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UNICEF AUSTRALIA ANNUAL REPORT 2024

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UNICEF Australia acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land and communities in which we and our partners work throughout Australia, and their connection to their lands, waters, and communities. We pay respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures, and to Elders past, present, and emerging.



**ON THE COVER**

In Gaza, UNICEF-supported safe learning centre includes classrooms, water and sanitation facilities, a family support station with community social workers and an administration centre.

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**PICTURED RIGHT**  
In Lebanon, Nathaly and her friend Rouaa fled their homes during the escalation in fighting.

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# CHAIR'S REPORT



“UNICEF Australia plays a crucial role in tackling inequality and expanding successful community-based initiatives across the Asia Pacific and beyond.”

In a world of increasing turmoil and uncertainty, the work of UNICEF Australia is more important than ever, especially as we face a rapidly shifting global landscape with declining funding for humanitarian aid and development. Throughout 2024, we supported our global UNICEF teams in their response to worsening humanitarian crises, which ranged from devastating conflicts and disease outbreaks to climate-induced disasters. Many of these are human-made crises that have inflicted unimaginable suffering on millions of children. It's more important than ever that UNICEF, with the support of our donors, not only provides lifesaving emergency relief but is a strong and unwavering voice for children who are having to live through immense challenges.

Here in Australia, our ongoing advocacy, fundraising, and international support have been essential to help address the complex and sometimes protracted crises across our region. We have provided much-needed assistance to those involved, including nutrition, health care, clean water, education, child protection and psychosocial support to vulnerable communities.

UNICEF Australia has also played a crucial role in tackling inequality and expanding successful community-based initiatives across the Asia Pacific and beyond. In 2024, our child protection programs reached over 66,000 children with health, social welfare support, legal justice, and education services. We also supported more than 44,600 young people through life skills development activities, equipping them with the tools they need to thrive.

This past year, we also released an insightful report on education and learning in Australia as part of the Australian Children's Wellbeing Index in collaboration with ARACY (Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth). This index allows us to better understand and learn how we can improve the lives of children and young people across our country. Our partnership with Minderoo Foundation will enable us to further

strengthen this effort, their support enables us to expand this vital work and deliver meaningful research.

To be effective advocates, we must listen to children and young people. At our core, UNICEF Australia is committed to children and young people having a voice in matters that affect their lives. When every child and young person has this opportunity, we see it results in better outcomes. Through initiatives such as LCOY (Local Conference of Youth), Pass the Mic in our Digital Wellbeing campaign, the Young Ambassador and Youth Content Creator programs, we continue to amplify the voices of Australian youth.

Nowhere is this commitment more evident than in our work on climate issues. Children and young people continue to want us to focus on this issue, and it's reflected in our work. As heatwaves and flooding intensify, they are having a dangerous and lasting impact on children's health and wellbeing. Our advocacy focuses on advancing policies that protect, prepare, and prioritise children amid the ongoing climate crisis in Australia and the Pacific.

Lastly, I want to thank all of UNICEF Australia's supporters and donors who entrust the team at UNICEF Australia to deliver meaningful and impactful change for children. Our team has a strong shared commitment to making a difference and your support enables us to have the greatest impact. Thank you also to all Board members and the team at UNICEF Australia for their hard work this past year.

**Ann Sherry AO**  
Chair  
UNICEF Australia

# CEO'S REPORT

Our annual report highlights many of our achievements for children in 2024. These successes would not have been possible without the incredible generosity of our donors, including individual supporters, our partners, as well as the Australian Government and state governments.

UNICEF was founded on the firm belief that a better world for every child is not just possible; it's essential. For 79 years, UNICEF has remained steadfast in our commitment to be there for every child, especially now, as humanitarian needs worsen in the midst of a global funding crisis. UNICEF Australia provides unwavering support to all our colleagues who work tirelessly, even in the world's toughest places, to uphold children's rights. It hasn't been easy, especially with 2024 proving to be a devastating year for children around the world.

More children than ever are estimated to be either living in conflict zones or forcibly displaced by conflict since World War II. We are seeing more conflicts now than we have ever before, which is driving approximately 80 per cent of global humanitarian needs, disrupting access to essentials critical to the wellbeing of children, such as clean water, healthcare and education. Tragically, 2024 also became the deadliest year on record for humanitarian personnel, with the loss of over 280 aid workers who risked everything to defend the rights of children. Yet, UNICEF stands by its mandate to stay and provide lifesaving support for children, no matter what.

Amid these grim realities, there have been remarkable wins for children that inspire hope. Nearly 8 million more children are reaching their fifth birthday today compared to 1990, marking a 60 per cent reduction in under-five mortality rates. UNICEF vaccination programs have saved 154 million lives over the past 50 years – that's six people every minute for five decades. Closer to home, we made an impactful contribution, vaccinating over 53,400 people against preventable diseases in our region in 2024 alone.

In Australia, we launched our digital wellbeing campaign, which provided parents and caregivers with tools to protect young people online on critical topics like managing cyberbullying and fostering positive social media use. This initiative reached 2.4 million people.

Turning to climate change, we were honored to have UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell visit Australia as part of her Pacific visit which was centred around climate action and young people in our region. We sent a delegation to the United Nations Conference on Climate in Baku, Azerbaijan, alongside two of our Young Ambassadors. And on World Children's Day, more than 153,000 children across 620 schools in Australia 'made noise for child rights,' more than tripling participation from 2023.

Australian Olympic Swimmer and UNICEF Australia Ambassador Emma McKeon joined us in Bangladesh, to see UNICEF's work in action – including in the world's largest refugee camp – and to help raise much-needed funds. This was proudly reported across our national media, showing the Australian media's trust and collaboration in our humanitarian storytelling.

We recognise the substantial cost of living pressures that everyone faces and so appreciate your support. Many of these contributions have provided immediate lifesaving support in emergencies such as Gaza, Lebanon, Sudan, and the earthquake in Vanuatu while continuing our essential development work around the world.

To our first-time donors for 2024, welcome and thank you for trusting us. Finally, I extend a heartfelt thank you to the UNICEF Australia team for their hard work and unwavering commitment to protecting children and young people.

**Tony Stuart**  
Chief Executive Officer  
UNICEF Australia



“UNICEF Australia provides unwavering support to all our colleagues who work tirelessly, even in the world's toughest places, to uphold the rights of children.”



# SHAPING A BETTER FUTURE FOR EVERY CHILD

UNICEF Australia is dedicated to improving the lives of children and young people around the world, especially the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

As one of the world's largest children's organisations, UNICEF is entirely funded by voluntary donations and works to protect and improve the lives of children in over 190 countries and territories, including those in some of the most dangerous and remote locations.

For 79 years, UNICEF has been championing children's rights, as mandated by the UN General Assembly and anchored by the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In collaboration with local partners, UNICEF provides critical lifesaving support and drives sustainable, long-lasting change for children in emergency and development contexts.

UNICEF Australia supports this global ambition by striving to ensure every child in need across the Asia Pacific region and beyond is healthy, educated, and safe.

We are also committed to achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, by working at community and policy levels to influence local, national, and regional governments around the world, including here in Australia.

UNICEF Australia has identified key Priority Programs that are designed to meet the critical needs of children and young people, particularly in

underfunded programs in our nearest neighbouring countries. These programs aim to build futures from the very start of life, with benefits continuing into adulthood, while also raising children's voices, defending their rights, and helping them reach their potential at every stage of life. We value local partnerships for targeted advocacy and supporting community programs that reach vulnerable children.

**In 2024, we entered the third year of our four-year strategic plan, advancing three key objectives:**

**1** WE WILL be relentless and determined in our response to emergencies and crises, working to meet the immediate needs of children in the most effective ways possible.

**2** WE WILL be ambitious and farsighted in our partnerships and programs, seeking to deliver impact for children at scale.

**3** WE WILL be the leading advocate for children and young people in Australia, amplifying their voices and promoting their rights in all areas of society.

By pursuing these objectives, UNICEF Australia is confident that we can make a real difference in the lives of children and young people in our country and overseas.

## ABOUT UNICEF AUSTRALIA



We protect and advocate for the rights of every child in Australia and around the world.



We provide lifesaving support and protection for children during international emergencies and crises.



We deliver long-term international development programs across education, nutrition, health, child protection, and water, sanitation and hygiene.



We elevate the voices of children and young people by giving them a platform to be heard and seen.



Discover the impact of our collaborative efforts, driven by the generosity of our supporters and donors, throughout 2024.



At 14, Mohammed holds his two-year-old brother in front of their temporary shelter in the Gaza Strip. By May 2024, Mohammed and his family had been displaced four times.

# RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES

UNICEF is there for every child before, during and after emergencies

**S**till grappling with the unprecedented number of new and protracted emergencies from the year prior, 2024 proved one of the worst years in history as millions of children around the world faced devastating losses from climate shocks, public health crises, and ongoing wars and conflicts that disproportionately affected children.

The world is experiencing the highest number of conflicts since World War II, with the number of children living in conflict zones or forcibly displaced due to violence and conflict reaching record highs, including those caught in protracted and often overlooked emergencies in places like Haiti, Myanmar and Central African Republic.

We also continued to witness emergencies that have ignited an unprecedented number of child rights violations in places like the Gaza Strip, Sudan, Ukraine, Afghanistan, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

When UNICEF responds to a crisis, we're not only concerned with providing immediate lifesaving support, but to help families recover and create more resilient

communities by strengthening infrastructure and the services they need for the future.

## Devastating loss in Gaza

As the war in Gaza raged on in 2024, children and their families endured unbearable suffering. Tens of thousands of people were killed and injured, and every child in the Gaza Strip was exposed to deeply distressing events and trauma marked by widespread destruction, relentless attacks, multiple displacements, and extreme shortages of lifesaving necessities such as food, water, and medicine.

Adding to these horrors were disease outbreaks like polio – returning to Gaza after 25 years – alongside severe malnutrition and famine-like conditions, particularly in north Gaza.

Despite persistent calls for an urgent humanitarian ceasefire going largely unanswered, UNICEF and our partners remained on the ground, providing lifesaving humanitarian support to children and families in need. As the crisis



deepened, aid was hampered by border closures, unpassable roads and high-security risks. Still, thousands of Australians rallied and generously donated through private donations and fundraising events to support children and their families in desperate need.

UNICEF's ongoing support included delivering medical supplies, ready-to-use therapeutic food, tents, blankets, hygiene kits, bottled water, fuel for critical water, hygiene and sanitation facilities, access to education, and mental health and psychosocial support. Additionally, UNICEF closely monitored grave child rights violations and provided child-sensitive humanitarian cash assistance.

**2024 was one of the worst years in our history for children in conflict.**



On 17 December 2024, the earthquakes that struck Vanuatu caused major landslides, destroying homes, like 11-year-old Joe's.



With 79 years of emergency response experience, UNICEF is on the ground within as little as 48 hours, delivering lifesaving supplies from over 220 supply hubs around the world.



### Conflict in Lebanon

On 23 September 2024, tensions between Israel and Lebanon increased dramatically as targeted airstrikes devastated Lebanon, claiming thousands of lives, injuring many more, and triggering mass displacement within Lebanon and across the border into Syria. The resurgence of conflict exacerbated the nation's economic and political crisis, pushing families to the brink. For over two months, access to essential services, such as health and education, was further reduced, deepening the challenges for children and their communities.

Having been in Lebanon for over 70 years, UNICEF's response was immediate. UNICEF Australia contributed funding to provide lifesaving health care, safe drinking water, hygiene kits, high-performing tents, and psychosocial support to children in need.

### Sudan's crisis deepens Vanuatu earthquakes

As the war in Sudan entered its second year, children endured immense challenges: violence, trauma, displacement and devastation. Over 5 million children were forced from their homes, many fleeing to neighbouring countries such as Chad and Egypt, making Sudan the world's largest child displacement crisis. The conflict also triggered a malnutrition crisis, with over 8.1 million people experiencing emergency levels of food insecurity, including famine in areas like Zamzam Camp in North Darfur, one of the largest camps for internally displaced people.

UNICEF has provided lifesaving healthcare, nutrition, safe drinking water, child protection services, and psychosocial support. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, UNICEF Australia made critical contributions to the humanitarian response.

On 17 December 2024, a 7.3 magnitude earthquake struck near Vanuatu's capital, Port Vila. Less than 24 hours later, a second 5.5 magnitude earthquake hit, triggering landslides and causing widespread destruction across the island. Tragically, 14 people lost their lives, and at least 80,000 people were affected, with over 40,000 children in need of humanitarian support. Many homes, buildings and vital infrastructure were severely damaged or destroyed, leaving many families still recovering from the twin cyclones of 2023 in desperate need.

UNICEF responded quickly, delivering safe drinking water, health kits and mobilising partners to support access to safe water and hygiene, nutrition and health services, education, child protection, and cash transfers.



Australian donors raised over \$10 million to help children in emergencies around the world.

### Beyond the headlines: silent emergencies

In 2024, millions of children around the world faced immense hardship, trauma and devastation – largely overlooked by global news stories. From the Rohingya crisis in Bangladesh and Myanmar to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Yemen, and beyond, families have been fighting against all odds to keep their children healthy and safe from harm.

During times of conflict and disaster, chaos and insecurity threaten or destroy access to essentials, such as food, water, shelter, health care and education. Every day, millions of children and their families endure incredible challenges, including mass displacement, violence, disease outbreaks, extreme climate shocks, life-threatening malnutrition and an escalating education crisis.

