

# UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children 2017

*Overview*





### Syrian Arab Republic 2016

On 29 February 2016, UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake and UNICEF Representative in the Syrian Arab Republic Hanaa Singer visited adolescents at a UNICEF-supported centre for adolescent development in the Old Homs neighbourhood of Homs Governorate.

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# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S FOREWORD

## Humanitarian Action for Children 2017

Around 535 million.

That is the number of children living in countries affected by emergencies – one out of every four children in the world today.

From relentless conflicts and displacement crises in the Lake Chad basin, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen ... to the impacts of El Niño or La Niña in southern Africa ... to the devastation of seasonal storms and other disasters in Haiti, humanitarian crises are threatening the lives and futures of more children today than perhaps any other time in history.

Many of these children are already vulnerable – living in poverty, deprived of adequate nutrition, out of school, at risk of exploitation. Such complex and protracted emergencies aggravate the risks these children face and exacerbate their needs. They also threaten their societies – potentially reversing hard-won development gains around the world.

In such a world of cascading crises, our response must not only meet immediate needs; it must also address long-term development challenges, recognizing that how we respond in emergencies lays the foundation for future growth and stability, and how we invest in development helps build resilience against future emergencies. Both the Sustainable Development Goals and the 'Grand Bargain' struck at the World Humanitarian Summit reflect this growing interconnectedness.

Certainly for the children living through these emergencies, there is little if any distinction. For when we deliver nutrition in crises, we are not only saving a child's life today. We are supporting her ability to learn more and, as an adult, to earn more – the better to support her own children's healthy development. Similarly, when we deliver education and protection services in emergencies, we are not only building a child's sense of safety and normalcy. We are also giving children the tools to rebuild their lives and communities.

*Humanitarian Action for Children 2017* highlights the efforts of UNICEF and our partners to confront these challenges in a way that meets today's urgent needs while laying the foundation for tomorrow. It describes results UNICEF and our partners achieved on the ground in 2016 ... Lessons we have learned... The donor support so essential to our ability to respond ... And the strategies for confronting the challenges ahead.

For example, in Yemen, where a devastating conflict has left the health system in shambles, UNICEF mobilized thousands of health workers over a five-day period in September 2016 in an innovative, nationwide campaign. Traveling in cars, on motorcycles, by donkey or on foot, mobile teams reached more than 600,000 children under 5 and 180,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women in remote areas with services ranging from vaccination to micronutrient supplementation to antenatal care. This not only helps children in crisis; it is a strategy to support the long-term health and well-being of families.





### Haiti 2016

On 7 October 2016, one-year-old baby Siyou and his mother, Augustin Berline were relocated by government officials the day of the storm to a school in Arcahaie, that serves as temporary shelter for those families who were relocated by local authorities for their safety.

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In Haiti, where more than 175,000 people were displaced by Hurricane Matthew, UNICEF both responded with life-saving assistance – by pre-positioning emergency supplies, providing safe water and sanitation and restoring health services – and reached communities at risk with crucial cholera vaccinations. As of late November 2016, UNICEF and partners had reached more than 807,000 people with cholera vaccination, including 309,000 children aged 1 to 14 years old. Again, addressing an emergency today while building for the future.

Elsewhere in the world, UNICEF is helping families living through crises to weather future shocks. For example, in Jordan, cash assistance to displaced families is helping them increase spending on children's basic needs, including clothing, shoes, medicine, school expenses and fresh food – without depleting their assets.

We are also doing more not only to reach families living through crises, but also to help them reach us about their needs and with critical information about the effectiveness of our programmes. For example, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as part of a cash transfer programme, UNICEF and partners have created multiple channels – including a toll free number, suggestion boxes and voice messages – for communities to share feedback on the programme. The feedback is then used to address technical problems and make the programme more responsive to actual needs.

This work – and the results it is helping to achieve – depends on the courage and determination of the staff of UNICEF and our partners on the ground, who work in the world's most dangerous places to reach the most endangered and vulnerable children. Together, we are making a difference.

But none of it would be possible without the steadfast support of our donors – and their continued commitment to the cause of children. The resources they provide are the lifeblood of all humanitarian action, especially more flexible resources that make it possible for us to respond quickly in a crisis, to allocate resources to where they are most needed – including to 'forgotten' crises out of the media spotlight – and to stay and deliver, helping communities build back stronger.

Meeting the challenge of reaching the children in greatest need and at greatest risk is the reason UNICEF was founded 70 years ago in the aftermath of World War II. Supported by governments, we worked to bring life-saving aid and long-term support to children whose lives and futures were imperilled, understanding that the future hope of the world depended on them.

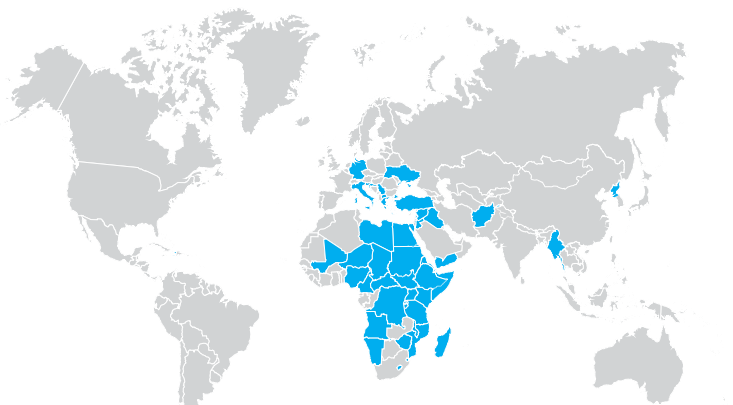
Our mission is no less urgent today. And children are always the hope of the world.

