

UNICEF
Humanitarian
Action for
Children
2016

Overview

unicef 
unite for children

**South Sudan 2015**

Launch of the UNICEF/WFP Joint Nutrition Response Plan for South Sudan in Aweil, Northern Bahr el Ghazal State where children have their mid-upper arm circumference and weight measured to assess the presence and severity of malnutrition.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S FOREWORD

Humanitarian Action for Children 2016

The number of children trapped in humanitarian crises around the world is both staggering and sobering.

Nearly 250 million children live in countries affected by violent, often protracted conflicts.

In 2015, millions of children and families were forced from their homes to flee violence, persecution, and hardship – all too often risking their lives in search of safety and a better future.

Other, often climate-related, emergencies have endangered the wellbeing of hundreds of millions of children living in areas prone to floods, earthquakes, cyclones, tsunamis and other natural disasters.

As the headlines remind us daily, these conflicts and disasters are multiplying. Needs are piling on needs. But while the numbers are enormous, so too are the opportunities to save not only lives – by providing immediate humanitarian assistance to children and families at their most vulnerable – but also the futures of millions of children. For our short-term emergency responses must do more than respond to immediate needs. They must support long-term development, which helps prepare children, families, and communities to be more resilient in future emergencies.

This is especially so when it comes to providing education and learning opportunities to children living through conflict and other emergencies. Education and support to overcome trauma provide children with a sense of normalcy and hope for the future in the midst of violence, instability, and disaster. They also provide children with the skills to build better, safer, healthier lives for themselves, their families, and their communities. Generation after generation.

This is of critical importance as countries and the global community begin the hard, vital work of delivering on the promises of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We will not meet these goals if we fail to reach the children living in countries affected by humanitarian crises. In fact, achieving the SDGs depends on it – because these children comprise a significant portion of the world's most disadvantaged.



Every day, in countries like Afghanistan, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Iraq, Myanmar, the Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and Yemen, UNICEF and our partners are working to reach these most vulnerable children and communities. This report highlights some of our joint efforts and the results we have helped achieve in 2015 for children in need of humanitarian assistance.

For example, following the devastating earthquakes in Nepal, UNICEF and our partners used the Government's social assistance programmes as a platform to disburse cash transfers to about 400,000 of the most vulnerable people.

In South Sudan, where continued civil conflict endangers hundreds of thousands of children, we have worked to provide more than a half million people with access to safe water – and to help secure the release of 1,755 children from armed groups and help those children return successfully to their communities.

These are only two examples of the many ways in which we are working with our partners to reach children in crisis. But we need the continued support and generosity of our donors to continue delivering results for children affected by emergencies – and to do more to help communities prepare for the growing number of emergencies ahead.

This is a matter of urgency. For while public and private contributions have reached unprecedented levels, it is clear that the humanitarian system is being pushed to and beyond its limits. And especially with the growing effect of El Niño, we expect 2016 to challenge us all the more.

The challenges are growing – and so must our response as well. Together, we can achieve real results – results reflected in a generation of children not only able to overcome the barriers that emergencies have put in their paths, but willing to work to strengthen their own societies. A virtuous cycle: each generation of children lending their hands to build a better world for us all.

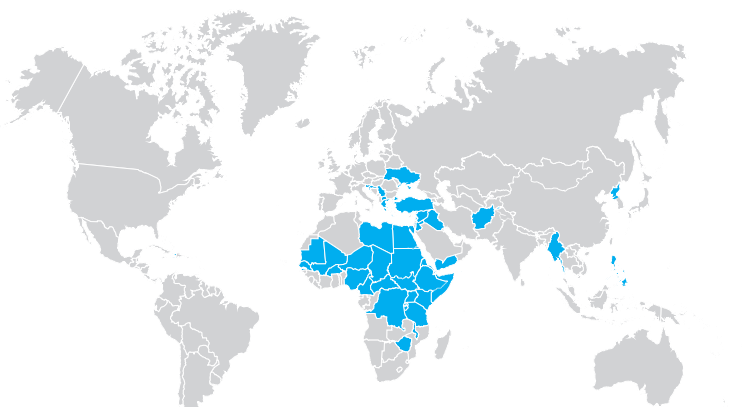
Anthony Lake
UNICEF Executive Director

FUNDING REQUIRED IN 2016

Humanitarian Action for Children 2016

This map is stylized and not to scale.

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Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States	US\$
Regional Office	2,600,000
Refugee and migrant crisis in Europe	30,822,000
Ukraine	54,300,000
Total	87,722,000

East Asia and the Pacific region	US\$
Regional Office	4,209,600
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	18,000,000
Myanmar	24,960,000
Pacific Islands	5,000,000
Philippines	10,070,000
Total	62,239,600

Eastern and Southern Africa region	US\$
Regional Office	5,591,000
Burundi	16,540,000
Burundian refugees (Rwanda and Tanzania)	8,983,000
Eritrea	16,000,000
Ethiopia	106,000,000
Kenya	16,450,000
Malawi	13,035,000
Somalia	82,268,287
South Sudan	154,464,955
Uganda	14,400,000
Zimbabwe	12,176,545
Total	445,908,767

Latin America and the Caribbean region	US\$
Regional Office	6,650,000
Haiti	13,400,000
Total	20,050,000

Electronic users can click on each name to go to that office's online content.

