



Chaymaa, a Syrian refugee living in Lebanon, enjoys using digital platforms for learning.
© UNICEF Lebanon. Photo by Fouad Choufany.

Reporting Period: 1 July to 30 September 2023

UNICEF

Syria Crisis

Humanitarian Situation Report

July - September 2023

for every child

Highlights

- UNICEF reached 38,348 individuals, 25,177 children, with a wide range of protection services through a network of frontline workers in child and adolescent-friendly spaces, community centers, temporary accommodation centers (TACs), partners' offices and mobile outreach units across Türkiye.
- In Iraq, 36,291 Syrian refugee women, and children under the age of five (23,135 women and girls) accessed primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities.
- In Jordan, UNICEF provided 40,924 young people (54 per cent female) with skills-based training and 75,502 young people (53 per cent female) with opportunities for civic engagement in both refugee camps and host communities.
- In Lebanon, UNICEF provided MHPSS services to 14,119 persons including 10,833 children (6,140 girls and 4,693 boys) and to 3,286 caregivers (3,099 women and 187 men) who were engaged in activities to promote the wellbeing and protection of children.
- In Egypt, the Meshwary programme reached a total of 4,328 (2,251 females and 2,077 males) Syrian adolescents and youth in the Cairo, Giza, and Alexandria governorates with life, employability, and entrepreneurial skills and with career guidance services.

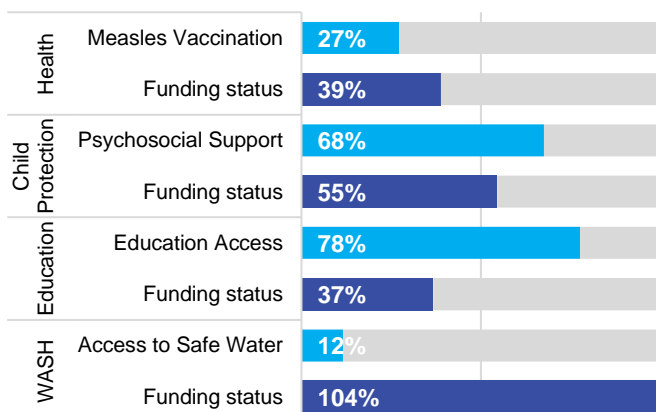
Situation in Numbers*

9,100,000
children in need
(Syrian Refugees HAC 2023)

21,700,000
people in need
(Syrian Refugees HAC 2023)

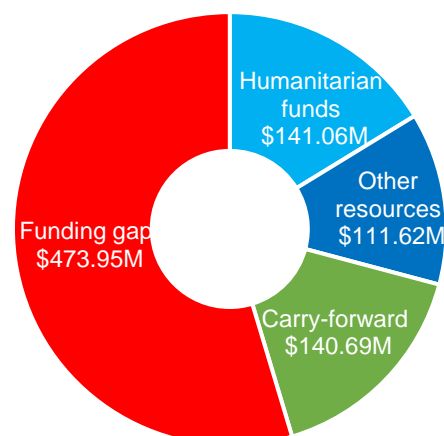
5,143,000
registered refugees
(UNHCR, 30 September 2023)

UNICEF's Response and Funding Status¹



UNICEF Appeal 2023

US\$ 867.3 million



¹ Measles vaccination activities are for Türkiye, Lebanon and Jordan. No WASH activities for Türkiye and Egypt.

TURKIYE

Funding Overview and Partnerships

In 2023 UNICEF needs US\$ 147 million to continue enabling access to and provision of critical services to more than four million refugees and migrants, as well as vulnerable host communities in Türkiye in response to the impact of the 11 years Syria refugee crisis and to new emerging challenges including the COVID-19 pandemic aftermath, the Ukraine crisis and the two devastating earthquakes of February 2023. Since the beginning of the year, BPRM, European Commission (ECHO) and Global Thematic Funds contributed to Türkiye's refugee response, which contributes to covering 20 per cent of the 2023 overall needs. Taking into account funding carried forward from 2022, the overall gap in 2023 is 72 per cent, which remains critical since the majority of available support is still strictly earmarked and does not allow for the required flexibility and long-term planning for the smooth implementation of the humanitarian-development nexus in Türkiye.

Situation in Numbers

4,700,000

children in need
(Syrian Refugees HAC 2023)

12,631,500

people in need
(Syrian Refugees HAC 2023)

3,279,000

registered refugees
(UNHCR, 22 September 2023)

UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to all public and private donors for their generous contributions and is willing to continue exploring new avenues for collaboration, aiming to provide the much-needed support and access to critical services to the hardest to reach children and their families.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The situation for more than 3.2² million Syrian refugees in Türkiye, including almost 1.6 million children, as well as approximately 304,500 refugees and asylum seekers of other nationalities (Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, and others), of whom around 121,000 are children, remains challenging³.

Türkiye also remains a leading transit country for registered and unregistered refugees and migrants on the move. Between July-September 2023, 17,538⁴ irregular migrants are intercepted or rescued by the Turkish authorities at sea borders, showing an increasing trend compared to the first half of the year and making the total number of identifications over 34,000 in 2023.⁵

While over 400,000 refugee children remain out-of-school, recently reported 2022-2023 school year statistics show an increase in the enrolment rates of Syrian children under temporary protection: pre-primary education (age 5) enrolment increased from 36.59 per cent to 41.36 per cent, primary education (ages 6-9) increased from 74.68 per cent to 77.85 per cent, lower-secondary education (ages 10-13) increased from 78.43 per cent to 79.98 per cent and upper-secondary (ages 14-17) increased from 29.76 per cent to 42.69 per cent.⁶ While statistics on 2023-2024 school year enrolment rates are not available publicly, February 6th earthquakes as well as socio-economic challenges are expected to have an impact on school enrolment and attendance. Refugee children continue to face multiple child protection risks, including psychosocial distress, child labour, child marriage and other forms of exploitation and abuse.

After the devastating earthquakes on 6 February that affected 11 provinces namely Adana, Adıyaman, Diyarbakır, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş, Kilis, Malatya, Osmaniye, Şanlıurfa and Elazığ where 1.7 million Syrians (811,000 children) were residing, Presidency of Migration Management (PMM) has settled Syrians in the temporary accommodation centers (TACs) to accommodate affected people who are in need of shelter. According to PMM data, more than 74,500 Syrians are staying in nine TACs.⁷ Efforts to meet the pressing needs within the earthquake affected region is ongoing.

² Presidency of Migration Management statistics for Temporary Protection <https://www.goc.gov.tr/gecici-koruma5638> retrieved on October 24th, data as of October 19th

³ UNHCR statistics for International Protection at <https://www.unhcr.org/refugee-statistics/download/?url=s8FNaw> , number of children estimated

⁴ Turkish Coast Guard Command, Irregular Migration Statistics, [Irregular Migration Statistics \(sg.gov.tr\)](https://www.tcg.gov.tr/), Retrieved on October 24th for data covering 2023

⁵ These figures only include those intercepted and rescued by the Turkish Coast Guard Command (TCG), while the actual number of migrants and refugees who attempt to cross from Türkiye to Europe by sea may be higher.

⁶ Ministry of National Education June 2023 reports

⁷ Presidency of Migration Management statistics for Temporary Protection <https://www.goc.gov.tr/gecici-koruma5638> retrieved on October 24th, data as of October 19th

Summary Analysis of Programme Response⁸

Child Protection

UNICEF works closely with the Ministry of Family and Social Services (MoFSS), Presidency of Migration Management (PMM), Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS), local authorities including municipalities and NGO partners to improve the coverage and quality of child protection systems and services for vulnerable refugees, migrant and Turkish children and adolescents and their families.

Between July and September 2023, UNICEF reached 38,348 individuals (21,215 female; 17,085 male; 48 non-binary), of which 25,177 are children, with a wide range of protection services through a network of frontline workers in child and adolescent-friendly spaces, community centers, temporary accommodation centers (TACs), and mobile outreach units across Türkiye.

During the reporting period, 17,161 refugee and Turkish children (8,320 girls, 8,838 boys; 3 non-binary) were assessed for their protection needs including 375 (221 girls; 154 boys) gender-based violence (GBV) survivors. 5,614 (2,590 girls; 3,021 boys; 3 non-binary) children identified with medium to high protection risks were referred and received necessary services. 224 (172 girls, 52 boys) of them were provided with GBV-specialized services. A total of 3,264 children (1,589 girls; 1,674 boys; 1 non-binary) and 897 caregivers (735 female; 161 male; 1 non-binary) received UNICEF-supported structured and sustained mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services.

“Children are Safe” outreach teams, supported by UNICEF under Ministry of Family and Social Services, identified 1,103 (559 girls; 544 boys) children at-risk including 289 refugee/migrant children (153 boys and 136 girls) and monitoring visits were conducted to ensure that their identified risks do not result in child protection cases. Parents and caregivers of vulnerable refugee, migrant and Turkish children continued to benefit from structured positive parenting interventions programmes by partner organizations, reaching a total of 2,214 caregivers (1,644 female; 568 male; 2 non-binary) in the reporting period.

4,101 individuals (2,972 female; 1,129 male) were reached through GBV-related information campaigns and activities to raise public awareness on rights, entitlements and assistance for prevention, mitigation and response to GBV.

UNICEF continues its support for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), ensuring their full compliance with the Core standards of Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), following the UN's standardized PSEA assessment approach. PSEA measures have been integrated into UNICEF's cross-sectoral programs. UNICEF remains actively involved in inter-agency coordination to advance the PSEA agenda, fostering principled partnerships and sharing ongoing information regarding NGOs' PSEA assessments and risk mitigation strategies.

Education

UNICEF, in collaboration with the Ministry of National Education (MoNE), supports the Schooling Adolescents through Vocational Education (SAVE) Program, targeting 14-17-year-old out-of-school children (Turkish and Syrian) vulnerable to child labour, a common negative coping mechanism within Syrian refugee families to sustain their livelihoods. From July to September 2023, 5,090 children were reached, with 1,190 identified as out of school (289 girls; 901 boys). Notably, 945 adolescents (116 girls; 829 boys), were enrolled in Vocational Education Centers (VECs) during this period. Overall, since its initiation in 2020, the program has successfully enrolled a total of 7,252 out-of-school adolescents (1,026 girls; 6,226 boys) in VECs.

⁸ UNICEF Türkiye re-programmed resources for emergency earthquake response. Since the earthquake affected area is highly populated by Syrian refugees, earthquake response activities through NGO and government partners (including line ministries and municipalities) such as MHPSS, prevention of and response to GBV, access to education, provision of critical hygiene items and access to safe water, information dissemination, and engagement also reach Syrians under Temporary Protection. These results are reported under UNICEF Türkiye Earthquake response Situation Reports therefore not reported here to avoid double-counting both for funding and for results.

UNICEF's Support for School Enrolment (SSE) Programme is a specifically tailored programme addressing the urgent need for targeted services, particularly in the context of over 400,000 refugee children who remain out of school. The programme provided targeted education counselling, referrals to external services, and follow-up for out-of-school refugee children, preventing dropouts and facilitating access to education. In the reporting period, 12,990 refugee children (6,377 girls; 6,613 boys) were identified and assessed. Therefore, during the reporting period 15,546 out-of-school refugee children (7,684 girls; 7,862 boys) (including previously identified but enrolled during this reporting period) successfully enrolled in education and referred to other social services such as protection, health, etc.

Within the UNICEF and Kilis Municipality Partnership, 103 children (50 girls; 53 boys) actively participated in early education activities, fostering integration between host and refugee communities. Furthermore, the academic support program reached 305 children (175 girls, 130 boys) in the reporting period.

UNICEF and MoNE jointly produced 75 Augmented Reality learning materials for over 300,000 Turkish and refugee students. This initiative equips adolescents, including refugees with modern digital skills, potentially enhancing their employability, and fostering long-term self-reliance.

Social Protection

UNICEF continued its technical assistance and advocacy for the Ministry of Family and Social Services with the aim of improving the child-sensitivity and inclusiveness of national social protection systems for all at-risk families and children in Türkiye, particularly focusing on programs such as the Türkiye Family Support Programme (TFSP), Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) and Conditional Cash Transfer for Education (CCTE) programmes implemented for refugees and host communities. UNICEF started a revision and improvement exercise of the targeting/prioritization modules of the national social assistance system, in order to increase their sensitivity to needs and deprivations of children and response capacity to shock. The work also includes identifying the government's needs for expanded utilization of Business Intelligence modules developed by UNICEF and integrated into Ministry's single registry covering both citizens and refugees.

Local Governance: UNICEF developed Child-focused Disaster Risk Reduction Guideline to improve the child sensitivity of municipal preparedness and responses to shocks and to ensure effective/inclusive recoveries addressing refugees and host communities. The guideline will be disseminated to all municipalities in Turkey in partnership with the Union of Municipalities of Türkiye. UNICEF also supported Ankara Metropolitan Municipality to develop a Child Policy Vision Document which aims to enhance all children's access to quality and inclusive municipal services, child protection, ECE and ECD services in Ankara.

Child Labour & Child Rights and Business Principles: UNICEF continued working towards increasing the capacity of public, private and civil society partners in eliminating child labour among refugee and host communities and promoting children's rights and business principles (CRBPs). In the reporting period, in partnership with the Ministry of Labour, NGOs and the private sector, UNICEF finalized a wider set of major and high-quality reports on child labour and CRBP: "Emergency Response Guide for Seasonal Migratory Agricultural Workers and Their Children", "The Tip of the Iceberg – The Study Report on the Effect of the Coronavirus Pandemic on Seasonal Migrant Agricultural Workers, Their Families, and on Child Labour", "A Rapid Assessment Report: Impact of the Earthquake on Seasonal Migratory Agricultural Workers and Their Children", "Child Labour in Garment Sector in Türkiye - An Analysis on Child Labour and Human Rights Due Diligence Practices". The reports will not only inform the programmatic needs but also increase the knowledge of various stakeholders.

Social and Behaviour Change (SBC) and Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

UNICEF engaged more than 200,000 community members in social actions including women, men and adolescent girls and boys to promote positive behaviours focused on Child Early and Forced Marriages (CEFM), life skills development, social cohesion and health. Additionally, 125,000 Syrian refugees were provided information on access to services. In collaboration with Child Protection and Gender, to influence behaviour change, seminars addressing CEFM were organised for both mothers and fathers. While Role

Modelling sessions continued to support and enhance the understanding of importance of Education and harmful practices. In collaboration with Child Protection, ADAP and Education, skills development and social cohesion activities facilitated positive engagement of children and adolescents both in-school and out of school.

UNICEF engaged 1,598 parents to equip them with positive parental attitudes, enhance intra-family communication skills and to understand child developmental stages.

UNICEF engaged 3,177 parents and caregivers to promote routine vaccination and disseminated multi-lingual (Arabic, Persian, Ukrainian) national vaccination schedule to reach refugee population. Also, through the intervention, 471 eligible parents were engaged to promote immunization services.

