

Honduras

Update on the context and situation of children

Honduras is one of the poorest countries in Latin America, and despite the poverty rate dropping to 64.1% in 2023, it remains higher than before the pandemic (59.3%). Furthermore, a study conducted by UNICEF in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development this year reveals that 3 out of every 4 children living in villages prioritised by the "Solidarity Network" programme are severely multidimensionally poor and experience deprivations in 21.7% of the considered dimensions.

Deprivations are highest in nutrition, followed by deprivations in sanitation, education, water, and overcrowding, respectively.

In 2023, an estimated 3.2 million Hondurans were identified with humanitarian needs, of which 37% were children. At least 1.6 million people were in a critical risk situation due to the impact of violence or the lack of access to essential goods and services.

Due to its high exposure and vulnerability, it is anticipated that the impacts of the climate crisis in Honduras will intensify. An example of this is the drought in the Dry Corridor, which has led to a concerning situation of malnutrition. It is estimated that at least 2.4 million people experienced food insecurity in 2023. The coverage of a minimum acceptable diet in children under 2 years is low, and only 30% of children under 6 months are exclusively breastfed according to a study conducted in 2023. Furthermore, the climate crisis and limited access to safe water (50% of the drinking water is contaminated with e-coli) contribute to the spread of water-related diseases, leading to increased maternal and neonatal deaths.

The country continues to experience high levels of violence. The homicide rate was 38.1 per 100,000 inhabitants in 2022, the highest in Central America and the second highest in Latin America. Honduras also has the highest rate of femicides in the region (6.1 per 100,000 women). The homicide rate in children was 5.2 per hundred thousand children, maintaining levels almost two times higher than the global rate. In 2022, there were 183 victims under the age of 18, a figure higher than in previous years. Among the most common motives identified for these homicides are those related to organised crime, accounting for 36.6% of the total number of homicides.

The estimate of children out of school continues to be above 1 million (40% of school age children), and the quality of education is among the lowest on the continent. In regional standardised tests, Honduran sixth-grade students reached minimum performance levels in Reading (16.2%), Mathematics (11.2%), and Science (11.8%). Regarding health, vaccination coverage has been declining, and according to the Expanded Immunisation Programme (PAI), the country currently has 78% regular vaccination coverage and 83% coverage through the campaign against Polio and Measles. Throughout 2023, there continued to be a steady outflow of people from the country due to factors associated with the impacts of violence, poverty, food insecurity, the effects of climate crises and also due to family reunification. At the southern border of the United States, there were 213,686 detentions of Hondurans by the U.S. Border Patrol in 2023 and over 10,000 child migrants (unaccompanied or traveling with their families) were returned to Honduras. Furthermore, human mobility in transit through Honduras has become one of the main humanitarian crises in the country, due to the significant increase in people entering Honduras with the intention of heading north. As of December 31, 2023, the influx has nearly tripled compared to 2022, with 545,043 irregular entries registered, of which 21% were children. These figures do not consider the underreporting of people who do not register at checkpoints.

A study conducted in 2023 among migrants in transit through Honduras reveals that the migration journey is a more dangerous experience for refugees and migrants with economic vulnerabilities, leading to prolonged stress and long-term trauma in children. Some 94% of caregivers stated that the children in their care faced some type of danger along the route. Upon arrival in Honduras, the greatest needs of children are related to food, protection, physical health, and mental health.

Honduras took a positive step with the creation of the Ministry of Childhood, Adolescence, and

Family, set to begin operations in 2024. Furthermore, the National Council for the Comprehensive System of Guarantee for the Rights of Children and Adolescents (SIGADENAH) resumed its sessions, and the review and approval process of the new National Children's Policy was reactivated. It is expected that these initiatives will contribute to enhanced coordination of the multiple responses that the State of Honduras must provide to children in situations of vulnerability. It is worth noting that there are still challenges to decisively promote the rights of children at the local level, including increasing the budget for investment in childhood, strengthening institutional capacity, and establishing a civil service that retains qualified personnel.

In Honduras, civil society groups play a crucial role in monitoring children's rights. These groups act as independent advocates, having the opportunity to advocate for policies and practices that benefit children and to report any violations of rights. In this same context, the Congress, as the State's legislative body that has ratified the Convention, has the fundamental responsibility to address children's rights. It must ensure that national laws and policies are in line with the principles of the Convention and allocate adequate resources for their implementation.

