



Activities to support children must not stop

In a world where everything seems to be lost,
activities to support the new generations must
go on.

OAXACA, OAX., JANUARY 2022.

Despite the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic around the world, especially among the unfavored nations, poverty is also increasing and inequality gaps become bigger while they seem to become unstoppable.

Although we are able to see that the situation improves in some countries, and they gradually transition to the “new normal”, in some others the pandemic continues and it is still a constraint to develop contexts where welfare might become a guarantee. Unfortunately, the ones who suffer badly from these effects are children and teenagers.

During the peak of the pandemic, more than 1,500 million students were unable to go to school due to the suspension of classes in their countries. Millions of children cannot go to school and therefore, they are not learning the basic skills they need to have enough tools to face a promising future.

Some problems are still unattended

The main issue to start with is the implementation of measures aimed at the development of children and teenagers because that sector of the population is unable to get vaccines against COVID-19, a fact that considerably multiplies the problems they already had to face.

Moreover, the increase of people in poverty had a negative impact on the progress previously made to combat shortcomings among the child population over the last 20 years. So, we are not only stepping back on that matter, but we are also away from reaching the Sustainable Development Objectives.

In less than two years, 100 million more children have fallen into poverty, which means a 10% increase since 2019.



The objective of getting food and reducing the number of people who are unable to have a balanced diet seems also to be quite far. The increase on the prices of the items in the food basket had a negative impact on their families; and additionally, after the suspension of activities in their schools, children who were able to get free meals at their schools, are currently unable to get them.

We also have to pay attention to the total number of classes they have lost due to the suspension of in-person activities. It is estimated that during the first six months in 2021, children around the world have lost almost 1.8 billion hours of effective classes, which might have effects on their future as gaps related to inequality and economics will become much bigger.

4 recommendations UNI-
CEF made to promote the
improvement on the life
conditions of children and
teenagers are:



Investing in social protection, human capital, and spending for an inclusive and resilient recovery.



Ending the pandemic and reversing the alarming impacts in child health and nutrition.



Building back stronger by ensuring quality education, protection, and good mental health for every child.



Building resilience to better prevent, respond to, and protect children from crises.

Making room for hope

In order to find areas of opportunity to develop the conditions for children and teenagers, governments around the world, non-governmental organizations, civil societies, and communities must start acting as soon as possible.

Areas to raise awareness and resilient approaches should be promoted so as our future might be based on actions and abilities to imagine the future we deserve, considering our current possibilities, which will be a result of our team work.

The assignment is not easy, but the key to put the pieces together consists of unity to make meaningful improvements on the contexts children and teenagers live in. This way, they will be able to have a future based on an equitable present where they can enjoy their fundamental human rights.

This way, Congregación Mariana Trinitaria is based on its Welfare Ecosystem Model to develop multiple integral solutions to promote actions leading to an equitable future, and in the meantime, they will also lead to more dignified future conditions for all the people.

CMT SOLUTIONS



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