



# News Digest

UN Agencies and Civil Society Organizations - Fall 2021



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*We need to come together and explore every avenue to keep children learning and help them through this difficult time. With such initiatives like the learning hub, we are able to swiftly deploy innovative, scalable solutions for children and youth.* Fazlul Haque, UNICEF Deputy Representative, Egypt

# What's New?

There's a reference to the UN Partner Portal in [Independent Review of the Grand Bargain at Five Years](#): "Launched in November 2018, the creation and roll-out of the UN Partner Portal has been impressive" (Page 71,72).

## New Members

**New UN Agencies** - UN Partner Portal welcomes the UN Secretariat as the fifth UN Agency join the Portal, together with UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR and WFP. UN DESA, OCHA, OHCHR, UN Habitat, UNEP and UNODC offices and departments will be working with UN Partner Portal (with more offices to come).

*UNFPA is ready to migrate its partners into the UNPP and is ready to take its partnerships to a whole new level of integration, optimisation and growth.*

Nicole Kim, Programme Specialist, UNFPA

**New CSOs** - UN Partner Portal welcomes the 5327 new CSOs (with 1498 CFEIs, Call for Expression of Interests already in place) joining over the past year, bringing the total to 18,877 CSOs.

## New Features

- › 'Invited NGO Partners': allows Agency administrators to invite UNFPA Partners
- › 'UN Type' and 'Government' type for Agency members with permissions to register
- › New filters to enable Agency members to perform due diligence on Partners that have completed Verification
- › Warning before removing Reviewer from project
- › Head of Organization as Person 1 to allow Country Offices with same Person 1 as Head.



### More Stories! Honest Feedback!

We look forward to hearing from you if you have feedback or stories to share. There are thousands of stories to tell and to share! Please contact us through [the UN Partner Portal Help Desk](#).



Snapshot of CSO Partners, find the complete list in the Portal.

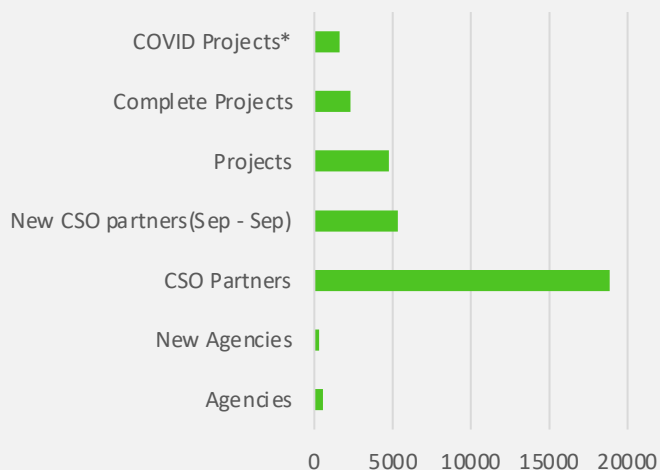
## New Website Look and Feel

The Portal website has undergone some changes that benefit both CSOs and UN Agencies, with published branding guidelines and a two-phased project to modernize its look and feel:

- › New [UN Partner Portal promotional video](#) and updated [UN Agency video](#) and [CSO video](#).
- › Branding updates to main page, About UN Partner Portal page, Resources page and News Centre for success stories.
- › Partnerships Opportunities new filters to make it easier to find, filter and sort Opportunities.

