

**Spotlight on the Global Climate,
Energy and Disaster Risk Reduction
(CEED) Thematic Fund**

2025

Cover photo: UNICEF and the Malaysian Ministry of Education conducted disaster risk reduction training in 2025. The event involved 200 children from 30 schools across the state, including Atiqah (12), who received a “GoBag” emergency backpack along with her peers.



UNICEF works across 12 of the 17 SDGs to improve outcomes for children in health, nutrition, education, social protection, child protection and water, hygiene and sanitation. UNICEF's Global Climate, Environment, Energy and Disaster Risk Reduction (CEED) Thematic Fund supports this work by contributing to multiple Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 6, SDG 7, SDG 11 and SDG 13.

1. UNICEF's Global CEED Thematic Fund: Protecting children from disasters and climate and environmental risks

Children bear the brunt of a worsening climate and environment crisis. More than a billion children are exposed to at least three overlapping climate hazards each year.¹ Children contribute the least to greenhouse gas emissions and pollution yet face the most severe and long-lasting threats to their health, learning and development. Unmitigated global heating, increasingly frequent and severe climate-related disasters, and environmental pollution have become regular features of today's childhood. These interconnected threats continue to set back hard-won development gains, such as in the education, health and water, hygiene and sanitation (WASH) sectors.

UNICEF's Strategic Plan 2022–2025² and the Sustainability and Climate Change Action Plan (SCAP) 2023–2030³ established priorities for climate resilient social services, environmental protection, sustainable energy and disaster risk reduction (DRR). The Global CEED Thematic Fund is UNICEF's primary flexible financing instrument to advance these priorities in areas of climate finance, policy change, data and evidence, workforce development, infrastructure for service delivery and youth engagement. Through thematic funding, UNICEF has demonstrated results in strengthening the

resilience and adaptive capacity of child essential services that support the safeguarding of children's rights to health, safety and well-being.

As UNICEF transitions into its [2026–2029 Strategic Plan](#), investments through the Global CEED Thematic Fund provide a strong foundation for UNICEF, governments and partners to advance strategic commitments. The Fund will remain central to achieving UNICEF's goals under a new dedicated impact results area in the strategic plan, which commits to:

- Protecting **500 million children** from disasters and climate and environmental risks by 2029, including:
 - **300 million children** through climate-resilient WASH, health and education systems and
 - **200 million children** through solutions that reduce the risks of climate-related disasters and environmental hazards. Leveraging partnerships for greater impact

Flexible funding at scale: from investment to impact

In 2025, UNICEF spent US\$4.5 million from the Global CEED Thematic Fund. This is more than seven times the US\$619,000 spent in 2024. The sharp increase reflects the programme moving from the 2024 build-up phase (when Sweden's landmark commitment had just been signed) to full-scale delivery in 2025 across the 27 countries receiving the 2024 allocations. An additional 12 countries received thematic funding in the fourth quarter of 2025.

UNICEF sees significant value in scaling flexible funding as it:

- **Enables multisectoral climate and environment solutions across diverse contexts.** Flexible funding helps UNICEF deliver climate- and disaster-focused programming across regions, addressing immediate risks while building climate-resilient social services and systems.
- **Acts as a catalyst for impact.** Working with governments and partners, flexible funding helps strengthen child-critical social services, scale proven solutions and close resource gaps for the world's most vulnerable and hard-to-reach children.
- **Turns commitments into action.** Flexible funding helps accelerate implementation, direct resources to evidence based priorities and support the shift from project-based approaches to system strengthening programming.
- **Accelerates progress towards the SDGs through urgent action and sustained investment.** Flexible funding helps advance the SDGs through evidence-driven, child-centred climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction, anticipatory and early action, and pollution reduction efforts.



"Protecting children means investing in the systems they rely on every day: climate-resilient water systems, stronger health and education services, and social protection that strengthens communities. These solutions exist, but they need to reach every child, at scale. Children are not on the margins of this conversation. They are the reason it matters. No single actor can do this alone. It requires governments, partners and the private sector working together, for children and the future we all share."

Kitty van der Heijden, Deputy Executive Director, Partnerships, UNICEF



Our collective ambition must grow alongside the rising needs of children

We invite partners to join UNICEF in scaling climate and environmental solutions that deliver lasting impact for children, their communities and future generations. The Global CEED Thematic Fund is UNICEF's most strategic tool for driving the shift from short-term responses to long-term, child-centred resilience.

UNICEF has a strong record of financial transparency, including for thematic funding. UNICEF partners in the Global CEED Thematic Fund pool can visit the [Transparency Portal](#) and access real-time information on spending in the countries receiving funds.



