



Reporting Period: January — December 2020

UNICEF Syria Crisis Humanitarian Situation Report January – December 2020

unicef 
for every child

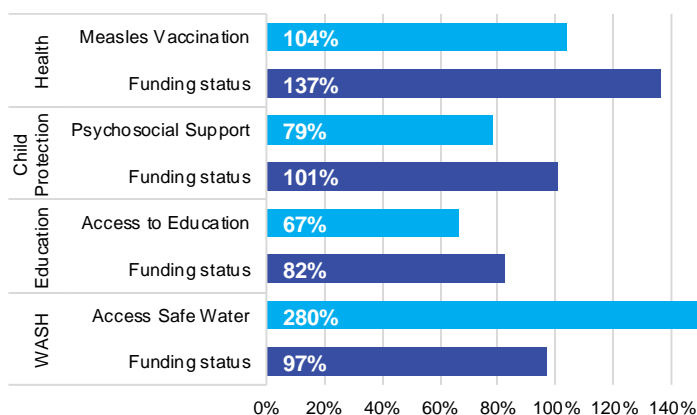
Situation in Numbers*

-  **5,195,518**
children in need
-  **18,771,305**
people in need
-  **5,544,506**
of registered refugees
(HNO/UNCHR)
*numbers reflect actual figures residing in countries at yearend

Highlights

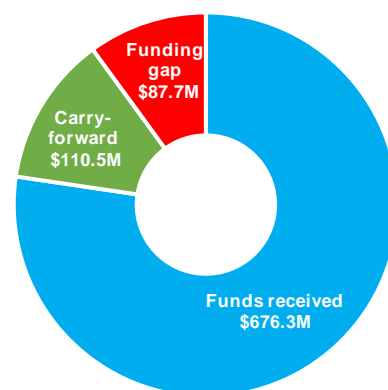
- Ten years into the crisis, the Syrian refugee crisis remains one of the largest humanitarian crises in the world, with more than 5.5 million registered refugees across the five main Syrian-refugee hosting countries – Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt.
- In 2020, countries neighboring Syria continued to demonstrate extraordinary generosity despite the economic downfall resulting from COVID-19 pandemic (some of them recorded a loss of 8 to 15 percentage points (p.p.) in real GDP growth), and rising levels of unemployment and poverty impacting children and women worst. Refugees are often among the most affected. In Lebanon, poverty increased by around 33 p.p. among the Lebanese community and by as much as 56 p.p. among Syrian.
- UNICEF and the ministries of health continued to support Syrian mothers and children with essential maternal and child health and nutrition services. With UNICEF support, more than 415,000 children received scheduled vaccinations, in and outside camp settings, despite pandemic-link lockdowns.
- By mid-March 2020, almost all schools in the region were closed, putting children learning and well-being at risk. UNICEF was instrumental in supporting Ministries of Education by providing alternative solutions to keep learning ongoing, reaching over 1 million refugee children with distance or home-based learning at the height of the pandemic.
- Increased poverty, reduced social interactions and limited access to services, exacerbated pre-existing children vulnerabilities and gender-based violence (GBV). Using community-based and awareness-raising activities as an entry point for the identification and referral of children-at-risk, UNICEF was able to reach more than 250,000 children with child protection and psychosocial programmes despite the restrictive COVID-19 reality.

Summary of Programme Response Targets



WASH (access to safe water) is reported in Jordan, Iraq, and Lebanon.
Health (measles vaccination) is reported in Iraq and Jordan

Funding Status (US\$) Total Requirements: 874.5M



TURKEY

Funding Overview and Partnerships

In 2020, UNICEF Turkey required \$229 million to respond to the needs of over four million refugees and migrants, as well as vulnerable host community members, under the framework of the Regional Refugee and Response Plan (3RP). Of this, UNICEF received \$143 million in new funding for 2020, with generous contributions from key donors, including the European Union, Germany, Japan, Norway and the United States. Together with funding carried forward from 2019, this left the humanitarian response in 2020 with a 31 per cent funding gap. UNICEF also received some \$147 million in funding for use in 2021 and 2022, with a total of \$14 million carry-over from the previous year, the majority of which is provided for the Conditional Cash Transfer Programme (CCTE). Therefore, available funding remains heavily earmarked and additional flexible funding is urgently needed to ensure the continued coverage of essential services for thousands of vulnerable children who remain at high risk of school drop-out, exploitation and abuse — particularly considering the continuous COVID-19 outbreak in Turkey.

Situation in Numbers

1,810,465

children in need

11,624,941

people in need

3,643,769

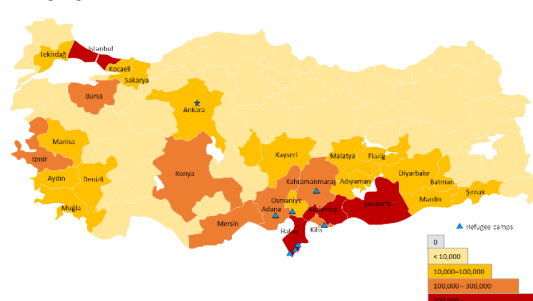
of registered Syrian refugees

(source: HNO/UNHCR)

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

As of the end of 2020, Turkey remained home to the largest such population in the world. This number includes more than 3.6 million Syrian refugees, of which over 1.8 million are children, and are under temporary protection. The significant majority of Syrian refugees (98.4 per cent) are residing in host communities, while less than two per cent continue living in the remaining seven temporary accommodation centres located in South-east Turkey.

Syrian Refugees by Province, December 2020



Turkey remains a leading transit country for registered and unregistered refugees on the move. By the end of 2020, a total of 18,431 people, primarily Afghans (36 per cent) and Syrians (23 per cent), crossed by sea and land from Turkey into the EU. This is a significant downward trend compared to the last year, owing to the COVID-19 outbreak and overall reduced number of people on the move. An additional 122,302 people were rescued or apprehended by Turkish authorities as of the end of December 2020, four times less than in 2019.

The COVID-19 pandemic has put a significant strain on Turkey's infrastructure and essential services, already overburdened after years of increased demand due to the Syrian refugee crisis. While to date the direct health impact of the pandemic in Turkey has been milder for children and young people than for other age groups, the potential future socio-economic impact is grave. If not adequately addressed, the potential for reversing achievements made in terms of quality of services for children, including education, health and social protection, could become a reality.

The most vulnerable children in Turkey, refugee children, continue being at risk due to partial interruption of essential services like education, child protection and social protection. The COVID-19 pandemic had a particularly marked effect on school enrolment, attendance and retention, making it harder for children in Turkey, especially refugees and migrants, to continue their education. More than 428,000 school-aged refugee children are still out-of-school and have not had access to education opportunities. More children continue to be at risk of dropping out due to extended school closures. Also, to consider, the effects of prolonged social distancing and confinement measures have resulted in increased unemployment and fewer livelihood opportunities for vulnerable families. This makes it more difficult for them to meet their basic needs and is likely to lead to increased negative coping strategies, such as child labour and early marriage. There is also an amplified risk of gender-based violence and violence against children, with higher levels of stress within households and many women and children potentially confined at home with their abusers for long periods.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health

Working closely with the Ministry of Health (MoH) and partners, UNICEF continued to improve the coverage and quality of health services for vulnerable refugee and migrant children. According to the latest data from the MoH¹, 74,363 refugee children (0-11 months) have been vaccinated. The overall target is mentioned in the

¹ MoH data from November 2020.

HPM table (100,000) which represents the estimated 0-11 months cohort of new-born Syrian refugee children. (The final number for the total amount will be mentioned in the subsequent reporting phase once MoH end-of-year figures become available.)

Instrumental in monitoring and advocacy, UNICEF ensured uninterrupted vaccine supply including during the COVID-19 pandemic. This included UNICEF support to MoH with increasing awareness on the policy shifts in July. For the expanded national vaccination programme, for example, whereby the implementation of immunization programme was no longer being implemented in schools due to COVID-19 closures and thus needed to be moved to community-based healthcare centres. Also, printing materials (190,000 posters, 1,610,000 leaflets, 1,398,000 vaccination cards), as well as dissemination of social media messages in Turkish and Arabic, needed to be carried out.

With UNICEF supported, 20 training modules related to Infant and young child feeding (IYCF) have been updated and adapted for online delivery by MoH. These training modules are being used for capacity development and training of both Turkish and Syrian health professionals. Expected to continue in 2021, this syllabus has been aligned with the government's new regulation on special health reporting. UNICEF supported the production and dissemination of 110,000 posters and seven social media messaging packages, in Turkish and Arabic languages, on the occasion of the national breastfeeding promotion campaign² carried out by the MoH in October 2020.

Child Protection

Working closely with the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services (MoFLSS), local authorities and NGO partners, UNICEF improved the coverage and quality of child protection mechanisms for vulnerable refugee, migrant as well as Turkish children. Not limited by the COVID-19 pandemic, UNICEF partners continued to ensure that vulnerable children and their families have access to child protection services that shifted to a blended approach of face-to-face and online modalities for continuity of essential child protection programmes. Over 70 UNICEF-supported child and adolescent-friendly spaces benefitted 278,124 vulnerable refugee and Turkish children alongside their parents through a range of protection services by the end of 2020.

Support to MoFLSS by UNICEF continued to expand outreach capacity of the Family Support Teams ('ASDEP') and the Social Services Centers (SSC) by standardizing the service delivery model, improving the case management approaches and tools, recruitment and training. This was the case for 73 caseworkers and interpreters in 15 provinces, resulting in the early identification of 7,263³ at-risk minors, of which 1,604 children⁴ received individualized care. The child protection component of the Conditional Cash Transfers for Education (CCTE) programme, implemented in collaboration with MoFLSS and Turkish Red Crescent or Türk Kızılay (TRC), continued for vulnerable children and families. TRC outreach team capacities were enhanced to improve their efficiency in remote assessment, identification, response and case management. As a result, a total of 6,637 children⁵ were reached in 15 provinces, of which 500 children⁶ were referred to specialized services.

Education

In close coordination with the Ministry of National Education (MoNE) and to increase access to quality inclusive education for all refugee children, UNICEF particularly focused on school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With the shift of education programmes to a hybrid of online and face-to-face learning modalities on 23 March, UNICEF supported MoNE to ensure all children continue to learn including refugees and migrant children. While the MoNE introduced a blended learning modality with a mix of face-to-face and distance learning due to the deteriorating COVID-19 situation in the country, the MoNE announced the suspension of all face-to-face education services on 23 November. This also delayed the start of the new academic year to February 15, 2021. By the end of 2020, more than 12 million students from Grades 1-12, including Syrian and other refugee students, actively benefited from the online distance learning platform called the "Education Information Network" (EBA).

A total of 23,038 Syrian and Turkish vulnerable children⁷ benefitted from home and community-based early childhood education programmes. More than 69,000 vulnerable Syrian children from Grade 1 to 12 received learn-at-home kits and hygiene kits to ensure continuity of learning in a safe environment during school

2 A breast-feeding promotion week took place between 1 – 7 October 2020, coinciding with the Global Breast-feeding promotion campaign.

3 4,551 girls, 2,712 boys. The indicator in the HPM relates to a much broader scope of activity and results achieved + the 7,263 result (achieved through ASDEP programme is included in first HPM indicator in the CP matrix #of children assessed for protection needs.

4 774 girls, 830 boys.

5 3,179 girls, 3,458 boys.

6 206 girls, 294 boys.

7 11,742 girls, 11,296 boys.

closures. To lessen the digital divide between students, UNICEF supported the establishment of 170 EBA centres for online distance learning platforms, inclusive of six mobile ones. These centres allowed children, including Syrians without a computer and/or internet access at home to continue learning during school closures. UNICEF also continued to support 12,246 Syrian Volunteer Education Personnel⁸ who help ensure sustainable, safe, and protective learning environments for Syrian children including integration into the national distance learning system.

Support for School Enrolment (SSE) programme continued to help out-of-school refugee children (OOSC) in accessing relevant and appropriate education opportunities in eight different provinces. By end-year, 76,845⁹ vulnerable children, including 27,175 out-of-school children (OOSC)¹⁰ were identified, counselled, and/or referred to enrolment to all forms of education. 7,483 children¹¹ were enrolled in the Accelerated Learning Programme and 43 OOS adolescents enrolled in Vocational Education Centres. A total of 3,261 vulnerable refugee children in both formal and informal education (1,754 girls) benefited from Turkish language courses, while 2,361 refugee children (1,425 girls) received homework and distance learning support.

Adolescent Development and Participation

UNICEF continued to collaborate with the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS), the MoFLSS and NGO partners to expand opportunities for meaningful engagement and life skills education for Syrian and Turkish adolescents and youth. Following the COVID-19 outbreak, almost all programs transitioned to online activities. By yearend, 17,870¹² adolescents and young people increased their skills and competencies required for their development and engagement in social cohesion actions through structured skills programme and additional 324,023 adolescents engaged online over UNICEF supported programmes.

In partnership with Southeast Anatolia Regional (GAP) Administration and Development Foundation of Turkey, the digital skills development programme for young people "Maker and Innoba" in Mardin, Sanliurfa, Gaziantep, Kilis and Adiyaman reached 1,233 adolescents and young people (900 Turkish and 333 Syrian). Through the network of GAP Youth Houses, UNICEF and partners organized activities aimed at enabling young people to identify and develop local entrepreneurial solutions. A total of 49 youth entrepreneurial projects have been developed, and 28 of them were identified for further support.

Social Protection and Social Policy

UNICEF continued working with the MoFLSS, civil society and the private sector to strengthen existing national systems to ensure vulnerable refugee and Turkish children have increased access to social protection services and their wellbeing is improved. The coverage of the Conditional Cash Transfer for Education (CCTE) Programme for Refugees continued growing, increasing from 562,016 children in December 2019 to 668,900¹³ in December 2020. As part of the CCTE programme implementation and to provide additional support to targeted beneficiary families, UNICEF supported 521,270 students with top-up payments in 2020, which included back-to-school expenses.

Alongside partners, UNICEF supported 2,572¹⁴ refugee and Turkish children at risk of child labour in Adana, Şanlıurfa, Hatay, and Diyarbakır with tailored psychosocial support (PSS) services. A total of 2,501¹⁵ refugee and Turkish children, as well as 2,503 parents, benefited from child protection, awareness-raising and referrals to social services. A total of 150 government staff were equipped with skills on how to combat child labour among refugees and the Turkish population, as the aptitude of 23 staff from private firms and NGOs were increased to prevent child labour in the agriculture sector.

A total of 13,388 people including 6,243 children¹⁶ in the districts of Kirikhan, Altinözü and Yayladagi in Hatay province benefited from the UNICEF 2019/20 seasonal (winter) cash-assistance programme implemented in partnership with the three district Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations (SASF) targeting vulnerable Syrian refugee and host community households. Implementation of the 2020/2021 seasonal (winter) cash-

8 6,515 female, 5,731 male.

9 37,654 girls, 39,191 boys.

10 11,685 girls, 15,490 boys.