Anthony Lake  
UNICEF Executive Director

# FUNDING REQUIRED IN 2017

## Humanitarian Action for Children 2017

*This map is stylized and not to scale. It does not reflect a position by UNICEF on the legal status of any country or area or the delimitation of any frontiers. The dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the Parties. The final boundary between the Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined.*



<b>Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States</b>	<b>US\$</b>
Regional Office	<b>4,500,000</b>
Refugee and migrant crisis in Europe	<b>43,452,000</b>
Ukraine	<b>31,200,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>79,152,000</b>

<b>East Asia and the Pacific</b>	<b>US\$</b>
Regional Office	<b>6,106,400</b>
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	<b>16,500,000</b>
Myanmar	<b>25,105,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>47,711,400</b>

<b>Eastern and Southern Africa</b>	<b>US\$</b>
Regional Office	<b>4,330,000</b>
Burundi	<b>18,500,000</b>
Burundian refugees (Rwanda and Tanzania)	<b>9,539,000</b>
Eritrea	<b>11,050,000</b>
Ethiopia	<b>110,500,000</b>
Kenya	<b>23,019,000</b>
Somalia	<b>66,130,000</b>
South Sudan	<b>181,000,000</b>
Southern Africa El Niño/ La Niña	<b>103,245,000</b>
Uganda	<b>52,870,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>580,183,000</b>

<b>Latin America and the Caribbean</b>	<b>US\$</b>
Regional Office	<b>7,200,000</b>
Haiti	<b>42,352,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>49,552,000</b>

<b>Middle East and North Africa</b>	<b>US\$</b>
Regional Office	<b>3,500,000</b>
Djibouti	<b>3,409,831</b>
Iraq	<b>161,400,000</b>
Libya	<b>14,976,800</b>
State of Palestine	<b>24,546,000</b>
Sudan	<b>110,247,169</b>
Syrian Arab Republic	<b>354,638,896</b>
Syrian refugees and other affected populations in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey	<b>1,041,550,413</b>
Yemen	<b>236,584,269</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,950,853,378</b>

<b>South Asia</b>	<b>US\$</b>
Regional Office	<b>34,250,415</b>
Afghanistan	<b>30,500,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>64,750,415</b>

<b>West and Central Africa</b>	<b>US\$</b>
Regional Office	<b>27,000,000</b>
Cameroon	<b>23,703,305</b>
Central African Republic	<b>46,300,000</b>
Chad	<b>57,274,208</b>
Democratic Republic of the Congo	<b>119,125,000</b>
Mali	<b>35,217,875</b>
Niger	<b>36,992,042</b>
Nigeria	<b>146,867,901</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>492,480,331</b>

Global support	<b>49,074,689</b>
Zika	<b>31,391,130</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>3,345,148,343</b>

# PLANNED RESULTS IN 2017

## Humanitarian Action for Children 2017

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 2017*.

GRAND TOTAL:



US\$3.3 billion

TO ASSIST:



81 million people\*

INCLUDING:



48 million children

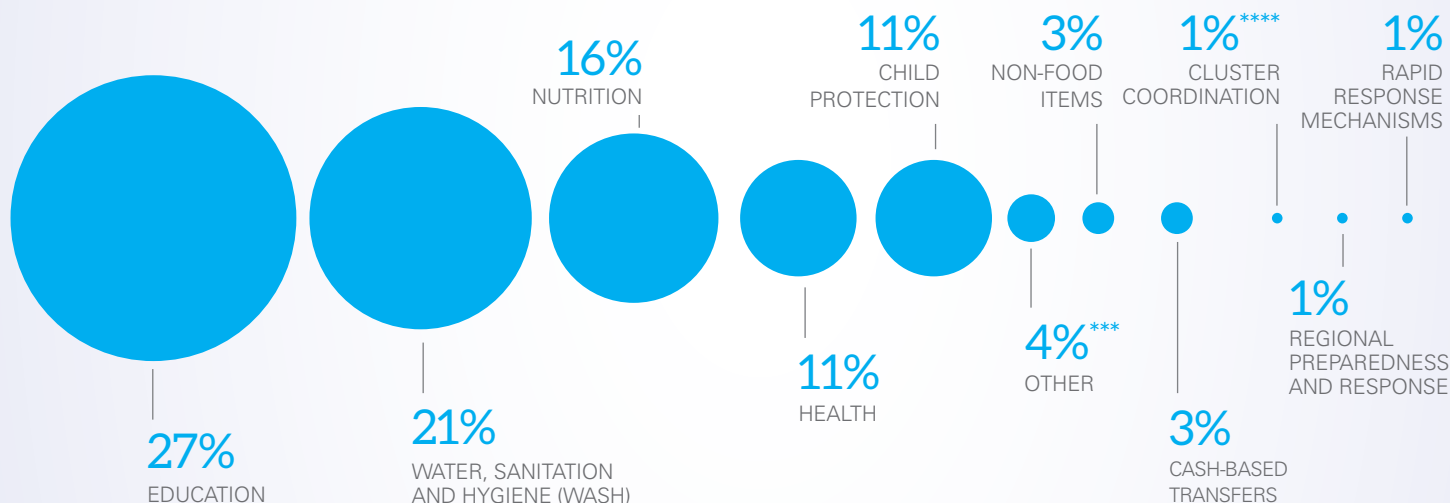
IN:



48 countries

\* Does not include 200 million to be reached through social mobilization in Latin America and the Caribbean as part of Zika global response

Percentage\*\* of total requirements per sector:



\*\* 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.

\*\*\* Includes costs from the refugee and migrant crisis in Europe; the cholera response in Haiti; winterization in Iraq; early recovery in the Syrian Arab Republic; youth/adolescents and Palestinians in the response to Syrian refugees; and detection, prevention, preparedness, care and support in the Zika global response.

