



Climate, Environment, Energy and Disaster Risk Reduction (CEED)

Global Annual Results Report 2022

Excerpted from 2022 Global Annual Results Report – Goal Area 4:
Every Child Lives in a Safe and Clean Environment

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for every child

PARTNER TESTIMONIAL

Climate change is an existential threat to the future of humanity. To keep the impacts of climate change within manageable limits, lifestyles and economies will have to change globally. This can only lead to a 'just transition' if the transformation is just and equitable. No one should be left behind on the path to climate neutrality and climate justice.

Millions of children in developing and emerging countries are already being severely affected by climate change and suffer from multiple crises - and UNICEF is responding. Germany therefore welcomes the inclusion of climate-sensitive programming in UNICEF's Strategic Plan 2022-2025.

With our thematic funding to UNICEF for a safe and clean environment - an area that is still severely underfunded - we want to increase UNICEF's flexibility to implement context-specific and demand-driven interventions for climate resilience, environmental protection and adaptation. In short, we want to enable a pathway to a 'just transition'.

*Jochen Steinhilber,
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The CEED version of UNICEF's Global annual results report 2022: Goal Area 4 has been extracted from the full report that also includes results from the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) group at UNICEF. Access the full report at <https://www.unicef.org/reports/global-annual-results-report-2022-goal-area-4>.

Cover image: © UNICEF/UN0750068/Zaidi
In September 2022, 7-year-old Gulnaz shows her drawing to other students at the temporary learning centre established by UNICEF for flood affected children at a tent city in Pakistan.

Expression of thanks: © UNICEF/UN0549776/Dubourthoumieu
Caleb, aged 17 years, is from the Democratic Republic of Congo. He said he dreams of using "clean energy to fight global warming so every member of his community can benefit from it.



Expression of thanks

UNICEF programmes to help ensure that every child lives in a safe and clean environment are funded entirely through the voluntary support of millions of people around the world and our partners in government, civil society and the private sector. Voluntary contributions enable UNICEF to deliver on its mandate to protect children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand opportunities to reach their full potential. We take this opportunity to thank all our partners for their commitment and trust in UNICEF.

UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to our government partners that have provided the largest contributions in 2022 to both climate, environment, energy and DRR (CEED) and WASH programmes, including climate-resilient WASH: the United States of America, Germany, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Sweden, the Netherlands and Japan. UNICEF further thanks the European Union for its generous contributions, and all our resource partners.

UNICEF would like to convey a special thanks to partners that provided thematic funding, which offers greater flexibility, enables UNICEF to continuously improve the quality of interventions, allows for longer-term planning and makes programmes more sustainable. The largest thematic donor for CEED programming is the Government of Germany. Other thematic partners include the Government of Luxembourg along with UNICEF National Committees from an additional 14 countries including Germany, Canada, Finland and the Republic of Korea.

Support from the private sector and foundations are important for the growth of the programme. UNICEF would also like to acknowledge the continued support of Formula E and Prudential toward a sustainable, safe and healthy environment for children.

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Executive Summary

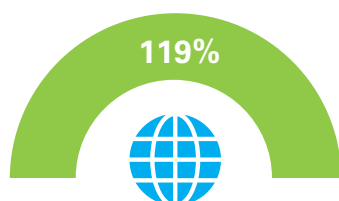
Children in public schools in Egypt are usually disconnected from school during the summer holidays. In 2022, though, children of Minya and Fayoum had a different experience that brought them back to school: summer camps on the environment and climate change.

Ensuring that every child lives in a safe and sustainable climate and environment is a key strategic priority of UNICEF's 2022-2025 Strategic Plan.¹ This includes in humanitarian emergencies and fragile contexts.

Under Goal Area 4 in the Strategic Plan, UNICEF pursues outcomes address climate change, disaster risks and environmental degradation, with a focus on the most vulnerable children. In the first year of the Strategic Plan, good progress was made against indicator targets in this area (see *Figure 1*).

FIGURE 1: Progress against 2022 milestones, Strategic Plan Goal Area 4

Climate change, disaster risks and
environmental degradation



This CEED version of the Goal Area 4 report highlights Results Area 3 to address climate change, disaster risks and environmental degradation, with a focus on the most vulnerable children.

Source: UNICEF Core Standard Indicators (CSIs) (2022).

Climate, environment, energy and disaster risk reduction

UNICEF is ramping up its climate, environment, energy and disaster risk reduction (DRR) work to address the ever-increasing impacts on children and young people from climate change, environmental degradation, pollution, biodiversity loss and from all types of disasters. Efforts focus on the need to protect the most vulnerable children from the impacts of the planetary crisis, and work with partners to address the need to increase funding and support for child-focused responses.²

UNICEF has three main areas of focus in its response to this crisis:

- **Improve the resilience of children and their communities through support to adaption efforts;**
- **Empower children and young people with the education, skills and opportunities to be environment champions; and**
- **Drive sustainability within UNICEF and its global network of partners and suppliers.**

In 2022, 69 country offices implemented child-sensitive programmes to enhance the climate and disaster resilience of children and young people and promote environmental sustainability, up from 37 in 2021. The UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025 elevates climate and environmental action as a cross-cutting priority across global programme areas (health and nutrition, education, WASH, child protection and social policy), and includes a dedicated results area to promote cross-sectoral action, advocacy and internal operational efficiency.

The engagement of children and young people on climate action is also a key area of UNICEF programming. For example, in 2022 in 68 countries, UNICEF polled the opinions of young people, helped to integrate climate and resilience into education systems, and supported young climate, sustainable energy and DRR advocates. COP27 (the 2022 UNFCCC Conference of Parties) and GPDRR (the 2022 Global Platform on DRR) were important opportunities for engaging decision makers and stakeholders to link climate and environmental crises as a child rights crisis. UNICEF advocacy led to formal recognition of the role of children and young people as agents of change in climate and DRR action, and stressed the need to include them in processes for designing and implementing policy and action.

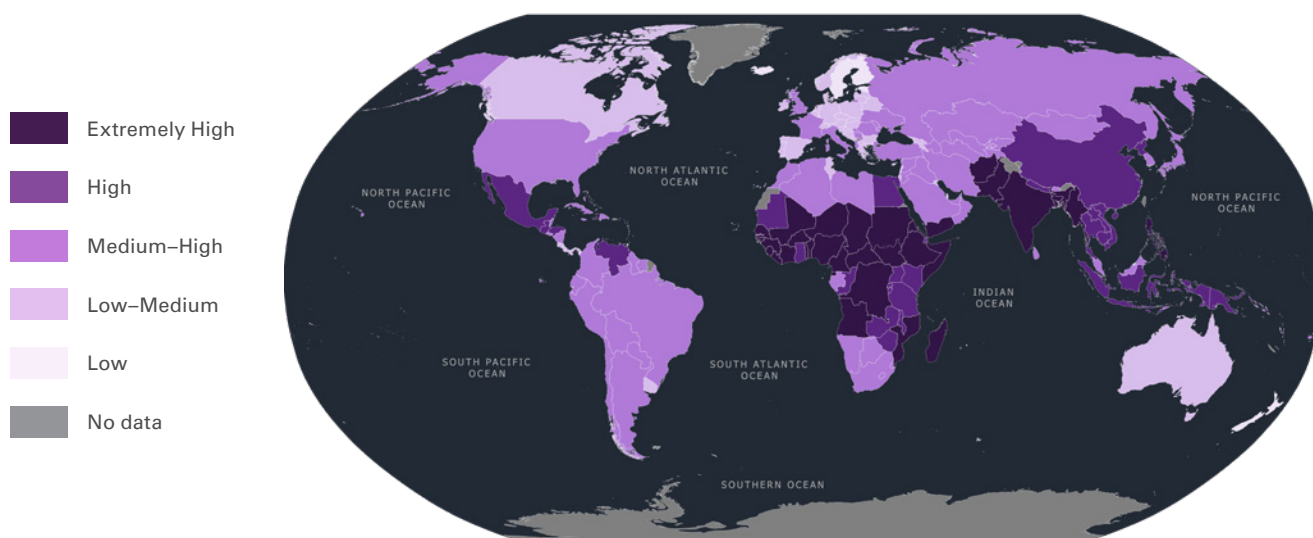
Systems-strengthening for climate and disaster resilient social services for children and young people is a key part of this effort, and UNICEF works across sectors to adapt existing national policy frameworks to fully incorporate child-sensitive resiliency elements, including through Climate Landscape Analysis for Children (CLAC) processes that lead to new and updated policies and strategies across sectors in programme countries. UNICEF provides ongoing support to the formulation or amendments of national and subnational policies, frameworks and legislation related to DRR and supports associated systems-strengthening processes and action in countries to reduce risk for children and young people. In 2022, UNICEF worked with governments and stakeholders to strengthen DRR; helping to establish or enhance preparedness frameworks to incorporate child needs and rights in 64 countries, such as through extensive work to institutionalize disaster resilience in school systems. In 16 of these countries, UNICEF's support was informed by comprehensive multi-hazard child-centred risk assessments.

UNICEF programme implementation and support to governments is driven by evidence, with a focus on filling critical data gaps with respect to children's vulnerability to climate and disaster risk. This goes down to subnational levels, which are the front lines for resilience-strengthening.

Building on the UNICEF [Children's Climate Risk Index](#) (CCRI) (Figure 2) and leveraging tools such as child-centred risk assessments (e.g., Children's Climate Landscape Analysis reports), UNICEF has been advancing on new methodologies for subnational risk mapping in pilot countries, efforts that are being scaled up in 2023 to more countries through open-data platforms that can be used by all partners to inform child-sensitive action.

Advocacy and programming efforts were promoted and informed by 2022 flagship publications, including [A Liveable Planet for Every Child – Climate, environment, energy, and DRR strategy](#); [Every country protected; every child resilient](#) on DRR and [A brighter life for every child with sustainable energy](#); the [Child-sensitive climate policies for every child](#) on the child sensitivity of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs); and [The coldest year of the rest of their lives](#) on the impact of heatwaves on children.

FIGURE 2: Children's Climate Risk Index



Source: UNICEF, (2022).

Based on UNICEF's CCRI, 1 billion children live in extremely high-risk countries and 99% of all children are exposed to at least one major climate and environmental hazard, shock or stress.



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Strategic context

Ishrafi Khatun, 10 years old, at a well in front of Borobari Primary School, Bangladesh, that was submerged due to flooding, an increasingly common occurrence throughout the country.

