



unicef 
for every child

ef  unicef 

UNICEF Ireland

Annual Report 2024

About UNICEF



UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, is dedicated to realising the Convention on the Rights of the Child for every child. We work in over 190 countries and territories with our partners to turn this commitment into practical action, ensuring every child has a safe, healthy childhood and the opportunity to fulfil their potential. We are present before, during, and after crises to support children in emergency situations.

UNICEF Ireland is one of 33 independent, non-profit National Committees supporting UNICEF's mission to advance children's rights and well-being globally. Our role includes raising funds, advocating for lasting change, influencing policy, and raising awareness about children's rights.

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

unicef  | for every child

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

Girls photographed at a community-based education centre at Hijrat Mina which hosts 300 children (150 girls and 150 boys). UNICEF has provided three classroom tents that accommodate up to 50 children as well as learning and teaching materials, three teaching staff and WASH facilities, Kabul Province, Afghanistan.

Front Cover © UNICEF/UN0803447/Naftalin, inside cover © UNICEF/UN0803441/Naftalin

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACTION FOR CHILDREN

Chairman's Report	5
UNICEF's Year at a Glance	6
Executive Director's Report	7

VISION & MISSION

Children in Crisis Globally	10
Reality For Children Today	12
Advancing UNICEF's Goals	13
Turning Support Into Sustainable Solutions	14
Ireland in Action	15



CHAMPIONING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Children's Rights	42
Advocacy in Action	43
Young Advocates	44
World Children's Day	45
Child Rights Schools	46
Individual Giving	48
Reunited Against the Odds	50
Impact of Monthly Giving	51
Providing Cash Transfers	52
Family Giving	53
Legacy Gifting	54
Philanthropy	56
Climate Change	57

IMPACT STORIES

GOAL AREA 1

Every child survives and thrives

SUDAN

Country Profile	17
Alsmay's Story	18
Samar's Story	19
UNICEF's Response and Genan's story	20

GOAL AREA 2

Every child learns and acquires skills for the future

AFGHANISTAN

Country Profile	22
Arezo's Story	23
Laila's Story	24
UNICEF's Response	25

GOAL AREA 3

Every child is protected from violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect and harmful practices

LEBANON

Country Profile	26
Ivana's Story	27
Documenting the Crisis	28
UNICEF's Response	29

GOAL AREA 4

Every child has access to safe and equitable water, sanitation and hygiene services and supplies, and lives in a safe and sustainable climate and environment

STATE OF PALESTINE

Country Profile	30
Mohammad's Story	32
Sila's Story	33
UNICEF's Response	34

GOAL AREA 5

Every child has access to inclusive social protection and lives free from poverty

UKRAINE

Country Profile	36
Polina's Story	37
Bohdan's Story	38
UNICEF's Response	39

PARTNERING FOR CHILDREN

Partnering for Children	58
Sparking Innovation	61
Corporate Partnerships	62
- CRH	63
- Primark	64
- Aer Lingus	65



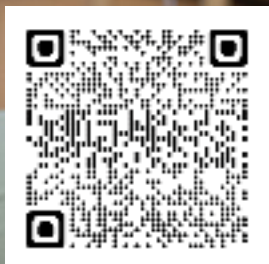
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Directors' and Other Information	68
Directors' Annual Report	69
Directors' Responsibilities Statement	75
Independent Auditor's Report	76
Statement of Financial Activities	79
Balance Sheet	80
Statement of Cash Flows	81
Notes to the Financial Statements	82



UNICEF Spokesperson James Elder kneels by the bed of two-year-old Ali at a hospital in Beirut. Ali's home was hit by an airstrike. His entire family was killed and he was buried beneath rubble for 14 hours before being found.

© UNICEF/UNI682895/Choufany



SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT



unicef  | for every child

Chairman's Report

Paul Connolly

Standing Together for Children in a World of Crisis.

The past year has laid bare a grim truth: in Gaza, Sudan, Ukraine, and many other regions, children are caught in crises that are lasting longer, displacing more families, and disrupting access to education, safety, and healthcare on an unprecedented scale. At the same time, the accelerating effects of climate change—droughts, floods, and extreme heat—are hitting the most vulnerable communities hardest, destroying not only homes and livelihoods but the foundations of children's futures. In fragile economies, this pressure is intensifying, pushing families further into poverty and instability.

In the face of these overlapping emergencies, UNICEF's work has never been more essential. But, to respond effectively, we must also adapt. The global funding landscape is shifting. Humanitarian assistance from governments across the world, while still critical, is under increasing strain. That is why the role of National Committees like UNICEF Ireland is becoming more important—not just in raising emergency funds, but in generating the flexible, unearmarked resources that allow UNICEF to respond wherever the need is greatest.

In 2024, thanks to the extraordinary generosity of people and partners across Ireland, UNICEF Ireland raised €32.5 million a level of support that speaks volumes about the solidarity and empathy of the Irish public in a moment of immense humanitarian need. These funds helped deliver clean water, emergency food, healthcare, psychological / social support, and child protection services for thousands of children and families caught in the crisis.

But emergencies are only one part of the picture. Sustainable change requires long-term investment. That is why our focus increasingly includes securing regular, predictable funding. These flexible resources are vital to ensuring equity in UNICEF's global work. They allow the organisation to respond quickly, plan effectively, and support children even in places that don't make the headlines.

This work is only possible because of the commitment of our supporters and the growing strength of our partnerships. Our collaborations with Aer Lingus, Primark, CRH, and

others have extended far beyond traditional sponsorship. They demonstrate what's possible when business aligns its resources and values with global organisations like UNICEF. From funding and logistics to staff engagement and public campaigns, our corporate partners are helping shape a more responsive, inclusive model of humanitarian action.

Looking ahead, UNICEF Ireland is focused on deepening our impact by building financial resilience, expanding our base of regular supporters, and growing the flexible funding UNICEF needs to operate equitably. We will continue to strengthen our governance, safeguard transparency, and build new partnerships that reflect the complexity of the challenges ahead.

In a world marked by uncertainty, our responsibility is clear. As a National Committee, we are not just here to respond to crises, we are here to help ensure that UNICEF can deliver for every child, everywhere, regardless of the political spotlight or the media cycle. That means not only funding emergency relief, but also supporting access to education, healthcare, clean water, and long-term solutions that can withstand the next crisis.

I want to thank our Executive Director, Peter Power, for his steadfast leadership, and our entire team for their commitment to turning compassion into action. To every donor, volunteer, and partner: thank you. Your trust in us enables UNICEF to reach the children who need it most, quickly, fairly, and effectively.

2024 challenged all of us. But it also reaffirmed the power of solidarity, and the difference we can make together. Going forward, we must remain focused on the road ahead, and the belief that every child deserves a fair chance, no matter where they are or what they face.

Paul Connolly, Chairman

UNICEF's Emergency Response in 2024: Reaching Children in Crisis

In a year marked by escalating conflicts, climate shocks, and record displacement, UNICEF scaled up to meet urgent needs and deliver lifesaving support to children and families around the world. From water and health to education and protection, our rapid response helped stabilise lives and restore hope—especially in the most volatile and high-risk settings.



213 million
children affected by
humanitarian crises



448 emergencies
responded to across
104 countries



8 **X** **LEVEL 3**
EMERGENCIES
the most severe
response level

41

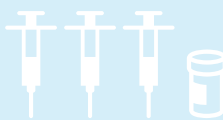
million

People gained access to
clean water & sanitation



24.7
million

Children vaccinated
against measles



109.3

million

Children under 5
treated for malnutrition



26.4 million

Women and
children
accessed
primary
healthcare



9.7

million children
accessed formal
or non-formal
education



Received mental
health & psychosocial
support

22.3
million

17.7
million

Women and children
supported against
gender-based
violence



79.5
million

Accessed safe
reporting channels for
abuse/exploitation

3.6 million

Households received
humanitarian cash
assistance



\$1.234 billion

Humanitarian
supplies delivered in
68 countries
(50% to top-level emergencies)



“ Every number represents a child reached,
a life protected, and a future given a chance. ”



unicef  | for every child

Executive Director's Report

Peter Power

From Conflict to Climate: Responding to a Generation at Risk.

In 2024, the world became an even more dangerous place to be a child. Across conflict zones, the basic rules designed to protect civilians—especially children—were disregarded on a scale that shocked even seasoned humanitarians. Schools were shelled. Hospitals were destroyed. Humanitarian corridors were blocked, and access to life-saving aid was often denied. Those delivering that aid were not only obstructed but, in many cases, deliberately targeted. In emergency after emergency, our colleagues and partners paid a heavy price for doing their jobs—some with their lives.

In Gaza, children were killed inside their homes. In Sudan, medical facilities were bombed, leaving families without access to care. In Ukraine, attacks on civilian infrastructure continued to disrupt children's access to education, health care, and safe shelter. In many of these emergencies, UNICEF staff and partners continued their work despite enormous personal risk and often in conditions that would be unimaginable to most of us. They have our utmost respect.

In the face of these crises, UNICEF Ireland stood in solidarity with our global colleagues. Thanks to the generosity and commitment of people and organisations across Ireland, we were able to support the delivery of life-saving aid: food, clean water, medical supplies, and emergency education for children in some of the world's most challenging and dangerous contexts. That support had a direct and immediate impact—helping to protect children and give them the chance to survive, recover, and begin to rebuild.

Our commitment to children's rights is not limited to emergency relief or places of conflict. UNICEF Ireland's work is rooted in the belief that every child, everywhere, deserves a fair chance. That's why, alongside our global fundraising efforts, we continued to advocate here at home for policies that reflect the same principles: equity, dignity, and long-term thinking.

In 2024, our Vote for Every Child campaign helped keep children's rights on the political agenda during a pivotal year. We called for policies that address child poverty, mental health, and climate justice, while also strengthening Ireland's role in global development. Crucially, this advocacy wasn't driven by adults alone. Young people across the country led the way—speaking in schools, organising events, and challenging decision-makers to put children first. Their leadership was a powerful reminder of the role children can and should play in shaping the world they will inherit.

It is clear that when people come together—young and old alike—we can make a real difference. The scale of today's challenges can

feel overwhelming. But what keeps us going is knowing. We are not facing them alone. Every donation, every act of advocacy, every volunteer who gives their time helps UNICEF respond quickly and build for the future.

Still, the need remains urgent. Today, more children than ever before face the harsh realities of conflict, displacement, and hunger. Too many of these crises go underfunded and unnoticed. That's why one of our top priorities at UNICEF Ireland is to raise flexible, unearmarked funding. These resources give UNICEF the freedom to respond quickly and fairly, wherever the need is greatest. These funds are crucial to ensuring an equitable global response that reaches every child.

Looking to the future, we know humanitarian challenges are becoming more complex and dangerous. Climate change is driving more frequent and severe disasters. Economic shocks are widening inequality. Prolonged conflicts continue to steal children's access to education, stability, and safety. These forces are fundamentally reshaping childhood and demand a response that is both urgent and lasting.

UNICEF's role must reflect this reality. Emergency aid will always be vital. But we also need to invest in lasting solutions: keeping schools open during crises, strengthening health systems, providing mental health support, and helping communities build resilience. When the worst is over, children must not be left to rebuild alone.

At UNICEF Ireland, our mission is clear: to support this dual approach by raising vital funds, deepening partnerships, and advocating for policies—both here in Ireland and internationally—that protect children's rights and respond to their changing needs.

To all our donors, partners, volunteers, ambassadors, and staff—thank you. To our Board of Directors, your commitment and professionalism is hugely respected. Your continued support has made a difference when it was needed most. Together, you have helped children survive today and laid the foundation for them to thrive tomorrow.

The challenges ahead are immense, but so is our collective strength. Together, we will keep working for a world where no child is left behind.

Peter Power, Executive Director

Vision

UNICEF Ireland envisions a world where every child's rights are fulfilled, protected, and upheld, regardless of their circumstances. We align with UNICEF's global vision to ensure no child is left behind, promoting inclusivity, opportunity, and agency for all children, especially the most vulnerable.

Mission

UNICEF Ireland envisions a world where every child's rights are fulfilled, protected, and upheld, regardless of their circumstances. We align with UNICEF's global vision to ensure no child is left behind, promoting inclusivity, opportunity, and agency for all children, especially the most vulnerable.





Children in Crisis

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



Sudan

The conflict in the Sudan has left nearly 25 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, including close to 14 million children. A staggering 6 million people are on the move, of whom more than 1 million crossed borders in search for safety. More than 3 million children are on the move, 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. The country also hosts around 1 million refugees.



Ukraine and Refugee Response

The ongoing war in Ukraine continues to devastate the lives of children and families. Across Ukraine, 4.6 million people have returned to the country, while more than 3.7 million remain internally displaced. Nearly 6 million refugees are hosted across Europe, 88 percent of them women and children; 5 million people have applied for national protection schemes. Children's mental health, learning and access to services (including health, water, electricity and heating) continue to be impacted. Many children remain at risk of disease, separation from families and violence (including gender-based violence).



South Sudan

South Sudan will face a complex year in 2024, with increasing vulnerability, growing humanitarian needs and severe aid budget cuts. Political instability, violence, widespread flooding, disease outbreaks and high inflation are compounding the difficulties and chronic needs of the most vulnerable people in the country, especially children. Livelihoods are severely impacted and access to education, nutrition, water, sanitation and health services hampered. Children are at a high risk of abuse, violence, exploitation and psychosocial distress; and **2.8 million children (52 per cent girls) out of school are especially vulnerable. Women and children are at greatest risk of genderbased violence.**



Ethiopia

Ethiopia continues to face multiple complex and protracted humanitarian crises due to armed conflict and intercommunal violence, climate hazards, disease outbreaks, acute food insecurity and high inflation, all of which contribute to largescale population displacements. This is compounded by humanitarian access constraints, food aid suspension and significant new refugee influxes. Altogether, more than 20 million Ethiopians are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, including 15.4 million women and children, nearly 4.4 million displaced people, 1.8 million children with disabilities and 117,000 new refugees.



