

# Media Update

01 August 2017

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## UNICEF

Press Release

### Babies and mothers worldwide failed by lack of investment in breastfeeding

*New analysis shows an investment of US\$4.70 per newborn could generate US\$300 billion in economic gains by 2025*

GENEVA/NEW YORK/ISLAMABAD, 1 August 2017 – No country in the world fully meets recommended standards for breastfeeding, according to a new report by UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO) in collaboration with the [Global Breastfeeding Collective](#), a new initiative to increase global breastfeeding rates.

*The Global Breastfeeding Scorecard*, which evaluated 194 nations, found that only 40 per cent of children younger than six months are breastfed exclusively (given nothing but breast milk) and only 23 countries have exclusive breastfeeding rates above 60 per cent.

In Pakistan, almost half of the children under five years of age are stunted (43.7 per cent), which is often a result of poor breastfeeding practices. According to the National Nutrition Survey 2011, only 38 per cent of mothers exclusively breastfeed their babies for the first six months of life. Less than half of mothers in Pakistan start breastfeeding within one hour of birth which deprives babies from colostrum – their first defence against killer diseases.

Evidence shows that breastfeeding has cognitive and health benefits for both infants and their mothers. It is especially critical during the first six months of life, helping prevent diarrhoea and pneumonia, two major causes of death in infants. Mothers who breastfeed have a reduced risk of ovarian and breast cancer, two leading causes of death among women.

“Breastfeeding gives babies the best possible start in life,” said Dr. Tedros



Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of WHO. “Breastmilk works like a baby’s first vaccine, protecting infants from potentially deadly diseases and giving them all the nourishment they need to survive and thrive.”

The scorecard was released at the start of World Breastfeeding Week alongside a new analysis demonstrating that an annual investment of only US\$4.70 per newborn is required to increase the global rate of exclusive breastfeeding among children under six months to 50 per cent by 2025.

*Nurturing the Health and Wealth of Nations: The Investment Case for Breastfeeding*, suggests that meeting this target could save the lives of 520,000 children under the age of five and potentially generate US\$300 billion in economic gains over 10 years, as a result of reduced illness and health care costs and increased productivity.

“Breastfeeding is one of the most effective – and cost effective – investments nations can make in the health of their youngest members and the future health of their economies and societies,” said UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake. “By failing to invest in breastfeeding, we are failing mothers and their babies – and paying a double price: in lost lives and in lost opportunity.”

The investment case shows that in five of the world’s largest emerging economies—China, India, Indonesia, Mexico and Nigeria—the lack of investment in breastfeeding results in an estimated 236,000 child deaths per year and US\$119 billion in economic losses.

Globally, investment in breastfeeding is far too low. Each year, governments in lower- and middle-income countries spend approximately US\$250 million on breastfeeding programs; and donors provide only an additional US\$85 million.

The Global Breastfeeding Collective is calling on countries to:

- Increase funding to raise breastfeeding rates from birth through two years.
- Fully implement the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes and relevant World Health Assembly resolutions through strong legal measures that are enforced and independently monitored by organizations free from conflicts of interest.
- Enact paid family leave and workplace breastfeeding policies, building

on the International Labour Organization's maternity protection guidelines as a minimum requirement, including provisions for the informal sector.

- Implement the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding in maternity facilities, including providing breastmilk for sick and vulnerable newborns.
- Improve access to skilled breastfeeding counselling as part of comprehensive breastfeeding policies and programmes in health facilities.
- Strengthen links between health facilities and communities, and encourage community networks that protect, promote, and support breastfeeding.
- Strengthen monitoring systems that track the progress of policies, programmes, and funding towards achieving both national and global breastfeeding targets.

Breastfeeding is critical for the achievement of many of the Sustainable Development Goals. It improves nutrition (SDG2), prevents child mortality and decreases the risk of non-communicable diseases (SDG3), and supports cognitive development and education (SDG4). Breastfeeding is also an enabler to ending poverty, promoting economic growth and reducing inequalities.

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### Notes to editors

Multimedia content is available [here](#).