This harsh reality is evident in the DRC, where generations of children have tragically grown up without knowing peace. Decades of relentless violence and civil wars have displaced over 7 million people, forcing families into precarious and dangerous situations. These families continue to endure unimaginable suffering caused by separation, abductions, child recruitment, killings, maiming, and sexual violence. Exacerbated by extreme poverty and widespread displacement, over 7 million children

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nehema holds her two-year-old daughter after she received medication at a UNICEF-supported health facility to treat an intestinal infection caused by lack of clean water.



are without access to education, further deepening the crisis.

If all of this weren't enough, climate shocks, such as extreme flash flooding and landslides have wreaked havoc on families and their living conditions. The lack of access to clean water, nutritious food, and essential healthcare has left children vulnerable to recurring public health emergencies such as cholera and mpox. Alarming, 9 million children are suffering from malnutrition across the country.

In 2024, we also witnessed flooding in Burundi, disease outbreaks like cholera in Haiti and mpox in DRC, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and other surrounding countries, and extreme food insecurity in the Horn of Africa. Escalating hostilities intensified in Myanmar, Haiti, Burkina Faso, and across the broader Middle East, including Syria, Yemen and Iran.

Amid these new and ongoing emergencies, UNICEF teams responded quickly, providing safe water and essential medical supplies to prevent malnutrition and illness. UNICEF helped new mothers give birth safely and delivered lifesaving vaccines to protect children from deadly disease outbreaks.

UNICEF's work also plays a crucial role in helping communities recover and rebuild. This includes creating safe spaces for children to learn and play, providing innovative tents for children and families to shelter, learn and access healthcare in, and offering psychosocial support to help children process and adapt to their changing world.

None of this would be possible without the generosity of our donors in Australia, whose support helps us to deliver for children in emergencies around the world.

FROM LEFT: © UNICEF/UNIS24185/Benekire; © UNICEF/UNIS24185/Benekire



A young boy swims in the rising tide of his Solomon Islands village, where climate change brings increasingly frequent high waters.



**Priority Programs** are a selection of critical, underfunded programs supported by UNICEF Australia. These programs work in partnership with governments, local community organisations and the private sector to tackle inequity and deliver sustainable change for children and their families.

**UNICEF's contribution for children**

In 2024, UNICEF Australia's contribution to children here in Australia and around the world was \$38.1 million. This result was made possible with generous contributions from the Australian public, our valued partners, and grant funding from the Australian Government and other organisations.

Here in Australia, we continued to accelerate our domestic impact and advocacy work. In 2024, we presented 14 policy submissions to the government to improve the lives of children, and the Australian Government listened, committing \$3 million to better support children and youth on the issues we advocated for, including children's online privacy.

**POSITIVE CHANGE IN OUR REGION AND BEYOND**

In 2024, UNICEF Australia directly supported 37 international Priority Programs, directly reaching 762,668 people. These programs were delivered in collaboration with 14 UNICEF Country Offices as well as the East Asia and Pacific Regional Office. Here at home, UNICEF Australia delivered advocacy, partnerships and youth engagement initiatives to help create an Australia where every child is healthy, educated, protected, respected and involved in shaping their future. In 2024, in Australia, we engaged 367,814 children in school-based activities and developed 11 new publications to guide better policies and programs for children and young people.

**Burundi**

- Adolescent Development & Participation\*

**Cambodia**

- Adolescent Development & Participation\*
- Child Protection\*
- Early Childhood Development\*

**East Asia and Pacific Regional Office (multi-country)**

- Climate\*
- Child Protection

**Eritrea**

- Child Survival

**Lao PDR**

- Education\*
- Child Protection\*
- Early Childhood Development\*
- Adolescent Development & Participation\*

**India**

- Child Protection

**Indonesia**

- Immunisation

**Maldives**

- Climate

**Pacific Island countries**

- Immunisation, Nutrition (Fiji)
- Nutrition (Solomon Islands, Vanuatu)
- Child Survival (Vanuatu)
- Early Childhood Development (Fiji, Vanuatu)

**Papua New Guinea**

- Child Protection\*
- Adolescent Development and Participation \*
- Convergence (multi-sector program)\*
- Immunisation

**Philippines**

- Adolescent Development & Participation

**Sri Lanka**

- Nutrition\*
- Adolescent Development & Participation\*

**Timor-Leste**

- Child Protection\*
- Child Survival \*
- Immunisation
- Education\*
- Adolescent Development & Participation\*
- Early Childhood Development

**Australia**

- We work to create change at scale for children through advocacy, partnerships and youth engagement

*\*Indicates programs receiving support from the Australian Government.*

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In Vanuatu, mother of four Reianna waits with her five-year-old daughter Vabeth at a UNICEF-supported health program.

### Program highlights

**59,328**

People accessed improved maternal, newborn and child health services.

**53,406**

People immunised against vaccine-preventable diseases.

**8,451**

Children accessed early learning.

**55,577**

Parents/caregivers participated in sessions that helped them with information and skills to give their children the best start in life.

# OUR WORK AROUND THE WORLD

UNICEF Australia works with partners and supports programs for lasting impact, focusing on innovation, equity, and locally-led solutions that can be scaled.

UNICEF Australia's Priority Programs play a crucial role in driving meaningful change for children and young people by supporting strategic and innovative initiatives that reach the most vulnerable children and families across the Asia Pacific region and beyond.

Delivered in close partnership with UNICEF Country Offices, these Priority Programs are grounded in three guiding principles: equity and respect, transparency and accountability, and a shared vision and mutual benefit. Our partnerships with country offices deliver lasting impacts for children and build strong connections between UNICEF's work in communities and the Australian community and government.

UNICEF Australia contributes to the success of these programs through both financial investment and technical expertise. Our team brings specialist knowledge in thematic areas like early childhood development, education, child protection, gender equality, disability, and social inclusion – ensuring programs are designed to be both impactful and sustainable, reaching individual children while strengthening broader systems across regions and countries.

Priority Programs are selected according to geographic and thematic priorities, and identified with country offices to ensure we are supporting locally-identified needs and meeting critical funding gaps.

**In 2024, UNICEF Australia supported 37 Priority Programs aligned to three strategic areas:**

- **Investing in the Early Years**  
Addressing disadvantages in the early years so that all children get the best start in life.
- **Protecting children from harm**  
Preventing and responding to violence against children and all forms of abuse and exploitation to keep children safe from harm.
- **Unlocking adolescent potential**  
Supporting young people to reach their full potential through education and leadership programs.

These programs were delivered in collaboration with 12 UNICEF Country Offices – Burundi, Cambodia, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Lao Peoples Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Maldives, Pacific Islands, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Timor-Leste – as well as the East Asia and Pacific Regional Office and UNICEF Global.

Together with governments, local organisations, the private sector, and children and families, these programs aim to tackle inequality and scale successful community-based initiatives.

In 2024, with the backing of the Australian community and the

Australian Government, UNICEF Australia allocated \$11.4 million to Priority Programs throughout the Asia and Pacific region and beyond. These programs have directly impacted over 762,668 individuals, with 66 per cent of them being women and girls.

Throughout the year, UNICEF Australia continued to provide significant technical assistance on Child Safeguarding and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) to UNICEF Country Offices, particularly to Cambodia, Lao PDR, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and Pacific Country Offices (Fiji, Samoa and Vanuatu). As pilot countries in the rollout of new Child Safeguarding and PSEA Implementation Guidelines, UNICEF Australia is working with UNICEF's East Asia and Pacific Regional Office to apply learnings from the pilot to reinforce implementation of the 2024 UNICEF Policy on Safeguarding.



**UNICEF Australia allocated \$11.4 million to Priority Programs throughout the Asia and Pacific region and beyond.**



## Investing in the early years

UNICEF Australia's *Investing in the Early Years* programs focus on giving children the strongest start in life, from pregnancy through to their preschool years. The programs help build a solid foundation for lifelong health, learning, and development by supporting children during these formative years.

In 2024, UNICEF Australia supported 20 *Investing in the Early Years* programs, delivering impact across Papua New Guinea, Eritrea, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Lao PDR, Cambodia, Timor-Leste, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, and other Pacific nations. These programs focused on early childhood development and education, strengthening maternal, newborn and child health services, and improving nutrition.

In Timor-Leste, in the municipalities where UNICEF is delivering its *Child*

*Survival* program, there has been an increase in the rate of births attended by skilled health personnel, from 56 per cent in 2022/23 to 95 per cent in 2024. The *Child Survival* program has delivered extensive health worker training and essential care to mothers and children. The program has also enhanced the capacity of health facilities to offer quality care, contributing to a significant reduction in neonatal and maternal mortality rates.

In Cambodia, the *Strengthening the Effectiveness of Integrated Early Childhood Development* (IECD) program has supported parents and caregivers with innovative tools to support child education and development. The

*Smart Home Nudge Kit*, part of the social and behaviour change strategy, has turned challenging tasks like growth monitoring and early learning into enjoyable activities through play. This initiative has reached 21,690 families, fostering a healthier and more nurturing environment for children.

In Sri Lanka, the *Sri Lanka Nutrition* program has worked to develop a locally-produced ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF), that will significantly improve access to treatment for life-threatening malnutrition in Sri Lanka and reduce the cost of treatment. This product is being clinically tested before it can be rolled out nationwide.

**“I never had the chance to finish school, but I have always dreamed of becoming a teacher. I am happy with what I am doing right now as a volunteer and the fact that I am giving a chance for children in the village to receive basic education.”**

– Pheng, volunteer teacher at the *Learn Through Play* Group program supported by UNICEF Australia.



### CASE STUDY

## Bright starts for young learners in Lao PDR

In a small village in southern Lao PDR, volunteer teachers Pheng and Laithong are helping children get the best start to their education through the *Learn Through Play Group*, a community-based school readiness program.

Before this program, there was no early learning centre in the village, leaving many children unprepared for school. Now, with support from our donors, including the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP), UNICEF is helping establish programs like this in some of the most under-resourced communities in Lao PDR.

Lao PDR has some of the poorest education indicators in Southeast Asia. Half of all children aged three to four miss out on early learning, and only 25 per cent are on track in literacy and numeracy.

Through the *All Children Learning Program*, UNICEF is helping children access early education and training volunteer teachers like Pheng and Laithong, giving children the skills to thrive in school and beyond.

LEFT Children learning through play at an early childhood education centre in Lao PDR.

**“At the heart of the program is play... through these activities, children develop the skills they need to advance to primary school.”**

– Pheng, volunteer teacher.

## Unlocking adolescent potential

UNICEF helps adolescents develop the skills to reach their full potential, shape their future and meaningfully contribute to their communities. The *Unlocking Adolescent Potential* programs helps build confidence, knowledge and practical skills to navigate and solve challenges, advocate for their rights, and create lasting change.

In 2024, UNICEF Australia supported 10 initiatives in Sri Lanka, Burundi, Cambodia, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste, Lao PDR, and the East Asia Pacific region. Partnering with governments, schools, and community leaders, these programs expand access to education, develop key life and leadership skills, strengthen youth participation in decision-making, and create safe, inclusive spaces for adolescents to thrive.

In Sri Lanka, the *Sport for Development* program unites young people from diverse backgrounds, and challenges social divisions and harmful gender norms. Through community-led sports activities, adolescents build confidence, form friendships, and foster social cohesion.

In Cambodia, the *Adolescent and Youth Participation* program has taken education out of the classroom and into communities, helping students apply their learning to real-world problems. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport has recognised the effectiveness of this initiative and is working with UNICEF to scale it across the country.



### CASE STUDY

## Empowering youth with disabilities

**“I believe in the importance of youth influencing decision-makers and having a voice in decision-making.”** – Marcos

In Timor-Leste, people with disabilities face daily challenges that prevent them from meaningfully engaging with their community. Public spaces are often not accessible, and many face discrimination because of their disability.

Marcos, who lives with a disability, wants to change this situation.

With a group of peers, Marcos is delivering workshops for young people with disabilities in his municipality. In these workshops, young people learn how to advocate for their rights and make a living. He believes these young people can meaningfully engage and be changemakers in their communities.

With the help of our donors and the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP), and in partnership with the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Art and Culture, UNICEF Australia is supporting mentoring activities for young people like Marcos with big social impact ideas. They learn how to increase their influence, apply for funding for their projects and initiatives, and be recognised as official community service organisations.

ABOVE Youth participants engaged in a lively discussion, eager to learn how to support children with disabilities.

### Program highlights

**471**

Mechanisms were established or strengthened to support young people to have a say.

**54,755**

Adolescent girls and boys participated in activities designed to challenge harmful social norms.

**44,670**

Young people participated in life skills development activities, helping them with the tools they need to reach their potential.



## Program highlights

# 66,169

Children benefited from relevant Child Protection services, including health, social welfare support, legal justice, and education.

# 20

Information and Communication Technology Actors, including technology companies, are involved in the development or implementation of online safety plans and initiatives.

# 29

Countries with improved child protection-related data and information systems that help to keep children safe from harm.

## Protecting children from harm

As the global custodian for children within the Sustainable Development Agenda, UNICEF plays a pivotal role in supporting countries to prevent and protect children from various forms of violence, abuse, exploitation, and harmful practices. This work is achieved through close collaboration with governments to strengthen child protection systems by developing and enhancing laws and policies, building the capacity of relevant service providers and challenging harmful societal norms and attitudes.

In 2024, UNICEF Australia supported seven child protection programs across Cambodia, Lao PDR, Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea, and through the East Asia and Pacific Regional Office. These initiatives directly impacted over 85,180 participants, contributing to national policy and legislation changes, shaping regional online child safety practices, engaging young people in

addressing issues affecting their lives, challenging harmful societal norms and attitudes, and providing training for frontline workers and service providers (including social workers, justice actors, health professionals, police, community and religious leaders, and teachers).

In Cambodia, the UNICEF Australia-supported Child Protection program has made significant strides in advocating for the rights of every child, including, but not limited to, children with disabilities, especially those without parental care. A pilot initiative under this program partnered with the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY) to reintegrate children with disabilities from residential care into family-based care.