Middle East and North Africa region	US\$
Regional Office	3,500,000
Djibouti	3,508,234
Iraq	101,191,212
Libya	19,319,100
State of Palestine	41,924,871
Sudan	116,921,577
Syrian Arab Republic	316,720,344
Syrian refugees and other affected populations in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey	847,329,602
Yemen	180,000,000
Total	1,630,414,940

South Asia region	US\$
Regional Office	43,082,325
Afghanistan	27,840,000
Total	70,922,325

West and Central Africa region	US\$
Regional Office	20,026,000
Cameroon	31,400,000
Central African Republic	55,695,000
Chad	62,391,500
Democratic Republic of the Congo	130,360,000
Mali	33,137,047
Niger	39,516,271
Nigeria	55,558,688
Sahel (Burkina Faso, the Gambia, Mauritania and Senegal)	42,227,777
Total	470,312,283

Global support	46,910,498
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Grand total	2,834,480,433
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PLANNED RESULTS IN 2016

Humanitarian Action for Children 2016

The information below summarizes the global requirements for UNICEF humanitarian programmes, the total number of people and children to be reached, and the planned results in *Humanitarian Action for Children 2016*.

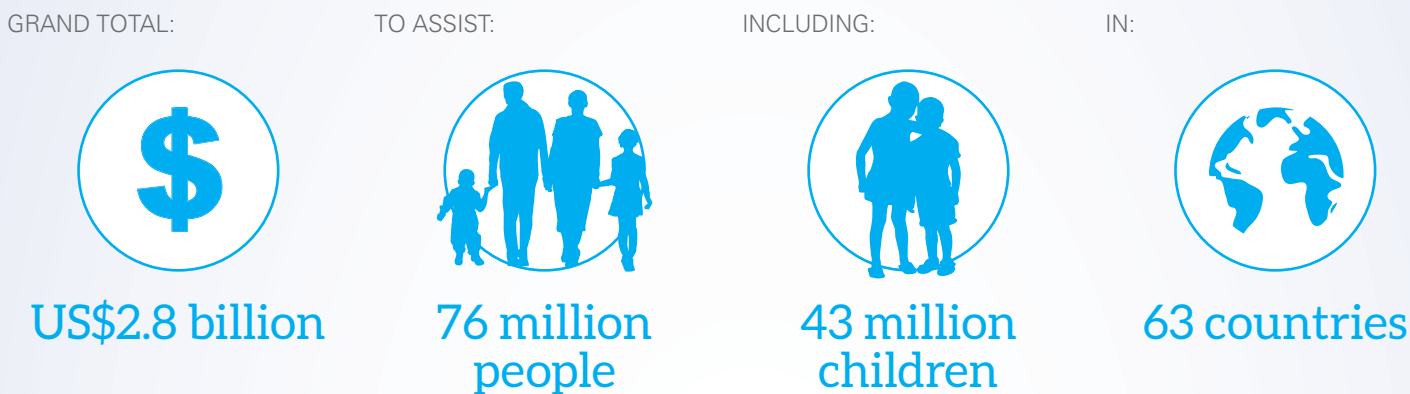
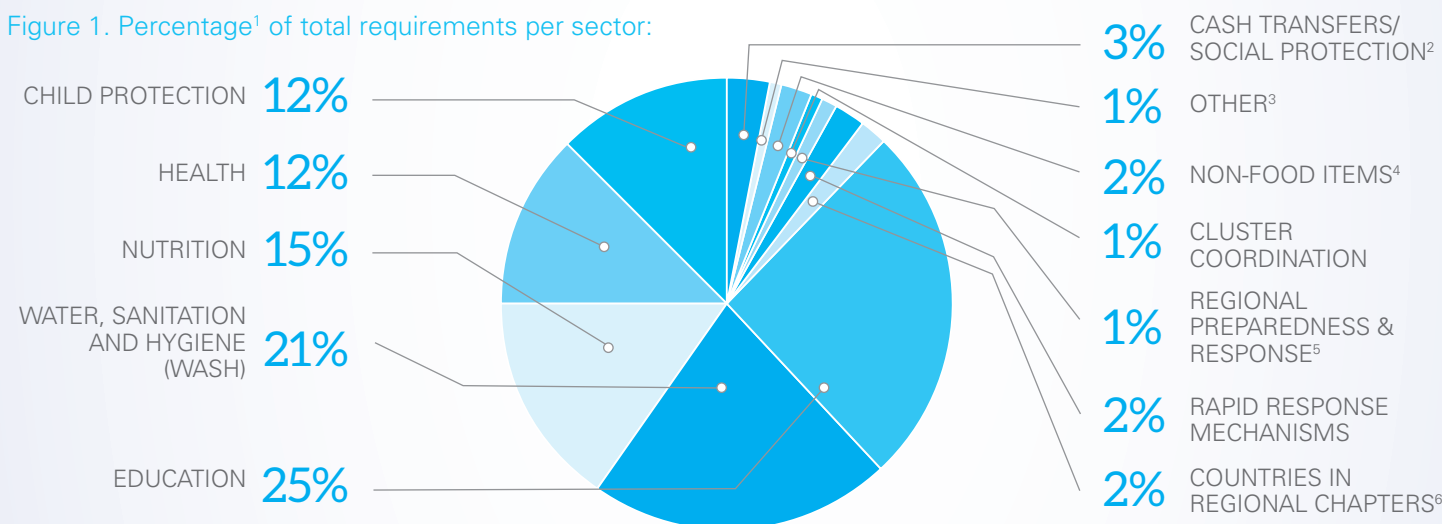
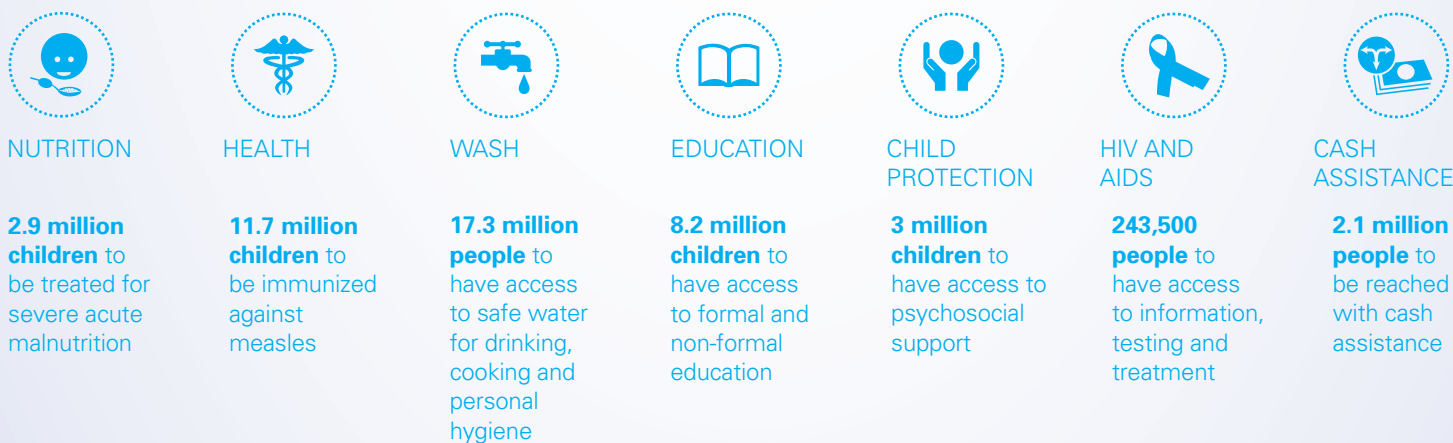


