



Four-year-old Naya shows her drawing to a UNICEF staff member during an art activity in a shelter in Stamo village, located in Lattakia governorate in Syria. Naya, who fled her home due to the earthquake, uses drawing as a way to express her emotions. This activity, along with others, are provided by a UNICEF-supported partner at the shelter.

Earthquake Response in Syria

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 3

unicef 
for every child

Situation in Numbers

 **3,700,000**
children affected

 **8,800,000**
affected population

 **2,600,000**
children to be reached

 **5,400,000**
people to be reached

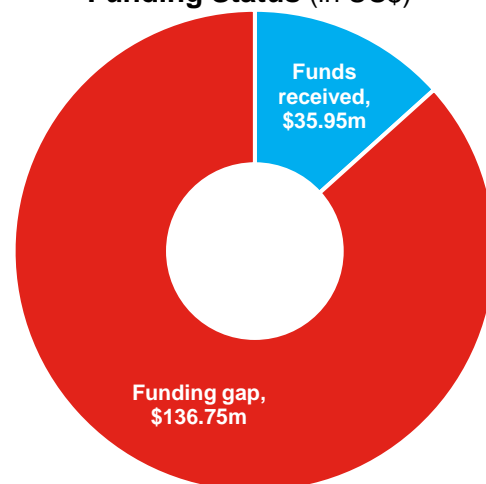
Reporting Period: 21 February to 27 February 2023

Highlights

- UNICEF and partners reached more than 101,162 children with essential child protection services and supplies, including psychological first aid and recreational activities. In northwest (NW) Syria, 14 UNICEF-supported Child Friendly Spaces and Women and Girls Safe Spaces as well as 19 Child Protection and GBV mobile teams have resumed operations and are rapidly scaling up their reach and interventions.
- UNICEF and partners reached 1,070 children and adults with sessions on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), including on available PSEA reporting mechanisms.
- UNICEF completed the restoration of gender sensitive WASH facilities in two schools used as internally displaced persons (IDP) shelters in Lattakia and is currently installing five prefab water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) units providing 18 single-sex toilets and 12 showers in the sports stadium in Lattakia city, one of the largest shelters.
- Latest assessment data shows that up to 1,800 schools are damaged (including over 220 schools in NW Syria) and at least 171 schools being used as shelters (including 20 in NW Syria). As a result, children who go to schools that are damaged or used as shelters will not be able to resume their education in a safe learning environment until these schools are safe and ready.
- As of 27 February, 58,500 people (11,552 families) in affected areas of Aleppo and Hama have received emergency cash assistance.

UNICEF Appeal US\$ 172.7 million

Funding Status (in US\$)



Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

According to local and government sources, about 6,000 people have reportedly been killed and more than 12,000 injured across Syria to date as a result of the multiple earthquakes that hit parts of Syria and Türkiye on 6 February.¹ On 20 February, a 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck near the city of Antakya, Türkiye (near the Syrian border), adding additional trauma for those who survived the previous earthquakes from 6 February.

More than 8.8 million people, including 3.7 million children, have been affected and many are now in urgent need of water, shelter, food, and emergency medical and psychosocial assistance.²

The situation in the affected areas remains dire with hundreds of thousands still displaced, either in collective shelters/reception centres or in host communities. According to a REACH assessment in NW Syria, an estimated 55,000 households are newly displaced.³ At least 50,000 families have been displaced in Aleppo, Homs, Hama and Latakia, with Aleppo being the worst affected.⁴ Family separations and lack of shelter are putting children at greater risk of exploitation and abuse.

Since 14 February, a total of seven interagency missions in which UNICEF participated have taken place through the Bab Al-Salam and Bab Al-Hawa border crossings into NW Syria. The missions visited areas heavily impacted by the earthquakes include Salqin, Harim and Jindires.

