The COVID-19 pandemic that brought the 2019/20 season to a halt continued to overshadow us in 2020/21. The repercussions reverberated through all our communities and impacted everyone in football.

If there is one word that sums up this challenging season, however, it is solidarity.

Some people still try to pass football off as mere entertainment, or just a business like any other. Yet it is so much more than that. Football is multifaceted and must be considered in its entirety, including the acts of solidarity by all involved.

The world of football has rallied more than ever in support of the communities in which it is rooted. The commitment shown by national associations, clubs at all levels of the game, players and commercial partners, individually and collectively, has never been so great.

The activities conducted or supported by the UEFA Foundation for Children all demonstrate the human and sociocultural dimension of our beautiful game. They highlight football’s most positive values, namely respect and social cohesion.

Just as it is important to speak up, it is important to listen. Everything we do is guided by those we do it for, people who are rarely asked what they want or need. We give a voice to people who cannot otherwise make themselves heard.

That is why, in this 2020/21 activity report, you will hear from the beneficiaries of our projects. The stories we have collected provide the most compelling evidence yet of the importance of football and the impact our projects have on the daily lives of many thousands of children.

It is their stories that drive and motivate us to keep uniting the world of football around projects that support people in difficulty. Each story encourages us to keep playing our part and assuming our responsibilities.

Despite all the challenges we face, football needs to continue rejecting discrimination in all its forms, to become an even more powerful vehicle for personal development and social cohesion, in Europe and all over the world.

Looking to 2021/22 and beyond, the UEFA Foundation for Children will stand up for and support thousands more young women and men, girls and boys, helping them to live their dreams and build brighter futures.

Alessandro Čeferin, Chairman of the UEFA Foundation for Children
The UEFA Foundation for Children’s board of trustees, chaired by the UEFA president, Aleksander Čeferin, met twice during the 2020/21 period.

The first meeting was a videoconference held on Wednesday 18 November 2020. At this meeting, the board celebrated the foundation’s fifth birthday. Now present in more than 119 countries, the foundation has supported over 1.8 million vulnerable children and around 333 projects since it was established.

The COVID-19 pandemic had a serious impact on the activities of the foundation and its partners. Nevertheless, work continued throughout this challenging time and numerous activities took place, in particular thanks to Common Goal.

One of the main items on the agenda in November was the approval of new projects to be supported by the foundation. The board allocated the foundation’s 2020/21 budget to 55 projects: 24 in Europe, 16 in Africa, 6 in Asia, 5 in the Caribbean and North America, 3 in South America and 1 in Oceania. Funds were allocated in accordance with the general principle that half the foundation’s budget is earmarked for projects in Europe and the other half for projects in other continents.

The second board meeting was held on Thursday 3 June 2021, again in the form of a videoconference. On this occasion, the board selected the recipients of the 2021 UEFA Foundation for Children Award, which was shared by 19 organisations, all nominated by UEFA member associations.

In order to add to the foundation’s income, the foundation decided to sign contracts with private auction companies Catawiki and Goldin Auctions, as well as Stark Sports. All proceeds will go towards foundation projects.

**AMBASSADORS**

In keeping with its strategy of partnering with popular public figures in the world of football, the board appointed Ivan Rakitić and Eugénie Le Sommer as ambassadors of the foundation. Both players are actively committed to various social causes and agreed to join forces with the foundation and support a number of its projects in the months ahead.

**INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR THE KEEEX APPLICATION USED BY THE UEFA FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN**

The foundation uses the KeeeX application to monitor and evaluate the projects it supports. While encouraging partners to take responsibility, the application reduces the cost and environmental impact of overseeing activities on the ground. As a result, it has been rolled out to all current foundation projects.

The application’s innovativeness and pertinence were recognised by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), the world’s largest annual gathering of the ‘ICT for development’ community, which awarded it the 2021 WSIS Champion Project prize in the international and regional cooperation category.

---

I now have a responsibility to show everyone that, together with the UEFA foundation and other players, we can accomplish a lot, and most importantly help children all over the world smile with joy. The fact that I’m a father of two girls means that I know and understand how important it is to see that smile on children’s faces.

— Ivan Rakitić, Sevilla FC midfielder

Education is important to me and it’s a sector I want to invest time in. We need to send young people the right messages now, so that they have a positive impact throughout their lives. I also want to share the pleasure of playing and my passion for football by helping those who need it in any way possible. Sometimes, the smallest details can actually change lives. I’ve become aware of that over the course of my career.

— Eugénie Le Sommer, Olympique Lyonnais forward
OUR FOCAL POINTS

All projects financed by the foundation are underpinned by the need to protect children from all forms of discrimination. The projects tackle issues and focal points that also help to achieve the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a call to action for all countries working in a global partnership to reduce inequalities in the world. The issues and focal points are represented in this report by the following icons:

ACCESS TO SPORT: SDGs 3 AND 5
- Right to play and recreational activities

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT: SDGs 3, 4 AND 5
- Right to education
- Right to express views freely
- Right to participate in cultural and artistic life
- Empowerment

PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES: SDGs 3 AND 4
- Right to special care and to enjoy a full and decent life

PROTECTION FOR VICTIMS OF CONFLICTS: SDGs 3, 4, 5 AND 16
- Protection against violence
- Refugee children’s right to protection and assistance
- Protection for children in detention
- Protection in armed conflicts

GENDER EQUALITY: SDGs 5, 8 AND 10
- Protection from all forms of gender-based discrimination
- Empowerment of girls
- Protection from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse

ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT: SDGs 1, 4, 5, 8 AND 10
- Protection of children from economic exploitation and from any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with their education
- Training and help with employment

INFRASTRUCTURE/EQUIPMENT: SDGs 5 AND 11
- Supply of sports equipment and safe infrastructure to support the right to play and recreational activities

UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO MEDICAL CARE: SDGs 3, 4 AND 12
- Access to medical care: right to access facilities for the treatment of illness and rehabilitation of health
- Education on healthy lifestyles

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT: SDGs 4, 5, 13 AND 15
- Educating young people about the preservation and restoration of our ecosystem

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS: SDGs 16 AND 17
- Promotion of peaceful, inclusive societies
- Strengthening means of implementing partnerships for sustainable development

STATISTICS

2020/21 SEASON PROJECTS

EUROPE
14 projects
62 projects
354,186 beneficiaries

AFRICA
29 projects
137,965 beneficiaries

ASIA
14 projects
45,661 beneficiaries

AMERICAS
15 projects
18,157 beneficiaries

OCEANIA
1 project
30,000 beneficiaries

INTERCONTINENTAL PROJECTS
4 projects
25,023 beneficiaries

UEFA SPONSOR PROJECTS
8 projects
1,350 beneficiaries

TOTAL ONGOING PROJECTS
133 projects
612,342 beneficiaries
(+30%, half of them in Europe)
30 stadiums built or renovated (+50%)
1,922 children’s dreams come true

MATERIAL SUPPORT
2 tonnes // Donations in kind, mainly kit from UEFA competitions
424 // Foundation equipment packs, each containing 5 balls, 24 bibs, 2 mini-goals, 1 ball pump, 1 whistle and 1 storage bag
2,920 // Balls donated by the foundation
15 tonnes // Material from the UEFA EURO 2020 Second Life project

TOTALS SINCE THE FOUNDATION WAS ESTABLISHED
333 // Number of projects
106 // Number of foundation award winners
119 // Number of countries
1,800,000 // Number of beneficiaries
26,922 // Number of dreams come true
64 // Number of stadiums built or renovated
52 tonnes // Quantity of equipment distributed
At its June meeting, the foundation’s board of trustees decided on the recipients of the annual award, selecting from a shortlist of charities and other organisations nominated by UEFA member associations. The €1m envelope was shared equally between 19 organisations. Each therefore received €52,630 to support its activities in defence of children’s rights.

The past year has been particularly difficult, but it is encouraging to see how our NGO partners have been able to adapt and innovate to support the growing number of children in need because of this pandemic. We are pleased to be able to support 19 additional organisations in Europe through the 2021 UEFA Foundation for Children Award.

— Aleksander Čeferin

2021 AWARD WINNERS

- **ARMENIA**
  Girls of Armenian Leadership Soccer (GOALS)

- **AZERBAIJAN**
  Azerbaijan Autism Association
  and **AZERBAIJAN**
  CARE for a healthy generation

- **BULGARIA**

- **CROATIA**
  Prijatelj association for people with disabilities

- **CYPRUS**
  One dream, one wish association for children with cancer

- **DENMARK**
  Parasport Denmark

- **ENGLAND**
  Football Beyond Borders

- **FRANCE**
  Comité Éthique et Sport (Ethics and Sport Committee)

- **GERMANY**
  Agapedia Foundation

- **ISRAEL**
  Yeladim – Fair Chance for Children

- **ITALY**
  LAPS Foundation

- **MALTA**
  Richmond Foundation

- **MOLDOVA**
  Special Olympics Moldova

- **NETHERLANDS**
  Jeugdfonds Sport & Cultuur (Youth Sport & Culture Fund)

- **NORTHERN IRELAND**
  Irish FA Foundation

- **POLAND**
  Fundacja dla Dzieci z Cukrzycą (Foundation for children with diabetes)

- **RUSSIA**
  Culture of Nations fund for sociocultural development and innovation

- **SWITZERLAND**
  Florijana Ismaili F19 (Foundation supporting football for women and girls)

- **WALES**
  FAW Trust

Eskilstuna United DFF, nominated by the Swedish Football Association, was selected as one of the 2019 award winners for its project Hjärta United (Heard United), offering after-school activities for girls. While the project is based around football, the club also organises workshops on values such as love, power, identity and integrity to address topics the girls may not be able to discuss at school or at home.

Feedback from participants:

- **Boys can dress however they like, while girls have to think about what clothes to wear to avoid nasty comments by the boys.**
  — Halima, aged 10, at an integrity workshop

- **For me, self-esteem is knowing who I am; it’s finding myself.**
  — Nouf, aged 15

- **We have a safe place where the boys don’t bother us. Football is a mostly male sport, but here we have our own space and play on our own pitch, which is really important.**
  — Sabira, aged 12

- **You can really see that as the project has progressed, the girls have gained self-confidence. They are really eager to ask difficult questions about issues such as integrity, violence, love, religion, LGBTQ+ identity and equality. You can really see them growing!**
  — Siri Kristersson, coach
It is estimated that there are about 3,000 street children in the Ethiopian city of Sodo. Busajo Campus is a residential social and educational project aimed at street children living in Sodo and the surrounding rural areas. It supports rehabilitation, prevention and family reintegration, thereby helping the beneficiaries to regain dignity and trust in the future.

The project has facilitated the construction of a gym with changing rooms and toilets, and made sports fields and sports equipment available to children and young people from the programmes and neighbouring communities. It also provides educational activities for socially marginalised children living off campus, in order to offer an educational pathway to as many young people as possible and involve the surrounding community.

Below are the answers some children gave when asked whether they enjoyed living at the Busajo centre:

There is education, cakes, TV, food and chocolate. We have all these things here, which is why I am happy and laughing all the time.

– Abi Mesfin, aged 4

I come from the streets. Living at the centre has changed my life. I attend carpentry lessons in the evenings and I work in the day. And during my spare time, I play sport.

– Eskinder Soka, aged 15

I used to live on the streets. After I arrived at the campus, I started going to school and I work hard. I also have good living conditions. I like the campus because we learn by playing sport together and I’m happy here.

