

Executive Summary

The year 2011 in Egypt was profoundly marked by political tumult and public demand for “freedom and social justice”. Political uncertainty including multiple changes in Ministers and other key officials has had an impact on programme results. The UNDAF and CPD, which were due to be finalized in 2011 and commence in 2012 were deferred by a year. Institutional changes, specifically the abolition of the Ministry of Family and Population and its impact on the functioning of the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, responsible for coordination of child rights policies, adversely affected the achievement of several Child Protection results. Activities in the Education programme experienced significant delays. Efforts to introduce real time monitoring of key child indicators were put on hold due to changes and uncertainties within the partner institution. The Demographic and Health Survey, which was due to be conducted in 2011, had to be postponed as well.

Despite this, several programme results, particularly in the health sector were largely achieved. The Landscape Study on readiness to scale up high impact nutrition interventions was completed and will provide the basis for coordinated action amongst all partners to reduce child malnutrition. The Ministry of Health and Population has already announced its intention to establish a nutrition unit within the Ministry to lead national efforts. UNICEF Egypt supported the Government in immunizing nearly 13 million children against polio, achieving coverage of 98%, in the NID. The country programme also deepened its analytical base for programming from an equity perspective, with completion of governorate profiles and initiation of new research on urban child poverty and out of school children.

The country’s fluid political situation required adjustment by the country office and some of the most important results of the year arose from activities added in response to the challenging political environment. Firstly, the country office organized a successful emergency operation in partnership with UNHCR, the IOM and the authorities in the border area of Salloum to support women and children fleeing the situation in Libya. The country office also carefully monitored the impact of the changes within Egypt on children at risk, and engaged with the authorities on critical issues regarding the rights of children exposed to violence.

UNICEF-Egypt increased its engagement with youth groups and youth NGOs in 2011 and a strategic partnership was initiated with the Federation of Egyptian Youth NGOs to strengthen its role as a network serving youth NGOs and youth groups, and to enable it to reach out to youth NGOs to support child and adolescent participation. A strong partnership was also developed between UNICEF, NCCM and child rights NGOs in support of children exposed to violence during the revolution.

UNICEF Egypt is also working to influence the social norms associated with violence against children. A partnership with prominent Muslim and Christian institutions such as Al Azhar University and the Coptic Church was initiated to this effect.

Country Situation

Children and youth have been directly affected by the violence erupting on the streets of Egypt since January 2011, with at least 17 children losing their lives, and many more injured by or traumatised from witnessing violence. Children living on the street were particularly vulnerable and affected by exposure to violence.

Egypt’s report on implementation of the CRC was reviewed by the CRC Committee in May 2011. The Committee praised Egypt for its progress in withdrawing its reservation against Articles 2 and 16 of CEDAW, but expressed concern about violence against children, child marriages, and the lack of implementation of the Child Law.

The political uncertainty affected important sectors of the Egyptian economy. After a long period of

sustained growth, GDP slowed down in early 2011 showing a decline (according to IMF projections) of - 0.7% in the GDP per capita in real terms. The Consumer Price Index grew by around 10% over the year, with the inflation rate for the food and beverage category reaching 13% (CAPMAS). Unemployment grew, reaching 11.9% in the 3rd quarter of 2011, compared with 9% in 2010.

Egypt's MDG Report released in 2010^[1], showed a mixed record for many of the Goals. For MDG 1, there are concerns due to the high levels of chronic under-nutrition among young children. The MDG 2, on universal primary education for boys and girls, was very likely to be met by 2015, and MDG 4, on child survival, was already achieved. MDG3, on gender equality and the empowerment of women (as noted in the MDG Report) remains particularly challenging.

The reduction in extreme poverty, tracked using the PPP \$ 1 poverty line, was not confirmed if using the national poverty line of approximately \$1.65. According to the national poverty line^[2], the percentage of children living in poverty grew from 21% in 1999/2000 to around 24% in 2008/09^[3].

Child nutrition indicators are equally a matter of concern. The EDHS 2008, the latest source of data available, found that 29% of children under-5 were stunted ^[4], with no significant differences between children living in urban and rural areas, or across wealth quintiles. At the same time, DHS data were showing that 9.7% of Egyptian children under-5 were obese^[5], and that 5.9% and 19.4% of adolescent girls were, respectively, overweight or at risk of overweight^[6], reflecting the complexity of the child nutrition challenge in Egypt.

According to EDHS 2008, Egypt already achieved MDG4, with an U5MR of 28 per thousand live births for the period 2004-2008. However, important geographical disparities persist, with rural Upper Egypt registering substantially higher level of mortality, and the Urban Governorates, where the levels of child mortality almost stagnated during the last 10 years ^[8]. Among the components of U5MR, the perinatal and the neonatal periods were those where progress was more limited in the last decade.

Enrolment in compulsory education in Egypt is approaching universality. Data from the Ministry of Education for the school year 2010/11 were showing a gross enrolment ratio of 101% for primary school (for children aged 6 to 11) and 92% for elementary school (for children aged 12 to 14)^[9]. However, the percentage of children (aged 6-17) never attending school is still substantial (almost 6%)^[10], with girls at a disadvantage compared to boys. Disparities in enrolment between boys and girls in compulsory levels of education have substantially decreased over the last ten years; progress in the gender parity index in education has been recorded also for the non-compulsory levels^[12].

Child labour is widespread in Egypt. A CAPMAS and ILO survey in 2011 found that 9.3% of children in the age group 5-17 were involved in child labour (three quarter of them were males). Around one quarter of child labourers were aged less than 12. Slightly less than half the child labourers were working in agriculture, and around 15% were working in workshops^[13].

Increasingly educated generations of adolescents are facing difficulties in their transition to adulthood. Around 40% of the Egyptian population is between 10 and 29 years of age. The Survey of Young People in Egypt reported low levels of youth engagement in voluntary work, youth centres and school boards as well as concerning data on healthy behaviours.

^[1] Ministry of Economic Development, and UNDP (2010) Egypt's Progress Towards Achieving the Millennium Development Goal, Ministry of Economic Development, Cairo

^[2] The lower national poverty line in 2008/09 had a value of 1,648 Egyptian pound per person per year (this was equivalent to around PPP US\$1.65).

^[3] UNICEF (2010) Trends of Child Poverty and Disparities in Egypt between 2000 and 2008, UNICEF

Egypt, Cairo

- [\[4\]](#) El Zanaty, Fatma, and Ann Way (2009) Egypt Demographic and Health Survey 2008, Ministry of Health, Cairo
- [\[5\]](#) WHO (2010 update) Global Database on Child Growth and Malnutrition, www.who.int
- [\[6\]](#) El Zanaty, Fatma, and Ann Way (2009) Egypt Demographic and Health Survey 2008, Ministry of Health, Cairo
- [\[7\]](#) Information and Decision Support Centre, and WFP (2011) Egyptian Food Observatory. Food monitoring and evaluation system, Issue 2, October 2011, IDSC, Cairo
- [\[8\]](#) El Zanaty, Fatma, and Ann Way (2009) Egypt Demographic and Health Survey 2008, Ministry of Health, Cairo
- [\[9\]](#) Together, primary and elementary education form 'basic education'
- [\[10\]](#) CAPMAS Statistical Yearbook, 2009, reporting data from the 2006 Census
- [\[11\]](#) Data from the Ministry of Education yearbook
- [\[12\]](#) UNICEF Egypt (2012) Situation analysis of children and women in Egypt
- [\[13\]](#) CAPMAS (2011) Results of the National Survey on Child Labour in Egypt 2010: Key Indicators (in Arabic), CAPMAS, Cairo
- [\[14\]](#) Information and Decision Support Centre, and Population Council (2010) Survey of Young People in Egypt, Population Council, Cairo
- [\[15\]](#) Assaad, Ragui (2007) Unemployment and Youth Insertion in the Labor Market in Egypt, ECES Working Paper 118, Egyptian Centre for Economic Studies, Cairo and UNDP and Ministry of Planning (2010) 'Youth in Egypt: Building the Future' Egypt Human Development Report, UNDP and Ministry of Planning, Cairo

Who are the deprived children in your country context?

Children living in rural upper Egypt are at higher risk of poverty and mortality compared with the rest of the country. In the last decade, as a result of a specific policy focus, the gap between children living in rural areas and those living in urban areas has been reduced, but the gap is still marked. The last decade also witnessed stagnation in the progress of many indicators in urban governorates.

Girls, particularly adolescent girls, continue to suffer the effects of harmful social norms. This includes the 74% of 15-17 year old girls who have undergone FGM. Gender inequalities in education have reduced over the last decade, both in compulsory and non-compulsory levels of education. Gender disparities are deep in many other indicators, for example in those related to the labour market or in social and political participation.

Children without parental care, mainly living in residential care or in the streets, are among the most vulnerable to violence, exploitation and neglect. The precise number of children living in the streets is not known. Estimates range from 5,000 to 18,000 street children in Cairo suggest their numbers likely run into tens of thousands taking into account their presence in other big cities such as Alexandria.

[1] WHO, National Health Accounts

[2] Ministry of Economic Development, and UNDP (2010) Egypt's Progress Towards Achieving the Millennium Development Goal, Ministry of Economic Development, Cairo

Data/Evidence

In 2011, ECO has undertaken several analytical works highlighting patterns of inequality. The Child Poverty and Disparities in Egypt Study [1] and a complementary trend analysis covering the period 2000 to 2009 [2] were widely disseminated and generated a good deal of interest among policy makers. Additional analysis of existing surveys (like the EDHS 2008, the Household Income, Consumption and Expenditure Survey 2008/09 and Survey of Young People in Egypt,) focusing on children was also promoted by the office. As a part of this activity, ECO produced statistical profiles of all the 27 Egyptian Governorates, covering 10 dimensions of child well-being, with data disaggregated by gender, area of residence, and socio-economic status.

Recent research revealed stagnation or even deterioration of some child indicators in the poorest parts of urban areas. The lack of specific disaggregated data hampered a clear understanding of the reality of urban children. To fill this information gap, the ECO initiated two data collection projects focusing on urban areas (in particular slums and unplanned areas) which will be finalised in 2012.

UNICEF Egypt has supported the Egypt National Child Rights Observatory to complete research pieces, including a study of out of school children. A more detailed study on out of school children was also initiated in 2011 with results due in 2012.

The political events of 2012 have brought the situation of street children into sharp focus, and a census to determine the precise figures is currently under discussion. During 2011, areas with gaps in data and evidence have been identified and the use of statistical evidence on disparities and equity for programming will be strengthened in 2012.

[1] UNICEF (2010) Child Poverty and Disparities in Egypt. Building the social infrastructure for Egypt's future, UNICEF Egypt, Cairo

[2] UNICEF (2010) Trends of Child Poverty and Disparities in Egypt between 2000 and 2008, UNICEF Egypt, Cairo

Monitoring Mechanism

The country office has a well-established monitoring and evaluation function, as it has been strengthening internal systems of planning and M&E, developing capacities of ECO staff in M&E related issues and providing technical support to ensure accuracy and quality of M&E related products.

