CORE RESOURCES FOR RESULTS

Achieving the Greatest Impact for Children

2021 Report
Report theme

Over the past year emergencies of many types and in many places have dominated the news headlines. And behind every such story it is always children who are the most vulnerable. Thus, in this year’s report on the role of Core Resources for Results (RR) we are shining a spotlight on UNICEF’s lifesaving work in emergency situations throughout the world. Not only how we respond to them but how we prepare for them even before they happen – and, importantly, how we help to build back better thereafter.

Within this theme we focus on four key advocacy priorities: mental health, the learning crisis, climate change, and immunization. Stories in this report illustrate how RR has been critical to improving children’s lives in Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lebanon, and many other countries worldwide.

For a full collection of stories demonstrating UNICEF’s impact across all programme areas and regions, please contact us at rrreport@unicef.org.

“UNICEF’s work is all about making a difference for children. And nothing enables us to do this better than Core Resources for Results (RR) – especially in emergency situations. RR allows UNICEF to act swiftly whether it is to defend children from childhood diseases by vaccinating them or providing them with text books and backpacks to go to school. I have witnessed this in the many countries and regions where I have worked – from India and Guatemala to East Asia and the Pacific. There is nothing more important than entrusting UNICEF with RR so we can make a positive contribution to children’s lives and be there for them when they need it most. Thank you so much to all our generous partners who contributed to RR in 2021.”

Karin Hulshof
UNICEF Deputy Executive Director, Partnerships

2021 key results

RR contributed to results for children around the world in 2021. Here are a few highlights of what you will read in this report:

- **Ensuring the continuity of life-saving routine immunization for children in Afghanistan.** Specifically, RR contributed to delivering vaccines to more than 1.4 million children below the age of 1 and fully vaccinating more than 3 million people against COVID-19.

- **Enabling UNICEF’s emergency response before, during and after Cyclone Eloise in Mozambique.** RR funds supported UNICEF’s rapid deployment of pre-positioned emergency supplies, enabling provision of safe water supply to 21,400 people, as well as emergency sanitation to 8,500 people.

- **Driving improved availability and quality of education in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.** RR was an indispensable asset, contributing to improved primary schooling for 167,000 school-age children.

- **Scaling up mental health services for children in Lebanon.** RR enabled expert staff on mental health to embed services across multiple platforms and sectors, helping to ensure access to all children and adults facing mental health challenges.

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Cover: Three-year-old Kawthar wears her new woollen hat and scarf, part of the winter clothing kits UNICEF distributed in Alzhourieyh, a makeshift camp in east rural Homs, Syrian Arab Republic. “These came just in time,” says her mother, Turkiyeh.
It is my pleasure to present the 2021 UNICEF Core Resources for Results Report.

When I began my role as UNICEF Executive Director earlier this year, my first order of business was to visit some of our country programmes and see more of our work firsthand. Since then, I have travelled to Pakistan, Afghanistan, the border of Romania and Ukraine, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Somali region of Ethiopia, among other countries.

These early missions have illustrated better than anything else the enormity of the challenges facing the world’s most vulnerable children. Conflicts, climate emergencies, the COVID-19 pandemic – and now, the ramifications of the war in Ukraine – are all taking an enormous toll. In fact, UNICEF has estimated that more children needed urgent humanitarian and development assistance in 2021 than at any time in our 75-year history.

As this report shows, UNICEF and our partners are on the ground all over the world doing whatever it takes to reach these children, wherever they are, whenever they need us – before, during, and after emergencies. We simply could not do this without unrestricted funding, or core resources.

Core Resources for Results (RR) provide the greatest predictability, flexibility, and efficiency of all funding UNICEF receives. In 2021, RR greatly strengthened our ability to innovate and adapt to rapidly changing needs, in turn supporting our COVID-19 response and all our humanitarian and emergency work.

In the following pages you will learn about some of the work these critical resources make possible – from pioneering transformative mental health outcomes in Lebanon, to securing quality education in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to combating climate change in Mozambique, to battling the odds to continue immunization in Afghanistan. The report also offers a close-up look at our work in four key priority areas: education, immunization, mental health, and climate adaptation.

I hope that what you see and read here will begin to tell the remarkable story of the results UNICEF and our partners are achieving. I hope it also makes clear how deeply those results depend on your support of flexible funding.

Given the continued economic impact of the pandemic and many competing funding priorities, our total core resources income in 2021 decreased by 4 per cent over the previous year. We must reverse this trend.

I would like to express special thanks to our most generous RR donors in 2021. We are truly grateful to the governments of Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and the United States for their unflagging leadership and support, and to our biggest private sector donors through our National Committees for UNICEF in France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, Spain, and Sweden. I would also like to thank the Government of Slovakia for significantly increasing its contribution to core resources, and the Government of Latvia for its first-ever contribution to RR.

Especially when the threats to children seem to increase by the day, your solidarity and support have never been more important. I look forward to continuing our work together to improve the lives of the most disadvantaged children, and to protect the rights of every child.

Catherine Russell
UNICEF Executive Director
“For every child.” It’s a promise that drives everything we do. Our expert staff are dedicated professionals, leading and pioneering for children – from birth to adolescence – throughout the entire world. For over 75 years these men and women have worked tirelessly in times of peace, in conflict, and in emergency so that we can proudly say that UNICEF is there for every child. Core Resources for Results (RR) are the bedrock that makes that commitment possible. By providing unrestricted RR funding, our partners and donors empower us to make good on that simple, powerful promise: For every child.

We trust in you and you trust in us

Every day, children all over the world trust UNICEF to be there for them. Families trust UNICEF to help ensure their children are nourished, healthy, safe, and educated. Communities trust UNICEF to amplify their voice. Governments trust UNICEF to provide advice and support in shaping policies that affect millions. And UNICEF partners and donors – like you – trust us to transform funding into effective action for children. We treasure this trust, and we will never take it for granted. In fact, it is this trust that allows us to deliver lasting change for children. And that is where Core Resources for Results come in: where we turn trust into results.

RR delivers predictability, flexibility, and efficiency

Delivering long-term change for children can be complicated. Having first begun working in the aftermath of the Second World War, UNICEF knows full well that what counts is to be there for children wherever and whenever the need is greatest, for as long as it takes. Thankfully, and gratefully, we can do this with the support of Core Resources for Results. RR is unrestricted funding to be used flexibly for children. It is our most prized resource because it provides us with three key tools: the predictability to plan and implement long-term programmes for children; the flexibility to address challenging and often rapidly changing contexts so as to achieve real, lasting results; and the efficiency that comes from reducing transaction costs and thereby maximizing the resources that can go directly to children. This predictability, flexibility, and efficiency allows us to achieve the greatest possible impact – transforming children’s lives, solving complex challenges, and preventing suffering.

RR achieves the greatest impact for children

For donors focused on the greatest impact, RR delivers. One hundred per cent of the money donated for RR is used to further our mission. Around 80 per cent of this goes directly to country programmes around the world, carefully awarded based on where children have the greatest need. The allocation of the remaining 20 per cent is directed to strategic and innovative activities; advocacy and global and regional programmes; and the organization’s emergency programme fund. Collectively this means that RR supports vital programming for children at the country, regional, and global level around the world. Deploying RR in this way ensures that we can continue our daily work for children, while also having the flexibility to mobilize rapidly and at scale, especially in an emergency.

Burkina Faso
UNICEF’s humanitarian education work in Burkina Faso was underfunded in 2021 – RR proved vital for reducing the gaps.
Why invest in Core Resources for Results

Five key assets give UNICEF a real comparative advantage over other organizations when it comes to being there for every child.

#1 – Expert staff
We are immensely proud of our staff, all of whom have deep expertise and a network of trusted contacts and relationships, including everyone from technical staff to our most senior representatives who engage with government ministers. We cherish the hard-earned trust placed in them by donors, governments, partners, and, of course, children and their families. Your RR support funds key staff in country offices and ensures universal expertise in all programme areas, policy formulation, evaluation, and research. RR also guarantees strong senior management at the field and global level, well-functioning premises and systems, and coordination with the broader UN system – all elements that are absolutely critical in having a positive impact, especially during conflict and emergencies.