\*\*\*\* Cluster coordination costs cover only those where separated in budgets. In many appeals, coordination costs are included in sectoral budgets.

UNICEF and partners will work toward the following results in 2017:



NUTRITION

**3.1 million children** to be treated for severe acute malnutrition



HEALTH

**8.3 million children** to be immunized against measles



WASH

**19.3 million people** to have access to safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene



EDUCATION

**9.2 million children** to have access to formal and non-formal basic education



CHILD PROTECTION

**2.4 million children** to have access to psychosocial support



HIV AND AIDS

**592,000 people** to have access to information, testing and treatment

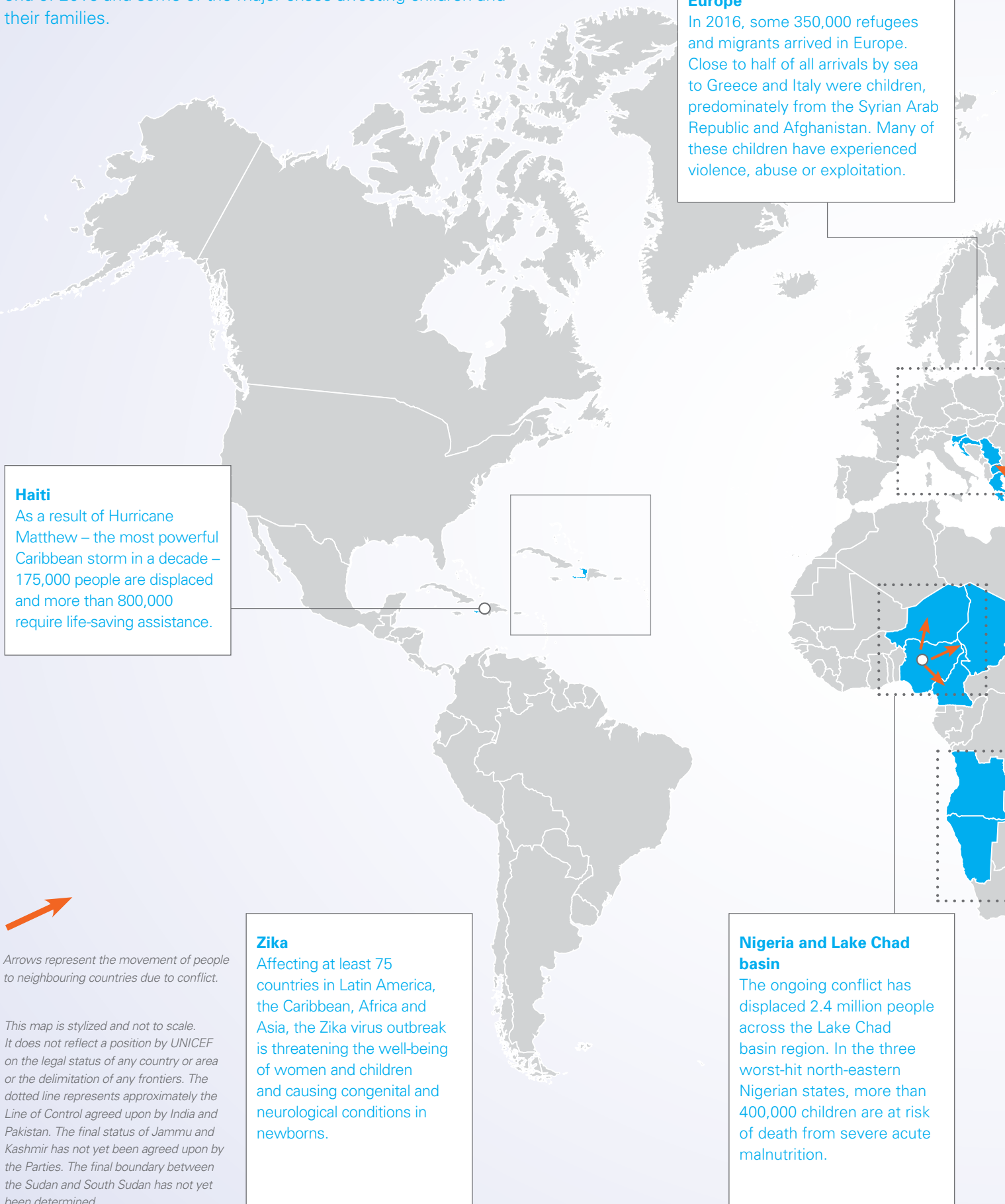


CASH-BASED TRANSFERS

**1.8 million people** to be reached with cash assistance

# CHILDREN IN CRISIS

The map below highlights the global humanitarian situation at the end of 2016 and some of the major crises affecting children and their families.



## Haiti

As a result of Hurricane Matthew – the most powerful Caribbean storm in a decade – 175,000 people are displaced and more than 800,000 require life-saving assistance.

## Refugee and migrant crisis in Europe

In 2016, some 350,000 refugees and migrants arrived in Europe. Close to half of all arrivals by sea to Greece and Italy were children, predominately from the Syrian Arab Republic and Afghanistan. Many of these children have experienced violence, abuse or exploitation.

## Zika

Affecting at least 75 countries in Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa and Asia, the Zika virus outbreak is threatening the well-being of women and children and causing congenital and neurological conditions in newborns.

## Nigeria and Lake Chad basin

The ongoing conflict has displaced 2.4 million people across the Lake Chad basin region. In the three worst-hit north-eastern Nigerian states, more than 400,000 children are at risk of death from severe acute malnutrition.



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

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**Syrian Arab Republic and the sub-region**

The Syrian refugee crisis remains the largest humanitarian crisis since the end of World War II. Countries neighbouring the Syrian Arab Republic are hosting more than 4.8 million registered Syrian refugees, including more than 2.2 million children.