Egypt was one of the countries selected for piloting results-based rolling work plan with comprehensive results frameworks that include clear indicators with baseline and targets, desegregated data to explore equity dimensions, desegregated strategic priorities, implementation status and as well monitoring budget expenditure against implemented activities. This structure was adopted to prepare for VISION performance management. This results framework constituted the base of the internal monitoring system established in mid-2010. Accordingly, ECO conducted its mid-year review in July 2011 to monitor progress of results and produced a mid-year report that was revised with PMG and CMT.

IMEP is updated on a quarterly basis with a complete analysis and report on progress of implementation.

This is shared with PMG, CMT and RO at least on semi-annual basis.

In 2011, several programmes had research and data collection activities seeking to track and assess achievements for most deprived children, such as the 'Perinatal Care Programme of Excellence' that includes a monitoring system component. C4D data collection system was established to work with MoH to follow up on behavioural monitoring of community outreach activities for children and women.

In addition, a Child Protection Mechanism established in Alexandria and in three Governorates in Upper Egypt has a solid monitoring system that is conveyed to Child Protection Committees at District and Governorate level to report on situation of children in need of protection.

Two monitoring models were newly generated and introduced to ECO to strengthen results based approach in programming. The first model consists of community based monitoring that will be used in support of strengthening the results based approach. The second model entails result based capacity building, which seeks to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the capacity building interventions undertaken by the different programmes with diverse partners. Both models are expected to be primarily carried out in ECO in 2012.

Monitoring equity-based dimensions came to be one of the key priorities of the Country Office that is reflected in the equity data profiles in 27 Governorates. The Equity tracker report was prepared to explore equity dimensions for most deprived children and families in all ECO programmes, and was shared with UNICEF HQ.

In 2011, Egypt completed the DECODE to report on UNICEF's programmes and assigned budgets as a part of reporting of external assistance to the Ministry of International Cooperation. In addition, the survey on the Paris Declaration and Aid Effectiveness was completed to report on donors' commitments and the country's increased efforts to engage in the processes of harmonisation, alignment and Aid management of results against a set of indicators.

Support to National Planning

ECO continues its support to the national partners in the area of results based planning and in strengthening monitoring systems to track and evaluate progress towards fulfilment of children's and women's rights. The ECO placed special stress in 2012 on evidence based and equity focused planning and monitoring. Support to M&E Units continued this year with the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS) and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) to scale up the pilots that took place in 2009-2010. However, systems are not widely scaled up due to political uncertainties.

For the first time in Egypt, a comprehensive "Mentoring Programme" on results based planning, monitoring and reporting is established in 5 MoSS Directorates seeking to strengthen the response system to targeted children and families. A total of 28 MISA officials, from different administrative levels and affiliated to different programme components including family and childhood, social defence, social protection and social care were trained to be quality mentors in the different areas of planning, monitoring and reporting. These areas include community needs assessment to study the situation of children and women, Social Units organizational assessment, planning, data management, monitoring, reporting, evaluation and developing partnerships. A toolkit including all guiding manuals was produced to be used in the Mentoring process to other peers in the different geographic areas. This mentoring system is approved by the Ministry to be integrated into their institutional development and capacity building strategies.

NCCM completed its organizational assessment whose recommendations were adopted. A new organizational structure was conducted, especially after the annulation of the Ministry of Family and Population under which the NCCM was located. Following the same dynamics, CAPMAS is currently undergoing its organizational assessment to improve the system of data flow inside CAPMAS as well as between CAPMAS and national partners. ECO has supported CAMPAS in strengthening its data analysis capacities, especially for the evaluation sector and will continue this support in 2012. Attempt was made

with IDSC to establish "Real Time Monitoring" to provide quick time and real time actionable information, by focusing on cross sectoral vulnerability analysis and early impact detection and promoting collaboration across disciplines, Governorates and entities. However, events linked to the political changes delayed this initiative that will be pursued in 2012.

Any other relevant information related to data/evidence?

Country Programme Analytical Overview

The country programme adopts a range of strategies relevant to the country context in order to achieve results for children. The political events of January 2011 required a rethink in the strategy mix in order to adjust to the new circumstances. Longer-term capacity development initiatives were generally more difficult to implement, but the programme geared up its work on knowledge generation and situation monitoring, particularly regarding the situation of children exposed to violence.

The UNDAF and CPD were in the final stages of preparation when the change in government occurred and a one-year extension was agreed. A priority for the coming year is to finalise the UNDAF and CPD, taking into account the new factors including the changed political and economic circumstances, new data that has become available, and the Concluding Observations of the CRC Committee on Egypt's national report.

Effective Advocacy

Mostly met benchmarks

For the majority of the year, the country was under a transitional government, whose priority was to stabilize the country and conduct the series of elections specified in the transition process. Consequently, issues related to long-term development were not given priority. Thus, plans for sustained advocacy on issues such as equity, child poverty and social protection had to be adjusted to take into account the new circumstances. Advocacy centered on 4 main activities: utilizing the reporting process on the State Party report on the CRC and 2 Optional Protocols to generate awareness and action to implement the Concluding Observations of the CRC Committee; further advocacy on child poverty and disparities; child protection and particularly violence against at risk children and fourthly, preparation for sustained advocacy on child centered policies in 2012 once the transition is completed and the new government formed.

Advocacy plans were adjusted to allow a strong focus on researching, monitoring and advocating solutions regarding children exposed to violence during the violent confrontations. Working with partners and directly with children, UNICEF Egypt was able to document first hand testimonies of how the violence was affecting children including injuries, witnessing violence and sometimes participating in it, as well as the experience of children in contact with the law. Strong collaboration with NCCM and civil society organizations was maintained on these issues.

A new advocacy strategy for partnerships with religious leaders was prepared and ECO is now working closely with Al Azhar University and the Coptic Church on the issue of violence against children. Another priority of the country programme was to prepare for renewed policy dialogue once the new Government has been formed in 2012. ECO prepared two important papers for use in 2012. The first is a peer-reviewed paper on fiscal space for children, which estimates the cost of an integrated child benefits

system and for exploring possible public budget reallocations to create the fiscal space needed to finance the proposed benefits. The second is an advocacy paper including an agenda for priority investments to improve child rights and wellbeing targeting policy makers and other stakeholders.

Changes in Public Policy

As stated above, only limited work on changing public policies could be undertaken in 2011. However, advocacy on child poverty continued. Following the completion of the first study on "Child Poverty and Disparities in Egypt", a trend analysis on child poverty was produced in both English and Arabic languages in 2011. These studies provided a strong analytical base for advocating a multidimensional approach to policy-making on poverty. Advocacy on this had to be somewhat scaled down due to the transition, nevertheless some policy-makers did make use of these documents and ideas. The NCCM is strongly adopting the approach of addressing multidimensional child poverty in its programmes, while also taking it as a core concept in the National Plan of Action for Children whose preparation was initiated in 2011.

Linked to this, UNICEF Egypt was a partner in a conditional cash transfer demonstration project targeting poorest villages in Cairo, Sohag and Assyout. The objective of this is to test the effectiveness of child educational and health conditionality in exchange for regular cash payments disbursed to female heads of households. This initiative was delayed by several months but is now back on track and providing rich evidence for possible implementation of conditional cash transfer on a wider scale.

The CRC report and Concluding Observations were used by the Government to initiate process for preparing a new National Plan of Action for Children, which is currently ongoing.

The country programme contributed to the Government's progress in implementing the Cairo Agenda for Action, the national process for Aid Effectiveness. The Government and Development Partners agreed to develop a framework for mutual accountability, one of the five principles of aid effectiveness. UNICEF-supported programmes in health and education were among those selected for an assessment and lessons learned exercise. The results were presented in the Busan aid effectiveness meeting in 2011.

UNICEF Egypt supported the Ministry of Health and Population to conduct a Landscape Analysis of capacities and readiness to act on nutrition. The findings and recommendations will allow acceleration and scaling up of nutrition interventions.

Leveraging Resources

The draft UNDAF, which was finalized early in the year, was based on the theme "Achieving the MDGs with Equity" and brings together the UN agencies around a much stronger equity agenda.

The new research on urban child poverty is a first step to addressing issues of child poverty and exclusion in the cities of Egypt.

Preparatory action for future advocacy on adopting child-sensitive budgets was undertaken. The paper on fiscal space was developed, with the intention of contributing to the policy dialogue on reform of subsidies.

Capacity Development

Mostly met benchmarks

Capacity Development is a major strategy of the country programme and works to strengthen capacities of government, civil society and academic partners.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP), the UNICEF C4D worked with MOHP community outreach system to review and improve the system by introducing revised job descriptions for outreach workers, using new comprehensive IEC package promoting healthy practices, and institutionalizing an updated monitoring and reporting system. Starting 2012, some 400 supervisors will be trained on the new system, and they in turn will roll step down training sessions to more than 13,000 community outreach workers. The updated information is expected to reach about 4.5 million rural families with lifesaving information especially those in the most deprived areas of Egypt.

Capacity building of national partners in the area of results based planning and monitoring continued with MOSA and NCCM, but not widely scaled up due to political uncertainty. For the first time in Egypt, a comprehensive mentoring programme on results based planning and monitoring is established in 5 MoSA-info, with equity-focused data, is expected to be issued by start of 2012. NCCM completed its organizational assessment whose recommendations were taken as a basis for the newly established M&E Unit that was officially approved by Ministry of Administrative Development. Following the same dynamics, CAPMAS is currently undergoing its organizational assessment to introduce the results based monitoring and management information systems.

SPME contributed to the institutionalization of two professional diplomas in the area of Public Policies and Child Rights and in research and evaluation in collaboration with 3 national Universities. An official approval was issued from the High Council of Graduate Studies. 101 students were registered in the two diplomas (48 students from Public Policies and 53 students in R&E diploma). A complete package of curricula produced in Arabic language is nearing completion. The diploma on M&E officially started in Helwan and Assyout Universities with 51 students registered, and with a complete package of 10 curricula produced in Arabic language.

Communication For Development

Fully met benchmarks

C4D continues to be a major crosscutting strategy in ECO that promotes positive individual behaviours and collective community and social change. Mobilization of communities and social networks is an important tool whether for maintenance of established results or addressing emerging ones.

UNICEF in partnership with the MoHP designed and launched a nationwide communication and social mobilization campaign to support the polio vaccination campaign and ensure that all Egyptian children are immunized to maintain Egypt polio free. Post campaign survey and the reported NID coverage figures, showed that the communication campaign succeeded in creating the necessary awareness among the target audience and in turn led to the achievement of vaccinating over 12 million children under 5 years. Meanwhile, C4D utilizes a variety of participatory approaches in the planning, design and implementation of interventions through on-going consultation with stakeholders on all levels. For example, UNICEF collaborated with the Ministry of Social Solidarity and Justice and the Egyptian Red Crescent (NGOs) as well as communities and children to adopt edutainment techniques for learning by playing when working with kindergarten children to promote healthy practices such as hygiene, nutrition, and tolerance (for people of other ethnicities and religions). A specially tailored kit with 10 games and interactive activities was produced after several rounds of consultations and pretesting. It was widely used to cover all kindergarten children (estimated to be 27,418 children) in Sohag and Alexandria governorates. Initial field reports are showing positive outcomes on the children's knowledge and application of healthy practices. A similar approach was used to support the emergency operation at the Egypt/Libya border area in Salloum around the Libya crisis when a variety of information materials with key messages were developed for awareness on health and nutrition, WASH and protection of mothers and children crossing the Egyptian border.