East Asia and Pacific Regions

The East Asia and Pacific region remains the most disasterprone 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. The El Niño weather phenomenon will likely increase extreme weather events and slowonset disasters in the region, compounding the already significant impacts of climate change on people's lives. More than 210 million children are highly exposed to cyclones; 140 million to water scarcity; and 120 million to coastal flooding.



Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, a staggering 23.3 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, 12.6 million of them children.

Women and girls continue to experience the worst of the crisis through restrictions on education, movement, employment and access to public services. The impact of these restrictions on women and girls is glaring, as evidence shows worsening conditions among femaleheaded households, including employment of negative coping strategies. In addition, restrictions and exclusions are reinforcing pre-existing gender inequalities and increasing protection concerns. This is creating a cycle of escalating needs among women and girls.



State of Palestine

There are an estimated 3.1 million people who require 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. The escalation has caused severe humanitarian consequences, including the deaths of thousands of children and women and 160 births daily in precarious conditions. Additionally, 1.8 million people who are internally displaced – more than 80 per cent 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.



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.



Participants hold up a pamphlet with the SDGs during the Children's Model Summit of the Future on SDGs © UNICEF/UNI605862/Acquah

THE REALITY FOR CHILDREN TODAY



2024: Two Thirds The Way Through the SDGs, A Turning Point for Children.

The world is now two thirds of the way through the Sustainable Development Goals. UNICEF, responsible for leading or supporting many child-focused targets, is accelerating efforts to reverse stalled progress and ensure that every child is reached, protected, and given the opportunity to thrive.

Only
1 in 3
child-related
SDG indicators
are on track.

Over 300 million
children live in
extreme poverty—
nearly half in
conflict zones.

Nearly
5 million
children died before
their fifth birthday
in 2023.



Around 200 million
children are not developing to their
full potential due to malnutrition.



Nearly 2 in 3 10-year-olds cannot read and understand a simple text.

640 million
women and girls
alive today were
married before
turning 18.

181 million children under 5 face severe child food poverty.



Participants at the Children's Model Summit of the Future on SDGs in Accra, Ghana ©UNICEF/UNI603934/Acquah

Adolescent pregnancy remains a leading cause of death and disability among girls, especially in the least developed countries.

WHERE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE

53% reduction in under-5 mortality in Africa since 2000

99.9% of polio has been eradicated

Over 2 billion people gained access to safely managed drinking water

A one-third reduction in stunting among children under 5

The lowest-ever global under-5 mortality rate was recorded in 2023

UNICEF's Path Forward: Accelerating Proven Solutions

UNICEF is scaling evidence-based, cost-effective solutions to drive faster, fairer progress. This includes expanding access to quality health care, nutrition, education, and child protection services, especially in the most marginalised and high-risk settings.

"With urgency, innovation, and partnership, we can close the gap and reach every child."



In Kassala state, girls share their hopes and fears for this year's Ramadan season as they reminisce on life before the war. © UNICEF/UNI523442/Elfatih

ADVANCING UNICEF'S GOALS

At UNICEF, we believe every child, no matter where they are born, deserves the chance to grow up safe, healthy, educated, and protected. The UNICEF Strategic Plan 2022–2025 sets out an ambitious roadmap to make that a reality, especially for children living through crisis.

In this report, we showcase examples from five countries facing some of the world's most challenging emergencies. These stories highlight how UNICEF Ireland, through the support of our donors and partners, contributes to UNICEF's global efforts by delivering both emergency relief and long-term solutions that protect children's futures. From conflict zones and climate disasters to economic collapse and epidemics, UNICEF teams on the ground turn global goals into life-changing results.

These results are only possible because our supporters believe in a better future for every child.



Goal Area 1

Survives and thrives, with access to nutritious diets, quality health care, nurturing practices and essential supplies.

Every child survives and thrives

In Sudan, UNICEF teams provided emergency nutrition, vaccines, and health care, saving lives and giving children a stronger start.



Goal Area 2

Learns and acquires skills for the future.

Every child learns

In Afghanistan, we supported local classrooms and stood firm for every girl's right to education, even in the most difficult conditions.



Goal Area 3

Is protected from violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect and harmful practices.

Every child is protected

In Lebanon, amid economic turmoil, we strengthened child protection systems and reached vulnerable families with critical support.



Goal Area 4

Has access to water, sanitation and hygiene and lives in a safe and sustainable climate and environment.

Every child has access to water and lives in a clean, safe environment.

In Gaza, we restored access to safe water and hygiene essentials, preventing disease and protecting children's dignity during conflict.



Goal Area 5

Has access to inclusive social protection and lives free from poverty.

Every child has a fair chance in life

In Ukraine, UNICEF reached displaced children with learning opportunities, psychosocial support, and cash assistance, helping families rebuild in the face of war.

During play activities at a safe learning space in Al Salam IDP gathering point, a group of girls use mold clay to prepare meals similar to what they prepared during the Ramadan season in the past. © UNICEF/UNI523498/Elfatih

HOW WE OPERATE: TURNING SUPPORT INTO SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

Donor support fuels every aspect of UNICEF's work, from lifesaving emergency response to building systems that protect children for generations. Operating in over 190 countries and territories, UNICEF combines the speed and agility of a humanitarian responder with the long-term vision of a development partner.



© UNICEF/UNI523504/Elfatih

Humanitarian Response: Saving Lives

When emergencies strike, your support allows us to respond immediately—delivering:

- Safe water, nutrition, and emergency healthcare
- Protection for children separated from their families
- Temporary learning spaces and psychosocial care

Our work is guided by the Core Commitments for Children, ensuring a principled, child-centred approach in every crisis.

Development Support: Building Resilience

Beyond the emergency, we work to build stronger communities by:

- Rebuilding schools and clinics
- Training teachers, health professionals, and social workers
- Strengthening national systems that safeguard children's rights

This means your contribution doesn't just help in the moment—it helps children thrive long into the future.

A Smarter, More Integrated Approach

UNICEF doesn't treat emergencies and development as separate. Instead, we:

- Use emergency funding to support long-term recovery
- Design adaptable programmes that evolve with children's needs
- Work through national systems to ensure local ownership

This integrated model means that every euro you give works harder, delivering both immediate relief and sustainable impact.



Love and peace to all during
the Ramadan season.
© UNICEF/UNI523439/Elfatih

HOW UNICEF IRELAND MAKES A DIFFERENCE

We Respond in Times of Crisis

When emergencies strike, children are the most vulnerable. UNICEF Ireland plays a frontline role in raising critical funds and public awareness. In 2024, thanks to Irish donors, we were able to support urgent responses in Gaza, Sudan, Myanmar and Ukraine. Children received help faster when it mattered most.

We Build Strategic Partnerships

UNICEF Ireland works with government, corporate partners, philanthropists, and young people to expand our reach and amplify our impact. These partnerships drive progress in child health, education, protection, and equality thus ensuring sustained support, not just short-term aid.

We Advocate for Children's Rights

Through direct engagement with the Oireachtas, media, and civil society, we elevate children's voices and influence national and international policy. We advocate for Ireland to be a global leader in child rights, including on emerging issues like climate justice, digital safety, and mental health.

We Grow to Meet New Challenges

UNICEF Ireland continues to evolve, investing in digital innovation, data-led strategies, and youth engagement to reach more people and deliver greater impact. We are committed to building an Ireland where every child's rights are known, respected, and championed.

IRELAND IN ACTION FOR EVERY CHILD

As part of the global UNICEF family, UNICEF Ireland plays a vital role in turning global ambition into action. While UNICEF works in over 190 countries and territories, our mandate in Ireland is clear: to mobilise the Irish public, private, and political spheres to protect and promote the rights of every child, everywhere.

Our impact is only possible because of the extraordinary generosity, trust, and commitment of our donors and partners across Ireland.

From emergency fundraising to long-term advocacy, UNICEF Ireland connects Ireland's voice, values, and resources to the world's children.

IMPACT STORY

Sudan: A Generation Uprooted



Health volunteers screen children for malnutrition and provide vitamin A and deworming tablets during a UNICEF-supported door-to-door nutrition campaign in Kassala State, Sudan. © UNICEF/UNI707456/Rajab



GOAL 1

Every child, survives and thrives, with access to nutritious diets, quality primary health care, nurturing practices and essential supplies.

COUNTRY PROFILE | SUDAN

In 2024, growing inequities, protracted conflicts, and accelerating climate change slowed progress and eroded children's fundamental rights to survive and thrive.

A stark and heartbreaking example of this is Sudan—now the epicentre of the world's largest child displacement emergency. Since conflict erupted in April 2023, more than 5 million children have been forced from their homes, many multiple times. Families have been separated; Health systems have collapsed; Classrooms lie in ruins. Millions of children face each day not with the promise of play or learning, but with the harsh reality of hunger, trauma, and uncertainty.

The scale of deprivation is staggering. More than 7.4 million children have no access to safe drinking water. 3.7 million are acutely malnourished, including 730,000 whose lives are in immediate danger without urgent treatment. Meanwhile, 19 million children are out of school, denied their right to an education.

These are not just numbers, they are children with names, dreams, and stories of both devastation and resilience. In Sudan, children are not simply caught in conflict, they are enduring a multi-layered crisis that threatens their health, safety, and hopes for the future.

UNICEF is responding across sectors: delivering life-saving nutrition, restoring access to clean water, and supporting education wherever possible. Even in the most dangerous and unstable conditions, we are working to uphold the rights and dignity of every child.

Through the personal stories of Alsmay, Samar, and Genan, we see the human face of this emergency—and the urgent need for global solidarity and sustained action to ensure that every child not only survives, but truly thrives.



SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT



Jamila brings her daughter Amna to the health facility for treatment. © UNICEF/UNI707412/Rajab

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

13.6 million
Children in need of
humanitarian assistance



24.8 million
People in need of
humanitarian assistance

11.5 million
Children displaced
internally and across
borders



Ohag shares a light moment with her son Idriiss after a nutritious meal. Ohag, a mother of two children is a beneficiary of the home garden initiative delivered with UNICEF support. ©UNICEF/UNI524508/Elfatih



Nine-year-old Alsmay, born with disabilities, displays remarkable independence despite being displaced by war in Khartoum, now living with his family in a repurposed school shelter in Kassala state. ©UNICEF/UNI528984/Elfatih

Ensuring Equity and Inclusivity in Sudan

IMPACT STORY

Alsmay's Story of Safety and Inclusion.

The ongoing conflict in Sudan has displaced millions, leaving children, especially those with disabilities, at heightened risk of being left behind. For 9-year-old Alsmay, born with a disability, life has been filled with challenges, but his remarkable independence and determination continue to inspire. Displaced from Khartoum, Alsmay now lives with his family in a school-turned-shelter in Kassala State, where UNICEF has stepped in to create inclusive safe learning spaces for children like him.

These spaces are a lifeline, offering children the chance to heal, learn, and regain a sense of normalcy. At the Al Salam camp, Alsmay joins peers in activities tailored to their needs, including structured lessons, psychosocial support, and digital learning. Equipped with tablets, children explore interactive lessons in subjects like mathematics, Arabic, and science. "He always comes ready and excited," his teacher, Ryan, shares.

UNICEF's inclusive approach ensures that every child, regardless of their abilities, can thrive. "We focus on all children, paying special attention to those with disabilities," says Jabir Adomah, a UNICEF Education Officer.

For Alsmay, this space offers more than learning—it offers belonging, dignity, and the chance to dream. In the face of conflict and displacement, he is thriving, not despite his circumstances, but because of the opportunities UNICEF helps provide.



© UNICEF/UNI529015/Elfatih

▶ SCAN TO SEE VIDEO REPORT



© UNICEF/UNI529015/Elfatih

IMPACT STORY

Samar's Story A Plea for Peace and Her Lost Violin

At just 11 years old, Samar's story is a powerful testament to the resilience and dreams of Sudan's children amidst the turmoil of war. Displaced from her home in Khartoum, Samar and her family now live in a crowded classroom in Kassala State, a makeshift refuge for families uprooted by conflict.

A year ago, Samar's life was filled with simple joys. As a grade 6 student, she loved playing the violin, an instrument that brought her immense happiness and comfort. But the outbreak of war turned her world upside down, forcing her family of five to flee their home with only what they could carry. "Before we left Khartoum, we had moved to a relative's house, and I hadn't taken my violin with me because we all thought we would return home soon," Samar shares. Tears well up in her eyes as she recalls the moment she realised she might never see her violin again. "I never got a chance to return to pick it up."

Despite her profound sadness, Samar's love for music remains unshaken. In the absence of her violin, she has found ways to keep the melody alive. With her father by her side, Samar often pretends to play her cherished instrument, while her father sings along, humming and



© UNICEF/UNI547323/Elfatih

drumming to recreate the music that once filled their home. "The violin is my friend. When I draw, sing, dance, I see the violin," Samar explains with a faint smile.

But Samar's ultimate wish is clear: "I want the war to end so I can get my violin back." Her plea is both heartbreaking and hopeful, a child's simple yet profound yearning for peace and normalcy. Samar's voice resonates through her poetry, where she expresses the pain of displacement and her hope for a better future.

