In 2023, 339 million people will require humanitarian assistance, a nearly 24% increase in need compared to 2022. The scale of converging crises globally means the stresses on children’s rights, health and safety are only expected to grow.

Our Children’s Emergency Fund has been an indispensable resource when preparing for and responding to children and families in need.

So far this year, the Fund provided life-saving assistance to over 2.4 million people across 43 countries, allocating $35.7 million in flexible funding to meet humanitarian needs.

Your support ensured that we could meet children's needs in times of crisis, uphold their rights even in the most challenging contexts and work with communities toward a better future.

The Fund enabled us to respond to the devastating earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria, rising hunger in East Africa, the worsening humanitarian crisis in the DRC and so many other emergencies.

Notably, we strengthened our commitment to work in partnership with local and national actors, allocating more than $4.5 million to 31 national and local partner organizations so far this year.

The Children’s Emergency Fund ensures that we're ready to scale up our programming to protect children, facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance to those in need and, ultimately, support families and communities through crises while fostering long-term resilience.

In an increasingly volatile world, your support means we can respond to the growing needs of children whenever and wherever they need us.
We've supported local partners, like IHSAN, so they can provide psychological support for children impacted by the earthquakes in Syria.

LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

Local partners are often among the first to respond to humanitarian emergencies and have an invaluable role in ensuring that people impacted by crises receive the aid that they need.

Local and national actors are key to delivering Children's Emergency Fund funded humanitarian programs.

By supporting local partners through funding and technical guidance, we jump start rapid emergency responses that are localized, agile and effective.

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ANTICIPATORY ACTION AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Anticipatory action means acting ahead of predictable hazards by having plans and pre-positioned resources in place to prevent and reduce the impact of crises on communities. These actions strengthen communities' preparedness and resilience to tackle future emergencies, saving lives and livelihoods.

Through the Children’s Emergency Fund, over $2.5 million was allocated to anticipatory action and emergency preparedness so far this year.

We focused specifically on East and Southern Africa, which received the highest amount of funding for emergency preparedness. This includes a $1 million allocation to Sudan to support preparedness activities related to conflict, influx of displaced families, disease outbreaks and flooding in the country.

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The Children’s Emergency Fund provides the resources that make it possible to prepare, jump start and scale up our responses, delivering desperately needed aid to children and families. Here are just some examples of how the Fund was used to support children and their families after a crisis.

**CYCLONE MOCHA IN MYANMAR**

In Myanmar, the Children’s Emergency Fund was critical in helping us respond to Cyclone Mocha, which pummeled the country’s coast in May and destroyed hundreds of homes.

In coordination with local partners, we distributed life-saving supplies, including food, hygiene kits and safe drinking water to families in the most affected areas in Rakhine, Magway and Chin state. We also provided emergency health services through mobile clinics and temporary health posts.

**PREPOSITIONING SUPPLIES IN YEMEN**

In Yemen, the Children’s Emergency Fund enabled us to preposition supplies of medicine and other essentials.

These prepositioned supplies ensure that medications for children can be accessed as needed, ensuring our team can implement health programs continuously. It also means that our team can immediately mobilize and deliver health programming in the event of a rapid onset emergency.

**DISASTER PREPAREDNESS IN NIGERIA**

In Nigeria, the Children’s Emergency Fund supported the development of an early warning system for displacement and conflict settings, which will be invaluable in getting timely information to families to take action before a crisis unfolds.

Early warning systems play a crucial role in preventing the loss of lives and livelihoods ahead of a crisis. This early warning system will be community-led and local partners will be able to use the system in hard-to-reach areas.
Evlül* outside her tent in the Adiyaman region in Türkiye. Save the Children provided her family with dignity and hygiene kits, blankets and tarps.

When the earthquake struck, Evül* and her husband managed to evacuate their family and other neighbors.

Despite everything she and her family have faced, Evül remains hopeful that good days will return once again and she is determined that they will not leave her community. For now, the family is staying in a tent not far from their home, which lies in ruins.

Save the Children has been visiting remote villages in earthquake impacted areas, delivering essential items, including shelter kits, blankets, tarps, dignity kits and hygiene kits that help families living in temporary accommodation. Thanks to the Children’s Emergency Fund, we were able to provide Evül’s* family with dignity and hygiene kits, blankets and tarps.

Evlül* outside her tent in the Adiyaman region in Türkiye. Save the Children provided her family with dignity and hygiene kits, blankets and tarps.

**EARTHQUAKES IN TÜRKİYE AND SYRIA**

The Children’s Emergency Fund played a key role in jump starting our response to the devastating earthquakes that hit Türkiye and Syria in February of this year.

Immediately following the earthquakes, the Children’s Emergency Fund provided an initial $2 million to our response team already in impacted communities, which helped them meet the most critical and urgent needs of those impacted by the earthquakes.