At a macro level, UNICEF and MOHP have reviewed the community outreach health system in order to effectively integrate the wider behavioural issues regarding maternal and child health in the daily work of the outreach workers. The review process has yielded improved training and IEC packages as well as a more robust behavioural monitoring system. The new system will allow the detection of incremental behavioural shifts occurring across the estimated 5 million rural families that are being served down to the lowest village level.

Service Delivery

Fully met benchmarks

Direct service delivery is not a major component of the country programme. Egypt has strong service delivery systems, particularly in health and education, but with gaps in both quality and in reaching the most disadvantaged children. The country programme's support to service delivery is therefore focused on strengthening existing systems so that they better serve the most disadvantaged girls and boys, and also in upgrading the quality of service. However, during 2011, UNICEF was a partner in the emergency response to the thousands of children and their families who were stranded at Egypt's border with Libya. For a period of five months, UNICEF provided water and sanitation services to thousands of families and also provision of child protection and psychosocial services to children.

Strategic Partnerships

Mostly met benchmarks

During the reporting period, the political transition has highlighted the need to build on and deepen our existing partnerships with civil society, private sector, development partners and academic institutions in order to achieve priority results for children.

One of the most important civil society partnerships was the network of NGOs supporting children at risk in Cairo and Alexandria, which proved to be effective in assessing the situation of children caught in the violence of political unrest. The network contributed to documenting cases and providing assistance to the children at risk as well as raising awareness among media and policy makers on the situation of these children. The partnership that developed between the Egyptian Coalition of Child Rights civil society organisations, NCCM and UNICEF proved to be critical in assessing and addressing the protection needs of children affected by violence and in raising awareness of their vulnerable condition and needs.

In partnership with PFP, a Market Research Assessment was conducted which will be the basis for identifying potential partnerships within the corporate sector in Egypt. A strategy to engage with the private sector is being developed based on the Market Research findings.

A partnership with prominent Muslim and Christian institutions (Al Azhar and Coptic Church) was initiated to reach a common position on violence against children and benefit from the support of religious leaders on this issue. The partnership will result in two separate documents and one set of joint key messages and statements on the values of Islam and Christianity challenging violence against children. The two documents and the joint statements will be widely disseminated through religious leaders throughout the country during 2012 to reach out to different communities especially those that are hard to reach.

Mobilizing Partners

To complement the strategic partners mentioned above, the country programme has also developed strong partnerships at various levels of governance. The Child Protection Committees, which operate at the Governorate and District levels, provide a mechanism for convening government and NGO stakeholders around a child protection agenda. UNICEF's community work on FGM abandonment has developed strong networks of CDOS operating at community levels, who act as advocates for children.

The programme's support to community-based education has mobilised partners around girls' education. UNICEF's current work with CDOs working in the community schools sector is supporting the establishment of the Egyptian Union for Community Based Education, which will act as a national umbrella for CDOs.

Knowledge Management

Mostly met benchmarks

In 2011, ECO continued to generate strategic information and analysis on the situation of children. New 'Governorate Profiles' with latest data for the 27 Governorates in Egypt were compiled. A statistical digest was also produced, covering major topics of the Egypt DHS in an easy to read format. These products were produced in both languages Arabic and English. The Situation Analysis was nearing completion at the end of the year and is currently being updated to reflect the recent changes that have occurred in the country. Important pieces of research, on urban child poverty and out of school children were initiated and should be finalized by mid-2012.

Additional research was prompted by the political upheaval in Egypt and Libya: qualitative research on the impact of these disturbances on children at risk in Cairo and Alexandria; a joint assessment with WFP on the impact of instability in Egypt and Libya on families in Upper Egypt; a joint rapid assessment on the situation of families stranded at the Egypt-Libya border; and a rapid assessment with UNHCR of the situation of Libyan migrants in Marsa Matrouh.

The database 'EDHSInfo' was also updated and uploaded on-line. The database contains 302 indicators covering a wide range of sectors and sub-sectors in the DHS report. The data were extracted from the last four rounds of the DHS in Egypt (1995-2008). Data at the national, regional and governorate levels for several subgroups and background characteristics are presented.

Accountabilities and deliverables for knowledge activities are included in the section and individual workplans and will also be included in the IMEP.

The country programme worked closely with national partners in developing knowledge products. The urban child poverty research was initiated in partnership with IDSF, NCCM and Cairo University; the situation analysis was conducted with NCCM. The office also supported the Ministry of Social Solidarity to conduct a customer satisfaction survey to determine quality of social services provided by the Ministry and supported NCCM to conduct a study of Perceptions of Children on Education.

The office also continued providing the annual DevInfo orientation sessions to Arab media and health researchers to enhance statistical literacy and use of evidence-based information in decision making and monitoring of human development aspects in general and of MDGs in particular. The first session was provided during the annual workshop on "Enhancing the role of Media in publishing and utilising Data" organised by the PAPFAM project under the League of Arab States. Another session was provided in the annual training course on "Research Methods for Guiding Policy and Evaluation" for health professionals in the region, delivered by the Scientific Research Centre of the American University in Egypt.

Human Rights Based Approach to Cooperation

Mostly met benchmarks

The new draft country programme document was prepared based on assessment of rights of children and women and capacity analysis of key duty bearers. Both the CPD and the UNDAF were deferred for a year due to political uncertainty, but human rights principles were the basis for developing the UN transition strategy, and for the readjustments of work plans for 2011.

The concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on the third and fourth periodic reports of Egypt were released in 2011, thus establishing key priorities for the realization of children's rights in the country. In the reporting period, UNICEF Egypt supported the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood to develop a strategic plan for disseminating the CRC recommendations amongst key duty bearers (both Government and civil society), and formulate a National Plan of Action for Children that is expected to be finalized in 2012.

Human rights principles are a key factor in determining the research agenda of the country programme, which is focused on bringing to light the various dimensions of equity and disparity. The studies on urban child poverty and out of school children are notable efforts in this regard.

The ongoing mapping of the child protection system is a further attempt to operationalize human rights based approaches. The mapping will assess capacities of the child protection system to support the most vulnerable children and families and is expected to lead to significant strengthening of the system.

Gender

Mostly met benchmarks

Although ECO does not have a stand-alone gender strategy, gender is integrated as part of the design and implementation of most of ECO programme interventions. ECO –supported research is disparity and equity focused and aims to analyze gender and other dimensions. This is particularly evident in view of the most recently completed ECO situation analysis, which highlighted various types of child vulnerability including those associated with gender as well as the earlier Child Poverty and Disparities study and the recently initiated Urban Child Poverty and Out of School studies. Additional data derived from the landscape analysis of nutritional situation in Egypt, integrating a system of child benefits into fiscal space, as well as the secondary analysis of the 2008 Egyptian Demographic and Health Survey are confirming the underlying importance of gender analysis for addressing women and children inequalities. For some programmes, gender empowerment is core strategy. The education programme has a focus on girls' education and reducing gender disparities.

The neonatal community health programme is designed and implemented using the communication for behavior change module of "Arab women speaks out" to support the programme activities aiming at saving the lives of children especially during the first year after birth. Likewise, the child protection mechanism is centered on supporting the families with children at risk of various abuses including gender rooted causes. Tailored activities that are gender sensitive are implemented at the community level to address different forms of violence with the aim of providing a more protective environment. For all the above-mentioned interventions, the data available is gender disaggregated to allow for more targeted interventions. In 2012, ECO will be sharpening its monitoring tools especially as part of the preparation for the new country

program cycle. Specific gender related indicators under each programme will be finalized along with a more detailed gender strategy that will support the implementation of the upcoming Country Programme.

Environmental Sustainability

Initiating action to meet benchmarks

Environmental sustainability is a main plank of the draft UNDAF. During the preparation of the UNDAF and CPD, UNICEF developed its approach to environmental sustainability and disaster risk reduction and it was included in the draft CPD. The signing of the new UNDAF and CPD was delayed by one year due to the political uncertainty prevailing in the country and no further action was taken on this issue in the reporting period.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation

The Nutrition Landscape Analysis, the first in the MENA region, was conducted with support from the Medical Research Council of South Africa, which had completed a similar analysis in South Africa. UNICEF Egypt identified and facilitated the participation of two Islamic religious scholars from Egypt in a regional conference in Mauritania. The conference was organised to develop consensus on a regional fatwa (religious decree) for the West African region. Religious scholars from Egypt participated in the event and helped to draft the fatwa, which was later issued by top religious leaders from the West African countries.

Country Programme Component: Young child survival and development

PCRs (Programme Component Results)

PCR	EQRank	OTDetails
Children under 5 in target areas have access to quality health, nutrition and WASH services provided by YCSD GoE Partners.	2	FA1OT1, FA1OT2, FA1OT3, FA1OT4, FA1OT5
Families and health staff have adopted key family care practices (prevention, health/ hygiene care seeking behaviours and home based care) in the targeted areas of Upper Egypt.	3	FA1OT7, FA1OT8
Systems and Models are adopted by GoE in the areas of Perinatal care, IDD, Chronic Malnutrition, and WASH for YCS	1	FA1OT12, FA1OT7

Resources Used in 2011(USD)

Resource Type	Planned for 2011 (as per CPAP ceiling)	Allocated in 2011	Estimated Year-End Expenditure	%Spent (4)/(3) * 100
OR-E	1000000.00	579298.00	579298.00	100.00
OR-R	1720000.00	1754648.00	673494.00	38.38
RR	530800.00	606100.00	606100.00	100.00
Total	\$3,250,800.00	\$2,940,046.00	\$1,858,892.00	

Results Achieved

The pilot Perinatal Care Programme of Excellence (PCPE) continued to benefit a total population of 200,000 and more than 60,000 women in the child bearing ages and children under five directly in disadvantaged communities in Upper Egypt. At the community level, key family practices have improved as indicated by an increase in antenatal visits from 69% to 91%, iron tablets consumption increased from 71.14% to 91.56%, exclusive breast feeding increased from 41.03% to 76.64%, diarrhoea managed by ORS (increased from 84.33% to 97.89%), births attended by trained personnel increased from 79% to 88%. At the health facility level, the performance indicators of the Family Health Units (FHUs) recorded an increase in facility based delivery from 60% to 76%, in post natal visits from 2.6 to .6, and in overall utilization rate of an average of 27%. Data on customer satisfaction has shown improvement from 30% in 2008 to 85% in 2010.

