

unicef 
for every child

UNICEF IN ACTION

Lebanon 2020-2021

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UNICEF's Work

The compound crisis that has been spiralling for the past two years in Lebanon has impacted every aspect of life and brought the country to the brink of total collapse. A multi-faceted catastrophe that would have especially negative effects for children in Lebanon, seems increasingly likely.

Numerous families have found themselves jobless and forced to cut down on education, health and food expenses. Despite the massive challenges, UNICEF has scaled up its programmes, providing life-saving support to children and youth, protecting their rights and helping them achieve their potential.

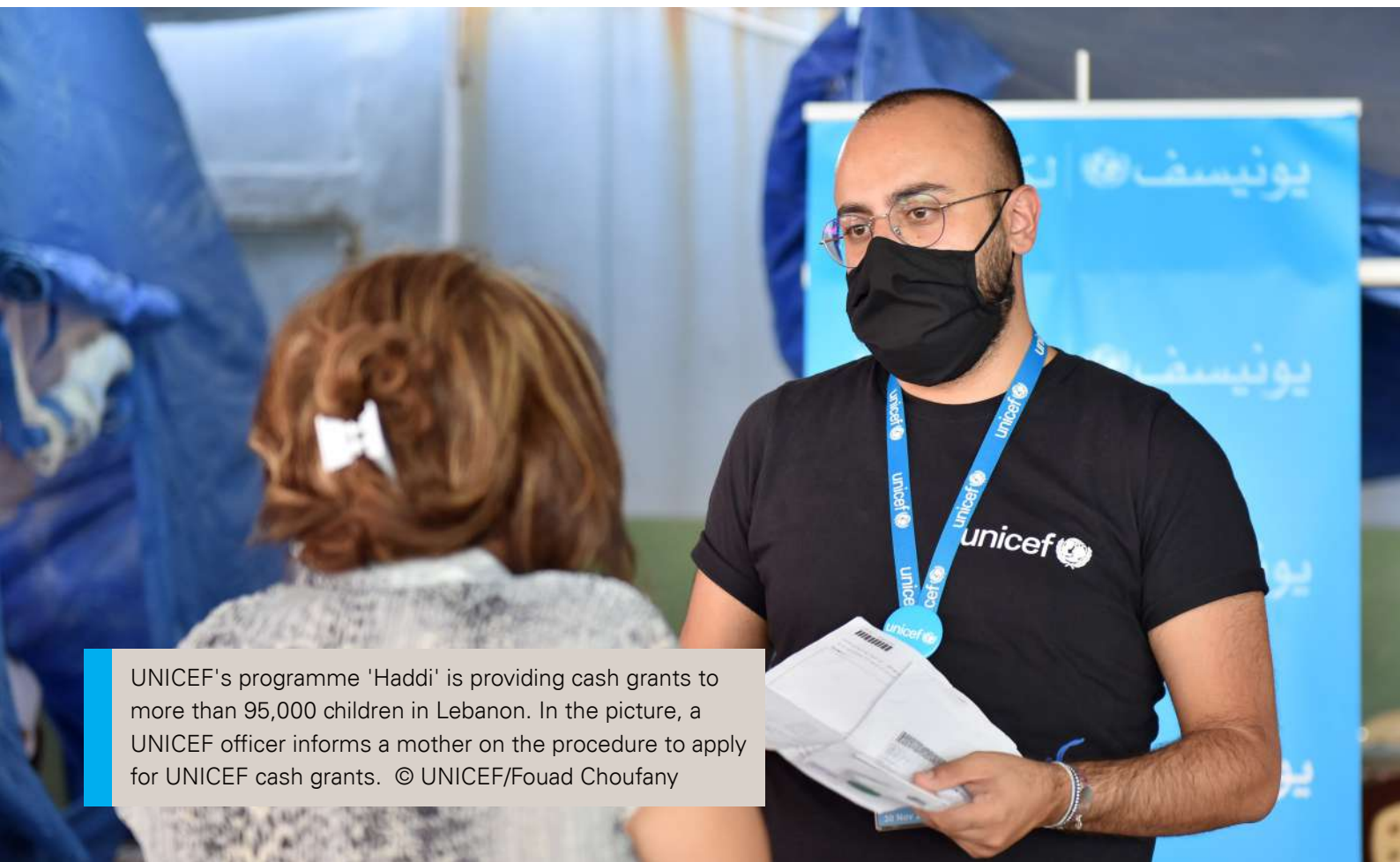
Economic and Financial Crisis

UNICEF has refocused its efforts to support families caught up in an unprecedented economic crisis that sent the national currency into freefall, prices soaring and families struggling to afford even the most basic items.

