



GOAL AREA 3

Every child is protected from violence and exploitation

Global Annual
Results Report 2020

unicef 
for every child

Cover image: © UNICEF/ UNI333569/Dejongh
Children at the playground of their school in Toumodi-Sakassou, Côte d'Ivoire. UNICEF has been working with countries like Côte d'Ivoire to support children's safe return to school, as well as supporting the social service workforce to maintain a continuity of protection services despite the disruptions caused by COVID-19.

Expression of thanks: © UNICEF/UN0377835/Panjwani
Children placed in UNICEF-supported family-based alternative care participate in a group psychosocial session being led by UNICEF coordinators in Kantivaas village, Banaskantha, in the state of Gujarat, India.



Expression of thanks

UNICEF's work is funded entirely through the voluntary support of millions of people around the world. UNICEF expresses deep appreciation to all resource partners, including government partners, civil society and the private sector, who contribute to its work supporting countries in all regions to deliver child protection interventions, especially to vulnerable children, their families and communities.

UNICEF would like to extend particular thanks to its partners who provided thematic funding for child protection in 2020, notably the governments of Sweden, Denmark, Spain and France, and all National Committees for UNICEF, particularly the National Committees of Korea, Norway, Sweden, Germany, the United States of America, Finland, Italy, France, Canada and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Thematic funds are critical in allowing for greater flexibility, long-term planning and innovative programming. These funds have contributed significantly to the results described in this report.

