

Pakistan Humanitarian Situation Report: 15

unicef 
for every child

Situation in Numbers



33 million

People affected by heavy rains and floods



9.6 million

Children in need of humanitarian assistance



20.6 million

People in need of humanitarian assistance

Pakistan Floods Response Plan 2022



Reporting Period: January to December 2023

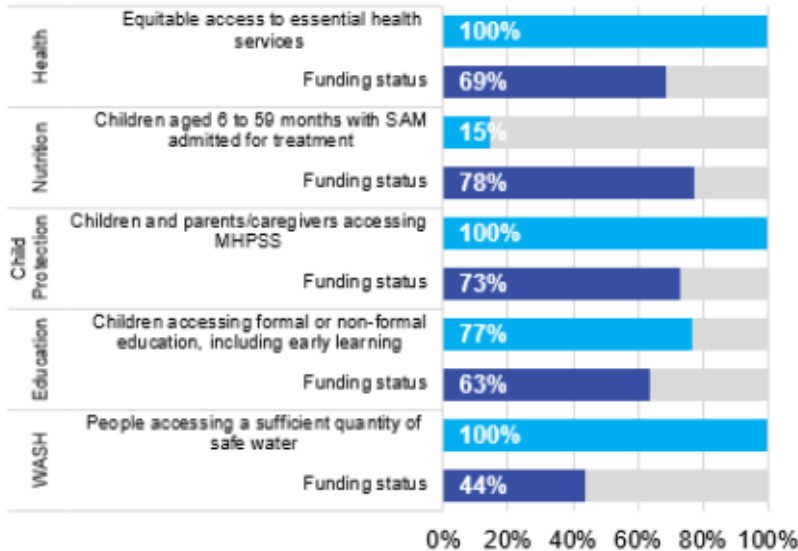
Highlights

- In 2023, the floods response continued to address the ongoing humanitarian needs which impacted 33 million individuals and displaced 8 million people.
- Through UNICEF support, 542,842 children with severe acute malnutrition (302,834 girls and 240,008 boys) were enrolled for treatment, 2,749,343 people had access to safe drinking water, 6.5 million people benefitted from primary health care services, and 1,947,925 children were immunized for measles.
- UNICEF supported 1,769 temporary learning centers, conducted minor repairs in 349 schools, as well as dewatering, fumigation and cleaning of 191 schools, and constructed 323 temporary school shelters. A total of 344,696 children are currently being supported to continue learning in a safe and protective environment.
- UNICEF supported 750,058 children and caregivers with access to mental health and psychosocial support.
- UNICEF required \$173.5 million of which \$113 million were received leaving a funding gap of \$63 million (36%) hindering UNICEF’s ability to expand critical response and recovery activities.

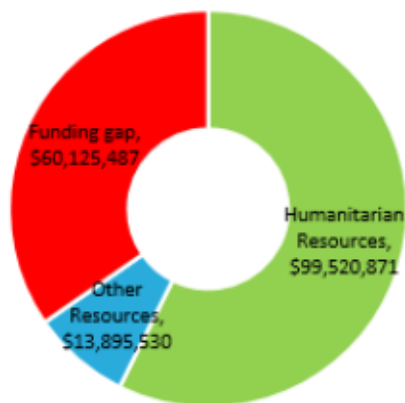
23

UNICEF Floods Response Requirement USD 173.5 million

UNICEF Response and Funding Status



Funding Status (in US\$)



Top Picture: Asim Rasheed, a Nutrition Assistant, checks the mid-upper arm circumference of 2-year-old Sughan at a UNICEF supported Basic Health Unit in Jaffarabad District, Balochistan.

² The HAC outlines resource requirements to address a portion of the nutrition needs, remaining case load to be addressed through other resources. All resources received are for Flood response. Funds for Afghan Refugee response are reflected in the Afghan Outflow Situation report.

³ Nutrition: The target versus budget mobilized was not proportionate as the asks have a ceiling for sector response. For target, the NNS 2018 used which was proportionately very high compared to the funds' mobilization based on the certain ceiling.

Funding Overview and Partnerships

In 2023, UNICEF required USD 173.5 million to provide life-saving support to women and children affected by the floods. The appeal was 65 per cent funded⁴, which left a gap of USD 63 million (36 per cent). In addition to the re-purposing of regular resources, funds from Australia, Denmark, the European Union, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Kuwait, the Republic of Korea, Norway, Romania, Sweden, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, the UN Central Emergency Response Fund, UNHCR, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, Education Cannot Wait, Global Partnership for Education, UNICEF National Committees (Denmark, France, Hong Kong, Luxembourg, Norway, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom, United States), private sector partners Telenor, Unilever, Ernst & Young, Ragoonwala Trust, Ze Shan Foundation, DP World, Flexport, Maersk and flexible thematic humanitarian funding were critical to the response. UNICEF is grateful to its partners for the much-needed resources, as these have been essential for the continued response and recovery, particularly flexible funds provided to meet the most urgent and emerging needs.

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

In 2022, Pakistan experienced one of the most severe monsoon seasons since 1961, leading to devastating consequences, with Sindh and Balochistan exceeding the usual forecasted rainfall by 600-700 per cent, as reported by the Pakistan Meteorological Department. The floods affected more than 33 million people in 94 districts⁵ resulting in the loss of 1,739 lives. Among those affected, an estimated 20.6 million people, including 9.6 million children were in need of humanitarian assistance. Most of the hardest-hit districts are amongst the most vulnerable districts in Pakistan, suffering from multiple deprivations.