Major contributions and drivers of results

In 2023, UNICEF Honduras continued to impact the reality of childhood and adolescence in both development and humanitarian contexts with a total available budget of 14.4 million USD. In total, in 2023, UNICEF reached around 1.37 million people (almost 14% of the total population of the country and 54% of them children) in 148 municipalities out of 298 in total, contributing to the priorities of Honduras and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2022-2026. The humanitarian response focused especially on migration and violence contexts with survival and development opportunities in the WASH, protection, education, health, and nutrition sectors. UNICEF laid the groundwork for improving the state's response to vulnerable children by supporting the reformulation of the National Children's Policy and played a crucial role in the reform of the National Directorate of Childhood and Family (DINAF) through a technical audit requested directly by the country's president. Based on this reform process, the DINAF was elevated to the status of the Secretariat for Children, Adolescents and Family (SENAF) in a unanimous decision by the Council of Ministers. SENAF will begin its functions in 2024 with new powers that will allow it to play a coordinating role in the Special Protection System and act as the regulator and coordinator of the Comprehensive System of Guarantees for the Rights of Childhood and Adolescence (SIGADENAH) at both the central and, most importantly, municipal levels. For the public financing of SENAF and the childhood agenda in the country, UNICEF engaged in discussions within the National Congress Budget Committee, highlighting urgent needs and agreeing on cooperation to be provided throughout 2024 to enhance the efficiency of public investment in childhood.

UNICEF also continued to support other actions for the strengthening of SIGADENAH as an essential component for the effective implementation of the National Children's Policy. Through strong advocacy alongside civil society platforms and in close cooperation with the Secretariats of the Presidency and Social Affairs, and the Association of Municipalities of Honduras (AMHON), the National Council on Childhood was convened at the highest level of state representation, ultimately holding its first session with the new government. As a result, Honduras decided to prioritize four topics on the public agenda: 1. Protection of institutionalized children and reintegration into family environments. 2. Returned migrant children 3. Early childhood and 4. Violence against children. These cross-cutting priorities are a central part of the renewed Children's Policy and are aligned with UNICEF's cooperation programme. In an effort to update the Children's Policy, UNICEF renewed the gender situation analysis in the country, which currently provides inputs for the review of UNICEF's programme of cooperation. At the local level, capacities were strengthened to develop or update childhood situation analyses in 105 of the country's 298 municipalities, directly contributing to more efficient planning of local public investment.

In the area of child protection, UNICEF, along with DINAF, the Office of the President, the Secretariat of Governance, and the National Institute of Statistics, signed an agreement to conduct a census and

survey on children living in residential care facilities (IRCAS). This aims to contribute to a situational analysis of the estimated over 8,000 institutionalised children. This is the first step in a review process of the childhood institutionalisation system in the country, with the goal of establishing, in the medium term, an alternative foster care system. In the same direction, UNICEF contributed to the development and dissemination of the National Route for the Comprehensive Care of Children in Situation of Vulnerability. With the support of UNICEF and the Social and Behavior Change (SBC) approach, a total of 38,941 people participated in social norm change processes to reduce violence, 12,056 children accessed mental health and justice social services, and 24,738 people, primarily children, received psychosocial support in humanitarian contexts.

In education, UNICEF supported the implementation of a sustainable model of connectivity and digital learning in 130 schools for primary and low secondary levels mainly. The model, which includes the development of a sustainable school entrepreneurship plan to fund connectivity starting the second year, already serves as reference for the digital education policy under design in the country and will be scaled to 10,000 schools by 2026. Likewise, UNICEF's support in the rehabilitation of 175 schools affected by hurricanes Eta and Iota serves as an integrated model by the Secretariat of Education (SEDUC) for future rehabilitations with climate resilience standards and safe water management in schools. These models are being considered by the commission created at the Presidential Secretariat level, which will manage the \$285 million donation from international cooperation that the government of Honduras will allocate to rehabilitate thousands of schools.

Throughout 2023, UNICEF took on a leadership role at the Cooperation Table for Education in Honduras-MERCE, co-chaired the Education in Emergencies Cluster, and supported the Global Partnership for Education process as the coordinating agency in the country in consultation with national authorities, UN agencies, and International Financial Institutions (IFIs). This enables Honduras to access \$17 million to accelerate progress in education. In partnership with SEDUC and CEPAL, UNICEF played a crucial role in advising the development and implementation of the Supply and Demand Plan 2024, with projections for medium-term improvements.

