



UNICEF staff check oral polio vaccine type 2 (nOPV2) inside UNICEF warehouse in Deir Al Balah, in the Gaza Strip.

unicef 
for every child

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 30

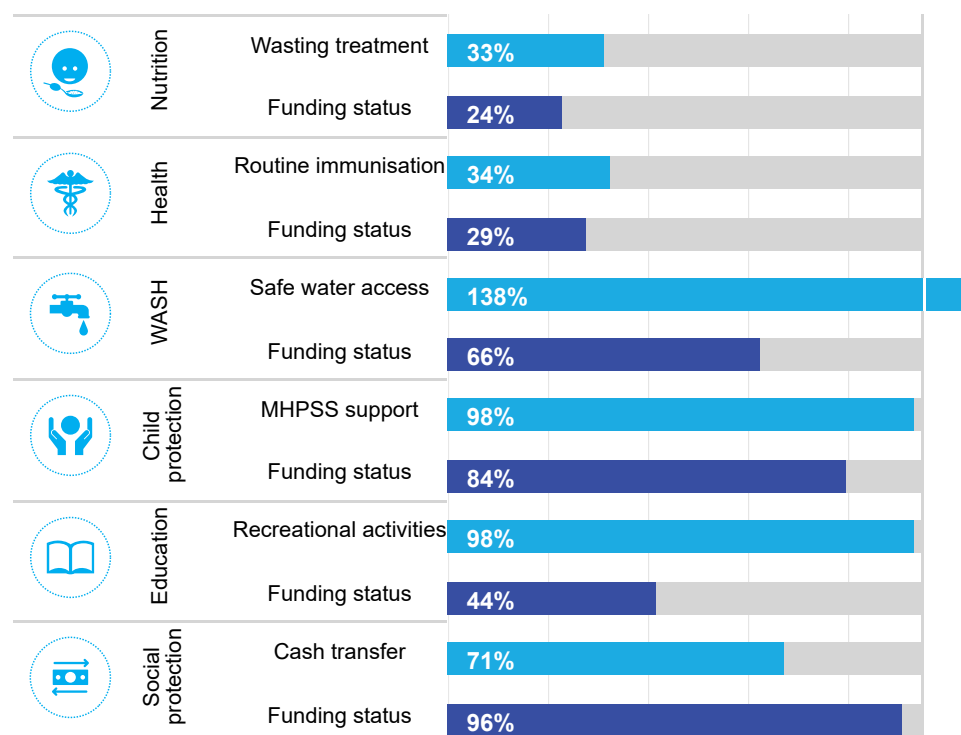
Reporting Period
1 to 31 August 2024

State of Palestine

HIGHLIGHTS

- A full academic year was lost for over 645,000 school children in the Gaza Strip since 7 October 2023.
- Over 86 per cent of the Gaza Strip has been subject to displacement orders, including over 40 orders issued since 1 January 2024, with many families having to move multiple times.
- UNICEF prepared the first round of the polio vaccination campaign with the aim to immunize all 640,000 children under 10 years across the Gaza Strip.
- In the northern part of the West Bank, during the reporting period, Israeli forces have been undertaken major operations, killing ten children and putting children at serious risk of other grave violations. The incursions also resulted in extensive infrastructure demolition.
- UNICEF supported 53,780 children (28,230 girls and 25,550 boys) from hot spot areas in the West Bank through age-specific summer recreational activities to mitigate learning loss, which were implemented in 603 schools for 13 days.

UNICEF RESPONSE AND FUNDING STATUS*

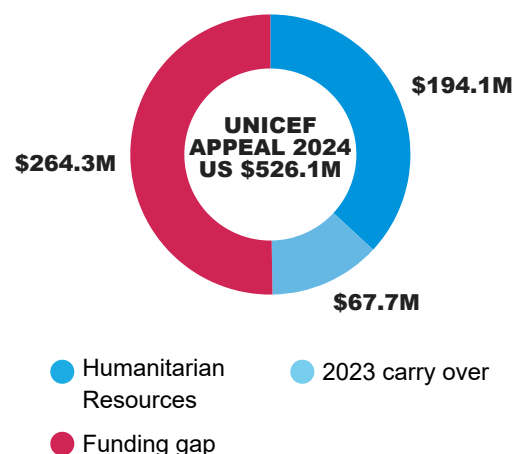


* UNICEF response % is only for the indicator, the funding status is for the entire sector.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS



FUNDING STATUS (IN US\$)**



** Funding available includes: funds received in the current year; carry-over from the previous year; and repurposed funds with agreement from donors

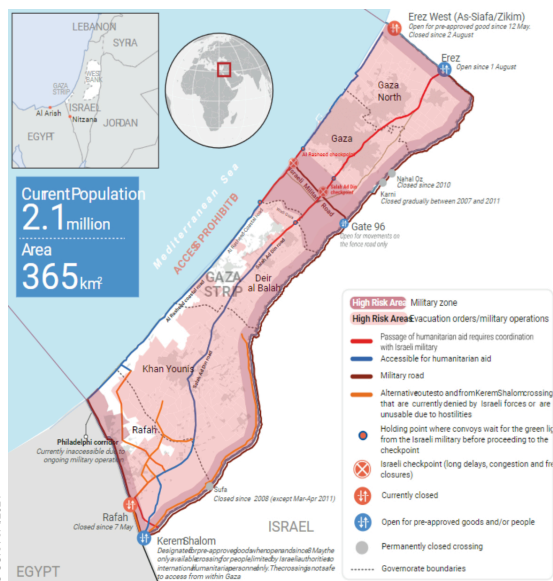
FUNDING OVERVIEW AND PARTNERSHIPS

An Inter-Agency Flash Appeal⁵ was issued on 17 April, covering the period until December 2024. An estimated US\$2.8 billion is required to address critical needs of 3.1 million people, including 2.3 million in the Gaza Strip and 0.8 million in the West Bank⁶. The UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children appeal⁷, revised and aligned with the Inter-Agency Flash Appeal, is seeking \$526.1 million to cover urgent and critical needs of children and their families across the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Against this updated appeal, UNICEF is facing a funding gap of US\$261.9 million (50 per cent).

