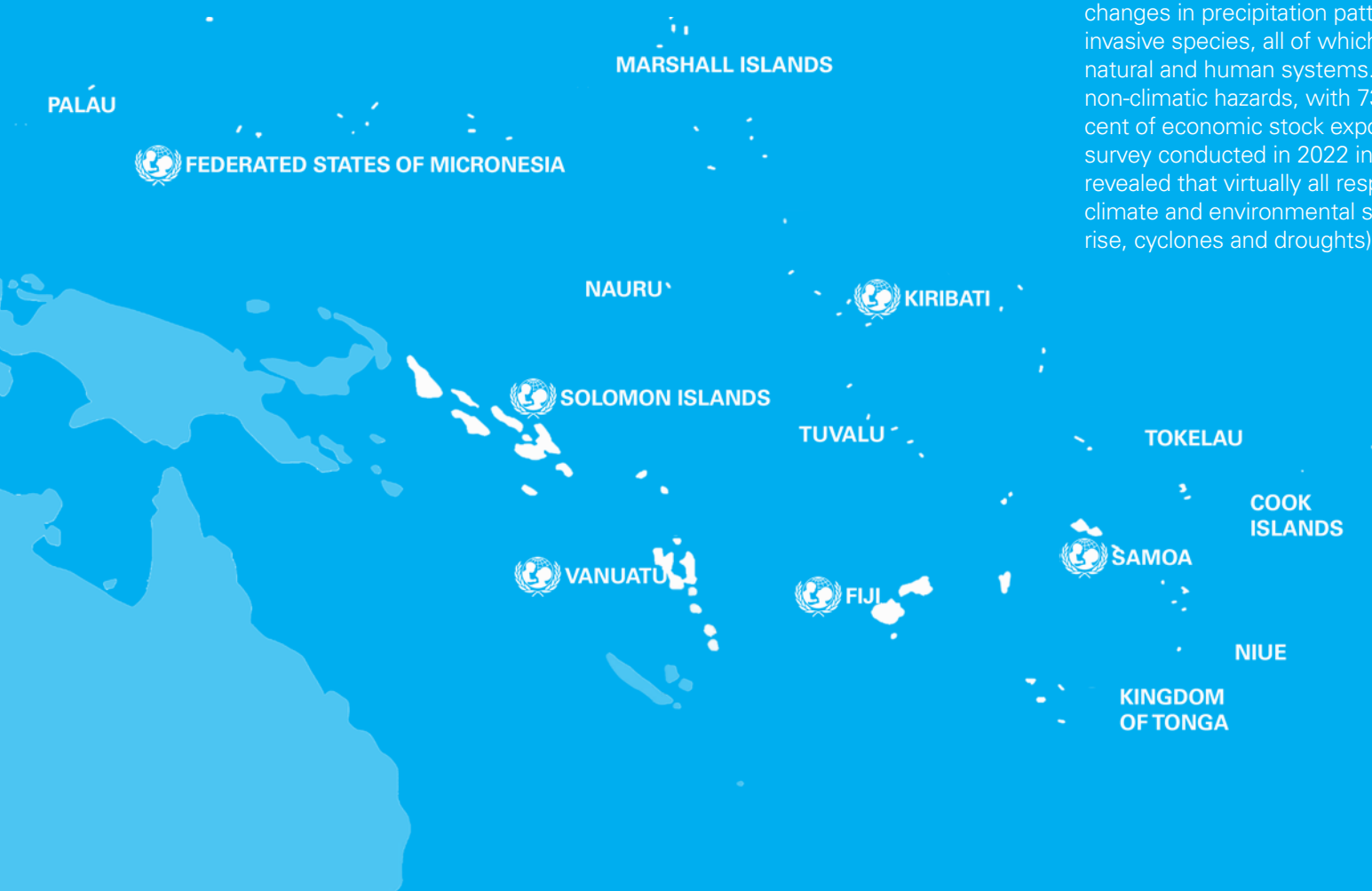




# **UNICEF Pacific Multi-Country Office - Climate, Environment, Energy and Disaster Risk Reduction (CEED) Strategy**



**The Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs)** are among the most affected and vulnerable areas to the impacts of climate change, environmental degradation, and biodiversity and habitat loss.<sup>i</sup> The 2021 World Risk Index identifies five PICTs among the 20 most at-risk countries in the world (Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Fiji and Kiribati).<sup>ii</sup> While its collective greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions account for less than 0.01 per cent of global emissions, the Pacific region is at the frontline of the adverse impacts of climate change.<sup>iii</sup> People in the Pacific Small Islands Development States (SIDS) are three to five times more at risk than those in other parts of the Asia-Pacific region.<sup>iv</sup> According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the Pacific region is being affected by rising temperatures, a larger proportion of the most intense tropical cyclones, storm surges, droughts, changes in precipitation patterns, sea level rise, coral bleaching and invasive species, all of which are already detectable across both natural and human systems.<sup>v</sup> In addition, the region is exposed to non-climatic hazards, with 73 per cent of the population and 65 per cent of economic stock exposed to seismic hazards.<sup>vi</sup> A U-Report survey conducted in 2022 in Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Kiribati revealed that virtually all respondents (99 per cent) had experienced climate and environmental shocks (mainly extreme heat, sea level rise, cyclones and droughts) at first hand.

Pacific SIDS are already reporting losses and damages caused by recurrent climate-related disasters and events, including impacts on access to safe water and sanitation and education, exacerbated food and nutritional insecurity and disease transmission. Sea level rise is of particular concern in Pacific Islands, where approximately 57 per cent of built infrastructure is located in risk-prone coastal areas.<sup>vii</sup> In addition, most arable land is located in low-lying areas, posing a serious threat to the land's ability to sustain livelihoods and food and nutrition security.<sup>viii</sup> The Pacific region could experience a 50 per cent decline in maximum fish catch potential by the year 2100 compared to the period 1980–2000.<sup>ix</sup> This is a major threat to countries such as Kiribati where fisheries account for 80 per cent of national income. Moreover, Average Annual Losses (AAL) as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) and AAL per capita are higher for Pacific SIDS than the Asia-Pacific average, reaching 1 per cent of GDP in the Asia-Pacific region versus 25 per cent in Vanuatu, and 14 per cent in Tonga.<sup>x</sup> As a result, climate-induced migration and displacement are expected to increase throughout the region, creating a situation that may lead to a humanitarian crisis.

