



UNICEF emergency response partner LRCS providing psychosocial to displaced children at Dema through playing, post Daniel storm floods crisis at East of Libya, led to displacement of more than 40K.

unicef 
for every child

Humanitarian Action for Children

Libya

HIGHLIGHTS¹

- On 10 September, Storm Daniel affected northeastern Libya with torrential rains and flash floods, causing two dams to burst and waves of water to inundate populated areas. The human toll and devastation are significant and life-saving humanitarian assistance is urgently needed.
- The protracted political crisis and past conflict in Libya have had a significant impact on public services, particularly health, social protection and education services. UNICEF estimates that nearly 584,000 people (including nearly 234,000 children) require humanitarian assistance in 2023, with children on the move being the most vulnerable.
- UNICEF will work with government, civil society organizations and the private sector to realize its humanitarian, development and peacebuilding strategy, maintaining capacity for a rapid response to emergencies.

In 2023, UNICEF and partners require US\$28.6 million to undertake essential humanitarian interventions, with critical funding needs in the child protection, social protection, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and education sectors.

KEY PLANNED TARGETS



172,204

children/caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support



93,088

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



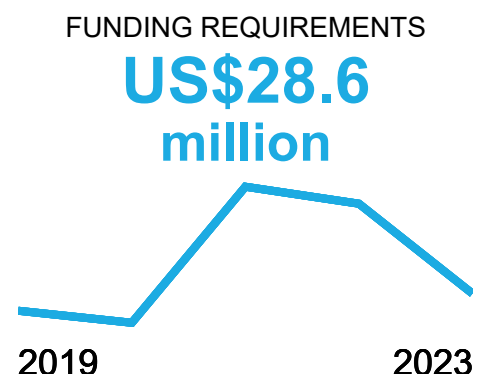
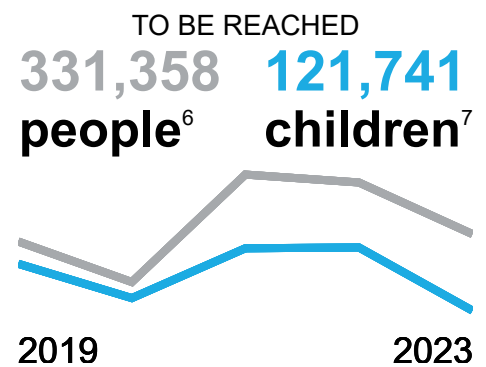
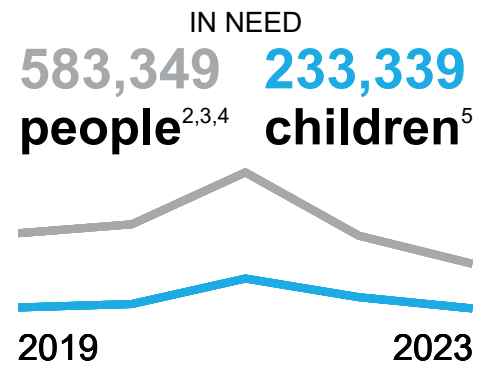
50,000

people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water



3,000

households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers



HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

While the 2020 peace process and the 2021 formation of the Libyan National Unity Government brought a wave of optimism, Libya remains ensnared by an intricate web of challenges, from its fragile security environment to an unpredictable political landscape. This volatile mix increases the risk of violence, further complicated by external factors such as the war in Ukraine, which, by driving up food prices, adds to the country's complexity. Libya's ongoing humanitarian crisis is a manifestation of various factors: continued armed conflict, political fragmentation, economic adversities, and the repercussions of climate change. A clear indication of the economic decline is that, after a decade of turmoil, Libya's estimated gross domestic product per capita in 2021 was approximately half of what it was in 2010.

UNICEF's estimates that 584,000 individuals, including close to 234,000 children, are in need of humanitarian assistance. The gravest situations are faced by those who have been forcibly displaced, individuals with disabilities or chronic diseases, households led by women, and those whose resilience has been eroded due to extended displacement. Delving deeper into these figures, it emerges that nearly 247,400 people are deprived of essential water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities. Over 175,800 children are in immediate danger and require protection, and around 111,400 children are on the brink of losing access to educational opportunities if humanitarian aid is not extended.

