

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

STILL UNPROTECTED

Humanitarian Funding for Child Protection



PHOTO: SOPHIE HAMANDISHE / SAVE THE CHILDREN

Children have a fundamental right to be protected, wherever they live.

Children affected by humanitarian crises are among the most vulnerable to abuse, exploitation, violence and neglect and most in need of protection, yet there is limited commitment to fund protective responses. Throughout 2020, the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic and the containment measures have layered risk upon risk for children in humanitarian crises.

This report builds on analysis undertaken in 2019 and documented in the report *Unprotected: Crisis in Humanitarian Funding for Child Protection (Unprotected 2019)* and incorporates 2019 and 2020 funding and additional funding streams related to refugee contexts.

Interventions that protect children from the escalating risks of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect during humanitarian crises save lives, protect human dignity and promote the well-being of children, families, communities and societies, both immediately and into the future.

The reverberating impacts of the global COVID-19 pandemic on children in humanitarian crises make it even more imperative to ensure that children have the safe environments they need to thrive.

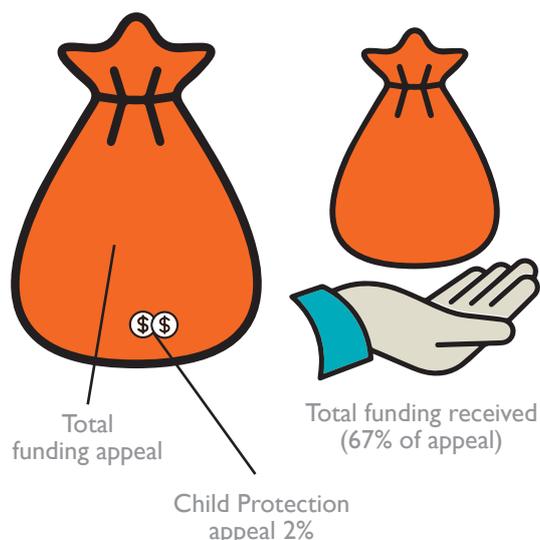
While it is encouraging to see a rise in funding of CP over time, woeful gaps remain. With the impacts of COVID-19 disproportionately affecting the most vulnerable and increasing risks to children, **it is now more important than ever to ensure children's protection is central to responses.**



Mariam, 11, lives in Cox's Bazar with her sister and brother. She was separated from her family when her village was attacked, and she was shot in the leg during the violence. "They were crying and hugging each other. Seeing this, we also couldn't stop our tears. We all cried a lot. They helped each other to overcome. We also helped them to overcome. That's how we carried them the whole way." Mariam's uncle, Rafiq, tells Save the Children.