**Iraq**

The escalating conflict in Iraq has left an estimated 11 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. More than 3 million people are displaced, including at least 1.4 million children.

**Afghanistan**

The armed conflict and rising insecurity in Afghanistan forced 245,000 people to flee their homes in 2016, bringing the total number of internally displaced people to 1.1 million.

**Myanmar**

Myanmar is experiencing three protracted humanitarian crises in northern Rakhine, Kachin and Shan states. The inter-communal violence continues to take its toll on women and children and has caused massive displacement.

**Southern Africa El Niño/ La Niña:**

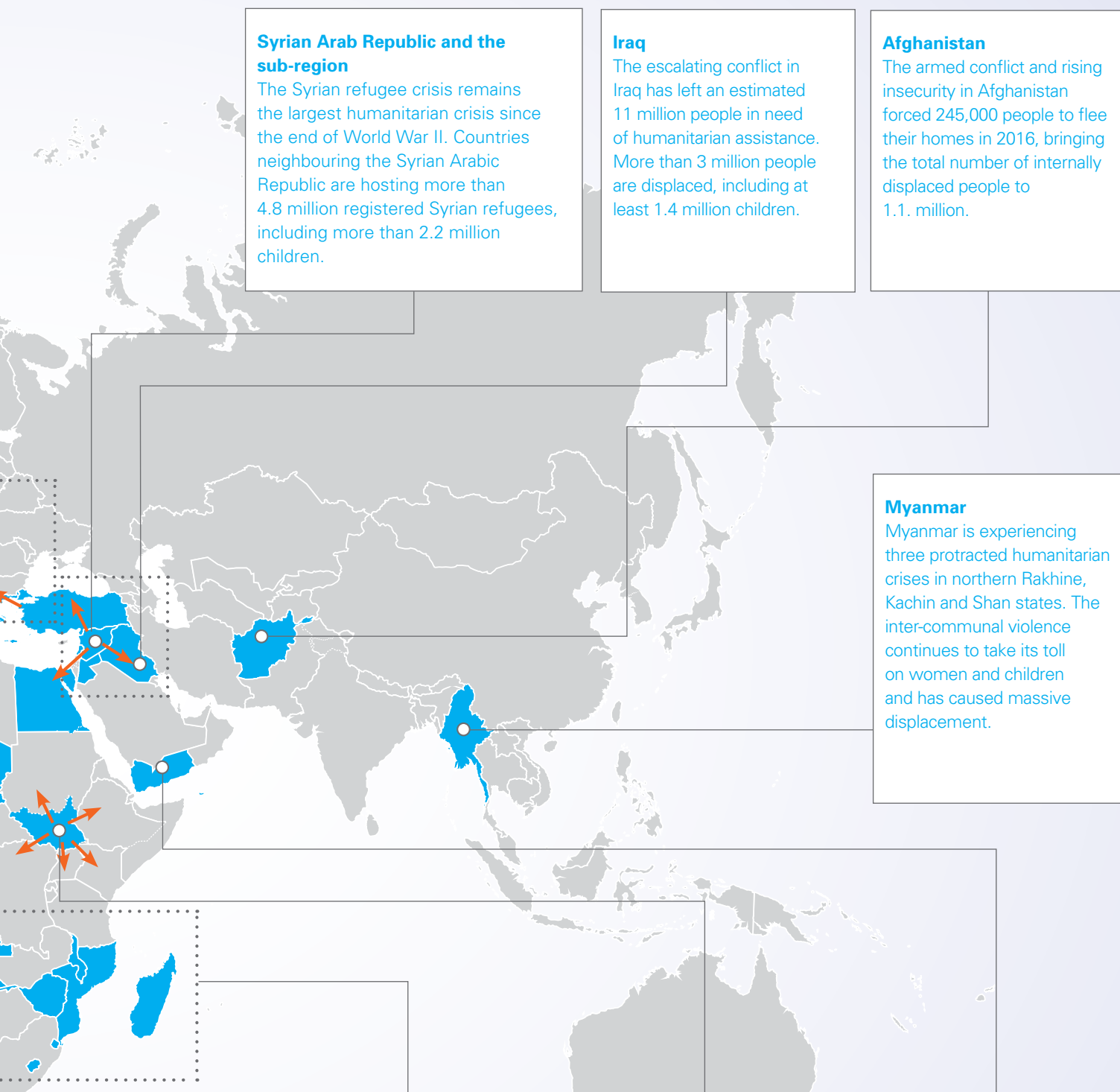
The 2015–2016 El Niño phenomenon resulted in the worst drought in 35 years for much of southern Africa. For millions of people across the sub-region, particularly children, the impact on food security has been catastrophic.

**South Sudan**

Renewed conflict has deepened the humanitarian crisis, with women and children facing immediate risks of violence, displacement and life-threatening diseases. The country is facing a critical nutrition crisis, with an estimated 31 per cent of the population experiencing severe food insecurity.

**Yemen**

After almost two years of conflict, Yemen is facing an unprecedented malnutrition crisis. An estimated 3.3 million children and pregnant or lactating women are suffering from acute malnutrition and nearly 460,000 children under 5 are suffering from severe acute malnutrition.





# RESULTS ACHIEVED IN 2016

## Humanitarian Action for Children 2017

The chart below captures some of the key results achieved against targets for children by UNICEF and partners through the first 10 months of 2016. 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 2016, including country-specific indicators, is available on the respective country web pages on [www.unicef.org/appeals](http://www.unicef.org/appeals).

### Syrian Arab Republic 2016

On 13 November 2016, children write in notebooks at a makeshift school in rural Daraa in the Syrian Arab Republic. Despite the ongoing violence across the country, children and dedicated teachers are doing all they can to keep their education going.