– Atinafu Tademe, aged 13

Acholi Quarters is one of the largest slums in Kampala, with more than 20,000 inhabitants. This project, run in collaboration with the Aliguma Foundation, families, caregivers and community leaders, aims to transform the vulnerable Acholi Quarters community through sport.

As well as the renovation of a sports centre equipped with basic training facilities, training programmes will enable 850 women and other caregivers to acquire the skills they need to start and manage their own businesses. Numerous sports-related information and training programmes will also help protect more than 2,500 children from exploitation, enable them to go to school and delay the age at which girls get married.

When I come home from school, my friends ask me if it’s fun and how my studies and sports are going. I tell them how much I enjoy it! My favourite subjects are maths and the sciences. When I grow up, I want to be an engineer.

– Jacob, aged 11

My story is like a miracle. Before I went to the Pearl of Africa high school, I was suffering and I didn’t know how I was going to return to school after dropping out. I am grateful to Aunt Ritah from Aliguma, who enrolled me on the programme supported by the UEFA Foundation for Children, for giving me the chance to go back to school. It enabled me to take control of my life. They gave us sanitary towels and taught us how to make reusable ones so we didn’t have to stay indoors during our periods. I was able to earn money by making and selling reusable towels.

Earning money has really made a difference in my life. This project helps girls around here to avoid falling pregnant at an early age. Many used to become mothers when they were 13, but thanks in part to the foundation, I have never even thought about having children, even though I am already 16. I call that a miracle.

– Margaret, aged 16
According to the Central African Republic’s ministry of family and social affairs, there are 4,000 children living on the streets in Bangui, where they are exposed to drug abuse, prostitution, infectious diseases and various forms of violence. The rights of incarcerated minors are also violated and their detention conditions are such that their dignity is not respected.

This project aims to improve support for street children and incarcerated minors by boosting the competencies of those involved in child protection. Since May 2021, literacy training has been offered to incarcerated children as an essential means of socio-professional reintegration after their release.

I don’t have any family in Bangui and it’s the first time I’ve been here. I don’t know when we’re going to be released or when we’ll be able to see our mum again. I miss her a lot.

I was in class CE1 and my brother was in class CE2. Unfortunately, while I’ve been in prison, I’ve forgotten everything I learned at school. Now we’re learning again, like all normal children.

– E., aged 15

E. is in prison with his brother and father after they were accused of conspiring with criminals in relation to chieftaincy issues in their home village. E. and his brother have been attending literacy lessons at the detention centre.

We are truly grateful for all the football equipment we have received from the UEFA Foundation for Children. The balls and equipment have been distributed in the Lemek conservancy and four neighbouring nature reserves. We play a lot of football because the unemployment rate is very high and many youngsters have nothing else to do. We therefore have plenty of time to train and sometimes to play in tournaments. With Water4Wildlife, we learn to preserve our heritage, which is the wildlife.

– James Lemurt, aged 20

The Maasai Mara ecosystem is one of the largest wildlife conservation areas in East Africa, and it makes a significant contribution to Kenya’s tourism revenue. The Lemek conservancy, located within the Maasai Mara, is home to many marginalised children. Most public schools attended by these underprivileged children lack the most basic social amenities.

Water4Wildlife has built a modern sports complex in a public school to serve children from the various conservancies in the Maasai Mara. It means 300 children aged between 4 and 16 can now play football regularly.

Game rangers use football tournaments to play with the schoolchildren and tell them about the importance of wildlife conservation, the threat of extinction and the problems linked to poaching and eating game meat.

Football matches between tourists and the children are also organised by local hotels and lodges. This gives the children the opportunity to share their dreams and understand the reasons visitors come to the Maasai Mara nature reserves, such as to admire the wildlife.

The project aims to prepare the children to lead the way as protectors of the environment in their community.

I was in class CE1 and my brother was in class CE2. Unfortunately, while I’ve been in prison, I’ve forgotten everything I learned at school. Now we’re learning again, like all normal children.

– A., aged 18, who used to live on the streets

The project aims to improve support for street children and incarcerated minors by boosting the competencies of those involved in child protection. Since May 2021, literacy training has been offered to incarcerated children as an essential means of socio-professional reintegration after their release.

I don’t have any family in Bangui and it’s the first time I’ve been here. I don’t know when we’re going to be released or when we’ll be able to see our mum again. I miss her a lot.

I was in class CE1 and my brother was in class CE2. Unfortunately, while I’ve been in prison, I’ve forgotten everything I learned at school. Now we’re learning again, like all normal children.

– E., aged 15

My name is A. and I’ve just turned 18. I come from a poor family, which is why I chose prostitution at a very early age as a means of escape. On the streets, I met the Triangle team and I attended an education class on the consequences of sexual violence. It made me realise the risks I was taking.

Thanks to Triangle, I was reunited with my family and I’m very happy. I’m now learning dressmaking. I have learned how to make tablecloths and clothes for children and adults. I feel much better, and I’ve even changed how I dress. I would like to be a fashion designer one day.

– A., aged 18, who used to live on the streets

NEW PROJECTS IN AFRICA

KICK THE BALL, SAVE OUR WILDLIFE

Maasai Mara, Kenya
Water4Wildlife
Dec 20-May 21
€15,054 (€13,054 Foundation)

SOCIAL REINTEGRATION FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN

Bangui, Central African Republic
Triangle Génération Humanitaire
Mar 21-Feb 24
€780,000 (€150,000 Foundation)

The Maasai Mara ecosystem is one of the largest wildlife conservation areas in East Africa, and it makes a significant contribution to Kenya’s tourism revenue. The Lemek conservancy, located within the Maasai Mara, is home to many marginalised children. Most public schools attended by these underprivileged children lack the most basic social amenities.

Water4Wildlife has built a modern sports complex in a public school to serve children from the various conservancies in the Maasai Mara. It means 300 children aged between 4 and 16 can now play football regularly.

Game rangers use football tournaments to play with the schoolchildren and tell them about the importance of wildlife conservation, the threat of extinction and the problems linked to poaching and eating game meat.

Football matches between tourists and the children are also organised by local hotels and lodges. This gives the children the opportunity to share their dreams and understand the reasons visitors come to the Maasai Mara nature reserves, such as to admire the wildlife.

The project aims to prepare the children to lead the way as protectors of the environment in their community.

I don’t have any family in Bangui and it’s the first time I’ve been here. I don’t know when we’re going to be released or when we’ll be able to see our mum again. I miss her a lot.

I was in class CE1 and my brother was in class CE2. Unfortunately, while I’ve been in prison, I’ve forgotten everything I learned at school. Now we’re learning again, like all normal children.

– E., aged 15

E. is in prison with his brother and father after they were accused of conspiring with criminals in relation to chieftaincy issues in their home village. E. and his brother have been attending literacy lessons at the detention centre.

We are truly grateful for all the football equipment we have received from the UEFA Foundation for Children. The balls and equipment have been distributed in the Lemek conservancy and four neighbouring nature reserves. We play a lot of football because the unemployment rate is very high and many youngsters have nothing else to do. We therefore have plenty of time to train and sometimes to play in tournaments. With Water4Wildlife, we learn to preserve our heritage, which is the wildlife.

– James Lemurt, aged 20

The project aims to improve support for street children and incarcerated minors by boosting the competencies of those involved in child protection. Since May 2021, literacy training has been offered to incarcerated children as an essential means of socio-professional reintegration after their release.

I don’t have any family in Bangui and it’s the first time I’ve been here. I don’t know when we’re going to be released or when we’ll be able to see our mum again. I miss her a lot.

I was in class CE1 and my brother was in class CE2. Unfortunately, while I’ve been in prison, I’ve forgotten everything I learned at school. Now we’re learning again, like all normal children.

– E., aged 15

My name is A. and I’ve just turned 18. I come from a poor family, which is why I chose prostitution at a very early age as a means of escape. On the streets, I met the Triangle team and I attended an education class on the consequences of sexual violence. It made me realise the risks I was taking.

Thanks to Triangle, I was reunited with my family and I’m very happy. I’m now learning dressmaking. I have learned how to make tablecloths and clothes for children and adults. I feel much better, and I’ve even changed how I dress. I would like to be a fashion designer one day.

– A., aged 18, who used to live on the streets

NEW PROJECTS IN AFRICA
NEW PROJECTS IN AFRICA

REFUGEE-LED SPORT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMMES
- Chad IACT

GOOD HEALTH AND CLIMATE ACTION THROUGH FOOTBALL
- Lesotho Kick4Life
  - Improving the health and long-term prospects of Lesotho’s youth, with an emphasis on tackling gender-based violence and the urgent need for COVID-19 health education, as well as education about water conservation, biodiversity and preventing land degradation.

BLIND SOLIDARITY
- Mali Libre Vue
  - Providing sports and solidarity activities for blind children. The current facilities will be upgraded with a new artificial pitch that will, in time, be self-funding thanks to rental income from the public.

RENOVATION AND CONSTRUCTION AT THE SPORT ÉVEIL ACADÉMIE
- Morocco Solidarité MARATHON DES SABLES
  - Allowing children whose parents are in financial difficulty to discover the values of sport from an early age, free of charge. A sports centre in the outskirts of Ouarzazate is currently being renovated so local children can play sport safely.

IMPRESSING THE PSYCHOSOCIAL WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN DISPLACED THROUGH CONFLICT
- Mozambique Street Child
  - Meeting the psychosocial needs of children affected by conflict and displacement by organising aid through recreational activities, especially sport. Workshops on how to create an inclusive educational environment are also provided for schoolteachers.

FUTURE LEADERS OF KALEBUKA
- Democratic Republic of the Congo Georges Malaika Foundation
  - Providing young people with free access to literacy, IT, English, health and sports education. The programme addresses topics such as conflict management, COVID-19, communicable disease prevention, leadership skills and gender equality.

SCORE
- Ivory Coast La Balle aux prisonniers
  - Using football as an escape from daily life in detention. The fundamental values of sport can be used in activities such as vocational and literacy training and conflict management with a view to social reintegration.

NEW PROJECTS IN AFRICA

THE GAZELLES OF TERANGA
- Senegal Unis Vers le Sport

FOOTBALL FOUNDATION PROGRAMME
- South Africa Grootbos Foundation

GIRLS ON TRACK
- Tanzania Right to Play

OTHER ONGOING PROJECTS

AFRICAN BLACK’N’BLUE
- Angola, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda Inter Futura S.r.l. • SHOWING EXCLUSION THE RED CARD
- Burkina Faso Samusocial International • FOOTBALL FOR HEALTH PREVENTION
- Burkina Faso Ivory Coast streetfootballworld • KICK FOR TRADE
- Gambia, Guinea International Trade Centre • REMBA ISLAND EDUCATION, HEALTH AND NUTRITION PROJECT
- Kenya Power for the People • GIVING YOUTH AND PEACE A CHANCE ON AND OFF THE FIELD
- Kenya MYSA • MALAWIAN YOUTH KICKS BACK
- Malawi Simavi • OPEN FUN FOOTBALL SCHOOLS
- South Sudan Cross Cultures • USING FOOTBALL TO END CHILD MARRIAGE AND FGM IN TANZANIA
- Tanzania Plan International UK • SPORT FOR INCLUSION: FOOTBALL AGAINST RACISM
- Tunisia International Organization for Migration • EXERCISING CHANGE IN PALABEK
- Uganda Street Child • CHILDREN ON THE MOVE
- Uganda Swiss Academy for Development

29 PROJECTS
137,965 BENEFICIARIES
NEW PROJECTS IN THE AMERICAS

GOALS began working in Haiti in 2010, in the remote village of Destra. Since then, the programme has been rolled out in three separate villages near the city of Léogâne. Our partner works with community leaders and family members who know best how to help children who slip through the net in conventional educational systems.