WASH:

The REACH assessment⁵ in NW Syria found that at least 25 per cent of the WASH infrastructure are damaged. Preliminary information from the WASH Cluster, shows that the already fragile water and sanitation infrastructure were extensively affected, with reports of damage and collapse of water reservoirs, water towers, water stations, network of sanitation facilities. Initial assessments carried out by partners in earthquake affected areas in Aleppo, Idlib, Damascus, Deir- ez-Zor, Hama, Homs, Tartous and parts of southern Idlib indicate restoration of WASH sector status to pre-earthquake levels will require an estimated US\$ 75 to 80 million.

Disruptions in WASH service provision due to the earthquake increases public health risks. The earthquake had a major impact on the cholera response in terms of access and reduced partner capacity. Between 25 August 2022 and 15 February 2023, 92,649 suspected cases of cholera were reported from all 14 governorates, including 27,863 cases in Idlib (30 per cent) and 22,123 cases in Aleppo (24 per cent),⁶ All the 45 subdistricts who reported cases in the last two weeks have been affected by the earthquake. There are reports of an increasing number of acute watery diarrhoea cases within shelters in the affected governorates, while the Health Cluster expects the attack rate of cholera to double in NW Syria over the coming weeks. As of 25 February, over 560 cholera new cases and 21 associated deaths were registered in NW Syria.⁷

Health:

Assessments are continuing to determine the extent of damage on facilities, with at least 116 health facilities reportedly damaged (including at least seven hospitals) in Aleppo, Hama, Latakia and Tartous.⁸ In NW Syria, at least 55 health facilities have been damaged with 15 health facilities having been suspended.⁹ At least 121 health facilities in the most affected areas (Harim, Afrin, Jebel Saman, A'zaz, Jisr-Ash-Shugur, and Ariha) are in need of fuel and 112 health facilities are in need of medicine.

Alarming findings from a recent health assessment in collective shelters in Aleppo shows that 27 per cent people do not have access to healthcare services. One hundred per cent reported cold and flu symptoms. Fifty-two per cent reported diarrhoea (acute/bloody/watery), 18 per cent reported scabies and 46 per cent reported lice. Women expressed concerns about toilet hygiene as a health and well-being risk. Painkillers were also requested, including for menstrual pain relief. Ten per cent of the displaced population need physical rehabilitation services. Community-based health and first aid is available to 50 per cent of shelter population. Mobile teams' services in Aleppo have the capacity to cover only 30 per cent of shelter residents.¹⁰

Nutrition:

The earthquake has impacted 3.7 million children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and will exacerbate the nutrition situation of vulnerable children and women that was already alarming. Acute malnutrition level among children and women is steadily rising, whilst stunting, micro-nutrient deficiencies and uptake of infant and young child feeding, and care practices remain concerning.¹¹

Between 6 and 26 February, nutrition Cluster partners conducted screening for malnutrition in earthquake affected areas for 25,443 pregnant and lactating women, of which 3,993 of them were found to be malnourished, referring 637 women to appropriate nutrition services. Similarly, more than 53,617 children under five years were screened, of which 1,379 of them were found to be moderate acute malnourished and 548 children were found to be severely acute malnourished.

¹ OCHA Syrian Arab Republic: Earthquakes, Whole of Syria situation updates, 1 March 2023

² OCHA Syria Earthquake Flash Appeal (14 February)

³ OCHA NW Syria Report 28 February 2023

⁴ OCHA Syrian Arab Republic Situation Report #1 25 February

⁵ REACH_NWS-NGO-Forum_Earthquake_RNA_Situation-Overview_15-February-2023.pdf

⁶ [WOS Cholera Situation Report \(5 February\)](#)

⁷ OCHA NW Syria Report 28 February 2023

⁸ WHO Syria Earthquake Situation Report (15 February)

⁹ NW Syria Health Cluster 26 February

¹⁰ OCHA Syrian Arab Republic Situation Report #1 25 February

¹¹ OCHA Syria Earthquake Flash Appeal (14 February)

Some 651 malnourished children were referred to treatment services. In addition, 7,242 people were provided High Energy Biscuits and 2,066 people were provided ready to eat meals in eight affected governorates. 7.5 M are required to replenish the depleting nutrition SAM treatment supplies.

