Global Perspectives in Education (ECIE6004)

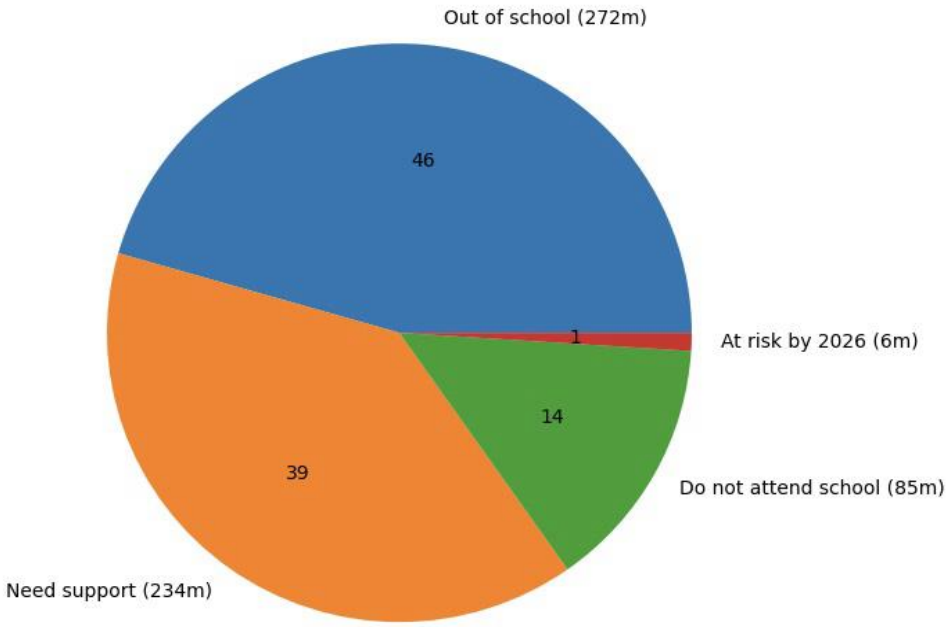
UNICEF, Sustainable Education and Gender Equality (Global)

Caitlin Williams
(2337385)

How does UNICEF support education?

Caitlin Williams (2337385)

- **Builds and repairs schools**
- **Trains teachers**
- **Supports female education and equal access**
- **Supports children to learn during emergencies (war, disasters)**



Source: UNICEF (2023). Global education data. Retrieved from www.unicef.org

How does UNICEF support education?

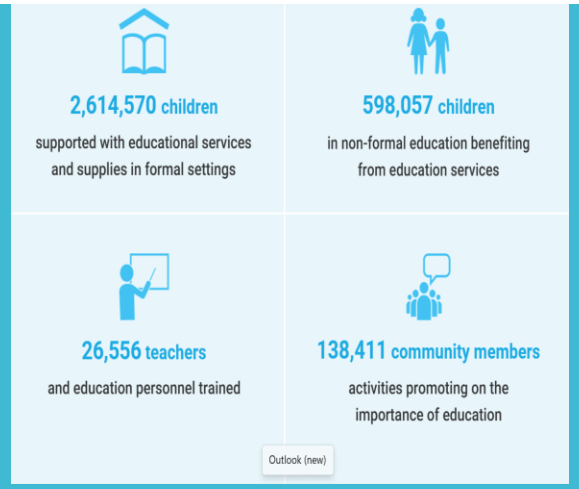
Caitlin Williams
(2337385)

- Cultural exchange and international partnerships play a huge role in shaping modern education
- Students learning about different cultures encourages understanding diversity

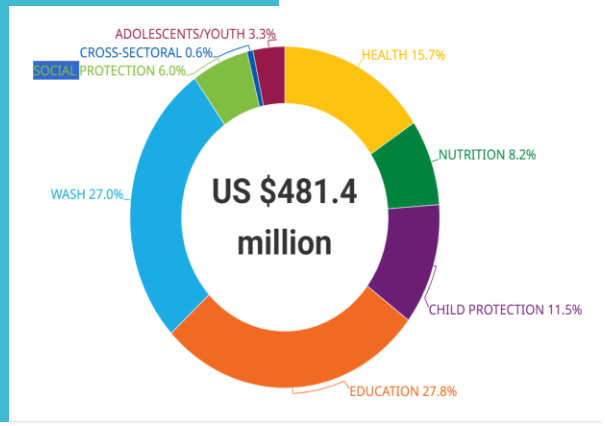
Case Study: UNICEF Education and Gender in Syria

(Nour Algeboory 1709546)

- Conflict has disrupted education systems
- Girls face increased barriers to schooling



(UNICEF, 2025)



(UNICEF, 2025)

- **UNICEF supports formal and non-formal education**
- • Gender-sensitive approaches prioritised.
- **Critical Analysis: Impact, Challenges & Sustainability**
- •Improved access to education for children
- • Gender-focused strategies show progress
- • Sustainability limited by ongoing conflict
- • Long-term success depends on stability

Case Study Two:

Afghanistan.

