin by development partner (BPHS). The decentralization approach was especially a successful model of humanitarian development nexus. A similar modality has been applied in the other provinces in Western, Northern and Southern regions. Partner's commitment, nutrition cluster and government support were all opportunities to further strengthen the humanitarian development nexus.

**Education:** To ensure linkages between humanitarian and development interventions, and to ensure that all achievements made are sustainable, UNICEF and the EiEWG focused on a systemic approach, closely working in collaboration with the EiEWG, WASH and Child Protection Clusters and exploring partnerships with entities such as the World Bank to link humanitarian actions with mid- and longer-term programming and funding. In 2018, thanks to strategic advocacy, Afghanistan was identified as an Education Cannot Wait (ECW) multi-year programme recipient. UNICEF and Save the Children developed of a comprehensive proposal and application package for a 3-year programme with a value of US\$157 million, which targets 500,000 out of school children affected by drought.

**Child Protection:** UNICEF supported the Child Protection Secretariat and line ministries, especially the Ministry of Social Affairs and Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation, to assure linkages between non-emergency, non-humanitarian structures and emergency response. This assured the better usage of existing infrastructures (e.g. mobile teams deployed from other areas and already existing Child Friendly Spaces), and the better use of human and financial resources (local CPANs and provincial and district social workers).

#### Localization and working with first responders:

**WASH:** As a part of its commitment to localization, UNICEF worked with Ground Truth in assessing support to national and local NGOs. In the western and northern provinces of Afghanistan, most people were affected by severe drought and ongoing conflict, majority of the response was handled at the local level through Provincial Rural Rehabilitation Departments, who acted as reliable first responders and helped UNICEF to reach double of the annual target with 24 per cent funding gap.

**Health:** Implementation of UNICEF supported mobile health and nutrition teams was through the MoPH's contracted NGO, Agency for Assistance and Development of Afghanistan (AADA) in

close coordination with the Provincial Public Health Directorate and through the recommendation of community health shuras and other ground stakeholders. As the contracted NGO (AADA) is responsible for the provision of a BPHS to Faryab province, this has the added value of increasing the coverage and improving the quality of maternal and child health services.

**Nutrition:** UNICEF with the aim to improve the coverage to quality nutrition services to drought affect population in IDP settlements and area of origin in Western Region, built partnerships with local government authorities and the local BPHS NGO at the field level and completed a context analysis exercise and identified the need for delivery of nutrition services to IDP through integrated mobile teams and in the area of origin through sub-health centres. After the analysis and mapping, the lifesaving emergency response regulated in partnership with local authorities and resulted in improving the coverage of nutrition services.

**Education:** Working directly with the Provincial Education Directorate, UNICEF was the first responder to the education needs of children affected by the drought in the drought affected provinces of the Western Region. To improve the quality of the response, UNICEF also provided capacity building to the Provincial Education Directorate by strengthening the M&E systems of the Ministry of Education.

**Child Protection:** UNICEF worked closely with local leaders and first responders throughout the year to, first, assess child protection needs (which in some cases was quite challenging), and then to plan and coordinate response (assure that there is no duplication and no major gaps). Child Protection sub-cluster partners took active part in assessing the situation of children in drought affected areas, with special emphasis on negative coping mechanisms (child marriage, child labour, unsafe migration and child recruitment in particular), and assured case management and provision of services for children at highest risk.

## 6.0 Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation

In Afghanistan, UNICEF used the Humanitarian Performance Monitoring system, with pre-populated key indicators to monitor progress against the indicators established by the sectors and UNICEF.

### **Nutrition:**

Field monitoring visits including end-user monitoring was conducted jointly by the MoPH PND staff, Provincial Nutrition Officers, Nutrition Extenders<sup>4</sup> and UNICEF zonal teams. In August 2018, an M&E online database was established which enabled timely compilation and analysis of field monitoring findings. So far, more than 350 health facilities have been visited in all 34 provinces by nutrition extenders and the findings have been reported through the newly established online database system. Moreover, UNICEF used the national nutrition surveillance system to monitor the severity of the nutrition situation over time. Similarly, UNICEF monitored the performance of implementing partners through the national nutrition reporting database. In addition, UNICEF in collaboration with nutrition cluster, MoPH and partners regularly monitored the nutrition situation. Where needs were identified through nutrition assessments gap analysis, response plans were developed to scale up emergency response.