Figure 1. Percentage¹ of total requirements per sector:



UNICEF and partners will work toward the following results in 2016:



¹ Percentages do not total 100 because of rounding. The HIV and AIDS funding requirement is less than 1 per cent of the total requirement and because of rounding does not feature in this overview.
² Includes basic needs for Syrian refugees.
³ Includes costs from the refugee and migrant crisis in Europe and youth and adolescents programmes in Lebanon.
⁴ Includes early recovery for the Syrian Arab Republic.
⁵ Preparedness and response includes regional funding that may be used to respond to situations elsewhere in the region that are not included in a separate chapter of *Humanitarian Action for Children 2016* and may not benefit from inter-agency flash appeals to respond to small- or medium-size emergencies.
⁶ Includes the portion of needs for the refugee and migrant crisis in Europe and the Ebola response in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

CHILDREN IN CRISIS

The map below highlights the global humanitarian situation at the end of 2015 and some of the major crises affecting children and their families.

Sahel

In 2016, an estimated 23.5 million people will be affected by food insecurity in the sub-region and more than 5.8 million children will suffer from acute malnutrition (moderate and severe).

Refugee and migrant crisis in Europe

In 2015, 1 million refugees and migrants entered Europe, with the vast majority coming via the western Balkans, Greece and Turkey, following arduous, often dangerous journeys, mostly from the Syrian Arab Republic and conflict zones in the Middle East. Children represent an increasing proportion of the arrivals.