11 3,732 girls, 3,751 boys. The ALP result is only a part of the result achieved under the indicator defined as # of children enrolled in accredited non-formal education, which in addition to the ALP includes children benefiting from Turkish Language Courses (3,261 children) bringing the total number to 10,744.

12 The result in the HPM represents the result reported by our implementing partners by end December through Activity Info (MNE platform for the 3RP), while the remaining number of children to the total reported number in the narrative includes data we received post-December from UNICEF partner.

13 332,184 girls, 336,716 boys.

14 1240 girls, 1332 boys.

15 1170 girls, 1331 boys.

16 Consists of 2,870 Syrian and 298 Turkish households (a total 13,388 people including 6,243 children).

assistance programme, targeting 4,900 Syrian refugee and vulnerable Turkish households, started in December reaching thus far 174 households with assistance.

[Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy](#)

The Government of Turkey leads the overall response to the Syrian refugee crisis, supported by the United Nations through the framework of the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) for Syrian refugees. The overall strategic planning and coordination of the 3RP is led by the Syria Response Group, which is supported at the technical level by the Syria Task Force and 3RP sector coordination working groups at the central and sub-regional levels. UNICEF is leading the Education Working Group (WG) and the South-East Turkey Education Sub-WG and co-leads the Child Protection WG as well as South-East Turkey Child Protection Sub-WG. Also, an active member, UNICEF is part of the Durable Solutions WG and the 3RP WG on Contingency Planning.

The scale-up of services and strengthening of national systems remained key priorities underpinning the UNICEF humanitarian strategy in 2020, despite challenges generated by the COVID-19 outbreak in Turkey. Continued efforts have been made throughout 2020 to enhance the inclusivity and gender sensitivity of coverage and care to reach the most vulnerable children.

Close coordination by UNICEF with 3RP partners to support national efforts to address the COVID-19 outbreak in Turkey, including risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) activities in support of the national response. Based on the analysis of the outbreak's impact on Syrian refugees and host communities, UNICEF and 3RP partners have revised the 2020 Turkey chapter of 3RP to include COVID-19 response specific activities as well as funding requirements. The COVID-19 response has been also mainstreamed within the 3RP planning process for the 2021 – 2022 period. Related activities, targets and performance indicators have been incorporated into the new Turkey 3RP chapter, which is expected to be launched in February 2021.

[Human Interest Stories and External Media](#)

UNICEF Turkey produced a range of media content to highlight UNICEF's humanitarian response in Turkey, including a press release announcing the [UNICEF and Qatar Charity new partnership](#), a video showcasing [UNICEF humanitarian response in Edirne](#), a [video](#) and [four human interest stories](#) highlighting the positive impact of the CCTE programme on the beneficiaries, [two human interest stories](#) showcasing the Support for School Enrolment (SSE) programme, a [video](#) was highlighting the ALP interventions and [three videos](#) on the [SVEP](#) programme. In addition, a [video](#) was also produced on the ALP programme as part of TCO contribution to the global campaign "Champions for children".

UNICEF Turkey also implemented the [#ChooseEducation](#) social media campaign in three languages to raise awareness in EU countries on the ECHO-funded CCTE programme. The campaign reached more than 24 million citizens in six EU member states.

Annex A
Summary of Programme

Turkey	UNICEF and IPs response			Sector response		
Sector	2020 target	Total results*	Change since last report	2020 target	Total results*	Change since last report
Health¹						
# of children (0-12 mos.) receiving routine vaccinations (DTP3)	100,000	74,363	17,116	100,000	74,363	17,116
Child Protection						
# of children assessed for protection needs	120,000	91,222 ²	22,923	978,610	N/A	N/A
# of children participating in structured, sustained psychosocial support programmes	70,000	72,976 ³	22,363	76,165	N/A	N/A
# of individuals reached through community based GBV prevention and mitigation programmes	40,000	20,102 ⁴	12,669	93,720	N/A	N/A
Education						
# of children enrolled in formal education (pre-primary-grade 12)	750,000	768,839 ⁵	83,920	750,000	768,839	83,920
# of refugee children benefiting from the conditional cash transfer for education	550,000	668,900 ⁶	40,044	555,000	671,343 ⁷	42,487
# of (5-17 year, girls/boys) children receiving support (including case-based support) for enrolment to all forms of education	51,100	76,845 ⁸	20,254	63,550	141,782	27,642
# of children (3-5 years) enrolled in ECCE and pre-primary education	60,000	57,756 ⁹	6,618	60,120	58,165	6,710
# of children enrolled in accredited non-formal education	25,500	10,744 ¹⁰	3,374	60,680	13,273	3,964
# of teachers and other education personnel trained	23,750	196,786 ¹¹	196,063	35,427	196,786	196,063
# of Syrian teachers and other education personnel receiving incentives	12,500	12,246 ¹²	0	12,500	12,246	0
Adolescents & Youth¹³						
# of Syrian and Turkish adolescents and youth engaged in empowerment programmes	7,250	6,861 ¹⁴	1,374	7,250	6,861 ¹⁵	1,374
# of Syrian and Turkish adolescents and youth benefiting from community-based social cohesion activities	40,000	324,023 ¹⁶	217,065	N/A	N/A	N/A
Social Protection						

# of persons benefiting from cash-based interventions (including winter support)	60,000	13,388 ¹⁷	0	2,010,100	N/A	N/A
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* Results are cumulative January-December 2020. Sector results for some indicators are not yet available.

¹ Data reported by the Ministry of Health as of end November 2020.

² 44,830 girls, 46,384 boys, 8 non-binaries.

³ 38,553 girls, 34,418 boys, 5 non-binaries.

⁴ 13,452 female, 6,650 males. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, all community-based activities were postponed, therefore progress on indicator has been below the expectations.

⁵ 376,812 girls and 392,027 boys. Official MoNE statistics from November 2020.

⁶ 332,184 girls and 336,716 boys.

⁷ Sector results include all conditional and non-conditional cash grants for the education of children. Overachievement is due to a larger than anticipated increase in the number of refugee children enrolled in formal education; UNICEF and the Government of Turkey are in discussions to revise the targets.

⁸ 37,572 girls, 39,269 boys and 4 non-binaries. After commencement of new academic year in Sep 2020; both UNICEF and sector partners expanded the outreach activities considerably resulting in substantial achievement.

⁹ 28,706 girls and 29,050 boys. The result includes children enrolled in formal, community- and home-based ECE.

¹⁰ 5,486 girls and 5,258 boys. Lower result achieved against the overall target due to Covid-19 outbreak and disruption in availability of accredited non-formal education programs.

¹¹ 114,136 female, 82,650 males. The change in the training modality from face to face to online training helped overachievement in terms of numbers. These trainings aimed to improve teacher's capacity in online teaching.

¹² 6,515 female, 5,731 male This represents the highest number of education personnel supported in 2020; the number supported in September was 12,176 (6,481 women, 5,695 men).

¹³ Due to the multi-sectoral nature of Adolescents & Youth programming and because it is not reflected as a separate sector in the 3RP, UNICEF targets/results are reported differently against the HAC and 3RP.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Online activities have helped reaching large number of adolescents/ youth as they provided additional opportunities for adolescent/youth to be engaged, hence the overachievement on this result.

¹⁷ Low achievement on this indicator is due to limited availability of funding for the UNICEF's seasonal (winter) cash-based assistance programme as well as high inclusion of vulnerable Syrian refugee families into the ESSN cash -assistance programme, implemented by TRC and IFRC.

LEBANON

Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF appealed for \$461.6 million to support Syrian refugees in Lebanon and vulnerable Lebanese under the framework of the Regional Refugee and Response Plan (3RP). UNICEF Lebanon has received generous new contributions from key donors that, together with carry-forward from 2019 (totalling an amount of \$59 million), amounts to \$469 million. Over and above the 3RP Appeal, \$35 million in additional funding is required to address the consequences of the deteriorating economic situation in the country.

Despite overall generous funding, short-term and heavily earmarked funding is limiting the office's ability to implement critical initiatives to meet the diverse needs of vulnerable refugee and host populations.

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Ten years into the Syrian crisis, poverty levels are high, and the long-term resilience of vulnerable refugee and Lebanese communities is eroding as they run out of savings and struggle to access income. The deepening social and economic crisis that emerged in mid-2019 has exacerbated their conditions. Lebanon's currency hit new lows in December as the country's financial and economic collapse accelerated, heralding more struggles for the millions of Lebanese who have seen the value of both their savings and salaries wiped out. This has driven up prices, with food prices increasing 441 per cent in the year as of October. The imminent removal of several large price subsidies on basic goods will leave most families struggling to survive.

Lebanon has been facing a high community transmission of COVID-19 for several months. As of early December, there had been 138,096 cases in Lebanon, resulting in 1,115 deaths with average daily new confirmed cases hovering close to 2,000. While the economic situation and COVID-19 affect everyone, regardless of nationality; unemployment, inflation and illness are worsening the already precarious situation of Syrian and Palestinian refugees. The high concentration in crowded living conditions and people living in poor hygiene settings (especially informal tented settlements and urban camps populated by refugees) creates a high-risk condition for the virus to transmit.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response Health

Due to the lockdown measures executed by the government and the caregivers' fear of accessing health facilities amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, routine immunization coverage decreased. UNICEF managed to secure a sufficient stock of standard vaccines (4,228,100 doses), including measles and polio vaccines, for routine immunization in 2020. Also, UNICEF ensured rehabilitation and maintenance of the cold chain at all public extended Programme of Immunization (EPI) points and vaccine waste collection and safe management.

Through ongoing community mobilization efforts for routine immunization from January to December, 41,856 children under five were vaccinated against measles of a targeted 113,500. 72,925 children received the first dose of the pentavalent vaccine and 62,884 children received the third dose of pentavalent at Primary Health Care Centers (PHCCs). Children arriving at borders and UNHCR facilities also received required vaccinations. From January to December, 11,913 children were vaccinated against measles, 65,144 with the oral polio vaccine (OPV), 4,458 with the inactivated polio vaccine and 26,676 for measles, mumps and rubella (MMR). In October and collaborating with WHO and the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), the second phase of the National Measles Campaign was launched, vaccinating 233,063 children.

In December, the Effective Vaccine Management Assessment (EVMA) workshop took place. Participants from MoPH, WHO, UNRWA and World Bank were trained on the usage of the EVM 2.0 application and had the chance to do hands-on practice at PHCCs and skills needed as assessors. From January 2021, the assessors will implement the EVMA at a national level.

Counselling was provided on prenatal, breastfeeding and infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices to 27,990 caregivers. Maternal new-born child and adolescent health services to 25,332 affected people through outreach activities, lactation specialists, phone calls and as well as in-person at UNICEF tents. Additionally, between January and November, 141,083 caregivers of children were reached with health integrated messages, including messages about routine immunization. Here, emphasizing the importance of COVID-19 preventive measures, UNICEF distributed fabric masks during face-to-face counselling.

In collaboration with UNFPA, WHO and the MoPH, UNICEF developed information, education and communication materials on sexual reproductive health targeting over 40,000 persons of reproductive age. In

Situation in Numbers

1,349,368
children in need

3,207,700
people in need

866,000
of registered Syrian refugees

(source: HNO/UNHCR)

coordination with WFP and the Ministry of Higher Education (MEHE), UNICEF developed standard operating procedures (SOPs) for preventive measures for school canteens. UNICEF participated in the development of a health and nutrition referral pathway for the availability of services at PHCCs including immunization, nutrition and waste management. Developed with the Mental Health taskforce to ensure a coherent response among partners and key stakeholders following the explosion, UNICEF also participated in the mental health psychosocial response action plan.

Either produced locally by implementing partners or procured by local suppliers, UNICEF distributed more than one million masks. The fabric masks were provided to the most vulnerable population, prioritising children with disabilities, girls and boys at risk of abuse or exploitation, girls and women at risk of or survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), female and male caregivers of low, medium and high-risk children, children with cancer, those living in high-density areas, informal settlements, Palestinian camps, repatriates at points of entry and PHCCs. An information leaflet on proper use, cleaning and disposal of the mask was developed for distribution with the masks.

Nutrition

Alongside partners, UNICEF set up an IYCF hotline, the first for the national IYCF committee, to respond to enquiries regarding IYCF practices, and to follow up with pregnant and nursing women breastfeeding challenges. In collaboration with the Food Security working group and the Mental Health taskforce, UNICEF disseminated the IYCF SOPs adapted to the current context to ensure a coherent contextualized response.

UNICEF organized online training for organizations and individuals distributing breastmilk substitutes and trained 70 participants on the Code of Breastmilk Substitutes and the SOP on IYCF and on promoting breastfeeding. Workshops were conducted where 51 individuals from local NGOs were trained to limit the random distribution of formula milk that is contrary to international and local guidelines. UNICEF distributed critical nutrition supplies, including 27,000 multiple micronutrient sachets, 2,500 Vitamin A packs, 8,370 therapeutic milk, 5,600 ReSoMal sachets for treating rehydration, 10,650 supplementary spread sachets, 6,500 high energy biscuit sachets as well as 1,080 emergency food rations.

Child Protection

The Child Protection programme continued to engage with the Government of Lebanon through key line-ministries, including the Ministries of Social Affairs (MoSA), and others (Ministry of Labour, MEHE, Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities), to strengthen the Lebanese Child Protection and GBV Prevention and Response systems while supporting the national prevention and response capacities to cases of abuse, exploitation, neglect and violence against boys, girls and women.

Despite the many challenges faced during the year, the child protection programme reached 5,077 girls and boys with case management services, 6,758 with psychosocial support (PSS), and 19,316 girls and women with safe space activities. Also, 16,639 girls and boys and 7,977 caregivers were reached with community-based PSS.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures that were imposed by the Government of Lebanon, UNICEF worked with the Child Protection Working Group, the PSS committee (both led by UNICEF), the case management task force and the SGBV taskforce, on integrating necessary adaptations to child protection and GBV services and activities. This allowed for the continuation of critical services for women and children, adapting implementation modality to respond to child protection and GBV needs. Since April, revised modalities for the operation, including improved guidelines and tools for case management, focused PSS, safe space and community-based activities for children and caregivers, have been used to ensure that activities reach those most in need. This has been conducted via both online/remote and face-to-face operation. Moreover, in the first few weeks of the pandemic, UNICEF enhanced the capacity of over 400 frontline workers on the revised modality to ensure at-scale quality responses. These efforts continued in the fourth quarter of 2020. This is a testament to the quick adaptability of the programme to the changing context on the ground that presented new challenges for partners and beneficiaries.

With the introduction of the revised modality, physical distancing measures and the use of online forums, activities are being implemented in smaller groups of children, with sessions following COVID-19 prevention measures. Some activities that require active face-to-face involvement of the community, including Qudwa initiatives, have been impacted to minimize the possibility of contracting COVID-19.

Work under the Qudwa plan has started, with partners implementing initiatives, including outdoor cinemas, puppet shows, community theatre, engagement of barbershops and hair salons as promoters of positive behaviours around addressing and preventing violence. Also, the establishment of public community spaces for children, families and communities was implemented in response to the multiple crises affecting children,

women and caregivers. UNICEF distributed LAHA kits (female hygiene), PSS kits, PPE kits (for frontline staff to approach vulnerable communities) and the caregiver's toolbox (as part of Qudwa).

