

The background of the entire page is a photograph of several young children, likely of African descent, wearing white headscarves. They are looking towards the camera with various expressions, some smiling and some looking more serious. The lighting is soft and natural, highlighting their features.

Standby Arrangements

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

unicef 
for every child

Standby Arrangements

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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Acknowledgements

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Data in this report are drawn from statistics which encompass measurements up to 20 April 2023.

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Thanks to our standby partners

Action contre la Faim

CANADEM

Danish Refugee Council

Dutch Surge Support (DSS Water)

Finn Church Aid

iMMAP Inc.

IMPACT

International Catholic Migration Commission

Irish Aid

Justice Rapid Response

Norwegian Church Aid

Norwegian Refugee Council

Oxfam GB

RedR Australia

Save the Children

Street Child

Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB)

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

World Vision International



In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell (left) visits Nizi Primary School in Goma (4 April 2022). Many schools were destroyed in the Mount Nyiragongo volcano eruption in May 2021. UNICEF assisted with the construction of new learning spaces.

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Foreword

Dear Partners,

This report is intended not only to provide you with data but also to showcase the reality on the ground and the people behind the front lines. Our aim is to inspire the reader with a visionary account of UNICEF and the partners' surge response.

The year 2022 began with unprecedented emergencies and demands that affected us globally and required rapid and effective response from UNICEF and its partners. The humanitarian situation of children in 2022 differed from that of the previous few years (the 'pandemic years') in ways more linked to scale than substance. The term polycrisis aptly captures the mix of conflict, climate, energy, economic and other challenges that characterizes this period.

Last year UNICEF responded to 442 new or ongoing humanitarian crises in 128 countries, compared with 455 crises in 153 countries in 2021. Crises designated as Level 3 emergencies included those in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, the Horn of Africa (elevated from Level 2 to Level 3 in September 2022), Ukraine and Yemen, as well as COVID-19 (until 1 July 2022). A Level 2 emergency was activated in Haiti, Madagascar, Mozambique, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Sahel region, Uganda and the Ukraine refugee outflow countries. In meeting the needs of children, we are proud to say that our standby partner (SBP) community engaged with every single one of our calls for support. That includes Ukraine, where we witnessed one of the most rapidly deteriorating crisis that shook the world and impacted safe childhoods for children in a manner that can only be described as appalling.

During different missions of our senior directors to Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Sahel, Somalia, Haiti and Yemen, they were able to personally see the incredible contributions and efforts of the SBP community in helping UNICEF meet the urgent calls for supporting, fostering and contributing to children's wellness and safety. You provided us with your vital expertise on the ground and

your vision and inspiration to aid those in need.

During these engagements, and with the increasing complexity of crises, I am reminded of how unbalanced the world remains and how crucial and unique our mandate is. We – UNICEF and standby partners – play a vital role in the humanitarian sector, supporting the most affected populations, children, women and their communities. I want to take this opportunity to thank every one of you, our standby partners and deployees, for your commitment, professionalism and passion. Throughout these past 18 years of our journey, we have met these needs together. As we step into 2023, already facing unprecedented crises, we recognize that many children in need are undoubtedly counting on our joint efforts to relieve their suffering. We look forward to continuing to work together to ensure the happy, fulfilled and safe childhoods for every child and the protection of their rights.



Hazel De Wet
EMOPS Deputy Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hazel De Wet'.

Overview

UNICEF's Standby Arrangements constitute a partnership mechanism with various external partners including non-governmental organization, governments, intergovernmental organizations and private companies. This mechanism provides development of expertise for temporary surge support to UNICEF and UNICEF-led clusters to enhance the capacity to respond to emergencies and humanitarian crises across the world.

In 2022, UNICEF and our standby partners received 260 new requests from 56 different country or regional offices. Of those, 50 countries received in total 182 support deployments in addition to headquarters support. Of these new deployments, 120 were standby partner deployments and 62 were Rapid Response Team (RRT) missions delivering critical assistance to UNICEF. All successful RRT missions were in cluster lead sectors -in nutrition, education, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), as well as the child protection sub-cluster.

Taking into account the active deployments from previous years in addition to new successful responses, 61 country and regional offices received field support for 35,597 days in 2022, of which 15,641 days were related to support of new requests. This constitutes an estimated value of \$17.8 million of in-kind support from 19 partners.



260 new requests



\$17.8 million

IN-KIND SUPPORT FROM PARTNERS



269 active deployments¹



35,597 working days

FOR ALL ACTIVE DEPLOYMENTS IN 2022

15,641 working days

FOR NEW DEPLOYMENTS IN 2022



56 country and regional offices

REQUESTED SUPPORT

50 country and regional offices

RECEIVED AT LEAST ONE EXPERT

61 country and regional offices

HAD ACTIVE DEPLOYMENTS

UNICEF wishes to extend our deepest thanks to our standby partners for their support, and to individual deployees who responded to emergencies to relieve the suffering of the most disadvantaged children in the most challenging situations around the world.

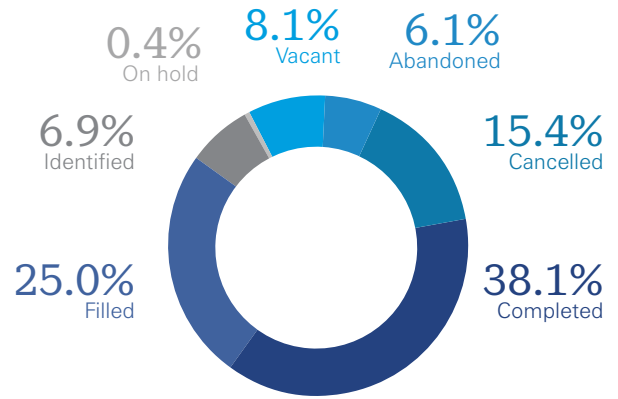
Requests for support

UNICEF Standby Arrangements received 260 requests for single standby deployments in 2022. The number of standby requests² includes country and regional office requests, and headquarters roles when new members joined the RRTs or global initiatives.

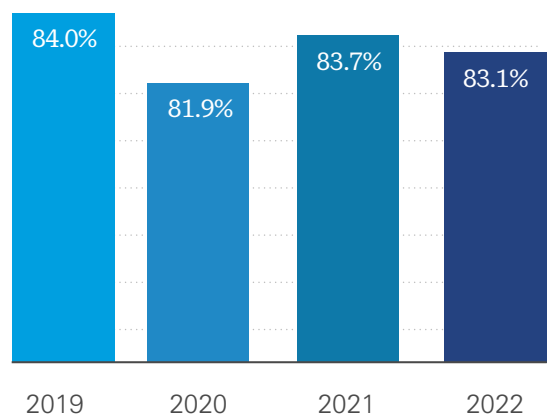
Overall, there was a positive outcome for 83.1 per cent of the requests (versus 83.7 per cent in 2021, 81.9 per cent in 2020, and 84.0 per cent in 2019).³

- **182 requests** were completed, filled⁴ or have a deployee identified⁵
- **40 requests** were cancelled by the UNICEF country office as the support was no longer required or was secured through other means
- **21 requests** are still vacant
- **16 requests** were abandoned because no suitable candidate was found through Standby Arrangements
- **1 request** is on hold by country office

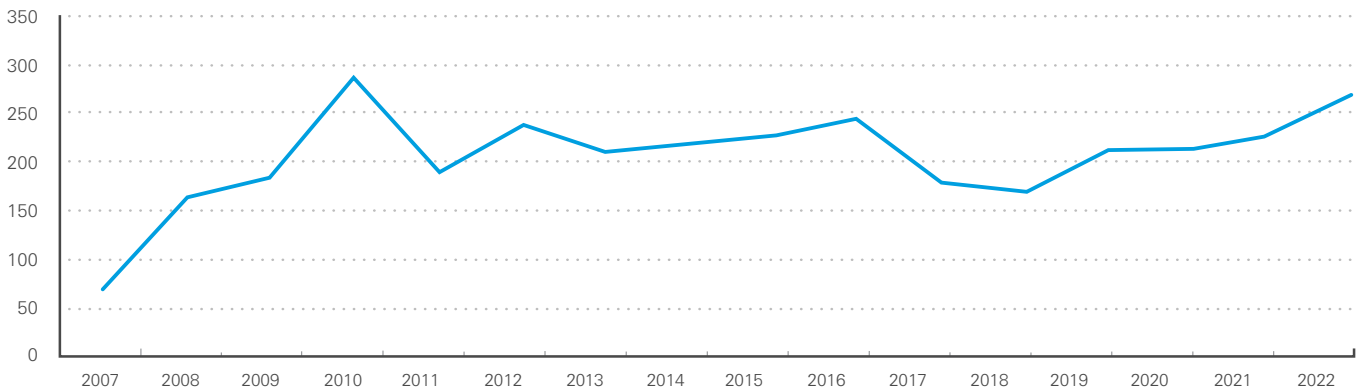
OUTCOMES OF REQUESTS⁶ (2022)



EFFICIENCY



NUMBER OF REQUESTS PER YEAR⁶



² Single standby requests only (including additions of new Rapid Response Team members). RRT deployments are a single longer-term standby deployment (of 12 months or longer) to support UNICEF's Global Cluster Co-ordination Unit with high level co-ordination and information management expertise. Within their year of deployment they undertake several field missions, and ensure that UNICEF has the ability to rapidly deploy to cluster/sector responses. To present clear data on only the requests and success rates of single standby requests sent to standby partners over the year, RRT field missions are covered in the Deployments section of this report.

