

unicef 
United Nations Children's Fund

2 0 0 1 U N I C E F A n n u a l R e p o r t

1990

UNICEF: A Decade

1990: A ten-year campaign of progress for children begins at the **World Summit for Children** at United Nations headquarters, when 71 Heads of State and Government and other world leaders establish concrete end-decade goals for children's survival, protection and development. UNICEF, which helped governments formulate the goals, takes up the challenge of helping countries achieve them. By the year 2000, for example, polio has been nearly eradicated, and around 75 per cent of school-age children are completing a basic education.

UNICEF and hundreds of partners applaud a major victory for children when the **Convention on the Rights of the Child** enters into force as a legal international treaty, becoming a guiding force behind UNICEF's work.



UNICEF/90-017/Mera

1992: Children in countries around the world take to the airwaves as producers, reporters and technical assistants during the first **International Children's Day of Broadcasting**. This annual event, which takes place on the first Sunday in December, was created by UNICEF and partners in broadcasting to promote high-quality radio and television programming both for and by children. By 2000, more than 2,000 media organizations are participating, including Universal Studios, Sesame Workshop and Brazil's TV Cultura.

1994: The **Global Girls' Education Programme** is a major step forward in achieving the goal of education for all children. By 2000, the UNICEF-supported programme is operating in more than 60 countries.

A low-cost, fast and reliable household survey system is introduced to help assess countries' progress towards achieving the World Summit for Children goals. Within five years, these **Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys** have started to build the database on children in 60 countries.



1990

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1994

1991: Hospitals and maternity centres around the world adopt 'Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding' advocated by UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO). The 10 steps underpin the **Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative** to promote breastfeeding. By 2000, more than 15,000 hospitals and maternity centres in 136 countries have joined the Initiative and become certified as 'baby-friendly'.



1993: Twenty-five years after UNICEF and WHO first introduced **oral rehydration therapy (ORT)** in 1968, one million children in developing countries are being saved each year by this simple solution of sugar, salt and water to treat diarrhoeal dehydration.



UNICEF/93-1471/Lemoine



Decade of Action

2000



UNICEF/95-0977/Noorani

1996: As AIDS ravages communities around the globe, the **Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)** is created to coordinate research and action on the epidemic. UNICEF expands its programmes in AIDS awareness and prevention, providing assistance to children and families affected by the disease. By 2000, UNICEF-supported prevention programmes are in place in 20 of the worst-affected countries.

UNICEF supports two major initiatives to protect children: the ground-breaking UN study of the **'Impact of Armed Conflict on Children'**, by Graça Machel, specialist on children in armed conflict; and the **World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children**, the first international gathering dedicated to combating this global problem.

UNICEF launches **Voices of Youth** <www.unicef.org/voy>, a website where young people from around the world can exchange views on a variety of topics.



UNICEF/97-0339/Stern

1998: The number of countries receiving UNICEF support for malaria prevention and treatment programmes reaches 20. The global **Roll Back Malaria** campaign, led by WHO, UNICEF, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, further intensifies efforts to combat this disease, a major killer of children.

The **global Polio Eradication Initiative**, begun with WHO, UNICEF, Rotary International, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and other partners in 1988, redoubles global efforts to wipe out the crippling disease. In 1998, the polio virus still circulates in 50 countries; by the end of 2000, the number has fallen to 20 countries.



UNICEF/00-0250/Pirozzi

1995

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1998

1999

1995: UNICEF announces its **'anti-war agenda'**, a set of concrete measures to alleviate the impact of warfare on children.

The **Fourth World Conference on Women**, in Beijing, renews global commitment to uphold the rights of women, and UNICEF takes stronger measures to make gender issues a priority in all country programmes.

To help reduce poverty, UNICEF champions the **20/20 Initiative**, which encourages developing and donor nations to allocate 20 per cent of their budgets and development assistance, respectively, to basic social services.

1997: UNICEF joins other participants at the **International Conference on Child Labour** in adopting a global agenda for eliminating the worst forms of hazardous and exploitive employment of children. Three years later, UNICEF helps 29 countries introduce education programmes aimed at preventing child labour.