As Samar waits for peace to return, she clings to her dreams of reuniting with her violin and the life she left behind. Her story is a poignant reminder of the devastating impact of war on children and the urgent need for support and hope.

Through her poetry, her courage, and her unwavering love for music, Samar reminds us that behind every statistic is a child longing not just to survive—but to be heard, to create, and to dream.

A Poem for Peace

Homeland is not only a geographical area that brings us together. Homeland is the big heart that embraces us. War tears these hearts apart. The experience of war and displacement is bitter, an ordeal this heart and our people experienced.

The children of Sudan are the most affected group in this war. According to UNICEF estimates, 14 million children are in need of aid.

We are not just numbers. We are dreams and wasted childhoods. The war in Sudan risks a future deprived of learning, progress, innovation and hope. We hope that the war will stop, and that we can return to our homes and schools. We are the children of Sudan. We are the future.

- Samar



SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT

Eleven-year-old Samar, displaced by war in Khartoum, now lives in a classroom in Kassala and dreams of reuniting with her violin—her love for music still strong despite everything. © UNICEF/UNI547332/Elfatih

RESULTS

Delivering Hope in a Deepening Emergency

Children like 7-month-old Genan are at the heart of Sudan's unfolding crisis. Born into conflict, Genan lost her mother at birth and, within days, was close to death from severe malnutrition. She was frail, silent, and fading. But thanks to a UNICEF-supported nutrition programme at a hospital in Damazine, her story took a different turn.

With urgent care and Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF), a lifesaving intervention, Genan slowly regained her strength. She gained weight, responded to treatment, and began to recover. In a country where 729,000 children under five are suffering from severe acute malnutrition, stories like Genan's highlight the life-saving importance of swift, coordinated humanitarian action.



SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT



7 months old, Genan was near death from severe malnutrition after losing her mother at birth. Thanks to a UNICEF-supported nutrition programme in Damazine, she received therapeutic food and began to recover. ©UNICEF/UNI593617/Hasouna
Below: @UNICEF/UNI593615/Hasouna



In the face of Sudan's worsening emergency, UNICEF remained a vital lifeline for children in 2024—delivering urgent care, protection, and hope amid staggering levels of displacement and deprivation.

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR UNICEF ENSURED:



5.1 million

children were screened for malnutrition, and **288,000** received lifesaving therapeutic care.



16 million

mothers and children accessed essential healthcare services.

2.6 million

children and caregivers received psychosocial support to help recover from trauma.



Safe, inclusive learning spaces and e-learning hubs provided displaced and marginalised children with continued access to education.



As the crisis deepens, UNICEF's integrated response remains critical—delivering nutrition, healthcare, education, and protection to the children of Sudan. Because they deserve more than survival. They deserve to thrive.

Afghanistan: Learning in the Shadows



Pupils play outside the UNICEF-supported Zarin Abad CBE ('Community-Based Education' classes) in Nangarhar Province, eastern Afghanistan. © UNICEF/UNI581665/Naftalin



GOAL 2

Every child, including adolescents, learns and acquires skills for the future.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS (HNRP 2024)



**23.7
million**

People in need
of humanitarian
assistance



**12.3
million**

Children in need
of humanitarian
assistance



857,155

Children under 5
expected to need
treatment for severe
acute malnutrition



**17.9
million**

People in need
of humanitarian
health assistance



IMPACT STORY

Arezo and the Power of Community-Based Education

COUNTRY PROFILE Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, the right to education is under assault, especially for girls. Since the Taliban banned secondary education for girls in 2021, the crisis has only deepened. In 2024, Afghanistan remained the only country in the world where girls are systematically barred from attending school beyond the primary level.

Today, 3.7 million children are out of school—60% of them girls. Three years without formal learning has eroded their opportunities, safety, and well-being. 1.8 million girls of secondary level and around 110,000 of tertiary level have been affected by the decree issued by the government in March 2022 banning girls' post primary education. Many now face increased risks of child marriage and labour, particularly in rural and conflict-affected regions.

Beyond education, children in Afghanistan are facing multiple threats. 12.3 million children in Afghanistan needed humanitarian assistance in 2024.

Over 3.2 million children under five are acutely malnourished. One in three children is engaged in child labour. Earthquakes and other disasters have further displaced families and overwhelmed a fragile health system. Yet even in these conditions, Afghan children, and especially girls, continue to demonstrate remarkable resilience.

UNICEF works to support alternative education pathways, provide critical nutrition and health services, and strengthen protection systems to give children a safe, more hopeful path forward.



SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT



Two children sit outside the UNICEF-supported Community-Based Education centre.
©UNICEF/UNI686587/Naftalin

In the quiet village of Larasi in Bamiyan Province, 9-year-old Arezo skips outside her classroom, beaming with energy. The modest building behind her is a lifeline, not just for Arezo, but for 18 other children in the community who would otherwise have no access to education.

The nearest public school is more than 90 minutes away, a distance too far for young children to walk safely, especially in harsh weather and rough terrain. That's why UNICEF-supported Community-Based Education (CBE) classes, like the one Arezo attends, are so vital.

CBE offers a flexible and inclusive model that brings education to children in their own villages. Designed for girls and boys aged 6–9 who are out of school, these classes typically begin at grade 1, with the aim of completing at least three grades before transitioning into nearby public “hub” schools where possible.



For Arezo, learning is now part of daily life. She no longer has to choose between safety and schooling. Instead, she thrives in a supportive environment where her curiosity is nurtured and her future feels within reach.



© UNICEF/UNI686583/Naftalin



9-year-old Arezo skips outside a UNICEF-supported education centre
© UNICEF/UNI686580/Naftalin

SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT



Across Afghanistan, UNICEF supports nearly 18,000 community-based education classes, helping children like Arezo take their first steps toward a brighter future—one that begins right outside their front door.

IMPACT STORY

Laila's Classroom of Courage



Laila Saeedi teaches an early childhood education class at the UNICEF-supported Bibi Hawa School in Jalalabad, Afghanistan. © UNICEF/UNI577898/Naftalin

Laila stands before her early childhood education class at the UNICEF-supported Bibi Hawa School in Jalalabad, Nangarhar Province, eastern Afghanistan. Despite facing significant challenges in her life, Laila has become a beacon of hope and inspiration for her students.

Born with major leg problems, Laila underwent amputations and now uses prosthetic legs.

She recalls, "Despite these problems in life, I've tried to be a role model for others and prove that a person with a disability can do anything."

For the past three years, Laila has been an early childhood teacher at Bibi Hawa School, where she teaches 5 and 6-year-olds. Her dedication and love for her students are evident in her words:

"I really love them and they love me. I want to create a really enjoyable environment for them so they continue coming to school all the time. Now they like me so much that they even want to come to class on weekends!"



Laila Saeedi teaches an early childhood education class at the UNICEF-supported Bibi Hawa School in Jalalabad, Afghanistan. © UNICEF/UNI577898/Naftalin

Laila's students do not see her as weak because of her disability; instead, they respect and admire her. "Without them, my life is incomplete. They are like members of my family and I love them as my family," she says.

UNICEF supports 7,000 students like Laila's in early childhood education classes across Afghanistan. These classes introduce young girls and boys to learning and help them transition smoothly into primary school. Laila's mission is to show young girls that they don't have to limit themselves when it comes to learning. She ensures that her students have fun while learning and feel prepared for the next step in their education journey.

Laila's story is a testament to the power of resilience and the impact of dedicated educators in shaping the future of children in Afghanistan.

SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT





SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT

Students receiving learning materials at the UNICEF-supported Madrasa High School in Afghanistan ©UNICEF/UNI601305/Naftalin

RESULTS

Protecting Childhood in Afghanistan

In 2024, UNICEF significantly expanded its support for children in Afghanistan, tackling the country's growing education and nutrition crises while safeguarding children from violence and harmful practices.

Amid restrictions on girls' education and limited access to formal schools, UNICEF enrolled over 600,000 children, mostly girls, into nearly 18,000 community-based education classes. More than 3.5 million primary students received learning materials, while multi-media educational resources reached over 11 million people, bridging critical learning gaps.

UNICEF also rehabilitated 318 public schools and trained over 18,000 teachers and thousands of education officials to enhance learning quality. Efforts to expand girls' education continued through strong advocacy with the de facto authorities and the resumption of the Girls' Access to Teacher Education (GATE) programme, producing 458 female graduates and launching a digital learning platform for educators.

For younger learners, early childhood education programmes remained active, and 300 schools across 10 provinces received mini libraries. Education continued even in emergencies, with 520,000 children affected by disasters supported through tents and learning materials. UNICEF also trained nearly 19,000 education stakeholders to improve education data systems.

In parallel, UNICEF addressed widespread malnutrition, providing treatment to 475,000 acutely malnourished children under five through a network of 3,300 service points. Nearly 12 million children and mothers benefited from critical nutrition interventions. To help children heal and grow in safe environments, UNICEF established over 750 child-friendly spaces offering psychosocial support and protection services.

UNICEF also expanded community outreach to combat child marriage and recruitment into armed groups. Across all sectors, the organization provided essential healthcare to over 20 million people, half of them children, and ensured access to emergency WASH services for 1.1 million people.

In a country where 4.2 million children remain out of school and 3.2 million under five are malnourished, UNICEF's integrated approach in 2024 has been a vital lifeline. Against immense odds, these efforts are helping Afghan children learn, recover, and imagine a future beyond crisis.



©UNICEF/UNI601402/Naftalin

COUNTRY PROFILE

Lebanon: Children in the Crossfire



"I didn't wish this to happen for my children, I wanted them to have dreams, go to school, play, and spend their time laughing. I don't want them to live in fear and homeless." ©UNICEF/UNI667673/Choufany

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

350,000
children in need
of humanitarian
assistance



&

1 million
people in need of humanitarian assistance



Brothers and sisters engaging in playful activities despite their challenging living conditions. (Zeinab, 13 is leading in the front; followed by Asinat, 5, Asia, 7; Fahed, 11; and Rama, 12 at the end. © UNICEF/UNI667679/Choufany

123,774
internally
displaced
persons (IOM DTM)



16,590+
people injured,
including reports of
1,450 children (MoPH)



4,040+ deaths,
including reports of
316 children (MoPH)



GOAL 3

Every child is protected from
violence and exploitation

SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT



In 2024, Lebanon faced one of the most destabilising chapters in its recent history. A sharp escalation in hostilities led to the country's largest displacement crisis in decades. A ceasefire in late November brought some reprieve, but the humanitarian toll has been immense, especially for children.

By year's end, 3,961 people had been killed, including 248 children. More than 875,000 people were displaced within Lebanon, half a million of them school-aged children. Daily life has been upended by strikes, evacuations, and the collapse of essential services.

Access to education, health care, and clean water were severely disrupted. Over 375,000 people were without safe water, and 39 hospitals were no longer operational. In just one day, 150,000 people were displaced following mass evacuation orders.



Samira, a mother of five, was forced to leave her home following bombardment and is now living with her children in the streets of Martyrs Square in Beirut. ©UNICEF/UNI667675/Choufany

For Lebanon's children, 2024 was a year of fear, flight, and fractured futures. UNICEF worked to reconnect families with education and healthcare, restore basic services, and support displaced children with protection, mental health, and learning opportunities. Learn from Ivana's story the challenges of protecting children during conflict.



2-year-old Ivana, severely burned in fire from airstrike, in intensive care in Lebanon. ©UNICEF/UNI684053/Choufany



◀ SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT



© UNICEF/UNI684054/Choufany

IMPACT STORY | LEBANON

Ivana's Journey to Survive



Two-year-old Ivana, from Deir Qanoun al-Nahr in the Tyre district of South Lebanon, was playing on the balcony with her 7-year-old sister, Rahaf, when their lives were forever changed. Their mother, Fatima, was preparing breakfast when a sudden airstrike struck nearby, engulfing their home in flames.

In a desperate bid to save her daughters, Fatima made the unthinkable decision "I had to throw my daughters out the window into the garden to save them from the fire...it was our only way escape.", said Fatima. She still finds it hard to believe how she acted so quickly in such a terrifying moment. Her quick action saved their lives, but both girls suffered severe burns.

Rahaf spent 20 days in the hospital before being discharged. Meanwhile, Ivana remains in intensive care at Geitaoui Hospital in Beirut, where she is undergoing ongoing treatment, including a skin graft. Fatima, deeply affected by the trauma, has not left Ivana's side, drawing strength from her daughter's resilience and the hope of recovery.

Doctors are optimistic about Ivana's healing, assuring the family that her burns will heal with time. Daily phone calls between Ivana and Rahaf bring moments of joy and connection, helping the sisters maintain their bond despite the distance. This story of survival and strength highlights the profound impact of conflict on families and underscores the importance of ongoing support for children like Ivana who are navigating the long road to recovery.



UNICEF Spokesperson James Elder poses for a photo with children while visiting Chakib Erslan Public School in Beirut, which has been converted into a shelter, where he met with displaced families and children who have lost their homes and are now living there © UNICEF/UNI682842/Choufany

Documenting the Crisis

A Visit to Lebanon with the Irish Times

In June 2024, as conflict escalated in Lebanon, Irish Times journalist Patrick Freyne joined UNICEF Ireland on a field visit to document the unfolding humanitarian emergency. His reporting brought Irish readers face-to-face with the devastating impact on children, many of whom had been displaced multiple times, lost access to education, and were living in overcrowded shelters. Freyne's coverage highlighted not only the physical destruction but also the emotional toll, amplifying the voices of children and families enduring unimaginable hardship.

