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UNICEF Ireland

Annual Report 2023

About UNICEF



UNICEF is the United Nations Children’s Fund. UNICEF is a children’s rights organisation, dedicated to realising the Convention on the Rights of the Child for every child. Together with our partners, we work in over 190 countries and territories to translate that commitment into practical action, focused on achieving our vision of a world where every child has a safe and healthy childhood and is able to fulfil their potential. In places where children need us to work in an emergency capacity we are present before, during and after a crisis.

UNICEF Ireland is one of 33 independent, non-profit National Committees around the world that fully support UNICEF’s mission to advance the rights and well-being of children and youth. UNICEF Ireland’s role is to raise funds for UNICEF, advocate for lasting change for children worldwide, work to change policy and raise awareness about children’s rights.

For more information about UNICEF and our work visit: www.unicef.ie

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UNICEF does not endorse any company, brand, product or service.

Cover photo: UNICEF staff distributes hygiene kits in Jalalabad, Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan after a flash flood devastated the city. These kits, packed with shampoo, soap for bathing and laundry, towels and sanitary pads are essential items for many families who lost everything. © UNICEF/UN0765487

Above: On 5th March 2023, a girl carries water to her home in Bieh IDP camp in Bentiu, Unity State, South Sudan. UNICEF provides clean water to the many thousands of displaced people who have fled their communities as a result of extensive flooding across Unity State. © UNICEF/UNIS19268

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Aya, a 5-year-old girl clutching her doll to ease her fear, gazing at Gaza's sky filled with warplanes from inside an UNRWA school in the Gaza Strip.
© UNICEF/UNI448738/Ajjour





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Chairman's Report Paul Connolly

Protracted conflicts, increasing climate disasters and economic instability culminated in what has been widely referred to as “the year of emergencies”, with UNICEF responding to more emergencies than ever before in 2023.

This wave of new and ongoing overlapping emergencies also grew in complexity, as climate vulnerabilities, extreme poverty and political uncertainty reinforced one another in a vicious cycle, exacerbating the devastating impact on children and families; an increasing number of whom grappled with multiple crises throughout the year.

UNICEF estimates that by year-end, almost 1 in 4 children across the world were living in or fleeing from conflict zones. A quarter of the world's children have seen their childhoods marred by the indelible stains of grief, trauma, and loss, not to mention the physical and psychological wounds of war. Following the events of October 7th, Gaza became the most dangerous place in the world to be a child, with every possible grave violation against children unfolding in a display of horror on the world stage.

By September, UNICEF had reported a 60% increase in the number of unaccompanied children crossing the deadly Central Mediterranean Sea migration route to Italy. A 60% increase in the number of children who had lost everything were left with no choice but to embark on one of the most dangerous journeys in the world, alone.

While war, violence and poverty are among the more familiar drivers of migration, the increasing role of climate change in forcing people from their homes became even more evident in 2023. Unprecedented earthquakes, floods, storms and wildfires affected communities in a devastating manner that must prompt leaders across the world to act urgently to safeguard future generations. The economic fallout of the pandemic years continued to propel children and families into poverty at home and abroad, threatening the safety and well-being of millions of children across the world.

In the face of unprecedented and multi-faceted challenges, UNICEF once again stood ready to rise and meet them with innovative solutions to deliver the same unwavering support for children before, during and after emergencies. In 2023, our 15,000 staff worldwide responded to 412 humanitarian crises in 107 countries. In 2024 we plan to assist 147 million people across 155 countries and territories under our UN mandate to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential.

Our capacity to create a better future for every child would simply not be possible without the commitment of our supporters in Ireland, who continue to stand by the world's most vulnerable children when they need them most. Their unwavering support in this most challenging of years has reverberated across the globe, translating into millions of childhoods saved. We are also extremely grateful for the ongoing support of our corporate partners Aer Lingus, Primark and new partner CRH, who in 2023 committed to a five-year partnership that will ensure children in fragile and conflict-affected countries receive the life-saving vaccinations they need to survive, thrive and reach their full potential. As a seemingly unending swathe of emergencies broke out across the world in 2023, UNICEF Ireland also received increasing support from the wider corporate community, who continued to mobilise funds and resources for children in crisis. We are immensely proud to work with so many businesses who share in our steadfast support for children and whose dedication to the highest ESG standards is unparalleled. We were delighted to have the opportunity to thank so many of these inspiring leaders in person at our Corporate Christmas Lunch in December; our largest ever.

As UNICEF Ireland prepares to meet the challenges of the increasingly trying times we live in, I would like to thank my colleagues on the Board of Directors for the generous commitment of their time, skills, experience, and devotion to UNICEF's mission. I would also like to thank our Executive Director, Peter Power, and his team for their tireless work in 2023, which resulted in a record-breaking €37.5 million raised for children in crisis across the world.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the passing of our dear long-standing Board member Ivor Fitzpatrick. Ivor was both a brilliant mind and remarkable person who was hugely proud of his involvement with UNICEF Ireland. His extraordinary legacy will continue to be felt across his many areas of interest, including the development, prosperity and well-being of children all over the world. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a ainm dílis.

Paul Connolly, Chairman

2023 At a glance

Emergencies have increased in scale, urgency and complexity. From natural disasters to conflict and wars, UNICEF responded to more emergencies in 2023 than in any previous year.



In 2023, UNICEF responded to **412 humanitarian crises in 107 countries** - protecting children, keeping them learning, and supporting their health and nutrition.



12% annual increase in the number of people requiring humanitarian assistance worldwide



460 million children living in conflict zones in 2023



UNICEF's Response

UNICEF responded to a **record-breaking 30 emergencies** throughout 2023.



Every year, UNICEF reaches **45% of the world's children under 5** with life-saving vaccines.

Behind all these efforts were UNICEF's **15,000 dedicated staff members** around the world working for every child.

These are some of the key UNICEF results from 2023.

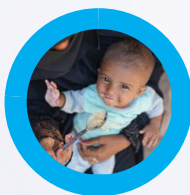
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE

42.4 million people accessed a sufficient quantity of **safe water** for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene.



NUTRITION

118.6 million children under five with severe acute malnutrition and wasting **admitted for treatment**.



CHILD PROTECTION

13.1 million children and caregivers accessed **mental health** and psychosocial support.



HEALTH

32.4 million children between 6 months and 15 years **vaccinated against measles**.



EDUCATION

17.7 million out-of-school children and adolescents accessed **education**.



CASH BASED TRANSFER

2.9 million households reached with humanitarian cash transfer through supported government systems.





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Executive Director's Report Peter Power

2023 saw a 12% increase in the number of people requiring humanitarian assistance across the world leading to an unprecedented number of children whose rights were threatened or completely eviscerated by war, displacement, disease and starvation.

2023 was the year in which the scale and complexity of emergencies tested even our most seasoned colleagues. UNICEF colleagues witnessed countless innocent children bearing the brunt of humanitarian catastrophes not of their making. Far too many children across the world saw their homes destroyed, their families fractured, their bodies weakened by malnutrition, disease and trauma; their lives all but shattered in this most trying of years.

In February, when two devastating earthquakes hit Southeast Türkiye and Syria, more than 7 million children required humanitarian assistance. Tens of thousands had lost family members, more than a million people lost their homes while many more families lost their livelihoods at a time when food prices and the cost-of-living was on the rise. When I visited the earthquake-affected regions with UNICEF Ireland Ambassador Cathy Kelly during the aftermath, 4 million children in Türkiye were out of school, ripped from their routine with nothing to occupy their minds during a time of huge grief and emotional turmoil.

Just six weeks before the outbreak of the brutal Israel-Hamas war on October 7th, I visited the Gaza Strip. Never could I have imagined the horror which was about to unfold. Having spent time working in many of UNICEF's programme countries across the world, I have witnessed the truly devastating impact of emergencies on the lives of vulnerable children. The complexity and intensity of need across the Gaza Strip was unlike anything I had ever seen. And this was before a bomb was dropped on Gaza. It is extraordinarily difficult to find the words to describe the rapid deterioration of a situation when the starting point was already a catastrophe. The horrors during and following the atrocities on October 7th have exposed the children of Gaza to the absolute worst of humanity, alongside enormous grief, pain and immeasurable loss.

In November, I was accompanied by UNICEF Ireland Ambassador Stephen Rea to Somalia. There, we were confronted by the coalface of climate change, as five years of drought-flood cycles have forced millions of people into displacement, destroying crops, livelihoods and exacerbating a protracted hunger crisis.

Amid so many challenges, so much loss, so many shocks to our world in 2023, I was inspired by the expertise, commitment and ingenuity of UNICEF colleagues on the ground in over 100 countries across the world. Throughout the year, they navigated and circumvented unprecedented challenges to ensure every child who turned to UNICEF for help received the vital, life-saving support they needed on an enormous scale from therapeutic food to safe water, education, life-saving vaccines, shelter, physical and mental healthcare.

Domestically, Irish children and their families continued to feel the impact of inflation throughout 2023. On World Children's Day in November, we were immensely proud to support UNICEF Child Advocate Nathan Dunne who met with An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar to discuss the impact of economic challenges on the education of children in disadvantaged communities.

As a cascade of emergencies developed during the year, my colleagues and I at UNICEF Ireland were truly overcome by the generosity of the Irish people. Our supporters continued to demonstrate their unwavering support for children in crisis across the world, including Irish Aid, which once again showed a strong commitment to children's rights in 2023.

While the challenges of 2023 loomed large, the solidarity of our supporters drove us forward in our mission for children. Their commitment helped deliver 2.7 billion vaccines, safe water for 42.4 million people and \$893 million in emergency supplies for children in crisis in every corner of the globe. I would also like to take this opportunity to wholeheartedly thank the huge commitment and expertise of our Board of Directors, our Ambassadors and of course our wonderful staff at UNICEF Ireland, who worked relentlessly throughout the year to deliver a better tomorrow for every child.

Peter Power, Executive Director

Vision & Mission

UNICEF was established after World War II to help child refugees. Then, as now, our vision is a world where every child has a safe and healthy childhood. Our mission is to inspire people in Ireland to be champions for children by supporting, promoting and investing in the rights of every child in the world.





A young girl at the UNICEF-Supported Temporary Learning Center for children affected by the 2022 floods in Saleh Shah, Sindh Province. Nine months after the devastating floods many areas remain underwater in Pakistan. A new rainy season is approaching, and more heat waves are expected. Mothers and children, especially in poorer communities, continue to bear the biggest burden of climate change. © UNICEF/UN0848819/Haro

Children in Crisis

This map highlights some of the major crises affecting children and their families across the world.



Haiti

Prolonged political turmoil, disease outbreaks, disasters and escalating armed violence persist in Haiti, resulting in **3 million children requiring humanitarian assistance** by the end of 2023. 100,000 children under 5 were suffering from severe wasting and 1.9 million children required access to education. At least 200,000 people were internally displaced by year-end, including many unaccompanied children.



Sudan

The conflict in the Sudan has left nearly 25 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, including close to 14 million children. **More than 3 million children were on the move** by year-end, making the Sudan home to the largest child displacement crisis in the world. The country already had 3.7 million internally displaced persons prior to the crisis that has unfolded since April 2023.



Sahel Crisis Spillover

The spillover from the ongoing crisis in the central Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Mali and the Niger) has become a permanent threat to northern communities in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Togo. In these four coastal countries, **the number of internally displaced persons, returnees and refugees is now estimated at 123,000**, including 36,000 children.



State of Palestine

By the end of 2023, there were an estimated 3.1 million people requiring humanitarian assistance in the State of Palestine, 2.2 million of them in the Gaza Strip and 900,000 in the West Bank.

The conflict escalation which began in the Gaza Strip on 7 October 2023 compounds the protracted protection crisis there, causing severe humanitarian consequences including the deaths of thousands of children. Additionally, 1.8 million people who are internally displaced - more than 80% of the population in the Gaza Strip - face an increasingly dire humanitarian situation with severely limited access to such basic necessities as water, electricity and health services.



Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

The Democratic Republic of the Congo is home to the highest number of United Nations-verified grave violations against children globally. **By the end of 2023, 14.9 million children were experiencing the worst effects of an escalation in armed conflict, recurrent disease outbreaks, endemic sexual violence and growing humanitarian access constraints**, exacerbating their vulnerability and pushing child mortality rates even higher.



Ukraine and Refugee Response

The ongoing war in Ukraine continued to devastate the lives of children and families in 2023. **Across Ukraine, 4.6 million people returned to the country, while more than 3.7 million remained internally displaced. Nearly 6 million refugees were hosted across Europe, 88% of them women and children.** Children's mental health, learning and access to services continued to be impacted. Many children remain at risk of disease, separation from families and violence.



Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, a staggering 23.3 million people were in need of humanitarian assistance by the end of 2023, 12.6 million of them children. Women and girls continued to experience the worst of the crisis through restrictions on education, movement, employment and access to public services. In addition, restrictions and exclusions reinforced pre-existing gender inequalities and increasing protection concerns, creating a cycle of escalating needs among women and girls.



East Asia and Pacific Regions

The East Asia and Pacific region remains the most disaster-prone region in the world. In 2023, the people of the region experienced cyclones, floods, landslides, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and drought as well as civil and intercommunal conflict. **More than 210 million children were highly exposed to cyclones; 140 million to water scarcity; and 120 million to coastal flooding in 2023.**



Horn of Africa

Due to ongoing conflict, instability, drought, floods and disease outbreaks, **8.25 million Somalis urgently needed humanitarian assistance by year-end**, with significant food insecurity projected to persist and reach crisis level for 4.3 million people in 2024. Similarly, Ethiopia continues to face multiple humanitarian crises all of which contribute to large-scale population displacements. This is compounded by humanitarian access constraints, food aid suspension and significant new refugee influxes. Altogether, more than **20 million Ethiopians were in urgent need of humanitarian assistance by the end of 2023.**



Myanmar

The situation of children in Myanmar worsened throughout 2023 and remains a significant concern, with escalating conflict, cyclones and monsoons leading to multiple displacements and the deterioration of social services in conflict-affected communities. **Nearly 2 million people were displaced internally as of 31 October 2023, with 6 million children requiring humanitarian assistance by year-end.**

UNICEF is different

At UNICEF, our global supply chain and capacity to respond at scale is vital in realising every child's right to survive and thrive, to learn and to be protected.

UNICEF's Global Supply Chain and Logistics Hub in Copenhagen is the world's largest humanitarian warehouse, spanning over 20,000m² with the capacity to store up to 36,000 pallets, or movable blocks of supplies.