While all members of society are facing the impacts of climate change, children are uniquely vulnerable to death and damage. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), more than 88 per cent of diseases attributable to climate change occur in children younger than five years of age.<sup>xi</sup> This is the first time an entire generation of children will grow up in a world that has become much more dangerous and uncertain as a result of climate and environmental changes. A child born in 2020 in the East Asia and the Pacific region will experience 1.8 times more exposure to crop failure, 2.5 times more drought, 3 times more river floods, and 8.2 times more heatwaves across their lifetimes, compared to a child born in 1960.<sup>xii</sup>

Adolescents and youth are acutely aware of how climate change is limiting their ability to reach their full potential, which poses a risk to their mental health and wellbeing. A 2020 study conducted in Tuvalu revealed that 95 per cent of the participants experience anxiety about climate change, even at levels that impaired their ability to perform typical daily tasks in 87 per cent of cases. In Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Kiribati, 1 out of 2 U-Reporters feel worried about their future as a result of climate change. This situation is of particular concern in the Pacific Islands context, which has one of the highest suicide rates in the region, with a peak in the young years.<sup>xiv</sup>

Waste management and pollution are two of the most pressing environmental factors facing the Pacific region. PICTs contribute less than 1.3 per cent of the mismanaged plastics in the world's oceans, yet they are a major recipient of plastic pollution and its impacts.<sup>xv</sup> Major driving factors include growing volumes of waste and unique barriers to its collection, recycling and disposal. Research developed in 2019 detected microplastic particles in the placentas of unborn babies worldwide. While its consequences in children's health are still unknown, evidence suggests that it may cause long-term damage to the fetus' developing immune system.<sup>xvi</sup> In addition, household indoor air pollution as a risk factor was attributed to an estimated 20.7, 16.3 and 11.2 per cent of annual deaths occurring in 2019 in Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Kiribati, respectively. Poor air quality affects women and girls to a greater extent due to gender norms, with a strong link between mortality and morbidity rates and access to clean cooking fuels. Only 5.5, 8.5 and 12.6 per cent of the population in Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, respectively, have access to clean cooking fuels and technologies, which are less prevalent in low-income households and rural areas.<sup>xvii</sup>

In July 2022, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution on the right to a healthy environment, recognizing for the first time that everyone, everywhere, has a human right to live in a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. This landmark development demonstrates that Member States can come together in the collective fight against the triple planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. The resolution is expected to be a catalyst for more ambitious climate action and progress towards environmental justice. It will help reduce environmental injustices, close protection gaps and empower people, especially those in vulnerable situations, including environmental human rights defenders, children, youth, women and indigenous peoples. The adoption of the resolution is only the beginning – now States have to make it a reality for everyone, everywhere.