Furthermore, UNICEF and its partners supported 83,758 children through the implementation of innovative and flexible educational programs, focusing on vulnerable populations. This includes strengthening the capacities of 7,319 adults, including teachers, school management, and parents. UNICEF also supported the National Communication Strategy for school enrollment during 2023, contributing to achieving a registration of nearly 2 million students.

In regard to health, UNICEF contributed to preventing further decline in vaccination coverage (DTP-3, MMR-2, OPV) even in the face of challenges such as high turnover rate of healthcare personnel.

UNICEF's collaboration with the Secretariat of Health (SESAL) has had an impact on the Expanded Immunization Programme (PAI), resulting in progress in vaccine management. More than 300 health facilities benefited from improved biologics management equipment. The national vaccine warehouse has been equipped, the malfunctioning equipment has been replaced, and the cold chain has been improved. Furthermore, three healthcare regions have received training tools and initiatives, including through digital platforms, and the construction of a biological warehouse in the country's poorest Department, Gracias a Dios, is being concluded.

Community mobilization activities were also supported to increase vaccination coverage in the three prioritized health regions. Specifically, the intervention in the San Pedro Sula (SPS) region led to an increase in DTP-3 coverage, from 57% in 2022 to 71% in November 2023. Similarly, the regular vaccination schedule for 369,304 children under 11 years old was updated and completed in the country. In coordination with PAHO and SESAL, support was provided for a community sweep strategy led by PAI aimed at finding zero-dose children. In collaboration with the National Autonomous University of Honduras, a qualitative research study was initiated to understand the low vaccination coverage in the country. The results of these initiatives will be revealed in 2024 and will help improve a micro plan adapted to the identified barriers, also using SBC strategies and models. UNICEF and SESAL produced a national communication strategy in favor of vaccination that reached over 2 million people.

In the field of nutrition, UNICEF supported the institutionalization of a simplified protocol for community management of acute malnutrition. This protocol, initially adopted during the emergencies

of 2020, is currently being implemented in 13 health regions by healthcare workers. In particular, 31,879 children have been examined, and treatment has been provided to 696. Thanks to UNICEF's advocacy, the Health Secretariat has started acquiring therapeutic food (RUTF and F100) with public funds for the regions not covered by cooperation.

Alongside allies such as SESAL, Save the Children, and the Institute of Nutrition for Central America and Panama, a study that provided details about the scale of implementation of the Child Friendly Hospitals initiative in all 26 public hospitals of the country was carried out, providing key information for decision-makers about the certification process. Drafts of breastfeeding policies have been created for 3 hospitals, and a technical team has been formed to lead the initiative.

The government has shown commitment to the National Early Childhood Program "Plan Crecer," which has resulted in UNICEF's support in training 565 facilitators and 203 preschool teachers in methodologies for child development care and the eradication of physical punishment. Furthermore, UNICEF has led the creation of an Interagency Commission to Support Early Childhood to address gaps and needs.

UNICEF worked on promoting the National Financing Strategy for the National Water and Sanitation Plan (PLANASA) 2022-2030 in its final approval phase by the Secretary of Finance, in coordination with the National Council for Drinking Water and Sanitation (CONASA) within the framework of the alliance with Sanitation and Water for All.

Childhood, WASH, and Climate Change (CC) criteria were successfully integrated into the following key instruments for institutional and sectoral financial strengthening: the WASH Financial Strategy; the National CC Communication; the commitment to prioritize at the UN Water Conference; COP 28 on CC; and the Summit on SDGs. These actions contribute to the implementation of the International Declaration on Children, Adolescents, Youth and Climate Action, with Honduras being a signatory since 2021. The Secretariat of Natural Resources and Environment was also supported in preparing a concept note for US\$17 million for the Green Climate Fund, integrating childhood into climate action. Regarding social protection, together with the Social Development Secretariat (SEDESOL) and the IFIs, a multidimensional child poverty index was designed and used to target benefits to the 600,000 poorest children. This index not only provides a detailed insight into the living conditions of children but also becomes a key instrument for precise targeting of Monetary Transfers and other benefits in the poorest villages of the country prioritized by the National Program for Social Protection "Solidarity Network". Strategic collaboration with the Solidarity Network and the interest shown by international organisations validate the relevance of the measure, projecting it as scalable at the national level.