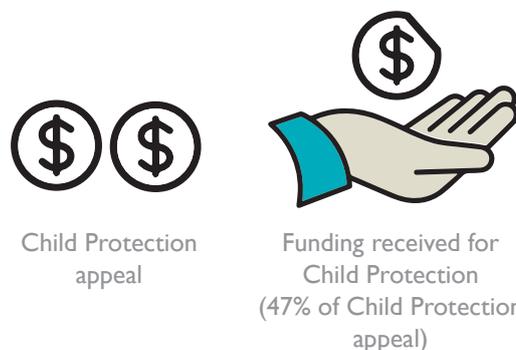
PHOTO: JONATHAN HYAMS/SAVE THE CHILDREN

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

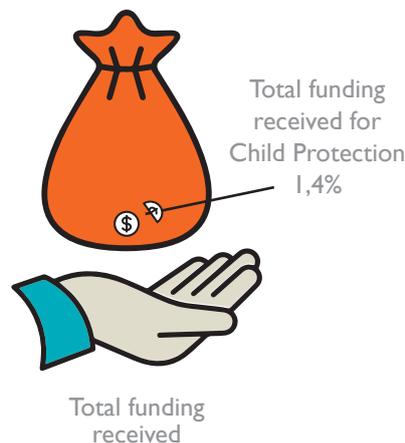
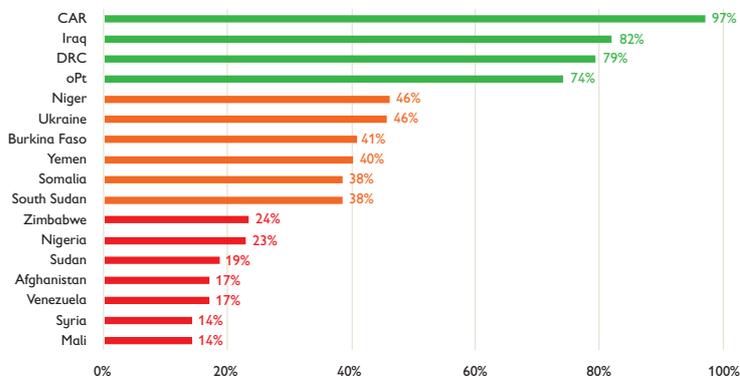


FINDINGS PRESENTED IN THIS REPORT ILLUSTRATE THAT:

- A total of US\$252.2 million was allocated to child protection in 2019. Funding for child protection in humanitarian settings continues to increase.
- Despite this, the gap between stated funding needs and funding received demonstrates that **Child Protection is significantly under-funded**. The 19 Humanitarian Response Plans and Refugee Response Plans (2019) we have studied were funded at 67% overall across sectors, while Child Protection was only funded at 47%.



SELECTION OF 2019 HRPS: ESTIMATED FUNDING COVERAGE FOR CHILD PROTECTION (%)

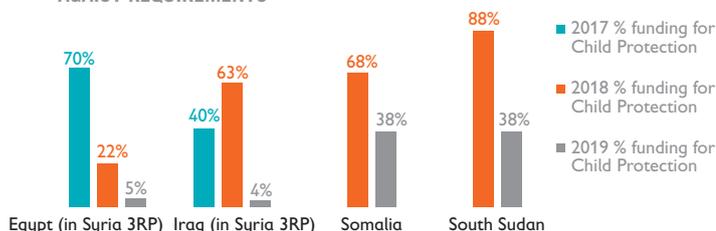


OVERALL APPEAL = 100%
 FUNDING LEVEL OF THE OVERALL APPEAL: 67%
 CHILD PROTECTION APPEAL AS PORTION OF THE OVERALL APPEAL: 2%
 FUNDING LEVEL OF CHILD PROTECTION APPEAL: 47%
 FUNDING RECEIVED FOR CHILD PROTECTION AS PORTION OF TOTAL FUNDING RECEIVED: 1,4%

Based on the analysis of 19 response plans in 2019: HRPs for Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, CAR, DRC, Iraq, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, oPt, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, Venezuela, Yemen, Zimbabwe, Bangladesh JRP and Syria 3RP.

- Funding is unpredictable, **with significant disparities between years for individual responses**, which makes planning difficult. For example, within the Syria 3RP, Egypt had a funding level of 70% in 2017, which decreased to 22% in 2018, and then dropped to 5% in the third quarter of 2019.

PERCENTAGE OF CHILD PROTECTION FUNDING RECEIVED AGAINST REQUIREMENTS



- Humanitarian funding requests for Child Protection interventions do not match the actual needs** as they often aim to assist just a small fraction of the population in need of Child Protection services. For example, in CAR only 4% of the children in need are targeted, in DRC it is 8%. Also, funding requested does not always reflect the real cost of quality interventions that meet the Child Protection Minimum Standards, for example in Yemen on average only US\$13 was requested per beneficiary for 2019.
- Funding available per child falls far short of what is needed to meet the Child Protection Minimum Standards.** For example, in Mali, Sudan, Yemen and Nigeria, less than US\$6 was available per beneficiary targeted for the year 2019.