#2 – Taking the work to scale
UNICEF achieves impact for children because, thanks to RR, we have a strong footprint in over 190 countries. You amplify our impact by helping us to scale up innovations, best practices, and programming at the country level, which can then be replicated regionally and even globally. This means that through RR, UNICEF can promote the adoption of global best practices, tailoring them for the specific needs of children in each country, and thus driving progress towards the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

#3 – Leading and pioneering
Your support allows us to lead and innovate for children by investing today to achieve change tomorrow, much as the world’s leading companies invest in research and development to drive progress. Our reliable long-term presence in a country gives us the deep insights that are needed to understand the root causes of problems and to find effective solutions. Your trust gives us the flexibility to take risks and innovate, which is how we create new ideas to benefit children now and into the future. RR funding is critical for supporting strategic and innovative activities, many of which have proven transformational in helping children around the world.

#4 – Meeting needs throughout the entire childhood and adolescence
UNICEF works to save children’s lives, to defend their rights, and to help them fulfil their potential – from early childhood all the way through adolescence. At each step of the journey UNICEF is there, ensuring that they are healthy, receiving a nutritious diet, protected and – critically – that they are attending primary and secondary school with adequate water and sanitation facilities, so they can finally break the onerous chain of cyclical poverty. Your support of RR enables us to be there with them and for them, consistently and reliably, including in times of conflict and emergency.

#5 – Before, during, and after an emergency
In a crisis, every hour matters. Our teams are first responders because your support allows us to be in a country even before a crisis occurs, building the effective systems, relationships, and plans that we need to protect children. And when emergencies do strike, RR means our experts are in place and can use their pre-existing skills, equipment, and relationships to make an impact wherever it matters most. Sadly, when a crisis ends the suffering of children does not. Your support for RR means we can stay long after the emergency. For as long as children need us.
Leveraging the foundation of Core Resources for Results

UNICEF’s funding types work together to create maximum impact.

- **Core Resources for Results (RR)** – contributions without restrictions, to be used flexibly for children wherever and whenever the need is greatest.
- **Other Resources Regular (ORR)** – contributions that are earmarked by UNICEF partners for targeted interventions in development programming. These can include flexible thematic funding for a country and/or sector. These can also be further earmarked for specific programmes or projects.
- **Other Resources Emergency (ORE)** – contributions that are earmarked by UNICEF partners for humanitarian programming. These can include flexible thematic funding for global or country level humanitarian action. These can also be further earmarked for a specific emergency response.

UNICEF’s three distinct funding types (RR, ORR, and ORE) are used strategically together, leveraging and complementing each other. This chart shows how RR is the foundation, ORR complements with targeted interventions, and ORE provides urgent support during emergencies.

RR ensures that UNICEF has a strong presence in every country. When an office layers on ORR, for example on climate or education programmes, it enables targeted interventions that build on the RR foundation established through our prior relationships, staffing, and innovations. If an emergency strikes, RR is the first responder; and as ORE is subsequently raised, it can be deployed rapidly through existing programmes, allowing us to reach children even faster.

It is through leveraging the distinct features of each funding type that UNICEF can deliver comprehensive results and fulfill its mandate.

Donors who give flexibly through RR and the Global Humanitarian Thematic Fund are investing in building the foundation for UNICEF’s emergency response. For more information on how UNICEF and its partners contributed through ORE to humanitarian action, refer to the UNICEF Global Annual Results Report for Humanitarian Action at [www.unicef.org/reports](http://www.unicef.org/reports).

Income ratio by type of funding (2014–2021)

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Income, revenue, and contributions received

Income includes contributions received in a given year from public sector partners (governments, European Union, inter-organizational arrangements, global programme partnerships, and international financial institutions) and revenue from private sector partners. UNICEF uses income for the preparation of the financial framework, which forms a part of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, and provides a basis for determining the RR programme submissions approved by the UNICEF Executive Board on an annual basis. Income is not part of the audited UNICEF financial statements.

Revenue: UNICEF recognizes revenue for the full contribution agreement value when the partner agreement is signed in line with requirements of International Public Sector Accounting Standards. This includes multi-year contribution agreements reflecting the full commitment of our partners for current and future years. For the year 2021 the total revenue, as per the UNICEF financial statements, was $8.570 billion, of which RR contributed $1.855 billion.

Contributions received: Cash and contributions in kind received from resource partners within a calendar year.

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An emotional reunion in Panama...

In October 2021, 4-year-old Nelsaisha was separated from her family as they navigated the Darien Gap, a perilous migration route which recorded its highest ever number of children crossing in 2021. Fortunately, Nelsaisha made it to a safe space for unaccompanied children, provided by UNICEF and partners, where she was cared for.

When Nelsaisha arrived, she was understandably shy and withdrawn. But when the UNICEF field coordinator identified her mother among the new arrivals a few days later, the young girl’s face lit up. She ran, hugged her mother, and began to talk non-stop, abandoning the shyness she had maintained until moments before.

“I was so worried about her,” declared Nelsaisha’s mother, overwhelmed with joy. It is thanks to partners like you that Nelsaisha was safe and well, and that she was able to return to the happiness of family, which every child deserves.
How you support UNICEF before, during, and after an emergency

UNICEF will be there for children no matter what. This means we are on the ground before, during, and after an emergency. UNICEF’s long-term approach, made possible by RR, makes all the difference. We want to share the appreciation of children through the voices of our expert staff who are engaging with them every day.

**Before**

Since UNICEF was established, we have seen the crucial importance of maintaining a continued presence in a country. The fact that we are in a country long term means that when we address the challenges children face today, we also lay the foundation for a better future. For example, while we are protecting children by expanding access to vital services, we are also building effective relationships with governments and key players to get things done. Similarly, when we help reduce child mortality all over the world by reaching the most vulnerable children, we also build the systems and networks and gain the expert knowledge that we know we will need in times of conflict. Our long-term presence in a country, made possible by RR, also means that we have the time to make emergency plans before an emergency strikes, and we use our relationships with government and other partners to ensure that the plans translate into quick and effective action.

**In war, it is the children who suffer most:**

- In 2021, UNICEF responded to 483 new and ongoing emergencies in 153 countries, including 84 socio-political crises.
- More than 35 million children have been displaced by conflict.
- The United Nations verified 26,425 grave violations against children in 2020, the latest year for which complete data are available. During the first three quarters of 2021, verified cases of abduction of children had risen by 39 per cent compared with the same period in 2020, and verified cases of sexual violence against children had risen by 15 per cent.

“Climate change is an unfortunate reality in Mozambique – causing an increasing number of extreme weather events, such as cyclones. RR allows us to prepare for these by pre-positioning supplies and deploying expert staff to respond. With thanks to your contributions, we are actively addressing the consequences of climate change and preparing this country and its children for the emergencies of tomorrow.”

*Claudio Julaia*
Emergency Specialist

**During**

When an emergency strikes a country, UNICEF works closely with governments, sister UN agencies, and other partners to reach affected children quickly with whatever they need most – such as safe drinking water, health services, and immunization. The trust we have earned over time from governments, international organizations, and, importantly, children and families allows us to be the first actors in an emergency because we are already on the ground and running.

In Ukraine, for example, over the past eight years we used RR funding to...
support health, nutrition, HIV prevention, education, access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and protection for children and families caught up in the violence. Because of this background, when things worsened, we could rapidly scale up our assistance and make an even greater impact.

Our long-term presence also means we already have specialized staff on the ground and can lead the humanitarian response with doctors, nutritionists, water and sanitation specialists, lawyers, and more. We have the equipment, supplies, and emergency teams on standby at the global level to rapidly deploy them wherever and whenever they are needed. And because we always think long term, even during emergencies RR gives us the flexibility to address immediate needs while also strengthening systems for the future. In Yemen, for example, we are simultaneously helping to treat severe acute malnutrition in children by providing essential therapeutic food and medical supplies, and also strengthening the country’s health system to make it more resilient so that it can help more children.

**After**

The effects of emergencies can last a lifetime. As the immediate crisis passes, and as media attention fades, UNICEF remains on the ground, helping communities and governments to recover and rebuild their lives. We work for solutions that will deliver long-term benefits. In Afghanistan, for example, where we have had a presence for 65 years, we are continuing with our lifesaving work, and always putting the needs of children first. And because of the trust we have earned through our long work in the country, we are using our convening power to work together with communities to find solutions for children.

Finally, it is RR that enables other types of funding and increases their efficiency. It ensures that children enjoy maximum value from humanitarian aid by linking it to longer-term development goals.