The *Accelerating Protection of Children Online East Asia and Pacific regional* program has made significant progress in engaging Association of Southeast Asia (ASEAN) countries on child online protection. The program

makes this borderless issue a priority with governments across the region while supporting legal and policy reforms in countries, promoting collaboration with the private sector and collecting data and strategic information to inform programming and policy development and strengthening. This year, five ASEAN member states stand out – Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, and Thailand – for making significant progress in legal and policy reforms to enhance protection and victim assistance, effectively engaging the Information and Communication Technology industry to develop online safety plans and initiatives and reaching communities with online safety campaigns and messaging.

## Gender, disability and social inclusion

UNICEF Australia continues to focus on the most disadvantaged in our region. This includes women and girls, people with disability, and other minority groups.

Priority Programs contributed to addressing violence against children, gender-based violence, and harmful practices through a wide range of prevention and response approaches with a strong focus on women and girls. In 2024, this included through online safety initiatives, strengthening child protection legislation, delivering psychosocial

support to build resilience, providing parenting programs which enhance child safety and development, and working with governments and social services to strengthen response services.

To strengthen disability inclusion across programming areas, UNICEF Australia partners with CBM Australia to ensure priority programs are designed and delivered in ways that better address the needs of children and adults with disabilities, some of the most marginalised people in the region.

In 2024, we helped children with disabilities to receive the assistive devices they need and supported families of children with disabilities to provide healthier and safer environments for their children. The projects we support work in partnership with governments, organisations for people with disabilities and other community groups to build more inclusive health and education services so that children with disabilities are supported in reaching their full potential. Some of the project successes included training girls with disabilities in how to use the assistive features on devices, developing inclusive education resources, translating resources into Braille, and training health workers to recognise and respond to developmental delays in children.

### CASE STUDY

## Win for girls in rural Sri Lanka

In the rural areas of Sri Lanka, girls often face significant challenges that limit their opportunities in sports and personal development. Traditional societal norms and lack of resources have historically prevented girls from participating in activities like cricket.

Through the Sri Lanka *Sports for Development* program, girls in Eastern Province, like 15-year-old Fatima, are being given the chance to break these barriers. The program has supported Fatima and her peers to form the first girls' cricket team among Muslim schools in the province.

**"Being a Muslim girl, especially in this community, I am expected to stay at home and help with household chores, like cooking. But women, too, have the right to play and go to school," she says.**

This *Sports for Development* program has not only allowed the girls to play, connect with their friends and get involved in sports. It has also changed the community's perceptions, supporting a growing recognition of the importance of equal opportunities for girls and boys to play sports and the benefits of play to engagement in education.

### CASE STUDY

## Ye's journey to independence and education

At eight years old, Ye was diagnosed with a physical disability, leaving his family worried about his future and struggling to afford the services he needed. Already facing financial hardship, they could no longer afford the necessary support for Ye's rehabilitation.

Through UNICEF's *Child Protection System Strengthening* program, Ye's family received a new sense of hope. The program connected them with a local rehabilitation centre and provided cash transfers for physical therapy. These therapies have been life-changing for Ye, who can now walk independently.

**"Seeing his progress fills me with immense joy," said Ye's father, Tu. "I never imagined he'd stand and walk, caring for himself like this."**

Ye is one of many children in Xiangkhouang province, Lao PDR, supported by UNICEF's program, which aims to strengthen the child protection system for children with disabilities. UNICEF and local partners are working to raise awareness, provide support, and offer services like cash transfers to help families meet their children's needs.

Ye's father hopes his son will start school soon and continue to improve. "I'll always be by his side," he says.



**ABOVE** Ye, a young boy from Laos is living with a disability. He stands proudly between his supportive parents.



### CASE STUDY

## Empowering girls through tech

One of our key programs empowering adolescent girls is OKY, an innovative app designed by girls for girls that provides them with quality information on menstrual health and hygiene, and helps them track their periods. The app also includes information on sexual and reproductive health, relationships, information on gender-based violence, and how to access local support services for a range of relevant issues. This program is a testament to our dedication to empowering young women and girls, ensuring they have the resources and support they need to thrive.

**LEFT** In Tanzania, adolescent girls participate in a Human-Centred design sprint to help enhance the Oky period tracking app.

FROM BOTTOM LEFT: @UNICEF LaoPDR/2024/BPhakeo; © UNICEF/UNIT02649/Slide Visuals





In Vanuatu, Aida holds her five-month-old daughter Matilda as she receives her first doses of the PCV and RV vaccines.

## End of program reviews and evaluations

UNICEF Australia places a strong emphasis on gathering evidence to gain a deeper understanding of the experiences of children and young people and to assess the impact of our work in communities.

**In 2024, we conducted reviews and evaluations of key programs. Here are the highlights from these evaluations:**

### Strengthening the effectiveness of integrated early childhood development in Cambodia

This program achieved significant success, exceeding a number of its targets. It implemented the National Action Plan for Early Childhood Care and Development and launched the Nurturing Care Parenting Package. The program reached 44,525 children under five and 27,610 parents/caregivers. It also enhanced WASH facilities in preschools and health centres and reduced the defaulter rate for severe acute malnutrition from 45 per cent to 24 per cent, treating a total of 1,331 children. The program also trained over 500 service providers. It reached over 10 million people via media, which helped raise awareness, advocate for policy influence, mobilise communities, and ensure the sustainability of the program's impact.

The evaluation highlighted the program's success factors, challenges, and pathways for improvement. This information was used in the design of the subsequent phase to strengthen impact.

### Protect children from violence, abuse, exploitation and unnecessary separation in Cambodia

This program made significant contributions to strengthening Cambodia's child protection system through a multi-tiered approach. It worked at national and sub-national levels to strengthen legal and policy frameworks, operational frameworks, and capacities, particularly of the social welfare workforce. The program also addressed harmful norms, practices, and beliefs, with a special focus on disability inclusion.

The evaluation of Cambodia's broader Child Protection program, of which UNICEF Australia's support is a part, found that it significantly contributed to strengthening Cambodia's child protection system. Special mention was made of the work completed on disability, particularly via the inclusion of disability in the Primero Information Management System and in the Child Protection Law and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), which UNICEF Australia supported both financially and through technical support. Primero is a platform that helps manage protection-related data, assisting with case management and incident monitoring.

Critical gaps in the system remain, including the social welfare workforce's limited capacity and limited operational capacity at the subnational level. During the next phase of this program (late 2024-2026), UNICEF will support subnational government institutions in three provinces to strengthen their capacity to coordinate and deliver child protection services and help strengthen national and subnational social welfare workforces (social workers). This next phase will also continue supporting community members to address gender, cultural and social norms underpinning violence, exploitation and unsafe migration.

### Post-introduction evaluation of new vaccines in the Pacific

The post-introduction evaluation of the rotavirus vaccine, pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV), and human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV) in the Cook Islands, Nauru, Niue, and Tokelau assessed the overall impact of the new vaccines on national immunisation programs. It focused on pre-introduction planning, vaccine storage and wastage, logistics of administering the vaccine, and community receptiveness to these new vaccines. Key findings included the effectiveness of school-based programs for introducing new vaccines, such as HPV, to school-aged children and adolescents and the importance of determining whether there is reluctance or refusal to accept a new vaccine prior to the roll-out to ensure adequate and tailored communication plans and strategies are in place to address vaccine hesitancy.

The post-introduction evaluation was funded by the Rotary Foundation, who was the main donor for this program. The evaluation provided valuable insights and recommendations that are being incorporated into future work to enhance the impact and effectiveness of these programs.

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# SNAPSHOT OF RESULTS IN FY24



**762,668**

Program participants across 37 Priority Programs. An additional 17.1 million children and adolescents were reached with activities and services to support mental health.



**53,406**

People were immunised, helping to keep them safe from preventable diseases like COVID-19, Rotavirus, HPV (Human Papillomavirus) and PCV (Pneumococcal).



**322,226**

People were provided with awareness raising or training on gender issues and women's rights (83,715 men, 212,544 women, 6,925 boys, 8,850 girls, 149 boys with a disability, 73 girls with a disability).



**2,062**

Children were reached through activities designed to mitigate the impact of climate change.



**1,482**

Frontline workers were trained in safeguarding, helping to prevent and reduce the risk of harm to children and communities.



**2,822**

Government and NGO stakeholders across eight programs received training to help support stronger systems for children.



**12**

Services were supported to become more inclusive of children with disabilities across six programs.



**17**

Priority programs across seven countries contributed to national or sub-national legislative and policy changes or leveraged increased budget contributions to improve child rights outcomes.



**19**

Programs advance gender equality, helping to pave the way for all children – including girls – to get the best start in life.



**19** Organisations for persons with disabilities were involved across nine programs.





# OUR WORK IN AUSTRALIA

Making Australia an even better place for every child

**I**n 2024, children in Australia faced widening inequality, especially in regional, remote, and First Nations communities. The cost-of-living crisis strained families, while systemic barriers in child protection and youth justice persisted. Online safety and climate change impacts also posed significant challenges. UNICEF Australia has continued to be a strong voice for children in Australia, promoting their rights through advocacy, research, youth engagement, and cross-sectoral partnerships.

## How we work

- Research the situation for children and young people in Australia and use this evidence to inform and guide national decision-making to improve children's wellbeing.
- Connect with children and young people and elevate their voices so they can have a say in policies and programs that shape their lives now and into the future.
- Partner for impact to highlight critical gaps for vulnerable children.
- Advocate with all levels of government to address inequality and chronic child rights issues in Australia and drive systemic changes for children.
- Shape public conversation and debates about children through our research and insights and as a strong voice in the media.

## Program highlights



**368,814**

Children engaged in school-based activities.



**11**

New publications to guide better decision-making, policies and programs for children and young people.

The community shared with us their stories on the barriers and impacts of delayed birth registration in Queensland.

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Investing in the early years

Our vision is for every child – no matter their background or where they live – to have access to all the support they need to thrive, from before birth to their first day of school and beyond.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Certify Hope – Rights from the Start

Birth registration is an essential first step to accessing life-changing services and support. We believe that every child should have their births registered as early as possible so they can access and fully enjoy their rights throughout their lives. However, thousands of babies born in Australia each year do not have their births registered. Our landmark Certify Hope campaign is working to raise awareness of the issue of birth registrations in Australia and to provide a roadmap for systemic change. Our advocacy and impact included:

- Generating new research, data and evidence based on the impacts of delayed birth registration in Australia and the families most impacted.
- Launching the ‘Certify Hope – Rights from the Start’ report and policy brief, bringing together new and existing evidence on this issue and featuring a roadmap for governments to universal birth registration in Australia.
- Raising awareness with Australian families, reaching over 2.9 million people across the country.
- Convening a cross-sector webinar to raise awareness and influence government policies and practices at a national level.
- Advocate to the Federal Government to increase awareness of delayed birth registration rates in Australia and highlight this as an issue to address.



CASE STUDY

Universal Birth Registration for every child

Monique, a mother of three from Queensland, has been trying to get her eldest daughter’s birth registered for nearly ten years but found the process difficult in the absence of the father’s ID or her own birth certificate. Presenting to sector and government decision-makers at the ‘Certify Hope – Rights from the Start’ report webinar launch, Monique spoke about the challenges she faced when registering her children’s births and how this has impacted their access to education and other important services.

Thanks to the additional support offered by UNICEF Australia’s community partner, Pathfinders, who run the National Aboriginal Birth Registration Program, Monique has been able to register her children’s births and receive her own birth certificate.

“It’s been a real struggle to get any of their birth certificates, and it’s held us back with childcare. I haven’t been able to get my son into most of our local early education centres, and my youngest daughter has been unable to attend one, too. To be able to get a birth certificate, you need a birth certificate.”

– Monique

Digital wellbeing and safety

UNICEF Australia has made online safety and the digital wellbeing of all children and young people a key priority. With the knowledge that every single Australian child will be online by age 12, we are committed to improving their digital environments and safety through our research, advocacy, public campaigns and, importantly, by listening to and amplifying young people’s perspectives on the issues affecting them online.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Launching our digital wellbeing partnership with the Centre of Excellence for the Digital Child at an event attended by the Minister for Communications, The Hon Michelle Rowland MP securing interest in our youth research and delivering a combined media reach of over 17 million people.
- Successful advocacy on reforms to the Privacy Act, securing Federal Government commitment to develop a Children’s Online Privacy Code, and \$3 million in funding to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner to develop this Code.
- Using high-impact media and communications to increase public discourse about the unique needs of children in digital environments.
- Providing a platform for young people to speak publicly about this issue and elevating the perspectives of children and young people through sector consultations, policy submissions and media commentary.

RIGHT UNICEF Australia Young Ambassadors Jules and Aston with Minister for Communications, The Hon Michelle Rowland MP in Canberra.

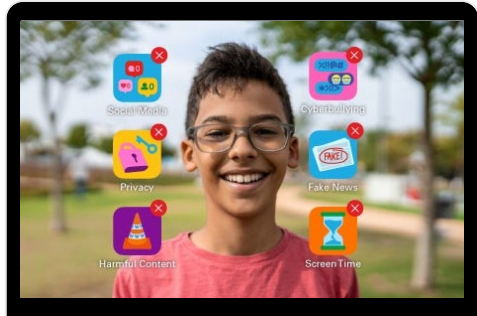
- Launching our ‘Protect your world in their online world’ campaign to give parents and caregivers the tools and resources to help keep their families safe online. The campaign reached 2.4 million people and resulted in 45,000 visits to our Online Safety webpages covering pressing issues such as positive social media use, managing privacy, managing cyberbullying and harmful content, amongst others.