UNICEF's engagement with refugees and migrant population led to 772 feedback and complaint collected during the reporting period. While the feedback largely acknowledged the UNICEF supported services, the demand for increased positive parenting activities were evident. UNICEF programmes such as Child Protection, Education, Early Childhood Development and Adolescent Development have planned engagement activities with parents and caregivers in the upcoming quarter.

Adolescent Development and Participation (ADAP)

UNICEF worked closely with the MOYS, MOFSS, NGO partners, and the private sector to expand opportunities for meaningful engagement and skills development for Syrian and Turkish adolescents.

Youth engagement: MOYS and Youth and Sports Foundation (YSF) continued providing a variety of community-based adolescent and youth engagement activities reaching 50,677 (26,274 female, 24,403 male) Turkish and non-Turkish adolescents and young people in the reporting period.

Adolescent skills development: UNICEF continued collaborating with MOYS/YSF, Habitat Association, Gaziantep and Şanlıurfa Municipalities to equip young people with social entrepreneurship, digital and life skills enabling young people to collaborate and develop solutions towards local challenges.

Adolescent skills development activities reached a total of 73,610 Turkish and other nationality adolescents and young people (42,768 female, 30,842 male) during the reporting period.

Within the scope of Generation Unlimited Youth Challenge 2023, 13 teams (43 adolescents and young people) among 211 teams (809 young people who participated in idea generation boot camps nationwide) passed to the second phase to compete in the local finals. The best 2 teams were selected to represent Türkiye in the Global Youth Challenge.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

The Government of Türkiye leads the overall response to the Syrian refugee crisis as it continues to shoulder the bulk of the financial costs related to the refugee response in Türkiye. The United Nations support the Government efforts within the framework of the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP). The leadership of the UN inter-agency response takes place via the Syria Response Group and technical coordination via the National Inter-Agency Coordination.⁹

As part of the 3RP coordination efforts in Türkiye, UNICEF is leading the Education Working Group (WG), including its sub-WGs in Istanbul, Izmir and South-East Türkiye and the Child Protection WG, including its South-East Türkiye Sub-WG. UNICEF is also contributing to 3RP Basic Needs and Health sector WGs at national and sub-regional levels. In addition, UNICEF is an active member of the interagency PSEA Network and 3RP Working Groups on Gender and Gender-based Violence, Accountability to Affected Populations, and Contingency Planning.

UNICEF humanitarian response plan focuses on five priority areas—Education, Child Protection, Adolescents and Youth, Health, and Cross Sectoral areas such as SBC, AAP, RCCE—to reach refugee children in temporary accommodation centres and host communities, as well as vulnerable Turkish children affected by the crisis.

⁹ Previously called Syria Task Force

Media and Communications

During this quarter, UNICEF Türkiye produced a range of media content to highlight Syrian refugee response in Türkiye. These included a [HIS](#) and a [PR](#) mentioning the current situation of refugees, 2 [SSE Videos](#) in 3 languages and 74 [SSE Photos](#). Additionally, posts about the Support for School Enrolment program were shared on social media, reaching more than 22 million users as part of the project social media campaign that targeted EU citizens in Italy and Romania. The goal of the campaign was to increase awareness of the program and highlight UNICEF and ECHO's support for education.

Social Media Links

Instagram:

- [UNICEF Türkiye \(@unicefturkiye\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)
- [UNICEF Türkiye \(@unicefturkiye\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)
- [UNICEF Türkiye \(@unicefturkiye\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

Twitter:

- <https://x.com/unicefturk/status/1702590177187684822?s=20>
- <https://x.com/unicefturk/status/1702958725567304182?s=20>
- <https://x.com/unicefturk/status/1704409240872312872?s=20>

Facebook:

- [\(20+\) UNICEF Türkiye - Şems ve kardeşleri Ali ve Ahmet İstanbul'da okula... | Facebook](#)
- [\(20+\) UNICEF Türkiye - Eğitim çocuklar için umudun istikrarın ve daha... | Facebook](#)
- [\(20+\) UNICEF Türkiye - Bir kız çocuğunu eğitmek bütün bir ulusu... | Facebook](#)

Annex A Summary of programme results

Türkiye

| Sector | UNICEF and IPs Response | | | Sector Response | | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| | 2023 target | Total results | Change since last report | 2023 target | Total results | Change since last report |
| Health | | | | | | |
| # children vaccinated against measles | 100,000 | N/A ¹⁰ | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Child Protection, GBVIE & PSEA | | | | | | |
| # of children (and caregivers) provided with community-based mental health and psychosocial support | 37,000 | 13,528 ¹¹ | 4,161 | 78,852 | 59,188 | 17,264 |
| # of children assessed for protection needs | 90,000 | 38,031 ¹² | 17,161 | 146,216 | 82,262 | 34,404 |
| # of people with access to safe channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse | 160,000 | 23,572 ¹³ | 3,972 | N/A | 45,711 | 8,448 |
| # of individuals (men, women, children) provided with GBV risk mitigation, prevention, or response interventions | 68,500 | 17,835 ¹⁴ | 6,368 | 626,050 | 174,353 | 68,976 |
| # of adolescents and young people participating in engagement actions | 200,000 | 190,338 ¹⁵ | 50,667 | N/A | 190,338 | 50,667 |
| Education | | | | | | |
| # of children enrolled in ECCE and pre-primary education | 110,000 | 64,887 ¹⁶ | 13,680 | 130,048 | 64,887 | 13,680 |
| # of children enrolled in formal education (grade 1 to grade 12) | 782,000 | 933,025 ¹⁷ | 119,435 | 782,000 | 933,025 | 119,435 |
| # of children enrolled in accredited non-formal education | 25,000 | 4,493 ¹⁸ | 2,105 | 26,900 | 6,335 | 2,119 |
| # of teachers and education personnel trained, including on remote learning | 104,700 | 1,611 ¹⁹ | 0 | 106,250 | 2,227 | 0 |
| # of Syrian teachers and other education personnel receiving incentives | 4,700 | N/A ²⁰ | N/A | 5100 | N/A | N/A |
| # of children/adolescents accessing skills development programmes | 162,790 | 220,078 ²¹ | 80,823 | 178,840 | 237,958 | 98,703 |
| Cross-Sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP) | | | | | | |
| # people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services | 500,000 | 628,150 ²² | 252,353 | 688,230 | 628,150 | 252,353 |

10 Data is not being shared by the Ministry of Health. Additional efforts to be made to enable access to data

11 Total 13,528 (Girls 5,342; Boys 5,293; and non-binary below 1); (Women 2,397; Men 493; non-binary above 18: 2). The reason behind the low achievement is mainly the EQ response as the interventions have been targeted to EQ survivors and the progress related to EQ has been reported under EQ Sitreps. Additionally, some activities under the programme are funded by KfW and will not be reported as per the guidance.

12 Total 38,031 (Girls 18,565; Boys; 19,460 non-binary 6). The reason behind the low achievement is mainly the EQ response as the interventions have been targeted to EQ survivors and the progress related to EQ has been reported under EQ Sitreps. Additionally, some activities under the programme are funded by KfW and will not be reported as per the guidance.

13 Total 23,572 (Girls 8,505; Boys 7,613; and non-binary below 7); (Women 5,437; Men 1,998; non-binary above 18: 12). The reason behind the low achievement is mainly the EQ response as the interventions have been targeted to EQ survivors and the progress related to EQ has been reported under EQ Sitreps. Additionally, some activities under the programme are funded by KfW and will not be reported as per the guidance.

14 Total 17,835 (Girls 5,608; Boys 3,904; non-binary below 18 0) (Women 7,405; Men 911 and non-binary (adult) 7). The reason behind the low achievement is mainly the EQ response as the interventions have been targeted to EQ survivors and the progress related to EQ has been reported under EQ Sitreps. Additionally, some activities under the programme are funded by KfW and will not be reported as per the guidance.

15 Total 190,338 (Female: 100,528, Male: 89,810).

16 Total 64,887 (Female: 31,504– Male: 33,383). Some activities under the programme are funded by KfW and will not be reported as per the guidance. This is the reason for the drop in the result.

17 Total 933,025 (Female: 452,470 & Male: 480,555). The reason for the overachievement is the joint efforts of MoNE and education sector partners including UNICEF in the post-COVID period to accelerate access to and retention in education.

18 Total 4,493 gender disaggregation is not available in this reporting period. Slow progress is due to that ALP programme, which is one of the programme feeding this indicator, ended last quarter

19 Total 1,611 (Female: 770 & Male 841). There was no TT during the summer duration and these programmes started in October. Trainings will be completed within Q4.

20 The programme is funded by KfW and will not be reported as per the guidance.

21 Total 220,078 (Female 121,943; & Male: 98135). The high demand of adolescents and young people for life skills activities in the Ministry of Youth centers increases the number of participants. The Ministry prioritized the activity planning based on the demand and increased the number of sessions to meet the demand in youth centers.

22 Gender disaggregation is not available. The reach is cumulative of CP, EDU and Health reach including the info dissemination done by SBC. Since it is a joint effort, the reached number is high.

| | | | | | | |
|--|---------|-----------------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|
| # people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms | 10,000 | 3,394 ²³ | 772 | 13,210 | 14,564 | 11,942 |
| Adolescent & Youth | | | | | | |
| # of adolescents and young people participating in engagement actions | 200,000 | 190,338 ²⁴ | 50,667 | N/A | 190,338 | 50,667 |

23 Gender disaggregation is not available. The under reporting is due to inadequate system of implementing partners reporting mechanism. UNICEF is working with the IP staff to strengthen this reporting since last quarter. Also, the feedback concerns are low in regular Syrian programme and it is observed that there is low eagerness to share/give feedback on concerns and services.

24 Total 190,338 (Female: 100,528, Male: 89,810).

LEBANON

Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF is appealing for US\$ 527.5 million to support Syrian refugees in Lebanon and vulnerable Lebanese people under the framework of the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP). While UNICEF Lebanon has received US\$ 278.1 million in generous new contributions from key donors and other resources in 2023 including carryover from 2022, the appeal remains 47 per cent unfunded.

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

Lebanon's ongoing complex economic and financial crisis has been further compounded by political deadlock. Lebanon continues to host the largest number of refugees per capita in the world, further stretching an already drained public service system. Due to the nearly collapsed banking system, many families have become reliant on remittances provided by the Lebanese diaspora to meet their basic needs, with data identifying Lebanon as the most remittance-dependent country in the world.²⁵ Economic vulnerability continues to rise, with over two thirds of Syrian refugees reporting that they do not have the economic capacity to afford the minimum essential items needed to survive. Prices of food items have increased by 332 per cent since June 2021 and nearly all (94 per cent) of refugee households have taken on debt to cover their essential food and non-food needs, suggesting that refugees' purchasing power has dramatically decreased and that most are unable to meet their basic needs without taking on debt, further exacerbating their vulnerability.²⁶

This combination of crises has severely impacted the accessibility and affordability of basic services like healthcare, education, and access to clean water and sanitation which has exacerbated existing inequalities thereby increasing protection needs. For example, the rise in food prices has resulted in an increase in nutritional deprivation amongst vulnerable groups. More than one million children, adolescents, and women, mainly pregnant and lactating women, are suffering from malnutrition and related developmental and wellbeing deprivations.²⁷ Health systems are also becoming increasingly unaffordable, with cost listed as the main barrier to accessing healthcare despite the number of people in need increasing by nearly 10 per cent between 2022 and 2023.²⁸ Additional barriers include the unavailability of services or difficulty in ensuring operational costs to run health facilities due to electricity and water disruption. Demand for public health services are anticipated to continue to rise while available resources are expected to decline, suggesting a potential increase in mortality, morbidity, or worsened health outcomes.²⁹ WASH services have also been disrupted due to the crises, with almost 2.8 million people across Lebanon facing challenges to accessing safe and sufficient quantities of water for drinking, domestic use, and safe sanitation. WASH needs are estimated to have increased by 25 per cent in 2023 when compared with early 2022.³⁰ Lebanon's crises have also impacted learning, preventing children from accessing schools due to school closures as well as due to rising costs and increasing poverty, which has deprioritized education and disrupted learning for children across Lebanon. To cope, and because access to social services is limited due to the crises, families have resorted to negative coping strategies like child labour, child marriage, and violent discipline which has exacerbated existing child protection concerns in communities. This has resulted in over one million children in need of specialised prevention and protection response services across Lebanon.

Situation in Numbers

1,500,000

children in need
(HAC 2023)

3,834,000

people in need
(HAC 2023)

790,000

registered refugees
(UNHCR, 30 September 2023)

²⁵ World Bank Lebanon Economic Monitor (2022) and e KNOMAD/World Bank (2022), Migrant remittance inflows (USD million). Retrieved at: <https://www.knomad.org/data/remittances>

²⁶ VASyR 2022 (<https://ialebanon.unhcr.org/vasyr/#/>)

²⁷ Escalating needs in Lebanon | A 2023 overview (<https://reliefweb.int/report/lebanon/escalating-needs-lebanon-2023-overview>)

²⁸ Ibid and VASyR 2022 (<https://ialebanon.unhcr.org/vasyr/#/>)

²⁹ Escalating needs in Lebanon | A 2023 overview (<https://reliefweb.int/report/lebanon/escalating-needs-lebanon-2023-overview>)

³⁰ Ibid.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health

During the reporting period, UNICEF solarized seven primary healthcare centres (PHCs); by solarizing PHCs amid the energy crisis, UNICEF not only addressed the immediate challenges posed by power shortages but also laid the foundation for a more resilient and eco-friendly healthcare infrastructure.

In alignment with its commitment to support the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) with strengthening the primary healthcare system to ensure quality healthcare services are accessible, UNICEF conducted a comprehensive cost analysis of primary healthcare in Lebanon. This initiative aims to facilitate more effective resource planning and allocation by the government and donor entities, ultimately leading to the provision of quality services while simultaneously expanding access to healthcare services for the public, especially vulnerable populations. The analysis is comprised of a fiscal space analysis and a costing of basic benefit package, while identifying gaps in financing that hinder the health sector from achieving its objectives. It also assesses the benefits of investing in the health sector and provides recommendations for various financing options and areas where greater efficiency can be achieved. This analysis serves as an advocacy tool for mobilizing resources to support PHCs and consists of a comprehensive costing of packages that are adopted as the standard for delivering PHC services.

Under its routine immunization programme, this quarter UNICEF supported the vaccination of 27,542 children against Measles; while 55,473 were vaccinated against Polio; 57,708 were vaccinated against Rotavirus; 84,002 children under five received the Pentavalent vaccine; and 62,520 were vaccinated with the Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine.

