

WFP Flash Appeal for the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

February 2021

UNHAS is in critical need of funding to sustain operations in 2021

Aviation plays an essential role in the movement of humanitarian workers and the delivery of critical humanitarian supplies such as food, medical items and shelters. WFP manages the world's leading humanitarian airline - the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service - providing passenger services for the entire humanitarian community to some of the hardest-to-reach locations on the planet.

In 2020, UNHAS operations continued to safely and reliably transport humanitarian and development workers to remote and challenging locations despite the extreme challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Operating more than a hundred aircraft, UNHAS served 400 regular destinations in 23 countries currently facing crises and emergencies. UNHAS supported the global response to COVID-19 by quickly implementing preventive measures in order to be able to continue to fly, securing government authorizations, providing MEDEVAC capacity, transporting samples and medical cargo. WFP also launched three new UNHAS operations in the Syrian Arab Republic, Burkina Faso and Mozambique and deployed a helicopter to assist the Humanitarian Relief Mission in Honduras, following the damage caused by Hurricanes Iota and Eta.

Now more than ever, humanitarian and development organizations depend on the air transport services provided by UNHAS. WFP strongly appeals to governments, donors and partners to support this vital service to ensure the continued ability for humanitarian personnel and essential supplies to reach crisis-affected locations. As humanitarian needs continue to grow, insufficient funding for UNHAS will challenge the ability of the humanitarian community to provide timely and life-saving assistance to those in need.



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP/Samba Khalidou

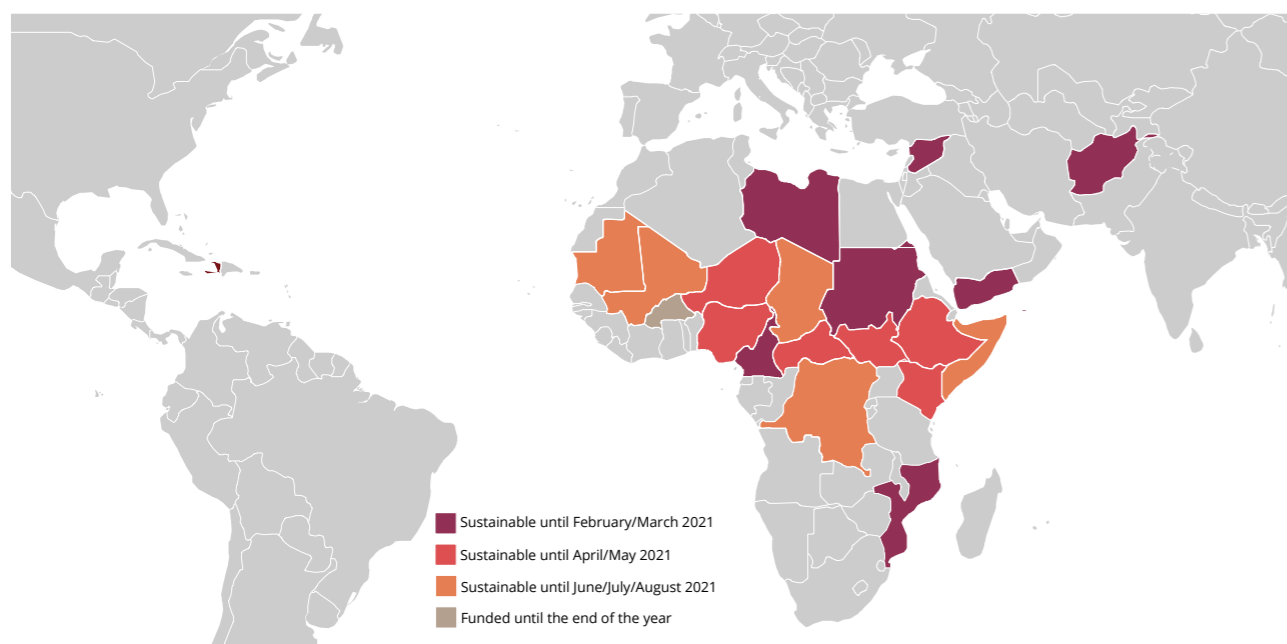
2021 Shortfall

US\$204.2 million

At the time of writing, funding requirements are being updated for some UNHAS operations. For this reason, individual funding updates will be provided during the following months.