“[A better online world is] a free place to express yourself but with enough monitoring to ensure everyone is able to use it happily and safely.”

A participant in UNICEF Australia’s youth research.

Child and youth participation

The voices of children and young people can provide advice and valuable insight into how their rights can best be protected and fulfilled. We work collaboratively with children and young people to elevate and amplify their voices on the issues that affect them. Our goal is for all young Australians to have the opportunity to actively participate in civil society, be heard on issues that are important to them, and contribute to and drive social change at scale.



ABOVE Protect your world in their online world campaign creative.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: © UNICEF Australia/2024/Moran ; © UNICEF Australia/2024/Supplied ; © UNICEF Australia/2024/Mayes





ABOVE UNICEF Australia's 2024 Young Ambassadors

## Young Ambassador Program

The program trains youth leaders across Australia on policy processes, advocacy campaigning and how to drive change at scale with decision-makers. Young Ambassadors lead consultations with children and young people to understand their unique needs, concerns and hopes for the future.

In 2024, UNICEF Australia's Young Ambassador Program had nine amazing Young Ambassadors, including Abbi (WA), Aston (SA), Cyril (QLD), Denzel (SA), Jewoseydi

(VIC), Jorja (TAS), Jules (NT), Luke (ACT) and Peta (NSW). The Young Ambassadors were part of 49 political, educational and sector events, which included running youth consultations, speaking on panels, writing media pieces, speaking at schools and UN Youth conferences, and developing their leadership skills by running youth consultations through the Local Conference of Youth (LCOY), and having their views heard at COP29 in Azerbaijan. Through these activities, they advocated passionately for climate change, digital wellbeing and First Nations social justice.



LEFT Youth panel on climate change moderated by UNICEF Australia's Nishadh Rego.

## School engagement

UNICEF Australia engages with schools nationwide through innovative educational challenges, such as:

- Collaborating with and setting the challenge theme for the NSW Department of Education's award-winning Game Changer Challenge, a design thinking competition for public schools across NSW that encourages students to find solutions to complex, real-world problems.
- Creating the UNICEF Child Rights and Disaster Challenge with independent schools in NSW, tasking students with protecting children's rights in the event of a disaster. Students developed creative solutions, including wearable devices to keep children calm and discoverable, games simulating disaster scenarios, and filtration systems to clean stormwater. This initiative was recognised as a finalist in the partnership program category of the 2024 Australian Education Excellence Awards.

## SXSW Sydney

As a festival dedicated to ideas, innovation, voices and culture, SXSW Sydney provided an opportunity for young people to connect, learn and have their say about today's challenges and tomorrow's solutions. In 2024, UNICEF Australia brought young people together at a range of events, including two youth panels on philanthropy and climate change, a live stream with a young Climate Guardian from the Maldives on the main stage, and a youth-only Nxtwave Future Climate Lab.

## World Children's Day

World Children's Day is celebrated every year on 20 November, marking the date the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted. In 2024, over 153,000 children across 623 schools and pre-schools joined UNICEF Australia's "Minute of Loudness" celebration on World Children's Day, more than tripling our participation numbers from the year prior. The theme was children's rights, and we provided schools with learning resources and activities to encourage children to think about how children's rights can make Australia even better for every child to grow up in. The media marked the event on the children's news program, Behind the News.

## Making children a priority in Australia

UNICEF Australia strives to make children a national priority. Through our advocacy, research, reporting, and public and civil society engagement, we call for closer attention to the issues that impact and matter to children and ensure their wellbeing.

## Alliances for Impact

- UNICEF Australia worked alongside others to influence the development of the Federal Government's Early Years Strategy, which launched in May 2024. Our key recommendations were evident in the Productivity Commission's final report on Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC), including creating a universal Early Years system, embedding equity in the system and providing consideration to workforce issues and wage increases for ECEC workers.
- The Blueprint for a National Plan for Children was developed by UNICEF Australia with Save the



ABOVE UNICEF Australia's Minute of Loudness.



Children Australia and 54 Reasons as a roadmap for a comprehensive plan for children and young people in Australia. This plan was shared with the Prime Minister, Opposition Leader and relevant ministers. It would establish clear outcomes and priorities for children's wellbeing, unify existing strategies under a cohesive approach and ensure every child is given the support they need to thrive.

ABOVE Minister for Education and Youth, The Hon Jason Clare MP, with UNICEF Australia's Nicole Breeze, Chief Advocate for Children, and Tony Stuart, UNICEF Australia's Chief Executive Officer, at the launch of the Empowering Young Minds report.

## Program highlights



2,636

Children and young people consulted on issues that affect them.



47

Engagements by influential young leaders with decision-makers.





Tharani Jegatheeswaran, Partner at Deloitte Australia and UNICEF Australia Board Member, at the National Working Families Report launch.

## Family Friendly Workplaces

We have a bold vision to make every workplace in Australia family-friendly and the best place to be a parent and raise a child. To do this, in partnership with Parents at Work, we are asking Australian employers to make their workplaces family-friendly by providing flexible, gender-inclusive and wellbeing-focused policies and practices as well as childcare assistance.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Launch of the second National Working Families Survey Report with over 6,000 Australian working families and caregivers participating. This new data shows an increase in stress for parents and carers in balancing their career and their caring responsibilities. The increase is largely felt by women, who make up over 70 per cent of carers in Australia.
- A growth in engagement of partners, with a total of 352 organisations evaluated against the minimum National Work and Family Standards, which were created in 2021.

## The Australian Children's Wellbeing Index

Developed in 2021 by UNICEF Australia and the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY), the Australian Children's Wellbeing Index provides Australia's first holistic picture of how children are faring in various aspects of their lives, including health, education, safety, rights, and participation. Through the Index, we aim to set

policy priorities and guide action to ensure Australia is an equitable place to grow up, and to improve outcomes for every Australian child. In 2024, we launched the 'Empowering Young Minds: A review of Australian children and young people's learning' report with our partner, ARACY. This is the second in a series of papers on the Children's Wellbeing Index and provides a deep dive into the Learning domain, including learning in the GenAI era.

### CASE STUDY

## Meet Chris from ING Australia

After Chris and his partner had their first child, Rafael (Raffy), in late 2022, he took ING's full paid parental leave offering of 14 weeks, including superannuation (now 20 weeks as of March 2024). At ING Australia, an accredited Family Friendly Workplace since 2021, all employees – regardless of gender – are encouraged to work flexibly under ING's Flex ING approach, including paid parental leave and carer's leave. Taking carer's leave allowed Chris to enjoy spending quality time with his new baby and to support his partner in the first few weeks of Raffy's life. Nearly a year later, Chris took his remaining paid parental leave and unpaid parental leave as his partner returned to work. Not only did it help his family save on childcare costs, but it made him a more confident father and strengthened the bond between him and his young child.

**"There was something special about us both having time off together with him. It is a real benefit and a bonus. I can also help with chores and hang up new pictures of our family. We can be a family unit, making things a bit easier."**

FROM BOTTOM LEFT: © UNICEF Australia/Supplied; © UNICEF/UNI561159/Bak Mejlvang



# PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM CLIMATE CHANGE

**"I'm in a war. I have to fight because the Pacific is facing the devastating impact of climate change. I have to share as much as I can for them to see and understand what I am talking about, so that they can help us out and assist us in our efforts to adapt to the consequences of climate change."**

– Youth changemaker from Tuvalu at SxSW Sydney.

Students wade through their flooded schoolyard in Tuvalu.



With global temperatures surpassing 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels for the first time, 2024 was the hottest year on record.

Children remain highly exposed and vulnerable to the impacts of climate change – extreme weather, increased air pollution, and new disease patterns – those already experiencing disadvantage, whether in developing countries or remote Australian communities, are more severely impacted.

Climate change exacerbates inequality, and its effects will only accelerate. Now, more than ever, prioritising children’s unique needs, fundamental rights, and critical perspectives in the face of the climate crisis is essential – across Australia, our region, and the world.

Our climate roadmap

We continued to work with partners to drive climate-smart policies, investments, and actions in Australia and the Asia Pacific region by:

- Strengthening children’s resilience to climate impacts by safeguarding the social services that they rely on.
- Increasing the scale and depth of child and youth engagement in climate policymaking – putting them at the heart of Australia’s climate policies, actions, and investments.
- Building awareness, knowledge, and appetite for child-centred climate action among diverse stakeholders.

- Greening our own operations, progressing towards net zero, and embedding sustainability across all aspects of our work.

Building climate resilience in our region

To protect children from climate change, essential services they rely on – water, nutrition, health, education, and social protection – must be resilient to climate shocks. Strengthening infrastructure, investing in green skills and professional training, leveraging nature-based solutions for water and food security, and implementing early warning systems all help build resilience.

Globally, just three social services sectors – health, education, and water, hygiene, and sanitation (WASH)



Islamic Relief and UNICEF Australia meeting the Climate Guardians in Maldives.



CASE STUDY Climate Guardians in the Maldives

As a low-lying small island developing state (SIDS), the Maldives face increasing threats from climate change – tropical storms, floods, tidal surges, and rising sea-level.

Young people are deeply affected, with 56 per cent reporting disruption to their education due to extreme weather, and 77 per cent expressing anxiety. Yet, they are also a growing part of the solution as first responders, advocates, and entrepreneurs.

In partnership with Islamic Relief Australia, the Climate Guardians project propels youth across five islands to the forefront of climate action and advocacy, equipping them with the skills, resources, and opportunities to highlight impacts, present solutions, and influence decision-making at national and multilateral forums, including the UN Conference of Parties (COP). Last year, two Climate Guardians attended COP 29 in Baku, Azerbaijan and spoke powerfully about the urgency of the climate crisis for Maldivians and the solutions they want to see.

In Maldives, UNICEF Australia and our partners helped clean a beach. In the span of one hour, they collected 173kgs of waste including 93.8kgs of plastic.

– contribute 11 to 18 per cent of all greenhouse gas (GHg) emissions.

In 2024, the East Asia Pacific Solar Hub helped secure resources for a major climate-smart social services project in Papua New Guinea (PNG), Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste, with solarisation in the health and education sectors a major component.

We continued to support youth in Cambodia with green skills, equipping them to lead climate mitigation and adaptation.

We also provided policy guidance to Australian decision-makers on how investments in climate resilience across the Asia Pacific region can be made child-sensitive. At a parliamentary inquiry into Australia’s response to the priorities of Pacific Island countries, Chief Advocate for Children, Nicole Breeze, provided insights and recommendations on the importance of child-centric climate investment and programming to strengthen long-term resilience.

Strengthening Australia-Pacific climate youth networks

UNICEF Australia’s consultations reveal that youth leaders across Australia and the Pacific want consistent opportunities, resources, and platforms to learn, network, and engage decision-makers, especially ahead of a potential Australia-Pacific co-hosted Conference of Parties (COP) 31 in 2026. In response, we organised a series of peer learning, networking, and advocacy initiatives.

In July, two youth climate leaders from Timor-Leste joined the Australian Local Conference of Youth (LCOY), sharing their perspectives on meaningful youth consultation. In September, we funded Pasifika and First Nations leaders to participate in the Better Futures Forum (BFF) in Canberra and hosted a youth networking breakfast. In October, we supported four youth leaders from Tuvalu, Kiribati and PNG to

meet Federal parliamentarians, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and the Department of Climate Change Energy Environment and Water (DCCEEW) to advocate for youth-inclusive climate policymaking. Later that month, we brought 40 youth leaders from Australia, PNG, Tuvalu, and Kiribati to Sydney for a full-day youth lab addressing what a ‘child and youth-inclusive COP 31 looks like.’ Through these initiatives, UNICEF Australia is building a consistent and meaningful pathway for youth engagement in climate action across the region.

Building climate resilience in Australia

Climate change knows no borders, and children in Australia are vulnerable to its effects. Our research shows that 1.4 million Australian children are exposed to disasters in an average year. Despite this, they remain overlooked in disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate adaptation policymaking.





ABOVE Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre, UNICEF Australia, Royal Far West and Elizabeth Elliott (AM, FAHMS, FRSN) at the Parliament House launch of the Fitzroy Crossing Children's Needs Assessment.

“Climate change knows no boundaries. Addressing the challenge requires us to work together across sectors, geographies, and generations in a way we have never done before. And the stakes could not be higher – it's our children's and grandchildren's future.”

– Nishadh Rego, Head of Climate, UNICEF Australia.

## Towards a national framework for children and young people in disasters

In early 2024, UNICEF Australia released two critical reports on children in disasters. The *Impact and Cost of Disasters on Children and Young People* report with Deloitte Access Economics made the economic argument for why thinking about children in disaster response, recovery, and preparedness is a moral, economic, and national resilience imperative. The *Fitzroy Crossing Children's Needs Assessment* with Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre and Royal Far West was the first qualitative study on post-disaster recovery needs in remote Australia, detailing impacts on children's health, education, shelter, and access to food.

These landmark reports underpin our advocacy for a National Framework for Children and Young People in Disasters to articulate common

principles and standards for addressing children's immediate and long-term needs. We have engaged ministerial offices across five states and territories, with the National Emergency Management Agency, federal policymakers, the Federal Government's Special Envoy for Disasters, and key national civil society partners to advance this initiative.

**Advocating for a child-sensitive national climate risk assessments, adaptation plans (NAP) and next emissions targets to consider children's needs.**

Children and young people make up a third of the Australian population, yet their needs are often overlooked in climate risk assessments and adaptation plans. UNICEF Australia commissioned a Rapid Review of Child-Sensitive National Adaptation Plans, offering recommendations to the Australian Government for how to consider children in its first national climate risk and adaptation plan.

