

# UNICEF CryptoFund

Exploring Blockchain and How it Could  
Change Futures for the Most Vulnerable

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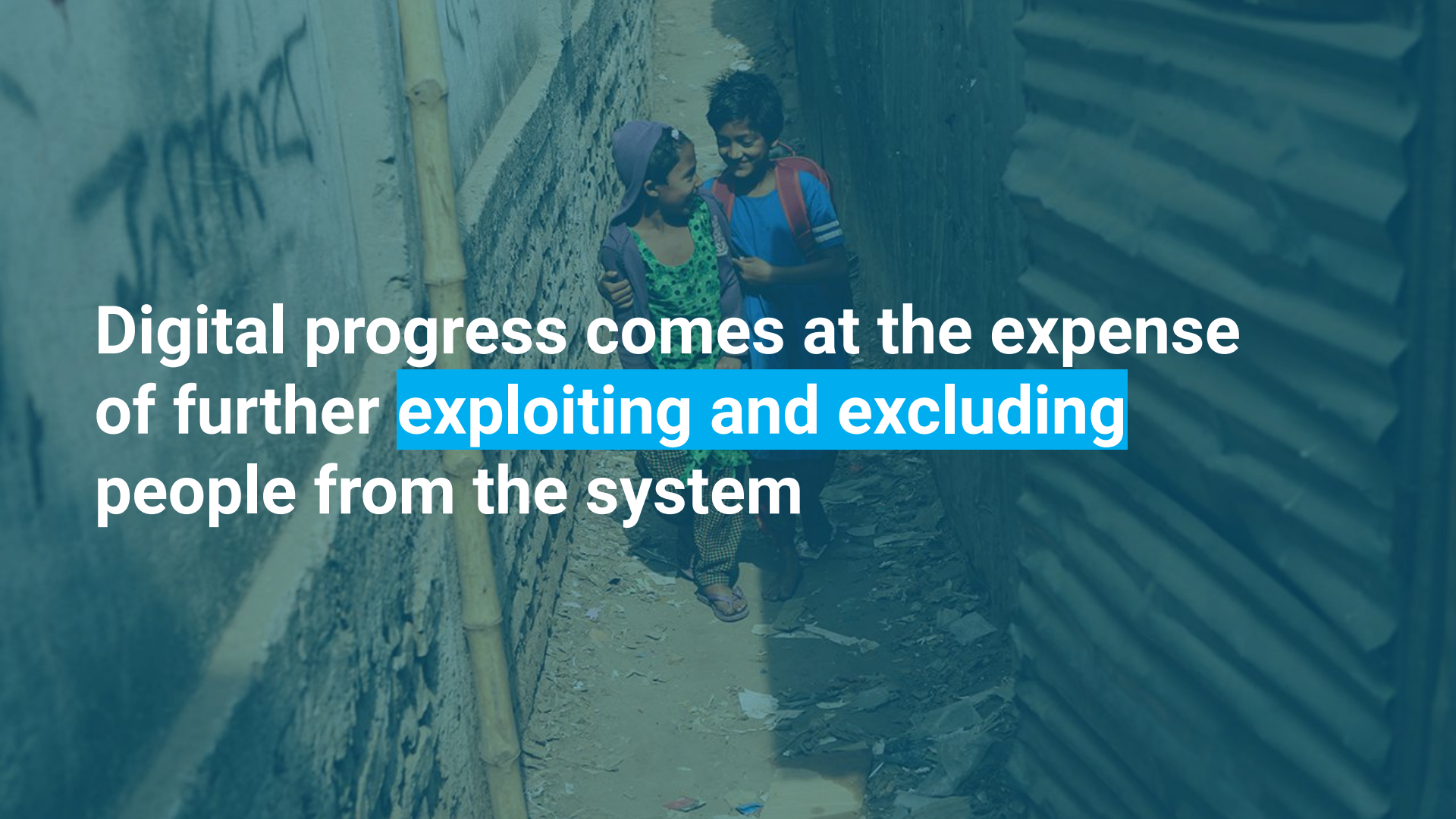
A woman wearing a white hijab and a young girl wearing a red hijab are sitting on the ground, looking at a tablet together. The woman is pointing at the screen. They are in a rural setting with a thatched wall in the background. The text "Half of the world is not connected" is overlaid on the image.

Half of the world is not connected



A photograph of a rural village scene with a blue tint. In the foreground, a woman wearing a red dress and a blue headscarf is carrying a black bucket. She is standing next to a manual water pump. In the background, several other people are visible, including a man in a white shirt and a turban, and another woman in a headscarf. The scene is set outdoors with trees and a dirt path.