UNICEF has enhanced its social assistance, notably through Haddi¹, an integrated cash programme providing monthly US\$ cash grants to over 95,000 vulnerable children and youth of all nationalities.

The prolonged economic depression has led to fuel shortages that in turn cause regular power outages and critical water shortages, increasing children's vulnerability to waterborne diseases. UNICEF has supported the Government in updating the National Water Sector Strategy, building the foundations for transparent and efficient resource management, and is providing emergency support to avoid the collapse of the public Water Establishments, which are responsible for provision of water services.

¹ Meaning "close to me" in Arabic



UNICEF's programme 'Haddi' is providing cash grants to more than 95,000 children in Lebanon. In the picture, a UNICEF officer informs a mother on the procedure to apply for UNICEF cash grants. © UNICEF/Fouad Choufany

COVID-19 Response

UNICEF has been working with partners to support both the vaccination campaign in 2021 and the response to the pandemic since March 2020, to provide people with the scientific facts and most up-to-date information and to protect frontline health workers.

UNICEF has reached 3.4 million people with critical prevention messages and information on how to access services, supplied more than 2,400 frontline health-care workers with COVID-19 personal protective equipment (PPE) and equipped more than 200 health-care facilities with COVID-19 infection prevention and control (IPC) and PPE materials.

UNICEF provided water establishments with COVID-19 awareness materials, PPE and COVID-19 protection kits.

UNICEF also supported continuation of learning by providing the public school system with COVID-19 prevention measures to create a safer environment for children.



UNICEF continues to support the COVID-19 national response and vaccination campaigns. This includes provision of awareness materials and PPE supplies to protect front line workers as in this picture at Lebanon/Masnaa border crossing. © UNICEF/Ramzi Haidar