³ In previous annual reports, the efficiency rate was reported by including cancelled and on-hold requests. However, to better measure the performance of standby partners, this report excludes such cases for efficiency calculation. Efficiency rate is updated for 2021, 2020 and 2019 accordingly.

⁴ The deployee is still on deployment and deployment end date is after 2022.

⁵ The candidate is selected and preparing to deploy, with a start date after 2022.

⁶ This chart is based on cut-off date of 31 December 2022. As of 20 April 2023, 14 identified candidates have already started their mission, and 4 identified candidates are in onboarding process to start.

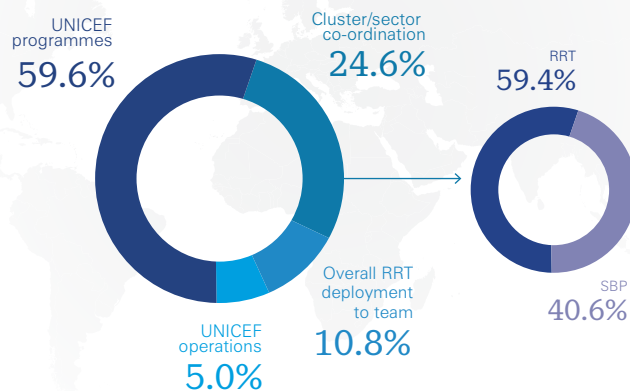
Requests for support



Mohamed Fall, UNICEF Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa, visits children and families affected by the drought in the Shabelle Zone of the Somali Region of Ethiopia (11 April 2022). Overall, nearly 9 million people are estimated to be affected by the drought across Afar, Oromia, the South West Ethiopia Peoples' Region the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and People's Region and the Somali Region – this including over 3.5 million children. The hardest-hit areas are the lowland regions of Oromia and Somali. In the Shabelle zone, around 72,000 children and their families have been displaced.

The majority of new standby requests (59.6 per cent) go to assisting UNICEF programmes. UNICEF also utilizes standby deployees for cluster responsibilities, which account for 24.6 per cent of requests. Within this, standby requests account for 40.6 per cent and RRT field deployments 59.4 per cent. UNICEF made use of 5 per cent of requests to support operations, such as logistics or telecommunication support in emergencies. These percentages have proven relatively static compared to previous years. Finally, 10.8 per cent of requests assist under overall deployments to the team.

SHARE OF REQUESTS BY SUPPORT AREA



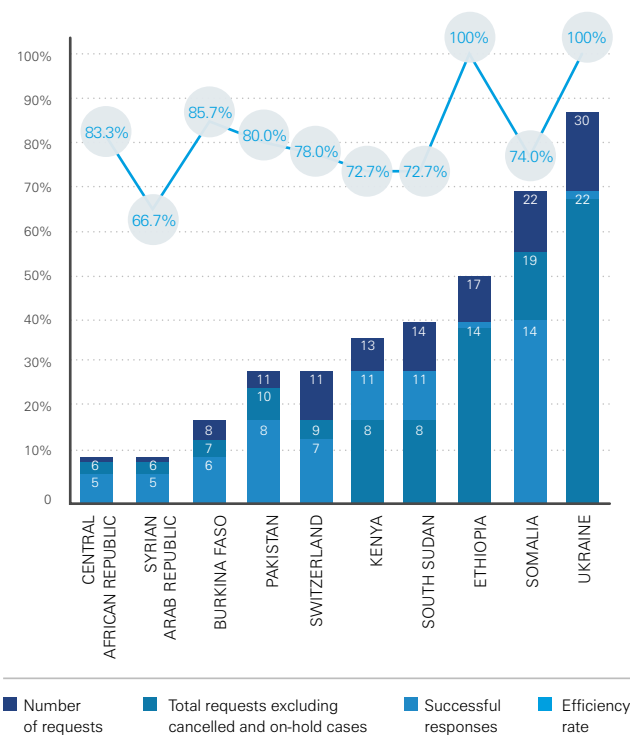
Throughout 2022, the Global Cluster Teams provided vital support to country offices. Almost 60 per cent of the requests for cluster and sector co-ordination support were covered by RRT experts, demonstrating the efficiency of this mechanism.

Requests for support

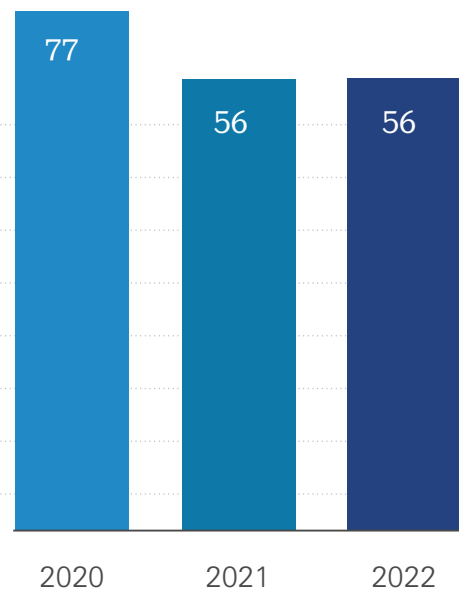
In 2022, 56 UNICEF country and regional offices requested support through Standby Arrangements (matching the total of 56 from 2021). But the trend line is pointing upward, the number of countries supported by standby partners is expanding and more country offices use Standby Arrangements to cover staffing gaps.

We are proud to say that our major responses in 2022 were completely supported by our standby partner mechanism, with an almost 100 per cent efficiency rate for major emergencies such as Ukraine and Ethiopia. These rates prove the high level of engagement of our donors and partners with UNICEF and the Standby Arrangements mechanism.

