

UNICEF Innocenti – Global Office of Research and Foresight

Annual Report 2023



2023 Snapshot

- UNICEF Innocenti published 111 research and evidence products, including 10 major titles, in 2023.
- [The State of the World's Children 2023](#) achieved the highest coverage of any UNICEF report, with over 4,500 media mentions and 2.3 million web views.
- Findings from [Report Card 18: Child Poverty in the Midst of Wealth](#) informed advocacy efforts in Iceland, Luxembourg, Slovenia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
- [Disrupting Harm](#) research recommendations influenced legislative reform in national protection and judiciary services for children in Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Thailand and the United Republic of Tanzania.
- Release of [Too Little, Too Late: Public Spending on Children by Age in 84 Countries](#) led to high-level discussions in Germany, Ireland and Japan and planned activities with partners (World Bank, International Labour Organization, and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)) to improve data compilation and analysis of social protection expenditure.
- [Prospects for Children in the Polycrisis: A 2023 Global Outlook](#) garnered high uptake and positive feedback within UNICEF, including in its Global Leadership Meetings.
- [Loss and Damage Finance for Children](#), a collaborative effort, emphasized child rights at COP28 and contributed to global discussions on the activation of the Loss and Damage Fund.
- The [Youth Foresight Playbook](#) was successfully launched at the Dubai Future Forum, marking a significant milestone in engaging futurists and foresight practitioners.
- UNICEF Innocenti launched a landmark accessible evidence and gap map and released accessible surveys to engage 300 plus global experts and practitioners in finalizing UNICEF's disability research prioritization exercise.
- UNICEF Innocenti worked with key partners to outline the [strengths, limitations and opportunities of applying behavioural sciences-based approaches in the Global South](#) (Association for Psychological Science) and co-led the organization of the [United Nations Behavioural Science Week 2023](#), where Under-Secretary-General Guy Ryder acknowledged UNICEF's [Behavioural Insights Research and Design Laboratory](#) (BIRD Lab) in his opening remarks.
- Ethical considerations integration played a pivotal role in supporting global research, evaluation and data projects at UNICEF, addressing emerging and complex issues.

Digital annual snapshot*

Policy citations: Our outputs were cited in **276 policy documents**, by **89 sources** and in **17 languages**. Sources include The World Bank, OECD, World Health Organization, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Inter-American Development Bank, Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, European Union, Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action, Institute of Development Studies, Government of Ireland, World Meteorological Organization, Human Rights Watch, Government of Japan, Brookings, World Economic Forum, Government of Norway, Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Pan American Health Organization, Government of Indonesia, Government of Chile, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and Government of the United Republic of Tanzania.

Media mentions: Sources include *Il Mattino*, *The Japan Times*, *RaiNews*, *Gulf News*, *Medical Xpress*, *Daily Mail*, *Mesa Nacional de Educación Privada*, *BBC*, *Pháp luật Việt Nam*, *The Star*, *la Repubblica*, *The Irish Examiner*, *ThePrint*, *The Associated Press*, *The Washington Post*, *Helsinki Times*, *The Hindu*, *Premium Times*, *EuroNews* and *Reuters*.

Top three queries in our Children and COVID-19 Research Library: Education, adolescent pregnancy, vaccination.

Social media: [Twitter](#): 38,348 followers (+2.16 per cent in 2023); [LinkedIn](#): 62,022 followers (+9.13 per cent in 2023); [Instagram](#): 12,416 followers (+81.7 per cent in 2023); [Facebook](#): 41,411 followers (+6.42 per cent in 2023).

**Digital Annual Report 2023*

Contents

2023 Snapshot	i
Note from the Director	iv
Overview	1
Leading global discourse	3
The State of the World’s Children 2023	3
Research in the spotlight	4
Social and economic policy	4
Education	6
Data Must Speak	6
Digital learning	6
Early childhood education	6
Teachers for All	7
Women in Learning Leadership	7
Child and adolescent rights and empowerment	7
Migration and displacement	7
Violence prevention	8
Birth registration and child protection in humanitarian settings	9
Gender equality	9
Digital engagement and protection	9
Disability inclusion research	10
Learning is For Everyone	10
Children, COVID-19 and preparedness	11
Foresight and anticipatory policy	12
Youth engagement strategy	13
Finance and partnerships	14
Partnerships	16
Annex 1: Publication highlights	19
Annex 2: UNICEF Innocenti partners	24

Note from the Director

Thank you to each member of our team for their dedication and resilience. In 2023, we marked a milestone in our pursuit of a more unified and effective work environment, the fruits of which you will see detailed in this annual report.

Our work in 2023 demonstrated our commitment to delivering impactful content while upholding rigorous standards. *The State of the World's Children 2023* garnered record attention from viewers and media and showed the report's ability to amplify crucial issues and foster global dialogue. Findings from *Report Card 18: Child Poverty in the Midst of Wealth* informed national advocacy efforts and sparked debate among decision-makers. *Prospects for Children in the Polycrisis: A 2023 Global Outlook* garnered substantial attention and sparked dialogue within UNICEF, particularly during the Global Leadership Meeting.

Children faced deadly conflicts in 2023. And as continued economic downturns and inflation in food and energy prices left increasing numbers of children in poverty, the climate crisis continued to ruin opportunities for children – now and in the future.

Yet, in this world of relentless crises, we must think positively and identify priorities in order to improve the lives of children. For UNICEF Innocenti, these three are at the top of our 2024 agenda:

- **What will childhood look like in 2050?** By analysing data projections, we seek to understand and prepare for the future of childhood in different parts of the world. This means exploring big trends, like demographics, climate and the risks and benefits of rapid technological innovations including artificial intelligence. Our actions today will determine what families, governments and the international community will do for children in years to come. The future of childhood will be the focus of *The State of the World's Children 2024*.
- **Education is in a catastrophic situation**, especially in low- and middle-income countries. Many children are not going to school, and learning is limited for those who do attend. If children's learning is not a priority, economies will miss their chance to establish a skilled labour force for the future – and will subsequently fail. We are re-engaging in the education space to show why return on investment in education and keeping children out of harm's way should be some of the main long-term goals of every government worldwide.
- **Elevating the voices of children and young people** has always been a driving force for change. They have a right to be heard on decisions shaping the future they will inherit, from issues of justice, climate and sustainability to urban planning and ethical use of new technologies. Our flagship report and convening events will provide a platform for young people to engage with other thought leaders and help us put ideas into practice.

Thank you to our donors and partners for their support and I look forward to continuing our work together as we gather, publish and promote evidence that advances the rights of children.



Bo Viktor Nylund
Director

Overview

In 2023, children's lives continued to be significantly affected by great challenges. Children lived through the impact of disrupted education, widened socioeconomic gaps and weaknesses in health care systems – weaknesses exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. They experienced the effects of persistent food insecurity, the energy crisis, challenges to democracy and child rights, factionalism, stress on the multilateral system and dangers caused by the fragmentation of the internet. Lives and families were shattered by conflicts in Ukraine, Gaza, the Sahel and Sudan, earthquakes in the Syrian Arab Republic and Türkiye, and gang violence in Haiti. These crises and challenges emphasized the need for UNICEF to adapt swiftly to protect children's rights amid evolving challenges.