The aftermath of the floods left numerous districts in Sindh province under water, necessitating immediate dewatering activities, while Balochistan continued to grapple with the persistent challenges posed by flooding in already vulnerable communities. Stagnant water exacerbated health concerns, leading to a surge in malaria and waterborne diseases in Sohbatpur, Jhal Magsi, Nasirabad, Jaffarabad, and Karachi districts.

Amid ongoing recovery efforts from the floods, a significant earthquake in March 2023, with a magnitude of 6.8 struck the Hindukush region of Afghanistan, caused aftershocks felt across most parts of Pakistan, with most damage in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). Consequently, the earthquake resulted in 11 casualties including two children and three women, and 79 individuals injured including 13 children and 32 women. Moreover, 172 houses were fully or partially damaged, seven schools were partially damaged, and 19 livestock were lost.

During the 2023 monsoon season, heavy rainfalls experienced from April led to rivers overflowing and causing flash floods leading to loss of infrastructure and lives. Most damage was experienced in Balochistan with two damaged bridges, temporary closure of major highways and loss of life. In KP, multiple districts were also affected by the heavy rainfall resulting in landslides, casualties and damage to property and crops.

Poor maternal nutrition, deficient sanitation and hygiene facilities and practices, inadequate childcare and feeding practices, food prices inflation, food insecurity and limited access to essential nutrition services and nutritious diets are all recognized as key drivers of acute malnutrition in children in Pakistan. Coupled with local economic crises, and other flood induced aggravating factors, the nutrition situation in flood affected districts remains in critical condition. It is evident that the floods exacerbated the already precarious nutrition situation for children under 5, adolescents and women of reproductive age who were already living above the emergency threshold levels for wasting and other forms of malnutrition. Unfortunately, many of the needs of the affected population remain unmet, leaving children in affected areas vulnerable to malnutrition, morbidity and mortality.

A rapid assessment conducted by UNICEF and the Institut Public de Sondage d'Opinion Secteur (IPSOS) post-flooding revealed that acute malnutrition in children was exacerbated by inadequate nutrition, sanitation, food price inflation, and limited access to essential nutrition services, particularly in flood-affected areas.⁶

In July 2023, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis⁷ reported over 2.1 million children including 1.5 million with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 600,000 with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) require preventive nutrition services, supplementation, and treatment across the 32 prioritized districts. A UNICEF study found that one in five children under the age of five is wasted. The SAM rate in the country is twice that of the South Asian

⁴ Funding received contributes to various indicators and activities with varying timelines and cost implications leading to overachievement in some of the targets.

⁵ [Pakistan FRP 2022](#)

⁶ [Rapid Care & Feeding Assessment in Flood Affected Areas- Assessing Affected Children Needs in Real-time \(IPSOS\)](#)

⁷ [Pakistan: IPC Acute Malnutrition Analysis - March 2023 - January 2024](#)

region and four times higher than the global average. Pakistan also has one of the highest burdens of low birthweight babies globally with a national average of 22.7 per cent and up to 50 per cent in some provinces.

UNICEF initiated a Standardised Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) Survey in 12 districts of Balochistan KP and Sindh which further confirmed that the wasting rate is above the emergency threshold level, compounded by existing suboptimal child feeding practices, and prevalent aggravating factors such as food insecurity and poor hygiene- and sanitation practices.⁸

Moreover, UNICEF played a crucial role in supporting provincial education departments and partners to ensure continued access to safe learning environments. The 2022 floods left about 30,389 schools destroyed, impacting access to education for 3.5 million children in 120 districts. Schools were devastated across all four provinces, with 8,751 schools completely damaged and 21,638 partially damaged.

Pakistan remains highly susceptible to the impacts of climate change, with populations lacking access to WASH services facing increased vulnerability to disasters such as floods, heatwaves and droughts. It is crucial to invest more significantly in long-term recovery efforts that focus on climate resilient WASH systems aiming to address equity gaps and minimize vulnerability to future climate related shocks. Open defecation in the most vulnerable areas remains a challenge and the WASH programme will continue to prioritize sanitation programmes. Additionally, investment in preparedness measures is a priority to enhance community resilience.

To raise awareness and strengthen joint advocacy on the effects of climate change, UNICEF and its partners supported the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in organizing a symposium targeting donors, government, civil society organizations and other UN agencies. The exposition showcased the vulnerabilities of affected populations during natural disasters.

Summary of Programme Response

UNICEF Pakistan has a physical presence in the four flood-affected provinces and works collaboratively with the Government, UN agencies and NGO partners to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable populations. Out of the 94 Government-declared calamity-hit districts, UNICEF and its partners have supported the displaced populations and assisted them as they return to their communities in 87 districts. Moreover, UNICEF established four additional operation hubs (Sukkur and Hyderabad in Sindh, Sibi in Balochistan, and Multan in Punjab) to support operations and programme delivery in the most severely flood-affected areas. UNICEF has been leading sectoral coordination in WASH, Nutrition and Education sectors and the Child Protection sub-sector from the onset of the flood response.

WASH

At the start of 2023, more than 4.8 million people remained in need of access to safe drinking water, along with 6.3 million people in need of household sanitation and 4.5 million people not following safe and hygienic practices. The Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA)⁹ and Resilient, Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Framework (4RF)¹⁰ framework highlighted the WASH needs in terms of transitioning to recovery, reporting damages worth US\$ 575 million with additional losses of US\$112 million incurred in the sector. Overall, the WASH sector sustained damages to over 4,000 water supply schemes and 2,700 sanitation schemes, with 1,346 schemes fully destroyed, a majority of which were managed by the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED). An estimated two-thirds of the affected population relied on community or privately-owned WASH infrastructure, the restoration of which was a priority for WASH sector partners. An estimated US\$ 327 million was required for resilient WASH reconstruction.