Climate, environment, energy and disaster risk reduction

Climate change, environmental degradation, pollution, disasters and biodiversity loss affect everyone on the planet, but the impacts are felt the most by children and young people, especially in fragile countries and in the communities that have contributed the least on a per capita basis to global emissions and pollution. According to the UNICEF Children's Climate Risk Index (CCRI), an estimated 1 billion children in 33 countries are at extremely high risk from the impacts of climate change.³ Children and young people bear the brunt of losses in disasters and other humanitarian crises, which are increasing in severity and driven by the exacerbating effects of climate change. More than three-quarters of United Nations' humanitarian appeals involve an extreme weather event, up from just over one-third in 2000,⁴ and in 2021 alone 23.7 million were displaced due to disasters.⁵ Children and young people are affected by the lack of clean energy sources, including the 186 million in primary schools without electricity and the estimated 600,000 children under the age of 5 who die from pollution resulting from unsustainable energy practices.⁶

There is a global gap in addressing these impacts on children and young people, particularly the most vulnerable. The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports remind us that some impacts of climate change are now irreversible, and given climate dynamics, that impacts will inevitably worsen in the coming decades. Analysis from UNICEF's CCRI (among others) indicates that among the best ways to reduce risk for these children and young people is to ensure that the essential social services that they need to survive, grow and thrive are made

resilient to climate and environmental impacts, including disasters. However, less than 20 per cent of global climate finance is targeted towards adapting to climate impacts, with a small proportion of that going towards the social services that children most depend on in countries that are the most vulnerable.

Action for children and young people is needed now, including cross-sectoral efforts (such as DRR, national and subnational policies, data, etc.) and sector-specific efforts in education, health, nutrition, WASH, child protection and social protection – all critical for child health and well-being. There is growing recognition of the need for child-specific action. However, while progress has been made putting in place child-sensitive, climate and disaster resilience policies and programmes, funds to implement these are lacking.⁷ UNICEF is working with partners on innovative disaster and climate risk financing mechanisms that can have measurable results for children, young people and their families.

Through its own programmes, advocacy, resource mobilization and data and evidence efforts, as described in this report, UNICEF works to realize the right of every child and young person to live in a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable climate and environment.



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Results: Climate, environment, energy and disaster risk reduction

Girls wade through floodwaters on the way to school in Sunamganj, Bangladesh. UNICEF provided extensive support in response to severe flooding in 2022 in the areas of WASH, education, nutrition and child protection.

UNICEF is scaling up its contribution to the response to the global climate crisis, biodiversity loss, environmental degradation, pollution and increasing disaster events in the areas of climate, environment, energy and disaster risk reduction (DRR), or CEED. Under the Strategic Plan 2022–2025, UNICEF is focusing its resources on three areas in support of children and young people:

- Improve the resilience of children, young people and their communities by adapting essential social services to a changing climate, disasters and a degrading environment.
- Empower every child and young person with the education, skills and opportunities to be a champion for the environment.
- Drive sustainability within UNICEF and its global network of partners, government and suppliers, including through climate financing for children and young people.

The UNICEF Strategic Plan elevates sustainability and climate action to a cross-cutting priority, with results within each goal area including, but not limited to, support for

more resilient national health-care and education systems, ensuring that the most vulnerable children and young people are not left behind and working with partners to make social protection systems more shock-responsive. Highlights of this work are reported below, and in more detail in the other Strategic Plan goal area reports.

The Strategic Plan additionally builds on the substantial and systematic progress of the UNICEF WASH programme in the area of sustainability and climate action over the previous Strategic Plan period (*see the full [Goal Area 4 report](#) for details of progress in 2022*).

The Strategic Plan additionally has a dedicated cross-sectoral set of results in Goal Area 4. This cross-cutting results area has a set of three output monitoring indicators for CEED (*Table 1*). Results against these indicators, and other results, are reported below. UNICEF is also working to ensure that its operations and programmes are as green as possible and is encouraging partners and suppliers to do the same.

TABLE 1: CEED Strategic Plan output indicators

Goal Area 4 indicators

Results Area 3: Increased and enhanced child-sensitive programmes to address climate change, disaster risks and environmental degradation that meet the rights of all children and adolescents, particularly the most disadvantaged and those in humanitarian and fragile contexts

4.3.1. Number of countries implementing child-sensitive programmes that enhance the climate and disaster resilience of children, reduce environmental degradation and promote low carbon development and environmental sustainability, with UNICEF support

4.3.2. Number of countries engaging children, adolescents and young people in action and advocacy to address climate change, unsustainable energy use and/or environmental degradation, with UNICEF support

4.3.3. Number of countries in which UNICEF supported the updating of government frameworks for preparedness and/or early/anticipatory action to be child-sensitive at the national and local levels

Sustainability, internal greening and cross-cutting indicators

H1.1. Number of countries that took advocacy action that triggered policy change related to the UNICEF Global Advocacy Priorities: Increase access to clean water, and address environmental degradation and climate change

H8.1 (Risk-informed humanitarian and development/cross-sectoral nexus programming).
Percentage of countries in which UNICEF contributed to the articulation of humanitarian–development–peace nexus priorities through engagement in common country assessment and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

H8.1 (Risk-informed humanitarian and development/cross-sectoral nexus programming)
Percentage of country offices that meet organizational benchmarks on: (a) Updated preparedness plan, (b) Risk-informed programming

E.3.6. Percentage of country offices applying environmental, disability-inclusive and social standards in UNICEF programmes in line with UNICEF/United Nations standards

E.3.7. Percentage reduction in carbon footprint

Output 4.2.4 (WASH). Number of countries that have developed a climate rationale for the impact of climate change and water insecurity on WASH services based on a comprehensive risk analysis

TABLE 7: (continued)

Output 1.4.4 (Health). Number of countries: (a) Addressing environmental health risks in primary health care, (b) Strengthening climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable health-care facilities, with UNICEF support

Output 2.1.2 (Education). Percentage of countries with a resilient education system that can respond to humanitarian crises

Output 2.2.6 (Education). Percentage of countries institutionalizing holistic skills development to support learning, personal empowerment, environmental sustainability, active citizenship and/or employability and entrepreneurship

Output 5.2.4 (Social Protection). Number of countries with social-protection systems, including cash transfer capacities that are able to effectively and rapidly respond to humanitarian crises

Under the Strategic Plan, UNICEF is working with partners to help implement child-sensitive, multifaceted programmes that enhance the climate and disaster resilience of children and young people, reduce environmental degradation and pollution impacts and promote low carbon development and environmental sustainability. According to data from the new set of monitoring indicators being used to track UNICEF progress in these areas, a total of 69 countries is supporting such programmes across all regions, more than in the baseline year (2021) and exceeding the 2022 target of 40 countries (*Figure 3*). In each of these 69 countries, UNICEF supported programmes to study the impact of

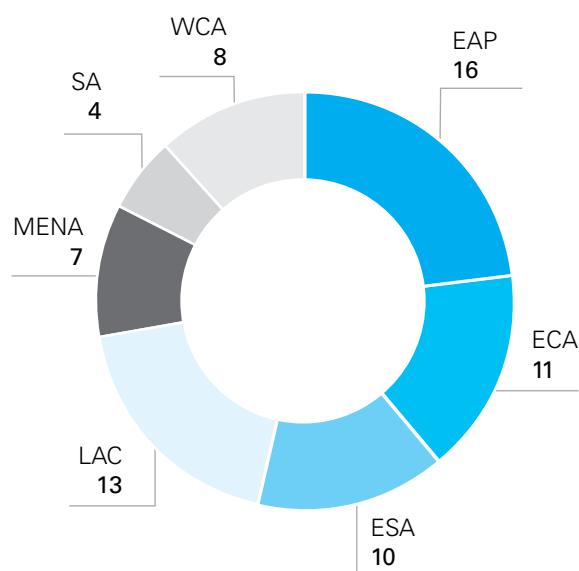
climate change on children and/or implement interventions on climate or DRR in at least one sector or across multiple sectors.

Child-sensitive policies and programmes:

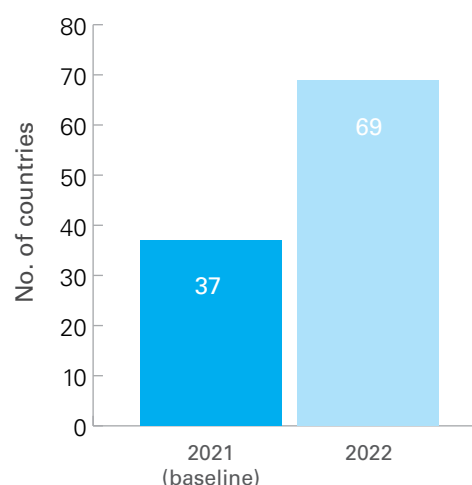
- Strengthen child-critical social services to be more climate- and disaster-resilient.
- Make inclusive of all children's and young people's rights, participation and roles as stakeholders and drivers of change.

FIGURE 3: UNICEF country offices implementing child-sensitive programmes to enhance the climate and disaster resilience of children and promote environmental sustainability, by region in 2022 and progress over baseline year (2021) (SP Indicator 4.3.1)

Support to enhance climate and disaster resilience of children, by region (69 countries in 2022)



Progress over baseline year



Source: UNICEF CSIs (2022).

Note: EAP, East Asia and the Pacific; ECA, Europe and Central Asia; ESA, Eastern and Southern Africa; LAC, Latin America and the Caribbean; MENA, Middle East and North Africa; SA, South Asia; WCA, West and Central Africa.

To meet Strategic Plan goals, UNICEF is also strengthening its internal capacity and that of its partners, including through an Agora course on CEED and WASH essentials on the UNICEF Strategic Plan and a public course on integrating climate change in UNICEF's planning and programming.⁸ UNICEF also provides guidance materials for staff and partners in a wide range of related

programming areas, including climate-resilient WASH, environmental and social standards, healthy environments for healthy children, comprehensive school safety, shock responsive social protection, innovation, internal sustainability, gender, disability, migration and other topics (see box '2022 UNICEF publications').