Flexible, quality funding enables UNICEF to respond promptly and more effectively, prioritizing funding where it is most needed and enabling us to adapt to the changing reality on the ground. Without adequate funding, malnutrition cannot be prevented, children cannot be reunified with their families, and water and health services cannot be provided.

UNICEF would like to sincerely thank partners for their valuable and timely contributions, including governments of Austria, Australia, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Japan, Mauritius, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Poland, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and the United States, as well as the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), OCHA Country-based Pooled Fund, EU Humanitarian Aid and the World Bank. UNICEF thanks the UNICEF National Committees of Austria, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom and the United States. UNICEF would also like to thank the UNICEF private sector fundraising in Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Chile, Croatia, Egypt, Greece, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Philippines, Romania, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Uzbekistan. UNICEF benefited from the Global Humanitarian Thematic Funding, which enables UNICEF to respond flexibly to the acute needs of the most vulnerable children and their families⁸.

SITUATION OVERVIEW AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS⁹



Areas marked in red indicate displacement orders, military operations, or military zones.

Children in the State of Palestine continue to pay the highest price since 7 October 2023. A full academic year has been lost for over 645,000 school children in Gaza since the escalation of hostilities. The Ministry of Education (MoE) reports that as of 27 August 2024, 9,839 school children and 411 teachers have been killed, and 15,394 children and 2,411 teachers have been injured. Over the past month, displacement orders have closed 21 temporary learning spaces, affecting 2,975 students. Attacks on educational institutions have caused widespread fear, with 15 incidents targeting 23 schools in August alone. The conflict has resulted in the deaths of 9,839 students and 411 educational staff, and injuries to over 15,394 students and 2,411 teachers. Restrictions on educational supplies and lack of mental health support further hinder education. In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, the current crisis has worsened existing challenges and created new barriers. The ongoing military operations, especially in North of West Bank, might delay the start of the academic year in the affected areas, scheduled on 9 September. Initial reports show that the education infrastructure is impacted by the operations in Tulkarem and Jenin camps.

The successive displacement orders issued to civilians across Gaza since October are further exposing civilians to risks, and have deprived children and adults of their basic rights. In August, Israeli forces issued 16 displacement orders to civilians, five of which were inside the unilaterally designated 'humanitarian zone'. Since October 2023, over 86 per cent of the Gaza Strip has been subject to Israeli forces' displacement orders, including over 40 orders issued since 1 January 2024¹⁰. The situation has resulted in the displacement of hundreds of thousands of families who were forced to relocate. The designated 'humanitarian zone' is an area of approximately 47 square kilometres (or 13 per cent of Gaza's total land area as of 30 August), in Al Mawasi at the southern coast of the Gaza Strip, for the population to move to. This designated area has become overcrowded and lacks essential infrastructure and services.

As of 20 August, 505 attacks on health were recorded in the Gaza Strip¹¹, with 110 health facilities and 115 ambulances affected. More than 540,000 girls and women are of reproductive age and, therefore, need access to appropriate items to support their hygiene, health, dignity, and well-being¹². Ongoing fuel shortages and long delays in logistics impede programme delivery on the ground. The absence of banking services and cash shortages poses significant additional challenges. Frequent interruptions to power supply due to

fuel shortage and to telecommunications disrupt essential services.

As of 31 August, at least 40,738 Palestinians were reported killed in the Gaza Strip since the start of hostilities. Up to 60 per cent (out of 32,280 identified fatalities) are reported to be women, children, and elderly¹³. At least 94,154 Palestinians are reported injured. Up to 50 per cent (out of 54,000 identified injuries) reported to be women or children¹⁴. As of 31 August, 294 aid workers have been reported killed¹⁵. Israeli authorities report that approximately 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals were killed in the attacks of 7 October 2023 including 37 children, and more than 7,500 people reported injured. Some 255 people including 36 children were abducted from Israel into the Gaza Strip, of whom 154 were released or returned including 34 children, with very limited information available on the children remaining in captivity.

Following an analysis of six sewage samples in June 2024, the circulating variant poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) was detected in central Gaza, after 25 years of being polio-free. In response, a plan was developed by the Palestinian Ministry of Health and other stakeholders, including UNICEF; to vaccinate over 640,000 children below the age of 10 across the Gaza Strip in each of the two rounds.

Across the West Bank in August, ten children were killed. Among them, six were killed in the major operation in Jenin, Tulkarem, and Tubas governorates that started on 27 August with a large deployment of forces, including aerial strikes and explosives, exchange of fire with armed Palestinians, while extensive demolitions affecting infrastructure, particularly water. Movement and access restrictions are also enforced, particularly around health facilities. The intensity of operations increases children's risk of grave violations and other harm to their physical and mental well-being. Since 7 October until 31 August, at least 652 Palestinians had been killed in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem¹⁶. In the same period, 156 Palestinian children and two Israeli children were killed in conflict-related violence. More than 935 children are reported injured in the same period, more than half with live ammunition. Some 5,000 Palestinians, including more than 2,200 children, have been displaced, mainly in Area C and East Jerusalem, due to settler violence and intimidation, home demolitions, and destruction of residences during militarized law enforcement operations. As of 20 August, 538 attacks on health care affecting at least 54 health facilities and 20 mobile clinics, and 374 ambulances¹⁷, with 23 people killed and 100 injured incidents of attacks on health.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

Health



Polio vaccination campaign flyer.