**Flexible funding.
Direct reach.
Real results for children.**

2. Results at a glance: Progress under the Strategic Plan 2022–2025 and SCAP

In 2025, UNICEF made significant strides in strengthening children's resilience in a rapidly changing climate and environment. Many of the results demonstrate activity gains from when UNICEF established baselines. The Global CEED Thematic Fund contributed to meaningful progress at scale to help accelerate actions that led to this increase, as part of UNICEF's broader climate resilience portfolio:

- UNICEF supported **129 governments** to strengthen the climate resilience and adaptive capacity of child-essential social services, up from 37 in 2021 and 119 in 2024.
- Child-sensitive disaster risk reduction interventions were implemented with governments in **110 countries**, up from just 50 in 2021. This included 78 countries using child-centred, multi-hazard risk analysis in DRR planning.
- **74 countries** developed, updated and/or implemented national or local disaster-preparedness frameworks. These were complemented by 19 anticipatory action frameworks for cholera, droughts, floods and cyclones that reached over 460,000 children through forecast-based interventions.
- Sustainable energy solutions were implemented in **121 countries**.
- UNICEF supported **99 countries** to integrate green skills and climate content into education systems and curricula (up from 43 in 2021).
- Innovative financing – including the Today and Tomorrow Initiative's cyclone insurance payouts – reached **516,000 people, including 110,000 children**, enabling faster, more predictable response before and after climate-related shocks.
- By the end of 2025, **99 countries** had updated their climate, environment or disaster risk management policies.

These results were supported by flexible thematic funding that enabled UNICEF to invest across global, regional and country levels, strengthen systems and respond to emerging child climate priorities. Together, they show what is possible when flexible, child-centred CEED investments strengthen systems and deliver benefits for children and communities now and into the future.



Iraq

Iraq's southern marshes are facing increasing pressure from water scarcity, drought and the impacts of climate change. Changes in water availability are affecting the fragile wetland ecosystem and the communities whose lives and livelihoods depend on it.

3. Financial results: flexible funds supporting long-term impact

Investments through the Global CEED Thematic Fund reached countries across diverse contexts, including fragile states and those affected by conflict. The investments strengthened organizational capacity and accelerated investment in data and evidence. They advanced child-responsive policies and enabled more integrated climate-focused programming across UNICEF.

In 2025, the Global CEED Thematic Fund mobilized US\$9.7 million in contributions from committed public and private sector partners. CEED and WASH were part of the [2022–2025 Strategic Plan Goal Area 4](#), which aimed for children to have access to safe and equitable WASH services and supplies; and live in a safe and sustainable climate and environment. Goal Area 4’s total thematic contributions were US\$22 million in 2025, or 6 per cent of Other Resources. This total is up from 5 per cent in 2024. The full Global Annual Results Report 2025 is linked [here](#).

The increase was largely linked to the continued disbursement of Sweden’s landmark multi-year commitment. Public sector funding by Sweden alone accounted for 97 per cent (US\$9.4 million) of 2025 Fund income, with private sector National Committee contributions making up the remaining 3 per cent (US\$0.3 million). This is an even greater concentration than in 2024, when Sweden contributed 87 per cent of the Fund and private partners 13 per cent (a total of US\$11 million).

UNICEF extends sincere thanks to the Government of Sweden. Support by the [Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency \(Sida\)](#), along with the UNICEF national committees (see table below), enables longer-term planning and continuous improvement in the quality and sustainability of interventions.

CEED Global Thematic Fund Pool, Contributions Received in US\$, 2025

Resource Partner	Donor	Contributions Received
Public Sector	Sweden*	9.40 M
	Japan Committee for UNICEF	0.10 M
Private Sector	Korean Committee for UNICEF	0.07 M
	Spanish Committee for UNICEF	0.06 M
	Finnish Committee for UNICEF	0.05 M
	Hong Kong Committee for UNICEF	0.04 M
	UNICEF Hungarian Committee Foundation	0.01 M
Grand Total		9,73 M

* In addition to the 2025 contribution of over \$9.4 million, the Government of Sweden committed US\$11 million to the Global CEED Thematic Fund in 2024, which was disbursed over two years (2024–2025).



4. The reach of the Global CEED Thematic Fund

Delivering CEED priorities across all levels

The Global CEED Thematic Fund aims to accelerate child-responsive climate action and deliver impact across UNICEF regions through a layered, strategic model:

- **Country level:** Investments strengthen climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable approaches across child-critical sectors, including education, health, nutrition, WASH, social protection and child protection. Funding supports the meaningful engagement of children and young people in decision-making and climate, DRR and environment actions. They also fostered stronger cross sectoral collaboration and enhanced readiness to expand effective climate and environment programming.
- **Regional level:** Investments strengthen CEED technical expertise, data and evidence procurement, programming coordination, peer learning, regional advocacy and support for countries to adapt and scale effective approaches. They also strengthened cross-sectoral learning, knowledge exchange and youth engagement in climate and DRR action. Importantly for results delivery, the thematic funding contributed to accelerated action by supporting country offices and governments in developing child-responsive Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and sector plans.
- **Global level:** Investments enable UNICEF to develop evidence, guidance and innovative approaches that integrate child rights and needs into CEED policies and programmes.