UNICEF also advocated for sectoral budget analysis, contributing to raising awareness of needs and mobilising approximately US\$ 32 million from public funds for child protection and WASH sectors. In WASH, the analyses provided evidence to support the sector's advocacy actions, showing budget gaps to ensure water quality and the development of resilient infrastructure. With this, the investment budget for 2024 registers an increase of around US\$ 27 million (49% increase compared to 2023), aimed at strengthening the water supply in several regions of the country.

UNICEF continued exercising leadership in 4 humanitarian clusters/groups: WASH, Education, Child Protection, and Nutrition, which have key mappings for regular coordination with COPECO and the Humanitarian Network in the preparation, response, advocacy, and mobilisation of humanitarian resources. Furthermore, the pre-positioning of supplies and the preparation of LTAs was ensured to allow UNICEF to have an immediate response to a potential emergency.

In an unprecedented increase in people's mobility (close to 550,000 migrants, 21% of them children, transited Honduras in 2023), UNICEF continued to lead the humanitarian response on the country's southern border, with over 981,000 multisectoral services provided, addressing critical needs of more than 200,000 children and vulnerable families in transit, including WASH, child protection, health, nutrition, education, and cash transfers. All of this through the LIFE consortium of NGOs and Government co-led by ACH and UNICEF, which integrates the core standards of working with children in emergencies[1], including Accountability for Affected Population (AAP). Furthermore, the State was supported in the process of reintegrating around 10,000 children returned or deported back to Honduras with special protection needs.

The Situation Analysis of Childhood and Adolescence in Honduras for 2022 (SITAN) was officially

launched and shared with high-level government officials and the national congress. The report was useful for reviewing the formulation of the National Children's Policy. Other evidence products generated in 2023 were the report on migratory experiences in childhood through Honduras and two thematic evaluations. The first evaluation was about UNICEF's contribution to creating safe and relevant learning environments through two projects funded by Korea and Canada, which was very useful in formulating a second 4-year stage of a project to be financed by Korea. The second one aimed to take stock of the results achieved through the Peace and Equality Community Building Project (CONPAZ) financed by the Peace Building Fund (PBF), whose findings were useful for designing a second project already approved by PBF.

UNICEF made a significant contribution to the preparations for the submission of Honduras' regular reports to the International Committee on the Rights of the Child (CIRC). UNICEF's commitment is to place the rights of children at the center of the agenda for all political parties ahead of the general elections of 2025, particularly based on the concluding observations on Honduras that the CIDI will issue in September 2024.

UNICEF contributed to advocating for and raising awareness of the rights and well-being of the most vulnerable children in the public agenda based on 3 cross-cutting and priority programmatic issues related to: Early Childhood, Education/Community Integration, and Human Mobility. Furthermore, messages continued to be disseminated to prevent violence and HIV stigma through the platforms of the Municipal Childhood Programs and via U-REPORT (36,415 registered U-Reporters in Honduras. To ensure that the majority are under 18, a communication strategy with influencers is being implemented).

Social media has allowed for the rapid and in-depth dissemination of campaigns regarding childhood and adolescence. UNICEF dedicated time to improving its presence on social media with content defined for the 3 priority areas. Firstly, a level of alliance and coordination was established with government agencies, who approved the thematic priorities for the strategy. The second step was to establish an alliance with national and local media for the dissemination of strategies starting from 2023, as well as an advertising agreement with private mass media outlets, with an emphasis on vaccination. The third step was an innovative process that successfully validated the strategy and communication pieces with different audiences, identifying communication channels both in mass media and at community level. In a three-month period, the television campaign reached an estimated 2,744,911 people through 5 major national channels. Furthermore, 660,966 people were reached through 2,697 radio spots broadcasted through 4 major national radio networks.

UNICEF Honduras began 2023 with the goal of strengthening the organizational culture. Management worked with the Staff Association and Human Resources to implement the office improvement plan in response to the results of the Global Staff Survey (GSS) 2022. The fundamental values of UNICEF were promoted among staff, highlighting their importance in decision-making and daily behavior. Open and transparent communication was encouraged, allowing staff to express their ideas and concerns without fear. Team-building activities and trainings to strengthen teamwork and improve the leadership skills of supervisors were also carried out. Likewise, regular activities were implemented to recognize the contributions of the staff to the office's achievements. The overall Organizational Culture indicator in the 2023 Pulse survey increased 8.3 percentage points (pp) compared to the GSS 2022. Furthermore, significant improvements were observed in areas such as trust in senior management (41pp increase), conduct standards (17pp increase), and psychological safety and trust (25pp increase). The remaining indicators also demonstrated positive and consistent results.