In response to the critical public health threat identified on 16 July, involving the detection of poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) in Gaza's sewage system, the Ministry of Health (MoH), WHO, UNICEF, UNRWA, and other health partners completed the preparation of the vaccination campaign. The primary strategy of the response is a comprehensive vaccination campaign targeting 640,000 children under ten years old. The preparations included undertaking the vaccination in phases, focusing on one zone at a time - starting in central Gaza, then shifting to the south, and finally reaching northern governorates. In total, 40 Health partners are participating in this joint endeavour; 17 of them operate health service points where vaccines are being administered, while additional 23 are involved in outreach efforts to inform communities about the campaign. At the end of August, the campaign was ready to be carried out in three phases between 1 and 14 September to ensure maximum coverage and effectiveness given the situation on the ground. For the campaign, UNICEF provided 20 fridges, 10 freezers, 100 ice boxes, and 500 vaccine carriers for the cold chain storage of 1,585,000 doses of nOPV 2.

As part of UNICEF's support for restoring specialized services, including the neonatal care unit, UNICEF delivered three infant incubators directly to the Kamal Adwan Hospital in the Gaza Strip during the month of August. The neonatal unit had the capacity of 15 beds and only eight incubators. The additions are crucial for managing cases, including those with severe acute malnutrition with complications. Every month, the neonatal care unit is taking care of 28 babies.

In the West Bank, UNICEF continued supporting the emergency capacity-building programme for frontline responders and health workers. In August, two courses of Paediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) training were conducted, reaching 12 health professionals in Nablus Hospital, and five Basic Life Support (BLS) training in Tulkarem, Qalqilya, Nablus and Hebron including one course in H2 area, reaching 58 health professionals. Additionally, 50 health professionals have been reached in the Infection Prevention Control (IPC) training at Hebron and Nablus hospitals, and another 47 health professionals benefited from two courses of Helping Babies Breathe (HBB) held in Ramallah and Hebron hospitals. Moreover, UNICEF released some prepositioned supplies, mainly medical disposables,

antibiotics and some Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) Community Drug Kits to partners. These were further distributed to four sub partners in Tulkarem, and Ramallah. These supplies will be serving around 1,000 newborns, and 6,000 adult women benefiting from maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH) services at two hospitals.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)



Cleaning services through income-generating “cash for work” activities.

UNICEF and its partners maintained the water provision service for accessing safe water for around 2.3 million people in Gaza, including over 1 million children for drinking and domestic needs in Deir Al Balah, Khan Younis, and Rafah. Through the UN mechanism¹⁸, UNICEF provided 533,012 litres of fuel in August 2024 for water trucking, desalination plants and municipal wells to produce safe water. Furthermore, UNICEF in coordination with local partners, procured and delivered around 30 km length of plastic pipes to support the repair and rehabilitation of water and sanitation pipelines and network.

Additionally, UNICEF distributed 26,144 WASH Non-food items (NFI) of various types, including packs of female disposable sanitary pads, hygiene kits, collapsible 10-liter water containers, adult diapers, and bottled water (10-20 litres), benefitting 9,985 families – around 183,000 persons including 90,000 children, 50,000 women, and adolescent girls in Rafah, Khan Younis, Gaza and Deir Al Balah.

UNICEF sustained sanitation and hygiene services for an estimated one million people through rehabilitation of wastewater treatment facilities, networks, construction of mobile latrines and solid waste disposal services. In August, the construction of 5,000 latrines was completed through UNICEF support in Khan Younis and Deir Al Balah, benefitting more than 75,000 people. UNICEF-led rehabilitation and restoration of six sewage pumping stations in Khan Younis started in June and was completed at the end of August, benefitting around 120,000 people. In that vein, UNICEF launched Phase II of repairing additional pumping, lift stations and sewage networks to ensure effective drainage and sewage disposal. Cleaning services through UNICEF direct implementation started in six shelters in Khan Yunis, integrated with Incentives for work programme, benefitting around 4,277 persons including more than 2,000 children. UNICEF and partners have been supporting cleaning services in a total of 32 shelters and medical sites benefitting around 50,000 people. The intervention aims to improve solid waste collection, sanitation and Infection Prevention Control services.

UNICEF scaled up the hygiene promotion and awareness campaigns of five partners by reviewing information, education, and communication materials and designing hygiene promotion

strategies, including menstrual hygiene management.

Despite worsening security concerns and access in the West Bank, UNICEF supported the delivery of WASH items for the emergency response and preparedness. More than 150 different items including pumps, generators, drinking water steel pipes and fittings, uPVC Sewer pipes and precast reinforced concrete manholes with all related fittings and electromechanical spare parts for water stations, have been delivered to the Palestinian Water Authority warehouses in different quantities, through which 50 per cent of the West Bank population can be supported. As a long-term approach to address the ongoing water infrastructure damage and hampered access to safe water, UNICEF continues to capitalize the efficient use of local reserves and supplies that are available in Israel in coordination with the local authorities and partners.

Nutrition

Repeated displacement orders in Deir Al Balah in the Gaza Strip heavily disrupted health and nutrition service provision in August. Access to service points and storage sites were notably affected. Under this shrinking operation environment, UNICEF with partners screened 39,799 children 6-59 months during the reporting period, using the Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) measurement. The Find-and-Treat campaign continued in August and yielded a consistent number of children being screened and admitted. As a result, UNICEF and partners treated 3,583 children (2,116 girls, 1,467 boys) for acute malnutrition, out of which 2,890 with moderate acute malnutrition (1,686 girls, 1,204 boys), and 693 children with severe acute malnutrition (430 girls, 267 boys). Since January 2024, partners have admitted and treated 18,333 children (10,661 girls, 8,545 boys) for acute malnutrition, out of which 14,352 with moderate acute malnutrition (8,340 girls, 6,012 boys), and 3,981 children with severe acute malnutrition (2,321 girls, 1,660 boys). Cumulatively, 12,413 children (6,139 girls, 6,274 boys) received vitamin A supplementation.

Child Protection

UNICEF continued to scale up the activities to protect and promote the rights of forcibly displaced and war-affected children across the Gaza Strip.