Ensuring essential services for every child are resilient and sustainable

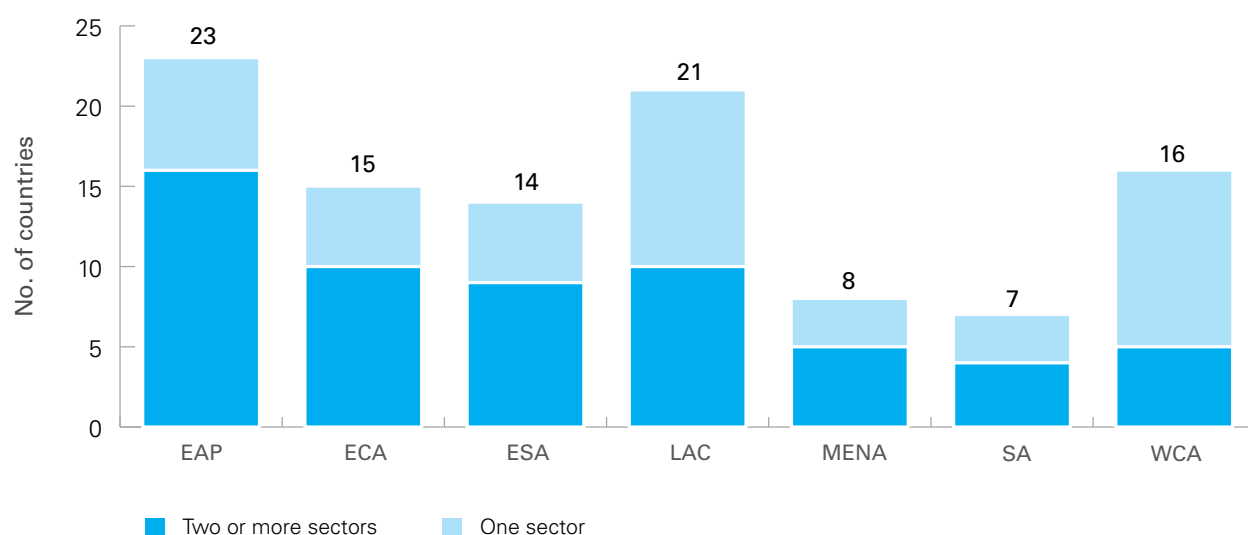
UNICEF is working to strengthen the national services and systems that children need to survive, grow and thrive in the face of climate threats and disasters. This is an organization-wide imperative that is essential to protect critical services for children and young people in the future and to ensure that decades of child development progress are not lost. While the scope of this work is significant, UNICEF is well-placed to leverage results through its in-country capacity and partnership networks within national social sectors in programme countries, and its expertise and experience in the areas of child-sensitive DRR and humanitarian response.

In most programme countries, UNICEF is already doing this: in 104 countries, across all regions, UNICEF is actively implementing programmes on climate, environmental

sustainability, sustainable energy or DRR in at least one sector, and in 59 countries it has programming in two or more sectors (Figure 4).

Systems-strengthening for climate- and disaster-resilient social services for children and young people is a key part of UNICEF support in programme countries. Across sectors, a core component of country programmes is to work with government and civil society partners to adapt existing national policy and strategy frameworks to fully incorporate resiliency elements. UNICEF also supports related systems-strengthening support at national and subnational levels, including in the areas of capacity-building, finance, monitoring and institutional development.

FIGURE 4: UNICEF support for climate, environment, energy or DRR programming, 2022



Source: UNICEF CSIs (2022).

Note: EAP, East Asia and the Pacific; ECA, Europe and Central Asia; ESA, Eastern and Southern Africa; LAC, Latin America and the Caribbean; MENA, Middle East and North Africa; SA, South Asia; WCA, West and Central Africa.



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Immunization worker ZamZam Isse drawing supplies from a solar-powered refrigerator for an IDP camp vaccination campaign in Gambool, Somalia. The programme is supported by UNICEF with funding from the governments of Germany and Japan.

Protecting children, young people, communities and social services through DRR

UNICEF integrates its climate actions and disaster risk reduction work through its focus on addressing the present and worsening impacts on the most vulnerable people. Doing so recognizes that holistic responses across extreme and longer-term climate impacts are critical. In its DRR programming, UNICEF works to reduce the specific risks faced by children and young people before, during and after emergencies, while ensuring they are meaningfully involved in efforts to reduce disaster risk and build resilience.

UNICEF equips communities with the knowledge, skills and supplies they need to protect themselves before disaster strikes by working with government partners to strengthen national and subnational preparedness systems. In many countries UNICEF involvement is multifaceted, with high levels of activity in disaster-prone countries. For instance, in 2022:

- UNICEF the Plurinational State of Bolivia provided training sessions on disaster contingency plans, evacuation drills and biosecurity measures in 476 of the most vulnerable schools in 7 districts of the El Chaco region. This led to an improvement in the emergency preparedness and response capacities of 14,735 children and adolescents, 1,821 teachers and 220 district administrators.
- UNICEF Eastern Caribbean and other United Nations partners reviewed internal emergency preparedness actions and conducted an After-Action Review (AAR) of Hurricane Fiona to identify gaps and actions to address for the 2023 hurricane season.
- UNICEF India supported 5 states to establish real-time monitoring mechanisms to stimulate demand for child-centred DRR actions; and linked 2,600 families (including those with children and young people with disabilities) with government social protection schemes.
- UNICEF Kyrgyzstan and Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan improved school safety through service delivery and supply procurement action; enabling 600 schools in disaster-prone areas to be better equipped with essential DRR supplies and equipment. Additionally, 247,852 students participated in emergency skills development through simulation exercises.
- UNICEF Pakistan support contributed to a new national school safety framework, provincial monsoon contingency plans for WASH, the Parliamentarians Caucus on Disaster Risk Management (DRM), and to a wide range of capacity-building and training initiatives at subnational levels.
- UNICEF Nepal prioritized child-centred DRR in its programming (*see box 'Comprehensive child-centred DRR programming in Nepal'*).

Comprehensive child-centred DRR programming in Nepal

Nepal is highly prone to flooding, landslides, earthquakes and other disasters, and children and young people are affected disproportionately. In 2022 alone, thousands of households were impacted by severe monsoon rains, a 6.6 magnitude earthquake, and cholera and dengue outbreaks. UNICEF has been working with government partners on child-centred DRR since 2013 at national and subnational levels, focusing on three areas of action:

- Strengthen knowledge, skills and capacities of children, young people, communities and systems.
- Increase child-centred DRR integration into district, regional and sectoral policies and plans.
- Promote the meaningful participation of children and young people in DRR and climate change adaptation decision-making processes.

Significant progress has been made in each of these areas in 12 highly vulnerable districts. This includes the formation of over 240 DRR and school safety child clubs, and the embedding of child-centred DRR into 23 municipal disaster management policies and plans. Nationally, DRR and climate change adaptation have been incorporated into the school curricula and teacher training, into the School Sector Development Plan and the Health Sector Strategic Plan.

UNICEF has also helped improve the national government DRR information systems and provided training on systems management for staff from 38 local governments. In 2022, through a joint programme with UNDP and UN Women, 100 Community Emergency Response Team volunteers and more than 1,500 community leaders and volunteers (the majority of whom were women) were trained on earthquake simulation and rapid vulnerability mapping. This work will continue into 2023 and beyond, with DRR, climate resilience and environmental sustainability designated one of four focus areas in the new UNICEF Nepal country programme.



Children from the Betal Basic School in Doti, Nepal where UNICEF has helped to establish a child club as part of the child-centred disaster risk reduction programme.

Improving resilience across UNICEF programming areas

Under the Strategic Plan 2022–2025, UNICEF works to improve resilience through its day-to-day programming across all its sectoral and programming areas. Examples of this work in the areas of WASH, education, health, nutrition, child protection and social protection are described below. See the other Strategic Plan Goal Area results reports for additional analysis and examples of this cross-sectoral work.

WASH

WASH systems are critical for children and are especially vulnerable to climate shocks. UNICEF has prioritized a shift towards full climate resilience throughout its WASH programme, and advocates with partners to do the same. In 2022 activities included updating of the UNICEF–Global Water Partnership Strategic Framework for WASH Climate Resilient Development,⁹ release of new technical guidance on climate-resilient sanitation,¹⁰ co-hosting the first-ever dedicated session on climate-resilient and low-emissions sanitation at a COP meeting (at COP27) and revising the widely used national sector WASH Bottleneck Analysis Tool (WASH BAT) to fully incorporate climate risk analysis.

UNICEF also expanded its work in water scarcity, including a multi-country remote-sensing initiative to identify climate-resilient groundwater resources, the launch of a regional groundwater resilience programme in South Asia and a country-by-country analysis of national policy frameworks to address the water scarcity crisis in the Middle East and North Africa region.

Through direct support alone, an additional 5.4 million people are now using climate-resilient water systems and 3.2 million climate-resilient sanitation facilities in 2022, and progress was made institutionalizing resilience into national WASH policies and plans in countries across all UNICEF regions.

Education

In education, UNICEF promotes the Comprehensive School Safety Framework¹¹ on safe learning facilities, school disaster management, risk reduction and resilient education. These actions provide a unified focus for child-centred and evidence-based efforts to promote DRR and climate resilience throughout the education sector and to assure universal access to good-quality education. Examples of this support in 2022 include integration of climate into school safety plans in El Salvador, Honduras and countries in the Caribbean, and work with partners to upgrade disaster resilience in schools including in Tajikistan where UNICEF is engaging young people, teachers and community members in an ongoing programme to improve school resilience.

UNICEF initiated a region-wide process to examine national education systems through a resiliency lens in South Asia

and promote and support the kind of systemic changes that will be necessary to ensure continuing education services for children in the face of the climate emergency. The ‘[Heat is On!](#)’ study, examines national systems in detail. It presents a series of recommendations and a self-assessment tool to increase the climate and disaster resilience in education systems. Additional studies aimed to inform policy and programming in [Bangladesh](#), [India](#), [the Maldives](#), [Pakistan](#) and [Sri Lanka](#).

Health, nutrition and air pollution

UNICEF works to reduce the health impact of climate and environmental degradation on children by addressing related risks in primary health care (UNICEF programmes in 20 countries in 2022) and by strengthening climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable health care facilities (in 59 countries in 2022) (see the [Goal Area 1 Global Annual Results Report](#) for details). UNICEF has also been a pioneer in the use of solar energy in health care, including for immunization cold chains (see below).

In nutrition, UNICEF protects the nutritional status of young children, young people and their mothers by integrating disaster risk into nutrition assessments, developing climate-smart nutrition actions that aim to protect diets and nutrition services from climate impacts, addressing additional health needs that may occur during a crisis and promoting young champions for food and climate justice. For instance, in some of Ethiopia’s most inaccessible regions and drought-affected areas in the country, UNICEF implemented the life-saving ‘Find and Treat’ campaign in 2022. The campaign linked a rapid nutrition assessment to a multisectoral rapid response to reduce severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in children.