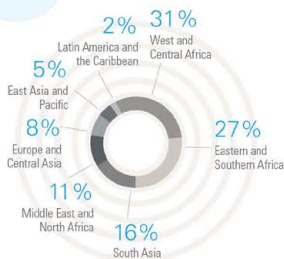
UNICEF staff members and volunteers pack boxes with supplies that will be shipped for children at the UNICEF Supply Division's warehouse in Copenhagen, Denmark. © UNICEF/UNI409319/Brown



UNICEF DELIVERED \$893.07 MILLION IN EMERGENCY SUPPLIES TO 81 COUNTRIES IN 2023

UNICEF supply across the globe

REGIONS WHERE SUPPLIES AND SERVICES WERE USED



THE UNICEF SUPPLY COMMUNITY AT THE FOREFRONT OF OUR RESULTS

1,343 STAFF

11,179 years of experience working for UNICEF

53% identify as men
47% identify as women

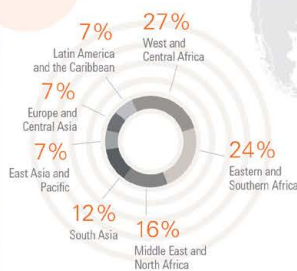
151 number of nationalities we represent

205 offices where we work

119 countries where we are based

74% from programme countries
26% from donor countries

SUPPLY COMMUNITY'S PRESENCE IN UNICEF PROGRAMME COUNTRIES



AREAS OF SUPPLY EXPERTISE

- Contracting
- Construction
- Demand planning
- Financing
- Forecasting
- Logistics
- Market shaping
- Procurement
- Product innovation
- Quality Assurance
- Supply chain monitoring
- Supply chain system strengthening
- Technical product consulting
- Warehousing

UNICEF GLOBAL SUPPLY AND LOGISTICS HUBS

\$188.18 million in supplies were delivered to 135 countries and areas from UNICEF Global Supply and Logistics Hubs.

WAREHOUSES

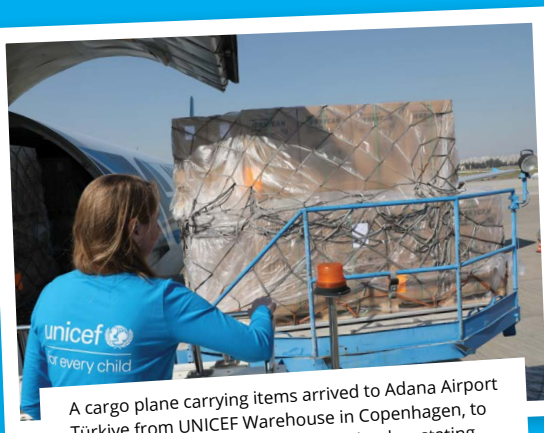
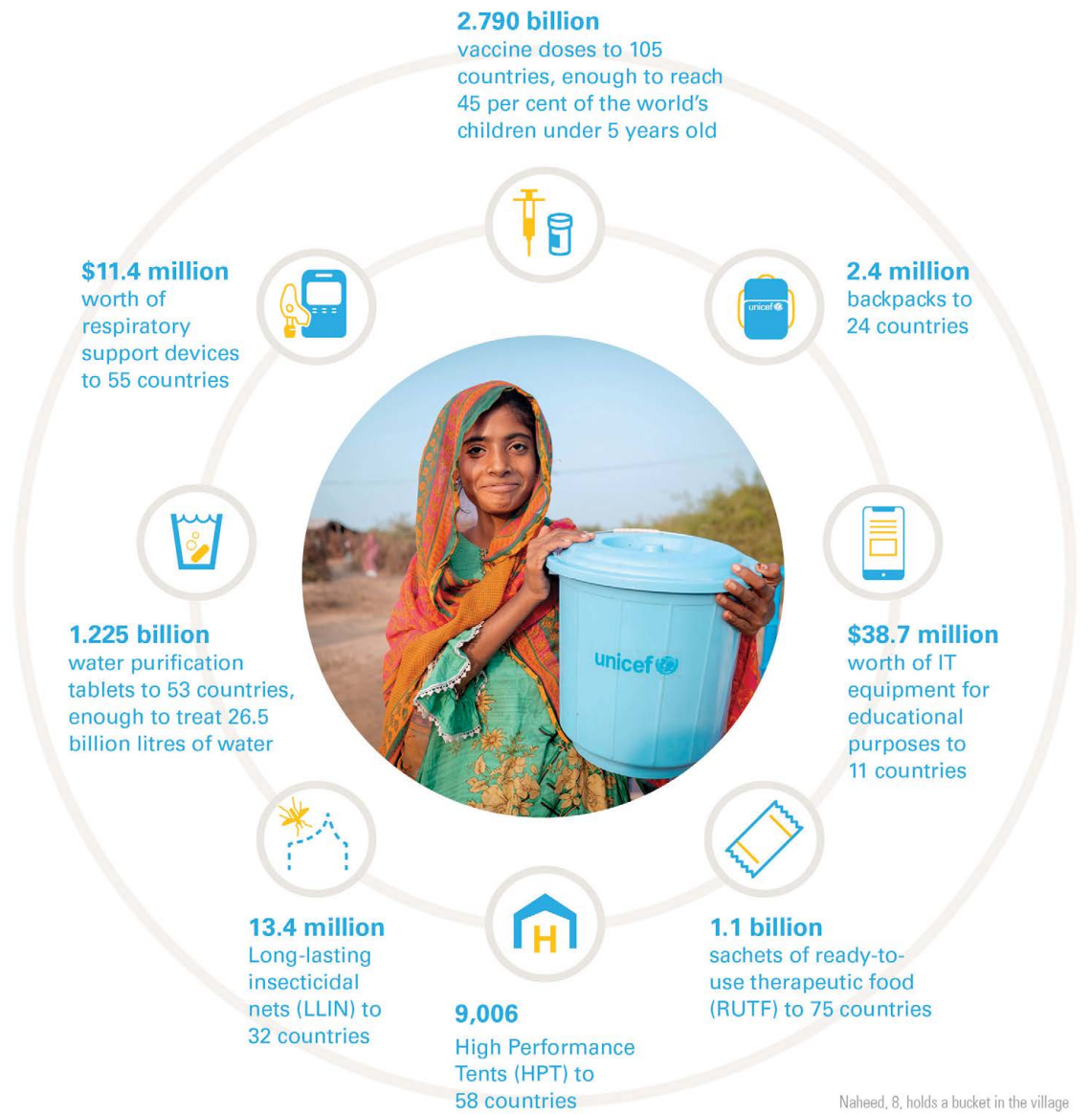
\$858 million in supplies were delivered across 73 countries from 221 active warehouses.

Homa, 8, and Hamaira, 12, are survivors of a devastating earthquake that leveled their home in Herat, Afghanistan. Hygiene kits help maintain hygiene levels and a sense of dignity for children and their parents in the wake of emergencies.
© UNICEF/UNI468880/Khan



DELIVERING 360°

Spotlight on some of the supplies UNICEF delivers for every child to survive and thrive.



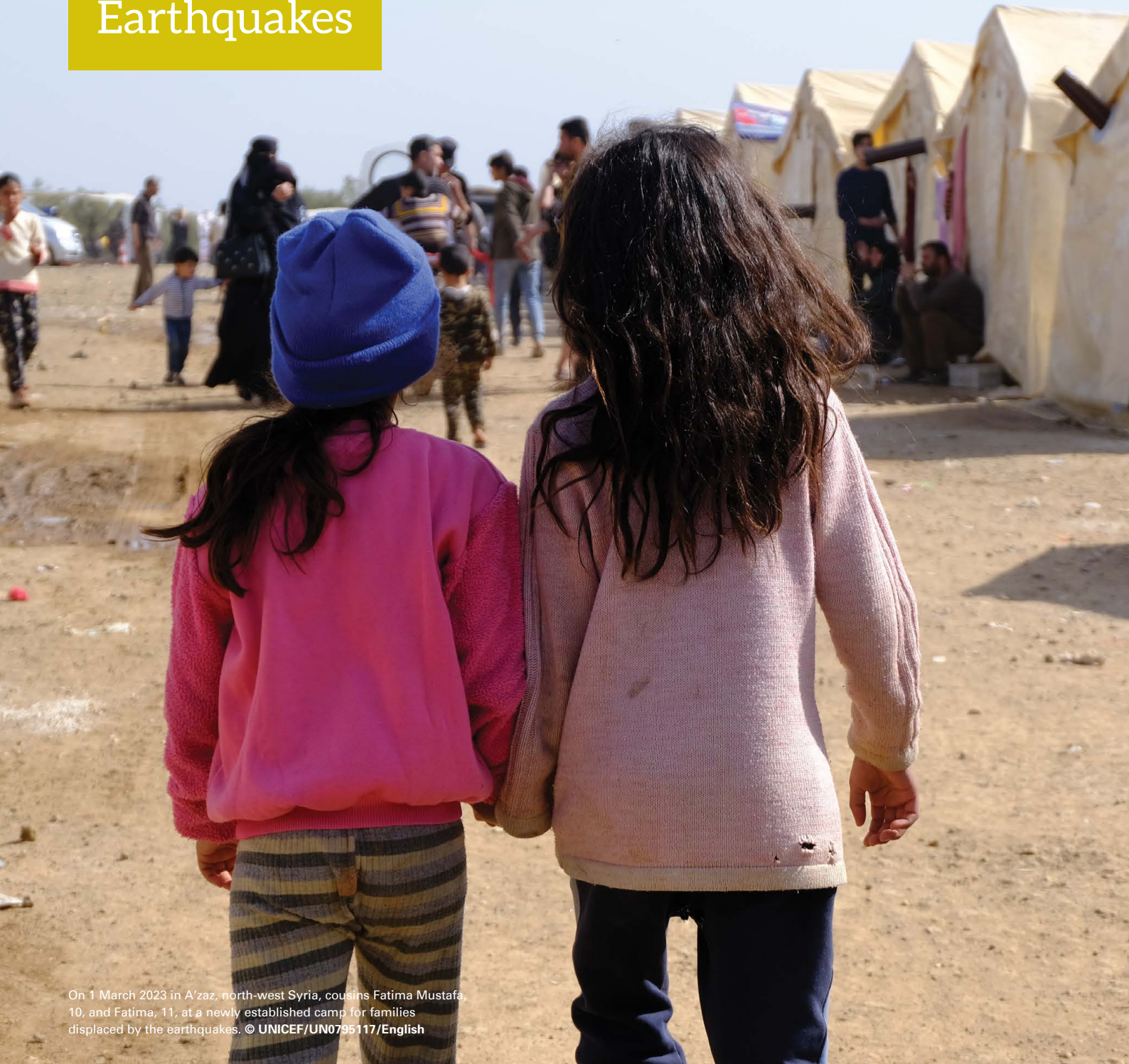
A cargo plane carrying items arrived to Adana Airport Türkiye from UNICEF Warehouse in Copenhagen, to be dispatched to cities affected by the devastating earthquakes hit south-east Türkiye.
© UNICEF/UN0787228/Ergen



On 11 May 2023, staff prepare Menstrual Hygiene kits for distribution at the UNICEF warehouse in Cox's Bazar ahead of Cyclone Mocha, which is slated to make landfall on 14 May. © UNICEF/UN0841639/Lateef

IMPACT STORY

Türkiye-Syria Earthquakes



On 1 March 2023 in A'zaz, north-west Syria, cousins Fatima Mustafa, 10, and Fatima, 11, at a newly established camp for families displaced by the earthquakes. © UNICEF/UN0795117/English

3.2 million children affected in the Syrian Arab Republic



4 million children **in need of humanitarian assistance** in Türkiye

On 6 February 2023 two devastating earthquakes and numerous aftershocks hit south-east Türkiye and Syria, killing tens of thousands of people, destroying homes and essential services including safe water, health care and education.

COUNTRY PROFILE | TÜRKIYE

On Monday 6th February 2023, a 7.7 magnitude earthquake hit South East Türkiye and Syria just after 4am local time, with a second 7.5 magnitude quake hitting later that day. Tens of thousands of people lost their lives.

The February 2023 earthquakes in Türkiye left 2.5 million children in need of immediate humanitarian assistance, with the most marginalised children and families bearing the heaviest toll. A further 1.5 million children required assistance in the weeks and months that followed. In the aftermath of the earthquakes, access to food and water became scarce or completely inaccessible, putting children at risk of disease and food insecurity. More than one million people lost their homes and were forced to live in temporary accommodation.

Families lost their livelihoods during a time when food prices and the costs of other necessities were on the rise, while 4 million children could not go to school.

KEY FACTS

15.6 million
people impacted in
Türkiye

2 million
people displaced

A little girl holding her toy at a temporary shelter in Hatay, Türkiye, after two devastating earthquakes hit South East Türkiye. © UNICEF/UN0835808/Kiliç



On 9 February 2023 in Jableh district, Lattakia Governorate, northwestern Syrian Arab Republic, a child walks through the rubble of buildings destroyed by the 6 February earthquake. © UNICEF/UN0781628/

8.8 million
people affected in the
Syrian Arab Republic

COUNTRY PROFILE | SYRIA

Thirteen years of crisis have upended the lives of children and their families across the Syrian Arab Republic.

The earthquakes that hit Syria in early February 2023 affected more than 8.8 million people within a context where close to 70% of the population already required humanitarian assistance.

3.2 million children were impacted by the earthquakes, which exacerbated their already dire circumstances.

Critical infrastructure, already weakened by protracted conflict, was severely damaged.

Children of Türkiye-Syria

Meryem playing catch with a friend at the Osmaniye Cevdetiye temporary shelter in Osmaniye, Türkiye.
© UNICEF/UN0826934/Karacan



Meryem's Story

"The day the earthquake happened, I was supposed to go to school. I got my bag and clothes ready before going to bed. When I woke up at night, I didn't understand what was happening. I don't remember how we got out and got into the car. It feels like a dream."

9-year-old Meryem recalls the night two devastating earthquakes struck South-Eastern Türkiye, severely damaging her home and school.

"I was very upset when they told me I could no longer go to my school, because I loved my school so much."

Meryem tells her story while taking a break from multiplication tables in the child-friendly area at Cevdetiye Temporary Accommodation Center in Osmaniye, Türkiye. Meryem and her mother, father and three siblings came to live here when they were displaced by the earthquakes. Since she arrived, Meryem has been receiving psychosocial support at the UNICEF-supported Child, Youth and Family Centres.

"When I first came here, I couldn't get used to it at all. I felt like a stranger. But the staff were very good to me. I have friends here now. I'm happy, but I still miss my old school."