The visit coincided with the period of intense violence that left over 1.2 million people displaced, including approximately 400,000 children. UNICEF's response included the delivery of 167 metric tons of medical supplies, the establishment of mobile health units, and the provision of psychosocial support in shelters across the country. Freyne's firsthand accounts helped raise awareness in Ireland, reinforcing the importance of international solidarity and support for UNICEF's work on the ground.

By facilitating such media engagements, UNICEF Ireland continues to ensure that the realities faced by children in crisis zones are not forgotten, fostering a deeper understanding and commitment among the Irish public to support vulnerable communities worldwide.



©UNICEF Ireland



©UNICEF Ireland



RESULTS

Providing Safety and Building Resilience

In response to the devastating escalation of violence in Lebanon, UNICEF mounted a rapid, coordinated, and far-reaching emergency response to protect children and support families in crisis. Working in partnership with national systems and humanitarian actors, our efforts focused on delivering life-saving health, protection, and relief services to those most in need.

Across 452 shelters and host communities, 98,395 people were reached with urgent medical care, immunisations, and psychological support. Through a network of 57 Primary Health Care Centre (PHCC) satellite units and 5 Mobile Medical Units, frontline services were brought directly to 40,780 people in hard-to-reach and high-risk areas. In parallel, 89 static PHCCs provided critical maternal, newborn, and child health services to 49,773 people, helping to maintain continuity of care amid widespread disruption.

UNICEF also prioritised disease prevention, ensuring 16,887 displaced children were vaccinated against deadly but preventable illnesses. For newborns and mothers in dire circumstances, we delivered intensive care to 204 sick infants and children, and subsidised safe

hospital births for 124 displaced pregnant women, interventions that saved lives and safeguarded futures.

To help stabilise Lebanon's strained healthcare infrastructure, 167 metric tons of emergency medical supplies were delivered, enough to support 700,000 people for three months. This supply lifeline ensured that health workers could continue delivering essential services even under extreme conditions.

As Lebanon continues to seek stability and peace, UNICEF remains steadfast in its commitment to the country's children, ensuring they are protected, supported, and given the opportunity to heal, grow, and thrive.



UNICEF distributed essential goods, hygiene kits, and water to displaced families in Beirut. Youth are playing a vital role in the emergency response, supporting families in this critical time of urgent need. Photo taken by Fouad Choufany.



SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT

Tess Ingram, UNICEF Communication Specialist with children in a shelter in Beirut © UNICEF/UNI655524/Choufany

COUNTRY PROFILE

Gaza: Childhood on the Frontlines

At just 10, Mariam makes four tiring trips each day to collect clean water in Gaza. Thanks to a UNICEF-supported tank, she's safe from deadly waterborne diseases. © UNICEF/UNI1839/EI Baba



GOAL 4

Every child, has access to safe and equitable water, sanitation and hygiene services, and lives in a safe and sustainable climate and environment.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS



1,554,700

Children in need
of humanitarian
assistance



3,300,000

People in need
of humanitarian
assistance



1,900,000

Internally
displaced persons
90% OF GAZA
STRIP



534 Schools
in the Gaza Strip
sustained
damage

In 2024, Gaza was one of the most dangerous places in the world to be a child. Amid ongoing conflict, children have endured devastating loss, destruction, and displacement. Tens of thousands have been killed, injured, or are missing. At least 14,000 children are reported dead, and 17,000 more are unaccompanied or separated.

The war has collapsed essential infrastructure, triggering a spiralling public health emergency. Gaza's water and sanitation systems have been decimated, two-thirds of its water networks are damaged or destroyed, and fuel shortages have halted sewage treatment and waste management. Children are forced to rely on unsafe water, heightening the risk of waterborne disease outbreaks, including hepatitis A, diarrhoea, and polio which was detected in Gaza for the first time in 25 years.

In overcrowded shelters and camps, children suffer from skin infections, fevers, and preventable illnesses due to the lack of clean water and hygiene supplies. Hospitals, overwhelmed and under-resourced, are functioning without running water, anaesthetics, or sterilised equipment. Many children have undergone surgery, including amputations, under unimaginable conditions, with little or no pain relief.



Sewage and waste near the tents of internally displaced people in Rafah, south of the Gaza Strip. © UNICEF/UNI544677/EI Baba

Despite these extraordinary challenges, UNICEF is working to deliver safe water, repair damaged systems, and provide hygiene kits and emergency health supplies. These efforts offer critical lifelines, but far more is needed to protect the health, dignity, and futures of Gaza's children.

The personal experiences of children like Mohammed, who spends hours each day collecting water, and Sila, who survived a devastating injury, bring the human face of this crisis into sharp focus, reminding us of the urgent need to ensure Gaza's children have access to safe water, sanitation, and medical care.



SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT

Children carry plastic bags and search inside one of the waste dumps in Rafah, southern the Gaza Strip © UNICEF/UNI580070/EI Baba

IMPACT STORY

Muhammad's Daily Struggle for Survival



Muhammad, 11-year-old and Reham, 9-year-old, stand in front of one of the food distribution centers in Rafah, south of the Gaza Strip © UNICEF/UNI539224/ZAGOUT

Each day, 11-year-old Muhammad walks more than two kilometers through the crowded streets of Rafah, in southern Gaza, to secure basic necessities for his displaced family: food and clean water. The journey often takes more than five hours, spent queuing between jugs and containers.

"It's hard and tiring, but I have to do it every day," he says. "Otherwise, we won't eat anything."

Since fleeing their home, Mohammad has taken on the role of provider—navigating destroyed roads, long lines, and shortages in order to feed his family. The collapse of Gaza's water and sanitation systems has made daily survival a struggle for hundreds of thousands of children like him.

Water production has dropped by two-thirds, forcing families to rely on distant or unsafe sources. UNICEF is responding with emergency water trucking, support for damaged systems, and the provision of water treatment supplies, but the scale of need continues to grow.

Through it all, Mohammad holds tight to his 3-month-old sister, Ruwaida. "When I hug my little sister, I feel happiness sweep through my body," he says. "It helps me forget the destruction around us."



© UNICEF/UNI539222/ZAGOUT



© UNICEF/UNI539217/ZAGOUT



IMPACT STORY | GAZA

Sila's Amputation amid Gaza's a Collapsed Health System

Sila, 4-year-old, lost her right leg after her house was bombed in Gaza city, she also lost her mother, father and her three sisters, Saba, Farah, and Laila. © UNICEF/UNI589796/Subieh

Ten-year-old Sila is among the many children in Gaza who have suffered life-altering injuries due to the ongoing conflict. After sustaining severe wounds from an airstrike, she underwent an amputation in a hospital operating under dire conditions.

Gaza's healthcare system has been severely compromised, with 32 hospitals damaged and 110 health facilities affected as of July 2024 . Fuel shortages and infrastructure damage have left many hospitals without running water or electricity, forcing medical staff to perform surgeries without adequate sanitation or anaesthesia.

The destruction of water and sanitation infrastructure has further exacerbated the crisis. By May 2024, 60% of all WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) facilities in Gaza had been destroyed or severely damaged, limiting access to safe water for drinking and hygiene.

UNICEF is working to address these challenges by supplying health centers with safe water, hygiene kits, and emergency medical supplies. However, the scale of the crisis underscores the urgent need for sustained humanitarian assistance to restore essential services and protect the health and well-being of Gaza's children.

Today, Sila continues to recover in a temporary shelter, adapting to a life permanently changed. Her story echoes that of hundreds of children in Gaza, whose injuries were worsened not just by war, but by the absence of the basic systems meant to protect them.



SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT



© UNICEF/UNI589811/Subieh



© UNICEF/UNI589802/Subieh

RESULTS

Reaching Children with Vital Supplies

In 2024, UNICEF delivered a multisectoral response in Gaza, with a critical focus on water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) amid the destruction of 60% of facilities by mid-year. Through sustained efforts, 1.7 million people received safe water supplies and hygiene kits, and essential seawater desalination plants were kept operational to ensure continued access to clean water.

But UNICEF's support went far beyond WASH. Across Gaza and the West Bank, 2.4 million people received life-saving assistance spanning child protection, education, health, nutrition, emergency cash support, and critical health services. This integrated response helped families survive amid collapsing infrastructure and ongoing conflict.

With livelihoods devastated, over 890,000 people, including 400,000 children, received emergency cash assistance to meet their most basic needs. For Madeline, a single mother who lost her husband, this support was life-changing: "I used the grant to buy food, milk, diapers, and medicine for my children. It helped us survive."



Above: Dalia, 6 years-old, playing with her doll and with her friends in one of the alleys of the City of Rafah, south of the Gaza Strip.

©UNICEF/UNI501907/EI Baba

Below: Madeline, a mother from Gaza, stands in her tent holding her child in her arms. © UNICEF/UNI657351/EI Baba



In response to Gaza's first confirmed polio outbreak in 25 years, UNICEF partnered with WHO and the Palestinian Ministry of Health to launch a large-scale vaccination campaign. Despite bombardments and restricted access, the first round reached over 559,000 children under 10, with follow-up phases continuing wherever conditions allowed—averting a potentially devastating public health crisis.

UNICEF also provided vital support to injured and separated children—including those with disabilities—and offered alternative education options for displaced children, ensuring learning continued despite displacement and destruction.



These comprehensive efforts demonstrate UNICEF's unwavering commitment to protecting the rights, dignity, and futures of Gaza's children. Yet, with needs escalating daily, a sustained ceasefire is urgently needed for children to heal, learn, and rebuild their lives.



The children of Gaza need peace—now.

Ukraine: Childhood in Peril



Kateryna and Oleksandr are raising nine children in a family-type children's home. UNICEF/UNI662920/Filippov



GOAL 5

Every child has access to social protection and lives free from poverty.



© UNICEF/UNI662921/Filippov

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

2.9 million
Children in need
inside Ukraine

(HUMANITARIAN NEEDS OVERVIEW 2023)



14.6 million
People in need inside Ukraine

(HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN 2024)



3.6 million
Internally displaced
people (IOM, DISPLACEMENT
TRACKING MATRIX, OCTOBER 2024)

962,000
Children targeted by
UNICEF in Ukraine
2024 (UNICEF HAC 2024)



In 2024, widespread conflict and the collapse of services intensified the challenges facing children's right to social protection and freedom from poverty. In Ukraine, the ongoing war has uprooted millions, shattered essential services, and pushed countless families into deeper hardship and insecurity.

With over 3.6 million people displaced and vital infrastructure destroyed, children face disrupted education, lack of healthcare, and limited access to basic needs like heating and clean water. For many, daily life is a struggle to survive amid destroyed homes and communities under threat from violence and contamination by mines.

Ensuring every child has access to social protection is at the heart of UNICEF's response. By delivering emergency cash assistance, winter supplies, healthcare, and psychosocial support, UNICEF strives to safeguard children's well-being, keep families afloat, and provide a measure of hope in an unrelenting crisis.

Amid these immense challenges, families like Kateryna and Oleksandr's offer a glimpse of resilience and care. Living just kilometres from the frontlines in Sumy region, they are raising nine children—six of their own and three in foster care. Despite the constant threat of shelling and the hardships of war, their home remains a place of warmth, laughter, and learning.

Thanks to UNICEF and partner support, they received vital winter supplies, including a water heater, space heater, and power bank. These tools help keep the children warm and their education ongoing during frequent power outages, allowing them to find moments of normalcy in a disrupted world.

Throughout 2024, UNICEF scaled up its emergency response, reaching over 1.2 million people, including 200,000 children, with cash assistance, psychosocial support, education resources, and essential healthcare. In a landscape marked by loss and uncertainty, this support offers more than survival, it brings safety, dignity, and hope for Ukraine's children.

Through the personal experiences of children like Polina and Bohdan, the human face of this emergency comes sharply into focus, reminding us of the urgent need for ensuring that, even in the harshest circumstances, Ukrainian children receive the protection, care, and opportunities they need to build brighter futures.



SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT

IMPACT STORY

Polina Surviving winter on the frontlines

Twelve-year-old Polina used to live in the mining town of Myrnohrad, once home to 50,000 people. Today, with the front line just a few kilometres away, fewer than 2,000 residents remain. The constant shelling, lack of clean water, and collapsing health services made life increasingly dangerous, especially for Polina, who lives with a disability and needs regular medical care.

Her parents, Daria and her husband, struggled with the decision to leave. But when it became clear that Polina could no longer get the treatment she needed, they knew they had to go. "It became very scary to stay," Daria says, her voice cracking. "There was constant shelling. I understand now that we will never return. Most probably, there will be nowhere to return to."

The family relocated to a nearby village, farther from the front line. They now rent an old house from friends, and Daria's husband has found work. But the home has no running water and little insulation to face the harsh Ukrainian winter. That's where UNICEF stepped in.



Daria, 33, sits with her daughters Polina, 12, and Milana, 7, in the house she recently moved to with her children and husband, fleeing the war in the Donetsk region." ©UNICEF/UNI675718/Filippov

Through UNICEF's winterisation cash assistance programme, Daria's family received financial support to prepare for the cold months. "We bought coal and a large 500-litre water tank," says Daria. "There is no water here, and we need to bathe the children, wash the dishes... Now we can store some and have at least a basic supply."

Polina's family is one of more than 22,800 households in frontline regions, including Donetsk, Kharkiv, and Kherson, who received winter cash assistance from UNICEF in 2024. The support reached over 32,000 children, helping them stay warm, safe, and healthy through one of the toughest times of the year.



SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT

Milana holds her cherished doll, Omelka, close to her chest. "When we were leaving Myrnohrad, there was shooting," recalls Milana. "We were all leaving quickly, packing our things, a million things. I didn't take Omelka right away, because I was very upset. But my dad came back for her so that I wouldn't be sad." ©UNICEF/UNI716910/Filippov

IMPACT STORY

Bohdan is Breaking Barriers with Eye-Tracking Technology

© UNICEF/UNI448862/



Seven-year-old Bohdan lives in Chervonohrad, western Ukraine. He has a complex developmental disorder that prevents him from moving or speaking on his own. Yet this year, Bohdan began first grade, thanks to a life-changing assistive device provided by UNICEF: an eye-tracker.

The eye-tracker is a high-tech tool that follows Bohdan's gaze and head movements, enabling him to communicate, learn, and connect with others. Through this device, he can answer his teacher's questions, greet classmates, and share his favourite activities. It has opened up the world of inclusive education to him.

"The device offers him many opportunities—studying in a mainstream class, making friends, and even dreaming of higher education and a good job," says his mother, Ivanka.

Bohdan now reads, identifies letters, counts to five, and even transcribes words. He especially enjoys drawing and sending messages to family through his device. His teacher notes that while he cannot speak, "with the help of the eye-tracker, he can express himself—and when a child feels comfortable in their class, they will study well."

UNICEF is committed to ensuring that all children, including those with disabilities, have access to education. This includes providing assistive technologies like eye-trackers, screen readers, and adapted learning tools, alongside hygiene supplies and support for caregivers. UNICEF also partners with local service providers to offer rehabilitation and inclusive support across Ukraine. With the right tools, children like Bohdan can learn, thrive, and imagine a future without limits.



© UNICEF/UNI448865/



© UNICEF/UNI448872/



SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT





RESULTS

Reaching Children with Vital Supplies

The conflict in Ukraine continues to tear apart communities, destroy critical infrastructure, and threaten the futures of millions of children. The psychological toll on children deepens with each passing day.

In 2024, UNICEF remained committed to reaching children and families on both sides of the frontline. Across the country, we scaled up our response to deliver immediate relief and long-term support. Over 9.8 million people, including 2.5 million children, were reached with humanitarian assistance. This included:

Health services for
1.2 million people

Mental health and
psychosocial support
for 760,000 children,
adolescents,
and caregivers



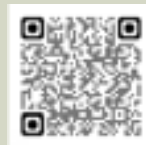
Formal and
non-formal
education for
480,000
children



Winterisation support—
including cash, fuel,
and supplies—to 50,000
households

Emergency
grants to
700 schools
to keep
classrooms
open through
winter

Heating &
energy
supplies
to critical
services in
frontline
regions



SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT



April 9, 2024, Bortnyky, Lvivska region, Ukraine. Boys hug at the pre-school development class, organized by UNICEF. ©UNICEF/UNI592685/Yevtushenko



UNICEF is utilising the transformative power of libraries to help children learn and play in western Ukraine, amid an ongoing war that has left scores struggling to access education. ©UNICEF/UNI592692/Yevtushenko

UNICEF's Safe Havens for Ukraine's Children

Behind every statistic are real children and their need for hope and resilience. UNICEF's Library Nanny project in Ukraine helps fulfil this need.

Launched to support children displaced or disrupted by the war, the initiative has turned nine local libraries into vibrant learning and play spaces. In Bortnyky, children gather to read books, draw, and simply be kids; while parents find a moment of relief knowing their children are safe, supported, and engaged.

Here, learning meets healing. These sessions offer more than early education, they help children regain a sense of normalcy, build friendships, and begin to recover emotionally. In a country where many schools remain inaccessible or damaged, this type of innovative support is vital. For Ukraine's children, UNICEF's mission remains clear: protect childhood, preserve hope, and ensure that no child is left behind.

Championing Children's Rights

While UNICEF's work spans some of the world's most urgent and complex crises, our commitment to children begins right here at home. In Ireland, we are focused on ensuring that every child's voice is heard, their rights are respected, and their futures are protected.

unicef  | for every child





Championing Children's Rights

In 2024, this commitment came to life through our domestic advocacy work—particularly in deepening youth engagement in democracy and shaping the national conversation around children's rights.

At UNICEF Ireland, our mission is to ensure that every child's voice is heard, their rights are respected, and their futures are protected. In 2024, our work focused on deepening youth engagement in democracy, with a major initiative to involve children and young people in the conversations and decisions surrounding the local, EU, and national elections.

We ran a series of youth activism workshops across the country, empowering participants with the tools, confidence, and knowledge to engage in political processes. These workshops culminated in the development of a youth-led election manifesto—designed by young people, for young people—which formed the basis of a national campaign calling on decision-makers to listen and respond to the priorities of Ireland's next generation.



This work reflects our broader strategy, which is grounded in six key pillars:

Advocacy

Championing the rights of children and promoting policy change that puts their wellbeing first.

Education

Equipping educators, schools, and students to build a culture of inclusion, respect, and rights awareness.

Partnership

Collaborating with government, civil society, schools, and communities to deliver real impact.

Participation

Creating inclusive platforms where children and young people help shape their lives today and in the future.

Research

We produce evidence-based insights into the lives of children and young people in Ireland, identifying gaps and advocating for solutions.

Public Engagement

We use our voice, media presence, and thought leadership to shape public discourse and ensure children's rights remain high on the national agenda.



Together, these pillars drive our vision of a society where every child can thrive, participate, and shape a better, fairer future.

Advocacy in Action



A National Call to Prioritise Children's Rights

Building on our work to engage young people in Ireland's democratic process, we launched #VoteForEveryChild, a bold, cross-platform campaign to elevate children's rights on the political agenda ahead of Ireland's general election. The campaign mobilised public support and called on political candidates to commit to a youth-designed manifesto of priorities for Ireland's children.

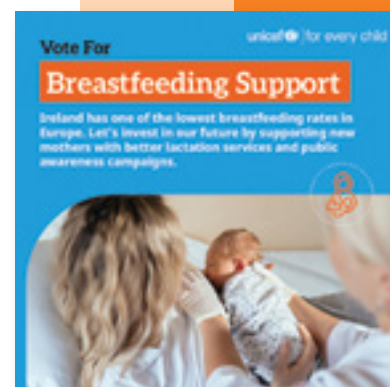


Built around three core goals, engaging voters, securing candidate pledges, and mainstreaming advocacy across all areas of our work—the campaign included a voter toolkit, media outreach, and an online pledge system where candidates could publicly support child-first policies. This approach reinforced both political accountability and public momentum for change.

Protecting Breastfeeding through Policy Advocacy

Our public health advocacy also advanced in 2024 with targeted efforts to safeguard breastfeeding. In dialogue with the Department of Health and Coimisiún na Meán, we pressed for stricter marketing codes and stronger enforcement against misleading promotion of breastmilk substitutes.

Our work aims to uphold public health guidance and ensure that all parents, regardless of background, can make informed feeding decisions free from commercial influence. This advocacy forms part of our broader effort to protect early childhood wellbeing through evidence-based, rights-aligned policies.



Empowering Young Advocates



Child and youth participation remained a cornerstone of our advocacy strategy throughout 2024. With the general election offering a vital opportunity for civic engagement, UNICEF Ireland prioritised the empowerment of young voices through its Activism Training Programme.

UNICEF delivered 8 Activism Training programmes in 2024.

These trainings equipped young people with critical advocacy skills—focusing on election engagement, policy dialogue, and effective campaigning for child rights. Participants gained practical experience in how to approach candidates, use social media for advocacy, and speak confidently about issues affecting children in Ireland.

This investment in capacity-building is part of UNICEF Ireland's commitment to ensuring that children and young people are not only heard but are actively shaping the policies that affect their lives. The growing network of trained young advocates is a testament to the power of participation in achieving lasting change for children.



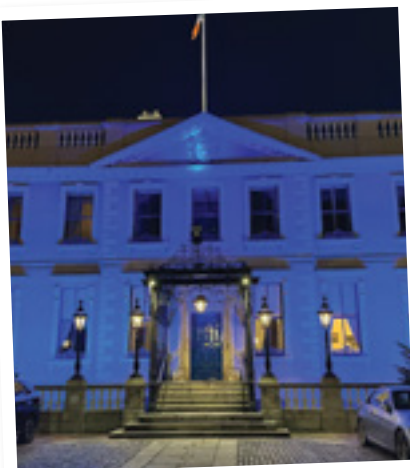
World Children's Day 2024: Listen to the Future



On 20th November, children and adults across Ireland joined the world in marking World Children's Day, themed "Listen to the Future."

Activities across Child Rights Schools focused on climate justice, education, and sustainability—using creative expression to articulate children's visions for the world they will inherit.

In Dublin, the Mansion House was lit in UNICEF blue for the first time, symbolising national recognition of children's rights. Though the annual Taoiseach Takeover was paused due to election timing, 15-year-old Swasti Sahoo delivered a powerful alternative: an open letter to the world of 2050, shared globally through UNICEF's communications channels.



A Letter to the World of 2050

By Swasti Sahoo, age 15

Dear World of 2050,

I am Swasti, 15 years old, from India who's living in Dublin, Ireland.

I see them – the migrant children... like seeds carried by the wind, planted in foreign soil. They bloom with roots reaching into the earth of another land, but their petals are still soaked with the rain of where they came from. And yet, they are often looked at as if they do not belong in this new garden, as if their flowers are too strange, their colours too vivid, their scent too unfamiliar.

I watch them shrink in classrooms, as if their accents are stones they must swallow, afraid their voices might shatter the silence. I see them clutching their lunches, the taste of home lingering on their tongues, only to watch others turn away, uncomfortable with what they do not understand. How can you tell them that their roots are just as important, just as beautiful, as the ones planted here?

I see the loneliness in their eyes when their names are mispronounced, or when no one asks about where they come from. Their stories are filled with strength, with courage, but too often, those stories are left untold because no one listens.

But what if by 2050, we have learned to listen? What if we've created a world where every accent is a song, every food a story, every tradition a bridge? A world where no child feels like a stranger in their own skin, where they can stand tall and proud, knowing their culture is a treasure, not a burden. What if we built a future where migrant children aren't forced to choose between who they are and who the world expects them to be?

I dream of that world. A world where every seed, no matter where it's planted, is given the space to grow into something beautiful, something needed. A world where no child ever has to feel like they are too different to belong.

I beg you, the world of 2050, don't let these children carry the weight of silence and rejection any longer. Do not let them grow up feeling unseen, unheard, or like they must erase who they are to fit in. The power to change this lies in all of us—in how we welcome, how we teach, and how we listen. I ask you to open your hearts, to embrace every culture, every accent, every name. Let us build a future where no child feels they have to hide their story, where they can stand proud in their differences and know they belong. These children deserve to be seen as the treasures they are. Let's make sure they know, in 2050, the world will be their home.

With hope,

Swasti Sahoo

November 2024

Child Rights Schools



Schools play a vital role in ensuring children in Ireland enjoy the rights outlined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). UNICEF Ireland's Child Rights Schools (CRS) programme empowers school communities to foster a culture of respect, inclusion, and child participation.

In a Child Rights School, children and adults learn about the CRC and work together to integrate child rights into everyday school life. In 2024, 34 schools across 13 counties participated in the programme. Over 11,000 children and 1,100 school staff engaged with CRS training and resources that support rights-based education.

"The programme has impacted our children's enjoyment in school and learning. By understanding their rights, children feel listened to, valued, and respected, creating a safe space."

Louise Young,
Teacher at Griffeen Valley ETNS

This year, Midleton Educate Together National School was awarded Gold Status for its collaborative efforts to champion children's rights. Eleven other primary schools achieved Silver Status, reflecting their progress on the CRS journey.

Empowering Educators to Champion Child Rights

Supporting educators remained a core focus in 2024. In July, UNICEF Ireland delivered a 20-hour online summer course for primary school staff: **A Child Rights Approach to an Inclusive Classroom**. Ninety educators completed the training, gaining tools to embed child rights into teaching with a focus on inclusive participation. The course received excellent feedback and was endorsed by the Department of Education.

Additionally, over 150 educators participated in online and in-person CRS training. These sessions offered strategies to help embed rights-based approaches into daily practice. "The Rights Respecting journey has strengthened student voice. The school's culture and ethos now ensure pupils have a say in their learning and school operations."— Elaine Foley, Principal at St. Joseph's NS, Templemore



Dear Unicef Ireland.

At Scoil na Coróine Mhuire, we believe that every child's voice is a melody, every culture a colour and every right a stepping stone towards a brighter world! Since joining the Child Rights Programme, our school has been transformed into a space where inclusion and empowerment are at the heart of everything we do.

We were bursting with pride to have achieved our Bronze Award and with the same passion and determination, we are now setting our sights on Silver! This journey has been nothing short of inspiring, creating a school environment where children don't just learn about their rights – they live them every single day.

As a school rich in diversity, we have embraced this programme with open hearts. It has strengthened the bonds between us making our hallways echo with kindness, understanding and a shared sense of belonging. Through creative projects, thought-provoking discussions, and student-led initiatives, we have empowered our young leaders to stand up, speak out, and make a difference – not just within our school, but in the wider world.

This programme has been like a spark of magic, igniting a passion for fairness, equality and compassion in every student. We have seen confidence bloom, friendships strengthen and an unshakable belief grow in every child – their voice matters and their actions can change the world.