Nutrition

As part of the integrated nutrition and child development Rising Initiative,³¹ UNICEF continued to address the immediate and underlying causes of malnutrition and early childhood developmental deprivations and impairments among the most vulnerable children to help them reach their full growth potential. Since July 2023, the Rising service package has been introduced to 78 Early Childhood Development (ECD) corners and community centre 'Makani' ('My Space') sites and 36 nurseries, through which the technical and skill capacity of 142 ECD community frontline workers was enhanced.

UNICEF screened 81,895 children under the age of five (41,766 girls and 40,129 boys; 54,051 Syrian refugees and 27,844 Lebanese) for wasting out of which 318 were admitted for treatment (274 Syrian refugees and 44 Lebanese). In addition, 11,486 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) (7,581 Syrian refugees and 3,905 Lebanese) were also screened for wasting. Out of this group, 683 acute malnourished children (348 girls and 335 boys; 505 Syrian refugees and 178 Lebanese) were provided with a wasting treatment programme with an 80 per cent recovery rate through 25 public health centres. To address micronutrient deficiencies among children and women, 20,477 children under the age of five and 5,930 women were provided with micronutrient supplements (10,341 girls and 10,136 boys; 13,515 Syrian refugees and 6,962 Lebanese). Further, 4,798 primary caregivers of children 0-23 months (4,205 women and 593 men; 2,831 Syrian refugees, 1,928 Lebanese, and 39 other) were provided with integrated nutrition and child development counselling.

UNICEF supported treatment through the provision of nutritional supplies including therapeutic and supplementary ready-to-use food, micronutrient supplements, and training and supervision to PHCs to ensure the sustainability of the programme. UNICEF reached 43,784 caregivers of children under the age of five (32,068 women and 11,716 men; 18,035 Syrian refugees, 24,838 Lebanese, and 911 other) with social behaviour change messages on healthy nutrition, infant and young child counselling (IYCF), responsive

³¹ This initiative utilizes multiple platforms to simultaneously address immediate and underlying causes of malnutrition and early childhood developmental deprivations and impairments among the most vulnerable children to prevent stunting, other forms of malnutrition, and associated cognitive deprivations to help all children reach their full growth potential. The 'Rising Initiative' relies on key essential nutrition and developmental interventions that aim to enhance adequate diets, provide nurturing and responsive care practices, and provide nutrition and child development services to prevent all forms of malnutrition and developmental deprivations and delays.

caregiving, and maternal nutrition. In addition, 8,484 primary caregivers of children under two (7,756 women and 728 men; 5,574 Syrian refugees, 2,739 Lebanese, and 171 other) received IYCF counselling.

In July 2023, UNICEF, in collaboration with other partners in the Nutrition Sector, provided support to the MoPH to initiate the Lebanon Integrated Micronutrient and Anthropometry (LIMA) survey, Lebanon's first-ever comprehensive national nutritional survey. This survey encompasses micronutrient assessments, anthropometric measurements, and child development evaluations and serves as a crucial tool to develop up-to-date insights into vital nutritional areas including the following: micronutrient status and prevalence of anaemia; trends in stunting, wasting, underweight, and obesity among children; early childhood development indicators; assessment of the effectiveness of the Salt Iodization Programme; dietary patterns among young children, adolescents, and women; analysing the link between malnutrition and developmental deprivations; the prevalence of risk factors associated with nutrition-related non-communicable diseases, including lipid profiles, diabetes, and blood pressure and salt intake. Results will be available in the second quarter of 2024 and will be used to inform policies and programmes in Lebanon and will play a pivotal role in enhancing nutrition and child development outcomes for children across the country.

Child Protection

To address the increasing protection concerns affecting women and children, UNICEF provided 708 children (296 girls and 412 boys; 468 Syrian refugees, 215 Lebanese, 7 Palestinian refugees, and 18 other) with case management and specialized services. UNICEF also provided 6,650 children and adults (1,552 women, 111 men, 2,425 girls, and 2,562 boys; 4,988 Syrian refugees, 1,488 Lebanese, 169 Palestinians, and 5 other) Mental Health and Psychosocial support (MHPSS) including community-based psychosocial support (PSS), focused non-specialized PSS, and activities for caregivers. As part of the prevention and response to gender-based violence (GBV) programme, 2,280 women and girls accessed safe spaces. In addition, this quarter 2,055 people reported having safe and accessible channels to report SEA.

Under the prevention and early intervention pillar of the programme and throughout the past quarter, UNICEF continued to promote alternatives to harmful practices among Lebanese, Syrian, and Palestinian communities in Lebanon, reaching 629 individuals (417 women and 212 men; 378 Syrian refugees, 211 Lebanese, and 40 Palestinian refugees) through 60 Qudwa initiatives³² including edutainment activities such as community theatre, puppet shows, caregivers toolbox sessions, and social media initiatives. Through such interventions, UNICEF partners continued to mobilise individuals and community leaders to advocate for the protection of women and children.

Lastly, in June 2022, the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) began working on a new vision for social welfare services for children and families, with support from UNICEF. The vision aims to define MoSA's purpose, objectives, and services for supporting vulnerable children and families. This initiative is particularly crucial due to the significant political, economic, and social changes in recent years, which have created new challenges and placed pressure on MoSA services. Over the past year, UNICEF collaborated with MoSA to collect evidence on the impact of these challenges on the care and protection of children. As such, a series of workshops were conducted to assess the needs of children and their families and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the existing system. In September 2023, the seventh and final consultation workshop with MoSA was held, following which a smaller drafting committee began working on a vision document that is expected to be finalized in December 2023. The vision will be built around four main strategic objectives: 1) ensuring the wellbeing of children and adults including the most vulnerable; 2) empowering families to provide the adequate care and protection of children and other members of the family; 3) empowering communities to ensure social solidarity and promote child and family wellbeing; and 4) ensure quality and adequate MOSA Social Services to ensure the wellbeing of children, families, and communities.

32 QUDWA is a violence prevention strategy that aims to eliminate the root causes of violence against children and women. More information on QUDWA can be found here: <https://www.unicef.org/lebanon/qudwa>.

Education

Second shift schools finished in mid-July, thus marking the end of the 22/23 school year for both the morning and afternoon shifts. During the 22/23 school year, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) reported 213,000 Lebanese and 192,000 non-Lebanese students enrolled in public schools, with 45,849 supported by UNICEF during the reporting period, through the payments of teacher salaries, disbursements directly to schools, and parent council funds to support with operational costs.

The summer Catch-up Programme took place over six weeks between July 17 to August 24, 2023 in 587 public schools across Lebanon. A total of 156,477 children benefitted from this programme, out of which 135,918 children (69,318 girls and 66,600 boys; 92,424 Lebanese and 43,494 non-Lebanese) grades one to nine were supported by UNICEF. 7,993 teachers (6,155 women and 1,838 men) and 4,025 school staff (2,858 women and 1,167 men) facilitated the summer school programme. Additionally, UNICEF supported the programme with supplies, cash incentives for teachers and staff, operational costs of schools, transportation allowances for the Département D'orientation Pédagogique et Scolaire (DOPS) counsellors, student insurance costs, and Cash for Education support to 130,667 children who attended a minimum of 18 days of the summer school programme to support families to cover the cost of transportation.

Under the Learning Recovery Initiative, UNICEF supported Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) training that started in September 2023 with the operational costs and staff and trainers' incentives. Training remain ongoing and are intended for public school teachers in cycles 1 and 2 and are expected to continue through December 2023.

The findings from the assessment on internet connectivity, digital equipment, access to power supplies, and WASH services conducted across all public schools and selected public Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) schools were presented to the MEHE in July. These findings will help inform additional investments across the public education system to upgrade the learning environment through access to quality internet connectivity, reliable and clean energy, and well-maintained WASH services and facilities.

UNICEF continued to support 450 children with disabilities (289 girls and 161 boys) through enrolment in education and therapy services. Further, 324 stakeholders, community members, caregivers, and children (207 girls and 117 boys) were reached through two social behavioural activities to support the inclusion of children with disabilities in society and within educational programmes. In addition, 32 children with disabilities (21 girls, 11 boys) were referred and accessed different services including health, nutrition, child protection, and WASH.

UNICEF continued to provide a comprehensive range of integrated services to support marginalized and vulnerable children and youth ages three to 18, along with their caregivers, through its Makani ("My Place" in Arabic) centres. UNICEF and its partners gradually launched Makani centres throughout Lebanon, reaching 24,209 children (with a gender balance of 50 per cent girls and 50 per cent boys) across 65 community hubs and 48 informal settlements. Notably, 726 children with disabilities were identified and enrolled in Makani centres. Makani beneficiaries were further referred to essential services based on identified needs, particularly for case management and health services. Furthermore, ongoing training sessions were conducted to enhance partners' capacity in managing the centre's programmes. To enhance access to technology-based resources, 20 digital hubs were established in Makani centres equipped with computers, tablets, projectors, charging stations, and reliable internet connectivity. This initiative aims to promote community-based learning, facilitate knowledge-sharing through digital platforms, and provide opportunities for community members to connect and exchange knowledge and experiences.

UNICEF also supported 3,061 children (1,492 girls and 1,569 boys) including 200 children with disabilities through its Dirasa ("My study" in Arabic) programme.³³ This programme aims to support struggling private-free

³³ This programme was developed to help deal with the rising number of out of school children in Lebanon along with other challenges facing the education sector. The programme is a whole-system approach featuring multiple flexible pathways as a bridge that facilitates the re-entry of marginalised out of school children and adolescents into education programmes.

and private schools to continue operating while supporting Lebanese and non-Lebanese children already enrolled in these schools to ensure their retention and avoid dropout.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Through UNICEF's WASH programme, 214,760 Syrian refugees (67,135 women, 63,891 men, 40,803 girls and 42,931 boys) were assisted through temporary access to water that is safe for drinking and domestic use. In addition, 231,207 Syrian refugees (72,276 women, 68,784 men, 43,929 girls and 46,218 boys) were supported with access to improved sanitation in informal settlements.

UNICEF is continuing to work on a comprehensive plan to implement the Water and Sanitation Action Plans where cost-effective, sustainable options are being identified to reduce and optimize water trucking and desludging activities. These options are being considered at the settlement-level with sustainable solutions tailored specifically for the surrounding environment. Since January 2023, there has been a 17 per cent reduction in the number of informal settlements relying on water trucking from UNICEF and a 22 per cent decrease in informal settlements being provided desludging from UNICEF.

Within informal settlements, 124,750 individuals participated in WASH behavioural change sessions and activities to understand the impact of climate change during which personal hygiene awareness sessions were also conducted. Information on the importance of disinfecting latrines and water tanks to prevent the spread of diseases was also shared and UNICEF and partners delivered tailored public health promotion messages across informal settlements. 4,762 hygiene kits were also distributed which will reach up to 28,752 individuals in informal settlements. In addition, 3,968 menstrual hygiene kits were distributed.

Social Protection and Social Policy

In April 2023, UNICEF, together with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and ILO, launched the National Disability Allowance (NDA) – Lebanon's first cash transfer programme for persons with disabilities - reaching over 17,000 refugees and Lebanese individuals with unconditional cash assistance to fulfil their basic needs and meet the additional costs of living with a disability.

This quarter, UNICEF reached 550 new beneficiaries through the NDA. This programme is particularly significant as persons with disabilities in Lebanon are far more likely to be living in poverty than the rest of the population and continue to face discrimination and exclusion from opportunities to continue their education, work, and earn a decent income. Upon its launch, the NDA targeted persons with disabilities aged 18-28 but will expand its age range coverage to children with disabilities.

Adolescent Development and Participation

By the end of September 2023, UNICEF rolled out its integrated learning and engagement package into Makani centres for adolescents between the ages of 15 to 18. The package includes youth basic and functional literacy and numeracy, life skills, sports for development, introduction to entrepreneurship and innovation, and career guidance and has thus far reached 3,440 youth (1,926 girls and 1,514 boys) between July and September 2023. Moreover, 64 youth (47 girls and 17 boys) were referred from the skilling programme into employment as youth facilitators in 17 Makani centres in Baalbek governorate. Youth are referred from the Makani programme to the youth skills building programme where they learn an occupation and benefit from work-based learning to improve the likelihood that they will find employment or take part in UNICEF's Generation of Innovation Leaders (GIL) programme to become self-employed.

This quarter, 1,479 marginalized adolescents and youth (954 girls and 525 boys; 822 Syrian refugees, 654 Lebanese, 3 others) benefited from regulated, nonformal education under the Youth Basic and Functional Literacy and Numeracy programme (through Makani centres), while 347 adolescents and youth (210 females and 137 males; 162 Syrian refugees and 185 Lebanese) took part in a competency and market-based skills training programme, and 481 youth participated in the GIL programme (266 girls and 215 boys; 215 Syrian and 266 Lebanese). 13 business were incubated under the GIL programme this quarter. GIL helps youth gain access to the digital economy and entrepreneurship opportunities, providing them with the skills needed to

develop innovative, income-generating solutions to problems in their communities and set up businesses, in addition to supporting them with gaining employment in the digital world through coding and micro-work. Out of the youth trained in GIL, 16 youth were employed this quarter (5 girls and 11 boys; 13 Syrian refugees and 3 Lebanese). In addition, 542 youth (349 girls and 193 boys; 204 Syrian refugees and 338 Lebanese) were supported with employment support services consisting of career guidance, work-based learning, employment, or income generation activities. Moreover, 2,678 youth were trained on life skills (1,509 females and 1,169 males; 1,844 Syrian refugees and 834 Lebanese).

In September 2023, UNICEF and the World Bank launched the Forastech platform under the Patronage of the Prime Minister. Forastech is a new national online learning platform that will provide young people with access to affordable, subsidized, and easily accessible digital skills learning. During the minimum viable product (MVP) testing phase, 7,000 youth signed up on the platform, 1,893 youth enrolled in learning path (LP) and courses, and 200 users received certifications from tech industries (120 girls and 80 boys; 16 Syrian refugees and 184 Lebanese).

Palestinian Programme in Lebanon (PPL)³⁴

UNICEF's Palestinian Programme in Lebanon contributes to improving the lives of Palestinian refugees in camps and gatherings, as well as the lives of Lebanese people and Syrian refugees, by providing critical life-saving services.

This quarter, UNICEF's Palestinian programme provided 1,067 children (491 girls and 576 boys) the minimum set of vaccines as well as supported 21,941 children and women (14,457 women and girls (7,743 women, 6,714 girls, and 7,484 boys) with accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities.

UNICEF also provided MHPSS services to 14,119 people including 10,833 children (6,140 girls and 4,693 boys) and to 3,286 caregivers (3,099 women and 187 men) who were engaged in activities to promote the wellbeing and protection of children. Moreover, 221 children (121 girls and 100 boys) received case management support for specialised MHPSS services. These services promote a sense of belonging, safety, stabilization, socialization, and support for cognitive and motor skills. Caregivers were also offered a range of child protection, MHPSS, GBV, child rights, and non-violence information and services. In addition, 4,453 women accessed GBV risk mitigation, prevention, or response interventions.