RECEIVED FOR CHILD PROTECTION:
US\$20/CHILD

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES:
US\$16-83/CHILD

ASSISTANCE AND REINTEGRATION OF CHILDREN ASSOCIATED WITH ARMED FORCES AND GROUPS:
US\$300-1,500/CHILD

- While the FTS system has improved to better reflect funding for Child Protection, there is a **need for a system that adequately tracks all interventions, including from other sectors**, which aim to protect children from harm.

KEY FINDINGS BASED ON ANALYSIS OF 2020 FUNDING:

- As HRP's have been revised to address the impact of COVID-19 and measures put in place to limit the spread of the disease, **the numbers of children identified as in need of protective interventions have increased significantly.** In some countries the numbers of beneficiaries identified as in need of child protection interventions doubled (in Cameroon and DRC). Funding requirements for child protection were revised in most response plans, demonstrating a considerable increase, such as in Afghanistan and Burkina Faso, where funding requirements for child protection increased more than three-fold.
- Yet, as of September 2020, **funding allocations for child protection reported on the FTS are not on track to meet the funding requirements.** 12 out of 19 HRP's have so far received less than 20% of the funding requested. 2020 has not ended yet, and opportunities remain to address this. An analysis of 19 HRP's demonstrates that funding for child protection is 2% of the overall funding ask. Yet as a proportion of overall funding received, it has fallen to only 0.8% of humanitarian funding.

WE CALL ON DONORS AND GOVERNMENTS TO:

- Fully fund appeals for Child Protection** across the Humanitarian Response Plans and Refugee Response Plans. As a start, ensure that Child Protection is funded at the same level as the overall appeal;
- Reaffirm and promote the Centrality of Protection in Humanitarian Action** – and step up overall humanitarian funding across sectors, including to particularly underfunded countries;
- Require that **proposals adhere to the Child Protection Minimum Standards, and are costed and funded accordingly;**
- Move towards **more equitable funding across responses, as well as predictable, flexible, and multi-year funding** models to enable stable programming;
- Invest and advocate to **build the capacity and capabilities of the humanitarian Child Protection sector**, with a particular focus on local actors, so that the sector is able to deliver quality needs assessments and appropriate responses that meet the Child Protection Minimum Standards;
- Make funding available for multi-sector programming that recognizes both the Centrality of Protection and the need for specialized Child Protection programmes.**

WE CALL ON HUMANITARIAN ACTORS, INCLUDING CHILD PROTECTION PRACTITIONERS AT ALL LEVELS, TO:

- Ensure that Humanitarian Needs Overviews, Humanitarian Response Plans and Regional Response Plans clearly outline how **Child Protection interventions meet identified needs, adhere to the Child Protection Minimum Standards, and are costed accordingly;**
- Recognise the gap between Child Protection needs and capacity to deliver, and advocate for **increased investment in systems building, including capacity building of national authorities and civil society organisations;**
- **Strengthen the analysis of Child Protection needs,** estimates of people in need of Child Protection services and targeting of interventions based on need;
- **Allocate enough funds to allow humanitarian Child Protection actors to provide essential services,** while simultaneously investing in building longer term sustainable services and systems that protect children from harm;
- **Estimate the cost-per-child, in context, for delivery of key Child Protection interventions** in line with the Child Protection Minimum Standards, and use the findings to advocate for increased resources;
- **Strengthen the focus on the integration and mainstreaming of Child Protection across sectors** in line with the Centrality of Protection in Humanitarian Action and the Child Protection Minimum Standards;
- **Mobilise new sources of funding for Child Protection,** and work across the humanitarian, development and peace nexus to ensure children are protected, recover and their rights are met.



Fifteen-month old Noura receives treatment for severe acute malnutrition at Save the Children's outpatient therapeutic programme in a camp for Internally Displaced People in Lahj, Yemen.

PHOTO: JONATHAN HYAMS/
SAVE THE CHILDREN

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