UNICEF's Multi-Country Programme 2023–2027 builds on the experience and lessons learnt from previous programmes of cooperation in the Pacific. It is designed in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023–2027 and contributes to the objectives of the national development plans of all PICTs, as well as regional frameworks, in particular the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent. The programme structure is framed around 'sectoral' deprivations, and the achievement of results is contingent upon programmatic interventions and contributions from multiple sectors, along with a range of cross-cutting approaches and programming principles, including climate-resilience, disaster risk reduction and environmental protection.

The new 2022–2026 UNICEF Strategic Plan (SP) recognizes that climate change and environmental degradation are existential threats to a child's ability to survive, grow and thrive, and that all levels of the organization and programmatic areas need to work together in a coordinated fashion. This document presents the Climate, Environment, Energy and Disaster Risk Reduction (CEED) Strategy of the UNICEF Pacific Multi-Country Office, in line with the new 2022–2026 UNICEF SP and the 2022–2025 UNICEF East Asia and the Pacific Regional Office Management Plan. The UNICEF Pacific CEED Strategy will contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and global goals under the Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) 2015–2030, especially in terms of addressing climate and disaster impacts and building resilience.







On 9 January 2021, students (L-R) Ame, 14, Paula, 12, Ratu Luke, 13 and Semi Nataba, 7, are photographed inside the Bua District School's library, destroyed by the Tropical Cyclone Yasa in Bua Lomanikoro village, Vanua Levu, Fiji.



## **Vision**

Adaptation and resilience building are the most effective ways to protect children's lives and family livelihoods from the immediate and expected impacts of climate change and pollution. The vision of the CEED Strategy is to ensure that every child, adolescent and community in the Pacific region, especially the most disadvantage and excluded ones, live in a clean, healthy and sustainable environment; are adapted and resilient to climate and environment-related shocks and disasters; and are empowered as agents of change. There is currently a window of opportunity to protect the most vulnerable by making communities and social services more climate- and disaster-resilient, by putting children's needs at the heart of the key decisions that are being taken and by empowering children to shape their own sustainable futures.