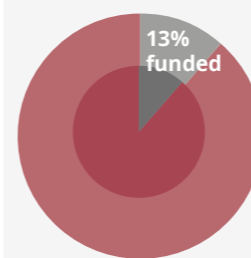
Financial Requirements in 2021

Country of operation	Budget approved (US\$)	Funding received (US\$)	Percentage funded	Operation funded until
Afghanistan	18,788,498	4,326,794	23%	Mid-March
Burkina Faso	5,221,807	5,139,541	98%	End of 2021
Cameroon	6,912,455	1,277,873	18%	End of March
Central African Republic	22,540,504	8,912,108	40%	Mid-May
Chad	16,665,708	7,627,944	46%	End of June
Democratic Republic of the Congo	42,155,120	25,973,196	62%	End of August
Ethiopia	4,577,405	1,578,414	34%	End of May
Haiti	4,440,000	558,360	13%	Mid-March
Kenya	5,142,294	1,756,005	34%	End of May
Libya	5,889,079	886,044	15%	Beginning of March
Mali	8,700,000	5,757,828	66%	End of July
Mauritania	2,891,848	1,383,256	48%	Beginning of July
Mozambique	3,587,600	428,335	12%	Mid-March
Niger	9,589,156	3,632,359	38%	Mid-May
Nigeria	24,077,502	7,550,812	31%	End of April
Somalia	25,222,868	13,529,241	54%	End of July
South Sudan	54,081,097	15,979,414	30%	End of April
Sudan	27,646,735	5,619,943	20%	Mid-March
Syrian Arab Republic	8,561,961	794,664	9%	Mid-February
Yemen	33,169,739	4,980,555	15%	Beginning of March



Critical funding shortfalls

Haiti



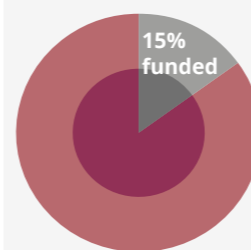
TOTAL 2021 REQUIREMENT: **US\$4.4 million**
 Funded until: **Mid-March**

To sustain operations beyond mid-March 2021, UNHAS urgently requires

US\$3.8M

UNHAS serves the wider humanitarian community in Haiti and ensures that over 60 humanitarian organizations can effectively implement and monitor humanitarian programmes. The Humanitarian Country Team requested UNHAS to continue services for another year.

Libya



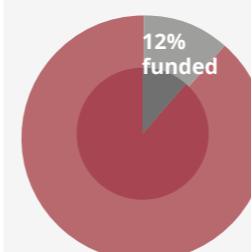
TOTAL 2021 REQUIREMENT: **US\$5.9 million**
 Funded until: **Beginning of March**

To sustain operations beyond the beginning of March 2021, UNHAS urgently requires

US\$4.9M

UNHAS makes round-trip flights every week, connecting Tunis, Tripoli and Benghazi, and plans to provide further access to the south of the country – which has been strongly hit by the COVID-19 pandemic and suffers from vulnerabilities due to insecurity, displacement and infrastructure issues. UNHAS will continue to fill gaps where necessary, allowing for the continuation of humanitarian operations within the country, and to enable the movement of vital equipment and staff to support the COVID-19 response.

Mozambique



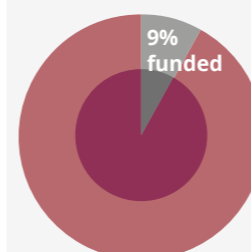
TOTAL 2021 REQUIREMENT: **US\$3.6 million**
 Funded until: **Mid-March**

To sustain operations beyond mid-March 2021, UNHAS urgently requires

US\$2.9M

The UNHAS service in Mozambique started in November 2020 following the humanitarian community's request to access hard-to-reach areas in Cabo Delgado. Since the launch of the UNHAS Mozambique service, critical locations such as Palma and Ibo have become accessible.

Syrian Arab Republic



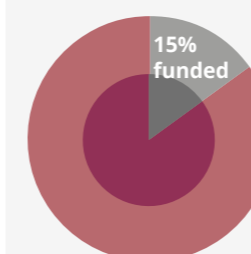
TOTAL 2021 REQUIREMENT: **US\$8.6 million**
 Funded until: **Mid-February**

To sustain operations beyond mid-February 2021, UNHAS urgently requires

US\$7.8M

UNHAS Syria provides essential air transport services to the humanitarian aid community to connect Damascus and the north-eastern part of the country, where access to affected populations is only possible by air due to vast distances and insecurity. Despite the availability of local commercial airlines in Syria, many aid organizations are not authorized to use them. Twenty-six humanitarian organizations and diplomatic missions involved in Shelter, Health, Food Security, Nutrition, WASH, and NFI clusters in Syria are relying on this service.