Team GOALS is a sport for development programme focused on football. Designed to develop leadership skills, spark change and promote equality, it focuses on teaching life skills such as literacy and awareness of health and the environment. It aims to create stronger, healthier communities in rural parts of Haiti.

My name is Ednelson, I’m 18 years old and I live in Destra. I joined the GOALS programme in 2010, and playing is what I love doing the most. The programme has taught me lots of things, including leadership. Through football, I have learned how to live with others, and to think more carefully in order to make the right decisions. I’d like to be an engineer when I’m older. Today, it is an honour for me to become an assistant coach because it gives me the chance to work with young people and pass on to them what I have learned on the pitch.

– Ednelson, aged 18

Founded in 2004, Mama Alice is an NGO based in Ayacucho, one of the poorest regions of Peru. It helps children and families confronted with problems linked to domestic violence, alcoholism, sexual abuse, malnutrition and unemployment. In order to have a long-term impact, its main focus is on providing education and psychological help.

Between January and May 2021, the NGO organised eight Fun, Friends, Football camps during the COVID-19 crisis. Each camp lasted six days, from Monday to Saturday, and a total of 243 children aged between 6 and 13 took part. All the children, many of whom were refugees from Venezuela, were from economically and socially disadvantaged backgrounds.

The aim of the camps was to give the children a fantastic week in which they could improve their football skills, learn about Peruvian history and culture, develop their social skills, learn healthy eating and hygiene habits, meet new challenges and, above all, make friends.

The day before the final match, the children were given football kit with the logos of the UEFA Foundation for Children and Mama Alice. The girls and boys wore their kit with pride and they all wanted their photo taken. Most of the girls had never heard of UEFA before.

I loved this football camp! But what I loved most was the food. The chef cooks excellent meals, especially the chicken wings. We played football, but first we had to warm up. We won the match in the end. We also spent some time in Quinua and visited its waterfalls. I hope I can attend this football camp again, and that it will last more than a week next time!

– Alice, aged 12

The Fun, Friends, Football camps were an unforgettable experience for all the participants. Several months later, the children were still running around the streets of Ayacucho, proudly wearing their camp shirts and shorts. Girls and boys continue to play football together.

Since the children begged for the football training to continue, Mama Alice is now running regular sessions in Yanama.
NEW PROJECTS IN THE AMERICAS

EMPATE FOR ARGENTINA
Argentina  Fundación Empate
Creating spaces where people with Down’s syndrome can learn a sport, have fun and thrive. Fundación Empate runs a free social franchise scheme that aims to fill the gap in this area by offering high-quality, inclusive activities.

A SAFE SPACE TO PLAY FOR CHILDREN IN CABREÚVA
Brazil  Cruyff Foundation
Building a Cruyff Court for the Cabreúva community to give children a safe space to play football and other sports. The Cruyff Foundation’s local partner, the Instituto Plataforma Brasil, will run daily football sessions.

URBAN FOOTBALL FOR HOPES AND DREAMS
Canada  Rêves Passion Montréal
Helping create an environment that supports the personal development of vulnerable young people whose parents cannot afford to enrol them in extracurricular activities. Boys are taught to respect and include girls.

UNITY AND PEACE
Jamaica  Fight For Peace
Enabling children, teenagers and young adults from volatile urban communities to participate in sport in order to reduce violence. The project brings together several organisations and sports-related NGOs, who share and codify best practices together.

PROMOTING SPORTS TO BUILD RESILIENCE IN RURAL NICARAGUA
Nicaragua  Fabretto Children’s Foundation
Educating students and their families about the importance of personal hygiene, a balanced diet and good mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic, while continuing to provide extra-curricular and sports activities, with the aim of reducing exclusion by guaranteeing access to quality education for all.

SENIOR LEADERS PROGRAMME
USA  Starfinder Foundation
Providing football and fitness activities, academic support and leadership training. Aimed at low-income and immigrant young people, this intensive after-school programme teaches them how to succeed on and off the pitch.

OTHER ONGOING PROJECTS
LA NUESTRA FOOTBALL CLUB  Argentina  Women Win • CRUYFF COURTS IN THE DUTCH CARIBBEAN  Aruba, Bonaire, St Eustatius, Saint Martin  Cruyff Foundation • A GOAL FOR GENDER EQUALITY  Bolivia • PLAN INTERNATIONAL BELGIUM • INCLUSION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES IN BOLIVIA  Bolivia  Light for the World International • AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMME  Mexico  Fundación del Empresariado Chihuahuense AC • MATH ATTACK  Saint Lucia  Sacred Sports Foundation • WASH AND LEARN  USA  Libraries Without Borders US

NEW PROJECTS IN ASIA

PLAYING FOR EQUALITY
Cambodia  Indochina Starfish Foundation  Jan 21-Mar 22  €23,450 (€23,000 Foundation)
Indochina Starfish Foundation is a Cambodian charity that promotes education and sport to change lives. Its ambition is to eradicate poverty and social inequality. Fewer than 5% of young people complete secondary school studies in Cambodia. The poverty in which many children live deprives them of their childhood, education and crucial life skills. Children with disabilities and girls are particularly vulnerable in this respect.

Playing for Equality trains teachers across 15 schools, some of whose students are deaf or HIV-positive. Football-based activities are used to educate students about gender equality, disability rights and children’s rights.

When I started playing football, I felt that I wasn’t good enough. My coaches encouraged me and inspired me to change my attitude, offering suggestions for improvement and caring about my well-being and progress. They took the time to coach me individually and I felt that they cared about me and valued me as a team member.

At the end of the season, I had gained confidence on the pitch but also off it. Now I want to have the same impact on my own players: to let them know that I care about their well-being and that I want to see them grow as athletes and individuals.

– Srey Nuth, aged 16, beneficiary of the coaching project

#protectionofminorities
15 PROJECTS
18,157 BENEFICIARIES
NEW PROJECTS IN ASIA

A non-profit organisation, FundLife has the objective of allowing all children to dream in colour. Working in deprived areas of the Philippines, the organisation protects children by keeping them in school. FundLife works to ensure that girls can participate in sports activities and facilitates their access to education, personal development and employment.

It is the mission of the FundLife Dream Academy to reduce the school dropout rate in the densely urbanised but disadvantaged city of Cebu through a comprehensive approach to youth empowerment through sport, especially for girls. There are many benefits to empowering girls, as they are more likely to appreciate education and invest in future generations.

Football is a great way to empower girls by giving them the opportunity to learn that anything that others can do, they can do too. The most essential values and skills that girls can acquire are to believe in their abilities and their capacity for self-determination. It is also important for them to learn to use their voices to express themselves, to discipline themselves and to work with others to achieve their objectives.

– Patrina Kaye, football and education mentor

Some of the essential skills that I have learned from playing sport are respect for others, communication and teamwork. Why respect? We cannot build a healthy society and community without respect for each other. Communication is also important to comprehend each other’s perception of life and in this way avoid misunderstandings and disagreements. Finally, teamwork allows us to do great things and discover new things together.

– Mark, aged 17

NEW PROJECTS IN ASIA

EDUCATION AND SPORT FOR STREET CHILDREN

Afghanistan - Action for Development

Empowering children through education, football distribution and football lessons with a focus on social development to break the cycle of extreme poverty. Work has been done with the government to make them aware of the specific needs of the children.

FOOTBALL IN THE ZAATARI AND AZRAQ REFUGEE CAMPS

Jordan - Association Football Development Programme

Offering football and other sports in an appropriate, safe and supervised environment to allow the children of the camps to enjoy their childhoods. This project trains football coaches and referees and uses the values of sport to encourage personal development and raise young people’s awareness of societal issues.

OTHER ONGOING PROJECTS

As a result of the social, cultural and economic problems affecting most families in the neighbourhoods of Camarate in Portugal and Sant Ildefons in Spain, many children have unhealthy lifestyles and poor eating habits.

Fairplay4life is focused on helping teenagers in vulnerable situations lead healthier lives. The project uses face-to-face and virtual teaching methods to help children and teenagers at risk of social exclusion increase their knowledge, self-esteem and self-awareness. By encouraging them to eat healthily and develop good long-term habits, the project aims to give them a greater sense of responsibility. The idea behind the activities on offer is to give them the skills they need to keep up these habits, including through teamwork and sport.

I have been working on mindfulness with the children for several years now, but this project has taught me something new. The socio-economic and cultural disadvantages these children face is an enormous challenge because most of them are in survival mode. The way they take part in the programme highlights the universal dimension of football as an educational and personal development tool for all children.

– Pedro, teacher

Unaccompanied refugee minors do not benefit from a family context in which to develop the social and behavioural skills needed for employment and adulthood. Once an unaccompanied refugee turns 18 and leaves the care system, they face the challenge of transitioning to self-sufficiency. Employment is a critical dimension in this transition process, during which these young adults need guidance, structure, information and tools to help them learn how to support themselves.

The Barça Foundation project is developing a sports-based methodology that introduces and improves the knowledge, skills and networks required to find employment. It is specifically tailored to unaccompanied minors aged between 16 and 18, and young migrants at high risk of social exclusion between the ages of 18 and 21.

A group of coaches and educators living in transit and destination countries are trained in this sports-based methodology with a view to developing the employability of unaccompanied minors and young migrants.

I am Abdul, Barça Foundation coordinator for the past four years. I work with unaccompanied minors in the village of Llavaneres, in the province of Catalonia. During the 2020/21 season, we took part in the employability programme supported by the UEFA Foundation for Children. We are delighted with the work we were able to accomplish with the young people. They are on the verge of turning 18 and need to be prepared for the world of work. Using the values of sport to help these youngsters become the citizens of tomorrow can be extremely effective. The challenges and goals are huge, but the work is very rewarding.

– Abdul, Barça Foundation coordinator

My name is Ali, I’m 15 years old and I come from Pakistan. I live with more than 30 other children in a shelter in Athens. My family was very poor and I had to leave my country with my uncle four years ago to look for a better future. I found myself alone in Greece. Thanks to this programme, I have acquired skills such as cooperation and communication that, I hope, will help me in the future. I’ve really enjoyed playing with the others and I hope I can continue these activities.

– Ali, aged 15
More than half the refugees arriving in Turkey are children from Syria, which poses numerous challenges. Too many of them are not in school, while many are coping with anger, trauma and loss. To make matters worse, they arrive in large cities where locals already face high levels of poverty, wide educational gaps and severe unemployment. The local authorities cannot provide enough jobs, school places or social cohesion.

Living Together uses football as a tool for building peaceful coexistence between children from different backgrounds while refurbishing school facilities. Promoting peaceful relations between Turkish and Syrian youngsters is therefore a valuable investment for the future of both communities.

I am glad I took part in the Living Together project. It taught me a lot, such as the need to apologise when you make a mistake. I also learned that the best way of finishing first is by playing fairly.

– Noah, aged 13, from Turkey

The Living Together project has had a positive impact on Syrian and Turkish children because it has broken down the barriers between them. They have all become friends and now Syrian children can play in Turkish football clubs. We hope projects like this will continue because they have a huge impact on the future.

– Ahmed, former footballer and coach

Thanks to the Living Together project, teachers have been properly trained and school playgrounds renovated. A football competition for 700 schoolchildren was also created. The project promoted social cohesion by bringing Syrians and Turks together through football. I hope it will be rolled out throughout Turkey.