TOP 10 COUNTRIES BY NUMBER OF REQUESTS



NUMBER OF COs AND ROs WITH NEW REQUESTS

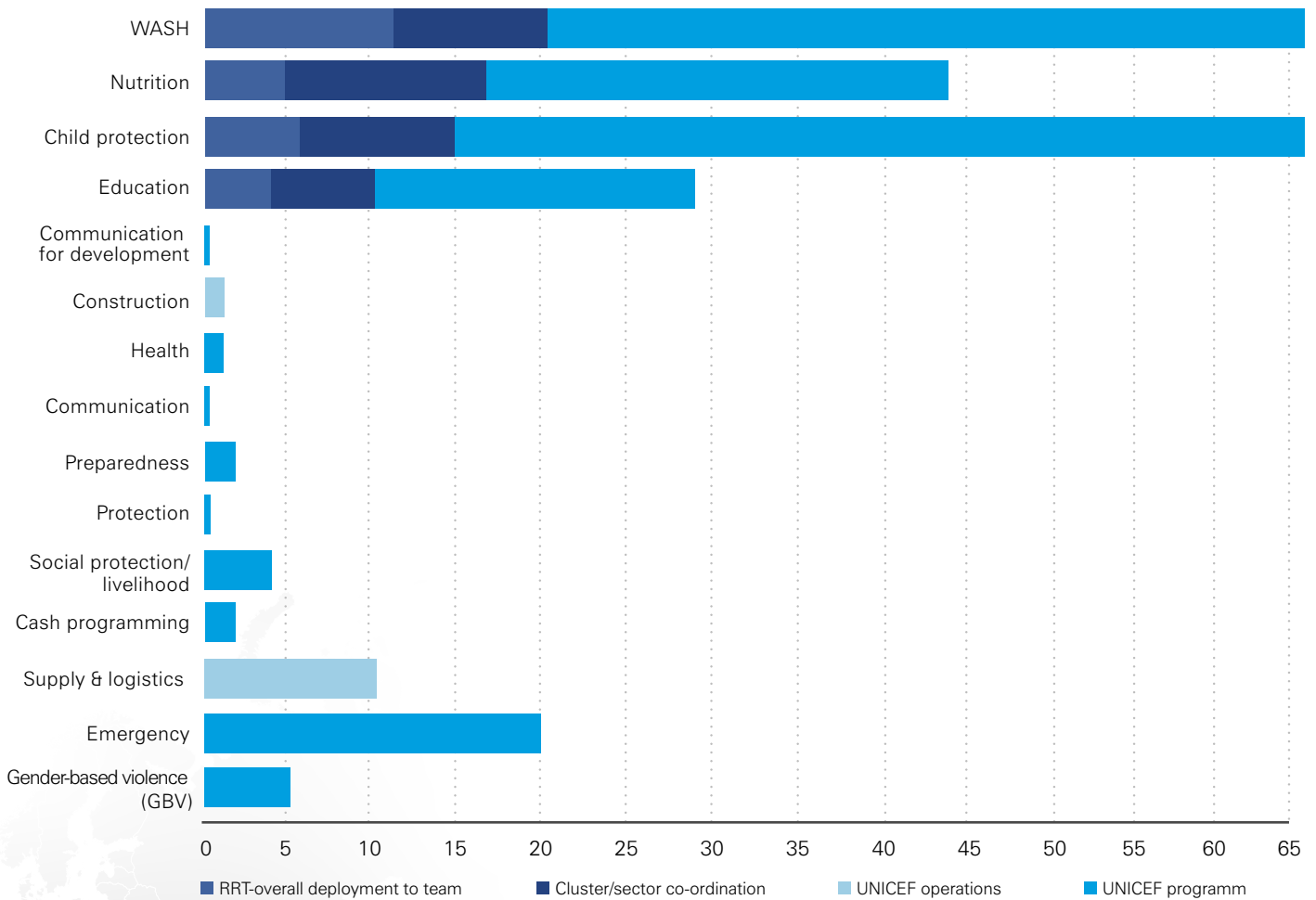


In Jacobabad, Sindh province, Pakistan, Paloma Escudero, Director of UNICEF Global Communication and Advocacy, visits a temporary learning centre in a flood-affected area in Pakistan (3 November 2022). These villages need the most attention as malaria, skin and other diseases are on the rise amongst the locals, especially children.

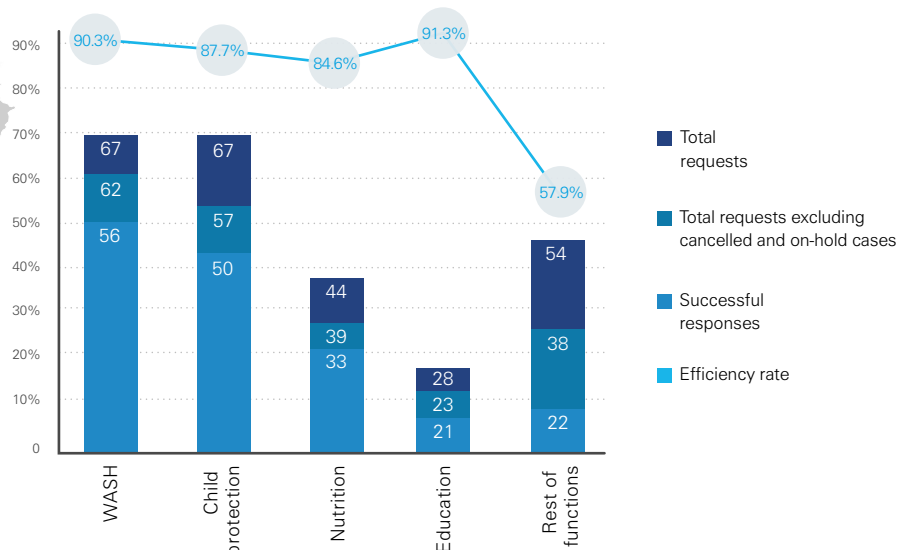
Requests for support

In 2022, four clusters – WASH, child protection, nutrition and education – had 64 new co-ordination requests which represented 24.6 per cent of all requests. Of those 64 requests, 5 were cancelled or put on hold by country and regional offices. Of the remaining 59 requests, 53 were met successfully, which yields an efficiency rate of 89.8 per cent in cluster co-ordination requests.

NUMBER OF REQUESTS BY FUNCTIONS AND SUPPORT AREAS



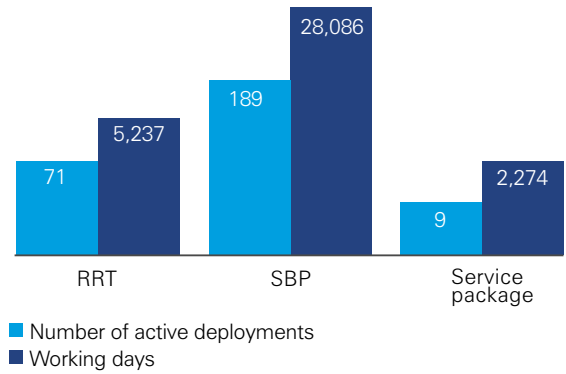
EFFICIENCY BY FUNCTIONS



Deployments

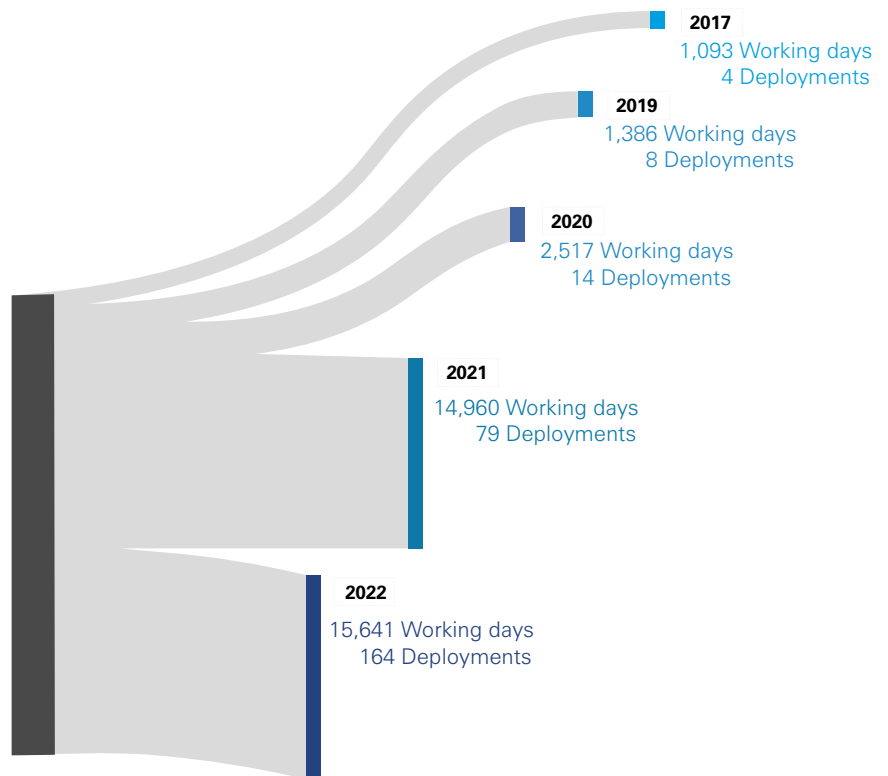
UNICEF Standby Arrangements deployed 164 new standby and Rapid Response Team field missions to emergency responses. This consisted of 103 standby partner deployees along with 61 deployments of Rapid Response Team members to support UNICEF led/co-led clusters and areas of responsibilities. These new deployments provided 15,641 working days. When the active deployments from previous years are included, Standby Arrangements supplied 35,597 days to UNICEF in 2022, the equivalent of almost 97 staff members working full time for the full year in support to emergency operations. The contribution of the Standby Arrangements mechanism to UNICEF represents approximately \$17.8 million of in-kind support.

WORKING DAYS AND NUMBER OF ACTIVE DEPLOYMENTS



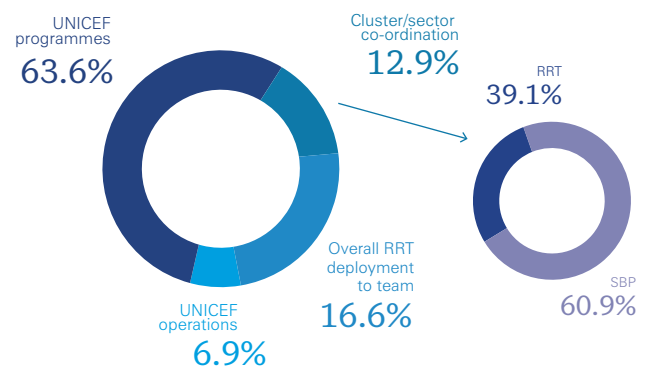
ANALYSIS OF THE COMPOSITION OF ACTIVE DEPLOYMENTS