### **Health:**

UNICEF provided technical assistance to the MoPH in using the technical standards for developing of a monitoring checklist to support the monitoring of UNICEF supported mobile health teams. UNICEF also supported the MoPH in an analysis of the humanitarian and primary health care needs of mothers and children in humanitarian settings in Afghanistan.

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<sup>4</sup> Extenders are individuals selected from a locality where interventions are being implemented by a UNICEF-contracted service provider.

UNICEF continued its close partnership with the line departments of the MoPH, including Reproductive Maternal New-born and Child Health (RMNCAH), the National Expanded Programme for Immunisation, the Emergency Operations Centre for polio eradication, Health Promotion department, Community-Based Health Care, Grants Contract Management Unit, Health Economics and Financing and Evaluation Health Information System to monitor UNICEF supported health activities in the field. This include field monitoring of performance of UNICEF supported MHTs by UNICEF supported extenders, UNICEF zonal and outpost staffs, Provincial Public Health Directorates staff.

Health Management and Information System of MoPH was used to triangulate the reports of field monitoring visits and MHTs self-reported systems. In areas where community monitoring mechanisms exist, the systems in place were used for monitoring of UNICEF supported MHT. An example if this is Polio Immunization Communication Network which exists in Kunduz and Southern Region provinces.

#### **WASH:**

In WASH, partners with standby emergency Project Cooperation Agreements (PCAs) were required to report on a biweekly basis at the onset of an emergency response, followed by monthly reporting until the project is completed. UNICEF staff carried out random project visits where possible and observation and focus group discussions were held with beneficiaries to assess the quality and quantity of services rendered by NGO partners. UNICEF's WASH section introduced an end-user monitoring tool to assess the effectiveness of emergency response in the opinion of users. The analysis of the findings are done monthly to guide and improve the response.

In 2018, UNICEF carried out a joint review of the standby emergency PCA partner's performance in the third quarter of 2018 to capture the experiences gained and the lessons learned in implementing cost per-capita based PCA. WASH programme also uses national technical assistance in supporting the programme monitoring.

#### **Child Protection:**

UNICEF's child protection staff carried out regular programme monitoring visits and spot checks at the national and regional level, as well as additional monitoring through third parties and local authorities. During the year, there were over 100 programmatic visits conducted by UNICEF, over half of those together with government counterparts at the national and local level. UNICEF, as the Child Protection Sub-Cluster lead, ensured that quarterly cluster monitoring was undertaken by the regional Child Protection Sub-Cluster against HRP indicators. This resulted in timely and accurate reporting.

#### **Education:**

UNICEF education staff at Kabul and regional level conducted six monitoring visits and 12 programmatic visits as well as spot checks for the five partners who were implementing the programme in the target regions. In addition, the EiEWG conducted quarterly visits to the implementing sites for monitoring, spot check and supported partners to address gaps and challenges in the target location to achieve the results as well as to report against the HRP 2018 indicators and publish the end of year dashboard.

## **7.0 Resources**

UNICEF's appealed for US\$38,800,000 in its 2018 Humanitarian Action for Children to provide humanitarian response in Afghanistan in line with the Afghanistan's Humanitarian Response Strategy. Overall, 75 per cent of the required resources were raised to support humanitarian actions. The funding gap for WASH was exacerbated by the increased need for WASH in emergency services due to the drought that affected the country in mid-2018. By the end of 2018, the Child Protection and Education in Emergency sectors had large funding gaps of 82 per cent and 83 per cent respectively. No funds

were received for Health in 2018. Therefore, UNICEF used carry-over and unearmarked funding from other sources to provide education, health and child protection services in the year. Table 1 shows the funding status against appeal funding targets by sector.