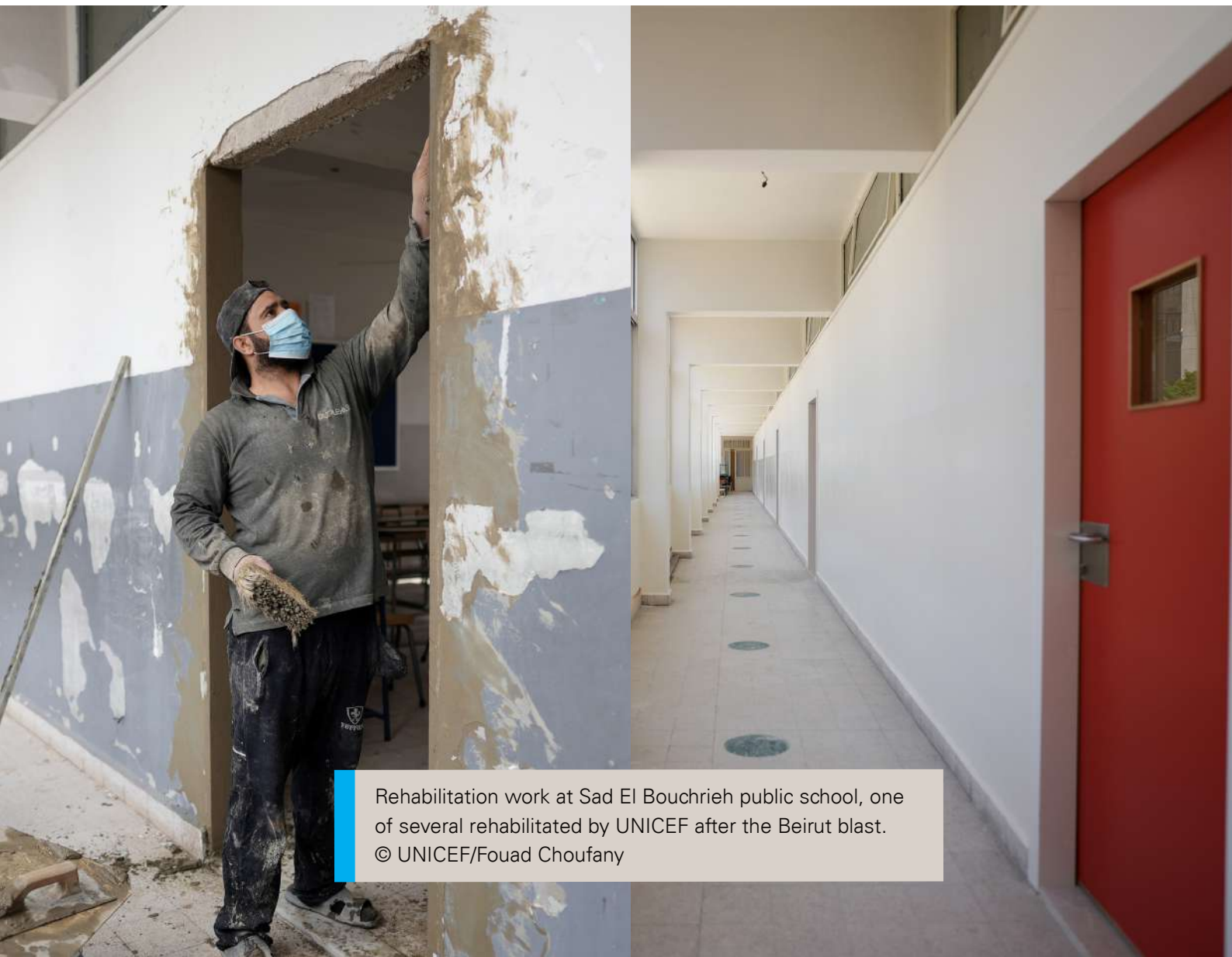
The Beirut Port explosions

The explosions in August 2020 killed six children, injured approximately 1,000 and left an estimated 100,000 affected by damage in their homes, while thousands of children living in the area needed psychosocial support.

UNICEF's swift and comprehensive response was guided by three pillars:

- Keeping children safe and healthy, and ensuring their families have access to social assistance services.
- Rehabilitating essential services, including water and sanitation, education and health infrastructure.
- High youth engagement in cleaning and rehabilitation of a total of 900 damaged households, employing more than 300 youth.

UNICEF has distributed essential nutrition and hygiene supplies, delivered psychosocial support, provided cash grants to the most vulnerable families, supported the rehabilitation of health-care facilities, schools and water supply services and supported a youth-led community response.



Rehabilitation work at Sad El Bouchrieh public school, one of several rehabilitated by UNICEF after the Beirut blast.
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UNICEF results 2020-2021

As of September-October 2021



A girl undergoes general health check-up while visiting a public primary health-care centre in Tripoli on September 2021.
© UNICEF/Fouad Choufany