Deployments active in 2022
35,597 Working days
269 Deployments

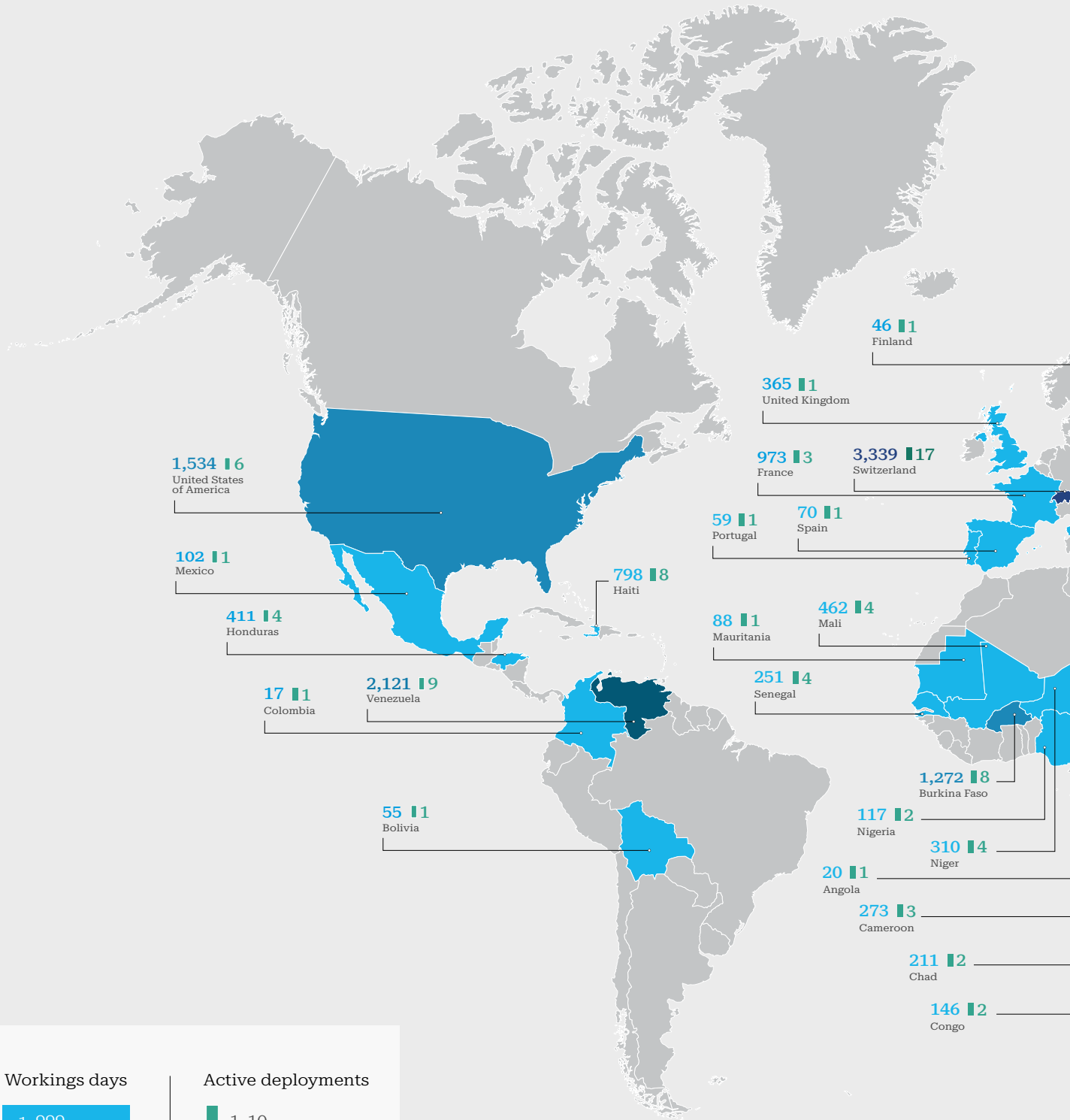


The majority of standby support (63.6 per cent of total deployment days) went to assisting UNICEF programmes. UNICEF also utilized standby deployees for cluster responsibilities, which accounted for 12.9 per cent of total deployment days. Within this, standby deployments made up 60.9 per cent and RRT field deployments 39.1 per cent. UNICEF made use of 6.9 per cent of deployee days to support operations, such as logistics or telecommunication support in emergencies. These percentages have proven relatively static compared to previous years. The remaining days-16.6 per cent of total deployments days-supported overall deployments to RRTs.

