



June 26, 2024 – Situation Report No.1

Highlights

- According to the last Brazilian census of 2022, Rio Grande do Sul is the 6th biggest state in population in Brazil, with over 10,8 million people in 497 municipalities.
- The Guaíba river registered its biggest flood since 1941 on May 4th, 2024 reaching 5,30 meters height.
- Rio Grande do Sul state declared a **level III public calamity (highest level of emergency)** for 478 municipalities, including in the capital Porto Alegre.
- **As of June 26 2024**, the Social Development Secretariat of Rio Grande do Sul State reported 7,747 people still in shelters distributed in 168 shelters in 49 cities. It is worth noting that the majority of displaced families are still staying with relatives or friends, with some households hosting dozens of people.
- Shelters are being closed progressively, while people are trying to get back home; the process will be long for several thousands of them, as many of the affected families are extremely vulnerable, living in low lying areas and islands affected by floods.
- On June 3rd UNICEF launched the first safe spaces for children living in shelters with implementing partners ADRA and World Vision, called “Espaços da Gurizada”. UNICEF accessed affected vulnerable communities in islands near Porto Alegre providing technical support to the Water Working Group.
- Since the onset of the crisis, UNICEF coordinates its efforts with the Federal and Local Governments, especially with the National Civil Defense, the Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Human Rights and Citizenship, State and Municipal Secretariats for Social Assistance and Health, as well as the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Public Defender's Office, the National Human Rights Council and the Justice System.

UNICEF's response in Rio Grande do Sul relies on the support of thousands of individual donors and partnerships with philanthropists and companies.

UNICEF is particularly grateful to the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and the company MSD as strategic partners, as well companies Takeda, Beiersdorf-house of NIVEA-and-Eucerin, and Kimberly-Clark.

Brazil



Rio Grande do Sul

Floods

June 2024

unicef 
for every child

Situation in Numbers*

-  **> 2,398,000**
Affected population
-  **> 200,000**
Children and adolescents in need
-  **> 80,000**
People in temporary shelters

Targets*

50,000 children and adolescents

Funding Requirements*

2,500,000

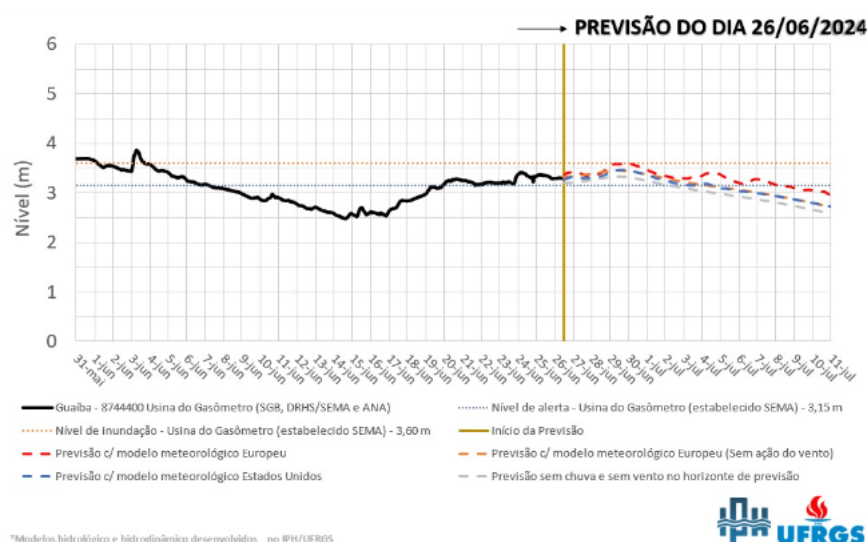
Investment needed (in USD)

* Preliminary figures, targets, and funding requirements, to be updated as damage and needs assessments are conducted, and more information is available regarding the situation and needs of children and families.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The current floods, caused by heavy rains, have been followed by the breach of protective dikes on the Jacuí and Guaíba rivers. The water reached levels higher than the previous historical flood in 1941, with 5,30m compared to 4,76m (prior to the rains in early May, the level was around 1,50m). The Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul predicts that the water levels will continue receding, however slowly and irregularly, with heavy rains expected in July (see Fig. 2), with potential localized flooding. Thousands of people have still no other choice than staying in shelters, in relatives' houses or in makeshifts shelters. It is worth noting that the State Social Development Secretariat indicates that about 7% of the people displaced by the floods of last year remained in shelters, with no alternatives. This suggests that several thousands of families will likely remain in shelters or will be in need of placement in temporary cities, called Humanitarian Hosting Centers (*Centros Humanitarios de Acolhimento*).