Through UNICEF support, 2,749,343 people, including 1,261,774 children (631,098 girls, 630,676 boys, 691,389 women and 796,180 men), were reached with improved access to safe drinking water, of which over 1,750,319 people were reached with access to sustainable water systems. In addition, 2,489,058 people (464,190 girls, 458,620 boys, 759,549 women and 806,699 men), were reached with hygiene promotion messages and 2,759,640 people received hygiene kits that cater for general hygiene needs and menstrual hygiene needs of women and adolescent girls. At least 386,736 people have benefited from sanitation interventions, including an estimated 100,671 people (22,958 girls, 22,359 boys, 23,949 women and 31,405 men) from temporary gender-segregated latrines and 286,065 people (65,563 girls, 75,736 boys, 72,902 women and 71,864 men) were provided with support for restoration of household sanitation facilities.

⁸ Balochistan and KP SMART Survey June and July 2023.

⁹ [2022 Floods Post Disaster Needs Assessment](#)

¹⁰ [Pakistan Floods 2022: Resilient Recovery, Rehabilitation, and Reconstruction Framework \(4RF\)](#)

Additionally, 401 schools and 95 health facilities have been provided with WASH facilities. This work was undertaken in 30 districts across the four-flood affected provinces.

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Health

In the aftermath of the 2022 floods, over 600,000 people were left living in temporary shelters and camps, requiring urgent medical assistance. Moreover, the floods significantly affected the health infrastructure, with over 2,000 health facilities and their contents partially or completely damaged¹¹. The cold chain for vaccines also suffered extensive losses, with 349 refrigerators and solar direct drives damaged. Due to the significant damage to infrastructure 112 mobile health teams continued operating in the flood affected areas in the first quarter of 2023. At the same time, UNICEF in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, UNFPA and WHO formulated a joint rehabilitation plan for the damaged health facilities.

Following the floods, Pakistan experienced the longest malaria outbreak with approximately five times as many Malaria cases reported in 2023 compared to previous years. In response, UNICEF distributed two million long lasting insecticidal nets and supplied 50,000 malaria and dengue testing kits, as well as antimalarial drugs to cover 415,000 patients.

In 2023, UNICEF remained committed to delivering emergency lifesaving preventive and curative services to the flood-affected districts. UNICEF-supported health facilities provided primary health services to a total of 6,499,854 individuals, including 2,418,734 women, 1,553,352 men, 1,304,313 girls, and 1,223,455 boys. As many as 1,947,925 children were vaccinated for measles, including 1,010,735 girls, and antenatal care (ANC) services were offered to 612,048 pregnant women. The Sub-National Immunization Days (SNIDs) for polio immunization covered 16,415,222 children under the age of five in January and February 2023.

As part of flood recovery efforts, UNICEF supported the rehabilitation of 104 health facilities and four warehouses, with 88 completed in 2023 and the rest expected to be completed in early 2024. The refurbished facilities were also equipped with essential medical equipment, including emergency and midwifery kits and medicines. A two-day training was conducted in Hyderabad and Sukkur to enhance capacities of health workers on preparedness and disaster risk reduction. The training covered resilience in health systems aimed at enhancing timely sustainable emergency response and early recovery.

In Sindh and Balochistan, UNICEF supported continuous essential health services to remote and vulnerable communities. The integration of Mass Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screening activities with immunization services enabled identification of children missed with vaccinations.

To enhance community-based healthcare, UNICEF distributed 7,000 Lady Health worker (LHW) kits, each comprised of essential medicines and equipment to support delivery of services to a population of 7,000,000 individuals in Sindh, Balochistan and KP. For clear identification of the LHW households, identification boards were provided in the flood-affected areas.

In November, a haemorrhagic Congo fever outbreak was reported in Balochistan with 17 confirmed cases. UNICEF provided personal protective equipment and essential medicines to control cross infection.

Nutrition

The floods recovery efforts continued in 2023 under the Flood response plan (FRP)¹² where 84 districts were targeted and special emphasis and focus on 34 districts as per UNOCHA and NDMA recommendation with relevant nutrition partners. Poor maternal nutrition, deficient sanitation and hygiene facilities and practices, inadequate child care and

¹¹ [Pakistan-floods-2022-post-disaster-needs-assessment](#)

¹² [2022 Flood response plan](#)

feeding practices, food prices inflation, food insecurity and limited access to essential nutrition services and nutritious diets are all recognized as key drivers of acute malnutrition in children in Pakistan. Coupled with local economic crises, and other flood induced aggravating factors, the nutrition situation in flood affected districts remains in critical condition. It is evident that the floods exacerbated the already precarious nutrition situation for children under 5, adolescents and women of reproductive age who were already living above the emergency threshold levels for wasting and other forms of malnutrition. Unfortunately, many of the needs of the affected population remain unmet, leaving children in affected areas vulnerable to malnutrition, morbidity and mortality.

In 2023, UNICEF conducted SMART surveys in 5 districts of Sindh, 4 districts of Balochistan, and 3 districts of Khyber Pakhtunwa. The survey findings revealed that the prevalence of acute malnutrition is higher than the emergency threshold¹³, prompting UNICEF's active participation in the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC)¹⁴ to explore the linkages between food security and the high prevalence of wasting. UNICEF provided technical support to FAO in data analysis. Such engagement helped the nutrition sector in strengthening coordination, to escalate comprehensive nutrition interventions.