SHARE OF WORKING DAYS BY AREA SUPPORTED



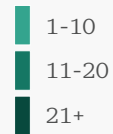
Global overview

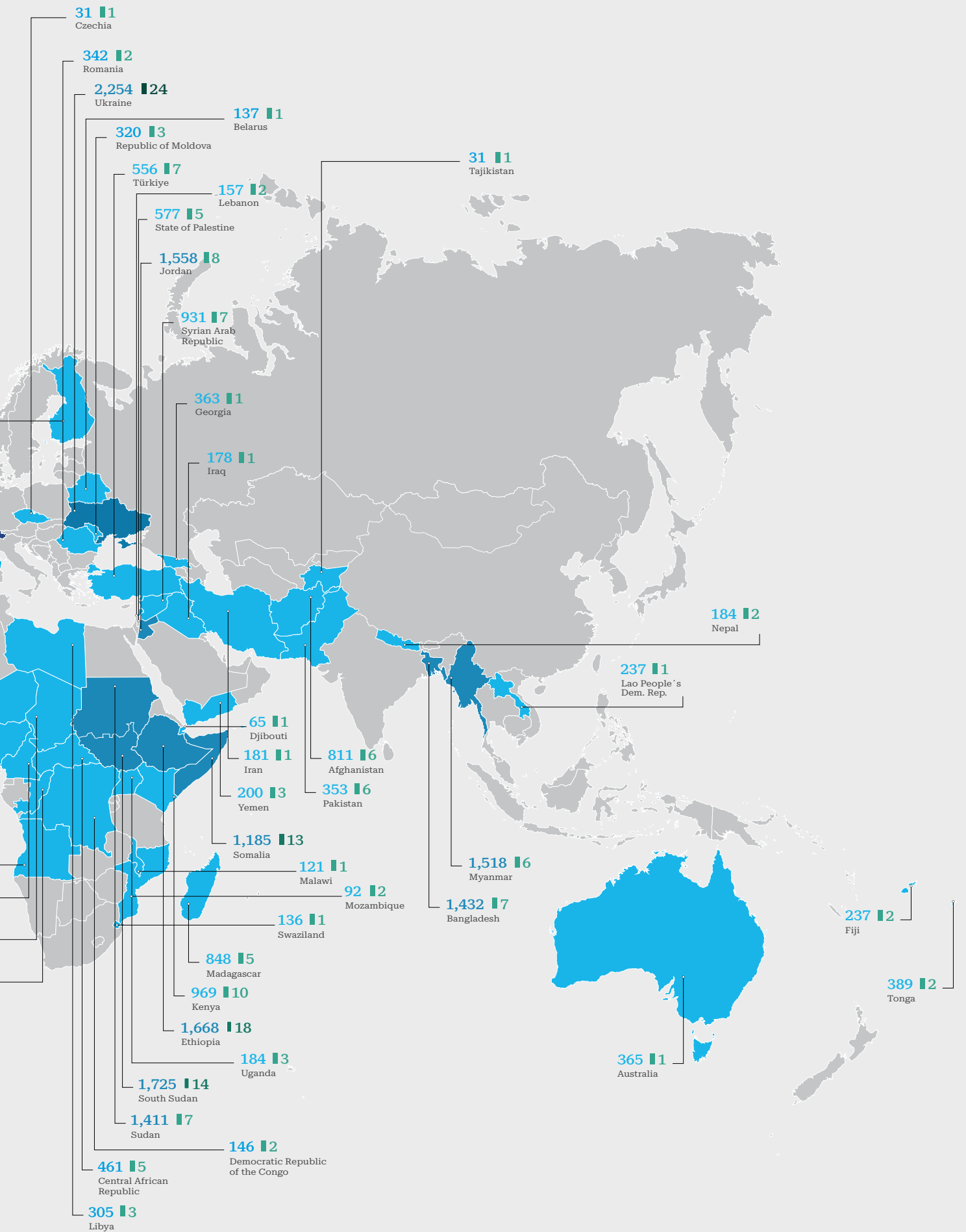


Workings days



Active deployments

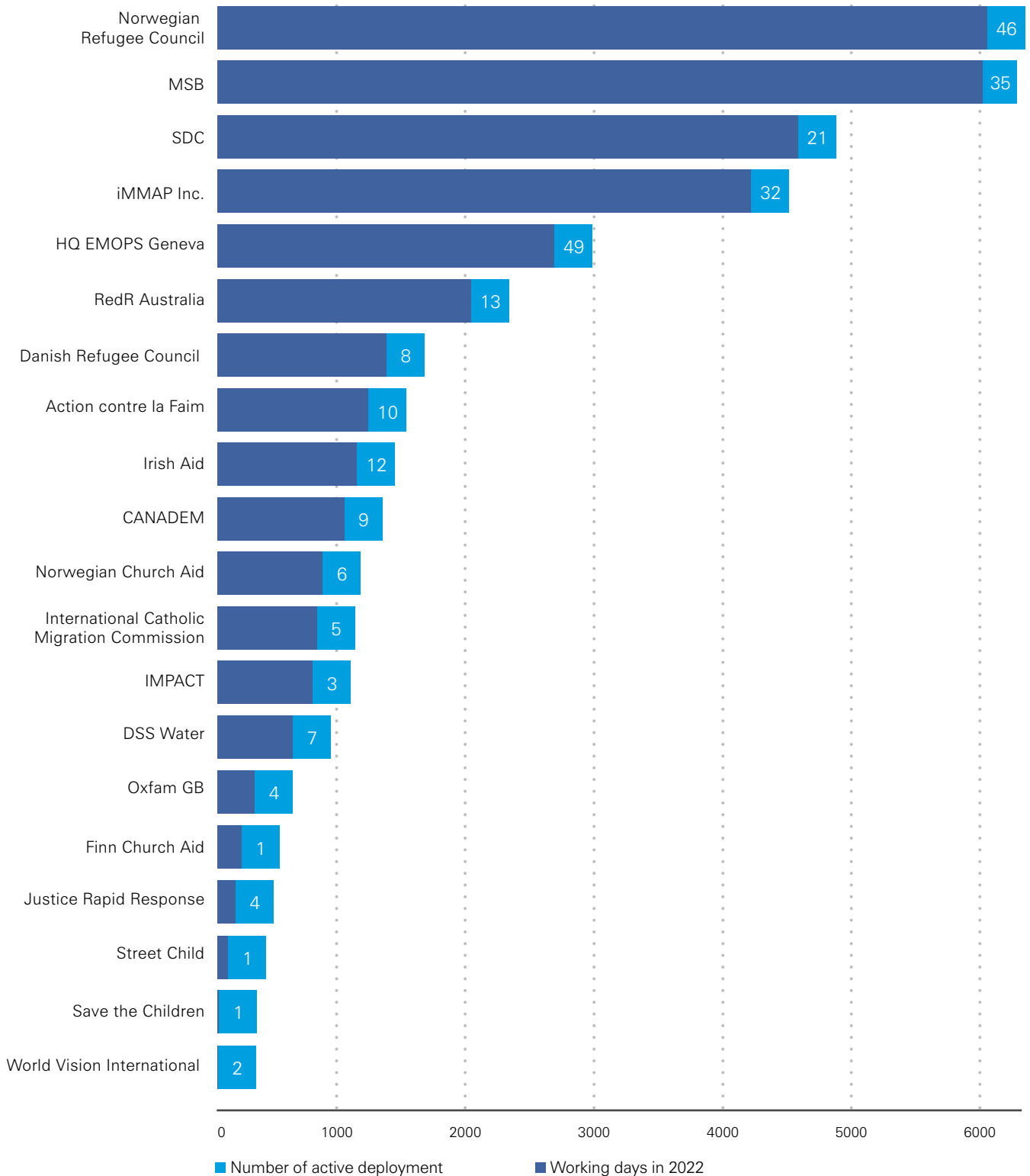




Global overview

A total of 19 standby partners contributed to 2022 surge support deployments. Of those, 7 partners had more than 10 active deployments. The top 3 partners-Norwegian Refugee Council, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) and the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC)-supported Standby Arrangements by providing 47 per cent of all working days in 2022.

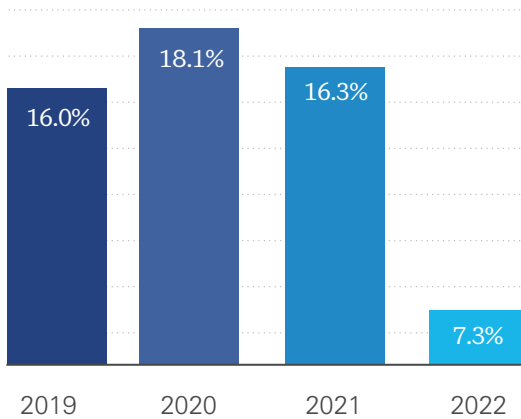
PARTNERS



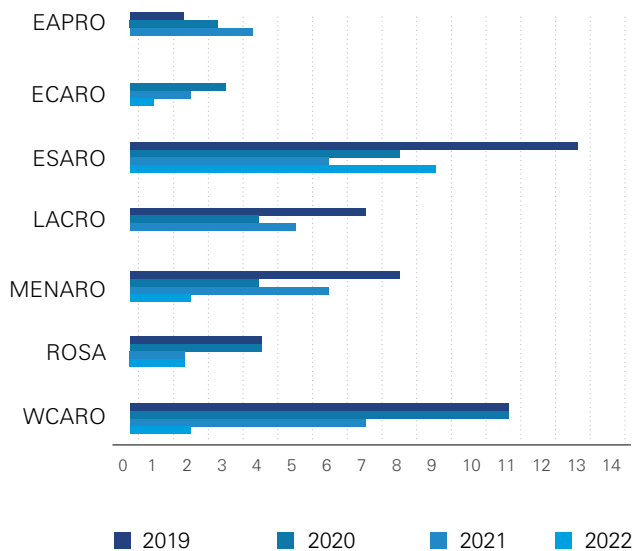
Insights

In 2022 UNICEF had a positive result in terms of abandoned requests in comparison with previous years. This is the result not only of exhaustive work from UNICEF to engage with our standby community, but also of thorough conversations with internal clients to discuss alternative surge mechanisms available when our desk detects opportunities to provide support or challenges to get support from the external market (such as donor fatigue, perceived low priority of country office or role, etc.).

ABANDONED REQUESTS AS A PORTION OF ALL REQUESTS (EXCLUDING CANCELLED AND ON-HOLD CASES)

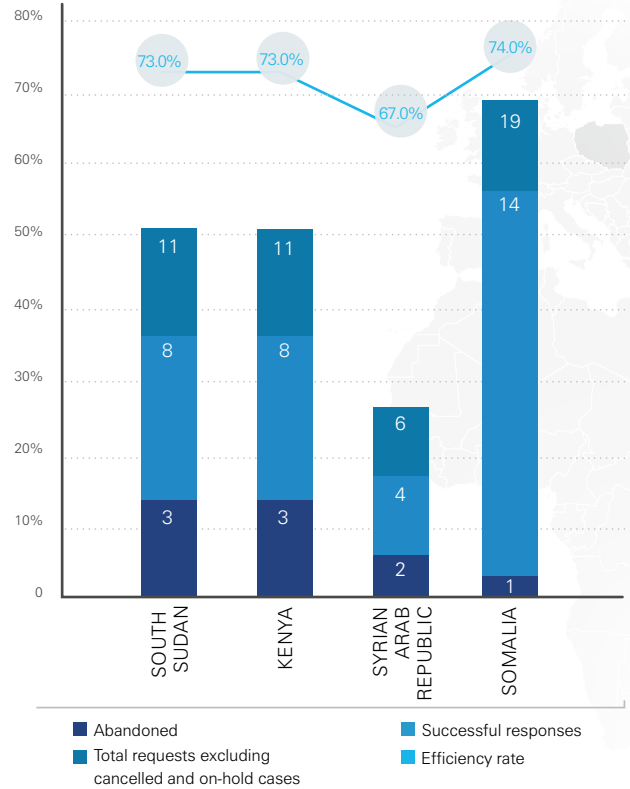


ABANDONED REQUESTS BY UNICEF REGION

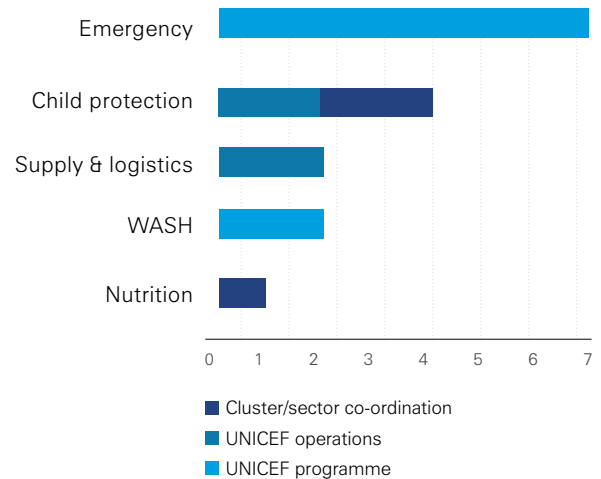


In 2022, the countries with the highest number of abandoned requests were as follows

TOP COUNTRIES BY NUMBER OF ABANDONED REQUESTS



ABANDONED REQUESTS BY CLUSTER

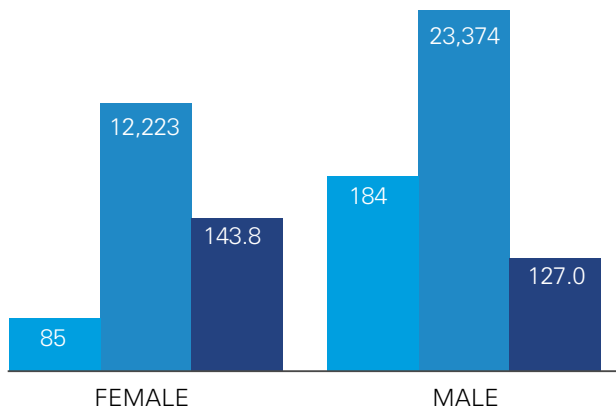


One aim of bilateral meetings between UNICEF and our partners is to gain a thorough understanding of these cases. The drivers of request abandonment vary from lack of funding, to low/no priority for donors or partners, to lack of experts able to speak a specific language (such as French, Portuguese, Spanish, Arabic or Russian), or other reasons not disclosed to our desk.