Education

The combination of the COVID-19 pandemic, economic crisis, the Beirut Port explosion and the political stalemate later in the year had a significant impact on the 2020/2021 scholastic year. School closures due to COVID-19, frequent teacher strikes, and the absence of a fully operational distance learning strategy affected over 1.2 million school-aged children. Some children only had one or two months of regular classes in the 2019/2020 school year. In addition to the delayed start of the scholastic year 2020/2021 due to the blast, the MEHE was obliged to repeatedly open and close schools based on directives of the MOPH and the Ministry of Interior (MoI). Teaching and learning were implemented through a hybrid model, where children physically attended every other week.

UNICEF continues to support the MEHE to reach the most vulnerable children with learning through formal and non-formal education (NFE). Despite delays due to the Beirut Port blast, UNICEF's education partners began the remote NFE programme in September. This second phase focused on the engagement of children in learning, through remote delivery of regulated NFE programmes. The curriculum contents were shared with households in print-form and complemented with additional online resources to support children. Partners were trained on how to deliver remote learning following technical input and guidance. UNICEF organised orientation sessions with all NFE partners on the Akelius Digital Language (ADL) learning course and blended learning. Partners have started using the ADL platform for foreign language learning (English and French), which has a user-friendly offline option, addressing the challenges with internet connectivity. Families of all children enrolled in NFE were also supported with stationery kits and the most vulnerable were subsidized with internet bundles to facilitate remote learning.

UNICEF supported the enrolment of 27,292 children in NFE, including 13,727 children in community-based early childhood education (48 per cent girls), 5,72 children in Basic Literacy and Numeracy (BLN) (49 per cent girls) and 7,836 children (46 per cent girls) in adapted BLN. UNICEF supported the inclusion of approximately 650 children with disabilities in NFE programmes and specialized services through the capacity-building of NFE partners. 211 children were supported with assistive devices. The support was provided remotely by the special educators, and when possible, face-to-face individual sessions were scheduled as needed with adequate COVID-19 precautionary measures.

UNICEF secured funding for the enrolment in formal education for 230,584 Lebanese (aged 3-14) and 196,238 refugee children (aged 3-14 years) for the scholastic year 2019/2020. UNICEF also supported 3,284 children (51 per cent girls) enrolled in formal education with support to remain in school. For the 2020/2021 school year, UNICEF is providing COVID-19 hygiene kits as well as textbooks for all Lebanese and non-Lebanese children, across public schools. UNICEF is also delivering learning supplies for all grades in second shift schools and selected grades in first shift schools, in kindergarten and cycle three, with cycle one and two already covered by other organizations. To support MEHE's efforts to provide access to technology to public schools for blended learning and ensure continued administrative support, UNICEF procured licenses from Microsoft to ensure the continuity of learning.

Advocating for the continued operationalization of the Inclusive School Project, UNICEF supported the inclusion of approximately 1,000 children with disabilities from all over Lebanon. The MEHE reports that special education teachers and the multidisciplinary team of the Inclusive Schools Project have begun working remotely. Weekly meetings were scheduled with all team members in the inclusive schools to discuss the weekly work plan, major achievements, challenges and solutions. Likewise, counsellors in the Special Education Unit remotely monitored the work of the special education teachers and the multidisciplinary team, providing the necessary support to the specialists.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

As WASH sector lead, UNICEF coordinates activities implemented by partners in informal settlements, providing technical guidance as well as leading the collaboration and negotiation with line ministries. During the latter half of 2020, UNICEF focused efforts on maintaining temporary WASH services for the most vulnerable Syrian refugees living in informal settlements. In June 2020, the Water Sector decided to increase the quantity of water provided to Syrian refugees in informal settlements (ISs) from 35 litres per person per day to 60 litres per person per day to ensure sufficient water availability during the dry season, especially considering the increased hygiene needs due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The WASH sector has not yet reverted to the lower quantity of water provided, as COVID-19 reached level before the pandemic (cluster of cases within communities) since July and the Syrian refugees remain in a precarious financial situation.

UNICEF continued delivery of critical WASH temporary services - mainly water trucking and desludging - for 257,035 out of 300,000 Syrian refugees living in informal settlements (80,503 girls, 68,577 boys, 49,659 men 58,295 women) without disruption. These interventions also contributed to mitigating public health hazards and social tensions between communities due to accusations of pollution or depleting limited water resources.

UNICEF also initiated a programme to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by installing decentralized renewable energy power generation systems for UNICEF-implemented water wells. To date, two pumping stations have been identified and equipped with photovoltaic panels systems to serve 45,000 individuals.

Lastly, 186,012 Syrian refugees living in ISs have noted changes in WASH activities during 2020. UNICEF, with its partners, has provided the WASH focal points and committees in ISs with comprehensive and integrated tutoring on health (surveillance) and nutrition, gender-based violence (GBV), disability and education. This ensured that any suspected case of communicable disease and malnutrition and any risk of violence or any child not attending school is properly reported. Public health promotion messages have been customized to each situation to tackle topics related to safe water chain, chain of contamination, solid waste, as well as communicable diseases and hygiene.

Adolescent Development and Participation

The UNICEF Youth and Adolescent Programme (YAD) provided services to 38,746 vulnerable adolescents and youth, who accessed an integrated package of formal and non-formal education opportunities. This included technical and vocational education and training (TVET), and Innovation Skills building complemented with Life Skills development modules, helping to maximize physical and social well-being, empowerment and civic engagement.

Protection risks multiplied this year due to the socio-economic deterioration of the country, COVID-19 and the Beirut explosion, which combined to increase the multiple deprivations young people face. In response, UNICEF developed and finalised a comprehensive Youth Protection Policy with the ministries of agriculture, social affairs and education. This included standard operating procedures and an Action Plan to guide the implementation of the key recommendations across the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) TVET schools. A Code of Conduct for employers to protect youth accessing work-based learning opportunities was developed with the ILO and endorsed by the Ministry of Labour and the MoA. Also, a new integrated Youth Wellbeing Programme was developed to include cash transfers, and adolescent health and mental health to the case management and PSS support received from the Child Protection section.

Gender-sensitive/responsive services were strengthened throughout the programme in 2020. One best practice emerged through seven women and girls' safe spaces (WGSS) in different areas in Lebanon and within social development centres and community centres, which resulted in 1,653 adolescent girls and young women accessing age-appropriate, non-stigmatized GBV services which were provided remotely.

Lastly, additional focus was paid in 2020 to increasing referrals and synergies between programme offerings. In line with the YAD strategic note and theory of change, vulnerable youth are often in need of more than one programme service. Data received on programme convergence showed an increase from 20 per cent in 2019 to 38 per cent of youth beneficiaries accessing multiple services.

Social Protection and Social Policy

With the removal of price subsidies in the last quarter of the year, a technical roundtable with civil society was held with UNICEF and ILO to craft a mitigation response. UNICEF led support to civil society to draft a position and shared it widely.

Finalising the draft National Social Protection Strategy, though delayed and adjusted as each crisis hit, has been promoted as a central priority and is now being consolidated to be presented to the new Government as soon as it is in place. Over 100 stakeholder consultations were completed, as well as a series of technical working group sessions to draft the document. A national social protection mapping was completed.

Cash support to Syrian refugees continued through the successful roll-out of the Integrated Child Wellbeing Programme, reaching around 10,040 children in 2020. For Lebanese households, a cash grant was provided in February to respond to the worsening economic crisis and then again in December before winter. An initiative to provide social assistance to children with disabilities via necessary specialised services was also introduced. Also, UNICEF continued to lead the common cash delivery platform (known as LOUSIE) alongside UNHCR and WFP to provide cash assistance within the country.

Finally, evidence on social protection was scaled up with the drafting of a joint UNICEF/ILO paper on moving toward a Social Protection Floor in Lebanon, as well as a concept note submitted to the EU and UK to establish

Social Grants in Lebanon. This concept note, which received initial approval from Brussels/EU in November, proposes to fill a major gap in the national social protection system, introducing social grants to Lebanese and Syrian households to address specific lifecycle vulnerabilities such as disability.

[Communications for Development \(C4D\), Community Engagement and Accountability](#)

UNICEF led social mobilization, advocacy and capacity building for the National Immunization Measles Campaign, with 223,043 individuals reached through door-to-door engagement, community-based and edutainment activities.

To enhance child-friendly reporting, a module on child rights-sensitive reporting was developed in collaboration with the NGO Maharat and six media faculties in Lebanon. Seventeen community journalists received training and [17 child rights sensitive articles](#) were published on social media. For Children's Day on 20 November, the [story of children living in Palestinian camps in Lebanon](#) (links in Arabic) was highlighted on Maharat news and reached 19,000 people on Facebook. A design thinking workshop was organized with media experts, psycho-social specialists, and designer to design three prototypes of media programs that promote child rights in Lebanon.

[Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy](#)

While the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan 2017-2020 (LCRP, extended to 2021) has been the predominant humanitarian architecture, the new humanitarian crises in 2020 (the socioeconomic crisis, COVID-19 and the Beirut explosion) resulted in multiple coordination frameworks. Efforts to mainstream them into one overarching humanitarian coordination structure are on-going. UNICEF leads the WASH and education sectors, and the child protection sub-sector across all the emergencies. The nutrition sector was also established under the Humanitarian Country Team with UNICEF as the lead. UNICEF remains an active member in Health, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), and shelter sectors.

The planning process of the 15 months Recovery, Reform and Reconstruction Framework (3RF), led by the EU, World Bank and UN, is ongoing. UNICEF was the lead agency for the Social Cohesion and protection pillar and co-led the education (with UNESCO), water, and municipal services pillar. Building on the already strong coordination with UNHCR, the collaboration was deepened during the year through the new global Blueprint partnership, resulting in strategic planning and coordination of activity implementation in the areas of WASH, Education and Child Protection.

[Human Interest Stories and External Media](#)

The following external links were published by Lebanon Country Office concerning the Syrian refugee crisis and the socio-economic crisis:

- <https://www.unicef.org/lebanon/stories/unicef-lebanons-cash-4-work-programme-brings-jobs-and-training-2700-youths-boosts-wash>
- <https://www.unicef.org/lebanon/press-releases/unicef-provides-cash-support-over-70000-vulnerable-children-address-economic-crisis>

Annex A
Summary of programme results

Lebanon	UNICEF and IPs response			Sector response		
Sector	2020 target	Total results*	Change since last report	2020 target	Total results*	Change since last report
Health & Nutrition						
# children U5 receiving micronutrient supplements	50,000	15,386	8,882 ¹	N/A	N/A	N/A
# of under five children vaccinated against Penta 1	85,000	72,925	19,104	N/A	N/A	N/A
# of under five children vaccinated against Penta 3	81,000	62,884	15,935	N/A	N/A	N/A
Child Protection						
# of girls and boys receiving specialized/focused PSS	11,000	6,758 ²	2,317	20,000	11,750	3,330
# of boys and girls assisted through child protection case management and specialized services	5,000	5,077	1,722	10,500	10,667	3,378
# women and girls accessing mobile and safe spaces	21,000	19,316 ³	5,808	140,000	40,983	8,712
Education						
# of (Lebanese and non-Lebanese) girls and boys whose registration fees are covered by subsidies for enrolment into formal education (2019/2020 scholastic year)	448,000 ⁴	0 ⁵	0	497,171	N/A	N/A
# of (Lebanese and non-Lebanese) girls and boys whose registration fees are covered by subsidies for enrolment into non-formal education (NFE)	51,500 ⁶	42,831 ⁷	32,961 ⁸	70,000 ⁹	45,738 ¹⁰	23,359 ¹¹
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene						
# of affected men/women /girls/boys assisted with temporary access to adequate quantity of safe water for drinking and water for domestic use	184,774	257,035	27,233	193,240	351,802 ³	37,770
# of affected men/women /girls/boys with access to improved safe sanitation in temporary locations	164,438	238,811	12,184	209,720	272,510	21,748
# of affected men/women /girls/boys assisted with improved access to adequate quantity of safe water for drinking and for domestic use	438,911	1,293,795 ¹²	1,293,795	1,118,200	1,427,375	1,348,798
# individuals who have experienced a WASH behaviour change session/activity	80,173	186,012 ¹³	9,170	236,400	322,605	45,228
Adolescents & Youth						
# of adolescents and youth (14+) who are supported for regulated NFE under the Youth BLN programme (RACE ii)	8,900	4,481 ¹⁴	1,773	N/A	N/A	N/A

# of adolescents and youth (14+) supported by competency and market-based skills training programme (RACE ii) (LC2/LC3)	14,199	9,870 ¹⁵	5,460	N/A	N/A	N/A
# of youth supported with employment support services (e.g. business mentorship, internships, on the job training, or apprenticeship)	3,520	1,661 ¹⁶	429	N/A	N/A	N/A
# of youth trained on Life Skills	19,417	22,683 ¹⁷	10,879	N/A	N/A	N/A
Social Policy						
# of vulnerable non-Lebanese girls and boys that benefited from child-focused social assistance	7,000	10,040 ¹⁸	2,208	N/A	N/A	N/A
# of affected girls and boys that benefited from humanitarian winter kits	20,000	0 ¹⁹	0	40,000	N/A	N/A
Communication for Development						
# of men, women and children reached with C4D priority child rights messages	15,000	140,052 ²⁰	136,648	N/A	N/A	N/A
Palestinian Programme						
# of boys and girls (3-5), including CWDs, provided with access to and enrolment in ECE schools school year 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 (3400 per each scholastic year)	3,400	3,237 ²¹	0	0	N/A	N/A
# of boys and girls including CWDs provided with learning retention and homework support for the school year 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 (3200 per each scholastic year)	3,200	17,223 ²²	6,124	0	N/A	N/A
# of adolescent boys and girls trained on life skills, conflict resolution and healthy lifestyles	1,000	1,950 ²³	521	0	N/A	N/A
# of girls and boys engaged in community-based child protection activities	23,042	17,533 ²⁴	3,748	0	N/A	N/A
# of children U1 receiving vaccination (Penta1)	5,000	2,143 ²⁵	1,350	0	N/A	N/A
# of individuals who have experienced a WASH behavioural change session/activity	25,000	6,413 ²⁶	313	0	N/A	N/A

* Results are cumulative January-December 2020.

¹ The MOPH is no longer distributing micronutrients at the PHC level, which has resulted in the underachievement of this target. Distribution of micronutrients is ongoing at the community level through implementing partners. UNICEF is working with implementing partners to meet the target in the coming period.

² Boys: 51%, Girls: 49%. The Child Protection programme has during the reporting period reached an average of 60% of its 2020 targets, despite the many challenges incurred during the year. The socio-economic crisis, COVID-19 outbreak and the Beirut blast have impacted the programme implementation during the year, however, Child Protection partners have managed to quickly adapt the modality of implementation of their activities to respond to child protection and gender-based violence issues. Social distancing measures are still impacting activities that require physical presence, however, and over the past few months, revised modalities for the implementation of these activities, including revised guidelines and tools for case management, focused psychosocial support, safe space and community-based activities, have been initiated to catch-up on the yearly targets, and to ensure that the activities reach those most in need.