Figure 2: UFRGS prevision of Guaiba river levels - Rhama Analisis, IPH, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul



As of May 25th, according to the quick census done by the Social Development Ministry, the State Social Assistance Department, the Human Rights Ministry, with UNICEF support, there were an estimated 767 shelters active in the State, with 357 or 46.5% located in the municipalities of Porto Alegre, São Leopoldo, Canoas and Guaíba. According to the above census, there are 15,870 children and adolescents in shelters, 4,128 under the age of five. 41% of the shelters registered the presence of pregnant or postpartum women. Indigenous and traditional people have been found in 29 shelters, while migrants have been reported in 300 shelters.

With the return of many families to their home, there has been a significant reduction in the number of people currently in official shelters, whose monitoring is carried out by SEDES (State Secretariat of Social Development). Today's figures show that fewer than 8,000 people are still in temporary accommodation spread across 49 municipalities ([SEDES Power-Bi link](#)). It is worth noting that the municipalities of Canoas, Porto Alegre and São Leopoldo still account for more than 60% of all displaced people.

The UN family is active and meets regularly both at local level and at national level under the 5th pillar of the UNDSOF aiming at supporting the government in responding to humanitarian crisis. OCHA Regional Office has sent support to provide technical assistance to the national civil defense.

Child and adolescent-focused impact and needs assessment

1. WASH

Access to WASH services has been severely impacted at the onset of the crisis. According to the Water Quality Department of the State Health Secretariat (VIGIAGUA), about 270,000 persons were left without proper access to safe drinking water. Water companies are repairing damaged water treatment plants and networks, however, many localities at the ends of the lines still lack access to water due to extensive damage to the network in numerous locations. This is particularly the case for the small islands near Porto Alegre, served by one treatment plant supplying one line which has been severely damaged. The situation in indigenous areas and traditional communities is also a concern due to the previous vulnerability of these populations. It is important to note that these remote areas are also regularly affected by severe droughts in the southern region of Brazil, this means that in a few weeks, once the rains stop, these same regions may again lose access to safe water. In addition to water, hygiene items, cleaning equipment, personal protective equipment (PPE) are becoming critical to support families cleaning their houses.

Actions in the WASH sector are carried out by a series of actors, both national and local, including those responsible for water supply in the territories, the Civil Defence, the health sector and social assistance, considering their respective roles in affected cities and shelters. Several NGOs and Foundations have arrived and started providing WASH support. Samaritan Purse, World Vision, IFRC, MSF, PADF (through partners), Veolia Foundation, Ação Cidade, CUFA, Evangelist Allianz. The hygiene situation in smaller shelters remains a concern, and families trying to go home are requesting support with cleaning equipment and materials. UNICEF is relaying those demands to the new WASH working group, activated through UNICEF's advocacy with VIGIAGUA, with key players from the federal government, the state and strategic partners, including representatives of the Armed Forces and civil society organizations.

2. Health & Nutrition

The Ministry of Health (MoH) installed, on May 4th, the Emergency Operations Center (COE) to organize, coordinate and control the measures to be employed during the response. MoH have released about 15M USD to affected municipalities, deployed about 200 staff from the national health emergency force in charge of six field hospitals. NGOs have joined the response effort. A new field hospital in one severely affected neighborhood of the capital was set-up in mid-June to attend to the population's urgent needs. The State Health Secretariat has reported an increase of Leptospirosis cases, with 242 confirmed cases and 3,270 under investigation and adapted the treatment protocol with recommendation of immediate treatment based on symptoms without the need for laboratory confirmation. Diarrhea and respiratory infection cases are increasing among the population in shelters; the MoH is disseminating prevention messages through social media.

