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INDONESIA



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Cover photo:
Delansa Vile Ingguoe, 5, plays in the schoolyard of Mokdale Christian Early Childhood Development Centre in Ba'a City, Rote Ndao, East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia.

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Moleh Ongge, age 12, in her hometown in Jayapura, Papua, Indonesia.

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United Nations Children's Fund
World Trade Centre 2, 22nd Floor
Jl. Jend. Sudirman Kav. 31
Jakarta 12920, Indonesia

Tel.: +62 21 5091 6100
Email: jakarta@unicef.org
Website: www.unicef.or.id

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Javihero Anagay, age 5, at an Early Childhood Development Centre in Rote Ndao Island, East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia.

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Highlights

6.1 million children were vaccinated against polio and **four new vaccines** introduced nationwide with UNICEF's advocacy and technical assistance.

13 of 75 endemic districts in eastern Indonesia became **malaria-free** in 2023 with UNICEF's support.

Mitra Muda climate activists elevated the voice of young Indonesians on climate change at COP28, while **1,300** young people received coaching and seed funding support to take action.

Analysis of government spending for children conducted in **seven sectors at national level and in five provinces,** with training and peer learning among districts on prioritizing and tracking budgets for child-related services.

UNICEF's engagement led to **40 districts** investing in the education needs of out-of-school children and those at risk of dropping out, including **nine districts** starting this year.

The first-ever ***Landscape Analysis on Children with Disabilities in Indonesia,*** led by Bappenas, sheds light on the deprivations facing children with disabilities and pathways to disability-inclusive development that leave no child behind, while highlighting the critical need to integrate climate change adaptation and disaster risk management to protect vulnerable children.

With UNICEF's support, in collaboration with partners, **4.5 million** people newly gained access to improved sanitation, bringing the number of people living in open-defecation free environments to **51 million.**

44 million internet users were reached with useful information and resources for the prevention of online child sexual exploitation and abuse through the **#JagaBareng** campaign, launched in February.

Over 5 million adolescent girls received iron and folic acid supplements to prevent anaemia through the UNICEF-supported **Aksi Bergizi** school nutrition programme, which is being scaled up by the government.

'Islamic Perspective on Protecting Children from Violence and Harmful Practices' published in consultation with 20 Islamic universities in Indonesia.

Over 1 million young people joined the **U-Report** platform, engaging in discussions on topics like climate change and online safety.

2023 AT A GLANCE

March



World Obesity Day event galvanizes high-level support for the prevention of overweight and obesity.

February



Launch of #JagaBareng national campaign for prevention of online child sexual exploitation and abuse, which reaches over 44 million internet users and engages more than 1.6 million website visitors.

May



Joint launch of study with the Ministry of Finance and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to explore the municipal bond landscape as a new source of financing to accelerate sub-national development.

June



Joint launch with the Ministry of Religious Affairs of *The Islamic Perspective on Protecting Children from Violence and Harmful Practices* to engage religious leaders, scholars and the public.

August



National launch of Rotavirus Immunization Expansion to reduce the high incidence of diarrhoeal diseases caused by rotavirus infection in children.

September



Jakarta Declaration to accelerate the elimination of open defecation signed by all participants at the Ministry of Health's 5th national water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) event that focused on open defecation.



Launch of national awareness campaigns on stunting, wasting, and obesity, which reaches over 40 million internet users.

October



Over 12,000 students from 4,000 schools participate in the Budget Olympics competition, designed to educate students and teachers about the state budget and public financial management.

November



Launch of #SetiapAnakBerhak ('every child has rights') campaign to educate children and young people about their rights, which reaches 15 million internet users with support from a range of influencers and celebrities.



High-level engagement with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry in preparation for the Conference of the Parties (COP) 28 on climate change, ahead of the participation of young Mitra Muda delegates at the COP in Dubai.



First-ever Annual Joint Education Sector Review explores ways to transform education, focused on improving the quality of teaching and learning in schools and madrasah.

December



The groundbreaking *Landscape Analysis on Children with Disabilities* in Indonesia reveals that 36 per cent of children with disabilities do not attend school, among other pressing challenges.

Towards a "Golden Indonesia" That Puts Children First

In 2023, Indonesia set its sights on achieving a "Golden Indonesia", unveiling a new long-term development strategy to attain high-income status by 2045. It is crucial for the nation to prioritize children within this ambition, and to ensure they remain central to Indonesia's pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

Throughout the year, at both national and sub-national levels, UNICEF worked closely with the government to ensure the inclusion of child-focused and climate resilient targets in both medium and long-term development plans which address the health, nutrition, education and protection of children from birth to adolescence.

With UNICEF's support, the Government of Indonesia addressed various challenges facing children, ranging from longstanding obstacles to emerging threats. This collaborative effort resulted in the strengthening of national systems, improvement of child-focused laws and policies and the expansion of quality essential services, among other areas of progress. UNICEF continued with its strategy of policy support and generation of key data and evidence, accompanying the government to test tailored innovative approaches and support pathways to scale.



Friends play in a village in Lumajang, East Java, Indonesia. ◀

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Towards a "Golden Indonesia"
That Puts Children First

The Landscape Analysis on Children with Disabilities underscored the urgency of targeted interventions for this highly vulnerable population. The groundbreaking report revealed that only 64 per cent of children with disabilities attend school, and 17 per cent of children with disabilities live in poverty – 1.4 times the rate of children without disabilities.

Despite significant efforts to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on routine childhood immunization, in 2023 Indonesia was home to over half a million "zero-dose" children who have never received any routine vaccines.

To address this challenge, UNICEF supported the development of a national strategy focused on priority areas with low immunization coverage, and innovative approaches to reach as many children as possible. UNICEF supported the government's response to contain a polio outbreak in early 2023 and was planning for another outbreak immunization campaign at the end of the year. As part of wider efforts to strengthen the health system, strides were made to improve the health of mothers, newborns, children and adolescents.

Post-pandemic learning loss across Indonesia was not as severe as expected, according to the 2022 Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), although reading and mathematics scores saw a noticeable decline. In some provinces, notable gains were made in children's learning in pre-primary and primary education, including significant reading improvements in target Papua provinces.

UNICEF continued to support the government's efforts to return thousands of out-of-school children to learning, an effort that gained strong momentum in South Sulawesi, where all districts were engaged in pilot initiatives to be scaled up by provincial and district administrations throughout the country.

Indonesia's commitment to reduce all forms of malnutrition, particularly stunting, remains steadfast. Alongside the development of a National Strategy to Accelerate Stunting Prevention, which will be evaluated in 2024, a nationwide awareness campaign promoted optimal child feeding and care practices.

Expansion of the Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) programme – a successful treatment model for severely wasted children – boosted efforts to improve the treatment of severely wasted children, with 42 per cent (1,656) of 3,942 primary healthcare centres providing life-saving services across seven target provinces, an increase from 30 per cent in 2022 (1,182 of 3,942 primary healthcare centres).

With the growing challenge of overweight and obesity posing significant risks to children's health, UNICEF collaborated with the government to develop a National Action Plan and Strategy for Overweight Prevention.

There was notable progress in addressing violence against children with the introduction of key policies, the launch of a national campaign aimed at preventing online child sexual exploitation and abuse, and continued expansion of the ROOTS bullying prevention programme, which now reaches over 10,700 schools out of a total target of 70,558 junior and senior high schools and vocational schools.

