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MOZAMBIQUE

Humanitarian Situation Report No.11

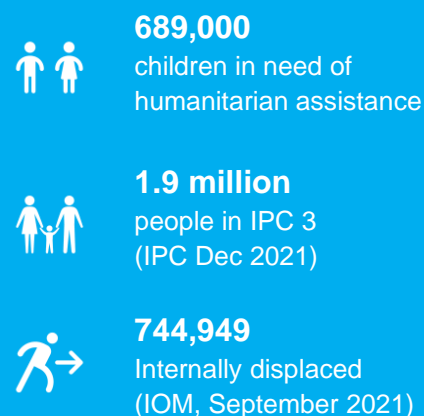
unicef
for every child

Reporting Period: January-December 2021

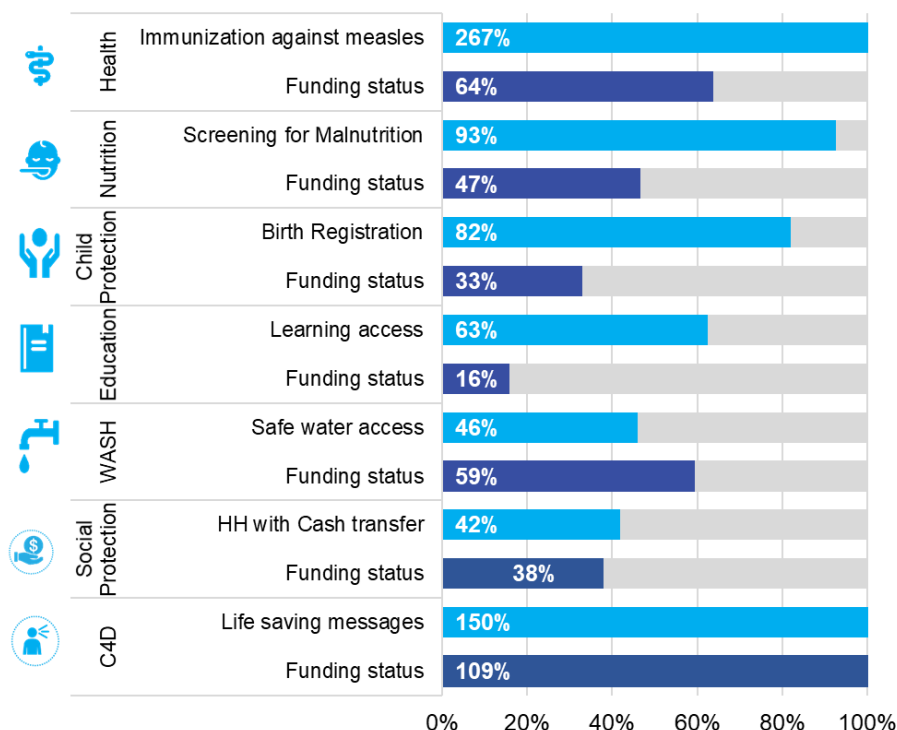
Highlights

- In 2021, the security situation in Cabo Delgado province was volatile and displacement increased 8.2 percent.
- With UNICEF support, over 1.1 million children under 15 were reached with measles/rubella vaccinations and nearly 1.6 million children under five received supplementation with Vitamin A.
- Over 190,000 children had access to safe learning environments with rehabilitation of 201 classrooms and establishment of 417 temporary learning spaces.
- UNICEF provided access to safe water for 200,000.
- Radio stations, community radios, TV stations, and multimedia mobile units supported by UNICEF reached over 4 million listeners with messages on COVID-19 prevention, importance of the vaccine and other important health and hygiene practices.
- UNICEF reached nearly 110,000 caregivers and families in need with critical child protection services