Nigeria

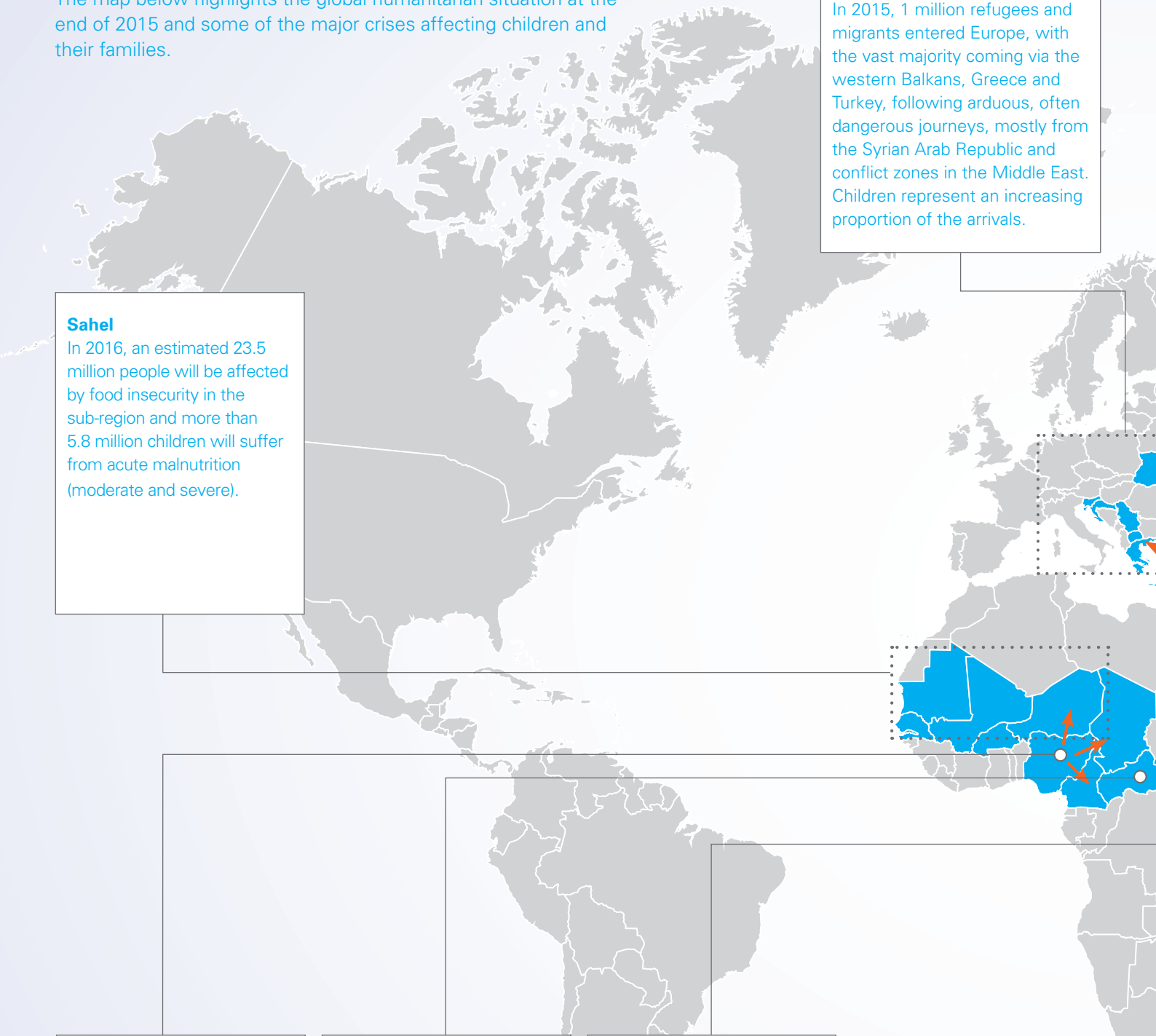
Since 2014, the escalation of the Boko Haram insurgency has led to an increase in the number of internally displaced persons in the north-east to almost 2 million. Malnutrition is rising and health facilities and schools have been destroyed.

Central African Republic

Amid the backdrop of conflict, more than 1.2 million people are facing emergency levels of food insecurity and an estimated 39,000 children under 5 years will suffer from severe acute malnutrition.

Burundi

One of the poorest countries in the world, Burundi is facing a protection crisis that has driven people from their homes. Some 220,000 people have sought asylum in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.



Ukraine

Some 3.7 million people, including 580,000 children, are currently affected by the conflict. Children living near the front line face daily risks of shelling, mines and unexploded ordnance.

Syrian Arab Republic and the sub-region

Syrians are facing the largest humanitarian crisis in the world. An estimated 13.5 million people need urgent, life-saving assistance inside the country, and 6.5 million people are displaced. More than 4 million people have already fled the country.

Iraq

The ongoing violence has displaced nearly 3.2 million people, as Iraq also hosts Syrian refugees. Children are facing lost schooling, child labour, the risk of recruitment into armed groups and cholera.

Afghanistan

Ongoing armed conflict and natural hazards, such as flooding, avalanche and earthquake, continue to displace hundreds of thousands and disrupt the provision of basic health services and education.

Myanmar

While Myanmar undergoes a political transition, ongoing and unresolved conflict in Kachin and northern Shan and inter-communal violence in Rakhine have continued to affect children.

South Sudan

Two years into the current conflict, South Sudan is at risk of losing a generation of children. Nearly 2.3 million people have fled their homes, including 645,000 who are now refugees in Ethiopia, Kenya, the Sudan and Uganda.

Yemen

With the escalation of the conflict in March 2015, more than 21.2 million people (82 per cent of the population), including 9.9 million children, require humanitarian assistance.

Arrows represent the movement of people to neighbouring countries due to conflict.

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RESULTS ACHIEVED IN 2015

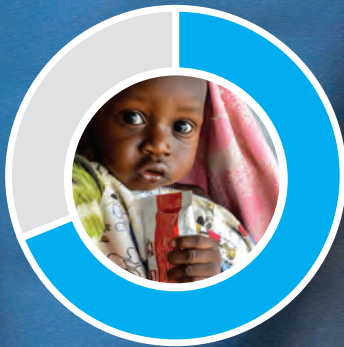
Humanitarian Action for Children 2016

The chart below captures some of the key results achieved against targets for children by UNICEF and partners through the first 10 months of 2015. In some contexts, achievements were constrained by limited resources, including across sectors; inadequate humanitarian access; insecurity; and challenging operating environments. See country funding levels on page 11. Further reporting on 2015, including country-specific indicators, is available on the respective country web pages on www.unicef.org/appeals.