Yemen



TOTAL 2021 REQUIREMENT: **US\$33.2million**
 Funded until: **Beginning of March**

To sustain operations beyond the beginning of March 2021, UNHAS urgently requires

US\$27.2M

With the current level of confirmed contributions, the funding pipeline for UNHAS is expected to break in March 2021. Following the termination of the sea passenger service operated by WFP via the Logistics Cluster in November 2019, UNHAS presents the main option of travel for the entire humanitarian community into and within Yemen, enabling the humanitarian response to continue across the country. Funding is urgently needed to ensure its continuation, as a disruption in services would have a significant impact on the entire humanitarian operation and thus on the Yemeni people.

Significant funding shortfalls

AFGHANISTAN

To sustain operations beyond mid-March 2021, UNHAS urgently requires a contribution of **US\$13.8 million** to continue to offer air transport services to hard-to-reach destinations and deliver essential humanitarian cargo, while maintaining 24/7 capacity for medical and security evacuations.

CAMEROON

Humanitarian and development operations are hampered by vast distances, insecurity, poor road connections and lack of reliable air commercial options to project implementation sites, making UNHAS a crucial service for the humanitarian community in Cameroon. The deployment of UNHAS also enhances the ability to relocate or evacuate staff quickly and safely in a situation that remains fragile and prone to sudden deterioration. UNHAS urgently requires **US\$5.3 million** to continue to provide air transport services in the country beyond March.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

UNHAS is the backbone of humanitarian access in the country. A contribution of **US\$13.8 million** will ensure the service continues beyond mid-May 2021, enabling humanitarian workers to safely reach affected populations in hard-to-reach areas and distribute essential cargo, including health supplies.

CHAD

Given that humanitarian access throughout the country is hampered by physical constraints, insecurity and administrative obstacles, the UNHAS Chad operation offers an essential service to the humanitarian community thanks to its nationwide coverage. To sustain activities beyond June 2021, UNHAS Chad urgently requires a contribution of **US\$8.9 million**.

ETHIOPIA

UNHAS Ethiopia remains the only way to safely access remote locations across the country where commercial flights are not available. UNHAS operates in isolated areas where humanitarian access is critically needed, mainly in the Somali region where refugee camps and settlements are established. UNHAS Ethiopia is in critical need of **US\$2.8 million** in funding to sustain activities beyond May 2021.

KENYA

In Kenya, UNHAS continues to transport light cargo and passengers from Nairobi to the Kakuma and Dadaab refugee camps and supports several ad-hoc requests for flights in the region. To sustain operations beyond May 2021, UNHAS urgently requires a contribution of **US\$3 million**.

MAURITANIA

UNHAS Mauritania requires a donation of **US\$1.4 million** to support the operation beyond June 2021. The service is crucial to provide access to Bassikounou, the epicentre of humanitarian action in the country, given the M'Bera refugee camp's presence in this region.

NIGER

The entire humanitarian community relies on the UNHAS service to carry out critical activities across the country. The operation requires a contribution of **US\$5.9 million** to continue beyond mid-May 2021.

NIGERIA

Without adequate funding, the operation will close in April 2021 and humanitarian partners will struggle to reach people in need across the country due to severe road access constraints. UNHAS Nigeria has a funding shortfall of **US\$16.4 million**.

SOUTH SUDAN

With a shortfall of **US\$36.4 million**, UNHAS in South Sudan will stop at the end of April 2021 unless receiving immediate adequate funding to sustain its operations across the year and continue providing uninterrupted access.

SUDAN

UNHAS Sudan is in urgent need of funding. The operation requires **US\$21.4 million** to sustain its activities beyond mid-March 2021. The service remains the only air carrier serving hard-to-reach destinations across the country despite the logistical challenges posed by COVID-19.

THANK YOU

WFP wishes to thank and acknowledge the generous donors who have supported its work in 2020, extending its gratitude for their crucial contributions to the timely and flexible funding that made UNHAS services possible.



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