With child protection and social service systems severely disrupted, UNICEF and partners continue to work on identifying at-risk children and caregivers and providing them with emergency multisectoral child protection services to address identified protection risks. As most of the children face protection risks in Gaza, UNICEF is prioritizing support to high risks cases to include unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), child survivors of violence – including Gender-based violence, children with acute conflict-related injuries and disabilities, and children at serious risk of harm or death. Also, UNICEF reached 841 children at risk (419 girls and 422 boys) and their caregivers with case management and/or referrals for social services and assistance.

UNICEF and its partners reached 9,901 children (5,289 girls, and 4,612 boys,) with community-based protection and Mental Health Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) activities in 65 shelters across Gaza, including 1,305 receiving individual and group psychosocial services. Additionally, 1,981 caregivers participated in parenting programs to enhance their support for children. The activities focused on engaging children and caregivers with mobile family and community-based supports (MHPSS Level 2) through the provision of recreational and other semi-structured activities aimed at helping children and caregivers manage stress and anxiety, build social connections, and promote positive coping skills. Where possible, partners provided more structured psychosocial support activities to include individual and group psychosocial support (MHPSS Level 3).

To respond to the growing number of children experiencing family separation, UNICEF, as a provider of the last resort, continued to work on family tracing services for UASC. In August, 44 unaccompanied children received community-based alternative care and UNICEF facilitated the reunification of 19 children with their parents or family members. Additionally, 50 families caring for unaccompanied and vulnerable children have been supported with integrated cash assistance, including family counselling and case management.

To prevent further risks and injury of children, UNICEF and its partners provided Explosive Ordnances Risk Education (EORE) to 6,239 children and 2,102 caregivers to reduce risks from unexploded ordnances and explosive remnants of war.

In the West Bank, UNICEF continued to provide essential child protection, prevention and response interventions, including in East Jerusalem. These services include psychosocial first aid (PFA), MHPSS, awareness sessions, recreational activities, and legal services to 1,777 people, including 899 children and 878 caregivers. Of these, 152 children participated in two summer activities facilitated by implementing partners.

Education



Children engage in recreational activities in temporary learning spaces in the Gaza Strip.

In the Gaza Strip, UNICEF continued to support the provision of recreational activities and restoration of learning in Safe Learning Spaces (SLs). UNICEF and five partners have established and operationalized 39 Temporary Learning Spaces (TLSs) in shelters with daily attendance of 12,478 children. Children in the TLS receive average 7.5 hours of contact time with a teacher on a weekly basis, with 800 children (400 girls and 400 boys) receiving stationery kits to support their learning. Recreational activities such as sports and expressive arts were also implemented in the established TLSs. The TLSs are being used as a hub for a range of services to ensure the provision of multi-sector services for children through the joint work with UN agencies and partners. Additionally, high energy biscuits were provided to support the wellbeing and concentration of children and adolescents during learning.

In the West Bank, despite ongoing incursions and continuous attacks, 53,780 children (28,230 girls and 25,550 boys) in the hot spot areas including Area C, were reached with UNICEF's support through age-specific summer camp recreational activities to mitigate learning loss and support their well-being. Summer camp activities were implemented in 603 schools for 13 days in August, where the children from grades one to six were provided with fun learning activities for the basic skills of four core subjects; Arabic, math, science and the English language and were ensured with smooth

transition into the new school year. The children from grades seven to nine were reached through Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) clubs that included a package of sports, cultural and artistic activities, and health awareness.

Social Protection

With the continued flow of commercial trucks (reported as 81,495 tons in July / 72 per cent of all trucks as well as 52,660 tons in August / 60 per cent of all trucks) and resilient informal markets in Gaza, digital e-wallets continue to function both as an effective instrument to alleviate severe cash liquidity challenges and as a key strategy to reach families with children at scale and enable their access to basic needs. In August, humanitarian cash transfers (HCT) through digital e-wallets reached 168,515 people (including 30,614 families, including 2,942 Persons with Disabilities (PWD)).

Since the onset of the escalation on 7 October 2023, UNICEF has reached every third person in Gaza and provided cash assistance to 767,261 people (124,964 families, including 375,099 children, 23,921 PwD, and 46,443 female-headed households). Of those, 732,319 people (119,401 families) were assisted with multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA). To address the affected population's continuous needs, UNICEF has reached 375,692 unique beneficiaries with MPCA with the second round of cash assistance since January 2024, and is a leading actor in HCT, covering 71 per cent of all HCT in Gaza.

Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

UNICEF continues to ensure that communities have direct, safe and confidential channels for feedback on interventions in the Gaza Strip, West Bank and East Jerusalem, through a Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM). AAP efforts continue to include responding to feedback, informing communities about their rights, and involving them in decision making., UNICEF reached 17,367 people via the interagency hotline. This feedback included requests for cash assistance and issues related to cash redemption. The most common category was request for information regarding the cash transfer programme, and the highest number of calls during this reporting period was from Khan Yunis, at 36 per cent.

UNICEF, through the PSEA network, strengthened inter-agency feedback channels and advocated the hotline (phone number 164) that handles different requests, complaints and provides MHPSS and referrals. The hotline documented 3,677 cases in August, among which 119 girls, 195 boys, 1,407 women and 1,737 men were identified. Out of the total, 1,896 individuals received dedicated MHPSS sessions through the hotline, including 1,040 females and 854 males. The hotline referred 1,030 callers to various inter-agency services.

UNICEF, through PSEA Network's media campaign (SANAD¹⁹) has reached 12,800 total followers across Instagram and Facebook in August, where the public platforms received a 20% average increase in audience engagement compared to the previous reporting period. Through SANAD, UNICEF held a content creation workshop for implementing partners. It was attended by 30 participants from UN agencies, INGOs, and Palestinian civil society organizations. UNICEF with the PSEA Network delivered another patch of Training of Trainers (ToT) sessions in August for 16 participants (14 females and 2 males) who will operate as PSEA focal points.

