

UNICEF HUMANITARIAN ACTION FOR CHILDREN 2025 **OVERVIEW**

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Across the globe, millions of children are being denied their fundamental rights because of a broad array of interconnected crises – from conflict and the consequences of climate change to public health emergencies and rising poverty.

This includes the more than 460 million children living in or fleeing from devastating conflicts in places like the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Lebanon, Myanmar, the State of Palestine, the Sudan and Ukraine. Children in these areas continue to suffer terribly from violations of their rights. They are being wounded and killed in their homes and communities. Their schools and hospitals are coming under attack. And they are losing out on access to the services they need – like protection, safe water, sanitation, vaccinations and education.

At the same time, children are at growing risk from the intensifying climate crisis. Today, more than 1 billion children – nearly half the world’s children – live in countries that are at extremely high risk for the impacts of climate change. As a result, they are increasingly exposed to droughts and heatwaves, more powerful storms and more extensive flooding, air pollution and disease. Disasters linked to climate change are disrupting children’s supplies of nutritious food and safe water; and they are undermining essential social service delivery.

Climate change and conflict are also displacing children from their homes and communities – often multiple times. At the end of 2023, nearly 50 million children were displaced due to conflict, violence and natural disasters – accounting for 40 per cent of all forcibly displaced people globally. We estimate that extreme weather, including floods, droughts and storms, is displacing 20,000 children every day. And, on average, children’s displacement lasts five years, meaning that many children spend up to a quarter of their childhood in host locations, often with their basic rights denied.

The scale of children’s humanitarian needs is at a historically high level, with more children impacted every day. Looking ahead to 2025, we estimate that 213 million children in 146

countries and territories will need humanitarian assistance over the course of the year – a staggeringly high number.

It is UNICEF’s mandate to reach each of these children with the essential services and supplies they need, to ensure they are protected, and their rights upheld – a mandate that has guided our work since the creation of UNICEF in 1946. In all our work, UNICEF remains focused on reaching the most vulnerable children – those with disabilities, children from marginalized communities, refugee and migrant children and girls, no matter where they are from.

Around the world, our organization has the field presence, dedicated staff and partners to deliver on this mandate – even in the hardest-to-reach places. Through the first half of 2024, UNICEF and our partners have reached millions of children and families with humanitarian assistance. This includes providing more than 26 million children and women with primary health care, reaching over 17 million people with safe drinking water, helping nearly 10 million children access education services and screening more than 12 million children for wasting.

Across our humanitarian operations, we are strengthening the systems that children rely on – including health care, water, sanitation and education – to support longer-term development goals. UNICEF is also investing significantly in early warning systems, anticipatory actions and preparedness measures. This is helping us to protect communities from future shocks, while enabling our teams to respond more quickly and effectively to emerging crises.

These results show what we can achieve for children. But to succeed for every child, UNICEF requires flexible, predictable and timely funding.

Flexible funding ensures that we can respond quickly to emerging crises and anticipate future risks. It also enables us to equitably allocate resources to where they are needed most – which is critical for reaching children in emergencies that have been largely forgotten by the international community.



Despite our continued appeal for flexible funding, it only accounts for 9 per cent of the total humanitarian funding received by UNICEF to date, with the majority of funds earmarked for specific emergencies, leaving many children behind. We must urgently reverse this trend so that we can reach all children in humanitarian need, wherever they are.

UNICEF is appealing for \$9.9 billion to support our humanitarian action for children in 2025. These funds will help us to reach 109 million children living through humanitarian crises with both immediate life-saving services and investments for their longer-term development.

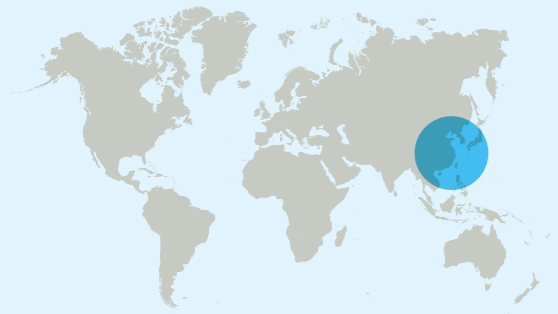
I hope that we can continue to count on you to provide support through flexible humanitarian funding, which is critical to our work for children affected by crises. Imagine what we can achieve for children, working together through principled humanitarian action. We can create a world where the rights of every child are protected and upheld, and where every child can develop and thrive. We can create a world fit for every child.

CHILDREN IN CRISIS

In 2025, UNICEF estimates **213 million children will require humanitarian assistance** in 146 countries and territories covered by this appeal.



EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC



Children in East Asia and the Pacific are more exposed to frequent and intense climate and environmental hazards than anywhere else in the world. The region endures extreme storms, floods, earthquakes, landslides, volcanic eruptions and droughts, while also grappling with human-made emergencies caused by conflict and intercommunal violence. The compounding effects of these crises erode children’s coping strategies, deepen inequality and harm their potential to thrive.

Throughout 2024, climate-induced disasters led to significant increases in humanitarian needs region-wide, while

ongoing conflict in Myanmar continues to force large-scale displacement. Whether sudden-onset or protracted, emergencies in East Asia and the Pacific are impacting the ability of affected people to access critical assistance, including clean water, education, health care, food and shelter. As conflict continues and climate change intensifies the scale and scope of disasters across the region, vulnerable children and women, including those with disabilities, face increased displacement and restricted access to WASH, health, nutrition, education and protection services – pushing already vulnerable and marginalized communities further into crisis.



EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA



Across Eastern and Southern Africa, children are affected by conflict, natural disasters and public health emergencies, with many children facing multiple, simultaneous crises that are forcing repeated and prolonged displacement. Additionally, economic challenges in countries throughout the region are straining fiscal resources and impeding poverty reduction efforts, which may drive political instability as governments contend with rising public frustration over economic hardships. Ongoing conflicts in other regions are also leading to instability in Eastern and Southern Africa, as governments aim to provide

support to refugees who are increasingly vulnerable to violence, exploitation and family separation, and who are reliant on already constrained public services.

Climate change continues to drive more frequent and severe natural disasters in the region, leading to unprecedented droughts and floods that are devastating vulnerable communities. Areas of the region that are experiencing multidimensional needs due to both conflict and climate-induced disasters are in turn more susceptible to such public health emergencies as outbreaks of cholera and measles, both of which disproportionately impact women and children.



EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA



Children and families across Europe and Central Asia are exposed to multiple crises, including earthquakes, floods, disease outbreaks and conflict and the impacts of extreme weather events, leading to loss of lives, displacement and large-scale infrastructure damage. In Türkiye, nearly two years after the earthquakes, many affected communities still remain in temporary settlements. Following the escalation of hostilities in 2020 and 2023, Armenia is hosting more than 142,000 refugees, including 36,000 children.

Mixed migration, prompted by political instability and conflict in neighbouring regions, continues, with increased influx of unaccompanied children who are exposed to severe protection risks, including gender-based violence. Ongoing war in Ukraine has

exacerbated challenges across the region. Around 3.7 million people remain displaced within the country. More than 6.1 million Ukrainian refugees remain across Europe. Persistent war has heightened children's risks of violence, disrupted education and deteriorating mental health, and has limited their access to health care and water. Scarce financial resources for families within Ukraine and reduced social benefits in refugee-hosting countries hinder access to essential services.

In this context, there is an urgent need to scale up protection, health, WASH and education services, and for increased investments in emergency preparedness, response and risk mitigation to safeguard children, their families and their communities.



LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN



The humanitarian landscape in Latin America and the Caribbean remains dire, with migration and armed violence among the region's most devastating crises. Mixed migration flows have created significant challenges across countries of origin, transit and destination, including limited access to education, health, nutrition, water and social protection. Armed violence continues to displace families in Colombia and Ecuador, raising protection risks for children. In Haiti, a fragile political transition, rising violence and socioeconomic collapse have created one of the world's most complex crises, leaving millions of children in urgent need of assistance. In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, children suffer from a protracted crisis aggravated by climate change.

Although most countries are classified as high- or middle-income, the region faces the greatest wealth inequalities in the world, with many people living in multidimensional poverty. Climate change makes existing difficulties worse: extreme weather events are affecting the most vulnerable people, worsening their food insecurity, deepening water shortages and increasing the risk of such diseases as malaria and dengue. Furthermore, vaccine-preventable diseases, including measles, diphtheria and polio, remain a concern due to insufficient vaccination coverage.

The compounding crises of migration, armed violence and climate change continue to strain governments and organizations, requiring a coordinated approach that prioritizes children's humanitarian needs.



MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA



Countries across the Middle East and North Africa region continue to be impacted by ongoing violent conflicts that are causing mass displacement and killing and maiming of children, with implications both within and beyond the region. Continued violence in the Sudan, now home to the world's largest child displacement crisis, has placed increasing pressure on Egypt and Libya to deliver humanitarian assistance for vulnerable people crossing borders, while over a year of war in the State of Palestine has devastated children, leading to mass displacement, large-scale destruction of civilian infrastructure, alarming increases in malnutrition and the spread of disease including polio. In Lebanon, the recent ceasefire has brought a mix of hope and sorrow for children and families, some of whom have started to return home in southern Lebanon, where they have found destruction of social services and damaged infrastructure, while the

whole terrain remains highly contaminated by unexploded ordnance of war.

Amid the complexity of ongoing violence and displacement, the region is beset by natural disasters – including floods and prolonged droughts – and economic challenges that drive political instability and further complicate humanitarian response efforts. Such multidimensional crises, combined with near-constant displacement in the region, weaken social structures and institutions in charge of providing assistance to vulnerable people, as insufficient clean water, mental health issues, rising malnutrition rates and gender-based violence are leading to the adoption of negative coping mechanisms that are harming a whole generation of children. At the same time, with such a volatile humanitarian situation in the region, millions of children in the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen still need humanitarian assistance and protection.



SOUTH ASIA



Natural disasters prompted by climate change – including floods, landslides, droughts, tsunamis and earthquakes – are causing recurrent and new emergencies in South Asia. The region has the highest number of children of any region globally, and an immense response is required to effectively address children’s needs and safeguard their fundamental rights to, among other things, health, nutrition, water and protection. Additionally, multiple, simultaneous emergencies are common, with cross-border implications that require regional approaches and multisectoral responses. Public health emergencies, particularly regular outbreaks of such diseases as cholera and dengue fever, are

worsened by cyclones and other climate emergencies, straining health resources across the region and threatening vulnerable populations, especially women, children, people with disabilities and displaced communities.

