



Sida's support to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

UNICEF is a key partner to Sida in development cooperation and humanitarian assistance. In 2016, Sida disbursed a total amount of almost SEK 1.1 billion to UNICEF. By region, more than half of Sida's support to UNICEF was allocated for Africa (56%). Thematically, the areas of humanitarian assistance, health, child protection and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), received the largest shares. In addition, Sweden's core support to UNICEF amounted to approximately SEK 1 billion in 2016, making Sweden the overall sixth largest government donor to the organisation.

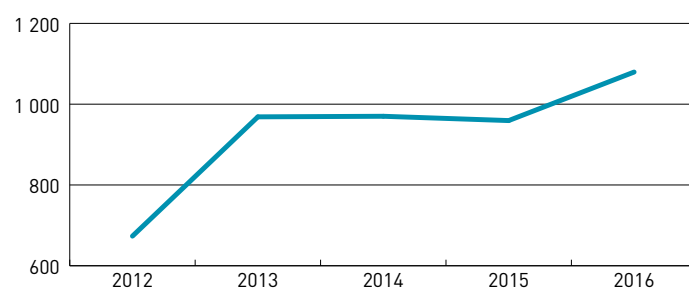


THE PARTNERSHIP WITH UNICEF

Sida and UNICEF have a long-standing partnership which spans across several sectors and most of the thematic outcome areas in UNICEF's current strategic plan (2014–2017). This comprehensive scope of cooperation confirms Sida's confidence in UNICEF as a key actor for promoting of children's wellbeing and protection, the implementation of children's rights and effective humanitarian assistance.

The Results Strategy for Sweden's Cooperation with UNICEF guides Sida's collaboration with UNICEF. The rights perspective and gender equality are main dialogue issues in the partnership between Sida and UNICEF.

FIGURE 1: SIDA'S ANNUAL DISBURSEMENT TO UNICEF, MSEK



FINANCIAL OUTCOME

Sida's annual disbursements to UNICEF have more than doubled since 2010 and reached almost SEK 1.1 million in 2016. The higher level of funding is due to increased humanitarian contributions as well as larger, loosely earmarked thematic contributions at global and country level.

GEOGRAPHICAL AND THEMATIC DISTRIBUTION

Geographically, Sub-Saharan Africa is the largest regional recipient of Sida's support through UNICEF in 2016, followed by Global support. The global support consists of contributions to UNICEF's global thematic funds for

WASH and Child Protection. The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia, Zimbabwe, Syria, Ethiopia, Mali, and Yemen stand out as principal recipient countries in 2016. This picture mirrors Sweden's focus on Africa, conflict and fragile states.

Predominant sectors in Sida's UNICEF portfolio during 2016 were Humanitarian Assistance, Health, Democracy, Human Rights and Gender Equality, including child protection and social inclusion, followed by Sustainable Infrastructure, including WASH.

THE GLOBAL GOALS

The Global Goals for Sustainable Development include everyone – and we can all contribute. The goals are interdependent and therefore indivisible. Sida's main contribution is to implement development cooperation, thereby reducing poverty and saving lives. Together we can build a better future where no one is left behind.



Results

UNICEF'S MANDATE AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

UNICEF's mandate is to advocate for the realisation of all children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential, including survival, development, security and influence. UNICEF is guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, and its scope of activities encompasses both long term development cooperation and humanitarian action. UNICEF's Strategic Plan 2014–2017 aims at realizing the rights of every child, especially the most disadvantaged, and strives for saving lives and protecting rights in emergency situations. The Strategic Plan outlines the following outcome areas: (1) Health, (2) HIV and Aids, (3) Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, (4) Nutrition, (5) Education (6) Child Protection and (7) Social Inclusion. Humanitarian Action and Gender Equality, along with a human rights perspective, cut across all the outcome areas.

GLOBAL DEVELOPMENTS

According to UNICEF, the past two decades have seen important progress for children. The number of children who die before their fifth birthday declined from 12.7 million in 1990 to 5.9 million in 2015. The proportion of undernourished children has fallen by almost half since 1990. The primary school net enrolment rate in low-and middle-income countries reached 91 % in 2015, up from 83 % a decade and half ago, and gender parity in primary education continues to improve.

Furthermore, 22 countries with at least a 25 % prevalence of child marriage had developed national plans or strategies to end the practice by the end of 2016.

PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS RECEIVING FUNDING FROM SIDA

In 2016, UNICEF strengthened **child protection** in 127 countries and examples of achieved results are:

- Civil authorities in 131 countries enabled more than 12 million children to be registered at birth.
- 7.5 million children reached through interventions to eliminate child labour in 48 countries.
- 21.403 children associated with armed forces or groups were released, out of which 53 % have been reintegrated in their communities.
- More than 750 women and girls subjected to Boko Haram-related sexual violence in Nigeria have received reintegration assistance, including psycho social support.

In 2016, UNICEF supported **water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)** activities in 109 countries were supported in both development and humanitarian contexts. UNICEF carried out its largest ever humanitarian response programme for WASH, reaching 28.8 million people in emergencies and improved sanitation for 7.2 million people.

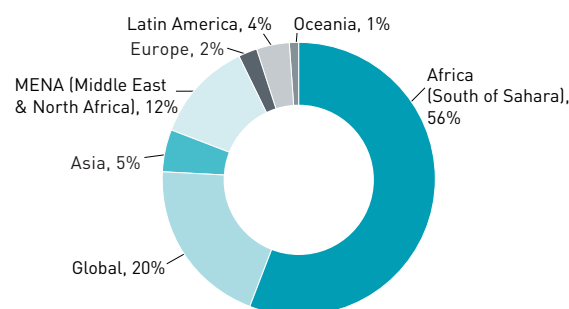
Other examples of results include:

- 10.5 million people had access to improved drinking water sources.
- WASH facilities were constructed and rehabilitated in 7.138 schools across 71 countries, along with similar facilities at 1654 health clinics in 44 countries.

In 2016, UNICEF responded to 344 **humanitarian situations** in 108 countries, the highest figures recorded since tracking began over a decade ago.

- Access to safe water was ensured to nearly 29 million people in humanitarian crises.
- Almost 3 million children benefitted from psycho-social support.

FIGURE 2: SIDA'S SUPPORT TO UNICEF BY REGION



STORY OF CHANGE AT THE INDIVIDUAL LEVEL

Israa, 11 years old, came to Jordan from Raqqa in Syria almost four years ago. She explains the challenge her family faced to enrol her in school. Having missed more than three years of school, Israa wouldn't be eligible to enrol in formal schools, and would not be able to study with other in the same grade as other students of her age. With support from the donor community and the Ministry of Education, double shifted schools for Syrian children in host communities have opened. The new catch-up programme was designed to allow children like Israa to cover in one year the curriculum of two years, in order to prepare them to go back to formal education. At first, learning in school was challenging for Israa, but the more she studied the easier things became.



"When we first arrived, my parents tried to enrol me in a school, but they were always told there were not enough spaces."

Israa

Photo: UNICEF/Jordan

For more information about the portfolio and Sida's overall relations with UNICEF, please contact Sida's focal point for UNICEF Lena Rupp +46 (0)8 698 50 00 or lena.rupp@sida.se