Despite its internal turmoil, Libya remains a key migration route, serving both as a destination and a transit point for Europe-bound asylum-seekers and migrants. Currently, the country shelters approximately 705,746 migrants and refugees, of which nearly 78,000 are children. Furthermore, Libya has a significant number of internally displaced persons, estimated at 160,000. Cities such as Benghazi, Misrata, Tripoli and Sirt bear the brunt, hosting the largest migrant and refugee populations. Given the lack of stringent border controls, migrants, particularly women and children, are vulnerable to a gamut of threats, including those posed by smuggling rings and other illicit activities. This makes them one of the most vulnerable groups in Libya, with many facing severe detention conditions, family separations, and other challenges.⁸

The recent catastrophe of Storm Daniel on 10 September further exacerbated Libya's predicament. Northeastern regions of the country experienced intense rains and flash floods, with Derna, Shahat, and Al-Bayada bearing the brunt of the devastation. The storm's aftermath was dire, resulting in significant human casualties and infrastructure damage.

SECTOR NEEDS



525,674
people in need of health assistance⁹



175,841
children in need of protection services¹⁰



111,387
children in need of access to school¹¹



247,398
people lack access to WASH services¹²

STORY FROM THE FIELD



"I love playing here, and I love my English teacher, she is super helpful, and she always smiles."

Eight-year-old Maria fled in 2020 with her sister and separated mother from conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic to Libya.

When they arrived in Misrata, her mother tried to enrol them both in public school. However, without legal documents and sufficient financial resources, this was not possible.

Maria and her sister were referred to the UNICEF non-formal education programme, where Maria attends psychosocial support activities in addition to English, math and Arabic classes.

[Read more about this story here](#)

A young girl from Benghazi participates in a non-formal education programme offered at a Baity Centre, one of a number of such centres supported by UNICEF.

HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY

In Libya, UNICEF is committed to providing immediate life-saving support, especially to individuals affected by Storm Daniel, internally displaced persons, refugees, migrants, with an emphasis on women and children. UNICEF's humanitarian approach aligns with national objectives from the Country Programme Document and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. Upholding the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action and the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus, UNICEF aims to strengthen resilience, reduce vulnerabilities, and assist Libya through its humanitarian transition. This approach ensures all children, irrespective of nationality or residence status, have access to crucial aid.

UNICEF values a localized humanitarian response, fostering partnerships with local stakeholders and enhancing their ability to offer balanced, high-quality, gender-informed assistance. Collaborations span governmental bodies, NGOs, private sectors, and active community involvement, especially the youth. By leading the water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) and education sectors, and supporting the nutrition group, UNICEF plays a pivotal role in inter-agency coordination. Collaborating with UN agencies and distributing urgent supplies through the Rapid Response Mechanism, especially in hard-to-access areas, with pre-positioned emergency assistance is crucial for timely responses.

UNICEF champions access to reliable water services and advanced sanitation facilities, encompassing schools, healthcare establishments, and detention centers. Beyond immediate health and nutritional aid, UNICEF bolsters healthcare systems and personnel, centering on the unique needs of children, newborns, and mothers. This readies the national health system for potential health challenges. Community centers' operations, child protection, and educational services remain a UNICEF priority, with an emphasis on integrated health and education interventions targeting vulnerable groups and host communities.

In light of Storm Daniel, UNICEF has been proactively addressing immediate needs in Eastern Libya from the start of the crisis, engaging in assessment missions in collaboration with government crisis cells, the UN, and NGOs. UNICEF is prioritizing WASH, Health, and Child Protection, which includes the distribution of vital emergency relief supplies, providing immediate technical support to government institutes involved in emergency response and expansion of humanitarian partnerships with implementing partners to provide direct child-centered support to affected population.