– Ibrahim Degan, sports coordinator, ministry of education, Şanlıurfa

In Russia, there are still many obstacles to the integration of people with Down’s syndrome. Sport assists social integration since it develops physical and mental abilities, improves emotional and psychological well-being, and teaches teamwork and social skills.

Football for children with Down’s syndrome is the first initiative in Russia that teaches children with Down’s syndrome how to play as a team. They attend football training sessions several times a week, participate in friendly games and other sports events, and attend football matches. The project also includes training camps and refresher courses for coaches from Moscow and other regions, as well as for volunteers.

I love football training, playing football and my coach, Alina. You need a lot of strength and skill to score a goal.

– Taisia, aged 11

I love playing. For me, football is like fire, having the power of fire. When I play, I want to win. I don’t want to let my team down. When I’m in goal, if someone runs towards me with the ball, I immediately want to come out, catch the ball and throw it out. If the ball comes towards me, I can stretch out and stop it.

– Anton, aged 23, goalkeeper

Most importantly, football is good for the health. Kostya has become more mobile and coordinated, he is stronger and more resilient. He has also managed to lose weight. Team spirit was also new to him; his team-mates have become his friends. Kostya looks forward to every session and loves to go and train. It’s a very useful activity for him and helps him get to know other people. Football enables people to grow, persevere, seek new challenges and reach their goals. Small victories bring enormous joy! Each victory is an incentive to improve. Football is a sport that our children can enjoy.

– Vladimir, father of Kostya, who has Down’s syndrome
NEW PROJECTS IN EUROPE

GENERATION SPORT 2021

Armenia
Armenian Fund for Sustainable Development

Promoting sport in schools in rural areas with disabled pupils. Selected schools receive sports facilities and equipment and organise an inaugural event.

FOOTBALL WITHOUT BORDERS

Austria
Kicken ohne Grenzen

Integrating young refugees into Austrian society and gently leading them into training and employment. To achieve this, Kicken ohne Grenzen helps the young people improve their social, mental and emotional skills through weekly open football training sessions.

MBO MPENZA CHALLENGE

Belgium
Impala Performance ASBL

Promoting the values of sport, especially football, and combating all forms of discrimination and exclusion. Challenges are designed to entertain the children and foster team spirit by removing difference-related barriers.

YOUTH SPORTS GAMES 2021

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia
Association for Sport, Recreation and Education – Youth Games

Enabling children to participate in free sports events. The Youth Sports Games are the largest amateur sports event for young people in Europe. More than 2 million children aged between 7 and 18 have competed in the 25 years since they began. The games are held in over 280 cities in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Serbia, and comprise ten sports.

CREATING A HOLIDAY AND TRAINING CENTRE

France
Sport dans la Ville

Creating a holiday centre for disadvantaged young people on a 22-hectare site of exceptional natural beauty, offering a variety of sports and leisure activities, as well as vocational training for older children in activity-leading, hospitality and catering. Over more than 20 years, Sport dans la Ville has enabled more than 3,000 children to go on holiday.

KURT-LANDAUER-PLATZ

Germany
Bellevue di Monaco e.G.

Building a multisports pitch named after Kurt Landauer, a former president of FC Bayern München, on the roof of the Bellevue di Monaco intercultural community centre in the heart of Munich. The community centre offers a variety of sports programmes for young refugees and local children, with a focus on cultural exchange, personal development and inclusion.

NEW CHALLENGES, NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Hungary
Oltalom Sport Association

Helping children who have lacked parenting and education develop the skills they need to lead successful lives. Rather than taking the place of school, Oltalom Sport Association contributes to the informal learning that is often lacking in these children’s lives.

HAPOEL KATAMON’S NEIGHBOURHOODS LEAGUE

Israel
Hapoel Katamon Jerusalem FC

Showing marginalised Jewish and Arab children a different reality that radiates professionalism, optimism and joy. The Neighbourhoods League consists of girls’ and boys’ football teams in schools across Jerusalem.

SPORT IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE

Israel
Peres Center for Peace and Innovation

Training young Jewish and Arab leaders how to lead, manage conflict and use football as a tool for peace education. After they have been trained, these young people use their skills to organise cross-cultural exchanges, Hebrew or Arabic language courses and mixed football matches for ‘twinned’ classes of Jewish and Arab schoolchildren.

BEYOND GOALS 2

Greece
ActionAid Hellas

Teaching disadvantaged children life values and skills, affording them a better quality of life with dignity and greater opportunities to develop themselves and their communities. This football-based project is led by international footballer Dimitris Papadopoulos.

LET’S PLAY OUTSIDE!

Moldova
Football Association of Moldova

Creating a football pitch at the Lyceum N2 secondary school in Chadyr-Lunga. The existing facilities are run-down, and the only large open space is the sports ground in the school yard that was created in 1985.
**NEW PROJECTS IN EUROPE**

**BIJZONDERE EREDIVISIE**

Netherlands

Het Gehandicapte Kind

Organising football competitions for children with disabilities. Ten clubs from all over the country take part. The aim is to increase disabled children’s participation in sport and give them new perspectives thanks to a sustainable competition.

**FOOTBALL3 EMPOWER GIRLS**

Poland

Młodzieżowe Stowarzyszenie Inicjatyw Sportowych

Promoting equal access to football and equal treatment of women and girls in football in Poland, training coaches and promoting respect and cooperation between boys and girls.

**YOUTH IN ACTION**

Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland

Rio Ferdinand Foundation

Tackling racism in Ireland and promoting community cohesion and the integration of ethnic minority and migrant communities through sport and education. The activities give participants shared experiences and engage them in dialogue on finding solutions to racism, xenophobia and prejudice.

**FOOTBALL VERSUS DISCRIMINATION**

Republic of Ireland

Sport Against Racism Ireland

Giving as many disabled children as possible the chance to sail. There are over 50,000 children with disabilities in Switzerland. The COVID-19 pandemic has forced them to isolate at home. Just for Smiles plans to expand its main activity, sailing, in order to reach more beneficiaries and help them become more independent.

**DISABILITY AND THE COVID-19 HEALTH CRISIS**

Switzerland

Just for Smiles

Giving as many disabled children as possible the chance to sail. There are over 50,000 children with disabilities in Switzerland. The COVID-19 pandemic has forced them to isolate at home. Just for Smiles plans to expand its main activity, sailing, in order to reach more beneficiaries and help them become more independent.

**CUP OF TRUST**

Ukraine

Charity Fund ‘Football Development in Ukraine’

Building trust between young people and law enforcement officials. As part of this project, 100 police officers and 100 physical education teachers receive training through a sport for development workshop and an online child safeguarding course. They will then create mixed school football teams and train them to take part in the Cup of Trust.

**A BALL FOR ALL**

GLOBAL PROJECT

Greece

Youthorama

Designing and producing a special sound ball with which all children, including blind children, can play. This ball is not for sale; it is exclusively given away. A total of 2,000 balls will be produced and donated to create an inclusive football network around the world.

**OTHER ONGOING PROJECTS**

**SCORE FOR EDUCATION**

Albania

Save the Children

**GOALS FOR MY FUTURE III**

Austria

Mentor Management-Entwicklungs-Organisation GmbH & Co

**SCORING FOR HEALTH**

Belgium, Israel, Netherlands, Poland, Ukraine, United Kingdom

European Football for Development Network

**FOOTBALL FOR PEACE ACADEMY**

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Genesis Project

**SPORT AND PLAY FOR INCLUSION AND INTEGRATION**

Bulgaria

World at Play

**WELCOME THROUGH FOOTBALL**

Cyprus, Germany, Netherlands, Portugal, Ukraine, United Kingdom

European Football for Development Network

**FOOTBALL FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

Czech Republic

INEX

**LIVE MATCH COMMENTARIES**

France

Bel endroit pour une rencontre

**SCORING GIRLS**

Germany

HAWAR.help e.V

**LIVING TOGETHER GREECE**

Greece

Aeolios FC

**PLAY FOR CHANGE**

Italy

Play for Change

**SOCIAL-SPORTS SCHOOLS IN EUROPE**

Italy, Portugal, Romania, Spain, United Kingdom

Real Madrid Foundation

**FOOTBALL PITCH FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

Kazakhstan

National Paralympic Committee of Kazakhstan

**STREET FOOTBALL MOVE**

Portugal

Associação de Futebol de Bragança

**SYNTHETIC SPORTS FIELD**

Romania

Luncșoara Bihorului Association

**GOFITBA**

Scotland

Scottish Football Partnership Trust

**SUCCESS PACKAGES**

Ukraine

Klitschko Foundation

**ACTIVE LIVES**

United Kingdom

Newcastle United Foundation

**EVERTON IN YOUR COMMUNITY**

United Kingdom

Everton in the Community, Edge Hill University

**HEALTH GOALS LIVERPOOL**

United Kingdom

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine
The Pacific region is home to half a million children spread over 17.2 million square kilometres of ocean. These children face many challenges on a daily basis. Obesity and diabetes are on the rise and over 25% of children are overweight or obese by the age of 13. Girls are particularly marginalised and confronted by inequality in education, decision-making processes and access to health services. Children, especially girls, are exposed to high levels of violence, both in the home and at school.

As the most popular sport in the world, football has the power to influence the perceptions, behaviour and actions of children and their communities. The Just Play programme encourages regular physical activity and exploits its capacity to influence a variety of issues, such as nutrition, disability and social inclusion, to enable positive changes in social behaviour.

After their participation in Just Play:

- 82% of children choose water instead of a fizzy drink (compared to 52% previously);
- 72% of boys assert that they enjoy playing football with girls (53% previously) and 85% of children say they recognise and appreciate differences (65% previously).

Since we launched Just Play in Santo, children’s lunch boxes more often contain fruit than junk food. I have also noticed that girls and boys interact better together. They play in mixed groups and even work together in class.

– Ms Georges, a coordinator in Vanuatu

We set up stands during football festivals and display posters to teach the children how to stay healthy, how to brush their teeth and what food to eat to help their bodies grow strong.

– Maralynn, coach

We didn’t have goals, we used stones instead of balls, but once we got involved in the project, we received new footballs, shirts so we could recognise our teammates, and goals so we could play a proper match. This new equipment made us very happy and excited to play football.

– Dia Badr Al Din, aged 13, participant in the Living Together project in Turkey

The programme teaches children that they should boil water before drinking it and that it is important to wash their hands with soap and water to avoid getting diarrhoea.

– Rosina, coach

Some projects and initiatives find it hard to obtain quality equipment, depending on the region. Equipment is often too expensive or hard to get hold of. This problem can hinder the proper implementation of activities and compromise a project.

To respond to the need for equipment around the world, the UEFA Foundation for Children decided to offer its support by supplying equipment to projects wanting to implement activities for children. The equipment distributed consists mainly of balls and the resources needed to carry out safe training sessions. In 2020/21, the foundation was assisted by adidas and H&M with the production of 10,000 balls and 1,600 pieces of equipment.

Wearing the bib means a lot to him, even when he is not playing. It creates a sense of belonging.

– Milton Masl, coordinator of the Just Play project in Oceania, talking about Joe, a disabled child

The benefits of football equipment are undoubtedly enormous. As a coach, equipment helps me and makes my work easier; children also actively use it in training. Modern training cannot be imagined without equipment; with its help, players improve their physical qualities and playing skills. We use flat cones, a coordination ladder and bibs for a variety of exercises and games, and the fact that each child has his own ball during training really boosts the positive emotions.