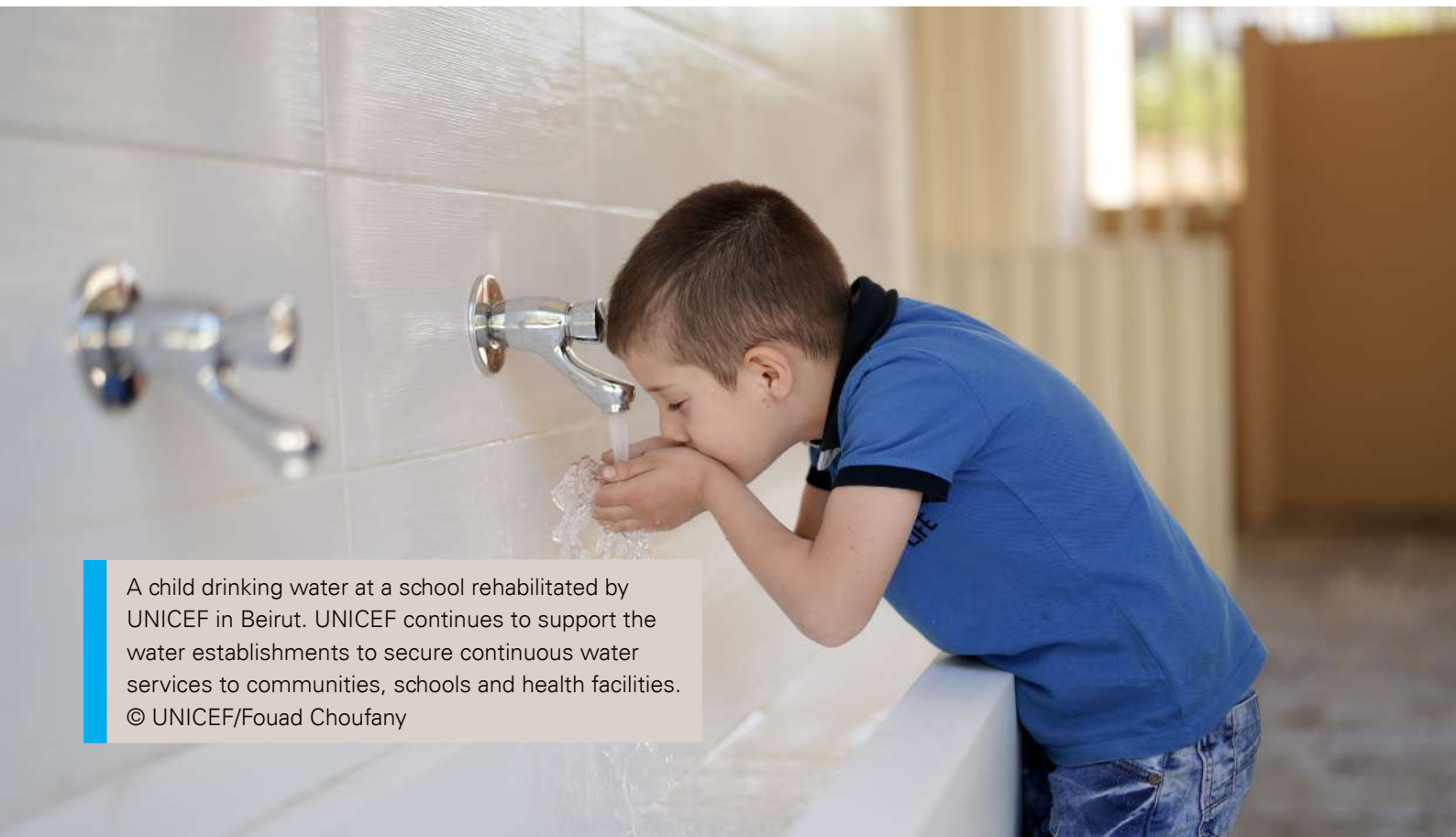


Health and Nutrition

- Providing 97 tons of health-care and nutrition supplies to hospitals and primary health-care centres in November 2021.
- Supporting the National Deployment and Vaccination Plan for COVID-19 vaccines since January 2021, including cold chain maintenance and equipment – three new ultra-cold freezers provided to the Rafik Hariri University Hospital – as well as syringes and PPE to health-care staff at the vaccination sites.
- Providing 100,000 children and women with essential health care, including prenatal, delivery and postnatal care, essential newborn care, immunization and treatment of childhood illnesses.
- More than 45,700 children under age 5 were provided nutrition supplements.
- More than 950,000 children under age 5 received routine vaccination through more than 800 public health facilities, in coordination with the Ministry of Public Health.
- More than 900 vaccinators at public health facilities were trained on Effective Vaccine Management.
- More than 43,000 pregnant and lactating women were reached and counselled on infant and young child feeding.
- Rehabilitating health-care facilities affected by the Beirut port explosions, including the Karantina Hospital and the Central Supply and Drugs Warehouse and its cold chain.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