Progress against the latest programme targets is available in the humanitarian situation reports: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/libya/situation-reports>

2023 PROGRAMME TARGETS



Health

- **174,050** children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities¹³



Nutrition

- **40,000** primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling
- **25,500** children 6-59 months receiving micronutrient powder
- **13,600** pregnant women receiving preventative iron supplementation



Child protection, GBViE and PSEA

- **172,204** children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support¹⁴
- **17,550** women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions
- **4,000** people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations
- **22,685** children who have received individual case management
- **469,273** children and adults accessing explosive weapons-related risk education



Education

- **93,088** children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning¹⁵
- **96,241** children receiving individual learning materials



Water, sanitation and hygiene

- **50,000** people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs
- **112,567** people reached with critical WASH supplies
- **30,549** people accessing appropriate WASH facilities and hygiene services in learning facilities, safe spaces and healthcare facilities



Social protection

- **3,000** households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers



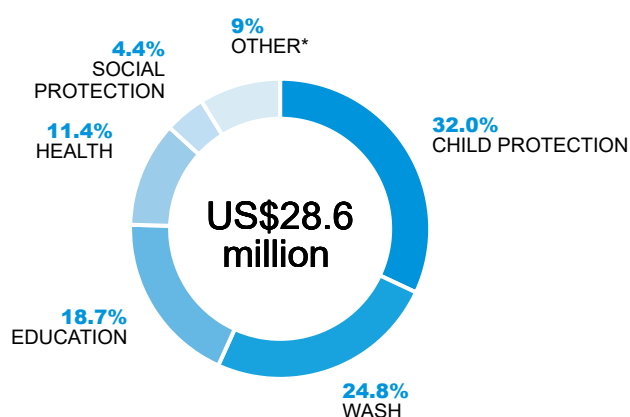
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)

- **5,000** people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2023

In 2023, UNICEF needs US\$28.6 million to deliver vital humanitarian aid to Libyan children and families. This budget will sustain health and nutrition programs for 174,000 women and children, furnish essential WASH resources for 112,500 individuals, offer mental health and psychosocial support to 469,000 children and caregivers, and guarantee educational access for 96,000 children. Additionally, UNICEF will aid the shift from humanitarian to development assistance.

The 2023 funding requirements have reduced, as the COVID-19 response is now integrated into the country office's developmental plan. While child protection, social protection, WASH, and education remain priorities for 2023, crucial funding for health, nutrition, emergency readiness, and accountability is paramount¹⁶. Insufficient funds will limit UNICEF's response capabilities, potentially endangering the rights of at-risk children and families. UNICEF's immediate requirement for the Storm Daniel aftermath stands at \$6.5 million for children's emergency needs. As the storm's impact becomes apparent, larger needs due to destroyed health, water, education, and child protection systems were identified, leading to this revised HAC appeal.



Appeal sector	Revised 2023 HAC requirement (US\$)
Health	3,250,000
Nutrition	864,000
Child protection	9,134,351
Education	5,333,402
WASH	7,087,256
Social protection	1,260,000
Cross-sectoral	72,000
Emergency preparedness	1,000,000
Cluster coordination	300,000
Evaluation	275,344
Total	28,576,353

*This includes costs from other sectors/interventions: Emergency preparedness (3.5%), Nutrition (3.0%), Cluster coordination (1.0%), Evaluation (<1%), Cross-sectoral (<1%).

Appeal sector	Original 2023 HAC requirement (US\$)	Revised 2023 HAC requirement (US\$)	Funds available (US\$)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health	3,250,000	3,250,000	-	3,250,000	100.0%
Nutrition	864,000	864,000	96,283	767,717	88.9%
Child protection ¹⁷	9,134,351	9,134,351	468,604	8,665,747	94.9%
Education	5,333,402	5,333,402	426,638	4,906,764	92.0%
WASH	7,087,256	7,087,256	872,250	6,215,006	87.7%
Social protection ¹⁸	1,260,000	1,260,000	-	1,260,000	100.0%
Cross-sectoral ¹⁹	72,000	72,000	-	72,000	100.0%
Emergency preparedness ²⁰	1,000,000	1,000,000	104,533	895,467	89.5%
Cluster coordination	300,000	300,000	-	300,000	100.0%
Evaluation ²¹	275,344	275,344	-	275,344	100.0%
Total	28,576,353	28,576,353	1,968,308	26,608,045	93.1%