Despite these hurdles, there was progress and hope.

Concerns about child poverty prompted calls to safeguard vulnerable families. Persistent food insecurity drew attention to the need for climate adaptation and food system reforms. There was increased focus on climate finance, debt relief, and reforming the flow of financing to developing countries. Social movements led by young people and women resiliently countered threats to democracy. Addressing children's rights and concerns offered opportunities for common ground in a fractured world. And vast digital disparities for children prompted a renewed push for openness, fairness and inclusion.

These challenges and opportunities drove the UNICEF Innocenti research and foresight agenda throughout 2023. The office conducted comprehensive research and used foresight methods, such as horizon scanning, trend analysis and scenario development, to set the agenda for children's rights. UNICEF Innocenti informed decision-making through its diverse array of reports, analyses and policy papers, which collectively formed a dynamic library of resources. The office also facilitated platforms for debate, advocacy and meaningful youth engagement, addressing a broad spectrum of child rights issues. Through these efforts, the office actively shaped discussions and policies, ultimately promoting the well-being and rights of children worldwide.

Within the realm of social and economic policy research, UNICEF Innocenti identified key trends, notably the global shift towards innovative models, such as 'cash plus' schemes and universal child benefits. The office is actively researching their feasibility, financing and impacts, with a specific focus on shock-adaptive social protection programmes. UNICEF Innocenti also placed emphasis on building an investment case for social protection programmes, underlining how they are crucial for sustainable and inclusive development.

In education, UNICEF Innocenti research addressed global challenges, with a focus on learning inequalities, children with disabilities and gender disparities. Collaborating with stakeholders worldwide, the research delved into positive deviant practices, equitable teacher allocation and barriers faced by female school leaders. Innovative digital learning programmes and technology's role in improving educational outcomes were also explored.

The evolving global landscape, marked by crises, highlighted the protection challenges facing 43.4 million displaced children. UNICEF Innocenti played a crucial role in generating evidence across areas such as migration and displacement, violence prevention, harmful practices, child labour, and gender inequalities. The office's digital engagement and protection research was adapted to better understand children's experiences with evolving technologies. It prioritized understanding online risks, combating sexual exploitation and collaborating with corporate partners on positive contributions of digital play. This aligns with UNICEF's strategic goals of enhancing learning and skills and protecting children from potential harms.

In 2023, UNICEF Innocenti expanded its network of partners in foresight analysis, collaborating with the Atlantic Council and the Pardee Center for International Futures. With this inclusive approach, UNICEF Innocenti sought input globally, with active participation from regional offices to enrich outlook analyses. Growing interest in foresight within the United Nations system affirmed UNICEF Innocenti's crucial role in shaping the future landscape.

UNICEF Innocenti's work on ethics in evidence recognizes the importance of evidence while acknowledging that generating it can pose potential risks to the safety, well-being and rights of children and families. Evidence generation activities can pose challenges, particularly when they involve sensitive issues or marginalized groups. Demand for support in methods to ethically generate evidence has grown organization-wide, reflecting recent trends. This demand is amplified by the complexity of the issues that require new methodologies. Growing interest in participatory evidence involving children and young people highlights a need to invest in providing appropriate tools to both offices and young people, to undertake this work safely. The adoption of artificial intelligence necessitates a deeper understanding of ethical risks and has presented opportunities to influence broader organizational practices, unifying language and messaging on common issues like consent at the field level.

Leading global discourse

The State of the World's Children 2023

The State of the World's Children 2023: For every child, vaccination, the 2023 edition of the UNICEF flagship report, delved into the reasons behind the significant decline in routine vaccination and outlined the steps required for the global community to ensure that no child would miss out on life-saving vaccines. This report played a pivotal role in UNICEF's Global Advocacy Strategy, earning record-setting media and readership attention and making a substantial impact.

The report earned over 4,500 media mentions and attracted 2.3 million website viewers. It set a new record for the highest-ever coverage of a UNICEF report.

To provide tailored support at regional and country levels, seven regional briefs were developed, addressing specific content relevant to different regions and country offices. Additionally, an immunization discussion event was organized, bringing together UNICEF colleagues, key stakeholders (including Gavi, the World Health Organization, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the United States Agency for International Development) and academics. This collaborative effort aimed to formulate policy asks for reaching zero-dose children, emphasizing the importance of collective action and cooperation in addressing vaccination challenges.

Following the publication of *The State of the World's Children 2023* report, UNICEF Innocenti produced an evidence synthesis report on *What Works to Increase Uptake of Childhood Immunization*. The findings of this report were featured at Regional Immunization Technical Advisory Group meetings of national immunization programme managers in Europe and Central Asia, East Asia and the Pacific, and Eastern and Southern Africa regions.

Research in the spotlight

Social and economic policy

UNICEF Innocenti continued to dedicate its social and economic research towards advancing Goal Area 5 of UNICEF's Strategic Plan 2022–2025, specifically focusing on expanding effective and inclusive social protection for children and diminishing the percentage of children living in monetary and multidimensional poverty. The research aligned with Goal Areas 1 and 10 of the Sustainable Development Goals, directly addressing poverty eradication and inequality reduction, and was shaped by several influential trends:

- Nations exploring diverse modalities of social protection programmes, transcending traditional cash transfer models to embrace innovative approaches like cash plus schemes and amalgamating cash support with complementary social services tailored to address specific constraints faced by diverse population groups. There is increasing interest in universal child benefits as a pivotal tool in the battle against poverty. Our ongoing research aims to comprehend the cost feasibility, financing options, operational efficacy and nuanced impacts of these modalities on target populations.
- Sustained interest in effective strategies for reducing gender inequalities and gender- and child-based violence. The focus of UNICEF Innocenti's research is on building the evidence to identify impactful interventions and assess best practices and enabling factors across varied contexts.
- Examination of the dynamics of child poverty in a world grappling with overlapping crises, including climate change, conflict and economic instability. UNICEF Innocenti continues its investigation into the multifaceted nature of child poverty, recognizing the complexities that arise from simultaneous crises.
- Emergence of shock-adaptive social protection programmes in response to the heightened frequency and intensity of shocks from climate change, conflict and economic instability. These flexible programmes are designed to offer rapid humanitarian relief while simultaneously fostering resilience for future crises. The team is actively researching these innovative programmes, with a keen focus on evaluating their impact and cost-effectiveness.
- Perpetual emphasis on articulating the investment case for social protection and comprehending the cost of inaction. As economic pressures escalate, particularly on the already strained fiscal conditions of many nations, UNICEF Innocenti's research underscores the substantial benefits and positive returns associated with social protection spending in human and economic terms. Our work examines the cost of inaction, quantifying the inevitable consequences of not investing in or limiting investments in social protection. Through rigorous analysis, we consistently provide evidence that social protection is an investment rather than a cost, solidifying its role as a cornerstone for sustainable and inclusive development.