Indonesia has made steady gains with reducing open defecation, from 30 per cent in 2000 to 4.2 per cent in 2023. However, challenges remain in improving sanitation quality, which is worsened by increasing climate-related hazards. To address this issue, the Government of Indonesia developed a National Roadmap for Safely Managed Sanitation with UNICEF, which will be launched in 2024.

UNICEF has been collaborating with the government to improve public financing for children with particular attention to crucial social sectors. In 2023, through initiatives like Child Budget Analyses and budget briefs, UNICEF continued to advocate for fiscal policies to ensure greater investment in children's well-being, particularly through the government's macroeconomic framework and Principles of Fiscal Policy (KEMPPKF). UNICEF also supported the 'Budget Olympics' initiative that engages children across Indonesia in an effort to strengthen budget literacy and foster a more inclusive approach to financial planning at the sub-national level.



Edi Suandika and his wife, Nurtinah, play with their three-year-old son in North Lombok, West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia, after being educated about early detection of wasting from local health cadres.

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Syaiful (left), who suffers from a physical impairment, with his friend Kevin, who has a visual impairment, in Banyumas, Central Java, Indonesia.

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Advancing Health Care of Mothers and Children

Indonesia is on a mission to transform its health system to deliver better health care for its population, including mothers and children. UNICEF is dedicated to supporting key priorities on this journey, including reducing maternal mortality, improving newborn care, addressing gaps in immunization coverage, eliminating malaria and tackling pressing adolescent health issues.

While significant progress has been made in curbing child and newborn mortality rates, maternal mortality remains a major challenge, with Indonesia ranking eighth highest globally for maternal deaths, stillbirths and neonatal deaths.

To address this challenge, UNICEF spearheaded the development of a hospital-based maternal and perinatal death surveillance and response system to avert fatalities and improve maternal health outcomes. UNICEF also facilitated the adaptation of universal newborn screening tools and the crafting of regulations to implement point-of-care quality improvement initiatives in healthcare facilities.

Advancing Health Care
of Mothers and Children

Advancing Health Care
of Mothers and Children



Mothers bring their children to an integrated health post (posyandu) for health checks in Banda Aceh, Aceh, Indonesia.

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Tata, 17, participates with other students from several schools in Rembang, Central Java, Indonesia, during a school-based mental health programme.

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Indonesia had the world's seventh-highest number of "zero-dose" children in 2023 – 571,000 children who had not received a single dose of diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis-containing vaccines. To alleviate this, UNICEF collaborated with the government to develop a national strategy focused on priority areas with low immunization rates. Innovative approaches were employed, such as using early childhood development centres to help reach missed children.

In an effort to bolster routine immunization, UNICEF supported the procurement of 12 million doses of the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine and the introduction of new vaccines for rotavirus, human papillomavirus (HPV) and Japanese encephalitis. UNICEF also invested in efforts to strengthen immunization supply chain logistics and engaged parents and caregivers through a digital immunization chat bot to promote vaccine uptake.

UNICEF played a key role in the government's swift response to a polio outbreak that vaccinated over 12 million children, procuring 16 million doses of the novel oral polio vaccine, helping to ensure efficient vaccine logistics and supporting social and behaviour change initiatives to encourage parents and caregivers to immunize their children.

Indonesia is one of nine malaria-endemic countries in Southeast Asia, accounting for 15.6 per cent of the region's reported cases and 22 per cent of malaria deaths. With UNICEF's support, 13 of 75 endemic districts in eastern Indonesia became malaria-free in 2023, raising the number of malaria-free districts to 389 (of 514 target districts), and bringing Indonesia closer to its 2030 goal of total elimination.

Working closely with the Ministry of Health and WHO, significant progress was made to improve the primary healthcare system's capacity to address climate change and environmental health challenges. Key efforts include completion of National Guidelines on Clinical Management of Lead Poisoning and an initial assessment of the contributions by the healthcare sector to greenhouse gas emissions. UNICEF also supported a *Climate Change Risk and Vulnerability Assessment in Indonesia* for climate change adaptation in the health sector.

Indonesia's growing population of young people – over 46 million aged 10-19 years – faces mounting health challenges, including mental health issues and increasing rates of smoking. UNICEF supported government initiatives for tobacco control (smoking prevention and cessation) and mental health and psychosocial support, including suicide prevention, which reached over half a million adolescents, including students in Islamic boarding schools. These initial interventions are yet to be evaluated before they inform policy development and are scaled up by the government at provincial and national levels.

BRINGING QUALITY VACCINES CLOSER TO COMMUNITIES

New equipment strengthens cold chain management in West Sumatra

"Quality vaccines mean better protection. And that's something every parent wants for their child."

Amidst the crowd on a bustling afternoon at the Paninggahan public health centre (puskesmas) in Solok Regency, West Sumatra, something different stood out – a newly installed refrigerator, surrounded by dozens of posters urging vaccinations against COVID-19 and promoting routine check-ups.

This was no ordinary fridge – it was stocked with a trove of essential vaccines like BCG, DPT, and MR. For Friska Zonedy, the 30-year-old immunization coordinator at the health center, it has been a game-changer. No longer does she have to worry about the vaccines' storage or expiration dates. With new temperature monitoring devices, it is much easier to maintain the vaccines at an optimal 2–8° Celsius, ensuring their potency and efficacy.



Friska visits a home in the local community to immunize a child, using vaccines that have been stored at the right temperature.

© UNICEF/Al Asad

"We are grateful for the new vaccine refrigerator," said Friska. "The storage capacity is huge with two compartments, and the temperature is much more stable so the vaccine quality can be maintained. Now that we have new cold chain equipment, we've ended one excuse of low immunization coverage in our community."

Before the arrival of the new cold chain equipment, Friska and other health workers often grappled with storing vaccines, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. The central government initiated COVID-19 vaccination in early 2021 and ensured the vaccination process was fast and far-reaching. But there was not enough cold chain equipment to store the large number of COVID-19 vaccines supplied to the puskesmas. At times, the team had to resort to using household fridges, risking vaccine efficacy due to temperature fluctuations.

To strengthen the cold chain management and support the delivery of COVID-19 vaccination services across the country, UNICEF Indonesia procured cold chain equipment donated by the Government of Japan to the Government of Indonesia. Three hundred vaccine refrigerators were delivered to 12 provinces to increase their storage capacity, including West Sumatra.

Beyond improving vaccine quality, the new cold chain new equipment also instilled more confidence in the community.

"I used to be hesitant to bring my children for vaccination here as I thought quality vaccines are only available in a big city," admits Putri Nani, 31, a mother of three children who frequently travels to Java for work. "Knowing that quality vaccines are now available in this village, I am confident bringing them here for their vaccination."

"Quality vaccines mean better protection," affirms Sriwareski Ismal, Head of the Disease Prevention Section in the nearby Sawahlunto city. "And that's something every parent wants for their child."

New Breakthroughs for Nourishing Children

Indonesia remains steadfast in its longstanding commitment to combat all forms of malnutrition. Despite notable progress, the country still faces the 'triple burden of malnutrition' characterized by undernutrition (stunting and wasting), micronutrient deficiencies, and overweight and obesity. One in five children under age 5 are stunted and one in 12 children are wasted.