Together, Global CEED Thematic Fund investments have enabled UNICEF to scale climate and environment action, strengthen essential social services, enhance adaptive capacity and improve protection for children. Their impact will continue to benefit children and their communities in the years ahead.

CEED Global Thematic Fund Pool, Expenses by Region, 2025

Region	Expenses (US\$)
Middle East and North Africa Regional Office (MENARO)	849,286
Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office (LACRO)	795,064
Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO)	755,563
West and Central Africa Regional Office (WCARO)	703,701
East Asia and Pacific Regional Office (EAPRO)	475,811
Regional Office for South Asia (ROSA)	334,985
Europe and Central Asia Regional Office (ECARO)	312,151
Headquarters	301,776
Total	4.5 M

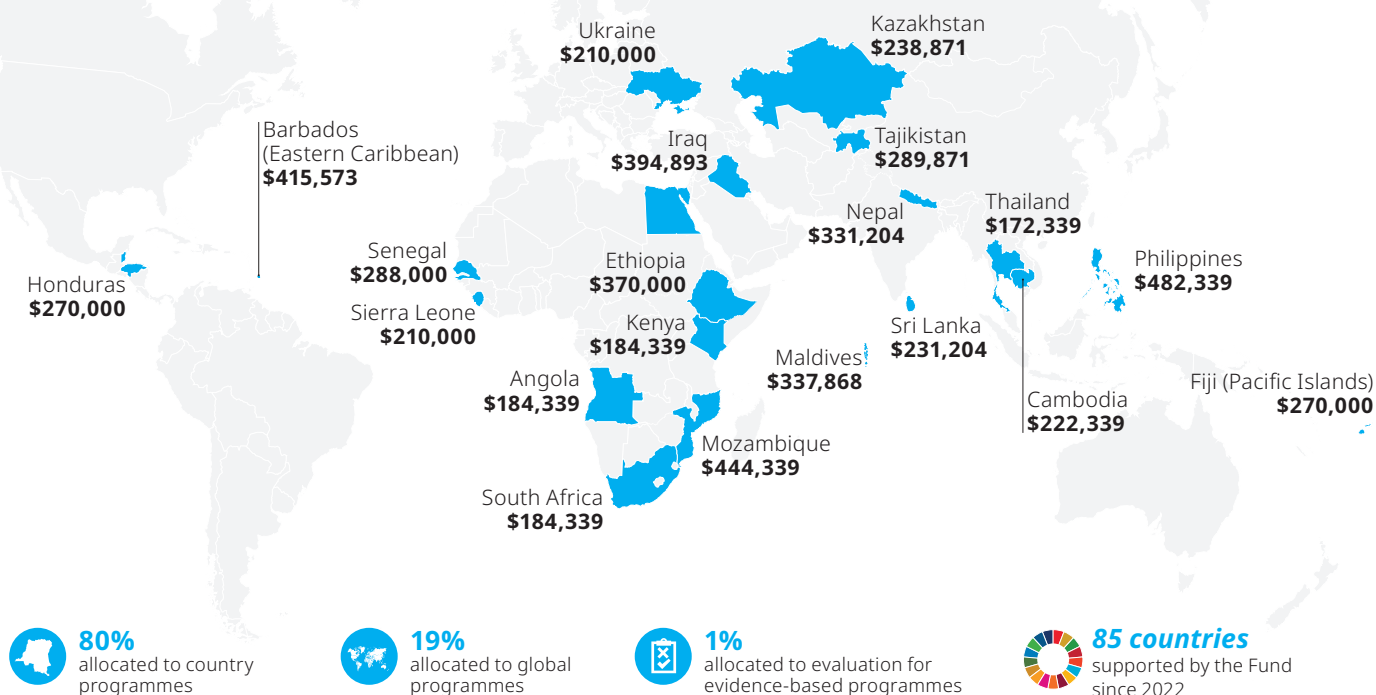
The Latin America and Caribbean region had the largest share of Global CEED Thematic Fund expenditure during the Strategic Plan period 2022–2025.



Mexico

The Climate Academy in Chiapas brought together 30 adolescents from diverse communities to strengthen their skills as environmental guardians able to respond to the climate crisis. Driven by UNICEF and the Chiapas Ministry of Environment and Natural History, the initiative trained young people in water protection, biodiversity conservation and micro-watershed restoration, strengthening their skills for climate and environment action in their own territories.