To address air pollution in 2022, UNICEF promoted awareness-raising and training. For example, in Serbia, 976 young people collaborated to create the first Youth Declaration for Air Quality, and 3,342 students and 396 teachers in 45 schools were trained on the usage of low-cost air pollution sensor devices. In Mongolia the Youth for Climate and Clean Air Network and Teen Parliament advocated for improvements in indoor air quality, leading to standardization of monitoring of air quality in kindergartens. UNICEF also promoted innovation in addressing air pollution, and engaged children in Kyrgyzstan, Belarus and North Macedonia to develop solutions such as a nanosatellite to measure air quality and a low-cost air purifier. Air pollution solutions such as improved eco-cookstoves were distributed in Burundi, Myanmar and Nepal.

Child protection and social protection

In the area of child protection, including migration, no matter the circumstance, every child and young person has the right to be protected from violence, exploitation and abuse. This includes providing care to the most vulnerable children and young people on the move, including children and young people uprooted by climate change and disasters. In 2022 UNICEF launched the [Guiding Principles for](#)

[*Children on the Move in the Context of Climate Change*](#) to advocate safeguarding the rights and well-being of children regardless of their location or migration status.

To advance this agenda, in 2022 UNICEF brought together nearly 200 young people from across Africa to develop the African Youth Declaration on Climate Mobility, which calls for an African Youth Climate Fund to support innovative,

youth-led solutions to the climate crisis and human mobility nexus. In response, the Robert Bosch Foundation announced seed funding for a youth-led climate action fund. In another example, in 2022 UNICEF supported the Ecuadorian Government to include the issue of migration as a scenario for WASH response in its National Education Risk Reduction and Emergency Response Plan.

Spotlight on shock-responsive social protection

UNICEF works with government partners to ensure that national social protection services have the flexibility to adjust to disasters and climate shocks and ensure that the most vulnerable children and households can continue to access basic goods and services.

In Mongolia, in 2019, UNICEF and the government worked together to pilot shock-responsive cash transfers in poor communities to mitigate climate risks. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit in 2020, UNICEF conducted a rapid social impact assessment showing the severe challenges for vulnerable households to purchase food. The experience from the 2019 pilot and the 2020 impact assessment findings provided the evidence needed for government to top up the national cash transfer programme fivefold. In 2022, the programme has been made permanent and now reaches 96 per cent of eligible households in the country.

In Indonesia UNICEF helped to expand the Adaptive Social Protection initiative, through evidence-based advocacy, a United Nations joint social protection pilot initiative and a separate but related child cash grant initiative. The findings prompted new government regulations linking Adaptive Social Protection with climate change and disaster management, and UNICEF provided additional support in the form of capacity-building at the subnational level.

In Kenya the Energy Cash Plus initiative tops up the national safety net cash transfer system to enable impoverished households vulnerable to climate shocks to purchase solar lanterns or household solar systems. To date, over 4,100 households have been reached through the programme with positive outcomes in the areas of education, disaster resilience and improved local markets for solar systems.



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A girl studying after dark using a solar light in a household participating in the Kenya Energy Cash Plus initiative.

Strengthening social services with sustainable energy

UNICEF increasingly supports and promotes the use of solar energy (and other clean energy sources) in its programming for children in recognition of the links between equitable access to energy and child rights, and because clean, sustainable sources of energy improve the quality, accessibility and reliability of essential services for children. For example, from 2019 to 2022, UNICEF has constructed 6,112 solar-powered water systems (1,855 in 2022), which often replace polluting diesel-powered systems, providing safe and reliable water service to communities, health-care facilities and schools.¹²

UNICEF support often focuses on fragile countries such as Afghanistan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and in isolated communities throughout sub-Saharan Africa. This is where solar energy is often the only viable pumping option as groundwater levels drop due to climate change. UNICEF also expanded its regional-level solar hubs technical assistance programmes in 2022 and provided a range of training opportunities and technical support for solar water-pumping in programme countries.

The use of solar energy in other sectors is also increasing. In health care, where reliable energy is critical for vital life-saving medical equipment, UNICEF has supported solarization initiatives in over 80 countries including off-grid energy systems for vaccine cold chain networks and electrification, heating and cooling at health-care facilities and medical warehouses in more than 80 countries (in

2022 alone, UNICEF procured 16,887 solar refrigerators). In education, solar power enhances education opportunities for children and young people, especially those who are vulnerable and experiencing marginalization. In Bangladesh and Jordan, for example, UNICEF has installed solar PV systems in more than 200 safe learning centres in refugee camps and host communities. In the Sudan, UNICEF has provided solar lighting in both schools and homes, providing 62,100 children and adolescents with improved education opportunities. A 2022 UNICEF [report](#) details these activities and other energy-related initiatives for children.

Strengthening budgets to improve sustainable programming

UNICEF works with civil society and government partners in programme countries to assess national budgets through a climate change lens, and to provide support for climate-inclusive budgeting processes. Examples in 2022 include the Climate Public Expenditure Review carried out with United Nations partners in Jordan, a similar review in Angola as part of an ongoing CLAC process and a WASH and Climate Change budget review in Eswatini. In Kenya UNICEF helped develop improved national budget monitoring systems that facilitate public reporting by climate and related thematic areas. At the global level, UNICEF released a [report](#) on climate change provisioning within social sector budgets and partnered with UNDP to [study](#) and recommend improved tools and systems to facilitate national climate and social inclusion goals through budget processes.



Paea, aged 8 years, washes his hands from the UNICEF and Government of Japan supported water tank at home in Tonga. The tank was installed to help families and children recover and rebuild from the Hunga-Tonga-Hunga-Ha'apai underwater volcano that violently erupted in January 2022, triggering a 1.2-metre-high tsunami. The shockwaves from the eruption affected 85 per cent of the Tongan population.

Evaluations related to CEED

In 2022 UNICEF completed five evaluations focusing on CEED-related programming, covering multiple countries across three regions (*Table 2*). Many other evaluations contain some CEED elements, including WASH evaluations listed in the full Goal Area 4 report.

Two of the CEED evaluations had a regional focus with data collected in multiple countries. The most common themes of the 2022 evaluations were disaster risk resilience and response efforts including climate change adaptation. This includes four evaluations addressing climate change and another four evaluations focusing on disaster risks. In Kenya UNICEF completed an impact evaluation of its Energy for the Poor programme. This pilot project aims to

enhance access to energy for the most vulnerable segment of the population to improve their well-being and develop markets for solar energy while increasing the penetration of solar products to previously underserved communities. Assessing the relevance, effectiveness, impact, efficiency and sustainability of the project, the evaluation presents specific recommendations for the project's second phase of implementation, during the scale-up, or for other programmes with similar objectives or implementation modalities.

Aiming to better integrate climate and sustainability into the child rights agenda, UNICEF will complete a global evaluation of its work on DRR and climate in 2024.

The reports of these and other evaluations are available to the public on the UNICEF [Evaluation reports web page](#).

TABLE 2: CEED-focused evaluations, 2022

Region	Office	Theme	Title
EAP	Cambodia	Climate change and WASH	Formative evaluation of the inclusion and mainstreaming of climate resilience in the UNICEF Cambodia WASH programme
ESA	Kenya	Climate change and environmental degradation	Impact evaluation of the Energy for the Poor programme in Kenya
LAC	Haiti	Disaster risks	Real-Time Evaluation (RTE) of UNICEF's response to the Haiti 2021 earthquake
	Regional, multi-country	Climate change and disaster risks	Evaluation of Joint Programme Enhancing Resilience and Acceleration of the SDGs in the Eastern Caribbean
	Regional, multi-country	Climate change and disaster risks	Multi-country evaluation of UNICEF's response to hurricanes Eta and Iota in Central America

Note: EAP, East Asia and the Pacific; ESA, Eastern and Southern Africa; LAC, Latin America and the Caribbean.

2022 UNICEF publications

UNICEF produced multiple global and regional advocacy and knowledge products on climate, environment, energy and DRR, with a sample of key publications here:

Strategy and programme design

- [A Liveable Planet for Every Child – Climate, environment, energy and disaster risk reduction strategy](#)
- [Climate, environment, energy and disaster risk reduction in UNICEF's 2022–2025 Strategic Plan](#)
- [UNICEF DRR in Action: Every country protected; every child resilient](#)
- [A brighter life for every child with sustainable energy](#)
- [Guiding Principles for Children on the Move in the Context of Climate Change](#)
- [Budgets for climate, sustainability and social inclusion](#)*
- [Linking Disaster Risk Reduction \(DRR\) and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support](#)*
- [Responsible Data for Children \(RD4C\) Case Study: INFORM](#)*
- [Towards Climate Resilient Education Systems | South Asia](#)
- [Working with Women and Girls to Centre Gender Equality in Climate Resilience | Eastern and Southern Africa](#)
- [Legal Empowerment to Advance Climate and Environmental Justice | East Asia and Pacific](#)

Evidence and advocacy

- [Child-sensitive climate policies for every child](#)
- [The coldest year of the rest of their lives](#)
- [Actions for a Liveable Planet for Every Child – Advocacy Brief](#)
- [A brighter life for every child with sustainable energy](#)
- [Bring In the Girls! | Girls and young women's views on climate change](#)*
- [Adolescent Girls' Voices on Climate Action](#)
- [Monitoring the Social Costs of Climate Change for Low- and Middle-income Countries](#)
- [The Heat is On! | South Asia](#)
- [Children's Climate Risk Index: Egypt Report | Middle East and North Africa](#)
- [Early Childhood Development and Climate Change Advocacy Brief | East Asia and Pacific](#)

For young people and their supporters

- [A young person's guide to sustainable energy](#)
- [Green Words: 15 ideas for taking care of the world](#)
- [A COP Fit For Children: How to support children's participation](#)*
- [The Young Climate Activists Toolkit | Middle East and North Africa](#)
- [De las palabras a la acción: El rol de las personas jóvenes en la acción climática | Latin America and the Caribbean](#) *(From words to action: The role of young people in climate action)*

* Co-published with partners

Child-focused studies, advocacy and innovation on climate and disaster resilience

Attaining the goal of a liveable planet for every child starts with building evidence and advocating and innovating for and with children and young people. UNICEF sponsors a wide range of child-focused studies and data analysis exercises to backstop advocacy campaigns, advance policy engagement and offer technical advice on systems design. For example, a [child-sensitivity study](#) of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) submitted between September 2019 and October 2022, researched countries' commitments to meeting their climate targets under the Paris Agreement.¹³ The study documents countries' progress on child-sensitive commitments in their NDCs, with a call for greater funding that is often lacking to turn commitments into action.