In 2023, UNICEF launched a national awareness campaign on stunting prevention through social media and digital platforms and introduced the first-ever national campaign on child wasting prevention, efforts that reached over 40 million internet users.

The Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) programme -- a successful model for identifying and treating severely wasted children -- was expanded to 128 districts (up from 95 in 2022). This involved training close to 3,000 health workers and almost 15,000 community volunteers and resulted in 42 per cent of 3,942 primary healthcare centres in seven provinces providing IMAM services.

New Breakthroughs for Nourishing Children



New Breakthroughs for Nourishing Children

Parents bring their children to a health and nutrition screening at a posyandu (integrated health post) in Kupang City, East Nusa Tenggara Province, Indonesia.

© UNICEF/UN0740378/Ifansasti

UNICEF also supported the government and communities to expand screening for malnutrition using the mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) measurement tape at household level and in community facilities, including Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres. The initiative focuses on equipping parents/caregivers in areas with high rates of undernutrition with knowledge and skills on early detection and referral of wasting with the MUAC tool.

The adoption of these malnutrition screening approaches brought the number of districts providing IMAM services to 68 – of which 48 are implementing family-led MUAC and 20 are implementing ECD-led child-wasting screening – out of a total of 161 target districts. These efforts resulted in over 5.3 million children under 5 being screened for acute malnutrition, with over 39,000 receiving treatment in 2023.

To strengthen the effectiveness of the IMAM programme, UNICEF initiated the establishment of Centres of Excellence for IMAM in four provinces (Yogyakarta, East Java, South Sulawesi and East Nusa Tenggara) to support the implementation of the programme and integrate IMAM training in pre-service curricula.

Recognizing food fortification as a cost-effective and safe intervention to reduce micronutrient deficiencies, UNICEF and partners launched the Large-Scale Food Fortification Forum, a multisectoral coordination mechanism to advance the national effort for mandatory food fortification of common food commodities.

Efforts to improve maternal nutrition education included the introduction of an online Infant and Young Child Feeding learning initiative in seven provinces (of eight target provinces), with plans for nationwide expansion. A groundbreaking effort to improve breastfeeding counselling was made through the creation of a smartphone-based platform to support new mothers, launched at the end of 2023.

In response to food insecurity exacerbated by COVID-19, UNICEF piloted an initiative in one district in Papua that provided healthy breakfasts for adolescents, complemented by weekly iron-folic acid supplementation, nutrition education and screenings. The model effort, implemented as part of the nationwide Aksi Bergizi programme to improve adolescent nutrition, benefitted more than 3,500 adolescents and gained the commitment of the district government to expand to additional schools.



Ida Royani shows her parent-in-laws how to measure the upper arm of her three-year-old daughter, using a mid-upper arm circumference measuring tape in Central Lombok, West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia.

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HEALTHY EATING ADVENTURES FOR APRILIA

Aksi Bergizi promotes healthy lifestyle habits among adolescents in Papua

"Now I realize a healthy breakfast doesn't have to mirror what I used to see on TV. Many nutritious local ingredients are right in our backyard or at local markets."

Raised on the outskirts of Abepura city in the Papua province by a single mother, 16-year-old Aprilia Yambeabdi once saw a healthy breakfast as a distant luxury. The "My Plate" menu – recommendations for a healthy balanced diet that Aprilia used to see at the local public health center and on TV ads – felt out of reach.

"The menu was either too pricey or simply unavailable in this town," says the native Papuan. "Until tenth grade, for breakfast, I grabbed whatever fried food was available at our school canteen during breaks."

Aprilia knew that this affected her well-being and concentration during class activities, but she had no other options. Everything changed when Aprilia's school joined UNICEF's Aksi Bergizi pilot programme. The initiative provides students with daily nutritious breakfasts and weekly iron-folic acid supplements, along with education on healthy lifestyles. Aprilia was introduced to a locally-tailored "My Plate" campaign focused on affordable, nutrient-rich ingredients that are easy to acquire.

"Now I realize a healthy breakfast doesn't have to mirror what I used to see on TV. Many nutritious local ingredients are right in our backyard or at local markets," says Aprilia, the youngest of three siblings. With her new eating habits, Aprilia has become more enthusiastic about studying and is more attentive and engaged at school and in her church.

In 2022, four ministries – the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Religious Affairs, and Ministry of Home Affairs – created a joint ministerial decree to address undernutrition, overnutrition and micronutrition deficiencies, known as the 'triple burden of malnutrition', among adolescents. This mandated all secondary schools nationwide to implement the Aksi Bergizi programme.

All participating schools were trained to provide healthy breakfasts, nutrition education and other activities to raise awareness and influence behaviours. The schools also organize weekly community breakfasts, providing meals that align with "My Plate" guidelines and use locally available nutritious ingredients.

In Papua, the healthy breakfast initiative through the Aksi Bergizi programme is part of an emergency response to address food insecurity challenges that worsened during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to the success of the programme, the Papua province and Jayapura city governments have committed to sustaining the programme in food-insecure regions.

Now, Aprilia and her mother embark on daily breakfast adventures, together embracing locally-sourced, nutritious ingredients they can afford, striving for perfectly balanced meals.



Aprilia at her school in Jayapura, Papua, Indonesia.

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Pathways for Improved Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Children and their families have benefited from Indonesia's steady progress to provide improved water and sanitation facilities. However, safely managed sanitation – ensuring the safe disposal and treatment of faecal waste – remains challenging. Access to safely managed sanitation barely surpassed 10 per cent in 2023.

UNICEF is committed to addressing this pressing challenge, given the far-reaching implications for children and their families. Poor sanitary conditions not only foster open defecation but also facilitate the transmission of diseases, including diarrhoeal illnesses, which are a leading cause of death for young children and are linked to stunting.

With UNICEF's support, Indonesia crafted a national Roadmap for Safely Managed Sanitation, with medium and long-term development targets for 60 million Indonesians to benefit from safely managed sanitation by 2030. A national roadmap for safe water developed in parallel aims to provide 100 million persons with safely managed water services by 2030.



Children play in Rempe Village, West Sumbawa, West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia.

© UNICEF/Fauzan

Pathways for Improved Water,
Sanitation and Hygiene



Tsaqib, 10, holds a water dipper in his house in Umbul Village, Lumajang, East Java, Indonesia.

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Sustained efforts over many years have led to a reduction in the proportion of households practicing open defecation, from 30 per cent in 2000 to only 4.2 per cent in 2023. In a significant step forward to improve sanitation and combat stunting, an additional 12 districts in South Sulawesi and East Java (out of 20 target districts) became open defecation free (ODF) in 2023, bringing to a total 51 million people who now live in defecation-free environments, with UNICEF's support.

UNICEF's collaborative ventures with the private sector to explore solutions for safe sanitation are accelerating progress. For example, the assessment of 100 public markets in five districts informed the development of a public-private-partnership business model to improve sanitation conditions in public markets. UNICEF also spearheaded the development of a one-stop-shop platform for sanitation services, poised to offer improved choices to households and potentially benefit 6 million people.

Water and sanitation challenges are significantly compounded by climate-related hazards. With UNICEF's support, over 280 primary health facilities across seven UNICEF focus provinces are implementing climate resilient and inclusive water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, based on critical needs identified by the Water and Sanitation for Health Facility Improvement Tool (WASH FIT).