We also provided guidance to the Climate Change Authority on how to include children's needs and perspectives in advice to the Federal Government on Australia's new emissions reduction targets and how to achieve them.

## Driving change for and with children

### Australian Local Conference of Youth (LCOY)

In 2024, YOUNGO, the official youth constituency of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, invited the Australian Youth for International Climate Engagement, Plan International Australia, and UNICEF Australia to support LCOY – an initiative that brings young Australians together to network, explore climate issues and drive action. A leadership group of 17 young people held seven face-to-face consultations across five

states and one territory, listening to the opinions, perspectives, and calls to action of almost 200 young climate leaders aged 14 to 30. Key themes included emissions reductions, intergenerational equity, First Nations leadership, climate education, and meaningful participation.

The *National Child and Youth Statement* was launched at the Better Futures Forum in Canberra, presented to Ministers and Parliamentarians at Parliament House, and launched at a pavilion event at COP29 in Baku. The LCOY complemented a range of new initiatives in New South Wales to increase climate awareness in primary schools.

## Expert dialogue on children and climate change

The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change secretariat hosts an annual meeting of governments and UN organisations called the Subsidiary Body for Implementation. Held in Bonn, Germany, 2024 marked its 60th anniversary. UNICEF co-hosted the inaugural Expert Dialogue on Children and Climate, the first state-led discussion on the impacts of climate change on children, mandated at Conference of Parties (COP) 28 in Dubai.

Over 55 governments, including Australia, participated. A key takeaway was the recognition that children are uniquely vulnerable due to their age, physiology, cognitive and developmental stages. The Dialogue also reaffirmed the need to integrate children's rights into global climate policies and investments. We held several meetings with Australian negotiators and organised a high-level meeting between Deputy Executive Director and Australia's Head of Delegation.



In Vanuatu, UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell meets with students whose school was destroyed during twin cyclones in 2023.

“We must raise the voices of young people when it comes to climate change. Listening to their stories and experiences should remind all of us that it's our actions that will shape the futures of children and young people. Let's listen to their ideas, empower their actions and support their initiatives.”

In July 2024, UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell visited Australia as part of her Pacific visit, where she highlighted the profound impacts of climate change on young people in the region.

## Conference of Parties (COP) 29

COP 29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, focused on climate finance with Australia co-chairing the three-year work program and technical dialogues leading up to the Conference and, therefore, played a key role in negotiations.

### UNICEF Australia contributed by:

- 1 Influencing the insertion of child-inclusive language within the text of key negotiations, including those on climate finance.
- 2 Supporting youth leaders to participate meaningfully in the Conference.
- 3 Strengthening connections between UNICEF and the Australian Government.

### While opinions on COP29's success varied, key achievements included:

- A New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance, which includes references to gender and age-responsive climate finance and finance for the implementation of the thematic targets related to adaptation.
- Youth roundtables and meetings with Australian Ministers, Australia's Ambassador for Climate Change, and Senior Australian Government Negotiators, at which youth leaders shared the findings from LCOY.
- Two UNICEF Australia Young Ambassadors who participated in LCOY, attended the Conference to represent the National Child



and Youth Statement and speak on multiple panels about youth participation in climate policymaking.

Greening our operations

To complement our efforts in building climate resilience and driving change for and with children, we have renewed our focus on greening UNICEF Australia's internal operations.



CASE STUDY  
Go Green Mail House

In 2024, we conducted an RFP to 'go green' to our mail house contract. Our purpose was to 'walk the talk' and transition to a lower emissions procurement process while reducing environmental impact.

Following a robust assessment process, Precision Group was selected as our new mail house. Their sustainability efforts include:

- Recycling 92 per cent of all waste within their business.
- Sourcing from local producer.
- Prioritising the highest percentage of post-consumer recycled content.
- Committing to reducing greenhouse gas (GhG) emissions.
- Solar system Generating sufficient power to cover all electricity drawdowns during daylight hours with solar systems: 600 solar panels, two x kilowatt systems and two inverters. In 10 months, they have generated 189,2097.96 KWH of electricity and saved 12.419 tonnes of CO2, equivalent to 62 cars driving the average distance for a year.

APPROACH

Target

- As an environmentally responsible organisation committed to the fight against climate change, we're working towards net zero by greening our operations.

Monitor

- Tracking our carbon footprint is essential for progress. We're committed to reporting on all scope 1 & 2 emissions and specific scope 3 emissions where a reliable estimate can be formed.

Reduce

- Our sustainability strategy prioritises a mitigation hierarchy that seeks to avoid and reduce emissions as a priority before offsetting residual emissions.

KEY INITIATIVES

**GREENPOWER** In early 2024, we transitioned to a 100 per cent renewable energy plan certified under the Australian Government scheme with electricity sourced from the sun, wind, water and bioenergy. By transitioning to green energy, we prevented approximately 26tCO<sub>2</sub>e emissions by 31 December 2024.

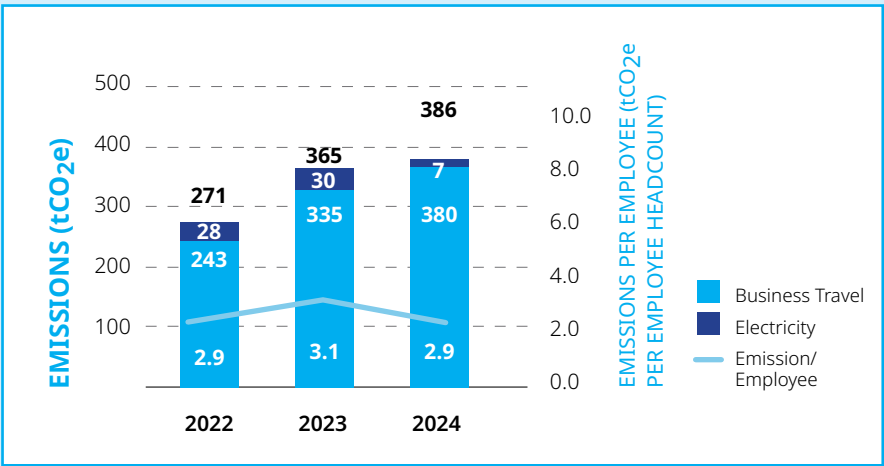
**TRAVEL** While travel remains integral to our work, we incorporated sustainability in travel decisions. Despite an overall increase in emissions, on a per-employee basis, travel emissions have reduced by 1 per cent year-on-year. Domestically, the proportion of low-emission point-to-point trips has increased from 10 per cent in 2023 to 34 per cent in 2024.

Offset

In 2025, UNICEF Australia is offsetting emissions by investing in a climate smart social services program in the East Asia Pacific region.

2024 Emissions

In 2024, our scope 1 & 2 emissions totalled 386tCO<sub>2</sub>e, a 6 per cent increase on 2023 due to workplace expansion. However, per-employee emissions decreased by 7 per cent year-on-year, to 2.9tCO<sub>2</sub>e per employee.



Electricity emissions are calculated based on kWh of electricity used with reference to Australian National Greenhouse Accounts (NGA) factors. Business travel emissions include domestic and international air travel, accommodation, car usage and point-to-point transport. They are calculated with reference to Department of Energy Security & Net Zero (UK) emission factors.

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT FUNDING

We deeply appreciate our partnership with the Australian Government which enables us to deliver impact for children. In 2024, UNICEF Australia received support from the Australian Government for our work for children in Australia, in our region and beyond.

As an accredited organisation under the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), which is responsible for overseeing Australia's development initiatives, the Australian Government rigorously reviews UNICEF Australia's systems, policies, and processes, providing assurance of accountability, the effective use

of funds, risk management, and continuous improvement.

UNICEF Australia is one of 43 Australian NGOs with full accreditation and is allocated funding on an annual basis. In 2024, we received \$4.4 million in ANCP funding, which is combined with donations from the Australian public and the private sector to extend our Priority Programs and achieve results for children.

A total of \$230,645 was recognised through ANCP in partnership with the Murdoch Children's Research Institute for a grant focused on immunisation in Indonesia.

In addition to the funding received through ANCP, UNICEF Australia also received DFAT funds via Abt Global for the Vaccine Access and Health Security Initiative in Timor-Leste, with \$820,127 recognised in 2024.

For work delivered domestically, UNICEF Australia recognised \$463,480 from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet for Family Friendly Workplaces with Parents at Work.

UNICEF Australia is an independent registered charitable entity, subject to Australian regulations and Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR1) Status and a signatory to the Australian Council for International Development's Code of Conduct.

In addition to the funds received by UNICEF Australia, the Australian Government contributed more than \$61.4 million in direct funding to UNICEF in 2024.

LEFT In Timor-Leste, a Mother Support Group volunteer, Odette, gives nutrition advice and support to local mothers.





# OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

UNICEF Australia sincerely thanks the many partners who supported us in 2024. These companies, along with their people, customers, and stakeholders, are an example of unwavering determination in sharing our commitment to promote and protect the rights of every child, no matter what.



Adyen's 'Giving' product enables businesses to integrate donations into their payment flow easily. This innovative technology helps to ensure faster and easier payments, allowing UNICEF to provide lifesaving help to children and their families. In 2024, Adyen launched its matched giving initiative. For any new business that turned on Adyen Giving, Adyen doubled the customer contribution.



CommBank supports UNICEF Australia through both emergency and domestic funding through the generosity of the Staff Foundation. The Coins for Kids program continues to make an impact, running across all bank branches. This initiative encourages customers to donate foreign currency, helping to support the world's most vulnerable children.



CyberCX delivered its services and expertise to create a safer, more secure online environment. Our collaboration is about more than protecting data; it's also about securing and protecting the future and wellbeing of the children and communities we work with and support.



In 2024, The Globus family of brands supported UNICEF Australia with valuable resources and funding. For each passenger booked on a Globus tour, Globus donated to UNICEF Australia, helping children where the need is greatest.



H&M raised funds in Australia through their online store, providing funds to support the children most in need around the world.



As UNICEF Australia's official media and creative agency, Howatson & Co provides valuable pro bono agency hours and further supports UNICEF Australia through workplace giving donations.



Through its active workplace engagement program, as well as providing expertise and skills in recruitment, transformation and leadership, IKEA Australia has continued to provide valuable support to UNICEF Australia's Young Ambassador program.



Jo Malone, as a Global partner of UNICEF, is working with us to protect and promote mental health and wellbeing for children, young people, and caregivers around the world through the sale of the charity candle collection, consumer check-out donations, and employee fundraising activities.



Louis Vuitton, as a global partner for UNICEF, supports our lifesaving humanitarian work all around the world, allowing us to respond quickly to new and protracted emergencies.



Marriott International, a global partner of UNICEF, relaunched the Check Out for Children program to support UNICEF's work in responding to crises. In 2024, Marriott Hotels in Sydney supported the inaugural Dusk to Dawn fundraising event with event activations and internal fundraising efforts.



Next Practice supports UNICEF's maternal and neonatal health programs in Papua New Guinea. The 'Next Aid' partnership funds programs that improve maternal, newborn, and child healthcare, focusing on tetanus-diphtheria vaccinations to help children in the region thrive and reach their potential.



Nomura supports the Children Learning Smarter project in Timor-Leste, which focuses on access to education through innovative technology, including the Learning Passport, a versatile online and offline platform that provides continuous access to educational tools and content.



The PayPal Giving Fund helps people support their favourite charities online. In 2024, the PayPal Giving Fund allowed UNICEF Australia the opportunity to be the featured charity at the Give at Checkout and to spotlight UNICEF's campaigns and appeals for children in emergencies.



Through UNICEF's global Change for Good program, which enables passengers to donate foreign and local currency, and Frequent Flyer incentives, Qantas has raised more than \$39 million to support UNICEF's work over the past 34 years.



The Rotary Give Every Child A Future project, in collaboration with UNICEF, aims to vaccinate the most disadvantaged children and adolescents across the Pacific. This centenary project, involving all of Australasia, showcased Rotary's enduring strength and commitment to service, encouraging widespread participation.



In 2024, The Telstra Foundation generously supported UNICEF Australia's advocacy, education and awareness campaign, 'Protecting children in the online world: Reshaping the digital world for Aussie kids'.



Travel Money Oz supports UNICEF Australia through their foreign coin collection program, Small Change, Big Difference. Through this program, individuals donate foreign coins to support UNICEF's work protecting children around the world.

**Working with our partners for rapid emergency response** UNICEF Australia extends our deepest gratitude to the companies, organisations, workplace giving programs, staff, and customers that have shown their ongoing commitment to children during emergencies. We would like to thank the following companies that raised over \$50,000:



Thank you to the organisations that contributed through appeals and directly supported programs in 2024, including: APT Travel Group, BioPak Packaging, Google, Haneco Lighting, ING Bank, KPMG, Macquarie Foundation, Mastercard Loyalty Solutions, Microsoft, NAB, Origin Foundation, PwC, Quayclean Australia, REA Group, and VISA.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who supports us through Champions for Children – our small to medium-sized businesses committed to making a positive change in the lives of children. As a non-profit organisation reliant solely on voluntary donations, our ability to fulfill our mission to help every child depends on the unwavering commitment of our partners. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the stakeholders, companies, and staff who generously contributed to UNICEF Australia in 2024, enabling us to continue our vital work.



# OUR SUPPORTERS

Thank you to everyone who helped us be there for every child. The kindness of our supporters is not only a lifeline; it gives children a brighter future.

## Everyday people, extraordinary impact

In 2024, we faced new and protracted emergencies that deeply impacted children and communities around the world. From conflicts in Gaza, the Middle East, Sudan and Ukraine to disease outbreaks in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and earthquakes in Vanuatu, each crisis has deeply impacted children and the systems they rely on. At a time of so much uncertainty, the compassion and generosity of our supporters helped ensure that UNICEF can continue to be there for children when they need us most.