– Andriy Malyi, coach in the Come On, Let’s Play! project in Mar’inka, Donetsk region, Ukraine

#promotionofhealthyliving
Sport for Good (SFG) practitioners work with children on a daily basis. However, only 50% have basic or intermediate knowledge about child safeguarding. The overall objective is to minimise potential (unintentional) harm to vulnerable groups. This can be achieved by using UEFA’s protection efforts to develop a certification module for all practitioners in the SFG sector who work with children, young people and adults at risk.

A consortium of eight SFG organisations from the streetfootballworld network and Common Goal community will create a safeguarding programme developed from a contextual perspective. This consortium will also evaluate the certification module to ensure that it can be used for children from different regions and cultures. The eight selected organisations will work with parents and carers to include their voices and comments in the consultation.

We are proud to have been chosen to be part of the UEFA-streetfootballworld safeguarding consortium. Young people are at the heart of all Dream a Dream’s activities. It is important to create safe spaces for children. The certification module will play a very important role in the training offered to coaches, staff and child protection officers to instruct them on how to approach different scenarios based on the local context. The current training materials, created by UEFA, offer a solid base which allows us to develop a specific tool for sports organisations working for development.

– Anirban Chakraborty, Dream a Dream

Being part of the safeguarding consortium gives us the opportunity to share our knowledge and experience, while offering us a platform through which we can learn from organisations and experts working in different parts of the world, which is always an exciting experience. We will be able to discover their realities, their highs and lows, their challenges on the ground regarding child protection and how they deal with these challenges. These discussions will allow us to incorporate the lessons learned from their experiences and make football a safer and more welcoming sport.

– Gottgeisl Dóra, Oltalom Sport Association

Whether intentional or not, discriminatory behaviour against the LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, intersex and allies) community is commonplace in sport. Young LGBTQ+ people are twice as likely to be harassed or physically assaulted: 63% of LGBTQ+ people surveyed had experienced homophobia in a sporting environment. Nevertheless, 57% said that they would be more likely to participate in sports activities if they were better adapted to their community. Furthermore, many coaches struggle to address the challenge of integrating LGBTQ+ children and young people and take their needs into account, mainly due to a lack of skills, training and knowledge.

Play Proud is LGBTQ+ inclusive training that aims to give coaches the necessary tools and knowledge to make grassroots sport more inclusive for the LGBTQ+ community and to create a safe environment for children and young people.

Play Proud is a safe place and a medium to share the main issues that affect LGBTQ+ people in Indonesia. Play Proud offers training, facilities and opportunities to groups of marginalised women, especially trans women, to allow them to play a role in society.

– Purin, coach, Rumah Cemara

It’s made me aware of some of the struggles the LGBTQ+ community can face. And it’s made me realise how much I can be an ally within that community, and how I can support it by making sessions more inclusive and making our club more inclusive. We’ve been very open; we have experienced homophobic language at sessions and that’s something we’re trying to eradicate, and we’re making every effort to educate the young people that we work with on a weekly basis. And we are going to make sure that we are truly inclusive to the LGBTQ+ community.

– Craig, coach, Sport4Life UK
UEFA EVENTS

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2019/20, FINAL EIGHT IN PORTUGAL

In the midst of the pandemic, the final stages of the UEFA Champions League, from the quarter-finals onwards, were held in the form of a mini-tournament in Portugal from 19 to 23 August.

In order to continue making dreams come true for children suffering from serious illnesses, Mastercard, a UEFA Champions League partner, and the UEFA Foundation for Children gave four youngsters the opportunity to meet some of the players virtually.

Ruby and Annika were invited behind the scenes at the match between RB Leipzig and Paris Saint-Germain and got to chat with Ruby and Annika were invited behind the scenes at the match between RB Leipzig and Paris Saint-Germain and got to chat with ten-year-old Ruby, a football fanatic from the northeast of England, was undergoing chemotherapy at the time, while 11-year-old Annika was receiving treatment at a cancer clinic in Frankfurt.

Ruby and Annika were invited behind the scenes at the match between RB Leipzig and Paris Saint-Germain and got to chat with Ruby and Annika were invited behind the scenes at the match between RB Leipzig and Paris Saint-Germain and got to chat with ten-year-old Ruby, a football fanatic from the northeast of England, was undergoing chemotherapy at the time, while 11-year-old Annika was receiving treatment at a cancer clinic in Frankfurt.

It showed me that you don’t have to be a man to enjoy a football match. I really hope that women in Iran and Iraq can watch and play football more freely; right now, they need to be hidden when they play – they cannot even play in a public place, which is very sad.

– Hanya

2020 UEFA SUPER CUP, BUDAPEST

Although they were unable to set foot on the pitch at the Puskás Arena in Budapest on 24 September 2020, 18 children participating in foundation projects took centre stage on matchday, their drawings being featured in the design of the official match ball. Their designs were selected from over 200 entries by the UEFA president, Aleksander Čeferin. Children from nine European countries took part in the competition, in which they were invited to draw what football meant to them. Here is what some of them said about the experience:

My favourite activity is playing football with my friends. For me, football is friendship and unity. I tried to show this with my drawing. It’s a football field with hearts and girls holding hands.

– Sara, aged 10, from the Brincar de Rua (Street Play) project run by Ludotempo in Portugal

I combined my passions for drawing and football in this competition. If I want to be alone, I stay at home and draw, but if I want to spend time with my friends, I go outside and play football. On the football pitch I have the best time. Together with my friends, we run, play and have fun.

– Malcolm, aged 13, member of Autisme Genève

The Super Cup was also an opportunity to make Hanya’s dream come true. Originally from Iran, the 20-year-old amateur footballer had never set foot inside a stadium before, because she was a woman. The UEFA Foundation for Children and its partner organisation in Budapest, Oltalom, secured her a ticket for the match.

It’s an awesome experience today, made possible by Hankook. Seeing Manchester United and Villarreal is something really special for me. A dream come true.

– One of the young participants

2021 UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINAL, PORTO

With Mastercard’s support, we made four very special children’s dreams come true by taking them virtually behind the scenes to greet the Manchester City FC and Chelsea FC players as they arrived at the stadium. Former international footballer Ashley Cole hosted the event from the Estádio do Dragão in Porto.

Wow! I will remember this day for the rest of my life! Thank you! After the doctor only recently told me that I might not play football ever again, this lifted my spirits so much! I will never forget this day.

– Ruby, upon learning she had been chosen to take part in the activation

I combined my passions for drawing and football in this competition. If I want to be alone, I stay at home and draw, but if I want to spend time with my friends, I go outside and play football. On the football pitch I have the best time. Together with my friends, we run, play and have fun.

– Malcolm, aged 13, member of Autisme Genève

With health restrictions still in place, FedEx, a foundation partner and organiser of the UEFA Europa League player mascot programme, came up with an innovative idea to enable Polish youngsters from the Międzynarodowe Stowarzyszenie Inicjatywe Sportowym association to greet their idols at the final. The delivery company produced a video clip of the 22 children welcoming the players and had it projected on the giant screen in the stadium.

One of the children, eight-year-old Oskar, who has cerebral palsy, supports Newcastle United FC, just like the rest of his family. He plays football all the time and is very quick and adept at tackling and winning possession. Another was Teddy, a six-year-old with Down’s syndrome. For this happy young boy, playing football is a great way of learning and interacting with others. When a goal is scored, he shouts, “Get in the net!”

Meanwhile, Hankook Tire, another competition sponsor, recycled the centre-circle banners that had not been used during the season. They were transformed into bags that were then donated to young football supporters through organisations supporting children in Poland. The tyre manufacturer also invited 60 children to attend the final and meet UEFA ambassador Jerzy Dudek.

One of the children, eight-year-old Oskar, who has cerebral palsy, supports Newcastle United FC, just like the rest of his family. He plays football all the time and is very quick and adept at tackling and winning possession. Another was Teddy, a six-year-old with Down’s syndrome. For this happy young boy, playing football is a great way of learning and interacting with others. When a goal is scored, he shouts, “Get in the net!”

The Super Cup was also an opportunity to make Hanya’s dream come true. Originally from Iran, the 20-year-old amateur footballer had never set foot inside a stadium before, because she was a woman. The UEFA Foundation for Children and its partner organisation in Budapest, Oltalom, secured her a ticket for the match.

With Mastercard’s support, we made four very special children’s dreams come true by taking them virtually behind the scenes to greet the Manchester City FC and Chelsea FC players as they arrived at the stadium. Former international footballer Ashley Cole hosted the event from the Estádio do Dragão in Porto.

Wow! I will remember this day for the rest of my life! Thank you! After the doctor only recently told me that I might not play football ever again, this lifted my spirits so much! I will never forget this day.

– Ruby, upon learning she had been chosen to take part in the activation

I combined my passions for drawing and football in this competition. If I want to be alone, I stay at home and draw, but if I want to spend time with my friends, I go outside and play football. On the football pitch I have the best time. Together with my friends, we run, play and have fun.

– Malcolm, aged 13, member of Autisme Genève

It’s an awesome experience today, made possible by Hankook. Seeing Manchester United and Villarreal is something really special for me. A dream come true.

– One of the young participants

2021 UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINAL, PORTO

With Mastercard’s support, we made four very special children’s dreams come true by taking them virtually behind the scenes to greet the Manchester City FC and Chelsea FC players as they arrived at the stadium. Former international footballer Ashley Cole hosted the event from the Estádio do Dragão in Porto.

Wow! I will remember this day for the rest of my life! Thank you! After the doctor only recently told me that I might not play football ever again, this lifted my spirits so much! I will never forget this day.

– Ruby, upon learning she had been chosen to take part in the activation

I combined my passions for drawing and football in this competition. If I want to be alone, I stay at home and draw, but if I want to spend time with my friends, I go outside and play football. On the football pitch I have the best time. Together with my friends, we run, play and have fun.

– Malcolm, aged 13, member of Autisme Genève

It’s an awesome experience today, made possible by Hankook. Seeing Manchester United and Villarreal is something really special for me. A dream come true.

– One of the young participants

2021 UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINAL, PORTO

With Mastercard’s support, we made four very special children’s dreams come true by taking them virtually behind the scenes to greet the Manchester City FC and Chelsea FC players as they arrived at the stadium. Former international footballer Ashley Cole hosted the event from the Estádio do Dragão in Porto.

Wow! I will remember this day for the rest of my life! Thank you! After the doctor only recently told me that I might not play football ever again, this lifted my spirits so much! I will never forget this day.

– Ruby, upon learning she had been chosen to take part in the activation

I combined my passions for drawing and football in this competition. If I want to be alone, I stay at home and draw, but if I want to spend time with my friends, I go outside and play football. On the football pitch I have the best time. Together with my friends, we run, play and have fun.

– Malcolm, aged 13, member of Autisme Genève

It’s an awesome experience today, made possible by Hankook. Seeing Manchester United and Villarreal is something really special for me. A dream come true.

– One of the young participants

2021 UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINAL, PORTO

With Mastercard’s support, we made four very special children’s dreams come true by taking them virtually behind the scenes to greet the Manchester City FC and Chelsea FC players as they arrived at the stadium. Former international footballer Ashley Cole hosted the event from the Estádio do Dragão in Porto.

Wow! I will remember this day for the rest of my life! Thank you! After the doctor only recently told me that I might not play football ever again, this lifted my spirits so much! I will never forget this day.

– Ruby, upon learning she had been chosen to take part in the activation

I combined my passions for drawing and football in this competition. If I want to be alone, I stay at home and draw, but if I want to spend time with my friends, I go outside and play football. On the football pitch I have the best time. Together with my friends, we run, play and have fun.