**Digital solutions are not designed or built to solve critical challenges.**



**Digital progress comes at the expense  
of further exploiting and excluding  
people from the system**

A young girl with dark hair tied back, wearing a white collared shirt under a dark sweater, sits at a wooden desk in a classroom. She is looking upwards and to the right with a thoughtful expression. The background shows blue classroom lockers and colorful children's drawings on the wall, including a butterfly and a fish. The entire image has a blue color overlay.

**Existing solutions are proprietary and  
inaccessible to many**





WHAT'S MISSING?

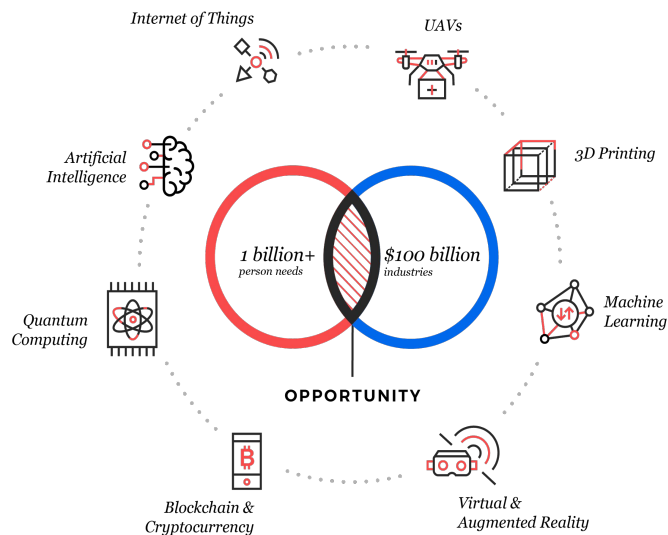
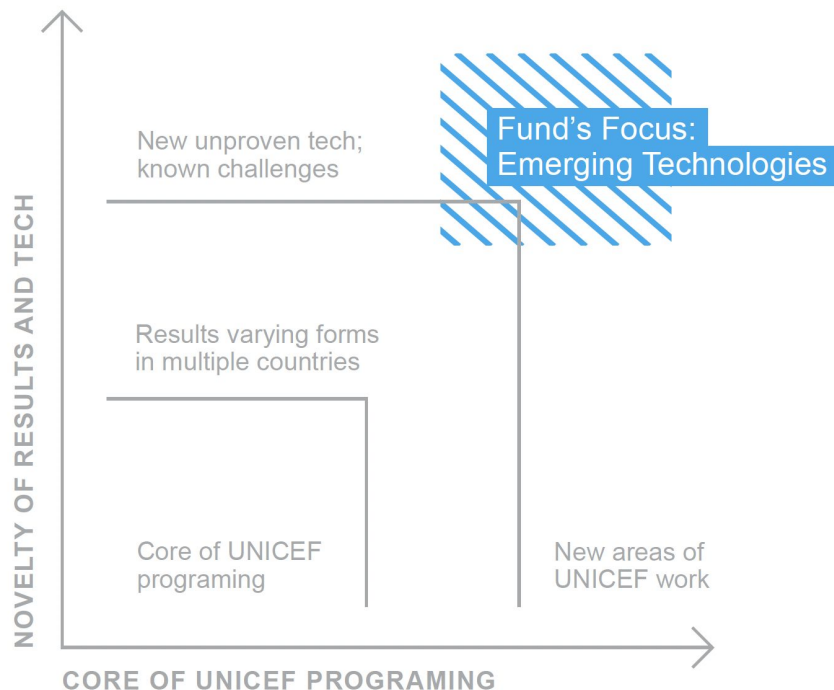
**Digital solutions and services that  
are accessible to and benefit the  
most vulnerable**