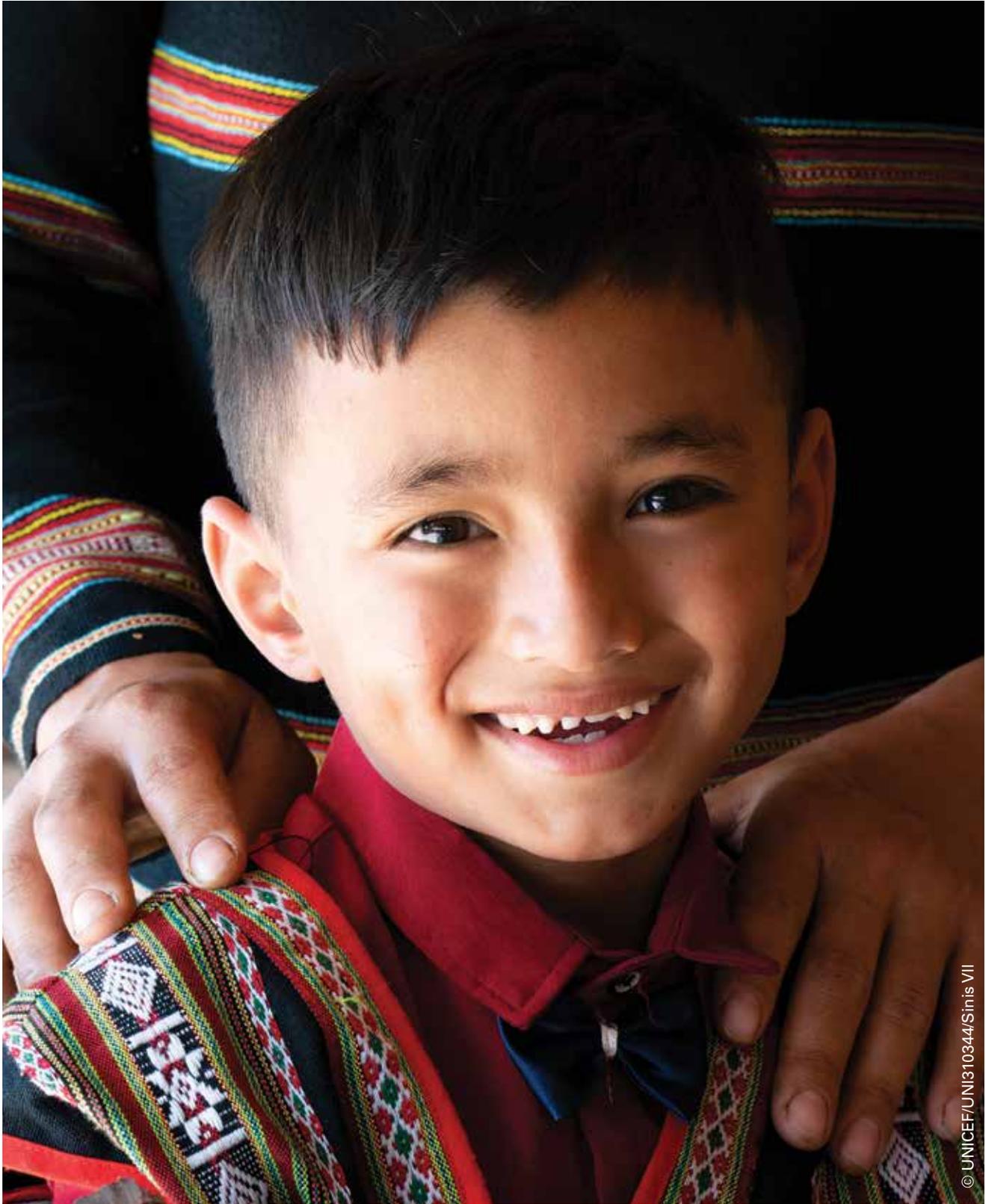
PARTNER TESTIMONIAL

Every child has the right to live free from violence, exploitation and abuse. Yet children worldwide suffer insidious transgressions – physical, social, emotional, sexual – that threaten their lives and development, and undermine and violate their human rights. This is why the protection of children everywhere is a high-profile issue for Sweden’s International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). UNICEF, with its global mandate grounded in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, is a trusted partner for Sida to advance its Child Protection priorities across development and humanitarian contexts.

To enable long-term strategic programming and to bridge urgent gaps, Sweden is committed to providing predictable global thematic funding to directly support UNICEF’s Child Protection programming under Goal Area 3 of its Strategic Plan. From strengthening national protection systems and institutions to responding swiftly when a crisis arises, UNICEF has an important role to play in preventing violence and exploitation of children and young people. During the year 2020, we saw with increasing clarity how flexible funding made it possible for UNICEF to adapt its programming quickly to deliver results amidst the COVID-19 pandemic while violence prevention and response services were severely disrupted.

As we continue to fully understand the extent of the harm done to children due to their increased exposure to violence during the pandemic, we see critical opportunities for scaling up human rights- and evidence-based, gender-responsive and comprehensive Child Protection programming. Our partnership with UNICEF during the unprecedented year has further bolstered Sida’s confidence in UNICEF as an efficient and effective partner and strong advocate for the fulfilment of children’s human rights.

– Cecilia Scharp, Assistant Director General, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)



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A young boy and his mother outside their home in Gia Lai, in the Central Highlands region of Viet Nam. They are from the Ba Na ethnic minority, one of 54 ethnic groups in the country. UNICEF Viet Nam supports parenting education as an alternative option to reduce corporal punishment, providing parents and caregivers with resources and support on positive parenting and child wellbeing.

Seventy-four years after UNICEF was established and thirty-one years since the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the organization's mission to promote the full attainment of the rights of all children is as urgent as ever.

The UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021, is anchored in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and charts a course towards attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals and the realization of a future in which every child has a fair chance in life. It sets out measurable results for children, especially the most disadvantaged (including those in humanitarian situations). It also defines the change strategies and enablers that support their achievement.

Working with governments, United Nations partners, the private sector and civil society, and with the full participation of children, UNICEF remains steadfast in its commitment to realize the rights of all children, everywhere, and to achieve the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: a world in which no child is left behind.

The following report summarizes how UNICEF and its partners contributed to Goal Area 3 in 2020 and reviews the impact of these accomplishments on children and the communities where they live. This is one of seven reports on the results of efforts during 2020, encompassing gender equality and humanitarian action as well as each of the five Strategic Plan Goal Areas – 'Every child survives and thrives', 'Every child learns', 'Every child is protected from violence and exploitation', 'Every child lives in a safe and clean environment', and 'Every child has an equitable chance in life'. It supplements the 2020 Executive Director Annual Report (EDAR), UNICEF's official accountability document for the past year.

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