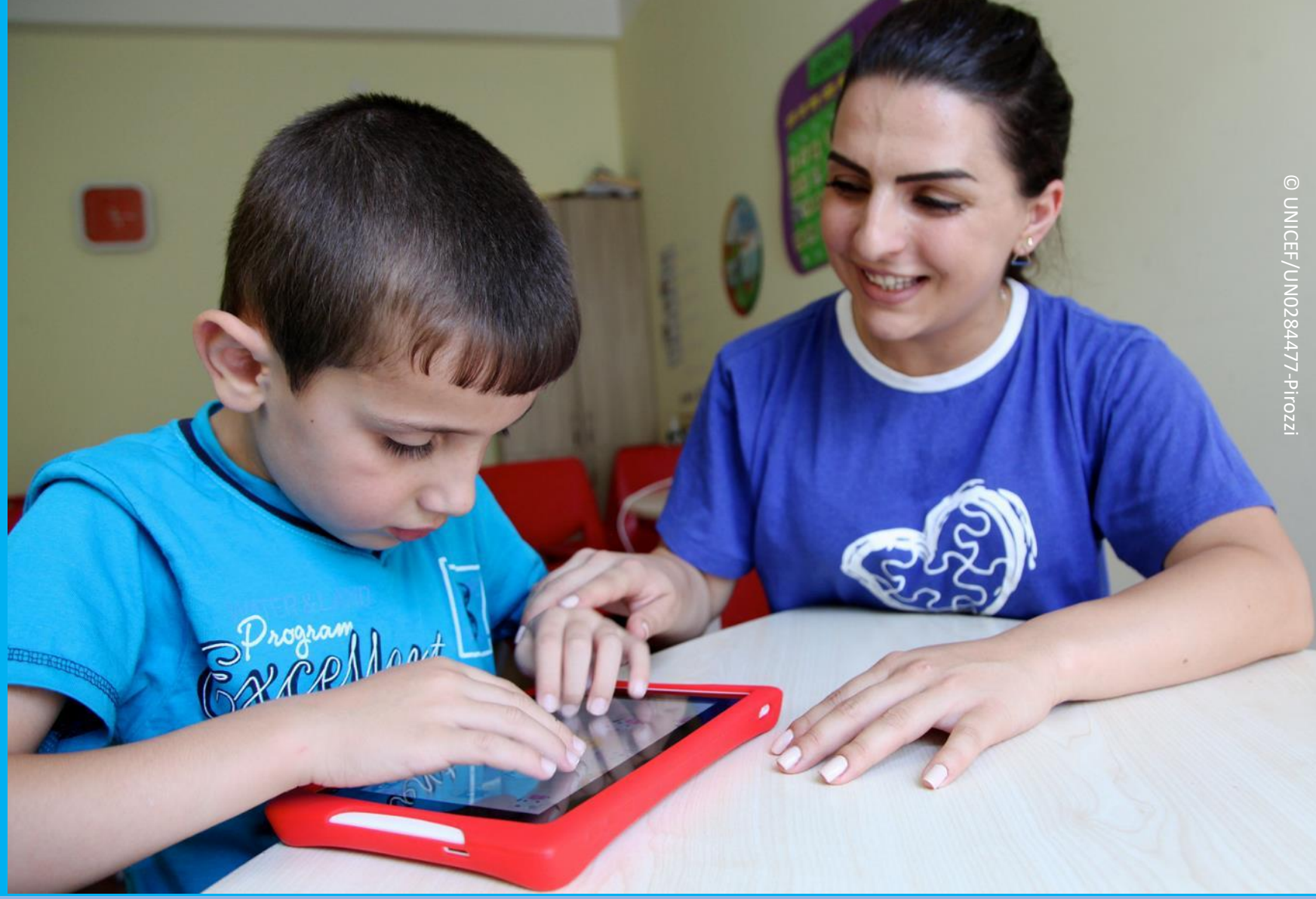
unicef
for every child

“Innovation for positive Impact”

