



United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Vision



UNICEF and the Ministry of Health work closely to improve nutrition of children and prevent malnutrition and obesity.

UNICEF is the world's leading agency for children. It works in more than 190 countries to help children realize their rights to survival, development and protection. UNICEF was created by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 1946 first as a temporary body. In 1953 the UNGA changed the mandate of UNICEF to a permanent UN body focusing on children and adolescents.

UNICEF is guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and strives to help establish children's rights as enduring ethical principles and international standards of behaviour

towards children. UNICEF is committed to ensuring special protection for the most disadvantaged children, victims of war, disasters, extreme poverty and all forms of discrimination, violence and exploitation.

Work in Iran

UNICEF has been working in Iran since the early 1950s. Initially, UNICEF and the government of Iran focused their collaboration on child survival, health and nutrition, and gradually expanded this to include education, child protection, HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment and child poverty reduction. Today, all of these sectors work closely together in the recognition that an integrated approach is a more efficient and effective way of achieving results.

UNICEF collaborates with a range of governmental authorities, civil society organizations, religious leaders, academia, and private-sector groups. UNICEF coordinates with other United Nations organizations and development partners in the framework of the priorities set out by the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). Crucially, UNICEF's work is supported by



Children receiving education in one of the Child Rights NGOs.



Children playing outside a rural care centre in Chaldoran in West Azerbaijan province.



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contributions from governments and private donors, trusts and foundations from every corner of the globe.

Currently, UNICEF works in Iran under a country programme. This is operationalized by an agreed five-year programme of cooperation from 2012 to 2016. UNICEF's current programme focuses on the following areas:

- 1. Integrated Early Childhood Development** so that more neonates, infants and children can enjoy better opportunities for optimal survival, health and development.
- 2. Advancing Nutrition for Children and Adolescents** so that the nutritional status of children, adolescents and mothers who suffer from under-nutrition, over-nutrition/obesity and micronutrient deficiencies will improve.
- 3. Combating HIV and AIDS** so that young people will have access to information, skills and services to help prevent the spread of HIV. It will also aim to prevent mothers from passing HIV to their newborn children.
- 4. Elimination of Mother-To-Child Transmission of HIV:** Ensuring universal

access to HIV testing and counseling for all pregnant women and provision of care, treatment and support to HIV positive mothers and newborns.

5. Prevention of Amphetamine-Type Stimulant use by young people:

Development and roll-out of prevention models based on global best practices.

6. Enhanced Quality Education so that children will enjoy a more child-friendly school environment that will enhance learning experiences and contribute to reducing school dropout rates.

7. Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management in the Education Sector so that more lives will be saved in future emergencies and children can enjoy education in a safe environment.

8. Promoting Healthy Lifestyle for Young People so that young people will be empowered to make safer, smarter and more health promoting choices for themselves.

9. Poverty Reduction for Children so that decisions are more equitable and better informed by a comprehensive understanding of all dimensions of child poverty and deprivation.