**Table 1: 2018 Funding Status against the Appeal by Sector (Revenue in USD):**

Sector	Requirements	Funds Available Against Appeal as of 31 December 2018*		% Funding Gap
		Funds Received in 2018	Carry-Over from 2017	
Nutrition	17,000,000	9,858,824	9,136,207	-12%
Health	1,300,000	0	882,832	32%
WASH	9,000,000	5,800,210	1,058,733	24%
Child Protection	5,000,000	511,596	402,573	82%
Education	5,000,000	800,000	61,027	83%
Cluster/sector coordination	1,500,000	0	608,645	59%
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,800,000</b>	<b>16,970,630</b>	<b>12,150,017</b>	<b>25%</b>

\* Funds available includes funds received against current appeal and carry-forward from previous year.

Table 2 - Funding Received and Available by 31 December 2018 by Donor and Funding type (in USD)		
Donor Name/Type of funding	Programme Budget Allotment reference	Overall Amount*
<b>I. Humanitarian funds received in 2018</b>		
<b>a) Thematic Humanitarian Funds</b>		
Global thematic humanitarian response	SM/18/9910	1,459,882.50
<b>b) Non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds</b>		
USAID/OFDA	SM180017	2,500,000.00
USAID/FFP	SM180374	1,073,823.00
Japan	SM180079	800,000.00
Italy	SM180538	568,828.00
USAID/OFDA	SM180399	200,000.00
Kazakhstan	SM180267	50,000.00
<b>Total Non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds</b>		<b>5,192,651.00</b>
<b>c) Pooled Funding</b>		
<b>(i) CERF Grants</b>		<b>4,396,364.17</b>
UNOCHA - CERF	SM180350	2,199,929.00
UNOCHA - CERF	SM180351	1,186,992.00
UNOCHA - CERF	SM180585	1,009,443.17



Table 2 - Funding Received and Available by 31 December 2018 by Donor and Funding type (in USD)		
(ii) Other Pooled funds		3,531,968.34
UNDP - MDTF (CHF)	SM180093	2,657,554.61
UNDP-MDTF (CHF)	SM180390	874,414.73
<b>d) Other types of humanitarian fund</b>		
USAID_FFP in Kind	KM180029	2,290,800.00
USAID_FFP in Kind	KM180031	98,963.00
<b>Total humanitarian funds received in 2018 (a+b+c+d)</b>		<b>16,970,630.01</b>
<b>II. Carry-over of humanitarian funds available in 2018</b>		
<b>e) Carry over Thematic Humanitarian Funds</b>		
Global - Thematic Humanitarian Response	SM149910	<b>284,562</b>
<b>f) Carry-over of non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds</b>		
The United Kingdom	SM170520	8,353,536
UNDP - MDTF	SM170532	2,114,880
USAID/Food for Peace	SM170360	1,061,038
Australia	SM170247	257,154
USAID/Food for Peace	KM170015	226,900
USA (USAID) OFDA	SM170263	177,446
UNOCHA	SM170490	125,694
UNDP - MDTF	SM170222	50,419
Bulgaria	SM170241	50,267
BOZNIA AND HERZEGOVINA-MoFA	SM170655	27,427
Japan	SM170053	4,140
<b>Total carry-over non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds</b>		<b>12,448,901</b>
<b>Total carry-over humanitarian funds (e + f)</b>		<b>12,733,462</b>
<b>III. Other sources</b>		
Regular resources diverted to emergency	Non Grant GC	3,625,738
<b>Total other resources</b>		<b>3,625,738</b>

\* Programmable amounts of donor contributions, excluding recovery cost.

\*\* 2018 loans have not been waived; COs are liable to reimburse in 2019 as donor funds become available.

Afghanistan received country-specific thematic humanitarian funds from the Canadian National Committee for UNICEF, as well as an allocation from global Thematic Humanitarian Funds in 2018 as shown in Table 3.

**Table 3: Thematic Humanitarian contributions received in 2018**

Thematic Humanitarian Contributions Received in 2018 (in USD): Donor	Grant Number <sup>5</sup>	Programmable Amount (in USD)	Total Contribution Amount (in USD)
Canadian National Committee for UNICEF	SM1899100225	9,882.50	10,377
Allocation from Global Thematic Humanitarian*	SM189910	1,450,000	1,551,499.63
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,459,882.50</b>	<b>1,561,876.63</b>

\*Global Thematic Humanitarian Funding contributions are pooled and then allocated to country and regional offices. For a detailed list of grants, please see the 2018 Humanitarian Action Annual Results Reports.