Around 12.7 million children under five were protected from imported polio virus, by the successful completion of one round of Polio NIDs, which reported coverage of around 98%. UNICEF supported MOHP to undertake a nationwide media campaign to promote vaccination of all children under the age of five during the polio national campaign.

Community based nutritional activities in targeted areas resulted in significant improvements in the 1st hour breast feeding indicator (increased from 68% to 94%), and exclusive breastfeeding indicator increased from 41% to 76%. The capacity building of the health workforce in nutrition counseling skills in addition to the activities at the community level contributed to the decline of prevalence of underweight among children aged 6-24 months from 22% to 4%.

The implementation of a five-year national plan for promotion of breast feeding started in 7 governorates. The plan covers government, private and university hospitals, as well as PHC and family health units in cooperation with the MoHP and NGOs. At the community level, 231 doctors and 243 nurse and community health workers from a total of 7 government hospitals and 30 health centers and family unit acquired the knowledge and skills to lead mother support groups.

The Nutrition Landscape Analysis study was completed, providing an assessment of the national capacities and readiness to scale up coordinated nutrition interventions. The MOHP has already announced its intention to respond to one of the recommendations when it announced its intention to establish a nutrition unit within the Ministry, responsible for national coordination of nutrition interventions.

Training of staff and procurement of equipment for the establishment of the Nutrition Surveillance System were completed and the system will start in 7 governorates, covering rural and urban centers in 2012.

Most Critical Factors and Constraints

Almost a year of political uncertainty interrupted the provision of services in many places. In addition, the lack of skilled and trained workforce in Upper Egypt along with the high level of dual employment and high staff turn-over, continue to be major constraints for quality service delivery performance improvement in both PHC and nutrition interventions.

Funding constraints for WASH activities have led to a reduced level of activity, although funding opportunities are being pursued with a number of potential donors, including the private sector.

The PCPE project was selected by the MoHP as a pilot model for Mutual Accountability analysis as part of Aid Effectiveness exercise. This exercise was undertaken in full collaboration with the MoIC, MoHP, and EU. The outcome of the exercise was shared with the Development Partners Group (DPG), and the Government decided to use the lessons learned from this exercise to be applied in other sectors.

Key Strategic Partnerships and Interagency Collaboration

Collaboration with key UN agencies, notably WHO and WFP, along with USAID and the World Bank continued in the areas of nutrition, neonatal survival, and WASH. Dialogue was initiated with the Department of Community and Public Health of Cairo University for capacity building of the university faculties in child survival programming. Collaboration with the Cairo Governorate was initiated to address the escalating neonatal mortalities in the slum areas, as a pilot for urban programming. Close collaboration was maintained with the Salloum Port authority and the Holding Company for Water & Wastewater, in providing WASH humanitarian assistance at the Libya-Egypt border during the Libya crisis. A new partnership was developed with the Ein Shams University, which assumed the role of the national partner in the Landscape Analysis along with the Medical Research Center of South Africa.

Humanitarian Situations

UNICEF was required to respond to the emergency situation that arose at the Egypt-Libya border in March when thousands of families fleeing the violence in Libya were stranded at the border. Coordinating closely with UNHCR, IOM, the local authorities and others, UNICEF took the lead in the WASH and hygiene emergency response and immunization at the border. All children under 18 months were fully immunized and all children under 5 received at least 3 doses of polio OPV. No single case of malnourished or underweight child occurred, and 95% of lactating mothers were exclusively breastfeeding their under 6 months old children. All cases of chronic illness were monitored and referred to health teams. All pregnant women received antenatal care at the facility clinic.

Summary of Monitoring, Studies and Evaluations

PCPE Costing Analysis study was completed. The study recommended the introduction of public expenditure tracking system in the health facilities at all levels, and a follow on study on cost-effectiveness of the PCPE to provide advice to the MoHP on roll out strategies. The Nutrition Landscape analysis study was also

completed and includes a set of recommendations to accelerate and scale up interventions against malnutrition

The pilot Perinatal Mortality Surveillance System completed one full year of implementation in 12 sentinel sites in Assiut Governorate, with more than 1200 reported deaths to the system. A review of the system found the surveillance system to be functioning well in most sentinel sites. Recommendations for improvements focused on fine tuning of the technical protocols governing the system, strengthening the technical and administrative supervision, and refresher training for new staff for performance standardization

A multi-agency assessment on performance of routine immunization in selected 6 governorates showed high national coverage, a strong supply system and identified weaknesses such as poor data management, technical supervision and poor micro-planning, shortage of human resources, and lack of financial resources to introduce new vaccines. *AFP* surveillance review acknowledged a well-established system. However, IT and GIS elements of the system and technical guidelines are missing.

Future Work Plan

The recommendations of the Landscape Analysis study will be used for developing a plan of action that addresses the system and capacity gaps identified by the study. The National Nutrition Surveillance System will be sustained and expanded in the selected sentinel sites in partnership with WHO and others.

Implementation of the IDD social marketing strategy will be accelerated in collaboration with IDD national partners (including school health campaigns). The PNMSS will be expanded to the Sohag Governorate, and will be assessed for integration into the existing MMSS.

In 2012, the PCPE initiative will be expanded further in the three target governorates in partnership with MoHP.

UNICEF will support MOHP in the process of accreditation of the EPI facilities at all levels starting from the central, governorate, district, ending in the primary health unit levels to cover the performance gap. In 2012, MoHP is planning to conduct two rounds of Polio NIDs, targeting 12.5 million under 5 children.

UNICEF will enhance the capacity of Sohag and Assiut Holding Company for Water and Sanitation to manage the revolving fund that will lead to more water connections to disadvantaged households.

Country Programme Component: Quality education

PCRs (Programme Component Results)

PCR	EQRank	OTDetails
Increased access of boys and girls age 4-14 years to quality education.		2 FA2OT2, FA2OT3, FA2OT7

Resources Used in 2011(USD)

Resource Type	Planned for 2011 (as per CPAP ceiling)	Allocated in 2011	Estimated Year-End Expenditure	%Spent (4)/(3) * 100
OR-E				
OR-R	1400000.00	1148827.00	331889.00	28.89
RR	350000.00	170000.00	160720.00	94.54
Total	\$1,750,000.00	\$1,318,827.00	\$492,609.00	

Results Achieved

The community model of KGs has been developed, and was successful in expanding access to high quality early learning for disadvantaged children in Upper Egypt. In 2011, about 3800 children were enrolled in 300 community KGs, which have now transferred to the MoE. Since the start of the country programme, the project has reached a total of 25,137 children (50% girls) in Assuit, Sohag and Qena governorates and contributed to the increase in access to quality pre-primary education in these governorates.

Enrolment rates have increased to reach 48% in Assuit (16.8% in 2007), 49% in Sohag (20.9% in 2007), and 53% in Qena (15% in 2007).

The evolution of the community schools model and scaling up by the government and civil society continues to progress steadily to reach 752 community schools serving a total of 20,304 children (60% girls).

The MoE, with UNICEF technical support, continues to provide CS facilitators with bi-weekly in-service training sessions and on the job coaching in addition to formal training sessions as required. The new multi-grade curriculum for grades 1-3, supported by UNICEF, was printed and disseminated nationwide by MoE in 2011/2012. UNICEF will continue supporting MoE to develop the new multi-grade curriculum for grades 4-6 to be disseminated in 2012/2013. Partnership with MoE and NCCM on girls' education under the Joint Programme continued to expand access to quality education to rural communities.

The school improvement programme has realized 135% of its target (60 schools) with 53 schools accredited and 28 schools qualifying for accreditation serving almost 55,000 children. The schools were inspected against national quality standards for institutional capacity and educational effectiveness. To enhance MoE capacity to monitor standard based quality education indicators, 3 monitoring units were established at the Education Muderia in Assuit, Sohag and Qena.

Some 328 children suffering from learning difficulties, mental and physical disabilities are benefiting from the pilot for inclusion of children with special needs, which started in early 2010 in 20 primary schools in two governorates. A preliminary needs assessment to enhance psycho-social support in schools was conducted and a basic step-by-step manual on how to design activities was developed.

To further mainstream WASH activities in schools, 211 MoE inspectors, social workers, school principals and teachers were trained on the use of the IEC Materials and Teaching aids produced to mainstream it in 150 schools in Assuit and Sohag governorates. In addition, Students from 50 primary schools in Cairo, Assuit and Sohag conducted a survey on the hygiene and sanitation conditions at their schools. Students were trained on how to plan for a survey, conduct interviews and fill in survey forms.

A new project was developed in 2011, to activate student unions in schools as a means of structuring a large-scale, sustainable initiative on adolescent civic engagement. The project aims to empower students and activate their role in the development of their schools and their surrounding communities.

Most Critical Factors and Constraints

The overall progress of the programme was challenged by the political events. The Ministry of Education has witnessed several changes of Ministers and senior level staff during 2011. This has resulted in some delays in the implementation as well as in the launching of new activities.

Key Strategic Partnerships and Interagency Collaboration

UNICEF, WFP, and UNESCO continue to support the national Girls Education Initiative to provide quality education and reduce gender disparities through 1167 GFS to 34,000 children (80% girls) in seven governorates.

Based on the success of phase one of the USDOL-funded project "Combating Worst Forms of Child Labor", a renewed partnership was established with WFP and ILO to conduct Phase Two of the project. The project aims to provide educational services allowing 8,000 at risk children to attend school and 5,000 child laborers to attend transitional education programmes. The project covers five governorates namely, Fayoum, Minya, Assiut, Sohag, and Sharqiya. In 2011, the following preparatory actions were taken: 207 MOE inspectors, government school teachers and community schools facilitators received TOT on active learning. Additionally 13,000 at risk children and child labourers were identified by the project in targeted governorates as the project beneficiaries. Implementing partners were contracted and community school sites were identified in four governorates.

To ensure continuous support to CDAs/NGOs providing community based education services and effective liaison, UNICEF supported the establishment of the Egyptian Union for Community Based Education, which will act as a national umbrella for CDAs/NGOs that provide community based education services for children age 4 – 12 years. The Union will provide support and technical assistance to CDAs/NGOs and liaise between government and CDAs/NGOs providing education services.

Humanitarian Situations

The education programme was not involved in any humanitarian situations during the reporting period.

Summary of Monitoring, Studies and Evaluations

An evaluation of UNGEI partnership was conducted, in collaboration with UNICEF HQ, as part of a global evaluation that will serve as a baseline against which future evaluative work can be done. The objective of the evaluation was to explore the extent to which the UNGEI partnership has achieved its intended outcomes at the country level, and the extent to which the global efforts are contributing to the effectiveness and efficiency of the UNGEI partnership. UNICEF hosted the planning workshop involving 4 countries (Egypt, Nepal, Nigeria and Uganda) in Cairo during January 23-27, 2011 to agree on a common framework and methodology to be used in all countries to acquire a shared understanding of ways to strengthen the partnerships. The main recommendations included: 1) Sustainability through institutionalization of partnership, 2) Adoption of education policies favorable for quality and universal education for girls, 3) Establishment of information/documentation, as well as results based monitoring system, 4) Scaling up of UNGEI and expanding it to non-participating governorates, and 5) Expanding Funding Sources.