“RR ensures that we can be here day in, day out, saving lives and giving the most vulnerable children in Afghanistan the chance of a safer, brighter future. My thanks to the donors who have supported RR to date.”

Dr. Mohamed Ayoya
UNICEF Representative

$197 million
of our Core Resources for Results (RR) supported humanitarian programmes in 2021

“Following the multiple emergencies in Lebanon, children and their families require increasing mental health and psychosocial support. As a mental health expert whose role was made possible through RR, I’d like to thank our partners around the world. Thanks to you, we’ve invested in specialized support to address the longer-term impacts of the physical and mental well-being of children, caregivers, communities, and even frontline workers. With your ongoing support, we will be able to continue investing in mental health services so that children have the care and support they need to thrive.”

Riwa Maktabi
Child Protection Officer

South Sudan
Mathiang, a UNICEF staff member, offloads emergency handwashing stations and face masks from a helicopter in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
UNICEF partners

Public and private sectors working together

UNICEF is 100 per cent voluntarily funded, meaning that we rely on you to help us fulfil our mandate. Together, governments, bilateral and multilateral organizations, international finance institutions, corporations and foundations, civil society organizations, philanthropists, and millions of individuals around the world make our work possible. We all share a commitment for every child.

In 2021 total income for UNICEF was $8.122 billion, of which RR contributed $1.408 billion or 17 per cent. Of this, $533 million was contributed by public sector partners, and $754 million by private sector partners. The remaining $121 million included income from interest, procurement services, and other sources. We sincerely appreciate the support of all donors and partners.

Through UNICEF, the public and private sectors are uniting for children. For the period 2022–2025 we aim to raise $5.9 billion of RR, which provides the foundation to deliver on our mandate. We continue to rely on the sustained growth and support of both the public and private sectors to achieve this ambitious goal. This builds on the commitment by UN Member States to bring RR to a level of at least 30 per cent by 2023 and to increase multi-year contributions. It also relies on the increasing awareness by the private sector of the importance of collective funding and the continued steady growth in donations by individuals and institutions.

A look back: The ratio of RR to total income over two decades

Our ambition for RR is critical to the achievement of results for children, especially as the world strives to reach the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

Over recent years, RR has increased significantly as an absolute number, except for a decline in 2021 of $62 million. However, RR as a proportion of our overall income has been decreasing at a time when the needs for children and communities and our response to them has grown exponentially. This means that UNICEF’s ability to deliver on our mandate for all children at scale, wherever they live, is at risk.

UNICEF is extremely appreciative of all types of funding. While earmarked funding supports targeted interventions for children, it inherently means that UNICEF cannot direct it to support the needs for every child. At UNICEF, we must address the spectrum of needs from the time a mother is pregnant through adolescence. To achieve this, UNICEF requires the predictability, flexibility, and efficiency that RR provides, and which in turn creates greater value for money for UNICEF, children, and all donors.

We very much hope that you will support this call to action and increase your contribution to RR in the coming years.

1 September 2021 UNICEF Executive Board approved financial income estimates.
In the world of philanthropy, donors often give individually. But what if a group of philanthropists came together with a single vision? The impact that could be achieved would be so much greater.

This is the approach of the Global Guardians, a philanthropy group whose members make annual contributions of at least £5,000 to UNICEF’s Core Resources for Results (RR). This unique group directs their giving through the United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF, whose Executive Director, Jon Sparkes, explains the idea behind the initiative.

“We wanted to build a community of like-minded philanthropists,” Jon says. “These are people who really understand UNICEF’s work. They know that we cannot always predict when and where the next emergency for children will strike. And they understand that we need flexible funds to develop new solutions for children like scaling up access to oxygen supplies to treat pneumonia. By bringing these generous donors together, we are supporting a new kind of philanthropy, pooling large amounts of flexible funding to enable a greater impact for children.”

“We had supported UNICEF for several years, motivated by wanting to help with their emergency-related work,” Alan explains. “We were invited to meet some of UNICEF’s staff and learn about the work they were doing. This gave us an insight into the true nature of UNICEF’s commitment to be there for the world’s children whenever there is a need. With that appreciation it became clear that UNICEF requires funding that matches its commitment not just emergency funding but also continuous and flexible funding for its core activities. The scope and scale of UNICEF’s work, the quality of its work and dedication of its people inspired us to become Global Guardians and make a significant and long-term financial commitment.”

Like Alan and Anne, many Global Guardians are particularly motivated by UNICEF’s work in emergencies. So it is no surprise that 2021—a year beset by humanitarian emergencies—saw substantial growth for the group.

In 2021, Global Guardians memberships increased by 25 per cent. The group gave over £490,000 of RR funding through their membership contributions. In addition, several members gave a total of £66,500 in flexible funds as part of the United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF’s annual Soccer Aid appeal. Further, many Global Guardians also responded to emergency appeals, donating £180,000 to UNICEF’s humanitarian work in Afghanistan, our global response to COVID-19, and more.

The engagement and commitment of the Global Guardians is extraordinary, declares Jon Sparkes. “We are so proud of this group and all they do for children year in, year out. And we have even more exciting plans ahead. We want to keep growing the Global Guardians and make flexible giving a new normal among philanthropists, but we also want to build a community among these extraordinary donors. Before COVID-19, we organized several Global Guardians events, some of which I had the pleasure to attend, such as our trips to UNICEF’s Supply Division in Copenhagen—the world’s largest humanitarian warehouse. Now that restrictions are being lifted, we hope to start hosting in-person events again, such as our annual dinner, which this year will be hosted by our Global Guardians Patron, UNICEF UK Ambassador James Nesbitt. Through these events, we want to thank our long-serving Global Guardians, and welcome new supporters to this amazing community dedicated to achieving the greatest impact for children.”
The importance of public sector giving to Core Resources for Results

A message from June Kunugi
Director of UNICEF’s Public Partnerships Division

Having worked for UNICEF for over 30 years, I have seen first-hand the incredible impact funding from public sector partners has on our work for children.

During three years in Bosnia and Herzegovina, I saw public sector funding enable UNICEF to transform the policy landscape for children, particularly in terms of Social Protection and Inclusion. From 2013 to 2017, I saw public partners make lifesaving commitments to support our continued humanitarian action in the State of Palestine. And, most recently, I saw public donors make exceptional contributions as humanitarian needs in Myanmar escalated in 2020 amid COVID-19 and renewed conflict.

Since taking on the role as Director of UNICEF’s Public Partnerships Division in April 2021, I have been delighted to engage more closely with our public sector partners from all over the world and to thank you for your incredible support.

I have been heartened by the continued commitment public donors have shown to UNICEF’s work in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, an encouraging display of global solidarity. And I have also been inspired by the willingness of partners to continue making flexible funding commitments to UNICEF, which in such times of global economic challenges are all the more vital, allowing us to pivot and adapt to fast-evolving challenges and opportunities.

“Conflict, COVID, poverty, and environmental catastrophe have deeply affected children across the world throughout 2021. That’s why Ireland supports UNICEF in its indispensable role of protecting the rights, and responding to the needs, of children globally. I know that the flexible funding that Ireland commits to UNICEF is getting through to where it is most urgently and acutely required, and on a scale that meets the challenges. I am particularly proud of our partnership with UNICEF on the crucial issue of education, which has the power to transform children’s lives and the societies in which they live.”

Colm Brophy, T.D.
Minister of State for Overseas Development Aid and Diaspora, Government of Ireland

This continued support is so important. As we are all seeing in the news every day, the world is in a moment of increasing need, with COVID-19, conflict, and climate change creating a triple threat for the world’s children on top of looming economic recession. In these difficult and unpredictable times, we are especially thankful to those public partners who continue to provide unrestricted, core resources for UNICEF to fulfil its mandate.

So many public partners provided essential support to UNICEF in 2021, and I want to share our deepest gratitude and greatest recognition to all.

I would like to highlight the Government of the United States, our biggest contributor to core resources in 2021; the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, our second largest contributor to core, and the Government of Sweden, which has made the largest commitment to core resources through multi-year partner agreements.

Finally, I would also like to thank all our public sector core funding supporters who continue to stay engaged with UNICEF, despite the worldwide economic challenges we face. Denmark is a strong example of sustained core support since our inception. We know that amid global uncertainty and tightened

Malawi

Knut Gummert, Deputy Head of Development Cooperation at the German Embassy to Malawi, tastes porridge prepared for children suffering from malnutrition.
budgets your public constituents are asking questions. And we want to help you answer them. We are committed to being the leader for children and their rights that you need us to be as we have been for the last 75 years.

