

EVERY CHILD

HOW YOUR GIFTS SAVE LIVES

SHAWQI IN YEMEN IS
GETTING BETTER THANKS
TO YOU

YOU'RE HELPING SYRIA'S
SUPER MUMS

COVID-19 IS NO MATCH
FOR YOU

unicef 
IRELAND
for every child

WELCOME



You are the best, thank you!

This newsletter is packed full of joy, smiling faces and healthy, happy children, thanks to you. Since UNICEF was created to help

the children of World War II 75 years ago, we have had many challenges. But the last 12 months have tested us to our limits. Yet you have not flinched. You have stood by children and been there for them no matter what.

I am so proud of what UNICEF Ireland's supporters like you achieved for children in 2020. Every achievement in this newsletter is your achievement, every happy story is your story, every child helped is a testament to you.

Thank you for being amazing.

Peter Power, Executive Director

Look what you achieved for children in 2020!



3.7
million
children treated
for severe acute
malnutrition



3.4
million
children
vaccinated
against measles



73.7
million
people reached with
critical safe water
and hygiene supplies



261.2
million
children supported
with distance/home-
based learning



UNICEF/Syria, 2020/Romenzi

NUTRITION

You saved children like Zahra in Syria with emergency therapeutic food.



UNICEF/Rwanda, 2019/Rudakubana

WATER & SANITATION

You protected children like Theodette in Rwanda with soap and clean water.



UNICEF/India, 2020/Kanjivani

EDUCATION

You reached children like six-year-old Bharti in India with home-based learning.



UNICEF/Kosovo, 2020/Krahoda

HEALTH

You immunised children against preventable disease like this little one in Kosovo.

2020

– the year children needed you more than ever

In times of crisis children always suffer the most. But throughout 2020, you were there transforming the lives of millions of children. The year was marked by a dramatic increase in humanitarian needs, largely due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



You helped tackle the COVID-19 crisis head on

With your help, as soon as the Coronavirus crisis hit, UNICEF was on the ground working to stop the spread and ensure our life-saving services for children could continue.



P4

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Help more children for free – see the back page!

YEMEN

You stepped up



Despite the horrors he's been through, Shawqi is smiling again – and it's thanks to you! In 2020, Yemen's ongoing conflict and the outbreak of COVID-19 quickly turned a crisis into a catastrophe.

One-year-old Shawqi nearly died, he was so weak and sick because of severe acute malnutrition. It was only thanks to his mother's quick thinking and the amazing efforts of the staff at the nutrition clinic you help to support that Shawqi pulled through. Thanks to a donation like yours, Shawqi was given ready-to-eat therapeutic food, which is a simple solution of peanut paste fortified

with vitamins. It's easy for children to eat and it doesn't need to be cooked or mixed with water. Within a few days, a child as sick as Shawqi will start to feel better, within a few weeks they will be smiling and playing again.

You never gave up on children like Shawqi.

With your help, we screened more than 2 million children under five for malnutrition. 154,891 of those children had severe acute malnutrition and were admitted to a therapeutic care, saving their lives.



- **154,891** severely malnourished children treated
- **1,814** people given access to safe drinking water
- **10,074** newly displaced families reached with food and hygiene kits

Credit: UNICEF/Yemen 2020

Time and time again, your generosity has allowed us to step up our efforts and help protect communities from the worst effects of COVID-19. You've been right there with us on the frontlines providing clean water to communities in need, and distributing basic hygiene kits. Throughout 2020, we faced a race against time to keep children alive but you were with us every step of the way.



Shawqi, 1, is alive thanks to the peanut paste donated by someone like you.

Credit: UNICEF/Yemen 2020

COVID-19

Your response to COVID-19 has been phenomenal



Credit: UNICEF/Yemen 2020

Soap, clean water, life-saving messages on safe hygiene – you helped us reach millions of people in 2020, helping them to protect themselves and their families from the rapid spread of the COVID-19 virus.

■ **3 billion** people reached with Covid-19 messaging and prevention

■ **73.7 million** people provided with critical WASH supplies and hygiene items

■ **8 million** health workers equipped with PPE

How do you stay safe from COVID-19 when you live in an overcrowded camp without soap like 10-year-old Muna does in Yemen?

Muna tells us how!

‘I go with my friend Rahaf to the main water tank to get water so my mother can cook for us. We go to get water together. We used to go to school together too before Coronavirus forced it to shut. Before I collect the water I wash my face. We try to keep the camp bathrooms clean to protect us from the virus. We collect water quickly because if a crowd comes Coronavirus will spread. We have to wash our vegetables very carefully to protect ourselves. We also have to wash our hands very well. Even though we don’t have soap, we wash our hands well. I hope Coronavirus never comes to us.’