### **This CEED strategy builds on the organization's comparative advantages both regionally and globally:**

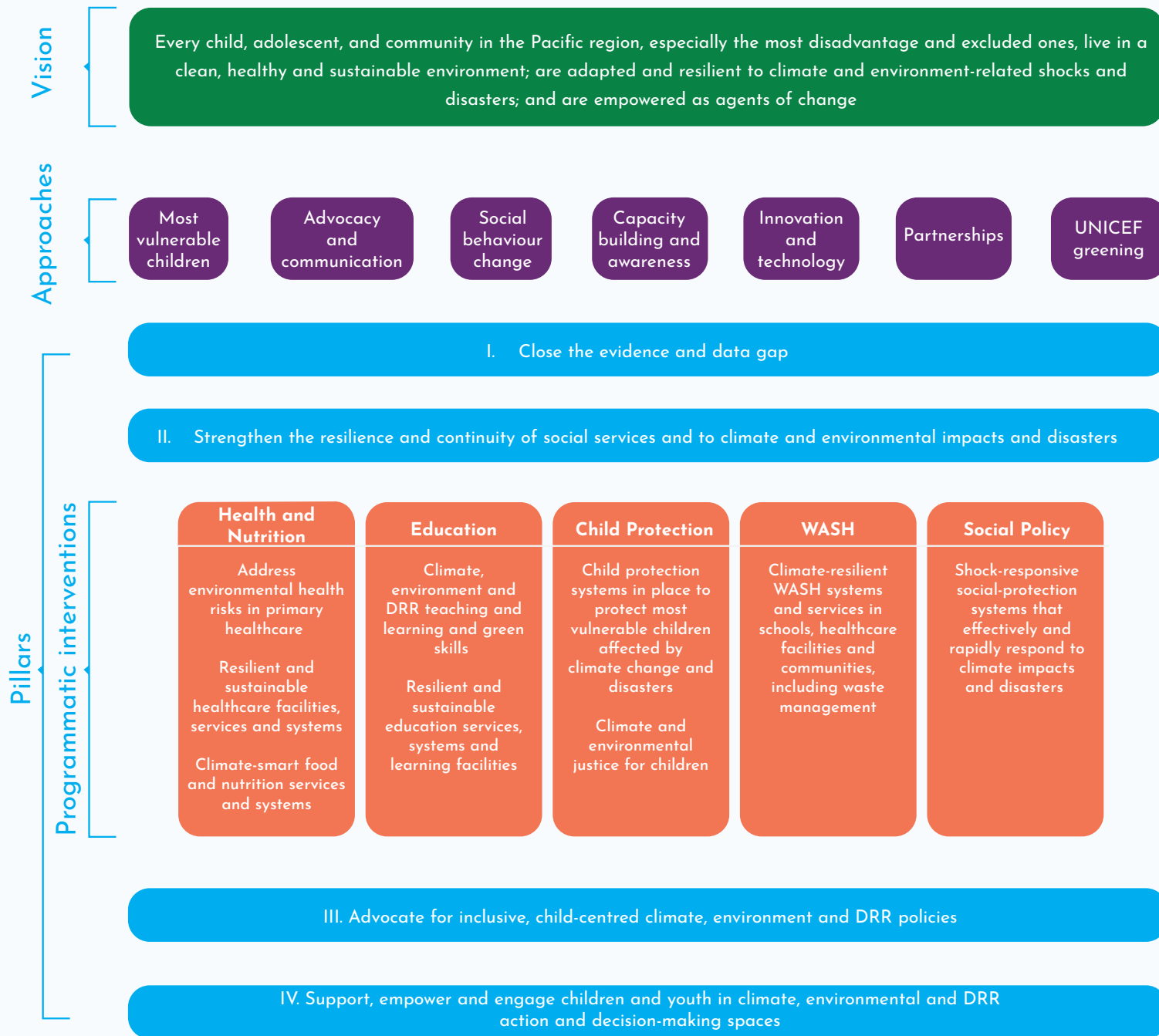
- UNICEF can bridge the climate and development nexus. Together with governments and partners across the private sector and civil society, UNICEF can ensure that progress on climate and development occurs in tandem and is complementary, so that there is no risk of slipping back due to a lack of progress in key social areas.
- UNICEF has clear cross-sectoral leadership in humanitarian response, DRR, education, nutrition and WASH, as well as deep expertise in child and youth empowerment. UNICEF co-leads in or contributes extensively to other sectors and areas of work, including social protection, health and mental health and psychosocial support.
- UNICEF can harness a multisectoral approach to deliver results in a cost-efficient and more effective manner. UNICEF is strengthening linkages across programmatic sectors to maximize results for children by enabling efficient and effective results that benefit not just one but many sectors simultaneously.
- UNICEF's global and regional voice, its significant communications and advocacy capabilities, and its credibility uniquely position the organization to advocate for decision-makers to act on behalf of children and adolescents in the context of the climate crisis.
- UNICEF is in a strong position to support PICT governments on key policy and legal frameworks including, but not limited to, the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), National Adaptation Plans (NAP) and Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) Strategies.
- UNICEF is in a unique position to engage children and adolescents in informing and designing solutions, ensuring they are relevant to their needs.

## **Programmatic response**

To ensure that every child, adolescent and community in the Pacific region lives in a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, UNICEF Pacific has identified four key pillars and seven cross-cutting approaches building upon regional challenges, emerging context and UNICEF's comparative advantages.



On 5 November 2014, a boy walks from school to his house in Aberao village in South Tarawa, Kiribati. Kiribati is one of the countries most affected by sea level rise. During high tide many villages become inundated making large parts of the villages uninhabitable.







Losevati Lalanabaravi, 3, is helping out her community by working with the youths in Nakorokula village in Ra to plant mangroves to help protect their shorelines from extreme weather and provide fish with a safe place to breed. UNICEF is partnering with the Ministry of Youth and Sports in providing a platform dedicated to amplifying the voices of youth on the climate crisis. Fiji is vulnerable to natural disasters as a result of climate change.