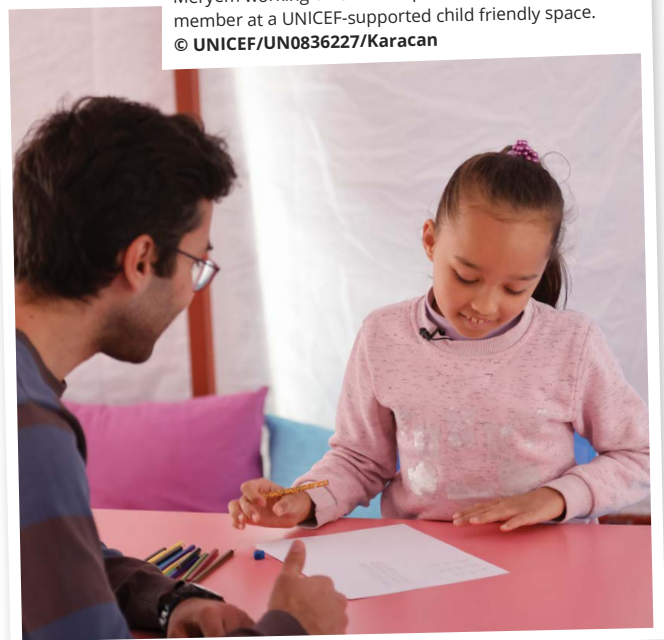
Talking about her daily routine at one of the UNICEF-supported Child, Youth and Family Centres, Meryem says:

"I love this place. I get up early in the morning. I have breakfast and then go to school where we play games and do lessons. In the evening, I eat my dinner, play some more, do some homework and sleep." When she grows up, Meryem wants to be a teacher.

"I love teaching. Just like our teacher here, I try to teach things to my younger siblings."

In the wake of the February 2023 earthquakes, 4 million children in Türkiye required humanitarian assistance. Meryem is one of thousands of children who have received psychosocial support from UNICEF, supporting them to move past their trauma and grief towards realising their dreams.

Meryem working on the multiplication table with a staff member at a UNICEF-supported child friendly space.
© UNICEF/UN0836227/Karacan

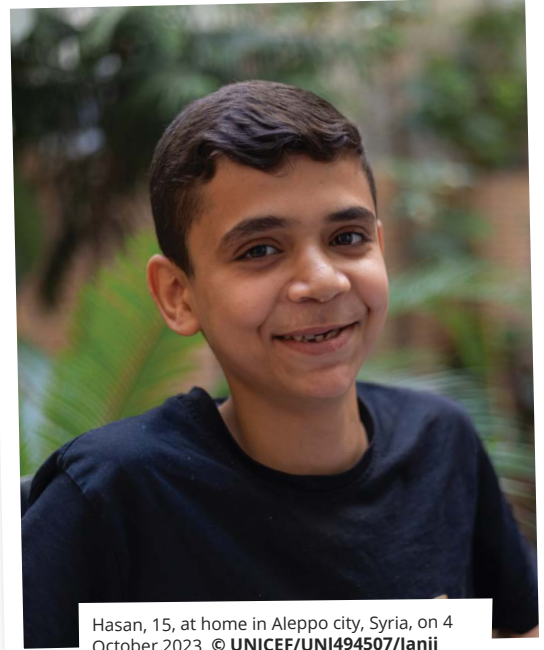


Hasan's Story

"I was under the rubble, and I did not know that my life changed forever," said Hasan, 15, recalling the night of the earthquake. "I did not see anything, but I heard voices and called for help through a small hole," he added, talking about one of the hardest moments of his life.

Hasan had lived with his mother, stepfather and three stepsisters in Aleppo. He lost his immediate family to the deadly earthquakes that hit northern Syria and Türkiye on 6 February 2023, claiming the lives of thousands of people.

When the earthquake struck, Mohamad, Hasan's uncle, rushed to the building where Hasan lived, to find it had collapsed. He heard Hasan's voice from under the rubble and called for help. Mohamad discovered Hasan's teeth were broken and his arm and leg severely damaged.



Hasan, 15, at home in Aleppo city, Syria, on 4 October 2023. © UNICEF/UNI494507/Janji

Mohamad, now Hasan's guardian, received emergency cash assistance from UNICEF as part of the earthquake response. This, with additional support from other donors and NGOs, was used to cover the cost of Hasan's several surgeries. Today, Hasan is close to walking again.

Like for many children in Syria, Hasan's education was disrupted by the earthquakes. His injuries did not help either. But Hasan was unstoppable. He studied from home and sat for all his exams.

"My mother's last wish was for me to pass Grade 9. I made her wish come true," explained Hasan about his motivation to continue learning. Before her tragic passing, Hasan's mother had received support for Hasan's education from UNICEF.

Hasan's cousins, especially the youngest called Aws, are helping him to recover from the pain and loss he experienced in the earthquake. *"He makes my life better. Aws has been a joy during my recovery."*

Hasan dreams of becoming a doctor in the future.



Hasan, 15, with his cousins (left) Mourei, 13, and (right) Abd, 12, at home in Aleppo city, Syria, on 4 October 2023. © UNICEF/UNI494506/Janji

UNICEF RESPONSE | TÜRKİYE

UNICEF and partners reached 4.7 million people including 2.4 million children in Türkiye with vital support in the aftermath of the earthquakes.

More than 1.3 million children and caregivers were provided with improved sanitation services in the affected provinces of Hatay, Kahraman Maras, Gaziantep, Sanliurfa, Adiaman and Malatya.

A boy and his sister in a temporary shelter in Antakya, Hatay, after two devastating earthquakes hit south-east Türkiye. © UNICEF/UN0802290/Karacan



More than

3 million

people were provided with access to safe water.

More than

1.5 million

children and caregivers were provided with mental health and psychosocial support, including psychological first aid.



1.5 million

earthquake-affected children accessed immunisation services.



Nearly **1 million** children received access to formal or non-formal education.



102,000

households with children received cash payments.



47 hubs for child, adolescent and family support were set up to provide psychosocial support, catch-up classes, homework support and protection services reaching 639,000 children and caregivers.



UNICEF Ireland National Ambassador Cathy Kelly and UNICEF Ireland Executive Director Peter Power, together with the children in a psychosocial support session at a UNICEF-supported child friendly space at a temporary shelter at Sütçü İmam University Karacasu Campus in Kahramanmaraş. © UNICEF/UN0825133/Kiliç

UNICEF RESPONSE | SYRIA

In 2023, UNICEF reached 5.6 million people and 3.2 million children affected by the earthquakes in Syria.



On 1 March 2023 in A'zaz, north-west Syria, UNICEF Family Hygiene Kits are distributed to families at a newly established camp for families displaced by the earthquakes. © UNICEF/UN0795111/English

694,233 women and children accessed **primary healthcare** in UNICEF-supported facilities.

408,855 children under 5 were screened for child wasting.

554,879 children accessed formal or non-formal education, including early learning.



A group of children interact during a group exercise in Al Khandaq collective shelter in Hama governorate, Syria, on 21 August 2023. © UNICEF/UNI437342/Hazori



3.3 million people accessed safe water.



3.6 million people accessed appropriate sanitation services.



"I am glad we can shower now to stay clean and protect ourselves from diseases. This is the best shower ever!" said Huda, 9, after taking a shower in the prefab bathrooms, provided by UNICEF, at the sports city collective shelter in Lattakia, Syria, on 9 March 2023. © UNICEF/UN0836318/Haddad



393,828 children, adolescents and caregivers accessed community-based mental health and psychosocial support.



195,032 vulnerable people were reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers.

IMPACT STORY

Libya Floods Emergency Response



11 September 2023. The image of the neighborhood's SUV cars upside down demonstrates just how severely the city was flooded.
© UNICEF/UNI435917/Alturki

UNICEF TIMELINE

RESPONDING IN AN EMERGENCY

24
HOURS

The UNICEF Libya Country Office responded immediately with over 8,000 locally procured hygiene kits. Distribution was supported by the Libyan Red Crescent.

48
HOURS

As needs rapidly escalated, UNICEF quickly established an agreement with the Ministry of Health to utilise its warehouse in Benghazi as well as the Libyan Red Crescent warehouse to accommodate supplies arriving from the UNICEF Global Supply and Logistics Hubs in Copenhagen and Dubai.

72
HOURS

UNICEF coordinated two chartered flights, and loaded and delivered 30 metric tons of shelter, medical and WASH-related supplies – enough for 135,000 individuals.

1
WEEK

In the subsequent wave of the response, two additional chartered flights, one of which was secured through the in-kind support of Flexport.org, brought more health, nutrition and WASH supplies, as well as education materials to support child-friendly spaces.

1
MONTH

During early recovery efforts, UNICEF provided temporary buildings such as mobile clinics, furniture and education supplies to 11 schools for children resuming their studies. This was in addition to procuring 91 metric tons of emergency supplies delivered over four chartered flights.



Ahlam, 14, washes dishes using safe water, after UNICEF rehabilitated boreholes in her village post-floods. © UNICEF/Bayda/2024/AbduladeemAjaj

Libya's humanitarian situation remains intricately tied to its complex sociopolitical environment and the enduring conflict since 2011, with OCHA reporting in 2022 that over 300,000 individuals including 120,000 children already required humanitarian assistance.

On September 10th 2023, Storm Daniel struck northeastern Libya, unleashing unprecedented devastation across the region, marking it as one of the deadliest weather-related disasters in recent history.

Cities like Derna, Albayada, Soussa and Al-Marj were severely affected, experiencing extensive damage to infrastructure and an estimated 5,898 confirmed deaths, including an estimated 1,700 children. The disaster displaced approximately 44,800 individuals, with a significant number of them being children.

The floods severely affected the health sector, with 88% of Primary Health Care facilities partially or non-functional and critical damage to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene infrastructure, especially in Derna where half of the city's boreholes were shut down.



On 18 September 2023, a child smiles for a photo in flood-affected Soussa, Eastern Libya. © UNICEF/UNI441228/Alatrib

DURING 2023 UNICEF...

- **Rehabilitated 5 boreholes benefitting 50,000 residents in Derna, Shahat and Albayda.**
- **Provided essential health supplies and services for 390,000 people, scaled up due to increased health needs caused by Storm Daniel.**
- **Supported 79,792 children, parents and caregivers with community-based Mental Health & Psychosocial Support Services.**
- **Provided 35,500 children with individual learning materials.**
- **Distributed water purification tablets and hygiene kits to over 53,000 individuals.**
- **Conducted an awareness campaign to foster health-seeking behaviours in response to the flood emergency, reaching 54,791 individuals directly and 2.7 million indirectly.**



As part of the Storm Daniel and Floods response and in collaboration with the Libyan Red Crescent, UNICEF Libya delivered Hygiene Kits to more than 50,000 people. © UNICEFLIBYA/DC378318306/Tawfik LRCS



Amaal, 7 years old, contemplates her neighbourhood after neighbouring homes were levelled to the ground. No words can describe the devastation she sees. © UNICEF/UNI448902/Ajjour

IN 2023, GAZA BECAME THE MOST DANGEROUS PLACE IN THE WORLD TO BE A CHILD.



1 million children in Gaza were impacted by the escalation of hostilities following October 7th.



Lama, 4-years-old, sits in front of her tent at UNRWA shelter camp in Khan Younis, south Gaza Strip. "I am here with my family sleeping in this tent, I do not know when I will be back home, but I miss sleeping on my bed, I want this situation to end very soon," © UNICEF/UNI472244/ZAGOUT

Over **90% of Gaza's people** faced acute food insecurity by year-end.

When the war began on October 7th, an already dire humanitarian situation in Gaza turned catastrophic. Children were killed, wounded, orphaned, displaced and exposed to unprecedented levels of disease and malnutrition.



Abeer, 12 years old, holds her sister Zahra, 4 years old, in front of her destroyed house in Rafah, southern Gaza. © UNICEF/UNI485723/EI Baba

KEY FACTS FROM 2023

More than
9,000
children
killed



More than **8,000**
children injured

1.9 million
people internally
displaced

335,000
children under 5
at risk of severe
malnutrition

COUNTRY PROFILE | GAZA

The escalation of hostilities on October 7th made an already desperate humanitarian situation for Gaza's children even worse.

Every kind of grave violation against children was present in the State of Palestine and Israel in 2023, where a brazen disregard for children's lives saw children indiscriminately killed or taken as hostages in early October, an atrocity which UNICEF condemns unreservedly, and nearly the entirety of the 2.2 million population of the Gaza Strip displaced in the ensuing retaliation and escalation of hostilities.

The State of Palestine Ministry of Health reported that more than 9,000 children had been killed in the Gaza Strip between 7th October and the end of 2023, with thousands more sustaining life-altering injuries. Violence obliterated children's homes, safety, healthcare and education. Hundreds of thousands of Palestinian children were brought to the edge of starvation.

By early 2024, every single child under 5 years of age in the Gaza Strip - an estimated 335,000 children - was at risk of severe malnutrition and preventable death due to looming famine. Widespread insecurity undermined health services and the distribution of life-saving health and nutrition supplies, devastating critical water infrastructure and damaging 27 of Gaza's 39 hospitals.

The children of the Gaza Strip and their families are trapped, living and dying under constant bombardments and attacks on homes, schools, hospitals, water systems and even food lines. UNICEF and partners have worked around the clock to try to provide life-saving support while facing insurmountable obstacles: extreme insecurity, massive logistics encumbrances and a prohibition on critical supplies.



Ahmad, 5 years old, waits his turn in the crowd for a meal from an organisation distributing free food in the city of Rafah, southern Gaza. "I am here with my little brother waiting for our turn. I hope we can get some food. We are both hungry." © UNICEF/UNI495575/ZAGOUT



© UNICEF/UNI488716/Zaqout

4-year-old Ghazal dreamed of becoming a YouTuber with lots of followers.

On October 12 2023, Ghazal's home in Gaza City was besieged by military tanks. The building was shelled, leaving Ghazal disoriented with a severe injury to her left leg.

With the levels of danger and destruction surrounding Ghazal's home, emergency medical teams couldn't reach her. A doctor living in the neighbourhood performed an informal surgery in an effort to stop the bleeding.

As in many other cases in the Gaza Strip, this surgery was performed without anaesthetic due to the lack of medical supplies and equipment. While the doctor managed to stop the bleeding, he couldn't treat the infection spreading through Ghazal's leg.

After days of agony, Ghazal and her family finally reached Al Nasser Hospital in Khan Younis, where the medical team had to break devastating news: they needed to amputate Ghazal's leg.

After the procedure, Ghazal spent several days recovering in a small bed in the corridor of the hospital, grappling with extreme pain and a life-changing disability.



© UNICEF/UNI488716/Zaqout



© UNICEF/UNI488714/Zaqout

Heartbreakingly, Ghazal's story is not unique. Thousands more children in Gaza have sustained life-altering injuries throughout the war.

IMPACT STORY | OMAR

12-year-old Omar lived near the Al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City.

Omar was sleeping when his home was shelled, with the explosion throwing Omar from the building and instantly killing his parents, his twin brother Hamza, his grandparents, his grand-uncle, his two uncles and their families including a baby cousin.