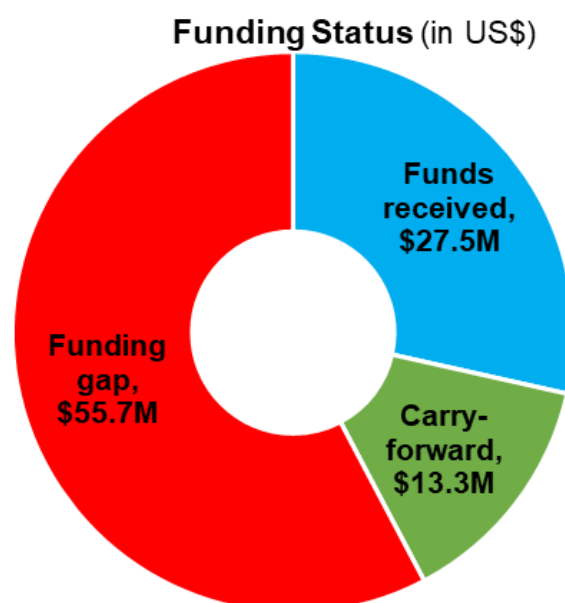
Situation in Numbers



UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



UNICEF Appeal 2021 US\$ 96.5 million



Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF's 2021 Humanitarian Action for Children appeal requested \$96.5 million to provide lifesaving and life-sustaining services for children and their caregivers in Mozambique. In 2021, UNICEF received \$27.5 million for its humanitarian response from the Governments of Canada, Italy, Japan, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States, the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), Education Cannot Wait, The Global Vaccine Alliance, Japan National Committee for UNICEF and the UN's Central Emergency Response Fund. UNICEF Mozambique received \$5 million in fully flexible humanitarian funding from UNICEF's global humanitarian thematic account to meet urgent and unfunded needs. UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to all our donors, without whom we would be unable to support the children of Mozambique.

The funding allowed UNICEF to meet critical needs in Sofala and Manica following Cyclone Eloise in January 2021, conflict-related displacement in Nampula and Cabo Delgado, severe acute malnutrition and public health emergencies including COVID-19 and cholera in several areas of the country. Despite this work, many needs remained unsupported due to lack of funds, principally the response to conflict-affected and host communities in the north, but also cyclone response activities. Critically, UNICEF enters 2022 with a looming pipeline break for 2022 therapeutic treatment supplies and, without immediate additional support, will be unable to support lifesaving treatment for children affected by severe acute malnutrition from May 2022. UNICEF's 2022 HAC appeal requests nearly \$98.8 million to address critical humanitarian needs nationwide including displacement, malnutrition, public health emergencies, malnutrition, cyclone response and preparedness activities.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

In 2021 the situation in Cabo Delgado deteriorated significantly due to increased security incidents in the province leading to additional displacement. From January to September 2021 the IDP population increased 8.2 percent reaching a total of 744,949 people displaced which 59 percent were children¹. Approximately 89 percent of the IDPs remain in Cabo Delgado province with others principally in Nampula province. 2021 was marked by a large attack by non-state armed groups (NSAG) on 24 March in Palma town resulting in destruction of government buildings, vital infrastructure and displacement of over 100,000 people from Palma to neighbouring districts. The year finished with attacks for the first time in Mecula District of Niassa Province leading to the displacement of 3,741 people, 46 percent children².

An important development in the Cabo Delgado crisis was the arrival of Rwandan and Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) security forces which enabled the Government to reoccupy locations inaccessible for months or years—for example Mocimboa da Praia. The troops conducted clearance operations and regained substantial swathes of territory; however, insurgents continue to carry out attacks on civilians and clashes with Mozambican state forces, local militias, and foreign troops.

The COVID-19 outbreak was active throughout 2021 and the health authorities reported three waves throughout the year: January-February, June-July (Delta variant) and December (Omicron variant) which led to swift increase of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths³. Mozambique has had a total of 189,080 COVID-19 cases since the start of the outbreak pandemic with 7,586 people hospitalised, and 2,000 deaths reported⁴. Most cases are concentrated in Maputo city and surroundings, and the most affected age group is between 25-34⁵. The country received significant quantities of COVID-19 vaccines this year and as of 31 December, nearly 6.5 million⁶ people were fully vaccinated.