We hope you will continue to engage with UNICEF in 2022 and beyond and we are committed to providing you with the resources and information that you and your public constituents need to retain your ongoing support.

I know that these are particularly challenging times. But we must remember that it is children who are suffering the most. None of us chose to live in such times. But we do have a choice of how to respond and transform the worst of times to the best of times.

With your continued support and commitment to the UN Funding Compact and the 2030 Agenda, I believe this ambitious vision can be achieved. By investing in and engaging with children and young people, we will together protect and build on the progress made, enabling the younger generation to fulfil their potential, leading to a better world and future for us all.

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A government’s perspective on giving to Core Resources for Results

**Partner profile for Denmark, by Flemming Møller Mortensen, Minister for Development Cooperation**

In 2021, UNICEF celebrated 75 years as the world’s leading organization for children. A lot has changed in those years, but some things have remained constant. The Government of Denmark has been one of those constants, as a longstanding partner going back to UNICEF’s earliest days.

The Government of Denmark has traditionally been one of UNICEF’s top donors, providing a balanced mix of Core Resources for Results (RR), thematic funding and programme-specific funding.

To Denmark, a strong UNICEF capable of delivering on every aspect of its mandate is crucial to reach the Sustainable Development Goals and fulfil the rights of children everywhere. Flemming Møller Mortensen, Danish Minister for Development Cooperation, explains. It is against this background that we see core resources as an essential component of our funding to UNICEF.

The Minister has seen the impact and necessity of RR first-hand. I have visited UNICEF programmes in a number of countries, he explains. Most recently, I visited the Horn of Africa, a region that is severely affected by drought and conflict. Seeing UNICEF’s work, I was struck by how varied and complex the challenges are. In order to respond to unprecedented challenges in diverse settings, as well as to achieve long-term development goals, organizations such as UNICEF must be properly equipped with predictable and flexible funding.

Thanks to long-term RR supports, like the Government of Denmark, UNICEF is able to work flexibly, responding efficiently, swiftly and effectively in the face of these challenges. But the Government of Denmark is also providing vital support beyond RR.

Our partnership also includes hosting the UNICEF Supply Division, the world’s largest humanitarian warehouse, in Copenhagen. Flemming Møller Mortensen explains. This year we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the warehouse, which I am personally very proud of.

This unique warehouse can store up to 36,000 pallets of supplies and is fully automated, with robots collecting items for rapid and efficient delivery.

The Government of Denmark’s support for UNICEF’s Supply Division, and its ongoing commitment to RR, ensures that it will continue to play a vital role in the UNICEF story for the future just as it has for the last 75 years.
A National Committee’s perspective on giving to Core Resources for Results

Ken Hayami, Executive Director, National Committees for UNICEF, tirelessly raising funds in 33 countries, are a key driver for UNICEF’s Core Resources for Results. Much of this comes from over 6 million members of the public worldwide.

Among National Committees, and in fact all donors in 2021, Japan was the largest source of RR funding to UNICEF, with an astonishing $150 million donated.

This extraordinary total is a testament to the generosity of the Japanese people, as well as to the dedication of UNICEF’s staff in Japan. But Ken Hayami, Executive Director of the Japan Committee for UNICEF, also believes history has a part to play.

UNICEF began working in Japan in 1949, providing humanitarian supplies, such as clothing and milk. In 1954, UNICEF responded to the dual challenges of typhoons and winter crop shortages in the country, delivering protein-rich milk and woollen blankets for 1 million children. And in the 1960s, UNICEF remained in Japan, with our work including rehabilitation support for children with disabilities.

The people of Japan have not forgotten these kindnesses, Hayami-san explains. For people in Japan, especially the older generations, the symbol of UNICEF is immediately recognized. It is an image of hope and renewal. This is one of the reasons why the Japanese people give so generously. Many were recipients of UNICEF aid themselves as children. And now they hope to pass this kindness onto the next generation.

Tsuyoshi Endo, Secretary-General of the Japan Committee for UNICEF, who is responsible for fundraising, agrees. In Japan we have donors who are giving to UNICEF every single month for 20 to 25 years. In the world of fundraising this is quite unique. What this commitment shows is how deeply embedded UNICEF is within Japanese society.

On top of the support from the Japanese people, the Government of Japan also generously supports UNICEF with contributions of RR each year. In addition, the Government of Japan was also the largest government contributor in 2021 to UNICEF’s Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal, followed by the N-dash and what is there i.e. a global partnership to accelerate access to COVID-19 vaccines and supplies for low-income and middle-income countries during the pandemic.

We are also grateful for the Government of Japan’s support with flexible funding, says Hayami-san. And the Japan Committee for UNICEF will continue to work with the UNICEF Tokyo Office, which is an outpost of the Public Partnership Division in Japan, to ensure the loyalty and commitment of the people of Japan to UNICEF’s work for children.
Top 30 RR partners by contributions received, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARTNER</th>
<th>USD (MILLIONS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan National Committee</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea National Committee</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany National Committee</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain National Committee</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France National Committee</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy National Committee</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden National Committee</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands National Committee</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom National Committee</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States National Committee</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland National Committee</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium National Committee</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong National Committee</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway National Committee</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland National Committee</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada National Committee</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland and Liechtenstein National Committee</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“UNICEF is our longstanding and valued partner in ensuring that children and youth can learn, are better protected, and are enabled to exercise their rights and to become full and critical citizens. With core financing accounting for close to 80% of our total contribution to UNICEF for the period 2021–2024, it remains the baseline of our partnership in supporting UNICEF as the critical first and last responder in crisis situations and emergencies. With our support, we make sure that no child is being left behind.”

Meryame Kitir
Minister of Development Cooperation and of Major Cities Kingdom of Belgium

See pages 38–40 for a comprehensive listing of all our RR partners, by income and contributions received.

Multi-year RR revenue recognized, 2018–2025

Multi-year partner agreements promote the sustainability of UNICEF’s programming and therefore help us achieve the greatest impact for children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DONOR COUNTRY NAME</th>
<th>PERIOD</th>
<th>USD (MILLIONS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>2018–2021 &amp; 2022–2025</td>
<td>561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>2018–2020</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>2017–2020 &amp; 2021–2024</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>2019–2021</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>2016–2021</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>2018–2021</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>2018–2021</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>2020–2021 &amp; 2022–2025</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>2020–2022</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>2019–2021</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qatar</td>
<td>2019–2020</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand total</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Numbers may not add up because of rounding.
* Revenue is recognized, for the most part, in the year the agreement is signed and amounts in other years represent revaluation due to exchange rate fluctuations. Revenue data excludes write-downs.
** Agreements with a lifetime of two years or more are defined as multi-year agreements.
Monthly individual donors from around the world

Our mission is to be there for every child. Every single one of our individual donors helps us honour that commitment.

Each month millions of individual donors are united by contributing €10, $20, £25, R$50, ¥1,000, ¥10,000, and many other currencies from countries and territories around the world – from Asia to the Middle East, from Europe to Africa, and across to the Americas. Our donors come from all walks of life, and they show their support for the work of UNICEF in a variety of ways. Some become monthly donors, others make one-time gifts, and still others include UNICEF in their estate planning.

In 2021 our community has grown to include seven new countries, bringing the total number of monthly individual donors to over 6.4 million and increasing the geographical spread to close to 60 countries and territories.

To each and every individual who has chosen to support UNICEF, we send you a warm “thank you”! It is your generosity that enables us to transform the lives of children and achieve the greatest long-term impact for all children everywhere.

Over 6.4 million donors contributed monthly to UNICEF in 2021.
**Special Administrative Region.**

*Data for Andorra is for 2020; 2021 data was not available at the time of reporting.*

This map is stylized and not to scale. It does not reflect a position by UNICEF on the legal status of any country, or area, or the delimitation of any frontiers.