**Opportunity for greatness exists  
between 1B persons' needs and  
disruptive technologies**



## THE UNICEF VENTURE FUND & CRYPTOFUND

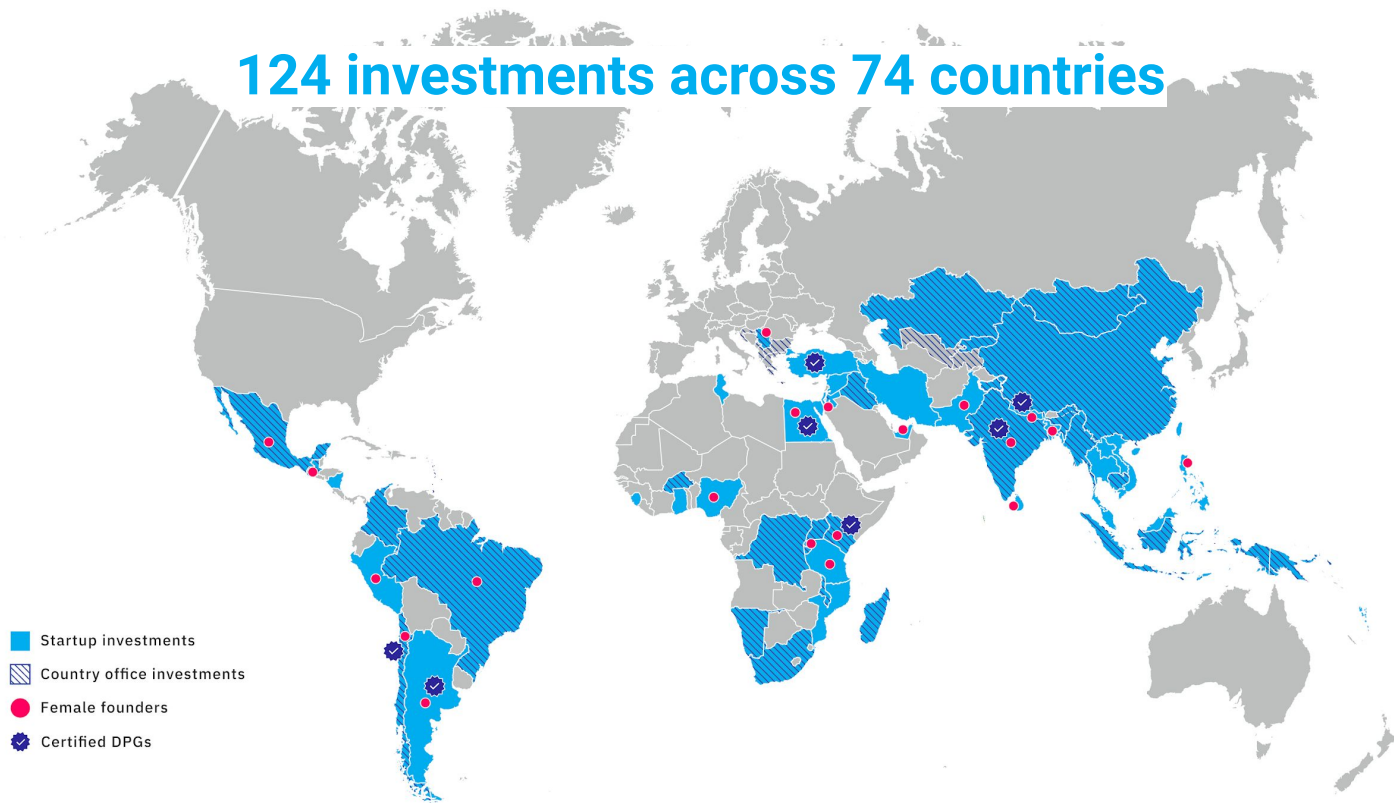
**We provide early-stage funding and support to frontier technology solutions that benefit children and the world**