Throughout the emergency response, UNICEF has prioritized the integration of nutrition services within WASH, health, and food security interventions. UNICEF also focused on community-based service delivery by reviving and capacitating Lady Health Workers (LHWs) and other community-based structures, aiming to expand the coverage of essential nutrition services, enhance community engagement, generate demand and contribute to resilient and shock-responsive community-based systems. Mass Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screening was introduced in 6 districts of Balochistan, 17 districts Sindh and all flood affected districts of Punjab for early malnutrition detection, engaging community members, especially mothers, in key messages on promotion and malnutrition prevention efforts.

In 2023, UNICEF significantly scaled up nutrition programming in flooded affected districts, with 13,353,505 children screened using MUAC tapes. Of these, 663,335 children were identified with SAM, with 82 per cent of them, or 542,842 (302,834 girls and 240,008 boys) cases admitted for treatment at the Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP). Additionally, 5,728,104 pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW) were screened, with 403,308 identified as acutely malnourished. Micronutrient powder was provided to 2,521,408 (1,267,552 girls, 1,253,856 boys) children aged 6 to 59 months, while 2,638,157 PBW and 965,540 adolescent girls received Iron Folic Acid (IFA) supplements or Multiple Micronutrient Supplements (MMS). A total of 4,223,535 primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months and PBW were counselled on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices through various platforms, including CSO partners. Where possible, nutrition services were closely linked to and integrated with WASH, health and food security interventions.

UNICEF introduced mass Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screening in selected districts of Balochistan, Punjab and Sindh for early detection of malnutrition, engagement of community members, mainly mothers, for the promotion of key messages and prevention of malnutrition in all its forms.

Education

UNICEF, in collaboration with its partners, continued the floods recovery response through provision of formal and non-formal education, including early learning. A total of 344,696 impacted children were provided access to education, with 773 Temporary Learning Centres (TLC) established to ensure continuity of learning in the affected districts. The TLCs were fully equipped with teaching, learning and recreational equipment in Balochistan, Sindh and Punjab provinces. As part of the safe reopening of partially damaged schools, 70 schools were dewatered, fumigated and cleaned and an additional 323 schools were rehabilitated, while minor repairs were provided to 349 schools. UNICEF also distributed education supplies to 321,627 children, including 143,925 girls.

These children were enrolled and provided with education supplies including Student Learning Kits, Student Hygiene Kits, Recreational Kits and other supplies (Blackboards, water coolers, seating mats etc). These supplies contributed in the retention of children and parents were also relieved as they spend so much on these supplies for children. Children feel happy and their retention in schools improves.

To strengthen the capacities of teachers and Parent Teachers School Management Committees (PT/SMC) members, 4,249 teachers (2,198 females) were trained on mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and early grades learning while 5,019 PT/SMS members including 2,858 women were trained on safe reopening of schools and effective

¹³ Emergency threshold is 15% for acute malnutrition

¹⁴ [Pakistan | IPC - Integrated Food Security Phase Classification \(ipcinfo.org\)](https://www.ipcinfo.org/)

delivery of 'back to learning' messaging. To encourage back to school initiatives, "Back to Learning" messages were broadcasted through social media, mass media and through community engagement reaching 899,316 people, including 75,133 women and 139,068 girls, for enhanced communities' awareness on safe learning opportunities.

Despite these efforts and tremendous improvements in access, rehabilitation and establishment of TLCs was delayed due to insufficient funding, resulting to children being out of school for longer periods. In districts with severe school damage, it is imperative to transfer or establish TLCs for longer periods to enable continuity and access to education services while ongoing repairs to damaged schools progresses.

Child Protection

As a response to increased protection risks due to the 2022 floods, UNICEF and partners provided children, families and communities with interventions to prevent and respond to distress, violence, abuse and exploitation. Since the beginning of the floods, UNICEF activated 13 new partnerships with civil society organisations to bring child protection services to flood-affected children and families, covering 35 districts in Sindh, Balochistan, Punjab and KP. UNICEF also continued to work in partnership with Social Welfare Departments to replicate or expand the government's district Child Protection Unit (CPUs) to support children at risk and survivors of protection violations, including the deployment of case workers and psychologists.

UNICEF supported case management services to 9,670 children at risk and survivors of child protection violations (4,444 girls and 5,226 boys). 750,058 children and caregivers (262,109 girls, 276,242 boys, 134,287 women, 77,420 men) were reached with psychosocial support (PSS). Additionally, 5,858,390 people (1,398,572 girls 1,322,740 boys, 1,815,635 women, 1,321,443 men) were reached through awareness activities and community mobilization interventions on key child protection risks and available services, including through face-to-face sessions and indirectly via radio, TV and social media platforms. UNICEF also supported 1,718,249 children and women (564,694 girls, 475,817 boys, 677,738 women) with Gender Based Violence (GBV) risk mitigation, prevention and response interventions. The births of 151,115 children (71,602 girls and 79,513 boys) were registered in flood affected areas - a major step towards establishing their legal identity and facilitating access to essential services.

In flood affected areas, an initial resistance to Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) interventions was observed, but these interventions later proved to be impactful in addressing the psychosocial issues of affected children and communities, with noted increased demand. Partnerships with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have proven instrumental in accelerating achievements in service provision.