## 8.0 Future Work plan

Sector	2019 Target
Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>377,000 children under 5 years with SAM admitted for treatment</li> <li>78,000 children aged 6 to 59 months among emergency-affected communities receiving vitamin A supplementation</li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>75,000 children immunized against measles</li> <li>196,000 affected pregnant women and children benefiting from essential health services and health education</li> </ul>
WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>300,000 people facing humanitarian situations accessing safe drinking water</li> <li>100,000 people accessing basic sanitation facilities</li> </ul>
Child Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>80,000 children accessing psychosocial support through child-friendly spaces</li> <li>6,500 children protected and supported through case management and family reunification</li> <li>200,000 people affected by conflict and natural disaster received winter clothes and other non-food items</li> </ul>
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>160,000 affected children and adolescents provided with access to quality education</li> </ul>

In line with Afghanistan's multi-year, inter-agency 2018-2021 HRP, UNICEF is requesting US\$50 million to meet the humanitarian needs of women and children in 2019. These resources will allow UNICEF to boost its response to SAM and expand its use of mobile health services in the hardest-to-reach and most deprived areas, which will require significant resources. Without additional funding, UNICEF will be unable to support the country-wide response to the ongoing nutrition crisis in Afghanistan and provide critical services to internally displaced persons and returnees facing the spread of diseases.

Sector	2019 requirements (US\$)	2020-2021 requirements (US\$)
Nutrition	26,500,000	53,000,000
Health	2,500,000	6,000,000
WASH	7,000,000	15,000,000
Child protection	5,000,000	10,000,000
Education	7,000,000	15,000,000
Cluster coordination and emergency preparedness	2,000,000	4,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>50,000,000</b>	<b>103,000,000</b>

<sup>5</sup> International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) requires all grants to be listed in reporting. <http://iatistandard.org/>

**Notes:**

- 1) Given the vast needs in SAM treatment and the increase in capacities and partnerships, the nutrition funding ask has increased to treat a higher number of children and extend the reach of mobile teams to the most hard-to-reach communities and children.
- 2) As per the humanitarian strategy, UNICEF's health programme approach has shifted to an increased use of mobile health and nutrition teams to reach the most disadvantaged children and mothers. While this will result in an increase in the cost of the services, this is a more effective way to deliver life-saving health assistance to the people most in need.
- 3) Given the potential deterioration in the humanitarian situation due to population movements related to drought and conflict, UNICEF will increase its investment in emergency preparedness in 2019 for both cluster members and development partners.

## 9.0 Expression of Thanks

On behalf of the children of Afghanistan, UNICEF appreciates and thanks donors for their generous contributions to humanitarian response in 2018. Provision of predictable humanitarian funds is essential to allow UNICEF and partners to respond in a timely manner to the needs of children and women affected by conflict and natural disasters in Afghanistan. UNICEF also thanks NGO partners, and counterparts from the line ministries and departments in the Government for their cooperation and support at the central, provincial, district and community levels. UNICEF equally values and appreciates local community inputs, contributions and feedback towards improvement of the quality, focus and relevance of the aid it provides. This support is an inspiration for all children, and a constant reminder that they too can achieve their dreams.

## 10.0 Donor Feedback Form

UNICEF strives to improve our reporting on results and are grateful for any feedback you can provide at the following link: <https://bit.ly/2pLycTG>.

## **Annex 1 - Thematic Funding Case Studies**

### **Education**

#### **“Providing access to quality education to emergency affected children in Kabul”**

**Background and Rationale:** In 2018, UNICEF provided Education in Emergency (EiE) response to more than 5,000 emergency affected children in the Central Region. Majority of this response was to the drought and conflict affected IDPs as well as returnees from Pakistan and Iran temporarily settled in capital cities.

Kabul as the capital city hosts majority of returnee families mainly due to access to the labor market as the only income generation source.

Tarakhail Daag area in PD 21 is one of the places where majority of returnee families are based. In Mid 2018 a joint team of UNICEF and UNHCR visited Mughal Khail village in Daag area and during the focus group discussion with the community elders it was found out that:

- Majority of the residents are returnee households who had lived in Haripur camp in Pakistan for more than 30 years.
- More than 500 children between 6-17 years old majority of whom went to school in Pakistan are left out of school after returning to Afghanistan.
- The nearest formal school is at least 6 km from the settlement.
- The community is in favor of sending their girls to school if the opportunity is provided.
- The community has not yet reached to the Ministry of Education or any other service provider to seek support for the education of their children.
- The community is ready to contribute by providing space or land for a school.
- There are few potential people in the community who could be hired as teachers.