CEED Global Thematic Fund Pool, Allocations by Country, 2025*



COUNTRY-LEVEL ALLOCATION CRITERIA

Potential to develop or scale a climate flagship initiative

An active government request or clear policy entry point

A need to sustain existing climate-focused staff or consultancy capacity

The potential to mobilize additional climate finance

* This map shows the allocation amounts to countries receiving GTF in the fourth quarter of 2025. Examples in the report highlight 2025 Global CEED Thematic Funding implementation from the Philippines, Mozambique, Iraq, Nepal, Kazakhstan, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Kenya, South Africa, Angola, Thailand, Niger, Cuba, Mexico, Guyana (and Suriname), Burkina Faso, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Kyrgyzstan, Belize, Turkmenistan, Libya, Tunisia, Egypt, Yemen, Jordan, Mongolia, Pakistan and Uzbekistan (see the Appendix for the top 20 2024/2025 allocation amounts).

Country spotlight: GTF in action 2025

Philippines

UNICEF, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Climate Change Commission launched the 2025 Climate Landscape Analysis for Children (CLAC). The CLAC informed investment recommendations for the country's National Adaptation Plan to improve protection for children exposed to climate-related disaster risk.

Kenya

UNICEF and the government reached 4,416 households with cash-based anticipatory action before drought impacts intensified so children and their families could avoid the worst effects of a predictable hazard. Early warning data triggered three months of cash assistance and enhanced maternal and child nutrition support.

Egypt

UNICEF supported nearly 8,700 youth to engage in the climate-focused Local Conference of Youth and the Egypt Sustainability Summit, helping shape national and regional climate policy ahead of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP30).

Belize

UNICEF worked with government and village water authorities to install solar-powered water systems, rainwater harvesting and water treatment to increase water service continuity and community resilience to adapt to the impacts of climate change. The efforts improved access to safe water for over 50,000 people – including an estimated 7,500 children – in 20 last-mile communities.

Leveraging partnerships for greater impact

The Global CEED Thematic Fund does not operate in isolation. It helps UNICEF combine flexible thematic funding with other internal and external resources to accelerate child-focused climate action at scale. It has facilitated strategic investments and catalyzed internal and external resources. Further, it has supported UNICEF and partners to leverage their expertise to respond to evolving climate challenges in alignment with the Sustainability and Climate Change Action Plan (SCAP). It provided key support for UNICEF to establish a stronger foundation for child-focused climate action by pairing thematic funding with multiple funding streams under various CEED initiatives:

- Internally within UNICEF, thematic funding helped deliver CEED priorities funded by Regular Resources (RR) and Other Resources Non-Thematic funding.
- Externally, thematic funds were paired with resources from the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office; Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW); the Prudential Foundation; and the Republic of Korea's Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).
- UNICEF's Green Rising youth engagement efforts were also complemented by resources from the Governments of Canada, Qatar and the Netherlands, IKEA Foundation, Capgemini, Accenture, the Tony Elumelu Foundation, SAP and Unilever.

Global CEED Thematic funding also contributed to the 'Today' part of [UNICEF's Today & Tomorrow Initiative](#), which funds cross-sectoral DRR and CCA efforts, both for and with children and youth. For example, thematic funding and German National Committee contributions helped strengthen climate resilience in cyclone-prone areas. UNICEF used the resources to train teachers in climate science and action, provide digital climate content, support participatory eco-clubs and retrofit schools to make them more resilient.

Shifting systems to be climate-resilient

The scale of unmet need in child and community climate resilience is immense. UNICEF is responding with ambitious action to match this challenge. In 2025, thematic funds played a catalytic role in the areas of climate finance for children, policy development and implementation, data and evidence, workforce capacity, service delivery infrastructure and youth engagement. The funds complemented a broader mix of flexible and earmarked resources to advance climate-resilient and child-responsive solutions at scale.

Climate finance for children

Climate finance is essential for enabling the rapid emissions reductions and climate adaptation measures needed to keep global warming within the 1.5°C limit set by the Paris Agreement. It is also vital for protecting the most vulnerable community members from the impacts of climate change. Yet it is persistently falling short, especially for children on the last mile. Only 2.4 per cent of multilateral climate finance from 2009–2023 directly benefited projects focused on children.

In October 2024, UNICEF became an Accredited Entity to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the largest multilateral climate finance mechanism. UNICEF has secured GCF Board approval for its first GCF funding proposal for Central African Republic, along with nine approved Readiness proposals across eight countries. Building on this momentum, multiple countries – including Senegal and the Maldives – have received Global CEED thematic funding to develop GCF proposals.



Policy change for safeguarding child rights

The sustained climate resilience of child-critical social services depends on effective policies and sustained public investment. UNICEF works alongside governments and partners to strengthen policy frameworks and build the evidence base for decision making. It also promotes investment in solutions that embed children's needs and rights in DRR, climate and environment policies.

By the end of 2025, 99 countries had updated climate, environment or disaster risk management policies. UNICEF has also released a [Global Stocktake of Progress](#) on children and child-critical social sectors in NDC's 3.0. The analysis found that 70 per cent are assessed as child-responsive, up from 49 per cent in the previous submission round, and 77 per cent of NDCs strengthened the consideration of children compared to earlier submissions. UNICEF supported 68 of the 99 NDCs (69 per cent) through advocacy and technical support.