Social and Behaviour Change (SBC)

UNICEF joined the Polio Technical Committee to develop the Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) strategy and plan for the Polio Emergency Vaccination Campaign. This effort involved creating and finalizing contextualized Polio-related communication materials, covering all possible channels, both digital and analogue. UNICEF also contributed to the campaign's microplanning by setting up social mobilization activities, organizing the distribution of mobilizers, and disseminating various communication materials across the Gaza Strip. Additionally, a training of trainers (ToT) session was conducted for supervisors who trained the social mobilizers.

As the vaccination campaign is scheduled to start on 1 September in Deir Al Balah, social mobilizers began engaging with the community as early as 30 August. In just the last two days of the month, they successfully engaged with over 150,000 fathers and mothers to promote the polio vaccine.

On the virtual front, information on Polio and the vaccine, including UNICEF developed products such as the Q&A brochure and the catalogue of vaccination sites, were widely disseminated by local influencers, social media accounts of various news agencies, community channels on information management platforms, and the official social media accounts of many UN agencies and INGOs.

Regarding community engagement, co-creative participation activities have continued. As mentioned in the July Situation report, communities collaboratively developed 20 community action plans, identified 105 challenges and solutions. As part of these efforts, 11 activities were implemented by the newly formed implementation committees, primarily focused on providing psychosocial support through recreational activities, as well as promoting hygiene and health, benefiting approximately 2,190 displaced citizens.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP, COORDINATION AND STRATEGY

UNICEF is an active member of the UN Country Team and the Humanitarian Country Team and closely coordinates with other organizations and partners, including women-led organisations.

UNICEF continues to lead the WASH Cluster with 33 operational partners in the Gaza Strip and 20 partners in the West Bank. By the end of August, the reported volume of water production in Gaza rose from an average of 93,000m³/day to 114,901 m³/day. Likewise systematic tracking and reporting of water trucked has improved with an average of 13,881m³/day trucked in late August to 788 community water collection points by 24 agencies across Gaza Strip. In addition, governorate level maps are recording and updating on water trucking on a bi-weekly basis. Over 20 WASH partners participated in the Rapid WASH Assessment training and have been conducting the assessment in the field, despite some challenges on access, data has been collected systematically at IDP sites and households and is going through analysis. WASH cluster partners are developing flood risk mapping and winterization mitigation response plans with grave concerns for approximately 150,000 IDPs living in known storm water basins and a larger population in flood risk areas. Following serious incursions in 4 refugee camps in West Bank, WASH cluster partners are mobilising for emergency response activities including emergency water trucking and repair activities. The impact in Tulkarem and Nour Shams includes severe infrastructure damage to water and wastewater networks. The incursion in Jenin is ongoing.

UNICEF continues to lead the Nutrition Cluster in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, coordinating 20 operational partners in Gaza and

four technical working groups. During the month of August, nutrition partners implemented activities in 392 nutrition sites, including 103 in North Gaza and Gaza. Among almost 40,000 screened and 3,583 children admitted for treatment, partners scaled up the follow-up of pregnant and breastfeeding women with 9,120 women screened (37,591 since the beginning of the year), of which 166 have been reached with treatment. While almost 61,000 children from 6 to 59 months have been reached with nutritional supplements (LNS MQ or LNS SQ), it represents only 20% of all the cluster target, and with a decrease in the second half of August due to the multiple displacement orders that impacted the ability of cluster partners to continue their interventions. To improve the quality of the response, the early detection and treatment working group has been working on tools to improve the referral system between outpatient and inpatient care. The IYCF working group has worked jointly with the sexual and reproductive health subgroup from the Health cluster to improve the support for breastfeeding and maternal nutrition. The nutrition information system working group has developed a monitoring tool, reuniting all nutrition data, to facilitate data analysis. In the West Bank, the cluster has continued discussion with the Direction of nutrition from the MoH to revitalize the Nutrition working group and define key priorities for nutrition in Emergency to be presented to all partners during the national cluster meeting.

The Education Cluster, which is co-led by UNICEF, has made significant strides in supporting more than 45,000 students and teachers during the month of August, with a ratio of 57 per cent female and 43 per cent male students. These efforts included offering recreational and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services, as well as informal learning opportunities, across Khan Younis, the Middle Area, Gaza, and North Gaza. The Cluster remains committed to prioritising these activities to provide structured support amid the prolonged school closures due to the war. These initiatives are designed not only to help children manage trauma but also to foster resilience for their long-term well-being. Moreover, the expansion of informal learning opportunities has been notable, with the establishment of 43 new Temporary Learning Spaces benefiting over 10,000 students in Khan Younis and the Middle Area. This expansion, along with the growing number of community-led initiatives, is a promising sign. However, the ongoing Israeli military displacement orders in the Gaza Strip are severely impacting the Cluster response.

Within the Protection Cluster, UNICEF continues to lead the Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CPAoR) with 25 active partners in the Gaza Strip and 17 active partners in the West Bank. UNICEF also co-chairs the UASC thematic working group which sits within the CPAoR, together with UNRWA, and has been acting as a provider of last resort for family reunifications. During the month of August, a new Task Force was established jointly with the Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBVAoR) for the Prevention and Response to Child Survivors. During the reporting period, the numerous displacement orders and attacks in the Gaza Strip and intense military operations in the West Bank directly impacted partners capacity to respond and report. Despite this, CPAoR partners reached 46,415 children and caregivers with community-based PSS. Overall, during August, 39,701 children and 22,293 caregivers have been reached with a range of child protection, including PSS, awareness raising, case management and capacity building interventions by CPAoR partners.

UNICEF participates in the GBVAoR and in the Legal Task Force, as well as in the Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE)/ Conflict Preparedness and Protection (CPP) Working Group under the Mine Action AoR. UNICEF is part of the Health Cluster, the Inter-Cluster MHPSS Technical Working Group, as well as the Rehabilitation Taskforce under the Health Cluster.