Since the Ebola outbreak began in 2014, the response in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone has included:

- **191,200 children** received psychosocial support
- More than **3.6 million households** were reached with interpersonal communication and skills training on Ebola prevention
- More than **8,000 metric tons of supplies** delivered in the largest supply operation in UNICEF's history
- **64 community care centres** established

NUTRITION



69%

2 million children treated for severe acute malnutrition

HEALTH



62%

11.3 million children vaccinated against measles

WASH



94%

22.6 million people provided with access to safe water for drinking, bathing and cooking

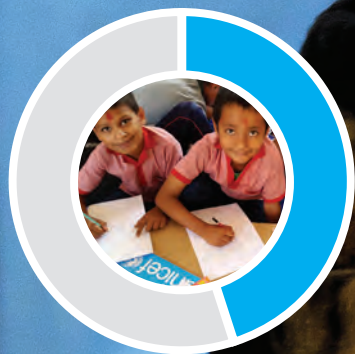
CHILD PROTECTION



74%

2 million children received psychosocial support

EDUCATION



45%

4 million children
accessed formal or
non-formal basic
education

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 2015

On 27 November 2015, a girl covered in a heavy blanket stands outside a tent at the Vinojug reception centre for refugees and migrants in Gevgelija, on the border with Greece. The girl is among the many refugees arriving primarily from Afghanistan, Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic. From Gevgelija, the refugees will board a special train that takes them to Tabanovce, close to the Serbian border. Heavy rain and near freezing conditions are challenging the refugees and the aid organizations providing them with warm winter clothing and supplies.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING IN 2015

Thanks to generous donor support for emerging priorities and the needs of children in crisis, UNICEF received US\$2.2 billion, or 68 per cent of its total 2015 humanitarian requirements of US\$3.3 billion. This represents an increase in humanitarian funding of almost 31 per cent, from US\$1.7 billion in 2014 to US\$2.2 billion in 2015.⁷

The scale and number of natural disasters and violent conflicts continued to take a significant toll on millions of children and their families in 2015. The continuing crises in the Central African Republic, Iraq and Syria and neighbouring countries; the worsening situations in Nigeria, South Sudan and Yemen; the new refugee crises in Europe and in Burundi and neighbouring countries; and natural disasters in Nepal, the Pacific Islands and other parts of the world, particularly related to the impacts of the El Niño weather phenomenon, all resulted in new or revised appeals, adding nearly US\$215 million to the initial 2015 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) requirements.

Funding for large-scale crises such as Nepal, Ebola-affected countries, Iraq, South Sudan, Syria plus refugee countries, and Yemen constituted the bulk of all funding received in 2015. Protracted crises in countries such as Afghanistan, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Niger and the Sudan struggled to attract resources and were less than 40 per cent funded. The appeals for Mali and Uganda were severely underfunded at 17 and 14 per cent, respectively.

The need for flexible funding is critical, particularly given the highly dynamic nature of the complex emergencies that children are facing. Thematic funding, which allows UNICEF to respond strategically and quickly to the needs of children, accounted for 11 per cent of total humanitarian funding; and un-earmarked thematic humanitarian funding was 2.4 per cent of total funding received. Partners are encouraged to contribute flexible and multi-year funding that will allow UNICEF to provide humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable and help rebuild communities, thereby linking humanitarian and development action.

Figure 2. Top 10 sources of humanitarian funds, 2015 (US\$ millions)