The Business Continuity Plan (BCP) was updated, office risks were continuously assessed, and the Procurement and Logistics area was strengthened to establish Long-Term Agreements (LTAs) and ensure that acquisitions of goods and services were competitive, met expected quality standards, and achieved the best value for money. In addition, the office fully complied with quality assurance activities and conducted a Peer Review with support from the Regional Office.

In terms of security, partner preparedness was strengthened through training and the development of specific measures to respond to the situation of mixed movements in the country. Additionally, support was provided for the development of a protocol with prevention and mitigation measures to enter high-risk communities, and partners involved in the implementation in those areas were trained.

During the annual review process of its cooperation program in the country, UNICEF in collaboration with partners, identified the following priorities to accelerate results for children in 2024: 1. Deployment of the sustainable digitalization initiative in at least 2,000 schools; 2. Begin the process of deinstitutionalization of more than 8,000 children; 3. Certification of the country's 26 public hospitals as Child Friendly Hospitals; 4. Increase children vaccination rates to reach 90%; 5. Reform of the public water sector to improve quality for human consumption; 6. Sustained support to the functional deployment of the new SENAF and its priorities.

[1] UNICEF Core Commitments for Children in Emergencies (CCCs)

UN Collaboration and Other Partnerships

UNICEF continued to promote inter-agency collaboration through the United Nations Country Team to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to children, with an emphasis on supporting and monitoring the Water, Education, and SDG summits. In addition, UNICEF continued to lead 4 thematic clusters and areas of responsibility in humanitarian response, and partnerships with International Financial Institutions (IFIs) were strengthened and expanded to leverage resources for children.

In 2023, UNICEF provided financial and technical assistance to 27 partners (8 of them governmental), and through other strategic alliances advanced the childhood agenda with civil society, executive and legislative branches, the United Nations system, IFIs, the private sector, and the media. This was especially aimed at successfully supporting the institutional reform process for children in the country. In 2023, a reference study on nutrition and food security was published in collaboration with the World Food Programme, Action Against Hunger, and the National Institute of Statistics. The study utilized SMART and CARI methodologies and was funded by UN SDG funds. Additionally, UNICEF supported the official delegation of Honduras at the UN Water Conference 2023, composed by the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs, CONASA, the Presidency, and SANAA for the presentation of a binding governance commitment towards achieving SDG 6.

In 2023, a joint proposal from UNICEF and UNODC was approved by the PBF to promote actions that improve the situation of the Afro-Honduran populations in the departments of Atlántida and Islas de la Bahía. The initiative, which is recently being implemented, includes a strong component in strengthening institutional capacity and state presence in areas heavily affected by violence and drug trafficking.

UNICEF successfully accompanied UNHCR in its advocacy efforts to have the National Congress approve the Law for the Prevention, Care, and Protection of Internally Displaced Persons in Honduras, which establishes priorities for internally displaced or forcibly recruited children by criminal groups. In its role as the regional coordinator for the Protective Learning and Nurturing Environments for Girls Education (PLANE) in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras 2019-2023, UNICEF Honduras led the process of managing the exchange of knowledge and best practices, including a final formative evaluation and 3 exchange visits in the participating countries involving the directors-general of the Secretariat of Education.

In the last quarter of 2023, UNICEF also supported the Secretariat of Education in preparing a pact in the sector with specific goals and evaluation metrics. This pact will be convened from a politically broad and diverse base and will include the private sector, civil society, academia, cooperation, and social organizations.

The collaboration between UNICEF offices in Ecuador and Honduras enabled the replication of the immunization campaign using the character "Máximo," which has been adapted to the Honduran context and will be launched widely in January 2024 to promote child vaccination. The messages and campaign strategy are being led by the Expanded Immunisation Programme with the support of PAHO and UNICEF.