NUTRITION

HEALTH

WASH

CHILD PROTECTION

EDUCATION



**2.2**  
**MILLION**  
children treated  
for severe acute  
malnutrition



**9.4**  
**MILLION**  
children  
vaccinated  
against measles



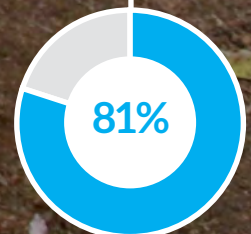
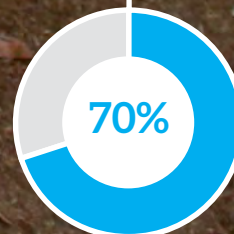
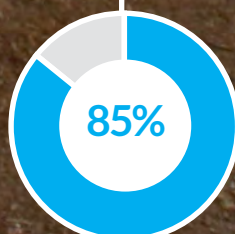
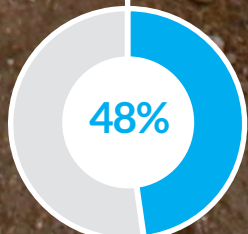
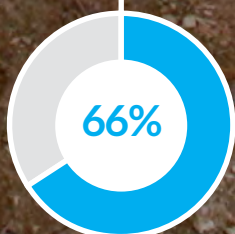
**13.6**  
**MILLION**  
people provided  
with access to  
safe water for  
drinking, bathing  
and cooking



**2.3**  
**MILLION**  
children  
accessed  
psychosocial  
support



**6.4**  
**MILLION**  
children  
accessed formal  
or non-formal  
basic education





# HUMANITARIAN FUNDING IN 2016

Human suffering reached unprecedented levels around the world in 2016, with nearly a quarter of the world's children living in conflict or disaster-stricken countries.

At the beginning of 2016, UNICEF appealed for US\$2.83 billion to assist 76 million people in 63 countries. The appeal rose to US\$3.19 billion due to the escalating conflicts in Iraq, South Sudan and Yemen; the unrelenting humanitarian needs in the Syrian Arab Republic and neighbouring countries; the refugee crises in Europe, Africa and the Middle East; and the impact of natural disasters such as El Niño in southern Africa, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Haiti and the Pacific Islands. Half of the funding requested in 2016 was for only four crises: Iraq, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and neighbouring countries, and Yemen.

Funding for the Humanitarian Action for Children appeal reached US\$2.32 billion as of 10 December 2016. This represents an extraordinary commitment of US\$1.71 billion from partners against the current appeal year, as well as US\$617.9 million from previous years. Public sector partners provided the majority of UNICEF's humanitarian resources, amounting to US\$1.59 billion (93 per cent of total funding), with 7 per cent coming from the private sector.

Five large-scale emergencies (in Ethiopia, Iraq, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and neighbouring countries and Yemen) received 68 per cent of the total funding. Thanks to our partners' swift support, UNICEF was able to respond to four sudden-onset emergencies with US\$39.1 million. Despite this generosity, however, needs often went unmet. For example, only 40 per cent of the combined requirement for the crises in the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Lake Chad basin were funded. Countries responding to El Niño-related impacts in southern Africa received 45 per cent of their funding appeals.

Multi-year plans and the criticality of predictable, flexible and longer-term funding was widely endorsed at the World Humanitarian Summit and reflected in the Grand Bargain. In 2016, UNICEF received only US\$119.8 million in thematic humanitarian funding, accounting for 7 per cent of total funds committed by donors. Global thematic funds, which provide the most flexible resources for UNICEF response, represented 1.5 per cent of all humanitarian funds. Flexible resources allow UNICEF to respond equitably and quickly to the ever growing needs of children living in crisis.

Figure 1. Top 10 sources of humanitarian funds, 2016 (US\$ millions)\*

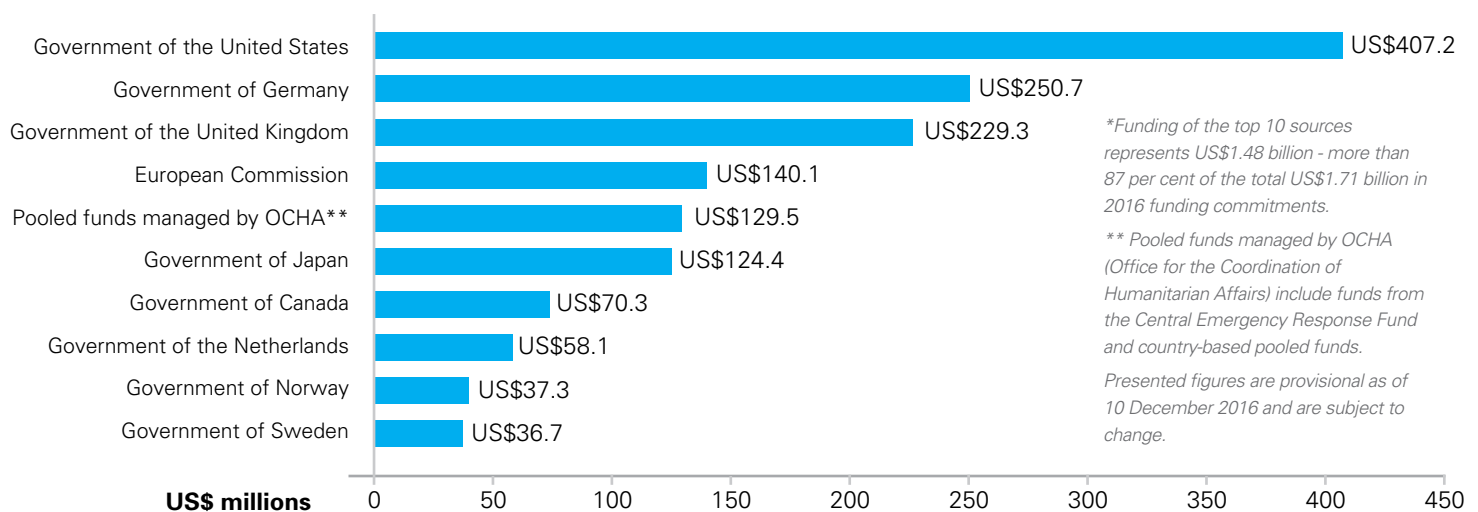


Figure 2. Top 10 donors – thematic humanitarian funds, 2016 (US\$ millions)