UNICEF co-leads the RCCE technical working group jointly with

WHO and OCHA. UNICEF also supports the Inter-Agency Network for the PSEA and participates in the AAP Working Group coordinated by OCHA. UNICEF also actively participates in the Regional and National Gender and Humanitarian Working Group, coordinated by UN Women and OCHA, and contributes to gender equality programming as well as preparedness and response. UNICEF continues to engage in key recovery activities including the Rapid Damage Needs Assessment.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA

To respond to the situation for children in Israel and the State of Palestine, UNICEF is calling for:

- An immediate and long-lasting humanitarian ceasefire.
- Safe and unrestricted humanitarian access to and within the Gaza Strip to reach affected populations wherever they are, including in the north. All access crossings must be opened including to sufficient fuel, materials needed to run and rehabilitate essential infrastructure, and commercial supplies. Safe movement for humanitarian workers and supplies, including supplies for latrines for persons with mobility difficulties and assistive devices such as hearing aids, wheelchairs, crutches and prosthetics, across the Gaza Strip must be guaranteed and reliable telecommunications networks made available to coordinate response efforts.
- The immediate, safe, and unconditional release of all abducted children, and an end to any grave violations against all children, including killing and maiming children.
- Respect and protection for civilian infrastructure such as shelters and schools, and health, electric, water, sanitation, and telecommunications facilities, to prevent loss of civilian and children's lives, outbreaks of diseases, and to provide care to the sick and wounded. All parties to the conflict must respect international humanitarian law.
- Urgent medical cases in the Gaza Strip to be able to safely access critical health services or be allowed to leave, and for injured or sick children evacuated to be accompanied by family members.

UNICEF continues to press world leaders on every occasion for an end to the violence and humanitarian access to the whole of the Gaza Strip.

- Statement: Humanitarian pauses vital for critical polio vaccination campaign in the Gaza Strip
<https://www.unicef.org/sop/press-releases/humanitarian-pauses-vital-critical-polio-vaccination-campaign-gaza-strip>
- Human interest story: West Bank healthcare facilities enhance WASH services with Korea support
<https://www.unicef.org/sop/stories/west-bank-healthcare-facilities-enhance-wash-services-unicef-and-korea-support>
- Human interest story: Water crisis takes toll on Gaza's children
<https://www.unicef.org/sop/stories/water-crisis-takes-toll-gazas-children>
- Human interest story: Toys and art supplies provide respite for children in the northern Gaza Strip
<https://www.unicef.org/sop/stories/toys-and-art-supplies-provide-respite-children-northern-gaza-strip>

- Human interest story: Identity bracelets help keep Gaza Strip children with their families
<https://www.unicef.org/sop/stories/identity-bracelets-help-keep-gaza-strip-children-their-families-midst-war>
- In Gaza, children and their families urgently need cash assistance to access essential goods
<https://x.com/UNICEFpalestine/status/1825497361625338268>
- UNICEF conducted a training for health workers on how to perform basic chest compression
<https://x.com/UNICEFpalestine/status/1823324838141768121>
- UNICEF with WHO, UNRWA and other partners, is bringing 1.2 million doses of polio vaccine type 2
<https://x.com/UNICEFpalestine/status/1827639643304587740>
- The spread of poliovirus is a very real threat to the children of Gaza.
<https://x.com/UNICEF/status/1828108948555153896>
- The children of Gaza just want the war to end so they can go to school and be with their families
<https://x.com/UNICEF/status/1826243218893144474>
- UNICEF humanitarian staff are delivering under extreme conditions in Gaza
<https://x.com/UNICEFpalestine/status/1825421252695040219>
- The scenes that we are seeing are horrible. Children and families are suffering with illnesses
<https://x.com/UNICEFmena/status/1820868867012411794>

HAC APPEALS AND SITREPS

- State of Palestine Appeals
<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/state-of-palestine>
- State of Palestine Situation Reports
<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/state-of-palestine/situation-reports>
- All Humanitarian Action for Children Appeals
<https://www.unicef.org/appeals>
- All Situation Reports
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NEXT SITREP: 10 OCTOBER 2024

ANNEX A - PROGRAMME RESULTS

Consolidated Programme Results

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response			Cluster/Sector response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2024 targets	Total results	Progress*	2024 targets	Total results	Progress*
Nutrition								
Children 6-59 months receiving micronutrient powder	Total	310,922	155,460	70,711 ²⁰	0%	155,460	70,711	0%
	Girls	-	-	35,341	-	-	35,341	-
	Boys	-	-	35,370	-	-	35,370	-
Children 6-59 months receiving vitamin A supplementation	Total	706,270	395,377	12,413	▲ 1%	706,270	12,413	▲ 1%
	Girls	-	-	6,139	-	-	6,139	-
	Boys	-	-	6,274	-	-	6,274	-
Pregnant women receiving preventative iron folate or multiple micronutrients supplementation and related services	Total	160,279	160,279	46,073	0%	160,279	46,073	0%
Children 6-59 months with wasting admitted for treatment ²¹	Total	67,947	55,650 ²²	18,333	▲ 17%	55,650	18,333	▲ 17%
	Girls	-	26,106	10,661	▲ 22%	26,106	10,661	▲ 22%
	Boys	-	29,544	7,672	▲ 13%	29,544	7,672	▲ 13%
Children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	12,487	3,981	▲ 16%	12,487	3,981	▲ 16%
	Girls	-	5,542	2,321	▲ 22%	5,542	2,321	▲ 22%
	Boys	-	6,945	1,660	▲ 11%	6,945	1,660	▲ 11%
Children 6-59 months with moderate wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	43,163	14,352	▲ 18%	43,163	14,352	▲ 18%
	Girls	-	20,564	8,340	▲ 23%	20,564	8,340	▲ 23%
	Boys	-	22,599	6,012	▲ 15%	22,599	6,012	▲ 15%
Health (including public health emergencies)								
Children 0-11 months receiving pentavalent 3 vaccine	Total	82,637	82,637	27,933	0%	-	-	-
Children 0-11 months receiving OPV	Total	82,637	82,637	28,223	0%	-	-	-
People are supported through UNICEF-delivered medical supplies	Total	3 million	1.5 million	253,372	▲ 6%	-	-	-
	Girls	-	-	55,339	-	-	-	-
	Boys	-	-	54,221	-	-	-	-