In 2021, there were prevailing food insecurity conditions across the country. The latest integrated phase classification (IPC) analysis indicates that during the lean season (November 2021-March 2022), about 1.9 million people are in high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) and in need of humanitarian assistance⁷. The major causes of the food insecurity include armed conflict in Cabo Delgado, rainfall irregularities/shortages, increasing food prices and COVID-19 restriction measures.

¹ <https://dtm.iom.int/reports/northern-mozambique-crisis-%E2%80%94dtm-baseline-assessment-report-round-14-november-2021>

² <https://dtm.iom.int/reports/northern-mozambique-crisis-%E2%80%94flash-report-3-%E2%80%94displacements-mecula-sede-31-december-2021>

³ <https://covid19.ins.gov.mz/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Comunicado-de-Imprensa-COVID-19-31.12.2021-VF.pdf>

⁴ [ibid](#)

⁵ <https://covid19.ins.gov.mz/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Boletim-Diario-654.pdf>

⁶ <https://covid19.ins.gov.mz/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Comunicado-de-Imprensa-COVID-19-31.12.2021-VF.pdf>

⁷ <https://www.ipcinfo.org/ipc-country-analysis/details-map/en/c/1155342/?iso3=MOZ>

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health

In 2021, UNICEF responded to emerging health needs of children and women in the conflict-affected north, and in response to Cyclone Eloise and COVID-19. The response strategy utilized an integrated package of maternal, newborn, child health, nutrition and HIV services, while responding to public health emergencies particularly outbreaks of cholera, measles, malaria and COVID-19. In total, more than 1,230,686 children and women were reached through UNICEF-supported interventions.

In Cabo Delgado, UNICEF supported integrated mobile brigades (IMB), health facilities and community health workers (CHWs) to deliver lifesaving services to affected populations in Ibo, Mecúfi, Meluco, Metuge, Montepuez, Namuno, and Nangade districts. UNICEF partnered with the local NGO CUAMM and AVSI to expand the coverage of health and nutrition services to populations. UNICEF participated in joint assessment missions to assess health needs of IDPs, provided technical support, and conducted supportive supervision and monitoring visits for quality assurance of services delivered.

UNICEF supported the cholera response in Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Sofala provinces including case management, WASH and social mobilization, in collaboration with provincial and district health directorates, WHO, and IOM for timely outbreak control and interruption. Cholera vaccination campaigns were also conducted between August and November in Cabo Delgado, reaching 57,433 people (61 percent are children 2–14-year-old). Measles vaccination campaigns were also conducted in response to outbreaks in Cabo Delgado and Zambézia reaching 494,236 and 607,355 children under fifteen respectively.

UNICEF played an important role in protecting 6,088 community health workers and health professional from COVID-19 with PPE (surgical masks, gloves, protective goggles). UNICEF also supplied pulse oximeters, infrared thermometers, oxygen cylinders in COVID-19 treatment centres nationwide. UNICEF supported the procurement and shipment of more than 25 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines⁸ in 2021, with over 20 percent of the population fully vaccinated by end of December. For vaccine delivery, UNICEF provided technical and financial support for cold chain management including transport, storage, and operational costs to support health workers in all 11 provinces.

Nutrition

To respond to the critical nutrition needs of children impacted by conflict and cyclones, UNICEF and partners realigned the humanitarian nutrition response to a dual nexus approach in 2021. At the upstream level, UNICEF provided technical nutrition cluster leadership ensuring improved coordination and collaboration. Downstream work included training, mentoring, systems strengthening, supply procurement and delivery to health facilities for improved quality care of severe wasting and scale up community health platforms. This was completed through expansion of integrated mobile brigades, community management of acute malnutrition, and using the Integrated Nutrition Package through community health workers and community volunteers as part of an integrated health and nutrition package of services. Key challenges faced this year related to limited access to northern districts of Cabo Delgado, RUTF pipeline breaks due to delays in procurement processes, COVID-19 restrictions and limited funding, with less than 50 percent of funding mobilized.