Recognizing the unique obstacles faced by vulnerable groups in accessing sanitation facilities, including women and individuals with disabilities, UNICEF collaborated with the government to pilot the integration of climate and Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) considerations in the Community-Based Total Sanitation (STBM) approach in 464 communities, benefiting over 180,000 individuals.

This initiative empowers communities to proactively identify and implement solutions for WASH challenges. The success of this pilot is informing the development of national guidelines for the integration of climate and GEDSI into the national sanitation programme, in order to take this approach to scale.

UNICEF also facilitated the development of a new STBM information system to track the progress of ODF initiatives and sanitation access in more than 10,000 primary healthcare facilities across Indonesia.

The ongoing expansion of the Oky app resulted in a significant uptick in adolescent engagement, with three times as many users accessing reliable and up-to-date sexual reproductive health and menstrual health and hygiene information in 2023 – from 100,000 online users in 2022 to 310,000 users in 2023. Unlike conventional menstrual hygiene apps, Oky caters to both boys and girls, recognizing that reproductive health and related issues are a shared responsibility.

TIA'S RETURN TO UNSTOPPABLE CONFIDENCE

Menstrual hygiene support in East Flores keeps girls informed and active

"My first-year menstrual experience was tiresome and depressing. But with this new diary, I can easily learn new things about menstrual issues and be less anxious."

Tia, an 11-year-old from Larantuka in East Nusa Tenggara, lights up when she talks about futsal, her favourite sport. She was an avid player until she got her period in 5th grade, and everything changed.

Much to her surprise, Tia suddenly faced new rules and customs that restricted her activities. She wasn't allowed to wash her hair and was often forbidden from going out. Most disappointingly, Tia was not permitted to attend sport sessions at school and ball games at a nearby village yard.

In January 2023, she had a welcome breakthrough when Tia's school joined UNICEF's Menstrual Hygiene Management programme, supported by Kimberly-Clark Softex, and she was introduced to "Oky", the first period tracker designed by girls for girls.

Oky is a mobile app for ages 10 and up that helps adolescent girls learn about menstruation in engaging ways. Girls can track the effects of menstruation on their body and mood. With personalized prediction features, they can plan ahead and get tips to stay healthy and active during their period. Accessible online and offline, Oky can be used anytime, anywhere – even in remote areas with limited internet access.

"My first-year menstrual experience was tiresome and depressing. But with this new diary, I can easily learn new things about menstrual issues and be less anxious," Tia reflects. For Tia's mother, Annisa Masud, Oky has facilitated discussions on many topics considered taboo in their community.

Since December 2019, KC Softex has supported UNICEF's work to improve girls' health and hygiene practices through the #DariSaudari campaign. From 2022 to 2024, the partnership is focused on menstrual health and hygiene education, targeting 10,000 young girls.

The programme is also expected to reach 80,000 people, including women, girls and vulnerable groups through the gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI) approach that is integrated into public WASH facilities and services in East Nusa Tenggara and Papua.

Thanks to this initiative, Tia's school now provides adequate and proper toilet facilities for both girls and boys and shares key information about menstrual hygiene management with parents and guardians during parent-teacher meetings.

In the East Flores district where Tia goes to school, the programme began in 2022, aiming to reach 50 schools and 2,700 students. Twenty-five integrated healthcare centers in the district have been engaged to reach adolescents to use OkyApp.

By participating in the programme and using the Oky app, Tia has debunked several myths – above all, that a period does not need to prevent her from enjoying sports, especially futsal.



Tia at her school in East Flores, East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia.

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Gains for Learning Recovery and Beyond

In the aftermath of COVID-19, 2023 was a pivotal period that focused on learning recovery. Despite the significant disruptions caused by the pandemic, Indonesia's learning losses were not as severe as initially forecast.

Early childhood education participation and school completion rates largely met or exceeded targets for 2023 across all levels, with the exception of senior secondary education, which fell short of expectations.

UNICEF's early grade learning (EGL) programme demonstrated encouraging gains in learning recovery in pre-primary and primary education. Collaborating closely with the government, UNICEF expanded the EGL programme to bolster the development of foundational skills (literacy and numeracy). This expansion has reached 29 of 40 targeted districts since the beginning of UNICEF's current Country Programme (2021-2025) and has provided local government with evidence to allocate its own resources and scale up the programme in the entire province.



Rita Sokoy, the principal of Yayasan Pendidikan Kristen Kanda Primary School, teaches second graders as part of a series of catch-up sessions to improve literacy and numeracy skills in Waibu, Jayapura District, Papua, Indonesia.

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Gains for Learning Recovery and Beyond

The EGL programme had notable results in Papua, where there was a marked deterioration in foundational skills during the pandemic. An Early Grade Reading Assessment conducted in the Papua Highlands province revealed significant improvement in reading comprehension, rising from 17 per cent in 2022 to 52 per cent in 2023, while in West Papua there was an increase from 62 to 81 per cent.

While learning recovery fared better than expected, the 2022 Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) scores shed light on remaining challenges, indicating a notable decline in reading and mathematics scores compared to previous years. This finding was consistent with Indonesia's 2022 annual National Assessment results, which indicated that literacy and numeracy levels are still considered low across all education levels.

Efforts to improve quality early childhood development (ECD) services through improved teaching practices and the provision of inclusive learning materials were replicated and expanded in 24 of 30 target districts since 2021 (of which 13 were reached in 2023), reaching over 16,500 young children. Regulations to promote holistic integrated ECD (HI-ECD) services were also introduced in several provinces, signalling a commitment to prioritize early learning and development at the policy level.

With UNICEF's support, significant progress was made to address the large number of out-of-school children and adolescents, estimated at 3.9 million. Since 2021, efforts to identify and support children who were out of school have expanded to 40 out of 45 target districts (of which nine were reached in 2023), resulting in close to 37,000 children returning to learning and almost 149,000 children being prevented from dropping out of school.

Notably, South Sulawesi extended this initiative to all 24 districts in the province, each developing comprehensive plans to assist out-of-school children. Approximately 94 per cent of the children identified were returned to learning, contributing to an approximately 12 per cent reduction in the province's out-of-school population.

In line with the ongoing commitment to provide quality and relevant alternative learning pathways for out-of-school children, an adapted Adolescent Kit – a tool designed to foster 21st century skills development in non-formal education settings – was integrated in the government's digital learning platform for non-formal education.

UNICEF supported efforts to make 21st-century skills accessible to over 14,000 schools that did an early adoption of the new national curriculum. Teachers in these schools accessed learning content on life skills developed by UNICEF in close consultation with the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (MoECRT).

The UPSHIFT youth skills development programme equipped over 18,000 adolescents from disadvantaged backgrounds in three pilot provinces (Jakarta DKI, East Java and Central Java) with essential 21st century, digital and entrepreneurial skills. The results of this innovative approach will be evaluated to inform the government's efforts to integrate this programme into both the formal and non-formal national education system.



A four-year-old student plays with educational toys made with locally available material at the Pembina Early Childhood Development Centre in East Rote, Rote Ndao Island, East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia.

© UNICEF/UNI469394/Al Asad

BACK TO LEARNING AGAINST THE ODDS

Holistic approach helps children in Purbalingga thrive on new learning journeys

"I am back to learning now and happy to pursue my dream that was nearly halted."

