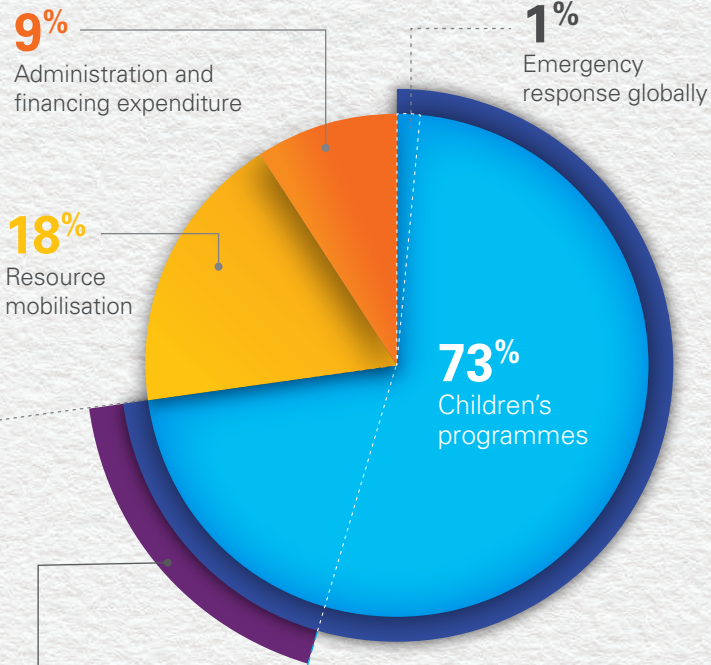


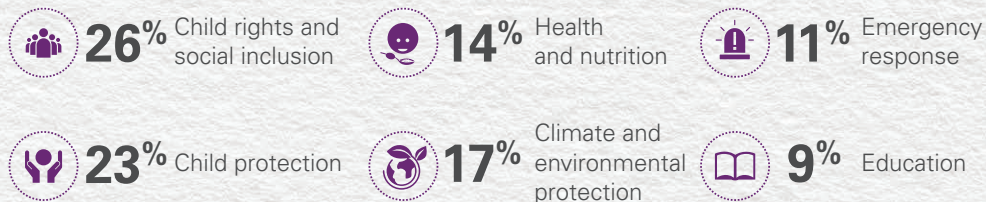
# UNICEF MALAYSIA ANNUAL REPORT 2022

On behalf of all the disadvantaged children you helped through your donations in 2022, we thank you and hope that 2023 can be even better #ForEveryChild.

**RM101.5**  
million was raised!



**18%** Children's programmes in Malaysia



## Children's programmes globally

We are grateful for your generous support. Your commitment is one reason why countless children around the world are alive and well today. Here is what we have accomplished together globally in 2022:



356.3 million children under 5 – more than ever before – benefited from programmes to **prevent malnutrition** in all its forms and a remarkable 182.4 million benefited from programmes for the early detection and treatment of wasting.

77.9 million children were **vaccinated** against measles, over 27 million in countries affected by humanitarian crises. We have also continued to lead COVAX, the largest vaccine operation in history, delivering 977.8 million COVID-19 vaccine doses and supporting COVID-19 vaccination in 143 countries.



37.9 million out-of-school children and adolescents (49 per cent girls) accessed **education** in 2022, including 3.1 million children on the move and 18.6 million children in humanitarian settings.



Scaled-up programming to **prevent violence, exploitation and harmful practices**, including through parenting support programmes reaching 11.8 million caregivers in 2022, up from 3 million in 2021.



The number of children, adolescents and caregivers provided with community-based **mental health and psychosocial support** services (MHPSS) more than doubled, from 12 million in 2021 to 25.2 million in 2022.



26 million people gained access to at least basic sanitation services, 30.6 million to basic water, and 23.6 million to basic hygiene and 39 million people provided with **water, sanitation or hygiene** services in humanitarian emergencies.

Disability-inclusive programmes reached over 4.5 million children with **disabilities** in 142 countries.



Engaged 74 million **children, adolescents, and youth** in advocacy, nearly 6.6 million in communication and 27.1 million in online platforms.



With UNICEF support, governments reached over 129 million children with cash transfer programming.