Overall, 4,988 children accessed formal or nonformal education, including early learning. This includes 3,270 children who are between the ages of 3-5 (1,566 girls and 1,704 boys), including 100 children with disabilities, received early childhood education (ECE). This programme offers quality, sustainable, and equitable ECE specialized services and recreational activities to improve children's wellbeing and support them to transfer to formal education at the age of six. In addition, 1,718 children between the ages of 6-14 received school retention support (911 girls and 807 boys) in the Palestinian camps and gatherings. Through this programme, UNICEF, through its implementing partners, is addressing key barriers to education and tackling underlying factors that impact children's development and learning. Children are enrolled in UNRWA schools and receive remedial education sessions at partner's community centres. Partners coordinate with UNRWA on deliverables and modes of learning to help children with the school curriculum and acquire the skills they need to improve their academic performance.

Lastly, UNICEF reached 863 adolescents and youth aged 14-24 years old (569 girls and 294 boys) with training on life skills programme packages to promote their learning, upskilling, and to prepare these youth for future employment opportunities. 12 adolescents and youth (5 women and 7 men) accessed employment support services.

³⁴ The Palestinian Programme in Lebanon in this appeal includes both Palestinian refugees in Lebanon since 1948 and the additional influx of Palestinian refugees from the Syrian Arab Republic, as part of the host community. Moreover, thousands of Syrian refugees live in the Palestinian camps and benefit from the services provided by UNICEF's Palestinian Programme in Lebanon. The refugee response has a significant component of geospatial targeting/service support at the community (cadaster) level.

Social and Behaviour Change (SBC)

UNICEF provided technical support and built the capacity of 458 frontline workers (307 women and 151 men) on SBC and community engagement concepts and practices. This includes information on how to encourage caregivers to enrol their children in learning activities as well as to promote hygiene, health, and routine immunisation. UNICEF also continued to support the development of the community health workers package which will enhance the technical capacity and soft skills of health workers through a participatory approach and based on behavioural insight. A new behavioural map was developed to understand the drivers and barriers for child labour in the current financial and economic context in Tripoli. The map will serve to identify tools and platforms to be used to prevent child labour and provide alternatives for children, caregivers, and employers.

This quarter, UNICEF engaged 324 people (207 women and 117 men) on initiatives to promote inclusion and address stigma towards children with disabilities. As part of its emergency preparedness programme in hotspot areas, UNICEF supported the Bebnine local water community committee to enhance its preparedness and prevention measures by sensitizing twelve members on Cholera given the potential risk of further cholera outbreaks in the area.

Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

In line with the UNICEF's rights-based approach and to respond and address the demands or issues of people served by UNICEF, several workshops have taken place where around 60 partners from all regions in Lebanon were invited to discuss additional ways to enhance the meaningful participation of girls, boys, women, and men in decision making, information dissemination, opportunities to raise their voice, and transparency on activities and funds for the community. As a main outcome of the workshop, action plans and AAP tools were jointly developed to identify and address issues and areas for improvement to ensure people-centred AAP approaches were systematically considered at the field level. Additionally, 53 partners from all regions in Lebanon participated in an AAP survey to assess UNICEF's implementing partners capacity and compliance with the UNICEF AAP requirements and commitments as per the AAP strategy. The survey results were used to inform the topics and priorities for the AAP partner workshops that have taken place throughout August and September.

UNICEF has activated 12 community committees in the informal settlements in the south. The members of this new community engagement initiative attended an orientation session, where they were sensitized on the roles that they can play under this AAP mechanism including receiving and sharing timely and accurate information on services available. Members have also been sensitized on the expected code of conduct, zero tolerance policies including how to effectively uphold safeguarding and PSEA policies, and how to contact UNICEF to report any wrongdoing.

During the reporting period, UNICEF received 48,341 calls and the team of agents successfully answered 48,111 of total calls received. Beneficiaries reached out to UNICEF to inquire about a range of topics, including targeting criteria for being included in UNICEF assistance, complaints about assistance received/not received, cases of dissatisfaction, appreciation, and sensitive complaints related to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA). However, the majority of feedback and inquiries included requests for information related to school enrolment and the National Disability Allowance. This included requests for information on how to access these cash assistance programmes as well as update requests from programme recipients and complaint submissions related to payment redemption or registration.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

Lebanon's ongoing refugee crisis has been further exacerbated by the social and economic crises, the Beirut port explosion, the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cholera outbreak in 2022, and the seasonal harsh weather conditions which impact the most vulnerable refugees living in informal settlements. To respond to the evolving needs, UNICEF aligned its humanitarian strategy with the Inter-Agency humanitarian needs analysis and response plans as well as sector and programme priorities. This includes aligning its objectives with the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan to ensure protection of vulnerable populations, providing immediate assistance

to vulnerable populations, supporting service provision through national systems, and reinforcing Lebanon's economic, social, and environmental stability.

At the national and field levels, UNICEF works closely with partners on enhancing agencies and sectoral emergency preparedness efforts. The Lebanon Crisis Response Plan 2023 remains a critical tool focusing on humanitarian assistance to vulnerable communities, including Syrian and Palestinian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese. It also seeks to expand investments, partnerships, and delivery models for stabilisation as a transition towards longer-term development strategies.

In Lebanon, UNICEF is the lead of the WASH, Education, and Nutrition sectors as well as the Child Protection sub-sector across all response frameworks to ensure strategies respond to the needs of vulnerable children and families through enhanced coordination at national and sub-national level. Finally, UNICEF remains an active member of the Health Sector and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence working group under the overall protection sector.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

The third quarter of 2023 was marked by the [official inauguration of the Quarantina public hospital](#) that was heavily damaged following the Beirut port explosions on August 4, 2020. To advocate on education, UNICEF published a [press release](#) to urge national investment to guarantee uninterrupted learning for children for the new scholastic year. A [closing ceremony](#) for this year's summer school, a programme aimed to help students catch up on lost learning and prepare them for the upcoming school year, was also held. UNICEF celebrated eight years of an impactful partnership with the Government of Germany through an [exhibition](#) on improved water systems. Together with the World Bank, [UNICEF launched a new national online learning platform called 'Forastech'](#) to provide young people in Lebanon with access to the job market. There were 1,003 mentions of UNICEF in national, regional, and international media in the first half of 2023, reaching 375 million people and the social media impression was 29,457,061.

Annex A

Summary of programme results

| Lebanon | | UNICEF and IPs Response | | | Sector Response | | |
|--|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Sector | 2023 target | Total results | Change since last report | 2023 target | Total results | Change since last report | |
| Health | | | | | | | |
| # children vaccinated against measles | 270,000 | 84,908 ³⁵ | 27,542 | | | | |
| # children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF supported facilities | 1,729,000 | 0 ³⁶ | 0 | | | | |
| Nutrition | | | | | | | |
| # children 6-59 months screened for wasting | 200,000 | 252,462 | 81,895 | 524,004 | 252,462 | 161,089 | |
| # children aged 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment | 750 | 724 | 318 | 1,490 | 625 | 219 | |
| # primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving IYCF counselling | 25,000 | 12,676 | 8,484 | 100,302 | 9,316 | 6,513 | |
| # pregnant women receiving preventative iron supplementation | 40,000 | 16,636 | 5,930 | 351,269 | 16,636 | 10,656 | |
| # children 6-59 months receiving MNP | 70,000 | 42,526 | 20,477 | 252,150 | 42,526 | 20,940 | |
| Child Protection, GBVIE & PSEA | | | | | | | |
| # children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community based MHPSS | 62,863 | 14,503 ³⁷ | 6,650 | 149,026 | 59,055 ³⁸ | 20,491 | |
| # women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions | 24,200 | 8,138 ³⁹ | 2,280 | 13,481 | 62,984 | 18,159 | |
| # people with safe and accessible channels to report SEA by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations | 38,500 | 11,175 ⁴⁰ | 2,055 | 94,000 | 35,795 ⁴¹ | 12,736 | |
| # children who have received individual case management | 6,050 | 2,405 ⁴² | 708 | N/A | 8,720 | 8,720 | |
| Education | | | | | | | |
| # children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning | 530,000 | 112,886 ⁴³ | 45,849 | 665,325 | 527,712 | 16,289 | |
| # children receiving individual learning materials | 530,000 | 17,037 ⁴⁴ | 0 | 95,000 | 665,325 | 644,827 | |
| Water, Sanitation & Hygiene | | | | | | | |
| # people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs | 255,834 | 214,760 | 17,149 | 358,032 | 240,248 | 8,338 | |

³⁵ The figure provided does not include September as the Ministry of Public Health figures are not released yet. Figures will be updated next quarter.

³⁶ UNICEF did not receive funding under this HAC for this activity.

³⁷ Due to limited funding, CP is prioritizing response services

³⁸ Due to limited funding, CP is prioritizing response services

³⁹ Due to limited funding, CP focused on high-risk cases only

⁴⁰ Due to limited funding, CP prioritized response services

⁴¹ Due to limited funding, CP is prioritizing response services

⁴² Due to limited funding, CP prioritized response services

⁴³ Reported progress in Q3 pertains to formal education only (and excludes KfW funding as per instructions)

⁴⁴ Additional beneficiaries were reached through complementary funding that does not fall under the Syrian Refugee HAC.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---------|-------------------------|--------|---------|---------|--------|
| # people accessing appropriate sanitation services | 261,647 | 231,207 | 27,423 | 270,000 | 226,786 | 7,696 |
| # people reached with hand-washing behaviour-change programmes | 145,400 | 124,750 | 39,314 | 436,500 | 170,295 | 44,609 |
| Social Protection & Cash Transfer | | | | | | |
| # households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers | 75,000 | 72,158 | 550 | | | |
| Adolescents & Youth | | | | | | |
| # adolescent and youth accessing formal or non-formal education | 8,400 | 3,874 ⁴⁵ | 1,479 | | | |
| # adolescents and youth accessing skills development programmes | 14,400 | 6,063 ⁴⁶ | 828 | | | |
| # adolescent and youth accessing employment support services | 6,000 | 4,624 | 542 | | | |
| # adolescent and youth trained on the Life Skills programme packages | 12,000 | 6,924 ⁴⁷ | 2,678 | | | |
| Cross-Sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP) | | | | | | |
| # people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms | 100,000 | 154,077 ⁴⁸ | 48 341 | | | |
| # people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services | 150,000 | 2,400,000 ⁴⁹ | 0 | | | |
| # people who participate in engagement actions | 25,000 | 36,977 | 648 | | | |
| Palestinian Programme | | | | | | |
| # children receiving the minimum set of vaccines | 5,000 | 3,214 | 1,067 | | | |
| # children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF supported facilities | 25,000 | 64,960 ⁵⁰ | 21,941 | | | |
| # healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in IPC | 50 | 0 ⁵¹ | 0 | | | |
| # children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community based MHPSS | 40,000 | 23,131 | 14,119 | | | |
| # women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions | 12,040 | 8,478 | 4,453 | | | |
| # children who have received individual case management | 450 | 345 | 221 | | | |
| # children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning | 11,500 | 16,079 ⁵² | 4,988 | | | |

45 1- Signature of the PDs and implementation of the activities started late due to the roll out of the new E-PD system and the time working with the partners to complete the different submissions. 2- Funding available in the section is only 40% of the appeal to reach the yearly planned targets

46 Same as above with regards to E-PD roll out and available funding is at 36% of the required appeal to reach the yearly planned targets

47 Same as above with regards to E-PD roll out and available funding is at 54% of the required appeal to reach the yearly planned targets

48 Beneficiaries reaching the call center is uncontrollable. Thus all calls are answered, and it was estimated to be 100

49 Target reached is based on social media/TV and broadcast text messages.

50 Over target, more children and women are visiting UNRWA clinics for medical checkups and health care interventions

51 This indicator is COVID-19 related and it was omitted in the HAC 1 Revision.

52 This indicator includes early childhood education and learning support. Based on rising needs we increased the number of services offered under this indicator.

| | | | | | | |
|--|-------|------------------|-----|--|--|--|
| # adolescent and youth accessing formal or non-formal education | 1,750 | 1,822 | 546 | | | |
| # adolescents and youth accessing skills development programmes | 2,400 | 0 ⁵³ | 0 | | | |
| # adolescent and youth accessing employment support services | 3,400 | 1,878 | 863 | | | |
| # adolescent and youth trained on the Life Skills programme packages | 500 | 30 ⁵⁴ | 12 | | | |

53 This indicator is omitted with the revision of HAC 1

54 Employment support services are offered to youth after they complete the skills building programme. Additional achievements under this indicator will be reported in the upcoming quarter.

JORDAN

Funding Overview and Partnerships

In 2023, UNICEF appealed for US\$ 161.35 million to sustain the provision of services for vulnerable children and their families in Jordan. By the end of Q3 2023, UNICEF Jordan had secured US\$ 42.06 million in new contributions. With a carry forward sum of US\$ 37.09 million, UNICEF Jordan has a total of US\$ 79.15 million for supporting its programme and a funding gap of US\$ 93.9 million (58 per cent).

UNICEF is generously supported by the following donors: Canada, France, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia and the US (BPRM). UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to all public and private donors for the contributions received.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Jordan continues to host the second highest share of refugees per capita in the world, welcoming over 1.3 million Syrians, including 653,858 registered refugees (79.2 per cent in host communities)⁵⁵. Currently, 136,060 Syrian refugees live in camps: 83,835 refugees in Za'atari camp, 45,182 in Azraq camp, 6,744 in the Emirati Jordanian camp (EJC), and 299 in Garden camp.⁵⁶ Jordan also hosts 77,460 registered non-Syrian refugees⁵⁷ and over 2.3 million registered Palestinian refugees⁵⁸.

In the third quarter of 2023, reductions in the amount of cash assistance and the number of refugees receiving cash assistance in Jordan took effect by key UN agencies⁵⁹. The significant gap in funding to support refugees prompted concerns that refugees' inclusion in the health and education system as well as the labour market may be compromised⁶⁰. In His Majesty King Abdallah's address to the 78th UN General Assembly session, he reiterated that Jordan has exceeded its capacity to host and provide for Syrian refugees⁶¹. The deteriorating economic situation has raised concerns that refugee families will increasingly turn to negative coping mechanisms, such as child labour, child marriage, and reduction of meals, to alleviate their financial concerns⁶².

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health and Nutrition

UNICEF implements key health and nutrition interventions in Azraq and Za'atari refugee camps, particularly focusing on new-borns, children, and women. From July to September 2023, UNICEF screened 21,501 children (51 per cent female), and 2,368 pregnant and lactating women (PLW for malnutrition, out of which 10 children (40 per cent female)) had severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 56 children (59 per cent female) and 48 PLW had moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). UNICEF supported treatment for the SAM and MAM cases, with an average recorded cure rate of 86 per cent.