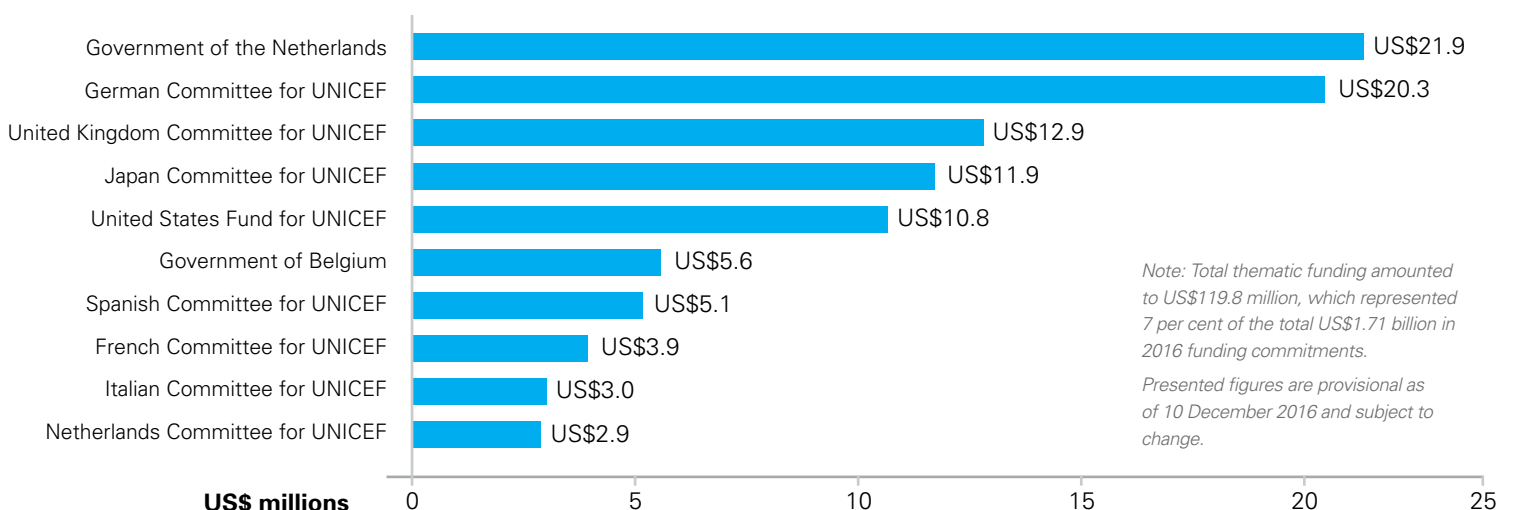




Figure 3. Humanitarian Action for Children: Funding commitments from donors and shortfalls in 2016 (US\$ millions)\*