³ Boys: 3%, Girls: 97%.

⁴ 233,000 Lebanese, 215,000 non-Lebanese.

⁵ No figures are reported yet.

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- ⁶ Target disaggregation as the following: BLN: 7,500, ABLN: 9,000, CBE-CE: 15,000, ALP: 20,000.
- ⁷ BLN: 7,626, ABLN: 7,836, CBE-CE: 26,714 (Boys: 52%, Girls: 48%), ALP: 655 (Boys: 52%, Girls: 48%).
- ⁸ BLN: 6,064, ABLN: 6,046, CBE-CE: 20,196, ALP: 655.
- ⁹ Target disaggregation as the following: BLN: 25,000, ABLN: 0, CBE-CE: 25,000, ALP: 20,000.
- ¹⁰ BLN: 23,302, ABLN: 0, CBE-CE: 22,436 (Boys: 52%, Girls: 48%), ALP: 0 Sector total is BLN plus ABLN. Implementation of the actual NFE programme commenced in October 2020. Prior to this sector partners were implementing COVID-19 response activities to engage children in learning, which is not reported in this figure – hence the large increase since the previous quarter.
- ¹¹ BLN: 13,508, ABLN: 0, CBE-CE: 9,851, ALP: 0.
- ¹² This target has been substantially surpassed, as the WASH sector is attempting to reach all affected people (not just the target) and has increased the liter per capita per day to accommodate the increased need and frequency of hygienic activities in response to the COVID-10 outbreak.
- ¹³ This target has been substantially surpassed, as the WASH sector is attempting to reach all affected people (not just the target) to address the increased need to understand the importance of hygienic activities in response to the COVID-10 outbreak.
- ¹⁴ YBLN discontinued between February and May. Courses resumed in June with social distancing and a minimum number of 10-12 in each class.
- ¹⁵ Male: 42%, Female: 57%. Slow progress due to social distancing and confinement.
- ¹⁶ Male: 40%, Female: 60%. Commencement of the employment support services plan was stalled due to funding delays.
- ¹⁷ Remote life skills were only resumed in June for most of the partners, only a few were able to continue during confinement.
- ¹⁸ The target was determined on the number of children enrolled in the programme at any one time, however as some children exit the programme and new ones enter, the total cumulative amount actually reached is higher.
- ¹⁹ The distribution of winter kits was intended for locations where no ATM is available, as cash assistance is less appropriate in these areas. ATMs were installed in the targeted locations in 2020, so the distribution of winter kits in place of cash assistance was not necessary.
- ²⁰ Boys: 54%, Girls: 46%. This target was substantially surpassed as initial planning was based on direct contact, face-to-face and community activities. Due to COVID-19, C4D partners extend the community mobilization through online platforms, visuals and social media posts, which increased the number of men, women and children reached with C4D priority child right messages.
- ²¹ Boys: 54%, Girls: 46%. The target is calculated based on a scholastic and not academic year. The number reported is based on the year 2020. This indicator continues with a PD Amendment that is done every 6 months, to reach out the overall target in the RWP 2019-2021.
- ²² Boys: 44%, Girls: 56%. The number includes online learning sessions that resumed during COVID-19, where there is a huge need to continue with this activity.
- ²³ Boys: 48%, Girls: 52%. Due to the assessed need of youth who expressed their desire to join life skills sessions and who are in turn contributing to online community engagement activities due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- ²⁴ Boys: 51%, Girls: 49%. Several PSS activities were suspended due to COVID-19 pandemic, especially focused and specialized services. Sessions are delivered individually online, and it is difficult to group children within online sessions. Also, this indicator continues with a PD Amendment that is done every 6 months, to reach out to the overall target in the RWP 2019-2021.
- ²⁵ Boys: 54%, Girls: 46%. This is the number of unique children vaccinated in 2020 and this number should be accumulated with the previous target of 2019 which equals to 4,846 since the overall target covers a 4-year cycle as in the RWP 2019-2021, and due to several amendments, that had been applied every 6 months.
- ²⁶ Boys: 41%, Girls: 59%. This is the number of unique individuals targeted in 2020 and this number should be accumulated with the previous target of 2019 which equals to 7,316 since the overall target covers a 4-year cycle as in the RWP 2019-2021, and due to several amendments, that had been applied every 6 months.

JORDAN

Funding Overview and Partnerships

For life-saving services for women and children in Jordan in 2020, UNICEF appealed for \$141 million. As of the end of December, UNICEF Jordan had received \$111 million. For the year, UNICEF was generously supported by the following partners: Australia, Canada, ECHO, the EU, Germany (KfW), Ireland, Japan, Kuwait, Korea, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, Sweden, the UK (FCDO), U.A.E., UNOCHA as well as the American Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BRPM) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to all public and private donors for the contributions received.

Situation in Numbers

474,422
children in need

939,209
people in need

1,300,000
Registered Syrian refugees
(source: HNO/UNHCR)

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

The Syria crisis continued into its tenth consecutive year. Of the 2.7 million refugees that live and receive assistance in Jordan, 1.3 million are Syrians; that includes 661,997, or 50 per cent, who are children that have registered with UNHCR.

Currently, 126,832 Syrian refugees live in camps (78,338 refugees in Za'atari camp, 41,957 in Azraq camp, 6,537 in the Emirati Jordanian camp).¹ The majority of refugees have been welcomed into host communities, primarily in the northern governorates and in Amman.

The COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionality impacted vulnerable children, including refugees in the camps. Syrians are a particularly economically vulnerable group in Jordan. According to an ILO and FAO rapid impact assessment² on COVID-19 impacts on workers in Jordan, 35 per cent of Syrians and more than 17 per cent of Jordanians who had been employed before the crisis have lost their jobs. Over 95 per cent of surveyed Syrian households reported a decrease in their income. UNICEF is urgently mobilizing to address their essential needs – such as water, sanitation, social protection and education.

Although starting from March 2019, the population in Rukban Camp at the north-eastern Syrian border significantly decreased due to population movements into Syria. The humanitarian situation for the remaining estimated population of between 8,000 to 12,000 Syrians is still precarious. In collaboration with the UN team in Syria, UNICEF Jordan continues to support the population with the daily provision of clean drinking water. Due to the closure of the border due to the COVID-19 pandemic in March, the UN Clinic at Rukban Camp remains closed.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

In the Azraq camp, 39,112 nutrition screenings were conducted for children under-the-age-of-5 (50 per cent girls), of whom, 16 Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and 137 Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) cases were identified. A total of 1,427 Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW) were screened for malnutrition, of whom, 52 malnutrition cases were identified. At the paediatric ward in the Azraq camp, 55,087 children (48 per cent girls) received consultations and 1,992 children (35 per cent girls) were admitted for treatment. In Za'atari camp, 29,479 nutrition screenings were conducted for children under the age of 5 (46 per cent girls) of whom, 24 cases with SAM and 154 cases with MAM were identified, and 8,102 PLW were also screened. There were also 120 recorded cases of malnourished minors at the Za'atari camp. Lastly, at both Za'atari and Azraq camps, 1,876 and 1,304 new-born kits³ were distributed, respectively.

Child Protection

A total of 5,208 children (47 per cent girls) have benefited from UNICEF-supported case management services primarily related to violence, child labour, emotional stress, child marriage, (being) separated and unaccompanied, in conflict with the law or out of school since the beginning of the year. UNICEF has finalized and implemented the design of a Child Protection in Emergencies COVID-19 response plan to support families at risk of separation and children placed in isolation in the camps. This plan includes referrals of medical cases to medical care, identification of child protection cases, documentation and follow-up of separated children, emergency care for separated children and the provision of first aid and psychological support.

¹ [UNHCR Syria Regional Refugee Response Portal](#), as of January 2021.

² ILO, FAO, May 2020, <www.ilo.org/beirut/media-centre/news/WCMS_743388/lang-en/index.htm>.

³ New-born kits contain new-born clothing items and new-born hygiene items (i.e. towels, soaps, diapers).

UNICEF continues running interactive community-based WhatsApp messaging groups for 106,987 children (54 per cent female) and supporting remote child protection in Makani centres. The aim remains to deliver psychosocial support, child protection, recycling, painting and drawing activities. Reaching over 31,700 caregivers (88 per cent female) through three parenting programmes⁴, UNICEF also completed a pilot testing the new Better Parenting Programme, leading to a national ToT, which was conducted in December. As part of the COVID-19 response, UNICEF continues to broadcast daily WhatsApp messages on psychosocial support, family engagement and numbers of helplines for child protection, gender-based violence and domestic violence to more than 1,290 families. Furthermore, UNICEF has started piloting the Musiqati programme⁵ in two Makani centres. (Musiqati is the world's first music therapy program designed specifically for children in refugee camps.)

A guidance note for Alternative Care for Children at Risk from Family Separation as a result of COVID-19 was developed by UNICEF and accordingly an Action Plan for Child Protection Concerns was put forward, including concentration on eliminating child marriage and child labour in the camps. UNICEF continues to work on addressing online safety with partners and communities. Following a ToT conducted in the third quarter of the year, an online sexual exploitation campaign was successfully launched with the Jordan River Foundation, to raise awareness on online safety amongst parents and families.

Education

As part of the Safely Back to School schemes, UNICEF reached 29,474 vulnerable children (44 per cent female) in camps and host communities through door-to-door activities. Of those reached, over 7,000 (46 per cent female) were identified as being out-of-school. UNICEF and its partners were able to enrol 447 out-of-school children in formal education (including 91 with children with disabilities) and 1,263 (43 per cent female) in non-formal education (NFE) in the current 2020/2021 academic year.

School closures due to COVID-19 risk increased learning inequality and drop-out and may further increase gaps in learning poverty. In line with Jordan's COVID-19 Education During Emergency Plan, the MoE, with the support of UNICEF, launched Learning Bridges, a blended learning programme that is supporting up to one million children enrolled in Grade 4 - 9 to recover lost learning from the previous year. This initiative simultaneously accelerating learning in the new academic year, irrespective of the availability of face-to-face teaching. UNICEF continued to support the MoE in developing 24 learning products (printed and online) per week for teachers and students. In addition, UNICEF supported 3,925 out-of-school children (44 per cent female) to continue learning in NFE dropout and catch-up programmes, through community mobilization and providing students with transportation services and free data bundles.

In December, UNICEF, with the MoE, published the Jordan Country Report on Out-of-School Children, which identified the profiles of such children in the country and those at risk of dropping out. The document builds policy recommendations to increase children's equitable access to quality basic education, including targeted support for girls to reduce the risk of early marriage. Increasing support for NFE programmes was also recommended in the report that details lessons learnt on distance education during COVID-19, which are intended to support the MoE and others to make evidence-based decisions to accelerate children's learning recovery.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

UNICEF continues to support WASH interventions for children and families living in camps and vulnerable communities, escalating its response to the COVID-19 impact on the water sector and vulnerable children and communities in Jordan. Despite wintertime temperatures, water demand in camps remained significantly higher compared to the same period in 2019, attributed to COVID-19-related factors such as an increase in time spent indoors as well as increased handwashing. This new demand, however, did not require external water trucking, as production via the internal boreholes was sufficient to meet the needs of the community in all camps. Currently, approximately six million litres of water are being supplied per day in Azraq, King Abdullah Park (KAP) and Za'atari refugee camps, benefiting 112,855 individuals (50 per cent female).

In 2020, with UNICEF Jordan's support, over 83 public schools were reached with quick response WASH rehabilitation projects to ensure a clean and hygienic learning environment and the same reopening of schools.

⁴ The parenting programmes, designed to sensitize parents to the needs of children 0–8 years old, are the Better Parenting Programme, Parent and Child Education Programme and ZERO-to-THREE Programme. They are implemented in both refugee camps and host communities. UNICEF revised its parenting programmes to include parents of children of all ages (0–18 years), the remote piloting of which commenced on 28 June.

⁵ Musiqati is a structured music therapy programme implemented for children and families in refugee camps who have experienced loss and violence. The programme supports in enhancing communication skills, group work and decision making to assist the future transition of refugees back to Syria.

Furthermore, in cooperation with a local partner, UNICEF installed greywater systems in 10 schools and a rainwater harvesting system in three schools. Throughout the year, UNICEF also conducted a needs assessment with the Ministry of Education (MoE) to identify the 25 schools most in need of WASH facility upgrades and repairs. The list of selected schools has been finalized and approved by MoE.

Adolescent Development and Participation

UNICEF continued delivering a comprehensive package of transferable life skills to 63,918 young people (60 per cent female). A total of 57,719 (60 per cent female) received life and employability skills training, with 4,128 (58 per cent female) were taught skills on social innovation and entrepreneurship. Finally, more than 2,000 youth (50 per cent female) accessed technical or vocational training.

Over 400 youth-led ventures were designed and implemented across Jordan. UNICEF has continued to work on promoting the volunteering ecosystem which includes the National Youth Engagement and Volunteering Platform Nahno that has offered over 134,479 volunteering activities for 51,287 young people (64 per cent female); this also included over 1.25 million hours of volunteering. In December, UNICEF launched the Nahno Youth Led Initiative Fund, which enabled youth to lead their own volunteering projects by receiving the necessary technical support, mentoring, coaching and seed-funding to design, plan and implement new opportunities and activities.

In August, UNICEF established three youth centres in Azraq and Za'atari camp in total that are fully equipped for structured skill-building activities, including social innovation. This also included gym facilities, table-tennis, recreational spaces as well as a library.

UNICEF continues to implement a home-based business programme in Azraq and Za'atari refugee camps targeting 190 young people (56 per cent female) who received skills and capacity-building training covering topics including life skills, social ventures, planning and financial literacy. Among the 100 business ideas submitted,⁶ 40 were selected to receive financial support. As part of the funding, participants received technical training on creating and using e-wallets as well as legal guidance and mentorship to ensure the sustainability of the selected business ideas. As a result, 11 home-based businesses that began operating in September 2020 have earned a total revenue of 1,543 JOD. Furthermore, 533 young people (37 per cent female) enrolled in the technical and vocational programme as a pathway from learning to earning in Azraq and Za'atari refugee camps, producing 1,500 kits for distribution among families with newborn children in the camps. On 15 December, UNICEF launched an online winter market in collaboration with a Jordanian platform to spotlight social enterprises, including three enterprises from Azraq and Za'atari camps, to a wide international audience.

Social Protection and Social Policy

A total of 30,228 children (50 per cent girls) from 10,509 households⁷ (32 per cent of which are female-headed) were sustained by UNICEF with cash support since the beginning of the year. Currently, 88 per cent of children receiving cash support are Syrian refugees, four per cent Jordanians and eight per cent of other nationalities (Iraqi, Egyptian and Sudanese). Nine per cent include children with disabilities.

In December, UNICEF provided winterization cash assistance in the amount of 25 JD (equivalent to \$35) per child, to a maximum of 250 JD (\$353) per household to a total of 30,017 children (50 per cent girls) from 6,759 households.

