



Ahmad, 15, sits with his five siblings and their father at their home in Hawija Sakr in Deir ez-Zor, Syria, in August 2023. UNICEF supports Ahmad and his family with regular cash assistance and case management through its integrated social protection programme for children with disabilities.

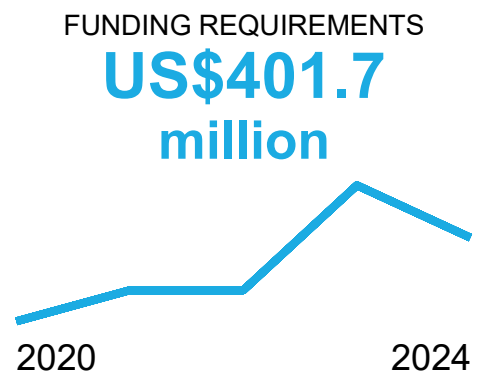
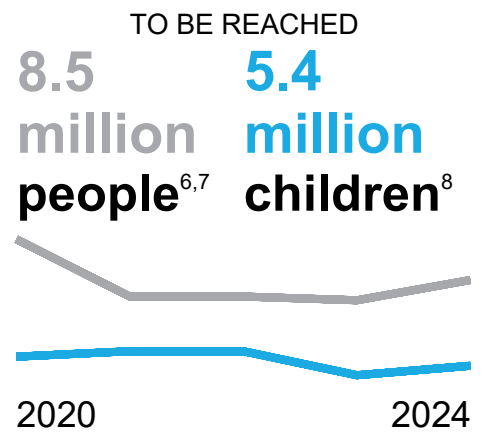
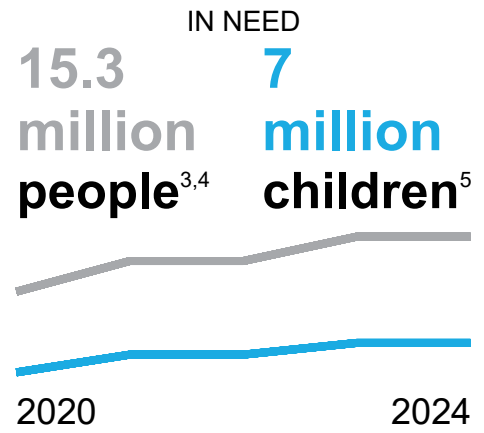
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## Humanitarian Action for Children

# Syrian Arab Republic

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Thirteen years of crisis have upended the lives of children and their families across the Syrian Arab Republic, leaving 15.3 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, including 7 million children.<sup>1</sup> Of the country's 6.8 million internally displaced people, 5.3 million require humanitarian support.<sup>2</sup> Protracted conflict, economic decay, disease outbreaks and multiple earthquakes in early 2023, coupled with mass displacement, widespread damaged infrastructure, limited humanitarian access and climate-related shocks drive these needs.
- In 2024, UNICEF and partners will deliver life-saving assistance while integrating early recovery and resilience-building efforts into all programmes to address the immediate needs of communities to ensure a long-lasting impact on children lives. UNICEF will implement integrated multisectoral programmes that are gender-responsive and disability-inclusive. Priorities are populations and areas with high-severity needs. Cross-cutting commitments on accountability to affected populations and community engagement will be systematized across interventions to enhance programme quality and equity.
- UNICEF requires \$401.7 million to provide an essential lifeline to 8.5 million people, including 5.4 million children. This funding requirement is lower than that of the revised 2023 appeal due to prioritization of needs and streamlined earthquake and cholera-related responses adapted to the evolving situation.



### KEY PLANNED TARGETS



**2 million** people accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities



**1.7 million** primary caregivers receiving infant and young child feeding counselling



**2.6 million** children supported with educational services and supplies in formal settings



**5.3 million** people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water

Figures are provisional and subject to change upon finalization of the inter-agency planning documents.

## HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

Children in the Syrian Arab Republic are experiencing the worst effects of an unparalleled and complex emergency. Because of prolonged conflict, public health emergencies, climate-related shocks and mass protracted displacement – and the economic fallout of all of it – 15.3 million people require humanitarian assistance,<sup>11</sup> including 7 million children<sup>10</sup> and 5.3 million internally displaced people.<sup>12</sup>

The earthquakes that hit Türkiye and the Syrian Arab Republic in February 2023 aggravated people's long-standing vulnerabilities. In the Syrian Arab Republic alone, more than 8.8 million people, including 3.3 million children, were affected, resulting in nearly 6,000 casualties, more than 12,000 injuries and substantial damage to homes and essential infrastructure.<sup>13</sup>

Socioeconomic decay has pushed more families into poverty,<sup>14</sup> disproportionately affecting women, children and people with disabilities.<sup>15</sup> Eighty-five per cent of households struggle to make ends meet, which increases their reliance on humanitarian aid and negative coping mechanisms – such as child labour and consumption of suboptimal diets – and further limits their access to basic services.<sup>16</sup> More than 40 per cent of hospitals and health facilities are not functioning or are only partially functioning,<sup>17</sup> and public health emergencies – such as the country's ongoing cholera epidemic, where 189,374 suspected cholera cases and 105 associated deaths were reported in 14 governorates between 25 August 2022 and 2 September 2023<sup>18</sup> – further add to the pressure on the health system. Climate-induced shocks and power supply disruptions intensify water scarcity and food insecurity. Nearly 13.6 million people require access to WASH services and 5.9 million people, including 3.8 million children, require nutritional assistance.<sup>19</sup>

Children are experiencing a protection crisis, with 2,438 grave violations recorded in 2022<sup>9</sup> and 6.3 million children needing protection services.<sup>20</sup> Insecurity and economic hardship heighten human rights violations, fear and psychosocial distress, gender-based violence, child marriage and incidents of sexual exploitation and abuse.<sup>21</sup> Unexploded ordnance contamination is a major concern. Some 6.9 million children and education personnel need emergency education services, including 3.2 million girls, given poverty levels and 7,000 destroyed or damaged schools. Around 2.4 million children are out of school and another 1.6 million children, particularly those with disabilities, are at risk of dropping out.<sup>22</sup>

In the northwest, 4.1 million people have multilayered humanitarian needs,<sup>23</sup> including 2.9 million internally displaced people, 2 million of whom live in overcrowded camps.<sup>24</sup> Some 3.8 million people need health care,<sup>25</sup> 3.7 million are food insecure<sup>26</sup> and 2.1 million require urgent WASH assistance.<sup>27</sup> Protection risks are paramount, and children need support to realize their right to education. In the northeast, children and women face arbitrary arrest, extensive violence and forced relocation.<sup>28</sup> An estimated 95 per cent of camps lack adequate infrastructure, posing safety concerns.<sup>29</sup>

## SECTOR NEEDS



**15.3 million**

people in need of health assistance<sup>30</sup>



**5.9 million**

people in need of nutrition assistance<sup>31</sup>



**6.3 million**

children in need of child protection services<sup>32</sup>



**6.9 million**

people in need of education support<sup>33</sup>



**13.6 million**

people require access to WASH services<sup>34</sup>

## STORY FROM THE FIELD



Dima, 13, practices writing in Arabic at home in At-Tall city, in Rural Damascus. Through a UNICEF-supported mental health care programme, she learned communication skills that have supported her personal empowerment.

“My girls have experienced so much anxiety and fear during the conflict. They spent their childhood escaping shelling, and seeking safety,” says Saeed, 43, a resident of At-Tall city in Rural Damascus and the father of Dima, 13 and Tasneem, 16. “And now, they are afraid of earthquakes, and I have a new reason to worry,” he added.

To support children and families affected by the prolonged conflict as well as natural disasters, UNICEF offers mental health care through activities and exercises designed to help the children express their feelings, fears and emotions.