[Report Card 18: Child Poverty in the Midst of Wealth](#) examined the state of child poverty in 43 high-income and upper-middle-income countries within the European Union and the OECD. The report presented data and evaluated the advancements, or lack thereof, made by these nations in the ongoing quest to eradicate child poverty. The research not only highlighted the successes achieved by certain countries, but also deliberated on additional measures that could be undertaken to address the challenge set by the Sustainable Development Goals: the eradication of poverty in all its forms, everywhere – even within affluent nations. The report garnered significant attention on social media, indicative of its relevance and importance. It was also used in policy advocacy efforts and government debates in Iceland, Luxembourg, Slovenia and the United Kingdom. The widespread acknowledgement and application of the findings underscore the potential of research to influence tangible actions and policies aimed at alleviating child poverty on national and international levels.

The tenth [Transfer Project Workshop](#) was held in Kenya in June 2023, showcasing new research and evidence on government cash transfer programmes in Africa. It had 102 participants, including 75 social protection programme and government officials, as well as researchers from 18 African countries. Major topics of interest for further evidence included cash transfers schemes in fragile, emergency and conflict settings; public financing, cost-effectiveness and investment cases for social protection; and increasing interest in adaptive and shock-responsive social protection programmes. The workshop provided space to explore the challenges of designing and implementing cash transfer programmes, share evidence, and facilitate cross-country learning.

The gender-responsive and age-sensitive social protection (GRASSP) research programme on what works, how and why for improving gender equality outcomes through social protection interventions, made substantial progress despite continued challenges with conflicts and insecurity in some countries. Validation and dissemination events were held in Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mexico, Uruguay and Viet Nam.

The [fourth brief of the Social Spending Monitor](#) series focused on financing social expenditure in humanitarian settings. This brief highlighted the gaps in humanitarian financing flows at a time of growing demand, and provided four key recommendations that need to be pursued to ensure that the needs of children and households in crises can be addressed.

[Too Little, Too Late](#), a landmark report on how public policies for children are organized in high-, middle- and low-income countries across the globe, offered insights about the best ways and timing for public spending on children. It also set a baseline for building better policy portfolios of public spending on children. Drawing from internationally validated databases on child policy expenditure (education, social protection and social services), population statistics, school enrolment data and macroeconomic conditions, the study produced age-spending profiles to map country child policy portfolios across the life course. It examined public spending on children by age in 84 countries (58 per cent of children and young people worldwide). The report found that public expenditures on early years children in 15 of the 84 countries are very low and inadequate. In more than half of the countries studied, public expenditures on children are greater in late childhood and youth, at the expense of early childhood. An expert meeting was convened by UNICEF Innocenti in March 2023 to discuss these findings and recommend global action.

Education

Data Must Speak

Data Must Speak (DMS) positive deviance research addresses the deepening learning crisis by identifying and scaling cost-effective, local solutions. Through co-creation and co-implementation with ministries of education and key stakeholders, DMS research investigates the behaviours and practices of positive deviant schools – those that outperform other schools despite operating in similar contexts and with similar resources.

DMS is being co-created and co-implemented in 14 countries. The research identifies positive deviant schools, explores practices that contribute to their performance and investigates how to scale these practices to more schools. It uses participatory, mixed-methods approaches and methodologies, including positive deviance, behavioural sciences, implementation research and scaling science. Evidence from the [Lao People's Democratic Republic](#), [Mali](#) and [Togo](#) demonstrated that head teachers at positive deviant schools engage more with teachers and parents, including in decision-making, and provide more instructional supervision and pedagogical support to teachers.

The findings have informed Global Partnership for Education (GPE) capacity strengthening grants and partnership compacts in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nepal and Togo.

Digital learning

As education systems increasingly invest in innovative and resilient delivery methods, it is important for solutions to deliver digital and alternative learning to the most marginalized. UNICEF Innocenti's digital learning research embeds implementation research into the development of digital learning programmes, including the [Learning Passport](#), [Akelius language learning app](#) and [accessible digital textbooks](#). At each stage of development, data and evidence are collected and used to consistently inform programme improvements and national strategies.

In [Guinea](#), [Kosovo](#)¹ and [Mexico](#), evidence generated on the Learning Passport informed national digital education plans. In [Paraguay](#) and [Uruguay](#), evidence generated on the accessible digital textbooks informed the national scale-up of the programme. The [In Brief on digital learning](#) drew on lessons learned from more than 15 countries, outlining the top reasons why digital learning succeeds or fails.

Early childhood education

The first years of a child's life are critical to building the foundations of learning so that the child can succeed in school and beyond. Early childhood education (ECE) research explores ways to enhance the delivery of ECE services through a system-level approach. An evidence review of studies from low- and middle-income countries was conducted to synthesize evidence on pre-primary education interventions that aimed to improve children's learning and development outcomes. A system-level mapping of ECE was conducted in 15 Pacific Island countries and territories through data collection with ministry of education representatives. A desk review of approaches to strengthen delivery of ECE in humanitarian contexts was conducted to support responses to the Ukraine crisis.

The [What Works in Pre-Primary Education Provision](#) report was presented at the Comparative International Education Society conference and to Plan International's ECE hub.

¹ As per United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244.

Teachers for All

Teachers for All (T4A) aims to identify how the deployment of qualified teachers can be optimized in Africa to improve equity in learning outcomes, particularly in primary schools. The T4A research is co-created in four phases. Findings from Angola, [Botswana](#), [Côte d'Ivoire](#), Lesotho, [Madagascar](#), the Niger, Senegal and [Zambia](#) indicate that teachers in rural and remote schools are worse off, female teachers are inequitably distributed and teachers are inequitably distributed in schools.

In Angola, evidence was used by the Ministry of Education to target teacher training in high needs municipalities. In Madagascar, data was used to inform the GPE Compact. In Zambia, findings were used by the Ministry of Education to aid teacher recruitment planning.

Women in Learning Leadership

Effective school leadership plays a vital role in improving education. Emerging evidence suggests female school leaders are associated with improved student learning. Women leaders may adopt practices and behaviours that contribute to positive outcomes, creating role model effects and challenging gendered social norms. However, in sub-Saharan Africa, women remain severely under-represented, with only 1 in 10 school leaders being women in some countries. Women in Learning Leadership (WiLL), a joint research initiative with UNESCO-International Institute for Education Planning, examines the under-representation of women in school leadership and generates evidence on the best practices and behaviours of school leaders to improve learning outcomes and gender equality. In 2023, WiLL expanded to five countries (Benin, [Chad](#), Ghana, Madagascar and Mali). A [regional analysis from 14 Francophone countries](#) demonstrated significant gender disparities in school leadership. Additional regional analyses are underway for Latin America, the Caribbean and Southeast Asia.

Child and adolescent rights and empowerment

The Child Rights and Protection team is focused on building and strengthening quality evidence to guide the development of effective global, regional and national strategies, systems, and programmes on a range of child rights issues. The team's diverse research portfolio encompasses issues such as violence against girls, boys and women; migration and displacement; child labour; gender-responsive and age-sensitive social protection; harmful practices, including child marriage and female genital mutilation; and birth registration.