Local NGOs and INGOs played a vital role to bridge the gap for service provision and provided technical backstopping to the Social Service Work Force (SSWF) from Government on case management and referral systems. Throughout the year, UNICEF supported multiple capacity-building courses and initiatives, for Government as well as CSO partners. UNICEF partnered with the University of Bradford to assess the learning needs of the new cohort of SSWF in Sindh and develop a contextualized package of training for Child Protection in Emergencies. The training delivered by the University of Bradford was supplemented by the use of RapidPro as a training and support tool for the case workers in Sindh. Along with the Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials, UNICEF provided PSS kits, Recreational and solar kits and tents for the established safe spaces. A number of new technical tools were produced during the year. A new web/mobile based application for monitoring attendance in safe spaces to improve the quality of reporting was also developed and rolled out in 2023.

Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

UNICEF is committed to preventing and responding to sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) and is actively engaged in policy and operational efforts to improve the reporting of SEA, in support to survivors of SEA, and in promoting accountability to affected populations. UNICEF also promotes internal and external change to end tolerance for all forms of exploitation and abuse. In this view, UNICEF co-chairs the Pakistan UNCT PSEA Network and the four provincial networks in Sindh, Lahore, KP, and Balochistan. Two networks In Sindh and Lahore were established in 2023, and more than 200 INGOs, NGOs, Government Institutions, National Societies and Academic Institutions have been brought into this coordinated effort.

In October 2023, UNICEF established the Inter-Agency Implementing Partnership (IP) Working Group, in line with the global Inter-Agency IP Working Group to support UN agencies in implementing the UN Harmonized IP Protocol in

Pakistan. Conducting joint SEA risk assessments and implementing capacity strengthening and improvement plans with CSOs has been facilitated by UNICEF's strategic leadership. This initiative has trained over 220 CSOs and 75 UNICEF staff to implement UN IP PSEA Common Assessments. Through UNICEF lead facilitation, 22 PSEA Focal Points have been trained to conduct joint PSEA assessments.

UNICEF in Peshawar has established a strategic partnership with the Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMA) to strengthen PSEA within government entities. PDMA is the first government department in Pakistan to take the agenda of PSEA to a larger scale. Under this initiative, the PDMA will enhance the capacity of government entities, CSOs and other humanitarian actors and follow up the implementation of PSEA with all parties receiving No Objection Confirmation (NOC) from the PDMA to execute responding/humanitarian initiatives. The functional model will apply to the other PDMA's in the areas supported by UNICEF in Pakistan.

Since the onset of the emergency, 13,149 frontline workers (5,686 women and 7,463 men) have been trained on PSEA through online mandatory trainings and face-to-face training sessions. During the reporting period 412 frontline workers (181 women and 231 men) received training on SEA enabling them to be aware of the prohibited behaviours and know where and how to report SEA misconduct.

UNICEF also supported its implementing partners to develop contextualized PSEA messages and Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials through a dedicated partnership with IRC. The posters, brochures, pamphlets, and key messages on PSEA are available in English, Urdu and Sindhi languages. Together with IRC, UNICEF trained around 220 staff of humanitarian agencies (130 men and 90 women) in flood affected areas. Since the beginning of the response, 6,112,436 people including 2,506,691 children (1,252,057 girls, 1,254,634 boys, 1,813,362 women, and 1,792,383 men) in UNICEF-supported project implementation sites have been reached with PSEA messages, including the safe and accessible SEA reporting.

Social and Behaviour Change, Community Engagement and Accountability

Throughout the year, UNICEF implemented a range of interventions aimed at enhancing the recovery process. These initiatives involved gathering qualitative community feedback, capacity building, and strategic positioning of services. Research themes undertaken by UNICEF covered a spectrum of critical issues, including the identification of marginalized groups, food and nutrition impact, vulnerabilities, safety of children, child marriages, child labour, and domestic violence. The analytical reports resulting from these efforts have significantly improved planning, monitoring, service delivery, as well as the dissemination of supplies.

Concerted efforts were made to strengthen community systems and capacities through SBC engagement. This included the recruitment of specialists who worked with communities to build their capacity for emergency preparedness and the training of 1,100 religious leaders in Punjab and Balochistan on Key Family-Care Practices. Community engagement sessions, emphasizing two-way dialogue, have been conducted extensively, reaching nearly 92,000 caregivers. In Sindh, SBC initiatives encompassed training sessions for social mobilizers, religious leaders, and district government official, covering critical areas such as flood awareness, prevention of sexual exploitation, child protection, and integrated SBC approaches.

SBC efforts saw continued collaboration with all stakeholders, including coordination with government agencies, media, and community-based organizations. Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) actively contributed to community engagement sessions, advocacy meetings, and addressing critical issues such as mental health, trauma, and children's education.

UNICEF adopted innovative initiatives, including interactive theatre shows, where edutainment was a key tool to address mental health challenges in children. Additionally, edutainment initiatives in Punjab supported the "Back to School" initiative to increase understanding on the importance of education and school enrolment. UNICEF SBC also used digital engagement platforms and training of implementing partners in qualitative research methodologies to ensure a coordinated and effective response.

A rapid assessment survey in South Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, utilizing human-centred design methodology, highlights the commitment to thorough evaluation. Community sessions and frontline worker training in Rajanpur and DG Khan in Punjab focused on collecting online community feedback, leading to actionable recommendations for improving behaviours change communication.

Overall, the SBC interventions underscore a comprehensive and collaborative approach, addressing a myriad of challenges faced by flood-affected communities. The ongoing efforts reflect a commitment to continuous improvement, capacity building, and targeted initiatives aimed at enhancing the well-being of vulnerable populations.