Taking the emerging needs of returnee communities of Daag area into consideration, UNICEF and UNHCR designed a coordinated response to this community. UNICEF agreed to establish temporary community-based classes to provide immediate access to education while UNHCR planned to work on construction of a school.

**Implementation Strategy:** As part of a joint emergency response of the two UN Agencies, Ministry of Education as the main government institution responsible for education service provision was also involved in the response process. The main support of UNICEF was provided through engaging with national and international humanitarian agencies, emerging as reliable first responders. The immediate response to Daag area consisted of:

- Establishment of 14 community-based classes
- Provision of tents, teaching and learning material to students
- Registration of students into formal education system through the nearby hub school
- Recruitment of at least seven qualified community members as teachers



**Key results:**

More than 330 children for the first time after returning to Afghanistan accessed quality education in the community-based set up recognized by Ministry of Education. In the first phase of the response, the children were enabled to attend at least one school year and were assured of continuing their education. An eight-classroom formal secondary school constructed in the community by UNHCR serving as the only school in the radius of 6km in a returnee settlement area. This would ensure sustainability of education services through government as the main service provider.

**Lessons Learned:**

Joint inter agency responses are more comprehensive and efficient as they address both short term and long-term needs. In this specific case, the collaboration of UNICEF and UNHCR ensured sustainability of an immediate emergency response by establishing and constructing a secondary school in the area.



## Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

### *“Enhancing the capacity of government entities to optimally provide emergency response”*

**Background and Rationale:** In 2018, UNICEF provided lifesaving WASH assistance to almost 1 million people out of the 1.9 million people reached through the cluster. Majority of this response was to the drought and conflict affected IDPs as well as people in the place of origin in the western and northern provinces of Afghanistan. Around 200,000 of the affected people were displaced and settled in the IDP camps where UNICEF was covering almost 100 per cent of the WASH response at the beginning and more than 55 per cent of the WASH response towards the end of year.

In the western and northern provinces of Afghanistan, where hundreds of thousand people were affected by severe drought and ongoing conflict, it was important to identify partners to act as reliable first responders. In this regard, the Provincial Rural Rehabilitation and Development (PRRDs) departments of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) were identified to ensure the provision of WASH services to those who are in dire need of support. In order to strengthen the capacity of the PRRDs and to ensure optimal service delivery, it was imperative to:

- Train key personnel from PRRD to help them assess and respond to the emergency WASH needs;
- Support trained personnel in implementing response plans in IDP camps including logistical support and communications; and
- Provide supportive supervision and frequent coaching to provide emergency WASH services

**Implementation Strategy:** Though UNICEF provided the assistance through engaging with national and international humanitarian agencies, majority of the response was carried out through the PRRDs, with technical support from UNICEF.

UNICEF provided support to PRRDs in the following key areas:

- UNICEF imparted trainings to PRRDs to develop Provincial Action Plans;
- PRRDs participation was ensured in the sub-cluster meetings organized on monthly basis;
- UNICEF engaged with PRRDs in the response planning and implementation stages with to ensure an adequate response;
- UNICEF ensured its engagement in the hiring process of hygiene promoters to ensure capable staff is on board;
- UNICEF provided one day orientation training to hygiene promoters;
- UNICEF provided onsite technical coaching and guidance was provided through the field teams;
- UNICEF actively coached and shared cluster and sphere guidelines' information with the PRRD technical staff;
- UNICEF ensured close follow with PRRDs technical staff in order to engage them more effectively.



UNICEF engagement with the MRRD and PRRDs, as the main governmental counterpart, for the provision of emergency WASH response in 2018 emerged as successful initiative as 85 per cent of UNICEF WASH assistance was provided through these government entities. The PRRDs also served as focal points for information, communications and facilitating conflict resolution. Due to their permanent presence in communities, PRRDs can be ideal partners in humanitarian response to emergencies, which often occurs in isolated, remote communities that are difficult to access.