Evidence generation activities are often the first, critical step to kick-start concrete action for children and young people across sectors. In 2022 UNICEF sponsored such studies in 44 countries across all regions; examples include child risk impact assessments in Cameroon and the Central African Republic; a climate finance study with UNDP in Indonesia; a renewable energy market assessment for UNICEF's key sectors in Sierra Leone; a study on the economic costs of climate inaction in the Maldives; an analysis on the potential of climate-smart schools in

Viet Nam;¹⁴ a study on the impacts of climate change on nutrition and food security with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Mongolia; and a climate risk-informed analysis of the WASH sector in the State of Palestine.

To advance programming and policy, UNICEF country offices have developed Climate Landscape Analysis for Children (CLAC) reports. CLACs are national comprehensive assessments of climate change- and disaster-related issues and children and young people; and how they relate to the local policy and systems environment and UNICEF programming. To date, CLACs have been completed by UNICEF in 34 countries, including five in 2022:

- The Brazil CLAC, the first of its kind, showed how 60 per cent of the country's children are exposed to multiple climate and environment hazards.
- The Djibouti CLAC was prepared during an acute humanitarian crisis (drought), which made it timely and relevant. Based on the CLAC, UNICEF and the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development also agreed to appoint a youth committee in the country; three reps of which were invited to join the government delegation at COP27.



Anwar, 25, from Jerash, Jordan, with her innovative water-saving hydroponic system for growing produce that is sold to hotels. She is also a youth climate leader in a UNICEF-supported programme.

- The Guinea CLAC illustrated how children, half the country's population, are the most severely impacted.
- The Sierra Leone CLAC found that at least 80 per cent of children are at a high risk of both environmental hazards and the poverty that makes them vulnerable to these hazards. More than 90 per cent of young people polled during the recent U-Report Poll stated that they care deeply about the state of the environment and want their government to do more.
- The Sudan CLAC findings are currently informing policy and programme design, including the new Climate-resilient WASH Rationale for the Darfur region.

At the global level, the 2021 Children's Climate Risk Index (CCRI) – the first-ever comprehensive global analysis of climate risk from a child rights perspective – continues to backstop UNICEF advocacy campaigns. Its datasets were the basis of the 2022 report [The coldest year of the rest of their lives](#), which highlights the escalating impacts of debilitating and dangerous heatwaves on children. The CCRI shows that 559 million children are already affected and that that by 2050 many more will be exposed to more frequent, longer lasting and more severe heatwaves even under low emission warming scenarios (*Figure 5 – under a high emission scenario of 2.4 degrees of warming, all children in every country in the world will be affected*).¹⁵

The CCRI is also the main reference for a UNICEF-led child risk data initiative that began in 2022, and is currently developing a subnational assessment model and interactive geospatial platform that can be used for informing decision-

making and planning. This includes the areas of emergency preparedness and response, DRR and climate change adaptation.

Building on the CCRI, UNICEF, in partnership with USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), is leading on a child risk data initiative to develop a subnational assessment model, as a common tool to support child-centred, multi-hazard analyses of children's climate and disaster risks. The children's risk data will be presented on an open source, interactive geospatial platform that can be used to strengthen risk-informed programming and planning processes, and support cross-sector coordination and decision-making processes based on a common understanding of risk. This model is currently being piloted in Cambodia, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Kenya and Somalia, and is developed in close collaboration with national stakeholders and other United Nations agencies.

As another example, in partnership with the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), with funding from the Patrick J McGovern Foundation (PJMF), UNICEF is working to unlock new insights from IDMC's disaster displacement and risk modelling data, to identify hot spots where children are at greatest risk of displacement now and in the future.

The CCRI is also being used to underpin advocacy and fundraising efforts. This includes the new '[Today and Tomorrow](#)' initiative, which is a child-focused climate and disaster risk protection initiative for eight cyclone-prone countries. The initiative combines immediate financing for climate resilience and risk prevention programmes for children and young people, with an innovative use of risk transfer finance provided by the insurance market for cyclone disasters in the future.

FIGURE 5: Areas exposed to heatwave frequency, 2050, low emission scenario (an estimated 1.7 degrees of warming)



Source: UNICEF, (2022).¹⁶

Note: Areas where, on average, 83.54 or more days a year exceed 35°C are included in the analysis of children's exposure to extreme high temperatures.

Advocacy for and with children and young people at key global climate and DRR events

COP27 2022 meeting

The UNFCCC COP meetings are important milestones in the implementation of [The Paris Agreement](#) and critical moments for engaging governments, policymakers and key climate stakeholders to ensure that children, their rights and the essential social services upon which they depend are a key focus for action.

At COP27, UNICEF released data and evidence to further the case for action for children and young people, including an updated [Nationally Determined Contributions \(NDC\) analysis](#), the [UNICEF Global Heatwaves analysis](#) and the results of a global climate poll of over 240,000 young people from 29 countries outlining how young people are experiencing and adapting to the impacts of climate change. Young people representing UNICEF and staff also participated in events aimed at (1) securing policy progress to ensure children and young people are protected, prepared and prioritized through and in climate action¹⁷ and (2) positioning UNICEF as a strategic partner for implementation of solutions that improve the resilience of children and young people in key social services.

Overall action on climate change is far short of what is needed. However, there was some progress at the meeting, such as within the Action for Climate

Empowerment (ACE) negotiations. This included mandating guidelines and good practices on children's education and empowerment in climate action, with special consideration given to gender equality and inclusion of persons with disabilities. Additionally, the COP27 cover decision featured key language proposed by UNICEF and partners, and formally recognized the role of children as agents of change for the first time, with language that 'encourages Parties to include children and young people in their processes for designing and implementing climate policy and action' and include 'young representatives' in their national delegations for future climate negotiations.

Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2022 meeting

The 2022 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) was an opportunity for leaders and experts from around the world to meet and discuss ways to strengthen disaster risk governance and build stronger systems for managing all types of risks, and for stocktaking on meeting the 2030 targets of the [Sendai Framework for DRR](#).

Prior to the event, UNICEF supported the [Major Group for Children and Youth](#) to reach more than 4,000 young people through surveys; virtual forums in Africa, the Americas, Europe and Asia; and an in-person Global Youth Platform for Resilience and Climate Action 2022 preparatory meeting. The events provided input into the Global Children and Youth Statement on Disaster Risk Reduction presented at GP2022.



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Young climate advocates discussing innovative solutions to climate change at local levels in the area of education and health, part of a broader youth climate action programme supported by UNICEF in Maharashtra, India.

At GPDRR, UNICEF played a proactive role in supporting young people's participation and urgently calling for stakeholders to develop and act on child-sensitive policies and programmes. Young people and UNICEF staff presented on climate-centred DRR, child and youth engagement, shock responsive social protection, private sector partnerships, DRR decision-making, anticipatory action, comprehensive school safety, resilience and other DRR efforts. At the event, UNICEF launched the [UNICEF DRR in Action: Every country protected; every child resilient](#) report and shared the new [Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative](#) tool it contributed to as a partner in the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI).

Advocacy and systems-strengthening for reducing disaster risk and increasing resilience

UNICEF participated in a midterm review of the Sendai Framework 2015–2030 on how its actions are advancing global targets. The input highlighted that UNICEF is working with partners to strengthen system capacity to deliver coordinated, high-quality support to countries on DRR, as highlighted by its work. In 2022 UNICEF country offices provided support to:

- 38 countries to develop 86 disaster and climate risk informed development strategies, policies and plans (see examples below).
- 23 countries to strengthen early warning systems, in line with the United Nations Secretary-General's call to action to ensure every person on the planet is protected by early warning systems within five years.
- 39 countries to update national preparedness frameworks and/or early/anticipatory action.
- 15 countries to develop and implement Recovery and Reconstruction frameworks that incorporate DRR and/or 'Build Back Better'¹⁸ elements (noting that UNICEF achieved a 75 per cent increase to incorporate 'Build Back Better' elements into recovery/reconstruction frameworks from 2021 to 2022).

UNICEF works with partners within global DRR collaboration frameworks. It is the lead agency for child and youth-centred DRR overall and in several child-critical sectors (education, nutrition, WASH and child protection) and co-leads or contributes to the social protection and health sectors. In education, UNICEF is the Co-Chair of the Global Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in the Education Sector. UNICEF is also an active member of a thematic group on Health and Psychosocial Support Health and Psychosocial Support within the United Nations Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC); and is an active partner in the CADRI partnership covering DRR and climate change adaptation, along with preparedness as the lead agency for UNICEF sectors.



Stephen Rackara, 12 years old, shows off onions harvested from his school vegetable garden irrigated using water from the solar-powered water supply system constructed by UNICEF in Kotido, Uganda.

UNICEF works to influence major frameworks and agendas committed by inter-agency platforms – including at the principal level in the Senior Leadership Group on DRR where heads of agencies come together to endorse concrete actions to be delivered by all partners. UNICEF has co-led the delivery of several of the highest-level commitments, including scale-up of DRR and climate change adaptation in humanitarian efforts.

In many countries, UNICEF is involved in formulation of national policies and legislation related to DRR such as in Algeria and Viet Nam, where a range of long-term UNICEF technical support activities contributed to new child-friendly national laws on disaster management. In other countries, UNICEF supports subnational DRR systems-strengthening processes and a wide range of sector-specific policies, strategies and plans. In 2022, for example:

- In the Eastern Caribbean UNICEF supported the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency in drafting shock-responsive social protection policy guidelines for participating Member States, which will be piloted in 2023.
- In India UNICEF supported national- and state-level disaster management institutions in developing policies, which led to key policy decisions, DRR road maps and 47 district disaster management plans with child-centred targets in 14 states.
- In Mongolia UNICEF conducted a child-focused review of 56 existing policies and procedures related to DRR and winter preparedness plans to enhance resilience of children, young people and their families. The review provided policy recommendations to national and subnational government to make relevant policies, procedures and plans child-focused. UNICEF supported local governments to develop child-centred DRR

and winter preparedness plans based on the recommendations, which are now being piloted in three regions with UNICEF's technical assistance.

- In Turkmenistan the National Child-Centred DRR Strategy was finalized with support from UNICEF and key national partners and submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers for endorsement.