## Cross-cutting approaches

- I. **Focus on the most vulnerable children.** Undertaking systematic efforts to ensure that UNICEF CEED interventions and solutions address the most vulnerable, excluded and hard-to-reach children, accounting for and integrating their special needs arising from, but not limited to, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnicity, disability, care status, migration status, language, context and economic or social status.
- II. **Advocacy and communications.** Utilizing UNICEF's voice and credibility to influence decision-makers and duty bearers to act in the best interests of children and to recognize that the climate crisis is a child rights crisis, creating an enabling environment for climate and environmental policies to be child-inclusive and sustainably financed.
- III. **Social and behaviour change.** Working with governments, private and public institutions, public servants, sectoral workers, communities, parents and other stakeholders towards building more peaceful, equitable, inclusive, sustainable and resilient societies, with people-centred decision-making mechanisms that value the capacities and abilities of children and young people.
- IV. **Capacity building and awareness.** Creating capacities, knowledge and skills among stakeholders to better understand climate and multi-hazard risks, the green transition, and ways to build resilience and protect children against climate and environmental-related events, processes and disasters from a comprehensive preparedness, response and recovery approach.
- V. **Innovation and technology.** Accelerating the development and scale-up of new, promising and innovative solutions and technologies to address the most pressing climate and environmental problems facing children, supporting and promoting youth-led ideas and solutions.
- VI. **Partnerships.** UNICEF CEED Strategy will be implemented across all programmatic areas in a coordinated manner to ensure efficiency and cost-effectiveness, creating alliances and partnerships across the region that leverage the unique capacities of each partner to achieve greater results for children.
- VII. **UNICEF greening.** UNICEF will accelerate efforts to track and reduce its carbon footprint year-on-year in congruence with the global organization commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050 to ensure a clean, healthy and sustainable environment for every child.



On 28th October, Trino (10yrs), a child living with disability, being assisted by a special needs teacher in a mainstream classroom in Freswota, Port Vila, Vanuatu



## Key pillars

### I. **Close the evidence gap.**

While it is clear the climate of small islands has changed and will continue to change in a variety of ways, the construction of accurate climate information is challenging due to the lack of high-resolution climate observations and projections.<sup>xvii</sup> The region has limited disaggregated data and evidence on how climate, environment and disasters are currently affecting and will impact the lives of children, their communities and the services and systems they depend on. Without necessary data to identify levels of challenge and inequalities, and to track progress in reducing them, public policies, budgets and sectors are likely to fail in addressing the needs of the children of today and tomorrow.

In response, UNICEF will work with governments, sectors, universities, research institutions, civil society organizations, youth networks and other stakeholders to identify and address knowledge and data gaps across sectors, generating the right information to understand children's exposure, vulnerabilities and risks, and identify those children most in need. In addition, UNICEF will help to strengthen national information systems and early warning systems to incorporate the 'child-lens' and climate and multi-hazards perspectives to influence planning and policymaking.



On 15 April 2015, Taufiso, nine, rides a bicycle through a flooded area of Tanrake village in Tuvalu. The Nui Atoll was affected by storm surges caused by Cyclone Pam in which 12 houses were completely destroyed and 110 homes badly damaged. 71 families (40% of the population) from Nui were displaced and were living in evacuation centres or with other families. According to Tuvalu Prime Minister Enele Sopoaga estimated 45 percent of the nation's nearly 10,000 people were displaced.

## II. Advocate for inclusive, child-centred climate, environment and DRR policies, plans and budgets.

The impacts of climate change are being felt by children now, and science suggests that even under the most optimistic climate scenario forecasts they will worsen in the near term. Some 71 per cent of new Pacific Nationally Determined Contributions<sup>2</sup> (NDC) submitted since 2020 contain meaningful references to children or youth, but only three out of seven (the Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu) could be considered child sensitive to some extent. In addition, only two of them refer to the rights of future generations and none to having developed a policy including the voices and proposals of children<sup>3</sup>.

While there is still room for improvement, the Pacific region has a clear commitment to implement ambitious and inclusive climate action for children. This includes the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, endorsed by Pacific Island Forum Leaders in 2019, that establishes measures to reduce and prevent the causes and impacts of climate change and disaster risks to guarantee the future of Pacific children. In addition, four PICTs (the FSM, Fiji, Palau, and RMI) have signed the Intergovernmental Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action<sup>4</sup>, acquiring the commitment to accelerate inclusive, child- and youth-friendly climate policies and action at national and global levels, including the need to enhance their participation in decision-making processes.