Visit <http://uni.cf/breastfeeding> to download The Global Breastfeeding Scorecard and The Investment Case for Breastfeeding.

### About the Global Breastfeeding Scorecard

The Scorecard compiles data from countries all over the world on the status of seven priorities set by the Global Breastfeeding Collective to increase the rate of breastfeeding.

The 23 countries that have achieved exclusive breastfeeding rates above 60 per cent are: Bolivia, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, Kenya, Kiribati, Lesotho, Malawi, Micronesia, Federated States of Nauru, Nepal, Peru, Rwanda, São Tome and Principe, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Timor-Leste, Uganda, Vanuatu, and Zambia.

## About the Global Breastfeeding Collective

Co-led by UNICEF and WHO, the Global Breastfeeding Collective's mission is to rally political, legal, financial, and public support for breastfeeding, which will benefit mothers, children, and society.

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# UNICEF

## Press Release

## Clooney Foundation for Justice Partners with UNICEF to open seven public schools to Syrian refugee children in Lebanon

*With support from Google.org and HP Inc., the Clooney Foundation for Justice's \$2.25 million partnership and \$1 million technology grant will enroll thousands of currently out-of-school refugees in formal education and provide additional support for Lebanese and Syrian children in public schools across Lebanon*

NEW YORK, 31 July 2017 – The Clooney Foundation for Justice today announced a \$2.25 million partnership, which includes a generous donation from Google.org, and a \$1 million technology grant from HP, to support formal education for Syrian refugees in Lebanon. The partnership with UNICEF will help seven public schools to provide critical education opportunities to nearly 3,000 currently out-of-school refugee students this school year, and will also support a pilot of technology tools in these schools to advance learning outcomes for refugee children and Lebanese youth.

“Thousands of young Syrian refugees are at risk -- the risk of never being a productive part of society. Formal education can help change that. That's our goal with this initiative. We don't want to lose an entire generation because



they had the bad luck of being born in the wrong place at the wrong time,” said George and Amal Clooney.

The Syrian refugee crisis remains the largest humanitarian crisis since the end of World War II. Lebanon, which has the world’s highest per capita refugee population, has been particularly affected by an influx of more than one million Syrian refugees. This surge has left local resources strained, affecting both refugee children and Lebanese students.

Of today’s announcement, Lebanon’s Minister of Education, Marwan Hamade said "The Government of Lebanon is profoundly grateful to the leadership of George and Amal Clooney and the Clooney Foundation for Justice. We are delighted the Clooney Foundation has decided to support our efforts to open the doors of more public schools to ensure we can offer every child currently living in Lebanon a free education. We are also looking forward to collaborating with the Clooney Foundation and its partners on advancing innovative technology in all our classrooms. Each child given access to education, and new ways of learning, represents a life changed for the better. Today’s grant from the Clooney Foundation for Justice is therefore a crucial investment in future generations in Lebanon.”

The Clooney Foundation for Justice’s initiative, combining financial support with technology, will improve educational opportunities for both Lebanese and Syrian refugee children, so many of whom are missing out on an education.

“How can children become the workers and leaders of their countries someday if they have not had the education and support they need to reach their full potential?” asked UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake. “By supporting the work of UNICEF and our partners to deliver education to every child affected by the conflict in Syria, the Clooney Foundation for Justice is not only investing in the futures of individual children, it is investing in the future of the entire region. UNICEF is deeply grateful for this critical funding.”

Close to 200,000 Syrian refugee children in Lebanon are out of school. Their lives have been shaped by violence, displacement and lack of opportunity, and many have never been enrolled in formal education. Without access to learning and a return to a sense of normalcy, these children are at risk of becoming a lost generation. The Clooney Foundation for Justice is committed to supporting efforts that ensure children get the experiences they need to thrive. UNICEF has been working with partners across the region to put children first since the crisis began. In addition to providing emergency

assistance and essential services, including child-friendly spaces, UNICEF and partners have been at the forefront of efforts to address the long-term needs of Syrian refugee children, including education, counseling and social inclusion.