Disaster Risk Reduction/Winterization

Pakistan is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world, grappling with profound effects of climate change. In addition to the impacts of the 2022 floods, the country also experienced harsh winter conditions, mostly in the Northern regions, with temperatures dropping below 0°C. To support vulnerable populations in these locations, UNICEF provided winterization supplies including warm clothing kits for infants to children up to the age of 12 years, blankets, quilts, jackets shawls and woollen caps. UNICEF also procured and prepositioned winter supplies to ensure a timely response when harsh winter conditions are experienced during the winter of 2023.

As part of disaster risk reduction strategies, UNICEF collaborated closely with NDMA to enhance communities' capacity to prepare and respond to climate related shocks. With UNICEF and other partners' support, the NDMA led a simulation exercise for floods and rain emergencies with first responders and other relevant stakeholders to enhance a timely response and coordination mechanisms. NDMA also rolled out a three-day workshop to strengthen the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk reduction and to promote gender equality.

To create awareness on the effects of climate change, UNICEF supported NDMA in organizing a groundbreaking event, the "Pakistan Expo on Disaster Risk Reduction 2023". The exhibition focused on raising awareness on the effects of climate change and also advocate for child centred, gender inclusive disaster risk reduction strategies. Government line ministries, donors, and civil society organisations participated, strengthening collaborative efforts and contributing to innovative approaches to disaster risk reduction. Moreover, the expo served as a platform to collaboratively develop initiatives to build back better and promote resilience amongst affected and vulnerable populations. It showcased a commitment to not only raising awareness but also taking concrete measures to ensure the well-being and preparedness of communities facing the impacts of climate change. This collaborative approach underscores the importance of fostering resilience as an integral part of sustainable development efforts.

Key recommendations from the expo included increased investments in disaster risk reduction approaches that involve the affected populations, including youth, as first responders and decision makers when shocks occur. Dialogues at the expo stressed that enhanced sustainability and long-lasting solutions towards disaster risk management require a systemized approach involving all actors. Additionally, to streamline efforts and ensure efficiency and effective use of limited resources, it will be necessary to establish coordination mechanisms with clear roles and responsibilities defined for actively engaged actors, with regulation and direction of efforts guided by a comprehensive disaster strategy that brings together different stakeholders and agencies.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF continues to strengthen humanitarian leadership and coordination at national and subnational levels through its co-leadership of the WASH, education and nutrition sectors and the child protection area of responsibility and its engagement in the health sector. The Humanitarian Country Team convened monthly meetings to engage in strategic discussions and make decisions. At the technical level, the Inter-Sector Coordination Group, and Information Management Working Group met monthly. Led by OCHA Pakistan, an inter-agency contingency planning process has been initiated based on flood lessons learned in 2022, with consultations from Government, NGOs, Red Cross Movement, and humanitarian actors, to guide the pre-disaster phase, coordinate response, and advocate for a National Strategic Coordination Forum with NDMA, Planning Commission, UN, and NGOs.

UNICEF as a co-Lead for Education Sector, plays a key role in strengthening Education Sector coordination at National and Provincial Levels and facilitate better planning implementation and monitoring of education interventions. The sector objectives also entail close monitoring and improve access to quality education for the most vulnerable including girls and marginalized people affected by multiple vulnerabilities and deprivations.

Under the Nutrition sector, UNICEF as the sector lead supported and actively participated in the IPC acute malnutrition analysis with the aim of strengthening evidence generation, coordination and enhancing resource mobilization efforts to reach the most vulnerable children with preventive and curative nutrition services. Coordination mechanisms from national to sub-national and hub level remained fully functional and followed the nutrition response in camps, communities and health facilities. The nutrition sector remained active in the inter-sectoral coordination/ISCG.

UNICEF continued to lead the Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP-AOR) at the national and provincial level and provide guidance on the development of the Minimum Package for the child protection intervention in the humanitarian

situation for uniformity of the approach. UNICEF also adapted a range of guidance materials including Psychological First Aid Guidance, and IEC materials on Child protection and GBV risks.

The CP-AOR and Education Sector Working Group (ESWG) jointly conducted a need assessment in 20 flood affected districts across the country. The data was collected through the CP-AOR and the education sector members, the analysis and report writing were supported by the Global Education Cluster. The findings showed an increase in child marriage and child labour in flood affected areas, major drivers include poverty, social and cultural norms and lack of services and opportunities particularly among adolescent girls and boys. There was also an increased need for psychosocial support to enable children to overcome stress and anxiety associated with loss and displacement, especially among adolescent girls and boys. The assessment also found an increase in the risk of sexual violence, sexual abuse, or sexual exploitation of children and gaps in child protection services.

The CP-AOR also worked on the development of the Minimum Package for the Child Protection Services in the Humanitarian situation. This document is under the process of finalization and will be uploaded on NDMA website after the approval from concern authorities for further reference and use.

UNICEF led WASH sector coordination, in cooperation with government counterparts at the national level, in all provinces, and in three provincial hubs. The sector developed localized plans for the recovery of WASH systems and conducted a gender safety audit and post-distribution monitoring (PDM) assessment. UNICEF and its WASH sector partners were able to provide water to 70 per cent of the population in need and sanitation services were provided to 31 per cent of target population. One year post flooding, it is estimated that still about eight million people, around half of whom are children, continue to live without access to safe water in flood-affected areas. Additionally, over 500,000 households remain without access to household sanitation. While recovery efforts continue, the gaps on the ground continue to be significant.