Education:

The latest data based on ongoing assessments suggests that up to 1,800 schools are damaged (including over 220 in NW Syria) ranging in severity from slightly damaged to destroyed¹² and at least 171 schools are being used as shelters (including 20 in NW Syria).¹³ As a result, children who go to schools that are damaged or used as shelters will not be able to resume their education in safe learning environment until these schools are safe and ready. While 1,266 lightly damaged schools in Aleppo, Lattakia, Tartous, Hama and Homs have reopened, attendance rates remain very low (particularly in Lattakia where attendance dropped to below 10 per cent after the second aftershock on 20 February).¹⁴ Fear for children's safety and continued tremors prompt caregivers to not send children back to school, even if they attended schools that are being re-opened, resulting in additional learning time lost.

In NW Syria, school re-opening has been gradual with Idleb re-opening schools on 25 February. However, it is unlikely that all schools will re-open until March. A REACH rapid assessment conducted with communities in NW Syria (data collected between 9-11 February) reported repair, rehabilitation and debris removal for education facilities as one of the most reported areas for support.¹⁵

Child Protection:

A rapid protection assessment noted elevated levels of distress among the affected population. Many exhibit signs of post-traumatic stress disorder, including anxiety, panic attacks, sleep disorders, depression, and symptoms of post-earthquake dizziness syndrome. Children suffer from distress, violence, symptoms of urinary incontinence and panic attacks.

The number of unaccompanied and separated children in shelters and communities continue to rise, requiring a more robust mechanism for tracing and reunification of these children. Some 208 unaccompanied and separated children were registered and were supported with family tracing and reunification and alternative care arrangements with the extended family, of which 146 children identified in NW Syria

Overcrowding is the most common issue in the collective shelters where many families are living in the same space without privacy and with concerns for their safety, including GBV risks. Some children were also observed to be taking part in removing rubble to earn an income – exposing them to serious danger, including possible presence of unexploded ordnance.¹⁶

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

UNICEF's earthquake Immediate Response Plan aims to reach 5.4 million people, including 2.6 million children, in the first three-month period of the response from February to May 2023. UNICEF addresses the immediate life-saving and urgent humanitarian needs of girls, boys, adolescents, and families through an integrated and gender-responsive approach prioritizing highly affected areas and areas of large displacement. UNICEF will leverage the established system for Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) and the prevention of gender-based violence and sexual exploitation. In line with the Core Commitments for Children in humanitarian action, priority will be given to restoring essential health and WASH, psychosocial support, family separations, protection case management, provision of cash and winter items where possible.

WASH

UNICEF reached over **487,100 people with life-saving WASH services and supplies** since the beginning of the earthquake response, through water trucking, solid waste management, desludging of septic tanks as well as the provision of family hygiene kits, baby diapers, women sanitary napkins, and jerry cans. This includes NW Syria where UNICEF reached 353,234 affected people residing in 108 reception centers and 15 communities, in Ariha, Harim, Idleb and Jisr Ashugur in the Idleb Governorate as well as Afrin, A'zaz, Jarablus and Jebel Samaan in the Aleppo Governorate, plus 133,870 displaced people in 157 collective shelters in Aleppo and Hama cities and other affected areas in northern rural Aleppo.

UNICEF continued to monitor the **quality of drinking water** in Aleppo, Idleb, Hama, and Lattakia together with local water authorities. So far, chlorine levels have been within acceptable limits. This will continue until regular service can be resumed following repairs to the water networks. UNICEF also continues providing sodium hypochlorite to areas that cover 70-75 per cent of the population in Syria.

UNICEF completed the **restoration of water facilities** in two schools used as IDP shelters in Lattakia and began work on installing five prefab WASH units, providing 18 single-sex toilets and 12 showers in the sports stadium in Lattakia city – one of the largest shelters, hosting around 2,000 IDPs.