“We must ensure that we do not fail those most vulnerable victims who have managed to flee the carnage in Syria. It is our hope that the refugee children who will soon start school through this initiative will have a chance to contribute to building a more peaceful and just world and, hopefully, one where those responsible for these grave crimes are held to account.” said Ambassador David Pressman, Executive Director of the Clooney Foundation for Justice.

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### **Notes to Editors:**

#### **About UNICEF**

UNICEF promotes the rights and wellbeing of every child, in everything we do. Together with our partners, we work in 190 countries and territories to translate that commitment into practical action, focusing special effort on reaching the most vulnerable and excluded children, to the benefit of all children, everywhere.

For more information about UNICEF and its work for children, visit [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org).

#### **About the Clooney Foundation for Justice**

The Clooney Foundation for Justice was established in late 2016 by George and Amal Clooney to advance justice in courtrooms, communities, and classrooms around the world. For more information on the Foundation and its work, please visit [www.cfj.org](http://www.cfj.org). Follow UNICEF on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

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# ILO

## Media advisory

### ILO launches 2017 global media competition on labour migration

***The international competition aims at encouraging quality reporting on labour migration.***

GENEVA (ILO News) – The International Labour Organization (ILO) is launching a global media competition to recognize exemplary media coverage on labour migration.

The objective is to encourage quality reporting on labour migration. Such reporting is all the more significant as media often promotes a toxic public narrative based on nationality, national origin, gender and migratory status misperceptions, reinforcing prejudice, intolerance and stigmatization against migrant workers and their families.

While not overlooking the negative aspects (e.g. often a hard reality of exploitation and violation of human and labour rights), applicants are also encouraged to highlight the positive contribution of migrant workers to countries of origin, transit, and destination as well as the key aspects such as their fair recruitment.

The 2017 Global Media Competition on Labour Migration will be contributing to the UN TOGETHER campaign (<https://together.un.org/>) which has the purpose of encouraging global action in promoting non-discrimination and addressing the problem of rising xenophobia against refugees and migrants. All 193 Member States of the United Nations have committed to implementing the TOGETHER Campaign which will run until the end of 2018, when the UNGA is expected to adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the Global Compact for Refugees.

The 2017 global media competition on labour migration is organized by the International Labour Organization in collaboration with the International Trade Union Confederation, the International Organization of Employers, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the International Federation of Journalists, Equal Times, Solidarity Center, Human Rights Watch, and



Migrant Forum in Asia, as well as the International Training Centre of the ILO.

The competition starts on **31 July 2017** and closes on **27 October 2017**.

Professional journalists are invited to submit a maximum of two entries, one per each of the **two following categories**:

- Written articles (online or print articles)
- Media Production (photo journalism, audio, video)

Articles should not exceed 8000 words and videos/multimedia should not be longer than 10 minutes. Submissions must have been published between 1 January 2015 and 27 October 2016 to qualify.

Entries submitted should address either one of the following **2 thematic areas**: (i) **Labour migration aspects** (migrant workers' contribution to the social and economic development of countries of origin and destination, the protection of their labour rights, the recognition of their skills, their labour market integration, their social protection, migrant workers in an irregular situation, their working conditions (particularly their wages, working time and occupational safety and health, migrant workers in the informal economy, their trade union rights, forced labour, child labour, and trafficking situations); or (ii) **Fair recruitment of migrant workers** (guided by the [General Principles and Operational Guidelines on Fair Recruitment](#)).

Refugees and displaced persons, where they are employed as workers outside their own countries, are considered migrant workers. As such, submissions covering international migrant workers and refugees (participating in labour markets outside their own countries) will be accepted.

### Prizes

A total of four winners (one per category, per thematic area) will receive \$1,000 USD each. Winning entries will be featured on ILO website and widely promoted as an example of good journalism.