In Ottawa, 123 nations sign the **Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines, and on Their Destruction**, which UNICEF helped draft and strongly promotes.



UNICEF/96-0966/Hernandez-Claire

1999: UNICEF, now the main supplier of vaccines to developing countries, joins **GAVI (Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization)**, a ground-breaking partnership to help countries strengthen their immunization services and introduce new and underused vaccines for children. UNICEF serves as GAVI's secretariat.

and in 2000/2001...



UNICEF/96-0116/Pirozzi



UNICEF/95-1112/Pirozzi

UNICEF helps galvanize major support for the **Global Movement for Children** – a coalition of governments, UN agencies, non-governmental organizations, private sector and community groups, families and children – dedicated to improving children's lives.

Nelson Mandela, former President of South Africa, and Graça Machel, expert on children in armed conflict, organize a global alliance of leaders from government, the private sector and every sphere of civil society in support of the goals of the Global Movement.

The **'Say Yes for Children'** campaign builds on this momentum, with millions of children and adults around the world pledging support for critical actions to improve children's lives. The pledges are to be presented to world leaders in a symbolic gesture at the UN General Assembly **Special Session on Children** 19-21 September.

Inspired by the groundswell of support for children, those gathered at the Special Session will look at the world's record on children and create a global plan of action for securing a better future for and with them.

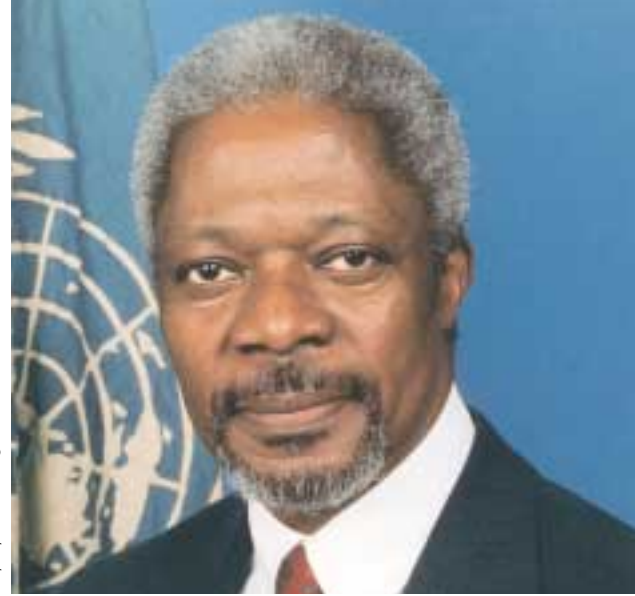
2001 UNICEF Annual Report

Covering 1 January to 31 December 2000

UNICEF: A Decade of Action	1
FOREWORD by United Nations Secretary-General	3
MISSION STATEMENT	4
OVERVIEW by UNICEF Executive Director	5
UNICEF 2000	6
IMMUNIZATION	8
SCHOOLS	10
PARTICIPATION	12
MEDIA	14
PARTNERSHIPS	16
Private sector	16
Celebrities for UNICEF	19
National Committees for UNICEF	20
RESOURCES	22
UNICEF'S GLOBAL REACH: Map	24
TABLES AND CHARTS	23
UNICEF income 1998-2000	23
Contributions to UNICEF by source	23
Contributions to UNICEF compared with GNP	23
Programmes funded from regular resources	26
UNICEF expenditure on programmes by sector, 2000	27
Top 20 donors to UNICEF regular resources, 2000	28
Total UNICEF income by source of funding, 2000	29



UNICEF/92-2212/Lemoyne



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FOREWORD

THE UNITED NATIONS was built on the belief that people united in a cause can achieve great ends. More than 50 years later, cooperation among peoples and nations has helped to bring about widespread awareness of human rights, a resurgence of democracy in many countries and the eradication of diseases such as smallpox and the soon-to-be-vanquished polio. Many thought that achieving such goals was impossible.