Civil unrest and political instability impact the ability of governments and partners to provide assistance to populations in need, as limited humanitarian access and weakened coordination structures create a challenging operational environment. The region also faces protracted, large-scale displacement, as host governments, already struggling to meet domestic needs, aim to provide life-saving support to new and existing refugee populations.



WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA



Across West and Central Africa, a convergence of conflict, extreme climate emergencies and disease outbreaks leaves millions of people annually without access to clean drinking water, sanitation facilities, protection services and primary health care. Displacement caused by these emergencies weakens social systems, strains public budgets and diminishes support networks children rely on during crises – and at any time. Such impacts significantly increase children's vulnerability, particularly to exploitation and abuse, but only a small percentage of people in the region have access to social assistance. Additionally, ongoing conflict in the central Sahel region is increasingly affecting neighbouring

coastal countries, where violence is leading to restrictions on access to essential social services and markets and a reduction in economic activity, which in turn is causing people to move within and across borders. It is also exposing girls and women to greater risks of gender-based violence. Public health emergencies are increasing in frequency and severity in West and Central Africa, as conflict and floods have damaged health infrastructure, leading to low rates of vaccination coverage, especially in areas impacted by multiple shocks. Vaccine-preventable diseases including polio and Ebola remain prevalent in the region, disproportionately impacting women and children.



PLANNED RESULTS IN 2025



The following information summarizes the global requirements for UNICEF humanitarian programmes, the total number of people and children to be reached and planned results of Humanitarian Action for Children 2025.

UNICEF PLANS TO ASSIST



172 million
people

96.8 million
women/girls

25.8 million
people with disabilities



Including
109 million
children

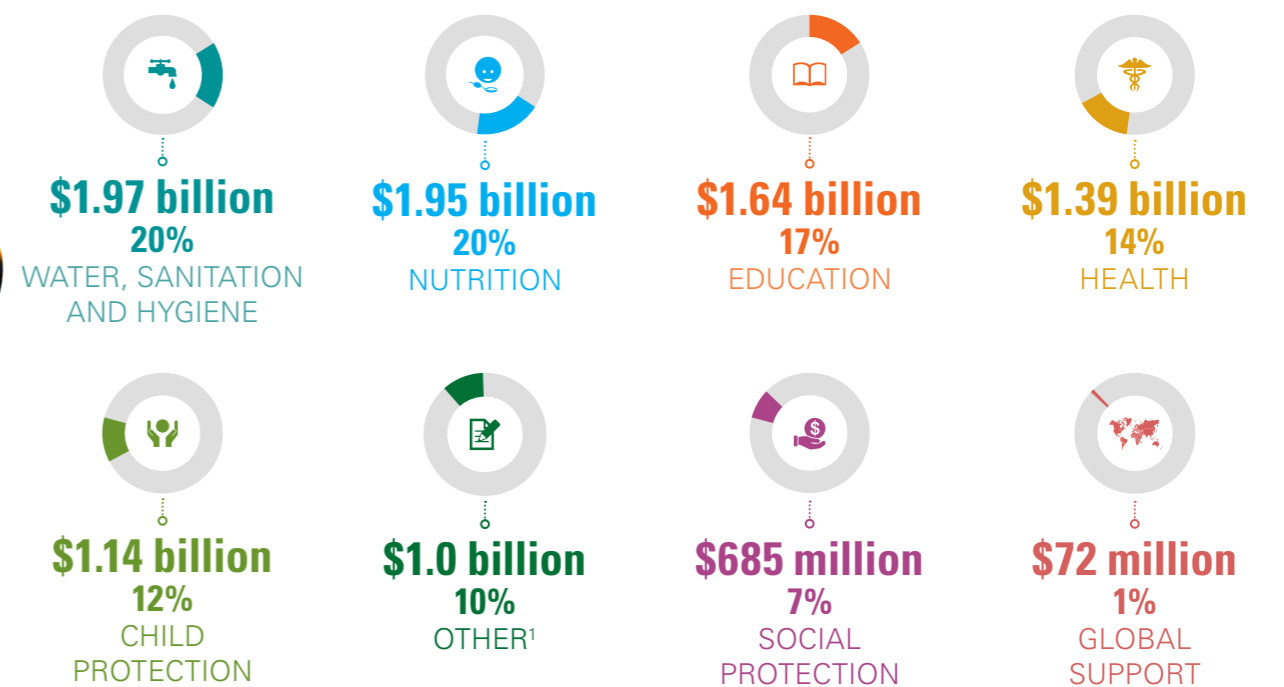
55.6 million
girls

10.9 million
children with disabilities



\$9.9 billion
funding requirement

BREAKDOWN OF TOTAL REQUIREMENT FOR EACH THEMATIC PRIORITY





UNICEF and partners will work towards the following results in 2025:



HEALTH

56.9 million

CHILDREN AND WOMEN ACCESSING
PRIMARY HEALTH CARE



NUTRITION

34.1 million

CHILDREN SCREENED FOR WASTING



EDUCATION

24 million

CHILDREN ACCESSING FORMAL
OR NON-FORMAL EDUCATION,
INCLUDING EARLY LEARNING



CHILD PROTECTION

20.6 million

CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS AND CAREGIVERS
ACCESSING COMMUNITY-BASED MENTAL
HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT



WASH

55.3 million

PEOPLE ACCESSING A SUFFICIENT
QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF WATER



SOCIAL PROTECTION

2.9 million

HOUSEHOLDS BENEFITING
FROM SOCIAL ASSISTANCE



GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

11.1 million

WOMEN, GIRLS, AND BOYS ACCESSING
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE RISK
MITIGATION, PREVENTION AND/OR
RESPONSE INTERVENTIONS



PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE

39.2 million

PEOPLE WITH SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE
CHANNELS TO REPORT SEXUAL
EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE



ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS

7.4 million

PEOPLE SHARING THEIR CONCERNS AND
ASKING QUESTIONS THROUGH ESTABLISHED
FEEDBACK MECHANISMS



SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE

168.8 million

PEOPLE REACHED WITH TIMELY
AND LIFE-SAVING INFORMATION ON
ACCESS TO AVAILABLE SERVICES





























“The scale of children’s humanitarian needs is at a historically high level, with more children impacted every day. Looking ahead to 2025, we estimate that 213 million children in 146 countries and territories will need humanitarian assistance over the course of the year – a staggeringly high number.”

Catherine Russell
UNICEF Executive Director

FUNDING REQUIRED IN 2025

The 2025 Humanitarian Action for Children appeal includes a total of 38 appeals: 26 country appeals; 4 multi-country crisis appeals; 7 regional office appeals; and 1 global support appeal.

EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC REGION	US\$
 Myanmar	286,421,411
East Asia and Pacific Region	64,156,077
Total	350,577,488
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA REGION	US\$
 Ethiopia	493,298,418
 Madagascar	46,370,000
 Mozambique	63,974,475
 Somalia	171,000,000
 South Sudan	278,184,686
 Zimbabwe	36,549,247
Eastern and Southern Africa Region	147,141,312
Total	1,236,518,138
EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA REGION	US\$
Ukraine and Refugee Response Multi-country	495,609,698
Europe and Central Asia Region	80,802,730
Total	576,412,428
LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN REGION	US\$
Children on the Move and Those Affected by Armed Violence – Latin America Multi-country	249,509,233
 Colombia	97,074,000
 Haiti	272,000,000
 Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	183,042,000
Latin America and Caribbean Region	19,000,000
Total	820,625,233

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA REGION	US\$
 Lebanon	658,200,000
 State of Palestine	716,540,000
 Sudan*	840,000,000
 Syrian Arab Republic	488,293,453
Syrian Refugees and Other Vulnerable Populations Multi-country	282,331,785
 Yemen	212,000,000
Middle East and North Africa Region	153,042,827
Total	3,350,408,065
SOUTH ASIA REGION	US\$
 Afghanistan	1,188,778,304
 Bangladesh	188,240,711
 Pakistan	140,903,871
South Asia Region	34,248,701
Total	1,552,171,587
WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION	US\$
 Burkina Faso*	239,024,199
 Cameroon*	70,470,503
 Central African Republic*	65,700,000
 Chad*	141,932,637
 Democratic Republic of the Congo*	804,295,490
 Mali*	134,500,000
 Niger*	109,660,774
 Nigeria*	214,700,000
Central Sahel Outflow Multi-country	76,769,277
West and Central Africa Region	56,163,180
Total	1,913,216,060
GLOBAL	US\$
Global support for UNICEF humanitarian action	71,732,177
Total	71,732,177
GRAND TOTAL	9,871,661,176

* These are preliminary figures based on the 2024 Humanitarian Action for Children appeal. The 2025 Humanitarian Action for Children appeal will be released in line with the inter-agency plan.

GLOBAL SUPPORT IN 2025

Total cost
of Global
Support in 2025
\$106
million

Total cost
covered by UNICEF
core resources
\$34
million

2025 Global
Support funding
requirement
\$72
million

The appeal for Global Support for 2025 is critical to UNICEF Office of Emergency Programmes coordination of the organization's global support for humanitarian action, including through a security team and the 24/7 Operations Centre. The Global Support requirement also helps meet cross-divisional needs and requirements at the global level that directly sustain our emergency programmes and operations at the field level.

The Global Support requirement will also further the completion of the remaining 21 recommendations in the Humanitarian Review, which will be a priority for UNICEF because this is a key tool for transformational change to enhance our humanitarian efforts. Funding for global support also helps UNICEF drive forward the humanitarian–development–peace nexus strategy, which fosters resilience and long-term recovery for vulnerable populations.

In 2025, Global Support requirements will amount to \$106 million. UNICEF will cover 32 per cent of this cost through its core resources and will require \$72 million in flexible and multi-year funding to cover the remaining needs.

UNICEF's global support for humanitarian action ensures a rapid, effective and coordinated response to emergencies affecting children and their families worldwide. Global support encompasses support with financial resources, supply and logistics, operational capacity, human resources, advocacy, capacity building and technical expertise. Through global support, UNICEF provides coordinated field support, deploying highly experienced emergency staff with a diverse range of expertise to enhance the quality of emergency response in sudden-onset, protracted or complex emergencies.