**Results:**

- 85 per cent of the UNICEF WASH response was delivered through PRRDs, through enhancing their technical capacity, who optimally provided emergency services and built their technical and professional capacity on preparedness for sudden emergency onset in future.
- This also contributed towards one of UNICEF objectives of smooth transitioning and building the technical capacity of relevant government entities.
- This also ensured to streamline funding because of Government's substantially lower overhead costs and experience.

## **Child Protection**

### **Keeping Children warm during winter**

This video shows the distribution of winter clothing in Badghis, one of the provinces in Western province hit hardest by the winter. Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=skNvld0lVuw>



## **Annex 2 - Non-Thematic Funding Case Studies**

### **Ending Child Marriage**

UNICEF has been working with the Government of Afghanistan and community influencers, to raise awareness of the negative impact of child marriage.



““I didn’t know why there were many guests in the house, but my step-mother told me to get ready because I am getting married,” says [Shakila](#) with sadness. ” I am scared of getting married.”

There are many girls like Shakila, who need to be protected from child marriage through the provision of services aimed at providing girls and women with opportunities to engage and participate fully in their society.

### **Drought continues to impact the lives of children and families in Afghanistan**

An estimated 1.6 million children are currently affected by the drought in Afghanistan. The Western



provinces of Herat and Badghis are the worst hit, with tens of thousands of children displaced and living in makeshift tents and enduring a very cold winter

“I came here to learn, I want to become a doctor to help children,” says [Sakina](#), 10, from Badghis.

With thanks to donors such as the [United Kingdom](#), UNICEF and partners are helping families to fight back the cold and hunger during the harsh winter season.

## Japan Donates US\$9.1 million to support children and mother's health in Afghanistan



The child mortality rate in Afghanistan has reduced by 50 per cent since 1990. Despite this achievement, many children still suffer from vaccine preventable diseases. In addition, Afghanistan is one of only three countries globally that has yet to stop polio.

“My son is very healthy and that is how I know the importance of vaccines,” says [Shirbano](#), a mother of 3 living in an IDP camp in Badghis province.

With the new contribution from the [Government of Japan](#), UNICEF and its partners will vaccinate more than 1.4 million infants; protect from polio more than 10 million children under five years of age and provide more than 2.8 million women of child bearing age with the tetanus toxoid vaccine.

## Providing quality engagement with mothers and caregivers for improved nutrition of children in Afghanistan



Undernutrition remains a critical issue for children in Afghanistan. Chronic malnutrition can only be prevented by improving maternal and child nutrition, which is mainly done through the development of infant and young child feeding practices.

One mother participating in community based activities on dietary diversity in Laghman shared that her participation in community engagement activities taught her about foods in her community that can be used for child feeding.

With funding from donors such as the Government of Italy and others, UNICEF is working with community health workers, volunteers, and key community stakeholders, to ensure coverage of community-based nutrition package approach to improve feeding practices for children under two years in seven districts in 2019.



## No water no life

Access to clean water is one of the many challenges internally-displaced people in Zanabad, an eastern district of Kabul in Afghanistan face. With donors' support, UNICEF Afghanistan drilled three water wells in the district to enable children and their families to have access to clean water and sanitation.

Link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8uC\\_fgX0AwE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8uC_fgX0AwE)

## Children and women hit hardest by the drought



[Alam](#) 35 and her four children are bearing the brunt of the disasters that hit their hometown Badghis, northwest of Afghanistan. Already torn by decades of violence, the family was grappling with drought, leaving nothing behind. “In the tent, Alam is sitting on an old colorful cushion, smoothly swinging the bassinet where her sick 8-month old baby Shafique is laying down. Sadly, Shafique looks frail, fatigued and unable to react like other babies his age.

Alam is breast feeding her baby boy Shafique, yet he is not getting much food. “My milk is not sufficient for my baby,” she says. “The whole family is surviving on water and bread and this is not proper food for my four children.” A UNICEF-supported mobile health clinic visits the area. Her uncle Kamal Eddin decided to take Alam and her baby for a check-up. After screening the infant, Shafique was diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition. Alam was provided with ready to use therapeutic food provided through funding from USAID and was guided on how to better feed her infant.