	Women	-	-	65,435	-	-	-	-
	Men	-	-	78,377	-	-	-	-
Water, sanitation and hygiene								
People accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	3.3 million	2.1 million	2.9 million	▲ 31%	3 million	2.9 million	▲ 19%
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	875,000 ²³	638,390	0%	2.6 million	1.1 million	0%
People benefitting from improved access to sanitation and hygiene services	Total	-	1.2 million	1 million	▲ 33%	3 million	1.3 million	▲ 11%
Child protection, GBVIE and PSEA								
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	1.4 million	291,000 ²⁴	286,247	▲ 21%	980,000	436,223	▲ 14%
	Girls	-	-	104,826	-	-	156,130	-
	Boys	-	-	90,707	-	-	136,683	-
	Women	-	-	52,599	-	-	87,890	-
	Men	-	-	38,115	-	-	56,520	-
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	2.3 million	280,419	41,938	▲ 5%	-	-	-
	Girls	-	-	1,448	-	-	-	-
	Boys	-	-	1,820	-	-	-	-
	Women	-	-	18,778	-	-	-	-
	Men	-	-	19,892	-	-	-	-
Children provided with landmine or other explosive weapons prevention and/or survivor assistance interventions	Total	2 million	480,000	64,722	▲ 4%	-	-	-
	Girls	-	-	35,539	-	-	-	-
	Boys	-	-	29,183	-	-	-	-
Children and caregivers reached by MHPSS messages and awareness activities on child protection risks	Total	1.5 million	1.1 million	500,000	▲ 15%	-	-	-
Education								
Children receiving individual learning materials ²⁵	Total	770,525	220,000 ²⁶	20,625 ²⁷	0%	275,000	19,825	0%
	Girls	383,816	109,604	8,670	0%	137,005	8,270	0%
	Boys	386,649	110,396	11,955	0%	137,995	11,555	0%

Affected school children are provided with gender responsive recreational activities and materials for their wellbeing	Total	770,525	85,000 ²⁸	83,707	▲ 75%	770,525	305,464	▲ 28%
	Girls	383,816	42,347	49,077	▲ 89%	383,816	174,115	▲ 45%
	Boys	386,649	42,653	34,630	▲ 60%	386,649	131,349	▲ 34%
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	770,525	60,000	13,734	▲ 21%	127,000	29,181	▲ 23%
	Girls	383,816	29,892	7,828	▲ 24%	72,390	16,633	▲ 23%
	Boys	386,649	30,108	5,906	▲ 18%	54,610	12,548	▲ 23%
Social protection								
People reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers	Total	1.8 million	530,000	375,692	▲ 18%	-	-	-
Households with children with disabilities reached by disability cash top-ups	Total	-	10,500	6,041	0%	-	-	-
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)								
People sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms	Total	2.3 million	502,800	74,174	▲ 7%	-	-	-
People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	Total	2 million	1 million	1.2 million ²⁹	▲ 70%	-	-	-

*Progress in the reporting period 1 to 31 August 2024

ANNEX B — FUNDING STATUS

Consolidated funding by sector

		Funding available		Funding gap	
Sector	Requirements	Humanitarian resources received in 2024	Resources available from 2023 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health	115,781,157	23,204,523	10,262,506	82,314,128	71%
Nutrition ³⁰	140,467,966	20,011,015	13,881,882	106,575,069	76%
Child protection ³¹	28,802,361	15,236,712	9,087,853	4,477,796	16%
Education ³²	38,338,704	12,950,996	3,803,150	21,584,558	56%
WASH ³³	132,383,773	70,970,173	16,438,360	44,975,240	34%
Social protection ³⁴	58,489,439	44,180,868	11,802,611	2,505,960	4%
Cross-sectoral ³⁵	6,650,000	3,718,279	1,147,139	1,784,582	27%
Cluster coordination ³⁶	5,217,233	3,843,551	1,272,769	100,913	2%
Total	526,130,633	194,116,117	67,696,270	264,318,246	50%