In conflict-affected communities of Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa, UNICEF partnered with Provincial and District Health departments, AVSI and CUAMM to reach 441,068 children 6 to 59 months with nutrition screenings, 8,921 children under five with lifesaving treatment for severe wasting, over 1.5 million children 6 to 59 months with vitamin A supplementation and 76,061 caregivers with counselling, cooking demonstrations and education sessions on infant and young child feeding practices. Activities were achieved through use of IMBs, CHWs, and community volunteers in 27 communities of Cabo Delgado and Nampula.



In Sofala and Manica, children and caregivers affected by cyclones were assisted with health and nutrition services, through 186 integrated mobile brigades reaching 46,766 children under five years with nutrition screenings, referrals and treatment of 405 children with severe wasting. Vitamin A supplementation was delivered to 37,901 children 6 to 59 months, deworming was provided to 30,156 children 12 to 59 months, and 632 children aged 6 to 23 months were provided micronutrients powders (MNPs). Nearly 21,900 caregivers received infant and young child feeding counselling

⁸ As part of COVAX, AVAT and bilateral donations

and education sessions for improved breastfeeding practices and optimum dietary diversity for malnutrition prevention. Pellagra cases, caused by a lack of niacin in the diet, which emerged following the cyclone persisted throughout 2021. UNICEF provided 596,000 tablets of nicotinamide to treat 2,138 cases.

Child Protection

In 2021 UNICEF reached 109,813 caregivers and families with child protection services in response to Cyclone Eloise and armed conflict affecting northern provinces in Mozambique. UNICEF and partners strengthened response services reaching 87,213 IDPs, of which 43,457 were children with birth and civil registration documentation, family tracing and reunification or alternative care services to 2,733 children, referral and support to case management services for 5,053 children's cases including 416 children with disabilities.

UNICEF scaled up the response in Cabo Delgado providing protection services in 6 of the 17 districts and 2 districts to support IDPs in Nampula. UNICEF forged partnerships with six NGO's including three local partners. UNICEF supported the government's case management system by developing tools and protocols to have a harmonized approach to support child survivors. Over 100 foster families were trained in 2021 to provide care for unaccompanied and separated children. UNICEF made progress in working with the Provincial Service for Justice and Labour to conduct a five-month birth registration campaign. There have been challenges to reach large targets in case management due to development of the systems building approach, the limited workforce able to respond in all districts and limited funding. However, progress towards the targets increased after concentrating support in five districts for government and INGO social workers. UNICEF also created a Child Rights Monitoring Technical Working Group to support the monitoring of children's rights at the community level. UNICEF, with the Dallaire Institute and Ministry of Defence (MoD) initiated training and capacity building of security forces in the protection of children from grave violations, training 100 personnel thus far on rescue and release of children in conflict.

Education

In 2021 UNICEF supported more than 330,000 children with the distribution of learner kits, recreation materials, and personal hygiene kits. In addition, UNICEF supported psychosocial support of more than 40,000 and a national training manual for teachers on PSS. Direct support through UNICEF-financed projects reached nearly 100,000 children in distance education, an important tool to help continue the learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. Through support to the National Institute of Social Communication (ICS) which produced more than 28,000 radio lessons and support to TV-based learning sessions, an estimated 1.5 million primary and secondary children received distance education.

While only 20 percent of the planned 1,015 classrooms were completed, more than 190,000 children learned in 201 rehabilitated classrooms and 417 temporary learning spaces (TLS). The innovative Accelerated School Readiness (ASR) project in Cabo Delgado included more than 2,500 young children (3-5 yrs. old), including 140 children with disabilities (CwD). Overall, almost 5,000 CwD participated in our project activities. UNICEF also started implementing non-formal professional skills project for 850 out-of-school adolescents (OOSA) in Cabo Delgado.



The success of the EiE-program expanded to 10 staff strengthened by three United Nations Volunteers supporting construction and procurement, funded through the Global Partnership for Education, Education Cannot Wait and the European Union.