So here's to the next step in our journey! Thank you UNICEF, for inspiring us, guiding us and giving us the tools to create a school where every child shines. Silver here we come!

With excitement and gratitude,

Scoil na Coróine Mhuire

SCOIL NA CORÓINE MHUIRE



Individual Giving



© UNICEF/UNI657388/Eleyan



SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT



The Power of Giving: How Supporters Shaped 2024 for Children

In 2024, people across Ireland showed what's possible when generosity meets purpose. Whether it was a one-off gift in response to an emergency, a monthly donation providing steady, long-term support, a family passing on the value of giving to the next generation, or a legacy that ensures children will be cared for into the future, individual giving was at the heart of everything UNICEF achieved this year.

Every single act of generosity, no matter the size, form, or frequency, was part of something bigger. It was part of a promise: that no child should be left behind. In a year marked by complex, overlapping emergencies, conflicts, climate shocks, food insecurity, and economic instability, your support made it possible for UNICEF to respond immediately, adapt quickly, and remain present long after the cameras moved on.

From the war zones of Gaza and Ukraine to the hunger crisis in Sudan, from ongoing recovery in Afghanistan to long-term development efforts in Mali, Irish donors helped deliver life-saving aid and long-term solutions for children and families in desperate need.

But even beyond the impact of each individual programme or response, your giving sent a powerful message: that every child matters, regardless of where they live or what crisis they face.

Irish supporters didn't just react to headlines; they stood with children in the world's most forgotten emergencies, invested in long-term change, and extended solidarity to children they may never meet, but whose futures they helped shape.

This section is dedicated to you, the individuals, families, and philanthropists who gave not just funds, but hope.



Through your generosity, you allowed UNICEF to respond in emergencies, strengthen systems, and work toward a world where every child can survive, thrive, and reach their full potential.

With your support, we provided:



Emergency food and therapeutic nutrition for children at risk of starvation



Access to clean water and safe sanitation



Life-saving vaccines and healthcare



Temporary learning spaces and school supplies



Psychosocial care for children affected by trauma



Family tracing and child protection in areas torn apart by conflict



© UNICEF/UNI657385/Eleyan

Reunited Against the Odds

In northern Gaza, 12-year-old Suad and her 10-year-old sister Sewar were believed dead after an airstrike destroyed the home where they had been staying. Their mother, displaced in the south of the region, collapsed with grief upon hearing the news.

But the girls had survived.

Injured and alone, Sewar led rescuers to her trapped sister. With support from UNICEF's child protection team, they were safely reunited with their mother and relocated to a shelter where they received urgent medical care, psychological support, and a place to begin healing.

Thanks to donor contributions, this quiet act of family reunification became possible, restoring not only physical safety, but also a profound sense of hope in the midst of chaos.



Children wearing their identity bracelets. UNICEF has distributed 105,000 identity bracelets for children who may more easily get lost and separated from their families UNICEF/UNI580019/EI Baba

Protecting Children in the Unimaginable

Suad and Sewar's story is one of many. In 2024, as conflict intensified across Gaza, thousands of children were separated from their families, injured, or displaced—many without access to basic services.

To respond to the scale of this emergency, UNICEF launched a multi-pronged response, focused not only on life-saving aid but on protection, dignity, and the preservation of identity and family ties.

In one of the most poignant images of the year, young children in Gaza wear identification bracelets, carefully placed on their wrists by UNICEF-supported teams. These simple bands carry vital information like names, family contacts, locations which aims to help reconnect children with loved ones if they become separated in the chaos of displacement or injury.

In another, a dedicated nurse tends to a newborn baby in an incubator, her face calm and focused despite the devastation outside the hospital walls. Supported by UNICEF's health programme, she is part of a frontline team delivering neonatal care in the most difficult conditions, ensuring the smallest and most vulnerable children still have a chance to survive.

These images, and the stories behind them, are reminders that every child matters. And thanks to the generosity of Irish donors, we were able to reach children in some of the harshest conditions imaginable.



A nurse cares for newborn babies who are being kept inside an incubator at the Emirati maternity hospital in Rafah, southern area of the Gaza Strip. © UNICEF/UNI504851/EI Baba

The Impact of Monthly Giving in the World's Most Overlooked Crises

Behind every urgent response is something quieter but just as powerful: the predictable, flexible support of monthly donors. It's what allows us to act early, stay longer, and reach children others can't.

UNICEF's core promise is to reach every child. To fulfil that promise, we go where others won't, stay when others can't, and tackle the deep-rooted inequalities that leave children behind. In war zones, famine regions, and communities cut off from healthcare and education, monthly donations make it possible to serve the children most at risk, whether or not their crisis makes the news.

One of the most powerful aspects of monthly giving is its flexibility. It allows us to respond to unseen emergencies, underfunded crises, and neglected regions—the places where children are too often forgotten.



SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT



It's December 20! Sanad's second birthday!
© UNICEF/UNI708243/Noman

Case Study: Sanad's Second Chance

In Lahj, Yemen, a little boy named Sanad turned two years old on December 20, 2024. His story is one of survival against the odds.

At just four months old, Sanad was diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition, a condition that, without treatment, can be deadly. But Sanad's family found help at a UNICEF-supported Therapeutic Feeding Centre, where he received emergency nutrition care. With ongoing visits from community health workers, Sanad recovered and is now thriving.

Yet Sanad's recovery is the exception, not the rule. Yemen's crisis remains one of the world's most underfunded humanitarian emergencies. Countless other children still face hunger, illness, and displacement.

Because of flexible, reliable monthly donations, UNICEF can step in even when designated funding falls short. We can reach the children who are most at risk, ensuring that no child is left behind simply because their crisis has been forgotten.

In a year marked by escalating emergencies, monthly donations proved especially powerful. They allow UNICEF to respond rapidly, reach further, and plan with confidence. And thanks to Ireland's Charitable Donation Scheme, these gifts go even further. When a donor contributes €250 or more in a year, UNICEF Ireland can claim up to 45% in tax relief—turning €250 into €362, €500 into €725, or €1,000 into €1,450 at no extra cost to the donor.

Every monthly pledge is a powerful act of solidarity. It means we can protect children before, during, and after emergencies. It means we can tackle not only the symptoms of crises, but also the causes. And it means that children like Suad and Sewar, Hawa and Koumba, and Sanad are not forgotten.

To everyone who stood with us in 2024: thank you. Your generosity saved lives, gave hope, and helped build a more just, equal, and compassionate world, for every child.



Sanad has recovered!
©UNICEF/UNI708243/Noman

Providing Cash Transfers



Just six days after the first bombings pounded the Gaza Strip, UNICEF was able to distribute emergency cash assistance to tens of thousands of families who were suddenly without any income. That cash has been a lifeline for Gaza residents struggling to obtain the basics for life.

This is one of the best examples of how monthly donors are often the first responders in an emergency. Having a pot of money at the ready to be deployed to where the need is greatest, meant UNICEF could set up and plan the cash transfer programme, organise the logistics of reaching thousands of people in less than week, and get the money into the pockets of desperate families.

In 2024 UNICEF reached over 1 million individuals, including 502,000 children, with humanitarian cash transfers.

In the north of Gaza there were weeks where little or no aid could be delivered. For families there cash transfers were the difference between life and death.

Whilst there were meagre supplies of commercial goods in northern Gaza, cash transfers at least allowed families to buy what little food was available.

For mothers like Madeline who had lost her husband, cash transfers provided her with a source of income that she otherwise would not have had and would have struggled to keep her children alive.

“I used the money to buy food, vegetables, milk, diapers for my son, fruit, and medicine for the children. This assistance made a huge difference, especially after I lost my husband.”

Thank you to every person in Ireland who gave a single or monthly donation. You have helped to save the lives of families like Madeline's.

Providing warm clothes and blankets

As news broke in December of the first baby freezing to death in Gaza, UNICEF was already working around the clock to deliver warm blankets and clothes to children. The makeshift shelters and tents children were sleeping in, offered them little to no protection from the elements and made their battle for survival even more difficult.



Saad is five years old and was blinded by a bombing, which also left him with a head injury and burns. Here he is in mid-December opening a box of winter clothes with his sister, that UNICEF was able to provide to them thanks to the support of our generous supporters.

Family Giving: Inspiring a new generation of Givers



When you become a monthly donor through our Paddington's Post offer, your family is not only helping children around the world, you're also embarking on a shared adventure of kindness, learning, and discovery.

Inspired by the values of Paddington Bear, empathy, curiosity, and standing up for what's right, Paddington's Post is a welcome pack and postal subscription designed especially for children. Each mailing is filled with beautifully illustrated stories, fun activities, and real-life tales of how UNICEF is helping children across the globe. Together, your family will learn about different cultures, the challenges children face, and how acts of compassion can make a world of difference.

It's a wonderful way to introduce children to global citizenship and empathy, while your monthly donations support life-changing work like providing clean water, safe education, vaccinations, and protection from conflict and disaster.



A monthly pledge brings your family closer to the families you're helping around the world.

Legacy Gifting



With running water now in his home, Mohammed drinks a glass of clean safe water. His mother Salma said, "It is an excellent project. Thankfully, now we are not concerned about water as it is abundant."
©UNICEF/UN0819011/Alsunaider

A Lasting Gift for Children



“ So, I decided to make a gift now, as part of my Living Will, to help children ... children who haven't had the chances in life I, my children and grandchildren have had. ”



Tony with his wife Maureen pictured with their children and family dog outside their home. © UNICEF/Ferguson

Leaving a Legacy of Compassion

“ I wanted to leave a gift in my Will to help children who are living in desperate conditions through no fault of their own. ”

Tony Ferguson, Legacy Donor.

Tony Ferguson grew up in London, the only son of Irish parents. His childhood was shaped by the hardships of the Second World War and the quiet strength and compassion of his mother. “During the war, times were tough,” he recalls. “But despite not having much, my mother still found time to volunteer with the Crusade of Rescue Home and help destitute boys – many whose fathers were killed in the war.”

That spirit of giving stayed with Tony throughout his life. When he later returned to Ireland, he and his wife Maureen raised six children and welcomed 14 grandchildren. “Having my family kept reminding me about my own childhood and my mother,” he says. *“I wanted to honour the values she instilled in me – to support children who needed help. And I thought there was no better organisation to do this with but UNICEF.”*

By choosing to leave a gift in his Will, Tony made a powerful and personal commitment to future generations. His legacy gift, like those of many other supporters, helps UNICEF continue its life-changing work for children all over the world.

Every year, tens of thousands of children under five die from illnesses caused by dirty water, which is more than from war-related violence. Thanks to donors like Tony, UNICEF is working in 158 countries to change that. Legacy gifts like

Tony's provide UNICEF with flexible funding, a rare resource that allows rapid emergency response and long-term investment.

Though not tied to a specific project, his gift helps power life-changing programmes like solar-powered water systems in Yemen. In the city of Dhamar, Yemen, years of conflict and fuel shortages left families without clean water. Now, a €1.2 million solar-powered system provides safe water to 137,000 people — including Nabil, Salma, and their children, who once relied on unsafe sources that made their son Mohammed sick with cholera.

Today, clean water flows to their home, transforming their health and daily life. These systems also create opportunity. Hasan, a 24-year-old engineer, now oversees the Dhamar project. “It's inspired me to solve problems,” he says.

UNICEF now supports 150 solar-powered water projects across Yemen, reaching 2.5 million people — made possible by legacy donors like Tony, whose gift is helping children grow up healthy, safe, and full of potential.



SCAN TO SEE
VIDEO REPORT



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

UNICEF's commitment to clean and safe water is deeply embedded in our organisational DNA. We operate the world's largest water and sanitation programmes to benefit children — but we must do more. By 2040, 1 in 4 children will live in areas facing high water stress. Without access to safe water, children are more vulnerable to disease, malnutrition, and poverty.

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 Murphy or learn more at unicef.ie/legacy



Pauline Murphy
Legacy Gifts Manager

✉ pauline@unicef.ie

☎ +353 1 878 3000

👉 unicef.ie/legacy

Philanthropy: Shaping the Future

Brigitte, a 4 year old girl, attending class in the village of Karafiné-Guimbe, in the north of Côte d'Ivoire. UNICEF supports the community for the implementation of good WASH practices.
© UNICEF/UNI525507/Dejongh



At UNICEF, transforming children's lives requires more than immediate relief—it demands visionary partnerships that invest in sustainable, long-term change. Our philanthropic partners share this commitment, helping us tackle the root causes of inequality and build brighter futures for generations to come.

Philanthropy at UNICEF is about more than giving. It's about investing in sustainable impact and transformational change. With our presence in over 190 countries and territories, UNICEF is uniquely positioned to deliver scalable results—reaching the most remote communities within 48 hours of an emergency, shaping national policies, and delivering long-term solutions for children. From expanding access to clean water for over 2 billion people since 1990, to vaccinating 85% of the world's children, the systems we help build continue to deliver value for decades, creating ripple effects across families, economies, and societies.

What makes our philanthropic partnerships unique is their flexibility and deeply personal nature. We work closely with individuals, families, and foundations to design bespoke giving opportunities that reflect their passions, expertise, and values. One example of this in 2024 was *Green is a Myriad*, a solo exhibition by Irish artist Paul Hughes in partnership with the Royal Hibernian Academy. All proceeds from the sale of the artwork were donated to UNICEF's Flexible Funding, our most agile and effective resource for supporting children wherever the need is greatest.

The exhibition embodied the spirit of values-driven philanthropy. Paul Hughes used his artistic voice to highlight the hope and potential of childhood, and to contribute meaningfully to global change. For UNICEF, this is what true partnership looks like: collaboration rooted in purpose, powered by compassion, and tailored to make the greatest impact.