At COP27, UNICEF advocacy in partnership with the Children's Environmental Rights Initiative led to the formal recognition of the role of children and youth as agents of change in **climate action**.



Children’s programmes in Malaysia



▲ Matron Rusmah and nurse Norliza interviewing mother at Kampung Patian Tengah, Tenom, Sabah.

◀ Mesdianah Matius, 10, a Murut ethnic girl treated by Matron Rusmah at a mobile clinic in Kampung Patian Tengah, Tenom, Sabah.

### Giving children a head start on nutrition

UNICEF Malaysia and the **Ministry of Health** have partnered to strengthen the growth monitoring and promotion programme for children under the age of 5 in selected districts in Pahang and Sabah. Together, we have developed a comprehensive agenda to strengthen the implementation of the programme.

805 pieces of anthropometric equipment worth over RM455,000 were procured to help healthcare workers measure and monitor the growth of children. This equipment was distributed among 114 selected government health clinics across six districts in Pahang and Sabah.

*Table 1: Distribution of anthropometric equipment to combat child malnutrition in rural Sabah and Pahang.*

District	State	Anthropometric Equipment
Keningau	Sabah	146
Tambunan	Sabah	127
Tenom	Sabah	101
Nabawan	Sabah	58
Rompin	Pahang	214
Pekan	Pahang	159
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>805</b>

### Spotlighting mental healthcare and psychosocial support (MHPSS)

Together with the Ministry of Health, we launched the **‘Malaysia Country Report: Strengthening Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Systems and Services (MHPSS) for Children and Adolescents in the East Asia and Pacific Region’**

The report highlighted key gaps in the current mental health support systems, such as limited access to services and a lack of trained personnel for children and adolescents. Proposed actions include:

#### Accessible and Responsive Services for Mental Health Conditions

- Screening and early identification
- Management of clinical and subclinical mental health conditions
- Continuing care

#### Mental Health Promotion

- Community engagement and participation
- Supportive policies and legislation

#### Prevention of Mental Health Conditions in the Immediate Social Context

- Build individual assets for children and adolescents
- Build psychological competence of parents and carers
- Strengthen positive peer support
- Ensure safe and enabling learning environments



▲ Dato’ Dr. Haji Noor Azmi bin Ghazali, then-Deputy Minister of Health (left) speaking to the press after officiating the launch of the MHPSS report on 29 August 2022. Also present was Tan Sri Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah, then-Director General of the Ministry of Health.



# Inclusive digital transformation and future skills development in education

The **Future Skills for All (FS4A)** was developed with partners to support the Ministry of Education via the **Digital Educational Learning Initiative Malaysia (DELIMa)** platform.

Together with Google, Microsoft, and Apple, the DELIMa platform was relaunched in 2022, reaching almost five million users. FS4A aims to enhance digital skills, reduce inequalities, and focus on marginalised communities.



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## FS4A Highlights



### Offline learning kits

- 4 kits were created to improve internet connectivity for students
- The kits were tested with teachers and students from eight government schools and 14 Alternative Learning Centres



### Accessible videos for children with disabilities

- 31 #BolehCode videos interpreted by deaf teachers
- 26 robotics series videos interpreted by deaf students
- Two documentaries were created to raise awareness about the challenges faced by the deaf community in learning digital skills



### Robotics series

- A new robotics series was developed to assist robotics learning and ensure content continuity in school
- 26 student-led tutorial videos were produced
- Three training sessions were held in Perak, Kedah and Perlis
- 18 schools, 26 teachers and 67 students participated

### #BolehCode

- 9,290 new users
- 3,161 registrations for the #BolehCode competition from 366 schools at the state level
- 20 student winners and 10 schools won over RM30,000

## Empowering every child

- Worked with the government to expand the DELIMa platform to children in institutions under the Malaysian Prison Department.
- All learning materials under the FS4A programme come with sign-language interpretation in partnership with Malaysia Federation of the Deaf.
- FS4A offline learning kits were co-created with children with disabilities, indigenous children, and undocumented children.
- FS4A sign-language augmented offline learning kits were sent to interior communities. After two-day workshops with the kits, students reported a massive 69 per cent improvement in digital competency.