WASH

In Cabo Delgado, UNICEF provided 200,000 persons with safe water, 70,000 persons with emergency latrines, 20,000 with household sanitation, 128,000 people with hygiene promotion and 42,500 people with hygiene kits. Despite this, because of lack of funds and insecurity, only half of the overall targets for the HAC 2021 could be reached. UNICEF provided response in 13 of the 17 districts of the provinces including more than 65 percent of the IDP sites. In 2021, UNICEF partnered with seven NGOs to implement WASH activities, often in collaboration with the urban water utility firm FIPAG. Additionally, through support to the government, 65 water points have also been established for relocation centers, including four solar water networks. UNICEF also provided WASH support to approximately 34,000 IDPs and host communities in Nampula province. With significant additional funding received in December 2021 for the

displacement crisis, UNICEF is planning to upscale its WASH team and operations in Pemba, as well as starting intervening in Niassa province where clashes recently occurred.

In the central region in response to Cyclone Eloise, UNICEF provided safe water supply to 21,400 people, as well as emergency sanitation to 8,500 people, household latrines to 1,500 families, hygiene promotion to 14,000 people, and hygiene kits to 5,675 people in Sofala, Manica and Zambézia provinces. Unfortunately, due to the lack of funding, UNICEF had to stop activities in Sofala and Manica at the end of the year despite persistent needs. As part of UNICEF's COVID-19 response, UNICEF supported distribution of critical WASH supplies to 113,000 people and WASH support to health facilities nationwide.



Building elevated emergency latrines on Ibo Island due to sandy soil

Communications for Development (C4D), Accountability to Affected Population

Integrated adolescent-centred programming was designed through a new partnership with Aga Khan Development Network to establish 50 safe spaces in three districts of Cabo Delgado engaging almost 8,000 young people. Of these, 6,962 accessed sexual reproductive health and gender-based violence services offered by mobile brigades. Through the partnership, 499 youth leaders were trained in leadership, communication skills and management of activities in the safe spaces. Through our partners, 25 health committees were revitalized, and multimedia mobile units and community radios reach an estimated 570,000 IDPs with life-saving and protective practices in six districts of Cabo Delgado.



In response to Cyclone Eloise, UNICEF provided information on protective practices, as well as support to address mental health and psycho-social needs of children, in partnership with FutbolMas. This Sports for Development (S4D) initiative was launched after Cyclone Eloise in Sofala Province reaching 3,225 children and adolescents in five resettlement areas in Guara-Guara for three weeks.

UNICEF continued to support the government-led implementation of risk communication and

community engagement for COVID-19 prevention and uptake of the vaccine, supporting some 11 radio stations, 100 plus community radios, one national and two private TV stations and 26 multi-media mobile units reaching over four million listeners. UNICEF also supported the Ministry of Health to develop targeted communication materials and TV and radio spots to promote the COVID-19 vaccine and address rumours or hesitancy. Focus was placed on a data-driven response informed by surveys, impact assessment of media consumption, and social listening to track concerns and rumours. Demand for the COVID-19 vaccine was high with surveys showing between 74 to 92 percent of respondents willing to be vaccinated.

Social Protection and Cash-Based Programming

UNICEF in partnership with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Action (MGCAS) and the National Institute of Social Action (INAS) was able to support the shock responsive social protection (SRSP) and cash transfer system to support IDPs in resettlement camps and within host families Chiure district. This was the first Social Protection response for conflict-affected IDPs in Mozambique reaching 4,839 households with 9,000 Meticals delivered in two tranches to support family income, purchase of household necessities and access to social services during the relocation process. However, the social protection response in Cabo Delgado remained significantly underfunded in 2021, hindering the achievement of planned results.

UNICEF, with WFP, supported the delivery of cash payments via the mobile network operator MPESA-Vodacom in Tete and Zambézia Provinces, reaching 16,075 and 8,582 households respectively to help meet household needs arising from the economic shocks of the pandemic. An additional 68,000 households have been registered in Zambézia Province for assistance in 2022.