AN EQUITABLE RESPONSE



For the most marginalized, excluded and hard-to-reach children and families living in fragile and emergency contexts, equitable humanitarian action can mean the difference between life and death, between hope and despair.

Equity is linked to humanitarian principles, particularly the principle of impartiality – the obligation to provide assistance based solely on need, without any consideration of such factors as race, nationality or political affiliation. It ensures that aid is prioritized according to the severity of need, allowing those in the greatest danger to receive help first. Equity is also embedded in the principle of ‘leave no one behind’ in the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

Ensuring that assistance is prioritized according to severity of need has many dimensions: **access** to people in need; **equitable funding** across responses, from country to country; **inclusion** of specific marginalized populations in humanitarian response; **balancing coverage and equity** while maintaining quality; and **addressing the root causes** of children’s vulnerabilities.



The Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action provide the roadmap for turning this vision of equity into reality, as they instruct us to balance reaching the greatest number of people in need (coverage) with reaching those in greatest need (equity), while maintaining the delivery of quality programming.

Building on lessons learned in complex and high-threat emergencies and through such organization-wide processes as the Humanitarian Review, UNICEF has advanced in areas critical for equitable humanitarian action. We have enhanced our capacity to gain humanitarian access through humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy; made strides in including specific marginalized and excluded populations in preparedness and response; strengthened links between humanitarian and development programming to address the root causes of children's vulnerabilities; and promoted quality, flexible humanitarian funding as a gateway to an equitable response.

Yet many challenges to achieving equity in humanitarian action remain: the scale and scope of crises, with millions of children and families threatened by conflict, violence, natural disasters and climate-related events; the lack of respect for international human rights law and humanitarian law and principles, and disruption and denial of humanitarian access; an erosion of trust in humanitarian action brought about by misinformation, politicization of aid and the blurring of lines between humanitarian and political roles; and a growing funding gap between identified needs and the resources required to meet them, along with uneven funding between crises.

Continuing to tackle these challenges is critical. And marrying efforts to achieve coverage, equity and quality in this context will be the transformational work required of UNICEF's humanitarian action.



"With UNICEF's help, I was able to buy school supplies for my children and food for our family. We've faced incredibly tough times, but this support has given us hope and the strength to move forward."

Marie, mother of three, Ouest Department, Haiti

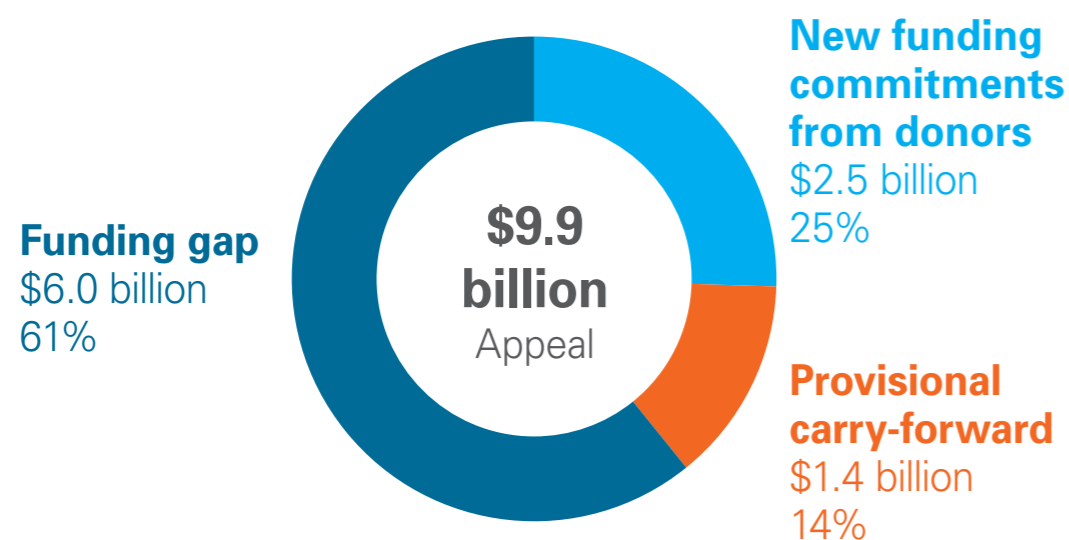
[Read more about Marie and UNICEF's comprehensive cash transfer programme](#)

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING AND RESULTS ACHIEVED IN 2024

Humanitarian funding in 2024

As of 31 October 2024, the funding requirement of the 2024 Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal had reached \$9.9 billion, up from the \$9.3 billion requested at the launch of the appeal in December 2023. The increase in requirements was due primarily to the continuation and escalation of new and ongoing conflicts and to public health emergencies and climate change-driven emergencies. The appeal aimed to assist 93.8 million children in 2024.

As of 31 October 2024, donors had committed \$2.5 billion in new funding to the 2024 appeal. With \$1.4 billion carried over from the previous year,² the 2024 appeal is 39 per cent funded, at \$3.9 billion. The generous new funding commitments by resource partners are still insufficient to meet all the humanitarian needs of children. High-profile emergencies,³ affecting 40 per cent of all children in need, have attracted 44 per cent of the resources received. The remaining 34 crises share the rest of funding received.



Results achieved in 2024

Provisional figures as of June 2024. Further 2024 reporting, including country-specific indicators, is available in the respective country appeals at www.unicef.org/appeals.