In Q3, inpatient medical and surgical care and treatment were provided to 407 children (40 per cent girls) admitted to the UNICEF-supported paediatric ward in Azraq Camp. UNICEF supported a total of 9,294 paediatric consultations in Azraq Camp (47 per cent girls) and 2,474 paediatric consultations (27 per cent girls) at Clinic 5.

Situation in Numbers*

1,453,300

children in need
(HAC 2023)

2,249,300

people in need
(HAC 2022)

653,300

registered refugees
(UNHCR, 30 September 2023)

⁵⁵ Document - External Statistical Report on UNHCR Registered Refugees and Asylum-Seekers Jordan as of 15 September 2023

⁵⁶ Situation Syria Regional Refugee Response (unhcr.org), September 2023. 55.8 per cent of those living in camps are children. In Za'atari, Azraq, EJC, and Garden, the populations are comprised of 54.5 per cent, 58.4 per cent, 54.1 per cent, and 52.5 per cent children, respectively.

⁵⁷ Document - External Statistical Report on UNHCR Registered Refugees and Asylum-Seekers Jordan as of 15 September 2023

⁵⁸ Where We Work | UNRWA

⁵⁹ Funding shortages cause UNHCR to cut cash assistance for 3,000 families in 2023 | Jordan Times. Funding shortfall: WFP cuts monthly aid to refugees in Jordan | Jordan Times

⁶⁰ International aid required to ensure healthcare for refugees -... (jordannews.io). UN issues aid cuts for Syrian refugees in Jordan, citing funding shortage | Al Arabiya English.

⁶¹ Jordan | General Assembly (un.org)

⁶² UN issues aid cuts for Syrian refugees in Jordan, citing funding shortage | Al Arabiya English

Community mobilizers continued Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) education activities this quarter reaching 2,942 mothers in Azraq Camp and 2,390 mothers in Za'atari Camp. Within this group of mothers reached, 1,567 were mothers with new-borns and the information focused on new-born health as well as early and exclusive breastfeeding.

In response to the current Measles and Rubella outbreak in the country, UNICEF and partners are supporting the Ministry of Health (MOH) to organise and roll out a national immunization campaign with Measles and Rubella (MR) vaccines. The target is 2.6 million children and adolescents aged 9 months to 18 years. The campaign is anticipated to take place within communities and schools and includes 25,000 Syrian refugees living in both the refugee camps and host community.

Child Protection

UNICEF continues to lead child protection interventions in refugee camps and host communities, focusing primarily on empowering parents with positive parenting skills, combating violence against children in schools, and delivering quality case management services.

With the support of its implementing partner, this quarter, UNICEF has trained a total of 230 facilitators who work either in the Makani centres, schools or with Community Based Organizations (93 per cent female⁶³) on the Positive Parenting program⁶⁴. These facilitators, who live in either camps or host community have reached 5,476 parents (98 per cent female) with parental sessions tailored to the ages of their children.

UNICEF also supported summer activities for students in Za'atari and Azraq camps, including awareness raising and capacity building sessions, reaching 3,842 Syrian students (51 per cent female) and 308 parents and caregivers (90 per cent female) with information on child protection, gender-based violence (GBV), anti-bullying and child marriage. In response to reported concerns that female students face sexual harassment on their way to school in Azraq Camp, UNICEF has been leading the "Walk to School" initiative, in which select community members accompany students on their way to school.

In refugee camps, UNICEF supported the Family Protection and Juvenile Department (FPJD) this quarter to reach 50 students (50 per cent female) with awareness-raising sessions focusing on legal consequences of violence, violence against women, bullying and vandalism, and definition of crimes for juveniles.

Through UNICEF-supported programs nationwide from January to September 2023, 5,893 children (46 per cent female, 5 per cent children with disabilities) have received individual case management services for child protection concerns. Following some challenges in ensuring that cases were being appropriately referred for case management, UNICEF has been liaising with partners to ensure alignment with and adherence to national Standard Operating Procedures for case management, as developed by the Ministry of Health (MoH).

Education

In support of the Ministry of Education (MOE), and in collaboration with development partners, UNICEF advocates for the right of all children in Jordan to access education irrespective of nationality or status, whilst making efforts to improve the quality of education nationwide. Schools reopened on 20 August 2023, for the first semester of the 2023/24 academic year. This start date was ten days earlier than the usual academic calendar. During that time, the MOE led catch up sessions to help address the education losses experienced during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. UNICEF also supported the Directorate of Education (DOE) with class formation, including opening the first dedicated Secondary Schools in Za'atari camp for students in Grade 11 and 12. There are 177,543 children (52 per cent female; 85 per cent Syrian; 14 per cent Jordanian; 1 per cent other nationalities; and 1 per cent children with disabilities) enrolled in formal, non-formal, and in-formal education.

⁶³ The high proportion of trained female facilitators is due to the fact that the sessions have been mainly attended by females/mothers. Timing of the sessions could be one of the reasons why mainly it is female participating in the sessions (daytime sessions).

⁶⁴ The Positive Parenting program aims to encourage positive, nurturing parenting practices and non-violent approaches to discipline.

In the refugee camps, UNICEF continued to support school operations across all 51 schools and 18 standalone kindergartens (KGs) reaching 36,757 students (50 per cent female), including targeted support for 1,372 children with disabilities (46 per cent female). 1,351 Syrian volunteers (47 per cent female) supported school operations and administration, community outreach, and efforts to improve literacy skills of students in formal and non-formal schools.

Additionally, as part of UNICEF's Reading Recovery Programme (RRP), 80 Syrian Assistant Teachers (SATs) (46 per cent female) and 77 MOE Arabic teachers (48 per cent female) received a one-day refresher training on the RRP curriculum and its delivery, before the start of the new school year. In September, a parental engagement component was added to the RRP, with the aim of increasing care givers' involvement in children's reading at home. To support this component, 55 Syrian Volunteers and RRP MOE leads (44 per cent female) were trained on the parental engagement strategy. Latest results (as of August 2023) show that over 75 per cent of children assessed (54 per cent female) scored 70 per cent or more.

UNICEF's Early Grade Reading (EGR) programme is being implemented to support KG2 students to develop foundational reading skills. A refresher training was held with 129 SATs (100 per cent female) in July and August to enable them to conduct reading sessions with students.

UNICEF trained 80 (46 per cent female) Makani and RRP Syrian volunteers on the Teacher of the Future course.⁶⁵ Training focused on the improvement of teaching and learning in classrooms.

Adolescent and Youth Development and Participation

UNICEF continued its Adolescent and Youth Development and Participation (ADAP) interventions including skills building activities, provision of opportunities for civic engagement; and systems strengthening. In Q3, UNICEF provided 34,083 young people (54 per cent female) (76 per cent Jordanian, 21 per cent Syrian, 2 per cent Palestinian), in refugee camps and host communities, with skills-based training and opportunities for civic engagement.

UNICEF has reached 9,597 young people (52 per cent female) (62 per cent Jordanian, 36 per cent Syrian, 2 per cent Palestinian, 3 per cent disability) through its skills-building interventions, providing them with training in life skills, technical and vocational skills, digital skills, and entrepreneurship skills – all aimed at enabling young people to secure income-generating opportunities. Through these trainings, UNICEF aims to cater to the diverse needs of young people, especially the most vulnerable.

Through UNICEF's civic engagement interventions, 24,486 young people (57 per cent female) (92 per cent Jordanian, 6 per cent Syrian, 2 per cent Palestinian, 3 per cent with disability) were provided with opportunities to develop their skills while addressing community issues. Skills development opportunities included training sessions, events and initiatives on leadership, social innovation, participatory action research, and climate awareness and advocacy. By registering on the National Youth Engagement and Volunteering Movement Platform (NAHNO), young people were matched to volunteering opportunities suitable for their profiles, an opportunity to make a positive impact while exploring and developing their interests and skills.

UNICEF continued delivering interventions in government facilities like Ministry of Youth (MOY) or Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship (MODEE) centres across the country. Through these interventions, government staff were employed as trainers and facilitators in UNICEF programmes, and received training on UNICEF curricula, standards, and procedures. UNICEF also collaborated with both private and public vocational institutions, for example, the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) - which oversees public Technical and Vocational Training provision in Jordan – to support VTC in upgrading their curricula and ways of working.

⁶⁵ At the request of the MOE, the Teacher of the Future course was developed by UNICEF. This is a professional development programme aimed at enhancing teachers and facilitators capacities for more effective teaching and learning to take place, whether face-to-face, remotely or in a blended format. The programme aim is to develop teachers' capabilities for an uncertain and changing world so that they become a 'Teacher of the Future' with the skills to build the foundation for better teaching for improved learning outcomes.

In addition, UNICEF provided technical assistance to its implementing partner, for Digital Skills programme, to conduct youth-led research on key barriers preventing young women from accessing the digital economy. The research entailed consultations with government, private sector, and civil society stakeholders, to get different perspectives and develop recommendations.

WASH

UNICEF continued the provision of WASH interventions for children and their families living in camps and at Jordan's north-eastern border, while simultaneously working to reduce water shortages and improve supply modalities in select vulnerable communities outside the camps. UNICEF reached 152,284 individuals (49 per cent female, 23 per cent persons with disability) with safe and accessible water supply. Moreover, UNICEF reached a total of 125,865 people (49 per cent females, 23 per cent persons with disability) with adequate sanitation services in camps and informal tented settlements (ITS). Reduced availability of funding for increased water and sanitation services in vulnerable communities outside camps may hinder UNICEF's ability to reach the full HAC target by year end.

From January to September 2023, a total of 26,695 people (59 per cent female) have been reached in camps, ITSs, schools and vulnerable communities with community mobilization and hygiene promotion activities. There has been an emphasis on hand-washing practices, water conservation and menstrual hygiene management. Limited resources remain the main constraint in reaching additional beneficiaries during the reporting period. Additionally, UNICEF continued to roll out Climate Action Clubs in 23 schools and 24 Makani centres reaching a total of 6,015 students (46 per cent girls) (estimated 4 per cent children with disability).

Social Protection and Social Policy

By the end of Q3, UNICEF provided 122,503 beneficiaries including vulnerable children, young people and caregivers, with an integrated package of services⁶⁶ through Makani centres nationwide. This includes 77,090 reached through learning and skills development activities, and 95,693 reached through community based activities promoting child well-being and community cohesion.⁶⁷ Ninety three per cent of children, adolescents and youth (58 per cent girls, 2 per cent children with disabilities) attending Makani centres have enhanced their skills^{68,69} and 88 per cent of children (55 per cent girls, 2 per cent children with disabilities) had positive learning outcomes through learning support services.⁷⁰ Due to funding challenges, a vulnerability-based rationalization exercise has been initiated and will be completed by November 2023. The exercise is guided by a consultative and data-driven process, to support the scale down of some services and closure of some centres, while ensuring the prioritization of the most vulnerable children.

Hajati⁷¹ provided cash assistance to 10,293 children (49 per cent girls, 11 per cent children with disabilities) and over 3,000 households (28 per cent female-headed) in the first and second quarters of 2023. In the third quarter, due to funding gaps, a vulnerability-based rationalization exercise was conducted, and the number of children reached was reduced to 5,671 (49 per cent girls, 11 per cent children with disabilities) 2976 households (28 per cent female headed households)⁷². Communication and complaints feedback mechanisms were fully deployed to ensure affected households were informed about the change and the reasons for the assistance reduction. In August and September, 5,840 calls⁷³ were received for information and expressing grievances related to the change, among other issues.

66 The integrated Makani services include Early Childhood Development, Learning Support Services, Skills Building, Child Protection, and Parenting sessions.

67 77,090 represents the reach through Learning Support Services and Skills Building, and 95,693 includes the reach through community-based child protection activities at Makani centers. The numbers represent the absolute number of reach in the aforementioned components of Makani hence there are some overlaps as they do not represent unique number of beneficiaries.

68 Skills in areas of life/transferable skills, digital and financial skills.

69 The changes between pre- and post-assessments demonstrated a positive learning outcome for both the subjects of Arabic and English. This includes improvement by 35 per cent in Arabic and 38 per cent in math.

70 The data is based on pre- and post- assessment of 1) Skills Building and 2) Learning Support Services components of Makani programme from the cycle completed in June 2023.

71 Hajati is a UNICEF cash transfer programme for a select number of most vulnerable families.

72 Given that most households have multiple children, these households may still be receiving cash assistance for some children but not for others, due to the financial reductions. As such, the number of households reached may be similar to before the reductions, but the amount of cash each household is receiving is likely less than before.

73 The number represents the incoming calls received including over 2,912 in August following the dissemination of the communication regarding the reduction in assistance (in a span of 1 week), and another 2,928 in the month of September including on inquires grievances as well as concerns about the reduction of the assistance not only from UNICEF but also from other agencies. When people call to request information, responses are provided on the spot and referred to focal points when needed. When people call with grievances, a dedicated procedure has been developed to support the resolution of grievances and take necessary troubleshooting actions to eliminate exclusion errors following the rationalization exercise.

In the meantime, UNICEF continued to strengthen its 'Cash Plus' approach by linking the cash assistance provided by the National Aid Fund with Makani's integrated package of services. By the end of Q3, 36 per cent of Jordanian Makani beneficiaries were recipients of cash assistance through National Aid Fund (NAF). In Q3, UNICEF has also been having technical discussions with NAF and development partners regarding emergency cash assistance, after which institutional emergency payment guidelines were reviewed and updated. By the end of Q4, the emergency module of NAF's Management Information System (MIS) will be ready to be launched.

Social and Behaviour Change (SBC) and Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

Social and Behaviour Change

Following the adverse impacts of COVID-19 and the decline in vaccination rates in Jordan, UNICEF continued to reinforce Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) strategies within the MOH to promote public health and improve national vaccination coverage in Jordan.

UNICEF collaborated with the MOH and national RCCE partners to implement multi-layered targeted RCCE interventions to promote routine immunisation, prioritizing the most vulnerable communities in high-risk areas. UNICEF worked through MOH's community engagement channels, including Community Health Committees and youth volunteers, of which 130 (80 per cent female) were trained, and subsequently conducted 650 in-person awareness sessions, reaching 10,867 parents (88 per cent female; 0.8 per cent with disability) (76 per cent Jordanian; 15 per cent Syrian) actively addressing parents' questions and concerns. The sessions were synchronized with the MOH Mobile Vaccination Teams, ensuring that the most vulnerable communities were reached and informed.

UNICEF engaged **social media platforms** with posts from national RCCE partners about the importance of routine immunization, collectively reaching over 26 million people, with more than 400,000 engagements. UNICEF also initiated targeted SMSs, reaching over 130,000 Hajati and NAF cash assistance beneficiaries, and sent messages on Makani parenting WhatsApp groups about the value of routine immunization. **Feedback mechanisms** were activated, including MOH helplines, social listening exercises and 40 focus group discussions with 239 parents across Jordan to gain insights for the next phase of the National Vaccination Campaign.