Under the Whole of Syria approach,<sup>38,39,40</sup> UNICEF will continue to deliver on its mandate, prioritizing the populations and areas with high-severity needs and its responsibility for inter-agency coordination as lead of the Nutrition, Education and WASH Clusters/Sectors and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility.<sup>41</sup>

UNICEF will provide life-saving interventions while integrating early recovery and a long-term perspective into all aspects of its humanitarian action, which will include scaling up localization and preparedness to build the resilience of communities and local and national systems to endure crises. UNICEF will implement multisectoral, risk-informed, conflict- and gender-sensitive and disability-inclusive strategies to enhance programme quality and equity.<sup>42</sup>

UNICEF and partners will address the threats to children's health, nutrition and well-being, ensuring the availability and quality of preventive and curative nutrition services through multisectoral collaboration and community-based service delivery mechanisms. Through fixed and mobile clinics and by helping rebuild local health systems, UNICEF will provide safe, equitable and sustainable access to health services, focusing on preventing and responding to disease outbreaks.

UNICEF will continue shifting its primarily emergency WASH programme into a sustained, community-building response. UNICEF will advance cost-effective infrastructure rehabilitation and repairs<sup>43</sup> that contribute to the sustainability of operations and maintenance and explore such alternative power supply solutions as solar energy, ensuring availability of minimum WASH services.<sup>44</sup>

To tackle the education crisis, and with the goal of building back better, UNICEF will provide a holistic package of education, child protection and adolescent development opportunities. UNICEF and partners will ensure children and adolescents continue to learn through inclusive, equitable and safe access to formal and non-formal education, including early childhood development.

Adolescents will play a pivotal role in community engagement through programmes that emphasize life skills and promote social cohesion.

UNICEF and partners will provide specialized child protection prevention and response services to ensure children are safe from violence, abuse and exploitation in their homes, schools and communities. The integrated programme approach will span mental health and psychosocial support, gender-based violence response, gender-responsive positive parenting programmes and explosive ordnance risk education. Cash assistance and social protection interventions remain critical to help families provide for their children.

UNICEF and partners will strive to protect populations from sexual exploitation and abuse by scaling up engagement with the inter-agency PSEA network and the Humanitarian Country Team to ensure functional, safe and accessible reporting mechanisms. Positive social norms and practices, risk reduction behaviours and accountability to affected populations will be promoted.<sup>45</sup> UNICEF will strengthen equity-focused data collection, along with monitoring and evaluation of programmes to inform evidence-based emergency response and better serve the changing needs of affected communities. UNICEF will expand partnerships to help overcome the challenges in the country and deliver multisectoral and transformative results at scale.



## Health (including public health emergencies)

- **815,000** children under 5 years vaccinated against polio, supplemental dose<sup>48</sup>
- **653,500** children 0-11 months receiving pentavalent 3 vaccine
- **1,960,800** people accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities<sup>49</sup>



## Nutrition<sup>50</sup>

- **1,728,000** children 6-59 months screened for wasting
- **30,103** children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment
- **1,734,800** primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling<sup>51</sup>
- **1,532,000** children and pregnant and lactating women receiving micronutrients



## Child protection, GBViE and PSEA

- **120,550** women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions
- **1,700,000** people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations<sup>52</sup>
- **16,920** children who have received individual case management
- **653,600** children provided with landmine or other explosive weapons prevention and/or survivor assistance interventions<sup>53</sup>
- **234,500** children accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support<sup>54</sup>



## Education

- **2,612,570** children supported with educational services and supplies in formal settings
- **532,466** children in non-formal education benefiting from education services
- **37,038** teachers and education personnel trained<sup>55</sup>



## Water, sanitation and hygiene

- **5,320,000** people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs<sup>56</sup>
- **2,396,000** people accessing appropriate sanitation services<sup>57</sup>
- **300,000** people reached with handwashing behaviour-change programmes<sup>58</sup>
- **2,030,000** people reached with critical WASH supplies<sup>59</sup>



## Social protection and cash transfers

- **235,000** individuals reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers<sup>60</sup>
- **25,000** children with disabilities reached with regular cash transfers and case management services<sup>61</sup>