As of 31 October 2024, humanitarian contributions received⁴ had reached \$2.23 billion, a 19 per cent decrease compared with the same period in 2023. Public sector contributions (\$1.98 billion) made up 89 per cent of humanitarian contributions received, and private sector contributions (\$249 million) 11 per cent. The top 10 resource partners to the 2024 Humanitarian Action for Children appeal have provided 66 per cent of all humanitarian contributions received.



Resource partners, other resources – emergency (contributions received), 2024⁵

In US dollars

	United States	\$695.4 million
	United Kingdom	\$199.4 million
	European Commission	\$167.7 million
	Central Emergency Response Fund	\$118.9 million
	Japan	\$78.9 million
	Sweden	\$67.1 million
	Canadian UNICEF Committee	\$40.1 million
	Norway	\$38.7 million
	Republic of Korea	\$37.5 million
	United States Fund for UNICEF	\$36.8 million

Flexible funding supports an equitable humanitarian response.

In 2024, humanitarian actors continued to tackle the reality of politicized funding in a complex operational environment, a situation that hampered the flexibility and agility of the cross-sectoral humanitarian response for children. As a signatory to the Grand Bargain, UNICEF advocates for **quality funding**, including **multi-year, flexible and unearmarked funding**, to enable efficient, swift and agile humanitarian responses.

Humanitarian resource partners continued to fulfil the Grand Bargain commitment on multi-year funding during the year. As of 31 October, UNICEF had received \$423.7 million in multi-year funding, a 59 per cent increase compared with the amount reported during the same period in 2023.

Flexible funding is central to UNICEF's mission, because such funding promotes equity and enables UNICEF to **reach those children who are hardest to reach**.⁶

Regular resources have continued to play a critical part in saving children's lives in fragile and emergency contexts in 2024, because this type of resource allows UNICEF to act as 'first responder'. As of 31 October, \$210.6 million in regular resources had been used in humanitarian contexts. Allocations via the Emergency Programme Fund (EPF) loan mechanism, for example, have supported the response to acute emergencies by fast-tracking resources to affected countries within 48 hours of the onset of a crisis. As of 31 October, UNICEF had provided \$78.6 million in EPF loans to 25 countries and regions, a reflection of the increased levels of urgent humanitarian needs and the constrained funding environment.




Humanitarian thematic funding (country, regional and global), which is the most flexible type of resources after regular resources, had reached only \$164.2 million (9 per cent of other resources – emergency) by 31 October 2024.⁷ Private sector resource partners continued to be the main contributors to humanitarian thematic funding, providing \$115.8 million, or 71 per cent of the total. Public sector resource partners provided \$48.4 million, 29 per cent of the total.



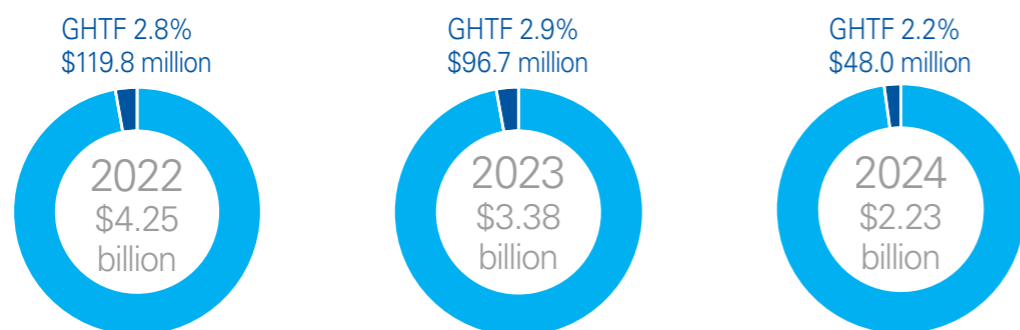
Resource partners, humanitarian thematic funding (contributions received), 2024

In US dollars

	United States Fund for UNICEF	\$20.5 million
	Denmark	\$18.6 million
	Kingdom of the Netherlands	\$18.6 million
	United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF	\$16.0 million
	Private sector fundraising through UNICEF country offices	\$12.4 million
	German Committee for UNICEF	\$11.9 million
	Sweden	\$10.5 million
	Japan Committee for UNICEF	\$10.4 million
	UNICEF Ireland	\$6.4 million
	Canadian UNICEF Committee	\$5.1 million

Of the \$164.2 million received in humanitarian thematic funding, \$48.0 million was in the form of global humanitarian thematic funding (GHTF), which ensures that country offices leading on humanitarian response have access to a **critical flexible resource when an emergency strikes**.

Global humanitarian thematic funding as a portion of humanitarian contributions received, 2022 through October 2024



● Humanitarian contributions received for GHTF

Global humanitarian thematic funding continues to be a key funding mechanism for responding to the needs of children and families when emergencies strike, or when a humanitarian response is otherwise underfunded. GHTF is a critical way for UNICEF to respond equitably, based solely on needs.