Individual supporters in Australia collectively raised \$27 million for

children in need around the world. This includes contributions from our regular givers who support us through Global Parents, *Paddington's Postcards* and *The Wiggles Brave Little Books* (which launched this year). By giving monthly, our supporters help us to respond quickly to humanitarian emergencies and to effectively deliver long-term development programs, ensuring that children in need continue to receive lifesaving care.

Our community of Gifts in Wills supporters continues to grow, with more people deciding to leave a legacy and ensure that future generations receive the support, care, and opportunities they deserve. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to these supporters, their loved ones, and others who have chosen to leave a Gift in their Will for UNICEF Australia.

Every supporter plays a vital role in UNICEF's work. In 2024 alone, our dedicated Supporter Experience team in Sydney engaged in more than 17,500 interactions to help our supporters and answer their questions, amounting to 360 hours of meaningful communication.

As an organisation run entirely on voluntary contributions, our supporters are the backbone of everything we do. We are truly grateful to our community of regular individuals, to everyone who gives so generously during our emergency appeals, our community fundraisers, and to inspirational supporters who plan to leave a lasting legacy through a gift in their Will.



**Richard**  
UNICEF Australia's Global Parent

*"Becoming a parent 10 years ago made me really sit up and think about how I could help others not as fortunate as my daughter. By helping the great people at UNICEF I know that there are more children who will have a childhood that is safe, healthy, and fun."*



**Dr. Rosemary Kerr**  
UNICEF Australia's Global Parent

Rosemary made the incredibly generous decision to leave a gift in her Will to UNICEF Australia. *"I wanted a meaningful way to help create a better future for children everywhere and leaving a gift in my Will allows me to do this."*



The MaRunite Run Club brought their energy and enthusiasm to UNICEF Australia's Dusk to Dawn night walk, raising an incredible \$10,000.



## The power of community

Over 2,000 community fundraisers took action, raising vital funds through physical challenges such as endurance walks and marathons, bake sales, and various other community events. Together, we achieved incredible results, including the launch of Dusk to Dawn, UNICEF Australia's first night walk challenge.

### Dusk to Dawn

UNICEF Australia proudly launched the Dusk to Dawn night walk – a truly unique endurance challenge. Fundraisers came together to walk 37 kilometres through the night along Sydney's stunning coastline, starting in North Sydney and finishing at Bondi Beach, all to raise much-needed funds for children in emergencies.

The event was an incredible success, bringing together over 640 walkers, 120 volunteers, and more than 5,200

supporters. Their collective efforts raised over \$450,000 for children in need. The atmosphere on the night was electric. As the sun dipped, participants set off on their journey, winding through the scenic route beneath a star-lit sky. Along the way, dedicated volunteers and UNICEF staff cheered them on, offering words of encouragement, water, and well-earned snacks at designated rest stops. As dawn broke over the finish line, participants were met with applause and a well-deserved celebration – exhausted but proud of what they had achieved and the impact they had made for children around the world.

Dusk to Dawn was much more than a walk; it was a testament to the strength of community fundraising. Participants trained for months, pushed their limits, and inspired friends, family, and colleagues to give generously. Corporate teams, fitness groups, and individual fundraisers alike played a crucial role in making this inaugural event one to remember.

### Shaving for Gaza

Belinda shaved her head and raised over \$2,400 for UNICEF's work in Gaza, standing in solidarity with families facing unimaginable hardship.

### Kei's Bake Sale

For Halloween, our superstar Kei turned sweet treats into a fundraising effort to support children in Africa.

**ABOVE** Belinda shaves her head to raise money for UNICEF. Kei hosted a bake sale to raise money for children in Africa.



# OUR PARTNERS FOR IMPACT

In a world full of uncertainty, investing in impact is more important than ever. We work with individuals, families, foundations, faith-based communities, and civil society organisations who are ready to invest resources and leverage influence to create sustainable change for children.

**I**n 2024, our philanthropic and faith-based partners supported lifesaving emergency response and long-term development programs. From water, sanitation and hygiene services in Gaza, to education and psychosocial support in Ukraine, and development programs across the Pacific, including nutrition, child protection, and early childhood development, millions of children have been impacted.

Our team works with partners to meet them where they are on their philanthropic journey. Building trusting partnerships allows us to respond to complex challenges children face today.

UNICEF works with governments and local communities at a grassroots level to respond to the specific needs of the most vulnerable children while laying the foundations for sustainable change. We seek guidance from local communities and policymakers to co-design programs that build capacity. We can then scale up programs until they are sustainable – to the point where we are no longer needed.



This life-changing work is not possible without the support of our generous philanthropic partners. Together, we work towards ensuring that children can grow, learn, play, and develop in a safe and nurturing environment, no matter where they are.

We are thankful to all our partners, with particular gratitude to Minderoo Foundation, The McCusker Charitable Foundation, The Ian Potter Foundation, Islamic Relief Australia, and The Fred Hollows Foundation for their incredible support in 2024.



Minderoo Foundation generously supported UNICEF's water, sanitation, and hygiene response in Gaza, helping address serious health risks caused by the conflict.



We partnered with Islamic Relief Australia on three key projects in the Asia Pacific region – in Cambodia, Papua New Guinea, and the Maldives with our flagship Climate Guardians program.



The McCusker Charitable Foundation supported our lifesaving work in Kenya, by funding WASH facilities and playground equipment, to give children a healthy and safe start to life.



The Fred Hollows Foundation is partnering with UNICEF to eliminate trachoma in Eritrea through eye care and WASH programs – reducing blindness and improving long-term community health.



The Ian Potter Foundation supported our Certify Hope campaign to raise awareness and help eliminate barriers to birth registration in Australia and to provide a roadmap for systemic change.

**ABOVE** Nina Lorenzini, Bismarck Swagin, Catherine Green, Elaine Jung, at Minderoo Foundation, where Bismarck, UNICEF's Chief of Partnerships, Communications and Advocacy for Sri Lanka, shared his personal story and highlighted UNICEF's global humanitarian and development work.

# OUR PEOPLE



**D**espite a challenging year marked by prolonged emergencies, our people have shown resilience and dedication to improving the lives of every child. Their commitment and wellbeing are essential to achieving our goals. We actively promote an inclusive, flexible workplace where everyone can thrive. Our culture of purpose and belonging is reflected in our high engagement scores and retention rates.

organisations and global NFP entities. To stretch ourselves further, we compared our performance to high-performing organisations and found we are performing well.

This aligns with our priorities and reinforces our commitment to a human centric workplace, sustainable growth and delivering meaningful impact – ultimately delivering better outcomes for children.

## Purpose driven and engaged organisation

This year, our employee voice survey, delivered an impressive sustainable engagement score of 91 per cent, exceeding Australian high performance and global not-for-profit (NFP) comparison organisations. This reaffirms our commitment to fostering a culture of genuine care where individuals feel valued, challenged, and trusted. Our employees highlighted that our purpose, and flexibility, played a significant role in achieving this remarkable score. Notably, we maintained a category score of 100 per cent of our people believing strongly in our organisational goals and objectives.

Across all employee voice survey categories, we've successfully exceeded external benchmarks, demonstrating a strong and engaged team by outperforming Australian

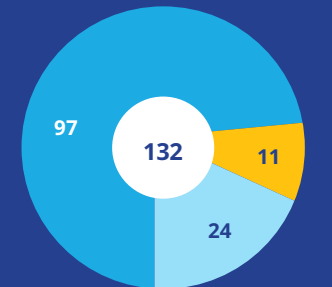
## A growing, inclusive, human centric workplace

Our team grew by 13 per cent in 2024. Onboarding remains a priority, ensuring newcomers have everything they need for a strong start, and we're doing well, as evidenced by a 92 per cent onboarding engagement score. Through developing and challenging our team members, we also supported 31 internal moves, which provided an opportunity to support individual growth and future-proof our organisation.

Wellbeing remains a key focus, with a secure and supportive environment reflected in our 75 per cent wellbeing index survey results +2 per cent above 2023 results and +3 per cent above cross industry benchmark.

Flexibility is a key contributor to our engagement scores and human-centric workplace. We've continued to

## Team profile in 2024



### 132 UNICEF Australia team members

- 97 full-time employees
- 11 part-time employees
- 24 contract full-time and part-time

- + 9 young ambassadors\*
- + 14 additional interns\*

\*(this is not counted in the 132)

## Employee Voice Survey results

**100%** of our team believe strongly in the goals and objectives of UNICEF Australia

**91%** sustainable engagement

## Wellbeing Index Survey results

**75%** wellbeing score (+3% to benchmark)

embrace flexibility and agility in our work methods, resulting in a high-trust environment and collaborative culture. We continue to embed multiple touchpoints of measurement throughout our employee journey, gathering valid and reliable evidence on how our people feel, enabling us to genuinely support them by offering adjustments, policies and practices that reflect their needs.

Embracing the diverse nature of our team, people and their families is a priority for our inclusive workplace. Our DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) working group continued to implement a targeted plan to better support our people to ensure they all feel heard, considered, and able to reach their full potential.



# OUR AMBASSADORS



**ABOVE** Australia's most decorated Olympian and UNICEF Australia Ambassador Emma McKeon visited a SwimSafe program supported by UNICEF in Bangladesh.

**I**n 2024, UNICEF Australia Ambassadors played a vital role in raising awareness and funds for our work for children. Through powerful campaigns, impactful project visits, and meaningful media coverage, their time and energy helped us reach new audiences and deepen our impact.

Special thanks to Pat Cummins, Emma McKeon, The Wiggles, Adam Liaw, Edwina Bartholomew, Carrie Bickmore, Erica Packer, Rae Johnston, Callan McAuliffe, Tara Moss, Rachael Haynes, Dr Susan Carland, Professor Fiona Stanley, and Chris Maher AO. With their ongoing support, we have been able to achieve extensive coverage across Australia and create true impact through awareness and fundraising.

**“ This program has a really close connection to me and how I've spent my life. In Australia, we have a huge amount of access to learn to swim, and so many children here don't. ”**

– Emma McKeon, UNICEF Australia Ambassador

## 2024 Highlights

- We launched 'Brave Little Books' with Australia's favourite children's music group, The Wiggles. This monthly subscription delivers 12 vibrant books and activity packs bursting with colour, stickers, and interactive challenges to children and families across Australia, while making an impact for children around the world.
- Philanthropist Erica Packer travelled with her 14-year-old son Jackson to see UNICEF in action at the world's largest humanitarian warehouse in Denmark. The lifesaving supplies found there are delivered to places like Moldova, where Erica and Jackson visited

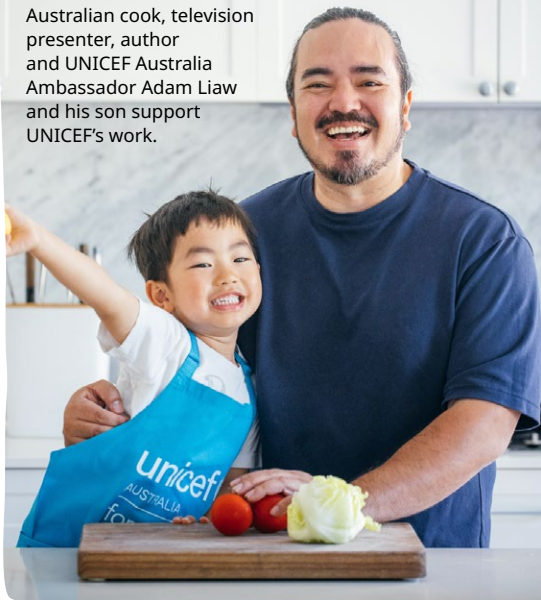
afterwards to see UNICEF's work supporting Ukrainian refugees. Covered by 9News, the trip achieved a global media reach of over 145 million.

- Australia's most decorated Olympian, Emma McKeon, travelled to Bangladesh to visit several UNICEF-supported programs. She described her experience in Bangladesh as "eye-opening" and highlighted the life-changing impact of UNICEF's work on children's lives, including at the world's largest refugee camp in Cox's Bazar. Accompanied by News Corp journalists Julie Cross and Jason Edwards, the visit had a reach of 69 million across media and social media.
- Australia's Test cricket captain Pat Cummins visited a primary school whilst in Hyderabad, India with the IPL. He visited one of the 10,000 ATAL Tinkering Labs in India and saw firsthand the impact the program has on gender equality



**ABOVE** Australian Cricket Captain and UNICEF Australia Ambassador Pat Cummins visited a government school to advocate for children's rights and promote education, learning and empowerment of girls and boys.

Australian cook, television presenter, author and UNICEF Australia Ambassador Adam Liaw and his son support UNICEF's work.



and girls in STEM – teaching practical life skills that will be used beyond the classroom.

- Sunrise host Edwina Bartholomew was the ambassador for the 2024 Mother's Day campaign. The focus this year was to support new mothers in Timor-Leste, encouraging people to purchase gifts, such as a newborn care pack. Her powerful video raised \$12,000 in funds and reached an audience of over 800,000.
- Digital, broadcast and TV journalist Rae Johnston launched Next Gen, a UNICEF Australia podcast giving young people and experts a platform to discuss critical issues like climate change and mental health.
- TV presenter and cook Adam Liaw raised vital funds for Burundi in response to El Nino-induced floods that devastated over 20,000 homes and left 100,000 people displaced.

Following his visit to Burundi in 2023, he was moved to take action as many projects he visited the previous year had been destroyed. Adam also supported UNICEF Australia's Inspired Gifts campaign, raising \$27,000, and was the face of the end-of-year corporate campaign, aiming to help provide therapeutic food to 1 million children in emergencies.