All beneficiaries receiving cash transfers also received messaging to promote healthy infant and young child feeding practices, prevention of gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse, and women's empowerment. Messages were disseminated through radio spots, community committees, and social mobilizers during registration and

payment activities. Likewise, the mobilizers shared telephone numbers for two national hotlines to request support or register complaints.

Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

Throughout 2021, UNICEF trained partners in PSEA: 340 implementing partner staff members, 125 government officials, 181 reference group members, 585 frontline workers, 104 members of the Mozambican Armed Forces and 220 supply and transport personnel. To ensure a safe implementation of programs, all new UNICEF partners were assessed on their PSEA organizational capacities and received technical support to improve prevention and response systems. Interagency PSEA communication materials were developed for both UN/NGO staff and communities themselves while PSEA radio spots reached and estimated 383,000 people in Cabo Delgado.

Internally, UNICEF conducted 10 PSEA sessions to ensure all staff were trained and a reporting structure was established in all five UNICEF offices in Mozambique. 12 focus group discussions were conducted to identify knowledge gaps and sensitization strategies for 2022.

UNICEF co-led the National PSEA risk assessment conducted by the PSEA Network nationwide. In collaboration with the national and sub-national PSEA Networks, UNICEF provided six trainings for “Linha Verde” operators, the national toll-free hotline on PSEA. Trainings included a trauma-sensitive approach and listening skills. PSEA Network Focal Points (FP) were trained in Maputo and Sofala (13), and Cabo Delgado (24) on the UN Victim’s Assistance Protocol.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF led the WASH, Education in Emergencies, Nutrition Clusters and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility at both national and subnational levels. It was not possible for UNICEF to provide dedicated cluster leadership for all four clusters due to the lack of funding, and as such UNICEF technical staff provided coverage for these activities. Nonetheless, UNICEF had some significant coordination gains in 2021 including approval of the Ministry of Education’s Education in Emergencies strategy (2021-2029). All four cluster-related coordination groups helped to improve efficiency and effectiveness of the response, promotion of technical quality, and improve cross-sectoral collaboration. In 2021, UNICEF co-led social protection forum discussions through the Technical Advisory Group (TAG).

Human Interest Stories and External Media

<https://www.unicef.org/mozambique/historias/brigadas-m%C3%B3veis-de-nutri%C3%A7%C3%A3o-alcan%C3%A7am-comunidades-com-servi%C3%A7os-integrados-de-sa%C3%BAde-em>

<https://www.unicef.org/mozambique/historias/cabo-delgado-uni%C3%A3o-europeia-melhora-aprendizagem-escolar-de-crian%C3%A7as-em-situa%C3%A7%C3%A3o-de>

<https://www.unicef.org/mozambique/en/stories/community-based-rehabilitation-children-disabilities-wonderful-solution-cabo-delgado>

<https://www.unicef.org/mozambique/en/stories/school-councils-helps-preventing-spread-covid-19-schools-and-communities>

<https://www.unicef.org/mozambique/comunicados-de-imprensa/declara%C3%A7%C3%A3o-do-unicef-sobre-o-rapto-de-menores-em-cabo-delgado>

<https://web.facebook.com/watch/?v=3026846324221991>

<https://web.facebook.com/watch/?v=4181137108607966>

<https://web.facebook.com/unicef.mozambique/posts/4455220204562881>

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=272392171503234>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CoqVabCVbfo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jG-bWAUnkKA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KFKJmo2illc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3CmeeoYFXsE>

UNICEF Mozambique: <https://www.unicef.org/mozambique/en>

UNICEF Mozambique Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/unicef.mozambique>

UNICEF Mozambique Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/mozambique>

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Annex A: Summary of Programme Results