Additionally, 19 of 28 National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) submitted in 2025 were considered child-responsive (68 per cent). The year also saw 11 countries endorse the [Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action](#), bringing the total to 77 countries by year-end.

In 2025, flexible funding helped translate these global shifts into context-specific results.

- UNICEF supported the governments of **Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan** and **Uzbekistan** in embedding costed, climate-resilient education and child-responsive measures into updated NDC 3.0. This helped identify opportunities to mobilize an estimated US\$5 billion in climate finance for the education sector. The financing is targeted at reaching 24 million children, 72,000 teachers and 24,000 educational facilities.
- In **Iraq**, through structured consultations with 160 adolescents and young people (aged 13-24; 50 per cent girls), UNICEF and government ministries integrated child and youth priorities into the country's NDC. The Ministries of Environment, Youth and Sports; Education; Higher Education and Scientific Research; and Planning supported the consultations. For the first time, the NDC includes a dedicated Children and Youth Chapter, formally recognizing young people as stakeholders and partners in the country's climate agenda. Building on this milestone, UNICEF, the government and young people are developing an implementation plan with practical priorities, roles and mechanisms for child, adolescent and youth engagement.



Iraq

In 2025, over 160 children and young people took part in national consultations on climate policy in Iraq. Participants from all 18 governorates helped ensure that children's perspectives informed climate planning and decision-making, supporting more child-responsive climate policies and action.

Data and evidence for CEED solutions

Data and evidence support informed decision-making by helping governments and partners better understand how disasters, climate and environmental risks affect children. By improving the availability and use of disaggregated data by age, gender and other factors, UNICEF supports more informed decision making and targeted investments. This strengthens protection for the most vulnerable children.

In 2025, 89 country offices conducted multi-sector climate and environment studies, up from just 25 in 2021. Country offices also co-developed 8 new sub-national [Children's Climate Risk Index-Disaster Risk Models \(CCRI-DRMs\)](#), bringing the total to 12 completed and 18 more in development. CCRI-DRMs provide child-specific climate risk data to inform national policy development and targeted infrastructure investment. In addition, UNICEF in 2026 published the [Global Child Hazard Database](#) that analyses children's exposure to 10 climate-specific and climate-related hazards across all programme countries, alongside the [Children's Climate Risk Report](#).

Around the world, UNICEF's technical support, backed by thematic funding, helped governments leverage data to improve outcomes for children.

- The thematic-funded countries of **Cambodia, Fiji, Kenya, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Tajikistan** and **Vanuatu** co-developed sub-national CCRI-DRMs in 2024 and 2025, alongside Bangladesh, Madagascar, Somalia, South Sudan and Saint Kitts and Nevis. The climate disaster risk assessment information is being used for DRR, CCA, emergency preparedness and response and other programme-related policies and plans across sectors (i.e., education, health, nutrition, WASH, social protection and child protection).⁴
- In **Cambodia**, the sub-national CCRI-DRM was used as a data source for 401 local community members, including young people and ethnic communities in seven provinces. Twenty of the highest-risk communes went on to develop child-centered climate action plans now included in local three-year investment plans.
- In **Kenya**, UNICEF and its partners used the risk assessment data to advocate for children's unique vulnerabilities during the development of critical climate policies. These include the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) and the country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0). See the [Harnessing Evidence for Child-Centred Climate Advocacy in Kenya](#) case study.

Workforce development for the green economy

A skilled workforce is essential to building climate-resilient, sustainable and inclusive societies. The Global CEED Thematic Fund invests in workforce development by strengthening the knowledge, skills and capacities needed to support climate action, DRR and environmental sustainability across sectors. From educators and service providers to government officials, community leaders and young people, these investments build capacity across society. They equip current and future generations to contribute to a greener, more resilient economy.

In 2025, UNICEF supported 99 countries in integrating green skills and climate-related content into education systems and curricula, up from 43 in 2021. Also, 42 country offices advanced teacher development in climate literacy and sustainability. Over the Strategic Plan period, more than 25,000 health workers were trained, including 1,834 professionals from 120 countries who completed the [UNICEF, World Health Organization \(WHO\) and Children's Environmental Health e-Course](#) in 2025 alone.

Thematic funding investments were critical to strengthening global workforce capacity:

- UNICEF supported provincial governments and education authorities in **Pakistan** to train around 509 educators, 150 master trainers and 3,200 community members in formal and non-formal education settings. Education and skills-building in DRR and climate adaptation reached 96,230 children (43 per cent girls) and 23,538 adolescents (38 per cent girls).
- UNICEF in **Thailand** trained 306 administrators and 518 teachers in climate resilient education, strengthening skills across 317 schools. The training strengthened school staff capacity to support safer learning environments for children, reduce risks during disasters and minimize long term disruption to students' education when natural hazards occur.