We are deeply grateful to all of our philanthropic supporters who continue to shape the future—on their own terms, and always in solidarity with children.

To learn more about Philanthropy at UNICEF, contact our dedicated team at philanthropy@unicef.ie.



Artist and philanthropist Paul Hughes at the RHA Exhibition displaying his work *Green is a Myriad*

Climate Change and the Power to Shape a Different Future

Climate change is no longer a distant threat, it is a daily reality for millions of children around the world. In 2024, millions were impacted by devastating floods that swept across countries like Bangladesh, Vietnam, Mozambique and Ethiopia, displacing families, destroying schools and healthcare facilities, and putting children at even greater risk of malnutrition, disease, and exploitation. These images are harrowing yet all too common. They remind us that climate is not just an environmental issue. It is a child rights crisis.

From access to safe water and nutritious food, to education, shelter, and protection, every aspect of a child's life is affected. And it is those who have contributed least to climate change namely children in low-income and conflict-affected countries, who are paying the highest price.

But this story is not yet written. With the support of visionary philanthropists, UNICEF is working to change the course. Through climate-responsive programming, we are helping communities prepare for, withstand, and recover from climate shocks, so that children are not just surviving, but thriving in a changing world.

PHILANTHROPIC INVESTMENTS ENABLE UNICEF TO:

- ✓ Build flood-resilient schools and healthcare centres.
- ✓ Expand access to climate-smart water, sanitation, and hygiene systems.
- ✓ Support early warning systems and emergency preparedness.
- ✓ Advocate for youth-led climate action and policy reform.

Because our work is grounded in communities and backed by science, these investments yield both immediate protection and long-term resilience. Philanthropy also allows us to pilot innovative solutions, from solar-powered water pumps in drought-affected regions to eco-friendly classrooms in flood zones, that can scale across borders.

This is the power of values-led giving: the ability to act not only on today's emergencies, but to shape a more resilient and just world for generations to come.



Twelve-year-old Aboya and his family are sheltering in his school after floods devastated their home in Ethiopia's Gambella region—now he's unsure when, or if, he'll be able to return to class. ©UNICEF/UNI639781/Pouget



After floods submerged her village in Ethiopia's Gambella region, Lingo and her four children sought shelter in a school, where she now fears deadly diseases like malaria and diarrhoea will reach her baby and others forced to flee. © UNICEF/UNI639783/Pouget



Together, with our philanthropic partners, we are not just responding to climate change, we are helping rewrite the future it threatens to steal.

Partnering for Children

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 2024, 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



A photograph of two young girls in school uniforms, smiling, standing in front of a green wall with the word 'INNOVATOR' visible. They are wearing lanyards and ID cards. The girl on the left is holding a small electronic device. The image is part of a report on digital literacy for girls.

Partnering for Children



Students create prototypes at the Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL), exploring STEM concepts with tools like robotics kits, 3D printers, and microcontrollers. © UNICEF/UNI715305/Nazir

Creating lasting change for children takes more than commitment, it takes collaboration. That's why our partnerships with the private sector are vital to everything we do. From scaling innovation to delivering life-saving services, our corporate partners bring not only resources but also expertise, creativity, and a shared passion for building a better world for every child.

These partnerships fuel high-impact programs that drive progress where it's needed most. In India, for example, a collaboration between UNICEF, the Atal Innovation Mission of NITI Aayog, and corporate supporters is transforming education for girls in underserved communities. At the Government Girls Higher Secondary School in Chhattisgarh's Durg district, a vibrant Atal Tinkering Lab is giving students hands-on access to cutting-edge tools like robotics kits, 3D printers, and microcontrollers.

Girls who once had limited exposure to technology are now designing real-world solutions, like a sewer-cleaning robot to improve community sanitation. This is innovation in action. It's what happens when

partners come together to empower children, not just to dream, but to build, lead, and thrive.

Through partnerships like these, we are not only responding to immediate needs, we are investing in long-term, scalable solutions. Whether it's delivering emergency aid, expanding access to education, or unlocking new opportunities through emerging technologies, our corporate partners help us innovate at every step.

Together, we are reimagining a world where every child has the tools, support, and opportunities to thrive.



Sparkling Innovation to Empower Scalable Solutions

UNICEF continues to harness innovation as a powerful tool to address urgent challenges facing children around the world—while simultaneously building confidence among corporate partners seeking scalable, high-impact solutions.

Daniel Alvarez, and Aerobot's engineers, in partnership with UNICEF Guatemala, developed a drone-enabled solution to relay real-time data during climate disasters and extreme weather events, to help emergency response teams make informed decision. ©UNICEF/UNI471751/



UNICEF Guatemala team together with Aerobots personnel and the drone after the flight drone test as part of the DroneBots project. ©UNICEF/UNI738515/Lopez

SCAN TO SEE VIDEO REPORT

One standout initiative is DroneBots, developed by UNICEF Guatemala in partnership with local tech firm Aerobots. In a country where over 40% of the population faces climate-related threats, this drone-based solution is transforming emergency response. By using LoRa (Long Range) technology,

DroneBots can transmit real-time data on damage and needs without relying on internet or mobile networks. This dramatically reduces data transfer time, enabling faster, more effective decisions that protect children and communities during emergencies. This project was supported by UNICEF's Spark Innovation Incubator, a platform that identifies and accelerates promising, locally developed solutions. More than 100 submissions were reviewed, and nine teams received tailored mentorship, seed funding, and incubation support to bring their ideas to scale.

ADDITIONAL INNOVATIONS SUPPORTED BY SPARK INCLUDE

Evalu-It (State of Palestine)

A digital platform to gather real-time user feedback on emergency supply distribution, improving transparency and service delivery.

WaterGen (India)

A solar-powered water purification and dispensing system providing safe drinking water to underserved communities.

UNICEF's innovation strategy emphasises open-source models, measurable outcomes, and deep collaboration, principles that resonate with corporate partners committed to sustainable impact. By backing these bold ideas, the private sector helps drive scalable change while investing in a safer, more resilient future for every child.



Corporate Partnerships

At UNICEF Ireland, we are proud to support the global partnership between CRH and UNICEF — a five-year, \$15 million commitment to reach children in some of the world's most challenging places with life-saving vaccines. As the relationship lead for CRH within the UNICEF family, we work closely with our colleagues around the world and with CRH to ensure the partnership delivers real, lasting impact for children.



CRH, a leading provider of building materials solutions, joined forces with UNICEF in late 2023 to help strengthen vaccination efforts in countries affected by conflict, crisis, and economic fragility. In its first year, the partnership enabled UNICEF to deliver more than 11 million doses of essential vaccines across eight countries, including Sudan, Syria, Northeast Syria, and Cuba. Thanks to this support, an estimated 3.1 million children received at least one dose of a vaccine in 2024.



Fatima and her children with the vaccination cards after receiving the measles and rubella vaccine in Kassala state. This was during the first phase of the Measles and Rubella (MR) vaccination campaign. The campaign targets over 5 million children between 9 months and 15 years. © UNICEF/UNIS14499/Elfatih



A young girl flashes her vaccination card after she was vaccinated against measles and rubella in Kassala state ©UNICEF/UNIS14453/Elfatih

This support comes at a critical time. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, routine immunization coverage has declined globally, with the number of children who haven't received a single dose of vaccine rising from 13.3 million in 2019 to 18.2 million in 2021. Nearly half of these “zero-dose” children live in humanitarian settings, where access to basic health services is often disrupted or severely limited.

CRH's support is helping UNICEF close these gaps, by making sure vaccines are available and delivered in communities where they're needed most. In places like Sudan and Syria, where health systems are under strain, this includes identifying gaps in routine immunization

and strengthening delivery through community outreach and frontline training. At the same time, the partnership is helping to build trust in vaccines in countries with low uptake. In 2023, targeted efforts in Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, and Romania focused on tackling vaccine hesitancy.

These projects supported healthcare workers with training and tools, while running community information campaigns to increase vaccine confidence.





CRH visited the Roma settlement in Kakanj, where their generous support has helped UNICEF implement vital health and immunization interventions. From routine vaccinations to essential healthcare services, these efforts are making a tangible difference in the lives of children and families. Together, we are working towards a healthier future for every child. © UNICEF/UNI731119/Calkic



© UNICEF/UNI731138/Calkic

Looking ahead, the CRH-UNICEF partnership will continue to support immediate needs while investing in the longer-term resilience of health systems — helping ensure children are protected not just today, but into the future.

UNICEF's expertise in reaching the hardest-to-reach places supports CRH's commitment to creating lasting and sustainable impact in the supported communities, working together toward the shared goal of ensuring more children grow up healthy, safe, and with the opportunity to reach their full potential.

We're deeply grateful to CRH for the continued partnership and investment in UNICEF's work — for every child.



in support of





© UNICEF/UNI614627

Primark

In 2018, Primark partnered with UNICEF to promote inclusive learning for children around the world, with a focus on the most vulnerable and marginalised. This partnership has supported UNICEF's education programmes in Cambodia (2018 – 2020), India and Sri Lanka (2021 – 2024), as well as support during critical emergencies, bringing their total contribution to over \$12 million during these years.

In 2024 Primark renewed their partnership with UNICEF, committing \$2 million over 2-years, to support UNICEF's Regular Resources and emergency relief for the most vulnerable children. Additionally, Primark continued as a Principal Partner of Soccer Aid for UNICEF and has raised over £2m in its UK stores since 2020.

In India, Primark has supported 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, with a focus on children with severe disabilities. The programme supported efforts to improve educational opportunities for more than 2 million children, exceeding the target of 800,000.

In Sri Lanka, since 2021, Primark has supported 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. The programme has supported 121,000 children (against the targeted 6000) with improved access to a quality and inclusive learning system.

Throughout the next phase of the partnership, Primark will continue to champion children's futures in collaboration with employees, customers, and the communities in which Primark operates.



© UNICEF/UNI614629

Aer Lingus and UNICEF 27 Years of Partnership for Children



In 2024, Aer Lingus and UNICEF proudly marked **27 years of impactful partnership**—raising over **\$23 million** to help create a better world for every child.



Since 1997, Aer Lingus has supported vulnerable children globally through its iconic Change for Good campaign. With the unwavering support of cabin crew and passengers, onboard collections have contributed to life-saving vaccines, access to safe water, nutrition support, education, and emergency relief for children living through the world's most challenging crises.

Aer Lingus remains UNICEF Ireland's largest contributor to Core Resources for Results (RR)—flexible funding that allows UNICEF to respond wherever and whenever children's needs are greatest. In 2024, 100% of funds raised continued to support this vital, adaptable resource.

This year, the airline held a special Christmas onboard collection to support children affected by emergencies around the world. While still collecting cash inflight, Aer Lingus is working hard to transition towards a digital donation model, making it easier than ever for passengers to give. Aer Lingus staff visited UNICEF's Supply Division in Copenhagen—gaining first-hand insight into the logistics behind delivering emergency supplies like vaccines, education kits, and clean water to children in crisis zones around the globe.



UNICEF deeply values the enduring support of Aer Lingus - steadfast partners in delivering hope, dignity, and opportunity to children everywhere.

Annual Report & Audited Financial Statements

for the financial year ended 31 December 2024

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

Contents

Directors' and Other Information	68
Directors' Annual Report	69
Directors' Responsibilities Statement	75
Independent Auditor's Report	76
Statement of Financial Activities	79
Balance Sheet	80
Statement of Cash Flows	81
Notes to the Financial Statements	82

On 22 October 2023, 8-year-old Rana works on her schoolwork near her community-based education class supported in Bagh-e-Jalal village, Daikundi province, central Afghanistan. © UNICEF/UNI503907/Musadiq



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 2024

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 2024.

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 2024

Future Developments

The global landscape for children continues to evolve, bringing with it a range of complex and pressing challenges. Across the world, millions of children are affected by the devastating impacts of floods, storms, droughts, and conflict—often struggling to access the essential services they need to survive and thrive.

Our mission for 2025 is to continue delivering for every child, no matter where they are. We will strengthen and diversify our fundraising efforts, with a strategic focus on increasing unrestricted funding. These flexible resources are vital for enabling rapid emergency responses and sustaining critical programmes that promote global equity and support the most vulnerable children.

In line with our commitment to ensuring that every child survives and thrives, and that no child is left behind, we will continue to advocate for, protect, and uphold children's rights through both our programming and policy work.

Our vision is clear: "For Every Child, A World of Opportunities." Our mission is to inspire individuals and communities across Ireland to become champions for children by supporting, promoting, and investing in the rights of every child, everywhere.

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 2024

Achievements and Performance

Maximise income for children

In 2024, UNICEF Ireland delivered a total income of €32.5 million to support UNICEF programmes worldwide. This represents a decrease of nearly 14% compared to 2023, as expected, following an exceptional year of fundraising activity. The decline reflects a return to more typical income levels, broadly consistent with those achieved in 2022.

Despite a challenging fundraising environment, we maintained a strong focus on growing our base of committed supporters. Regular giving through direct debit reached nearly €5 million, an encouraging increase from just over €4.4 million in 2023 demonstrating the continued trust and dedication of our donors.

Corporate partnerships and Philanthropic giving also made a vital contribution, generating over €7.7 million to support our mission for children. In line with our strategic priorities, we advanced our ambition to be the market leader in responding to children in emergencies. We remain committed to being faster, bolder, and more impactful in delivering for children when they need us most.