Innovating for a more liveable planet

In advancing the goals of climate, environment, energy and DRR, it is imperative to innovate. This means to act collectively and faster to design, use and scale truly transformational solutions for every child to thrive. In 2022 UNICEF supported the scale-up of a portfolio of 11 innovative climate solutions in 22 countries reaching over 1.5 million children and young people. Examples include:

- In Africa in the lead up to COP27, UNICEF and partners promoted videos from young Africans aged 15–35 who participated in the African Climate Mobility Initiative (ACMI) Youth Innovation Challenge to share solutions on how people in Africa can adapt to climate change.
- In Guatemala a drone system that will provide wireless connectivity is being pioneered for national climate and disaster crisis recovery efforts.

- In Angola, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar and Somalia, the '[More Water More Life](#)' groundwater mapping initiative is using a combination of satellite remote-sensing, weighted GIS overlay analysis, hydrogeological mapping and geophysical surveying to monitor groundwater for sustainable use.
- In Madagascar an [early warning system](#) for drought and groundwater quality monitoring is helping to predict the likelihood of drought. This is done through a combination of piezometer measurements and satellite data, with the analysed data being published on a monthly bulletin for communities and farmers.
- In Malaysia UNICEF and UNDP are implementing the Youth Environment Living Labs (YELL) with support from the [Green Shark Challenge](#). The challenge was launched in 2021 by UNICEF and UNDP to develop and scale-up solutions that respond to global climate challenges. In 2022 YELL made significant progress in engaging young people and youth organizations in climate action, with increasing involvement of the Government of Malaysia, including a financial support commitment for further scale-up of the programme.
- In North Macedonia, in partnership with UNDP, UNICEF provided funding and technical support to the opening of the first [Bio-Hacking lab](#), which will use advanced bio-hacking techniques to find new ways to tackle solid waste. The lab will pair young innovators with scientists and train schoolchildren with biology and chemistry experiments.

Partnerships for a liveable planet

Effective programming to reduce disaster and climate risk and building resilience for, and with, children cannot be carried out alone. UNICEF works with a very wide range of partners and within partnership frameworks at all programming levels. The following list is a small sample of these:

[ARISE Global Network](#)

[Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative](#) (CADRI)

[Children in a Changing Climate](#)

[Children's Environmental Rights Initiative](#) (CERI)

[Climate & Clean Air Coalition](#)

[Climate Watch](#)

[Connecting Business initiative](#) (CBI)

[Data for Children Collaborative](#)

[Fridays For Future](#)

[Global Alliance for DRR and Resilience in the Education Sector](#) (GADRRRES)

[Global Water Partnership](#) (GWP)

[Health and Energy Platform of Action](#) (HEPA)

[Inter-Agency Standing Committee](#) (IASC)

[International Renewable Energy Agency](#) (IRENA)

[Major Group for Children and Youth](#) (MGCY)

[Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction](#) (PEDRR)

[Protecting Every Child's Potential](#)

[SDG 7 Technical Advisory Group](#) (SDG 7 TAG)

[SDG 7 Youth Constituency](#)

[The Nature Conservancy](#) (TNC)

[The NDC Partnership](#)

[World Meteorological Organization](#) (WMO)

[World Resources Institute](#) (WRI)

[YOUNGO](#)

Supporting children and young people to be environmental champions

The engagement of children and young people on climate, environment, sustainable energy and DRR action is one of the most widespread of all UNICEF programmes, reaching 122 countries in 2022. UNICEF provides comprehensive support in 68 of those countries, covering at least two of the three categories of engagement: polling the opinions of young people, integrating CEED issues or green skills into the education system, or supporting the participation of young climate advocates in policy development processes, advocacy or campaigning (*Figure 6*).

Including the views of children and young people

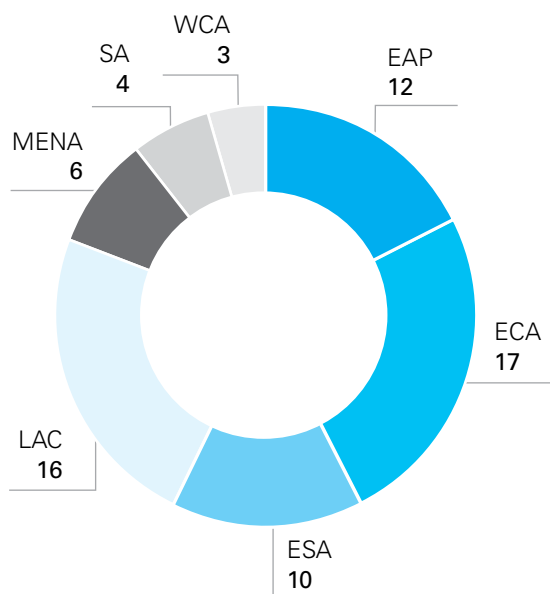
Consultation with children and young people on CEED issues is an important part of the overall UNICEF support in this area, an essential step in ensuring that their views are

considered in policy engagement and programme design processes. This engagement takes place through a wide range of consultative processes – in a total of 54 countries in 2022. In many countries, surveys were conducted to engage with young people leading up to GP2022, COP27 and other global events, while countries led national surveys on climate and DRR-related issues like energy, air pollution, climate-resilient WASH and school safety and resilience. The [U-Report platform](#) continues to be the most widely used platform for conducting surveys and engaging young people at the national, regional and global levels.

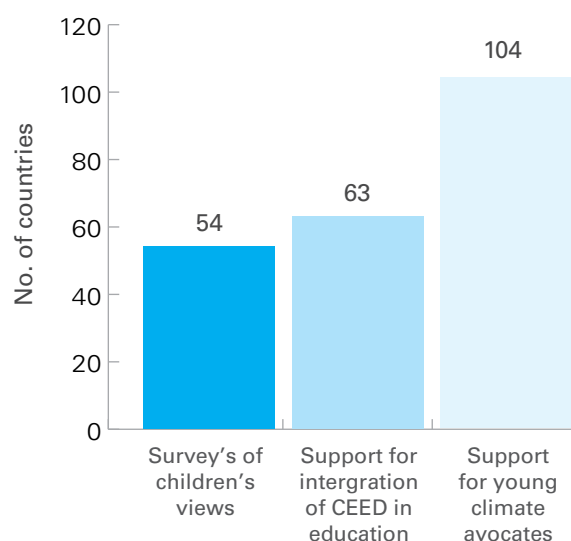
Surveys are key inputs for programme design processes, such as in Armenia where the findings from a 2022 [survey](#) of children and adolescents are being used to inform climate change education in schools, and the 2022 [Afghanistan: Rising to the Challenge](#) report, which built on the 2020 regional [Rising to the Challenge](#) study in South Asia.

FIGURE 6: Number of countries engaging children, adolescents and young people in action and advocacy to address climate change, unsustainable energy use and/or environmental degradation, with UNICEF support (4.3.2)

Comprehensive support for children and young people, by region (68 countries in 2022)



Type of support



Source: UNICEF CSIs (2022).

Note: In most countries, more than one type of support is provided by UNICEF.

EAP, East Asia and the Pacific; ECA, Europe and Central Asia; ESA, Eastern and Southern Africa; LAC, Latin America and the Caribbean; MENA, Middle East and North Africa; SA, South Asia; WCA, West and Central Africa.



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Nina Py Brozovich, a 17-year-old student from Bolivia, participating in a UNICEF-supported young climate activist event on World Children's Day.

A consultation theme in 2022 was singling out and amplifying the voices of girls and young women. In the lead up to COP27 UNICEF sponsored a [U-report survey](#) of over 17,000 adolescent girls from 29 programme countries, focusing in particular on the impacts of climate (80 per cent of respondents had already experienced a climate-related emergency and 32 per cent food shortages due to climate change). In a more comprehensive survey conducted in partnership with the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, over 33,000 girls and young women in 90 countries were consulted through U-report and in-person interviews. The resulting report, [Bring in the Girls!](#), presents survey results and emphasizes the need for greater involvement of girls in climate processes.

Promoting and supporting green skills and volunteerism

Responding and adapting to climate change will require a radical transformation towards a green economy. Paramount to the success of this transition is the development of green skills for children and young people, which encompass a range of hard and soft skills – including science, engineering, advocacy, disaster risk management and general education and awareness about climate

change and the environment. UNICEF country offices are supporting young people to acquire green skills as well as have greater opportunities and capacities to engage on the climate crisis in meaningful ways so they can actively and independently participate and lead. For example, in 2022:

- In Bangladesh the GenU ImaGen Ventures¹⁹ Youth Challenge on Climate Change encouraged youth in six divisions to participate in designing local solutions to climate change issues at divisional bootcamps. A total of 340 youth participated, with 20 of the most innovative solutions receiving support from seed funds and dedicated mentorship.
- In Bosnia and Herzegovina UNICEF engaged young people in development of their digital, entrepreneurial and green skills through the IT Girls and UPSHIFT²⁰ programmes, which reached 522 adolescents.
- In Burundi the 'Green Girls' initiative equipped vulnerable girls and those affected by climate change living at sites for internally displaced persons and host communities with empowerment activities. Through production of green charcoal from organic sources, participants were equipped with knowledge on household waste and business skills so they could contribute to the mitigation of climate change risks within their community.



A young woman participating in a pre-COP27 demonstration demanding urgent climate action sponsored by UNICEF and the Government of Maldives.

- In Viet Nam, 200 students worked to raise awareness on environmental issues, promote green skills and environmental protection and shared student-led, girl-led initiatives in climate action at a festival organized by the Ministry of Education and Training and supported by UNICEF.

UNICEF has also been supporting an upsurge in young volunteers mobilizing on sustainability and climate, in a wide range of areas including tree planting, air pollution, recycling and water conservation. Examples include:

- In Brazil UNICEF is building a network of 160,000 volunteers with a focus on the Amazon and semi-arid regions. The volunteers plant trees, collect trash, clean beaches, recycle plastic and produce street art with pro-environment messaging.
- In India UNICEF mobilized 1.1 million volunteers around water scarcity in the water-stressed states of Maharashtra and Karnataka. Volunteers supported harvesting rainwater initiatives, built community soak pits and led campaigns that encouraged reduced water consumption at home. The goal is to conserve more than 1 billion litres of water through the ongoing actions.

- In Jordan about 1,000 volunteers were mobilized through the UNICEF-supported Nahno volunteerism platform²¹ on a range of environmental interventions including tree planting, recycling, and city cleaning drives across the country. In 2022 the volunteers planted 7,537 trees and collected 10,248 kilograms of solid waste.
- In Mongolia, volunteers are equipped with devices to monitor air quality that they deploy inside their communities. On days of high air toxicity, the volunteers alert people to the hazard and provide them with information on how to protect themselves. UNICEF Mongolia has leveraged this volunteer activation to complement their behind-the-scenes advocacy efforts with the government to adopt more robust policies to address air pollution and build resilience.