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ENDNOTES

1. The total number of children in need is estimated based on the demographic ratio of children, which is 46.9 per cent (1,078,700 children) in the Gaza Strip and 47.6 per cent (476,000 children) in the West Bank (source: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and OCHA), applied to the 2.3 million people in need in Gaza and 1 million people in need in the West Bank, respectively. 49 per cent are girls.
2. Inter-Agency Flash Appeal for the Occupied Palestinian Territories, April-December 2024: <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/flash-appeal-occupied-palestinian-territory-2024>.
3. UNRWA, 31 July 2024.
4. The number of 524 school buildings amounts to 92.9 per cent of all school buildings in the Gaza Strip. Their level of damage varies between the damage classifications "Direct hit", "Damaged" and "Likely damaged". Not included in this figure is the classification "Possible damage" (18 school buildings). The status of the remaining 22 school buildings in the Gaza Strip is currently not known. Education Cluster, 6 July 2024.
5. Inter-Agency Flash Appeal for the Occupied Palestinian Territories, April-December 2024: <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/flash-appeal-occupied-palestinian-territory-2024>. The previous Inter-Agency Flash Appeal was issued on 6 November covering October to December 2023, and was thereafter extended until the end of March 2024. The funding requirement of US\$2.8 billion covers only the months from April through December 2024. The requirement for the months of January to March 2024 amounts to US\$0.6 billion, resulting into a total funding requirement of \$3.4 billion for the entire year 2024.
6. The numbers stated here refer to the people who are targeted to receive humanitarian aid. These numbers differ from the numbers of people in need, which amount to 3.3 million across the occupied Palestinian territories (Gaza Strip: the entire population of 2.3 million, West Bank: 1 million). "People in need" refers to those who are affected by the crisis and require humanitarian assistance. "People targeted" refers to the specific number of people that is planned to realistically be reached with the given capacity and expected resources.
7. The latest UNICEF SoP Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal for 2024 is Revision 3 from June 2024, <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/state-of-palestine#download>.
8. UNICEF has received US\$ 8 million from the internal Emergency Programme Fund and exceptionally US\$ 10 million from an internal capital loan both of which will need to be replenished – these loans are not reflected in the funding received.
9. The boundaries and names shown on the map, and the designation used thereon, do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. source: OCHA in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), 4 September 2024, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/reported-impact-snapshot-gaza-strip-4-september-2024>
10. OCHA, Humanitarian Situation Update #211, 30 August 2024, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-update-211-gaza-strip>.
11. WHO EMRO, oPt Emergency Situation Update, Issue 41, 20 August 2024, https://www.emro.who.int/images/stories/Sitrep_-_issue_41.pdf.
12. Gender Analysis of the Impact of the War in Gaza on Vital Services Essential to Women's and Girls' Health, Safety, and Dignity - Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) by UN Women, April 2024, <https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2024-04/gender-alert-gender-analysis-of-the-impact-of-the-war-in-gaza-on-vital-services-essential-to-womens-and-girls-health-safety-en.pdf>.
13. As reported by the Palestinian Ministry of Health covering the period between 7 October 2023 and 31 August 2024.
14. Partially disaggregated data as of 30 April 2024.
15. The number of humanitarian aid workers killed is provided by OCHA as of 31 August, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/reported-impact-snapshot-gaza-strip-28-august-2024>.
16. Hostilities in the Gaza Strip and Israel, Flash Update #198, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-update-198-west-bank>.
17. WHO EMRO, oPt Emergency Situation Update, Issue 41, 20 August 2024, https://www.emro.who.int/images/stories/Sitrep_-_issue_41.pdf.
18. Through a signed agreement with UNRWA, UNICEF receives fuel to support water service providers in the operation of water and wastewater systems. UNICEF refunds UNRWA for the fuel. This is a UN wide mechanism agreed with all parties.
19. The SANAD Network is a shared public platform where Palestinian civil society organizations, UN agencies and INGOs unite their voices and efforts towards strengthening Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). SANAD engages especially with children, women, youth, and people with disabilities. One activity are Risk Communications and Community Engagement (RCCE) interventions to raise awareness for the prevention of violence. Community members across the West Bank and the Gaza Strip can receive mental health support or submit an official complaint of any physical or verbal abuse perpetrated by an aid worker via WhatsApp +972 59 404 021, via e-mail at optconfidential@un.org, or by calling the free hotline 164 of the partner organisation SAWA.
20. Aligned with the UNICEF Humanitarian Appeal for Children (HAC) Revision 3, starting from SitRep #27, the cumulative results since January 2024 are reported. For 2023 results, please refer to 2023 End-year SitRep: <https://www.unicef.org/sop/reports/unicef-state-palestine-escalation-humanitarian-situation-report-year-end>.
21. The result indicates the number of children treated for both Moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and Severe acute malnutrition (SAM). The following SAM and MAM indicators are sub-indicators of the total wasting result.
22. 50,450 children are in the Gaza Strip (over 7,600 with severe wasting) and 5,200 in the West Bank (over 2,400 with severe wasting).
23. This includes 800,000 people in the Gaza Strip to be reached monthly and 75,000 people in the West Bank.
24. This target is reduced to represent only in-person programming. See also the indicator on children and caregivers reached by MHPSS messages and awareness activities on child protection risks. The target includes at least 1,000 children with disabilities.
25. Due to the misalignment between UNICEF and the Cluster's indicator description, previously the cluster result on # of children benefitted from recreational kits had been reported while UNICEF strictly reported the result of learning materials only (e.g. EiE learning kits, stationary kits) under this indicator. As the Cluster now has a separate learning material indicator fully aligned with UNICEF's, previously reported cluster recreational kits result is removed from UNICEF SitReps and be retained in OCHA SitReps and Education Cluster dashboard.
26. This target is reduced as the programmatic focus has been widened to include non-formal learning.
27. For UNICEF partners in the West Bank, the reporting is done biweekly while for the cluster it is on quarterly basis as the West Bank result is ad hoc with the focus on Gaza. Due to the different reporting cycles for the West Bank, the cluster result for August is lower than UNICEF's.
28. This target is reduced as the programmatic focus has been widened to include non-formal learning.
29. Estimated 1.2M people were reached with Polio Vaccination Campaign related SMSs with unique phone numbers. There is a possibility that the previously reached 500K people with different promotion messaging also received the Campaign messages. Therefore, 1.2M is reported as total to avoid double counting.
30. The significant funding increase reflects the deterioration of the nutrition and food security situation, particularly in the northern part of the Gaza Strip. Both the intensity and the breadth of nutrition programming has been increased including the distribution of high energy biscuits, Lipid-Based Nutrient Supplements (LNS-SQ), Ready-to-Use Complementary Food and a cash component.

31. This amount excludes \$1,325,000 for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, which is reflected under the cross-sectoral budget line. Interventions addressing gender-based violence in emergencies are embedded under case management, and amount to \$550,000, including gender-based responses to specific protection concerns.
32. The cost of education has increased significantly reflecting the breadth of programming.
33. The increase in funding is driven by the increased supplies and the high associated freight costs, and the continuation and scale up of wash service in targeted Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) shelters.
34. The reduction in funding for social protection represents integration of Humanitarian Cash Transfers into sectoral programmes including WASH and nutrition.
35. The cross-sectoral funding requirement includes \$1,325,000 for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, \$2.6M for disability inclusion and \$810,000 for Risk Communication and Community Engagement. SBC and AAP funding needs are integrated into sectoral budget lines.
36. The coordination budget covers cluster coordination costs (Nutrition Cluster: \$855,000; WASH Cluster: \$1.35 million; Education Cluster: \$778,000; and Child Protection Area of Responsibility: \$1.5 million).