Donors to global humanitarian thematic funding (contributions received), 2022 through October 2024

In US dollars

	Kingdom of the Netherlands	\$59.0 million
	Germany	\$52.7 million
	Private sector fundraising through UNICEF country offices	\$37.4 million
	Sweden	\$33.3 million
	United States Fund for UNICEF	\$26.7 million



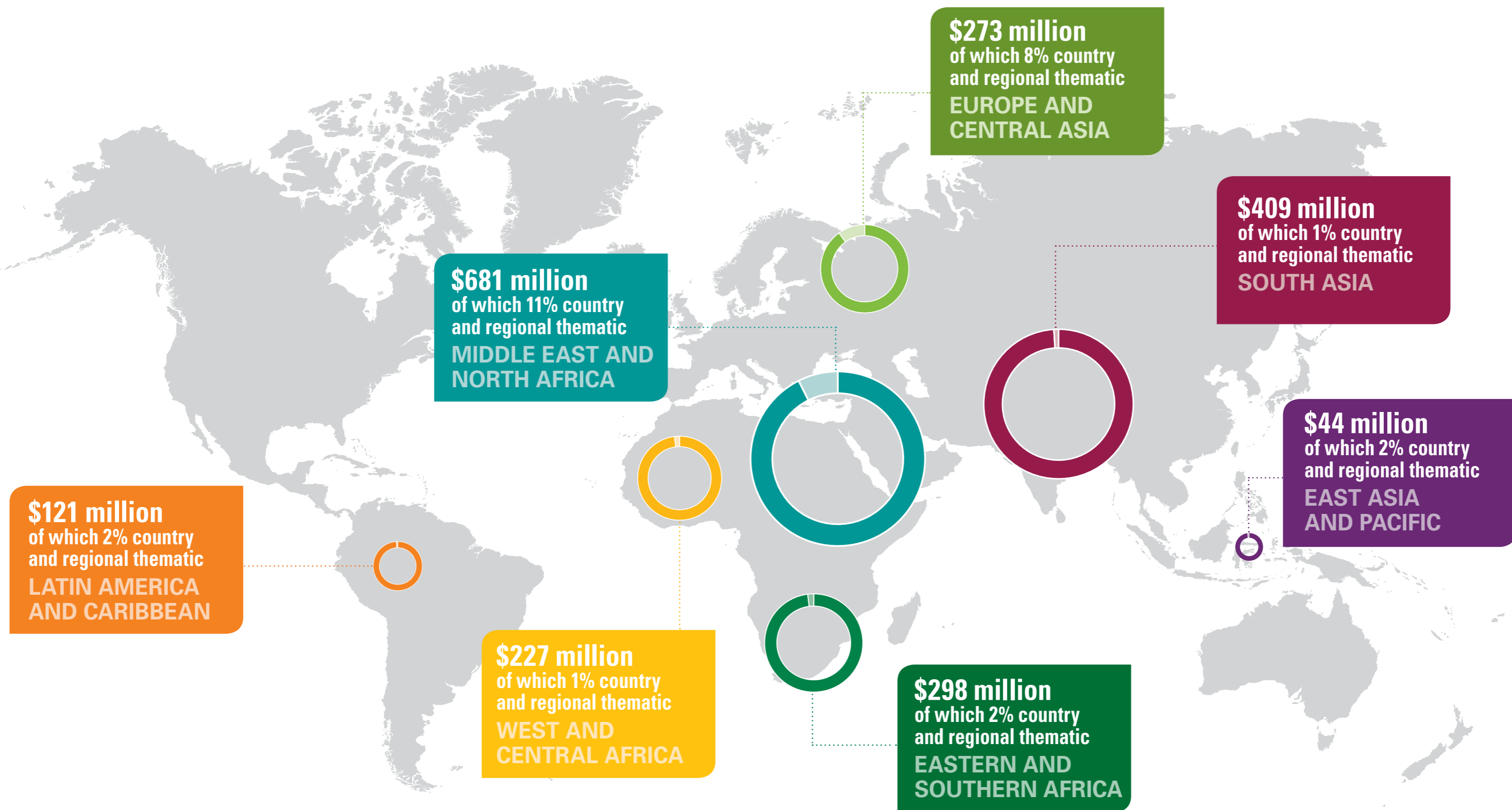
Global humanitarian thematic funding in action: Contributions received and allocations made in 2024

 Kingdom of the Netherlands	\$18.6 million
 Sweden	\$10.5 million
 Private sector fundraising by UNICEF country offices	\$8.9 million
 United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF	\$2.1 million
 Swedish Committee for UNICEF	\$1.9 million
 United States Fund for UNICEF	\$1.7 million
 Dutch Committee for UNICEF	\$765,359
 Hong Kong Committee for UNICEF	\$671,911
 Danish Foundation for UNICEF	\$622,520
 Canadian UNICEF Committee	\$517,491
 Italian Committee for UNICEF – Foundation Onlus	\$312,634
 Finnish Committee for UNICEF	\$274,837
 German Committee for UNICEF	\$239,719
 UNICEF Ireland	\$166,470
 Slovenia Foundation for UNICEF	\$154,917
 French Committee for UNICEF	\$148,500
 Spanish Committee for UNICEF	\$132,773
 Portuguese Committee for UNICEF	\$106,026
 Austrian Committee for UNICEF	\$65,608
 Polish National Committee for UNICEF	\$31,638
 Committee for UNICEF Switzerland and Liechtenstein	\$29,661
 Canada	\$27,206
 Icelandic National Committee for UNICEF	\$11,057
 New Zealand	\$174



Middle East and North Africa	\$12.3 million
West and Central Africa	\$9.9 million
Eastern and Southern Africa	\$7.4 million
South Asia	\$6.0 million
Latin America and Caribbean	\$4.1 million
Europe and Central Asia	\$3.4 million
East Asia and Pacific	\$3.3 million
Global	\$12.1 million

Humanitarian contributions received in 2024: Non-thematic and thematic, by UNICEF region



Bangladesh

Ruksana, 9, has lived and breathed furious floodwaters three years in a row. She could swim, but when finding herself in cold, muddy water during the middle of sleep on Eid night, in mid-June 2024, her first instinct was to scream.