This spirit of partnership is also at work in the Global Movement for Children, a growing alliance of people and organizations from all nations and walks of life committed to improving the world for and with children. UNICEF, a partner in the Global Movement since the beginning, works with governments, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, communities, families and children to ensure that the ideals and principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child become everyday reality for all. This goal received invaluable support during the year 2000 when Nelson Mandela, former President of South Africa, and Graça Machel, a United Nations special expert on children in armed conflict, joined UNICEF and others in launching a global leadership initiative for children.

As this annual report illustrates, more children than ever are being immunized, polio is nearing eradication, schools are welcoming formerly excluded children, especially girls, and millions of children affected by AIDS, conflict and other crises are securing help and skills needed to meet life's challenges. Much of this progress is being made by children themselves, who are developing leadership skills while devoting their ideas and idealism to projects ranging from AIDS prevention to school improvement to helping UNICEF prepare for the 2001 United Nations Special Session on Children.

The world still has a long way to go to win the fight against children's worst enemies – poverty, armed conflict, AIDS, discrimination and neglect. But as UNICEF's record shows, it is through partnerships, especially with children, that the seemingly impossible can and will be achieved.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'K. Annan'.

KOFI A. ANNAN
Secretary-General of the United Nations

MISSION STATEMENT

UNICEF is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential.

UNICEF is guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child and strives to establish children's rights as enduring ethical principles and international standards of behaviour towards children.

UNICEF insists that the survival, protection and development of children are universal development imperatives that are integral to human progress.

UNICEF mobilizes political will and material resources to help countries, particularly developing countries, ensure a "first call for children" and to build their capacity to form appropriate policies and deliver services for children and their families.

UNICEF is committed to ensuring special protection for the most disadvantaged children – victims of war, disasters, extreme poverty, all forms of violence and exploitation and those with disabilities.

UNICEF responds in emergencies to protect the rights of children. In coordination with United Nations partners and humanitarian agencies, UNICEF makes its unique facilities for rapid response available to its partners to relieve the suffering of children and those who provide their care.

UNICEF is non-partisan and its cooperation is free of discrimination. In everything it does, the most disadvantaged children and the countries in greatest need have priority.

UNICEF aims, through its country programmes, to promote the equal rights of women and girls and to support their full participation in the political, social and economic development of their communities.

UNICEF works with all its partners towards the attainment of the sustainable human development goals adopted by the world community and the realization of the vision of peace and social progress enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

OVERVIEW

THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

enters the 21st century with an ambitious goal, more convinced than ever that together we can make the world a better place, both for children and with children. This means changing the underlying patterns that allow more than 10 million children to die each year, often from malnutrition and preventable diseases – some eradicated long ago in industrialized countries; that shackle 600 million children in poverty; that keep more than 100 million children out of school – 60 per cent of them girls; that send 250 million children under 15 to work; that kill, maim and traumatize millions of children in war; and that leave the world's poorest children and women disproportionately vulnerable to the ravages of HIV/AIDS.

At UNICEF, we are dedicated to the creation of a world where all children share in the joy and promise of childhood, realizing their rights to dignity, security and self-fulfilment. UNICEF is united in this belief with governments, other United Nations agencies, businesses, religious groups, non-governmental organizations, broad elements of the mass media, volunteers, families, communities and children themselves – all of them part of a growing Global Movement for Children. It is an alliance that is gaining strength and influence every day.

Nelson Mandela, former President of South Africa, and Graça Machel, Mozambique's former Minister of Education and specialist on children in armed conflict, have added their voices to the growing chorus of those promoting children's rights. Together, they have assumed a direct and personal role in organizing a global partnership of leaders from government, the private sector and every sphere of civil society, urging them to act on a basic recognition – that if we want a more just and equitable world, we must invest in children now.