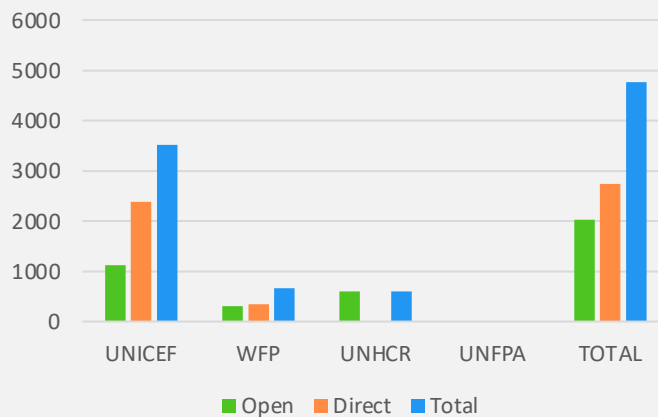
# UN Partner Portal By the Numbers

## Summary



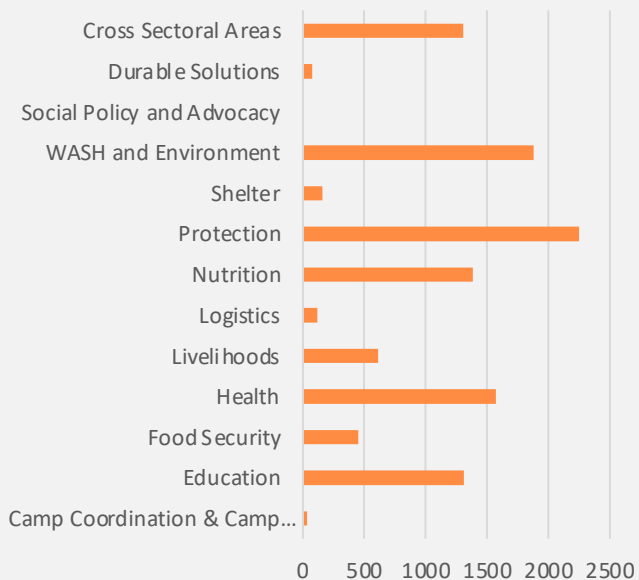
It's been a busy year at the UN Partner Portal with 4766 projects, 2313 projects completed, with over 1600 COVID projects alone.

## All projects (by Agency)



UNICEF, UNHCR and WFP are creating and completing projects at record numbers, with UNFPA and the UN Secretariat now starting.

## Projects by Sector



Note the sectoral area, with leading numbers for protection, nutrition, health and education.



Photo: UNFPA



# Survey 2021 Results



Photo: UNHCR

UN Partner Portal teams have a continuous improvement approach, where feedback from UN Agencies and CSO users is important. We ran a survey over January 2021 to gather comments about features, functionalities and use of the platform.



**2064**

Respondents



**315**

UN Users



**78%**

In English



**44%**

Used UNPP for 12+ months

**UN Agencies.** Usage of UNPP to post Partnership opportunities:

- › UNFPA users: 2
- › UNHCR users: 14
- › UNICEF users: 47
- › WFP users: 3

**CSO Partners.** 52% partner users stated that their organizations did apply to partnership opportunities through UNPP.

## Feedback Highlights

- › Password recovery is tiresome
- › UNPP is slow loading in low-bandwidth areas
- › Profiles need more editing options
- › Search should be optimised with Return key
- › Save Draft feature needed for partial work
- › Rejection feedback needs to be improved
- › More training for onboarding new users
- › Application status needs better update process
- › Notifications should be sent to CSO Partners to know about UN opportunities.

## Actions

- › Increase in training, webinars and new modules
- › Upcoming Chatbot, improved Helpdesk and FAQs
- › Look at awareness and training to ensure that all opportunities are getting on the Portal
- › Run surveys once a year to gather feedback and suggestions.

## UNICEF - CARE Launch Learning Platform in Egypt

UNICEF in collaboration with CARE, has established a Learning Hub in the Agami district, Alexandria. In the Learning Hub, students can access various online learning platforms provided by UNICEF as well as those from the Ministry of Education and Technical Education.

*We need to come together and explore every avenue to keep children learning and help them through this difficult time. With such initiatives like the learning hub, we are able to swiftly deploy innovative, scalable solutions for children and youth.*

Fazlul Haque, UNICEF Deputy Representative, Egypt



Photo: UNICEF Egypt/Emad

The Learning Hub provides teachers with equipment to record educational lessons in the form of podcasts or YouTube videos, which are uploaded to Learning Passport or shared with students via WhatsApp.

The Learning Hub serves the most vulnerable children, particularly those from the refugee communities in the surrounding area, as it provides continuous access to education and learning during the pandemic. [Read more here.](#)

## UNICEF Indonesia COVID-19 Partnerships

UNICEF is striving to address the needs of children and families affected by the global pandemic. With the world's fourth largest child population of 80 million children, UNICEF's involvement in Indonesia has expanded over the years thanks to partnerships with civil society.

In Indonesia, UNICEF is working with both international and local civil society partners such as [Yayasan Setara](#) to address the critical needs of vulnerable children and communities.

In 2021, UNICEF together with the Setara Foundation are running several programs including the SAFE4C (Safe and Friendly Environment for Children) Program, PKSAI (Integrative Child Social Welfare Center), ROOTS (Building Prevention Program) and Positive Discipline.