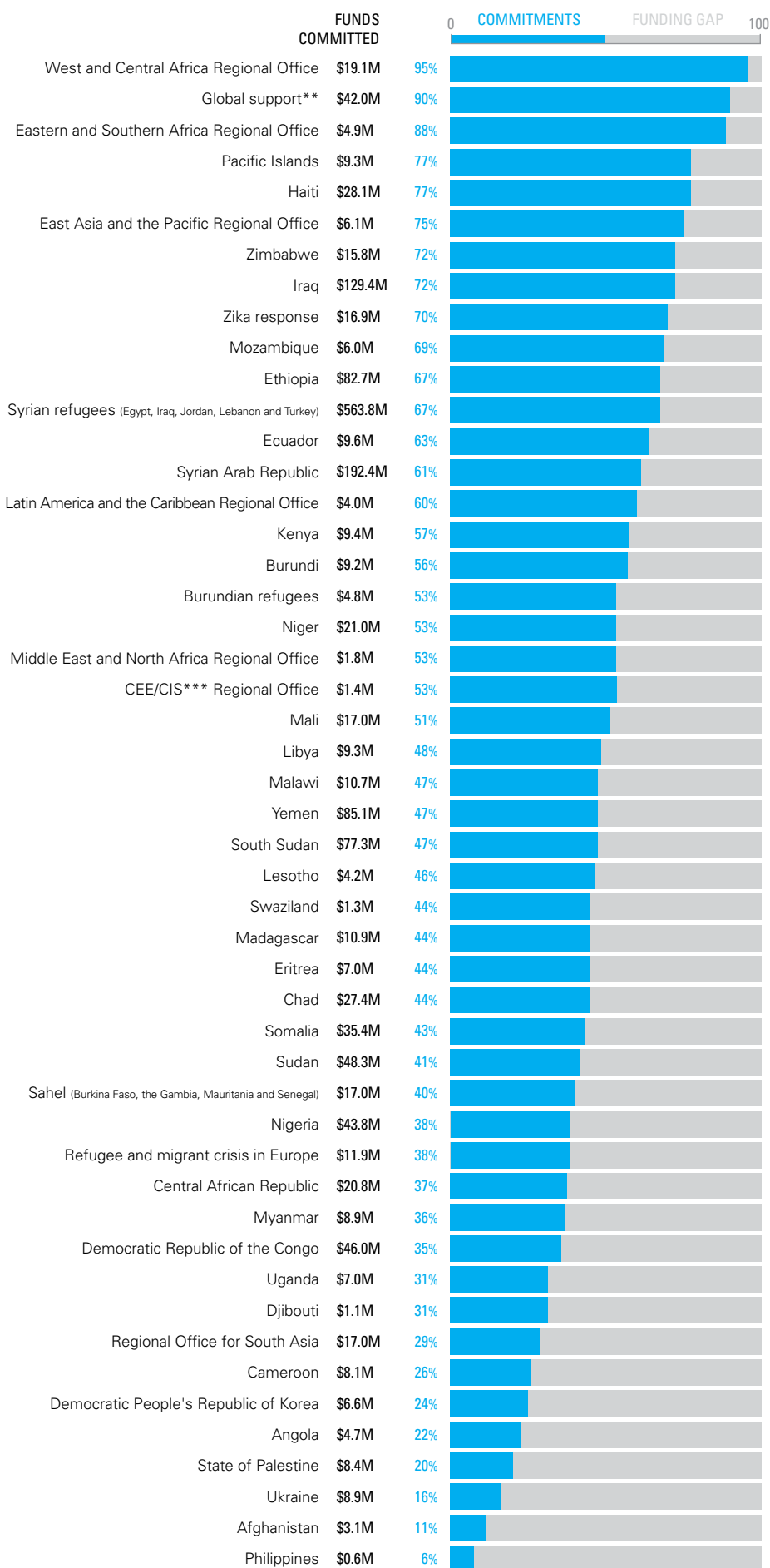
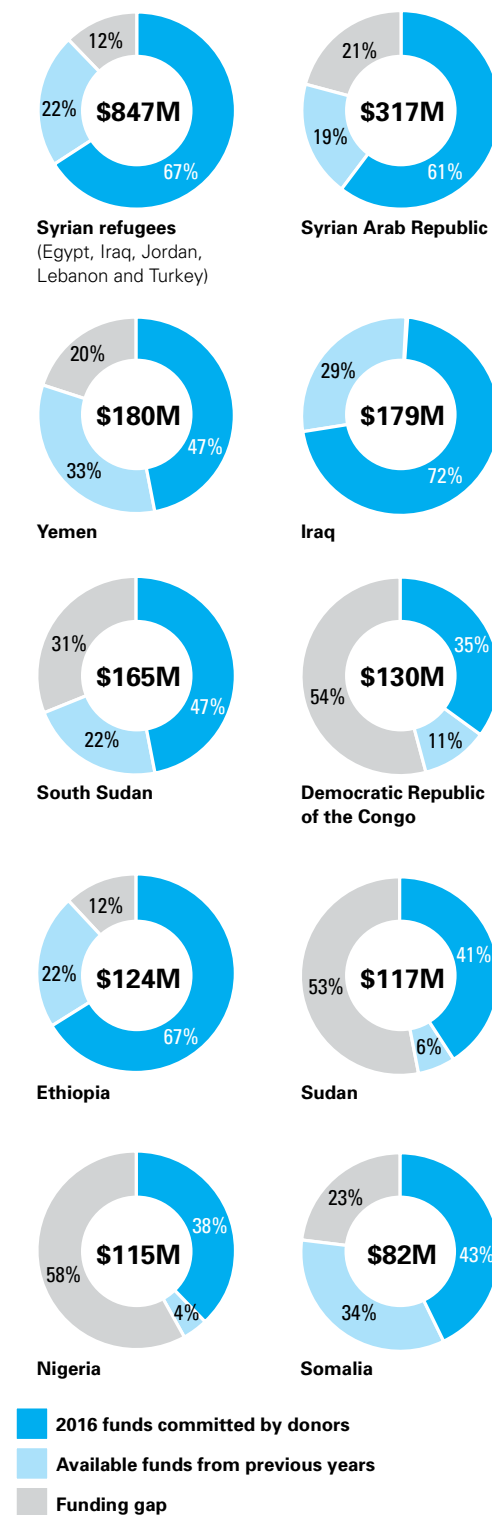


Figure 4. Funding overview for top 10 Humanitarian Action for Children appeals, by total requirements



\* Presented figures are provisional as of 10 December 2016 and are subject to change. Percentages do not total 100 due to rounding in the case of Syrian refugees, the Syrian Arab Republic and Ethiopia, or exceeding the requirement in the case of Iraq.

\*\* In 2016, US\$23 million was allocated from the Humanitarian Action for Children - Global Support to 15 country offices and regional offices to support their time-critical humanitarian operations. These allocations are also included in the funding levels of the country- and region-specific Humanitarian Action for Children appeals.

\*\*\* CEE/CIS - Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

# GLOBAL SUPPORT FOR UNICEF'S HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Humanitarian action is central to UNICEF's mandate, 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.

Country-level humanitarian action is supported by UNICEF's seven regional offices and 10 headquarters divisions. This involves facilitating global and regional inter-agency coordination and partnerships; contributing to the strategic response plans of humanitarian country teams; leading/co-leading global clusters for five sectors; facilitating policy guidance and strategic dialogue; mobilizing human and financial resources; and communicating, monitoring and reporting on UNICEF's humanitarian results. UNICEF's global support is coordinated by the Office of Emergency Programmes, including a security team and the 24-hour, 7-day Operations Centre. In 2017, the cost of this support is estimated at US\$49.1 million,<sup>1</sup> approximately 1.5 per cent of UNICEF's overall humanitarian appeal.

## Global support to the field in 2016

Five major emergencies required organization-wide mobilization in 2016: the continuing conflicts in South Sudan and Yemen; the escalating violence in Iraq; the protracted crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic and neighbouring refugee-hosting countries; and the unfolding humanitarian situation in north-east Nigeria. Regional offices were also responsible for overseeing expanded efforts in the Central African Republic, Haiti and Lake Chad basin. In all cases, UNICEF's core infrastructure played a vital role in supporting country office responses.