Just before dawn, the Azhari household in Purbalingga, Central Java hums with anticipation as Misyati prepares her youngest daughter, 11-year-old Rere, for school. Rere – who has hearing and speech disabilities – has been eagerly waiting for this daily routine.

"Her biggest wish since she finished kindergarten was to wear a school uniform," says Misyati. "Every morning when she saw kids around her age with uniforms, she would say, 'Mom, I want to wear that and go to school'."

Misyati, who has two other children, was also enthusiastic about sending her to school. But hopes were dashed when local schools wouldn't admit Rere due to her disabilities. The closest special needs school was too far away. Prolonged school closures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic left the devoted mom no choice but to pause Rere's education.



Agung Nugroho speaks with UNICEF's Education Officer during a sharing session at a local community-based learning centre in Purbalingga, Central Java, Indonesia.

© UNICEF/UN0799177/ Al Asad

A new window of opportunity opened in 2022 with support from Subeno, UNICEF's implementing partner in Purbalingga district, the local government and civil society organizations. Rere received hearing aids and enrolled in a nearby school.

Agung Nugroho, 17, who was out of school for four years after losing motivation to attend, recently started studying at a local community learning center. "Seeing my peers wearing high school uniforms, I am disappointed with the life I chose a few years ago," Agung reflects. "But I am back to learning now and happy to pursue my dream that was nearly halted."

These outcomes have been made possible through the UNICEF-supported Out-of-school Children programme, which aims to identify and support children like Rere and Agung who are not in school and provide various pathways back to learning – either to formal or non-formal education.

The initiative has yielded significant results. From 2020 to 2023, of the 22,000 identified out-of-school children in Central Java province, nearly 9,000 were successfully returned to school, representing a 40 per cent re-enrollment rate.

In Purbalingga district, where a 2022 UNICEF-supported assessment found over 3,800 children out of school, over 44 per cent of out-of-school children have been reintegrated into the educational system.

As the program evolves to support more children to return to learning, the scope is expanding to prevent school dropouts, using various strategies including efforts to eliminate school dismissals and violent punishment. Monitoring conducted by UNICEF in 2022 found that three out of four children enrolled in school in Indonesia have at least one risk factor that could lead them to dropping out.

There is strong support from the district government. "We are committed to continuing this effort, and we are on the right track," says the Head of Government and People's Welfare (BAPPEDDALITBANG) Rida Kusumawati.

Strides in Protecting Children from Violence

Strengthening child protection systems and services across Indonesia remains the cornerstone of UNICEF's collaborative efforts to protect children throughout the country from all forms of violence and exploitation.

Indonesia's commitment to provide more accessible and integrated services for the protection of children yielded positive results, with a 39 per cent rise in the number of reported cases of violence against children who received protection services – from 14,586 in 2022 to 20,221 in 2023. This includes a noteworthy increase of 72 per cent in reported cases involving boys.

National data indicates progress in other areas, including an increase in the proportion of under-5 births registered from 79 per cent in 2021 to 82.6 per cent in 2023, and a continuous decline in the percentage of child marriages from 10.35 in 2020 to 8.06 in 2022. UNICEF plays a role in boosting birth registration rates and reducing child marriages through technical support for the implementation of the National Strategy for the Acceleration of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics and the National Strategy for Preventing Child Marriage.

Participants in a #JagaBareng workshop in Jakarta, Indonesia gather to plan and develop youth-led campaigns for the prevention of online sexual exploitation and abuse.

© UNICEF/Al Asad

Strides in Protecting Children from Violence

In 2023, UNICEF provided technical expertise to support the development of more protective laws and policies, notably through the development of a Presidential Decree on the Roadmap for Child Online Protection 2024-2029, and the strengthening of regulations of the 2022 Sexual Violence Crime Law.

Following the adoption of Presidential Regulation No. 101 of 2022 on the National Strategy for the Elimination of Violence Against Children, UNICEF supported the Ministry of National Development Planning (Bappenas) and the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection (MoWECP) to develop and launch a training module to guide government ministries, including at sub-national levels, and civil society organizations to implement violence prevention interventions.

Online safety was a major priority, in response to the findings of a 2022 UNICEF study that half a million children reported being victims of online abuse or exploitation, and that up to 56 per cent of these harmful experiences were not disclosed or reported.

In 2023, the #JagaBareng ("caring for each other") national campaign for the prevention of online child sexual exploitation and abuse reached over 44 million internet users and engaged more than 1.6 million website visitors seeking information on how to access services. Online platforms were also engaged to reach children and communities with information on mental health and effective parenting strategies.

Efforts to cultivate more child-friendly and violence-free environments within schools across Indonesia continued. Governments in four provinces (Aceh, South Sulawesi, Central and East Java) committed to join the Child-Friendly Pesantren (boarding school) initiative, and almost 1,500 pesantren were assessed to ensure they continue to meet child-friendly standards.

The ROOTS bullying prevention programme expanded its reach to over 10,700 out of 70,558 targeted junior and senior high schools and vocational schools, including 50 pesantren (up from 10 reached in 2022). An assessment found that ROOTS has effectively increased the knowledge of "agents of change" – students who are elected by their peers to help prevent bullying – from 69 to 83 per cent.

UNICEF also supported the government in designing an adolescent girls' model programme, targeting vulnerable girls in two different settings – 79 non-formal education centres and 10 pesantren -- to increase their access to education, health and protection services and build their resilience against violence. This model, building on the life skills education programme, will inform and strengthen the Ministry of Religious Affairs' Child-Friendly Pesantren Initiative.



Participants in an 'Adolescent Circle' activity in Lhokseumawe, Aceh, Indonesia, share solutions to challenges they identified during the session.

© UNICEF/AI Asad

CHILD-FRIENDLY PESANTRENS CHAMPION SAFER SCHOOLS

Teachers and students lead efforts to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse

"We used to give punishments to discipline our students such as cleaning the toilet. But now we eliminate physical sanctions and prioritize an educational approach that is more beneficial."

Welcome to Sultan Hasanuddin Islamic Boarding School (pesantren) in Bajeng, Gowa district, South Sulawesi, where change begins at the entrance, marked by the sign: "Welcome to a Child-friendly Pesantren". Intricate Arabic calligraphy adorns the predominantly green walls of every corridor, outlining information about preventing sexual abuse and exploitation.

Sultan Hasanuddin is breaking the silence on a topic that often remains unspoken among pesantrens across Indonesia. Here, students and educators are now having open conversations about how to prevent this violation of children's rights.

"This issue is not something new, but recently we learned that simple gestures like winks and whistles are actually forms of harassment that need to be reported," says Surmaniah Nur, a teacher at the pesantren, who recently participated in a training session for the Child-friendly Pesantren programme hosted by UNICEF, along with 15 other teachers.

Sultan Hasanuddin is one of 25 pesantrens in five districts across South Sulawesi that are part of the Child-friendly Pesantren programme, involving approximately 350 teachers.

Through this innovative programme, teachers learn about handling and reporting cases related to gender-based violence, mental health and sexual abuse and exploitation, aiming to create a safer environment for all students. They are also trained on positive discipline.

"We used to give punishments to discipline our students such as cleaning the toilet, standing in the pesantren yard or reading the Quran under the hot sun," explains Bachtiar, a teacher at Sultan Hasanuddin. "But now we eliminate physical sanctions and prioritize an educational approach that is more beneficial both for students and the environment."