In addition, a study on 'Out-of-school children' was initiated to provide estimates of numbers and profiles of children who are excluded from the education system age (6-15 years) in 5 governorates. The results of the CBE sector review and the study on 'Out of school Children' will guide the planning for the new CPD.

A study was conducted, in collaboration with MoE, to review inclusion practices at the school level and assess performance gaps. The findings highlighted the need to develop a better understanding of inclusion concepts and appropriate pedagogy skills, and monitoring and evaluation of students' achievements. The results of

the study were presented and discussed with stakeholders in a workshop and a professional development plan was prepared accordingly.

Future Work Plan

In 2012, UNICEF will continue to support the mainstreaming of the elements of child friendly schools (child centred pedagogy, active participation, and caring for children's basic needs in a protective learning environment) through performance improvement interventions that include CBE sector and NGOs providing community based education for disadvantaged children, particularly girls. UNICEF will work with MoE and NCCM to support the handover of the girls' education schools, currently managed by NCCM, to the MoE.

In addition, the study on Out of School children will be finalized and an M&E system for CBE sector will be developed to enhance equity based planning and monitoring. To strengthen the capacity of MoE to scale up the successful community based education (CBE) models, a research institute was identified and contracted to conduct a review of the CBE sector and identify performance gaps. The aim of the study is to develop a capacity building programme to enhance the effectiveness of the CBE sector to ensure access to quality education for out of school children. The review will be conducted early 2012.

Country Programme Component: HIV/AIDS and adolescent development

PCRs (Programme Component Results)

PCR	EQRank	OTDetails
Adolescents possess the necessary knowledge and skills for healthy and productive lifestyles and active citizenship, within a supportive policy environment.	0	FA5OT9
Capacities of individuals, most at risk young people, government and non-governmental entities enhanced to prevent HIV infection and ensure protection and care for people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS	2	FA3OT1, FA3OT2, FA3OT4

Resources Used in 2011(USD)

Resource Type	Planned for 2011 (as per CPAP ceiling)	Allocated in 2011	Estimated Year-End Expenditure	%Spent (4)/(3) * 100
OR-E				
OR-R	1090000.00	1790904.00	1118126.00	62.43
RR	370000.00	176900.00	164752.00	93.13
Total	\$1,460,000.00	\$1,967,804.00	\$1,282,878.00	

Results Achieved

ECO has prioritized reaching those most vulnerable to HIV infection by concentrating efforts on children in street situations, young people, and female sex workers. Among children living in street situations, and those residing in government-run social care institutions, 219 females and 221 males have been equipped with comprehensive knowledge and skills to protect themselves from HIV infection. To ensure staff working with the children support transforming knowledge into behaviour change, 78 staff are now equipped with enhanced competencies on HIV counselling, psychosocial support, child-rights and HIV prevention.

Initiatives in the social care institutions included working for the first time ever on HIV prevention among children who have come in contact with the law, which reached 1,474 children (386 females and 1,106 males), 86 peer mentors and 315 staff members. High levels of stigma and discrimination originally displayed by staff members have significantly decreased. Other positive outcomes include 88% of children with correct knowledge on how to protect themselves from HIV prevention (representing a 47% increase from pre-test); and 86% of staff with correct knowledge to support HIV prevention, (signifying a 23% increase).

Efforts to enhance HIV/AIDS care and support included the establishment of four support groups for 45 PLHIV. Furthermore, 45 family members of PLHIV and 45 PLHIV are equipped with the knowledge and skills on how to deal with common symptoms associated with HIV and provide home-based care. Efforts to enhance treatment for PLHIV continue through support to the MoH on procurement of all antiretroviral therapy (ART), equipment and supplies for HIV and follow-up testing. Procurement by ECO secured ART for 498 adults and 44 infants.

The programme increased activities to ensure young people possess knowledge and life skills necessary to lead healthy and productive lifestyles. Young mentors are provided with a comprehensive life skills approach, which links life skills development, including skills on decision-making, communication, problem solving and teamwork, with entrepreneurial skills. These mentors were later utilized as agents of change to support the expansion of HIV prevention among young people. The capacity of 97 peer mentors (49 females and 48 males) was enhanced to deliver HIV prevention among their peers. This joint intervention provided 1,132 females and 1,006 males with the correct information to reduce their vulnerability to HIV in ten governorates.

With regards to Adolescent Development and Participation, during 2011, 5,686 adolescents and youth were equipped with enhanced entrepreneurial skills, through peer education implemented by 328 peer educators in 10 governorates (with females accounting for 46% of the targeted young population). The peer educator programme was complemented by a career counseling service to 8,976 young people in nine governorates. During 2011, 2,043 young people have acquired the knowledge and skills to become active citizens through the national civic education programme. The programme was adapted following the political events of 2011 to focus on the particular concepts of tolerance and citizenship. The Egyptian Federation of Youth NGOs is playing a more active role as a network for youth NGOs and has developed a new strategic plan and conducted a needs assessment of its members to serve them better.

Most Critical Factors and Constraints

The fluid political situation in Egypt in 2011 hampered the full engagement of UNICEF with its governmental partners regarding HIV and adolescents. Stigma and discrimination remain strong obstacles to ensuring the rights of PLHIV are met, particularly in accessing clinical care. Moreover, the security situation across Egypt has affected the implementation of various capacity building programmes as well as outreach activities targeting PLHIV and young people. Consequently, UNICEF modified many programmes to focus on partnerships with NGOs, in order to achieve programme results.

Key Strategic Partnerships and Interagency Collaboration

UNFPA, UNAIDS and UNICEF continued to work collaboratively on reducing HIV vulnerability among female sex workers. In 2011, 975 female sex workers and 251 clients and gatekeepers were provided with comprehensive HIV prevention messages and services. Comprehensive services included distribution of 6,415 male condoms, 438 sex workers visiting the drop-in centre, where they were provided with a range of services, including management of sexually transmitted infections, legal services, psychosocial support, counselling and alternative skills training. Scaling-up of outreach services has been attained through mentoring of additional NGOs, capacity building for 22 outreach workers and establishment of new drop-in centres in Cairo and Alexandria.

ECO has been contributing in the restructuring of the Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM), in conjunction with a Task Force assigned by the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) including the development of guidance on membership to the CCM, establishment of subcommittees, Terms of References for all members, subcommittees and the Secretariat, a Governance manual and overseeing the election process for all civil society and people living with the disease.

UNICEF ECO also led a process towards addressing the needs of marginalised adolescent girls and is working towards developing a joint programme with UNFPA, UN Women, ILO and UNESCO as part of the Global Adolescent Girls Initiative. Moreover, private sector partnerships were maintained with Barclays and LinkdotNet, leveraging partner resources beyond funding, including volunteers and technical expertise.

A new partnership with the General Student Union for School Students was established in 2011 in collaboration with the Ministry of Education. UNICEF has been engaged with the General Student Union in the revision of the ministerial decree governing the student unions based on four regional consultative meetings held with more than 300 representatives of students, social workers, teachers and managers.

Humanitarian Situations

The programme was not involved in any humanitarian situations during the reporting period.

Summary of Monitoring, Studies and Evaluations

Efforts to generate data on HIV for evidence based-programming include initiation of two interventions. First, in conjunction with UNAIDS and UN Women, a situational analysis of women's vulnerability to HIV has begun, including adaptation of a framework on reducing women's vulnerability to HIV and a policy brief to prioritize HIV prevention among women. Secondly, UNICEF and UNAIDS are jointly implementing the Stigma Index to collect information on stigma, discrimination and the rights of PLHIV for use in advocacy and as an evidence base for programmatic interventions and policy change.

In 2011, UNICEF ECO was part of a regional evaluation of the Adolescents: Agents of Change Project supported by the Swedish International Cooperation Development Agency. The main recommendations of the evaluation included the institutionalization of young people's participation while adopting equity and gender equality approach, advocacy for a comprehensive multi-sectoral national youth policy with the active involvement of young people, and mainstreaming adolescent and youth issues across all of UNICEF programmes more systematically.

Future Work Plan

On HIV/AIDS, efforts will concentrate on preventing HIV among young people particularly those who are most at-risk, preventing mother-to-child transmission, and providing comprehensive care and support to those infected/affected by HIV/AIDS. New partnerships will be established to mainstream HIV into comprehensive prevention programmes. ECO will identify evidence-based interventions to meet the needs of women and children infected/affected by HIV/AIDS. For adolescents, focus will be on promoting civic engagement of young people by expanding the current programme, building the capacities of youth groups/NGOs and activating existing mechanisms, such as student unions. Sports will be utilized to reach out to marginalised adolescents with key life skills messages. Finally, investments will be made into programming to improve the employability skills of young people.

Country Programme Component: Child protection

PCRs (Programme Component Results)

PCR	EQRank	OTDetails
Children at risk of violence in Upper Egypt and those living on the streets of Greater Cairo are protected and have access to better quality and sustainable reintegration and rehabilitative services	2	FA4OT5, FA4OT7, FA4OT2
National Child Protection System capable of providing services at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels to children at risk (including risks of violence and FGM/C) is strengthened.	2	FA4OT1, FA4OT3, FA4OT4, FA4OT6, FA4OT7, FA4OT9

Resources Used in 2011(USD)

Resource Type	Planned for 2011 (as per CPAP ceiling)	Allocated in 2011	Estimated Year-End Expenditure	%Spent (4)/(3) * 100
OR-E	500000.00	213829.00	202772.00	94.83
OR-R	1341000.00	910239.00	892426.00	98.04
RR	419000.00	726154.00	725462.00	99.90
Total	\$2,260,000.00	\$1,850,222.00	\$1,820,660.00	

Results Achieved

Capacities of civil society organisations to advocate for child rights to protection have been significantly strengthened. Partnership with the Egyptian Coalition for Child Rights, a network of more than 70 national NGOs, NCCM and UNICEF has been important in monitoring and addressing the situation of children exposed to violence during the events related to political change, and in advocating for their rights. Together with the Egyptian Child Protection Network (ECPN), a network of over 20 child rights related international NGOs, this represents a very important platform to act and advocate on behalf of children.

Approximately 7,480 children at risk (52% boys and 48% girls) in Alexandria and Upper Egypt have been assisted by 18 Child Protection Committees (CPCs) to find solutions for their social welfare needs. Around 150 members of 19 CPCs in Upper Egypt and of 4 newly formed CPCs in Alexandria acquired skills to identify protection needs of children and to refer cases of children at risk to service providers. Alexandria saw the creation of Secretariat for the CPCs at governorate and district levels, which have received training on the use of the database and the generation of reports and are benefiting from troubleshooting meetings organized monthly.

In 2011, UNICEF supported NCCM in the development of a national action plan for the implementation of the National Strategy for Street Children. Work on the plan is still in progress.

UNICEF-UNFPA Trust Fund Joint Programme worked closely with Ministry of Health and Population on the training of doctors, nurses, community health workers, district prosecutors and NGO representatives. These training events are based on the training manual developed during 2009-2010. During the last quarter of 2011, close to 1400 professionals have been trained.