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*Data for Andorra is for 2020; 2021 data was not available at the time of reporting.*

**Special Administrative Region.**

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This map is stylized and not to scale. It does not reflect a position by UNICEF on the legal status of any country, or area, or the delimitation of any frontiers.
In 2021 the word ‘emergency’ took on a whole new meaning in Afghanistan. On top of 40 years of insecurity, the country faced escalating conflict, the COVID-19 pandemic, outbreaks of acute watery diarrhoea and other vaccine preventable diseases, the worst drought in 37 years, and the government takeover by the Taliban. The consequent economic sanctions, rising unemployment, and high food prices plunged most of the population into poverty.

Quite simply, it was – and still is – one of the most dangerous places in the world to be a child, with one child out of every 18 dying before his or her fifth birthday.

UNICEF works to promote and protect the rights and well-being of children and women around the world no matter how challenging the environment, and Afghanistan is no exception. Since 1949 the organization has been bringing basic services – including education, health, nutrition, protection, water, sanitation, and hygiene – to those who are most in need, addressing inequities in each of these areas. So when in August 2021 the Taliban seized power and became the de facto authority, and everything suddenly changed, UNICEF remained. We stayed, and we continued to deliver for children and communities across the country.

It is in these situations – when crises layer on crises – that the ability to respond quickly and flexibly is of paramount importance. That is why Core Resources for Results (RR) are so critical in allowing UNICEF not only to carry out our work but to scale up our response. As many international organizations left the country, UNICEF was one of the few channels through which donors could reach the people of Afghanistan. Organizations such as the World Bank suspended operations, but UNICEF became the conduit for some of their funding. It was a race against time to try to meet the population’s
needs, and we innovated through using RR to pay for the salaries of crucial vaccination staff in some areas.

As weeks turned into months, UNICEF Afghanistan transitioned into a new way of working whereby the office was coordinating the majority of social service delivery across the country. But one area of our long-term work that we simply refused to lose ground on was routine immunization, including polio and COVID-19 vaccinations. In this area, RR was essential to our response. In 2021, $1.2 million of UNICEF’s RR was directed to immunization in Afghanistan, enabling the continuity of this vital health service for children.

Using our unique convening power and leadership to negotiate with the de facto authorities – often with staff funded by RR, from the Country Representative to immunization specialists – we secured an agreement to recommence COVID-19, measles, and polio vaccinations. With RR funding, plus contributions from earmarked funding and the efforts of RR-funded immunization staff at the organization’s provincial offices and cold chain facilities, by the end of the year UNICEF had achieved impressive results for children and their families.

But it was no easy task. In fact, given everything that was happening in the country, maintaining anything like ‘normal service’ was almost impossible. That is why the flexibility of RR is so crucial.

2021 immunization achievements in Afghanistan

- Assisted in vaccination of over 653,000 children against measles.
- Worked with partners on a measles outbreak response in six provinces, assisting in the vaccination of 35 million children aged 9–59 months.
- Fully vaccinated more than 1 million targeted people against COVID.
- Administered routine Expanded Programme on Immunization vaccines to more than 1.4 million children below the age of 1.
- Vaccinated more than 4 million women of child-bearing age against tetanus and diphtheria.
- Reached on average 4 million children through each of five nationwide polio campaigns in January, February, June, November, and December, administering some 40 million doses of vaccines. Alongside these polio vaccines, UNICEF also provided vitamin A supplements to help prevent malnutrition.

Going the distance to reach children and their families with lifesaving vaccines

Afghanistan is over 650,000 square kilometres, and more than 70 per cent of its people live in rural areas, whether among ravines, mountains, or at the end of rough tracks. To reach and immunize every child in these circumstances – even before the political realities are considered – is an enormous challenge, one that begins the moment a consignment of
vaccines arrives in the country. This is because, first, vaccines need to be refrigerated; and, second, they have a limited shelf life.

The first part of the solution is the cold chain. The cold chain ensures that vaccines are kept at the right temperature until they are ready to be administered. We operate and maintain vaccine hubs in all 34 provinces throughout the country, and all running costs are paid for by RR. Powered by generators to circumvent the erratic electricity supply, and with a cold chain staff that includes managers, technicians, and security guards, our carefully run operation has protected millions of dollars of vaccines during a time of emergency and uncertainty for Afghanistan, when other support had halted.

Our facility managers carry out the coordination and planning of immunization programmes among partners, ensuring a regular supply of vaccines to health facilities, and they supervise the storing and checking of all vaccines and non-vaccine supplies in optimal temperatures. Without this system, and the RR funding that supports it, our immunization programmes would simply not be able to function. This same RR support also enabled UNICEF to introduce COVID-19 vaccinations in 2021, resulting in more than 3 million of the target population being fully vaccinated despite the very challenging context, including conflict.

With RR covering these essentials, we have been able to deploy other types of funding in a targeted and efficient way. For example, earmarked funding used for the national polio campaign led to success because of the foundation laid by RR. And emergency funding helps us reach the most vulnerable populations in the rural provinces. All of this enables us to reach the scale for which UNICEF is world renowned.

In addition to laying the foundation on which activities funded by other sources can operate, RR also helps us lead and pioneer by piloting new ideas that can unlock new donors. For example, UNICEF Afghanistan had begun converting our cold chain facilities to solar power with RR funding – a simple but cost-effective and hugely important sustainability measure. However, there was insufficient RR to cover all 34 facilities in 2021. With increased donations to RR, we would be able to convert all our cold chain facilities, make the ‘proof of concept’ even more compelling to potential donors, while also thus making our stores even more cost effective and reducing our emissions.

Our experts ensure effective delivery

The next step on the route to immunization is distribution. RR pays for all stages of a delivery journey that sees vehicles loaded with precious vaccines traversing perilous routes. It also pays for the colleagues who ensure that vaccines are administered safely and with essential supplies, such as masks, gloves, sterile wipes, leaflets, and other support materials.

The last step in the journey is for the vaccines to be administered to the children and women who need them, all around the country. To this end, RR complements other funding sources and plays a crucial role in funding vital members of the UNICEF team. In the busy provincial centre of Herat in western Afghanistan, UNICEF vaccinators work at Herat Maternity Hospital. When the Taliban took power there was uncertainty regarding women working in communities despite the need for their skills and expertise.
Fortunately, and thanks to the advocacy of UNICEF and other partners, female vaccinators were reinstated. However, funding for their salaries was needed and, once again, RR was used to address the need.

Nor was this limited to Herat Maternity Hospital. RR funding supports female vaccination teams in other parts of the country as well. So now, thanks to RR, J amila Rahmani works in shifts vaccinating newborn children and women. It is challenging, but J amila says she is glad to be able to perform her duties at a time when women have been deprived of working in many other sectors.

Herat is just one of more than 2,400 Expanded Programme on Immunization vaccination centres across the country. Between mid-August and the end of 2021, in this centre alone 8,411 newborn children were vaccinated against tuberculosis, poliomyelitis, and hepatitis. In addition, J amila and her UNICEF colleagues vaccinated 1,086 women to protect them from tetanus-diphtheria.

These are exceptional results, especially given the challenging circumstances. And they have had a positive ripple effect. When children receive vitamin supplements, they become better nourished, and their bodies are better able to protect themselves from disease. Likewise, when children are vaccinated, they face lower risks from disease, which protects them from malnutrition. This is what UNICEF does. We are here for children. We stay and deliver. In Afghanistan that means we are there before, during, and after emergencies, for as long as it takes. RR is vital in allowing this to happen, and every donor who supports RR is supporting a brighter future for the children of Afghanistan.

“UNICEF has been in Afghanistan for more than 70 years – and we’re staying,” declares Dr. Mohamed Ayoya, UNICEF Representative in Afghanistan. “RR ensures that we can be here day in, day out, saving lives and giving the most vulnerable children the chance of a safer, brighter future. My thanks to the donors who have supported RR to date. Please continue to help us lift the lives of children in Afghanistan.”
Mozambique: Preparing for and responding to climate change

In early 2021, UNICEF Emergency Specialist Claudio Julaia was inside UNICEF’s warehouse in Sofala City, Mozambique, checking that emergency provisions – including food, water, tarpaulin sheets, and essential medicines – were all in place. If a cyclone struck, these items would be a vital lifeline for thousands of children, adolescents, and their families. But with Mozambique facing recurrent extreme weather events caused by climate change, the question was not really ‘if’; the only question was ‘when’ a cyclone would strike.

Cyclone Eloise made landfall in January 2021, an awful reminder that the effects of climate change are with us right now. Eloise displaced over 30,000 people, destroyed 79 health facilities and more than 700 classrooms, and flooded tens of thousands of hectares of crops.