UNICEF will work with governments to strengthen CEED policies, plans, legislation and governance, with special focus on NDCs, National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and National DRR Plans, and ensure they are child-sensitive,<sup>5</sup> ambitious, science- and evidence-based, developed in a participatory manner with children and young people, and equipped with adequate financing strategies and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. Inclusive, child-centred policies and plans must recognize and account for the unique circumstances of the most vulnerable children and young people in relation to factors including gender, age, disability, ethnicity, poverty and socio-economic status and displacement. In addition, UNICEF will work to incorporate climate and environment adaptation, resilience building and DRR considerations in key sectoral policies, plans and strategies in line with national CEED policies and frameworks. Following the adoption of the human right to healthy environments by the UN General Assembly, UNICEF will support Pacific governments to take steps to enshrine this right into national and regional frameworks, policies, and legislation. In addition, UNICEF will encourage business and the private sector to commit to setting ambitious emission reduction targets in line with science to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, to acknowledge that climate change, the environment and child rights are deeply connected, and to develop and adopt internal policies and practices that protect the ocean, land ecosystems and biodiversity on which children most depend.

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<sup>2</sup>Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are the commitments made by the countries that signed the Paris Agreement. Each country sets the actions that it will take to meet the Paris Agreement goals, with a particular focus on reducing carbon emissions. NDCs are only one of the many climate and environmental policies and plans that are needed to reduce short- and long-term impacts on children and young people, including at all levels of government and across sectors. <sup>3</sup>Analysis developed by UNICEF based on the new or updated NDCs submitted by PICTs until August 20, 2022: Fiji, Nauru, RMI, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu. See more in ClimateWatch. <sup>4</sup>The Intergovernmental Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action was launched in 2019 by UNICEF, YOUNGO, CERl and a group of governments at COP25. By July 2022, it had been signed by a total of 32 countries. Read more about the Declaration and its articles here. <sup>5</sup>According to UNICEF's 2021 Making climate and environment policies with & for children and young people, climate and environmental policies are child-sensitive when they: (1) make explicit reference to them; (2) consider children and young people as rights holders in the face of climate change; (3) are holistic and multisectoral by addressing the specific risks and vulnerabilities of children and young people (child-sensitive commitments in sectors such as education, health, WASH, food security and nutrition, and energy); and (4) are inclusive by identifying children and young people as important stakeholders.




### III. Strengthen the resilience and continuity of social services to climate and environmental impacts and disasters.

Even under the most ambitious GHG reduction scenario, global warming will continue due to emissions that have already been produced. Mitigation efforts will take decades to reverse the impacts of climate change, and for the children of today it will be too late. Urgent action to support adaptation, build resilience and reduce the risk of disaster is needed to protect children's lives and family livelihoods from the immediate and expected impacts of climate change. However, protecting children and their communities from the impacts of climate change has traditionally been deprioritized in international climate action compared to reducing emissions.

More investment is needed to ensure that the services children need to survive, grow and thrive are resilient to climate and environmental shocks. Most of the 14 PICTs have limited capacity to deliver equitable social services. Barriers to and constraints on adaptation response arise from governance arrangements, financial resources, human capacity and the limited capacity of institutional and legal systems to manage adaptation strategies at scale. PICTs face the additional challenge of providing social services to isolated communities living on remote and outer islands and in informal settlements associated with increasing urbanization, with small and limited land spaces.

UNICEF will support national and regional stakeholders to develop and scale-up child-sensitive risk-informed programmes to build coping capacity and resilience among communities to effectively address the impacts of climate change and disasters, and to reduce vulnerability among children, with a focus on the most vulnerable and risk-prone. This will include programming and technological innovation, partnerships, evidence-based advocacy, capacity building, child and youth engagement, market development and investment to build social services and systems that are climate-, environment- and disaster-resilient and adequately funded, including new and existing social services:

- **Health and nutrition** – Climate-resilient and sustainable healthcare facilities, systems and services capable of preventing, detecting and treating disease in children considering the environmental burden to which they are exposed; and climate-smart food and nutrition services and practices that are healthy for children, adolescents, women and the planet.
- **Education** – Continuous, climate-resilient and sustainable education systems, services and facilities, including mainstreaming climate, environmental and DRR teaching, learning and green skill into formal and informal education in line with Pacific cultures and values.
- **WASH** – Climate-resilient WASH systems and services in schools, healthcare facilities and communities, including promoting waste management systems from a circular economy perspective.
- **Child protection** – Child protection systems in place to protect the most vulnerable children affected by climate and environmental shocks and disasters. As protection risks increase during relocation, it is necessary to ensure the centrality of child protection in development of Child and Family relocation guidance.
- **Social protection** – Shock-responsive social protection systems that effectively and rapidly respond to climate impacts and disasters and support children, young people and their families.

A young girl with dark hair, wearing a vibrant pink and purple patterned dress, is smiling as she draws water from a shallow well. She is holding a red bucket and a rope. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with wooden structures. The entire image has a blue color cast.

