

# SDC FACTSHEET MULTILATERAL ORGANISATIONS

November 2023



## SWITZERLAND AND THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)

### FACTS AND FIGURES

#### Type of organisation

Fund financed through voluntary contributions.

#### Institution

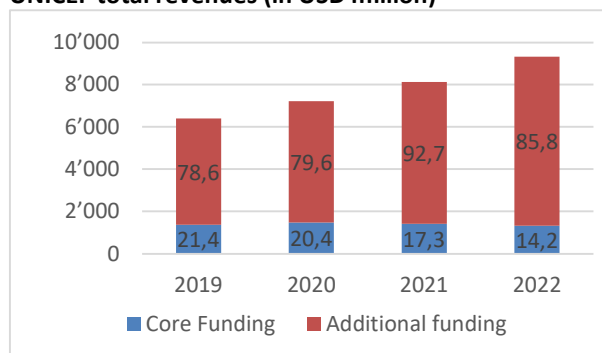
- **Head of organisation:** Executive Director Catherine Russell (USA)
- **Headquarters:** New York
- **Number of country offices:** 155 (plus 7 regional offices and 33 National Committees)
- **Number of staff (October 2023):** 15'000 (85% of whom work in the field)
- **Established in:** 1946
- **Board:** Executive board with 36 rotating members.

#### Switzerland (2022)

- **Annual financial contribution:**
  - **Government:**  
Core contribution: CHF 23 million  
Additional funding: CHF 36.6 million
  - **Swiss National Committee:**  
Approximately CHF 92 million  
The National Committees are an integral part of UNICEF's global organisation and a unique feature of the Fund. Each is established as an independent local non-governmental organisation. Their responsibilities is to raise funds for UNICEF and advocate for the rights of the child.
- **Number of Swiss staff (2022):** 26

**Website:** [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org)

#### UNICEF total revenues (in USD million)

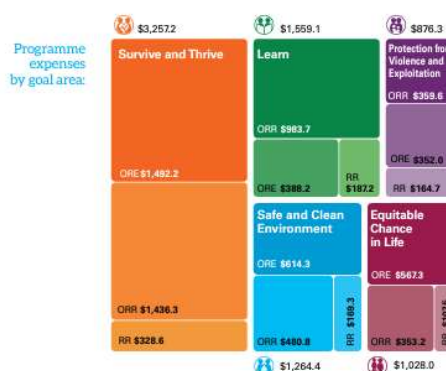


#### UNICEF expenditure by focus area in 2022

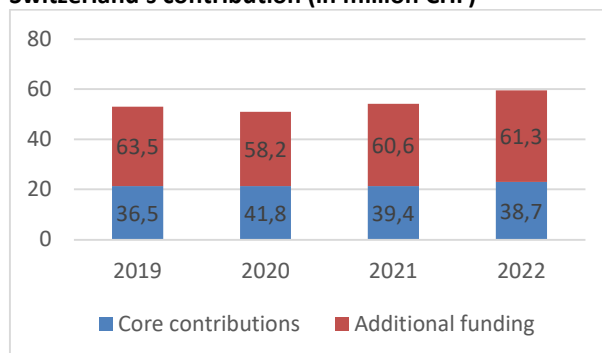
##### Direct programme expenses 2022, by goal area and region

(US\$ millions)

RR = Regular Resources, ORR= Other Resources, Regular, ORE = Other Resources, Emergency



#### Switzerland's contribution (in million CHF)



**Mandate**

UNICEF is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to promote children's rights, as outlined by the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Its vision is that all children should have an opportunity to survive, thrive and fulfil their potential, without discrimination, bias or favouritism.

UNICEF is one of the UN's largest development and humanitarian organisations. It works to ensure favourable conditions for children's development, and plays a special role in protecting children in conflicts and emergencies. In its capacity as a global advocate for children, UNICEF also mobilises political will and resources for the promotion of children's rights.

**Objectives**

UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022-2025 aims at delivering tangible results for children, especially the most disadvantaged, in both development as well as humanitarian contexts. The plan guides actions towards inclusive recovery from COVID-19, acceleration towards the achievement of the SDGs and the attainment of a society in which every child is included, without discrimination, and has agency, opportunity and their rights fulfilled. The plan focuses on the five following objectives:

- Every child survives and thrives with access to nutritious diets, quality primary health care, nurturing practices and essential supplies.
- Every child learns and acquires skills for the future with an emphasis on early learning, multi-sectoral approaches to education, access to digital learning, and a focus on safe and supportive school environments.
- Every child is protected from violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect and harmful practices: by addressing the behavioural, social, cultural and economic determinants, by supporting stronger and more inclusive systems and empowering families, parents and caregivers.
- Every child has access to safe and equitable WASH services and supplies, and lives in a safe and sustainable climate and environment through increased partnerships with the private sector, by investing in safe water for children and communities in water-insecure contexts.
- Every child has access to inclusive social protection and lives free from poverty, by scaling up critical elements of social protection systems, by supporting inclusive financing strategies and by continuing use of cash transfers, including in humanitarian contexts.

UNICEF is Switzerland's most important partner in the promotion of children's rights in developing countries and humanitarian contexts. In both areas of work, its activities and priorities are aligned with Switzerland's goals for international development. Switzerland particularly values UNICEF's ability to link humanitarian response with development cooperation, and to respond to evolving challenges in protracted and post-conflict situations.

**Switzerland's medium term objectives**

For the Strategic Plan Period 2022–2025, Switzerland is focusing its efforts on the following issues:

- Enhancement of UNICEF's capacity for the protection and education of children, at both humanitarian and development level;
- Reinforcement of UNICEF evaluation capacities, UNICEF's engagement with the private sector and the promotion of gender equality;
- UNICEF's active contribution to the reforms of the UN's development system and to system-wide results.

**Contact:**

[sdc.UNO-MDB@eda.admin.ch](mailto:sdc.UNO-MDB@eda.admin.ch)



© UNICEF