UNICEF's pledge is this: We will continue the same unwavering support for children that we have maintained since UNICEF began operations more than 50 years ago. We will continue to build partnerships dedicated to mobilizing the resources necessary to realize children's rights and meet their basic needs. And we will continue to develop the knowledge and expertise we must have to confront the biggest challenges to our youngest citizens, including poverty, armed conflict, HIV/AIDS and discrimination.

We are in a strong position to make good on this pledge. Our coordination with UN counterparts such as the World Health Organization and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) is stronger than ever. By joining forces with these and other partners, UNICEF is maximizing the impact of its resources and expertise in more than 160 countries and territories.

As this *2001 UNICEF Annual Report* shows, partnerships are key to giving every child a better future. The record for 2000 speaks for itself: An unprecedented 550 million children under five were immunized against polio during special campaigns; schools opened their doors to hundreds of thousands of out-of-school children, especially girls and children caught in crises; hundreds of thousands of young people affected by AIDS learned about HIV-prevention and life skills; and 12 million women at risk of dying from tetanus during and after childbirth were immunized against the disease.

In preparation for the UN General Assembly's Special Session on Children in September 2001, UNICEF played a lead role in helping governments and other partners assess the significant progress that occurred in the decade since the World Summit for Children, which set comprehensive goals for child survival and development. Millions of young lives have been saved, a greater percentage of children than ever are in school and important treaties have been concluded to protect children from violence, exploitation and abuse. Yet the brighter future for every child envisioned by world leaders in 1990 has proved elusive, especially for the millions of children who die each year from preventable diseases and the hundreds of millions killed, maimed or left homeless by war, trapped in child labour and denied their right to education.

Every one of us has the power to change the world *for* and *with* children – and there is no more opportune moment to exert that power than now.



CAROL BELLAMY
Executive Director, UNICEF



“TO THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD . . . I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THIS: YOU ARE MY LIFE’S WORK.”

– GRAÇA MACHEL

GETTING RESULTS: 2000

- UNICEF procured or purchased nearly 2 billion doses of oral polio vaccine for use by developing countries in 2000, the highest quantity ever. This was only a part of UNICEF’s role in helping immunize a record 550 million children against polio through special campaigns in 53 countries, in partnership with governments, WHO, Rotary International and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- UNICEF worked with a variety of partners to achieve advances for children – by advocating laws and policies that promote children’s rights and implementing them through work with individuals and groups at all levels of society.
- UNICEF procured more than 1 million insecticide-treated mosquito nets in sub-Saharan Africa in 2000 and, along with its partners in the Roll Back Malaria campaign, helped improve prevention and treatment of the disease in malaria-affected countries. Malaria is one of the leading killers of children in Africa.
- Around 50,000 pregnant women in countries affected by AIDS received care in antenatal clinics supported by UNICEF in 2000; around 30,000 women received voluntary and confidential counselling about HIV; and 22,000 women were tested for the virus.
- Education progress in many areas was notable in 2000, thanks in part to UNICEF support. Among the advances: More than 20 countries reported increases in girls’ enrolment rates; around 270,000 teachers and school principals completed UNICEF-supported training; UNICEF distributed 80,000 learning kits to children in flood-damaged areas of Mozambique; and 55,000 children in the West Bank and Gaza received physical and developmental screening at school through a UNICEF-supported programme.
- UNICEF took an active role in drafting and promoting adoption of two ground-breaking additions to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, called ‘Optional Protocols’, which were adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2000. One bans children under 18 from serving in armed conflict, and the other strengthens legal norms preventing the trafficking and sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.



UNICEF is a team player. Each day in countries all over the world, we work with myriad partners to change the world for and with children – from governments improving social services for young citizens to children spreading health messages to their peers to the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, which makes life-saving vaccines available to poor children.

The realization of children’s rights is the overarching goal UNICEF shares with a broad coalition of partners in the public and private spheres: United Nations organizations, committed governments, thousands of NGOs, the private sector, religious groups, media, volunteers, community leaders, families and children. All are working to create a world fit for children, where every child’s right to dignity, security and self-fulfilment is upheld.