Adolescents' mental health is a concern among the local government, as is the decrease of pre-natal and post-natal consultations in the cities most affected by the floods. Difficulties maintaining breastfeeding during the floods were reported by women in shelters, as well as healthy complementary feeding for young children.

3. Education

After the floods, the State network data showed that, of the 2,338 schools, 1,089 were affected; and of the 741,831 students enrolled, 396,126 were impacted. As of 18th June, the State Education Secretariat online [monitoring panel](#) shows that 43 schools have not yet returned to activity, out of the 2,338 state schools. It is however concerning to observe that more than 16,000 students have not yet returned to schools according to the same dashboard.

The situation is more complex for the Municipal network, an initial assessment indicated that 644 of 2,447 schools in 130 municipalities were severely affected, however, there is a lack of updated information on the status of more than one million students who rely on the municipal education network that reportedly suffered various structural and

material damages. In Porto Alegre, the state capital, although approximately 85% of the classrooms reopened, students who live in heavily affected areas are still attempting to assess schools. In some cases where the school has not reopened, they seek education at temporary facilities or in neighbouring municipalities. In the municipality of Canoas, 41 of the 83 municipal schools were directly affected by the floods, while 25 are still being used as emergency shelters. In the past week 19 early childhood centers were reopened. In São Leopoldo, 18 municipal schools and 21 pre-school and early childhood centers were flooded, and still 12 schools remain serving as shelters up to this day. Also, in Eldorado do Sul a city that was 98% under water and among the worst impacted, the education infrastructure was severely compromised and still faces limited energy and water supplies, while flood warnings are still active.

At least 138 school libraries were flooded and lost their collections, as well as special education rooms that had their equipment damaged. The State government will provide an extra R\$46.6 million for education through three programs: 1) Agiliza - direct transfer of financial resources to schools; 2) School Feeding; and 3) For the replacement of damaged furniture and equipment. In addition, R\$200 million will be invested in the reconstruction of 22 schools that were destroyed by the floods.



A recently renewed school library in the Municipality of São Leopoldo, after the floods. A recently renovated school library in the Municipality of São Leopoldo, after the floods. Credit: Diogo Fernandes / Prefeitura de São Leopoldo

4. Child Protection

Through the survey carried out in the shelters in support of the Ministry of Social Development (MDS) and State Social Development Secretariats, the Civil Defence and the Ministry of Human Rights and Citizenship (MDHC), it was possible to collect information about the number of unaccompanied and separated children in each monitored shelter. Many of these children identified as unaccompanied were already reunited with their family or referred to the Child Protection System for alternative care when necessary. The Prosecution Office and the Children's Guardianship Council are being notified to continue monitoring and verifying the presence of separated children reported by shelter managers. Despite good will, improvised shelters remain managed by volunteers, civil society organizations and even by municipal employees, but with no or little previous experience, without being properly integrated within the social protection system, other public services and with the child protection network, representing a high-risk environment for children, especially for sexual violence, both in metropolitan areas and at the countryside. A few official shelters still lack security measures to control the entrance/exit of individuals and safe spaces for children and adolescents. With the objective to provide a clear framework for local public services and civil society actors engaged in child protection activities during the emergency, the National Council for the Rights of Children and Adolescents (CONANDA) released a set of "Recommendations" for the Universal Protection of Children and Adolescents in Situations of Risk and Climate Disasters¹, encouraging State and Municipal Councils to set up Committees, in coordination with the Child Protection System, in order to identify the specific and priority needs of children and the municipalities.