UNICEF also promotes internal and external change to end tolerance for all forms of exploitation and abuse. In this view, UNICEF co-chairs the Pakistan the UN Country Team (UNCT) PSEA Network and the four provincial networks in Sindh, Lahore, KP, and Baluchistan. Two networks In Sindh and Lahore were established in 2023, and more than 200 INGOs, NGOs, Government Institutions, National Societies and Academic Institutions have been brought into this coordinated effort.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

In 2023, UNICEF Pakistan continued to highlight the growing needs of children in flood-affected areas and the response in terms of providing essential services. In August, a social media campaign was launched to mark the one-year anniversary of the flood emergency. Donor visibility remained a priority and generous funding received to support UNICEF's emergency response was highlighted on all UNICEF Pakistan digital platforms. The positive impact of UNICEF's services and supplies on children in the affected communities was projected through short videos featuring the beneficiaries. Several donor and media visits were facilitated to keep the flood story alive in national and international media and ensure the flow of donations essential for UNICEF to sustain its support for those in need. Multiple media training sessions were organized during the year to build capacity of staff members for interacting with the media.

Pieces to Camera: [Abdullah Fadil, UNICEF Representative in Pakistan](#), [Sehar Raza, UNICEF Education Specialist](#), [Sagheer Ahmed, UNICEF Education Officer](#), [Tufail Khan, UNICEF Emergency Specialist](#), [Sheraz Ali-UNICEF Emergency Specialist](#), [Emma Maspero-UNICEF Senior Emergency Manager](#)

Pak Youth Diaries/Adolescent Videos: [Noorullah](#), [Maryam](#), [Shumaila](#), [Mehreen](#), [Mansoor](#), [Kanwal](#), [Arooj Talat](#), [Mukhtiyar](#), [Reema](#), [Zainab](#)

Press Releases:

[Pakistan's rains may have stopped, but children are still dying - UNICEF](#),

[More than 10 million people, including children, living in Pakistan's flood-affected areas still lack access to safe drinking water - UNICEF](#),

[One year on from catastrophic floods, millions of children in Pakistan still need urgent support](#)

[France commits €3 million to support UNICEF's health and immunization efforts in flood-affected areas](#)

Human Interest Stories:

[Displaced by the flood](#)

[Safe water: essential for all, available to a few](#)

[Learning Continues for Children Affected by Floods in Pakistan](#)

[Safe water: essential for all, available to a few](#)

[Women and children reap benefits from climate-resilient water schemes](#)

[Overcoming a climate-disaster, children find new opportunities to learn](#)

[Empowering girls to learn](#)

[Adding colour to children's lives](#)

[Saving young lives with Nutrition services in flood affected Balochistan](#)

[A bag full of hope](#)

Webpage: [Link](#)

Op-Ed: [Link](#)

Donor Recognition: [Ireland](#), [Australia](#), [DP World](#), [Denmark](#), [Germany](#), [USAID](#), [Kuwait](#), [ZeShan Foundation](#), [France](#), [FCDO](#)

Explainer Videos: [6 Month Mark](#), [1 Year Mark](#)

Staff Interview: [Scott Whoolery, Head of Field Operations & Emergency](#)

Winterization Response in Sindh:

English Posts: [Link 1](#), [Link 2](#), [Link 3](#), [Link 4](#) **Urdu Posts:** [Link 1](#), [Link 2](#)

Winterization Response in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa:

English Posts: [Link 1](#), [Link 2](#) **Urdu Posts:** [Link 1](#), [Link 2](#)

Funding Requirement

Sector	Requirements	Funds available			Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2022/23	Other resources used in 2022/23	Total	\$	%
Health	35,000,000	19,577,477	4,454,410	24,031,887	10,968,113	31%
Nutrition	34,669,042	24,816,577	2,072,184	26,888,761	7,780,281	22%
Education	23,290,028	9,894,840	4,869,564	14,764,404	8,525,624	37%
Child Protection	11,262,494	7,463,830	770,372	8,234,202	3,028,292	27%
WASH	58,320,324	23,701,368	1,725,000	25,426,368	32,893,956	56%
Emergency Preparedness	11,000,000	14,066,781	4,000	14,070,781		
Total	173,541,888	99,520,871	13,895,530	113,416,401	63,196,266	36%

* EPF loan (US\$ 9.1M) is not reflected in the table above.

Next SitRep: March 2024

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Annex A

Summary of Programme Results

Results Matrix Floods 2022-23				
Sector	UNICEF and Operational partners			
	Target*	Gender	Results	Change since last report ▲ ▼
Water Sanitation and Hygiene				
People accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	2,000,000	Men	796,180	59,461▲
		Women	691,389	65,889▲
		Boys	630,676	51,242▲
		Girls	631,098	53,537▲
		Total	2,749,343¹⁵	230,129▲
People accessing appropriately designed and managed latrines	440,000	Men	103,269	15,326▲
		Women	96,853	15,714▲
		Boys	98,094	18,046▲
		Girls	88,520	15,810▲
		Total	386,736	64,896▲
People reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services	2,400,000	Men	824,883	125,384▲
		Women	660,165	131,566▲
		Boys	643,688	134,513▲
		Girls	630,904	131,447▲
		Total	2,759,640	522,910▲
Health¹⁶				
Children women and adolescent equitably access essential health services with sustained coverage of high impact preventive and curative interventions.	3,200,000	Men	1,553,352	535,254▲
		Women	2,418,734	704,909▲
		Boys	1,223,455	208,172▲
		Girls	1,304,313	204,866▲
		Total	6,499,854	1,653,201▲
6 to 59 months children vaccinated against measles ¹⁷	736,000	Boys	937,190	46,637▲
		Girls	1,010,735	55,879▲
		Total	1,947,925	102,516▲
0 to 59 months children vaccinated against Polio ¹⁸	2,543,121	Boys	8,371,763	
		Girls	8,043,459	

¹⁵ Overachievement arises from the overlap of beneficiaries, where approximately 1 million individuals received temporary water through methods like water trucking or household water treatment during the initial emergency phase. This indicator does not distinguish people reached through temporary and sustainable options.