Financial Review

Income

In describing our activities and achievements we have reported that UNICEF Ireland's total income for 2024 was €32.6 million. This was a decrease of 14% compared to the income of €37.7 million in 2023.

Costs of Generating Funds

To continue growing income and expanding our impact for children, development agencies must invest in fundraising each year. At UNICEF Ireland, we are committed to doing this responsibly and strategically. Over the past five years, we have invested an average of 26 cents for every euro raised, ensuring a strong return that supports life-changing programmes for children worldwide.

This investment includes the cost of fundraising campaigns, maintaining and engaging our loyal donor base, and recruiting new supporters. It also supports the development of a future-ready organisation, equipped to adapt to evolving technologies, regulatory changes, and emerging global challenges.

By spending wisely today, we are building a sustainable foundation that ensures long-term impact for children. Using a five-year rolling average provides a clearer picture of our core operational costs, helping to smooth out the effects of exceptional events, such as large-scale humanitarian emergencies or fundraising efforts with multi-year income returns. This strategic approach allows us to continue delivering maximum value and lasting change for every child, everywhere.

Charitable Expenditure

In 2024 UNICEF Ireland raised a total of €32.6 million, making a significant contribution to global efforts for children. Of this, €22.2 million was remitted directly to UNICEF HQ and immediately put to work supporting life-saving programmes around the world.

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

Directors' Annual Report

for the financial year ended 31 December 2024

An investment of €9.9 million was made to generate these vital funds, ensuring continued growth, donor engagement, and long-term sustainability. The remaining €0.5 million will be reinvested to strengthen our capacity and ensure we can continue delivering for children in the years ahead.

This approach reflects our commitment to maximising impact while building a strong foundation for the future.

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 €4.1 million which represents an increase of €0.5 million since 2023. UNICEF Ireland policy on reserves is to maintain an appropriate level to ensure sufficient resources for a sustainable future.

Changes in Assets

Details of fixed asset movements during 2024 are outlined in Note 12 of the financial statements. UNICEF Ireland continues to maintain a minimal level of fixed assets, in line with our policy to remain agile and focused on directing resources toward programmes for children.

At year-end, the company held €8.8 million in cash at bank. A significant portion of annual income is typically received in the final month of the financial year. As a result, year-on-year fluctuations in the bank balance are common and largely influenced by the timing of December bank holidays, which can affect the scheduling of payments to overseas programmes and suppliers.

This prudent approach ensures that funds are available when needed while maintaining flexibility to respond efficiently to programme demands.

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 2024.

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

Directors' Annual Report

for the financial year ended 31 December 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

UNICEF Ireland is a charitable company limited by guarantee and governed by a Board of Directors. There were nine Directors on the Board in 2024 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 2024 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, a Director of Fundraising and a Director of Supporter Engagement and Digital Change.

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 2024

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 12 June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Paul Connolly | Director



Caroline Dowling | Director

Date: 12 June 2025

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

Directors' Responsibilities Statement for the financial year ended 31 December 2024

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 12 June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Paul Connolly | Director



Caroline Dowling | Director

Date: 12 June 2025

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 2024 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 2024 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 8, 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: 12 June 2025

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 2024)*

		UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL	TOTAL
		2024	2024	2024	2023
	NOTES	€	€	€	€
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	7	13,111,407	19,424,805	32,536,212	37,524,036
Activities for generating funds					
<i>Government and other grants</i>	6	-	-	-	175,399
Other incoming resources					
<i>Deposit Interest</i>		-	-	-	37
Total incoming resources		13,111,407	19,424,805	32,536,212	37,699,472
Resources Expended					
<i>Costs of Generating Funds</i>	8	6,799,181	3,069,326	9,868,507	9,839,625
<i>Grant expenditure</i>		2,000	-	2,000	116,457
		6,801,181	3,069,326	9,870,507	9,956,082
Net Incoming Resources available for charitable application		6,310,226	16,355,479	22,665,705	27,743,390
Resources Expended on Charitable Activities					
<i>Specific UNICEF programmes</i>	10	5,810,226	16,355,479	22,165,705	27,243,390
Total Resources Expended		12,611,407	19,424,805	32,036,212	37,199,472
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		500,000	-	500,000	500,000
Net movement in funds for the year		500,000	-	500,000	500,000
Reconciliation of funds					
<i>Balances brought forward at 1 January 2024</i>		3,590,000	-	3,590,000	3,090,000
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2024		4,090,000	-	4,090,000	3,590,000

Approved by the Board of Directors on 12th June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Paul Connolly
Director



Caroline Dowling
Director

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form part of the financial statements

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


Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2024

	NOTES	2024 €	2023 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Assets	12	68,468	68,038
Current Assets			
Debtors	13	2,165,622	168,495
Cash at bank and in hand		8,810,360	14,069,419
		10,975,982	14,237,914
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(6,955,450)	(10,715,952)
Net Current Assets		4,020,532	3,521,962
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		4,090,000	3,590,000
Funds			
General fund (unrestricted)		4,090,000	3,590,000
Total funds	18	4,090,000	3,590,000

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 12 June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Paul Connolly
Director



Caroline Dowling
Director

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form part of the financial statements

UNICEF Ireland

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	NOTES	2024 €	2023 €
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movement in funds		500,000	500,000
Adjustments for:			
<i>Depreciation</i>		43,886	37,312
		543,886	537,312
Movements in working capital:			
<i>Movement in debtors</i>		(1,997,127)	(84,314)
<i>Movement in creditors</i>		(569,251)	(728,835)
Cash generated from operations		(2,022,492)	(275,837)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments to acquire tangible assets		(45,316)	(55,453)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Advances from subsidiaries/group companies		(3,191,251)	7,176,649
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		(5,259,059)	6,845,359
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January 2024		14,069,419	7,224,060
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2024	23	8,810,360	14,069,419

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

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

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 2024 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 2024

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 2024

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 2024

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 2024

5. NET INCOMING RESOURCES

	2024	2023
	€	€
Net Incoming Resources are stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of tangible assets	43,886	37,312
Auditors' remuneration	13,000	11,500

6. GOVERNMENT AND OTHER GRANTS

	2024	2023
	€	€
EU Grant - Child's Rights Education	-	175,399
	-	175,399

7. ANALYSIS OF INCOMING RESOURCES

	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL	TOTAL
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	€	€	€	€
Incoming resources from generated funds:				
Direct Marketing	2,655,172	9,512,266	12,167,438	7,679,221
Corporate Partnerships	2,014,347	4,137,910	6,152,257	9,094,465
Emergencies	-	2,342,776	2,342,776	9,766,469
Donations	8,441,888	3,431,853	11,873,741	10,983,881
Totals	13,111,407	19,424,805	32,536,212	37,524,036

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

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

8. ANALYSIS OF RESOURCES EXPENDED

	UNRESTRICTED 2024 €	RESTRICTED 2024 €	TOTAL 2024 €	TOTAL 2023 €
Costs of generating funds:				
Direct Marketing	1,399,213	1,845,635	3,244,848	1,940,961
Corporate Partnerships	89,650	119,667	209,317	218,593
Emergencies	-	1,006,952	1,006,952	3,103,775
Donations	1,795,916	97,072	1,892,988	1,681,781
Support & Administration expenses (note 9)	3,514,402	-	3,514,402	2,894,515
Totals	6,799,181	3,069,326	9,868,507	9,839,625

9. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT AND ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES

	Programme & Communication €	Administration €	Fundraising €	TOTAL 2024 €	TOTAL 2023 €
Staff costs (note 11)	156,687	1,583,819	408,928	2,149,434	1,838,493
Operating & Production expenses	39,131	216,303	719,496	974,930	702,982
Financial charges	-	-	295,281	295,281	334,919
Compliance & Support services	-	15,119	79,638	94,757	18,121
Totals	195,818	1,815,241	1,503,343	3,514,402	2,894,515

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

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

10. SPECIFIC UNICEF PROGRAMMES

	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL	TOTAL
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	€	€	€	€
Nutrition	-	-	-	-
Education	-	3,000	3,000	1,765,100
Health	-	2,573,100	2,573,100	2,462,400
WASH	-	-	-	114,144
Multi-thematic programmes	5,810,226	13,779,379	19,589,605	22,901,746
Totals	5,810,226	16,355,479	22,165,705	27,243,390

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:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Management	3	3
Fundraising	22	18
Advocacy and programmes	2	3
Communications	1	1
Totals	28	25

The staff costs comprise:	2024 €	2023 €
Wages and salaries	1,825,752	1,583,197
Social security costs	198,852	172,149
Pension costs	82,747	72,839
Training and recruitment	42,083	26,918
Totals	2,149,434	1,855,103

The Executive Director has a contract with UNICEF Ireland under which he is paid an annual salary of €184,000 (2023: €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 (2023: one) and one employee who received a remuneration of between €90,000 and €99,999 in the year (2023: one). Further, there was one employee who received a remuneration of between €80,000 and €89,999 (2023: Nil) and three employees who received a remuneration of between €70,000 and €79,999 (2023: two).

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

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment €	Computer equipment €	TOTAL €
Cost			
At 1 January 2024	98,155	327,540	425,695
Additions	2,582	42,734	45,316
At 31 December 2024	100,737	370,274	471,011
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2024	64,133	293,524	357,657
Charge for the financial year	5,776	38,110	43,886
At 31 December 2024	69,909	331,634	401,543
Net book value			
At 31 December 2024	30,828	38,640	69,468
At 31 December 2023	34,022	34,016	68,038

12.1 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS PRIOR YEAR

	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	98,155	327,540	425,695
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2023	57,992	262,353	320,345
Charge for the year	6,141	31,171	37,312
At 31 December 2023	64,133	293,524	357,657
Net book value			
At 31 December 2023	34,022	34,016	68,038
At 31 December 2022	38,614	11,283	49,897

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

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

13. DEBTORS

	2024	2023
Other debtors	40,423	8,000
Taxation and social security costs (Note 15)	1,996,250	-
Prepayments	128,949	160,495
Totals	2,165,622	168,495

All debtor amounts are due within 12 months.

14. CREDITORS

	2024	2023
Amounts falling due within one year	€	€
Trade creditors	577,263	1,199,728
Amounts owed to participating interests (Note 25)	5,992,686	9,183,937
Amount owed to UNICEF Mexico	-	43,276
Taxation and social security costs	101,595	94,054
Other creditors	223,664	136,478
Pension accrual	3,636	3,516
Accruals	56,606	54,963
	6,955,450	10,715,952

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

	2024	2023
Creditors:	€	€
PAYE/USC	69,079	65,459
PRSI	32,516	28,595
Debtors:		
Charity donations scheme	1,996,250	-

Through the Charitable donation scheme, UNICEF Ireland were authorised to claim tax relief from the donors. The amount is collectible in cash within 1 year.

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

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

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 €82,747 (2023 - €72,839).

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	FIXED ASSETS (Charity use) €	CURRENT ASSETS €	CURRENT LIABILITIES €	TOTAL €
Restricted Funds				
UNICEF HQ	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted Funds				
General Funds	69,468	10,975,982	(6,955,450)	4,090,000
	69,468	10,975,982	(6,955,450)	4,090,000

18. ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS ON FUNDS

	BALANCE 1 JAN 2024 €	INCOMING RESOURCES €	RESOURCES EXPENDED €	BALANCE 31 DEC 2024 €
UNICEF HQ	-	19,424,805	(19,424,805)	-
Unrestricted General Funds	3,590,000	13,111,407	(12,611,407)	4,090,000
Total Funds	3,590,000	32,536,212	(32,036,212)	4,090,000

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:

Land and Buildings	2024 €	2023 €
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 2024

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\$29.5 million compared with the year to December 2023 of US\$33 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

	2024	2023
	€	€
Cash and bank balances	8,772,387	14,012,229
Cash equivalents	37,973	57,190
Totals	8,810,360	14,069,419

24. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

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

25. DUE TO UNICEF HQ

	2024	2023
	€	€
Balance owed at the start of the year	9,183,937	2,007,288
Funds to be transferred to UNICEF HQ	22,165,705	27,243,390
Less funds remitted to UNICEF HQ	(25,356,956)	(20,066,741)
Totals	5,992,686	9,183,937

26. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 12 June 2025.



Dóchas Code of Conduct

UNICEF Ireland is a signatory to the Dóchas Code of Conduct on Images and Messages. By signing the code, UNICEF Ireland commits to using images and messages that represent the full complexity of the situations in which we work, and to seek the permission of people portrayed in our photos.

unicef  | for every child

Three-year-old Ayesha's eyes fill with hope and as she and her family receive the hygiene kit that will address their basic hygiene needs while they strive to return to normal life amidst the ongoing flood crisis in Sylhet. Over 2,000,000 people, including over 772,000 children, are affected by the devastating floods in north-eastern Bangladesh. © UNICEF/UNI596904/Mukut



Consignee Name: Super...
DHAKA
Supplied By: ACME I...

un



*For every child
Whoever she is.
Wherever he lives.
Every child deserves a childhood.
A future.
A fair chance.
That's why UNICEF is there.
For each and every child.
Working day in and day out.
In more than 190 countries and territories.
Reaching the hardest to reach.
The furthest from help.
The most excluded.
It's why we stay to the end.
And never give up*

© UNICEF Ireland 2024

UNICEF Ireland,
33 Lower Ormond Quay,
Dublin 1, Ireland
www.unicef.ie

f Find us on Facebook.com/unicefireland
t Follow us on Twitter @unicefireland
ig Follow us on Instagram @unicefireland
in Follow us on LinkedIn/unicef-ireland