Makani Programme

Throughout the year, the Makani programme continued to deliver a combination of in-person and remote services. By the end of 2020, Makani had successfully reached over 150,000 vulnerable individuals (77 per cent children; 54 per cent girls) with at least one service: 20,161 children (50 per cent girls) were supported with early childhood development (a component within the Makani programme), 65,645 children (54 per cent girls) with learning support services, 86,801 children (55 per cent girls) with child protection activities, 39,699 children and youth (59 per cent female) with life skills, and 31,700 parents (88 per cent female) with better parenting programmes.

Communications for Development (C4D), Community Engagement and Accountability

A total of 300,000 vulnerable individuals through UNICEF partners and six million through mass media platforms (including TV viewers, online portals and radio stations). In partnership with the MoE, UNICEF

⁶ Ideas include woodworking, recycling, sustainable toy production, marketing services, tailoring, barbershop and bicycle repair.

⁷ 3,038 households were part of the education-labelled monthly cash beneficiaries. Cash transfers were then extended to 7,471 additional beneficiaries who were negatively affected by COVID-19.

developed 12 videos targeting parents as well as students to address common mental health and psychosocial support concerns of students while quarantined and engaging in distance learning.⁸

In Azraq and Za'atari camps, UNICEF continues to operate a 24/7 hotline for WASH-related issues, to collect feedback and develop community accountability. UNICEF continues to record complaints and to investigate and resolve issues through community mobilization and/or technical teams and typically responds within 24 hours (and up to 48 hours) of when a complaint is registered.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

In 2020, sectoral coordination was achieved through working groups and the Jordan Response Plan Task Forces and Resilience Plan (3RP). UNICEF Jordan played a leading role in education, WASH, child protection as well as nutrition.

UNICEF Jordan Health and Nutrition focal points coordinated its support to the Government of Jordan with UN agencies and development partners. Currently, under the umbrella of the Jordan Health Development Partners Forum, four specialized working groups were created (Planning and Coordination; Risk Communication; Technical Support; and Procurement) to support the government in scenario predictions, planning and response to the pandemic, and to better streamline the needs on the ground with support from the different partners.

Alongside the Norwegian Refugee Council and World Vision, UNICEF co-chairs the Education Sector Working Group (ESWG), ensuring that UN, NGOs and other stakeholders leverage expertise and resources in-line with the MoE Education Strategic Plan (ESP) and the Jordan Response Plan (JRP). The ESWG JRP task force, led by UNICEF, updated the Jordan Response Plan (JRP) 2021-2023 Education Sector plans and budget and submitted them to the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC). Continuing to play a leading role, UNICEF integrated equity agenda into the JRP review process to ensure that all children, in particular those most disadvantaged, can continue learning even during the Syrian refugee crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic. UNICEF also participated in the MoE ESP Policy and Planning Coordination Committee, technically contributing to the ESP mid-term review process. As part of ESP mid-term review preparation, ESWG members also provided the MoE with education research and COVID-19 assessments plans to support the mapping of available assessments, covering topics such as accessibility to online education and the level of children's engagement in learning.

Since the initial Government of Jordan closure of schools in March 2020, in response to COVID-19, UNICEF has been supporting the MoE to ensure learning continuity for children across Jordan through distance education. Some examples of the leading role that UNICEF has played include the development of COVID-19 school guidelines; launching the Safely Back to School campaign; the distribution of disability-inclusive workbooks; and launching Learning Bridges.

Leading the Humanitarian WASH cluster, UNICEF, throughout 2020 aimed to coordinate the overall humanitarian response, particularly during the COVID-19 response. Simultaneously, UNICEF integrated climate and sustainability measures into WASH-related initiatives and helping build climate resilience in communities and national systems. Also, the hiring process for a consultant who will support the Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MoWI) has been concluded, intended to support the MoWI with establishing a monitoring framework for assessing Jordan's progress towards fulfilling its SDG Goal 6⁹ targets by 2030. Challenges to the sector continue to be inadequate funding, as well as ensuring that climate and water scarcity are sufficiently integrated across WASH Sector programming.

Lastly, UNICEF co-chairs the Common Cash Facility (CCF) with UNHCR. The CCF is a platform used by UN agencies, NGOs and the Jordanian Government to deliver cash assistance to the most vulnerable refugee and Jordanian households. During the COVID-19 crisis, the CCF focused on better coordination and alignment between different agencies, in addition to ensuring members are aware of regulatory changes in financing, mobile wallets and fees and the impact on beneficiaries as part of UNICEF's social protection emphasis.

⁸ The 12 videos were posted on MOE platforms including social media and Darsak (the online education platform facilitating remote learning through online lessons for children in Grades 1–12).

⁹ SDG Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal6>.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

- [The EU joins forces with ILO, UNHCR, and UNICEF to enhance vulnerable Jordanians and Syrian refugees' access to dignified livelihood opportunities](#)
- [Qatar Charity supports critical UNICEF WASH response in Jordan](#)
- [UNICEF launches appeal to prevent devastating winter for children](#)
- [Report provides data on out-of-school children in Jordan before the COVID-19 pandemic](#)
- [In a safe space, children begin to reimagine the world](#)
- [A second chance at education](#)

Annex A
Summary of Programme Results

Jordan		UNICEF and IPs response			Sector response		
Sector	2020 target	Total results*	Change since last report	2020 target	Total results*	Change since last report	
Health¹							
# children (6-59 months) immunized against measles	18,300	17,678 ²	5,322	N/A	N/A	N/A	
# children (0-59 months) immunized against polio	18,300	18,633 ³	6,112	N/A	N/A	N/A	
# children under 5 years fully covered with routine Immunization antigens	18,300	21,569 ⁴	4,919	N/A	N/A	N/A	
# childbearing aged women (15-49) received more than two doses of tetanus toxoid	27,400	6,238 ⁵	1,943	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Nutrition⁶							
# children U5 screened for malnutrition	18,300	31,602 ⁷	5,892	N/A	N/A	N/A	
# caregivers/ mothers reached with Infant and Young Child Feeding counselling	27,400	10,173 ⁸	1,859	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Child Protection							
# children participating in child protection/psychosocial support programmes	95,000	106,987 ⁹	7,522	124,010	106,987	7,522	
# children who are receiving specialized child protection services	8,000	5,208 ¹⁰	1,478	22,654	28,206	2,766	
# women and men participating in PSS or parenting education programmes	35,000	31,700 ¹¹	1,208	52,843	31,700	1,208	
# women and men trained on child protection	2,600	2,181 ¹²	527	12,450	3,245	800	
Education							
# children enrolled in formal education	137,000	136,437 ¹³	0	124,519 ¹⁴	136,437 ¹⁵	0	
# children enrolled in non-formal education	7,000 ¹⁶	3,925 ¹⁷	1,012	8,320 ¹⁸	3,925 ¹⁹	1,012	
# children enrolled in informal non-accredited education (Learning Support Services)	80,000 ²⁰	65,645 ²¹	6,556	N/A ²²	65,645 ²³	6,556	
# children enrolled in ECCE (early childhood care/education) or pre-primary education (KG2)	7,385	4,234 ²⁴	333	7,875 ²⁵	5,607 ²⁶	0	

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene²⁷

# target beneficiaries with access to an adequate quantity of safe water through temporary provision ²⁸	15,000	73,172 ²⁹	1,743	15,000	73,172 ³⁰	1,743
# people accessing an adequate quantity of safe water through improved water systems ³¹	181,000	574,626 ³²	383,262	228,960	574,879 ³³	380,262
# of target beneficiaries with access to appropriate sanitation facilities and services ³⁴	153,000	129,275 ³⁵	0	203,960	135,068	0
# of beneficiaries who have experienced a hygiene promotion session ³⁴	31,000	1,768,925 ³⁶	253,522	85,395	1,802,846 ³⁶	266,286
# of affected women, girls, boys and men attending schools, child-friendly spaces and health centres have reduced risk of WASH-related disease ³⁴	30,000	25,829 ³⁷	6,013	107,713	46,225	8,432
# of girls and boys benefitting from water scarcity or climate change literacy session ³⁸	31,000	5,168 ³⁹	0	19,000	5,168	0

Social Policy Basic Needs

# people receiving monthly cash assistance	20,000	30,228 ⁴⁰	1,813	N/A	N/A	N/A
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Adolescents & Youth

# children, youth and adolescents benefitting from life skills-based education in non-formal settings	70,000	57,719 ⁴¹	7,553	N/A	N/A	N/A
# of adolescents (10-18 years) and youth (19-24 years) (age disaggregated) involved in or leading in initiatives aimed at conflict prevention and reducing social tension	70,000	69,770 ⁴²	14,424	N/A	N/A	N/A
# of adolescent and youth (19-24) benefitting from technical and vocational education and training (TVET) programs (age and sex-disaggregated)	14,000	2,017 ⁴³	291	N/A	N/A	N/A

¹ Urban and camp results are reflecting a two-month reporting lag by the Ministry of Health.

² UNICEF results: 17,678 (47% female); Location; Host 72%, Camp 28%, Berm 1%.

³ UNICEF results: 18,633 (47% female); Location; Host 72%, Camp 26%, Berm 2%.

⁴ UNICEF results: 21,569 (47% female); Location; Host 75%, Camp 22%, Berm 3%.

⁵ UNICEF results: 6,238 (100% female); Location; Host 31%, Camp 56%, Berm 13%. The low achievement is due to the closure of the Berm health clinic since March 2020 in response to COVID-19.

⁶ All figures include results from Za'atari, Azraq, EJC camps, temporary settlements and Rukban (Berm).

⁷ UNICEF results: 70,226 included repeated beneficiaries; Unique Beneficiaries: 31,602 (50% female); Location; Host 0%, Camp 98%, Berm 2%. Overachieved due to conducting several screening campaigns.

⁸ UNICEF results: 10,173 (100% female); Location; Host 0%, Camp 85%, Berm 15%. The low achievement is due to the closure of the Berm health clinic since March 2020 in response to COVID-19.

⁹ UNICEF Result 106,987 (54% girls); Location: Host: 74% / Zaatari: 12% / Azraq: 10% / ITS: 4%.

¹⁰ UNICEF Result 5,208 (47% girls); Location: Host: 73% / Zaatari: 12% / Azraq: 15% Due to the COVID-19 lockdown, in-person case management was a challenge, so the overall number of new case management cases registered by partners was low. Sector Result Partners have easily adopted virtual case management approach based on the guidance from global child protection alliance and contextualized guidance produced by CPWG. This resulted in reaching more children than planned.

¹¹ UNICEF Result 31,700 (88% female); Location: Host: 80% / Zaatari: 10% / Azraq: 8% / ITS: 3%.

¹² UNICEF Result 2,181 (65% females); Location: Host: 77% / Zaatari: 18% / Azraq: 5%. The national response to the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in delays in the implementation of in-person training on child protection. UNICEF Jordan worked closely with the Government and partners on drafting a plan for training resumption and replaced some in-person trainings with online trainings. Sector Result: the reason for underachievement is that COVID-19 related restrictions have posed a challenge to organizing in-person training.

¹³ 2020/2021 OpenEMIS figures not yet available. This figure reflects data officially released from the MOE in December 2019 for the academic year 2019/2020. Total: 136,437 (51% female); Location: Host 75%/ Camp 25% (8% Azraq / 15% Za'atari / 2% EJC); Nationality: 100% Syrian. UNICEF anticipates OpenEMIS enrolment figures for 2020/2021 in January 2021.

UNICEF target is higher than the sector's target because UNICEF anticipates a higher rate of enrolment of Syrians in formal education.
¹⁴ As per JRP Formal Education targets for Syrians enrolled in formal education. The breakdown is 90,000 (REF 4.1) and 34,519 (HC 4.1).

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ The breakdown for UNICEF target is NFE Catch Up: 1,000 and NFE Drop Out is 6,000.

¹⁷ UNICEF NFE current enrolment: Drop-Out (as of November 2020) Total: 3,206 (45% female); Location; Host 81%/Camp 19% (6% Azraq/ 13% Za'atari); Nationality: 50% Jordanian/ 45% Syrian / 5% Other Nationality. School closure due to COVID-19 significantly impacted enrolment and regular attendance in Drop-Out. Classes moved online, via WhatsApp messaging and via phone communication, with home-based visits by community mobilizers to encourage engagement. Despite these efforts, over half of the children enrolled in February 2020 are no longer involved in the programme. With schools closing again from 9 October, there is concern that these children will not resume education. UNICEF reached out to these children through the Safely Back to School Campaign and successfully enrolled 397 children to NFE drop out programme. Structured and strengthened community mobilization through NFE partners is planned to start January 2021 to enrol over 3,000 new students in 2021.

Catch-Up current enrolment (as of Dec 2020) Total: 719; Nationality: 33% Jordanian/ 55% Syrian / 12% Other Nationality / 5% No info available.

NFE (Catch-Up and Drop-Out) cumulative total: Total: 16,131 (41% female); Location: Host 81% / Camp 19% (6% Azraq/ 13% Za'atari); Nationality: 45% Jordanian / 50% Syrian / 5% Other Nationality.

¹⁸ The breakdown for sector target is NFE Catch-Up: 1,120 and NFE Drop-Out: 7,200.

¹⁹ Same as the UNICEF results footnote.

²⁰ To meet the multiple needs of the most vulnerable children across Jordan, UNICEF's Learning Support Services (LSS) offer the comprehensive core-packages, i.e. LSS packaged with Life Skills and Child Protection components under the same curriculum

²¹ LSS Sector Total; 65,645 (54% female); Location: Host 79%/ Camp 17% (7% Azraq/ 10% Za'atari)/ITS 4%; Nationality: 51% Jordanian/ 44% Syrian / 5% Other Nationality. Attendance; In school 96%, out of school 4%; children with disabilities 2%. Sector figures are the same as UNICEF figures since LSS is not under the ActivityInfo platform, so sector partners did not report their progress. The underachievement is due to limited outreach and Makani centres being closed for in-person sessions due to COVID-19.

²² Target is not available since LSS was not included in the JRP for the year 2020.

²³ LSS Sector Total; 65,645 (54% female); Location: Host 79%/ Camp 17% (7% Azraq/ 10% Za'atari)/ITS 4%; Nationality: 51% Jordanian/ 44% Syrian / 5% Other Nationality. Attendance; In school 96%, out of school 4%; children with disabilities 2%. Sector figures are the same as UNICEF figures since LSS is not under the ActivityInfo platform, so sector partners did not report their progress.

²⁴ : Enrolment figures for 2020/2021: KG2 UNICEF result: 4,234; Location: 76% camps (51% Za'atari/ 21% Azraq/ 4% EJC) / 24% Host. The underachievement is due to the increase in the number of positive COVID-19 cases in the last quarter of the year, which affected enrolment.

²⁵ The breakdown for sector target is 3,550 children enrolled in certified KG2 and 4,325 children enrolled in uncertified KG2. Sector target to be updated once JRP is released.

²⁶ Enrolment figures not yet available for 2020/2021. Data anticipated January 2021. 2019/2020 data: KG2 UNICEF result: 5,607 (49% female); Location: 62% camps (42% Za'atari/ 20% Azraq)/ 38% Host.