UNICEF is a founding partner of

UNICEF'S STRONGEST ALLIES

Graça Machel, specialist on children in armed conflict, and Nelson Mandela, former President of South Africa, joined UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy in launching a global leadership initiative for children on 6 May in Johannesburg (South Africa). The initiative calls on all people with influence to place children's rights and well-being at the top of policy agendas and to "invest in children now."

this Global Movement for Children, convinced that the Global Movement can achieve a significant leap in human development in just one generation by ensuring three things:

- that children get the best possible start in life in their early years – through love and care provided by families and communities, good health care and nutrition, intellectual stimulation and opportunities to play and socialize;
- that all boys and girls, no matter how disadvantaged, complete a quality basic education; and
- that adolescents have every opportunity to develop their capabilities and participate meaningfully in society.

UNICEF is in a strong position to contribute to this effort. Thanks to partnerships, we stretch the value of every dollar we receive and make a far greater impact on children's lives than our budget would indicate. UNICEF relies entirely on voluntary contributions, and it is by demonstrating results for children year after year that we have been able to maintain our strong base of monetary and public support.

Each donated dollar buys access to UNICEF's 55 years of experience; a strong, on-the-ground presence in 162 countries, areas and territories; one of the largest supply networks in the world; and direct working relationships with government ministries, community leaders and policy makers all over the world.

GOVERNMENTS: In nearly all developing countries, UNICEF has country programmes of cooperation with national partners based on agreements with governments. UNICEF's advantage lies in its global reach, in-depth knowledge of the situation of children in developing countries and ability to respond in practical ways to children's pressing needs. In Uganda, for example, UNICEF worked with government and community leaders to launch a new nationwide drive for the birth and death registration of all children under eight years old.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs): Our impact and reach is greatly expanded by our strong partnerships with NGOs, which raise funds and increase awareness about children's issues at the international level and implement many UNICEF-supported programmes locally. Save the Children, for example, is our strong partner in assisting children in emergencies and in helping children worldwide receive early childhood care. At the local level in Nepal, Bal Chetana works with communities to help children avoid sexual exploitation and take action on issues important to them.

UN AGENCIES: Every year we find ways to work more effectively with other UN organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Food Programme (WFP), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). WHO, for example, is our close partner in immunizing children and women, combating malaria, eradicating polio and other campaigns. Through the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), we collaborate on policies and programmes and share facilities and services with our sister organizations in the field.

PRIVATE SECTOR: We increasingly forge links with the private sector to secure better results for children. Many partners, such as Crédit Suisse/Winterthur in Switzerland and Nippon Telephone and Telegraph in Japan, conduct special campaigns to raise money for UNICEF. Broadcast companies such as Warner Brothers, Walt Disney Studios and TV Cultura in Brazil have worked with UNICEF to create and broadcast animation projects promoting children's rights.

VOLUNTEERS: Volunteers are a backbone of our work. They raise funds, sell greeting cards and other products, help immunize children against polio, join efforts to protect orphaned children and support children's rights in many other ways. Many volunteers are themselves children and adolescents. Hundreds of thousands of volunteers work with NGOs and other partners or donate their time and talents to National Committees for UNICEF, our affiliates in 37 countries.

COMMUNITY GROUPS: Religious leaders, traditional chiefs, educators, health care workers, families and other community members are taking an increasingly active role in planning, managing and monitoring UNICEF-supported programmes. For example, community members are key to the success of the Bamako Initiative, which has revitalized local health centres in many West African countries.

CHILDREN: In their own right, children are strong agents of change. An inspiring, energetic force in the Global Movement for Children, they increasingly play a valuable role as planners, advisers, managers and researchers in UNICEF-supported programmes. As peer counsellors and volunteer health promoters in countries affected by AIDS, they have proved crucial to the campaign to prevent HIV infection among young people. In Belize, a committee of children helps plan and monitor UNICEF programmes; in Angola, young people help produce an educational radio show on violence against children; and in Jordan, youth volunteers teach families about improving care for young children.

UNICEF/93-0198/Lemoyne