Investments in UNICEF's global support translated into the following achievements in 2016:

- Emergency supplies procured for UNICEF for the Central African Republic, Iraq, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen totalled US\$266.2 million.<sup>2</sup>
- UNICEF's capacity to rapidly deploy staff with specialized skills in emergency coordination, programming and operations was significantly enhanced with the recruitment of an additional six Emergency Response Team (ERT) members in 2016 for a total complement of 14. Twelve ERT members undertook 37 missions to 17 countries and three regional offices, totalling 2,356 days between January and December 2016.
- Standby partners represented a significant source of capacity, deploying 213 personnel to country offices in 2016 through agreements with 30 organizations. Forty-one per cent of these deployments supported Level 2 and Level 3 emergencies.
- UNICEF has prioritized strengthening its preparedness systems through the development of the Preparedness

Procedure and associated guidance for country offices, including mandatory minimum standards. In addition, the new online Emergency Preparedness Platform has been designed to support planning and monitoring.

- Learning from the Ebola crisis, UNICEF launched the Health Emergencies Preparedness Initiative to strengthen organizational capacity to respond predictably to public health emergencies, in close collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization.
- For the first time, in partnership with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and respective National Societies in 13 countries, UNICEF developed joint programmes aimed at strengthening community resilience, with more planned for 2017. Innovative tools such as U-Report are being used to engage communities and scale-up programmes.
- In an effort to strengthen capacity, UNICEF and the World Food Programme developed their first-ever joint Level 3 emergency response simulation for 22 personnel from each agency. The exercise improved agencies' understandings of mechanisms, policy and guidance to better prepare for deployment into a system-wide response.
- The Emergency Programme Fund – a revolving fund that UNICEF disburses to field offices within 48 hours of a sudden humanitarian crisis, before donor resources are available and to underfunded emergencies – distributed US\$26 million to 14 country offices and three regional offices in 2016.

## Looking ahead

Going forward, UNICEF's work will reflect the priorities established at the World Humanitarian Summit and the principles of the Grand Bargain. Focus areas include the implementation of the Education Cannot Wait Fund; accountability to affected populations; expanded partnerships; and increased collaboration with local responders. UNICEF will continue to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of its operations. Commitments that require collaboration with donors, such as transparency, earmarking, simplified and harmonized reporting and multi-year funding and planning, will be emphasized. UNICEF will expand its use of cash-based transfers for both preparedness and response. Cluster and sectoral coordination capacities will be leveraged to improve harmonized humanitarian needs assessment. Finally, UNICEF will increase the ease and efficiency of information management for humanitarian performance monitoring through the roll-out of an online platform.

<sup>1</sup> This does not include additional requirements laid out in the regional chapters of *Humanitarian Action for Children 2017*.

<sup>2</sup> This is an estimate based on preliminary figures as of November 2016.





**Ecuador 2016**

On 29 April 2016, children participate in the Retorno a la Alegría (Returning to Joy) programme focused on building the resilience of earthquake-affected children.

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**Myanmar 2015**

Hygiene kits and relief supplies are being loaded from the UNICEF warehouse in Yangon, Myanmar, for distribution to offices in Monywa and Shwebo of Sagaing Region to help children and their families affected by Cyclone Komen.

© UNICEF/UNI192515/CHIT KO KO



**Fiji 2016**

On 23 February 2016, UNICEF WASH supplies are offloaded on to Koro Island.

© UNICEF/UNI011310/HING



**Iraq 2016**

On 7 September 2016, a mother picks up a UNICEF hygiene kit during a distribution of emergency supplies for newly displaced families in Hajjaj Silo Transit Camp in Salah al-Din Governorate, Iraq.

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# GLOBAL SUPPORT

for UNICEF's humanitarian action in 2017





**US\$3.3  
BILLION**

- Myanmar
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Refugee and migrant crisis in Europe
- Somalia
- South Sudan
- Southern Africa El Niño/La Niña
- State of Palestine
- Sudan
- Syrian Arab Republic
- Syrian refugees and other affected populations in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- Yemen
- Zika

**US\$8.2  
MILLION**

- Middle East and North Africa
- South Asia
- West and Central Africa

**US\$11.5  
MILLION**

**Supply and logistics**

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



**Information and communications technology**

**Resource mobilization**

**Finance and administration**



**Mobilize global support**

- Systems and procedures
- Technical support



**US\$29.4  
MILLION**

**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
- Cash-based transfers



**Results-based management**

- Needs assessment
- Performance monitoring
- Evaluation



Total cost covered by other resources:  
**US\$10.8 million**

Funding gap:  
**US\$14.5 million**

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

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### Cover photo: Nigeria 2016

On 17 November 2016, UNICEF Nutrition Officer Aishat Abdullahi assesses Umara Bukar, 7 months, for malnutrition at a UNICEF-supported health clinic at Muna Garage camp for internally displaced persons in Maiduguri, Borno State, north-east Nigeria, as Umara's mother (in back) looks on. Umara weighed just 4.2 kilograms when he first arrived at the health clinic, which is run in partnership with the Government of Nigeria. Twenty days later he weighs 5.1 kilograms.

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Office of Emergency Programmes  
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New York, NY 10017, USA

[www.unicef.org/appeals](http://www.unicef.org/appeals)

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### South Sudan 2016

On 15 August 2016, in the Bentiu Protection of Civilians (POC) site, in Unity State, Maet, 6, carries an old broken saucepan with a hole in it to school so he has something to sit on during class. He says "It's really uncomfortable, I wish I had a proper seat please." Maet came to the POC in Unity State, South Sudan, with his family because of the heavy fighting in his village. "I saw many bad things, but I am very happy at school now."