¹² OCHA Flash update #12: [Syrian Arab Republic - Humanitarian Country Team \(HCT\) Coordinated Response Flash Update #12 - Earthquake \(As of 17 February 2023\) - Syrian Arab Republic | ReliefWeb](#). Each school accommodates circa 500 children.

¹³ OCHA, Earthquakes: North-west Syria: Flash Update No. 13 (as of 23 February 2023) [Earthquakes: North-west Syria: Flash Update No. 13 \(as of 23 February 2023\) \[EN/AR\] - Syrian Arab Republic | ReliefWeb](#)

¹⁴ Ministry of Education data

¹⁵ REACH_NWS-NGO-Forum_Earthquake_RNA_Situation-Overview_15-February-2023.pdf

¹⁶ OCHA Syrian Arab Republic Situation Report #1 25 February

UNICEF is working with the Ministry of Water Resources to undertake a comprehensive assessment to assess operational efficiencies of earthquake affected water systems using a developed numerical model. This information will be used to set priorities and monitor the impact of repair works on facilities.

Health

UNICEF, through its key health partners, has so far reached over 294,000 people (including in shelters) with **lifesaving supplies and medical consultations** through 28 UNICEF-supported health centres and 48 mobile health teams. This includes a total of 48,502 people reached in NW Syria as well as 245,827 people in Aleppo (including Manbij and Ain Al-Arab), Hama, Lattakia, Idleb, and Tartous.

Vaccination coverage among children, which was already alarming pre-earthquake, remains a key concern. A total of 3,433 children were vaccinated with **routine immunization** while 504 women were vaccinated with tetanus and diphtheria vaccine in Aleppo, Homs, Hama, Idleb and Lattakia. In addition, UNICEF is working with local partners and youth volunteers and engage communities to ensure coverage of all children with vaccination, particularly in light of Syria's large number of over 150,000 'zero dose children'.¹⁷

Social and behaviour change (SBC) health educators have provided **awareness raising sessions**, including on cholera, for IDPs in collective shelters for 5,319 parents and caregivers through community dialogues.

Nutrition

UNICEF, through its key nutrition partners, supported over 130,585 under-five children with **nutrition preventative and curative services** (including screening for acute malnutrition) in earthquake affected areas in Syria, including 100,149 children in NW Syria¹⁸ as well as 30,436 children in Aleppo, Hama, Idleb, Lattakia, and Tartous.

Out of the 547 pregnant and lactating women and 49,209 children who were **screened for acute malnutrition** in NW Syria, 844 children were admitted for treatment of severe acute malnutrition. Out of the 30,436 children who were screened for acute malnutrition in Aleppo, Hama, Idleb, Lattakia, and Tartous, 210 moderately malnourished children and 64 severely malnourished children were detected and admitted for treatment. Furthermore, a total of 6,389 pregnant and lactating women were screened for acute malnutrition, of which 400 were admitted for treatment.

UNICEF and partners reached 39,975 children and 2,180 pregnant and lactating women with **micro-nutrient** tablets and power, including 15,556 children and 2,180 pregnant and lactating women in NW Syria as well as 24,419 under-five children and 4,293 pregnant and lactating women in Aleppo, Hama, Idleb, Lattakia, and Tartous. In addition, UNICEF provided 3,874 high-energy biscuits in NW Syria while 2,153 children were also reached with high-energy biscuits in Aleppo, Hama, Idleb, Lattakia, and Tartous.

UNICEF-supported partners provided messages on appropriate **infant and young child feeding counselling** in the current emergency context, and 42,372 caregivers, including pregnant and lactating women, were reached with awareness on appropriate infant and young child feeding practices in emergencies. Including 2,880 caregivers in NW Syria and 39,492 caregivers in Aleppo, Hama, Idleb, Lattakia, and Tartous. Due to the emergency, there is an increase in the demand for breast milk substitutes by affected mothers and caregivers. UNICEF has initiated the process for procurement of ready to use infant formulae that will be managed through the nutrition sector.

