IMPACT BRIEF 2022

THE OFFICE OF INNOVATION (OOI) HELPS DISCOVER, CO-CREATE, AND SCALE BOLD SOLUTIONS AND TECHNOLOGIES TO DELIVER FOR CHILDREN TODAY AND SET A NEW PACE OF SOCIAL IMPACT FOR COMING GENERATIONS.

We do this in a collective movement with innovative minds globally, across industries and generations, and our UNICEF innovators in over

190 COUNTRIES

“Sweden is now building a strong innovation partnership with UNICEF, and we are proud to host the headquarters for the Office of Innovation in Stockholm…”

Matilda Ernkrans, Swedish Minister for International Development Cooperation

TRANSFORMING OUR GLOBAL ARCHITECTURE

OFFICE OF INNOVATION HEADQUARTERS STOCKHOLM

INNOVATIVE FINANCE HUB HELSINKI

LEARNING INNOVATION HUB HELSINKI

SUSTAINABLE WATER, SANITATION, HYGIENE HUB COPENHAGEN

GIGA INITIATIVE SECRETARIAT GENEVA

GIGA TECHNOLOGY CENTER BARCELONA
The UNICEF Venture Fund makes equity-free investments, in both fiat and crypto, into early-stage, open-source solutions from emerging markets that leverage frontier technologies such as blockchain, virtual and augmented reality, machine learning and artificial intelligence, drones, and more.

### UNICEF VENTURE FUND

- **124** investments
- **31.7M** beneficiaries
- **74** countries
- **43%** female-led startups
- **2,058** ETH disbursed between 2019-22
- **4.1** BTC disbursed between 2019-22
- **228,000** safe vaccinations
- **20** languages
- **300,000** users
- **17,000** debunked pieces of misinformation

### VACCINELedger

**A BLOCKCHAIN BASED PLATFORM TO IMPROVE VACCINE DELIVERY.**

Developed by StaTwig in India, this blockchain-based vaccine supply chain management platform tracks the real-time location and temperature of vaccines.

### HealthBuddy+

**OPEN-SOURCE CHATBOTS TO COMBAT MISINFORMATION.**

Brazilian startup Weni built this open-source chatbot to educate on COVID-19 and flag misinformation. In 2022 the platform has been used to provide information and health guidance to refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine.

---

*This map does not reflect a position by UNICEF on the legal status of any country or territory or the delimitation of any frontiers.*
CO-CREATING FOR INNOVATION

OOI collaborated with the World Economic Forum and other influential partners to co-design the Uplink youth mental health challenge leading to 14 innovative solution winners announced at Davos 2022.

UNICEF and UNDP co-led the Green Shark Challenge - a global competition for UN staff, youth innovators to co-create and scale solutions to global climate challenges. Three winning solutions were chosen among 121 submissions from more than 1,400 participants globally.

At a time of a gaping trillion-dollar funding gap to meet the global development goals and a growing investor demand for enduring social impact, the Finland-hosted Innovative Finance Hub is needed now more than ever. Our collective goal is to create robust child lens investing standards used with innovative funding vehicles – including a €250 million guaranteed children’s development private debt fund, bringing equitable and inclusive social impact.

121 submissions from more than 1,400 participants globally

14 innovative solution winners
WE ARE MAXIMIZING THE DIVERSITY AND IMPACT OF LOCALIZED TRANSFORMATIVE SOLUTIONS THROUGH PIPELINE DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING WITH OUR UNICEF COLLEAGUES GLOBALLY.

As of August 2022, OOI facilitated the disbursement of $29 million globally to 35 projects across multiple thematic portfolios.

$29M TO REGIONAL & COUNTRY OFFICES

UNICEF INVESTMENT IN INNOVATION

FIELD INNOVATION PIPELINE DEVELOPMENT $2.55M 7%
EVIDENCE FOR SCALING INNOVATIONS $2M 5%
HQ $1.08M 3%
INVENT $0.94M 3%

CLIMATE CHANGE $6.11M
HEALTH & IMMUNIZATION $6.88 M
HUMANITARIAN $4.24 M
GENDER EQUALITY $1.53 M
YOUTH $5.6 M
WASH $2.39 M
MENTAL HEALTH & PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT $1.65 M
LEARNING $0.94 M

PORTFOLIO BREAKDOWN
UPSHIFT A LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR A GENERATION OF GLOBAL SOCIAL INNOVATION CHANGEMAKERS.

2.2M YOUNG PEOPLE

16M PROJECTED REACH BY 2025

UPSHIFT DEPLOYMENT

ACTIVE
UNDER DEVELOPMENT

UPSHIFT IN ACTION JULY 2022

"Apart from the knowledge and inspiration to act for the environment, we were able to gain the necessary skills for life: from presentation, teamwork, leadership, time management, to communication, and planning, crucial skills for starting our social venture."