Two large-scale, multi-year research programmes, namely Evidence on Educational Strategies to Address Child Labour in South Asia and GRASSP, reached significant milestones in generating research publications, podcasts, blogs and meetings. These projects, which will conclude in 2024, have facilitated collaborations with consortium partners to amplify impacts at country and global levels.

Migration and displacement

Migration and displacement remained a significant focus. The completion of two research studies – the mixed-methods study [As They Move: Child and Youth Experiences of Migration Displacement and Return in Afghanistan](#) and the study on [Including Refugee Learners in National Education Systems](#) – informed actionable insights. Findings from the Afghanistan study directly influenced the Afghanistan Country Office's Protecting Afghan Children on the Move programme and informed child protection strategies in the latest planning cycle. Pakistan's initiation of new research on child migration

and displacement underscored the ongoing commitment of national governments to evidence-informed guidance, particularly regarding child protection in the context of forced deportations and displacement.

In collaboration with the International Data Alliance for Children on the Move and the University of Virginia, cross-sectoral data and thematic experts convened to address data challenges related to climate-linked displacement and child mobility. Collaboration with the University of Virginia led to facilitation of a regional expert workshop and technical assistance on child migration and displacement, which informed the agendas of UNICEF Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office for migrant children and families. Additionally, qualitative research across four countries contributed significantly to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children's report to the [Human Rights Council](#) (to be published in 2024), reinforcing a robust portfolio of publications, including blogs, working papers and reports.

Violence prevention

UNICEF Innocenti's efforts supported the implementation of fundamental change in UNICEF's approach to violence, which is charted in UNICEF's Child Protection Strategy 2021–2030, Strategic Plan 2022–2025 and Gender Action Plan 2022–2025. This significant shift in approach, which responded to evolving evidence in the violence prevention field, called for greater investment in preventing violence, by tackling social and behavioural drivers and adopting an explicitly gender transformative approach that recognizes the gender dimensions of violence, including the intersections between violence against children and violence against women. UNICEF Innocenti aided the operationalization of this approach with a systematic review of coordinated approaches to address violence, evidence briefs on gender transformative parenting programmes in collaboration with Prevention Collaborative and Equimundo, and an ongoing three-country study in the Middle East and North Africa region. A global research prioritization exercise, conducted in collaboration with WHO and the Sexual Violence Research Initiative, produced a shared research agenda on the [intersections between violence against children and violence against women](#). This is now guiding investment in evidence generation to ensure the best outcomes for children and women.

UNICEF Innocenti's thought leadership in this area continues to be solicited by key organizations and initiatives. During 2023, we contributed to the [Lancet Commission on Gender-based Violence and Maltreatment of Young People](#), the Sexual Violence Research Initiative Leadership Council, To Zero: Working together to end childhood sexual violence, The Global Partnership for Action on Gender-Based Online Harassment and Abuse, and others.

Under the Strategic Technical Assistance for Research Initiative to end harmful practices, extensive technical assistance was provided to UNICEF and United Nations Population Fund country and regional offices. A review of what works to achieve progress on ending child marriage was produced to inform donor investment and planning for the Global Programme to End Child Marriage (2024 to 2030). Country research briefs (Burkina Faso and the Niger) were produced, and a comprehensive study is underway, investigating child marriage interventions and female genital mutilation interventions in humanitarian contexts across 13 countries in Middle East and North Africa, West and Central Africa, and East and Southern Africa regions.

Birth registration and child protection in humanitarian settings

[Birth registration](#) emerged as an important agenda, highlighted by the launch of two briefs linked to evidence in Africa at a United Nations Legal Identity Agenda event during the United Nations General Assembly in September. Technical leadership in the Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action's Assessment, Measurement and Evidence working group, in collaboration with World Vision International, developed a comprehensive monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) framework to enhance accountability and effectiveness in child protection initiatives.

Gender equality

Finally, a focus on gender inequalities in the distribution of care responsibilities emerged in 2023, with the publication of a policy brief for the Indian Presidency of the G20's Think Tank 20 initiative on Gender-equitable Family Policies for Inclusive and Sustainable Development: An Agenda for the G20 and a joint UNICEF–United Nations blog on building 'care societies'. This work will continue in 2024, with further analytical work on the human development costs of unequal distribution of care work throughout the life course.

Digital engagement and protection

The Disrupting Harm project focuses primarily on safeguarding children in a digital world, aligning with UNICEF's overarching child protection mandate. A key priority is combating online child sexual exploitation and abuse. The research methodology includes extensive primary data collection directly involving children and their families and duty bearers working within the child protection system. The project is conducted in partnership with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and ECPAT International, and the research is conducted nationally in collaboration with UNICEF country offices, national expert organizations and government partners. The research aims to generate novel evidence illuminating the impact of digital transformation on children's well-being, lives and rights, often in countries where digital technology is relatively recent. The project has significant potential to influence UNICEF's positioning, policy advocacy and programming at regional and global levels.

In 2023, recommendations from the Disrupting Harm project had a tangible impact in [Kenya](#), [Indonesia](#), [Malaysia](#), Thailand and [the United Republic of Tanzania](#). These recommendations were instrumental in amending legislation, enhancing national protection and judiciary services for children, and formulating national action plans on child protection.

The team has continued the collaboration with INTERPOL and ECPAT International in 2023, working on the project's second round of research funded by the Safe Online initiative. The team has worked with 12 new countries, establishing technical working groups through governments, preparing for data collection and strengthening data collection safeguards. There has been a particular focus on assessing existing child protection services and enhancing UNICEF's capacity for ethical evidence generation on sensitive topics. The scope of data collection is a wide range of stakeholders, including over 12,000 children; 12,000 caregivers; 720 frontline social support staff, justice professionals or survivors; and various law enforcement officers. The results are intended to create an evidence-informed roadmap for countries to strengthen national prevention efforts and enhance the capabilities of frontline workers, law enforcement and justice actors in combating online child sexual abuse.

Concurrently, collaboration with the LEGO Group and LEGO Foundation has continued, with exploration of the positive impact of digital play experiences on child well-being. Three participatory research activities with children globally have been conducted, aiming to identify design features for digital games that contribute to long-term improvements in child well-being. The findings, summarized in 2023, will be presented in a final report scheduled for launch in the first quarter of 2024.

Disability inclusion research

In 2023, disability inclusion research expanded, following UNICEF's commitment at the 2022 Global Disability Summit. Aligned with UNICEF's Disability and Inclusion Policy and Strategy 2022–2030, UNICEF Innocenti launched several initiatives, including a research prioritization exercise engaging 300 global experts. The results formed the basis for UNICEF's Global Research Agenda for children with disabilities, which will advocate for inclusive interventions.

At the heart of UNICEF Innocenti's inclusive research approach is to ensure that research is accessible to all. Good knowledge management and dissemination of accessible reports and publications is critical. Therefore, UNICEF Innocenti completed a comprehensive stocktake of all research and evidence from around the world, which will be maintained as a one-stop-shop for critical knowledge on inclusion for children with disabilities. Periodically, UNICEF Innocenti will publish synopses of its research and evidence, with the first publication, *From Insight to Inclusion*, planned for 2024.