Education

UNICEF has provided **education supplies** and recreational kits for distribution to schools and shelters, covering the immediate needs of approximately 65,000 children in Aleppo, Hama and Lattakia. In NW Syria, as part of the transshipment of supplies on the 19 February, UNICEF included education materials which have now been prepositioned in anticipation of schools reopening. The first education supplies transshipped included: five high performance tents (which will be used as temporary learning centres to accommodate 40 children per tent (accommodating 200 children in total); 50 school-in-a-box kits, which will serve 2,000 children; and 50 early childhood development kits, reaching 2,500 children. Over 10,000 stationery kits have been distributed to schools and are ready to reach 10,000 individual learners when schools reopen.

UNICEF provided education materials to 10,164 children in shelters in Aleppo and Lattakia and engage them in **recreational activities**. As part of this, UNICEF installed 11 temporary learning spaces in four collective shelters in Aleppo and started providing learning and recreational activities to over 250 children.

During the reporting period, UNICEF has significantly scaled up the coordination and implementation of **rapid assessments** of schools in Aleppo, Hama, Homs, Tartous and Lattakia. To date, a total of 1,616 schools have been assessed in these governorates. Minor repairs and light rehabilitation have started in 42 schools in Aleppo, Hama and Homs while preparations are ongoing to rehabilitate more than 200 schools.

Preparations for school rehabilitation is closely coordinated with WASH sector to ensure that children can return to schools and resume their education in a safe environment with adequate gender and disability sensitive WASH facilities.

Child Protection

UNICEF, through its child protection partners, has reached 101,162 children, including children with disabilities, and caregivers with different kinds of **psychological support**, including psychological first aid, recreational activities, mental health psychosocial support and parenting sessions. This includes 23,162 children and caregivers in NW Syria as well

¹⁷ As per 2022 Ministry of Health data, the number of unimmunized children in Syria is 152,515

¹⁸ Jenderes, Harem, Salqin, Afrin, Atareb, Armanaz, AlDana, Azaz, Darkoush, Jisr AlShaghour, Jarabulus and Marret Masrien in Idleb and Aleppo

as 77,000 displaced children and their families in 155 collective shelters who were reached through 21 mobile teams in Aleppo, Lattakia and Hama.

UNICEF continues to provide child protection supplies for earthquake affected children – 1,000 mats and 94 high performance tents were transshipped during the reporting period. Adolescent kits and further recreational kits aimed at serving over 130,000 children are on the way.

UNICEF is providing immediate **case management** support to trace and reunify those children with their families or providing alternative care with extended families. UNICEF also supported 140 children in Aleppo, Hama and Lattakia who were severely affected by the earthquake – of whom 62 are **unaccompanied and separated children**. These children were supported with family tracing interventions and reunification as well as alternative care arrangements with their extended family through case management, including the referral of 78 children to specialized services. A family tracing and reunification mechanism has been established in NW Syria which has so far registered 146 unaccompanied and separated children in NW Syria, all of which are currently provided with case management.

In NW Syria, UNICEF partners are also delivering emergency case funds as an immediate response to mitigate risk and vulnerability, reaching 183 children so far.

In Aleppo and Lattakia, in order to mitigate cases of sexual exploitation and abuse, especially in shelters, UNICEF child protection partners have started sessions on **protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA)** and were able to reach 1,070 children and adults. These numbers are expected to increase rapidly in the coming days to ensure that children and adults are aware of reporting mechanisms. At the same time, UNICEF is also increasing the capacity of implementing partners on PSEA and is planning several trainings to be conducted in the upcoming period.

UNICEF reached more than 16,000 of children and caregivers in Aleppo and Lattakia with key messages on how to deal with earthquakes and the aftermath. These messages focus on how to deal with fear, anger, death and also provide the children and caregivers with the needed information on how and where to access needed services, and how to prepare for possible new emergencies.