Within 24 hours Claudio Julaia and UNICEF Chief of Child Health and Nutrition Maureen Gallagher – both positions funded by Core Resources for Results – arrived to support the Sofala Field Office. Together with other UNICEF staff and partners, they worked tirelessly to rapidly deploy the pre-positioned emergency provisions and to set up emergency services for affected children and their families.


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COVID-19 and civil conflict had severely stretched the capacity of UNICEF Mozambique, so emergency funding was insufficient to meet the sudden surge in need. Consequently, RR funding proved critical to ensuring that these needs could be met. Over $210,000 of these flexible funds enabled UNICEF to provide a safe water supply to 21,400 people, as well as emergency sanitation to 8,500 people. The funds also enabled children with severe malnutrition to access treatment and to receive vitamin supplements, deworming tablets, and medicines countrywide. Staff from all teams pulled together to meet the diverse needs of children, from birth to adolescence; and across all sectors, including health, education, protection, and hygiene. To this end, we used RR to provide technical support to the government, to lead coordination activities across other UN agencies and organizations, and to support partner organizations.

Looking forward, RR is also helping Mozambique to Build Back Better, supporting UNICEF’s efforts to create a more climate-resilient community by making schools and health centres physically stronger, and by equipping staff, students, and communities with disaster risk reduction skills. Our programmes have been so successful that the Government of Mozambique is now changing the national infrastructure policy to ensure all new school buildings employ cyclone-resistant building standards. Another great win for UNICEF’s long-term work made possible, in part, by RR.

We know that for all these efforts, Mozambique’s vulnerability to climate-related shocks is not going to go away completely. And for this reason the predictability and flexibility of RR will remain central to facilitating our work to strengthen communities, to support the government, and to provide the essential needs of children. Thanks to RR, whenever the next climate-related emergency occurs, UNICEF is ready.
Whether it is conflict, natural disasters, COVID-19, or another tragic Ebola outbreak, there are many factors that make life hard for the children of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). So when, a few years ago, President Félix Tshisekedi announced the introduction of free basic education for all children, families across the vast country of 85 million people celebrated. It was a rare highlight for a country beset by crises.

The mood at UNICEF’s country office in the capital, Kinshasa, was equally jubilant at the prospect of removing some of the barriers preventing an estimated 3.2 million disadvantaged children from attending school. Sadly, we have seen first-hand what happens when children are not in school and are not learning, perpetuating a vicious cycle of generational poverty.

“This was the moment we had been waiting for,” declared UNICEF DRC Chief of Education Helena Murseli. “This was a breakthrough in our ongoing efforts not just to get every child into a classroom but to improve the quality of the learning that he or she receives.”

UNICEF – the coordinating UN agency for education – had been working hard to promote reform in the DRC’s education sector. These efforts took several years and involved working closely with communities, the Ministry of Education, donors, and civil society to make the case for why reform was necessary and to plan exactly how to improve education overall, all supported by never-before collected data and brand new analysis from UNICEF experts.
UNICEF helped make the case for reform by setting up special committees across the country, including in remote locations, so communities themselves could demand better education. We carried out extensive advocacy with local education authorities and teacher-parent organizations to promote access to school. And, importantly, parents were taught why it was so essential that they allow their children to attend school. In addition, specific activities promoted the enrollment of girls and supported National Teachers’ Day and the International Day of Education – a helpful way to promote teacher motivation.

Identifying the funds needed for such a diverse range of activities was a challenge, since community level advocacy efforts are traditionally underfunded. But UNICEF had a uniquely powerful and versatile tool at its disposal: its annual allocation of funding from Core Resources for Results (RR), with their inherent flexibility and availability to be deployed on short notice.

At the policy level, RR had already funded a critical action necessary to make free education a reality: “We urgently needed to gather critical data – on how many children were in school, completion rates, and so on – that would strengthen the case for free education with the government,” recalled Murseli. “No other donor was ready to cover the cost, but we found a solution in RR.” The investment paid off when the new policy took effect.

The critical role of RR funding was again demonstrated when implementation of the new free education policy got under way. With parents no longer obliged to cover fees and other school costs, it was no surprise that when school later reopened previously unenrolled children flocked to schools in huge numbers, and many schools were unable to cope.

“Our classrooms were severely overcrowded,” said Bingoma Samuel Sage, director of Birere Primary School in North Kivu province. “We had to have four children sharing a desk while others were sitting on the floor.” In province after province, schools were simply overwhelmed.

“In some classrooms there were over 100 children because of the new policy,” noted UNICEF Education Officer Pascaline Mupaya. “It created a crisis, and we knew we had a role to play in order to ensure that the new learners received a quality education.”

Urgent discussions began among the Ministry of Education, UNICEF, and other donors and partners on how to address the situation. As one part of a multi-faceted solution that addressed both the short-term crisis as well as the longer-term educational needs of children, UNICEF proposed creating space in simple but sturdy classroom blocks to be erected on hundreds of existing school premises. Depending on the complexity of the design chosen, a new block could be ready for use within as little as four to five weeks.
Most funding was to come from two multinational donors: the Global Partnership for Education and Education Cannot Wait. But when the Nyiragongo volcano erupted in May 2021 in North Kivu, this region that was already plagued by rampant militia violence and consequent mass displacement of civilians now had to deal with seven schools burning to the ground.

And that is where, again, RR proved invaluable. Given the exceptional situation in North Kivu, RR funds covered the construction of 12 out of 78 new classroom blocks, providing significantly improved learning conditions for the 1,400 students at Birere Primary and those attending many other schools. Students who were directly affected by the volcano eruption also received notebooks, pens, backpacks, and other school items – also paid in part by RR. “This really relieved the vulnerable parents who could not afford these supplies,” said director Sage.

Major issues remain, nonetheless. Sage says that at Birere Primary there is a need for teacher training in peace education and in child-centred pedagogy. The school also requires a permanent connection to the local water supply network in order to improve hygiene and reduce the risk of waterborne diseases. So once more, UNICEF is planning to turn to RR to address these important issues.

But it takes more than buildings to make a school and address the learning crisis. For a truly effective education system, it takes trained teachers, modern curriculums, and data and monitoring systems to track progress. For this reason, UNICEF used flexible RR funds across the country to strengthen school management, and in doing so we continue to achieve greater access and improved learning and teaching conditions for teachers and children alike. UNICEF and partners have also continued to involve local communities throughout the reform process so as to promote greater grassroots sustainability. RR funds covered everything from income-generation projects to pay for student uniforms, to the planting of school gardens and the enhancement of the new classrooms.

“Whenever something had to be done to improve the school environment or help get the local community on board, we turned to RR because of its flexibility and lack of conditions,” noted UNICEF’s Murseli. “Time and time again, donors who have supported RR saved the day.”
From global to on-the-ground implementation: an illustration from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

This graphic illustrates how Core Resources for Results (RR) are used by one country to achieve results. It begins with following the global use of funds within one of UNICEF’s five programmatic Goal Areas, then to a region, and finally to UNICEF’s country office in the DRC.

16 per cent of Direct Programmes expense was used for Goal Area 2: Quality learning.

Every child learns $142.0M globally

Learning outcomes

The biggest share of RR for learning outcomes was used in West and Central Africa.

RR for learning outcomes across regions

$54.0M globally

In the DRC, RR was spent on improving education quality and learning outcomes to prepare children and young people for their futures.

- **Expert staff and consultants** ensure that assessment of learning is strengthened and embedded in the national education curriculum, policies, regulatory frameworks, training materials, plans, and practices to improve learning outcomes for children, as well as skills and capacities for a fulfilled life.

- **UNICEF’s network of sub-offices** facilitates direct contact with emerging local authorities and communities in support of strong education programming.

- **Partnerships with civil society and government partners** deliver education services, including school construction, early learning, and teacher development, with a focus on child-centered pedagogical methodologies and community engagement, as well as participation in education through parent-teacher associations and school management committees.

- **Procurement and distribution of teaching and learning materials** are aimed particularly at marginalized children experiencing significantly lower learning outcomes.

- **On-site field travel** supports partners to plan, coordinate, monitor, and evaluate UNICEF-funded programmes supporting improved learning outcomes for children.