“Please help me!” shouted Ruksana.

Just like for Ruksana, searing memories of that night stay with her mother, Rasheda: her daughter’s cries, floodwater invading the house, pulling Ruksana up with all her strength and paddling through the darkness to find shelter.

“I was really scared when we crossed the water at night,” recounts Ruksana.

“I left behind my Bengali storybooks, my clothes, my shoes.”

Flash floods inundated most of Sylhet district, including Companygani, Ruksana's village, and Ruksana’s school, one of the more than 810 government schools flooded in Sylhet Division. Ruksana had no idea that in the next days, nearly 2 million people in northeastern Bangladesh, including her family, would be left stranded, with little food and drinking water.

Flexible funding enabled UNICEF to immediately support the government’s response to the catastrophic flooding.

UNICEF provided life-saving hygiene kits, along with mental health and psychosocial support. Included in the hygiene kits were water purification tablets to enable more than 230,000 people to have safe water for drinking and household use – an important and immediate need, because, during floods, people can become sick with different types of waterborne disease.

[Read more about Ruksana and about UNICEF’s response to the flooding in Bangladesh.](#)



Syrian Arab Republic



The protracted crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic had a deep impact on the country’s children. One of these impacts was on their education, with many schools damaged and closed.

Zuheir Abdul-Al Primary School in Hazzeh, a village in Rural Damascus, was one of those schools, knocked out of service in 2012 due to the ongoing conflict.

Between May 2023 and February 2024, UNICEF stepped in, and, through a partner, assessed the school's infrastructure and identified the needed repairs. UNICEF provided repair work:

fixing ceilings, floors, doors and electrical infrastructure; renovating lavatory amenities; and furnishing classrooms with desks. Additionally, ramps, handrails and a restroom for children with disabilities were installed. The local community supported the furnishing of a new early childhood classroom.

The rehabilitated school opened its doors in September 2024, for the start of the 2024–2025 school year. Four hundred students now learn there, alleviating overcrowding in other schools and providing families with the assurance

that their children are learning in a safe, comfortable environment.

“Last year, I drew my dream school,” says Haneen, 9, “and it came true!”

Through the generous funding of its resource partners, including flexible humanitarian funding, UNICEF has rehabilitated 35 schools throughout the country since January 2023.

[Read more about Zuheir Abdul-Al Primary School, and what children and teachers have to say.](#)



"I wish the war would end so I could go back home and continue reading and studying."

Laith, 10, Gaza Strip

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- ← 1 Including cross-sectoral, emergency preparedness, rapid response mechanisms and cluster coordination.
- ← 2 The funding status of the Humanitarian Action for Children appeal is calculated based on the new funding commitments from donors and provisional carry-forward. The carry-over budget excludes 2024 and future-year payments of multi-year contributions. New funding commitments from donors are payments scheduled by the donor for Humanitarian Action for Children appeals within the UNICEF appeal year.
- ← 3 Afghanistan, the State of Palestine, Ukraine and Refugee Response, Sudan, Syrian Refugees and Other Vulnerable Populations.
- ← 4 Contributions received include cash and contributions in-kind received from resource partners within a calendar year or specified period of time. The \$2.23 billion in humanitarian funding received in 2024 includes other resources – emergency as well as \$351.5 million in other resources – regular that was dedicated to humanitarian responses. Other resources – emergency includes \$542,418 that was received in insurance payouts through the Today and Tomorrow Initiative for humanitarian responses to tropical cyclone-induced emergencies that occurred in Bangladesh, Fiji, Haiti, Madagascar and Mozambique.
- ← 5 As of 31 October 2024, UNICEF and the Government of Germany had signed agreements committing €16.5 million towards global humanitarian thematic funding, €1.755 million towards the 2024 Armenia Humanitarian Action for Children appeal, as well as €0.5 million towards the 2024 Bangladesh Humanitarian Action for Children appeal (Rohingya response) and the 2024 Myanmar Humanitarian Action for Children appeal. As of 31 October 2024, this funding was recognized at the revenue (agreement) level, but because the funds were not received until November 2024, the total amount of €18.755 million is not recognized in the data used for this report, which uses a cutoff date of 31 October 2024.
- ← 6 The amount the country office may receive as flexible thematic funding directly to an appeal or through GHTF allocation may not be large; however, because this funding is flexible, it enables an office to address critical funding needs and ensure uninterrupted implementation of programmes.
- ← 7 This amount includes \$542,418 in Today and Tomorrow Initiative insurance payouts.
- ← 8 Global humanitarian thematic funding received as of 31 October 2024.
- ← 9 Amounts allocated represent programmable amounts, which exclude the UNICEF recovery rates.

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