The Committee on the Rights of the Child considered Egypt's report on the Convention in June 2011. UNICEF supported the Egyptian Coalition for Children's Rights in 2010 to prepare their alternate report. Currently UNICEF is working with NCCM and main governmental partners to disseminate the Concluding Observations and reflect them in the National Plan of Action for children.

UNICEF supported NGOs to provide 1500 children at risk with outreach, rehabilitation and reintegration

services. Additionally, 11 children were reintegrated with their families and 3 are residing in temporary shelter. A comprehensive programme of psychosocial support was introduced following the violence that erupted in January. Through this programme, 23 social workers and psychologists have improved knowledge on providing mentoring and psychosocial support. Also, 218 children received diversified services including group therapy, training on self-expression and mental health and referral services. UNICEF extended its support to girls in street situations in partnership with Banati, a specialized Egyptian NGO working with girls. Through its outreach and shelter, Banati provides girls with diversified rehabilitative activities, including educational, recreational as well as psychological support programmes. In 2011, Banati served more than 150 girls. In addition to Banati, UNICEF continued its support to the Young Street Mothers Centre (YSMC) run by the Hope Village Society (HVS); in 2011, a project assessment is being undertaken for YSMC and results are due early next year.

Most Critical Factors and Constraints

The political context of 2011 slowed the progress in achieving the AWP results planned for 2011. Child Protection programme partners have been affected by the political changes. The Ministry of Family and Population was abolished, and other partners have experienced change and uncertainty. This has led to serious delays in some activities, most notably the child protection mapping. The National FGM abandonment programme has shifted from NCCM to NPC, which caused additional delays.

Key Strategic Partnerships and Interagency Collaboration

The partnership with NCCM and civil society organisations remains critical to the child protection agenda in Egypt, while the collaboration with UNFPA on the FGM Joint Programme remains solid, despite the lack of funding available for Egypt in 2011.

The joint project among UNICEF, ILO and WFP to combat worst forms of child labour in agriculture is important for formation and operationalization of CPCs and community monitoring mechanisms in several governorates.

Partnership with civil society organizations in Alexandria, Cairo and Upper Egypt has been a key factor in operationalizing the child protection mechanism of identification and referral of cases of children at risk, and has been a driving force behind the CPCs mandated by law in those areas.

UNICEF Egypt identified and facilitated the participation of two Islamic religious scholars from Egypt in a regional conference in Mauritania. The conference was organised to develop consensus on a regional fatwa (religious decree) for the West African region. Religious scholars from Egypt participated in the event and helped to draft the fatwa that was later issued by top religious leaders from the West African countries.

Humanitarian Situations

The programme supported the emergency response operation at the Egyptian/Libyan border. According to IOM, as of October 7, 2011, a total of 229,514 migrants had crossed the Libyan-Egyptian border crossing at Salloum (since February 2011). Other than people waiting for their refugee status to be determined by UNHCR, the third country nationals spent varied number of days from a minimum of one day to four weeks. UNICEF remained operational at Salloum from early March to late June 2011. During this period of time, UNICEF ensured a separate and secure place for families, established child friendly places, engaged younger children in ECD related activities, involved older children in recreational activities, and provided psychosocial supports to families and children.

Summary of Monitoring, Studies and Evaluations

A programme assessment and review of partnership with Hope Village Society on the shelter for at-risk Young Street Mothers was initiated during the year with final results expected early in 2012.

Future Work Plan

Support to children at risk is a priority for 2012 and central to this is the need to generate good data on the numbers of children at risk in Cairo. Consequently, an enumeration exercise of at-risk children is currently under discussion with programme partners.

When finalised, the mapping exercise on child protection and justice for children activities will help in identifying gaps and opportunities for CP system strengthening. In addition, support will be provided for functioning of CPCs with intensive mentoring in 3 priority governorates.

The programme will be working with government social workers on their skills of identification and referral of children at risk / living on the street/ FGM in addition to traditional support to NGO social workers. Support for children living on the street will continue with more emphasis on reintegration activities. The programme will support work for issues related to justice for children in the coming years starting in 2012 with support for legal aid for children in contact with the law.

Country Programme Component: Social policy, advocacy and partnerships for children's rights

PCRs (Programme Component Results)

PCR	EQRank	OTDetails
National strategies and policies to reduce child deprivation and disparities are based on evidence and analysis	3	FA5OT6, FA5OT7
At least three government agencies at national or sub national level have systems in place that are results-based and sensitive to children	3	FA5OT1, FA5OT2, FA5OT5
Strengthened national capacities and societal attitudes to further advocate for a culture of respect for women and protection and participation of children	2	FA5OT6

Resources Used in 2011(USD)

Resource Type	Planned for 2011 (as per CPAP ceiling)	Allocated in 2011	Estimated Year-End Expenditure	%Spent (4)/(3) * 100
OR-E				
OR-R	610000.00	319174.00	307199.00	96.25
RR	589200.00	968608.00	893581.00	92.25
Total	\$1,199,200.00	\$1,287,782.00	\$1,200,780.00	

Results Achieved

The country programme contributed to strengthening the knowledge and analytical basis for equity based policy and programme development. A study on Trends in Child Poverty over 2000-2008 was released and disseminated in Arabic and English. This study complements the results of the child poverty and disparities study. The results of both studies have been widely disseminated and discussed with partners. Other studies that are in progress include the Situation Analysis, urban child poverty and out of school children. A policy – oriented paper on fiscal space for child sensitive child protection is also nearing completion. This will be a contribution to the on-going discussions on subsidy policies.

The office continued to invest in analysis of existing data from an equity perspective. Secondary analysis of the EDHS 2008 contributed to the preparation of the Governorates' Equity Profiles and the Equity-Info database, as well as to the update of DHS-Info. The publication of these new databases considerably increases the availability of data on Egypt's children for national and international actors.

These knowledge products are being used in the development of the National Plan of Action for Children, which was initiated by NCCM as a response to the Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

In collaboration with Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP) a review of the community outreach system was done to improve the effective conduct of outreach activities and to comprehensively reflect behaviour issues of maternal and child health. Training, reporting and IEC messages were developed to cover about 4.5 million families in most deprived areas.

The programme component supported the National Immunisation Day for Polio, with UNICEF preparing the national media campaign. Additionally a partnership with 14 companies was developed to leverage their resources to support the National Polio Media Awareness Campaign. Over 2 million messages were sent to target group, details of the campaign were displayed nation-wide, at fuel stations, factories, store outlets, in direct mail, children magazines, on vehicles, and on their respective social media outlets, reaching millions of Egyptians, all across Egypt. Resources used by companies were estimated to be worth around \$130,000. UNICEF Egypt has been working to establish a more strategic approach to its partnerships with the private sector. It conducted a Market Research Assessment of corporate social responsibility in business, which identified potential partnerships and laid the foundation for the development of a strategic framework for engagement with the private sector.

Efforts were made to strengthen the capacity of key partner organisations to implement results based planning, monitoring and reporting. UNICEF supported the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS, now Ministry of Insurance and Social Affairs) to establish a comprehensive "Mentoring Programme" on results based planning, monitoring and reporting, which has been established in 15 social units in 5 MoSS Directorates. Increased awareness of child rights was generated through partnership with three advocacy networks: Mass Communications Faculties, Key media contacts and Masrawy, one of Egypt's leading news portals. In addition, 350 students from 10 universities participated in the first Universities' Movie Festival.

Most Critical Factors and Constraints

The events of 2011, and the consequent political instability, delayed the implementation of a number of activities. Changes in partner institutions prevented the introduction of real time monitoring of child indicators, which was planned for 2011. The abolition of the Ministry of Family and Population delayed implementation of activities such as the NPA preparation, and establishment of RBM systems. The conference on Country-Led Monitoring and Evaluation was postponed to a later date.

Key Strategic Partnerships and Interagency Collaboration

In the areas of Social Policy, Monitoring and Evaluation, the existing partnership continued with NCCM,

MoSS, CAPMAS, IDSC and the Universities of Cairo, Helwan and Assyout.

In 2011, the ECO started a new partnership with the Informal Settlement Development Facility (ISDF), the national authority responsible for integrated development of slums and unplanned areas in Egypt. UNICEF identified ISDF as a strategic partner in its work on poverty among children in urban areas and developed a common research project, based on a new survey adopting a multidimensional child poverty framework, to inform the respective programmes in the field. The new research initiative, promoted by this partnership also involved major academic players in Egypt and the NCCM.

A new partnership with the religious leaders of Al Azhar University and the Coptic Church was initiated on violence against children.

Another new partnership with Faculties of Mass Communication in ten universities was initiated. Students and faculty participated in a process of orientation on child rights, following which, students made their own films on topics related to child rights and youth perception of their situation. The films were then entered into a competition known as the first Universities' Film Festival, jointly organized by UNICEF and NCCM. The ECO contributed to the institutionalization of two professional diplomas in the areas of 'Public Policies and Child Rights' and 'Research and Evaluation' with 3 national Egyptian universities namely, Cairo, Assyout and Helwan. The courses successfully started in 2011 (with a total of around 100 students) and resulted in the production of a package of academic curricula in Arabic language, which can be potentially adopted by similar initiatives in the MENA region.

Humanitarian Situations

The programme component contributed to the emergency response at the Egypt/Libya border, providing cross cutting support in monitoring and evaluation, and communication.

Summary of Monitoring, Studies and Evaluations

In 2011, a review was completed of the current community based monitoring systems implemented in two Governorates in Upper Egypt to monitor the situation of children under five as well as the situation of maternal care and protection.

A market Research assessment was conducted to assess CSR capacity to identify potential partnerships within the corporate sector in Egypt. This was the first step in establishing a more strategic approach to its partnerships with the private sector.

Future Work Plan

Placing child rights and equity on the public agenda will be a major priority for the country programme in 2012. Key advocacy products will be completed, translated and disseminated.

ECO plans to continue the analytical work on child poverty and disparities, particularly the finalisation of the urban child poverty study, which is expected to fill critical gaps in knowledge about poverty in Egypt's cities. The office will review data on equity and disparities in order to finalise the CPD early in the year. Communication for Development will focus on the roll out of the community outreach package, including the training of all concerned supervisors. An updated version of Facts for Life will be adapted to the country context and published in a variety of formats.

The formulation of a strategy for engaging with the private sector will be completed.

Country Programme Component: Cross-sectoral costs

PCRs (Programme Component Results)

PCR	EQRank	OTDetails
Effective and efficient cross sectoral support provided to programme delivery	0	FA6OT9

Resources Used in 2011(USD)

Resource Type	Planned for 2011 (as per CPAP ceiling)	Allocated in 2011	Estimated Year-End Expenditure	%Spent (4)/(3) * 100
OR-E	155000.00	153623.00	142003.00	92.44
OR-R	200000.00	62489.00	59459.00	95.15
RR	380000.00	501476.00	482337.00	96.18
Total	\$735,000.00	\$717,588.00	\$683,799.00	

Results Achieved

The cross sectoral costs (CSC) programme made a contribution to the achievement of all the programme results, and particularly those with a strong technical communication for development component, such as Young Child Survival, or a significant Supply component, such as HIV/ AIDs.

