



**UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre
Florence, Italy**

**Annual Report
2010**



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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2010 was a year of fragile convalescence of the world economy, with the social impact of the crisis still being felt in different regions. Budget cuts and rising unemployment marked the end of a period of rapid growth. In parts of the world, crisis interacted with continued impact of the earlier 2008 food price rises. It was also a period where very different perceptions of reality and different theories of underlying drivers of the current crisis have continued to compete with each other, making solutions hard to find. Giving meaning to such developments, making sense of trends as they affect children, while ensuring evidence is available for effective policy choices, becomes especially important in making the case for children during such times. New research agendas also beckon to underpin and inform UNICEF's voice in a rapidly changing global environment.

For the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre (IRC), 2010 was a year of transition. The research programme set out in the current biennium was coming to an end, or is now in its final stages. New perspectives have started to shape the coming cycle of work. This was also a year of high turnover of IRC professional staff with a new team of research unit heads taking up the reins in the last quarter. Partnerships with national policy institutes, global centres of excellence, national committees and country offices have remained strong.

The global context drove a substantial part of IRC research activities in the year. Understanding the effects of the current crisis on vulnerable groups was the focus of research modelling the impact of economic shocks on child well-being in three West African countries. An in-depth study disentangling the effects of macro and policy determinants on child mortality in sub Saharan Africa is close to completion.

The crisis has shifted the policy debate in industrialized countries in profound and in some settings disturbing ways. IRC's flagship *Report Card 9* focused on the 'Children Left Behind' in rich countries. Introducing a new methodology, the report took a measure of equity in child well-being by estimating how far children are allowed to 'fall behind' what most children in a country achieve in education, health and material well-being. It posed the question 'to what extent are these equity gaps inevitable or are susceptible to national policy intervention?' a question that had particular resonance as fiscal difficulties and compression forced a number of countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) into hard choices as to where budgetary cuts should fall.

There has also been a focus on neglected areas of child rights, where progress is being made but where the spotlight is not falling sufficiently. The publication of recent experience of addressing FGM/C in five African countries highlighted positive lessons learned, reminding that change in socially sanctioned behaviours is possible, but takes time and needs strategies tailored to individual community settings.

Conflicts may be declining in absolute number globally, but their impact on individual children caught up in them remains traumatic. In an extension of earlier work on transitional justice, a new publication looked at the important contribution of children in truth commissions and innovative mechanisms to bring children's perspectives into processes of national reconciliation (while ensuring protection of their dignity and safety). Other important ongoing work underway and scheduled for publication in 2011, includes an in-depth review of the role of independent human rights institutions for children;

applied research on methodologies for local action and participation being piloted under the Child Friendly Cities programme; work on young migrants; access to, equity and financing in provision of early childhood development (ECD); and trafficking of children.

The year also saw the emergence of new themes of research on children. In a series of meetings organized at IRC during the year, children's experience of 'online/offline' violence on the Internet was explored. The planning meeting for the coming fourth round of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS 4) at IRC allowed discussion around how research could contribute to the future thinking on the use of household surveys in UNICEF.

The last part of 2010 was devoted to looking ahead and the start of a transition to a new research agenda with the start of consultations with New York Headquarters, regional and country offices and partners.

The definition of the future programme of work has been strongly influenced by the findings of the 2009 Research Review and the new organizational focus on achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). A strong recommendation of the review was towards a reorientation and reenergizing of IRC as a 'hub of ideas' within the new Office of Research; and rebalancing of partnerships in favour of the South while continuing IRC's support to policy advocacy in industrialized countries. It also emphasized the policy relevance of research and the need for IRC to forge closer links with the rest of the organization. These themes were incorporated into workplans for 2011 and prepare the ground for the 2012–2013 research agenda.

The recommendations also strongly influenced management and human resource decisions during the year. This included actions towards establishing stronger mechanisms of peer review, ensuring quicker turnaround in research projects undertaken by IRC and recruitment of new senior staff to head the two main research units. The Review also helped shape new thinking on communication and knowledge management, and led to a major rethink of and investment in design of a new website for IRC, as part of research knowledge management and is ready to be launched in 2011.