Accelerating Results for Every Child, Everywhere



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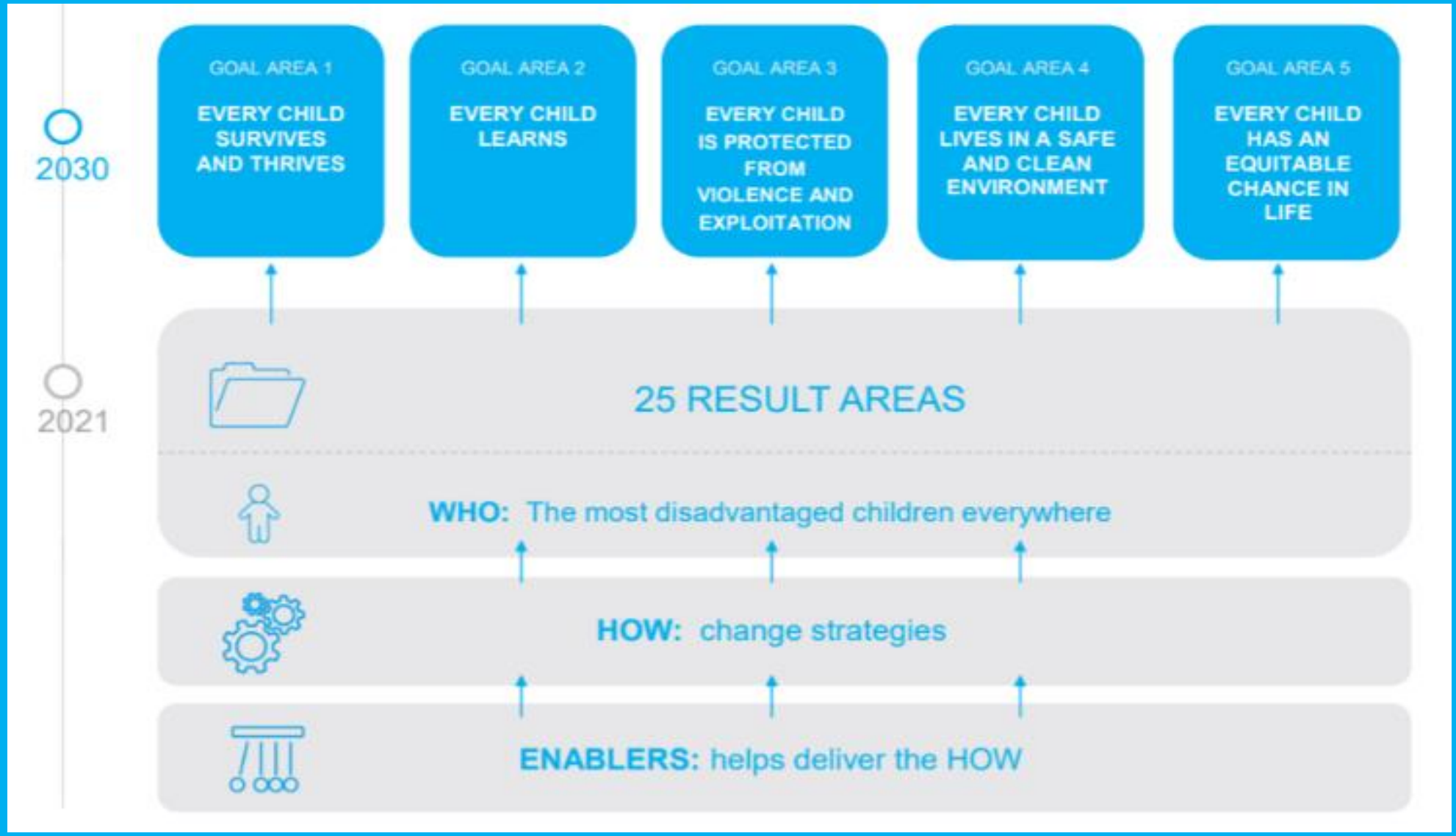
Regional Initiatives in Europe and Central Asia Region

UNICEF's Strategic plan 2018-2021



UNICEF's 2018-2021 Strategic Plan for realizing the rights of every child, especially the most disadvantaged. 5 strategic plan priorities directly relate to 11 SDGs

Strategic plan 2018-2021: Change Strategies

Change strategy 7 highlights the role of **fostering innovations and promoting the use of new technologies** as a key element of UNICEF programming, advocacy and practices

UNICEF'S Regional Initiatives in ECAR

Main focus. Effective use of ICT tools and innovations for:

health system strengthening	*quality education*	*Youth participation*	*solutions for children with disability*

Out of several Innovation Centers & a Global Office of Innovation (NY) 3 innovation labs/hub are in ECAR (Kosovo, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan)

Collaboration with UNDP in 6 countries, finding innovative solutions to common development problems and scaling solutions together

100+ ongoing technology enabled innovative solutions in 21 countries

EXAMPLE OF T4D INNOVATIONS (1)

✓ **U-Report**

- A messaging tool (SMS and social media-based platform) designed by UNICEF to give young people a voice and to collect data their experiences to build cases for policy change

✓ **RapidPro**

- It's a free and open source framework designed to send and receive data using mobile phones (basic and smart phones)

EXAMPLE OF T4D INNOVATIONS (2)

- ✓ **Digital health tools:** UNICEF in partnership with WHO and other stakeholders has been supporting a number in house developed tools and Global digital goods to strengthen health systems. These tools are used for vaccine management information system, immunization registry, monitoring the home visiting programme, etc.

- ✓ **Assistive Technology:** UNICEF developed open source alternative communication tools (***cboard*** https://www.cboard.io/) for children with complex communication needs. This tool gives a voice to children who are not able to speak due to many different medical conditions. The tool is helping in promoting inclusive education

EXAMPLE OF T4D INNOVATIONS (3)

✓ **Edutrack**

- It's a mobile technology used in Turkey to gather educational data in remote communities to inform decision-making at regional & local levels

✓ **Akelius:** In partnership with the Akelius Foundation, UNICEF developed a web-based app to support language learning for children out-of-school or on the move in humanitarian and multilingual contexts

EXAMPLE OF T4D INNOVATIONS (4)

- **IoGT** is a set of mobile-ready web based resources and applications for information sharing and advocacy
- Globally, IoGT is now in 50 countries and with more 2.7 million people accessing the sites each month
- In ECAR Belarus, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan offices are using it.

KEY CHALLENGES

1. Donor funding is time-bound & project-based solutions
2. Limited coordination opportunities among stakeholders limits reuse of digital solutions and undermines potential applicability
3. Lack of digital literacy and capacity to maintain developed solutions among dev practitioners on the ground
4. Funding for scaling up ICT solutions

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Thank You