Lessons Learned and Innovations

Lessons Learned:

1. UNICEF enjoys a strong institutional reputation, which enhances the organization's potential to engage diverse stakeholders at the highest level and facilitate sectoral development and reform dialogues. In 2023, UNICEF collaborated closely with the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs, as well as with the Secretariats of the Presidency, Education, Health, Social Protection, Security, and the National Congress, and has stood out as a crucial strategic partner by identifying priorities, providing high-quality technical assistance, and facilitating consensus among the parties.
2. Collaboration with IFIs is essential to influence financing agendas for development that include priorities for children. The work in 2023 with the World Bank and the IDB in areas such as Education and Social Protection are clear examples of this potential that could yield tangible results in 2024.
3. Multisectoral integration represents an effective strategy for addressing the complex needs of children in a context like that of Honduras. UNICEF incorporated this lesson into the institutional design proposal for SENAF and the new National Children's Policy, whose priorities are essentially cross-cutting. However, the lack of synchronization between sectors and government levels compromises the effectiveness of responses to vulnerable children, emphasizing the need to strengthen coordination mechanisms.
4. The shortage of financial resources and inefficiencies in allocation and execution compromise the government's ability to maximize the impact of investments dedicated to children. Continuous monitoring to detect decreases in investment is essential for advocacy. Monitoring the recommendations made to the National Congress represents emerging opportunities to strengthen the efficiency of policies and programs for Honduran children.
5. With the presidential decree that eliminates DINAF and creates SENAF, it is essential to modify the investment focus by prioritizing the exercise of SENAF's powers locally and protecting more children in the territories where they are located. This involves strengthening the social workforce and linking it with municipal governments and SIGADENAH.
6. In general, UNICEF's previous presence and its network of partners in the intervened territories contribute to increasing the probability of influencing communities, as community-based organizations, NGOs, and municipalities have gained legitimacy through their previous projects. It is necessary to continue seeking strategies to work at the local level with greater reach, including through closer cooperation with AMHON.
7. The challenge of supporting all children and adolescents fully exercising their right to education requires combining relevant models and solutions validated in the field, along with complementary advocacy and influence actions. UNICEF enhanced its advocacy capacity by not only leveraging international expertise and evidence, but also by showcasing success stories within the country's context.
8. Investing in the skills and capacities of healthcare workers is crucial, especially given the identified weaknesses in leadership and management in vaccination interventions and to address systemic challenges. The adoption of digital platforms to train community health workers on the COVID-19 vaccination scheme, and its extension to the regular children's vaccination program, enabled reaching healthcare workers in remote areas that would not have been accessible with traditional training formats.
9. The emergencies resulting from COVID-19 and the ETA and IOTA hurricanes highlighted the importance of incorporating, in the project risk matrix, possible adaptations in the event of health emergencies, natural hazards or climate events that are not uncommon in the country, given its vulnerability to climate change.
10. The decline in humanitarian funding is expected to require greater coordination efforts and multisectoral response actions. These coordination efforts must involve other actors and leadership, such as governments and the private sector, to strengthen the connection and promote sustainable actions through the leadership of clusters and their transition to sectoral tables for preparedness and development. On the other hand, while AAP is integrated into UNICEF's interventions and the

Humanitarian Network, it is necessary to strengthen the use of feedback received from communities in programming.

Innovations:

1. UNICEF Honduras, recognized in the Global GIGA and Learning Passport initiatives, has promoted a **comprehensive educational digitalization model** where 130 schools in 7 departments have been able to not only connect to the internet but also initiate a digital transformation in 5 components: i) whole-school connectivity; ii) availability of devices; iii) training and support for teachers; iv) access, use of content, and platforms, and; v) development of technological innovations. The schools included in this model have used technology (connectivity and equipment) to innovate in teaching practices, allowing all students to have improved access to quality content aligned with the development of skills, enjoy a more personalized educational experience, and play a leading role in their learning process. The model also includes a sustainable school entrepreneurship component for financing connectivity from the second year. In 2023, this model directly benefited 16,000 children and 479 teachers who developed their digital skills. As for the Learning Passport, it is an integral part of the official educational platform *educatrachos.hn*. During 2023, more than 24,000 active users have accessed it. For its scalability, UNICEF contributed to the construction and operation of the expanded digital education board (*educadigital.hn*) in close partnership with the Secretariat of Education and the National Programme for Educational Technology (PNTED), integrated into the Ministry of Social Development with support from the IDB. This body has adopted UNICEF's five-component model as a national reference and is developing a public policy for digital education in Honduras.
2. Expansion of the use of **NGO Consortia co-led by UNICEF**: The country office currently maintains 3 consortia in the humanitarian field dedicated to migration, violence, and nutrition agendas, respectively. This mechanism has shown over the past 2 years of implementation significant potential to enhance the impact and presence of interventions in the field with a truly integrated, multisectoral focus. It has also proven effective in streamlining administrative processes, reducing workload, and minimizing operational risks.