¹⁶ The targets were set at the beginning of the emergency for next six months. There was no revising of the targets since then hence the over achievement in Health, Child Protection and Social and behaviour change.

¹⁸ Polio data comes from SNID during the period. It is a door-to-door campaign and includes 2.5 million children affected by floods. These numbers will never be cumulative

		Total	16,415,222	
Nutrition				
Children aged 6 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment ¹⁹	1,559,448	Boys	240,008	137,919▲
		Girls	302,834	170,566▲
		Total	542,842²⁰	308,485▲
Primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	622,047	Total	4,223,535	1,691,525▲
Children aged 6 to 59 months receiving multiple micronutrient powders	466,536	Boys	1,253,850	752,135▲
		Girls	1,267,552	760,027▲
		Total	2,521,408	1,512,168▲
Child Protection				
Children and parents/caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support	300,914	Men	77,420	14,814▲
		Women	134,287	27,836▲
		Boys	276,242	55,753▲
		Girls	262,109	43,849▲
		Total	750,058	142,252▲
Girls and boys receiving individual case management and specialized services.	3,143	Boys	5,226	1,701▲
		Girls	4,444	1,232▲
		Total	9,670	2,933▲
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations (PSEA)	3,697,379	Men	1,792,383	211,455▲
		Women	1,813,362	216,150▲
		Boys	1,254,634	211,195▲
		Girls	1,252,057	226,411▲
		Total	6,112,436	651,996▲
Boys, girls, women, men reached through awareness activities and UNICEF-supported community mobilization interventions on key child protection risks and available services.	3,106,817	Men	1,321,443	133,926▲
		Women	1,815,635	117,341▲
		Boys	1,322,740	206,625▲
		Girls	1,398,572	137,545▲
		Total	5,858,390	595,437▲
Women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions.	617,500	Women	677,738	132,540▲
		Boys	475,817	194,307▲
		Girls	564,694	187,273▲
		Total	1,718,249	514,120▲
Education				
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	383,000	Boys	199,189	127,185▲
		Girls	145,507	93,050▲
		Total	344,696	220,235▲
Children received education supplies including SIB and SLK ²¹ & other supplies ²²	383,000	Boys	177,702	128,874
		Girls	143,925	106,744

¹⁹ The HAC outlines resource requirements to address a portion of the needs, specifically targeting 331,340 children suffering from SAM out of an overall SAM target of 1,599,448. The sector target for SAM treatment, according to the revised 2022 Flood Response Plan, is 414,175. The remaining caseload of 1.27 million children will be addressed through resources beyond the HAC appeal, with the financial difference covered by development resources mobilized through the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) and the broader development agenda.

²⁰ The funding received for SAM treatment is against the target of 34 prioritised calamity hit districts that was 331,340 and the revised flash appeal targeted 414,176 SAM children treatment and the achievement is at 57% based on the targets. The remaining target of 1,228,108 SAM children treatment is yet unfunded.

²¹ School in a Box and Student Learning Kit.

²² UNICEF is providing TLCs and de-watered schools with diverse teaching and learning materials to create conducive learning environments such as SIB, recreation kits, early childhood development (ECD) kits and individual SLK in coordination with the Provincial and District Education Departments distributing textbooks. As distributions are being conducted continuously, the number of children receiving education supplies will continue to increase.

		Total	321,627	235,618
Risk Communication and Community Engagement/SBC				
<i>Number of people reached through mass and social media, with risk communication and early recovery messages</i>	3,500,000	<i>Men</i>	15,190,548	77,319▲
		<i>Women</i>	15,810,570	587,525▲
		Total	31,001,118	5,645,841▲
<i>Number of people reached through risk communication, community engagement and receiving accurate, contextualized, timely lifesaving and early recovery information.</i>	2,500,000	<i>Men</i>	6,807,469	2,461,149 ▲
		<i>Boys</i>	6,387,949	
		<i>Women</i>	24,892,245	13,096,180 ▲
		<i>Girls</i>	6,898,570	
		Total	44,986,233	28,843,848▲²³
<i>Number of people sharing their concerns and asking questions/clarifications for available support services to address their needs through established feedback mechanisms.</i>	2,500,000	<i>Men</i>	37,001	0
		<i>Women</i>	30,058	0
		Total	67,059²⁴	0

23 The data for boys and girls was not reported earlier in the year. Now the cumulative numbers for the year have been compiled therefore there is a significant increase in the total.

24 The estimated target, focused on establishing a national 'helpline' for all affected populations, aimed to provide critical information, enable concern reporting (AAP), share location-specific referrals, offer basic counselling, and foster trust between the government, response partners, and those affected. However, the government decided against activating the helpline which would receive minimum 3,000 calls a day, initially intended to be supported by UNICEF. The main and active source of information is through community engagement sessions and focus groups.