**The biggest share of RR for learning outcomes was used in West and Central Africa.**

- **Equitable access to quality education**
- **Skills development**
- **Learning outcomes**

**Learning outcomes** $54.0M globally

$907.0M Direct Programmes

East Asia and the Pacific
Eastern and Southern Africa
Europe and Central Asia
Latin America and the Caribbean
Middle East and North Africa
South Asia
West and Central Africa

$19.7M

RR for learning outcomes in the DRC

- **Learning outcomes** $5.5M in DRC

- **$54.0M** in the DRC

- **$5.5M in DRC**

- **$54.0M globally**

- **$5.5M** in DRC

**The RR invested in learning outcomes in the Democratic Republic of the Congo improved the teaching skills of close to 28,000 teachers.**

- **167,000 school-age children** improved their learning outcomes in 2021

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Lebanon: Flexible funds catalyse a new approach to mental health

Over the past few years Lebanon has experienced multiple crises – a political revolution, the COVID-19 pandemic, an explosion that destroyed large parts of Beirut city and port, and a severe financial depression. These crises have compounded Lebanon’s underlying social and political problems and are contributing to serious mental health challenges. Emotionally, much of the population is in turmoil, with rates of suicide doubling among adults and young people alike. However, given the myriad of other health, sanitation, and education issues facing the country, the mental health risks affecting children of all ages has been little more than an afterthought.

Thanks to the flexibility of Core Resources for Results (RR), UNICEF’s team in Lebanon has reinforced its work on a new solution: to embed mental health services across multiple platforms and sectors, and to ensure they are available both to children and adults. Key to this effort is a highly qualified technical staff. To strengthen the Child Protection team in Beirut, UNICEF Lebanon used RR funding to bring on a new mental health expert, Riwa Maktabi, with the ambitious but achievable mandate to transform mental health programming across all areas of UNICEF’s work in Lebanon – including health, education, child protection, and youth engagement.

The investment is paying immediate dividends. For instance, RR funding has allowed the team to pilot a new programme to place a psychologist, psychiatrist, and social worker in three primary health care centres to provide mental health services for children, and it is expected that this initiative will be rolled out across the country. RR has also enabled us to pilot peer-to-peer psychological first aid training, specifically adapted for training children and adolescents in how to best support their friends following a distressing event. Similarly, RR has allowed us to address the mental health of adults working with children in Lebanon’s social services, many of whom suffer from burnout due to the
severe stresses of their occupation. RR funded a ground-breaking study of the needs of these frontline workers; and based on insights from this work, UNICEF is providing support to approximately 300 such professionals across the country. This not only helps them individually, but it also helps to reduce staff turnover and, in turn, to strengthen the social service sector.

For all of our accomplishments, our work is also about the future. Having a dedicated mental health staff member has allowed UNICEF to drive forward vital progress with the government through sustained engagement on key working groups within Lebanon’s national systems. The benefits of this work will be felt nationwide as we make the case with government decision-makers to scale up and embed mental health services within national systems and in collaboration with civil society.

RR has been transformational in Lebanon by allowing UNICEF to engage more deeply, to trial new approaches, and to lay a strong foundation upon which we can build effective, sustainable, and long-term change for children.
UNICEF uses Core Resources for Results (RR) strategically across the organization to ensure maximum impact with donor funds and to scale up sustainable solutions around the world. The way in which UNICEF allocates resources also ensures that we continue to pioneer new approaches, work innovatively across the entire span of childhood, and adapt to changing situations, particularly during emergencies.

The largest proportion of expense – **Direct Programmes** – supports programming across the entire spectrum of planning, delivery, and evaluation at the global, regional, and country level, including in 150 country offices. The other portion is used to strategically support UNICEF’s core structure and mission through its Institutional Budget, including country level representation, policy work, and other key deliverables that provide strategic benefits to children and ensure the success of all programmes.

In addition, $151 million was used for the Private Fundraising and Partnerships Division (excluding country offices) to generate sustainable support from donors and partners around the world.
Ensuring support at the field level: Direct Programmes expense

RR Direct Programmes expense by category

Within Direct Programmes, UNICEF spends funds efficiently and effectively through several fund types:

**Countries with UNICEF programmes of cooperation:**
The UNICEF Executive Board has established a clear and transparent way to allocate these valuable resources where they matter most so as to ensure that the greatest possible results are achieved for children. In 2021 this resulted in 82 per cent of Direct Programme Assistance going directly to country offices.

**Strategic and innovative activities:**
The Executive Board requires that up to 7 per cent of RR for programmes is set aside annually for flexible allocation by the Executive Director. This allows for investment in pioneering innovations that can lead to even greater opportunities for children. Such innovation is a hallmark of RR, ensuring that UNICEF can quickly adapt to changing trends and circumstances, and thus continue to be the global leader for the world’s most vulnerable children.

**Advocacy and global and regional programmes:**
These allocations are central to ensuring UNICEF’s primary role in promoting and safeguarding the rights of children. They support the latest innovations and approaches in advocacy and programme development as informed by global and regional technical experts, research, evaluation, and studies, as well as supporting the ongoing evaluation of the organization’s performance.

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### EXPENSES BY STRATEGIC AREA IN 2021 (USD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Systems strengthening and institution building</td>
<td>41,358,215</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advocacy and public engagement</td>
<td>4,236,465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing and leveraging resources and partnerships</td>
<td>2,681,309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harnessing power of business and markets</td>
<td>216,704</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Nations working together</td>
<td>259,965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fostering innovation and use of new technologies</td>
<td>2,864,216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluations, research, and data</td>
<td>2,473,393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational support to programme delivery</td>
<td>10,218,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>64,308,656</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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$53.6 million
Advocacy and global and regional programmes

$745.7 million
Countries with UNICEF programmes of cooperation

$64.3 million
Strategic and innovative activities

$907.0 million
Total Direct Programmes expense
Emergency Programme Fund (EPF):
RR is the “first responder” in most emergency situations, as it is accessed through the EPF within the first 24–48 hours of a sudden onset emergency in a country. The EPF is a revolving fund providing reimbursable loans to offices that require immediate financing in response to a sudden humanitarian crisis or a deterioration of an existing crisis, prior to receiving broader donor support. This timely and flexible funding allows UNICEF to scale up lifesaving humanitarian action for children within hours of a disaster, and facilitates response to complex and protracted humanitarian crises globally.

Financed by RR, in 2021 the EPF remained a vital, reliable, and flexible source of humanitarian funding. As depicted below, EPF allocations were made to 26 UNICEF offices across global, regional, and country levels. South Asia and Eastern and Southern Africa received the highest amounts in line with the magnitude of the complex crises in Afghanistan and Ethiopia, whereas in West and Central Africa the EPF supported primarily Ebola preparedness. The EPF disbursement also played a pivotal role in response to the La Soufrière volcano eruption in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, enabling the Eastern Caribbean Office to provide safe water, basic sanitation, hygiene, and environmental health promotion along with cash-based assistance to cover short-term needs of the most severely affected children and their families.

For more details refer to the UNICEF Global Annual Results Report for Humanitarian Action at [www.unicef.org/reports](http://www.unicef.org/reports).

**EPF 2021 allocations by regions**

- **South Asia**: 31%
- **Eastern and Southern Africa**: 26%
- **West and Central Africa**: 14%
- **Middle East and North Africa**: 10%
- **Latin America and the Caribbean**: 9%
- **Europe and Central Asia**: 5%
- **Global**: 4%

**EPF 2021 allocations by UNICEF office**

This includes financial adjustments to country programmes.
### Supporting results globally through the Institutional Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount (in million)</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development Effectiveness</td>
<td>$146</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>$57</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Nations Development Coordination</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Investments</td>
<td>$2</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### RR expenditure as part of the Institutional Budget by category

The Institutional Budget supports UNICEF’s results for children. Institutional Budget expenditures are presented by the cost classification categories approved by the Executive Board and harmonized with UNDP, UNFPA, and UN Women. In 2021, RR was one of several sources to the Institutional Budget, contributing 36 per cent.

- **Development Effectiveness** ensures the availability of universal expertise and coordination at the global and regional level, such as evaluation, research, policy formulation, and guidance. Examples include UNICEF’s pioneering research and social policy leadership on public financing for children.

- **Management** covers core staff functions, with a primary focus on funding senior management at the global, regional, and country level as well as other key functions, including legal issues, audits, external communications, and security. In addition to executive leadership, this includes funding for a portion of the UNICEF Country Representative’s role in 150 offices to ensure a sustained presence, senior leadership alongside the government, and an independent voice for children.