Muna, aged 10

VACCINE FOR ALL

UNICEF takes on the biggest
vaccination campaign in history

With your help in 2021,
we will supply:

- **141.1 million** surgical masks
- **1,417** oxygen concentrators
- **1.5 million** diagnostic tests

Credit: UNICEF/Yemen 2020

UNICEF has stepped forward to fill a role that no other organization is equipped to do. Every year, you help us vaccinate millions of children, protecting them from death and disability through safe and affordable vaccines. Now, with your help, in 2021, we will undertake the largest ever distribution of COVID-19 vaccines to 170 countries right around the world.

We will deliver 2 billion vaccines, 245 million treatments and 500 million tests to low and middle-income countries in a safe and equitable way. To achieve this we need to build a stockpile of 520 million syringes.

It's the largest vaccination procurement and supply operation ever.

UNICEF supporters like you are critical in making this campaign a success. Because of you, the world's most vulnerable countries will be able to respond, recover and rebuild in the years ahead.

This campaign will help children. Vaccinating the world's health workers, will ensure they can get back to work so children and their mothers get the critical health care they need. Millions of children's lives are at stake given the widespread disruptions to essential services during lockdowns. But this vital campaign will help to make sure every child is protected and no country's progress in child health suffers because of COVID-19.

LEBANON

You're helping children to rise again

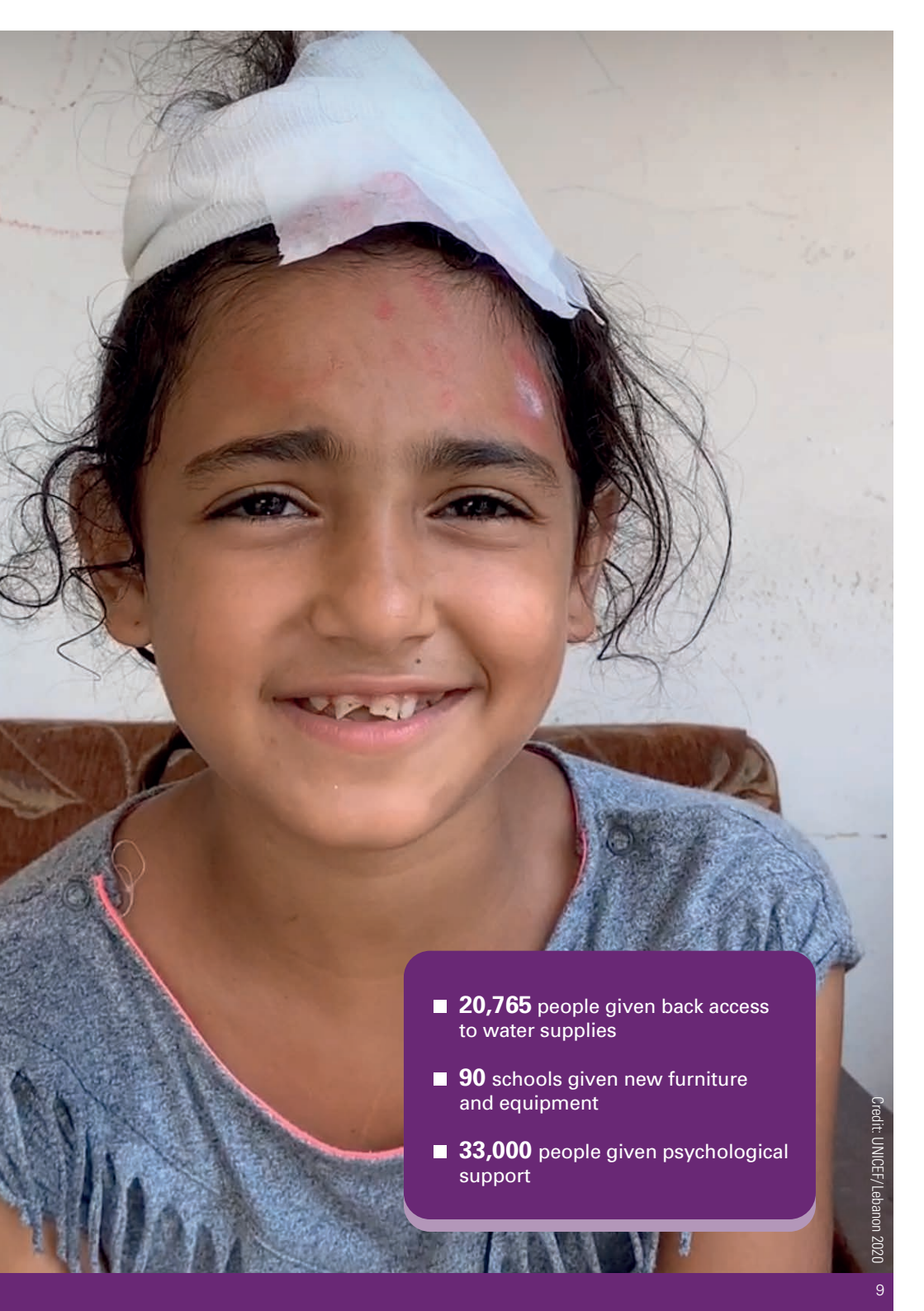
Mira was at home in the early evening of August 4th when the Beirut port explosions hit her house. 'When the impact hit, the first aid box exploded on my head,' she remembers. 'Then the door blew off its hinges. I remember that I just started screaming. My mother ran to me, pressed hard on my wound and gave me a drink of water so I wouldn't faint.'

