

URGENT ACTION REQUIRED TO AVERT A CRITICAL PIPELINE BREAK FOR SUPPLIES TO TREAT ACUTE MALNUTRITION IN KENYA



Photo: UNICEF

Funding Requirements



\$2.43M
for SAM treatment
(Oct 2019 - Mar 2020)

\$2.86M
for MAM treatment
(Oct 2019 - Mar 2020)

\$4.21M
for SAM treatment
(Apr - Dec 2020)

\$3.5M
for MAM treatment
(Apr - Dec 2020)



If additional funding is not immediately received, some 22,000 children who are affected by the drought and critically malnourished in Turkana and Marsabit counties will not receive the treatment and support they urgently require because of a pipeline break in nutrition supplies.



About US\$1.02 million is required now to procure and distribute Ready to Use Therapeutic Feeding (RUTF) for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in November and December 2019. For 2020, \$5.62 million is required for the treatment of an estimated 123,000 children suffering from SAM. Out of this, \$1.4 million is required to target 30,557 children in the first quarter of the year.

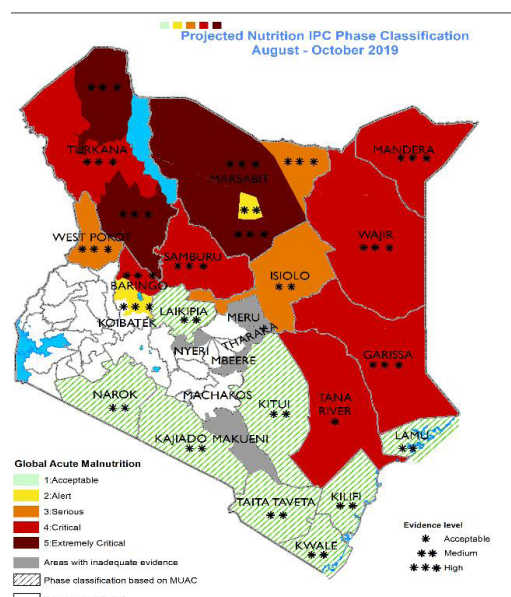


In addition, \$2.33 million is urgently required for the procurement of Ready to Use Supplementary Feeding (RUSF) supplies, and nearly \$534,000 is required for Corn Soya Blend (CSB++), to treat 107,000 moderately acutely malnourished (MAM) children and mothers from October 2019 to March 2020.

In the longer-term, it is critical that the Government of Kenya allocates additional resources from the regular national budget to prevent and respond to malnutrition. Currently, support from partners constitutes over 80 per cent of the required commodities.

Situation Update

- Over 3 million people in Kenya are projected to be severely food insecure by October 2019 due to drought conditions. The failure of consecutive rainfall seasons has hampered recovery and contributed to high levels of acute malnutrition. The long rains assessment (LRA) released in August 2019 indicated that the food and nutrition situation is likely to deteriorate ahead of the next harvest.
- By August 2019, the estimated caseload for acute malnutrition increased by 15 per cent following the failed long rains, global acute malnutrition rates of over 30 per cent registered in Turkana South, Turkana North and Laisamis sub-county of Marsabit. This in turn increased the requirements for nutrition supplies in the last four months of 2019.
- Procurement of commodities for the integrated management of acute malnutrition is undertaken by the Government of Kenya and development partners. However, support from partners currently constitutes over 80 per cent of the required commodities. The Government of Kenya announced in May 2019 that it had allocated about 8 billion Kenyan Shillings (about US\$80 million) for the 2019 drought response, out of which about \$5 million was to be allocated to procurement of RUTF and RUSF. However, the cash has not yet been released.



Pipeline status and requirements for management of SAM

- The nutrition sector currently has a gap of 22,107 cartons of RUTF valued at \$1,017,143 to cover the November and December 2019 needs for the life-saving drought response for 22,000 malnourished children.
- For 2020, the nutrition sector has estimated the total requirements for SAM treatment as 122,226 cartons valued at \$5,623,618, including distribution costs. The immediate requirement to cover the first quarter of 2020 is 30,557 cartons valued at \$1,405,907. These estimates are only for commodity procurement and distribution, and do not include associated program support costs.

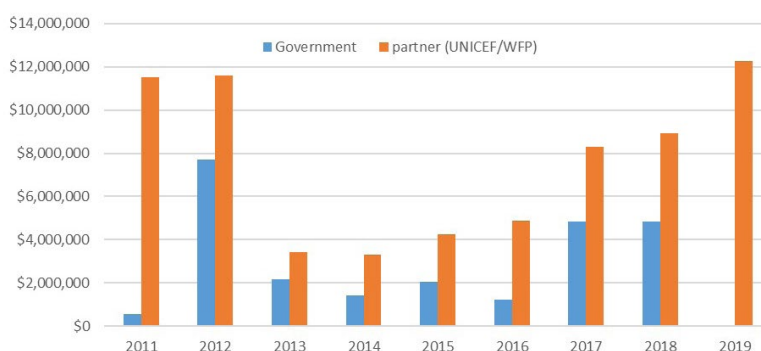
Pipeline status and requirements for management of MAM

- The nutrition sector currently has a gap of 963 metric tons of RUSF valued at \$2,330,050 and 945 metric tons of CSB++ valued at \$533,998 to support 107,000 children under age 5 and pregnant and nursing mothers with MAM treatment in nine of the worst affected arid counties from October 2019 to March 2020. From April to December 2020, \$3.5 million are required for MAM treatment.

Background to procurement of nutrition supplies

- In 2012, the Government of Kenya received a \$12.8 million low interest loan from the World Bank for nutrition commodities, which was spent over four years from 2012 to 2015, UNICEF provided procurement services and purchased RUTF and RUSF on behalf of the Government.
- In 2016, the Government of Kenya released funds for the El Niño emergency to the Ministry of Health who purchased RUTF, RUSF and CSB.
- In response to the 2017 drought emergency, the Government of Kenya contributed \$4 million to nutrition commodities to meet the gap in RUSF and CSB.
- In 2018, the Ministry of Health received a \$5 million grant from the World Bank: \$3 million is used by the Ministry of Health to procure CSB, and \$2 million by UNICEF to procure RUTF and RUSF on the Government's behalf.

Procurement trends for acute malnutrition treatment commodities by source of fund



[As of 20 September 2019]