After the training, Sultan Hasanuddin established a special committee to provide students with safe reporting avenues. The "Santri Forum" was also initiated to engage students as agents of change in leading efforts to prevent sexual abuse and exploitation.

"In Islam, I was taught that the best humans are those who are most generous to others," says Alya Rabbani, a 17-year-old student leader in Santri Foum. "I want to put this message into practice by protecting my friends."



Alya Rabbani, 17, leads a Santri Forum discussion on the case reporting procedure for santri at the Pesantren Sultan Hasanuddin in Gowa, South Sulawesi, Indonesia.

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Strengthening Public Investment for Children

It is imperative for children to be included in Indonesia's journey towards economic prosperity. This calls for more inclusive and effective social protection measures, coupled with targeted social sector interventions, to provide a strong safety net for poor and vulnerable households and ensure greater access to quality basic social services for children.

Embedded within Indonesia's aspirations for sustained economic growth is a strong commitment to eradicate poverty. The national poverty rate stood at 9.36 per cent in 2023, with monetary child poverty at 11.8 per cent -- translating to an estimated 9.3 million children who live in poor households -- underscoring the considerable effort still required to meet this goal. Child poverty remains uneven across the country, leaving millions of children in highly vulnerable situations.

Financial hardships are not the sole concerns affecting children's quality of life. An estimated 40 per cent of children face deprivations caused by social and economic factors in at least two of seven dimensions (food and nutrition, health, education, child protection, facilities [water, sanitation and cooking fuel], housing and information). This signals the multifaceted nature of the challenges to improve the welfare and well-being of children.

Strengthening Public
Investment for Children



Rahman Demeru Katinting, 11, ◀ at his home in Balong Village, Bulukumba, South Sulawesi, Indonesia.

© UNICEF/UNI0848148/Al Asad



Adriana Bailuma holds her daughter behind their home in Kupang, East Nusa Tenggara Province, Indonesia.

© UNICEF/UN0740409/Ifansasti

In 2023, UNICEF continued to advocate for a greater and more efficient allocation of public financial resources for children and families, leading to a significant milestone with the adoption of Public Finance for Children in the 2024 Macroeconomic and Principal Fiscal Policy Framework (KEM PPKF), alongside increased allocations to education (20.4 per cent increase), health (5.6 per cent) and social protection (13.1 per cent).

UNICEF's Child Budget Analyses, conducted both nationally and at the sub-national level, prompted significant government interest to improve the identification (budget tagging) of child-related spending and to establish a budgeting system capable of consistently generating such data by providing relevant officials with subject matter training. This effort aims to improve transparency, efficiency and accountability across government expenditure intended to benefit children.

Collaborative efforts with the government to advance social protection reforms led to positive results, including the design of integrated social registry and information systems to broaden social protection coverage and benefits for children, including consideration of how to best protect vulnerable families from climate-induced shocks.

UNICEF also supported efforts to improve the capacity of over 300 government officials at national and sub-national levels to implement climate and disaster-responsive programmes and evidence-led budgeting, and to re-design social assistance programmes to be more child-sensitive, efficient and adaptive.

A joint programme on innovative finance, implemented in collaboration with other United Nations agencies, entered its third year, with UNICEF focusing on the issuance of municipal bonds and improving the use of Islamic finance for children.

The launch of the Assessment of Municipal Bond Landscape in Indonesia, accompanied by training in innovative financing for over 100 participants from national and sub-national governments, laid the groundwork for more effective municipal bond issuance, and the leveraging of Islamic bonds (sukuk) for children at the sub-national level.

UNICEF's support for Islamic finance in the Aceh province yielded tangible benefits for children, with the disbursement of US $600,000 in 2023 from the Islamic Fund – benefiting nearly 700 households and approximately 2,300 children through various child-responsive interventions.

To improve child-sensitive planning in local governance, UNICEF developed a Monitoring Information System that captures children's feedback and perspectives throughout the planning stages. This approach helps to ensure that local authorities acknowledge the needs of children and adolescents, integrate their insights into the planning and budgeting processes, and follow-up and report on them, thus fostering greater transparency and accountability. The Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection (MoWECP) is committed to scaling up this initiative by integrating it into the revised Ministerial Regulation on Child Forums and Presidential Regulations on child-friendly cities.

UNICEF also supported provincial governments in seven provinces (Aceh, East Java, East Nusa Tenggara, West Nusa Tenggara, Papua, South Papua and Central Papua) in formulating long-term development plans that integrate children's issues and perspectives.

ISLAMIC FINANCING IN ACEH PROVIDES LIFELINE FOR FAMILIES

Cash grants support households facing financial hardship

"I've been left to bring up my children by myself. Now, I wash other people's clothes in order to look after our children."

In a humble home in Gampong Lamlagang district in Banda Aceh, sunlight filters through the patched corrugated iron roof onto worn wooden floors – tell-tale signs of household poverty.

This is the family home of recently widowed Ernawati, 46, who has grappled with financial hardship since her husband's sudden passing in 2021. "I've been left to bring up my children by myself. Now, I wash other people's clothes in order to look after our children," Ernawati shares tearfully.

As the main breadwinner, Ernawati earns income solely from washing clothes, a task made harder when her washing machine stopped working, forcing her to do everything manually, along with pick-up and delivery service.

These aren't her only challenges. Her 13-year-old son had to drop out of school, and her 20-year-old son battles an autoimmune disease.

In 2022, the tide began to turn for Ernawati and her family when the village head informed Baitul Mal Aceh (BMA) – a local Islamic finance institution that collects, manages and distributes Islamic alms – about their plight.

Through BMA's Zakat for Development (Z4D) programme, Ernawati received cash grants, enabling her to purchase a new washing machine and construct a wash basin. This eased her workload and allowed her to explore additional income sources, like selling tea packets in her community.

Supported by the joint SDG Fund, UNICEF builds the capacity of BMA to ensure their programmes address children's needs. Since 2022, BMA has disbursed US $600,000 from the Islamic Fund (ZISWAF), benefiting 688 households and around 2,300 children in 23 districts across Aceh province who are affected by economic, sanitation or nutrition-related challenges.

For many at BMA, these efforts are deeply meaningful. Rizki, a BMA Implementing Officer who has dedicated more than 15 years to this work, says the workers are driven to help families in Aceh by a "calling from the heart".

Ibu Ernawati, who improved conditions at her home with cash grants from a local Islamic finance institution through their Zakat for Development (Z4D) programme, with her daughter in Gampong Lamlagang, Banda Aceh, Indonesia.

© UNICEF/Robertson



Driving Change for Children With Private Sector Partnerships









Imagine a world where every child has access to quality education, healthcare and a safe environment. This vision cannot be achieved alone. UNICEF Indonesia is proud to partner with Indonesia's leading businesses and foundations to create lasting change for children and raise vital funds for our work.

Through the combined power of generous partners and innovative partnerships with companies, foundations and key stakeholders, we are making significant strides towards building a brighter future for children. We are incredibly grateful to all our partners and supporters, and we celebrate them and the impact they have had throughout this annual report.