"I don't remember anything but that I was asleep. That's all I remember", says Omar. Talking with UNICEF Global Spokesperson James Elder in Gaza, Omar is asked if he is good at school:

"Kind of, but my brother was better. We used to play on the phone, hide and seek, or football. When we used to come back home from school, Hamza always wanted us to change clothes, so I changed my clothes and we then went to play football outside. I miss him."

After the explosion, Omar's little sister was found in the Al-Shifa Hospital emergency room, among the unidentified people. She was shocked to see Omar and their aunt Hanan alive. Hanan tells us that Omar's sister, who is now using a hearing aid, refuses to wear it because she doesn't want to hear the noises of bombardment, or anything that sounds like the explosion they endured. Omar acknowledges his newfound responsibility for his little sister, who is still in kindergarten. *"I will do anything for her that she wants."*

Omar's Aunt Hanan, who has taken Omar and his sister into her care since the explosion, says that he asks about his family. He wants to know why they are gone. When Hanan mentions Omar's parents, he says: *"I keep closing my eyes so I don't forget their faces."*



© UNICEF 2023



© UNICEF 2023



© UNICEF 2023

Every child in Gaza has lost someone since the outbreak of hostilities on October 7th.

UNICEF RESPONSE: SUPPORTING GAZA'S CHILDREN

From 21st October 2023 to 3rd January 2024, UNICEF moved 256 trucks of life-saving aid into the Gaza Strip from Egypt.

These deliveries contained pallets stacked with essentials like baby food, nappies, blankets, medical supplies, cleaning supplies, warm clothes, cooking oil, food, juice, flour, milk, water, hygiene kits, medicine, children's toys, psychological support kits, sanitary pads, syringes, tents, tarpaulins and water purification systems. UNICEF's programme has expanded significantly since the start of 2024.



Loading of several shipments of essential supplies on UNICEF charter flights at the Copenhagen International Airport. These supplies were airlifted to El Arish, Egypt, close to the Gaza Strip, for distribution among people in need in Gaza. © UNICEF/UNI462565/Mansour

In 2023 UNICEF reached 1.3 million people, including 676,260 children impacted by the escalating hostilities in Gaza.



1 in 4

people in Gaza reached with humanitarian cash assistance.

1.3 million people provided with safe drinking water.



Medical supplies provided for **398,000** people.

966,300 doses of life-saving vaccine delivered.



313,000 women and adolescent girls reached with hygiene & dignity kits.

12,300 children under 5 reached with **nutrition interventions**.



Sewage treatment managed for **275,000** people.

44,855 children received psychosocial support.



UNICEF delivered medical life-saving supplies to help meet the basic needs of Al-Nasr Hospital in Khan Younis. © UNICEF/UNI460601/El Baba

UNICEF also provided humanitarian cash assistance to 74,000 households shortly after October 7th, to support families in crisis.



On 19 November 2023, babies rescued from Al-Shifa hospital in northern Gaza are relocated to the Al-Hejal Al-Emarati Hospital in Rafah, in the south of the Strip. © UNICEF/UNI473117/EI Baba

AL SHIFA RESCUE MISSION

On November 19th, UNICEF and partners conducted a successful rescue mission of 31 babies from the Al-Shifa hospital in Northern Gaza.

The newborns' condition was rapidly deteriorating amid worsening humanitarian conditions, with the rescue mission following the tragic death of several other babies and total collapse of all medical services at Al-Shifa.

The newborns were transferred in temperature-controlled incubators under the supervision of medical staff from Al-Shifa hospital to the Al-Hejal Al-Emarati Hospital in Rafah, where their condition was stabilised within the neonatal intensive care unit. UNICEF and partners supported the identification and registration of the babies to help trace and reunify them with their parents and family members where possible.

ADVOCACY

Since October 7th, UNICEF has been a consistent voice for children in the Gaza Strip, advocating at all levels for an immediate and long-lasting humanitarian ceasefire, civilians and the infrastructure they rely on to be protected, the safe unimpeded access of aid and humanitarian workers and hostages to be released immediately.

As the war continues, UNICEF will continue to support and advocate for the children of Gaza.



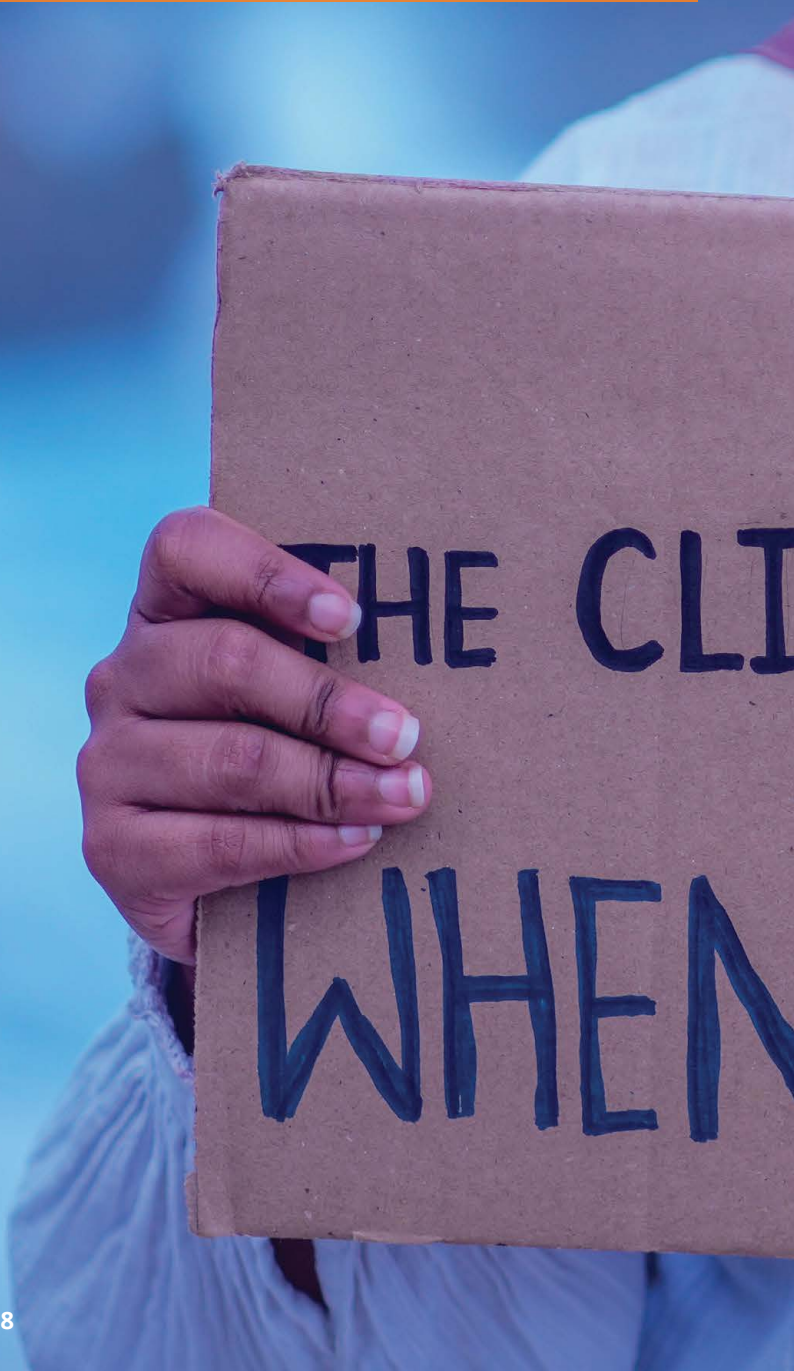
Children in the courtyard of a humanitarian shelter in Gaza playing during UNICEF-supported recreational activities. © UNICEF/UNI488830/EI Baba

Together for Children

UNICEF supports young people to realise their right to have their voices heard on matters that affect their lives. UNICEF works with political leaders, policy-makers and the business community to promote and protect the rights of every child.

unicef  | for every child

22-year-old Zara is one of the 25 participants of the mock COP negotiation session UNICEF Maldives is hosting in collaboration with the Office of the President's Special Envoy on Climate Change. The conference offered a platform for networking among young people and with experts and policy makers. The young people developed a set of recommendations for COP28 that reflect the voice of youth on climate action. © UNICEF/UNI458385/Pun



A woman wearing a pink hijab and a white top is holding a large cardboard sign. The sign has handwritten text in blue and red ink. The background is a bright, clear blue sky.

Dear world leaders,
CLIMATE IS CHANGING

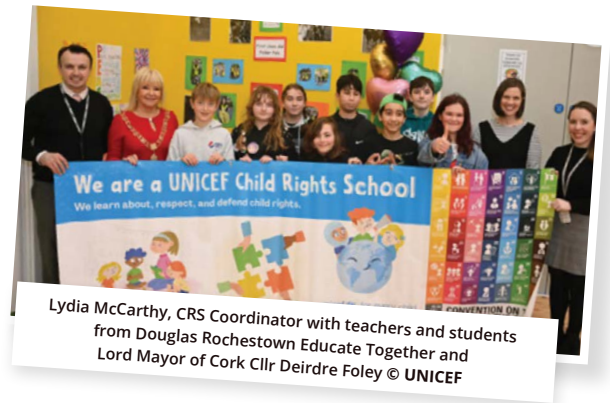
HOW WILL YOU?

Child Rights Schools in Ireland

Schools have a special role to play in ensuring children throughout Ireland enjoy their rights, as laid out in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). UNICEF Ireland’s Child Rights Schools (CRS) programme supports the whole school community to create a school culture based on respect for child rights.

In a CRS, children and adults learn about the CRC, children participate in decisions that affect them, and children enjoy their rights. In Ireland, 29 schools across twelve counties participated in the programme in 2023. Over 1000 staff and 10,000 children benefited from the child rights training and resources provided through the CRS initiative.

Douglas Rochestown Educate Together in Cork and Nord Anglia International School in Dublin were both awarded Gold status in 2023, in recognition of the efforts of children, teachers and their wider school communities to create rights-respecting environments and to champion the rights of children everywhere.



Lydia McCarthy, CRS Coordinator with teachers and students from Douglas Rochestown Educate Together and Lord Mayor of Cork Cllr Deirdre Foley © UNICEF



CRS staff leads David Rafferty, Shannon Walsh, Olha Finn and Robyn Louise Turner from Nord Anglia International School. © UNICEF

Capacity building has been a key focus of Child Rights Schools this year, responding to the needs of educators across the country.

In July 2023 UNICEF Ireland ran a summer course for primary school staff entitled ‘A Child Rights Approach to an Inclusive Classroom’. 100 participants completed the online 20-hour course, learning how to embed the CRC into their own classroom and school communities, with a particular focus on rights-based inclusive child participation. The course received excellent reviews from educators and the Department of Education alike.



Throughout the school year UNICEF Ireland offered specialised training for staff groups engaged in the CRS programme, with 152 teachers trained in-person and 33 trained online.

The CRS Community of Practice has continued to grow, with sessions each term giving teachers an opportunity to exchange what has worked well during their rights-respecting journey. In November 2023 Dr. Tasha O’Donnell from the Marino Institute of Education joined the session to share her experiences of teaching younger children about rights.



Students of Knocknacarra Educate Together National on RTE Six One News for World Children's Day. © UNICEF

The CRS community celebrated World Children’s Day on November 20th with a range of events in their classrooms and beyond. The student council at Knocknacarra Educate Together National organised a “kids takeover” of the school to raise awareness of children’s rights, featuring on the 6 o’clock news that evening!

The Cost-of-living Crisis is a Child Rights Crisis

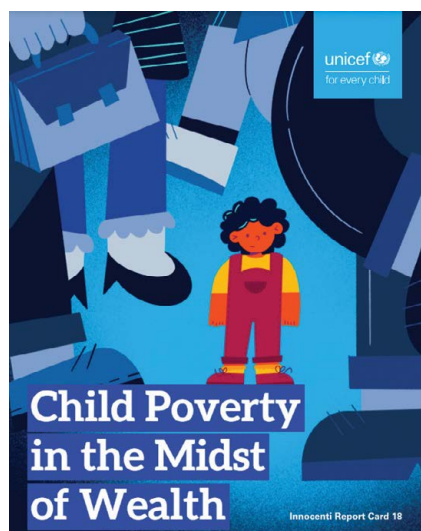
2023 was an important year for identifying and addressing the impact of rising income inequality on children's rights in OECD and EU countries.

In June, UNICEF published "Children and the Cost-of-living Crisis: How food and energy inflation has increased poverty in households with children in the European Union", with the aim of providing policymakers with timely estimates and evidence-based guidance on how best to address the challenges posed by escalating living costs.

The report found that by the end of 2022, the cost-of-living crisis had eroded living standards to such an extent that up to an additional 3 million children in 26 EU countries were living in conditions equivalent to relative income poverty,

Report Card 18

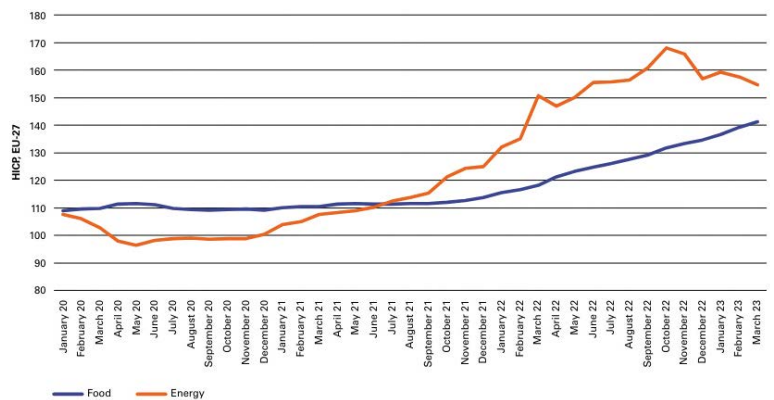
In December, UNICEF published the eighteenth edition of its "Report Card", entitled "Child Poverty in the Midst of Wealth", which offered a comprehensive analysis of child poverty across OECD and EU countries. It compared child poverty rates and examined governments' income support policies, providing a holistic view of poverty affecting children in these regions.



Both reports revealed varying levels of progress and worrying regression across countries in addressing child poverty. Findings showed that while some countries like Poland and Slovenia have made significant progress, others, including France, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom, have experienced concerning increases in child poverty rates. In Ireland, although progress has been made since the global financial crisis, challenges persist, with one in seven children living in poverty and more than one in ten experiencing prolonged poverty.

Both reports underscored the lasting and harmful effects of poverty on children's welfare, emphasising the urgent need for governments and stakeholders to prioritise initiatives such as expanding social protection, ensuring access to high-quality basic services, fostering employment opportunities, and tackling inequalities head-on. The successes observed in other countries can provide Ireland with valuable lessons which policymakers can use to enhance the welfare of children in Ireland both now and in the future.