- TV presenter and broadcaster Carrie Bickmore produced a special radio piece for World Children's Day to raise awareness of the 'Minute of Loudness' campaign reaching over 250,000 listeners.
- Our ambassador, Dr Susan Carland, supported UNICEF's first ever Dusk to Dawn challenge by walking 37km through the night and raised over \$6,000. Emma McKeon, Adam Liaw, Carrie Bickmore and Rae Johnson also supported the challenge with promotional videos.

- As a high-profile supporter of UNICEF Australia, Australian cricketer Usman Khawaja launched a powerful t-shirt campaign to raise funds for our Gaza Emergency Appeal. Through social and media awareness, Usman raised over \$25,000 for children and families impacted by the conflict in Gaza.

Together, our UNICEF Australia Ambassadors and high-profile supporters were instrumental in raising awareness of these campaigns and to helping make the world a better place for every child.



# AMPLIFYING OUR WORK

**A**round the world, UNICEF's signature cyan blue symbolises hope for children in crisis. It's synonymous with clean water, backpacks filled with school supplies, lifesaving health and nutrition support, and immunisation.

In 2024, we shared stories with Australians about the lifesaving work that gives meaning to this colour for children. From global emergencies to local advocacy and ambassador engagements, we highlighted UNICEF's lifesaving work for every child in more than 190 countries.

From conflict zones such as the Middle East, Sudan, and Haiti, UNICEF spokespeople shared insights with Australian journalists on how UNICEF helps children survive the toughest of days. The work UNICEF

is doing to deliver lifesaving support was broadcast around Australia amidst treacherous conditions for humanitarian workers.

Child and youth voices were central to the stories shared through traditional and social media. Our social channels continued to grow in reach and engagement, amplifying the voices of young people and helping Australians connect with children's experiences around the world. Age-appropriate news items were developed for youth outlets such as BTN, BTN High, Kids News, and Junkee, focusing on the experiences of young people during the Ukraine war, youth advocacy on climate change, and school engagement. For the first time, we partnered with TEDx on an event in Western Australia. TEDx Kings Park Youth was led by young people and

focused on issues that matter to them, such as the impacts of conflict in Ukraine, Sudan, Gaza, and beyond.

While UNICEF teams on the ground were responding to emergencies and disasters, including the mpox outbreak in Africa and the landslide in Papua New Guinea, our UNICEF Australia team kept audiences informed on the support UNICEF was providing, including critical health services and protection for children and families.

As advocates for children in Australia, our interviews and stories also generated discussion on the impacts of climate change on children, how to ensure safe environments for young people online, the gender gap in uptake of parental leave, and improved access to early learning by having a birth certificate. On World Children's Day, we encouraged kids to 'get loud' about child rights. More than 150,000 children participated in our 'Minute of Loudness' activation, which was marked with coverage on children's news program, Behind the News.

At the beginning of summer, we launched *Until every girl can play* – a major activation with Cricket Australia that marked the first year of our multi-year partnership, harnessing sports as a powerful force for good to break down barriers, promote participation, change attitudes, and strengthen inclusion.

In 2024, we continued to build on our year-on-year growth by reaching more people in Australia and driving stronger recognition of UNICEF's work – which ultimately maximises our impact for children around the world.



James Elder  
in northern  
Gaza Strip in the  
State of Palestine.

“This is a war on children. I've certainly not seen the wounds of war on this scale.”

– James Elder, UNICEF Global Spokesperson



BELOW UNICEF Australia and Cricket Australia celebrate the launch of their partnership at the MCG.



## Media coverage of our work



### Erica and Jackson Packer meet Ukrainian refugees

UNICEF Australia Ambassador Erica Packer and son Jackson helped pack supplies at UNICEF's Copenhagen warehouse and visited a pre-school and secondary school in Moldova attended by refugee children from Ukraine.



### James Elder and Tess Ingram in Gaza

UNICEF spokesperson and fellow Australians, James Elder and Tess Ingram, have not only lived through the danger of the Gaza war zone themselves, but witnessed children dying from starvation, freezing, disease, and injuries.



### Digital safety

As strong advocates for young people's digital wellbeing, underpinned by a survey on their online experiences, UNICEF Australia called for privacy protections and online safeguards while recognising the benefits of being online.



# OUR BOARD



**Ms Ann Sherry AO**  
Chancellor of Queensland University of Technology

- Appointed 15 November 2017
- Board and Governance, Remuneration and Ethics Committee Chair
- Attendance at board meetings: 5/5



**Mr Nigel Andrade**  
Partner and Chair of Kearney's Strategy, Growth and Organisation Transformation Practice

- Appointed 19 March 2019
- Governance, Remuneration and Ethics Committee member
- Attendance at board meetings: 4/5



**Mr Cameron Brownjohn OAM**  
Chief Executive Officer of Federation Asset Management

- Appointed 12 November 2024
- Attendance at board meetings: 2/2



**Ms Jacqui De Lacy**  
Chief Global Development Officer of Abt Associates

- Appointed 1 May 2018
- Programs Committee Chair
- Attendance at board meetings: 3/5



**Ms Suzanne Dvorak**  
Chief Executive Officer of Oceania Healthcare

- Appointed 8 March 2017 to 15 May 2024
- Programs Committee member
- Attendance at board meetings: 2/2



**Mr Toby Hall**  
Chair of Integral Diagnostics and For Purpose Aged Care

- Appointed 29 August 2017
- Audit and Risk Committee Chair
- Attendance at board meetings: 5/5



**Ms Tharani Jegatheeswaran**  
Partner and the National Client Relationships Leader at Deloitte Australia

- Appointed 19 March 2019
- Audit and Risk Committee member until 15 May 2024 and Programs Committee member from 15 May 2024
- Attendance at board meetings: 5/5



**Ms Lesley Podesta**  
Chief Executive Officer of Kilfinan Australia

- Appointed 26 May 2021
- Governance, Remuneration and Ethics Committee member and Programs Committee member
- Attendance at board meetings: 5/5



**Ms Sandra Rouse**  
Group Chief Financial Officer at BioPak

- Appointed 22 May 2019
- Audit and Risk Committee member
- Attendance at board meetings: 5/5



**Ms Antonia Ruffell**  
Chief Executive Officer of StartGiving

- Appointed 1 May 2024
- Audit and Risk Committee member from 15 May 2024
- Attendance at board meetings: 4/4



**Ms Olivia Wirth**  
Executive Chair of Myer

- Appointed 25 August 2015 to 24 August 2024
- Attendance at board meetings: 3/3

The directors of UNICEF Australia serve voluntarily and do not receive any remuneration for their services as directors. Expenses incurred by directors on behalf of the company are reimbursed on a cost only basis.

# GOVERNANCE

The Australian Committee for UNICEF Limited is committed to achieving best practice in our management of program funding and corporate governance.

A Corporate Governance Statement is available on our website which outlines the establishment and detailed governance framework of UNICEF Australia.

Our company's directors are committed to adding value to the organisation by bringing their wide range of skills and experience to the board. Brief details on each of the directors are included on **Page 46** of this report.



## ACNC

UNICEF Australia is a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and regulated under the ACNC Act 2012.

As a large charity, we comply with the ACNC Governance Standards. As we send funds overseas, we also adhere to the ACNC External Conduct Standards. Adherence to these standards is assured through ongoing internal review.

By applying the ACNC External Conduct Standards, we ensure that our activities align with our purposes. We are effective in controlling resources, reviewing overseas activities, and maintaining good record-keeping. Moreover, we minimise the risk of fraud and corruption and protect vulnerable individuals.



UNICEF Australia is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and applies the principles of the ACFID Code of Conduct which set the minimum standards of governance, management and accountability for member agencies. UNICEF Australia self-assesses against the code annually.

We are also committed to ACFID's Fundraising Charter, which requires that we are ethical and accountable in how we use fundraising information and communicate to our stakeholders.



## Fundraising Institute Australia

UNICEF Australia is a member of the Fundraising Institute Australia and is committed to adhering to the FIA Code, a self-regulatory code of conduct for fundraising in Australia.



## Accreditation

UNICEF Australia is accredited with the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade. Accreditation is a robust assessment of an organisation's practice in governance, program and partner management, community engagement, and financial accountability.

Gaining accreditation recognises that UNICEF Australia has the capacity and accountability to manage Australian Government funding and makes us eligible for grant funding through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program. In 2022, we were successful in achieving reaccreditation for a further five years.

## Risk Management

UNICEF Australia considers risk management an integral part of our organisational culture and an essential component of our strategic planning and decision making.

Our risk management policy and framework enhance the identification and flow of risks throughout the organisation, assigning responsibility to managing these risks and how they should be monitored and reported. While management maintains the responsibility for responding to risks, all staff are required to assist in identifying them.

UNICEF Australia recognises that cybersecurity is a significant risk that requires continuous management. The ever-present threat to our organisational data and security necessitates the implementation of increasingly sophisticated systems and processes to effectively mitigate the risks involved.

## Feedback and complaints

Anyone wishing to provide feedback or make a complaint can do so via email at [unicef@unicef.org.au](mailto:unicef@unicef.org.au) or via phone on (02) 9261 2811. Complaints relating to a breach of the ACFID Code of Conduct by an ACFID code member can also be made to the ACFID Code of Conduct Committee. For information on how to make a complaint see [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au)



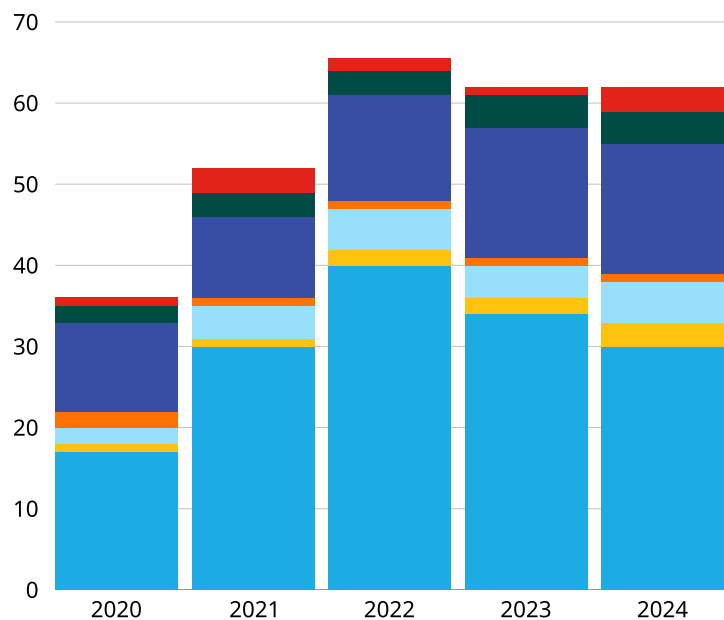
# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

In the face of ongoing conflicts, UNICEF Australia remained steadfast in its commitment to protect the world's most vulnerable children, no matter what. Throughout 2024, we continued to provide critical humanitarian assistance and

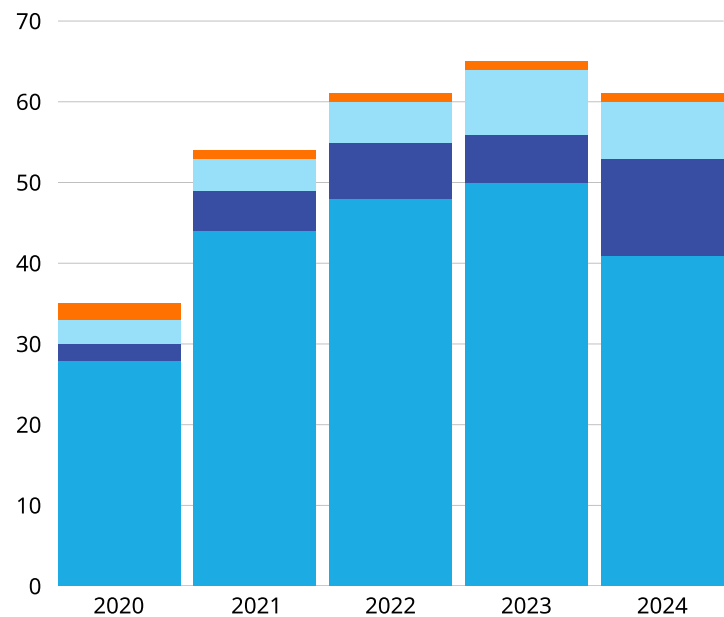
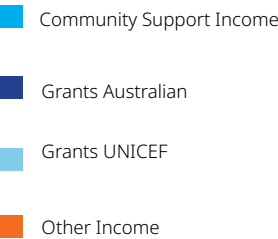
support for long-term development projects around the world. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, UNICEF Australia was able to provide programs and reach children in need, with our overall contribution to children being \$38.1 million.

As an organisation run entirely on voluntary contributions, we sincerely thank our generous supporters for their powerful commitment to UNICEF Australia's work for children around the world.

## Five-year expenditure trend (by type)



## Five-year revenue trend (by source)



ABOVE In Gaza, UNICEF provides children with access to safe learning spaces, ensuring they continue to receive essential education in core subjects like Arabic, English, Math and Science.