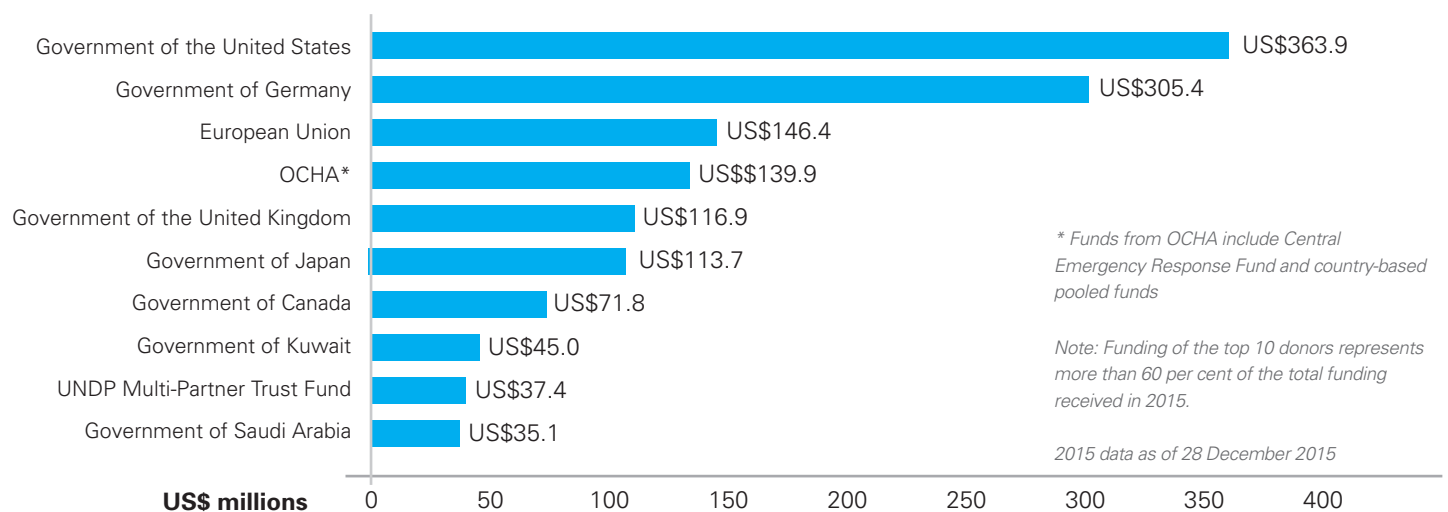
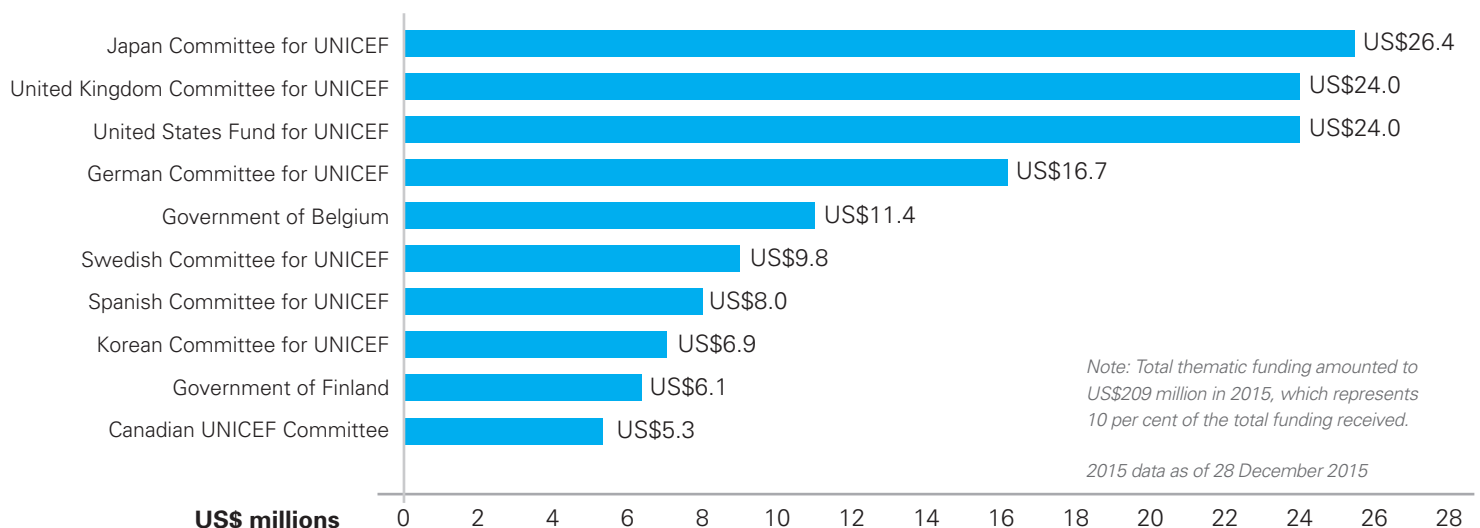
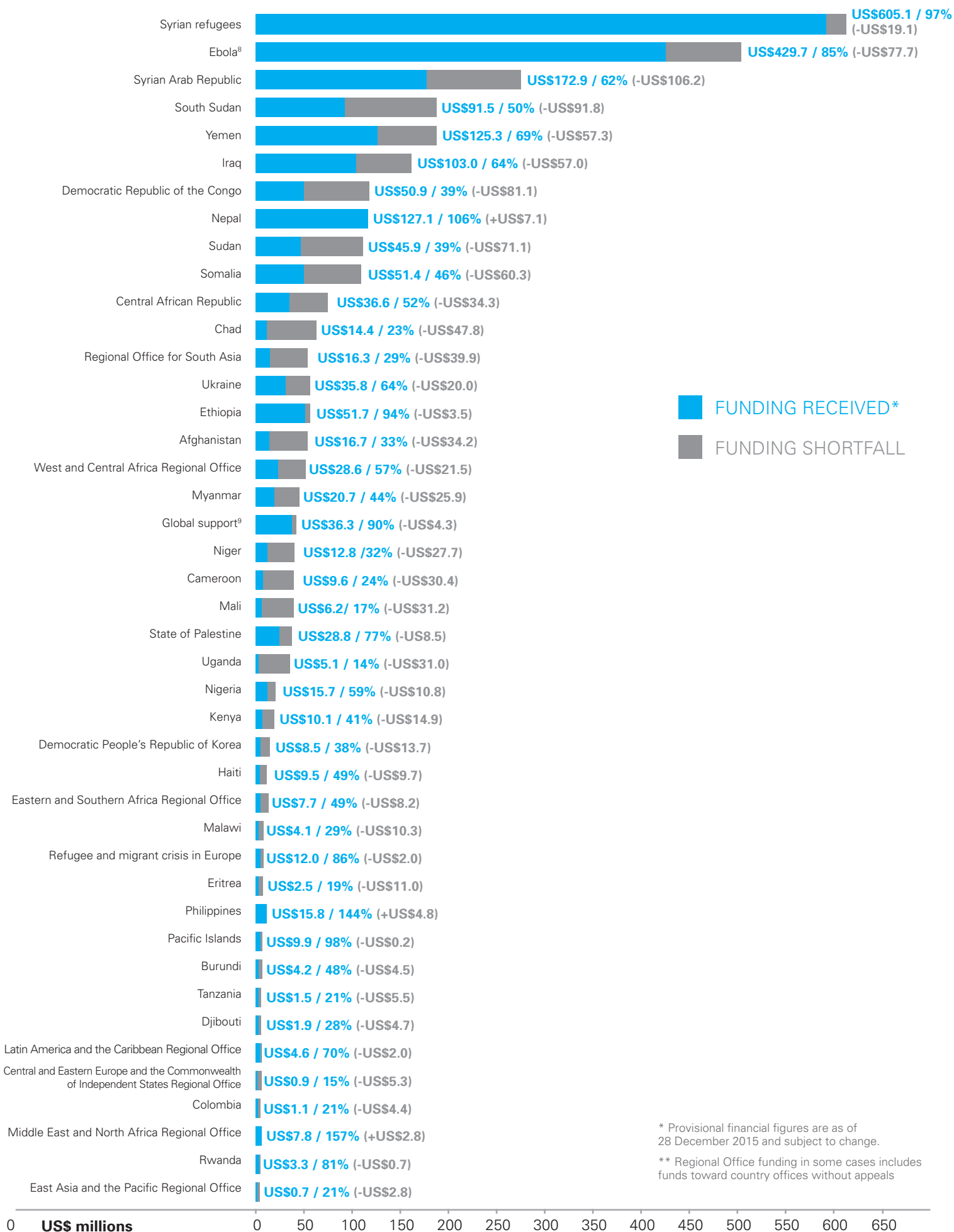