To foster inclusivity, UNICEF Innocenti introduced the Flex Yang Visiting Research Fellowship Programme, inviting researchers with disabilities to work in Florence. In partnership with Perkins Access and University College London's Evidence for Policy & Practice Information Centre, the world's first accessible evidence and gap map was launched, complementing the 2022 report, [Inclusion Matters](#). These efforts highlight UNICEF Innocenti's dedication to an inclusive research agenda.

Learning is For Everyone

Children with disabilities are 49 per cent less likely to attend school than children without disabilities. UNICEF Innocenti launched Learning is For Everyone (LiFE) research in 2023 to explore whether education systems are disability-inclusive in Cambodia, Djibouti, Kyrgyzstan, Mozambique, Nepal, the Niger and Paraguay. Important insights were highlighted in Cambodia, the first country to complete data collection: children with disabilities were three times less likely to have attended school compared with those without disabilities; entering the school system seemed to be a greater barrier than learning once children with disabilities were in school, because children in schools had similar levels of literacy regardless of disability; and as many as 9 in 10 teachers reported not having received inclusive education training.

A workshop with ministry stakeholders was held to present the findings and develop and select strategies to enhance inclusive education for use in Cambodia's upcoming National Action Plan on Inclusive Education 2024–2028.

Children, COVID-19 and preparedness

UNICEF Innocenti began the sunseting process for the Children and COVID-19 Research Library with the release of the [final quarterly digest](#) (Issue 6) of the research library on COVID-19 and the 'crisis of care'. The Behavioural Science Research team also collaborated with London Metropolitan University and UNICEF's Europe and Central Asia Regional Office on a comprehensive evidence synthesis project, titled [Predictors of Protective Behaviours to Prevent the Community Spread of SARS-COV-2](#). This endeavour resulted in the publication of five research reports, along with a practical toolkit for practitioners to apply the lessons to future pandemic threats.

Ethics in evidence generation

The initiative on strengthening ethics in evidence focuses on integrating ethical principles seamlessly into the workflow of evidence generation, rather than treating them as obstacles. Key accomplishments in 2023 include:

- **Providing substantial support:** Addressed over 140 queries of varying complexity related to research, evaluation and data projects for both UNICEF globally and at UNICEF Innocenti, with 83 per cent resolved within 48 hours. Responses often involved input from various experts within the organization, such as data protection, safeguarding, ICT security and legal.
- **Improving information accessibility:** Revamped the internal SharePoint site 'Ethics in Evidence Generation – HomePage' to enhance usability and highlight resources on frequently asked questions. Additional guidance materials were developed in collaboration with related functions like safeguarding and data protection, with further enhancements planned for 2024.
- **Enhancing policy framework:** Progressed towards updating and upgrading the current ethics in evidence generation procedures to a policy framework. This shift aims to embed a principle-based approach, ensure ethical considerations throughout the activity lifecycle and clarify areas of ambiguity.
- **Training and webinars:** Conducted webinars and in-person training sessions to promote ethical practices, including sessions during various meetings, such as the Global Evaluation Meeting and Adolescent Girls Programme Strategy meeting.
- **Integration:** Provided input to embed ethics principles in work done by other sectors, such as the Gender U-Report Playbook for Humanitarian Settings, Imagery Working Guidelines, Data Disaggregation Guidelines for Children on the Move and the Cross-Divisional Strategic Framework on Online Child Protection.
- **Contributing to strategic framework:** Supported the development of UNICEF's strategic framework on artificial intelligence, addressing emerging ethical concerns and facilitating discussions on appropriate review and governance.

Externally, the programme actively engaged in inter-agency networks, such as the United Nations International Bioethics Committee and the United Nations Evaluation Group working group on ethics.

Foresight and anticipatory policy

UNICEF Innocenti's efforts significantly influenced the organization across various levels. Notably, the [Prospects for Children in the Polycrisis – A 2023 Global Outlook](#) report garnered substantial attention and sparked dialogue within UNICEF, particularly during the Global Leadership Meeting. Additionally, the [Loss and Damage Finance for Children](#) paper played a crucial role in advocating for a child rights focus in the global discourse on the Loss and Damage Fund activation at COP28.

UNICEF Innocenti also published a report on [Accelerating 'Green' School-to-Work Transitions](#), which provided a new framework for understanding such transitions and an overview of what policymakers can do to accelerate green livelihood opportunities for young people. The report emphasized the importance of supporting young people as they pursue green livelihoods.

UNICEF Innocenti's ongoing work on trade has gained attention and fostered joint efforts both within UNICEF and with partners, shaping the discourse for the African Union Summit. Furthermore, Common Principles on Future Generations, developed by UNICEF Innocenti through the United Nations High-Level Committee on Programmes and endorsed by the United Nations Chief Executive Board, has influenced the strategic direction of several United Nations agencies. In the digital realm, our papers have stimulated agency-wide discussions around digital issues, influencing UNICEF's internal artificial intelligence strategy.

As part of efforts to explore new frontiers, the UNICEF Innocenti team working on foresight and policy delved into nine new issues and responded to nine requests for intelligence through solicitation. UNICEF Innocenti developed 18 relevant and high-quality analytical products, formulated two global policy recommendations, and actively brokered and established 13 foresight-related relationships, products and processes.

The methodologies used in developing these products were primarily based on multi-stakeholder collaboration and consultation. For instance, the *Loss and Damage* paper, a multi-agency publication, was released at COP in partnership with Save the Children, Plan International, the Loss and Damage Youth Coalition, the Children's Environmental Rights Initiative and the International Centre for Climate Change and Development. Similarly, the groundwork on *Outlook 2024*, released in January 2024, involved extensive partnerships and engagements – including the building and strengthening of collaborations with various UNICEF divisions, regional offices, UNICEF Youth Foresight Fellows, other United Nations agencies and individual experts. External partners, such as the Atlantic Council and the Pardee Center for International Futures, also played pivotal roles.

Maintaining a learner's mindset, UNICEF Innocenti responded to the increasing demand for foresight across organizational levels by developing a foresight strategy. This growing interest underscored the necessity of enhancing the team's foresight capacity, understanding the approaches of other United Nations agencies (e.g., consulting the United Nations Development Programme foresight team) and, crucially, having a foresight expert on board. The masterclasses offered by UNESCO on foresight methodologies benefitted the team and enabled them to integrate tools like 3-horizons scanning, the futures wheel, the 200-year present, and 2x2 scenarios into *Outlook 2023* and *Outlook 2024*. Furthermore, a forward-looking report was developed on the emerging metaverse, extended reality and its implications for children.

Youth engagement strategy

UNICEF Innocenti led youth engagement and dialogue at the UNICEF Global Leadership Meeting and supported the participation of refugee youth-led organizations (RYLOs) in discussions, focusing on displacement and gender issues in collaboration with the Gender Rights and Protection research team. The team is also working with RYLOs to underscore the imperative for increased attention, funding and the utilization of RYLOs' expertise and experiences in research initiatives.