5. Social Protection

Vulnerable territories with a high incidence of poverty were the most affected by the emergency. The federal and state governments are providing cash transfers to the affected population. The federal cash transfer *Auxílio Reconstrução* of R\$ 5,100 (approx. US\$ 1,000) per family affected² is estimated to reach 240,000 families. The registry is made

¹ Conanda's Recommendation for the Universal Protection of Children and Adolescents in Situations of Risk and Climate Disasters. Available at: <https://www.gov.br/participamaisbrasil/blob/baixar/51492>

² <https://www.gov.br/mdr/pt-br/auxilioconstrucao>

through the Federal Government digital services website (Gov.br). A lack of electronic devices and difficulties with the registration steps on the website have been reported as bottlenecks to accessing the benefit. Also at the federal level, the regular cash transfer program Bolsa Familia expanded horizontally to include more than 21,000 families affected. At the state level, two cash transfers are in place. *Volta Por Cima* of R\$ 2,500 (approx. \$US 500) per family. So far, more than 51,000 families received the benefit. The second cash transfer program (R\$ 2,000 - approx. \$US 400 - per family) is implemented through the federal bank Caixa Economica Federal by card or bank transfer with resources from state donation campaign *SOS Rio Grande do Sul* that raised money via instant payment method (PIX) and already reached around 18,000 families. Except for Bolsa Familia, all benefits are lump sums. Limited human resources to support the registry of families to access cash transfers and social protection services continue to be a challenge at the municipal level. The MDS launched a mechanism to deploy qualified professionals and other valuable resources to support the state and municipalities affected (National Social Assistance Force - FORSUAS).

Humanitarian Assessment and Response

CHILD-SENSITIVE ASSESSMENT: Early on, the MDS requested UNICEF's support in the assessment of the situation in Porto Alegre. UNICEF staff were deployed and helped to design a rapid questionnaire to be implemented in the shelters in support of the Social Development Ministry and Social Development Secretariats of the State, in collaboration with the Civil Defense and the MDHC. The questionnaire included questions about children, adolescents, women, people with disability, traditional, indigenous and migrant people, as well as their main needs (water, food, NFI, health services, security). It highlighted critical needs for these most vulnerable groups. The tool reached 752 shelters and results were used by sectors when observing the presence of vulnerable groups or reported needs. Data were made official and public by the State Social Development Secretariat, allowing for timely and coordinated action by the public authorities. UNICEF continues to support the Social Development authorities in their effort to monitor the situation in the shelters. UNICEF also advocates for collecting information about host communities or families.

CHILD PROTECTION: UNICEF team is working in partnership with the MDHC, the MDS, State and Municipal Government Secretariats, and local Child Protection System to identify and implement strategies to prevent violence against children, adolescents and women within the temporary shelters and the most affected and vulnerable neighbourhoods.

UNICEF supported the assessment of the situation of children and adolescents in shelters, jointly with the MDHC, advocating for the implementation of child-friendly and safe spaces to promote psychosocial support, recreational, learning and development activities.

In coordination with the Municipal Social Development Secretariats of the cities of Canoas and Porto Alegre, with shelter's managers, and with the State Social Development Secretariats of Rio Grande do Sul, UNICEF started with partners (ADRA and World Vision) the implementation of child friendly and safe spaces for children and adolescents, that's being called "Espaços da Gurizada" ('gurizada' is a local term for 'kids') inside six shelters. Given the vulnerability of the most affected neighbourhoods and islands of cities of Canoas and Porto Alegre, where families are starting to go back to, UNICEF and its partners are also planning the soon to be opening child friendly and safe spaces within those areas, whether in existing buildings or in tents, to offer protection to children while public services are not attending, schools are closed and parents are busy with cleaning and repairing houses, looking for jobs and/or going to work.



First child-friendly and safe spaces implemented in Canoas.

UNICEF provided training for 92 people, from the teams of its implementing partners World Vision and ADRA, and from the managers of municipal shelters in Porto Alegre (the latter in partnership with UNHCR and IOM).

EDUCATION: The State Secretary has issued materials with pedagogical and administrative guidelines intended for school staff and teachers. The goal is to support the school community on how to cope with the impacts of the floods on the school routine, support the recovery of the learning process, focusing on the reception and safety of students and education professionals, as well as administrative and structural issues. As a result of the close UNICEF follow up on the actions taken, the State Secretary has officially adhered to the School Active Search³ UNICEF initiative, which is a milestone for the education strategies from now on.

At Federal level, after holding a webinar on comprehensive education in contexts of climate and environmental emergencies in May, the Ministry of Education will promote a two-day seminar to debate strategies on how to guarantee learning within emergencies, gathering municipal leaders, state secretaries and national education advisors, with UNICEF as an invited expert.