UNICEF's work on inclusive digital transformation and future skills development via DELIMa was recognised as a global best/innovative practice (SDG 4 - Quality Education) by the UN Transforming Education Summit 2022.

- ▲ Students and teachers were pictured together at one of the Robotics Series workshops. A total of 18 schools, 26 teachers, and 67 students participated.
- ▼ Students are pictured together at one of the Robotics Series workshop.



©UNICEF Malaysia/2022/FS4A



## Protecting children from violence, exploitation and abuse

UNICEF has launched programmes to understand the various ways in which children face harm and developed action plans based on this knowledge.

1



- **Disrupting Harm** is a multi-country research project focusing on **online child sexual exploitation and abuse (OCSEA)** and national response systems.
- The September 2022 report, co-produced by ECPAT International, INTERPOL, and UNICEF Office of Research, with support from the Ministry of Women, Family, and Community Development, revealed that 4% of Malaysian teenagers experienced online sexual exploitation and abuse in 2021.
- The #SayaSayangSaya (I Love Myself) youth digital campaign on Instagram, launched alongside the report, saw 15 million post views and 5.5 million video views.
- During the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, UNICEF partner Johor Darul Ta'zim (JDT) Football Club supported the #MyRedCard initiative.

2

In September 2022, the **'Left Far Behind: The Impact of COVID-19 on Access to Education and Healthcare for Refugee and Asylum-Seeking Children in Peninsular Malaysia'** report was published, assessing impacts and providing evidence-based solutions based on input from refugees, asylum-seekers, teachers, and healthcare workers.



### The situation

Some **47,200** children have limited or no access to education, healthcare and other essential services due to their lack of legal status.



Only **44%** of refugee children in Malaysia are enrolled in primary education and only **16%** of refugee youth are enrolled in secondary education.

3

### Roadmap for Strengthening Support for Child Victims and Witnesses in the Criminal Justice System: 2022-2027

The **Parliamentary Special Select Committee on Women, Children and Social Development (PSSC)** presented a comprehensive roadmap to reform the existing legal frameworks. In cases involving sexual violence against children, the roadmap aims at ensuring the successful prosecution of perpetrators and facilitating children's effective participation in the criminal trial process.



This roadmap is intended to help achieve the below key outcomes:

- Enhanced specialisation in handling children's cases
- Effective and child-sensitive investigation of crimes against children
- Children have improved access to support and assistance throughout the criminal justice process
- Trial proceedings are adapted to reduce distress and help children to give their best evidence
- Inter-agency coordination and information management are strengthened
- Enhanced legal framework for the protection of child victims and witnesses

4



On **Human Rights Day 12th December 2022**, we launched the Bahasa Melayu advocacy brief on ending child marriage in Malaysia and renewed our dedication to working with the Malaysian Government on issues relating to child marriage. The brief outlines nine key recommendations to comprehensively address child marriage:

- Raising the minimum age of marriage
- Strengthening laws and policies
- Improving access to education
- Challenging harmful gender norms
- Providing support services for survivors
- Enhancing data collection
- Engaging communities and religious leaders
- Securing adequate funding and resources
- Fostering stronger partnerships and coordination

## Turning all places into safe spaces

UNICEF champions the **Child-Friendly Cities Initiative (CFCI)**, a platform that supports cities and municipalities in their efforts to become child-friendly as well as realise the rights of children at the local level using the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child as its foundation.



UNICEF Malaysia started advocating for CFCI in 2018, and the initiative has gained strong momentum in the past few years. **Majlis Bandaraya Petaling Jaya (MBPJ)** was the first city in Malaysia to sign the CFCI MoU and became the first Malaysian city to achieve Candidate City status in 2022.

### The foundation of the CFCI

The CFCI is built on **FOUR** key articles from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

- 2** Non-discrimination
- 3** Best interests of the child
- 6** The inherent right to life, survival and development
- 12** Respect for the views of the child



### Timeline of CFCI Development in Malaysia

- 2018** UNICEF Malaysia starts advocating for CFCI
- 2019** MBPJ become the first city council in Malaysia to sign the CFCI MoU
- 2022**
  - MBPJ awarded with Candidate CFCI status
  - HRH Crown Prince of Johor supports and encourages all sixteen councils in Johor to participate in CFCI recognition
  - Majlis Bandaraya Kuching Selatan signs the CFCI MoU making it the first city in Borneo to participate in the CFCI followed by Miri City Council

## Community-level approaches to climate preparedness



UNICEF believes in empowering children to champion climate action. We approached the issue through education and grassroots efforts.