Figure 1: The persistence of energy and food inflation in the EU since 2021

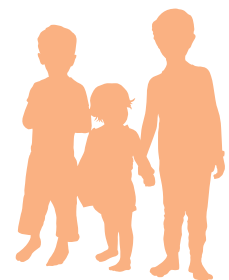


Source: Eurostat, "HICP - monthly data (index)", Luxembourg, 2023. <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/PRC_HICP_MIDX_custom_6118867/default/table?lang=en>, accessed 23 May 2023.

Note: HICP is the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices. Reference year = 2015 = 100.

while the situation of the EU's already 15 million children living in income poverty had significantly worsened.

Government actions, including cash benefits for families, appeared to have been partially effective in reducing the burden of food and energy inflation, however, these responses were found to be not as fast or wide-ranging as those to the Covid-19 pandemic. Many of these measures were found to be temporary in nature, with UNICEF recommending a suite of more extensive, long-lasting measures to safeguard vulnerable children throughout this crisis.



WBTi Report



In collaboration with UNICEF Ireland, a team led by Dr. Liz O'Sullivan from Technological University Dublin produced Ireland's inaugural report on breastfeeding trends as part of the World Breastfeeding Trends Initiative (WBTi).

This comprehensive report assessed Ireland's breastfeeding policies, programs, and practices, revealing a pressing need to align official policies with the reality of low breastfeeding rates across the country.

The World Breastfeeding Trends Initiative is a standardised assessment that evaluates a country's implementation of the World Health Organization's Global Strategy for Infant and Young Child Feeding, benchmarking progress against other countries.

Ireland has one of the lowest breastfeeding rates in the world, with just 63% of babies receiving breast milk at birth and <5% exclusively breastfeeding at 6 months, a stark deviation from the WHO target of 50% at the six-month mark.

The WBTi scorecard placed Ireland at the 57th position out of 99 participating countries. Despite commendable government policies supporting breastfeeding, the report identified significant challenges for women accessing

support. While Ireland scored high in government policy (9.5 out of 10), practical assistance through initiatives like the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative received a mere three out of ten. Regional disparities in support services further compounded the issue.

The report underscored the importance of providing accurate and unbiased information, particularly in times of emergency such as the COVID-19 pandemic. The report also emphasized the crucial role of healthcare professionals in engaging effectively with women, especially in terms of education and training. Key recommendations included standardising breastfeeding education for all healthcare professionals that encounter pregnant and breastfeeding women, providing for greater availability of breastfeeding preparation classes and breastfeeding support groups, developing an infant and young child feeding in emergencies preparedness plan and fully implementing the World Health Organization Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes.

World Children's Day #KidsTakeOver



UNICEF's #KidsTakeOver, a celebration of World Children's Day and the Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child is now in its 7th year. The global movement sees children and young people across the globe engaging with senior politicians in a creative and impactful way, with the aim of amplifying the voices, rights and wellbeing of children. The UNICEF #KidsTakeOver events emphasise the importance of children's perspectives in shaping policies that affect them, appealing to leaders to acknowledge and prioritise the needs of the younger generation.

At UNICEF Ireland, we have celebrated #KidsTakeOver for the last number of years by working closely with the Office of an Taoiseach to coordinate a meeting between a UNICEF child advocate and Ireland's most senior Government Minister. In 2023, our #KidsTakeOver candidate was Nathan Dunne, an 18-year-old fifth-year student from Ballymun in Dublin. Nathan, who attends a DEIS school, met with An Taoiseach to highlight the additional challenges faced by students from low-income areas.

Nathan outlined obstacles faced by peers and classmates within his community such as financial pressures, disengagement from school and prohibitive costs like schoolbooks and uniforms, while presenting An Taoiseach with recommendations to target and address these unique



UNICEF Ireland Youth Advocate Nathan Dunne met with An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar as part of UNICEF's #KidsTakeOver for World Children's Day. © Department of An Taoiseach

challenges. These included extending the free schoolbook scheme to Senior Cycle students, developing programs to prevent early school leaving, expanding opportunities for third-level HEAR schemes and Access programs, reviewing the "voluntary contribution" and creating professional opportunities in disadvantaged areas.

During his visit to the Office of An Taoiseach, Nathan also had the opportunity to observe Leader's Questions from the Dáil Gallery, visit key meeting rooms and meet with the newly-established Child Poverty Unit, where he shared his unique experience and ideas about improving his community and others like it.

Nathan's advocacy exemplifies the power of youth voices in driving positive change and underscores UNICEF's commitment to championing the rights and well-being of every child in Ireland and beyond.

Individual Giving



A group of children interact with their instructor Yousef at a UNICEF-supported child friendly space, in Lattakia city, Syria, on 23 November 2023. "I still remember the horror we felt that night. I was studying when the house started shaking. I woke my mother and brother up and asked them to evacuate the house. We picked up very few things and ran out," said Yousef, 20, describing the night of the devastating earthquake that hit Syria in February 2023.
© UNICEF/UNIS00664/Issa

2023 was a year of emergencies, with conflict and climate disasters catapulting children and their communities into crisis. Our supporters demonstrated their resounding commitment to providing life-saving assistance to children battling conflict, hunger and displacement across the world.

UNICEF's work is funded entirely by voluntary contributions and it is thanks to generous donors like the Irish public that UNICEF can continue to be there for every child in need.

Individual Giving



© UNICEF/UN0852970/UNICEF/YPN

7-month-old baby boy Sanad is held by his father, Sameh, at their home in the Al Adani neighbourhood of Al Hawtah, Lahj Governate, Yemen.

Sanad was being treated for severe acute malnutrition at the Therapeutic Feeding Centre of Ibn Khaldoun Hospital. After two months, he progressed to being treated for moderate acute malnutrition through a UNICEF outpatient programme.

Sanad's mother, Raneem, says, "When I took my child to the hospital, I had concerns about the prices of the medicine and treatment as I had no one to support me. However, by the time I reached TFC, I knew that everything is provided for free, and they helped me with everything."

2023 was one of the most difficult years for children across the globe. Natural disasters and conflict

continued to ravage the lives of children, causing displacement, injury, hunger, and, tragically, death.

7-month-old Sanad, pictured above, is just one of the nearly 10 million children who experienced severe acute malnutrition in 2023, which is the most severe form of malnutrition. Without immediate therapeutic treatment, children with this level of malnutrition will most certainly not survive.

For the most severe cases, children need urgent hospitalisation and often require feeding tubes because they are too weak and unable to eat.

For children who are able to eat, a course of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) is provided and treatment can be given at home. RUTF is often referred to as "miracle food", because of how effective the treatment is and how quickly a child can be brought back from fatal levels of malnutrition.

Gaza Emergency

Mohammed, 14 years old, holding his brother, 2-year-old Khaled, in front of their tent in Al-Mawasi.

“Since the beginning of the war, my family has been displaced four times. I miss my home, my room, and my friends. This war has lasted for a long time, and I am afraid for Khaled,” Mohammad said.

In conflict and disaster, children suffer first and suffer most. During emergencies children are especially vulnerable to disease, malnutrition, and violence. They are also often left traumatised, lose their access to education, and are deprived of their chance to simply be a child.

When the assault on Gaza began, UNICEF was able to provide immediate assistance to children and their families affected. In the first few weeks the primary need was for medical supplies. As bombs rained down on children of Gaza, UNICEF’s dedicated teams worked tirelessly to provide urgent medical assistance to as many children as possible.

As the bombardment continued, water infrastructure was damaged and livelihoods destroyed. Children

were left with no choice but to drink sea water that made them sick. They were so desperate for a meal that they would wait hours in a queue hoping to get anything to eat.

For children who lost everything – their homes, their parents, the futures they imagined for themselves – UNICEF, together with our generous supporters, let the children of Gaza know that they have not been forgotten, that they are not alone and that there can be hope amidst the darkness.

UNICEF Ireland’s emergency appeal for Gaza was supported by 55,000 people across every county in Ireland, who together donated almost €8.5 million to help the children of Gaza and their families in 2023.

This money was used to provide children and their families with medical supplies, food, water, hygiene kits, clothes, blankets, nappies, baby milk, and shelter.



Monthly Donations

Essential in Emergencies

The monthly donations that our generous supporters give to UNICEF are the backbone of the life-saving assistance UNICEF can provide to children around the world.

By the end of 2023, more than 24,000 people in Ireland had committed to giving a monthly gift to UNICEF.

Monthly donations are essential to our emergency response work. They ensure we have emergency supplies ready to go and funds available to respond immediately to a crisis. At the start of the Gaza crisis, it was the monthly donations we received that enabled us to provide life-saving support to children immediately.

For Every Child

In 2023 the Central African Republic was the hungriest country in the world, where 300,000 children under five suffered from severe acute malnutrition.

In Afghanistan, 15.8 million children needed humanitarian assistance, and 875,000 required treatment for severe wasting.

These emergencies didn't appear frequently in the news and didn't receive the level of support that the Gaza crisis did, but UNICEF remained committed and continued to deliver for the children of the Central African Republic, Afghanistan, and all of the 190 countries UNICEF works in across the world. Every child deserves peace, safe drinking water, nutrient rich food, education and a safe and happy childhood.

Thanks to our very kind, generous monthly supporters, UNICEF continued to be there for children battling to survive across the world.

Providing Clean Water in Afghanistan

For three days, 10-month-old Adela was vomiting and experiencing diarrhoea. Her mother Basmina, along with her husband, walked for 2 hours in sweltering heat to get to the Wardak Provincial Hospital in Afghanistan.

When Adela arrived at the hospital she was frail and pale, struggling to keep her eyes open. The doctors quickly diagnosed her with acute dehydration caused by acute watery diarrhoea, the biggest cause of death in children under five across the world.

Adela received the life-saving treatment she needed and now has her smile back!

Access to clean water prevents children from contracting cholera and other life-threatening waterborne diseases, saving thousands of lives each and every year.

Thank you to our monthly donors for helping to provide children around the world with clean water.



More Funds Unlocked

The Charitable Donation Scheme run by the Revenue Commissioner, allows organisations like UNICEF Ireland to claim tax relief on donations made by an individual.

When a donor contributes €250 in a year, UNICEF is able to claim up to 45% in tax relief. This could turn €250 into €362, €500 into €725, and €1,000 into €1,450.

In 2023, this helped to save and transform thousands more children's lives.

All we need is a completed tax form. It's really easy to fill out, takes just a few minutes, and it only needs to be completed once every 5 years (CHY3 form).

For more information and to download a form, visit unicef.ie/tax.



For more information
and to download a form,
visit unicef.ie/tax

Monthly Donations



Ambassador Donncha O'Callaghan and Executive Director Peter Power visit a UNICEF-supported Therapeutic Feeding Centre in Dullow, Somalia.
© UNICEF/UN0742083/Condren

Bringing Children Back From the Brink of Starvation in Somalia

2-year-old Falhado's family fled their home in Qoryooley town due to violence and are staying in the Muwaadi camp for internally displaced people (IDP).

Falhado developed a fever, was vomiting and had diarrhoea, so her mother brought her to Benadir Hospital.

Her mother, Nimco, told us, "I was worried. My daughter was unable to stand or sit for extended periods. She mostly lay down, didn't eat anything, and couldn't take breast milk. She also had a high fever." At the hospital, Falhado was diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition.

Nimco told us, "When we were leaving the hospital, I received a week's supply of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) and was instructed to go to the nearest Outpatient Treatment Programme centre in our IDP camp, where I would receive more. I was instructed to give my daughter two packets of

RUTF each day. A week after, I visited the Outpatient Treatment Programme centre and received a week's supply of RUTF, along with other medicines and hygiene supplies." Nimco added, "This RUTF is excellent, and the kids love it."

Falhado is well on the road to recovery and is now a much happier little girl. Her mum told us, "She is now in a good condition, eating and playing with the other children. I feel happy now when I see her playing with the other children. I hope my daughter grows up healthy, receives an education, and can do something for herself in the future."

Thank you to our monthly donors, for helping to provide life-saving treatment to children suffering from life-threatening hunger. And thank you for providing hope to mums like Nimco.

Legacy

Plumpy'Nut® ...giving back life

Nutella - the chocolate spread loved by children and adults alike across the world was the inspiration behind a lifesaving development in the 1990s to treat children suffering from malnutrition.

André Briend, a French paediatric nutritionist, had been working in Malawi and other famine-stricken countries during the 90's and was frustrated by the limitations of the treatments available for children suffering from malnutrition. The treatments at the time mainly consisted of a diet of milk powder mixed with oil and sugar, as well as vitamins and minerals.

Although this mixture worked well, a key requirement was clean water. This was challenging for families who were displaced due to war or famine; meaning that unclean water was often used, which contaminated the treatment.

The story goes that Briend, while having breakfast one morning, had a "lightbulb moment" on reading the ingredient list on the back of a jar of Nutella. Briend's innovation was to mix F100, a high-energy milk fortified with vitamins and minerals, with peanuts, oil and sugar. He took this innovation even further when collaborating on the formulation with a French food processor, Michel Lesanne. Together, Briend and Lesanne developed a nutritious paste in which nutrients were insulated from oxygen and humidity and packaged in one-dose oil sachets. The new product required no mixing or refrigeration and, with a taste similar to peanut butter, was very palatable to children.

Briend's recipe for this 'Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food' (RUTF) was more commonly known as Plumpy'Nut® and radically changed how children were treated for severe malnutrition.

Previously, parents and caregivers had to leave their families behind for long stays in health centres while their sick child received treatment.

Today, most children suffering from malnutrition are assessed at a clinic, where their caregivers are provided with a supply of RUTF to treat their child in the comfort of their own home.



This is 12-year-old Sadie and her 22-month-old sister eating from a sachet of Plumpy'Nut® © UNICEF/UN0594496/Dejongh



With nearly half of all child deaths under 5 due to malnutrition, **RUTF has an over 90% success rate in improving a child's nutrition levels and bringing them back from the brink of death.**

Legacy



UNICEF is the biggest supplier of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food in the world.

UNICEF procures and supplies three-quarters of the world's RUTF from its trusted suppliers across the globe. With a shelf-life of up to two years, buffer stocks are stored and repositioned in warehouses in the event of a humanitarian crisis or war.

As the world leader in child nutrition, UNICEF works alongside governments and other agencies to supply RUTF and implement community-based programmes. This includes the supporting and training of staff, early identification of malnutrition as well as the monitoring and evaluation of on-the-ground interventions.



This team member is packaging Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) at a manufacturing facility in Kenya, where it can be distributed quickly and cost-effectively to nearby countries. The facility also supports the local economy and employment in the region, with approximately 99% of employees being from Kenya.