The team made significant contributions to the *Global Outlook Report* through the Youth Foresight Fellowship, introducing the first-ever youth-authored chapter in the report, which focused on the future of democracy. Other endeavours included UNICEF's submission to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on child input to the Loss and Damage Transition Fund, and the forging of a meaningful partnership with the United Nations Development Programme on the Youth4Climate initiative.

In addition, the team actively facilitated and published youth-led content, including blogs, videos and the [Our Future Pledge report](#). A noteworthy achievement was the collaboration with United Nations Global Pulse at the Dubai Future Forum to create a [Youth Foresight Playbook](#). This playbook is designed to assist governments and multilateral organizations in engaging young people in foresight, thereby enhancing anticipatory capacity and strengthening policy and decision-making.

The team successfully launched the second cohort of youth foresight fellows, in collaboration with UNICEF country offices, national committees and the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner of Wales. The UNICEF Innocenti Youth Network experienced substantial growth, expanding to over 2,500 members. Importantly, the team established the role of senior fellow as an integral part of the Youth Engagement and Strategy team, which demonstrates commitment to sustaining and advancing youth-focused initiatives.

Finance and partnerships

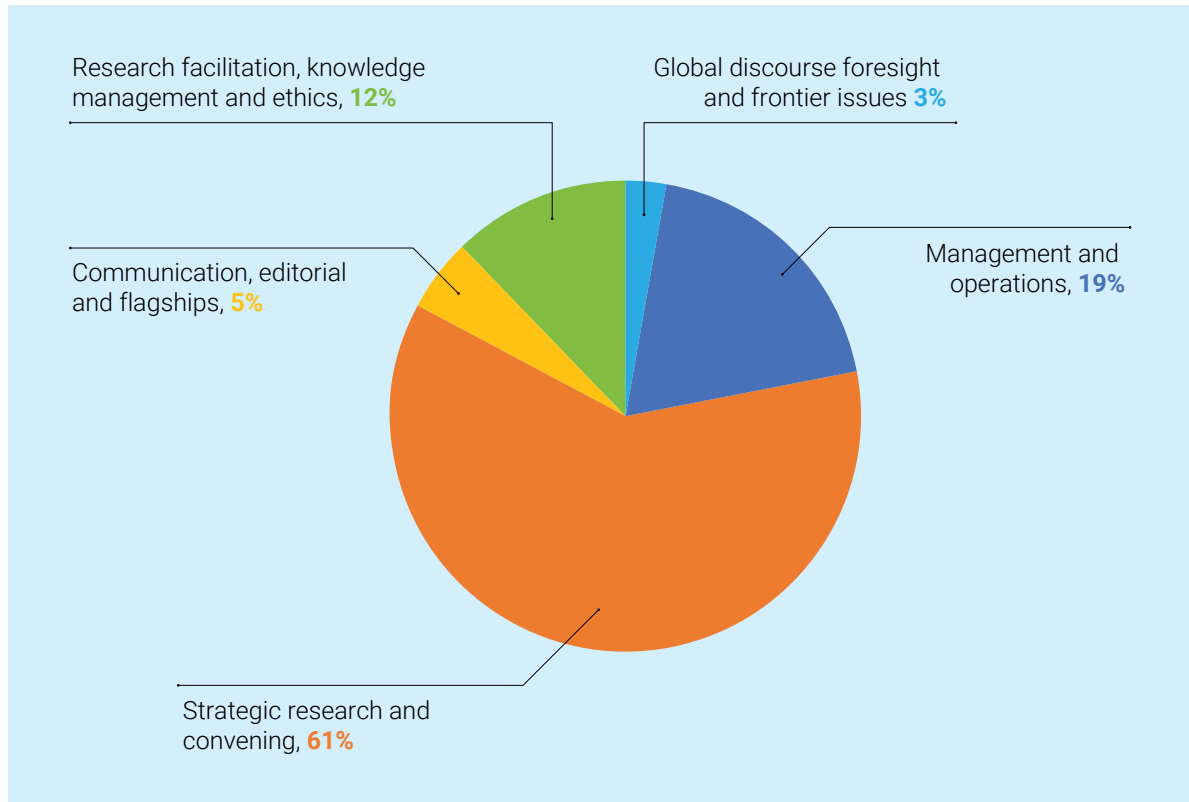
UNICEF Innocenti spent a total of US\$10.4 million in 2023 to deliver results through research and foresight. In total, 76 per cent of these funds were mobilized from partners, with the remainder coming from UNICEF. In 2023 alone, UNICEF Innocenti raised US\$3.8 million in additional programmable grant funding. The office also received more than US\$3.8 million from other UNICEF offices for joint research and foresight work. The UNICEF core resources were the most significant, followed by the regular contribution from the Government of Italy, and these were complemented by other public and philanthropic funding sources from long-term partners (see *Figure 1*).

Figure 1: Top funding sources by expenditure in 2023

No.	Partner	Project name	Amount (US\$)
1	UNICEF core funding	Institutional budget and regular resources	2,544,883
2	Government of Italy	Regular contribution	2,041,998
3	Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, the United Kingdom	GRASSP and Evidence on Educational Strategies to Address Child Labour in South Asia research programmes	1,364,720
4	Sida	The Transfer Project: Phase 3	899,070
5	International Development Research Centre (IDRC) on behalf of the Knowledge and Innovation Exchange, a joint IDRC and GPE body	Scaling innovation: DMS about positive deviant approaches to learning	699,510
6	Safe Online Initiative	Disrupting Harm 2: Investigating violence against children online	513,967
7	Jacobs Foundation (with support from the Committee for UNICEF Switzerland and Liechtenstein)	DMS about positive deviance approaches to learning and identifying barriers to women school leadership projects	479,883
8	Government of Norway (with support from the UNICEF Programme Group)	Disability Inclusion Partnership	292,356
9	Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (with support from the UNICEF Programme Group)	Vaccine delivery support, risk communication and community engagement	198,406
10	LEGO Group (with support from the Danish National Committee for UNICEF)	Responsible innovation in technology for children	193,056

In 2023, over 80 per cent of UNICEF Innocenti's expenditure focused on: research generation and convening; foresight and frontier issues; research facilitation, knowledge management (KM) and ethics in evidence; and communication, editorial and flagships (see *Figure 2*).