South Africa

UNICEF and partners upskilled 43,303 youth through innovation and technology-for-development initiatives. Through its Reconstructed Living Lab Recycling Champions (ReCha) project, 25 young people were trained and established 10 micro-businesses in waste management.

Infrastructure for service delivery

Strategic investments in climate- and disaster-resilient infrastructure and sustainable energy help ensure essential social services for children can continue operating during climate shocks and disruptions. This includes schools, health care centres and community water systems. Resilient infrastructure can also reduce negative environmental impacts and support a country's transition to more sustainable service delivery models.

In 2025, UNICEF implemented sustainable energy solutions in 121 countries: 70 countries provided solar solutions in health care facilities (11,624 facilities improved), 70 countries installed solar-powered water systems (over 1,767 stations), and 45 countries implemented sustainable energy solutions in schools, up from just 15 in 2024. Support for sustainable energy in the education sector also expanded. UNICEF improved infrastructure and strengthened capacity for energy efficiency in operational facilities. Energy audits were conducted in schools to identify cost-effective, energy-efficient and climate-resilient retrofit measures. Interventions also addressed rising climate-related risks, including extreme heat and heatwaves.

Thematic funding supported these efforts for more resilient schools and water systems:

- The use of the Comprehensive School Safety Framework (CSSF) in **Nepal** schools expanded with UNICEF support,⁵ with infrastructure embedded in the CSSF “Safer Learning Facilities” component. By the end of 2025, 26 per cent of schools nationwide were implementing climate-smart safety measures designed to protect one million children.
- UNICEF installed 29 solar-powered water systems in **Yemen** across 13 districts, benefiting 240,000 people and producing 9.6 million litres of water daily.



Fiji

A student stands on the seawall protecting her school from rising seas in Navua, Fiji. In 2025, UNICEF strengthened climate resilience across Fiji and six Pacific countries by upgrading 118 schools, 137 health facilities and 30,000 households with climate-resilient infrastructure and solar energy solutions.

Youth action for lasting impact

Young people are powerful agents of change in addressing disasters, climate and environmental risks. UNICEF works to strengthen child, adolescent and youth leadership by creating opportunities for meaningful engagement, upskilling and capacity strengthening. It supports opportunities and platforms where young people can help shape DRR, climate and environment policies, programmes and solutions that affect their day-to-day and futures. Through the Global CEED Thematic Fund, young people have been supported in contributing to lasting, child-responsive action in their communities and beyond.

In 2025, 23 million young people in 141 countries engaged in climate and environmental action through UNICEF's flagship [Green Rising initiative](#) and other volunteer, eco-club and classroom activities. This includes 14.5 million young people engaging through volunteer initiatives and 8.5 million through additional actions. Through Green Rising and other initiatives, participants reported conserving 13 billion litres of water, saving or producing 272,300 kWh of energy, rehabilitating 722 hectares of land, recycling or managing more than 8,100 tonnes of waste and planting 500,000 trees. Young people also created 2,284 green businesses with support from [Generation Unlimited](#).

In June 2025, Mia Mottley, the Prime Minister of Barbados, joined Green Rising as its Global Chair, reflecting the country's leadership role in child-focused climate action and complementing UNICEF's earlier work to narrow policy silos between social protection and climate change across the Eastern Caribbean.

Thematic funding supported tailored initiatives at school, community and national levels:

- UNICEF in **Cuba** implemented school-based DRR and climate-resilience programming in 89 schools with 6,172 children and adolescents (3,130 girls), including 324 children with disabilities. Actions included integrating disaster and climate change topics into curricula, creating scientific clubs, developing multi-risk maps and implementing evacuation drills and first-aid exercises.
- In **Angola**, the UNICEF Youth Challenge *Desafio Genial geração verde*⁶ engaged 248 teams with 721 young people in developing environmental solutions. These included eco connectivity, digital tools, sustainable entrepreneurship, transformative community initiatives and environmental education. The innovation initiative helped create pathways for startups that can contribute to the green economy, education and new employment opportunities. It also led young people to participate in additional business fairs and events, further expanding their networks and opportunities for partnerships and financing to scale their initiatives.

5. Country spotlights

Flexible funding in action

The following country spotlights illustrate how flexible thematic funding supports both long-term system resilience and innovative, youth-led solutions in high-risk contexts.

The Caribbean: Improving risk data and climate finance for children

UNICEF and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) used CEED thematic funding and RR funds to strengthen the **Caribbean Community Risk Information Tool (CCRIT)**. This included integrating child sensitive indicators into CCRIT and expanding access to risk and vulnerability data. The improvements support national authorities in identifying where children are most exposed to climate related hazards so they can plan targeted, early actions that reduce their disaster risk.