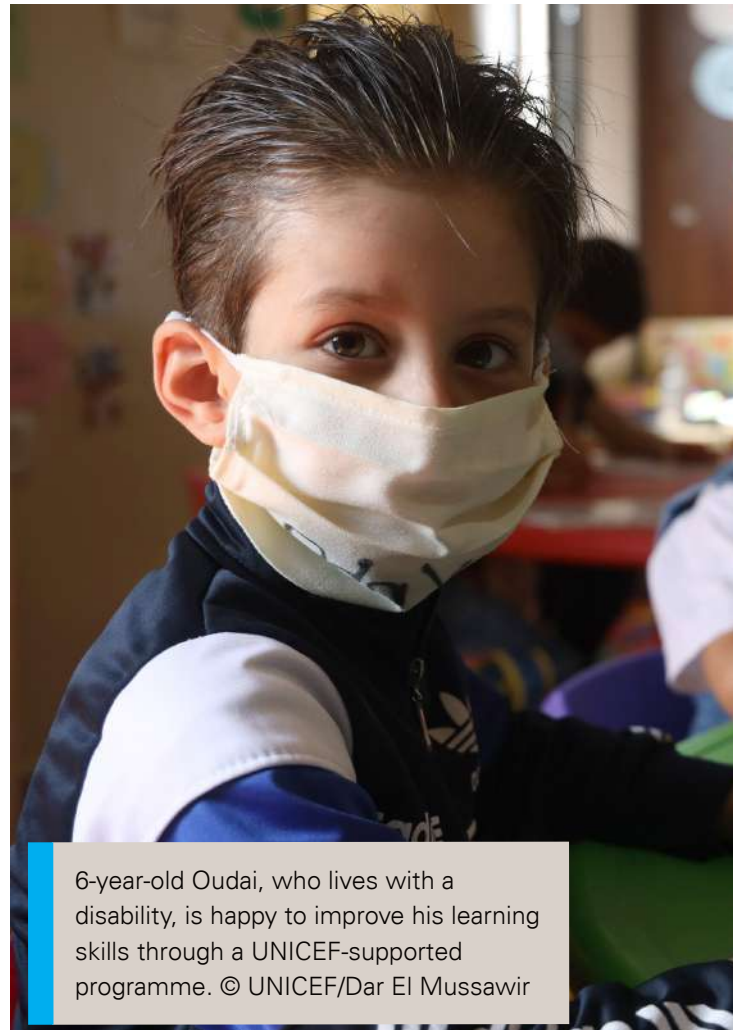
- In 2020-2021 UNICEF provided supplies, consumables and repairs to secure water and sanitation services for up to four million people.
- Since early August 2021, UNICEF has:
 - Supplied 168,000 litres of emergency fuel to water stations relying on generators to ensure minimum access to water for nearly 1 million people.
 - Repaired 72 boreholes and pumping sets across the country, reaching more than 750,000 people.
 - Conducted maintenance on generators in Tripoli, Northern Lebanon, allowing the pumping of an additional 20,000 m³ of water per day to reach about 165,000 people in vulnerable areas.
 - Trucked 2,192 m³ of water, reaching 42,000 people since early September. Water trucking was focused on hospitals and strategic health facilities, and main regional reservoirs connected to stations suffering from power grid blackouts.
 - Procurement of chlorine and other critical chemicals is in progress. UNICEF will continue supplying chemicals for water treatment to water establishments until the end of 2021.
- Since late September 2021, UNICEF has participated in a 3-month UN plan to provide emergency fuel to water institutions to ensure continuous services to the most vulnerable populations affected by the energy and fuel crisis.
- More than 197,000 people affected by the explosions provided with access to improved safe sanitation.
- Water and wastewater services provided to more than 245,000 Syrian refugees in informal settlements, including 122,000 children.



A child drinking water at a school rehabilitated by UNICEF in Beirut. UNICEF continues to support the water establishments to secure continuous water services to communities, schools and health facilities.
© UNICEF/Fouad Choufany

Education

- More than 426,800 vulnerable children given access to formal education annually by covering their school enrolment.
- Between March and July 2020 – at the onset of the COVID crisis – around 18,000 out-of-school children provided with engagement in learning and learning supplies.
- In 2020, 6,000 vulnerable households provided with psychosocial support (PSS) kits and PSS/well-being activities.
- Around 27,300 children in 2020 and 19,700 in 2021, including children with disabilities, provided with non-formal remote learning opportunities.
- Supporting all children to return to learning and supporting the safe reopening of schools.
- 10 education institutions rehabilitated in addition to four public schools affected by Beirut explosions.
- All public schools provided with hygiene materials, including thermometers, masks, face shields, soap, hand sanitizers and bleach, to support the safety of children, teachers and school personnel.
- Providing textbooks for all Lebanese and non-Lebanese children across public schools from kindergarten to Grade 12.
- Providing stationery and learning supplies for children across selected grades in first shift schools, complementing other organizations' support, and for all children in second shift schools (from prep-ECE to cycle 3).
- 465 schools provided with fuel for winterization.
- In February 2021, around 27,000 children received cash for transportation, so they could attend school in person.