Figure 2: UNICEF Innocenti expenditure by category, 2023



Partnerships

UNICEF Innocenti collaborates extensively with a diverse range of partners to fulfil its research and foresight mandate (see Annex 2 for the full list). For over three decades, the Government of Italy has played a pivotal role by providing flexible funding and unwavering support, backed by its institutional commitment. Strategic engagement with Italian partners has been crucial in 2023. Some results of these long-standing collaborations have included:

1. Progress in the negotiations of the new Host Country Agreement with the Italian Government and an additional contribution for the expansion of UNICEF presence in Florence
2. Renewal of the agreement with the Government of Italy for another three years
3. Signature of a memorandum of understanding with the European University Institute and start of the first Junior Fellowship programme
4. Launch of the Monitoring and Analysing Poverty Across Space (MAPS) research project in collaboration with the Italian National Committee for UNICEF and the Campania region
5. Finalization of the donation of the *Wings of Mexico* sculpture to UNICEF by the Jorge Marín Foundation and the Municipality of Florence's subsequent acceptance to place it in a public garden in Florence

In 2023, UNICEF Innocenti initiated new and expanded existing research and foresight initiatives with partners. These included:

- Preparation for implementation of the second round of research on online child sexual exploitation and abuse in 12 countries in Eastern and Central Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East and North Africa, and South Asia regions; thanks to support from the Safe Online Initiative and in collaboration with ECPAT International and INTERPOL.
- Continued partnership with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office on two multi-year research programmes, Evidence on Educational Strategies to Address Child Labour in South Asia and GRASSP, which will conclude in 2024.
- Engagement with over 300 global stakeholders and organizations for persons with disabilities in a research prioritization exercise, as part of building a Global Research Agenda for Children with Disabilities to launch in 2024.
- Collaboration with the UNICEF Evaluation Office, Programme Group, and Division of Data, Analytics, Planning and Monitoring on a research programme aimed at generating evidence that strengthens adaptive social protection in fragile contexts, with support from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

- Launch of LiFE research to explore disability-inclusive education, with support from the Oak Foundation through the Committee for UNICEF Switzerland and Liechtenstein and a private donor through the Japan National Committee for UNICEF.
- WiLL, a joint research initiative with UNESCO International Institute for Education Planning (IIEP) to examine the under-representation of women in school leadership and generate evidence on the best practices and behaviours of school leaders that can improve learning outcomes and gender equality.
- Expansion of the Youth Foresight Fellowship to 12 countries and growing interest from partners in collaborating with UNICEF Innocenti on youth foresight and meaningful youth engagement. Deepened partnership with the Atlantic Council and new collaboration with the Pardee Center for International Futures, which will be pivotal for foresight exercises in the *Prospects for Children in 2024: Cooperation in a Fragmented World* report.
- A new project supported by the Oak Foundation to update a 2005 UNICEF Innocenti paper on the 'evolving capacities' of the child.
- Qualitative research on child migrants across four countries and contribution to the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children (SRSG VAC) to the United Nations Human Rights Council.

Figure 3: Top new contributions to UNICEF Innocenti Programmes in 2023

Donor name	Partnership name	Duration
Government of Finland	Foresight and anticipatory policy for children	2023–2025
Government of Japan	Support for junior professional officer	2023–2024
Oak Foundation (with support from the Committee for UNICEF Switzerland and Liechtenstein)	LiFE: Research to inform disability-inclusive education	2023–2025
	Update to the concept of the evolving capacities of the child	2023–2024
Safe Online	Disrupting Harm 2	Additional funding for 2022–2025
GPE (in partnership with IDRC)	Scaling innovation: DMS Positive Deviance Research Continuity Grant	2020–2024
Italian National Committee for UNICEF	UNICEF Visionaries: Support to UNICEF Innocenti	2023–2024
United States Agency for International Development (with support from the UNICEF Programme Group)	Combating female genital mutilation	2021–2025
LEGO Group (with support from the Danish Committee for UNICEF)	Responsible innovation with technology and ethics for children	Funding for 2023–2024
Jacobs Foundation (with support from the Committee for UNICEF Switzerland and Liechtenstein)	Identifying barriers to women school leadership and DMS about positive deviance approaches to learning	2023–2024
US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (with support from the UNICEF Programme Group)	PG: Immunization CDC Year 1 Award: CORE SBC	2023–2024
US Fund for UNICEF	Youth Foresight Fellows	2023–2024
SRSB VAC	Qualitative research on child migration	2023–2024

Annex 1: Publication highlights

Digital Learning Landscape

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/digital-learning-landscape>

Parenting Programmes to Reduce Violence Against Children and Women

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/parenting-programmes-reduce-violence-against-children-and-women>

Including Refugee Learners in National Education Systems

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/including-refugee-learners-national-education-systems>

Leading Minds 2022 Conference

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/leading-minds-2022-conference>

Child Poverty in the Midst of Wealth

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/child-poverty-midst-wealth>

Loss and Damage Finance for Children

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/loss-and-damage-finance-children>

A Tumultuous World Through Children's Eyes

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/tumultuous-world-through-childrens-eyes>

Designing a Youth-centred Journey to the Future

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/designing-youth-centred-journey-future>

Growing up in an inner area: The lives of children and adolescents living in inner Cilento

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/growing-up-inner-cilento>

Teachers for All: Côte d'Ivoire

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/teachers-for-all-cote-d-ivoire>

Child-related Policies in the First Year of the COVID-19 Pandemic in 40 Countries

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/documents/child-related-policies-first-year-covid-19-pandemic-40-countries>

Women in Learning Leadership (WiLL)

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/women-learning-leadership-will>

A global review of selected digital inclusion policies

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/global-review-selected-digital-inclusion-policies>

Accessible Digital Textbooks Jamaica

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/accessible-digital-textbooks-jamaica>

What Works to Reduce Violence against Children and Women in the Home in Low- and Middle-Income Countries?

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/what-works-reduce-violence-against-children-and-women>

The role of women school principals in improving learning in French-speaking Africa

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/role-women-school-principals-improving-learning-french-speaking-africa>

What Works to Improve Outcomes for Children?

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/what-works-improve-outcomes-children>

Off to Learn: Making offline digital learning work for vulnerable girls in Mauritania

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/off-to-learn>

What Works in Pre-Primary Education Provision

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/what-works-pre-primary-education-provision>

Social Contracts: Towards more child- and future-centred framings

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/social-contracts-towards-more-child-and-future-centred-framings>

Navigating Digital Learning

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/navigating-digital-learning>

Mental Health in Displaced Child and Youth Populations: A developmental and family systems lens

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/mental-health-displaced-child-and-youth-populations>

Known from Birth

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/known-from-birth>

As They Move

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/as-they-move>

Children's exposure to hate messages and violent images online

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/documents/childrens-exposure-hate-messages-and-violent-images-online>

Child Work and Child Labour

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/child-work-and-child-labour>

War and Economic Downturn

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/war-and-economic-downturn>

How Gender-responsive Age-sensitive Social Protection is Related to the Climate Crisis

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/how-gender-responsive-age-sensitive-social-protection-related-climate-crisis>

Online Risk and Harm for Children in Eastern and Southern Africa

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/online-risk-and-harm-children-eastern-and-southern-africa>

Lost time, Lost opportunities

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/lost-time-lost-opportunities>

Learning on Hold

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/learning-on-hold>

Children and the Cost-of-living Crisis

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/children-and-cost-living-crisis>

The Metaverse, Extended Reality and Children

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/metaverse-extended-reality-and-children>

What Works to Increase Uptake of Childhood Immunization

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/what-works-increase-uptake-childhood-immunization>

Children and COVID-19 Research Library Quarterly Digest Issue 6

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/documents/children-and-covid-quarterly-digest-issue-6>

Our Future Pledge: An agenda for futures by youth

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/our-future-pledge-agenda-futures-youth>