## Cross-sectoral (SBC, RCCE and AAP)<sup>62</sup>

- **2,500,000** affected people (children, caregivers, community members) reached with timely and life-saving information on how and where to access available services
- **1,250,000** people engaged in reflective dialogue through community platforms
- **5,000** people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms



## Adolescents/youth

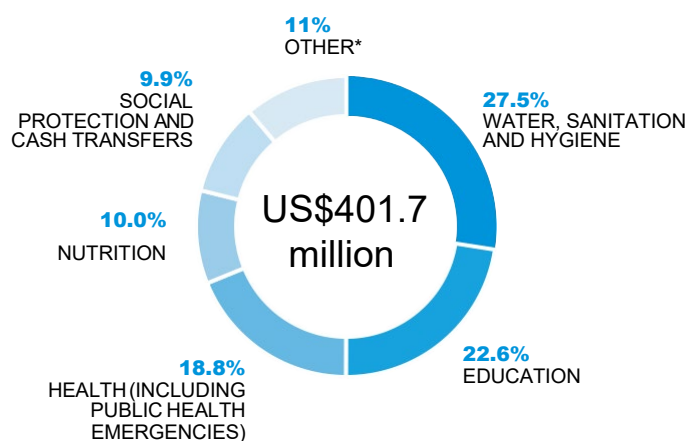
- **225,017** affected adolescents and youth aged 10 to 24 years receiving life-skills and citizenship education and employability skills
- **342,883** adolescents and youth aged 10 to 24 years promoting social cohesion and civic engagement at the community level

## FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2024

In 2024, UNICEF is appealing for \$401.7 million to enact its humanitarian action through a continuum of rapid, sustained and equitable responses to meet the growing multidimensional needs of children and families in the Syrian Arab Republic. The total humanitarian funding requirement has decreased by 14 per cent compared with the revised 2023 appeal due to the country office's efforts to consolidate and streamline earthquake and cholera-related responses. This includes improved programmatic targeting across humanitarian interventions for better adaptation to the evolving situation and prioritization of populations deemed most in need. These efforts will be aligned with the Humanitarian Response Plan for the clusters.

In a context marked by 13 years of crisis and where a concerning number of children know nothing but conflict, quality, flexible and predictable funding is more critical than ever for UNICEF to fulfill its mission of reaching every child. UNICEF calls on the donor community to support its mission and support its transformative programmes that alleviate suffering, ensure that children survive and unleash their potential to thrive.

Without quality resource mobilization, UNICEF will not be able to leverage its comparative advantages. This will expose children and adolescents to higher protection risks, including mental health issues, gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and abuse and harmful coping mechanisms. The effects will be long term. A lack of funding will also impede UNICEF's capacity to provide life-saving nutrition despite the severe needs: 75,726 children under 5 years of age currently suffer from severe wasting and are at risk of death, and one in four children under 5 years of age in northwest and northeast Syria is stunted.<sup>63</sup> Humanitarian funding will also make a life-altering difference in the lives of 2.4 million children who are currently out of school and for the nearly 13.6 million people who require access to WASH services.<sup>64</sup>



| Sector                                       | 2024 requirements (US\$) <sup>65</sup> |
|--|--|
| Health (including public health emergencies) | 75,484,708                             |
| Nutrition                                    | 40,297,928                             |
| Child protection, GBViE and PSEA             | 30,953,318                             |
| Education                                    | 90,751,386 <sup>66</sup>               |
| Water, sanitation and hygiene                | 110,287,872                            |
| Social protection and cash transfers         | 39,962,645                             |
| Cross-sectoral (SBC, RCCE and AAP)           | 1,520,640 <sup>67,68</sup>             |
| Adolescents/youth                            | 12,409,826                             |
| <b>Total</b>                                 | <b>401,668,323</b>                     |

\*This includes costs from other sectors/interventions : Child protection, GBViE and PSEA (7.7%), Adolescents/youth (3.1%), Cross-sectoral (SBC, RCCE and AAP) (<1%).