In September 2022, we launched the **Air Quality Monitoring in Schools (AQUAMS) Project** to address the impact of air pollution on children's health. The project involved five pilot schools in Sabah:

- SM St. Michael, Penampang
- SMK Agama Tun Ahmad Shah, Kota Kinabalu
- SJK(C) Chung Hwa, Tamparuli
- SK Buang Sayang, Papar
- Sekolah Indonesia Kota Kinabalu

The AQUAMS project is a citizen science project that supports the direct participation of students and teachers in monitoring air quality data. In this way, the programme serves to raise awareness, while also encouraging active community participation in creating a collaborative and comprehensive air quality monitoring network. The project fosters active community participation in creating a comprehensive air quality monitoring network.

Additionally, we supported disaster preparedness in vulnerable communities through community-based disaster risk management programmes, prioritising children and women as the most vulnerable groups.

- These programmes equipped them with the knowledge and skills to cope with climate disasters.
- Working closely with government partners, we empowered 1,000 primary school students in Selangor, Pahang, Penang, and Kedah through School Preparedness Programmes on disaster risk reduction.



# #KidsTakeOver Johor and Sabah for World Children's Day 2022



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▲ Sultan Ibrahim Stadium in Johor lit in UNICEF blue to celebrate WCD2022.

**World Children's Day (WCD)** on 20 November is UNICEF's annual day of action for children, by children. The global **#GoBlue campaign** was in full effect around the world and in Malaysia with The National Stadium Bukit Jalil in Kuala Lumpur and Sultan Ibrahim Stadium in Johor lit up in blue in celebration of WCD.

In Johor, UNICEF Malaysia and **Johor Darul Ta'zim Football Club (JDT)** celebrated WCD at the Sultan Ibrahim Stadium. The event highlighted UNICEF and JDT's dedication to empowering Malaysian children:

- JDT reached out via social media to encourage all their fans to dress in blue
- Boys of Straits (JDT supporters club) wore blue and waved the giant UNICEF flag 'For Every Child, A Champion'
- As part of the #KidsTakeover initiative, announcers Mia Zahra (9) and Mohamad Izzat Hakim (10), took over the microphones to introduce the players



© UNICEF Malaysia/2022/JDT

▲ The National Stadium Bukit Jalil in Kuala Lumpur lit in UNICEF blue to celebrate WCD2022.

- Children led the JDT football team and the opposing team from the tunnel to the field for the line-up while decked out in UNICEF shirts
- UNICEF booths with face-painting activities welcomed fans #GoBlue on the spot



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In Sabah, we collaborated with the **Sabah Council of Social Services** for WCD events in three locations: **Nabawan, Kota Marudu, and Sandakan.**

- These locations were chosen for their proximity to children from six of Malaysia's poorest districts
- Inclusivity was emphasised with sign language interpreters and wheelchair-accessible portable toilets
- The first event took place at Nabawan Sports Complex, the second at Astaka Padang in Kota Marudu with almost 400 children participated



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- The final event was at Rainforest Discovery Centre in Sandakan, with UNICEF Malaysia National Ambassador Lisa Surihani joining
- Children engaged in aerobics, field sports, football clinics, health screenings, exhibitions, food crop planting, recycling demonstrations, cooking demonstrations, colouring contests, and singing competitions
- At the Rainforest Discovery Centre, they enjoyed forest tours, learning sessions on plants, and birdwatching



## Engaging the youth to inspire change

### Dewan Muda Malaysia (Youth Parliamentary Academy Programme)

In 2022, we collaborated with **UNDI18 Malaysia** for a two year leadership development programme, Dewan Muda Malaysia.