The CSC programme also contributed to the achievement of the planned result aimed at ensuring that children and women staying at the Egypt/Libya border crossing have access to humanitarian assistance according to CCCs. The CSC programme helped fund programme coordination at the border point, and ensured that the operation was fully MOSS compliant (by purchase of essential equipment).

Most Critical Factors and Constraints

The programme experienced some delays in progressing on activities due to the political situation prevailing in the country.

Key Strategic Partnerships and Interagency Collaboration

The programme component supports the partners of the UN Joint Programme, particularly UNAIDS and UNFPA, and also supports the range of partners involved in the communication for development interventions.

Humanitarian Situations

The programme made a substantive contribution to the emergency operation at the Egypt/Libya border and in Libya itself. The Supply technical staff were required to support not only the operations in Egypt, but also provided procurement support for the Libya Country Office.

Summary of Monitoring, Studies and Evaluations

No studies or evaluations were completed in the reporting period.

Future Work Plan

In 2012, this programme component will support the cross cutting strategies of C4D, as well as the supply component of the total country programme.

Effective Governance Structure

The Office's key objectives and priorities were defined at the time of preparing the section's Annual Management Plan (AMP). The two-year work plans were fine-tuned for the start of the second year of implementation, although it became necessary to make some revisions in order to respond to the new situation generated by the political changes. The section AMPs were consolidated as part of the office's AMP. Timely and quality development of the section/office wide AMP has been key to ensuring that objectives and priorities are well defined and understood by all staff.

The governance structure was reviewed at the start of the year as part of the AMP preparation. The Terms of reference for governance committees were updated to align with the revised UNICEF policies / financial circulars. The composition and ToRs for the governance committees were reviewed by the CMT prior to approval by the Representative.

In preparation for the external audit, a Risk-Control Self-Assessment exercise was conducted in 8 areas: Financial Controls, Contracts for Services, Office Management, Safety & Security, Cash Assistance, Supply Assistance, Fund Raising, and Basic Programme Controls. The self-assessment exercise was carried out by task forces including different categories/profiles of staff members. The RCSA report, with the action plan for implementation was submitted to the CMT who endorsed the action plan and monitored the on-going implementation of the RCSA recommendations.

The CMT also monitored the status of the implementation of the office improvement plan that was developed in response to the Global Staff Survey – all recommendations have been implemented. The CMT regularly reviews the office's management indicators (Programme and Operations). Close monitoring of those indicators has been a key to strengthening the linkages between Programme and Operations and ensuring the office maintains highest standards of performance, particularly against the standards set in the management indicators. The CMT had a key role in finalizing the PBR submission, Office Improvement Plan (based on the global staff survey), Annual Management Plan, and Revision of DAT/ToA. The CMT was key in ensuring the required resources are made available for the proper training and implementation of VISION. The CMT has also monitored the status of implementation of previous Audit recommendations, and the reports on the global audit findings, and ensured the developed and monitoring of systems to ensure that office maintains good standing with the audit recommendations. The office was subject to an external audit from 31 October to 25 November 2011. Final audit report is awaited.

Strategic Risk Management

A structured approach exists in the office for identifying risks and opportunities, mainly through monitoring of a set of indicators at the monthly CMT/PG meetings, continuous revisions of work processes and identification of areas for improvement, and the development of the Office Improvement Plan.

Risk assessment has been one of the main considerations in reviewing the work processes, analysing and identifying areas of risk and proposing risk mitigation actions, to ensure risks are properly managed, and efficiency / effectiveness gains are achieved. The office monitored the implementation of the RCSA exercise conducted in 2010 and ensured that the action plans / recommendations were fully implemented. Furthermore, a Risk-Control Self-Assessment exercise was carried out during the last quarter of 2011 by different task forces representative of all categories of staff. The findings and recommendations were reviewed / endorsed by the CMT and shared with all staff for immediate implementation.

Significant changes trigger a review of the risk library and accordingly the adjustment of the office's action plan, if needed. Changes in the internal and external environment that would change the risk are always discussed at the various office forums (General Staff Meetings, Section Heads Meetings, Programme Group

meetings, and CMTs as applicable). The management risk tolerance is reflected in the office Table of Authority and Document Authorization Table.

The office closely monitored the unfolding situation in Egypt and assessed risks and opportunities for achievement of programme results. A working group was established to review and analyse information and to adjust plans accordingly.

The office maintains the level of preparedness identified in the Business Continuity Plan, which is implemented while doing the day-to-day work; the CrMT is a standing office committee. Personnel on the Critical staff list and Wardens have been issued with office mobile phones. USB modems have been issued to critical staff, and satellite phones issued to Senior Management. Almost all ECO staff members have been equipped with laptops instead of desktops. The BCP and the CrMT were activated at the start of the year when the security situation deteriorated. Non-essential international staff and dependent family members were evacuated from the country in a streamlined operation closely coordinated with the SMT and MENARO. The UNICEF Warden system is fully operational.

The Early Warning and Emergency System was regularly updated and maintained. The Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (EPRP) scenarios were updated during the year, and support was provided by the regional office. The office used Key Action checklist, which served as a self-assessment tool to measure the preparedness status.

The office responded to the emergency situation in Libya by establishing a presence on the border in Salloum. A team leader and an average of 3 staff members in different technical areas were maintained at the border in Salloum from beginning of March to end of June to provide support to families arriving from Libya and stranded on the borders. The office also assisted the emergency response in Libya by providing administrative and logistical support to the Libya team based in Cairo.

Evaluation

ECO has a comprehensive IMEP that is based on UNICEF global standards, updated each quarter, and reviewed by the Programme Meeting and CMT on a periodic basis. IMEP is also shared with key partners and the Evaluation and Research Network in Egypt. Efforts are made to ensure that all studies and evaluations comply with UNEG/ UNICEF standards and criteria disseminated by RO and HQ. ToRs for all evaluations and key studies are shared with RO for revision and clearance, and evaluators are selected against an impartial and objective bidding process. Orientation and follow up with selected consultants take place by both the concerned specialized programme as well as M&E Programme. Research and evaluations are conducted in collaboration with national partners through which authorization for collection of data is issued.

The office is working to strengthen in-house capacities on evaluation and two in-house sessions were conducted for ECO Programmes on evaluation issues. ECO completed seven research and evaluation reports in 2011, including the "Evaluation of UNGEI in Egypt" in coordination with HQ and global UNGEI partnership, with an objective to plan strategically for future country partnership regarding UNGEI. Another evaluation of "Adolescents as Agents of Positive Change – Phase I&II" was completed in coordination with RO to explore opportunities to promote young people's participation.

Evaluations are uploaded on UNICEF evaluation intranet and on the tracking system. In the first quarter of 2012, all completed evaluations are planned to be shared with CMT to study and decide on management response.

Effective Use of Information and Communication Technology

Connectivity in UNICEF ECO for data/voice/video traffic continued to be acquired through a local ISP via leased lines, which provides ECO office with credible and reliable service, at competitive costs. Wireless network is also available in the office and is placed completely outside the office LAN.

As part of the BCP preparedness activity, the office is also equipped with iDirect, BGAN and Thuraya Phones.

The ICT Disaster Recovery Plan (ICT-DRP) is part of the Business Continuity Plan of the office and is prepared following the standard template and guidelines. Emergency scenarios are well defined with mitigation measures for each of the work processes. The ICT-DRP was updated in June and maintained throughout the year.

All new ITSSD Guidelines and rollouts were implemented in a timely manner. New Mission Control Gateway has been installed to replace the old firewall and Staff was provided with Tokens received, after which Full Access to the LAN infrastructure was provided. A Heat Sensor and an Alert System have been installed in the Data Centre to provide quick action in case of overheating. All Computers/laptops migrated to Windows7. Obsolete computers (desktops) have been disposed of in line with the PSB guidelines, and replaced with laptops.

Technical Support was provided to emergency response in Salloum by setting up a small office in Salloum with all required ICT equipment. Assistance was provided to the regional / Libya Offices to procure ICT equipment and handle the logistical arrangements to have them delivered to Libya in a timely manner. The ICT Governance committee continued its activities to ensure that management of the ICT function conforms to the UNICEF ICT strategy, and ICT policies, procedures, standards and guidelines are adhered. UNICEF ECO is an active member of the UN Inter-Agency ICT working group. During the Emergency Situation, SMT assigned the IA ICT Working Group the task to conduct a full assessment of the emergency communication system options in Egypt enabling the SMT to recommend the best reliable option to use.

Fund Raising and Donor Relations

Out of 17 donor reports, only one was sent after the deadline, which was due to the closure of internet access during the political turmoil at the end of January. The office has a quality assurance process to ensure high standards in reporting, and feedback forms are sent to donors with all reports in an effort to further strengthen reporting.

At the beginning of 2011, ECO had mobilized over 80 per cent of OR funding for the 2007-2011 country programme (CP). When the CP was extended by a year, the ceiling was raised by a further USD 8 million. Currently, 30 per cent of the approved OR ceiling is unfunded, although this figure does not take into account funds in the pipeline.

ECO received funds from EPF and two bilateral donors from the Libya Appeal for use in the emergency response on the Egypt/Libya border. The office was able to reimburse around 55% of the EPF. Financial utilization and PBA monitoring indicators are reviewed each month in the programme meeting and by the CMT. All PBAs that expired in the reporting period were fully utilized. Four PBAs were extended during the reporting period. Two of these were due to delays caused by the political situation in the country.

Funds mobilization is a priority for the office and efforts have been made to raise funds from multiple donors. Five major proposals were submitted to donors, one of which has been approved, another rejected, and the remaining three are awaiting approval.

Management of Financial and Other Assets

The office's status of implementation of previous audit recommendation, and the OIA report on global audit recommendations are regularly reviewed to ensure sustained implementation and compliance. The office underwent an External Audit from 31 Oct – 25 November 2011, and while the final audit report is awaited, the draft management letter did not reflect significant observations in the area of Operations. Budget management, cash forecasts, and status of donor report submissions are part of the indicators reviewed by both the monthly Programme Management Group and CMT.

DFAM continued to regard the ECO as a low-risk country and the frequency of monthly bank reconciliations submissions has been maintained on a quarterly basis. The office did not have reconciling item outstanding in the bank reconciliation for more than 3 months. It also did not have any transactions in External Expenditures or un-posted for more than 2 days throughout the year. The office continued to consistently use the bank optimization web page for reporting on month-end balances, replenishment requests and cash forecasts, which have been closely monitored at the monthly PG and CMT meetings. This effort has led to improved accuracy of the cash forecasts and the month-end bank balances which remained within the benchmark throughout the year.