UNICEF is committed to accelerating its efforts to deliver transformative results at scale for children, young people and their families. Affordable, reliable, sustainable, and clean energy can help in advance SDGs and reduce multidimensional poverty, as well as reduce emissions that contribute to the climate crisis. Sustainable energy improves the quality, accessibility and reliability of essential services that children and young people rely on for education, universal healthcare and safe water and sanitation. While ensuring access to clean and affordable energy in off-grid schools and communities, access to clean drinking water, lighting, cooling systems and digital connectivity critical for distance and equitable learning, among multiple other areas critical for children's wellbeing and promote livelihoods, will be improved. In healthcare facilities, decentralised and reliable energy can power vital life-saving medical equipment, ensure access to maternity treatments, postnatal care and reproductive health, and ensure reliable cold chain for safety vaccines, making possible to extend immunization coverage to remote and off-grid communities. Such comprehensive interventions strengthen the adaptive capacity and resilience of children and communities while mitigating climate change and reducing pollution.

iKiribati child getting water from a shallow well, for her and her family or Kiribati families rely mainly on shallow wells for their daily water needs, as shown in this picture of a young iKiribati girl getting water from a shallow well.



## IV. Support, empower and engage children and youth in climate, environmental and DRR action and decision-making spaces.

In the Pacific Islands region, adolescent and young people are speaking up and leading change toward a more sustainable and equal world. While they stand ready to help shape our collective future, their voices and proposals remain overlooked in the climate and environment decision making spaces. As the global community looks to 'build back equal', there is a unique opportunity to overcome these challenges, and to give the most vulnerable adolescents the freedom and power they need to lead and thrive. As recognized in the SDGs, Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and Article 12 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), education, training, awareness raising, public access to information and public participation<sup>6</sup> have the potential to build capacity in all members of society that drive transformative action on climate change. In addition, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction calls for the inclusion of children and youth in developing and implementing policies, plans and standards. To walk the path towards a safer, healthier, cleaner and more sustainable future for all, children, adolescents and young people, and especially the most excluded, need to be informed, engaged and have influence on decisions about climate, the environment and DRR.

UNICEF will work with national stakeholders to **institutionalize meaningful participation and civic engagement by children and adolescents** in local, national and regional climate and environment decision-making spaces and negotiations, resilience building and DRR. Recognizing participation rights, incorporating them into laws, policies and practices, and providing the necessary budgetary support will ensure institutionalized participation rather than short-term, one-off participation activities.

To ensure meaningful participation, children, adolescents and young people must be **equipped and empowered with information, knowledge, skills and confidence** through formal and non-formal climate, environment and DRR (preparedness, response and recovery) education, training, awareness and access to information that is disability-appropriate and adolescent-friendly. Social norms and prevailing cultural values often impede adolescents' participation rights. UNICEF will work with governments and communities to **enhance positive norms and attitudes** that support adolescent participation and civic engagement in climate, environmental and DRR action, and build the awareness, capacity and skills of duty bearers to promote and support them.

UNICEF will **encourage and support child-, adolescent- and youth-led action and advocacy**, accompanying them to become climate, environment, DRR and ocean champions. This implies work for and with children and young people to elevate their own voices, perspectives, solutions and ideas through creative platforms, advocacy and participation at forums and summits, ensuring that they are heard at the highest levels. UNICEF will support, advocate for and engage children and young people in designing and implementing innovations to solve climate and environmental challenges, with particular focus on climate-resilient education, WASH, health and DRR youth-led solutions.

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<sup>6</sup>Education, training, awareness raising, public access to information, public participation and international cooperation are the six pillars of the Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) framework.





On 12 January 2021, UNICEF Child protection specialist Katie Hodges play with children at a child friendly space programme in Daku Village- Kia Island.



## **Key partners**

The multi-country climate and environment strategy will be implemented as part of the UNSDCF under the coordination of three United Nations Country Teams, including through Joint Programmes and joint programming. Partnerships and collaborative efforts will be implemented with UN agencies, funds and programmes with presence in the Pacific, especially the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Food and Agriculture Organization for the United Nations (FAO), the UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centre Bangkok (RCC Bangkok – Asia & Pacific), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, WHO, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, the World Meteorological Organization and UN Women.

