



## A STRONG PARTNERSHIP CHAMPIONING THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN

Globally, millions of children are denied the opportunity to enjoy their childhood and eventually grow up to fulfil their potential because of factors they have no control over such as: place of birth, race, ethnicity, sex, poverty and disability.

The longstanding partnership between the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and UNICEF has been instrumental in ensuring a fair chance of survival for children all over the world. This partnership is grounded in five sustainable development goals:-



## FUNDING TO UNICEF

As part of the support to the UNICEF Strategic Plan 2018 - 21, Luxembourg contributed \$10.6 million in 2018. For the 2014-17 Strategic Plan UNICEF received \$33 million. Luxembourg was UNICEF's fourth biggest donor, in per capita terms, at 21.2 per cent, in 2018.

These resources were:

- Regular Resources, which are given without restrictions and spent on projects to deliver results for the most vulnerable children.
- Multi-year Thematic Funding support for responses in nutrition, health, education, water sanitation and hygiene, and the cross-cutting gender equality.
- Emergency Resources to support children and their families affected by humanitarian crises worldwide.

### 2014 - 2017

Regular Resources	\$12.7m
Thematic Funding	\$15.8m
Other Resources (emergency)	\$4.7m

### 2018

Regular Resources	\$3.2m
Thematic Funding	\$4.4m
Other Resources (emergency)	\$4.4m



## Advocacy for Children

Luxembourg's commitment to the rights of children has been fundamental in creating momentum and support for children in high-level intergovernmental processes. As a founding member of the Group of Friends of Children and the Sustainable Development Goals, Luxembourg has served as Co-Chair since 2015. Their leadership has contributed to the success of the Group as an action-oriented body placing children at the centre of the global agenda.



## Flexible Resources

Regular Resources are critical to UNICEF's mission, allowing us to respond quickly and effectively to children and young people in greatest need. Between 2014- 2017, Luxembourg was among the top 20 partners who provided regular resources. With the invaluable contribution of \$6.2 million in 2018-2019, UNICEF continues support a wide range of programmes critical to addressing children's needs in health, HIV/AIDS, water sanitation and hygiene, nutrition, education, child protection and social inclusion.



A Rohingya mother holds her child outside their shelter in Kutupalong refugee camp, Cox's Bazar District, Bangladesh. Unrestricted, flexible funds – allow UNICEF to respond quickly whenever and wherever the children and young people we serve are most in need or most at risk

# Thematic Focus

Luxembourg has been a reliable partner, providing multi-year contributions to the various UNICEF Thematic Funding pools over the past 10 years, giving \$15.7 million between 2014 – 2017 and contribution of \$8.2 million in 2018-2019. Thematic resources complement regular resources. They are allocated on the basis of need and allow for long-term planning and programme sustainability. Luxembourg's contributions focused on nutrition, health, education, water sanitation and hygiene, and gender equality.

## EVERY CHILD SURVIVES AND THRIVES

Investments in the health and nutrition of children puts communities on the path to a better and sustainable future. In 2018, Luxembourg provided \$1.5 million to the nutrition and health pools. The partnership between Luxembourg as well as other partners, enabled UNICEF to achieve the following results:

- Between 2016 and 2018, in 52 countries with high neonatal and maternal mortality, 84 million live births (27 million in 2018) were delivered in health facilities.
- 19.6 million children (96 percent of the targeted 20 million in 2018) were vaccinated.
- The community-based primary health care interventions were further scaled up with some 154,475 community health workers enhancing their skills to better serve their communities between 2016-2018.
- In adolescent health, 50 countries (out of 50 targeted by 2021) had an inclusive, multisectoral, gender-responsible national plans to support adolescent health and well-being, and four countries completed nationwide human papillomavirus vaccination of adolescent girls.



Tchiouba Ngom, 28 years old, holding her daughter Cumba Seck, who is seven months old, during a malnutrition screening in Diourbel, Senegal

## EVERY CHILD LEARNS

Equity in education and focusing on learning outcomes, especially for children from the poorest families and out-of-school children is the path to a promising future. In 2018, Luxembourg provided \$578,704 to this pool. Together, we achieved the following results:

- 67 per cent of UNICEF programme countries showed improvement in learning outcomes in 2018.
- The share of UNICEF-supported countries mainstreaming skills within the national education or training system reached 16 per cent in 2018, showing a significant increase from the baseline of 4 per cent.
- The share of out-of-school children declined slightly at the primary level from 10 per cent at baseline to 9 per cent and increased very slightly at the lower secondary level to 19 per cent.
- 55,983 schools' management committees received training.
- 11.3 million children received learning materials.
- 6.9 children accessed education in emergencies.
- 2 million children participated in skills development programmes and 12 million out-of-school children accessed education globally.