- **United Nations Development Coordination**: UNICEF has commitments to the overall UN system, and this contribution supports coordination of development efforts with other agencies.

- **Capital Investments** covers the costs of premises, information technology, and other capital investments to ensure optimal operations.

Note: Numbers may not add up because of rounding.

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**Somalia**

A group of adolescents attend an art class at a centre that supports children formerly associated with armed groups. These kinds of activities are vital for supporting the mental health of children affected by conflict and helping them to reintegrate into society. In 2021, UNICEF’s humanitarian work in Somalia benefited from the support of Core Resources of Results (RR) funding.
Core Resources for Results around the world

By supporting Core Resources for Results (RR), donors safeguard the essential core funding of more than 150 country offices across seven regions, helping to maintain UNICEF’s global footprint around the world. In 2021 the vast majority of Direct Programme Assistance went straight to UNICEF’s country programmes. Allocation starts with a minimum of $850,000 for each country office each year until the country achieves ‘high income’ status for two years, based on the World Bank’s country classification. Further funds are allocated across countries based on three key criteria: under-five mortality rate, gross national income per capita, and child population size.

Within this overall allocation, UNICEF also ensures that Least Developed Countries receive at least 60 per cent of RR allocations to country programmes and that 50 per cent is directed to sub-Saharan African countries. These guidelines target donor funding in a consistent and sustainable way, enhancing the lives of the world’s most vulnerable children.

Core Resources for Results are integral to UNICEF’s humanitarian response. In 2021, $197 million in RR supported lifesaving humanitarian programmes across the globe, proving particularly critical in the Middle East and North Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and West and Central Africa regions.

The colours on this map represent the seven UNICEF regions and the blue dots represent the eight UNICEF HQ locations.

This map is stylized and not to scale. It does not reflect a position by UNICEF on the legal status of any country or area or the delimitation of any frontiers.
**UNICEF responds to emergencies every year in all regions, including in Europe and Central Asia. Variations in expense occur as a result of the reimbursable nature of the Emergency Programme Fund (EPF).**

- **Europe and Central Asia**: $24.2 million
- **Eastern and Southern Africa**: $215.2 million
- **South Asia**: $142.8 million
- **East Asia and the Pacific**: $61.2 million

22% of our Core Resources for Results (RR) supported humanitarian action in 2021.

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* UNICEF responds to emergencies every year in all regions, including in Europe and Central Asia. Variations in expense occur as a result of the reimbursable nature of the Emergency Programme Fund (EPF).
Core Resources for Results by Goal Area and region

Core Resources for Results (RR) is spent across all Goal Areas, balanced for the unique local contexts and needs of children, including a substantial portion for our humanitarian response. This enables us to be there before, during, and after emergencies.

Survive and Thrive: Every child deserves a healthy start to life and the nurturing practices needed to thrive in adolescence and adulthood. UNICEF knows that this requires comprehensive health care for mothers and for their babies from the prenatal stage to adolescence, vital HIV and nutrition programmes, and early childhood development for critical stimulation in the key developmental years.

Quality Learning: Every child has the right to an education and UNICEF champions quality learning opportunities from early childhood to adolescence, including digital learning.

Protection from Violence and Exploitation: Every child has the right to protection despite social norms, cultural practices, and conflict and displacement.

Safe and Clean Environment: Every child has a right to live in an environment that is conducive to his or her growth and safety. UNICEF prioritizes clean water and sanitation, mitigating climate change, and disaster risk reduction.

Equitable Chance in Life: Every child has the right to fulfill his or her potential, and yet millions of children face extreme poverty, conflict, discrimination, and exclusion. By addressing these challenges, UNICEF works to ensure that every child has a fair chance in life.

### RR expense in 2021, including for humanitarian response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Survive and Thrive</td>
<td>$907 m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Learning</td>
<td>$197 m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection from Violence and Exploitation</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safe and Clean Environment</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equitable Chance in Life</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$1.1 b</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

###-goal areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal Area</th>
<th>Survive and Thrive</th>
<th>Quality Learning</th>
<th>Protection from Violence and Exploitation</th>
<th>Safe and Clean Environment</th>
<th>Equitable Chance in Life</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East Asia and the Pacific</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern and Southern Africa</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe and Central Asia</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>27%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The largest proportion of RR for humanitarian response supported programming for Goal Area 1 - Survive and Thrive.
UNICEF wishes to thank all our partners and donors who gave so generously to RR in 2021. This comprehensive listing presents financial support in two ways – by Revenue and by Contributions Received. This allows UNICEF to recognize your support both when a donor agreement has been signed (revenue) and when funding is received each year (contributions received).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARTNER*</th>
<th>PUBLIC SECTOR</th>
<th>PRIVATE SECTOR</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>PUBLIC SECTOR</th>
<th>PRIVATE SECTOR</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<td>16,729,873</td>
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<td>1,404,378</td>
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<td>1,378,253</td>
<td>1,404,378</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2,933,623</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1,800</td>
<td>2,409,577</td>
<td>2,411,377</td>
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<td>56,787,347</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>350,000</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea-Bissau</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>621,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>621,000</td>
<td>621,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“As a global shipping company, we have been working with UNICEF for many years by providing expert logistics support for the delivery of humanitarian aid. Recently, we have launched a new partnership, initially for three years, based on the commitment of Core Resources for Results (RR). We are proud to support this new initiative with flexible funding because it can be deployed to regions and emergency situations where children are in most need of help. Furthermore, we are providing funding for UNICEF’s education work to tackle the learning crisis that arose during the pandemic.”

Janin Aden, Senior Director Sustainability, Hapag-Lloyd AG
“Pandora has partnered with UNICEF since 2019 and together with other partners has helped to reach more than 41 million children and young people, including 20 million girls, and provide them with opportunities to learn, express themselves, and find work in the future. Core Resources for Results (RR) is a key component of our partnership. In fact, every year Pandora allocates 50 per cent of our support for UNICEF to RR to accommodate potential funding needs for unforeseen humanitarian crises and to support its everyday vital work to ensure that every child survives and thrives.”

Pandora

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARTNER*</th>
<th>PUBLIC SECTOR</th>
<th>PRIVATE SECTOR</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>PUBLIC SECTOR</th>
<th>PRIVATE SECTOR</th>
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<td>348,710</td>
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<td>26,000</td>
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<td>169,150,446</td>
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<td>5,472,205</td>
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<td>1,257,037</td>
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* Negative amounts against countries, for the most part, are due to revaluation.
** Includes contributions for specific management activities and excludes investment revenue and other revenue.
*** Contributions received in cash and in kind and includes contributions for specific management activities. Numbers may not add up due to rounding.
**** Negative contributions received reflect reprogrammed activities.

“Every child deserves the chance to achieve their full potential. In fact, every child has a right to that. This is why we support UNICEF with annual unearmarked funding. This flexible funding is what enables UNICEF to reach every child – whether they are a newborn in need of health care, or an adolescent looking to gain the best education and skills for the future. We are pleased to partner with UNICEF on behalf of players of the Postcode Lottery and for every child.”

Jonne Arnoldussen
Head Charities Nationale Postcode Loterij
About UNICEF

We are the world’s largest children’s organization, an agency of the United Nations, and 100 per cent voluntarily funded. Mandated at the highest levels, we ensure that children and adolescents are protected, healthy, and educated. We have a presence in over 190 countries and territories, working during times of peace and stability and when emergency strikes. We partner with national governments and local communities, other United Nations agencies and NGO partners, and the public and private sectors to achieve our mission to create a better future for children and adolescents.

Importantly, UNICEF provides support to children from before birth all the way through to adolescence. Thus, please note that within this report the terms “children” and “childhood” encompass the full spectrum of a child’s life, up to age 18.

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Fiji

Tropical Cyclone Yasa made landfall in Fiji late in 2020. As part of our continued work after emergencies strike, UNICEF supported games at child-friendly spaces in 2021 to support children’s mental health and recovery.

Credits

Writers and producers: Programme Coordination Team, as part of the Global RR Team (Public and Private Sector)
Editor: John Tessitore
Designer: Bruno Rocha

Resources

For more information:
If you have questions or want to know more about the work of UNICEF, please contact us at mreport@unicef.org.

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