A focus on awareness-raising and advocacy

Young people are passionate about climate change, the environment, sustainable energy and reducing disaster risk in their communities. They are already highly effective advocates for action both within their communities and social media groups, and through engagement processes with decision makers, with room for greater opportunities to advance their rights. A key component of UNICEF programming is providing the support and tools to advance their actions, such as through its Voices of Youth platform with [tools](#) for climate activists, air pollution [facts](#) and more.

In programme countries, UNICEF's support is wide-ranging. In many countries, UNICEF develops and disseminates educational material for children and young people ranging from comic books to chatbots. UNICEF also supports processes for the engagement of young people with decision makers including child parliaments and consultation forums, supports climate-, energy- and DRR-focused youth groups and trains young activists. In Mongolia, for example, UNICEF supported the Teen Parliament 2022 session on affordable and clean energy; in the Plurinational State of Bolivia UNICEF strengthened the capacities of 34 national and subnational adolescent



Climate Action for Youth booklet in Ecuador, Kichwa language edition

climate change organizations; and in the Republic of Moldova the United Nations Youth Advisory Panel was consulted on development of the CLAC.

In Ecuador UNICEF facilitated consultation of young people through U-Report and chat boxes in advance of both the COP27 and Stockholm+50 meetings; supported engagement of young people in the NDC formulation process and other national processes; and encouraged wider and more inclusive participation of youth through the [Climate Action for Youth](#) booklet published in both Spanish and Kichwa in 2022.

UNICEF and its partners also provide extensive support for young advocates in regional and global processes. This includes the development and dissemination of information resources and educational material for children themselves, and for the people and organizations who support them. Examples in 2022 include a [guide](#) for young people on sustainable energy in English and Spanish and the [Green Words](#) booklet on ideas for climate action with a focus on children living with disability, along with an updated [guide](#) for supporting children at COP meetings. Regional UNICEF publications include a [toolkit](#) for young climate activists in the Middle East and North Africa and a [guide](#) for supporting young activists in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Ahead of GP2022 and COP27, UNICEF worked to build the capacity of children and young people to be effective climate advocates and, at the meeting, helped to ensure they were present, visible and heard. For example, support at COP27 included:

- Advocating with government partners that led to inclusion of 82 young people in national delegations.

- Working with the UNFCCC Youth Constituency (YOUNGO) in the training and support of more than 200 youth delegates.
- Co-producing a guidance package with Save the Children and other partners: [A COP Fit For Children: How to support children's participation](#).
- Running training on climate policy, media and communications and youth and migration and displacement to build the capacity of youth delegates attending COP27.
- Running events under the *Conference of Youth* (COY17) programme, including a workshop on youth engagement in the NDCs, panel discussion on intergenerational climate action, a youth-led discussion on youth climate advocacy and capacity-building and a 'youth for climate caravan' initiative.
- Offering direct support for the participation of 37 children and youth to attend COP27, and support for 154 young people at the meeting, including the facilitation of their engagement in negotiations and events with decision makers.
- Supporting, as an institutional partner, the first-ever [Children and Youth Pavilion](#) alongside influential youth networks such as YOUNGO, the SDG 7 Youth Constituency and the United Nations Secretary-General's Youth Advisory Group.
- Developing content for young people to use in media interviews (such as the heatwaves study, the results of the global U-Report poll with 200,000 responses) and the provision of platforms to speak to the press.

Internal sustainability

In the area of internal sustainability, UNICEF has built a business model that enables it to be a more effective, efficient, impactful and ethical leader within the multilateral system. In 2022 UNICEF developed an action plan to increase cost-savings, simplify operations, reduce carbon emissions and improve the inclusiveness of its office premises. This includes actions in the area of operations, in strengthening environmental and social safeguards, and supply chains.

Operations

Fifty-three per cent of UNICEF offices are now situated within United Nations Common Premises, exceeding the United Nations target of 50 per cent, and significantly increasing the efficiency and sustainability of operations.

UNICEF has identified an additional 14 high-cost office locations as candidates for moving to common premises under the plan for 2023.

Globally, UNICEF continues to be on track to achieve the United Nations target of a reduction of carbon emissions by 45 per cent in 2030. In 2022 the total volume of emissions decreased by 17 per cent (11,834 t CO₂) compared with 2019 emissions, but increased by 36 per cent (15,828 t CO₂) compared with 2021 due to the increase in air travel. This increase was due in part to more comprehensive reporting (an increase in the number of offices reporting) but also to an increase in air travel as COVID-19 travel restrictions were lifted. Thus air travel contributed to 38 per cent of UNICEF total emissions, masking significant energy savings made in other areas in 2022, including reduced consumption of vehicle fuel and generator use.

(down to 21 per cent and 12 per cent, respectively, of total emissions). UNICEF continues to prioritize the goal of climate neutrality (measure, reduce, and offset carbon emissions) through data reporting, performance evaluation, project implementation and sustainability behaviour awareness activities, and by offsetting unavoidable emissions when necessary.

In 2022 UNICEF completed a green construction programme in Mozambique and Ghana that included 20 Energy Efficiency projects, 10 Solar PV projects and 2 Green Building Certifications. Ongoing projects in Afghanistan, and Nigeria (the Kano office), will result in a projected reduction of the GHG emissions by 1,100 tons of CO₂ upon completion.

Environmental and social safeguards

Environmental and social safeguards (ESS) is the term used for policies and measures designed to ensure that development projects promote social well-being and protect the environment while avoiding or minimizing adverse impacts. Over the course of 2022, an additional six UNICEF country programmes reported that they were implementing an ESS system, bringing the total to 21 countries.

As a reflection of the importance of ESS to UNICEF's programming and operations, UNICEF allocated core funding to fill two dedicated posts on this important

topic, with the first engaged by late 2022 and the second commencing in April 2023. These resources were allocated with the aim of finalizing UNICEF's ESS system by late 2023 and to support UNICEF programme and operations teams to understand the potential of ESS and how it applies to their work.

Supply chains

In 2022, UNICEF's Supply Division carried out a number of initiatives to improve sustainability, including developing a new solar procurement strategy in alignment with UNDP solar strategies and expanding work to optimize cold chain equipment, including through the use of Solar Direct Drive systems. Supply Division also accelerated efforts to reduce plastic waste for long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) by actively managing packing requirements.

Supply Division supported countries in strengthening end-to-end supply chains through systemic and focused interventions that build resilience and efficiencies. This included support for strengthening government-operated supply chains, including the UNICEF Supply Chain Maturity Model.²² In 2022 UNICEF supported 27 governments to develop or update national supply chain strategies to address barriers to health, nutrition and WASH commodities. In Madagascar, for example, UNICEF launched the One United Nations for Health Supply Chains Initiative, bringing United Nations agencies, key donors and implementing partners together to develop a road map for a shared understanding and common vision of the country's supply chain priorities.



UNICEF staff inspecting solar panels on the roof of the UNICEF office in Mopti, Mali.



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High-level priorities

Khadijeh, Nissrine, Taimaa and Ahed, (aged 12-14 years), get ready to plant shrubs in Rural Damascus, Syria, as part of a youth-led initiative organized by a UNICEF-supported, adolescent-friendly space. Khadijeh said, "We want to help protect the environment and make our town as beautiful and green as it was before."

Every child on Earth is impacted by the crisis of climate change, environmental pollution and biodiversity loss.²³ One billion children are already at particularly high risk. The impacts of the crisis are happening now, will worsen in the coming decades and will be felt most keenly by children living in countries that have contributed the least to the crisis.

While UNICEF has made significant progress, the scale and urgency of this crisis and the impacts on children and young people in the countries in which the organization works demand that efforts be accelerated. In the coming years UNICEF intends to advance on three fronts:

- 1. Equipping all UNICEF country offices with a customized response to the planetary crisis based on the needs of the most vulnerable children and young people.**

Many country offices have demonstrated their capability to address this global crisis as a central focus. UNICEF now has a broad base of best practices and programming insights and is institutionalizing the learning. The ambition is that sustainability and climate action become fundamental pillars within every UNICEF country programme, in both the areas of direct implementation and government support. This additionally positions country offices as effective advocates for all development partners on targeted climate action addressing the needs of the most vulnerable children and young people.

UNICEF will continue to build staff capacity and form strategic partnerships to provide country offices with evidence-based solutions to address the greatest threats from climate and environmental hazards affecting children and young people. These efforts are supported by a structured approach that ensures programming reflects the latest and most representative data on the priorities of young people themselves. A key focus is ensuring staff are equipped with the necessary training to use child-centred data and apply appropriate solutions in their work with partners. Additionally, as part of a customized response, UNICEF is working towards all country offices demonstrating their ability to be responsible environmental custodians, to uniformly apply environmental and social safeguards and their commitment towards resource neutrality.

- 2. Making sustainability and climate action a key lens through which UNICEF designs and delivers global programmes and advocacy, reviews operations and works with suppliers.**

Several UNICEF global sectoral programmes have already embarked on the transition to ensure that all the work is guided by a sustainability and climate lens. Drawing from these lessons, the goal is to rapidly ensure that this is a feature of all UNICEF programmes and advocacy at the intergovernmental level, and is incorporated into the way global policies are set and resources allocated. To this end, UNICEF is reviewing partnership processes to ensure a focus on securing financing to address the needs of the most vulnerable children and young people, and that brand and voice are credible champions for sustainability.

- 3. Strategically prioritizing key areas for acceleration where UNICEF has the credibility to implement and mobilize partners that can rapidly help to fill global gaps in responding to the needs of the most vulnerable children and young people in the face of the planetary crisis.**

Based on assessment of this global gap and work to date, these areas are likely to include:

- a. Addressing energy poverty in healthcare, education and WASH. This is critical for the quality, accessibility and reliability of these essential services for children and young people. Such actions, in turn, are instrumental for reducing the vulnerability of the services to climate and environmental shocks and to safeguard development gains.
- b. Providing integrated responses for weather-related disasters that include building resilience before a disaster, climate-calibrated anticipatory action and ensuring that recovery operations are conducted with the next extreme weather event in mind. Integrated responses before, during and after a disaster will be increasingly critical in the face of more destructive and extreme weather events driven by climate change.
- c. Offering sustainable WASH services support in areas most vulnerable to climate change to ensure that government authorities have this focus as part of their operations, have the capabilities to incorporate climate risk into their planning and can access finance.