Bui My Nhat, UPSHIFT alumnus and co-founder of Green River creators of the award-winning remote-controlled river garbage disposal robot.

OKY
THE WORLD'S FIRST PERIOD TRACKER APP DESIGNED BY GIRLS FOR GIRLS.

This unique period tracker provides fun and interactive ways for girls to learn about and maintain menstrual health. With 100,000 users in 4 countries in 2021, it has an ambition to reach 10 million girls in 20 countries by 2025.

100,000 USERS REACHED TO DATE

10M PROJECTED USERS BY 2025

"I love this app! It is so cool because I could not find an app like this for kids my age.

Public review on Playstore"

Kitka Goyel, UNICEF Ethiopia

MORE WATER MORE LIFE
AN AFFORDABLE GROUNDWATER MAPPING SOLUTION TO BRING WATER TO COMMUNITIES.

By using satellite data to identify areas for drilling freshwater wells, by the end of 2022, about 4.5 million people across 4 countries in the region will have access to clean water.

4.5M PEOPLE
4 COUNTRIES

2.2M PROJECTED REACH BY 2026

16M PROJECTED REACH BY 2025

4.5M 4

IMPACT BRIEF 2022

"This solution directly improved water access for 1.2 million people with 740,000 of these being children. We have over 40 million children living in extreme water vulnerability who could benefit."

Kitka Goyel, UNICEF Ethiopia
SPOTLIGHT: FUTURE-READY LEARNING
DISRUPTING THE GLOBAL LEARNING CRISIS

GIGA INITIATIVE
A JOINT UNICEF - ITU INITIATIVE AIMED AT CONNECTING EVERY SCHOOL TO THE INTERNET BY 2030.

Building on the foundational support from Ericsson and others, the Giga initiative now has governance and tech centers in Geneva and Barcelona respectively, advancing towards achieving its goal to connect many more schools.

LEARNING INNOVATION HUB
SUPPORTED BY FINLAND AND ARM, THE LEARNING INNOVATION HUB IS THE GLOBAL HOME FOR THE ARCHITECTS OF A FUTURE OF LEARNING WHERE EDTECH DELIVERS A FASCINATING LEARNING JOURNEY FOR EVERY CHILD, GROUNDED IN WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION PEDAGOGY.

Alongside the world’s largest start-up competition, Extreme Tech Challenge, we discovered game-changing digital learning solutions with the potential to impact the learning experiences of at least 100 million children.

We received 124 education technology solutions from over 40 countries. The UNICEF EdTech Award winner was Eduten, reaching 1 million teachers and students in more than 50 countries with its Artificial Intelligence powered gamified math learning platform.

CLOSING GENDER LEARNING GAPS TO OPEN EARNING OPPORTUNITIES
In partnership with Finland, United Nations Capital Fund (UNCDF) and Volta Capital we are designing an Innovative Finance Instrument, which will diversify financing to promising solutions intentionally addressing the gender gap in digital literacy skills and experiences.

Partner spotlight:
"We want to develop new solutions to address the learning crisis in cooperation with children and young people."

Ville Skinnari, Minister for Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade, Finland

124 EDTECH SOLUTIONS FROM 40 COUNTRIES

1 M SCHOOLS MAPPED
49 COUNTRIES
3700+ SCHOOLS CONNECTED TO THE INTERNET
1.3 M STUDENTS WITH IMPROVED LEARNING
OUR MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM BRINGS A PASSION AND COMMITMENT TO ACCELERATE A WORLD OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERY CHILD, EVERYWHERE. OUR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES ARE DIVERSE, FROM PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR. AMONG OUR SKILL SETS ARE EXPERTISE IN HUMAN-CENTRED DESIGN, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, MACHINE LEARNING AND DATA SCIENCE, PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT, AND VARIOUS SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT THEMATIC SECTORS.

As a team of 70 colleagues, 73% female, we look forward to collaborating and sparking innovation across UNICEF and with our growing network of dynamic partners.
ABOUT
UNICEF OFFICE OF INNOVATION

We have an agile business architecture that aligns with diverse partners to boldly explore and scale innovative solutions and technologies to deliver an accelerated pace of change for this and coming generations of children.

Contact OOI_Comms_Team@unicef.org
Visit www.unicef.org/innovation/

STAY CONNECTED
@unicef.innovation
@UNICEFinnovate
@unicefinnovate
UNICEF_Innovation

Sign up to the OOI newsletter Innovation Spark