### Requirements

To enter the competition, please fill in the [online entry form](#) before **27 October 2017** (latest 23:59, Central European Time). Entries are accepted in three languages: English, French, and Spanish. Entries in other languages will be accepted provided that the applicant presents a faithful translation in one of the three languages mentioned above. Winners will be officially

announced on 18 December to mark International Migrants Day. For further enquiries, please contact: [Labour-Migration-Media-Competition@ilo.org](mailto:Labour-Migration-Media-Competition@ilo.org)

### Judgement Criteria

A panel of 5 distinguished judges will evaluate the top ten entries from each of the above-mentioned two categories. The decision of the ILO and judges on all matters relating to the contest is final, and no correspondence will be entered into at any stage. The ILO encourages entries that cover different aspects of labour migration and, as much as possible, reflect views of various concerned parties: government, employers, and trade unions' organisations, migrant workers.

In addition to ensuring that competition submissions are aligned with the basic ethics of journalism, all submissions will be judged on the following criteria:

### Creativity:

- Contributes to a better understanding of labour migration issues, and of migrants and refugees' situation in the labour market, as well as fair recruitment of migrant workers' issues;
- Portrays a balanced opinion in reflecting the views of various stakeholders (migrant workers, governments, employers and trade unions);
- Presents creative solutions to overcome labour protection and labour market integration challenges (e.g. if possible comparing the situation before and after the introduction of new legislation, a new migration policy, a bilateral labour agreement, etc.);
- Helps combat stereotypes, xenophobia or discrimination in the labour market;
- In particular, with respect to the first thematic area:
  - Portrays migrants' contribution to the social and economic development of countries of origin and destination (e.g. filling labour and skills needs at all skill levels, contributing to the sustainability of social security systems, expanding the exchange of knowledge, technology, skills and commercial ties, and contributing to job creation as consumers of goods and services and tax payers, but also as micro-enterprise entrepreneurs);
  - Sheds light on success stories and positive practices, presenting, as much as possible the positive results of fair labour migration governance (e.g. fostering ILO standards-based anti-discrimination and equality of treatment/opportunities principles,

- as well as labour market integration, recognition of skills, and labour protection of all migrant workers and their family members);
- Shows labour migration challenges in terms of decent work deficits such as the lack of social protection, the situation of migrant workers in an irregular situation, their working conditions (particularly their wages, working time and occupational safety and health), migrant workers in the informal economy, lack of trade union rights, and migrants in forced labour, child labour, and trafficking situations, as well as migrant workers affected by discrimination, racism and xenophobia;
  - In particular, with respect to the second thematic area applicants are encouraged to:
    - Refer to international labour standards related to fair recruitment in line with the ILO Fair Recruitment Initiative;
    - Reflect on the impact of fair recruitment on migrant workers' working and living conditions.

**Accuracy:**

- Gathers material using first hand sources;
- Includes an English, French or Spanish translation which must be faithful to the original meaning if parts, or all, of the submitted entry are in another language;

**Protection:**

- Protects vulnerable groups, sources and other sensitive components of the story by not providing unnecessary information that could risk harming them (including visual identities, names, locations etc.);
- Uses a rights-based terminology;
- Participants who use the terms “illegal migrant” in their work will be disqualified since this term is considered to “stigmatize” migrants and their families<sup>1</sup>. Participants are requested to utilize the following terms: “non-documented”, “irregular migrant workers”, “irregular status”, or “migrants in an irregular situation”. Please refer to the [ILO media glossary](#) to know more about rights-based terminologies and language that the UN supports.

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1. United Nations General Assembly: United Nations Resolution 3449, General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, 2433 plenary meeting, 9th December 1975.

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# FAO

## Press Release

### Displaced persons returning to FATA receive assistance from FAO and JICA to secure agriculture based livelihoods

Farmer households in Khyber and Kurram agencies of FATA have received assistance from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) with the help of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to rebuild their lives as they continue to return to their homes after years of displacement.

77,200 households (33,143 in Khyber and 44,057 in Kurram agency) of FATA received this assistance which helped the returning small holder farmers to produce food and earn income for their families.

This assistance was provided to the farmers under the Project for Assistance to the Recovery and Development of the Agricultural Economy in FATA. The project that concluded on July 31st, accomplished restoration of farm productivity and agriculture based livelihoods by rebuilding productive assets, and strengthening the productive skills of the returnees, and by developing capacity of the public and private sector service providers.