Policy-Driven Gender Exclusion.

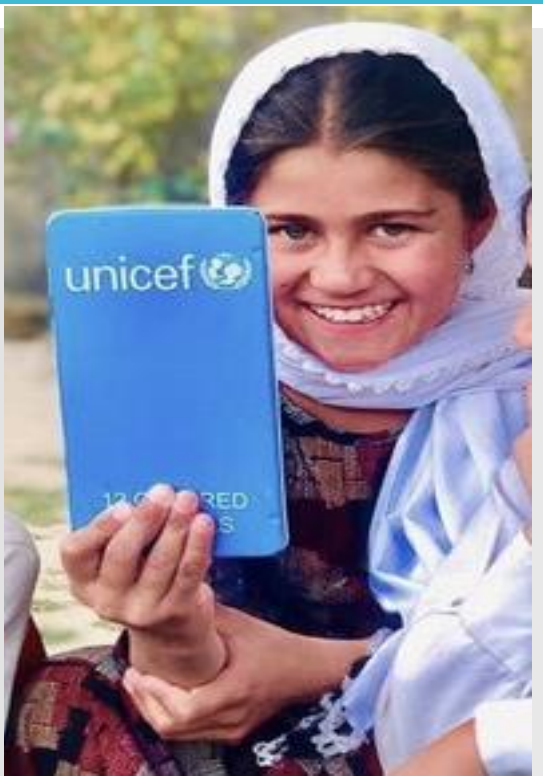
Hannah Morgan (2211510)

Unlike Syria, Afghanistan represents state-level exclusion of girls from formal education (UNICEF, 2024).

- Secondary and higher education legally forbidden for girls. (UNESCO, 2025).
- Exclusion is government policy, not just insecurity. (Qazizada, 2025).
- Millions of girls remain out of school due to systematic bans. (UNICEF, 2025).

(Abbasi, 2021)

UNICEFS Role – Mitigation within structural constraints



(Qasum, 2021)

Access Alternatives:

- Community-based education
- Accelerated/non-formal learning pathways

(UNICEF,2025)

Enabling Conditions:

- Teacher Training & learning materials
- WASH & Menstrual hygiene support.
- Safe Learning spaces

(UNICEF,2024)

Protection & Wellbeing:

- Psychosocial Support
- Safeguarding
- Gender-based violence risk mitigation.

(UNICEF,2025)

Mitigation = Structural Transformation!

Sustainability & Structural Limits

Short Term Effectiveness:

- Learning Continuity. (UNICEF, 2025).
- Safe community access. (UNICEF, 2024).

Structural Constraints:

- Policy-level exclusion. (UNESCO, 2025).
- Risk of parallel systems.

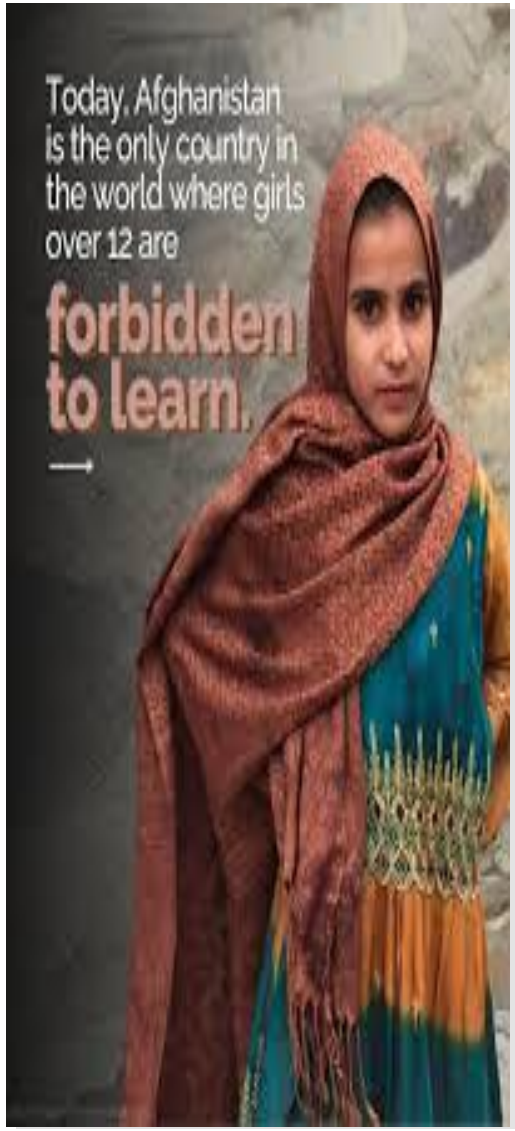
Judgement:

- Mitigation is essential.
- Sustainable gender equality requires major policy reform.