From top to bottom:

- Handing over ECD kits, with support from Prudential, to the ECD Centre in Rote Ndao district, Indonesia. Children were excited to unbox the kits and start playing with the material.
- Marketing Director of WINGS Group, Hirajati Natwiria (left) and UNICEF Representative, Maniza Zaman. WINGS and UNICEF partnered to strengthen access to basic sanitation services in schools, with an agreement signed on 13 December 2023.
- Ana & The Red Wings short film, as part of UNICEF and Softex's effort to promote menstrual hygiene and management, won two silver and two bronze awards at the Citra Pariwara Awards 2023, Indonesia's most prestigious advertising honours.
- The Central Java government, UNICEF, Tanoto Foundation, and Diponegoro University launched the Behaviour Change Communication Strategy (KPPS), which contains guidelines for building a community that is conducive to stunting prevention efforts.

Prudential



Prudential Indonesia and Prudence Foundation are honoured to be part of the Early Childhood Development Programme journey to help ensure access to quality education for children in Indonesia in the early childhood period. Throughout 2023, the programme has impacted over 1,600 children and 100 teachers. Together, we have empowered educators, engaged with parents and influenced national policy through the development of the National Parenting Strategy. For every life, for every future.

Tony Benitez
President Director, Prudential Indonesia

WINGS Group



This year, we are continuing WINGS Group Indonesia's commitment to expanding children's access to basic sanitation and facilities through the WINGS for UNICEF programme. In this second collaboration, we are focusing on promoting healthy and environmentally friendly school management through water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, which aim to increase students' participation in school and social activities. UNICEF's dedication to actualize the health and well-being of children is aligned with our company's philosophy: 'The Good Things in Life Should be Accessible for All.' We are bringing these dreams to life through the Generasi Bersih Sehat campaign and other right-on-target programmes as a contribution to the development of Generasi Emas 2045.

Hirajati Natawiria
Marketing Director, WINGS Group Indonesia

Kimberly Clark Softex

Our partnership with UNICEF Indonesia has positively impacted Indonesian girls in Papua, West Papua, South Sulawesi and East Nusa Tenggara. This partnership will help girls in Eastern Indonesia manage their menstruation safely and hygienically and live in a clean and hygienic environment.



Dmytro Badyvskyi
President Director, Kimberly-Clark Softex Indonesia

Tanoto Foundation



We are deeply grateful for our ongoing partnership with UNICEF, which remains an essential pillar of our unwavering commitment to combating stunting in Indonesia. Since 2021, we have together embarked on an incredibly impactful journey, collaborating on a groundbreaking behaviour change communication strategy in South Sulawesi and Central Java to improve the nutritional status of pregnant women, infants and young children to reduce the risk of stunting. At Tanoto Foundation, we strongly believe in the power of collaboration to catalyse and support nationwide impact on stunting. Our ultimate goal is to transform lives, and it is through the invaluable support of esteemed partners like UNICEF that we can amplify our efforts and truly make a tangible difference in the well-being of communities across the nation.

Belinda Tanoto
Board of Trustees Member, Tanoto Foundation, UNICEF International Council Member

Business and Child Rights



In partnering with UNICEF, we are devoted to promoting Children's Rights and Business Principles (CRBP) and safeguarding children's rights in business. Let's empower businesses to understand their impact, advocate for CRBP and embrace actions to nurture a brighter future for our children. Together, let's ensure every endeavour resonates with child welfare.

Josephine Satyono
Executive Director of Indonesia Global Compact Network (IGCN)

Individual Key Donor



As donors, we have the responsibility of being architects of change in children's lives. With each contribution, we lay the foundation for their dreams to soar. Together, let's continue to nurture their potential and shape a world where every child's future is filled with hope and opportunity.

Johan Buntoro
Individual Key Donor UNICEF Indonesia

BE PART OF THE CHANGE



Marto, 3, being measured with a mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) tape by his mother.
© UNICEF/Alexandra

Our Monthly Supporters



I feel happy to be able to help Indonesian children who I couldn't reach alone. It feels warm when I receive the notification from UNICEF and see the photos of children attached. I feel how meaningful what I do is. As humans, sometimes we feel down and stressful, but when updates from UNICEF come, it somehow makes me strong again. I feel like my life still has meaning. Thank you, UNICEF Indonesia staff, and all those involved both in the office and in the field. Best of luck for you all, God bless you.
Hanna Tanujaya,
Pendekar Anak since 2008



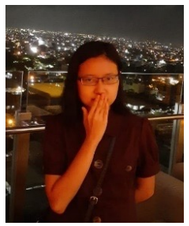
Being Pendekar Anak is one form of fulfilling our responsibilities as human beings, who are known as social creatures and carrying out moral obligations in supporting future generations. The next generation are our successors and will influence the direction of the future. It is important for us to provide them with positive values so that they are able to face future challenges.
Harry Nuryanto
Pendekar Anak since 2022



I feel joyful and glad to be part of UNICEF in helping children in need, especially those who live in remote areas and are difficult for us, Pendekar Anak, to reach by ourselves. Keep up the spirit, UNICEF team. Keep sharing with others through your work.
Jackie,
Pendekar Anak since 2009



Indonesian children are our successors in the future and therefore, I think it is very important for us to support their welfare. Regular donations as Pendekar Anak are one of my efforts to help Indonesian children in need, specifically in remote parts of Indonesia. I hope that with all our support they will have a better future.
Neny Kardiana,
Pendekar Anak since 2019



To be able to share more with people in need is truly an opportunity for which I am grateful. Children are the nation's next generation, and have great potential, so it is a special calling for me to participate in their lives, even though it may not be much. Thank you, UNICEF, for introducing me to this opportunity.
Melisa Yolivia,
Pendekar Anak since 2022

Making an Impact with High-Profile Influencers

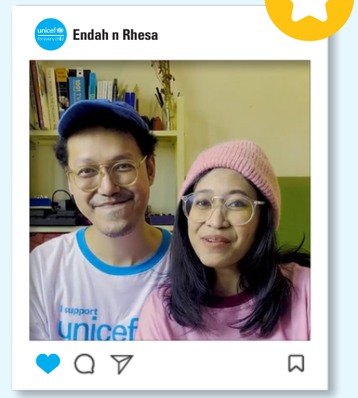
Thirty-five high profile public figures, ranging from celebrities and content creators to social activists and experts, enthusiastically lent their voices to support UNICEF's initiatives throughout the year.

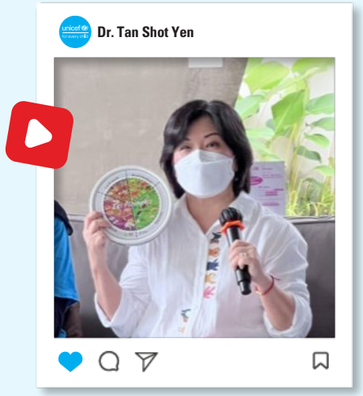
These influencers used their online and offline platforms to amplify UNICEF's messages, reaching millions of people with information and calls to action. UNICEF, in turn, maximized the impact of these efforts by disseminating public service announcements featuring influencers on out-of-home platforms, national television, and radio stations -- thanks to a partnership with a media company that has generously supported UNICEF's communication and public advocacy efforts since 2020.

In addition to supporting flagship events like World Children's Day and National Children's Day, these influencers championed key issues such as online safety for children, catch-up immunization, and combatting vaccine hoaxes and misinformation. They promoted obesity prevention and the value of healthy nutrition on World Obesity Day, advocated for businesses to support exclusive breastfeeding for working mothers during World Breastfeeding Week, and addressed mental health issues on World Suicide Prevention Day. These efforts collectively reached over 33 million individuals through their platforms and UNICEF's channels.