The DAT/TOA was revised during the second quarter of the year, and maintained throughout to account for minor staffing changes. The DAT/ToA has been regularly reconciled during the year. The outstanding DCT balance over 9 months was maintained at a very low minimum, below US\$ 100k and 5% of the total DCTs outstanding. The DCT balance of more than 9 months as of 31 December 2011 was zero.

The revised work processes were consolidated and issued to all staff in a work processes booklet. The Governance Committee's terms of reference were revised for alignment with UNICEF revised policies, roles and regulations. A publications review committee was established to oversee the quality of the UNICEF ECO publications.

The above changes have significantly increased the effectiveness and efficiency in the response time / quality to programme needs, allowed better management and allocation of resources, and reduced the number, and consequently cost of transactions.

Supply Management

The supply component of the country programme, including emergency interventions, in 2011 totaled US\$ 1,446,030.47. Offshore procurement represented 38% of the supply components in terms of value and local procurement represented 62%. Direct Ordering amounted to US\$ 97,248.26 in 2011.

Total procurement component of the emergency response in Libya totaled US\$ 664,843.84, of which local procurement accounted for US\$ 443,285.21, and offshore procurement amounted to US\$ 221,558.63. Procurement of ARVs, equipment, test kits and vehicle for the National Aids Programme/Ministry of Health totaled US\$ 379,493.28. The Office continued to handle procurement services of Potassium Iodate and Vitamin A for the Ministry of Health. The total value of the procurement services in 2011 amounted US\$ 972,467.60.

The office was successful in identifying new and reliable suppliers for the provision of emergency supplies in response to the emergency situation in Libya. Quality assurance was ensured by conducting pre and post-delivery inspections in coordination with the concerned programme sections / partners.

The office outsourced the storage / warehousing of the emergency supplies to a specialized company, which was a solution that provided high quality storage facility, tracking of supplies, and cost savings. In

its response to the Libya emergency, the office was heavily involved in the logistical arrangements to transport the emergency supplies to destinations in Libya. To this effect, an LTA was signed with a transport company. The office also efficiently collaborated with WFP office in Egypt on logistics, particularly on transportation to and warehousing in Libya.

Due to the crises in Egypt and Libya in 2011, the office was late in finalizing its supply plan. In terms of implementation levels, 90.2% of the planned requisitions were authorized and procurement action was taken, while 9.8% of the planned requisitions were cancelled by the concerned programme sections. All supply requisitions issued after the supply plan was submitted were authorized and procurement action was taken.

The office managed 79 bidding processes in 2011, including 24 RFPs (mainly for contracts), 14 invitations to bid and 41 requests for quotations. In all, 29 CRC meetings were held to discuss 53 contract submissions.

The supply unit managed to renew one of the existing LTAs that expired during 2011 and also to establish new LTAs to cover the customs clearing service and transportation services to Libya. The supply assistant attended the VISION super user training in Amman as well as the VISION training for inventory management in Turkey.

In 2011, the office supported other UNICEF offices in the area of procurement: purchasing water treatment material for Libya, and license of software for Afghanistan. The office has also sent supplementary food to Yemen.

Human Resources

All national staff (GS and NO) started using PAS for performance management starting 2011. Training / orientation was provided to staff accordingly. Due to the security situation in the Region, and particularly in Egypt, at the start of the year, the deadline for completion of the 2010 PER was extended by DHR till April 7, 2011. Some 80% of 2010 PERs were completed by the deadline (completion rate for international staff was 100%). Further, 100% of the 2010 PERs were completed in September 2011. The security situation also delayed the finalization of the Key Performance Objectives. Phase I PAS for 2011 was also delayed (94% were completed by July 2011). The second performance related discussions were conducted for all staff in September 2011.

Four recruitments were successfully conducted during 2011. These included GS-1 Driver; GS-5 Admin Assistant; P4 Chief Child Protection; and P4 Chief SPME.

The HRD committee met twice in 2011 and systematically reviewed staff member requests, taking into account office, regional and global learning priorities. VISION learning was identified as the key learning priority for 2011: 3 staff members participated in the training on SAP HR/Payroll, and 7 staff members participated in the VISION Super Users training. VISION training for all staff was conducted from mid-November till end December 2011. The training was provided by the staff members trained as super users. Staff felt high pressure during the political turmoil and the deterioration of security situation in Egypt (particularly Jan-March 2011). Non-essential international staff and dependent family members were temporarily evacuated from the country in February 2011. Only critical staff reported to work for most of February 2011. The office properly used the warden system to make sure that staff concerns / needs are assessed, and information shared in a timely manner. Psychosocial support was offered to interested staff members by identifying specialized counselors with whom staff and family members could talk or meet. The measures taken by the office during this period received positive feedback from the staff.

Many efforts were made to promote staff wellbeing within the office. The office is committed to the UN Cares and implements the 10 minimum standards on HIV in the work place. The office also maintains a

stock of Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) kits with the HR unit for emergency use. HIV/AIDS Learning session was conducted for all staff in October 2011. The office is also supporting the Peer Support Volunteers (PSV) system.

Flexi time policy is being implemented. Seasonal flu vaccines were provided to interested staff members and their recognized dependents. As part of the UN's AI contingency plan, a stock of Tamiflu is being maintained for all staff and recognized dependents.

Efficiency Gains and Cost Savings

The office has been implementing many strategies to achieve efficiency gains, cost savings and reductions including Greener office environment, and the monitoring of the consumption of water/electricity and printers toners. The office consumption patterns are monitored at the CMTs and areas for further cost savings are highlighted. The office has invested in improving the VOIP system to cut on the cost of international calls –almost all calls to other UNICEF offices are made through the VOIP. The office had also procured video conferencing equipment that is used for improved teleconferences and helps to cut the telecommunication / travel costs. The implementation of those strategies is ongoing.

The security upgrade of the office premises was completed as per planned schedule including strengthening of anti-blast protection and access control

The OMT met several times during 2011. UN agencies exchanged useful information to populate the Suppliers database developed and maintained by the UNDP. UNICEF LTAs were found to be very useful for colleagues in the other UN agencies.

Changes in AMP and CPMP

The 2012 Annual Management Plan (AMP) will include the deferred work on preparation of the new country programme and CPMP, which was rescheduled from 2011 to 2012 as a result of the political situation in the country.

The 2012 AMP will have special focus on the implementation / roll out of VISION effective January 1, 2012, and addressing the additional training needs of staff/ resources required for VISION's effective and successful implementation.

HACT implementation is pending the finalization of the Assurance Activities plans, and the checklist for the spot checks during field visits. Required action will be taken to ensure HACT implementation by mid-2012. The office will also have to follow up on the 2011 external audit, and plan for the internal audit, scheduled for the last quarter of the year.

Summary Notes and Acronyms

Acronyms

ADAP
Adolescents Development & Participation
BFHI
Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative
MSM
Men Having Sex with Men
CAPMAS
Central Agency for Public Mobilization & Statistics
MRC
Medical Research Center (South Africa)
CBE
Community Based Education
USDOL
United States Department of Labor
CCM
Country Coordinating Mechanism
MTR
Mid-Term Review
CCT
Conditional Cash Transfer
MTSP
Mid-Term Strategic Plan
CMT
Country Management Team
MB
Muslim Brotherhood
CPCs
Child Protection Committees
NAP
National AIDS Programme
CPM
Child Protection Mechanism
NCCM
National Council for Childhood & Motherhood
CRC
Convention on the Rights of the Child
NCW
National Council for Women
DPG
Development Partners Group
NCY
National Council for Youth
DHS
Demographic and Health Survey
NID
National Immunization Day
ECCR
Egyptian Coalition for Child Rights
NPA
National Plan of Action
ECD
Early Childhood Development
NT
Neonatal Tetanus
ECO
Egypt Country Office
OMT
Operations Management Team
EPI

Expanded Programme of Immunization
OR
Other Resources
ENCRO
Egyptian National Child Rights Observatory
ORS
Oral Rehydration Solution
ETG
Expanded Theme Group
PAPFAM
Pan Arab Project for Family Health
FHU
Family Health Unit
PBA
Project Budget Allotment
FGM/C
Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting
PBR
Programme Review Budget
GOE
Government of Egypt
PD
Programme Division
GFATM
Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB & Malaria
PHC
Primary Health Care
HEEA
Health Education / Environmental Awareness
PLHIV
People Living with HIV
HIPH
High Institute of Public Health
PSFR
Private Sector Fundraising
IDA
Iron Deficiency Anaemia
RC
Resident Coordinator
IDD
Immune Deficiency Disorder
RR
Regular Resources
IDSC
Information and Decision Support Centre
RMT
Regional Management Team
IEC
Information, Education, Communication
SB
Support Budget
IMNCI
Integrated Management of Neonatal Childhood Illnesses
SD
Supply Division
ISP
Internet Service Provider
SMT
Security Management Team
IT
Information Technology
SSHE

School Sanitation and Hygiene Education
IYCF
Infant and Young Child Feeding
UNCT
United Nations Country Team
MARPs
Most at Risk Populations
UNDAF
United Nations Development Assistance Framework
MDGs
Millennium Development Goals
USI
Universal Salt Iodization
MENARO
Middle East & North Africa Regional Office
VCCT
Voluntary & Confidential Counselling & Testing
MIOC
Ministry of International Cooperation
WAD
World AIDS Day
MOE
Ministry of Education
WASH
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
MOHP
Ministry of Health and Population
YAPD
Youth Association for Population and Development
MoSA
Ministry of Social Solidarity (previous name)
YCS
Young Child Survival

Document Centre

Evaluation

	Title	Sequence Number	Type of Report
1	Evaluation of UN Girls' Education Initiative	2011/002	Evaluation
2	The Right to Participation of Adolescents - Agents of Positive Change Regional Evaluation	2011/006	Evaluation
3	Community Based Monitoring System	2011/001	Study
4	Landscape Analysis of Malnutrition in Egypt	2011/003	Study
5	Assessment of ECO Capacity Building Strategic Approach	2011/004	Survey
6	Market Assessment Research on Corporate Social Responsibility	2011/005	Survey
7	IMEP	2011/000	IMEP
8	Cost of Delivering Peri-natal Care to Mothers and Children in Upper Egypt	2011/007	Study

Other Publications

	Title
1	Manual for Pre-Service Training for KG Facilitators (Trainee)
2	Manual for Pre-Service Training for KG Facilitators (Trainer)
3	Interactive CD on Parenting Education
4	Trends Analysis of Child Poverty in Egypt
5	EDHS Reproduced Materials: Brochures on 10 YCSD themes, EDHS-Info CDs, Statistical Digest, 2011 Calendar and Bookmarks
6	Child Poverty in Egypt, Building the Social Infrastructure for Egypt's Future
7	Comprehensive Directory for Family and Family Integrated Services
8	Edutainment Kit "Let's play and learn"
9	Polio National Immunization Day Posters
10	"Raidat Refiyat" Community Health Workers' Manual and Resource Book
11	Display panels and stickers with life saving messages on health and nutrition, WASH, and child protection in Salloum Libyan border area
12	Newsletter April 2011
13	Newsletter December 2011

Lessons Learned

Programme Documents