6-year-old Oudai, who lives with a disability, is happy to improve his learning skills through a UNICEF-supported programme. © UNICEF/Dar El Mussawir

- In 2021, 257 tablets distributed to non-formal education (NFE) partners, who distributed them to children with disabilities enrolled in their programmes to facilitate their education and remote therapy sessions.
- 312 children with moderate to severe disabilities provided access to the education and rehabilitation services through the partnerships with five specialized service-delivery NGOs.
- Almost 1,300 children with mild to moderate disabilities provided access to education and support services through the NFE programmes.
- More than 1,500 children with disabilities continued their education in 30 inclusive schools.



Child Protection

- More than 100,000 children, parents and community members participated in “Qudwa” activities enabling them to become role models for the protection of children from violence, abuse and exploitation.
- Almost 20,600 children and adults given access to safe channels to report sexual exploitation.
- More than 29,800 women and girls at risk of gender-based violence supported in safe spaces where they get emotional, legal and medical support as needed.
- Almost 8,000 vulnerable boys and girls assisted through child protection case management and specialized services, including children in contact with the law and Children Affected by Armed Forces and Armed Groups (CAFAAG).
- 35,000 children, women and caregivers supported to restore their mental health and psychosocial well-being following the Beirut explosions.



Social Protection

- One-off emergency cash grant to 80,000 vulnerable children and vulnerable individuals affected by the explosions.
- In June 2021, UNICEF launched Haddi, an integrated social assistance programme for children. Haddi provides monthly cash grants in US\$ benefiting more than 95,000 vulnerable children and youth of all nationalities, with plans to reach 100,000 children by December 2021.

The Haddi Child Grant at a Glance

- Child grants are considered one of the most effective interventions to improve child well-being, reduce inequality and invest in a country as a whole.
- Haddi is a monthly US\$ cash grant given directly to households through a money transfer agency.
- UNICEF partners identify vulnerable children, particularly those at risk of child labour, or child marriage, or excluded from learning, and those with disabilities.
- Families with one child identified receive \$40 per month, those with two children, \$60, and households with three or more children, \$80.
- Extensive monitoring tracks transfers and impact to ensure the funds are used to support children’s well-being.
- Haddi is an integrated programme, and vulnerable households receive other essential services in addition to cash.
- Recipients include Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian households across the country.



Youth and Adolescent Development

- More than 16,800 vulnerable adolescents given access to formal Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).
- More than 21,400 young people supported with learning, skills training, and innovation/business training.
- Employment support service and Cash for Work opportunities provided to more than 8,300 trained youth, of whom over 5,700 vulnerable adolescents and youth were provided access to an integrated package of non-formal education and training opportunities, and employment support services.
- 2,200 households across the country, including 900 in poor communities and families affected by the Beirut explosions, received support in the form of repairs and rehabilitation, such as fixing electrical wiring, internal water networks and leaks; waterproofing bathrooms and painting. Solar panels were also installed in poor neighbourhoods.
- Supporting TVET hybrid learning through the development of a distance learning strategy and the set-up of 15 digital schools in Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) TVET schools.
- Almost 33,500 adolescents and youth supported with life skills training, including mental health support.



Yehya Zakaria, 21, is part of a skills training programme supported by UNICEF in Quobbet.

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Supply

- 2020: 104 air shipments delivering over 523 tons of supplies, including vaccines, pharmaceuticals, medical equipment, PPE and water supplies.
- 2021: 126 shipments delivering more than 321 tons of supplies supporting basic services such as health care, education and access to clean water.



Communication for Development

- 3.4 million people reached with COVID-19 messaging on prevention and access to services.
- Addressing COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy, disinformation and demand.



United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
Lebanon Country Office
www.unicef.org/lebanon