Gender and duration analysis

Female employees represented 31.6 per cent of deployments and 34.3 per cent of working days in 2022. The interesting point is that on average, female employees are working longer in each deployment.

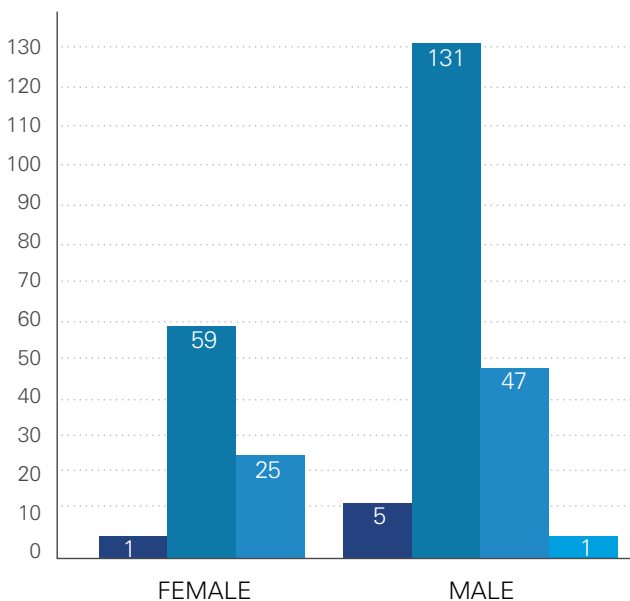
DEPLOYMENTS BY GENDER



- Number of deployments
- Working days
- Average days per deployment

Gender distribution versus professional level shows that female candidates are mostly deployed as P3 and P4 experts.

PROFESSIONAL LEVEL DISTRIBUTION BY GENDER



- P2
- P3
- P4
- P5

GENDER DISTRIBUTION BY NUMBER OF REQUESTS

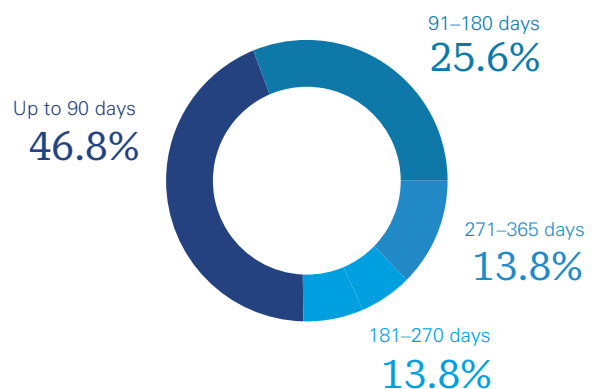


GENDER DISTRIBUTION BY WORKING DAYS



Deployments for six months or less made up 72.4 per cent of total deployments. The percentage of deployments that last less than 90 days has remained almost unchanged from 2021 at 46.8 per cent, which highlights the need for both RRT and SBP missions that deliver short term technical support, particularly to clusters.

DEPLOYMENT DURATION



Stories from the field

Clusters and the importance of standby partners in humanitarian action



Nisar is originally from a remote village in Balochistan, Pakistan. Father of three kids, with a master's degree in development studies and environmental sciences, he has held different positions around the globe as a WASH adviser, supporting critical emergencies such as the Tsunami Response, the Pakistan earthquake response, the Afghanistan refugee response, the typhoon response in the Philippines, the Syria conflict, the Yemen conflict, the South Sudan conflict, the Somalia conflict, the Afghanistan drought response, the Pakistan floods, the Yemen cholera response, the Cambodia floods, and the Rohingya response in Myanmar.

“Having been a member of the standby partners in the past, with the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB), I have always acknowledged the investment and contribution of standby partners to enhance staff capacity ensuring the right skills are available for such critical roles. I thank the standby partners for their generous support to UNICEF through their complementary strength in response to crises.”

In 2022, surge cluster capacity was in great demand. Conflict and the climate crisis, exacerbated by the social and economic problems caused by COVID-19, drove up the number of people in humanitarian need to a record 274 million.

In an ambitious effort by the international humanitarian community to reach out to more beneficiaries, the cluster approach was established in 2005. Under this approach, clusters have been activated in the 10 key areas of humanitarian action. To support and reinforce national responses, clusters bring together multiple local and international actors under the leadership of designated cluster lead agencies. UNICEF is one of the eight designated cluster lead agencies. We are responsible for the effective co-ordination of 3 out of 10 clusters – nutrition, education (co-led with Save the Children) and WASH – and the child protection area of responsibility.

UNICEF has significantly strengthened its surge mechanisms to guarantee the timely deployment of cluster capacity when and where it is required, for the sectors we lead. This includes working with a network of key standby partners, including Action contre la Faim, iMMAP Inc. the Norwegian Refugee Council, Oxfam GB and RedR Australia, among many others.

Throughout the year, standby partners provided 52 deployments in 1 regional office and 22 countries, at national and subnational levels. This support greatly helped ensuring the timeliness and effectiveness of the responses. Without the commitment and support from our partners it would have not been possible to meet cluster needs for co-ordination and information management in unforeseen emergencies or deteriorating crises.

UNICEF highly values the positive engagement with our standby partners and their key role in timely, relevant and coherent responses to the immediate needs of people affected by humanitarian crisis. We look forward to further strengthening and expanding our collaboration in 2023 and beyond.

Stories from the field

MSB: From a regular partnership to a special partnership

The transformation began some years ago, when we both realized that we had entered into a routine and to some extent dormant relationship. Deployments were neither increasing nor did we focus on improving our delivery to the field. We brought ourselves together in a bilateral meeting in Geneva and started the journey to a more proactive, interactive and productive partnership. The ingredients were simple: more focus on field needs, flexibility, much more investment in dialogue and creation of initiatives. Since that moment, we have increased the number of deployments by several folds and the results of monitoring show impressively high delivery against expected results.

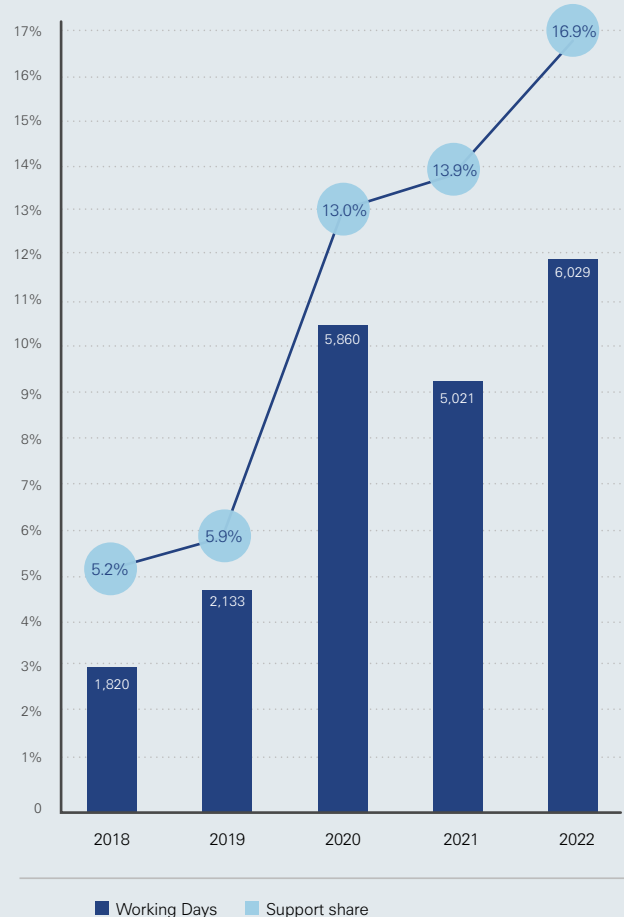
Here are some concrete examples. First, we have – with the support of UNICEF – developed new MSB roster capacity and increased the deployments within the area of sexual and gender-based violence, and we have recently started to expand our capacity within protection profiles. Second, we have designed several 'out of the box' deployments and specifically designed our support to match the needs of the UNICEF operations in the field. Third, we brought together a team of logistics officers to support the implementation of the COVAX initiative during the intense rollout of vaccination campaigns to combat COVID-19. Fourth, we created a team deployment of several experts in an emergency team for a longer-term engagement in Venezuela with the aim of building local capacity and speeding up the implementation of quick-implementation projects in communities. Fifth, we supported and increased a safe humanitarian presence through the expansion of a humanitarian compound for inter-agency use through UNICEF in the remote and high security area of Kaga-Bandoro in the Central African Republic.

The partnership between MSB and UNICEF has since then been very fruitful, mainly because both organizations have a clear focus on better delivering resources to alleviate distress and save lives in the field, through a special partnership.



Since 2018, MSB supported 95 deployments, for a total in-kind support of more than \$10.4 million

MSB ENGAGEMENT



MSB provides a comprehensive portfolio of expertise, with strong focus on innovation and rapid response. Profiles such as WASH Experts, Logisticians, Emergency Experts, and Gender are among their top profiles sourced to UNICEF, in addition to 42 service packages with more than 8,100 working days in WASH, Constructions, Supply & Logistics, Gender, Multi-cluster and Operations.