# ENDNOTES

1. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023.
2. Ibid. The 5.3 internally displaced people account for 35 per cent of the total humanitarian needs.
3. UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.
4. The total number of people in need of humanitarian assistance includes 11.2 million people with severe needs, 4 million people with extreme needs and 100,000 people with catastrophic needs. The gender disaggregation of the people in need is 29 per cent women, 25 per cent men, 25 per cent boys, and 21 per cent girls. The total number of people in need also includes 2.6 million people/children with disabilities. OCHA, Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023.
5. Children account for 46 per cent of the total number of people in need. OCHA, Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023.
6. The total number of people to be reached was calculated based on several 2024 programme targets, without double counting population groups: 520,000 children under age 1 year to receive pentavalent 3 vaccine (target specific to the Syrian Arab Republic country office), 815,000 children to be vaccinated against polio (target specific to the Gaziantep office), 660,000 children under 5 years of age to receive micronutrient powder (target specific to Syrian Arab Republic country office), 3,139,036 children aged 5–17 years to access formal and non-formal education (target for Syrian Arab Republic country office and the Gaziantep office, excluding children with disabilities to be reached through the the Gaziantep office, who are already considered in the WASH target), 2,068,280 people to access safe water (target for the Syrian Arab Republic country office and the Gaziantep office, excluding children with disabilities in the Syrian Arab Republic country office since they are covered in the access to education target), and 1,301,500 women to receive infant and young child feeding counselling (target specific to Syrian Arab Republic country office). This total includes 55 per cent women/girls and 10 per cent people/children with disabilities.
7. UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.
8. The total number of children to be reached was calculated based on several 2024 programme targets, without double counting population groups: 520,000 children under age 1 year to receive pentavalent 3 vaccine (target specific to the Syrian Arab Republic country office), 815,000 children to be vaccinated against polio (target specific to the Gaziantep office), 660,000 children under 5 years to receive micronutrient powder (target specific to the Syrian Arab Republic country office), 3,139,036 children aged 5–17 years to access formal and non-formal education (target for the Syrian Arab Republic country office and the Gaziantep office, excluding children with disabilities to be reached through the Gaziantep office, who are already considered in the WASH target), and 235,200 children with disabilities to access safe water (target specific to the Gaziantep office). This total includes 53 per cent girls and 8 per cent children with disabilities.
9. These grave violations included recruitment, killing and maiming and attacks on schools and hospitals. United Nations, Report of the Secretary-General: Children and armed conflict, United Nations, New York, 5 June 2023.
10. The total number of children in need includes 3.2 million girls and 2.73 million children in difficult-to-access areas. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Whole of Syria Humanitarian Situation Report January – June 2023, UNICEF, August 2023, available at <[www.unicef.org/media/143716/file/UNICEF%20Whole%20of%20Syria%20Humanitarian%20Situation%20Report%20January%20-%20June%202023.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/media/143716/file/UNICEF%20Whole%20of%20Syria%20Humanitarian%20Situation%20Report%20January%20-%20June%202023.pdf)>.
11. The total number of people in need includes 7.7 million women/girls and 2.6 million people/children with disability. OCHA, Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023.
12. OCHA, Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023. Throughout the Syrian Arab Republic, access and operational constraints, damaged and non-functional infrastructure, electricity outages and limited resource mobilization compound challenges and hinder the quality and continuity of multisectoral humanitarian action.
13. UNICEF, Whole of Syria Humanitarian Situation Report January – June 2023, August 2023.
14. The deteriorating economic situation and the 60 per cent gap between households' income and expenditures is due to the combined impacts of high inflation, currency depreciation, the increase in the price of commodities and lack of income, among other factors. The war in Ukraine continues to impact global supply chains, driving inflation rates and upending food and energy markets.
15. OCHA, Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023. Disability prevalence is much higher than the global average, at 24 per cent for individuals age 2 or older (and reaching almost 40 per cent in northeast Syria).
16. Ibid.
17. Ibid.
18. World Health Organization and UNICEF, Whole of Syria Cholera Outbreak Situation Report no. 20 Issued 23 October 2023, available at <<https://reliefweb.int/report/syrian-arab-republic/whole-syria-cholera-outbreak-situation-report-no-20-issued-23-october-2023#:~:text=Between%2025%20August%20and%20fatality%20rate%20of%200.06%25>>. Declared in September 2022, the cholera outbreak has roots in the water crisis, the large-scale destruction of water and sanitation infrastructure, electricity outages and population movements. The outbreak poses a higher threat to children, especially when associated with malnutrition.