## Where the money comes from

In 2024, UNICEF Australia recorded a total income of \$61.0 million, a 5 per cent decline relative to 2023, mostly due to a fall in monetary donations to emergency appeals one year on from the earthquake impacting Syria and Türkiye and the onset of conflict in Gaza. The decline in monetary donations was largely offset by growth in grant income with additional support secured from the Department of Foreign Affairs

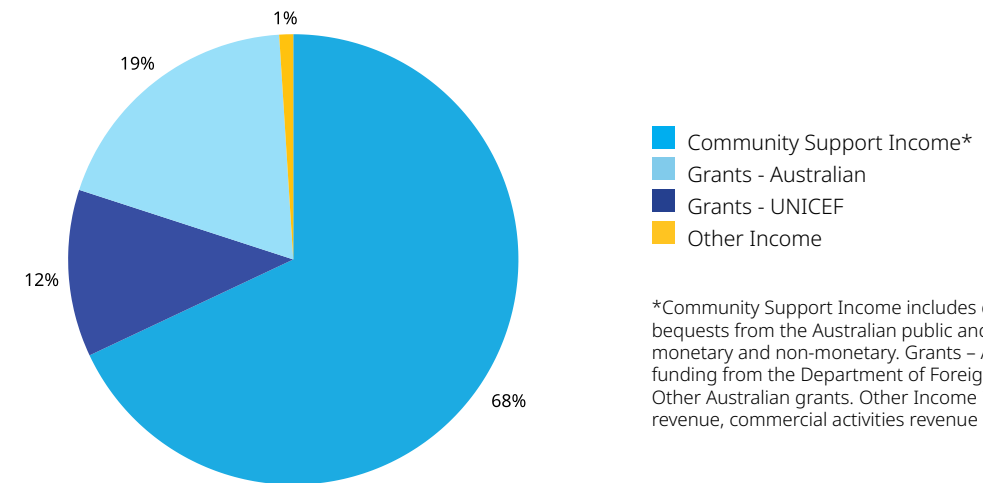
and Trade (DFAT) and other public and private sector partners across Australian society.

UNICEF Australia continues to hold full accreditation under DFAT's Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP), through which it receives annual funding to support a range of early childhood development, child protection, child survival, and water and sanitation programs; predominantly in the East Asia and Pacific Region. In 2024, overall DFAT revenues were \$8.3 million, with a

further \$2.6 million recognised as deferred revenue as of 31 December 2024 and available for use in 2025.

UNICEF Australia receives grant funding from UNICEF to support fundraising activities that generate a strong long-term return on investment. In 2024, this income was predominantly used to support our appeals, attract new regular donors and grow our legacy and bequests fundraising program, all of which generates funding for UNICEF's global programs.

## Where the money came from 2024



\*Community Support Income includes donations and bequests from the Australian public and corporations, both monetary and non-monetary. Grants - Australian includes funding from the Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade and Other Australian grants. Other Income includes investment revenue, commercial activities revenue and other income.



Where the money goes

UNICEF Australia’s contribution to children includes funds for international and domestic programs, together with local program support costs and community education expenditures which inform and educate Australians on child rights. Through the generous donations of our supporters, UNICEF Australia’s contribution to children was \$38.1 million in 2024, which represented 75 per cent of overall expenditure, excluding non-monetary costs and amounts funded by UNICEF grants. This reflected a \$3.4 million decline against 2023 with the fall in donations to emergency appeals resulting in smaller distribution of funds to international programs. Nonetheless, our contribution to children comprised of the following key activities which were aligned to our strategic objectives.

The ongoing hostilities in the Gaza Strip throughout 2024 has had a profound impact on children and families as they have endured immense suffering due to the widespread destruction, continuous

attacks, displacement, and acute shortages of basic needs like food, water, and medical supplies. In the face of such adversity, UNICEF Australia is thankful to our donors, whose generous support has enabled us to contribute more than \$10 million of assistance in 2024.

Elsewhere in 2024, UNICEF Australia supported emergency response to natural disasters such as the earthquake in Vanuatu, floods in Burundi, and ongoing conflicts across Lebanon, Ukraine and Syria.

With the support of the Australian community and DFAT, UNICEF Australia contributed \$11.4 million (2023: \$8.7 million) to priority programs across the East Asia and Pacific region and has advanced a further \$4.3 million (2023: \$5.2 million) in prepayments to continue those programs in 2025.

Consistent with our aim that all Australian children and young people have a fair chance to achieve their potential, UNICEF Australia invested \$0.9 million (2023: \$1.2 million) in a range of domestic programs including those focused on digital wellbeing, birth registration and

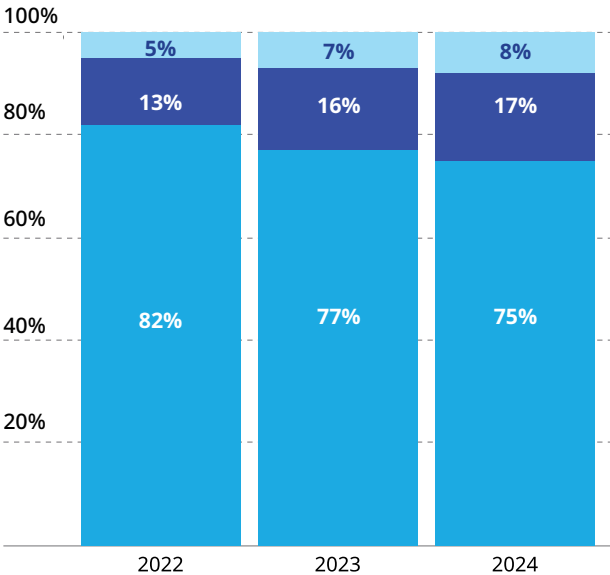
the development of family-friendly workplaces.

As we strive to amplify the voice of children and advocate for the rights and wellbeing of children, UNICEF Australia invested \$5.2 million (2023: \$4.1 million) in community education across 2024. This included active engagement of children and young people, advocacy with governments across Australia and efforts to raise awareness across the Australian community around humanitarian, development and children’s rights issues.

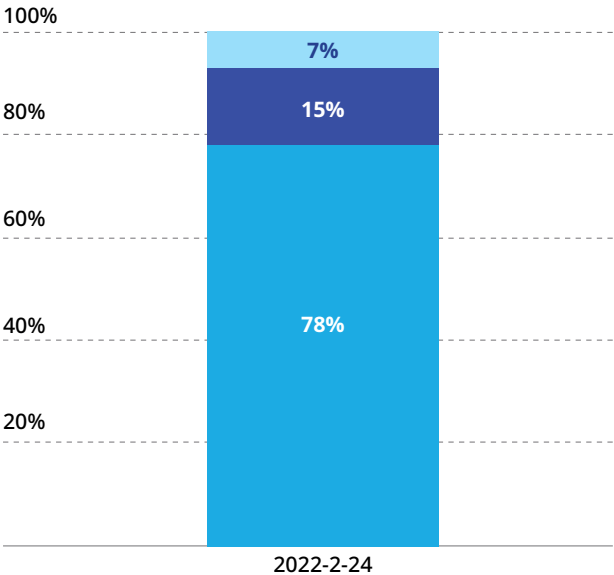
UNICEF Australia’s overall fundraising investment remained stable in 2024, and we continued to receive more than \$7 million in investment grant funding from UNICEF to finance high-performing fundraising activities.

Accountability and administration costs include essential investments required to run the organisation and include staff costs across our finance, legal and human resources functions together with associated costs such as insurance. Accountability and administration costs as a proportion of operating expenditure rose to 8 per cent in 2024 (2023: 7 per cent).

ANNUAL RATIOS



3 YEAR AVERAGE



\*Percentages shown as a proportion of operating expenditure which excludes non-monetary expenditure and costs funded through UNICEF grants.

Contribution to children Fundraising Administration

FINANCIALS

Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
REVENUE		
Donations and Bequests		
Monetary	38,647,566	49,033,601
Non-Monetary	2,573,876	976,271
	41,221,442	50,009,872
Grants		
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	8,297,423	4,939,637
Other Australian	3,330,184	917,137
UNICEF	7,260,153	7,930,713
	18,887,760	13,787,487
Commercial Activities Income	125,308	74,114
Investment Income	595,392	391,608
Other Income	160,838	44,451
TOTAL REVENUE	60,990,740	64,307,532
EXPENDITURE		
International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure		
Funds to international programs	29,296,003	34,172,770
Program support costs	2,829,241	2,201,232
Community Education	5,176,400	4,108,053
Fundraising Costs		
Public	13,280,518	14,304,948
Government, multilateral and private sector	2,772,144	1,968,520
	16,052,663	16,273,468
Accountability and Administration	4,023,135	3,755,372
Non-Monetary Expenditure	2,573,876	976,271
Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure	59,951,317	61,487,166
Domestic Programs	922,233	1,246,654
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	60,873,550	62,733,821
SURPLUS	117,190	1,573,711
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	117,190	1,573,711

The above Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 December 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	14,996,316	16,450,945
Trade and other receivables	306,303	559,888
Prepayments	4,942,496	5,638,478
Other financial assets	276,055	-
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>20,521,170</b>	22,649,311
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Trade and other receivables	287,470	287,470-
Property, plant and equipment	525,165	349,462
Right-of-use-assets	1,733,274	2,126,764
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>2,545,909</b>	2,763,696
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>23,067,079</b>	25,413,007
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	8,749,326	7,452,951
Deferred revenue	5,121,371	8,801,445
Lease payable	403,851	368,827
Provisions	800,803	600,051
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>15,075,351</b>	17,223,274
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		
Lease payable	1,731,731	2,135,583
Provisions	312,267	223,610
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>2,043,998</b>	<b>2,359,193</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>17,119,349</b>	<b>19,582,467</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>5,947,730</b>	<b>5,830,540</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Reserves	<b>5,947,730</b>	<b>5,830,540</b>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>5,947,730</b>	<b>5,830,540</b>

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Reserves \$
<b>Balance at 31 December 2022</b>	<b>4,256,829</b>
Surplus	1,573,711
Other comprehensive income	-
<b>Balance at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>5,830,540</b>
Surplus	117,190
Other comprehensive income	-
<b>Balance at 31 December 2024</b>	<b>5,947,730</b>

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes:

1. The Summarised Financial Report has been prepared in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code, please refer to the ACFID website at [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au) . The Summarised Financial Report comprising the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 31 December 2024 are an extract of the Annual Financial Report of Australian Committee for UNICEF Limited (“UNICEF Australia”) for the year ended 31 December 2024. The Summarised Financial Report was extracted for the purpose of presenting the summarised financial position and performance of UNICEF Australia to its members in the 2024 Annual Report. UNICEF Australia is a company limited by guarantee. The liability of each member of the company is limited to \$1. UNICEF Australia is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards. The Annual Financial Report of UNICEF Australia complies with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board. The Summarised Financial Report has been prepared under the historical cost basis and is presented in Australian dollars, which is the company’s functional and presentation currency.
2. For a copy of the full financial report for the year ending 31 December 2024, please contact us directly on telephone (02) 9261 2811 or email [unicef@unicef.org.au](mailto:unicef@unicef.org.au).





# Independent Auditor's Report

To the members of Australian Committee for UNICEF Limited

## Opinion

We report on the **Summary Financial Statements** of Australian Committee for UNICEF Limited (the Company) as at and for the year ended 31 December 2024. The Summary Financial Statements are derived from the audited financial report of the Company (the Audited Financial Report).

In our opinion, the accompanying Summary Financial Statements of *Australian Committee for UNICEF Limited* are consistent, in all material respects, with the Audited Financial Report, in accordance with the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the Summary Financial Statements.

- The **Summary Financial Statements** comprise:
- Summary statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024.
  - Summary statement of comprehensive income and Summary statement of changes in equity, for the year then ended.
  - Related notes.

The Summary Financial Statements are contained in the *Annual Report* on pages 51 to 53.

## Scope of the Summary Financial Statements

The Summary Financial Statements do not contain all the disclosures required by *Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures* applied in the preparation of the Audited Financial Report. Reading the Summary Financial Statements and this Auditor's Report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the Audited Financial Report and our auditor's report thereon.

## The Audited Financial Report and our auditor's report thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the Audited Financial Report in our auditor's report dated 27 May 2025.

## Emphasis of matter – basis of preparation and restriction on use and distribution

We draw attention to Note 1 to the Summary Financial Statements, which describes the basis of preparation.

The Summary Financial Statements have been prepared to assist the Directors of Australian Committee for UNICEF Limited for the purpose of complying with the presentation and disclosure requirements set out in the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct. As a result, the Summary Financial Statements and this Auditor's Report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

This Auditor's Report is intended solely for the Directors of Australian Committee for UNICEF Limited and ACFID and should not be used by or distributed to parties other than the Directors of the



Company and ACFID. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this Auditor's Report, or on the Summary Financial Statements to which it relates, to any person other than the Directors of the Company and ACFID or for any other purpose than that for which it was prepared.

## Other Information

Other Information is financial and non-financial information in Australian Committee for UNICEF Limited's Annual Report which is provided in addition to the Summary Financial Statements and this Auditor's Report. The Directors are responsible for the Other Information.

Our opinion on the Summary Financial Statements does not cover the Other Information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the Summary Financial Statements, our responsibility is to read the Other Information. In doing so, we consider whether the Other Information is materially inconsistent with the Summary Financial Statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

We are required to report if we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this Other Information, and based on the work we have performed on the Other Information that we obtained prior to the date of this Auditor's Report we have nothing to report.

## Responsibility of the Directors for the Summary Financial Statements

The Directors are responsible for the preparation of the Summary Financial Statements in accordance with the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the Summary Financial Statements, including their derivation from the Audited Financial Report of the Company as at and for the year ended 31 December 2024.

## Auditor's responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the Summary Financial Statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the Audited Financial Report based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with *Australian Auditing Standard ASA 810 Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements*.

KPMG

KPMG

Kristen Peterson

Kristen Peterson

Partner

Chartered Accountant Auditor Number: 388815

Email: [kpeterson1@kpmg.com.au](mailto:kpeterson1@kpmg.com.au)

Sydney

27 May 2025





Student at a primary school in Samoa learns handwashing techniques and the importance of drinking clean water to stay healthy.

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AUSTRALIA  
for every child

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