Meanwhile, UNICEF has been in direct contact with Federal, State and Municipal education authorities, taking part in working groups and high-level meetings, seeking alternative means to assess data on the current situation and the emergency needs in the 20 most affected municipalities, while it advocates with key stakeholders to encompass students' well-being, mental health, and school evasion prevention concerns, within the strategic priorities and through the implementation of UNICEF's SAS and *Education that Protects – ETP* (Educação que Protege)⁴ methodologies. At the same time, the educational Kits B&A (Brincar e Aprender / Play and Learn) have reached 6 child-friendly and safe spaces providing means for safe and fun activities for children and adolescents, including for those living with disabilities.

³ ^[1] SAS – School Active Search, methodology for technical assistance to support states and municipalities to engage and implement strategies to identify children and adolescents who are out of school or in risk of dropping out. Further details: buscaativaescolar.org.br

⁴ ETP - Education that Protects, a set of methodologies, materials and training to support governments in analyzing their challenges and making decisions to address multiple factors of school exclusion, including those related to violence; effective school inclusion and empowerment for life, preventing violence and promoting successful school trajectories for every boy and girl; breaking the cycles of violence by properly addressing, identifying and reporting violence that occurs or manifests itself at school, within the framework of Law 13.431.



Meeting held by UNICEF with education authorities from affected Municipalities, for the implementation of SAS and ETP emergency strategies

WASH: UNICEF continues to support the coordination of the WASH Working Group led by VIGIAGUA, by facilitating the identification and engagement with public authorities and humanitarian WASH actors. Up to now, 10 mobile water treatment units were installed in the metropolitan area and remote communities, including indigenous affected population. Following a UNICEF training for professionals from disaster-affected municipalities, the rapid damage assessment form, constructed in collaboration with Ministry of Health and Vigiagua was deployed to focal points in different state regions. This form is to be applied to understand the damage to water supply infrastructures in the most affected municipalities and indigenous communities to guide the implementation of appropriate technologies and addressing respective needs. As of 20 June, 44 municipalities have filled the form. UNICEF provided 4 water quality portable laboratory and trained Vigiagua team. Efforts to enhance water quality monitoring are in progress in collaboration with public partners and NGOs involved in the WASH response. UNICEF also supported, through the WASH WG, training sessions for over 66 Community Health Agents of Porto Alegre, on strengthening risk communication efforts with the population returning to their homes after the flood levels have reduced, focusing on procedures for cleaning and disinfecting water tanks and homes. UNICEF donated water-proof boots, gloves and masks to Community Health Agents. In addition, sectorial coordination to assist the WG partners and community enabled to identify locations to install mobile water treatment units and household water treatment filters in vulnerable areas, benefitting over 200 families in the islands near Porto Alegre. Through the donation of over 3,800 collapsible water container units (10l), UNICEF has supported the Armed Forces, Ministry of Social Assistance, WASH WG partners and environmental agencies, to provide access to water for vulnerable populations as well as professionals working in remote areas.



Training of Community Health Agents



Donation of water-proof boots, gloves and masks to Community Health Agents

HEALTH: UNICEF supports the Emergency Center Operations led by State Government and with the participation of diverse strategic partners, by promoting the identification and engagement with humanitarian health actors to assess the health demands of the affected people and thus planning the support that can be offered. UNICEF has technically supported the most affected municipalities to implement strategies to promote health and prevent the spread of diseases inside and outside shelters. The initiatives of “health promoters”, called *Multiplicators*, has started with the health secretariats of Canoas and Sao Leopoldo. UNICEF is coordinating with the State Health Secretariat to strengthen the mental health strategy for adolescents, through the existing Suicide Prevention Committee, offering UNICEF counselling platform “[Pode Falar](#)” (*you can talk*). Additionally, UNICEF health, education and child protection sections have provided technical inputs to a guidance note prepared by the Early Childhood State Committee on the implementation of safe spaces for children, highlighting the needs for ensuring specific attention to 0-2 years children, including breastfeeding continuity, health food, immunization and appropriate hygiene. The note also offers the possibility to share UNICEF’s holistic approach for safe spaces for children and adolescents.

RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

In addition to the 60 “*Multiplicators*” deployed in Porto Alegre, Canoas and Sao Leopoldo to promote risk communication information tailored to the situation in each municipality,,

Printed materials about child protection, the promotion of breastfeeding, complementary feeding for young children, prevention of accidents of young children, baby care, antiracism and gender inclusion have also been distributed in shelters throughout the State.



Training on priority health topics for the multiplicators.

UNICEF informational content has been released to the general public as well as advocacy messages:

- [UNICEF e Visão Mundial abrem “Espaços da Gurizada” em alojamentos com crianças na cidade de Canoas](#)
- [Enchentes no Rio Grande do Sul: Saiba como o UNICEF tem apoiado o governo e atuado em conjunto com a sociedade civil | Instagram](#)
- [\[PT\] UNICEF pede prioridade às crianças na emergência das chuvas no Rio Grande do Sul | \[EN\] UNICEF asks for children to be prioritized in the emergency floods of Rio Grande do Sul](#)
- [UNICEF supports Brazilian Government in response to rains in Rio Grande do Sul](#)
- How to talk to children during and after disaster situations [Instagram](#) | [Website](#)
- [What UNICEF is doing](#)

UNICEF Response Plan

Following the first phase of response to acute needs, centered on ensuring the **integral protection of children, adolescents and women in emergency shelters**, described above, UNICEF's assessment is that many families might remain displaced for several months. Given the scale of destruction, this return process could require several months to be fully completed, particularly for families living in the cities' outskirts, on the island and remote communities. UNICEF's has increased its initial response budget to US\$ 2,500,000 to implement both the first phase response and to ensure a relevant child-sensitive recovery phase.

CHILD PROTECTION: UNICEF will continue to provide technical support to the Ministry of Human Rights and Citizenship, State and Municipal Government Secretariats and local Child Protection Systems and Councils. Together with the Ministry of Human Rights and Citizenship, UNICEF is creating an assessment questionnaire to map the current situation of the Children's Guardianship Council and the Child Protection System in each municipality, to better understand the impact of the crisis on their work. While the mapping occurs, UNICEF is advocating in support of the State Council of the Rights of Children and Adolescents of Rio Grande do Sul (CEDICA-RS), in accordance with the released recommendations of CONANDA to set up an Emergency State Committee for Children and Adolescents to strengthen capacities of the affected municipalities and the local and regional Child Protection Systems.

UNICEF will continue the implementation of the "*Espaços da Gurizada*" within the six shelters in Canoas and Porto Alegre and will start the implementation of those spaces in other 14 places (inside and outside shelters) within the cities of Canoas, Porto Alegre and Lajeado, for a duration of up to six months. The "*Espaços da Gurizada*" are designed to 1) protect children against violence, with activities of prevention of violence and a safe space where cases can be properly identified and referred to local child protection services; to 2) promote access to rights and services for children and their families, strengthening the community's child protection capacities; to 3) promote mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) of children and caregivers; and to 4) promote non-formal education (by offering appropriate learning environments in which activities are designed to support the development of skills that will help children and adolescents adapt to their new school routines).

WASH: UNICEF will continue providing technical support to the WASH working group led by VIGIAGUA, especially on information management and coordination, including response strategies. With many families expected to remain in search for a place to live for months, and expecting a reduction of donation by the civil society, UNICEF, through implementing partners, will support, strategically for population most at risk, with the donation of specific WASH kits (kit for menstrual health and hygiene, kit for babies health and hygiene, kit for cleaning and disinfection and kit of personal protective equipment). UNICEF and implementing partners will support the local government in implementing WASH promoters to disseminate information in both shelters and areas of return, and to collect feedback from communities on information needs and other support required. UNICEF is assessing the possibility of supporting returning families in vulnerable areas with cleaning equipment through implementing partners. In remote areas, Indigenous and Quilombola communities' needs are still being assessed with the Indigenous Health District and the Health Secretariat to provide adequate support in the recovery phase, whether through delivery of WASH equipment to restore or protect water systems, or through household water filters.