²⁷ Results for water and sanitation services in camps are relatively fixed since January 2020 because services are provided to a stable target population and therefore limited monthly inflation is envisioned. While funds are needed to maintain services in the camps, the population will remain constant.

²⁸ UNICEF WASH in Za'atari for contingency when water supply through the water networks is not sufficient, King Abdullah Park Refugee Camps, as well as contingency trucking in vulnerable communities during COVID-19. Sector results have been updated since January 2020 after the official approval of the JRP response.

²⁹ UNICEF result: 73,172 (47.9% female); Location; Za'atari 29.1% /Irbid 15.5%/ Amman 11.6% / Ajloun 10.6% / Jerash 10.6% / Ma'raq 10.6% / KAP 7.4% / Ma'an 3.8% / Salt 0.5%; 36.5% Syrians. COVID-19 response: 46,446 (46.9% Female) reached through UNICEF COVID-19 response in host communities. UNICEF has exceeded the target in camps and host communities due to increased water demand throughout the COVID-19 response.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ UNICEF WASH in Azraq Camp, Za'atari Camp and the Berm.

³² UNICEF result: Total; 574,626 (female 49%); Location; Host 68% / Camp 19.5% (Azraq 18.8%, Za'atari 39.8 %) / Schools quick response (nationwide) 7.6%/ Support for MWI 2.5% / Berm 2.1% / ITS 0.2%. UNICEF has overachieved on this target due to the additional water systems and quick response projects to support MWI in host communities in response to the increased water demand throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

³³ Ibid.

³⁴ UNICEF WASH in Azraq, Za'atari, King Abdullah Park Camps, as well as vulnerable communities.

³⁵ UNICEF result: 129, 275 (49.8% female); Location; Za'atari 58.9% /Azraq 27.9% / Berm 11.6% / ITS 1.1% /King Abdullah 0.5%. The underachievement is due to the COVID-19 related lockdown, restrictions on movement and school closures.

³⁶ UNICEF result: 1,768,925 (female 52.3%); Location; Host 93.6% / Camp 6.4% (Za'atari 4.3%, Azraq 2%) / School aged children 80.5%. UNICEF scaled-up its communication efforts and distribution of hygiene supplies in response to COVID-19.

³⁷ UNICEF result: Total: 25,829 (48.9% female) 83 schools receiving quick handwashing response maintenance. The underachievement is due to the COVID-19 related lockdown, restrictions on movement and school closures.

³⁸ UNICEF WASH in Azraq, Za'atari, King Abdullah Park Camps, as well as vulnerable communities.

³⁹ UNICEF result: Total; 5,168 (female 86.9%); Children 100%; Location: Host 100% / Camp 0%. Underachievement is due to the inability to deliver in-person sessions during the COVID-19 affiliated lockdown and school closures from March throughout 2020. It was not possible to switch to online delivery as the MOE electronic platforms were not capable of delivering extracurricular activities online.

⁴⁰ UNICEF result: 30,288 (50% female); 9% children with disabilities; Nationality: Syrian 88%, Jordanian 4%, other 8%. The overachievement is due to the increased social protection response associated with COVID-19.

⁴¹ UNICEF result: 57,519 (60% female); Location: Host 88% /Camp 12% / ITS 2%; Nationality: 46% Syrian / Jordanian 54%. The underachievement is due to the COVID-19 related closures of youth and Makani centres. Centres also needed time to shift to digitized and online delivery mechanisms and tailor the training programmes to be delivered to young people remotely.

⁴² UNICEF result: 69,770 (62% female); Location: Host 99.3% / Camp 0.5% / ITS 0.2%; Nationality: 38% Syrian / 62% Jordanian.

⁴³ UNICEF result: 2,017 (51% female); Nationality: 69% Syrian/ 28% Jordanian/ 3% Palestinian. 1,398 Syrian). The target for TVET is 2,400, the remainder is for career counselling, which has not launched yet due to delays related to the COVID-19 pandemic – therefore, UNICEF did not achieve the full target under this result in 2020.

IRAQ

Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF's response to Syrian refugees in Iraq required \$9.0 million whilst the Iraq country office received \$4.6 million from several generous donors, including UNICEF Germany, Canada, and the US Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration. The funding figure includes \$158,200 received in Q4 as UNICEF Thematic to support WASH activities for Syrian refugees in Iraq.

As of 31 December, UNICEF's appeal for the Syrian refugee response in Iraq is 58 per cent funded; the funding gap, therefore, amounts to 42 per cent. The sectors with major funding gaps include child protection (88 per cent) and education (72 per cent).

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

According to data from UNHCR¹, as of 30 November, there are 243,121 Syrian refugees registered in Iraq, 94,988 of whom are based in camps. A total of 44.2 per cent of the refugees are children under 18 years of age, including 21.4 per cent girls and 22.8 per cent boys.

The situation of Syrian refugees in Iraq has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The direct impact on camp-based refugees has been relatively minimal to date, however, the impact has been more widespread in terms of the economic aspect and disruption of basic services. The lockdown and restrictions on movement, which came into effect soon after the outbreak of the pandemic in March, negatively impacted the livelihood activities of many refugees. This, in turn, has influenced their ability to purchase essential items, including food, hygiene items, medicines, etc. Employment opportunities for refugees, particularly in popular sectors such as construction, have been further impacted by the overall economic downturn and the gaps in payment of salaries to government staff, which lead to less money flowing into the local economy, thus negatively affecting employment and income for refugees.

The difficult economic situation has also pushed aside plans for the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) to take on more responsibility for meeting the costs of running essential services for refugees, which continued to be provided by humanitarian partners. Supporting services has been challenging for humanitarian partners, given the restrictions on movement, however, essential services have been maintained and alternative modalities were found. The area hardest hit has been education, with refugee children - already affected by the challenges of recruiting and paying teachers - has been further disadvantaged by the nationwide closure of schools for the entire academic year.

By the end of the year, the overall number of cases in KRG and Iraq decreased substantially from the peaks of October allowing for some hope of improvements in 2021. That said, 2021 will be another year of uncertainty, particularly related to the political front as national elections are scheduled to take place in June as well as on the economic front, with the continued low oil prices and allocations disagreements between KRG and the Federal Government.

As for health, there remains uncertainty for the coming months before the planned COVID-19 vaccination campaign is rolled out and begin to show impact. Finally, there remains no clear prospect of children being able to return to full-time education soon. The situation for refugees, and refugee children particularly, will remain difficult for the year ahead.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health

Despite government efforts, UNICEF and other partners, the health system in areas hosting refugees continued to be overstretched and required additional support in providing services. The infrastructure in these areas remained compromised, with limited backing provided by the government due to substantial financial gaps, political instability as well as weak governance. Given such continued limitations in core health systems capacities, including data and budget management, for example, there was generally little commitment on the government's side to take over providing basic health and nutrition services sustainably throughout 2020. Added to this, COVID-19 movement restrictions had a further negative impact on both service provision and access as well as to refugee livelihoods and household health, including through the ability to purchase quality nutrition.

Situation in Numbers

114,433
children in need

255,000
people in need

243,121
Registered Syrian refugees
(source: HNO/UNHCR)

¹ <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/syria/location/5>

UNICEF targeted around 90,394 refugees in camps, 138,179 refugees outside camps and around 300,000 people in host communities through enabling the health facilities serving them to provide services and providing basic supplies and equipment. UNICEF focused particularly on the immediate needs of the 19,400 refugees in camps (children aged under-five and pregnant and lactating women) by enabling sustained primary health care (vaccination, new-born home care, nutrition screening and supplementation, management of malnutrition and IYCF counselling). UNICEF also raised awareness among these communities on adopting healthier behaviour and practices, with special attention to disease outbreak prevention. As a result, as of December 2020, 100 per cent of the targeted children under-five years of age were vaccinated against polio, while 112 per cent were vaccinated against measles. Also, 84 per cent of the new-born children and their mothers were reached through the new-born home visit initiative. Furthermore, 102 per cent of the targeted under-five years of age were provided with access to nutrition services (growth monitoring and nutrition screening) in camps. Also, 46 per cent of the targeted lactating mothers were provided with Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling to ensure appropriate breastfeeding practices in camps, in compliance with COVID-19 preventive measures.

Identification of alternative ways forward ensuring smooth transitions from a humanitarian to a development phase continued to be executed by UNICEF and other partners worked jointly with national and directorate-level government teams. In addition to the procurement of supplies, rehabilitation/construction of health facilities that include vaccination storages, UNICEF has also provided technical and managerial assistance in the form of capacity building among directorate, district, and primary health care staff. This included assisting with planning and budgeting.

Nutrition

UNICEF has continued to provide lifesaving assistance by supporting health and nutrition interventions for Syrian refugee camps in Iraq without interruption throughout 2020. Such activities included immunization, health screening and Vitamin A supplementation, home-based visiting of new-born babies and their mothers, breastfeeding and counselling of mothers on appropriate infant and young child feeding (IYCF) as well as growth monitoring of children aged below 59 months. Overall, refugees are well-integrated into basic health services provided through Primary Health Care Centres (PHCCs), both inside and outside camp settings. To raise awareness on and increase the demand for health care among the camp populations, focused C4D interventions were also prioritized. Immunization coverage, which fell in the first half of the year, recovered by September as a result of these efforts.

Child Protection

In continued work with UNICEF, the Directorate of Social Affairs (DoLSA) in Dohuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah governorates, ensuring the provision of Child Protection (CP) services for Syrian refugee children and children from impacted communities in camp as well as non-camp locations. UNICEF supported child protection interventions focused on building resilience through the delivery of psychosocial support, case management and specialised child protection services for children at risk.

The program also supported the capacity building of formal and non-formal community-based structures as an integral part of child protection interventions and as a strategic approach for ensuring sustainability and continuity of community-based services.

UNICEF implementing partners adopted remote and individual face-to-face approaches for delivery of psychosocial and case management support to children at-risk, following CP guidelines endorsed by CP sub-cluster. Community-based psychosocial and awareness-raising activities also served as an entry point for the identification and referral of children-at-risk. During the reporting period, 1,535 refugee children (47 per cent girls) benefited from psychosocial support services, while 409 children (16 per cent) received case management and specialized protection services including three unaccompanied and separated children; while 5,765 refugee children have benefitted from child protection services for the year of 2020.

Moreover, 4,886 (1,418 girls, 1,472 boys, 1,075 women and 921 men) were reached through awareness-raising activities with a focus on child protection concerns, while 549 individuals (68 per cent) were reached due to the parenting education program. Overall, UNICEF's CP program reached a total of 37,229 individuals (11,368 girls, 12,648 boys, 7,665 women and 5,548 men) with CP-capacity building and services delivery in 2020.

Education

The education sector has been one of the most affected within the year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which forced the government to close schools for long periods. Estimations from the E-Parwarda system, which is the Education Management Information System (EMIS) locally developed by MoE in the KRG suggest that more than 30,000 vulnerable children in refugee camps were impacted.

Grade 12 was the first class allowed to resume learning by the KRG Ministry of Education (MoE) at the end of September 2020. In October, students in Grades 1, 2 and 12 were allowed to return to schools, while students in Grades 3 through 11 were informed to continue learning remotely through the e-Wana learning platform and satellite education TV channel. However, as COVID-19 numbers continued to increase, on 1 November 2020, the MoE suspended in-person schooling for Grades 1, 2 and 12 until further notice. Against this backdrop, the KRG MoE announced deferring the decision on approving the Refugee Education Integration Policy (prepared by the Education Cluster with the support from UNHCR and UNICEF) for the 2020-2021 academic year, instead of continuing with bespoke Syrian schools. The parallel education system will continue for the 2020-2021 school year.

Despite the above-mentioned challenges, 36,394 refugee students (50 per cent girls) were enrolled in kindergarten, basic and secondary schools in KRG. In Q4, a holistic back-to-Learning (B2L) campaign was conducted in KRG – where the majority of Syrian refugees are living - through 126 community mobilizers trained on how to guide parents and out-of-school children to go back to school and upload the data into an online system created with MoE and UNICEF support. As a result of the two-months campaign, 225 out-of-school children (64 girls) in Dohuk have enrolled in schools again and efforts are ongoing to enrol 746 out-of-school children (352 girls) in Sulaymaniyah and Erbil, once the schools are re-opened.

As part of UNICEF response to Syrian refugees in Iraq, in partnership with general directorates of education in Erbil and Sulaymaniyah, a blended learning programme has been implemented, and 73 teachers (66 per cent females) in five camps were trained in this module. More specifically, the teachers (educators) were trained to support 8,605 (50 per cent girls) school-aged refugee children with home-schooling to ensure quality and continuity of learning during school closure. Children in the camps were provided with self-learning materials and stationery.

Moreover, UNICEF supported the MoE in upgrading the local education TV channel to a satellite channel to be more accessible by refugee children nationwide. Since May 2020, the channel has been providing tutoring lessons for all grades (1-12) and lessons have been broadcasted in various languages and dialects, benefiting approximately 502,362 students, including Syrian refugees.

The education cluster, with active contribution from partners as well as commitment from the MoE at national and sub-national levels, was able to reach 130 per cent (9,364 against the annual target of 7,195) of refugee children enrolled in non-formal education, 93 per cent (36,255 against the annual target of 39,050) of refugee children enrolled in formal general education, 90 per cent (39,258 against the annual target of 43,495) of children supported through school supplies, and 40 per cent progress (521 against the annual target of 1,293) of teachers and education personnel including trained in participatory teaching in an emergency context.

The over achievement in enrolling conflict-affected refugee children in non-formal education is attributable to children who could not attend formal learning due to COVID-19 related closure of schools as well as to children-on-the-move that originate from ongoing closure of camps. The progress observed in training teachers is accredited to the closure of schools due to pandemic lockdowns.

The cluster remained dedicated to improving education services for conflict-affected refugee children through active leadership of the MoE at national, sub-national and governorate levels. Delivering quality education building on the collective communication leadership and knowledge of the local system remain the main priority for UNICEF throughout the year as challenges arose.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

UNICEF supported a total of 71,955 refugees (36,284 female) in six refugee camps in Erbil and Duhok governorates with several interventions that included water supply operation and maintenance. This also included sanitation systems (boreholes and networks), water quality and quantity monitoring and control, provision of water purifications and water treatment units, garbage collection and disposal, desludging and WASH in schools. A total of 18,259 students (9,333 girls) in 30 schools within six refugee camps in Duhok (Domiz 1 & 2) and Erbil (Darashakran, Kawaergisik, Qushtapa and Bserma) benefitted from these WASH activities. COVID-19 awareness messaging, hygiene promotion and distribution was also part of the projects.

As part of a longer-term programming approach to promote system strengthening and integrating services for refugees within the existing national system, UNICEF started handing over key WASH activities to the respective government agencies, starting with the Directorate of Municipalities, which has taken over the garbage collection and desludging of two camps in Duhok. This is planned to continue for 2021.

Responding to cross-border movement, UNICEF installed WASH facilities at the border's reception centres which benefitted approximately 20,000 refugees. Additionally, UNICEF also upgraded the water system and rehabilitated/installed 1,128 sanitation facilities in the Dohuk refugee camp.