– Malcolm, aged 13, member of Autisme Genève

It’s an awesome experience today, made possible by Hankook. Seeing Manchester United and Villarreal is something really special for me. A dream come true.

– One of the young participants
MEMORIES OF UEFA EURO 2020

It is fair to say that this special, pan-European EURO did not go exactly as originally planned, including for the foundation and activities it had planned. Nevertheless, despite a limited on-site presence, our partners helped to make it possible for a number of children to take part in this fantastic celebration of European football.

ACTIVITIES IN THE STADIUMS

Thanks to the Abidal Foundation, the host cities and tournament sponsors, a total of 1,820 children saw their dreams come true as they were given a unique experience inside the stadiums during EURO 2020.

In cooperation with the Abidal Foundation and Awabot, we supplied the stadiums in Budapest, Munich and Seville with a remote-controlled robot connected to a console. Young football fans in hospital with long-term illnesses or in convalescence homes were able to control the robot from where they were staying in order to experience the pre-match atmosphere behind the scenes and interact with their favourite team’s players.

The robots were used at eight matches, with a total of 19 children able to take part in the initiative.

A huge thank you for letting patients in Lyon and their parents participate in this EURO. It was incredible! They know they experienced something truly extraordinary. It lifted their spirits and gave them a real boost while in hospital.

– Marion, coordinator

In Seville, foundation ambassador Ivan Rakitić visited the player mascots and ball children. He told them about his own experiences of playing at their age, gave them some words of advice and signed autographs.

The boy had a FANTASTIC evening. Thank you so much! They will be talking about it for a very long time!

– Volunteer and mum

The Children’s Smiles programme uses the power and excitement of football to make a positive impact on the lives of children, especially those living in precarious situations in EURO host cities. The idea is to give children living in disadvantaged communities or with disabilities the opportunity to attend a match and feel part of the event. The host cities of Copenhagen and St Petersburg welcomed 440 and 480 children respectively to their stadiums during the EURO 2020 group stage.

The player mascot programme, organised by competition sponsor Just Eat Takeaway.com, gave underprivileged children in host cities the chance to accompany the players as they lined up on the pitch. This programme was run at all matches except the opening match, the semi-finals and the final, as well as those played in Baku and St Petersburg. A total of 880 children aged between 8 and 10 were able to get involved.

It was a real privilege for our organisation, the Scottish Football Partnership Trust, to play a small role by providing an experience that will impact the lives of children from less privileged areas of Glasgow.

– Stuart, Scottish Football Partnership Trust

At some matches, the children were able to meet the match ambassador. Here in St Petersburg, for example, Andrei Arshavin surprised our young delegation before the match between Belgium and Russia.

The boys had a FANTASTIC evening. Thank you so much! They will be talking about it for a very long time!

– Volunteer and mum

The player mascot programme, organised by competition sponsor Just Eat Takeaway.com, gave underprivileged children in host cities the chance to accompany the players as they lined up on the pitch. This programme was run at all matches except the opening match, the semi-finals and the final, as well as those played in Baku and St Petersburg. A total of 880 children aged between 8 and 10 were able to get involved.

It was a real privilege for our organisation, the Scottish Football Partnership Trust, to play a small role by providing an experience that will impact the lives of children from less privileged areas of Glasgow.

– Stuart, Scottish Football Partnership Trust

In Seville, foundation ambassador Ivan Rakitić visited the player mascots and ball children. He told them about his own experiences of playing at their age, gave them some words of advice and signed autographs.

The boy had a FANTASTIC evening. Thank you so much! They will be talking about it for a very long time!

– Volunteer and mum
The Football for Employability project, supported by EURO 2020 sponsor FedEx, helps young adults to enter the job market, involving them in vocational training, personal development programmes and educational activities to improve their job-seeking skills. Beneficiaries of this programme joined the EURO 2020 volunteer programme. However, following the postponement of the EURO, only one beneficiary was able to volunteer at the EURO.

This experience taught me lots of things, like how to be more open and more positive. I also learned how to manage conflict and how important it is not to give up. I made some new friends and I could talk to anyone because they were all nice, friendly, open people. Every time I met someone it was a pleasure.

– Marcsi Hornyák, volunteer at Puskás Aréna, Budapest

As part of the Second Life project, materials produced for EURO 2020 were given to around 60 local charities, schools and clubs. For the institutions concerned, the donated materials were a great support and ensured the tournament left a positive legacy. In total, almost 15 tonnes of materials were reused and FedEx helped to transport the materials.

ACTIVITIES IN FAN ZONES AND HOST CITIES

Using football as a tool to support the inclusion of young unaccompanied migrants, Football for Unity 2020 festivals were organised by seven NGOs to mark the end of an eight-month programme supported by the European Commission’s Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund. The seven events took advantage of the tournament’s unique multi-country structure to highlight football-based social inclusion best practices, demonstrating a positive image of foreign nationals and refugee or migrant women in particular.

Below are some of the answers given to the question “What does football mean to you?”

“Football for Unity is a great opportunity for us to pass on what we have experienced and learned to other young people who have just arrived in Germany.”

Field Kickin’ It

Germany

“Football means everything to me. I came to Ireland alone with no family, so the girls I meet and other people have become my family.”

Maria

Sport Against Racism Ireland

Ireland

Our partner Eleven Campaign also brought its A Ball for All programme to the Budapest fan zone from 21 to 23 June. This project is designed to promote the inclusion of visually impaired children in physical education lessons in all primary schools. To this end, the organisation donates special balls used in blind football to blind children all over the world. During the tournament, the Greek NGO asked the Hungarian blind football academy to organise public awareness-raising activities. By the end of the three-day event, 750 balls had been given to children with visual impairments.

Quotes from project volunteers:

“Visually impaired children can improve their motor skills and their quality of life.”

– Lazaros Kyriakidis, 29

“Acceptance is the first step towards a better society.”

– Alexia Anastasiadi, 21

“By showing solidarity, we try to reduce inequality and social injustice. A Ball for All is one way of achieving this.”

– George Charmpis, 29

Volunteering with A Ball for All teaches you that when you give something, you never lose anything.

– Stelios Tragos, 20

“I am involved in the A Ball for All project because we have a responsibility to give every child a chance to participate in sport.”

– Nikos Orfanidis, 19

VISIBILITY FOR THE FOUNDATION AT EURO 2020

In addition to all these activities, the UEFA Foundation for Children increased its visibility by showing its new video clip on the big screens in the stadiums and fan zones, holding a photographic exhibition at the UEFA hotel in London and ensuring its logo was displayed during all its partners’ activities. The foundation logo also featured on the shirts of the tournament referees.

MEMORIES OF UEFA EURO 2020

After a very tough year for everyone, the time I spent at the EURO 2020 football village in London demonstrated football’s most important power: to bring people together.

– Tzimotej Dudas, 23, Slovakia,
Eleven Campaign volunteer

Our partner Youthorama also brought its A Ball for All programme to the Budapest fan zone from 21 to 23 June. This project is designed to promote the inclusion of visually impaired children in physical education lessons in all primary schools. To this end, the organisation donates special balls used in blind football to blind children all over the world. During the tournament, the Greek NGO asked the Hungarian blind football academy to organise public awareness-raising activities. By the end of the three-day event, 750 balls had been given to children with visual impairments.

Quotes from project volunteers:

“Visually impaired children can improve their motor skills and their quality of life.”

– Lazaros Kyriakidis, 29

“Acceptance is the first step towards a better society.”

– Alexia Anastasiadi, 21

“By showing solidarity, we try to reduce inequality and social injustice. A Ball for All is one way of achieving this.”

– George Charmpis, 29

Volunteering with A Ball for All teaches you that when you give something, you never lose anything.

– Stelios Tragos, 20

“I am involved in the A Ball for All project because we have a responsibility to give every child a chance to participate in sport.”

– Nikos Orfanidis, 19

VISIBILITY FOR THE FOUNDATION AT EURO 2020

In addition to all these activities, the UEFA Foundation for Children increased its visibility by showing its new video clip on the big screens in the stadiums and fan zones, holding a photographic exhibition at the UEFA hotel in London and ensuring its logo was displayed during all its partners’ activities. The foundation logo also featured on the shirts of the tournament referees.

MEMORIES OF UEFA EURO 2020

After a very tough year for everyone, the time I spent at the EURO 2020 football village in London demonstrated football’s most important power: to bring people together.

– Tzimotej Dudas, 23, Slovakia,
Eleven Campaign volunteer

Our partner Youthorama also brought its A Ball for All programme to the Budapest fan zone from 21 to 23 June. This project is designed to promote the inclusion of visually impaired children in physical education lessons in all primary schools. To this end, the organisation donates special balls used in blind football to blind children all over the world. During the tournament, the Greek NGO asked the Hungarian blind football academy to organise public awareness-raising activities. By the end of the three-day event, 750 balls had been given to children with visual impairments.

Quotes from project volunteers:

“Visually impaired children can improve their motor skills and their quality of life.”

– Lazaros Kyriakidis, 29

“Acceptance is the first step towards a better society.”

– Alexia Anastasiadi, 21

“By showing solidarity, we try to reduce inequality and social injustice. A Ball for All is one way of achieving this.”

– George Charmpis, 29

Volunteering with A Ball for All teaches you that when you give something, you never lose anything.

– Stelios Tragos, 20

“I am involved in the A Ball for All project because we have a responsibility to give every child a chance to participate in sport.”

– Nikos Orfanidis, 19

VISIBILITY FOR THE FOUNDATION AT EURO 2020

In addition to all these activities, the UEFA Foundation for Children increased its visibility by showing its new video clip on the big screens in the stadiums and fan zones, holding a photographic exhibition at the UEFA hotel in London and ensuring its logo was displayed during all its partners’ activities. The foundation logo also featured on the shirts of the tournament referees.
For two consecutive seasons, Visa, a UEFA Women’s Champions League sponsor, donated €50,000 to the UEFA Foundation for Children on behalf of the player of the match at the UEFA Women’s Champions League final. The foundation then donated the money to a project chosen by the prize-winner herself.

In 2020, Olympique Lyonnais forward Delphine Cascarino chose to direct Visa’s donation to Sport dans la Ville, an organisation supported by the UEFA Foundation for Children.

I hope this donation helps girls improve their situation and their emotional well-being through sport.

It has been very interesting to learn first-hand about the situation on Lesbos and the excellent work that is being carried out.

– Aitana Bonmatí

At the end of the 2020/21 season, FC Barcelona’s Aitana Bonmatí, who is also an ambassador of the Barça Foundation, donated her player of the match prize to a project that promotes gender equality and social inclusion for refugee children on the Greek island of Lesbos. The project is run by Movement on the Ground, with support from the Barça Foundation and the UEFA Foundation for Children.

I was honoured to be named the UEFA Women’s Champions League final’s player of the match. I am, of course, delighted my contribution has been recognised on the pitch, but it is a wonderful feeling to be able to make a difference off the field of play as well.

– Delphine Cascarino

UEFA Champions League partner Gazprom has sponsored a football pitch for the benefit of 1,000 children. The pitch was built at the Bora Radić primary school in Bavanište, a village about 40km east of Belgrade. A local organisation, Football Friends, will be responsible for maintenance while also coordinating training sessions to ensure the local children get the best possible footballing education.