UNICEF also finalized a **Climate Finance Mapping Tool and Dashboard** to track climate related financial flows in the Eastern Caribbean. The tool and dashboard support partners in identifying opportunities to direct resources toward communities – and children – most in need.

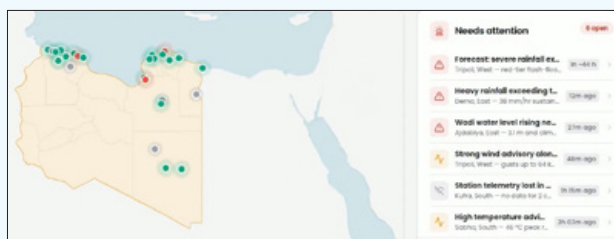


Libya: Supporting youth in developing a real-time data early warning system

Thematic funding contributed to an innovation grant supporting young innovators from the youth-led Roaya Foundation in Libya. The young people expanded Mozn, the country's first climate related hazard early warning system (EWS) with real-time data. As part of Mozn, Roaya trains community volunteers to set up and monitor the weather stations that feed data into the system. A new digital dashboard – built with grant funding – provides visual updates from those weather stations every two seconds.

The dashboard can quickly generate alerts to notify disaster management authorities, supporting efforts to improve preparedness and early response. The web-based data platform, social media updates and mobile alerts help inform hard-to-reach and vulnerable populations, including children. Mozn provides them with additional time to prepare for hazardous events.

Roaya's social media plays a key role in extending the EWS reach. With more than 950,000 followers, the site reaches over 3 million people (93.7 per cent in Libya and 46 per cent women). A dedicated social media group of approximately 100,000 active members also supports community-based information sharing, with users regularly posting local weather observations, photos and videos.



Watch the short documentary on how UNICEF supported the [Young Early Warning Innovators of Libya](#).

Mozambique: Reducing children's climate risk

In Mozambique, children are exposed to at least one climate hazard every year; 11.6 million face three or more overlapping hazards, and over 928,500 face five or more.⁷ At the same time, 77 per cent of children – nearly 13 million – live in monetary poverty.⁸ This combination of high climate exposure and socioeconomic vulnerability means that hazards can quickly escalate into disasters, with devastating consequences for children.

UNICEF's response focused on reducing children's risk and strengthen the resilience of child critical social services before cyclones and other hazards happened. It ensured mechanisms were in place to protect children when they occur. For instance, in 2025 alone, UNICEF supported the construction or upgrading of 188 climate-resilient classrooms for 18,836 students – bringing the total to 1,545 classrooms built or improved since 2019. These classrooms have supported the learning, safety and well-being of 154,500 students (92,700 girls).

With UNICEF support, the Ministry of Education also trained 798 school committee members from 38 schools in the Basic School Emergency Plan and supported 109 schools in developing preparedness plans to protect 54,500 students. UNICEF helped update guidance materials, which now include stronger DRR and climate adaptation components. It delivered early warning messages to more than 50,000 people to help communities prepare and take actions that may reduce the impacts of hazardous events.

UNICEF also pre-positioned health, education, child protection and WASH supplies in high risk areas and supported child centred climate and DRR planning

at district and community levels. Together, these measures reduce disruption and help protect the continuity of essential social services.

Additionally, as weather forecasting improves, UNICEF increasingly applies anticipatory action (AA) strategies. AA involves pre-agreed actions implemented before a hazardous event, triggered by forecasts, to help reduce impacts on children and communities. For example, in 2025, ahead of a forecast extreme drought, nearly 5,000 households in Magude received US\$120 each through the government's anticipatory assistance programme to buy food and drought-resistant seeds. This support aimed at helping families maintain access to nutritious food and better protect children during the lean season.

UNICEF also strengthened system resilience through its [Today and Tomorrow Initiative \(TTI\)](#), which links pre-arranged risk financing to long-term CCA and DRR. During the 2025 cyclone season, alongside traditional humanitarian funding, the "Tomorrow" component of UNICEF's TTI enabled complementary, rapid financing when pre-agreed, child-sensitive triggers were met. In 2025, more than 150,000 children (out of 276,000 people) benefited from UNICEF's Today and Tomorrow Initiative after Cyclones Chido, Dikeledi and Jude.⁹

Mozambique's experience illustrates the logic behind the Global CEED Thematic Fund: pairing pre-arranged, rapid-release financing for when a crisis hits with sustained, flexible investment in resilient infrastructure and systems that reduce climate and disaster risk before a hazard occurs (See the [Reducing climate risk for children in Mozambique before, during and after disaster](#) case study).

Mozambique

Children's futures in Mozambique are more resilient because UNICEF's actions on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction are embedded across its systems – and reinforced through building back better after cyclones and other climate-related hazards. For instance, UNICEF and government partners restored this school in 2025 with climate-resilient roofing following Cyclone Chido, enhancing long-term resilience.