Cash Relief Response

As of 27 February, 58,500 people (11,552 families) in affected areas of Aleppo and Hama have received emergency cash assistance.

Over the next 16 weeks, UNICEF will continue to provide emergency cash assistance with the aim to reach 200,000 vulnerable people (40,000 families) in earthquake-affected areas of Aleppo, Hama and Lattakia with two rounds of cash assistance. This unconditional cash assistance will be provided to the most vulnerable families affected by the earthquake, including families caring for children with disabilities, orphans and children with chronic illness and female-headed families. In addition to cash, affected families with highly vulnerable children have started to benefit from case management and referral to social services.

UNICEF and partners in NW Syria are anticipating an expansion of the already existing cash programme by combining the current nutrition cash programme with a winterization top-up to reach 133,000 people. Cash assistance will be provided to families with children who have been affected by the earthquake, including displaced families residing in temporary shelters to meet their basic needs.

Adolescents Development and Participation (ADAP)

The engagement of young people helps expand the scope and reach of the humanitarian response while developing wellbeing, belonging and leadership skills of young people themselves. So far, UNICEF and its local partners have mobilized more than 1,000 youth volunteers to support the response actions across sectors in Aleppo, Hama and Lattakia. This includes relief and shelter management, packaging, and distribution of food or non-food items (NFI) in collective shelters, as well as disseminating key messages. More than 100 youth volunteers were also trained and engaged in conducting rapid child protection assessments in 175 shelters in Aleppo during the reporting period.

In coordination with child protection interventions, 653 young volunteers in Aleppo participated in conducting recreational activities in collective shelters in addition to disseminating SBC awareness messages through interactive theatre and storytelling. SBC messages about earthquake mitigation measures were disseminated in Lattakia through Youth Platforms and social media pages, reaching around 30,000 followers of those pages.

Social and Behavioural Change / Risk Communication and Community Engagement

In NW Syria, as part of its risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) response, UNICEF continues to engage and mobilize partners to disseminate life-saving information for the earthquake affected population, in particular in the areas of WASH, health and nutrition, education and child protection.

Since the earthquake, 11 RCCE partners in NW Syria have been mobilized to disseminate messages on cholera messages and other infectious diseases, as well as mental health support. Through field visits, 96,617 people were reached through messaging on prevention and access to services within 43 temporary shelters in several earthquake affected districts focusing on face-to-face engagement.

UNICEF SBC partners in Hama, Lattakia and Aleppo, were able to engage 10,934 children and caregivers in 192 collective shelters with critical information sessions, including on highlighting protective measures against cholera.

At the national level, SBC partners, through the national coordination forum for community engagement and social and behaviour change, continued working on a joint SBC strategy to ensure effective intersectoral coordination as well as preparedness plans for any required interventions due to possible multiple risks.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF is scaling up its presence across the earthquake governorates of Aleppo, Hama, Homs, Idlib, Latakia and Tartous. 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.¹⁹

Currently, 61 staff with managerial, technical and senior cluster coordination and information management capacity are being surged both into Damascus/ field office locations and into Gaziantep. In addition, around 40 staff are providing support to earthquake affected areas through support missions. As part of this scale-up, UNICEF has also significantly increased capacity for cluster coordination at national and sub-national levels across the whole of Syria, including additional international surge capacity for national level education, nutrition and child protection as well as additional national and international surge capacity for sub-national cluster coordination in UNICEF field offices in Aleppo, Latakia, Homs and dedicated high-level cluster coordination for NW Syria.

UNICEF will ensure affected persons are reached through messaging on prevention and access to services, and existing complaints and feedback mechanisms (including sexual exploitation and abuse) will be scaled up with special attention to gender elements across all programmes and interventions.

As part of the **Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)**, UNICEF is increasing the operating hours of its service line to accommodate the increased number of calls during the weekend. In addition, an agreement has been reached among sister UN Agencies on how to refer and manage cases to address the diverse needs of the affected population, in the areas, including but not limited to, shelter, NFI, health, gender-based violence, legal documentation, and reunification with families. At the same time, the agencies have agreed to share their respective services in the affected areas so the callers can be immediately referred to and provide with necessary support.