- d. Developing and supporting pathways for young people to be more effective champions for sustainability through efforts that ensure they have access to sustainability and climate education, avenues for practical action in their community and support to meaningfully engage in climate and environmental decision making.

UNICEF understands that it cannot achieve these goals alone. That it will take a joint effort from the public and private actors, civil society and community organizations, children and young people and the United Nations system. Collectively, we must urgently galvanize a global commitment to sustainability and climate action targeted towards children who face the biggest impacts from the planetary crisis of climate change, environmental pollution and biodiversity loss.



Young people participating in a mangrove planting initiative in South Tarawa, Kiribati.

Abbreviations and acronyms

AfDB	African Development Bank	NAP	National Adaptation Plan
CCRI	Children's Climate Risk Index	NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
CEED	climate, environment, energy and DRR	NGO	non-governmental organization
CLAC	Climate Landscape Analysis for Children	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
COP27	27th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties	SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
COVID-19	coronavirus disease 2019	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
CSI	Core Standard Indicator	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
DRR	disaster risk reduction	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
GCF	Green Climate Fund	WASH	water, sanitation and hygiene
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit	WHO	World Health Organization
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change		

Annex: Financial reporting

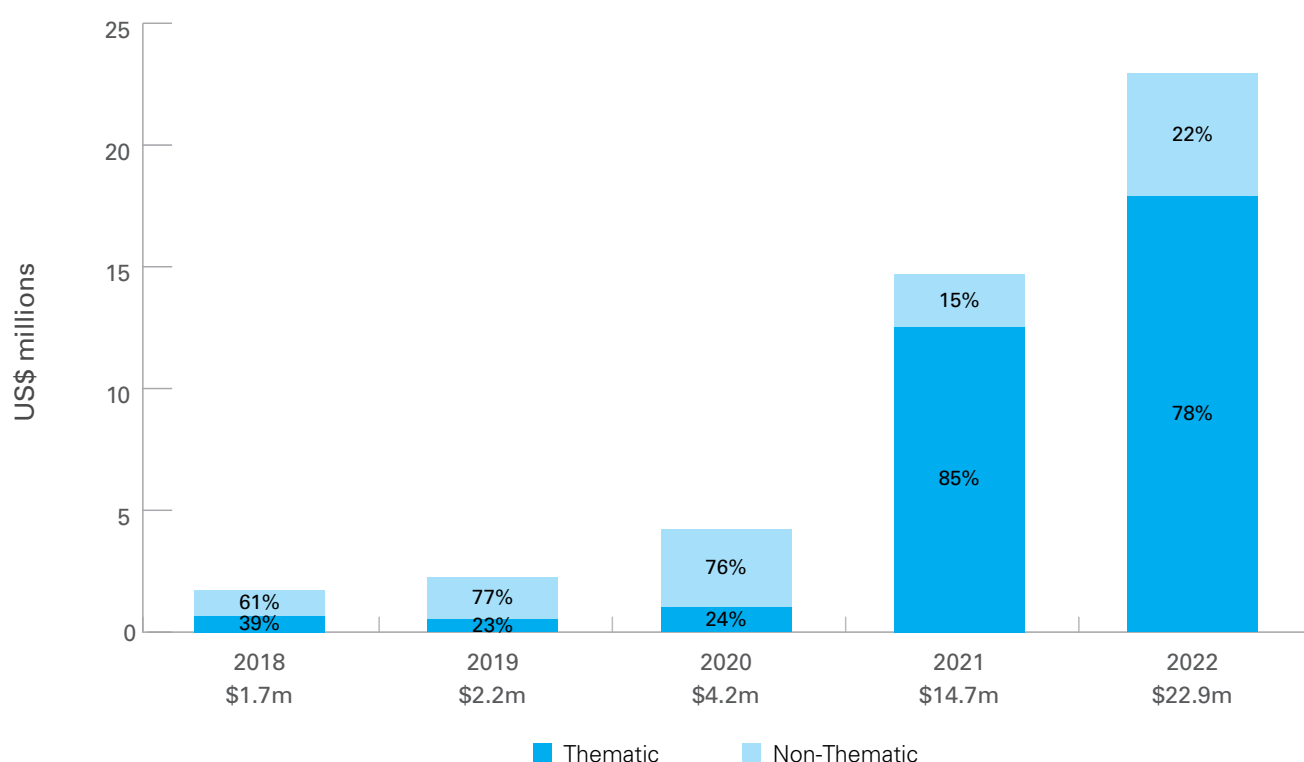
CEED financial reporting

Note that in previous years, financial reporting in the full Global annual results report: GA4 (which covers non-WASH income and expenses under Goal Area 4) was titled 'Safe and Clean Environment.' In those reports (2018–2021) the 'Safe and Clean Environment' section of the financial report covered the same programme components as in the current CEED programme (climate, energy and environment plus DRR), but also included local governance and urban programming. In this year's financial reporting, these expenses are labeled as CEED.

CEED income in 2022

In 2022 partners contributed US\$22.9 million 'other resources – regular' for CEED programmes – a 56 per cent increase over the previous year (*see Figure A1-1*). The majority of these contributions were for thematic funding. Public sector partners contributed the largest share of 'other resources – regular' to CEED, at 74 per cent (*see Figure A1-2*).

FIGURE A1-1: CEED 'other resources – regular' contributions, 2018–2022



The top five resource partners to CEED in 2022 were the Governments of Germany and the UNICEF national committees in Japan, the United States, the United Kingdom and Switzerland. (see Table A1-1). The largest single contributions were received from the Government of Germany for thematic programming in Somalia, Madagascar, Mozambique and Niger (see Table A1-2).

FIGURE A1-2: Total CEED funds received, by type of resource partner, 2022: US\$22.9 million

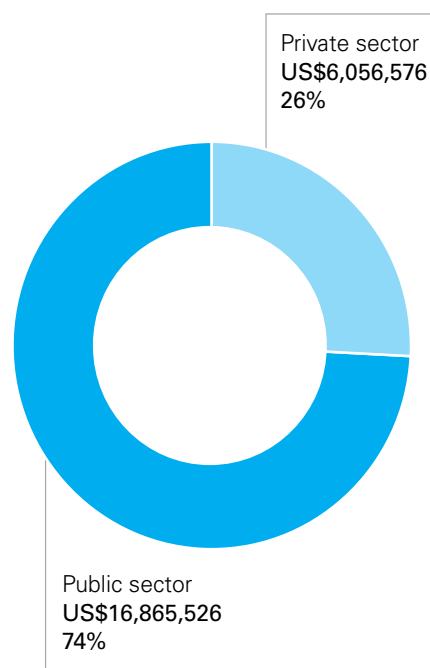


TABLE A1-1: Resource partners to CEED, by total contributions, 2022

Rank	Resource partners	Total (US\$)
1	Germany	16,818,656
2	Japan Committee for UNICEF	1,361,010
3	United States Fund for UNICEF	1,058,025
4	United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF	889,875
5	Committee for UNICEF Switzerland and Liechtenstein	650,446
6	German Committee for UNICEF	437,555
7	French Committee for UNICEF	322,581
8	Dutch Committee for UNICEF	285,388
9	UNICEF-Chile	215,000
10	Korean Committee for UNICEF	175,483
11	Japan	131,598
12	UNICEF-Mexico	131,288
13	Spanish Committee for UNICEF	131,065
14	Andorran Committee for UNICEF	103,413
15	Belgian Committee for UNICEF	93,071
16	Italian Committee for UNICEF	87,525
17	UNICEF-Philippines	68,373
18	Icelandic National Committee for UNICEF	36,478
19	Australian Committee for UNICEF	10,000

TABLE A1-2: Top 20 contributions to CEED, 2022

Rank	Total (US\$)	Grant description	Resource partners
1	4,142,968	Somalia: UNICEF Thematic Fund No. 7 "Safe and Clean Environment" (SP 2022–2025)	Germany
2	4,142,968	Madagascar: UNICEF Thematic Fund No. 7 'Safe and Clean Environment' (SP 2022–2025)	Germany
3	4,142,968	Mozambique: UNICEF Thematic Fund No. 7 'Safe and Clean Environment' (SP 2022–2025)	Germany
4	4,142,968	Niger: UNICEF Thematic Fund No. 7 'Safe and Clean Environment' (SP 2022–2025)	Germany
5	1,361,010	Climate actions in Mongolia	Japan Committee for UNICEF
6	650,446	From Plastic Waste to Classrooms Climate - Côte D'Ivoire - M	Committee for UNICEF Switzerland and Liechtenstein
7	389,614	Improving Access to Eco-Cookstoves & Establishing Green Zones - Jersey Overseas	United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF
8	375,450	From Plastic Waste to Classrooms Climate - Côte D'Ivoire - M	United States Fund for UNICEF
9	370,075	Thematic Safe and Clean Environment-Global	United States Fund for UNICEF
10	322,581	Batang Resilient Programme - Philippines	French Committee for UNICEF
11	317,613	Thematic Safe and Clean Environment-Global	United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF
12	285,388	Developing climate-smart eco-villages on the island of Madagascar	Dutch Committee for UNICEF
13	246,784	ESARO, Kenya: Regional support on environmental and social safeguards	Germany
14	245,000	Engaging Girls on Climate Change - Madagascar	United States Fund for UNICEF
15	215,000	Climate change, environmental action and youth engagement - MERI - LACRO	UNICEF-Chile
16	179,275	A Climate resilient education system in Bhutan	German Committee for UNICEF
17	175,483	Clean Air to benefit children's health and well-being - Mongolia - BGF Retail	Korean Committee for UNICEF
18	131,435	Youth action climate change in Egypt	German Committee for UNICEF
19	131,065	Thematic Safe and Clean Environment - Global	Spanish Committee for UNICEF
20	103,413	Scaling up climate solutions for children: Eco-Villages -Madagascar	Andorran Committee for UNICEF

In 2022 thematic funding contributions for CEED totalled US\$17.9 million, of which over 90 per cent came from public sector partners. The Government of Germany was the largest thematic resources partner in 2022, providing 92.1 per cent of all thematic CEED contributions received.

Of all thematic CEED contributions that UNICEF received in 2022, a total of US\$1.1 million was global-level contributions. These are the most flexible sources of funding to UNICEF after regular resources and can be allocated across regions to individual country programmes, according to priority needs.

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