Stories from the field

Putting child rights at the centre stage with Justice Rapid Response

At Justice Rapid Response (JRR), we provide prompt, impartial, and professional investigation expertise into international crimes and serious human rights violations to promote the rights and access to justice for victims and survivors. We do so by deploying justice experts from a standby gender-balanced roster of over 700 experts who come from all parts of the world, speak up to 90 languages and specialize in over 50 fields of expertise, including, of course, child rights. Since becoming operational in 2009, we have deployed over 600 experts in over 47 countries.

Child rights as a thematic focus for JRR

The scale of the violence affecting children in fragile settings is immense, but too often investigations and human rights monitoring efforts have overlooked the experience and perspective of children.

Even when child rights' violations are documented, experts asked to document and/or interview children, are not necessarily equipped to do so. In fact, the specific vulnerabilities of children require specialized expertise to ensure that violations affecting them are safely documented and analysed.

JRR believes that the inclusion of dedicated child rights expertise in human rights and justice efforts is a game-changer for protection, impunity and redress when documenting crimes and violations involving children. It affords child rights violations a higher visibility compared to efforts that do not benefit from this approach and support.

Since 2015, to respond to this expertise gap, JRR has steadily increased the recruitment and deployment of child rights experts specialized in documenting crimes and violations against children.

This has resulted in 60 "child rights" expert deployments to support international and national investigations in the world's most violent conflicts and fragile settings, including those in Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Colombia, Iraq, Libya, Myanmar, Syria, and Ukraine. JRR has supported the investigation of

crimes and violations against children by deploying experts to Human Rights Council-mandated investigations, the International Criminal Court, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic, the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq, and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.

JRR and UNICEF

JRR's very first child rights expert deployment was done at the request of UNICEF. In fact, JRR and UNICEF's longstanding collaboration started in 2015 with the deployment of two child rights experts who mentored UNICEF officers in the MENA region in the documentation of sexual and gender-based violence, and other grave violations against children.

As a result of this successful deployment, JRR and UNICEF signed a Standby Partnership Agreement the same year. Since then, JRR has deployed 29 experts to UNICEF, in support of the United Nations Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) to document grave violations against children and other child rights work in different regions around the globe.



Federica Tronchin

Head of International Justice Programme
Senior Gender and Child Rights Advisor



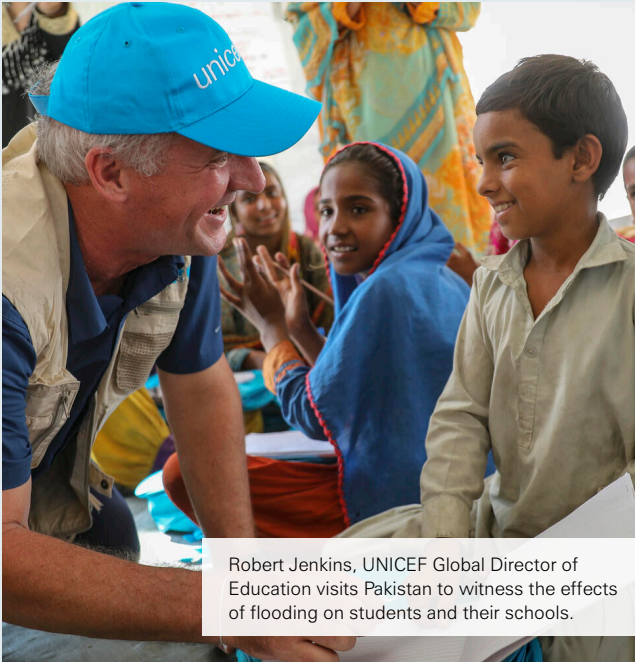
Úrsula Gutiérrez Trápaga

Programme Officer at the International
Justice Programme

Since 2015, JRR has provided support for 30 deployments, for a total in-kind support of \$649,000.

Stories from the field

iMMAP Inc. is always ready to support Pakistan when floods strike



Robert Jenkins, UNICEF Global Director of Education visits Pakistan to witness the effects of flooding on students and their schools.

During the monsoon season, back in June 2022, heavy rains affected almost 30 per cent of the country, flooding entire cities and affecting more than 9 million children. It was a critical and urgent emergency that required not only a fast response but also highly qualified experts in different areas of expertise. iMMAP Inc. was one of the first partners that engaged with this global response, providing expertise in information management (IM). This is the story of Tigist Gebrewold, an IM education expert seconded by iMMAP Inc. in 2022.



Tigist Gebrewold, iMMAP Inc. expert in action supporting Pakistan CO

'Working on my first international deployment for the education cluster was a challenging but rewarding experience. **One of the things that I quickly realized was that information management was critical to the success of the flood response efforts.** It wasn't just about collecting and analyzing data. It was about sharing that information to inform the partners, and donors, to make well-informed decisions and quickly address challenges and gaps. It also involved regularly monitoring and evaluating sector progress, preparing contingency plans, and mapping out available capacity and resources.

My role included providing IM support at the strategic, technical, and operational levels. Response data is collected from more than 40 lead agencies and more than 50 implementing partners, which is used for various information management products reflecting progress and gaps. These products are used for evidence-based decision making by partners, including analysis on 5Ws, dashboards, capacity mapping and funding tracking sheets. I have also collaborated with OCHA to manage and share 5Ws data, SitReps, and any information needs from different key stakeholders.'

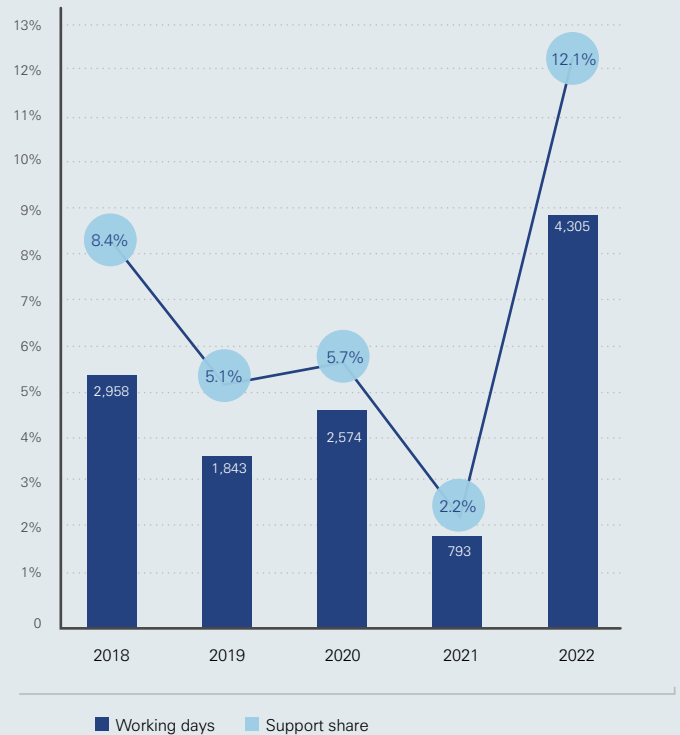
It is important to note that the official end date for the flood response plan is 31 May 2023. As of 1 May 2023, **approximately 49 per cent (or 342,500 children) of the 700,000 target children have received support**, and the total received funds amount to 69 per cent of the required funding (\$40.6 million). Unfortunately, the number of repaired schools, established temporary learning centres, and constructed transitional schools remains significantly low compared to the number of damaged schools, which stands at 30,389. In order to address the long-term impact on education and mitigate learning loss, it is imperative that all stakeholders within the education sector continue to provide support.

“I am proud to say that I was able to contribute to these efforts during my deployment. By prioritizing information management, I was able to provide reliable information for decision makers to respond to the needs and gaps of affected children. Donors are also informed where their money/donations go. This experience has taught me the importance of being adaptable, resourceful, responsive and always willing to learn in the face of new challenges.”

About iMMAP Inc.

iMMAP Inc. is an international non-governmental organization that provides information management services to humanitarian and development organizations. Its core philosophy is that better data leads to better decisions, and better decisions lead to better outcomes. Following the monsoon flooding that hit Pakistan in 2022, iMMAP Inc. has been supporting the Pakistan Education Sector Working Group by deploying an Information Management Specialist since 24 October 2022, and the support will continue until 31 May 2023.

iMMAP Inc. Engagement



Stories from the field

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, in the centre of needs: Ukraine response

My Name is Marion Chambart and I am a standby partner from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) to UNICEF Kyiv Office. I work for the Ukraine WASH cluster which is under UNICEF lead.

The WASH cluster aims at enhancing and strengthening effective and accountable humanitarian co-ordination for water, sanitation and hygiene towards timely, predictable and high-quality outcomes that are inclusive and equitable, for the people most affected by and vulnerable to crises. Within the cluster, a dedicated team 'cell' has been set to specifically answer to the needs of Ukrainian water utility companies (which are responsible for providing drinking water to the population and treating waste water). My role is to lead this team.