In addition to the community engagement and social and behaviour change support mainstreamed across all programmes, UNICEF will lead the coordination across UN and non-UN organizations for a relevant response in this area. In addition, UNICEF will lead strategic activities catered to building resilience of children and their families affected by the earthquake and strengthening partners' emergency preparedness following the humanitarian programme cycle.

Funding Overview and Partnerships

Prior to the earthquake, the US\$328.5 million 2023 Syria Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC),²⁰ which includes response activities for NW Syria, was already underfunded. The severity of humanitarian needs in Syria was further exacerbated by the earthquake, especially since people across the country were already suffering from a deteriorating socio-economic condition, a recent cholera outbreak, shortages of electricity, water and fuel and 12 years of protracted crisis.

To respond to the life-saving needs of earthquake-affected children, UNICEF Syria developed an [Immediate Response Plan \(US\\$172.7 million\)](#) which is part of the [Inter-Agency Flash Appeal](#) and will inform the upcoming revision of the 2023 Syria HAC.

UNICEF's response plan for the earthquake remains significantly underfunded. To date, the plan is only 21 per cent funded, with US\$35.95 million received. Out of the total funds received, US\$19.4 million are from UNICEF's core resources (Emergency Programme Fund and Global Humanitarian Thematic Fund), which were rapidly made available to scale up the initial response.

To date, contributions were received from Australia, the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and UNICEF National Committees, in addition to UNICEF core resources.

GBP 3 million (about US\$3.6 million) from the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and US\$1.3 million from Japan and US\$2.6 million from the Global Partnership for Education Accelerated Funding Grant are also expected to be received shortly and will be reflected in the next report.

Other public sector partners also pledged additional support, including USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, Slovakia, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency and the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations.

UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to all public and private partners for the critical support to the earthquake response.

¹⁹ All cluster coordinators costs are included into sectoral programme budgets

²⁰ The 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Syria is undergoing finalization prior to the earthquake. The HAC requirement is based on 2022 and will be revised once the HRP project sheets for 2023 are finalized. Pre-earthquake, it is expected that UNICEF will require at least US\$360 million in 2023 to respond to the increased needs across Syria once the HAC is revised. The total number of people in need for 2023 has increased to 15.3 million people (including 7 million children) compared to 14.6 million people in need (including 6.5 million children) in 2022.

Flexible and unearmarked contributions are requested to enable UNICEF to continue to respond based on emerging needs of children regardless of their location in Syria.

Section	Requirements (USD)	Funds received	Funding gap	
		USD	USD	%
WASH	\$47,800,008	\$9,869,091	\$37,930,917	79%
Health	\$29,265,371	\$6,112,979	\$23,152,392	79%
Nutrition	\$18,361,542	\$3,777,227	\$14,584,315	79%
Education	\$31,300,000	\$7,691,224	\$23,608,776	75%
Child Protection GBViE	\$19,950,000	\$5,114,091	\$14,835,909	74%
Cash transfers and social protection	\$23,623,079	\$1,451,092	\$22,171,987	94%
Cross-sectoral (PSEA, AAP, Evaluation, RO technical support)	\$2,400,000	\$100,140	\$2,299,860	96%
Being allocated		\$1,835,907		
Total	\$172,700,000	\$35,951,752	\$136,748,248	79%

External Media

Interviews with regional and international media outlets continued, with highlights including UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell speaking to [CNBC](#), Regional Director Adele Khodr's interview with [CGTN](#), and interviews with UBBC World, the New York Times, Arab News and more. Messaging continued to highlight the dire situation of the children, their immense needs and current challenges, and UNICEF's response on the ground. Production and dissemination of a wide array of social media [assets](#), videos and photos continued to mobilize private and international support to respond to the children's immense needs.

Next SitRep: 9 March 2023

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