HEALTH: UNICEF will continue to provide technical support to the Emergency Center Operations led by the State Government, and the most affected municipalities. Together with the State Government, UNICEF is supporting the promotion of breastfeeding, health complementary feeding for young children and the prevention of accidents with young children in shelters. UNICEF is also technically supporting the State Committee of First Childhood with the development of the Joint Technical Note on the organization of spaces for the care of the early childhood in shelters. The initiative Póde Falar has been promoting the mental health of adolescents. In partnership with the State Government, the Artificial Intelligence channel for adolescents and young people 13-24 years old, will be shared in shelters and schools. Together with the most affected municipalities, UNICEF has been planning the initiative

“multiplicadores” with the aim to promote vaccination, prenatal care, postnatal care, prevention of diarrhoea, respiratory infection diseases, leptospirosis and dengue.

EDUCATION: UNICEF is in direct contact with UNDIME at Rio Grande do Sul, coordinating joint efforts to support affected municipalities. The priority remains to carry out a rapid assessment on schools' infrastructure and service conditions, which will be done through an UNICEF tailored instrument. Since the State Department of Education has adhered to *School Active Search - SAS* (Busca Ativa Escolar)^[1], the implementation of the strategy will be initiated in straight line with *Education that Protects – ETP* (Educação que Protege) to specifically address mental health issues, psychosocial support and protection against violence. In articulation with the State Court of Auditors and the National Association of Courts of Auditors (Atricon) an Action Plan will embody efforts for the dissemination of information, recommendations and guidelines for municipalities on issues related to education, such as the diagnosis of schools, the educational situation of children in shelters, actions to mitigate school evasion and learning losses. In the near future, UNICEF foresees the promotion of the inter-sectoral engagement of the child protection system under the SAS [in EiE](#) and ETP [iE](#) frameworks adapted the ongoing crises and emergencies in the State, through sensitization and training. Moreover, as mentioned above, UNICEF will take part on the upcoming Ministry of Education National [Seminar on educational policies for emergency and post-emergency situations](#).

SOCIAL PROTECTION: UNICEF will provide support to the Ministry of Social Development and Social Assistance (MDS) and local governments via FORSUAS (the National Force of Social Assistance in Emergency) facilitating the deployment of qualified professionals and providing computers to register families with children and adolescents to ensuring they access social protection services and available cash transfers that will contribute to recovering from the disaster. In addition, UNICEF will provide a social protection toolkit to improve the shock-responsiveness of municipalities affected in case of future emergencies.

RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: UNICEF will continue assessing emerging risks for children and adolescents and help local authorities in promoting risk prevention and mitigation measures through interpersonal communication. A new strategy to disseminate key messages through radio and digital channels is under development to reach multiple audiences.

External Media

- UOL (with UNICEF interview): <https://noticias.uol.com.br/cotidiano/ultimas-noticias/2024/06/08/protecao-criancas-sul.htm>
- Correio do Povo: [Unicef cria “Espaços da Gurizada” em Canoas \(cservice.io\)](#)
- UNICEF:
https://www.instagram.com/reel/C8XlQlyunn3/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==
<https://www.unicef.org/brazil/comunicados-de-imprensa/unicef-e-visao-mundial-abrem-espacos-da-gurizada-em-alojamentos>
- Rio Grande do Sul State Government:
<https://www.instagram.com/p/C6uJL93RyAd/?igsh=MWl3MHg0eTRmMXZyZg==>
<https://www.estado.rs.gov.br/secretaria-de-desenvolvimento-social-coordena-forca-tarefa-para-mapeamento-de-abrigos>
- Rio Grande do Sul State Civil Defense: <https://www.instagram.com/defesacivilrs/>

Who to contact for Youssouf Abdel-Jelil
further information: Representative
Brazil Country Office
yabdeljelil@unicef.org

Denise Stuckenbruck
Deputy Representative, a.i.
Brazil Country Office
dstuckenbruck@unicef.org

Gregory Bulit
Emergency and WASH Manager
Brazil Country Office
gbulit@unicef.org