In addition, the Strategy will be implemented in cooperation with the governments and public institutions of 11 independent states and three territories, with the special engagement of the ministries and directorates involved with the environment, climate change, water, energy, health, education, social inclusion, the economy, finance, and foreign affairs; and in collaboration with agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific, such as the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, the Pacific Community, and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme. The NDC Partnership, a global coalition of countries and institutions collaborating to drive transformational climate action through sustainable development, will be a key ally in being part of common efforts to strengthen and implement the NDCs.

Among academic and research institutions, the University of the South Pacific, the University of New South Wales, and the Pacific Centre for Environment & Sustainable Development have been identified as having research centres related to climate change, environment and resilience with ongoing programmes in the Pacific region.

Key partners will include non-governmental organizations, communities, community- and faith-based organizations, the media, the private sector, academia, NatComs, and donors, including the Governments of Australia, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, China, Taiwan, the United States of America, the European Commission, and a number of global movements. In addition, NGOs such as Save the Children Australia and IFRC can be key partners in mobilizing resources and amplifying results. Adolescent- and youth-led climate organizations and forums including YOUNGO, 350 Pacific Climate Warriors, the Pacific Island Students Fighting Climate Change, the Regional Conference of Youth Asia and the Pacific, and the UN Major Group for Children and Youth, will be included in the implementation of the climate, environmental and DRR strategy to ensure the achievement of climate results with and for children and young people.

## Resource mobilization

The climate emergency is urgent for the entire planet as well as the Pacific. The historical Paris Agreement, Sendai Framework and the SDGs put on the agenda the development of commitments and measures to curb climate change and disaster risks as a matter of urgency, with opportunities to mobilize resources from multiple sources to make vulnerable communities, especially children, climate-resilient:

**Green funds**, such as the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility, the Global Climate Change Alliance, the Adaptation Fund, the Special Climate Change Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund, both managed by the GEF, represent an important opportunity to mobilize climate finance resources in social sectors that have historically been excluded. To access global and multilateral funds, UNICEF will build partnerships and alliances with accredited entities (including in the Pacific region, UNDP, FAO, UNEP, the World Bank, the Japan International Cooperation Agency, the Korean International Cooperation Agency, the Pacific Community, the Australian Development Agency, Save the Children Australia, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment, GIZ and the Fiji Development Fund<sup>xix</sup>) and the National Designated Authority of each country.

The growing commitments of some **donor countries and public institutions** in support of the climate agenda also translate into opportunities to mobilize resources through the development of proposals for multi-sector programmes that generate greater impact from an integrated approach. This includes the Governments of Australia, China, France, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and the European Union.

Climate and the environment are an increasing focus of many large **foundations and philanthropic** entities, which can be important partners given their alignment with research, innovation and pilot projects, and their interest in taking initiatives to scale. Examples of foundations interested in climate financing on a global scale are the Children's Investment Fund Foundation, the Wellcome Trust (focused on health and food systems), the

Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation (focused on innovation and renewable energy), and the IKEA Foundation.

Within the **private sector and the banking sector**, an increasing number of financial instruments are being developed that contribute in an innovative way to the acceleration of the SDGs. Climate change represents a risk for financial investors. That is why there are more and more financial instruments that point to action on climate. Green bonds are financial instruments for raising resources to finance environmental projects. These bonds represent an excellent opportunity to mobilize resources from the capital markets, focused on concrete action for climate change adaptation and renewable energies aimed at building resilience in children and their communities, among others. Corporate social responsibility is also an opportunity for fundraising. The private sector is a key ally that should not only be considered for its capacity as a donor, but also as a partner in reaching and amplifying results for children through the inclusion of climate change adaptation and mitigation commitments and actions in its own operations.

**Triangular and South-South cooperation mechanisms** are a good example of innovative forms of financing. They are a good complementary instrument to traditional sources of North-South financial cooperation and should be encouraged at the multilateral level to include developing countries among the donors.



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Amelia Nacagilevu, (3) Melaia Lovola, (4) and Losevati Lalanabaravi, (3) are all smiles. They are helping out their community by working with the youths in Nakorokula village in Ra to plant mangroves to help protect their shorelines from extreme weather and provide fish with a safe place to breed. UNICEF is partnering with the Ministry of Youth and Sports in providing a platform dedicated to amplifying the voices of youth on the climate crisis. Fiji is vulnerable to natural disasters as a result of climate change.



**FOR EVERY CHILD,  
CLIMATE ACTION**



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**United Nations Children's Fund**

3rd Floor, FDB Building  
360 Victoria Parade  
Suva, Fiji

**Telephone:** (679) 3300439  
**Email:** [suva@unicef.org](mailto:suva@unicef.org)

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