		UNICEF and IPs Response			Cluster/Sector Response		
Sector	Total needs ⁹	2021 target	Total results	Change since last report	2021 target	Total results	Change since last report
Health							
# of children under 5 years received mosquito nets (2 mosquito net /family)	262,087	165,114	19,311	No change			
# number of children under 15 years receiving measles rubella vaccine during child health days	412,954	412,954	1,101,591	No change			
# children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities	517,000	465,300	319,931	17,271▲			
Nutrition							
Number of children 6-59 months receiving routine vitamin A supplementation	500,000	312,480	1,606,061	118,610▲	312,480	1,606,061	118,610▲
Number of children 6-59 months screened for acute malnutrition (MUAC)	700,000	540,765	500,576	No change	540,765	500,576	No change
Child Protection							
Number of children who receive case management services	315,000	37,100	5,530	833▲	37,100	5,530	833▲
Number of children (re)issued with birth registration	315,000	70,000	57,301	No change	70,000	57,301	No change
Number of children who have access to psychosocial support through child-friendly spaces and schools	315,000	175,000	22,393	4,375▲	175,000	22,393	4,375▲
Education							
#children accessing formal and non-formal education, incl. early learning	540,764	307,622	192,289	2,200▲	348,335	448,108	2,200▲
# children receiving individual learning and personal hygiene materials	540,764	248,291	330,476	16,509▲	348,335	625,212	16,509▲
# children/adolescents accessing skills development programmes	---	60,721	850	No change			
WASH							
Number of people with access to sufficient quantity of safe water	1,700,000	567,233	260,978	36,758▲	850,000	373,875	56,405▲
Number of people with access to appropriate sanitation facilities in accommodation centers, communities and institutions	250,000	166,833	79,185	20,200▲	250,000	148,138	25,164▲
# of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services	800,000	400,000	113,778	5,100▲	400,000	418,519	8,200▲
Social Protection							
# households reached with unconditional cash transfers	1,629,825	70,500	29,457*	No change			
C4D/AAP							
Number of people reached with key lifesaving and behavior change messages	4,117,102	2,511,415	3,763,419	No change			
# of adolescents and young people engaged in sharing lifesaving and protective information and promoting uptake of services	189,400	42,000	10,183	No change			

*The result on cash transfer was adjusted compared to previous reports as double counting was detected

⁹Total Needs refers to needs identified in the 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan, however UNICEF's HAC targets cover a broader scope including nationwide needs and COVID-19.

Annex B: Funding Status*

Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Received Current Year**	Carry-over	\$	%
Health	\$12,000,000	6,032,101	1,628,663	4,339,236	36%
Nutrition	\$5,000,000	1,755,451	574,556	2,669,993	53%
Child Protection	\$12,371,655	2,271,845	1,811,159	8,288,651	67%
Education	\$24,544,106	1,610,498	2,298,647	20,634,961	84%
WASH	\$22,468,754	7,824,902	5,525,479	9,840,838	41%
Social Protection	\$17,533,325	6,369,839	291,840	10,871,646	62%
C4D/AAP	\$2,566,080	1,632,877	1,159,520	0	0%
Total	\$96,483,920	27,497,513	13,289,864	55,922,860	58%

* As defined in the revised Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal as of June 2021 for a period of 12 months.

**The total funding received current year does not include US\$406,399 to be allocated.

Security and Access

During 2021, the security situation in Cabo Delgado province was marked by the volatility and fluidity in the Northern part of the province. The dynamics of the NSAG have changed systematically considering their mobility, capacity of engagement and adjustment to a new warfare environment. The NSAG conducted attacks in rural villages of Palma, Nangade and Mueda districts blocking the Nangade-Palma road and leaving Palma's population with extremely limited access to food (markets with little food and prices increased). The activity of the NSAG reached its peak on March 24th when they launched a complex attack on Palma sede, looting and destroying important government facilities and triggering a new displacement of thousands of civilians, leaving Palma sede totally destroyed. The attack to Palma has shown a sophistication in war tactics, possession of better warfare equipment and a level of organization of operations not previously seen. After attacks of Palma the activism of the NSAG was minor, with a handful of skirmishes registered in several villages of the coastal area of Macomia district and Muidumbe, Mocimboa da Praia (MdP), Mueda, Nangade and Palma districts. These clashes indicated limited activity of NSAG, involving small cells operating along the frontline that stretches through these districts. In terms of accessibility to the hard-to-reach areas, there were significant improvements during the first semester period with the implementation of UNHAS flights which allowed UN operations in Macomia sede, Ibo sede, Quirimba and Matemo Islands. However, the main roads in the Northeast disputed areas were under the control of NSAG, enabling their free movement all over the contested area of the province.