Amadou Samaké, a UNICEF Education Officer, speaking with students in a class at Nianabougou School in southern Mali



# Thematic Focus

## EVERY CHILD LIVES IN A SAFE AND CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

Access to clean water, ensuring access and use of basic toilets and nurturing good hygiene practices for children and their families are core to UNICEF's work in this programming area. In 2018, Luxembourg provided \$733,025 to this pool. Together, we achieved the following results:

- 18.6 million additional people accessed to a safe drinking water services.
- 10.8 additional people gained access to basic sanitation services.
- 47 countries had child-sensitive national or local risk management plans that address risks related to disasters, climate change, conflict, public health emergencies or other crises.
- 54 countries had data on intra-urban disparities, including on girls and boys in informal settings
- 51 countries supported environmental sustainability activities.



Children washing their hands outside their school in Maradi, in the center of Niger

## GENDER EQUALITY

Gender is a cross-cutting issue embedded across all of UNICEF's programmes: including health, nutrition, HIV/AIDS, education, water, sanitation, and hygiene, child protection and social inclusion. In 2018, Luxembourg provided \$520,833 to this pool, the only government donor to contribute for consecutive years. With joint efforts, we achieved the following results:

- 101 countries included one or more integrated gender results in their programming, an increase of 9 countries since 2017.
- 18.6 million people gained access to safe drinking water service. About 10.8 million additional people gained access to basic sanitation services through UNICEF-supported programmes (5.1 million women and girls in 46 countries).
- 7,710 schools in 70 countries were supported through improved gender-segregated WASH facilities and programmes.
- In 2018, some 151 out of 157 country offices were implementing programmes that contributed to addressing gender-discriminatory roles and norms across all Strategic Goal areas.
- 73 countries were assisted to develop national gender strategies, and 10 countries to legislate on family and parental leave policies.

## ENDING FGM AND CHILD MARRIAGE

In Mali, where female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage rates are high, UNICEF is using local films to raise awareness. The organization also uses participatory public debate through community dialogues, especially with regional and local authorities, to shift social norms and the corresponding 'automatic' expectations surrounding the two practices with regards to girls

Since 2017, 14-year-old Fatoumata Toure (right) has been part of the more than 3000 Back-to-School Child Ambassadors in Mali who are sensitizing their peers and parents on the importance and benefits of education. Her mother, Nana Toure (back), is a teacher and is very proud of her daughter.



# Country Level Support

## LAOS

With the \$1.8 million support from Luxembourg and implemented jointly by UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO, this programme aims to improve access to essential health services to women, adolescents and children. The three key achievements have been:

- The development of standardized guidelines, protocols, training curricula and other technical implementation tools to improve the quality of reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health services.
- The availability of national guidelines for youth friendly service provision, ante-and post-natal care, acute malnutrition and micronutrient supplementation.
- The development of a national communication plan to improve immunization coverage and a decree aimed at promoting breastfeeding.



Twenty-four-year-old Daopensouk is accompanied by her husband Boun and one-year-old son Bun to her prenatal check-up in Kaison District, Laos

## CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Luxembourg is allocating €1.8 million to the Central African Republic (CAR) for a three-year programme which aims to build a child resilient system to reintegrate children associated with armed groups through immediate lifesaving response for children affected by armed conflict, building the capacities of stakeholders to better protect children in CAR. With this support from Luxembourg, UNICEF targets to:

- Provide care and reintegration services for 1,200 children associated and released from armed groups.
- Build community-based child protection systems for identification and referral of children victims of violence.
- Improve access to social and psychological services for vulnerable children, including unaccompanied and separated children.



Three former child soldiers at Elevage camp in Bambari, Central African Republic. Children who joined armed groups because their parents had been killed, or because of poverty – and who eventually left because they were terrified, or hungry, or realized it was a dead-end – desperately need a break, an opportunity, the prospect of a decent life

## NO LOST GENERATION

Luxembourg has given €8.2 million to the Syria response since 2016 for the No Lost Generation Initiative in Syria and neighbouring countries hosting Syrian refugees. Launched in 2013, the initiative seeks to achieve outcomes essential for the education, protection, well-being and future of children and young people affected by the wars in Syria and Iraq.

With this support from Luxembourg and partners, the following results were achieved in Syria in 2018:

- In child protection 158,440 children in Idleb, Aleppo, benefited from child protection intervention including psychosocial support, mine risk education and case management.
- In adolescent development and participation, 28,750 affected adolescents and youth (10-24 years) benefited from integrated and age-appropriate services, including life skill and sport.
- 19,222 children were reached with education services in Idleb, Aleppo and Hama.



Children sack race in a school in Bgheliyah village in rural Deir-ez-Zor, as part of especially de-signed psychosocial support activities to help them cope with their situation after years of conflict and displacement



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**FRONT COVER:**

Students of New Haven Primary School in Enugu, Niger during class. © UNICEF/UN0270196/Knowles-Coursin

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