A ceremony was held at the FAO Representation office in Islamabad to mark the conclusion of the project. It was attended by the Ambassador of Japan, H.E. Mr. Takashi Kurai, Chief Representative of JICA Pakistan, Mr. Yasuhiro Tojo, top officials from development agencies and representatives of the government of Pakistan.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Takashi Kurai Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan said *“We had supported recovery of FATA including rehabilitation of community infrastructure. In addition to these assistant to provide these basic services, the recovery of livelihood of returnees is very important for stable lives of returnees and stable return of TDPs and this project is a part of these assistance. Japan will continue assisting people of Pakistan including returnees in FATA and TDPs to keep peace in this country.”*



Mr. Yasuhiro Tojo, Chief Representative of JICA Pakistan Office while expressing his views said *“One of the most important components of this project was the capacity building of women, who are vastly contributing to the agricultural economy of the region, therefore, to train them to impart the appropriate knowledge on farming and livestock was crucial to ensure the sustainability of FATA”*.

Highlighting the achievements of the project Ms. Minà Dowlatchahi FAO Representative to Pakistan said: “It is important that we assist the government of Pakistan in fulfilling its responsibilities in enabling the safe return of the displaced persons to their homes. In this connection, we appreciate our strategic partnership with JICA. With the support from JICA and the Embassy of Japan in Pakistan, FAO has assisted a significant number of displaced persons and helped them begin a better life by revitalizing agriculture based livelihoods, economy and contributing to a more stable society. We hope that this partnership will continue so that we can play our part in ensuring better and healthier lives for the people of FATA.”

Farmers were provided high quality seeds for wheat, maize, oats and different vegetables. They also received help for keeping their livestock healthy. Land was reclaimed to make it fit for cultivation and irrigation channels constructed to provide water for the crops.

Secretary Production and Livelihoods Abdul Latif Khan appreciating the project said: The assistance from JICA and the Embassy of Japan in Pakistan not only helped the FATA people to fulfil their economic and food security pressing needs but also played an important role in maintaining peace in the area by creating livelihoods and job opportunities. On behalf of the government of Pakistan and FATA Secretariat, I extend thanks to FAO for effective delivery of the of Japan’s assistance to the needy and vulnerable population in FATA.

A few farmers who had traveled to Islamabad to take part in this ceremony briefed participants on how they had benefitted from this project.

### **Background Information for editors:**

The economy of the FATA region is based on subsistence agriculture and livestock rearing providing livelihood to about 97% of the population. The economic growth rate of FATA region has been historically significantly



slower than rest of the country. The situation further accentuated with the military operation undertaken by the security agencies which led to involuntary exodus of population to settled areas in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province as displaced persons. As per government policy they are being repatriated to their areas. In July 2015, FAO with the financial assistance of the Government of Japan launched the project to provide support for its Project titled, “*Assistance to the Recovery and Development of the Agricultural Economy in FATA.*” The end date of the project is 31 July, 2017. A recent review of the project progress indicate that most of early returning households received assistance in restoring their economic activities and livelihoods, while the recently returned households are in the process of receiving assistance.

- 21,192 Farmers supported with crop inputs
- 8 fruit and Agroforestry Nursery and 258 Fruit orchards rehabilitated
- 10 Fish farms and 1 Hatchery rehabilitated
- 1200 Seed silos provided
- 200 Acres pasture developed for livestock production
- 200 Vegetable production units established
- Restocking and poultry packages to 3800 Households
- 1200 Chopping machines and milk collection kits distributed
- Animals vaccination and De-worming to 4200 HH
- Rehabilitation of 100 Water harvesting structures and water channels
- Land Reclaimed 1151 Ha
- 75 Micro Irrigation Units established
- Restoring 200Ha degraded land to Prod. range and forest
- Soil conservation practices 50 Ha of land
- 130 Farmers Field Schools (FFS)
- 80 Women Open Schools (WOS)
- 50 Farmers Business Schools (FBS)
- One Training Need Assessment (TNA) of Govt. Line Agencies
- Three ToTs for Govt. line departments
- 19 ToF (Training of Facilitators) for women farmers
- 8 ToF (Training of Facilitators) for male farmers

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