The second semester of 2021 brought to the northern warfare theatre two well trained and equipped actors which were determinant to curb the activism of the NSAG. After a bilateral agreement between President Nyusi and Rwandan President Paul Kagame, the Rwandese Defence Forces (RDF) arrived in the northern theatre on mid-July. They were deployed in Northern Military Operations Headquarters in Mueda sede, from where the joint military force RDF and FADM started to target strategic positions hold by the NSAG. They started military operations using two axes: Northern axe Nangade-Pundandar-Palma with the main objective to clear Palma sede and the Central axe from Mueda- Diaca-MdP. The battle to retake Awasse lasted three days of fierce fighting and constituted a significant defeat of the NSAG. Rwandan and Mozambican joint force continued military operations along the axe with the aim to retake the strategic city of Mocimboa-da-Praia which happened on 08 August without resistance due to the withdrawal of NSAG fighters from the town. After Palma sede being secured the joint force moved to Afungi to secure the Total LNG plant. Then the joint military force moved South securing the villages of Quelimane, Mute, and the coastal area between MdP and Palma was considered free. Counter-insurgency operations continued to the South in the dense forest of Mbau along the Messalo River where NSAG had two important bases: Siri I and Siri II. After fierce battles the Joint military Force succeeded to expel the NSAG fighters from the Mbau releasing dozens of civilians who were kept in captivity in both NSAG bases. Several other military operations continued with the SAMIM (SADC military stabilization force) full engagement in the conquest of NSAG pockets and consolidation of the gains in the disputed areas, forced the NSAG fighters to disperse to the South and readapt their tactics to the new warfare context. In the end of September 90% of the contested area was under control of GoM Forces, but five cells of the NSAG were still remaining in Cabo Delgado, notably in the Northern part of Macomia district, another cell in the Coastal area of Mucojo/Quitejaro, a third NSAG Cell was operative in Nangade district and Tanzania border area fourth cell was operative in Palma and a fifth cell in Meluco district.

Due to the successes announced by the joint military forces and the reduction in activity of the NSAG, some analysts stated the insurgency was controlled allowing the displacement population to return to their places of origin. However, in November, the insurgency seemed to re-emerge with several attacks on villages, and a spread into Mueda and Mecula District of neighbouring Niassa province, making it one of the most violent months of 2021. Several attacks on insecure villages of Mecula district triggered a new wave of displacements. In the end of December, the NSAG obliged the joint military forces to stretch operations to a much wider area with a rough landscape, quite difficult to conduct military operations. The security situation remains volatile, due to the unpredictability of the steps, strategies and tactics of the NSAG.

Supply and Logistics

Prepositioning of humanitarian supplies is maintained in two warehouses (Maputo and Beira), while the Pemba warehouse is regarded as a transit hub. LTA/s and contracts are in place for key programme supplies, as well as for transportation, customs clearance, and warehouse management services. Supply section reports weekly/regularly to sections on stock levels and pipeline status. The total supplies in pipeline: USD 1.48M, in which 970k of supplies are being prepared, 300k of supplies are under customs clearance and 200k supplies are on ongoing shipment status). We have experienced delays in shipment authorization from government, as well as international shipping due to the global shortage of carriers. Continuous follow ups with government (CMAM) authorities and freight forwarders are ongoing. Humanitarian Supplies worth approx. USD 2.2M in Cabo Delgado and USD 2.9M in other eight provinces have been distributed in 2021, totalling USD 5.1M.