Too Little, Too Late: An assessment of public spending on children by age in 84 countries

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/too-little-too-late>

Agenda for Expert Consultation on Age-Related Public Expenditure and Policies

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/documents/agenda-expert-consultation-age-related-public-expenditure-and-policies>

Transforming Education in Kosovo with the Learning Passport

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/transforming-education-kosovo-learning-passport>

Teachers for All: Zambia

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/teachers-for-all-zambia>

Winning the Game

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/winning-game>

Delivering the EU Child Guarantee: Practical lessons for effective interventions

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/delivering-eu-child-guarantee-practical-lessons-effective-interventions>

Evidence-based Intervention Design for Behaviour Change during a Health Emergency

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/evidence-based-intervention-design-behaviour-change-during-health-emergency>

Predictors of Protective Behaviours to Prevent the Community Spread of SARS-COV-2

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/predictors-protective-behaviours-prevent-community-spread-sars-cov-2>

Annual Report 2022

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/annual-report-2022>

Parenting Programmes to Reduce Violence Against Women and Children

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/parenting-programmes-reduce-violence-against-women-and-children>

Building Bright Futures: Early childhood education and care for Ukraine's refugee children

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/building-bright-futures-ukraine>

More than a billion reasons: The urgent need to build universal social protection

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/more-billion-reasons-urgent-need-build-universal-social-protection>

Unlocking Learning (Italy)

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/unlocking-learning-italy>

Unlocking Learning (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/unlocking-learning-bosnia-and-herzegovina>

Teachers for All: Madagascar

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/teachers-for-all-madagascar>

Prospects for Children in the Polycrisis: A 2023 Global Outlook

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/prospects-children-polycrisis-2023-global-outlook>

Data Must Speak: Côte d'Ivoire

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/data-must-speak-cote-divoire>

Data Must Speak: Niger

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/data-must-speak-niger>

Data Must Speak: Ghana

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/data-must-speak-ghana>

Data Must Speak: Togo

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/data-must-speak-togo>

Data Must Speak: Madagascar

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/data-must-speak-madagascar>

Data Must Speak: Zambia

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/data-must-speak-zambia>

Data Must Speak: Nepal

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/data-must-speak-nepal>

Data Must Speak: Lao People's Democratic Republic

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/data-must-speak-lao-pdr>

Data Must Speak: Mali

<https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/reports/data-must-speak-mali>

Annex 2: UNICEF Innocenti partners

1. Abidan Development
2. Action Research for Co-Development (ARCO)
3. African Economic Research Consortium
4. African Union Development Agency-NEPAD
5. Alma Economics
6. Akelius Foundation
7. Atlantic Council
8. Barça Foundation
9. BookFusion
10. Bureau d'Etudes, Nahaza
11. Centre de Recherches et d'Etudes Sociales (CRES), Tunisia
12. Children's Environmental Rights Initiative (CERI)
13. DiploFoundation
14. Dubai Future Foundation
15. Economic Research Group (ERG)
16. ECPAT International
17. EDI Global
18. Equimundo – Center for Masculinities and Social Justice
19. European University Institute, Italy
20. Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
21. Frontieri Consult, Ethiopia
22. Gender at the Centre Initiative
23. Georgetown University – Institute for the Study of International Migration
24. Global Metrics, Bulgaria
25. Government of Finland
26. Groupement d'Intérêts Scientifiques des Statisticiens Economistes (GISSE), Mali
27. Health Media Labs
28. Hewlett Foundation
29. HML Institute Review Board – Ethics Review Board
30. Institut de Sondage et de Traitement de l'Information Statistique (ISTIS), Tunisia
31. Institut Supérieur des Sciences de la Population (ISSP), Burkina Faso
32. Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex
33. Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER), Ghana

34. International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)
35. International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)
36. International Development Research Centre, Canada (Knowledge and Innovation Exchange)
37. International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP-UNESCO), Dakar
38. International Labour Organization (ILO)
39. International Organization for Migration (IOM)
40. Ivo Pilar Institute, Croatia
41. Jacobs Foundation
42. LEGO Foundation
43. LEGO Group
44. London Metropolitan University
45. London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
46. Loss and Damage Youth Coalition (LDYC)
47. Mamidipudi Venkatarangaiya Foundation (MVF)
48. Mundi Consulting
49. National Institute of Statistics (INE), Angola
50. National Institute of Statistics (INS), the Democratic Republic of the Congo
51. National Institute of Statistics (INSTAT), Mali
52. Parenting for Lifelong Health (PLH)
53. Pedagogical University of Maputo
54. Plan-Eval, the Democratic Republic of the Congo
55. Plan International
56. Population Council, India
57. Prevention Collaborative
58. Public University of Cape Verde
59. Safe Online
60. Save the Children International
61. Schools2030
62. Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI)
63. SMERU Research Institute, Indonesia
64. Société de Développement International
65. South Africa Centre for Evidence (SACE)
66. Southern Cross University – Centre for Children and Young People
67. Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)
68. The Frederick S. Pardee Center for International Futures
69. The Khana Group
70. The Learning for Well-Being Institute, the Netherlands
71. The Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital, Austria

72. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
73. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
74. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
75. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
76. United Nations University-Center for Policy Research (UNU-CPR)
77. United Nations Women
78. University at Buffalo
79. University of North Carolina
80. University of Virginia, USA
81. Western Sydney University
82. World Bank
83. World Bank-UNHCR Joint Data Center
84. World Economic Forum
85. World Health Organization
86. World Vision International
87. Young Lives

About us

UNICEF works in the world's toughest places to reach the most disadvantaged children and adolescents and to protect the rights of every child, everywhere. Across 190 countries and territories, we do whatever it takes to help children survive, thrive and fulfil their potential, from early childhood through adolescence.

And we never give up.

UNICEF Innocenti – Global Office of Research and Foresight tackles the current and emerging questions of greatest importance for children. It drives change through research and foresight on a wide range of child rights issues, sparking global discourse and actively engaging young people in its work.

UNICEF Innocenti equips thought leaders and decision-makers with the evidence they need to build a better, safer world for children. The office undertakes research on unresolved and emerging issues, using primary and secondary data that represent the voices of children and families themselves. It uses foresight to set the agenda for children, including horizon scanning, trends analysis and scenario development.

The office produces a diverse and dynamic library of high-level reports, analyses and policy papers, and provides a platform for debate and advocacy on a wide range of child rights issues.

UNICEF Innocenti provides, for every child, answers to their most pressing concerns.

Cover photo:

Anwar, 25, from Jerash, is a Youth Climate Leader

© UNICEF/UN0750171/Bseiso

Published by

UNICEF Innocenti – Global Office of Research and Foresight

Via degli Alfani, 58

50121, Florence, Italy

Tel: (+39) 055 20 330

Email: innocenti@unicef.org

Social media: @UNICEFInnocenti on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter and YouTube

UNICEF Innocenti – Global Office of Research and Foresight,
Annual Report 2023, UNICEF Innocenti, Florence, April 2024.

© United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), April 2024.

for every child, answers