- The programme aimed to develop youth skills in policymaking and advocacy
- 589 youth representatives participated, including individuals with disabilities
- The participants were diverse, representing all states, with about 57% being male and 43% female
- Dewan Muda Malaysia organised Malaysia's first Digital Parliament in 2022
- 830 Malaysian youth formed 22 parliamentary groups and developed white papers advocating for youth reforms



© UNICEF/Malaysia/Dewan Muda Malaysia



▲ A group photo taken with the YELL team, guests, and partners

### Youth Environment Living Labs (YELL)

Launched in 2021, the **Youth Environmental Living Labs (YELL)** is an inspiring initiative by UNICEF Malaysia and the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

- YELL funded 15 youth-led pilot projects addressing local environmental issues
- Over half of the projects were implemented by rural and indigenous youth groups focusing on environmental entrepreneurship
- In August 2022, UNDP, UNICEF, and Amanah Lestari Alam launched Phase 2 of YELL to enhance youth participation in climate and environmental action across Malaysia
- The launch of YELL Phase 2 celebrated the completion of Phase 1 and emphasised the importance of youth-led environmental groups
- It highlighted the development of climate change narratives rooted in local, indigenous, and traditional knowledge

### YELLing for Impact

**69 young people** led actions in response to local climate and environmental issues in **15 communities** across Malaysia, benefiting over **200** young people.

Another **700 young people** received guidance on ways participate in raising awareness about local environmental issues.

Over **200** registered youth and environment network partners.

YELL's total reach: almost **500,000 people**.



▲ A staff inspects supplies that have arrived in Lviv, western Ukraine.

## Uniting for Ukraine

Since the start of the war on 24 February 2022, 1,148 children have been killed or injured and an estimated 5.9 million people have been internally displaced and a similar number of Ukrainians are now refugees in other countries.

Children are wounded and often traumatised by violence that has sparked displacement on a scale and speed not seen in Europe since World War II.



▲ *Masha Khromchenko, 11, stands in a classroom that took a direct hit from a shell in Luhansk, Ukraine.*

Together with partners, we have been in Ukraine since before the war escalated and continue to provide life-saving supplies and services.

**4.9 million** children and women received primary healthcare through UNICEF-supported facilities and mobile teams.

**2.9 million** children and caregivers were reached with mental health and psychosocial support interventions

**4.6 million** people have been provided with access to safe drinking water

**1.4 million** children have been engaged in formal or non-formal education.



## Deadly drought in the Horn of Africa

Consecutive years of below-average rainfall in the Horn of Africa have created a climate-related emergency, leaving millions of children and families without access to food, water, and sanitation. In Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia, UNICEF has reached nearly 1.7 million people and 1.2 million children with life-saving interventions, including:



- Providing essential health care services to 600,000 children and women
- Vaccinating 833,200 children against measles (in Ethiopia and Somalia)
- Admitting 260,090 children under 5 years old with severe acute malnutrition for treatment (in Ethiopia, Somalia, and Kenya)
- Providing education to 1,364,000 children affected by the crisis

## Devastating floods in Pakistan



The 2022 floods submerged one-third of the country, affecting 33 million people, half of whom were children. The floods have displaced millions of people and destroyed homes and infrastructure. Since August 2022, UNICEF and partners have:

- Reached 3.6 million people with primary health care services
- Enabled access to safe water for 1.7 million people in areas where water networks were damaged or destroyed
- Reached over 545,000 children and caregivers with mental health and psychosocial support
- Screened 2.1 million children for severe acute malnutrition and admitted 172,000 children for life-saving treatment

## The humanitarian crises in Yemen

Yemen remains one of the largest humanitarian crises in the world, with more than 11 million children in need of one or more forms of humanitarian assistance. UNICEF is on the ground to save children's lives, to help them cope with the impact of conflict, and to help them to recover and resume their childhoods. UNICEF's results for children in Yemen:



- Reached almost 2 million children under 5 with vitamin A supplementation every 6 months
- Reached more than 478,000 children and caregivers with psychosocial support
- Vaccinated more than 1.2 million children with measles-rubella vaccine
- Helped more than 850,000 children access formal or non-formal education

### United Nations Children's Fund

Menara PJH, Level 10, No. 2  
Jalan Tun Abdul Razak, Precinct 2  
62100 Putrajaya, MALAYSIA

Donor Hotline: 1300 300 010

✉ [donorcare@unicef.my](mailto:donorcare@unicef.my)

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