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ENDNOTES

1. COVID-19 remains a Public Health Emergency of International Concern as declared by the World Health Organization in January 2020. On 1 July 2022, UNICEF deactivated its Level 3 Sustained Phase for the global COVID-19 pandemic response. All activities related to COVID-19 pandemic response, including programme targets and funding requirements, have been shifted into regular development programming and operations. While UNICEF's Level 3 emergency response phase of the COVID-19 pandemic was deactivated, the organization is continuing to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on children, their families and their communities and on the social systems they rely on.
2. People in Need (PIN) estimations are as follows: 1. Population of migrants in the community: 705,746 according to IOM Libya Migrant Report Round 47 (April 2023), with 50 per cent of this caseload requiring humanitarian assistance (352,873 people) 2. Remaining IDP population: estimated at 125,802 people according to IOM Libya Displacement and Solutions Report (August 2023) 3. New IDP caseload (directly impacted by Storm Daniel): estimated 43,421 people according to IOM Libya Displacement Update (12 October 2023) 4. Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in detention: 6,000 people as estimated by the IOM Libya-DC Profile Generator 5. Host communities receiving IDPs: approximately 50,000 people 6. Sudanese crossing into Libya due to conflict (since April 2023): 4,253 people according to the IOM-DTM Sudan crisis mixed cross-border movement review dashboard 7. Migrants, asylum seekers and refugees stranded at the Libya-Tunisia border (approximately 1,000 people). The number of Children in Need is calculated as 40 per cent of the PIN and based on Bureau of Statistics and Census (BSC) and UN statistics division data.
3. UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, addressing the unmet needs of children and serving as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.
4. Given changing data regarding people and children in need due to Storm Daniel, specific caseloads of those requiring humanitarian assistance have not been included in the HAC. The Libya Flood Response Flash Appeal, launched on 14 September 2023, estimated the number of affected populations to approximately 884,000.
5. Figures are based on the 2022 Humanitarian Needs Overview, 2022 Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA) and subsequent inter-agency planning documents.
6. Based on the programme targets for children receiving individual learning materials (96,241); children under 5 years to be reached with nutrition support (25,500); women to be reached with health-care interventions (97,050); and people reached with critical WASH supplies (112,567). This includes 170,194 women/girls and 163,519 men/boys. The 2022 Humanitarian Needs Overview estimated that 15 per cent of the population is living with a disability. A specific estimation for children with disabilities is not available.
7. Based on programme targets for children for under 5 years to be reached with nutrition support (25,500) and children receiving individual learning materials (96,241). This includes 62,088 girls and 59,653 boys. The 2022 Humanitarian Needs Overview estimated that 15 per cent of the population is living with a disability. A specific estimation for children with disabilities is not available.
8. Current life-saving humanitarian needs include clean water, sanitation and hygiene promotion to prevent the spread of waterborne diseases and ensure the well-being of the affected population, as well as urgent medical aid, including supplies and disease prevention measures. Survivors require mental health and psychosocial services due to emotional trauma. Urgent provision of temporary shelter and basic non-food items is also required.
9. Figures are based on the 2022 Humanitarian Needs Overview, 2022 Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA) and subsequent inter-agency planning documents.
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13. The target is an estimate and based on the number of women and children to benefit from the 50 health facilities supported by UNICEF.
14. Figures from the 2022 Humanitarian Needs Overview, subtracting needs due to COVID-19, underpin the drastic decrease in need from 2022.
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16. \$6.5 million is required to meet the immediate humanitarian needs caused by Storm Daniel and is included within the total budget requirement of this HAC.
17. This includes US\$100,000 for activities for the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.
18. Due to the change in exchange rate of the Libyan dinar to the United States dollar, the value in US dollars of the minimum expenditure basket per household has decreased.
19. Funding has decreased compared with 2022 due to the removal of risk communication and community engagement.
20. Preparedness covers capacity building of local civil society organizations and government institutions, along with the pre-positioning of supplies to reach 20 per cent of the anticipated affected population under the most likely scenario where an estimated 250,000 people would be affected by conflict.
21. One per cent of programme expenditure is dedicated to the evaluation of the humanitarian response. This supports the accountability function of UNICEF and will enable the organization to draw lessons that can be used for improving future programming and implementation.