19. OCHA, Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023.
20. OCHA, Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023.
21. Based on the 2022 KI protection assessment, an estimated 96 per cent of children live in communities where child labour is reported, 84 per cent of children live in communities where child marriage is an issue for girls aged 15–17 years and 52 per cent of people live in communities where family separation is reported.
22. OCHA, Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023. Out-of-school children are particularly affected, especially adolescents who are exposed to protection and gender-based violence threats such as child labour (mainly for boys) and child marriage (mainly for girls).
23. OCHA, North-West Syria: Situation Report, OCHA, 13 September 2023, available at <<https://reliefweb.int/report/syrian-arab-republic/north-west-syria-situation-report-13-september-2023-enar>>.
24. OCHA, Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023. An estimated 79 per cent of camps in northwest Syria are critically overcrowded.
25. OCHA, North-West Syria: Situation Report, 13 September 2023. An estimated 601 health facilities are non-functional. Sixty-seven health facilities were damaged by the earthquakes.
26. Ibid.
27. Ibid.
28. OCHA, Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023. Of the nearly 300,000 people living in camps, 57 per cent are women and girls and 54 per cent are children.
29. Ibid.
30. Ibid. This figure includes 6.81 million children.
31. Ibid. This figure includes 3.8 million children.
32. Ibid.
33. Ibid. This includes children and education personnel in need of emergency education services.
34. Ibid. This figure includes 6 million children.
35. This appeal is aligned with the revised Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, which are based on global standards and norms for humanitarian action.
36. UNICEF is committed to supporting the leadership and coordination of humanitarian response through its leadership or co-leadership of cluster coordination for the WASH, Nutrition and Education Clusters and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility. All cluster coordinator costs are included in sectoral programme budgets.
37. UNICEF is committed to empowering local responders in humanitarian crises in a variety of ways. The revised Core Commitments made investing in strengthening the capacities of local actors in the humanitarian response a mandatory benchmark for UNICEF action. A more localized response will improve humanitarian action and is fundamental to achieving better accountability to affected populations.
38. Under the Whole of Syria approach, UNICEF implements its humanitarian response across the 14 governorates from its hubs in Damascus (Syrian Arab Republic), Amman (Jordan) and Gaziantep (Turkey), as well as its six field offices.
39. The deactivation of the Level 3 arrangement, which had been in place since the earthquake in early 2023, is not expected to have any major impact as all the emergency procedures activated by the Level 3 designation were mainly used during the first months after the earthquake.
40. The non-renewal of the cross-border resolution, after it expired on 10 July 2023, had put a temporary halt to the usual supply chain from Türkiye. However, the unexpected unilateral decision by the Government of Syria on 13 July 2023 to allow free passage of relief and food aid from the Turkish border has provided the legal background for the United Nations operations and allowed a quick resumption of the convoys.
41. UNICEF is committed to supporting the leadership and coordination of humanitarian response through its leadership or co-leadership of cluster coordination for the WASH, Nutrition and Education Clusters and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility. All cluster coordination costs are included in sectoral programme budgets.
42. This appeal is aligned with the revised Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, which are based on global standards and norms for humanitarian action.
43. Capacity building of operators and technicians is an integral component of infrastructure work.
44. In parallel, UNICEF will continue to be the main provider throughout the country of chlorine for water disinfection purposes.
45. This will be achieved by supporting the participation of communities in decision-making processes, providing access to life-saving information and reinforcing community feedback mechanisms.
46. In alignment with the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action and the 2024 Humanitarian Needs Overview and Humanitarian Response Plan being developed, the 2024 programme targets in this appeal reflect the prioritization of interventions based on the severity of needs of the targeted communities at the subdistrict level, the criticality of activities within sectors and information from implementing partners about underserved areas and response gaps, as well as partners' capacity to respond.
47. Beyond the UNICEF targets for these interventions, other humanitarian partners are expected to reach the remaining children/families in need.