UNICEF conducted an assessment of MOH's capacity to manage social media for RCCE and provided trainings to enhance MOH's capacity in digital marketing and social media to promote awareness campaigns and improve online engagement.

Accountability to Affected Populations

UNICEF's approach to Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) has proven instrumental in enhancing its communication with beneficiaries, especially in response to the downsizing of programs. In light of a reduction in the Hajati humanitarian cash transfer program, caused by funding constraints, UNICEF embarked on a proactive communication campaign, leveraging tailored SMS services and a dedicated helpline to receive and respond to people's questions and concerns. The UNICEF helpline continues to serve as a vital, transparent conduit for receiving complaints, feedback, and grievances from the community.

Moreover, these communication channels have played a pivotal role in establishing post-distribution monitoring mechanisms for WASH activities for the ITS populations. The goal is to ensure that these activities are effectively and efficiently achieving their intended purposes, enhancing the overall impact and effectiveness of UNICEF's interventions.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

Health and Nutrition

UNICEF has continued to support the MOH to implement health related interventions in the country. In line with the Measles and Rubella global framework 2021 -2030⁷⁴, UNICEF maintained preparations for the national measles and Rubella immunization campaign that will target children aged 9 months to 18 years both in and out of schools and in refugee camps and host communities. MOH is working closely with MOE, UNICEF, UNHCR and WHO to ensure that all eligible children are vaccinated with one dose of the Measles and Rubella (MR) vaccine.

Child Protection

UNICEF, alongside UNHCR, is the Co-Chair for the Child Protection Sub-Working Group (CP SWG). In Q3, the CP SWG conducted a joint capacity-building initiative on child protection and GBV for child protection service providers in Jordan.

Following the recent review by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, which culminated in the Concluding Observations on the Sixth Periodic Report of Jordan, there have been discussions within the CP SWG on the report, including the current gaps and the way forward to address the report's recommendations. The Protection Working Group has deepened its engagement with the National Council of Family Affairs (NCFA), as this organization will lead government commitments in endorsing and addressing the observations and recommendations of the UN Committee on CRC.

Education

As co-chair of the Education Sector Working Group (ESWG), UNICEF along with UNESCO and ESWG co-chairs, are supporting the MOE in the development of the Jordan Priority Response Plan (JPRP) narrative and log frame (2024-2026), that is to be shared with the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MOPIC) for approval. A series of consultations on priority activities have been convened with government, civil society, donor and UN partners.

The future funding of school operations in camps remains a concern. UNICEF continues discussion with MOE and donors to find solutions to address funding gaps.

WASH

UNICEF continues to lead the Humanitarian WASH Sector in Jordan, conducting monthly meetings engaging in strategic dialogue with the Government of Jordan and donors and providing critical coordination and support to stakeholders across the sector. In Q3, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Water and Irrigation in leading the development of the JPRP (2024-2026), providing technical and coordination support for streamlining activities within the WASH sector, identifying sector priorities and providing evidence to enable targeting of the most vulnerable, while advancing towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

UNICEF ensured mainstreaming and integration of cross cutting issues in the WASH sector response including gender, climate, disability, and environment. WASH input in the JPRP has been drafted and submitted to MOPIC for review after a series of consultation and review meetings representing governmental entities, donors, NGOs, and cross-cutting focal points.

Social Protection

UNICEF continues to coordinate closely with government and national stakeholders to enhance synergies and strengthen the national social protection system. UNICEF co-chairs the national financial inclusion coordination group and recently undertook a joint review with the Central Bank of Jordan for the upcoming

⁷⁴ [Measles and rubella strategic framework: 2021-2030 \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/measles-and-rubella-strategic-framework-2021-2030).

National Financial Inclusion Strategy. For this strategy, UNICEF and other partners will highlight priority populations such as refugees, youth, women and those who fall in the poorest 40 per cent of the population.

The Makani Steering Committee, co-chaired by the Ministry of Social Development (MOSD) and UNICEF, continued to ensure oversight of programme delivery. Meetings have been convened in July and August 2023 to discuss the latest progress, overall funding situation and its implications for targets and reach as well as to outline the implementation strategy⁷⁵ and operational plans for the rest of 2023 and beyond.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

- [Measles-Rubella vaccine in Jordan is safe and effective at saving children's lives – WHO and UNICEF](#)
- [UNHCR and UNICEF Statement on deaths of four refugees in Za'atari Refugee Camp](#)
- [Crown Prince honours winners of Al Hussein award for voluntary work](#)
- [Energy, passion, and excellence – celebrating Jordan's culture of volunteerism](#)
- ["When there's education, there's always light"](#)
- [Reading Recovery: a ray of light for girls in Za'atari refugee camp](#)

UNICEF Jordan Twitter: [@UNICEFJordan](#)

UNICEF Jordan Facebook: [UNICEF Jordan](#) UNICEF Jordan Instagram: [unicef_jordan](#)

UNICEF Jordan YouTube: [UNICEF Jordan](#)

UNICEF Jordan official website: <https://www.unicef.org/jordan/>

⁷⁵ Makani started a consultative and vulnerability-data based rationalization exercise that will guide the optimization of programme delivery and phased scale down. The process will prioritize reaching the most vulnerable children, young people and caregivers with a comprehensive package of social protection services.

Annex A Summary of programme results

Jordan

| Sector | UNICEF and IPs Response | | | Sector Response ⁷⁶ | | |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| | 2023 target | Total results | Change since last report | 2023 target | Total results | Change since last report |
| Health | | | | | | |
| # children under 5 vaccinated against measles | 20,000 | 15,871 ⁷⁷ | 6,387 | | | |
| Nutrition | | | | | | |
| # primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving with IYCF counselling | 8,000 | 5,866 ⁷⁸ | 1,567 | | | |
| # children 6-59 months receiving Vitamin A supplementation every six months | 20,000 | 15,413 ⁷⁹ | 5,711 | | | |
| Child Protection, GBVIE & PSEA | | | | | | |
| # children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community based MHPSS | 180,000 | 122,196 ⁸⁰ | 31,232 | | | |
| # women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions | 118,000 | 120,743 ^{81,82} | 29,406 | | | |
| # people with safe and accessible channels to report SEA by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations | 250,000 | 122,498 ^{83,84} | 31,090 | | | |
| # children who have received individual case management | 12,500 | 5,893 ^{85,86} | 1,688 | | | |
| Education | | | | | | |
| # children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning | 184,800 | 177,543 ⁸⁷ | 10,823 | | | |
| # children receiving individual learning materials | 79,300 | 79,288 ⁸⁸ | 0 | | | |
| # children/adolescents accessing skills development programmes | 165,000 | 34,083 ^{89,90} | 2,756 | | | |
| Water, Sanitation & Hygiene | | | | | | |

⁷⁶ The Jordan Response Plan expired in December 2022. Discussions between the UN and the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation are under way to review it for 2024. Therefore, the SRP targets for Jordan have not been updated in 2023. The sector working groups (i.e. clusters) are currently working on updating their strategy, targets and indicators.

⁷⁷ 48% female; Location: 81% Host, 19% Camps; Nationality: 80% Syrian/20% Jordanian

⁷⁸ 98% female; Location: 100% Camps; Nationality: 100% Syrian

⁷⁹ 48% female; Location: 61% Host 39% Camps; Nationality: 80% Syrian/20% Jordanian

⁸⁰ 19% women, % men, 44% girls and 37% boys / Host: 79% / Zaatari: 11% / Azraq: 8% / ITS: 2% PWD: 1%

⁸¹ 21% women, 43% girls & 35% boys / Host: 82% / Zaatari: 11% / Azraq: 8% PWD: 1%

⁸² To clarify the overachievement is only GBV risk mitigation targets while on prevention and response 72% reached from the targets.

For GBV Risk Mitigation, the results are comprised of individuals reached through Makani centres. Makani's biggest outreach and enrolment exercises take place twice a year (usually with the start of the school semesters in February and September), so it is expected to reach the target by the third quarter. The increase that happens in the last quarter is considered normal.

⁸³ 62% female and 38% male / Host: 78% / Zaatari: 11% / Azraq: 8% / ITS: 2% PWD: 1%

⁸⁴ Underachievement due to challenges in adding results from activities that are government-led, in partnership with UNICEF, and ongoing coordination to add the numbers of individuals reached across all UNICEF sections, including identifying mechanisms to avoid double counting.

⁸⁵ 44% female and 56% male / Host: 84% / Zaatari: 11% / Azraq: 5% PWD: 5% PWD: 5%

⁸⁶ Underachievement is due to the transition of cases from one partner to another, the registration of cases is still ongoing, and the planned scale-up of case management with the partners was canceled due to a shortfall of funds for the current year.

⁸⁷ Formal education: The figure reflects data officially released from the MOE in March 2023 for the academic year 2022/2023. Total: 150,510 (51 % female); Location: 76% Host/ 24% Camps (7% Azraq / 15% Za'atari / 2% EJC); Nationality: 100% Syrian. NFE Reading Recovery screening Total: 198 (52% female); Location: 100 %Camp (30% Azraq / 70% Za'atari); Nationality: 100% Syrian. ALP Total (excluding Syrians in schools to avoid double counting); 26,835 (58% female); Location: 98.1% Host /0.3% Camps (for OOSC Syrians) / 1.6% ITS; Nationality: 89.9% Jordanian / 3.1% Syrian /7.0% Other Nationality. Attendance: 94.4% In school /5.6% out of school; children with disabilities 1%.

⁸⁸ Over 19,000 children (50% female) in camps (grade 4- grade 8) and over 60,000 G4-G8 UNRWA students receiving Learning Bridges booklets in 2nd semester of 2022/2023.

⁸⁹ 54% female / Location: 95% Host Community, 5% Camps; Nationality: 76% Jordanian, 21% Syrian, 2% Palestinian, 3% with disability

⁹⁰ Underachievement is because, similar to Q2, in Q3 UNICEF experienced a decrease in funding, which was not expected when targets were set. This has resulted in a reduction in the size of activities, as well as delays in implementation, which account for underachievement.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---------|---------------------------|--------|--|--|--|
| # people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs | 237,000 | 152,284 ^{91,92} | 19,398 | | | |
| # people accessing appropriate sanitation services | 160,000 | 125,865 ⁹³ | 398 | | | |
| # people reached with hand-washing behaviour-change programmes | 100,000 | 26,695 ^{94,95} | 0 | | | |
| Social Protection & Cash Transfer | | | | | | |
| # households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers | 10,000 | 3,111 ⁹⁶ | 0 | | | |
| # children and young people accessing integrated, gender responsive and inclusive complementary learning and skills development activities | 120,000 | 77,090 ^{97,98} | 22,974 | | | |
| # children, young people and caregivers accessing inclusive and integrated package of community-based activities which promote child wellbeing and community cohesion | 165,000 | 95,693 ^{99,100} | 4,772 | | | |
| Cross-Sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP) | | | | | | |
| # people who participate in engagement actions | 125,000 | 97,728 ^{101,102} | 29,082 | | | |
| # people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms | 100,000 | 71,922 ^{103,104} | 32,602 | | | |

91 49% female/ Location: 1% ITSs, 15% Host Community, 85% Camps; Nationality: 14% Jordanian, 86% Syrian, 21% with disability.

92 Underachievement is because the reported results reached is for ongoing activities to supply sufficient and safe water to all Syrian refugees in Za'atari, Azraq, and Garden camps, informal tented settlements (ITSs) and at the north-eastern border. The results reflect the populations of the camps and the ITSs, which remain fairly stable throughout the year.

93 49% female/ Location: 1% Host Community, 2% ITSs, 97% Camps; Nationality: 1% Jordanian, 99% Syrian, 23% with disability.

94 59% female/ Location: 37% Host Community, 37% ITSs, 26% Camps; Nationality: 37% Jordanian, 63% Syrian, 16% with disability.

95 As part of our localization efforts, UNICEF has been engaging a local partner to support hygiene activities in Za'atari camp, including hygiene awareness in schools. However, there have been significant delays in finalizing this partnership, which has limited our ability to make progress in relation to the target and has resulted in underachievement. Also, there was anticipated funding that did not come through.

96 3,111: 28.5% Female headed households/98% host/ 2% ITS Includes 10,293 children (49.6% girls and 11.2% CWD)

97 77,090; 56% female and 44% male / Host: 73% / Zaatari: 15% / Azraq: 10% / ITS: 2% /PWD: 1.4% Nationality: 52% Jordanian / 44% Syrian / 4% Other nationality

98 Underachievement is due to funding constraints that limit the number of children and young people to be reached

99 95,693 ; 56% female and 44% male / Host: 77% / Zaatari: 12% / Azraq:8% / ITS: 3%/PWD: 1% Nationality: 55% Jordanian / 41% Syrian / 4% Other nationality 5% (0-5 years)/76% (6-17 years) /19% (18+ years)

100 Underachievement is due to funding constraints that limit the number of children and young people to be reached.

101 Youth: 56% female / Location: 100% Host Community; Nationality: As these are online engagement activities happening through social media, we do not have disaggregated data about nationality of beneficiaries

102 RCCE/SBC: 88% female/ Location: ITSs: 4.4%; Host Community: 94.6%; Dom: 1%; Nationality: 76% Jordanian; 15%Syrian; 2% Palestinian; 0.8% PWD

103 Includes 41,326 individuals through the hotline, Nationality: 91% Syrian, 5% Jordanian, 5% other nationality/2056 individuals through the Facebook page/12,104 individuals through the Za'atari WASH hotline/5,351 individuals reached through the Azraq WASH hotline/10,845 individuals through Rapid Pro: 13% female, Nationality: 44% Jordanian, 49% Syrian, 4% other nationalities, 3% nationality not reported

104 RCCE/SBC: 239 parents (74% female / location: Host Community: 57%; Syrian refugee camps: 12%; ITSs: 25%; Dom: 5% / nationality: 51% Jordanian; 38% Syrian; 8% Palestinian)

IRAQ

Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF requested US\$ 14.7 million in 2023 to assist Syrian refugees and host communities in Iraq. As of September 2023, UNICEF Iraq had received US\$ 3.4 million from donors for WASH, Education, Child Protection, Social and Behaviour Change, GBViE, and PSEA programmes, plus US\$ 0.07 million in carry-over funds for Child Protection and GBViE. UNICEF Iraq still faces a 77 per cent funding shortfall, with critical gaps in Adolescent Development and Participation (99 per cent), Health and Nutrition (94 per cent), WASH (87 per cent), Education (82 per cent), Child Protection (27 per cent), and cross-sectoral response (76 per cent).

UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to all donors for their generous contributions, which are instrumental to providing much-needed support to children and women, especially the hardest to reach. Contributions were received from Canada, Germany, the United States, and the United Kingdom as well as UNICEF United Kingdom and Argentina under global thematic humanitarian response. UNICEF Iraq continues to require support to sustain essential services for vulnerable women and children and build government capacities for smooth handover of basic service delivery for refugee populations. Otherwise, gains made in previous years are at-risk, threatening the lives of thousands of children, young people and their families.