UNICEF and the WASH cluster, with support from other partners such as OXFAM and the Directorate of Water and the General Directorate of Municipality, conducted a WASH gap analysis in Domiz camp in the Dohuk governorate whose sanitation system had been frequently breaking down. As a result, during the last quarter of 2020, UNICEF supported the improvement of the liquid waste management system in the camp. This was conducted by the construction of 100 septic tanks and 100 cesspools to reduce desludging services by trucks as well as through the rehabilitation of 150 holding tanks to separate grey water from black water, thereby reducing contamination.

Communications for Development (C4D), Community Engagement Accountability

Community engagement interventions supported service delivery and the provision of UNICEF's lifesaving programmes, through community mobilization, distribution of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials, engagement of key stakeholders and household interventions. A total of 39,000 individuals were reached through repetitive exposure to key messages. Additionally, more than 25,000 pieces of IEC materials (24,000 flyers and 1,800 posters) were distributed to the refugees residing in the camps throughout the year.

With support from the Zhain Health Organization and the Department of Health, activities for Global Handwashing Day 2020 were conducted in refugee camps, providing more than 1,000 printed IEC materials to refugees and mobilizing local community networks for the dissemination of key information and messages.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

At the beginning of 2020, UNICEF and UNHCR developed a Blueprint for Joint Action for Refugee Children. The blueprint aimed at accelerating joint efforts under a transformational agenda – in line with the Global Compact on Refugees – to promote and protect the rights of refugee children and hosting communities through their inclusion in national plans, budgets and service delivery systems. Iraq is among the pilot countries that have been selected for the initial phase of the initiative, which focusses on interventions that contribute to supporting refugee-hosting governments to include refugee children and families in national systems, policies and service delivery systems. This is meant to reinforce community participation to ensure transparency, accountability, information-sharing and better learning. Programmatically, the blueprint initiative covers three major sectors: water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) as well as child protection and education.

UNICEF's co-leadership of the three above-mentioned sectors has continued in collaboration with the co-lead agencies of Mercy Corps for WASH and Save the Children for education and child protection. The Regional Refugee and Response Plan (3RP) sectors, under the leadership of UNHCR, identified priority activities to respond to the COVID-19 emergency and ensure continuity within the humanitarian refugee response, with a particular focus on maintaining life-saving response. Such a partnership addressed sensitive protection needs as well as COVID-19 awareness-raising and hygiene outreach. Towards the end of 2020, the sectors/sub-sectors prepared the update to the 3RP for 2021-22.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

In 2020, UNICEF digital and offline channels focused on reaching vulnerable children, adolescents, parents, teachers, breastfeeding mothers and the general public which also accounted for refugee communities. UNICEF ran several campaigns during this period which included a handwashing campaign, breastfeeding during COVID-19, a safe Ramadan online challenge as well as a Facts vs Fiction campaign to tackle misinformation and an immunization campaign. All activities were aimed at children and their families, especially the most vulnerable, including Syrian refugee communities.

Throughout 2020, Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter Iraq Country Office's (ICO) leading platforms grew by 600 per cent, 54 per cent and 20 per cent respectively, thereby demonstrating ICO's strong growth for reach and engagement. As of December 2020, over 65 million people were reached and at least 1 million were engaged across platforms, primarily with COVID-19 related content. The majority were between the ages of 18 and 34 years of which 33 per cent were female.

Traditional media engagement was highest for public statements about the threat of violence against children, with at least 50 pick-ups and interviews in the top and second-tier Iraqi national media (at least 35).

- A [video](#) by a Syrian young person on social cohesion and diversity.
- International Women's Day [video](#) featuring young girls from Syria currently residing in Iraq.

Annex A
Summary of Programme Results

Iraq	UNICEF and IPs response			Sector response		
Sector	2020 target	Total results*	Change since last report	2020 target	Total results*	Change since last report
Health¹						
# of children under 1 in camps immunized against measles (routine)	3,600	5,032	0	3,600	5,032	0
# of new-boms reached in refugee camps through new-bom home visits	3,400	3,791	0	3,400	3,791	0
# of children under 5 immunized against polio in camps (routine)	16,676	17,923	4,557	16,676	13,868	13,868
Nutrition²						
# of U5 children provided with access to nutrition services (growth monitoring, nutrition screening) in camps	19,090	19,598	0	19,090	19,598	6,690
# of targeted lactating mothers with access to IYCF counselling for appropriate breastfeeding in camps.	7,500	2,591 ³	0	7,500	2,591 ⁴	0
Child Protection⁵						
# children receiving specialized child protection services (reunification, alternative or specialized care and services)	2,175	1,031 ⁶	409	5,000	3,828	938
# children participating in structured, sustained, resilience or psychosocial support programmes	13,730	5,765	1,535	25,500	9,893 ⁷	3,173
# of caregivers participating in parenting programmes	2,250	3,553	549	4,500	5,111	1,543
Education⁸						
# of children enrolled in formal general education	34,475	36,394	29,081	39,050	39,143	7,075 ⁹
# of children enrolled in non-formal education	5,500	8,605 ¹⁰	6,605	7,195	9,364	5,188 ¹¹
# of teachers and education personnel trained	716	73 ¹²	73	1,293	521	371 ¹³
# of children receiving school supplies	36,975	9,797 ¹⁴	9,797	43,495	39,258	35,467 ¹⁵
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene¹⁶						
# of individuals benefiting from improved access to adequate quantity of safe water in camps	72,064	71,955	0	95,000	84,017	0
# of target beneficiaries with access to appropriate sanitation facilities and services	41,140	41,411	0	95,000	50,732	0

# of camp residents with access to solid waste collection and disposal services at least 3 times per week	41,140	41,411	0	95,000	50,732	0
# of people attending schools, CFS and PHCs with adequate WASH services	13,500	7,645	0	25,000	18,000	0

¹ 19,400 Syrian refugee children under five.

² 19,400 Syrian refugee children under five.

³ Before this activity was implemented through group counselling and due to COVID-19 it was decided to decrease the number to the minimum.

⁴ See above.

⁵ 114,433 Syrian refugee girls and boys.

⁶ 2020 target for case management was underachieved because of shortage of funding for the refugee program and because of COVID-19 related movement restrictions. Face-to-face interaction remained a challenge because families did not encourage Social Workers' visits to their tents fearing COVID-19 transmission. In 2020- UNICEF received funding of just over USD 200,000 against a budget of USD 2,089,780.

⁷ 2020 target for structured PSS was underachieved because of shortage of funding and COVID-19 related movement restriction. Moreover, group activities were restricted according to sanitary guidelines. CP implementing agencies focused more on remote PSS activities (distribution of PSS kit and family visits) based on CPSC guideline.

⁸ 68,829 school-aged Syrian refugee girls and boys.

⁹ Schools were closed for most part of the year due to the pandemic. Data for the 2020-2021 academic year will be collected once the schools reopen.

¹⁰ The overachievement is due to the introduction of a blended approach and interactive learning within the context of COVID-19.

¹¹ Education activities including non-formal education remained suspended in 2020 due to pandemic.

¹² The training of teachers and education personnel could not be implemented as planned due to COVID-19 related restriction measures.

¹³ Planned trainings had to be suspended due to pandemic and lack of capacity for alternative training modalities such as remote trainings.

¹⁴ The under achievement is due to the low level of funding in this area as well as to the closure of schools due to the pandemic.

¹⁵ Children were provided, mainly by partners, with materials such as stationery and self-learning materials for their use when accessing education tv and online portals or self-learning while the formal and non-formal education activities remained suspended.

¹⁶ 228,573 Syrian refugees including 89,560 refugees in camps.

EGYPT

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Egypt is a destination country for refugees and asylum-seekers. As of December, a total of 259,292 refugees and asylum seekers were registered in Egypt (79,783 refugees and 179,509 asylum-seekers) of which 130,577 are Syrians or 50 per cent. Approximately 38 per cent of all refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt are children (98,458). Out of this figure, 31,200 boys and 29,300 girls are Syrian¹. There has been a decrease in the number of separated Syrian children and increasing numbers of Syrian cases are closing their files to obtain residency from the Egyptian authorities; it is, therefore, difficult to calculate exactly how many Syrian nationals are in the country.

Egypt is expected to face a downward trend in economic growth in the coming months. In a socio-economic analysis conducted by the UN Country Team in Egypt, “Leaving No-One Behind”, refugees have been identified as particularly vulnerable groups likely to suffer the deepest and most immediate impacts of the economic downturn.

While the Government’s reform efforts are expected to reflect positively on the economy in the medium-to-long term, vulnerable populations will continue to face serious challenges in the short term. The 2020/2021 Egypt Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan will continue using the official poverty rate data collected by the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics along with the poverty map to target the most vulnerable communities among refugee dense areas. It will also emphasize working with local actors and the Government to continue building their capacities in better understanding the needs, challenges, and opportunities related to the hosting of refugees.

UNICEF and partners provided improved, inclusive access to learning and education through the provision of cash grants for pre-primary aged school children and support to community-based kindergartens. Kindergartens and pre-primary schools were closed from March up to October due to COVID-19, however, the grants ensured children’s re-enrolment during their second semester of the 2019/2020 academic year and the first semester of the 2020/2021 academic year. To reduce the financial burden on parents that they faced with the current socio-economic situation, UNICEF planned to also provide education kits to the most vulnerable refugee children at the beginning of the 2020/2021 academic year, but funding constraints have so far made this impossible. UNICEF continued to provide support to improve the quality of teaching and learning in the refugee community and public schools and to create a safe learning environment. UNICEF’s provision of life skills education, which aimed at addressing peer to peer violence and discrimination and school and enhancing the resilience of and social cohesion among refugee and host community children, was set on hold this year due to limited funding and the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Furthermore, UNICEF worked closely with the Ministry of Education and Technical Education to strengthen the capacity of the education system to deliver a timely and coordinated evidence-based education response.

In addition, UNICEF provides psychosocial support services, positive parenting and case management services for the Syrian children also working on expanding the Cash for Basic Needs programme through increasing the value of the grant and increasing the number of beneficiaries with a focus on 3,800 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC). Due to the mixed migration trend in Egypt and the high number of refugees and migrants from Sub-Saharan Africa and other countries (representing 45 per cent of the total refugee population), UNICEF continues to advocate for a ‘one refugee’ approach to ensure equity for all refugees and migrants.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health

Alongside the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP), UNICEF continued support to Syrian families to utilize essential maternal and child health and nutrition services at Primary Health Care (PHC) level, referring them to secondary health care when needed. This support was provided through training of doctors, nurses and Community Health Workers (CHWs) on updated protocols and guidance related to maternal and child health and nutrition.

To support and improve the quality of primary health care service providers within the PHC workforce (doctors, nurses and community health workers), UNICEF and the MoHP trained over 300 doctors and nurses on the

Situation in Numbers

1,446,830
children in need

2,744,455
people in need

130,577
Registered Syrian refugees
(source: HNO/UNHCR)

¹ 3RP 2019/2020.

following topics: provision of antenatal care; nutrition in the first 1,000 days of life, growth monitoring and promotion.

Overall, it is estimated that 27,026 refugee children received essential health care services (immunization, growth monitoring and promotion, care of a sick child) and 1,627 refugee women have benefited from antenatal care service in UNICEF-supported facilities in 2020.

In total 113,181 consultations were provided to refugee children (with an average of 4.2 contacts with primary health care services per child) and 12,408 consultations were provided to refugee women (at an average of 7.4 contacts with primary health care per woman) in 2020. Overall, refugees are well-integrated into basic health services provided through Primary Health Care Centres (PHCCs), both inside and outside camp settings. To raise awareness on and increase the demand for health care among the camp populations, focused C4D interventions were also prioritized. Immunization coverage, which fell in quarters 1 and 2, recovered by September as a result of these efforts.

Child Protection

UNICEF continued to work with the Directorate of Social Affairs (DoLSA), UNICEF ensured the provision of child protection (CP) services for Syrian refugee children and children from impacted communities in camp as well as non-camp locations. UNICEF supported child protection interventions focused on building resilience through the delivery of psychosocial support, case management and specialised child protection services for children at risk.

The program also supported the capacity building of formal and non-formal community-based structures as an integral part of child protection interventions and as a strategic approach for ensuring sustainability and continuity of community-based services.

UNICEF implementing partners adopted remote and individual face-to-face approaches for delivery of psychosocial and case management support to children at-risk, following CP guidelines endorsed by CP Sub-Cluster. Community-based psychosocial and awareness-raising activities also served as an entry point for the identification and referral of children-at-risk. A total of 1,535 refugee children (47 per cent girls) benefited from psychosocial support services.

UNICEF continued its partnership with the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) to mainstream child protection interventions in essential public services. Until June, UNICEF operated in 37 Primary Healthcare Units (PHUs) in 16 governorates, while after July, UNICEF focused its efforts on 32 PHUs in five governorates (Cairo, Giza, Qalubia, Alexandria and Damietta). UNICEF has reached a total of 7,307 children, adolescents and youth with multi-sectoral case management services and 720 received cash-based interventions (including 634 who received humanitarian COVID-19 cash grants since April 2020 and 34 SGBV survivors receiving multisectoral services (at least one of the following: legal, medical, psychological or emergency shelter). A total of 18,845 women and men participated in positive parenting programs, including 10,000 community members engaged in "Toy Making Festivals", an opportunity to facilitate integration between Egyptians and non-Egyptians through joint activities making toys from recycled materials, with the support of 400 trained social workers.

Family clubs under the supervision of PHUs had to be closed after COVID-19. In coordination with the MoHP and partner NGOs, UNICEF delivered PSS sessions online since the outbreak of COVID 19, targeting children and their families who are practising social distancing as per government guidelines, in addition to providing case management services online and via phone call to the most needed cases. At first, some beneficiaries had no or limited access to the network, which made it difficult to continue providing support without the ability to conduct field visits. The project had to deal with this challenge and communicate messages via phone call in the latter stage. Even after the reopening of the clubs in August, most of the activities were conducted online, or any face-to-face activities were implemented in consultation with MOHP, with full consideration of precautionary measures. A total of 29,597 children, adolescents, and youth participated in structured and sustained PSS, life skills, and child protection programs.

Working with UNHCR and IOM, UNICEF coordinated the efforts of the National Children on the Move Taskforce to implement the Standard Operating Procedures for the Protection and Assistance of Child Asylum Seekers, Refugees, and Victims of Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons (the SOPs), which were adopted and launched in January. The SOP is a step-by-step guide for law enforcement, as well as other relevant governmental entities on how to identify and provide the necessary protection and services to child asylum seekers, refugees, smuggled migrants, and victims of trafficking. It provides concrete procedures on how to identify cases as well as the type of protection and assistance that shall be delivered to each category of children. UNICEF has been also coordinating with the National Coordinating Committee for Preventing and

Combating Illegal Migration and Trafficking in Persons (NCCPIM and TIP), to make everyone on the same page particularly about the alternative to detention (ATD) measures and to obtain their full understanding and support about the SOPs.