Figure 3. Top 10 donors – earmarked thematic humanitarian funds, 2015 (US\$ millions)



⁷ The figures are as of 28 December 2015 and reflect the Other Resources Emergency (ORE) budget issued in 2015, based on signed agreements. The budget issued will normally exceed the income received, as UNICEF now releases budgets in full when a contract is signed with a donor, even though it may cover multiple years.

Figure 4. Funding overview - HAC appeals, contributions and shortfalls in 2015 (US\$ millions)



* Provisional financial figures are as of 28 December 2015 and subject to change.

** Regional Office funding in some cases includes funds toward country offices without appeals

⁸ The appeal for the Ebola outbreak covers 2014 and 2015.

⁹ Funds received for global support include US\$18.6 million of core funds.

GLOBAL SUPPORT FOR UNICEF'S HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Humanitarian action is core to UNICEF's work, encompassing effective preparedness, response and early recovery to save lives and protect child rights, as defined in the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action.

UNICEF's seven regional offices and 10 headquarters divisions support country-level humanitarian action. Together these offices provide the core infrastructure that enables country offices to prepare for and respond to crises. This involves systematically reducing vulnerability to disasters and conflicts; facilitating inter-agency coordination and partnerships; contributing to the strategic response plans of humanitarian country teams; mobilizing resources; and communicating, monitoring and reporting on UNICEF humanitarian action. Dedicated technical and cross-sector advisers in the various offices provide programme and operational support. UNICEF global support is coordinated by a dedicated team in the Office of Emergency Programmes, including a global security team and the Operations Centre, which functions 24 hours per day, seven days per week. The cost of UNICEF global support in 2016 is US\$47 million,¹⁰ approximately 1.7 per cent of the overall appeal.

Global support to the field in 2015

The year 2015 began with ongoing responses to five major emergencies that required the mobilization of the entire humanitarian system: the Ebola virus outbreak in West Africa and the continuing conflicts in the Central African Republic, Iraq, South Sudan and the Syrian Arab Republic. By mid-2015, UNICEF and partners also began an organization-wide response to the conflict in Yemen. Throughout the year, investments in UNICEF's global support translated into the following achievements, which were based largely on the implementation of reforms linked to UNICEF's Strengthening Humanitarian Action initiative. These included:

- UNICEF's capacity to rapidly deploy staff with specialized skills in emergency coordination, programming and operations was significantly enhanced with the recruitment of eight Emergency Response Team (ERT) members in 2015. In total, 12 field offices benefitted from 499 days of ERT deployments by six ERT members between January and December 2015.
- UNICEF's Immediate Response Team (IRT) members – experts in key programme and operational areas – were deployed 20 times for a total of 783 days. UNICEF's intensive week-long emergency simulation training was rolled out in mid-2015. A total of 28 IRT and seven ERT members were trained and readied for deployment as surge staff within 24–48 hours.

- The UNICEF Emergency Programme Fund (EPF) benefited 16 field offices in 2015. The EPF is a revolving fund that UNICEF disburses to field offices within 48 hours of a sudden humanitarian crisis, before donor funds are made available. It is the quickest, most reliable and most adaptable source of funding for an emergency. In total, US\$28.8 million had been disbursed by mid-December 2015.
- UNICEF's effort to strengthen core skills and the fundamentals of humanitarian action throughout the organization was boosted with dedicated capacity for learning and a refined strategy to be implemented in early 2016 including development of core learning packages for all staff.
- Emergency supplies procured for UNICEF totaled US\$140 million in 2015.¹¹ This included the delivery of 660 metric tons (US\$3.3 million procurement value) to Nepal following the April 2015 earthquake, and the delivery of 1,418 metric tons of emergency supplies (US\$10.1 million procurement value) to Yemen between March and September 2015.