© UNICEF/UN0733996/Ekwam

UNICEF Nutrition Programmes at work

UNICEF has been working in Chad since 1961. The children of Chad are the second most vulnerable on the planet to the extremes of climate change. In mid-2022, the country was battered with two solid months of torrential rain, causing massive damage to its infrastructure and agriculture. When the two rivers surrounding Chad's capital, N'Djamena, burst their banks, a state of emergency was called on the basis of food scarcity and deteriorating nutrition.

With the eyes of the world focused on Ukraine, the nutrition crisis in Chad waged on with little coverage from international media, but UNICEF was on the ground funding the establishment and coordination of nutrition programmes, reaching over 334,000 children under six who were suffering from malnutrition.

PlumpyNut®; this small foil packet of peanut paste that André Briend developed was used to bring children in Chad back from the brink.

RUTF saves the lives of children across the world every single day. Right now in Gaza, UNICEF is rescuing children from death by malnutrition by prepositioning and delivering supplies of RUTF where inadequate food and nutrition places them at risk.



Denise, a 14-month-old baby, in the "Notre Dames des Apôtres" Hospital in N'Djamena, the capital of Chad.
© UNICEF/UN0594496/Dejongh

**No child should go hungry.
Every child, everywhere has the right to food.**

Legacy



Can you help rewrite a child's future through a gift in your Will?

Legacy gifts are used to deliver nutrition programmes and invest in new technologies and life-saving products like Plumpy'Nut®, which has saved the lives of millions of children across the world over the last twenty years. But, we still have a long way to go, with an estimated 45 million children under 5 suffering from wasting due to malnutrition, predominantly in South Asia and Africa.

UNICEF relies entirely on voluntary funding to run its programmes and gifts in Wills are vital to reach children where the need is greatest.

If you would like to add UNICEF to your Will, please get in touch with our Legacy Gifts Manager – Pauline or learn more at unicef.ie/legacy



Pauline Murphy
Legacy Gifts Manager

✉ pauline@unicef.ie

☎ +353 1 878 3000

👉 unicef.ie/legacy



© UNICEF/UNI492251/Elfatih

Arafa Musa cuddles her twin daughters Mawada and Mushtaha while waiting for their review at Dar Al-Salam health facility in Sudan. Both children are enrolled on the UNICEF-supported outpatient therapeutic programme for malnutrition care and treatment. "I fed them what we eat at home," said Arafa.

Through the UNICEF-supported treatment programme, Arafa learned about the nutrients her daughters needed to support their growth and began receiving a weekly supply of Ready-to-Use-Therapeutic Food (RUTF). Together with partners, UNICEF is working to support more than 700,000 children with severe acute malnutrition in Sudan through the supply and delivery of life-saving nutrition products and services.

Working with Partners

UNICEF works with governments, civil society organisations and businesses, as well as philanthropic individuals, families, and foundations to advance every child's right to survival, protection, development, and participation. Together with our partners, we create innovative alliances that save lives and secure futures. In 2023, UNICEF Ireland's proud tradition of collaborating with the private sector was critical to the results we achieved.

Thank you to all our partners for their huge efforts for children.

unicef  | for every child



Smiling school children at Primary Public School of Beloha, Beloha District, Androy Region, Madagascar. Madagascar is one of the countries deeply impacted by disasters caused by climate shock and environmental degradation. UNICEF, with the support of partners, is implementing sustainable WASH programs in the region. © UNICEF/UNI474654/Ramasomanana



Corporate Partnerships



When a business partners with UNICEF, it unlocks opportunities to help influence the future while demonstrating its commitment to social responsibility and sustainable, innovative solutions for the challenges of today and tomorrow.

For every business that partners with UNICEF, we work with you to develop bespoke partnerships tailored to your goals and level of support, identifying unique opportunities for sustainable impact that best align with your brand and its values.



In support of



In 2023, CRH partnered with UNICEF to deliver life-saving vaccines to at least 1.2 million un-and-under-vaccinated children in fragile and conflict-affected settings, supporting them to grow up healthy with the opportunity to realise their full potential.

This new five-year partnership “CRH in Support of UNICEF” builds on CRH’s emergency support of UNICEF’s “Blue Dot Hubs” in 2022, which provided a safe space, alongside critical information and support for children and families fleeing the War in Ukraine.

The CRH in Support of UNICEF partnership comes at a crucial time, when routine immunisation has dropped to levels not seen since 2008. Vaccines are the safest way to protect children from life-threatening diseases, and yet in 2021, the number of children who did not receive a single dose of vaccine across the world rose to 18.2 million, up from 13.3 million in 2019.



A Blue Dot Hub at the Medyka border, Poland in December 2022. UNICEF teams stand ready at the border both day and night to support and provide all necessary information to people and families fleeing the war in Ukraine. © UNICEF/UN0766222/Reklajtis



On 21 November 2023, children display vaccination cards after receiving doses of cholera vaccine during a cholera vaccination campaign in Madani Gezira State, Sudan. © UNICEF/UNI476537/Mohamdeen



Wijdan Mahmoud (middle) a vaccinator and volunteer displaced from Gezira state vaccinates a child at the Al adad gathering shelter for displaced families in Kassala state, Sudan. © UNICEF/UNI514463/Mohamdeen

UNICEF estimates that close to 50% of infants who are partially or completely unvaccinated live in humanitarian settings, including countries affected by conflict. Through the CRH in Support of UNICEF partnership, conflict-affected countries with dire constraints on resources like Sudan, Syria and Cuba will be supported to provide essential vaccines to children by identifying and addressing gaps in routine immunisation.

Similarly, the partnership will support countries like Bosnia & Herzegovina, Romania, Azerbaijan and Bulgaria to address vaccine hesitancy and increase demand for vaccination in vulnerable communities. CRH in Support of UNICEF will also help to build the capacity of health workers and support community information campaigns,

bolstering vaccine confidence and ensuring critical vaccines are delivered where they are needed most.

With the support of partners like CRH, UNICEF reaches almost half of the world's children every year with life-saving vaccines. In over 100 countries, we work with governments, the private sector, non-governmental organisations and sister United Nations agencies to engage communities, procure and distribute vaccines, keep supplies safe and effective and help to ensure affordable access for even the hardest-to-reach families.

Together, CRH and UNICEF aim to lay the foundations of healthier communities for generations of children, working in partnership towards a brighter and healthier future for every child.



Ayushi Singh, 8, studies in the 4th grade at the Aadarsh Primary School, Parvatipur, Deoria Sadar block in Deoria district of Uttar Pradesh. Ayushi is very quiet but mischievous and is one of the brightest students in her class. Ayushi's village, Parvatipur Shahpur, is a 5 min walk from the school. She lives with her elder sister, mother who is a homemaker and her father, a mason in Deoria city. © UNICEF/UN0657542

Primark

Since 2018, Primark has partnered with UNICEF to promote inclusive learning for children around the world, with a focus on the most vulnerable and marginalised. In January 2021, they renewed their partnership with a \$6 million donation over three years to UNICEF Ireland, to support UNICEF's education programmes in India and Sri Lanka, bringing their total contribution to over \$12million. In 2023, Primark also gave an additional donation to support UNICEF's emergency response when the devastating earthquakes hit Türkiye-Syria. Additionally, Primark continued as a Principal Partner of Soccer Aid for UNICEF.



In India, Primark is supporting UNICEF's work with the government and local communities to identify children who are currently out of school, get them back into class, and support them to stay in school. This includes developing flexible and alternative learning programmes for the most marginalised groups, including children with severe disabilities. The programme has already supported efforts to improve educational opportunities for more than 1.24M children, exceeding the target of 800,000.

In Sri Lanka, Primark is supporting UNICEF to rollout a new approach to teaching that allows teachers to identify the

specific level and needs of children, tailor their learning opportunities accordingly, and support teachers to have child-safe approaches of discipline.

Despite current economic challenges impacting delivery, the programme aims to directly benefit nearly 20,000 children over three years and hopes to scale up across the country, potentially benefiting all 4 million primary and school children in the country. Throughout the partnership, Primark will continue to champion children's futures in collaboration with employees, customers, and the communities in which Primark operates.

Aer Lingus



Aer Lingus and UNICEF celebrated **26 years of partnership** in 2023 and over **\$23m** raised for children around the world.

Since 1997, Aer Lingus has raised over \$23 million for vulnerable children all over the world through its Change for Good campaign; vaccinating children from preventable diseases, establishing safe and reliable water sources, alleviating hunger, keeping girls and boys in school and safeguarding them through emergencies that no child should ever have to endure.

From its infancy, the Aer Lingus Change for Good campaign has raised vital funds and awareness for children in crisis through special on-board collections and announcements, providing passengers and cabin crew with the opportunity to help create a better future for every child.

Over the years, Aer Lingus has become UNICEF Ireland's largest partner in supporting Core Resources for Results (RR), a special fund without restrictions that can be used flexibly for children wherever and whenever the need is greatest. With RR, Aer Lingus and UNICEF have been able to pioneer new ideas for children. Working from birth through adolescence.



Throughout 2023, Aer Lingus demonstrated agility and a deep understanding of UNICEF's work built through years of partnership by flexing and adapting to the cascade of crises that befell children across the world during the year.

When a 7.8-magnitude earthquake rocked south Turkey near the Syrian border in February, Aer Lingus responded by running a three-week on-board collection that raised €43,000 for children and families displaced, injured and bereaved by the crisis. Similarly, when dams collapsed in Derna, Libya during the aftermath of Storm Daniel in September, Aer Lingus staff, cabin crew and passengers mobilised by raising €55,000 over a ten-day period to support the relief effort.

Supporting children before, during and after emergencies is the UNICEF mandate. This mission would not be possible without the loyal and long-standing support provided by partners like Aer Lingus. We would like to thank Aer Lingus for their dedicated support and commitment to our mission over the last 26 years.



Aer Lingus Ambassador Nik Robinson and UNICEF Ireland Deputy Executive Director Colette Harte promoting the Aer Lingus Special Christmas Collection 2023. © UNICEF

Inizio

In 2022, UNICEF Ireland and Inizio began a one-year partnership in support of UNICEF's Health programming with a focus on immunisation.

As a global healthcare services company, Inizio strives to have a positive impact on the communities it serves and wider society. Inizio's contribution to UNICEF's Health Thematic Fund continued into 2023, enabling UNICEF to provide greater access to vaccines for children, protecting them from life-threatening diseases.



Corporate Christmas Lunch 2023



2023 marked the 21st annual UNICEF Ireland Corporate Christmas Lunch, hosted at the historic Round Room at the Mansion House on 1st December 2023.

The event provided the opportunity for UNICEF Ireland to recognise the generous support of the Irish business community for UNICEF's humanitarian and development work for children.

Partnership Opportunities

At UNICEF Ireland we believe corporate partnerships are key to realising the rights of children. UNICEF is supported entirely by voluntary contributions from governments, individual donors and companies. Support from our corporate partners makes a significant contribution to our work.

There are a variety of ways in which companies can work with UNICEF, including corporate donations, employee fundraising, customer engagement and cause-related marketing. Together we can build a bespoke programme that targets your company's priority objectives.

UNICEF is focused on building long term partnerships with the business community to provide the maximum reward for both parties. If you are interested in learning more about our corporate partnerships please contact:

Owen Buckley, Head of Corporate Partnerships
Owen@unicef.ie or (01) 878 3000



Students attending an English class in a UNICEF-supported tent classroom with students who survived the earthquake at the Orhanlı temporary shelter in Hatay, after two devastating earthquakes hit south-east Türkiye. © UNICEF/UN0830783/Kiliç



Emergency Supporters

An Post

An Post has supported UNICEF for more than 10 years through its Billpay service, providing a platform for customers across its 900+ locations across Ireland to support UNICEF's work for children affected by emergencies like conflict, sudden onset emergencies and natural disasters. Ongoing support from An Post helps UNICEF to live its mandate of being there for children before, during and after emergencies.

ESW

ESW has been an ongoing supporter of UNICEF's emergency responses since 2021, in the delivery of COVID-19 vaccines, and through our emergency responses in Ukraine and Türkiye-Syria. ESW staff have also taken ownership of employee lead fundraising, participating in the Irish Life Dublin Marathon 2023 to raise funds for UNICEF's global work.

PayPal Giving Fund

Paypal Giving Fund enables customers to support UNICEF online while raising funds for UNICEF through PayPal and their other technology platform partners. The fund receives donations for UNICEF's regular resources and emergency appeals, like with Türkiye-Syria and Libya.

On 13 September 2023, in the wake of Storm Daniel and subsequent floods in Derna, eastern Libya, the remains of damaged cars are seen on roads amidst rubble and debris. © UNICEF/UNI439952/Alshen

PTSB

PTSB supports UNICEF when a devastating emergency has hit. In 2022, PTSB provided support for UNICEF's response in Ukraine and was among the first in Ireland to contribute to UNICEF's Türkiye-Syria earthquake response in 2023.



Ali, 8, displaced by the devastating earthquake, holds the box of clothes he received from UNICEF at Jaafar Nasef school-turned-collective-shelter in Lattakia governorate, Syria, on 30 March 2023. © UNICEF/UN0844583/Issa



Philanthropy

At UNICEF, we believe that every child, everywhere, has the right to be healthy, educated, and safe. Our philanthropic partners share that belief. We work with individuals, families, and private foundations who are ready to invest their resources and leverage their influence to create sustainable change for children globally.

Our dedicated Philanthropy team works with you to identify your philanthropic priorities and align opportunities for support, so your values and investment together become the spark that fuels catalytic change. From eradicating polio, to achieving gender equality, and tackling the climate crisis – philanthropic leaders are crucial for accelerating the way forward.

Vaccine Fund

A key milestone for routine immunisation came in 2023 with the rollout of the first-ever malaria vaccine, following decades of development.

UNICEF was a key contributor to the delivery of this life-saving vaccine, of which 18 million doses were allocated to 12 African countries from 2023 - 2025.



In the Kwango Province of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), five-year-olds Makiese (left) and Madinu (right), hold up their vaccination cards after receiving the polio vaccine. © UNICEF/UNI551212/Mukama

Launched in 2021, the Vaccine Fund is composed of individuals and businesses who combine their support for UNICEF's frontline role in combating preventable deaths through the delivery of essential vaccines across the world. By pooling their investment together, members achieve greater impact and make their support go further for children.

In 2023, support from UNICEF Ireland's Vaccine Fund donors continued to focus on the dual goals of tackling the COVID-19 pandemic through UNICEF's role in COVAX alongside protecting the world's most vulnerable children through UNICEF's routine childhood immunisation programmes.

COVAX officially came to a close on 31 December 2023, with nearly 2 billion doses of vaccines having been delivered to 146 economies, preventing an estimated 2.7 million deaths. Following the success of the COVAX campaign, the Vaccine Fund will now devote its full focus to UNICEF's routine childhood immunisation programmes.