Situation in Numbers

292,200
children in need
(HAC 2023)

664,000
people in need
(HAC 2023)

270,500
registered refugees
(UNHCR, 30 September 2023)

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Needs for humanitarian aid remain substantial for Syrian refugees living in Iraq. According to the eighth Return Perceptions and Intentions Survey (RPIS)¹⁰⁵ conducted by UNHCR among Syrian refugees, humanitarian assistance serves as a crucial source of income for refugees, who are faced with difficulties such as limited employment and livelihood opportunities, as well as obstacles in accessing financial and health services in host countries. In Iraq, for instance, just 24 per cent of the respondents reported that their income was sufficient to cover their basic needs, such as housing and food.

By 30 September 2023, 270,470¹⁰⁶ Syrian refugees were registered in Iraq - an increase of about 6,538 from May 2023¹⁰⁷. Around 50 per cent of these are registered in Erbil, and almost 90 per cent in Erbil, Duhok and Sulaymaniyah combined. About 66 per cent of Syrian refugees live among host communities in urban areas, while the rest are in nine refugee camps. Refugees and host communities continue to face challenges in accessing basic services and the shortage in livelihood support due to the limited funding. This underscores the significance of interventions that uphold a holistic protection strategy, foster local integration opportunities, and offer solutions that benefit both refugees and host communities alike. This is especially important in line with the findings of the abovementioned UNHCR survey where 94 per cent of respondents among refugees in Iraq stated that they did not intend to return to Syria in the next 12 months.

UNICEF, UNHCR and Save the Children continued supporting Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) to expand the implementation of the Refugee Education Integration Plan and absorb refugee students into the public education system. Meanwhile, camp-based primary health care centres are gradually being integrated within health services in urban areas: primary healthcare centres in three out of nine refugee camps have been integrated into the government health system. Although WASH services inside camps were handed over to local municipalities in 2022, there remained challenges with these transitions, including limited institutional capacity to deliver services, political instability, risks posed by climate change, key protection concerns and lack of a comprehensive legal framework on asylum and refugees' rights. UNICEF facilitated the integration of child protection units into overall refugee response, ensuring that emergency assistance becomes an

¹⁰⁵ Syria: Eighth Regional Survey on Syrian Refugees' Perceptions and Intentions on Return to Syria | Global Focus (unhcr.org) Accessed 24/07/2023

¹⁰⁶ UNHCR data portal Iraq, <https://data.unhcr.org/en/situations/syria/location/14201> Accessed 24/07/2023

¹⁰⁷ Iraq 3RP SitRep Q2 (Jan – June)

integral part of the system through the establishment of new child protection centres. In addition, child protection committees were established with refugees being a key part of discussions in all meetings.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health

To reduce child morbidity and mortality and improve maternal and newborn health, UNICEF supports Syrian refugee children and mothers with a package of health services, including immunizations and newborn home visits. Total 36,291 Syrian refugee women and children under the age of five (23,135 women and girls) accessed primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities between January and September 2023.

Routine immunization support by trained vaccinators was provided in all refugee camps, based on Iraq's immunization schedule, vaccinating 15,302 children (7,693 girls) against polio during January-September – 45 per cent of the target. Funds from other sources used to support COVID-19 activities were utilized to support integrated routine immunization services. As a result, the measles target was overachieved, whereby 6,346 children (3,185 girls) were vaccinated with various measles-containing vaccines (over 200 per cent achievement).

UNICEF also supports home visits to new-borns and postnatal care for mothers in refugee camps. This involves using a checklist developed by the office to identify danger signs, suggest appropriate referral for sick or small/preterm new-borns, and provide counselling on IYCF. By the third quarter, 1,157 new-borns (598 girls) were reached, of whom 167 were referred to health facilities for further medical care.

As part of the shift from humanitarian to development approach, three refugee camps (two in Erbil and one in Suli) have been incorporated into the government health system. UNICEF is currently training healthcare personnel in the nearby Primary Health Care Centres in these three camps while ensuring that refugee-related data, with a particular emphasis on aggregated monthly statistics, is effectively recorded in the digital health information system.

Nutrition

UNICEF works to address issues of child mortality and morbidity through integrated community-based maternal and child health services and nutrition units in refugee camps. UNICEF support enabled Syrian refugees to access the Baby Hut Initiative, which creates an enabling environment for immediate and exclusive breastfeeding, Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling and nutritional status monitoring. The initiative also provides a child-friendly space for children while mothers receive services. Between January and September 2023, UNICEF Iraq provided IYCF counselling services to 6,882 mothers (31 per cent of those targeted). Although the Health & Nutrition component was underfunded by 94 per cent, UNICEF and partners used funds from other sources to continue strengthening the healthcare system, which had been significantly affected by COVID-19, especially towards reinforcing primary healthcare services.

Trained nurses in refugee camps continue to screen under-five children through tent-to-tent visits and/or visits at units. They screened 19,732 children (9,714 girls) between January and September 2023 against a target of 15,291. Twenty-five children (12 girls) of those screened were identified with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), while 163 children (75 girls) were identified with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM). Meanwhile, 1,924 children (1,000 girls) have so far received nutrition supplies, including micronutrient supplementation against a planned target of 4,587 children. Limited progress has been made against this target as micronutrient supplements were not available during quarter three. In addition, 6,607 children (3,336 girls) received vitamin A supplements during measles immunization activities.

Child Protection

UNICEF is working with child protection NGOs and government Departments of Labour and Social Affairs (DOLSA) to strengthen child protection services for refugee children and families in Duhok, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah by building the capacity of government social workers in newly established child protection units while supporting the reactivation of child protection centres in Kurdistan Region so emergency assistance

becomes an integral part of the system. The office also works to expand and sustain delivery of case management services, and the use of child protection information management system (CPIMS+) for refugee children. Child protection committees have been established in each governorate of Kurdistan Regional Government, where DOLSA chairs meetings with participants from government and civil society. Response for refugees is part of the agenda and discussion in all meetings. This is significant for the transition from the cluster to government/sector led coordination for child protection in Kurdistan Region.

Provision of specialized child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) services for survivors are core components of UNICEF's support for refugees and host communities in Iraq. UNICEF-supported partners reached 2,654 people (1,419 female) with specialized protection and GBV services, including case management, legal aid, and referrals, reaching 56 per cent of the target. In addition, the parenting education and awareness-raising programme benefitted 14,991 individuals (8,446 women and girls), helping address harmful social norms that perpetuate violence against children and adolescents.

Between January to September 2023, UNICEF's partners provided psychosocial support to 18,985 refugee children (girls 10,922) – meeting 78 per cent of the annual target. Psychosocial support contributes towards strengthening of coping mechanisms and resilience of children and families; this was observed during social interactions and behaviours of beneficiary children in community and schools.

To address service gaps in the child protection response, UNICEF provided technical assistance to government agencies, including the ministries and departments of labour and social affairs, to mobilize government workers to support child protection response. This includes psychosocial support, case management and community-based awareness and other initiatives, for refugee children in camp and non-camp areas. It is key to note that presently, Kurdistan Regional Government does not have the required limited financial and human resources to take over activities without UNICEF support.

Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA)

Overall, 260,568 people (96,411 girls, 85,987 boys, 31,268 men, and 46,902 women) accessed the SEA reporting mechanism by the end of September 2023. UNICEF is supporting this initiative in partnership with implementing partners, camp management, and local government, so people can safely report any SEA misconduct by the personnel that aid affected populations. UNICEF assessed 21 partners, out of which 18 were deemed to have high PSEA capacity and 3 with moderate capacity – the latter are being supported with capacity building to address this gap.

Education

UNICEF, UNHCR, and various education-focused partners, together with the Ministry of Education of the Kurdistan Regional Government, introduced the Refugee Education Integration Policy (REIP) in 2022. In 2023, the Ministry of Education extended this policy, covering all Syrian refugee children from grades 1 to 5. As part of the REIP, UNICEF is conducting remedial classes, having reached 4,900 students (50 per cent girls) so far. These 10-day classes, held across all refugee camps in Duhok, aim to bridge learning gaps and provide additional learning support to students.

To enable and sustain Syrian refugee students' access to learning, UNICEF supported the printing and provision of textbooks to 20,000 children (50 per cent girls). This ensures that they have access to high-quality educational materials and a better quality to the learning environment. In Duhok, mathematics, science, recreation, and teacher kits were distributed across 17 refugee schools in Domiz 1 and 2, Gawilan, and Akre camps, reaching 13,633 students – 50 per cent girls.

UNICEF has taken additional steps to support refugee children in Erbil, Duhok and Sulaymaniyah governorates. Alongside the General Directorates of Education, UNICEF organized Kurdish language courses for children in camps to prepare them for the upcoming academic year. A total of 59 teachers (30 females) from refugee schools underwent a four-day training programme on the Kurdish language. This training is a vital component of the integration policy, carried out with the backing of the Ministry of Education and UNICEF, with the goal is to equip teachers with the necessary skills to teach in Kurdish. These interventions are

supporting the integration of refugee children into Kurdish host community schools. The initiative has impacted 10,050 children, including 4,700 girls, with the participation of 110 teachers (60 females) from formal schools who facilitated the programme.

UNICEF supported the "Back-to-Learning" initiative across the Erbil, Sulaymaniyah, and Duhok governorates. This programme aims to facilitate the enrolment of children who are currently out of school or have never been enrolled in formal and non-formal education systems. The initiative has successfully identified 1,101 out-of-school children, including 458 girls. Furthermore, UNICEF supported the expansion of refugee schools to respond to an increase in enrolments of refugee children in primary schools in Sulaymaniyah Arbat Refugee camp. The expansion involved the construction of 10 prefabricated classrooms, allowing over 300 children (50 per cent girls) to sustain access to education.

In June 2023, UNICEF facilitated three mental health promotion training workshops in Erbil, Duhok, and Sulaymaniyah. The comprehensive trainings were conducted with education and mental health experts affiliated with the General Directorates of Education and the Preparation and Training Department. Total 133 participants (74 women), including teachers from refugee and host communities were equipped with the necessary tools to offer mental health support to students.

The Adolescent Development and Participation (ADAP) component was 99 per cent underfunded, therefore there has not been any progress with regards to the corresponding indicator on young people accessing skills development programmes.

WASH

UNICEF is working within the context of transition from emergency response to a humanitarian-development-peace nexus, by creating common goals across short-term emergency response programmes and longer-term social change processes. Enhancing opportunities for peace while increasing the synergies of emergency and development is essential for supporting refugees and host communities with more durable (mid- and long-term) solutions. In support of the effort, UNICEF works to strengthen the capacity of government-led WASH sector coordination bodies, specifically the WASH Working Group, to assume leadership in WASH coordination and service provision in the four refugee camps in Erbil¹⁰⁸ and the Arbat refugee camp in Sulaymaniyah. Furthermore, technical support is being extended to the four refugee camps in Duhok.¹⁰⁹

Although the sector was only 87 per cent underfunded, 6,910 people or 17 per cent of the targeted have gained access to appropriate sanitation services while 23,200 people or 23 per cent of the targeted have gained access to sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs. UNICEF continues to focus on reducing the negative impact on the environment and eliminate the use of groundwater, favouring surface water sources for drinking purposes, while limiting health risks. About 10,000 Syrian refugees (5,100 women and girls and 4,700 children) have gained access to sustainable safe water for drinking and domestic purposes through rehabilitation of Kherababik drinking water treatment plant in Zakho district in Duhok. UNICEF continued supporting comprehensive planning and design of the Kawergosk water supply system – this will ensure access to safe water to 7,010 refugees in Kawergosk camp upon completion, including 3,576 females. Additionally, UNICEF was actively engaged in a technical advisory capacity, working to support and advocate for the government's efforts towards sustainable water supply system in the Kawergosk refugee camp. In synergy with education response, 640 refugee children (325 girls and 315 boys) are accessing improved services through renovations to WASH facilities in Gawilan camp for Syrian refugees. Meanwhile, 5,550 people (2,830 women/girls and 2,720 boys) in 10 schools and adjoining households have gained access to safe drinking water through the provision, installation, and operation of a climate resilient solar powered water supply system.

¹⁰⁸ Darashakran, Qushtapa, Kawergosk and Basima

¹⁰⁹ Domiz 1, Domiz 2, Gawilan and Akre

Social Behaviour Change (SBC), Community Engagement & Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

By the third quarter of 2023, Social Behaviour Change and Community Engagement programme continued to support outreach and engagement activities for refugee populations in camp and non-camp areas. In total, 33,761 Syrian refugees (20,711 female, 13,050 male) have been reached with key life-saving messages between January and September 2023. These individuals were accessed during campaigns organised on the importance of education and the REIP in addition to messages on girls' education, prevention of diseases, child protection and climate change. Furthermore, 5,303 people (3,529 female, 1,774 male) individuals have been engaged through group discussions and community dialogue sessions on education, protection, hygiene, and environmental conservation information. To support community feedback mechanisms, the Accountability to Affected Population (AAP) tool is designed to enable and strengthen two-way communication with affected communities while enhancing the involvement of vulnerable groups. A series of four training sessions was held internally and externally for implementing partners to fully understand the objectives of the tool. The AAP tool is currently being upgraded and migrated to a UNICEF platform for regular monitoring. While the dashboard is being upgraded, UNICEF is holding community consultations and focus group discussions to gain feedback.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

As the humanitarian situation in Iraq shows improvement, there has been a decline in the number of people requiring humanitarian assistance from 11 million people in 2017 to 2.5 million in 2022¹¹⁰ – the Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC) deactivated clusters in Iraq at the end of 2022. As the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) scales down, the Area Based Coordination (ABC) mechanism is used instead. UNICEF is a member of all ABCs in the 5 governorates of Anbar, Salah Al-din, Diyala, Ninewa and Kirkuk. Previously, UNICEF was co-coordinator of the child protection sub-cluster – in the aftermath of deactivation, interventions continue to focus on service delivery, coordination and capacity building. While child protection does not have a direct parallel structure within government, UNICEF is supporting the institutionalization of child protection institutions in the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, including through setting up child protection units and institutionalization at sub-national levels, strengthening the capacity for prevention and response to child protection issues.