Regular updates on the impact of influencer-driven UNICEF advocacy are shared through The Influencer newsletter, accessible at **https://bit.ly/UNICEFInfluencerNewsletter.**













Elevating the Voices and Views of Adolescents and Youth



Mitra Muda members speak with local government representatives during a youth advocacy training session in Semarang, Central Java, Indonesia.

© UNICEF/Ijazah



Participants at a Mitra Muda-led planning meeting with UNICEF in West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia.

© UNICEF/Al Asad

Amplifying the voices of adolescents and youth and creating opportunities for their engagement and meaningful participation in decision-making is fundamental to UNICEF Indonesia's commitment to fulfil children's rights.

UNICEF gathers insights from young citizens nationwide through U-Report – a global digital platform that includes over 1 million "U-Reporters" (ages 15 to 24) in Indonesia. In 2023, a survey conducted in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology gathered the views of over 40,000 students who shared their experiences about violence and bullying in schools. The results informed the development of a Ministerial Regulation Plan to address school violence.

Mitra Muda, a UNICEF-supported youth-led network established in 2021, empowers members to contribute to UNICEF's programmes and advocate for youth-related issues. In 2023, Mitra Muda helped shape UNICEF's Mid-year Programme Strategic Review, along with various UNICEF-supported programmes. They also engaged in high-level events including the Conference of Parties (COP) 28 on climate change in Dubai, and spearheaded local youth-led advocacy initiatives.

At the local level, UNICEF facilitated the participation of over 26,000 adolescents (including close to 14,000 girls) in civic engagement activities, including village-level planning meetings. In an effort to foster accountability and ensure their needs are prioritized, UNICEF piloted a Monitoring Information System to capture the perspectives of adolescents in this local decision-making process.

UNICEF also worked with child-led organization Forum Anak (Child Forum) to implement the #JagaBareng online safety campaign challenge across 10 provinces, and to gather the views of over 2,000 children through a global U-Report poll about adolescent girls' rights.

Annual highlights showcasing UNICEF's youth engagement activities are published here: **https://bit.ly/infoureport.**

Selected Publications

Briefing Note: Safe Return to Learning – The Impact of COVID-19 and Recovery Strategies



In 2021, a baseline study assessed COVID-19's impact on children for UNICEF's Safe Return to Learning programme. In 2022, an endline study examined various factors affecting children's learning, health, and well-being, evaluating the programme's effectiveness in aiding their recovery.

People with Disabilities Working in The Indonesian WASH Sector



This assessment explores the roles of persons with disabilities in the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector and the barriers they face. The recommendations are being used to enhance their participation, fostering greater inclusion in the Indonesian WASH sector.

Module on Technical Assistance for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support for PUSPAGA (Family Learning Centre)



This module was developed to support the Ministry of Women and Children Empowerment to address mental health issues among 10-17-year-olds. It aims to build the capacity of PUSPAGA staff (257 units) to educate and counsel children and families facing mental health challenges.

Landscape Analysis on Children with Disabilities in Indonesia



The first analytical report about children with disabilities in Indonesia sheds light on the challenges faced by this vulnerable population. The recommendations are being used to inform government policies, planning and budgeting to improve the full participation and inclusion of children with disabilities in society.

Maternal Nutrition in Indonesia: Landscape Analysis and Recommendations



An assessment of Indonesia's maternal nutrition programmes that identifies barriers to effective implementation and alignment with WHO recommendations for antenatal care and nutrition for menstruating and postpartum women. The recommendations have informed the revision of national guidelines on maternal nutrition and training packages for frontline workers.

Assessment on Indonesia's Municipal Bond Landscape



This assessment explores opportunities and constraints for sub-national governments to leverage municipal bonds as an innovative source of financing. The recommendations propose ways to strengthen the enabling environment for sub-national financing to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and improve children's well-being.

Thank You!

We thank our donors for their generous support in 2023

Governments — USD 21,312,278

Australia
Canada
China
Indonesia
Japan
Netherlands
Norway
Republic of Korea
United Kingdom
United States of America

Contributions through UNICEF National Committees — USD 7,570,943

Belgian Committee for UNICEF
Canadian Committee for UNICEF
Danish Committee for UNICEF
German Committee for UNICEF
Japan Committee for UNICEF
Netherlands Committee for UNICEF
Norwegian Committee for UNICEF
Swiss Committee for UNICEF
United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF
United States Fund for UNICEF

Contributions through other UN agencies — USD 689,803

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – MDTF
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Others — USD 1,123,077

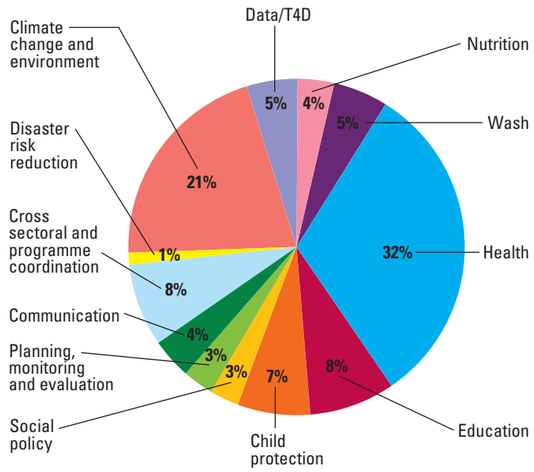
European Union
GAVI The Vaccine Alliance
GIZ Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
Global Partnership for Education
The End Violence Fund

Global UNICEF Resources — USD 5,236,596

Funds raised — USD 8,725,054

Individual donors	7,274,100
Companies and Foundations (contributions from Prudence Foundation, Tanoto Foundation, WINGS Group Indonesia and other donors)	1,450,954

Programme Utilization



Notes:
Donations made in IDR are shown in US$ and based on the UN exchange rate as of 31 December 2023.



Dila, age 14, with her younger sibling Athar Raihan, age 1, at their home in Bulukumba, South Sulawesi, Indonesia.

© UNICEF/UN0848110/Al Asad

For more than 70 years, child rights have been at the heart of the strong partnership between the Government of Indonesia and UNICEF. UNICEF's work in Indonesia is driven by the ultimate aim of ensuring that every child, especially the most vulnerable, has a fair, equitable start in life. This means that all girls and boys – regardless of location, family income or disability – ought to enjoy equal access to quality services and an equal chance of developing to their full potential.

On the ground or within the corridors of ministries, UNICEF's work in Indonesia encompasses technical, practical guidance for government agencies in child-centered planning, as well as high-level policy advice and advocacy efforts for equitable access to essential services for Indonesia's 80 million children.

By assessing challenges and exploring solutions with local government, civil society partners, the private sector – and children and young people themselves – UNICEF helps to ensure that programmes for children are both suitable and sustainable.

In addition to its headquarters in Jakarta, UNICEF's seven field locations in East Java, Aceh, East Nusa Tenggara, South Sulawesi and Papua fulfil a key role in addressing both location-specific issues and service delivery deficits in rural, urban low- and middle-income communities.

By supporting the government to put children first, UNICEF ensures that laws, policies and services secure every child's right to health, protection and education.

unicef | for every child