# The Venture Fund invests in a diverse group of founders building early-stage Open Source solutions

124 investments across 74 countries



# Catalyzing capital for Open Source solutions that address local problems



## Fund identifies and supports locally grown solutions that are directly generating impact for UNICEF priority areas

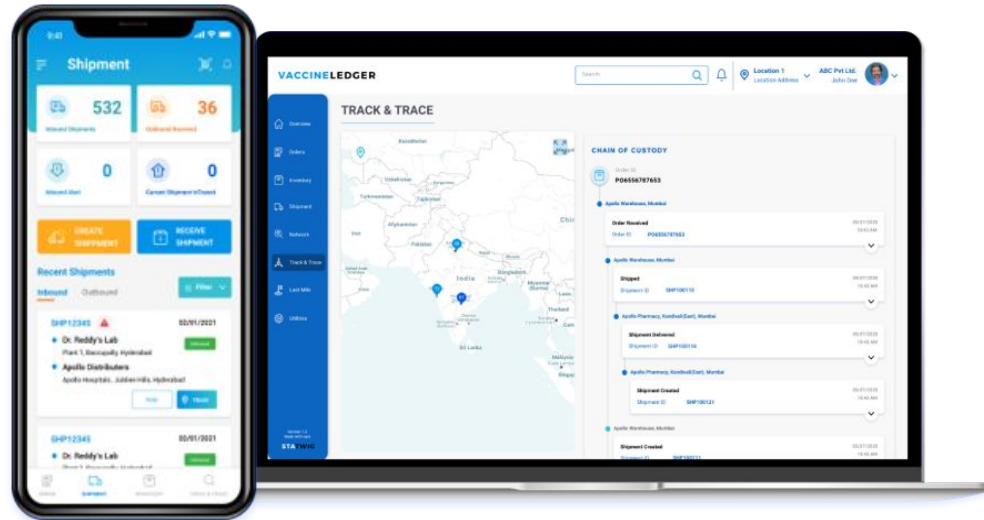


**Rumsan** (Nepal) have developed Rahat, a digital cash and voucher assistance (CVA) management system.

In collaboration with UNICEF Nepal, Rumsan will pilot their platform to provide **Cash Transfer** to **1500 vulnerable families with children under 5** in rural Nepal.



Fund invests in strong core infrastructure that can respond to multiple programmatic needs and problem statements



**StaTwig** (India) ensures quality and safety of products such as vaccines and food by preventing supply-chain failures by tracking details to a blockchain that connects all the stakeholders.

## KEY RESULTS

# Venture Fund's Impact

**31.7M** beneficiaries  
reached across **100**  
countries

**43%** of Portfolio  
are founded by  
women

**6** Exits



**20** start-ups have  
scaled their solution  
across 36 UNICEF  
COs

**11** Solutions approved  
as DPGs

**\$27.7M** raised in  
follow-on funding  
after the initial seed

Only **11%** of the total  
third-party funding raised  
by the portfolio comes  
from female-led startups  
despite them making up  
**43%** of the Fund's  
portfolio

## KEY RESULTS

# The Fund model is unique



Build communities of **local problem solvers**, **growing skills and capacities in frontier technology** areas



We invest in solutions that are commercially sustainable; **80%** of portfolio companies are **generating revenue** and have raised **\$17M in follow-on funding**



**43%** of the Fund portfolio consists of **female-led/founded startups**



The **first and only** mechanism in the UN to **accept, hold or disburse cryptocurrencies**



The Fund exclusively invests in **Open Source solutions** that have the potential to create scalable digital public goods



The background of the slide features a light gray, sketchy illustration of a group of people. In the foreground, a person with dark hair is seen from the side, looking towards the right. Behind them, several other figures are visible, some with their hands raised as if in a discussion or meeting. The style is loose and artistic, with visible brushstrokes or pencil lines.

# The UNICEF CryptoFund

Launched in October 2019, a prototype fund to accept donations and make disbursements exclusively denominated in cryptocurrencies, to finance early-stage, Open Source technology benefiting children and young people.

## Results to Date

The purpose of the CryptoFund is for UNICEF to:

Increase **efficiency and transparency**

Unlock new **programme opportunities**

Pilot a **new platform**

Access **untapped resources**

Understand our **digital future**

2058 ETH & 4.1 BTC

Crypto disbursed

<10 mins

Average transfer time  
(HQ -> Startup)

<.1%

Spent on fees

100%

Transparency of transactions

35

Number of projects supported  
with cryptocurrency

*First Fund investee to  
contribute to the Fund*

0.584318 ETH

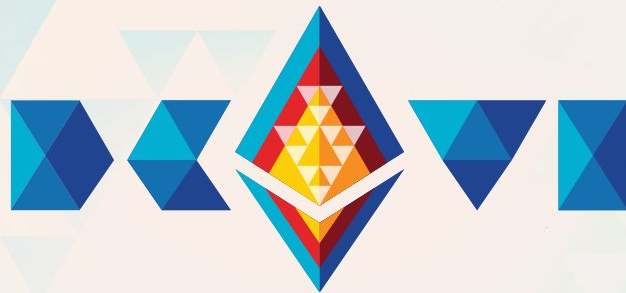
Contribution to the CryptoFund,  
in **September 2022**





## Call to action

- **Collaborate with us:** share ideas, mentor startups, or contribute code to our Open Source solutions
- **Investment opportunity:** new call for climate tech startups to receive USD \$100K or equivalent in cryptocurrency (ETH or BTC) & technical assistance from UNICEF's Venture Fund
- **Co-invest in the portfolio companies:** contribute to the Fund or directly invest in graduates from the Fund to support solutions that have potential to improve the lives of the most vulnerable children



# Thank you!

Learn more: [unicefinnovationfund.org](https://unicefinnovationfund.org)  
[cryptofund.unicef.io](https://cryptofund.unicef.io)

Write to us: [venturefund@unicef.org](mailto:venturefund@unicef.org)

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