Lay’s, a UEFA Champions League sponsor, has launched a global initiative, Lay’s RePlay, which aims to bring joy to communities around the world through the power of football by reusing empty crisp packets to help create sustainable football pitches. In doing so, it hopes to unite communities and drive positive outcomes for people and the planet. The Lay’s RePlay initiative is supported by long-time Lay’s ambassador and six-time Ballon d’Or winner Lionel Messi:

I was lucky enough to start playing football at a young age and it transformed my life. Everyone deserves the chance to play and fall in love with the sport, and Lay’s RePlay is giving communities across the world that opportunity. I’m proud to give back through this project and excited about the impact it can have on the next generation.

– Lionel Messi

The first pitch was opened in Tembisa, South Africa, in May. By the end of 2021, two more pitches will have opened in Leicester (United Kingdom) and São Paulo (Brazil).

Lay’s, a UEFA Champions League sponsor, has launched a global initiative, Lay’s RePlay, which aims to bring joy to communities around the world through the power of football by reusing empty crisp packets to help create sustainable football pitches. In doing so, it hopes to unite communities and drive positive outcomes for people and the planet. The Lay’s RePlay initiative is supported by long-time Lay’s ambassador and six-time Ballon d’Or winner Lionel Messi:

I was lucky enough to start playing football at a young age and it transformed my life. Everyone deserves the chance to play and fall in love with the sport, and Lay’s RePlay is giving communities across the world that opportunity. I’m proud to give back through this project and excited about the impact it can have on the next generation.

– Lionel Messi

The first pitch was opened in Tembisa, South Africa, in May. By the end of 2021, two more pitches will have opened in Leicester (United Kingdom) and São Paulo (Brazil).

Kia, a UEFA Europa League sponsor, has renewed its support for children in the Zaatarari refugee camp in Jordan. During the digital, interactive trophy tour for the 2020/21 season, the Dream Pass programme was organised for the third consecutive season. Thanks to donated football boots, the Zaatarari children are only a few paces away from living their dream.

In three seasons, the Kia-backed campaign has donated 3,000 pairs of football boots to children in the camp.

When I received my first pair as a child, I slept with them every night because I knew that one day they could help me try to achieve my goal of becoming a professional footballer. This is why I am so proud to be part of this campaign giving children at the refugee camp the opportunity to play football.

– Rafael van der Vaart

At the end of the 2020/21 season, FC Barcelona’s Aitana Bonmatí, who is also an ambassador of the Barça Foundation, donated her player of the match prize to a project that promotes gender equality and social inclusion for refugee children on the Greek island of Lesbos. The project is run by Movement on the Ground, with support from the Barça Foundation and the UEFA Foundation for Children.

I was honoured to be named the UEFA Women’s Champions League final’s player of the match. I am, of course, delighted my contribution has been recognised on the pitch, but it is a wonderful feeling to be able to make a difference off the field of play as well.

– Delphine Cascarino

UEFA Champions League partner Gazprom has sponsored a football pitch for the benefit of 1,000 children. The pitch was built at the Bora Radić primary school in Bavanište, a village about 40km east of Belgrade. A local organisation, Football Friends, will be responsible for maintenance while also coordinating training sessions to ensure the local children get the best possible footballing education.

Lay’s, a UEFA Champions League sponsor, has launched a global initiative, Lay’s RePlay, which aims to bring joy to communities around the world through the power of football by reusing empty crisp packets to help create sustainable football pitches. In doing so, it hopes to unite communities and drive positive outcomes for people and the planet. The Lay’s RePlay initiative is supported by long-time Lay’s ambassador and six-time Ballon d’Or winner Lionel Messi:

I was lucky enough to start playing football at a young age and it transformed my life. Everyone deserves the chance to play and fall in love with the sport, and Lay’s RePlay is giving communities across the world that opportunity. I’m proud to give back through this project and excited about the impact it can have on the next generation.

– Lionel Messi

The first pitch was opened in Tembisa, South Africa, in May. By the end of 2021, two more pitches will have opened in Leicester (United Kingdom) and São Paulo (Brazil).
In spring 2020 and 2021, clothing firm H&M launched an initiative aimed at encouraging children to stay active by promoting access to sport for all. To support young players around the world and keep them active, H&M donated to the UEFA Foundation for Children some of the proceeds from the sale of a special football shirt collection for children over two two-week periods. The company donated these funds to help children in difficulty as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and to support Play for Change, an international sport for development charity that tries to improve the future prospects of underprivileged children. Its donation also helped finance emergency action linked to COVID-19, such as the distribution of food and other essentials, health products and medical aid by 13 of our other partners.

For the second year in a row, adidas agreed to donate 700 packs containing balls and all the other equipment needed to organise a training session, to support UEFA Foundation for Children projects all over the world. In 2020/21, 400 packs were distributed worldwide.

FedEx supported the EURO 2020 Second Life project by transporting materials between the stadiums and our partners in the host cities, local football clubs, schools and children’s charities. In total, almost 15 tonnes of materials were reused.

As part of UEFA EURO 2020, the European Commission’s Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund financed Football for Unity 2020 festivals to draw the European public’s attention to football’s potential as a tool for the social inclusion of third-country nationals. The project promoted values such as freedom, equality, dignity, solidarity and civil rights. In the long term, it was also designed to change people’s perceptions of migration and create inclusive communities in Europe that can overcome cultural differences, language barriers and social stigma.

As a result of the pandemic, the UEFA Foundation for Children had to rethink many of the activities it had planned in connection with UEFA events in 2020/21.

Young football fans were able to meet players of the UEFA Champions League virtually thanks to Mastercard, a Champions League sponsor.

While no such inside access was possible at the UEFA Super Cup, drawings by children involved in ten UEFA Foundation for Children projects featured in the design of the 2020 Super Cup match ball. Children from all over the continent were encouraged to submit drawings showing what football meant to them in a contest organised on Instagram. The Foundation also organised a communication campaign on Instagram with the aim of giving a voice to the children and highlighting its partners.

In an effort to give more young people a voice, the foundation regularly asked girls and boys involved in its projects to tell it about their day-to-day lives, their interests and their dreams.

The foundation increased its reach by signing its first two official ambassadors, Sevilla midfielder Ivan Rakitić and Olympique Lyonnais striker Eugénie Le Sommer. Le Sommer, who was already active in helping youngsters to develop their footballing passion, joined the foundation at the end of the season with the intention of using her profile to raise awareness of children’s rights and education issues around the world. Having signed up in February already, Rakitić attended a videoconference with female coaches to mark International Women’s Day on 8 March, and he personally greeted the player mascots and ball kids at the EURO 2020 match between Portugal and Belgium in Seville on 27 June.

EURO 2020 helped the foundation draw attention to a number of issues such as social cohesion, integration of minorities and people with disabilities, and solidarity. This uniquely pan-European event enabled many foundation partners to promote their activities and involve their beneficiaries in a collective celebration of football.

To increase its visibility, the foundation produced a new video with a simple message: every child is a champion. It was designed for use on the big screens in stadiums and on pitchside LED boards. The foundation also maintained its presence on social media in 2020/21: 159 posts on Twitter, 153 on Facebook, 116 on Instagram, 57 on YouTube and 36 on LinkedIn.
## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020/21 (in EUR)</th>
<th>2019/20 (in EUR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DONATIONS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From UEFA allocated to projects</td>
<td>5,870,450</td>
<td>5,890,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From UEFA allocated to administration costs</td>
<td>1,614,270</td>
<td>1,735,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From other parties</td>
<td>839,751</td>
<td>816,810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL DONATIONS</strong></td>
<td>8,324,471</td>
<td>9,120,969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contributions to projects</strong></td>
<td>6,706,671</td>
<td>7,239,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Salaries and social charges</strong></td>
<td>914,300</td>
<td>800,419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Building and IT costs</strong></td>
<td>199,344</td>
<td>179,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>VIK equipment</strong></td>
<td>–</td>
<td>114,028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other administrative expenses</strong></td>
<td>839,751</td>
<td>757,061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Administrative expenses</strong></td>
<td>1,614,270</td>
<td>1,847,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Result</strong></td>
<td>16,325</td>
<td>194,039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>8,337,266</td>
<td>9,208,319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET RESULT</strong></td>
<td>-12,795</td>
<td>-87,350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CONTRIBUTIONS BY HEADING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALLOCATED</th>
<th>PRIOR YEARS</th>
<th>2020/21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 JUNE 2021</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceptional donation by founder for migrants</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UEFA Foundation for Children Award 2015</td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call for projects 2016</td>
<td>52,749</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call for projects 2017 – Outside Europe</td>
<td>82,623</td>
<td>62,123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call for projects 2017 – Europe</td>
<td>63,058</td>
<td>14,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Match For Solidarity 2018/Related donations</td>
<td>220,673</td>
<td>144,222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call for projects 2018 – Europe</td>
<td>316,572</td>
<td>116,084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call for projects 2018 – Outside Europe</td>
<td>186,174</td>
<td>53,754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call for projects 2018 – Post-conflict</td>
<td>50,800</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call for projects 2018 – Employability</td>
<td>7,856</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call for projects 2018 – Other &amp; additional budget</td>
<td>431,650</td>
<td>184,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UEFA Foundation for Children Award 2019</td>
<td>45,500</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call for projects 2019 – Europe</td>
<td>1,545,950</td>
<td>777,129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call for projects 2019 – Outside Europe</td>
<td>1,560,450</td>
<td>787,602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call for projects 2019 – Other &amp; additional budget</td>
<td>265,394</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5,435,387</td>
<td>2,381,476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL IN EUR</strong></td>
<td>5,435,387</td>
<td>2,381,476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL IN CHF</strong></td>
<td>5,813,147</td>
<td>5,793,846</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FOREIGN CURRENCY

The UEFA Foundation for Children’s financial records are maintained in euros as most of the donations received and contributions granted are denominated in euros. The financial statements are presented in Swiss francs. Assets and liabilities are converted at the closing rate, the foundation’s capital at the historical rate applicable at the date of incorporation and the statement of activities at the average rate for period. Unrealised exchange losses are booked in the statement of activities and unrealised exchange gains are provided for in the balance sheet.

### THE EXCHANGE RATES USED ARE AS FOLLOWS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EUR-CHF</th>
<th>30 JUNE 2021</th>
<th>30 JUNE 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Closing rate</td>
<td>1.097</td>
<td>1.070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical rate (foundation capital)</td>
<td>1.038</td>
<td>1.038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average rate</td>
<td>1.087</td>
<td>1.080</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>30 JUNE 2021 (in EUR)</th>
<th>30 JUNE 2020 (in EUR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>427,385</td>
<td>468,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables from UEFA</td>
<td>7,434,491</td>
<td>8,151,919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>52,630</td>
<td>57,709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>7,914,506</td>
<td>8,678,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other payables</td>
<td>56,626</td>
<td>62,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision for unrealised exchange gains</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>55,216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allocated contributions</td>
<td>6,906,979</td>
<td>7,573,502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealised emergency fund</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>48,866</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>6,963,605</td>
<td>7,690,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>7,914,506</td>
<td>8,678,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation capital</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>1,038,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retained results</td>
<td>-36,303</td>
<td>-36,993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net result for the period</td>
<td>-12,795</td>
<td>-13,909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL FOUNDATION CAPITAL</strong></td>
<td>950,092</td>
<td>987,448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>7,914,506</td>
<td>8,678,256</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FINANCIAL AUDIT

This financial report has been audited by Ernst & Young SA according to Swiss limited audit standards. The audit established that the accounts comply with the law and the charter of the foundation.
THANK YOU!