Together with two highly experienced, qualified and well-connected Ukrainian engineers, we have established our own scope of works, strategy, modalities and objectives for our unique cell.

Our first objective and challenge is to collect the needs of the most conflict-affected water utilities across the country. The decentralization of water supply and sewage system companies in Ukraine means that each municipality has its own company and we need to make sure that each one of them is known and aware of the support they can receive. To that purpose we have started to organize workshops involving between 10 to 12 companies where we explain the cluster role and how we and humanitarian organizations can support them in restoring water and sewage system to the population. We later help them to prepare requests that we can share widely. In some settlements, after reoccupation, all computers have been stolen and communication networks are defective, therefore even sending an email with a list of needs is a challenge. Some of these locations are also not accessible by our humanitarian partners – however, needs are critical.

Once we receive requests, we first organize information and make it accessible to all humanitarian organizations through an online platform. In parallel, we assess them, prioritize the needs in relation to humanitarian standards, and provide all relevant technical information so that organizations will be able to commit without delays.

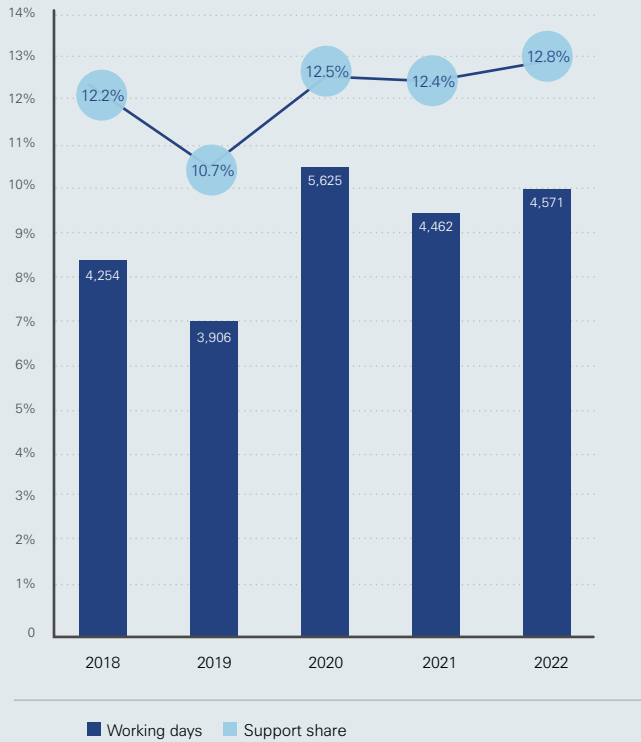
We then take the lead in the co-ordination of the response to avoid duplications and highlight the gaps. In a few months, thanks to our very encouraging results we managed to build a strong trust-based relationship with both humanitarian actors and water utilities.

We have succeeded to expedite the response process, increase inter-agency co-ordination, avoid many potential duplications and provide space for new actors.

While the remaining tasks are still important, we already look towards the future. Thanks to our extensive knowledge of the needs across Ukraine, we are able to identify recurrent needs, root causes and structural challenges such as the use of chemicals, water quality, lack of water treatment outside of big urban centers and lack of water revenue for water utilities. On this basis we, on the one hand, build advocacy messages for the sector, but also connect with development actors to prepare the next recovery phase.

Since 2018, SDC has supported 74 deployments, for a total in-kind support of more than \$11.4 million

SDC ENGAGEMENT



SDC has become one of the most crucial humanitarian actors on the ground in terms of surge, becoming the #3 partner in terms of total in-kind contributions during 2022.



The team visiting a water analysis laboratory in Chernihiv Oblast.

Stories from the field

NORCAP: A historic partnership that adapts itself to children’s needs

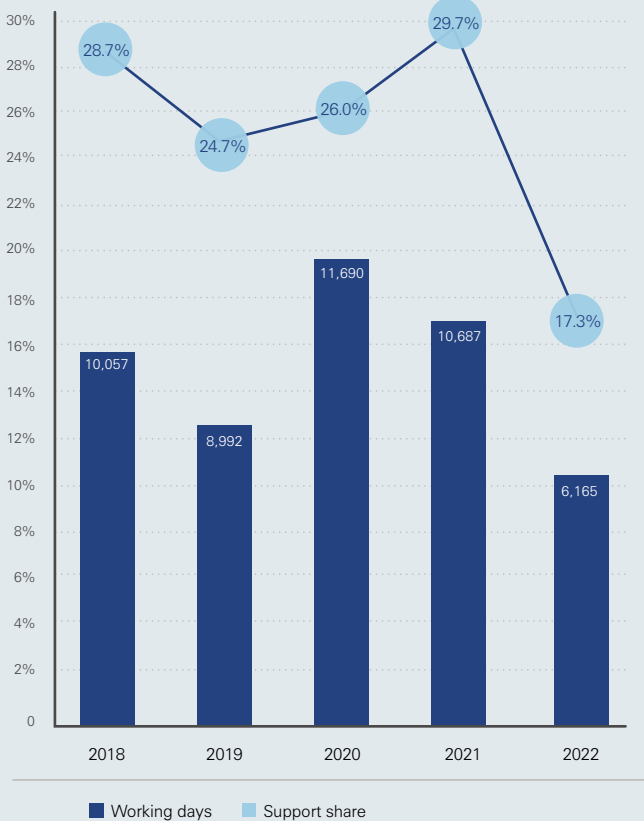
Over the past three decades, NORCAP and UNICEF have partnered to meet the world’s increasing humanitarian and development needs. The evolving complex crises require the partnership to adopt a holistic approach to meet the needs and be accountable to the affected populations. UNICEF is one of the largest recipients of NORCAP expertise in the fields of protection, education in emergencies, child protection, cash, climate, energy, GBV and WASH. To complement this, NORCAP supports UNICEF’s cluster co-ordination mandates by providing global and country-level expertise. Furthermore, the national and subnational structures for education and child protection have been empowered through the RRT.

to target youth and local actors. Since 2022, UNICEF and NORCAP have been co-chairing the SBP network, providing a strategic vision to have a harmonized approach for standby mechanisms.



Mamta Khanal Basnet
 Head of Operations
 Humanitarian Response and Resilience
 Section NORCAP

NORCAP ENGAGEMENT



Adriana Valcarce is an education expert from NORCAP deployed to Haiti in 2022 to support the response, where approximately 1,250 schools were severely hit by the August 2021 earthquake.

The multisectoral approach supports mainstream gender equality, GBV prevention and risk mitigation across various clusters through complementary funding from UNICEF. This has allowed inclusive programming

Unicef External Surge Dashboard

Measuring the performance of our desk has always been one of our pillars, not only because we want to understand the reality on the ground but also to predict future needs and challenges internally and externally in terms of surge and capacity. We have decided to revamp our dashboard with new features for this edition. The analysis of the performance of our desk and the standby partner market will help us to determine different actions based on the funding landscape and the nature of the emergency.

We have also included live data connected with vacant roles and active deployments. This new option will give us a clear snapshot and insights into our reality and the areas where our standby partners could make a difference for those in need.

[Visit UNICEF External Surge Dashboard](#) →



Conclusion

The annual report for 2022 highlights the reality of the world today – multiple (and often, overlapping) challenges in terms of humanitarian needs, overstretched teams and funding constraints – and yet, it equally shows the commitment of the community to step up to these needs. As the data reflects, this year was an extraordinary milestone for UNICEF and our standby partner community with efforts from partners and donors translating into evident positive results.

For instance, we collectively managed an efficiency rate of 83 per cent – meaning more than 8 out of every 10 requests for surge deployments received support! Similarly, our cluster teams and their RRT experts are examples of a fast, dynamic and efficient way to provide high-quality support for critical roles in sector/-cluster co-ordination for WASH, education, child protection and nutrition.

Looking at trends also helps us prepare for 2023 and beyond. For example, profiles in child protection, followed by WASH and nutrition, remain some of the most in-demand roles needed on the ground. Together with our partners, we remain committed to meeting every single one of these needs.

Thus, 2022 is yet another year to add to the list that reaffirms standby partners, as a surge mechanism, play a critical role in every emergency context to support us

in meeting our mandate. The mere fact that this community is providing 269 deployments and in-kind support equivalent to more than \$17 million is a clear sign of our partners' and donors' incredible level of engagement. We are sure we are on the right track, working together on strategic projects with a shared vision as a team. While more challenges await us in 2023 and beyond, the approach is clear: we are one community tackling these challenges together for every child in need.



UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell interacts with children at a child-friendly space supported by UNICEF at Higo Internally Displaced Persons site in Ethiopia (26 April 2022). After three failed consecutive rainy seasons, four countries across the Horn of Africa are experiencing one of the worst droughts in decades. In Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, 10 million children need urgent life-saving support. Overall, 1.7 million children are severely malnourished across the subregion. In Ethiopia, admission rates for treatment of severe acute malnutrition for children under 5, in drought-affected areas, was 15 per cent higher in February 2022 compared to February 2021.





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