UNICEF is the largest single vaccine buyer in the world, purchasing 45% of the world's vaccines for children under five each year, with a unique, long-standing expertise and infrastructure in vaccine procurement and logistics. Vaccines are the most cost-effective child health intervention there is, with immunisation saving between two and three million lives each year.

As part of their support for the Vaccine Fund, members received tailored reports, updates and invites, as well as a dedicated contact point and the confidence that their support is saving the lives of children and their families from preventable diseases every single day.

To learn more about the Vaccine Fund, contact Head of Philanthropy, Donna Marie O'Donovan at donna.marie@unicef.ie.



On 24 November 2023 in Kenya, health worker Jeniffer Achieng prepares a dose of malaria vaccine to be administered during a vaccination campaign at Kisumu County Referral Hospital. © UNICEF/UNI479397/Sigu



On 23rd September 2023, the Ministry of Public Health with support from UNICEF, WHO & gavi launched the Measles & Rubella immunization campaign in Aden, in an aim to reach around 1.3m children under the age of 5 in 13 governorates in Yemen. © UNICEF/UNI444821/ALfilastini

Ireland for Ukraine Fund



Preschool children taking a group picture with their teachers at the kindergarten in Mykolaivka. Surrounded by shelling and gunfire, the kindergarten had little choice but to close when war broke out in February 2022. This left many children without crucial opportunities to communicate, develop skills and make friends. Then, in April 2023, twice-weekly face-to-face classes began, as part of a mixed learning programme supported by UNICEF. © UNICEF/UNI508868/Lebid

In 2023, UNICEF Ireland received further grant support from the 'Ireland for Ukraine' fund managed by Community Foundation Ireland. These funds were directed towards UNICEF's ongoing humanitarian response for children remaining in Ukraine and fleeing the conflict to neighbouring countries.

FUNDED BY
**Community
Foundation
Ireland**

Following the escalation of the war in February 2022, Ireland for Ukraine was launched as a united response by Irish media organisations to raise support for humanitarian aid.

Members rallied support from local clubs, schools and communities, receiving direct donations including a significant contribution from the Irish Government through the Department of Rural and Community Development. The initiative was featured across local and national radio, television, print and online media, with all proceeds pooled into a fund managed by Community Foundation Ireland.

In 2023, UNICEF helped 1.3 million children in Ukraine to access formal or non-formal education including early learning. Over 5 million children and women accessed primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities and more than 2.5 million children, adolescents and caregivers accessed community-based mental health and psychosocial support. In December 2023, winter clothing kits kept 64,706 children warm and dry.



11-year-old Bohdan lives in Izyum, in Ukraine's Kharkivska region, a city that has endured near-total destruction over two years of conflict. Last year, the local school was shelled and is now closed, and his classmates have fled. © UNICEF/UNI496716/Filippov



UNICEF is deeply grateful to the Ireland for Ukraine campaign organisers and Community Foundation Ireland to have been one of only four international humanitarian aid organisations chosen to receive this life-saving support. Additionally, UNICEF would like to sincerely thank all those who supported the 'Ireland for Ukraine' campaign.

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Report and Audited Financial Statements

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

Vistra Ireland
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm
Block A, George's Quay Plaza
George's Quay
Dublin 2

Company Number: 371124
Charity Number: 5616
CRA Number: 20008727



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Fatoumata, Majolene, Larissa and Charlene undertake a bakery course at the civic service center of Guedepko, in the Southwest of Cote d'Ivoire as part of "The Girl Power" project which offers professional development opportunities to young girls with support from UNICEF. The centre has a creche where babies Koniba, Loukou, Abigaëlle and Ephrahim are cared for while their mothers learn. © UNICEF/UNI420643/Dejongh

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Directors' and other information

Directors

Paul Connolly (Chairperson)
 Ivor Fitzpatrick (RIP 24 March 2024)
 Sinead Kelly
 Andrew Weld Moore
 Donncha O'Callaghan
 Joe Canning
 Caroline Dowling
 Aine Flanagan
 Joan Garahy
 Caoimhe McKeown

Company Secretary

Peter Power

Charity Number

5616

Company Number

371124

Registered Office and Principal Address

33 Lower Ormond Quay, Dublin 1

Auditors

Vistra Ireland
 Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm
 Block A, George's Quay Plaza
 George's Quay
 Dublin 2

Bankers

AIB Bank PLC
 40/41 Westmoreland Street
 Dublin 2

Solicitors

McCann Fitzgerald
 Riverside One
 Sir John Rogerson's Quay
 Dublin 2

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Directors' Annual Report

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

The directors present their Directors' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2023.

The company is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) as issued by the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales in October 2005 (updated in 2019), the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Objectives and Activities

UNICEF Ireland is a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital. Its principal activity is to provide assistance to and work for the long-term improvement in the lives of children living in the world's poorest countries by supporting UNICEF programmes aimed primarily at protecting children through immunisation, education, nutrition, health and the long-term eradication of poverty as well as emergency relief.

Directors

The directors who served throughout the year, except as noted, were as follows:

Paul Connolly (Chairperson)

Andrew Weld-Moore

Donncha O'Callaghan

Ivor Fitzpatrick (RIP 24 March 2024)

Joe Canning

Sinead Kelly

Aine Flanagan

Caroline Dowling

Caoimhe McKeown

Joan Garahy

Directors regularly review the membership of the board and the Audit Risk & Governance committee to ensure that the necessary skills and perspectives needed for effective governance are in place, taking account of the desirability for gender and skills balance aiming to embrace the diversity of the Irish population.

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Directors' Annual Report

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

Future Developments

In 2023, the global landscape for children continued to change, presenting many difficult challenges. Across the world, millions of children faced the devastating effects of floods, storms, droughts, and wars, struggling to access essential services.

Our mission for 2024 is to keep delivering for every child. We plan to diversify our fundraising efforts, with a special emphasis on unrestricted giving. These unrestricted funds are crucial for responding to emergencies and supporting essential programs worldwide, ensuring global equity for all children. This aligns with our commitment to ensuring that every child survives, thrives, and is not left behind.

We will persist in promoting, protecting, and upholding children's rights through our advocacy and program delivery. Our vision is "For Every Child, A World of Opportunities," and our mission is to inspire people in Ireland to become champions for children by supporting, promoting, and investing in the rights of every child globally.

UNICEF works to promote the rights of every child, everywhere, focusing on the most disadvantaged and excluded children and aiming to achieve the sustainable development goals. UNICEF Ireland is dedicated to supporting this global mission.

Events after the end of the financial year

There have been no significant events affecting the entity since the financial year-end.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

There are several factors which may materially adversely affect our ability to achieve our objectives, in particular, UNICEF Ireland is dependent on voluntary donations. UNICEF Ireland has appropriate controls in place to manage these risks and to enable execution of UNICEF Ireland's plan.

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Directors' Annual Report

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

Achievements and Performance

Maximise income for children

In 2023 UNICEF Ireland delivered a record total income of €37.7 million for UNICEF programmes. This was an increase of almost 15% compared to 2022.

We continued our focus on recruiting regular donors in a challenging environment. Giving through direct debit brought in just over €4.4 million this year, having reached just over €4.1 million last year.

Corporate partnerships and major donors raised just under €11.8 million to support our work for children.

We continued to implement our strategy for becoming the market leader for children in emergencies, delivering on being faster, bolder and more successful for children.

Financial Review

Income

In describing our activities and achievements we have reported that UNICEF Ireland's total income for 2023 was €37.7 million. This was an increase of 15% compared to the income of €32.9 million in 2022.

Costs of Generating Funds

Development agencies must spend money to raise money each year to ensure they are generating increased income for the following year. Over the past five years UNICEF Ireland has spent an average of 26 cents in every euro to raise the next euro. This covers the cost of raising funds through mail campaigns, supporting our existing donors, and recruiting new donors. It also covers the cost of ensuring UNICEF Ireland is an organisation built for the future, able to evolve and respond to changes, for example in technology and regulation. Spending money today to secure the future ensures we can continue to maximise the impact we have for children around the world.

A five-year rolling average more clearly shows our core underlying costs as it minimises the impact of one-off or exceptional events such as humanitarian emergencies or fundraising activities that yield income over a longer period than a single financial year.

Charitable Expenditure

Of the total income raised in 2023, €27.2 million was remitted to UNICEF HQ and used in UNICEF programmes throughout the world immediately. After deduction of the €10 million cost of generating funds, the remaining €0.5 million will be used to ensure we continue to deliver for children into the future.

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Directors' Annual Report

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

Charities Regulatory Authority (CRA)

UNICEF Ireland are in full compliance with CRA statutory requirements and Governance Code.

DÓCHAS

UNICEF Ireland is a member of Dóchas, which is the umbrella body for International Aid Agencies and Development Organisations in Ireland.

Charities Institute Ireland

UNICEF Ireland is a member of The Charities Institute Ireland which promotes self-regulation for fundraising and the sector in Ireland. As a member UNICEF Ireland adheres to the highest standard of good practice with our fundraising. UNICEF Ireland is committed to ensuring that we continue to operate to the highest standards as and when fundraising guidelines and regulations change.

Reserves

The total reserves at the year-end amounted to €3.6 million which represents an increase of €0.5 million since 2022. UNICEF Ireland policy on reserves is to maintain an appropriate level to ensure sufficient resources for a sustainable future.

Changes in Assets

The changes in fixed assets during 2023 are set out in note 12 to the financial statements. The net value of fixed assets is minimal, and it is the policy of UNICEF Ireland to continue to hold minimal assets. The cash at bank held by the company at the year-end amounted to €14.1 million. A large percentage of income is received in the last month of the accounting period and fluctuations in the bank balance year on year arise depending on the days the December bank holidays fall, which affects the timing of payments for overseas programmes and suppliers around the year end.

Volunteers

Our volunteers contribute in many important ways to UNICEF Ireland's success and achievements. Volunteers including our Directors, Ambassadors and high-profile supporters donated thousands of hours of their time in 2023.

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Directors' Annual Report

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

Structure, Governance and Management

UNICEF Ireland is a charitable company limited by guarantee and governed by a Board of Directors. There were ten Directors on the Board in 2023 throughout the year.

The constitution of UNICEF Ireland provides that the number of Directors consists of no less than three and not more than twelve elected Board Members, who are concurrently Directors under Company Law.

The Board of Directors meets six times per year to ensure that UNICEF Ireland has a clear vision, mission and strategic direction and is focused on achieving them. This involves monitoring and acting to ensure that performance and impact is achieved, as well as being the guardians of our fundamental values and ethos. For example, the Board reviews and approves the medium-term strategic plans and biennial plans of the organisation, receives, and examines reports on the organisation's financial affairs, monitors programmatic and fundraising activities, and considers policies and procedures in areas such as risk management and legal and regulatory compliance.

In addition, the Board of Directors approves of ongoing joint strategic planning reviews between UNICEF Ireland and the global UNICEF organisation.

A Board Sub-Committee namely the Audit, Risk & Governance committee which consists of three members met once in 2023 with delegated authority to consider strategic and operational matters, including governance and finance, and make recommendations to the Board. This Committee also considers internal and external audit related matters and oversees the effectiveness of UNICEF Ireland's risk management processes, specifically the preparation and ongoing monitoring of the organisation's risk register.

The Executive Team has been delegated responsibility for the day-to-day management of UNICEF Ireland and comprises the Executive Director supported by a Deputy Executive Director.

UNICEF Ireland supports the training of the Directors and they receive on-boarding briefings from UNICEF HQ on their legal responsibilities and duties. All new Directors undergo an induction programme that includes meetings with the Executive Director.

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Directors' Annual Report

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

Auditors

The auditors, Vistra Ireland, (Chartered Accountants) have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

Statement on Relevant Audit Information

In accordance with section 330 of the Companies Act 2014, so far as each of the persons who are directors at the time this report is approved are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the statutory auditors are unaware. The directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and they have established that the statutory auditors are aware of that information.


Accounting Records

To ensure that adequate accounting records are kept in accordance with Sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014, the directors have established appropriate books to adequately record the transactions of the company. The directors also ensure that the company retains the source documentation for these transactions. The accounting records are maintained at the company's office at 33 Lower Ormond Quay, Dublin 1.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 4 July 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Paul Connolly | Director



Caroline Dowling | Director

Date: 04 July 2024

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Directors' Responsibilities Statement for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

The directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland including the accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the net income or expenditure of the charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation.

The directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and net income or expenditure of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and the Directors' Annual Report comply with Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the company's website. Legislation in the Republic of Ireland governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 4 July 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Paul Connolly | Director



Caroline Dowling | Director

Date: 04 July 2024

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of UNICEF Ireland

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the company financial statements of UNICEF Ireland for the financial year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that Standard and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at 31 December 2023 and of its surplus for the financial year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", as applied in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2014 and having regard to the Charities SORP; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are described below in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and the Provisions Available for Audits of Small Entities, in the circumstances set out in note 4 to the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for an opinion

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of UNICEF Ireland

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- the information given in the Directors' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- in our opinion, the Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2014.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.

In our opinion the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited and the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Directors' Annual Report. The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions required by sections 305 to 312 of the Act are not complied with by the company. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of UNICEF Ireland

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Respective responsibilities

Responsibilities of Directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 61, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework that give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, if applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the IAASA's website at: <[www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b2389013-1cf6-458b-9b8f-a98202dc9c3a/Description of auditors responsibilities for audit.pdf](http://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b2389013-1cf6-458b-9b8f-a98202dc9c3a/Description_of_auditors_responsibilities_for_audit.pdf)> The description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

Our report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume any responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Date: 04 July 2024

Neil Squires
for and on behalf of
VISTRA IRELAND

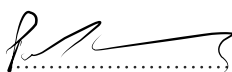
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm
Block A, George's Quay Plaza
George's Quay Dublin 2, Ireland

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Statement of Financial Activities *(as at 31 December 2023)*

		UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL	TOTAL
		2023	2023	2023	2022
	NOTES	€	€	€	€
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	7	9,403,057	28,120,979	37,524,036	32,772,702
Activities for generating funds					
<i>Government and other grants</i>	6	-	175,399	175,399	122,396
Other incoming resources					
<i>Deposit Interest</i>		-	37	37	-
Total incoming resources		9,403,057	28,296,415	37,699,472	32,895,098
Resources Expended					
<i>Costs of Generating Funds</i>	8	5,033,233	4,806,392	9,839,625	8,611,838
<i>Grant expenditure</i>		8,323	108,134	116,457	64,757
		5,041,556	4,914,526	9,956,082	8,676,595
Net Incoming Resources available for charitable application		4,361,501	23,381,889	27,743,390	24,218,503
Resources Expended on Charitable Activities					
<i>Specific UNICEF programmes</i>	10	3,861,501	23,381,889	27,243,390	22,718,502
Total Resources Expended		8,903,057	28,296,415	37,199,472	31,395,097
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		500,000	-	500,000	1,500,000
Net movement in funds for the year		500,000	-	500,000	1,500,000
Reconciliation of funds					
<i>Balances brought forward at 1 January 2023</i>		3,090,000	-	3,090,000	1,590,000
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2023		3,590,000	-	3,590,000	3,090,000

Approved by the Board of Directors on 4th July 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Paul Connolly
Director



Caroline Dowling
Director

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)


Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2023


	NOTES	2023 €	2022 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Assets	12	68,038	49,897
Current Assets			
Debtors	13	168,495	84,181
Cash at bank and in hand		14,069,419	7,224,060
		14,237,914	7,308,241
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(10,715,952)	(4,268,138)
Net Current Assets		3,521,962	3,040,103
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		3,590,000	3,090,000
Funds			
General fund (unrestricted)		3,590,000	3,090,000
Total funds	18	3,590,000	3,090,000

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that Standard.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 4 July 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Paul Connolly
Director



Caroline Dowling
Director

The notes on pages 68 to 78 form part of the financial statements.