Looking ahead

In delivering humanitarian results for children, UNICEF recognizes that meaningful and effective engagement with affected populations is central to their survival and recovery. The organization will therefore focus on initiatives that further strengthen its ability to link its development and humanitarian mandates by helping communities reduce the risks and impacts of natural disasters as well as conflicts. This includes developing and promoting practical measures for systematically engaging with communities, local partners and global coordination mechanisms that nurture greater quality and accountability to affected populations. The expansion of new partnerships at the global level will help UNICEF more effectively address many of the humanitarian challenges faced by the most vulnerable children. UNICEF will continue to build staff skills for humanitarian preparedness and response through the implementation of the organization's humanitarian learning strategy. In terms of emergency preparedness, a major focus will be on the launch of UNICEF's new Emergency Preparedness Platform, which will replace the existing Early Warning Early Action system as the organization's primary tool for enhancing effective planning and monitoring of preparedness activities. Finally, the roll-out of UNICEF's eTools project, which includes a field monitoring tool, a UNICEF-partner reporting platform and a similar platform for cluster partners, will increase the ease and efficiency of information management for humanitarian performance monitoring.

¹⁰ This does not include additional requirements laid out in the regional chapters of *Humanitarian Action for Children 2016*.

¹¹ This is an estimate based on preliminary figures as of 31 December 2015. Final figures for 2015 will be available in March 2016.



Nepal 2015

Porters and a local health official carry UNICEF-provided vaccines on difficult terrains on the way to a measles, rubella and polio vaccination campaign, to be conducted at Barpak Village Development Committee health post.

© UNICEF/UNI11991159/PANDAY



Yemen 2015

On 10 April 2015, a first airlift of urgent medical and other supplies from UNICEF is unloaded on the tarmac at Sana'a International Airport, as the conflict in Yemen continues to exact a heavy toll on children and their families.

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Syrian Arab Republic 2015

Teba, 11, wearing the winter clothes she received from UNICEF. "I want to become a doctor when I grow up," Teba said.

© UNICEF/UNI02933/SANADIKI



Myanmar 2015

Children playing outside of the temporary shelter in San Myot monastery, Kalaytownship. Kalaytownship in Sagaing State, in northwest Myanmar, suffered some of the worst devastation in the area.

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GLOBAL SUPPORT

for UNICEF's humanitarian action in 2016

COUNTRY LEVEL

- Afghanistan
- Burundi
- Burundian refugees
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Djibouti
- Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Refugee and migrant crisis in Europe
- Haiti
- Iraq
- Kenya
- Libya
- Malawi

REGIONAL SUPPORT

Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States

East Asia and the Pacific

Eastern and Southern Africa

OPERATIONAL SUPPORT

Human resources

- Headquarters Emergency Unit
- Coordinating three models of deployment (internal, external and standby)

HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMME SUPPORT

Global cluster coordination

- Field support
- Information management

Communication

Office of the Security Coordinator and Operations Centre (OPSCEN)

Programmatic support

- Nutrition, health, WASH, child protection, education, HIV and AIDS
- Communication for Development, early childhood development, disabilities
- Resilience
- National capacity development
- Disaster risk reduction/preparedness
- Peacebuilding

Partnerships

- Inter-agency
- Transformative Agenda
- Non-governmental organizations, civil society, academia
- Integrated presences



**US\$2.8
BILLION**



- Mali
- Myanmar
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Pacific Islands
- Philippines
- Sahel
- Somalia
- South Sudan
- State of Palestine
- Sudan
- Syrian Arab Republic
- Syrian refugees (Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey)
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- Yemen
- Zimbabwe

**US\$8.6
MILLION**

West and Central Africa

Latin America and the Caribbean

Middle East and North Africa

South Asia

**US\$9.9
MILLION**



Supply and logistics

- Copenhagen and regional hubs
- Procurement
- Warehousing
- Logistical support



Finance and administration



Resource mobilization



Information and communications technology



Results-based management

- Needs assessment
- Performance monitoring
- Evaluation

**US\$28.5
MILLION**



Mobilize global support

- Systems and procedures
- Technical support



Policy and guidance

- Core Commitments for Children
- Equity (including gender)
- Protection of civilians (including children and armed conflict)
- Knowledge management
- Innovation
- High-threat environments
- Humanitarian advocacy

Total cost of global support in 2016:

US\$46.9 million

Total cost covered by core resources:

US\$20.2 million

Total cost covered by other resources:

US\$16.8 million

Funding gap:

US\$10 million

Further information on UNICEF's humanitarian action can be obtained from:

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Cover photo: Chad 2015

On 14 April, a boy washes his feet at a handpump in the Dar es Salam camp in the Baga Sola area of the Lake Region. UNICEF has constructed 11 boreholes, as well as more than 200 latrines and 100 showers, and is supporting hygiene activities in the camp, which currently shelters more than 4,900 Nigerian refugees.