Flexible funding was essential when it came to ensuring that local partners, who were among the first responders to the earthquake, had the resources they needed. We provided over $1 million in the first few days of the crisis to local partners.

**HELPING MOTHERS LIKE EYLÜL***

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**NOTHING IS AS BEFORE, BUT IT WILL BE. WE WILL HAVE BETTER DAYS.**

— Evül
HUNGER IN EAST AFRICA

The hunger crisis in East Africa is threatening children’s lives, with over 7 million children now severely malnourished. For nomadic families residing in remote areas in Kenya, prolonged drought has meant a loss of livestock, exacerbating hunger for the most vulnerable children.

With the support of the Children’s Emergency Fund, we were able to scale up our hunger programming and provide integrated health and nutrition outreach to communities hardest hit by drought.

This funding supported a range of programs, including water trucking, providing access to clean and safe water for food insecure communities and treating children for malnutrition.

RESPONDING TO DROUGHT-DRIVEN HUNGER IN KENYA

I WOULD LIKE MY CHILDREN TO GROW UP, FINISH THEIR STUDIES, GET JOBS AND ENJOY LIFE.

— Shankaroon

Funding from the Children’s Emergency Fund has been integral in combating hunger in Garissa County, Kenya, which is where we met Shankaroon* and her five children.

The community has been hit hard by severe drought, killing most of Shankaroon’s livestock and disrupting her main source of income. Her children used to eat and play with full bellies, but the impact of the drought has meant they can only each twice a day and rely on a diet of just plain rice and corn.

Shankaroon’s son, Hirsi*, is suffering from malnutrition as a result and is receiving treatment from Save the Children-supported health services.

Save the Children has supported Shankaroon and other families in her village by providing them with cash assistance, which has helped them purchase food for their families. We’re also supporting and training community health workers in order to treat malnutrition at the community level, ensuring children have access to health and nutrition services.
COMPLEX CRISIS IN THE DRC

After decades of conflict, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is one of the most complex humanitarian crises in the world. Recent expansion of areas under the control of violent groups combined with worsening food insecurity, multiple health epidemics and flooding is resulting in an alarming increase in humanitarian need.

The Children’s Emergency Fund has supported our teams in the DRC, which has funded a cholera response and child protection programming, including the running of Child Friendly Spaces.

PROVIDING SAFETY THROUGH CHILD-FRIENDLY SPACES

I’M VERY GRATEFUL TO THE SUPERVISORS OF THE CHILD-FRIENDLY SPACE...I THANK THEM VERY MUCH FOR THE WAY THEY LOOK AFTER MY CHILDREN.

– Josephine

We met Messi*, 14, and his mother, Josephine*, at one of our Child Friendly Spaces in the DRC. In 2021, the family’s house burnt down after a volcano eruption, and they were forced to leave alongside other people in their village to find a new place to live. Now, they live in a camp for displaced families in the eastern part of the DRC.

When he doesn't need to help his mother, Messi goes to our Child Friendly Space in the camp to play football with other children and receive psychosocial support from our staff.

More than 40 million children currently displaced around the world, including in the DRC, are at risk of exploitation, family separation and violence. Even more concerning is that half of refugee children are not enrolled in school.

For displaced children like Messi, Child Friendly Spaces can be a lifeline. These spaces provide children with a protected environment where they can play, socialize, learn and receive the psychological support they desperately need.
Puja, 14, has lived her whole life in the small home she shares with her mother and older brother in a small, remote village in Mahottari District in Nepal.

RESPONDING TO THE NEPAL COLD WAVE

In the past few decades, cold waves have emerged as a major threat to people’s health, particularly for the elderly, children and other vulnerable populations.

In order to strengthen community preparedness and resilience to future emergencies, our team in Nepal developed Cold Wave Early Action Protocol. They also built a dashboard that analyzes disaster related information in order to respond early and quickly to climate-related emergencies, such as floods, earthquakes and cold waves.

In January 2023, when temperatures dropped to dangerous lows, our team took the early actions identified in the protocol to serve families and communities.

In coordination with our local partner, Social Development Forum, we reached over 1,900 households with relief items, including baby kits and blankets.

Funding from the Children's Emergency Fund has been crucial in enabling our team in Nepal to equip children and families with the resources needed to keep them safe and protected in the face of growing climate-related emergencies.

Puja, 14, has lived her whole life in the small home she shares with her mother and older brother in a small, remote village in Mahottari District in Nepal.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

When a crisis occurs and children’s futures are on the line, Save the Children needs to be ready to act fast.

Your support for the Children’s Emergency Fund means we can be by children’s sides within hours of a disaster striking and be there for the long-term to help them and their families recover and rebuild.

Thanks to your generous support, we’re able to respond across the globe wherever and whenever there is need.

Like so many others in Türkiye, when earthquakes struck in February 2022, children like Sümeyye*, 7, lost everything. She has received mental health and psychosocial support from Save the Children staff.