UNICEF supports the federal Government of Iraq, and the Kurdistan Regional Government to establish WASH Working Groups (WWGs) led by the Ministry of Construction, Housing and Public Municipalities in Federal Iraq, and by the Ministry of Municipalities and Tourism and the General Directorate of Water and Sewerage in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. WWGs are temporary sector coordinating bodies that will eventually evolve into a long-term governance and regulatory framework for the WASH Sector, at which point, the WWG will function as the main WASH sector coordination body. UNICEF continues to provide technical guidance to government officials and implementing partners in identifying and implementing capacity building interventions, also supported by the Global WASH Cluster.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

Press releases

[Japan and UNICEF will work together to provide access to services for more than 88,000 children living in areas of origin and returning from northeast Syria](#), English, 10 April 2023

[Japan and UNICEF will work together to provide access to services for more than 88,000 children living in areas of origin and returning from northeast Syria](#), Arabic, 10 April 2023

Social Media

Twitter

[Supporting the Ministry of Health in routine #immunization activities](#), English, 9 March 2023

[Supporting the Ministry of Health in routine #immunization activities](#), Arabic, 9 March 2023

110 [Iraq Humanitarian Transition Overview 2023 \(February 2023\) \[EN/AR/KU\] - Iraq | ReliefWeb](#)

[World Refugee Day](#), 20 June 2023
[Community Dialogue](#), 30 May 2023

Instagram

[Funding from Japan to provide health, nutrition, child protection and education services](#), 10 April 2023
[Supporting the Ministry of Health in routine #immunization activities](#), 9 March 2023
[World Refugee Day](#), 20 June 2023

Facebook

[Funding from Japan to provide health, nutrition, child protection and education service](#), 10 April 2023
[Supporting the Ministry of Health in routine #immunisation activities](#), 9 March 2023
[World Refugee Day](#), 20 June 2023

Annex A

Summary of Programme Results

| Iraq | UNICEF and IPs Response | | | Sector Response ¹¹¹ | | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| | Sector | 2023 target | Total results | Change since last report | 2023 target | Total results |
| Health | | | | | | |
| # children vaccinated against polio | 33,669 | 15,302 | 4,601 | | | |
| # children vaccinated against measles | 2,398 | 6,346 ¹¹² | 1,309 | | | |
| # children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF supported facilities | 39,623 | 36,291 | 16,291 | | | |
| Nutrition | | | | | | |
| # children 6-59 months screened for wasting | 15,291 | 19,732 ¹¹³ | 10,824 | | | |
| # primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving IYCF counselling | 22,453 | 6,882 ¹¹⁴ | 1,002 | | | |
| # children 6-59 months receiving MNP | 4,587 | 1,924 ¹¹⁵ | 0 | | | |
| Child Protection, GBVIE & PSEA | | | | | | |
| # of children and caretakers reached with awareness on prevention of violence against children | 24,960 | 14,991 | 6,545 | | | |
| # Number of boys and girls who received specialized child protection services | 4,750 | 2,654 | 257 | | | |
| # children and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support | 24,280 | 18,985 | 9,773 | | | |
| Education | | | | | | |
| # children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning | 37,637 | 36,115 | 4,000 | | | |
| # children receiving individual learning materials | 66,465 | 28,083 | 16,633 | | | |
| Water, Sanitation & Hygiene | | | | | | |
| # people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs | 101,707 | 23,200 ¹¹⁶ | 640 | | | |
| # people accessing appropriate sanitation services | 41,148 | 6,910 ¹¹⁷ | 6,910 | | | |
| Adolescents & Youth | | | | | | |
| # of young people (10-24 years) accessing skills development programmes | 2,650 | 0 ¹¹⁸ | 0 | | | |
| Cross-Sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP) | | | | | | |

¹¹¹ Cluster system deactivated in December 2022 therefore no sector responses.

¹¹² Funds from other sources used to support COVID-19 activities were utilized to support integrated routine immunization services. As a result, the measles target was overachieved.

¹¹³ In some refugee camps, the modality of growth monitoring is modified in Q2 to include House-Hold level screening for wasting in addition to the PHC-level screening, this led to enhanced access of this service inside the camps

¹¹⁴ Target may have been based on an over-estimated growth rate

¹¹⁵ Micronutrient supplementation was not available during Q3; however Vitamin A was provided with the measles vaccine doses.

¹¹⁶ Limitations in the availability of funds affected interventions towards refugees.

¹¹⁷ The majority of sanitation services are now managed and financially covered by the service providers under humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

¹¹⁸ ADAP was 99% underfunded, therefore progress could not be made.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---------|-----------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| # of people engaged in risk communication and community engagement actions | 18,000 | 5,303 ¹¹⁹ | 2,938 | | | |
| # of people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services | 100,000 | 33,761 ¹²⁰ | 7,417 | | | |
| # of people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms | 2,500 | 0 ¹²¹ | 0 | | | |

119 SBC-CE component was 76% underfunded; additionally, funds were received/allocated between Q3 and Q4. It is anticipated that progress will be made by the end of the year.

120 SBC-CE component was 76% underfunded; additionally, funds were received/allocated between Q3 and Q4. It is anticipated that progress will be made by the end of the year.

121 In addition to the funding gap of 76%, the AAP tool is currently being upgraded and migrated to a UNICEF platform for regular monitoring; while this dashboard is being upgraded, SBC-CE is using community consultation and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) to gain feedback; the final number of this will be presented in the Q4 report.

EGYPT

Funding Overview and Partnerships

The total funds available to support the Syrian Refugee HAC in 2023 is US\$ 1 million against needs of US\$ 16.4 million. The response remains poorly funded with a gap of 93 per cent as of end September. UNICEF adopts an integrated and inclusive approach to working with all vulnerable refugee and migrant children and their families, regardless of nationality, official status in the country, presence of a parent or guardian, and physical and mental abilities. In 2023, to strengthen the Humanitarian and Development nexus and support the sustainability of interventions for Syrian migrants and refugees' response, Egypt Country Office integrated key components of the response into the country development programme for 2023-2027.

UNICEF would like to extend its thanks to the Bureau of Population, and the refugees bureau of the US State Department for their continued and dedicated support to Syrian refugees and migrants in Egypt. Furthermore, the humanitarian funding for Syrian migrants and refugees is being complemented by long-term funding from development partners supporting migrants, refugees, and their host communities. UNICEF in Egypt is seeking additional flexible funding to ensure the delivery of essential and life-saving services to vulnerable children and their families.

Situation in Numbers

1,129,800
children in need
(Syrian Refugees HAC 2023)

2,307,200
people in need
(Syrian Refugees HAC 2023)

150,500
registered refugees
(UNHCR, 30 September 2023)

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

The influx of refugees due to the Sudan crisis has resulted in shifting of programmatic priorities for refugees and asylum seekers in Egypt. During the reporting period, UNHCR registered 1,454 Syrian asylum seekers, increasing the total number of registered Syrians to 149,454 individuals¹²². The economic situation in Egypt in 2023 is becoming more challenging for everyone, particularly the most vulnerable populations. The inflation rate of currency in Egypt has reached an all-time high of 42 per cent in August of 2023, causing a spike in prices of basic commodities and services due to Egypt Economic Reform Program impact, and post Covid-19 economy, in addition to the repercussions of the war in Ukraine. Furthermore, the situation in Syria is contributing to surge irregular migration, as Egypt is considered as a transit country to migrants. Currently there are approximately 59 registered refugees, migrant and asylum-seekers¹²³ in Egypt in addition to those unregistered.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health

As of September 2023, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) to reach 17,392 Syrian children and women with primary health care consultations in UNICEF-supported facilities including 5,529 people reached during third quarter, in addition to 68,528 children under five reached with primary healthcare consultations and integrated health services including routine immunization and growth monitoring services, including 23,535 reached during third quarter. Additionally, 3,458 Syrian refugee women received antenatal health care and follow-ups. More than 7,000 refugee families were reached by 197 Syrian community health workers through household visits with key messages on health, nutrition, and WASH/hygiene.

Child Protection

As of September 2023, UNICEF partnering with NGOs¹²⁴, reached 35,424 individuals with non-specialized psychosocial support (PSS) and positive parenting programmes through the family clubs inside Ministry of Health and Population's primary healthcare units and This included 31,640 Syrian children through purposeful and well-structured PSS initiatives, catering to the diverse emotional and psychological needs of Syrian

¹²² [Monthly Statistical- Report August 2023.pdf \(unhcr.org\)](#)

¹²³ <https://www.unhcr.org/eg/about-us/refugee-context-in-egypt>

¹²⁴ Child Protection section provides the PSS services for the Syrian Children and Egyptian Children through the Primary Healthcare Units.

children. Moreover, 3,784 caregivers within the Syrian community were reached through their active participation in the comprehensive positive parenting sessions.

Among the noteworthy achievements during the reporting period was the provision of individual case management services to 689 Syrian children. This approach provided for an in-depth assessment of children's situations and needs, feeding into the development of customized care plans with interventions that address their specific needs. Children were accordingly provided with non-specialized and specialized services, including PSS, health, legal, education, positive parenting and case management services to Syrian children and their families through functional referral pathways.

Education

In collaboration with the Faculty of Education at Ain Shams University and the Ministry of Education (MoE), UNICEF implemented the rollout of Learning Recovery for four weeks in public schools with a high density of Syrian students enrolled in five governorates such as Giza, Sharkeya, Qalyubia, Alexandria and Damietta. Where students of both Egyptian and Syrian nationalities in grades 2 to 5 benefited from the new accelerated learning strategies and skills provided to the teachers to identify and address students' learning loss. A total of 1,700 students estimated (60 per cent girls) from both nationalities underwent the post assessment to assess the extent to which this has improved their learning outcomes.

UNICEF and partners are working towards ensuring inclusive access to learning and education through the provision of cash grants for pre-primary aged school children and support to community-based kindergartens.

Social and Behavioural Change (SBC) Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) and Localization

During the reporting period, the Meshwary programme reached a total of 4,328 (2,251 females and 2,077 males) Syrian adolescents and youth in the Cairo, Giza, and Alexandria governorates with life, employability, and entrepreneurial skills and with career guidance services. Pre and post assessments with participants revealed that (83 per cent) have acquired at least five key life and employability skills after their participation in the Meshwary Programme.

Moreover, the Sport for Development (S4D) project reached 1,087 Syrian adolescent girls, where the training program was implemented through different gaming and sporting activities that supported the strengthening of skills such as communication, negotiation, critical thinking, creativity, and personal empowerment skills such as self-awareness, self-management, and self-confidence. In addition, knowledge and skills about empathy, resilience, respect for diversity, and participation were strengthened.

Additionally, in terms of AAP and Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), 200 Syrian community health workers have been capacitated to act as the focal points for feedback and complaints between the Syrian communities and the Ministry of Health and Population as well act as points of information for health services provided by the ministry. They were also capacitated in order to support their communities to access regular immunization services as well as provide positive parenting counselling sessions and parenting good practices. The program has been the result of the collaboration between SBC and Child Survival and Development (CSD).

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF chairs and co-chairs two working groups that are used as coordination platforms with UNHCR and IOM: 1) The Education Working Group, and 2) The Child Protection Working Group respectively. In a protracted humanitarian situation such as that of Syrian refugees in Egypt, the strategy focuses on providing specialized services and support to the most vulnerable refugees, whilst simultaneously improving access to quality services for both refugee and host communities. Since 2020, that strategy aims to ensure that refugees are better able respond to shocks such as loss of livelihoods and exposure to significant health risks. UNICEF continues to take the lead in providing support for primary health care services provided at MoHP Primary Health Units (PHUs).

Annex A Summary of Programme Results

| Egypt | UNICEF and IPs Response | | | Sector Response | | |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| | Sector | 2023 target | Total results | Change since last report | 2023 target | Total results |
| Health | | | | | | |
| # children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities | 47,000 | 17,392 ¹²⁵ | 5,529 | | | |
| # primary health consultations for children under five years of age to receiving routine immunization and growth monitoring services | 60,000 | 68,528 ¹²⁶ | 23,535 | | | |
| # healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in IPC | 200 | 0 ¹²⁷ | 0 | | | |
| Child Protection, GBVIE & PSEA | | | | | | |
| # children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community based MHPSS | 25,000 | 35,424 ^{128 129} | 11,532 | | | |
| # children identified as in need of specialized services who are referred to health, social welfare and justice services | 10,000 | 689 ¹³⁰ | 77 | | | |
| # children who have received individual case management | 2,500 | 689 ¹³¹ | 77 | | | |
| # women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions | 5,000 | 0 ¹³² | 0 | | | |
| Education | | | | | | |
| # children receiving individual learning materials | 19,420 | 2,115 ¹³³ | 2 | | | |
| # children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning | 48,581 | 6,976 ¹³⁴ | 0 | | | |
| # trained teachers/ECD facilitators | 11,900 | 2,480 ¹³⁵ | 0 | | | |
| # children who accessed education through digital platforms through UNICEF-supported programmes | 10,000 | 294 ¹³⁶ | 294 | | | |

125 This is based on the Ministry of Health reports on the assisted health centers.

126 UNICEF ECO Health team stated the work with the Syrian Community Health workers again and started the training on the outreach and children, and women consultation on the public PHUs.

127 Due to the funding gap no training has been provided to community health workers till September.

128 Results are disaggregated as such: 31,640 Syrian children reached through PSS and 3,784 Syrian caregivers reached through positive parenting sessions. These include MoHP's results until September 2023 and NGO's results until May. The disaggregation of Syrians versus non-Syrians is included as a proxy. However, this will be updated once disaggregation is reviewed with MoHP.

Requested to please remove 'community-based' from the indicator in alignment with RAM.

129 These include MoHP's results until September 2023 and NGO's results until May. The disaggregation of Syrians versus non-Syrians is included as a proxy. However, this will be updated once disaggregation is reviewed with MoHP. Requested to please remove 'community-based' from the indicator in alignment with RAM.

130 NGOs' results are of May 2023 and will be updated in the next submission. As for MoHP, the disaggregation of Syrians versus non-Syrians is included as a proxy. However, this will be updated once disaggregation is reviewed with MoHP.

131 NGOs' results are of May 2023 and will be updated in the next submission. As for MoHP, the disaggregation of Syrians versus non-Syrians is included as a proxy. However, this will be updated once disaggregation is reviewed with MoHP.

132 The activities will start in the next quarter.

133 No funding was available to implement this intervention.

134 The academic year started in October 2023, so reached children numbers cannot be available before the disbursement and collection of the Education cash grants are concluded.

135 Teacher's training will be finalized this month. Hence, the verified number will be available by the end of November

136 The LP is open and accessible to children from all nationalities, especially in the Learning hubs as well where social cohesion activities are in place to promote integration with host community. Hence, the reached number of Syrian children is a part of the total number of Non-Syrians as well as host community children who access the LP.

UNICEF Syria Crisis: [Syrian crisis | UNICEF](#)
UNICEF Syria Crisis Facebook: www.facebook.com/unicefmena

Next SitRep: 31 December 2023

**Whom to contact
for further
information**

Adele Khodr

Regional Director
UNICEF MENA Regional Office
+962 (0) 79 609 8777
akhodr@unicef.org

Ammar Ammar

Regional Chief Advocacy & Communication
UNICEF MENA Regional Office
+962 (0) 791 837 388
aammar@unicef.org