UNICEF Ireland

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	NOTES	2023 €	2022 €
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movement in funds		500,000	1,500,000
Adjustments for:			
<i>Depreciation</i>		37,312	19,340
		537,312	1,519,340
Movements in working capital:			
<i>Movement in debtors</i>		(84,314)	(58,005)
<i>Movement in creditors</i>		(728,835)	(153,679)
Cash generated from operations		(275,837)	1,307,656
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments to acquire tangible assets		(55,453)	(52,836)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Advances from subsidiaries/group companies		7,176,649	285,146
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		6,845,359	1,539,966
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January 2023		7,224,060	5,684,094
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2023	23	14,069,419	7,224,060

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

UNICEF Ireland is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the Republic of Ireland. The registered office of the company is 33 Lower Ormond Quay, Dublin 1, Ireland which is also the principal place of business of the company. The financial statements have been presented in Euro (€) which is also the functional currency of the company.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP in accordance with FRS 102, effective January 2019) and with generally accepted accounting principles in Ireland and Irish statute comprising the Companies Act 2014. They comply with the financial reporting standards of the Accounting Standards Board, as promulgated by Chartered Accountants Ireland. The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charitable company's financial statements.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the company for the financial year ended 31 December 2023 have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102", applying Section 1A of that Standard.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income or capital is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the company is legally entitled to it, its financial value can be quantified with reasonable certainty and there is reasonable certainty of its ultimate receipt. Entitlement to legacies is considered established when the company receives the fund. Income received in advance of due performance under a contract is accounted for as deferred income until earned. Grants for activities are recognised as income when the related conditions for legal entitlement have been met. All other income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Resources Expended

All resources expended are accounted for on an accrual basis. Charitable activities include costs of services and grants, support costs and depreciation on related assets. Costs of generating funds similarly include fundraising activities. Non-staff costs not attributed to one category of activity are allocated or apportioned pro-rata to the staffing of the relevant service. Finance, HR, IT and administrative staff costs are directly attributable to individual activities by objective. Governance costs are those associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

Funds

The Charity maintains restricted and unrestricted funds. Restricted Funds represent income received that can only be used for particular purposes, as specified by the relevant donor. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the Charity. Unrestricted Funds represent income received that can be used for various purposes at the discretion of the Charity to further its overall objectives.

Grants

Grants, being contributions towards the operating expenditure are accounted for using the performance model by crediting the statement of financial activities in the period in which the services are delivered.

Grants received towards capital expenditure are credited to the statement of financial activities when received or receivable, whichever is earlier, subject to performance related conditions being met, unless they relate to a specific future period in which case they are deferred.

Grants are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement and their receipt is probable.

Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions, during the year, which are denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. The resulting exchange differences are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company. Annual contributions payable to the company's pension scheme are charged to the income and expenditure account in the period to which they relate.

Taxation

No liability to corporation tax arises as the company is registered for charitable purposes.

Financial Instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the transaction price, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in profit or loss, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship. Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss immediately.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised in profit or loss immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or at valuation, less accumulated depreciation. The charge to depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost or valuation of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

- Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 10% Straight line
- Computer equipment - 33% Straight line

Leasing

Rentals payable under operating leases are dealt with in the income and expenditure account as incurred over the period of the rental agreement.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Income recognised by the company from government agencies and other co-funders, but not yet received at year end, is included in debtors.

Cash at Bank and in Hand

Cash at bank and in hand comprises cash on deposit at banks requiring less than three months notice of withdrawal.

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses.

Judgements and estimates are continually evaluated and are based on historical experiences and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The company makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are listed below:

Going Concern

The directors have prepared budgets and cash flows for a period of at least twelve months from the date of the approval of the financial statements which demonstrate that there is no material uncertainty regarding the company's ability to meet its liabilities as they fall due, and to continue as a going concern. On this basis the directors consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. Accordingly, these financial statements do not include any adjustments to the carrying amounts and classification of assets and liabilities that may arise if the company was unable to continue as a going concern.

Provisions and Accruals

Provisions are recognised when the entity has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of past event, it is probable that the entity would be required to settle the probable outflow of resources, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

4. PROVISIONS AVAILABLE FOR AUDITS OF SMALL ENTITIES

In common with many other charitable companies of our size and nature, we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

5. NET INCOMING RESOURCES

	2023	2022
	€	€
Net Incoming Resources are stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of tangible assets	37,312	19,340
Auditors' remuneration	11,500	11,250
	<u>37,312</u>	<u>19,340</u>
	<u>11,500</u>	<u>11,250</u>

6. GOVERNMENT AND OTHER GRANTS

	2023	2022
	€	€
EU Grant - Child's Rights Education	175,399	122,396
	<u>175,399</u>	<u>122,396</u>

7. ANALYSIS OF INCOMING RESOURCES

	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL	TOTAL
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	€	€	€	€
Incoming resources from generated funds:				
Direct Marketing	2,280,755	5,398,466	7,679,221	4,602,553
Corporate Partnerships	1,227,348	7,867,117	9,094,465	9,386,316
Emergencies	-	9,766,469	9,766,469	8,782,695
Donations	5,894,954	5,088,927	10,983,881	10,001,138
Totals	<u>9,403,057</u>	<u>28,120,979</u>	<u>37,524,036</u>	<u>32,772,702</u>

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

8. ANALYSIS OF RESOURCES EXPENDED

	UNRESTRICTED 2023 €	RESTRICTED 2023 €	TOTAL 2023 €	TOTAL 2022 €
Costs of generating funds:				
Direct Marketing	627,563	1,313,398	1,940,961	2,097,906
Corporate Partnerships	36,684	181,909	218,593	221,891
Emergencies	-	3,103,775	3,103,775	1,644,479
Donations	1,474,471	207,310	1,681,781	2,239,844
Support & Administration expenses (note 9)	2,894,515	-	2,894,515	2,407,718
Totals	5,033,233	4,806,392	9,839,625	8,611,838

9. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT AND ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES

	Programme & Communication €	Administration €	Fundraising €	TOTAL 2023 €	TOTAL 2022 €
Staff costs (note 11)	141,583	959,164	737,746	1,838,493	1,585,651
Operating & Production expenses	54,961	489,159	158,862	702,982	529,781
Financial charges	-	-	334,919	334,919	246,362
Compliance & Support services	-	18,121	-	18,121	45,924
Totals	196,544	1,466,444	1,231,527	2,894,515	2,407,718

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

10. SPECIFIC UNICEF PROGRAMMES

	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL	TOTAL
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	€	€	€	€
Nutrition	-	-	-	6,097
Education	-	1,765,100	1,765,100	1,900,000
Health	-	2,462,400	2,462,400	42,500
WASH	-	114,144	114,144	138,904
Multi-thematic programmes	3,861,501	19,040,245	22,901,746	20,631,001
Totals	<u>3,861,501</u>	<u>23,381,889</u>	<u>27,243,390</u>	<u>22,718,502</u>

All of the above amounts are transferrable to UNICEF. Any amount that has not yet been transferred before the year end is included in the Creditors balance (see note 14) in the financial statements and then transferred after the year end.

11. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION

Number of employees

The average number of persons employed (including the Executive Director) during the year was as follows:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Management	3	5
Fundraising	18	16
Advocacy and programmes	3	3
Communications	1	1
Totals	<u>25</u>	<u>25</u>

The staff costs comprise:	2023 €	2022 €
Wages and salaries	1,583,197	1,341,259
Social security costs	172,149	146,002
Pension costs	72,839	62,933
Training and recruitment	26,918	72,526
Totals	<u>1,855,103</u>	<u>1,622,720</u>

The Executive Director has a contract with UNICEF Ireland under which he is paid an annual salary of €184,000 (2022: €184,000) plus a contribution to pension, health insurance, travel allowance and motor expenses. No other Directors are paid a salary, fees or any other remuneration by UNICEF Ireland.

There was one employee who received a remuneration of between €100,000 and €109,999 in the year. Further, there was one employee who received a remuneration of between €90,000 and €99,999 in the year (2022: one) and two employees who received a remuneration of between €70,000 and €79,999 (2022: one).

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Computer equipment	TOTAL
	€	€	€
Cost			
At 1 January 2023	96,606	273,636	370,242
Additions	1,549	53,904	55,453
At 31 December 2023	<u>98,155</u>	<u>327,540</u>	<u>425,695</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2023	57,992	262,353	320,345
Charge for the financial year	6,141	31,171	37,312
At 31 December 2023	<u>64,133</u>	<u>293,524</u>	<u>357,657</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2023	<u>34,022</u>	<u>34,016</u>	<u>68,038</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>38,614</u>	<u>11,283</u>	<u>49,897</u>

12.1 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS PRIOR YEAR

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Computer equipment	TOTAL
	€	€	€
Cost			
At 1 January 2022	61,131	256,275	317,406
Additions	35,475	17,361	52,836
At 31 December 2022	<u>96,606</u>	<u>273,636</u>	<u>370,242</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2022	52,117	248,888	301,005
Charge for the year	5,875	13,465	19,340
At 31 December 2022	<u>57,992</u>	<u>262,353</u>	<u>320,345</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2022	<u>38,614</u>	<u>11,283</u>	<u>49,897</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>9,014</u>	<u>7,387</u>	<u>16,401</u>

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

13. DEBTORS

	2023	2022
Other debtors	8,000	-
Prepayment	160,495	84,181
Totals	168,495	84,181

All debtor amounts are due within 12 months.

14. CREDITORS

	2023	2022
Amounts falling due within one year	€	€
Trade creditors	1,199,728	93,739
Amounts owed to participating interests (Note 25)	9,183,937	2,007,288
Amount owed to UNICEF Mexico	43,276	-
Taxation and social security costs	94,054	140,161
Other creditors	136,478	-
Pension accrual	3,516	3,017
Accruals	54,963	92,575
Deferred Income	-	1,931,358
	10,715,952	4,268,138

The repayments terms of trade creditors vary between on demand and thirty days. No interest is payable on trade creditors. The terms of the accruals are based on the underlying contracts. Other amounts included within creditors not recovered by specific note disclosures are unsecured, interest free and repayable on demand.

15. TAXATION AND SOCIAL SECURITY

	2023	2022
Creditors:	€	€
PAYE/USC	65,459	115,187
PRSI	28,595	24,974

16. PENSION COSTS - DEFINED CONTRIBUTION

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. Pension costs amounted to €72,839 (2022 - €62,933).

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	FIXED ASSETS (Charity use)	CURRENT ASSETS	CURRENT LIABILITIES	TOTAL
	€	€	€	€
Restricted Funds				
UNICEF HQ	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted Funds				
General Funds	68,038	14,237,914	(10,715,952)	3,590,000
	68,038	14,237,914	(10,715,952)	3,590,000

18. ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS ON FUNDS

	BALANCE 1 JAN 2023	INCOMING RESOURCES	RESOURCES EXPENDED	BALANCE 31 DEC 2023
	€	€	€	€
UNICEF HQ	-	28,296,415	(28,296,415)	-
Unrestricted Income				
General Funds	3,090,000	9,403,057	(8,903,057)	3,590,000
Total Funds	3,090,000	37,699,472	(37,199,472)	3,590,000

19. STATUS

The company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital. The liability of the members is limited. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while they are members or within one year thereafter for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before they ceased to be members and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves such amount as may be required, not exceeding €1.

20. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2023	2022
	€	€
Land and Buildings		
Due:		
Within one year	20,625	20,625
Between one and five years	-	-
	20,625	20,625

UNICEF Ireland has a rolling lease for its business premises with a commitment of €20,625 on exiting the lease at any stage.

UNICEF Ireland (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

21. IRISH GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION TO UNICEF IN NEW YORK

UNICEF Ireland has again been instrumental in securing a contribution from the Irish Government of US\$33 million compared with the year to December 2022 of US\$23.6 million. As the Government donation is made directly to UNICEF in New York, it is therefore not reflected in these financial statements.

22. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The company had no related party transactions that are required to be disclosed under FRS102.

23. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2023	2022
	€	€
Cash and bank balances	14,012,229	7,166,907
Cash equivalents	57,190	57,153
Totals	14,069,419	7,224,060

24. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There have been no significant events affecting the entity since the financial year-end.

25. DUE TO UNICEF HQ

	2023	2022
	€	€
Balance owed at the start of the year	2,007,288	1,762,917
Funds to be transferred to UNICEF HQ	27,243,390	22,718,502
Less funds remitted to UNICEF HQ	(20,066,741)	(22,474,131)
Totals	9,183,937	2,007,288

26. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 4 July 2024.

Leonid, 6, stands in front of a sign that reads "Danger of Mines". He is the youngest of his six brothers and sisters. During active hostilities, he and his family did not leave their home in their village of Chistovodivka, in the Kharkiv region. One of Leonid's brothers was shot and survived the subsequent operation. Currently, when the children hear explosions, they often run into the house and lie down beside the wall. Leonid started first grade online because the local school was completely destroyed. With the onset of cold weather, his family is preparing for winter, with the children helping the father to collect firewood so as not to be left without heat. © UNICEF/UNI448744/Hrom



The climate crisis unfolding in the Horn of Africa is a child rights crisis. Children are paying the heaviest price. In Somali region of Ethiopia, near the town of Hargele, thousands of women and children are displaced by severe drought and are staying in dire conditions ©UNICEF Ethiopia/2023/Mulugeta Ayene © UNICEF/UNI420643/Dejongh



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for every child

No corner of the globe is too remote for **UNICEF** staff to reach children with the basics they need to survive.

By plane, boat, train, truck, motorcycle, foot, donkey, camel - **UNICEF** staff use any means necessary to provide a lifeline to children and their families.

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