None of what we achieved in 2020/21 would have been possible without the tireless efforts of our project partners or the loyal support and confidence of our donors. On behalf of all our beneficiaries, we sincerely thank everyone involved.

DONORS

ACTIVITY REPORT 2020/21

THANK YOU!

Street Child (Mozambique), Street Child (Uganda), streetfootballworld (Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, South Africa, Zimbabwe), Swiss Academy for Development (Uganda), Triangle Génération Humanitaire (Central African Republic), Unis Vers le Sport (Senegal), Water4Wildlife (Kenya)

AMERICAS

Cruyff Foundation (Aruba, Bonaire, Brazil, St Eustatius, St Martin), Fabretto Children’s Foundation (Nicaragua), Fight for Peace (Jamaica), Fundación del Empresariado Chihuahuense AC (Mexico), Fundación Empate (Argentina), GOALS Haiti (Haiti), Libraries Without Borders US (USA), Light for the World International (Bolivia), Mama Alice (Peru), Plan International Belgium (Bolivia), Rêves Passion Montreal (Canada), Sacred Sports Foundation (Saint Lucia), Starfinder Foundation (USA), Women Win (Argentina)

Asia

Action for Development (Afghanistan), Association Football Development Programme (Jordan), Baan Dek Foundation (Thailand), Blue Dragon Children’s Foundation (Vietnam), C.I.E.L.O Cooperation internationale pour les équilibres locaux (Sri Lanka), Cross Cultures (Syria), Funf.Life International (Philippines), Indochina Starfish Foundation (Cambodia), Jesuit Refugee Service (Iraq), Oscar Foundation (India), Planete Enfants & Développement (Nepal), Spirit of Soccer (Cambodia), streetfootballworld (India, Indonesia, Jordan, Lebanon), The Arsenal Foundation (Indonesia)

EUROPE

ActionAid Hellas (Greece), Agapedia Foundation (Germany), Accilikos FC (Greece), Armenian Fund for Sustainable Development (Armenia), Asociación de Fútbol de Bragánza (Portugal), Association for Sport, Recreation and Education – Youth Games (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia), Ayuda en Acción (Portugal, Spain), Azerbaijan Autism Association (Azerbaijan), Barça Foundation (Greece, Italy, Spain), Bel endoit pour une rencontre (France), Belveze di Monaco e.G. (Germany), Bonyan Organization (Turkey), Care for the healthy generation (Azerbaijan), Charity Fund ‘Football Development in Ukraine’ (Ukraine), Children – Autism – Parents (Belarus), Comité Éthique et Sport (France), Common Goal (Germany), Cosmos FC (Greece), Culture of Nations fund for sociocultural development and innovation (Russia), Development of Football in Ukraine (Ukraine), Edge Hill University (United Kingdom), European Football for Development Network (Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Germany, Israel, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Ukraine, United Kingdom), Everton in the Community (United Kingdom), FAW Trust (Wales), Florijana Ismaili Fili (Switzerland), Football Association of Moldova (Moldova), Football Beyond Borders (United Kingdom), Fundación dla Dzieci z Cukrzycą (Poland), Genesis Project (Bosnia and Herzegovina), GOALS (Armenia), Hapoel Katamon Jerusalem FC (Israel), HAWAR.help e.V. (Germany), Het Gehandicpte Kind (Netherlands), Impala Performance (ASBL, Belgium), INEX (Czech Republic), Irsh FA Foundation (Northern Ireland), Jeugdfonds Sport & Cultuur (Netherlands), Just for Smiles (Switzerland), KkeeOX (France), Kicken ohne Grenzen (Austria), Kitzschko Foundation (Ukraine), LAPF Foundation (Italy), Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (United Kingdom), Liverpool School Sports Partnership Foundation (United Kingdom), Luncsoara Bihorului Association (Romania), Mentor Management-Entwicklung-Organisation GmbH & Co (Austria), Młodzieżowe Stowarzyszenie Incytacyjne Sportowych (Poland), National Paralympic Committee of Kazakhstan (Kazakhstan), Newcastle United Foundation (United Kingdom), Ottalom Sport Association (Hungary), One dream, one wish association (Cyprus), Parasport Denmark (Denmark), Peres Center for Peace and Innovation (Israel), Play For Change (Italy), Pratjeal association for people with disabilities (Croatia), Real Madrid Foundation (Italy, Portugal, Romania, Spain, United Kingdom), Richmond Foundation (Malta), Rio Ferdinand Foundation (Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland), Save the Children (Albania), Scottish Football Partnership Trust (Scotland), Special Olympics Moldova (Moldova), Sport Against Racism Ireland (Republic of Ireland), Sport dans la Ville (France), streetfootballworld (England, Italy, Scotland), Syndrome of Love (Israël), Tiáf Community Centre (Turkey), Turkish Football Federation (Turkey), World at Play (Bulgaria), Yeladim (Israel), Youhourama (Greece)

AFRICA

Aliguma Foundation (Uganda), Busajo Onlus (Ethiopia), Cross Cultures (South Sudan), Georges Malaka Foundation (Democratic Republic of the Congo), Grootbos Foundation (South Africa), IACT (Chad), Inter Futura S.r.l. (Angola, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda), International Organization for Migration (Tunisia), International Trade Centre (Gambia, Guinea), Kick4Life (Lesotho), Congolese Autism Association (Azerbaijan), Barça Foundation (Greece, Italy, Serbia), Comité de Santé et Éducation (France), Common Goal (Germany), Cosmic F.C. (Greece), Culture of Nations fund for sociocultural development and innovation (Russia), Development of Football in Ukraine (Ukraine), Edge Hill University (United Kingdom), European Football for Development Network (Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Germany, Israel, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Ukraine, United Kingdom), Everton in the Community (United Kingdom), FAW Trust (Wales), Florijana Ismaili Fili (Switzerland), Football Association of Moldova (Moldova), Football Beyond Borders (United Kingdom), Fundación dla Dzieci z Cukrzycą (Poland), Genesis Project (Bosnia and Herzegovina), GOALS (Armenia), Hapoel Katamon Jerusalem FC (Israel), HAWAR.help e.V. (Germany), Het Gehandicpte Kind (Netherlands), Impala Performance (ASBL, Belgium), INEX (Czech Republic), Irsh FA Foundation (Northern Ireland), Jeugdfonds Sport & Cultuur (Netherlands), Just for Smiles (Switzerland), KkeeOX (France), Kicken ohne Grenzen (Austria), Kitzschko Foundation (Ukraine), LAPF Foundation (Italy), Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (United Kingdom), Liverpool School Sports Partnership Foundation (United Kingdom), Luncsoara Bihorului Association (Romania), Mentor Management-Entwicklung-Organisation GmbH & Co (Austria), Młodzieżowe Stowarzyszenie Incytacyjne Sportowych (Poland), National Paralympic Committee of Kazakhstan (Kazakhstan), Newcastle United Foundation (United Kingdom), Ottalom Sport Association (Hungary), One dream, one wish association (Cyprus), Parasport Denmark (Denmark), Peres Center for Peace and Innovation (Israel), Play For Change (Italy), Pratjeal association for people with disabilities (Croatia), Real Madrid Foundation (Italy, Portugal, Romania, Spain, United Kingdom), Richmond Foundation (Malta), Rio Ferdinand Foundation (Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland), Save the Children (Albania), Scottish Football Partnership Trust (Scotland), Special Olympics Moldova (Moldova), Sport Against Racism Ireland (Republic of Ireland), Sport dans la Ville (France), streetfootballworld (England, Italy, Scotland), Syndrome of Love (Israël), Tiáf Community Centre (Turkey), Turkish Football Federation (Turkey), World at Play (Bulgaria), Yeladim (Israel), Youhourama (Greece)

Europe

Adidas, European Commission, FedEx, Gazprom, Hankook, H&M, Kia, Lay’s, Mastercard, Just Eat Takeaway.com, Visa

partners

AFRICA

Adilguma Foundation (Uganda), Busajo Onlus (Ethiopia), Cross Cultures (South Sudan), Georges Malaka Foundation (Democratic Republic of the Congo), Grootbos Foundation (South Africa), IACT (Chad), Inter Futura S.r.l. (Angola, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda), International Organization for Migration (Tunisia), International Trade Centre (Gambia, Guinea), Kick4Life (Lesotho), Congolese Autism Association (Azerbaijan), Barça Foundation (Greece, Italy, Serbia), Comité de Santé et Éducation (France), Common Goal (Germany), Cosmic F.C. (Greece), Culture of Nations fund for sociocultural development and innovation (Russia), Development of Football in Ukraine (Ukraine), Edge Hill University (United Kingdom), European Football for Development Network (Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Germany, Israel, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Ukraine, United Kingdom), Everton in the Community (United Kingdom), FAW Trust (Wales), Florijana Ismaili Fili (Switzerland), Football Association of Moldova (Moldova), Football Beyond Borders (United Kingdom), Fundación dla Dzieci z Cukrzycą (Poland), Genesis Project (Bosnia and Herzegovina), GOALS (Armenia), Hapoel Katamon Jerusalem FC (Israel), HAWAR.help e.V. (Germany), Het Gehandicpte Kind (Netherlands), Impala Performance (ASBL, Belgium), INEX (Czech Republic), Irsh FA Foundation (Northern Ireland), Jeugdfonds Sport & Cultuur (Netherlands), Just for Smiles (Switzerland), KkeeOX (France), Kicken ohne Grenzen (Austria), Kitzschko Foundation (Ukraine), LAPF Foundation (Italy), Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (United Kingdom), Liverpool School Sports Partnership Foundation (United Kingdom), Luncsoara Bihorului Association (Romania), Mentor Management-Entwicklung-Organisation GmbH & Co (Austria), Młodzieżowe Stowarzyszenie Incytacyjne Sportowych (Poland), National Paralympic Committee of Kazakhstan (Kazakhstan), Newcastle United Foundation (United Kingdom), Ottalom Sport Association (Hungary), One dream, one wish association (Cyprus), Parasport Denmark (Denmark), Peres Center for Peace and Innovation (Israel), Play For Change (Italy), Pratjeal association for people with disabilities (Croatia), Real Madrid Foundation (Italy, Portugal, Romania, Spain, United Kingdom), Richmond Foundation (Malta), Rio Ferdinand Foundation (Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland), Save the Children (Albania), Scottish Football Partnership Trust (Scotland), Special Olympics Moldova (Moldova), Sport Against Racism Ireland (Republic of Ireland), Sport dans la Ville (France), streetfootballworld (England, Italy, Scotland), Syndrome of Love (Israël), Tiáf Community Centre (Turkey), Turkish Football Federation (Turkey), World at Play (Bulgaria), Yeladim (Israel), Youhourama (Greece)

OCEANIA

Just Play (American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Tahiti, Tonga, Vanuatu)

EURO 2020

All the host cities and fan zones that supported our work, Abidal Foundation, Awake, Eleven Campaign

FOOTBALL FRIENDS

Andrey Arshavin, Artem Dzyuba, César Azpilicueta, Daley Blind, Eric Abidal, Eugenie Le Sommer, Florent Malouda, Gareth Bale, Ivan Rakitić, Kevin De Bruyne, Khalida Popa, Laura Georges, Lorenzo Insigne, Lothar Matthäus, Luis García, Maniche, Marcus Rashford, Massimo Ambrosini, Mateo Kováč, Michael Ballack, Nuno Gomes, Robin van Persie, Romelu Lukaku, Toni Kroos

EUROPEAN FOOTBALL

All 55 UEFA member associations, the clubs and players who helped us make children’s dreams come true and UEFA staff and volunteers