6. Spotlight on donors and partners

Sweden and UNICEF: Scaling climate resilience for every child

The Government of Sweden is the anchor partner of UNICEF's Global CEED Thematic Fund, contributing US\$9.4 million in 2025: 97 per cent of the Fund's total income for the year. The funding builds on Sida's landmark 2024 contribution of US\$11 million. This flexible, multi-year support has been central to UNICEF's ability to scale child-focused climate, environment, energy and disaster risk reduction action across countries, regions and headquarters.

Sweden's flexible, multi-year support has been central to UNICEF's ability to strengthen institutional capacity for climate, environment, energy and disaster risk reduction. It has enabled UNICEF to generate and apply stronger evidence on how climate and environmental hazards affect children's health, education, nutrition, protection and overall well-being, including through the 2026 Children's Climate Risk Report and 89 Climate Landscape Analyses for Children completed by UNICEF country offices.

This strengthened institutional capacity is translating into measurable results within countries. UNICEF is supporting governments and partners to monitor progress towards more child-responsive NDCs. Results show an increase in the number of NDCs considered child-responsive with UNICEF support. Climate and resilience programming has also expanded across UNICEF with 110 country offices actively programming on child-sensitive disaster risk reduction, and 99 integrating climate considerations into education systems and green skills development.

Sweden's flexible thematic funding has therefore helped UNICEF move from building the evidence and institutional foundations for climate action to embedding climate resilience across programming, systems and organizational priorities. As UNICEF moves into the Strategic Plan 2026–2029, this partnership positions the organization to deliver more effectively for children living in a changing climate – and to advance its commitment to protect 500 million children from disasters and climate and environmental risks by 2029.



Nepal

UNICEF supports schools in implementing the Comprehensive School Safety (CSSF) Framework, which includes disaster preparedness drills. At a school in Madhesh Province, students practise moving safely and promptly to higher ground in the event of flooding.

Thailand

During 2025 flooding, Jirayut's education in Ayutthaya was disrupted. UNICEF in Thailand is strengthening schools to be more climate-resilient, so students like him can quickly return to learning. In 2025, 6,000 schools in Thailand began adopting climate-resilient education policies through a UNICEF partnership with the Ministry of Education ([UNICEF Thailand Impact Report 2025](#)).



Endnotes

- ¹ UNICEF, 2026, [Children's Climate Risk Report \(CCRR\)](#).
- ² UNICEF, 2022, [UNICEF Strategic Plan 2022-2025](#).
- ³ UNICEF, 2023, [The UNICEF Sustainability and Climate Change Action Plan 2023-2030](#).
- ⁴ See: [Child Climate Risk Index-Disaster Risk Model \(CCRI-DRM\) subnational risk assessment](#) and the [CCRI-DRM knowledge hub](#).
- ⁵ UNICEF, 2023, [Safer and resilient education in Nepal](#).
- ⁶ UNICEF, 2025, [Desafio Genial geração verde](#).
- ⁷ UNICEF, 2026, [Children's Climate Risk Report](#) and [GeoSight](#).
- ⁸ UNICEF, 2026, [UNICEF Mozambique Annual Report 2025](#).
- ⁹ UNICEF, 2025, [Innovative financing protects children and their communities from cyclone devastation](#).

Annex

Top 20 allocations from the Global CEED Thematic Fund, 2024–2025*

Country	Allocations (US\$)
Philippines (2024/2025*)	482,339
Mozambique (2024/2025*)	444,339
Barbados (Eastern Caribbean) (2025)	415,573
Iraq (2024/2025*)	394,893
Ethiopia (2025)	370,000
Maldives (2025)	337,868
Nepal (2024*)	331,204
Tajikistan (2025)	289,871
Senegal (2025)	288,000
Fiji (Pacific Islands) (2025)	270,000
Honduras (2025)	270,000
Kazakhstan (2024*)	238,871
Sri Lanka (2024*)	231,204
Cambodia (2024*)	222,339
Sierra Leone (2025)	210,000
Ukraine (2025)	210,000
Kenya (2024*)	184,339
South Africa (2024*)	184,339
Angola (2024*)	184,339
Thailand (2024*)	172,339
Total from all 39 recipient countries (2024/2025*)	8,279,999

*This table includes all countries having received allocations from the global thematic fund (GTF) pool for CEED in 2025, as well as the top countries receiving GTF in the fourth quarter of 2024. The total allocated amount displayed includes the 39 country allocations from this GTF pool during the same period, including Niger, Cuba, Mexico, Guyana (and Suriname), Burkina Faso, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Kyrgyzstan, Belize, Turkmenistan, Libya, Tunisia, Egypt, Yemen, Jordan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Uzbekistan (each receiving between US\$167,281 and US\$89,871).



**Spotlight on the Global Climate, Environment, Energy and
Disaster Risk Reduction (CEED) Thematic Fund**

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