Sustainability Requires:

- ★ Access.
- ★ Safety.
- ★ Learning.
- ★ Recognition.
- ★ Legitimacy.

(United Nations, 2015)



(UNESCO, 2025)

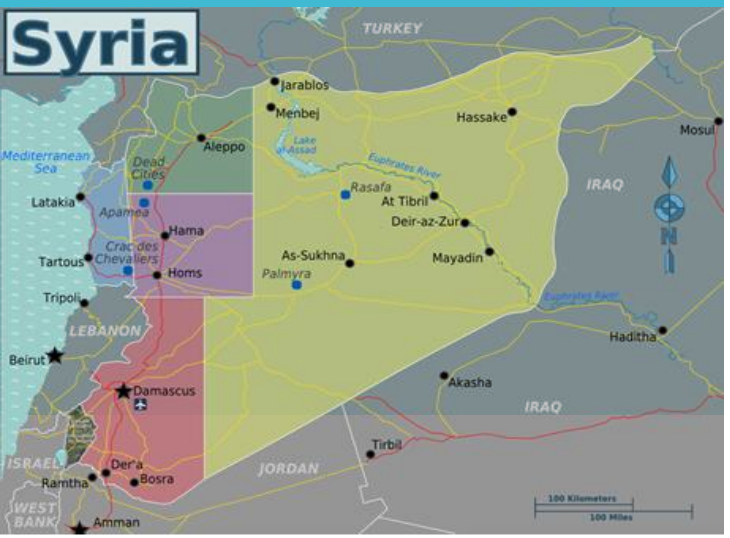
Thankyou.

Conclusion

In conclusion, UNICEF plays a critical and multifaceted role in strengthening education systems across the globe. Its work extends far beyond providing basic resources; it encompasses rebuilding and repairing schools, training and supporting teachers, promoting gender equality, and ensuring that learning continues even in the most challenging humanitarian contexts (UNICEF, 2023a). Through these interventions, UNICEF seek not only to restore access to education but also to create safe, inclusive, and fair learning environments where all children regardless of gender, background, or circumstance can thrive.

Lyndsey Copp

Conclusion



The situation in Syria provides a powerful illustration of the profound impact conflict can have on children's education. Years of violence have destroyed infrastructure, displaced communities, and disrupted schooling for millions of children. Girls, in particular, face heightened risks of exclusion due to cultural norms, safety concerns, and increased household responsibilities during crises (UNICEF, 2023b). UNICEF's work in Syria demonstrates the importance of gender-sensitive, trauma-informed, and inclusive approaches that address both the immediate and long-term barriers to education. These interventions highlight the organisation's commitment to ensuring that education remains a protective and stabilising force for children living through conflict.

Lyndsey Copp

Conclusion

- While UNICEF's programmes have significantly improved access to education and contributed to meaningful progress toward gender equity, the sustainability of these achievements remains fragile. Ongoing conflict, political instability, and economic hardship continue to undermine educational recovery and limit the long-term impact of humanitarian interventions (UNICEF, 2023b). This underscores the reality that educational progress in crisis-affected regions cannot be separated from broader issues of peacebuilding, security, and social stability.
- Ultimately,the long-term success of UNICEF's educational initiatives depends on a combination of continued international support, adequate funding, strong partnerships with local communities, and—crucially—lasting peace. Only when stability is restored can education systems fully rebuild, expand, and provide consistent, high-quality learning opportunities for all children. UNICEF's work lays the foundation, but sustainable recovery requires a global commitment to protecting children's rights and ensuring that education remains a priority even in the most difficult circumstances.
- Lyndsey Copp

Conclusion

Looking Ahead

- **Long-term success in UNICEF's education work relies on:**
  - Continued international funding
  - Strong partnerships with local communities
  - Effective governance
  - Lasting peace
- **UNICEF provides the foundation, but sustainable recovery requires a global commitment** to protecting children's rights and prioritising education, even in the most challenging circumstances.
- **Ensuring quality education for every child is a shared global responsibility.**

Only through coordinated, long-term effort can education become a pathway to a safer, more equitable future for all children.

Lyndsey Copp

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