The catastrophic explosion that tore through Beirut destroyed and damaged buildings across the city and left some 300,000 people, including 100,000 children without homes. It could not have come at a worse time as the country was gripped by a severe economic crisis and food shortages, made even worse by COVID-19.

But UNICEF was there to help – thanks to you.

In the immediate aftermath of the blasts, UNICEF was on the ground in Beirut working with 70 partners to ease the lives of children. You continue to help us provide food and clean water to children, as well as help to deal with the mental trauma they have suffered. You are also helping with emergency cash assistance for the most vulnerable and helping to rebuild damaged schools and health facilities. Thank you!





- **20,765** people given back access to water supplies
- **90** schools given new furniture and equipment
- **33,000** people given psychological support

- 
- A portrait of three children. On the left, a boy in a green and yellow striped sweater. In the center, a younger boy in a colorful striped sweater with a graphic. On the right, a girl in a blue and white striped sweater with pigtails. They are all looking towards the camera.
- **1 million** people given hygiene kits and soap
 - **1.8 million** pregnant women and children screened for malnutrition
 - **1.3 million** women and children given access to health care

SYRIA

The incredible strength and resilience of a Syrian mother.

When he was three, Anwar's mother Haifa saved him from a rocket attack. She was six months pregnant at the time. For years after, as the family lived under siege, she battled every day to keep her children alive. 'I will never forget, my children would ask me for food and I had absolutely nothing to give them,' she says.

Sometimes, all the family ate was grass.

Today, Anwar (pictured with his younger siblings, Nadia, 6, and Mohammad, 3,) is nine and has only ever known war. The room his family calls home is bare, with old carpets that scarcely cover the cold cement floor. Their only source of warmth during the bitter cold winter months is a tiny stove. But a day doesn't go by when Anwar and his siblings aren't smiling, protected by the love of a mother who never stops fighting for them.

Despite everything she has been through, Haifa paints a strong and hopeful smile on her face and continues to care for her family, hoping to help them make a better future for themselves.

'I wake up every morning thankful for having survived everything I have been through. I believe that tomorrow will be better,' says Haifa.

During the past winter season, you helped UNICEF to support thousands of children inside Syria. Thanks to you they got warm clothing, blankets, food, water and hygiene supplies.



SOUTH SUDAN

You helped Jenty to smile again

Credit: UNICEF / South Sudan 2020 / Ayeng

Eleven-month-old Jenty was one of over a million children suffering from the 'silent hunger emergency' that gripped countries including South Sudan last year. Jenty was weak and listless when her mother Margret arrived with her at a centre funded by UNICEF. The baby was diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition. 'She was given ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF), and very quickly she got her energy back. You can see how much she likes it,' says Margret.

A donation like yours provided the peanut paste that saved Jenty's life.

- **166,955** severely malnourished children treated
- **400,707** hungry children fed
- **1,343,055** pregnant women and caregivers reached with feeding help

At the nutrition centre Jenty attends, there is also a play area for children with a mix of bought and locally made toys. Regular workshops are also held to teach mothers and children how to make toys from locally available materials. When children are malnourished, their brain development slows down. During play, the brain is stimulated, which is important for quicker recovery and better treatment outcomes. With your help, we are now rolling out this programme across South Sudan. Thank you!