48. The Syrian Arab Republic is no longer implementing national immunization days against polio, as recommended by the World Health Organization mission that visited the country last year and excluded it from the high-risk countries for polio. The NIDs are now recommended only for countries with active polio outbreaks.
49. This programme target includes the number of women, men and children to be reached with primary health care outpatient consultations through fixed or mobile teams in health facilities and camps. Based on the new direction from the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISG) for implementing a common approach to targeting and prioritization for the Humanitarian Response Plan 2024–2025, the country office is reassessing priority populations and refining its targets for 2024, which explains the decrease in the access to health care target.
50. The 2023 SMART survey is currently underway and will be finalized and published by the end of 2023. UNICEF will revise its nutrition programme targets once the latest nutritional needs and monitoring assessments covering the 14 governorates are available.
51. The target includes both counselling and awareness-raising sessions. The target is a percentage of people in need in high-severity areas.
52. The target has decreased compared with the revised 2023 appeal, to reflect the realistic approach and dedicated capacity that is now in place to establish clear and practical reporting mechanisms, including at the inter-agency level, on critical issues around protection from sexual exploitation and abuse.
53. The target has decreased compared with the revised 2023 UNICEF humanitarian appeal because explosive ordnance risk education was included in the awareness raising provided as part of the earthquake emergency response. In addition, the country office is shifting from a one-off activity approach to facilitating more in-depth and meaningful behaviour change interventions.
54. Caregivers are targeted separately through parenting programmes, in line with the Humanitarian Response Plan. The target has decreased compared to the revised 2023 UNICEF humanitarian appeal because the psychological first aid provided by the country office as part of the emergency response to the earthquake in 2023 will be discontinued in 2024.
55. This programme indicator includes fundamentals of pedagogy and learning evaluation, life skills, psychosocial support, early childhood education and learning assessments.
56. This indicator includes the repair/rehabilitation of water systems. Chlorination and water disinfection activities are not reported under this indicator.
57. This indicator includes the repair/rehabilitation of sewage systems.
58. This WASH target has decreased compared with the revised 2023 appeal as the country office has streamlined its earthquake-related emergency interventions and has revised its programmatic targeting accordingly.
59. This WASH target has decreased compared with the revised 2023 appeal as the country office has streamlined its earthquake-related emergency interventions and has revised its programmatic targeting accordingly.
60. This programme is covered under the shelter/non-food items sector. The total programme target of 235,000 individuals equals 47,000 households, using an average of five individuals per household. The target has decreased compared with the revised 2023 UNICEF humanitarian appeal due to discontinuation of the earthquake-related response under this indicator.
61. This programme is covered under the early recovery and livelihoods sector. The country office has strengthened its focus on the disabilities component and expanded its social protection programme for children with disabilities to meet more needs.
62. The decrease in the 2024 risk communication and community engagement targets compared with the revised 2023 appeal stems from a changing emergency landscape and a shift to other programmatic priorities. Social and behaviour change programmes will provide better-focused interventions but with fewer beneficiaries.
63. OCHA, Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023.
64. Ibid.
65. All cluster coordination costs are embedded in sectoral programme budgets. One per cent of the total funding requirements will be dedicated to evaluation.
66. While the education targets slightly decreased compared with the revised 2023 appeal, the funding requirement has increased because UNICEF will support school rehabilitation in 2024.
67. This includes funding requirements for programming related to social and behaviour change, risk communication and community engagement and accountability to affected populations. In particular, funding for accountability to affected populations will support work including the operation of the service line, awareness raising for the service line (including SMS, posters, door-to-door visits and business cards), procurement and distribution of suggestion boxes, regular surveys and feedback through third-party monitors, training of partners and regular focus group discussions and consultations with communities to understand and respond to their needs.
68. Despite a decrease in the 2024 risk communication and community engagement targets, the funding requirement remains the same compared with the revised 2023 appeal to provide better-focused and more effective social and behaviour change interventions for those most in need in governorates with compounded inequities.