*We distributed personal protective equipment to 35 city districts, including cities with integrated child welfare services. We also held online activities for children on Covid-19 prevention and other life skill programmes.*

Hidayatul Soleha, Programme Coordinator Yayasan Setara (UNICEF Partner)

Partnerships with civil society are not just making a difference in Indonesia, the same stories are being repeated in other countries. Every year, UNICEF partners with over 4000 civil society organizations in 190 countries delivering life saving aid to children and vulnerable groups.

[Read more here.](#)

## Life Skills for Children in Conflict in Madagascar

The UN Partner Portal has helped UNICEF in the Analamanga and Boeny regions of Madagascar, working with local partners at a specialised center for boys who have committed petty offenses, sponsor a life skills program. Supported with Danish Telethon funds, the young residents have the opportunity to work with peer educators.

*When I first entered the centre, we considered ourselves prisoners. But the young peer educators listen to us. When I leave the centre, my dream is to go back to school and live a life far from the drugs and violence of life on the street.*

Fanantenana

They benefit from guidance to improve their self-esteem, create peaceful relationships with others, and learn about a range of topics including gender equality and positive masculinity, sexual and reproductive health and substance abuse. These topics have particularly interested many of them as they are closely related to their previous life on the streets.

*The life skills sessions and the peer approach used to engage with the boys have had a real impact. The boys feel more accepted and have greater aspirations for their lives.*

Center's Director

In addition to the life skills programme, UNICEF also supports activities and improved living conditions in the centre through an NGO partner Grandir Dignement. [Read more here.](#)

## WFP with Consortium on Disabilities

Two organizations, Congo Handicap (CH) and the Community Association for Development (ACDD) have joined forces to create a CH-ACDD Consortium.

To date, this Consortium has already signed 4 Field-level Agreements with the WFP (including 1 in 2020 and 3 in 2021) and has gone through the transparent and objective process to arrive at being verified as an organization capable of collaborating with the WFP for the implementation of projects.

This satisfactory result for the consortium is proof of the efficiency and transparency that the UNPP has brought. [Read more here.](#)

## UNHCR and UNICEF – Learning during COVID-19

Even before the coronavirus pandemic shuttered schools around the world, disrupting the education of almost 1.6 billion students according to UNICEF, classrooms were closed to millions of displaced children. Now there are fears some children may not return after COVID-19 lockdowns lift. UNHCR and UNICEF work with local CSOs in Honduras, Guatemala, Jordan, Kenya and Bangladesh to provide educational opportunities.

Similarly, following school closures in Bulgaria, refugee children initially struggled to participate in online education. The Council of Refugee Women and the Bulgarian Red Cross are now providing donated laptops and tablets to refugee families and another NGO. [Read more here.](#)



# Resources



Photo: UN/Debebe

## New UN Partner Portal Videos



UN Partner Portal - Come Join Us!



UN Partner Portal - UN Agencies Overview



UN Partner Portal - CSOs Overview

## New [Resources](#) By Agency

### UN Secretariat

FAQs

### UNFPA

Partnership Guidelines

### UNICEF

[UNICEF Civil Society Partnership Resource Brochure July 2021](#) - Knowledge essentials- tools, guides, and resources to partnering with UNICEF Available in UNICEF Resources at the Portal.

### Other

- › [Independent Review of the Grand Bargain at Five Years](#) (Page 71,72)
- › [UN Partner Portal Quick Guides](#)
- › [UN Partner Portal Helpdesk](#)

# About UN Partner Portal



Photo: WFP

The UN Secretariat, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP have joined forces to develop the UN Partner Portal, a platform for Civil Society Organizations to engage with the UN on partnership opportunities for the benefit of those we serve.

The UN Partner Portal is designed to facilitate a harmonized, efficient and easy collaboration between the UN and partners. The development of the Portal draws on decades of successful partnerships between the UN and civil society, consultations with networks of NGOs, as well as best practices in partnership management, to support the harmonisation and simplification of business processes.

The Portal also represents the efforts of UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP to implement the 2016 World Humanitarian Summits' Grand Bargain commitments to reduce duplication and management costs and enhance partnerships with local and national actors.

The UN Partner Portal is also designed to encourage harmonization within the United Nations and it is expected that more UN Agencies and their associated partners will join the Portal in the future.

The United Nations International Computing Centre (UNICC) provides the delivery, management and operations for the UNPP. For more information, please visit our website at [www.unpartnerportal.org](http://www.unpartnerportal.org)