VOICES FROM THE FIELD

Credit: UNICEF Yemen, 2020/Faust

Philippe Duamelle is UNICEF's new representative in Yemen. Philippe has worked for UNICEF since 1995 and has helped children in many countries before, including Turkey, Egypt, Sri Lanka and Benin. We asked him what your support means to children in Yemen.



Millions of children and their families depend on the assistance we provide in Yemen. But we could not do anything without our supporters. We count on the generosity of the Irish people because we are in a race against time and every contribution counts.

How are donations from people in Ireland helping Yemen's children?

It is only thanks to the help of our supporters like all of you in Ireland that UNICEF's team is on the ground in Yemen, working around the clock to deliver much needed, life-saving humanitarian assistance. For example, you are helping to support 2,500 vital primary health care facilities and 18 hospitals across Yemen. Thanks to you, children are alive because these facilities can still function.

How are UNICEF Ireland donors helping to keep children safe during the pandemic?

You are providing clean water, sanitation supplies and life-saving food to children in almost 4,000 primary health care facilities. You are also supporting 200 mobile health teams, who work to treat children living in hard-to-reach areas. You are saving children's lives every day.

WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY

Children take over!

World Children's Day celebrations on November 20th were noisy and colourful, just as a day 'for children, by children' should be. Ruairí (15) from Drogheda, Co. Louth was selected to stage this year's #KidsTakeOver, which has been running for four years now.



During his Zoom call with the An Taoiseach, Ruairí spoke passionately about his personal experience of homophobic bullying and the disappointing lack of education around issues facing young gay people in the Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) programmes offered currently. Micheál Martin thanked Ruairí for sharing his story so eloquently and courageously.

'I was so impressed that the Taoiseach was really invested in what I had to say,' Ruairí said.

Our community fundraisers are super special!

Once again, the fantastic generosity of our donors in Ireland only equals the creativity of our fundraisers. In 2020, our supporters planned the most elaborate events and challenges to raise funds for children in emergencies worldwide.



Christopher Kenny and Simon Mullen cycled more than 3,000km along Ireland's coastline to provide food for starving children in Yemen.

Want to be a hero in a child's life?

Why not set up your own community fundraiser? We can help you! Contact Claire Marianne Tetart at claire@unicef.ie for more ideas and extra resources.



Nancy, Anna, Sadhbh and Alanna from Dundalk Grammar School held raffles to help the efforts to fight COVID-19 in refugee camps.



Tomás Kimball, Liz Hunt and Geraldine McDermot in Galway held a street collection to help families affected by the terrible explosions in Beirut.



‘When I see the donations and the support I have received, I am encouraged and full of hope. I know with the help of others, we can build an army of people who can save the world.’ Mick Duffy

West-Coast Rapper, Mick Duffy, wants to raise 1 million Euro to help starving children in Yemen.

#RUNTHEGAP for vulnerable children

As the world became an online world in 2020, so did we. In October, many supporters completed an online running challenge of 50km to raise funds so children can go to school. In some of the poorest countries where UNICEF works, children must walk an average of 50km a week to reach the closest school and access education. In one month, #RUNTHEGAP participants walked, ran or jogged 50km to fund UNICEF’s vital education programmes.



NextGen comes to Ireland

Since NextGen began in the US in 2009, it has raised tens of millions of dollars for UNICEF projects in developing countries. Now NextGen is in Ireland and we have some impressive help lined up from leading businesses including Aer Lingus, Accenture, Davys Stockbrokers, Arthur Cox, Dechert LLP, Facebook, Instagram, Google, Twitter, Shamrock Rovers FC and the GAA. Together, we will raise significant funds to provide for the most vulnerable children and advocate for children here in Ireland.



Well done to you all and thank you!



YOUR SIGNATURE TODAY CAN SAVE CHILDREN'S LIVES

Did you know that your signature could be worth a minimum of €112 to UNICEF and maybe even more? If you donated over €250 in a single year, your donation is eligible for a tax refund. By simply signing a form, you can help UNICEF claim an extra 45% cash back on your donations.

You can save even more children for free.

If we could claim the cash back on your donations, you could save many more children. You could save more children with emergency therapeutic food, clean water and safe sanitation and immunisations. Your signature today could help even more children to not only survive, but thrive. It really is that easy to give this additional donation to children who need it.

Just sign. Save lives. For free.

To request your tax form, or if you simply want to know more, please contact our Donor Care Team on 01 878 3000 or email info@unicef.ie