UNICEF Egypt developed a cross-border project, the Aswan Initiative, with UNICEF MENA Regional Office (MENARO) to focus on strengthening cross-border cooperation among child protection authorities in Egypt and Sudan to provide a continuum of care, protection, support and access to services for all children on the move across key migratory routes. UNICEF has been coordinating with partners including NCCM, the Aswan governorate and Caritas on how to implement the activities planned in the initiative. Further discussions will take place in a cross-border meeting planned in March 2021 with UNICEF MENARO and Sudan, where the governmental counterparts will take the lead regarding the next concrete steps.

Education

UNICEF distributed 19,105 education cash grants to 13,581 refugee children of Syrian, African, and other nationalities, aged three to six years, for both academic years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021.

From July to September, 9,717 refugee children (4,769 Syrians, 4,766 and 182 from other nationalities) received their second instalment of the education grant for the academic year 2019/2020. In December, 9,388 kindergarten (KG) students (4,138 Syrians, 5,093 African and 157 other nationalities) received their first instalment for the new academic year of 2020/2021. The education cash grants played an essential role in supporting vulnerable refugee children to access equal early learning opportunities. Furthermore, the grants partially covered the direct and indirect costs of education. To support the enrolment of refugee children, UNICEF distributed education kits to all school-aged refugee children for the 2019/2020 academic year, which started in November 2019. Due to some delays, 813 children (160 Syrians, 525 Sub-Saharan Africans and 128 children from other nationalities) received their education kit in early 2020. In addition to the education grant, UNICEF provided top-ups to 8,344 students (49 per cent Syrians, 48 per cent African and three per cent other nationalities) to contribute to their additional expenses with regards to accessing online learning while schools were closed as many families were struggling and refugees' vulnerabilities had increased since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Moreover, 427 KG teachers and education personnel (29 males and 398 females of which 161 Syrians, 226 African nationals and 40 from other nationalities) received capacity building to strengthen and improve the quality of education in KGs hosting refugee children. In the training, teachers and education personnel were equipped with knowledge and skills that demonstrate the ability to adapt and improve the approaches according to the diverse needs of refugee students. 411 teachers completed training on the following topics: hygiene practices for children, social and emotional learning, inclusion, gender issues, lesson planning, play-based learning, toy-making, teaching language with phonetics and numeracy skills for KG children. In addition, 16 KG managers and administrative staff received training on topics such as KG standards for management, human resource management, Information Technology (IT) and leadership to enhance the capacity of school management and administration.

Due to a lack of funding as well as the school closure from March until October because of the COVID-19 pandemic, UNICEF was not able to implement the teacher trainings targeting 17,500 teachers as well as the roll-out of the extra-curricular life skills activities for 175,000 refugee and host community students in public schools. This nevertheless remains a top priority in the coming year, alongside financial support to help guarantee education for children out of school or at risk of drop-out.

Social Protection

In 2020, UNICEF did not receive sufficient funding to initiate its planned humanitarian cash distributions for child refugees through the social protection programme, either for regular cash grants or for the winterization assistance.

While refugees share similar challenges to Egyptian urban poor households, the majority of them rely heavily on informal labour which has been hardest hit by the COVID-19 outbreak and the measures taken to curb its spread. If not provided with regular cash grants, these children and their families risk not being able to satisfy their basic needs. Households would thus be compelled into negative coping mechanisms such as compromising on the nutrition and health of their children by not sending them to school or reducing expenditure on food, for example.

As of today, regular cash grants have been significantly reduced by all agencies in Egypt due to underfunding, and the COVID-19 response calls for a joint action to support all refugees but especially children refugees to be able to still meet their basic needs and get an education. Providing one-off cash support to Syrian vulnerable

families with children would be key to sustain these populations during the crisis and providing for their basic needs, while jobs opportunities are scarce.

To better understand the situation of refugees and especially of child refugees, UNICEF is undertaking a regular telephone-based survey across the nation² to understand the impact of COVID-19 on children and vulnerable population. Data collection and analysis for the first three rounds are now complete and findings have been shared with relevant stakeholders. For instance, every second household is aware of e-learning facilities but less than 1 in 5 of children/adolescents are using them. A large proportion of the sample respondents (51 per cent) reported a loss of employment after the onset of COVID-19 and about 9 in 10 respondents reported a decrease in household income; 80 per cent on decreasing household expenditure, specifically on food, health services and medication, and children education post the onset of the pandemic. Children screened in the assessment showed increased levels of crying, screaming, disrupted sleeping patterns in about 50 per cent of households. In about two-thirds of households, members had to reduce meal portions or the number of meals per day on account of the limited quantity of food available to them, while about 44 per cent of households started compromising on the quality of food intake.

[Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy](#)

In line with the 2020-2021 Refugee Resilience Response Plan (3RP), UNICEF has leveraged existing programme mechanisms and partnerships with relevant government and non-government partners to address access to and quality of services to refugee and migrant children in child protection, education, health and social protection. While providing humanitarian assistance to refugee and migrant children, UNICEF also supported the strengthening of national systems to ensure that these systems are increasingly inclusive of the refugee and migrant population. As co-chair of the Education Working Group (EWG) and the Child Protection sub-sector Working Group (CPWG) as well as a member of the Health Working Group (HWG) and Cash for Basic Needs Working Group, UNICEF contributed to identifying coordination mechanisms that would strengthen synergies among humanitarian partners and national stakeholders, and enhance effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian efforts for refugee and migrant children in Egypt. UNICEF provided technical support to the National Taskforce on Children on the Move/National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) to finalize and adopt annexes to the national SOPs addressing migrant children, refugee children, and victims of trafficking.

[Human Interest Stories and External Media](#)

In its online media coverage UNICEF Egypt focused on the additional challenges posed by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic to already-vulnerable refugees in Egypt, threatening their livelihoods and access to basic services still further:

[A Mother Finds Guidance and Support During COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

UNICEF Egypt also developed a photo essay highlighting some of the programmatic shifts which took place due to the lockdown and safety measures introduced to bring the pandemic under control. The photo essay highlights both the challenges and some surprisingly positive experiences from Syrian and Egyptian children who benefited from UNICEF programmes:

[Returning to Life After COVID-19](#)

UNICEF Egypt is on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [TikTok](#).

² In addition to the sample of about 1,500 households of Egyptian population, a sample of about 200 respondents from the refugee population are also being interviewed in each round of these surveys to collect information on all the topics mentioned above. It may however be noted that the number of refugees who participate in the surveys is small and hence results based on them are not statistically robust. The results need to be seen more as an indicative assessment of the status of refugees and asylum seekers post-lockdown. Moreover, the refugees included in the survey are sampled from a list of contacts available with the UNICEF which is not exhaustive and does not cover all refugees residing in Egypt.

Annex A
Summary of Programme Results

Egypt	UNICEF and IPs response			Sector response		
	Sector	2020 target	Total results*	Change since last report	2020 target	Total results*
Health²⁹						
# of primary health care consultations for refugee women	11,000	12,408 ³⁰	2,710	N/A	N/A	N/A
# of primary health consultations for children under five years of age-related to routine immunization and growth monitoring and promotion services	84,000	131,181 ³¹	45,404	N/A	N/A	N/A
Child Protection³²						
# children, adolescents and youth participating in structured sustained PSS, life skills and CP programmes	70,000	29,597 ³³	6,922	N/A	N/A	N/A
# women and men participating in positive parenting programmes	20,000	18,845 ³⁴	5,852	N/A	N/A	N/A
# children, adolescents and youth benefitting from multi sectoral case management	15,000	7,307 ³⁵	628	N/A	N/A	N/A
Education³⁶						
# of children (3-17 years) enrolled in education (formal and non-formal) and received school supplies	58,000	813 ³⁷	653	N/A	N/A	N/A
# of children (3-17 years, girls/boys) supported with cash-transfers	11,000	9,717 ³⁸	4,948	N/A	N/A	N/A

²⁹ Need: 101,000 Syrian refugee women and children.

³⁰ These indicators capture the number of primary health care consultations for the Syrian and other Nationalities who access UNICEF-supported Primary Health Units. This is based on the reports of the Motherhood and Childhood Health Department (MCH) at the Ministry of Health on the refugee and resilience component (3RP 2020). Number of primary health consultations for under 5 children was overachieved as a direct result of increase of refugees, emigrants, and asylum seekers' families trust on public health care services as well as the efforts that was conducted by the community health workers to encourage families to utilize MoHP primary health services.

³¹ Ibid.

³² Need: 60,100 Syrian refugee children.

³³ These indicators capture reach to Syrians, Egyptians and other nationalities. Due to COVID-19 crisis the Motherhood and Childhood Health Department (MCH) at the Ministry of Health (MoHP) did not shared the final figures that reached from January 2020 till the end of December 2020 for the in structured, sustained PSS, life skills and CP programmes. Due to COVID-19 and the national measures the Child Protection section stopped all the filed activities (structured, sustained PSS, life skills and CP programmes and positive parenting programmes) after March 18., 2020.

³⁴ Ibid.

³⁵ This indicator results based on the Partner NGOs reports in the Child Protection Monitoring and Evaluation Web based application and the Motherhood and Childhood Health Department (MCH) at the Ministry of Health.

³⁶ Need: 60,100 Syrian refugee children.

³⁷ UNICEF started the education kit distribution for the 2019/20 academic year in November 2019; however, 813 children (160 Syrians, 525 Sub-Saharan Africans and 128 children from other nationalities) have received their education kits in 2020. In total, 56,557 children (30,315 Syrians, 24,543 Sub-Saharan Africans and 1,699 children from other nationalities) benefited from education kits for the 2019/20 academic year. UNICEF result in the table reflects the reach to Syrian refugees only. Low results to date have been a direct result of underfunding.

³⁸ In 2020, UNICEF distributed the 2nd instalment of education grant for the 2019/20 academic year, which benefitted a total of 9,717 refugee children (4,769 Syrians, 4,766 Sub-Saharan Africans and 182 from other nationalities). Out of the total number of beneficiaries, 363 children (162 Syrian, 185 Sub-Saharan African and 16 from other nationalities) had also received the 1st instalment earlier this year. In December 2020, UNICEF started the disbursement of the 1st instalment of the new academic year 2020-2021, which benefited 9,388 refugee children (4,138 Syrians, 5,093 Africans, 157 others).

# of teachers and education personnel trained and received teaching materials	17,500	427 ³⁹	315	N/A	N/A	N/A
# of children (5-17 years, g/b) benefiting from life skills and citizenship education programmes in formal and non-formal settings	175,000	0 ⁴⁰	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
# of children (3-17 years) benefitting from rehabilitation/improvement of classrooms with WASH facilities in public and community schools.	288,000	0 ⁴¹	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Social Policy						
# of HH (MHH/FHH) received winterization support outside camps	21,370	0*	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
# of refugee HH (MHH/FHH) received multi-purpose cash assistance on monthly basis	700	0*	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Adolescents & Youth						
# of adolescents and youth (10-24 years) benefitting from employability, livelihood and vocational skills in non-formal settings	8,000	0*	0	N/A	N/A	N/A

³⁹ Through 2020, a total of 427 KG teachers and education personnel (161 Syrians, 226 Sub-Sahara Africans and 40 from other nationalities) benefitted from teachers training. Out of 427 participants, 16 were KG managers of which 5 of them attended both teachers training and KG managers training as KG managers are performing teaching tasks in some cases. UNICEF result in the table reflects the reach to Syrians only. Low results to date have been a direct result of underfunding and the school closure due to COVID-19.

⁴⁰ Low results to date have been a direct result of underfunding and the school closure due to COVID-19.

⁴¹ UNICEF received funding for the rehabilitation of public schools hosting refugee children at the end of 2019. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the rehabilitation work was postponed. However, the Ministry of Education (MoE) has resumed activities and planned interventions resumed in the months of December and will end in the first quarter of 2021.

* For all zero results, no activities were conducted since January 2020, this is due to the funding gap.

FUNDING STATUS

Syria Crisis (3RP)

Amounts in million USD

Sector	3RP																				Total 3RP											
	Jordan				Lebanon				Iraq				Turkey				Egypt				MENA				Requirements	Available Fund	Funding Gap					
	Requirements	Available Fund	Funding Gap		Requirements	Available Fund	Funding Gap		Requirements	Available Fund	Funding Gap		Requirements	Available Fund	Funding Gap		Requirements	Available Fund	Funding Gap		Requirements	Available Fund	Funding Gap									
			\$	%			\$	%			\$	%			\$	%			\$	%			\$	%	\$	%	\$	%				
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	26.7	17.4	9.3	35%	105.3	109.4	-4.1	-4%	1.6	2.8	-1.2	-71%													133.6	130	4.0	3%				
Health and Nutrition	5.6	9.2	-3.6	-65%	12.7	18.9	-6.2	-49%	2.4	1.4	1.0	43%	1.0	0.4	0.6	59%	0.9	0.9	0.0	-5%									22.6	31	-8.2	-37%
Education	55.5	56.9	-1.4	-3%	260.3	242.1	18.2	7%	3.1	0.8	2.2	72%	184.6	119.8	64.8	35%	8.3	1.8	6.5	78%									511.9	422	90.3	18%
Child Protection	19.8	24.4	-4.6	-23%	24.7	38.8	-14.2	-57%	1.9	0.2	1.7	88%	38.7	32.2	6.5	17%	10.3	0.3	9.9	97%									95.3	96	-0.6	-1%
Basic Needs and winter response	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0		3.0	2.5	0.5	15%	0.0	0.0	0.0									3.0	3	0.5	15%	
Social Protection	15.4	16.0	-0.6	-4%	17.6	21.6	-4.0	-23%	0.0	0.0	0.0			0.0	0.0	#DIV/0!	8.0	0.0	8.0	100%									41.0	38	3.4	8%
Youth and Adolescents	18.9	27.4	-8.6	-45%	34.6	30.3	4.3	12%					2.0	0.9	1.1	56%	1.2	0.0	1.2	100%									56.6	59	-2.0	-4%
Early recovery									0.0	0.0							0.0											0	0.0			
Palestinian					6.5	8.1	-1.6	-25%									0.0											6.5	8	-1.6	-25%	
Other																	0.2				4.0	0.0	4.0	100%					4.0	0	3.8	95%
Being allocated	0.0	0.00	0.0		0.0	0.0			0.0				1.7	-1.7			0.0				0.000							2				
Regional thematic																												0				
Pending Allocation to COs																					0.8											
Total	141.80	151.35	-9.55	-7%	461.68	469.31	-7.62	-2%	9.01	5.25	3.75	42%	229.37	157.56	71.81	31%	28.61	3.28	25.33	89%	4.00	0.00	4.00	100%	874.49	786.77	87.71	10%				

* Any allocation against unplanned or requirement amount is subtracted from the funding gap total.

** The above available funds also include carryovers from 2019.

UNICEF Syria Crisis: www.unicef.org/infobycountry/syriancrisis_68134.html

UNICEF Syria Crisis Facebook: www.facebook.com/unicefmena

UNICEF Syria and Syrian Refugees Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <http://www.unicef.org/appeals/index.html>

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