Where progress has been much less evident was in resolving uncertainty regarding the future of IRC, and in particular the appointment of its future leadership team. It was hoped that this gap would be a short interlude, and allow momentum generated by the Review to gather pace. This did not prove possible, and despite interim arrangements, the time between the departure of the previous IRC Director and appointment of the new leadership team has now stretched out. Such uncertainties have continued to weigh heavily upon the staff. Despite this and quite remarkably, the Centre's team managed to keep morale relatively high and continue to produce analytical work of considerable quality and interest

During the year IRC has benefitted from close collaboration with its Italian partners, which was reinforced through renewal of the partnership with the Tuscany Region and its host organization, Istituto degli Innocenti (IDI). Negotiations with respect to the Centre's future move to new premises at Villa Basilewsky in Florence progressed to a new stage, with designs of renovation fully costed and ready for approval. However, given the work required, the building is not anticipated to be available for use by the Centre until 2013/2014.

2. KEY TARGETS AND EXPECTED RESULTS

IRC continues to support the global knowledge leadership of UNICEF for children and is committed to strengthen research, promote the dissemination and implementation of research findings and improve synergies with the UNICEF global programme and policy advocacy agendas.

IRC's programme of research is centrally structured around its three organizational units: Social and Economic Policy (SEP), Child Protection and International Standards. Key goals of the research units for 2010 were as follows:

- Generation and communication of strategic and influential knowledge on issues affecting children and the realization of their rights
- Promotion of knowledge exchange and brokering to support reflection, debate and cross-fertilization of experiences
- Support to UNICEF's advocacy and programme development, in the context of the Medium Term Strategic Plan (MTSP) and UNICEF's contribution to the Millennium Agenda and in anticipation of UNICEF's future agenda

Progress on targets towards achievement of the goals in 2010 is set out below. During the year, the linkages between the issues addressed by each of these areas were increasingly clear. Bringing together different research perspectives on common themes in a more interdisciplinary way, and exploring new areas of work not presently covered in the current structure, beckons for IRC's future.

Social and Economic Policy Responses and Child Poverty

As the financial crisis of 2008 and the subsequent economic crisis evolved, it was feared that children across the world would be disproportionately at risk of suffering. This fear has proven to have some basis. However, our understanding of the changes in the vulnerability of children due to more severe economic conditions is very limited. The Centre, in collaboration with partners, took the initiative to study this relationship more closely. Moreover, the cumulative insights into the mechanisms that lead to more or less inequity in the industrialized world were at the heart of the Unit's work in 2010.

Through the release of *Innocenti Report Card 9*, which focused on the 'Children Left Behind' in 24 of the world's richest countries, the Centre made a contribution to the debate on the risk of social exclusion for children in the economically advanced countries, and the need for effective policies and social safety nets to ensure their well-being. It was seen as particularly relevant for the Centre to inform the debate during 2010, which has been designated by the European Union as the Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion. Strong collaboration with several UNICEF offices and National Committees in Europe facilitated advocacy tied to release of the report. Presentations of the report to high-level government representatives in several countries and extensive media coverage of the report have promoted concern for children at the bottom of the distribution. The project has made a significant contribution to the achievement of targets 1.1, 2.1, 2.3, 3.3 and 4.2, as outlined in Table 1. (*Please also see box on page 7 for a broader discussion of the report*).

In seeking to assess the impact of the global economic crisis on children, IRC contributed to the development, testing and application of simulation models, and weighed potential policy responses to

better protect children from economic shocks. During the year, technical specialists from the Centre, working with the UNICEF West and Central Africa Regional Office (WCARO), the Poverty and Economic Policy (PEP) Research Network and others finalized this innovative research, which was published by the Centre in June (*see box, below*). Throughout the research process, there was ongoing dialogue with major development players and experts in the countries featured: Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Ghana. The research collaboration has helped the unit achieve targets 1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 3.1. A new web module under development (FACIT), jointly managed with the Division of Policy and Practice (DPP), UNICEF New York, and hosted by IRC, will provide analytical tools to advance understanding and inform policy research on the effects of crisis on children (target 2.1).

Innovative tool helps predict the effect of economic shocks on children

From late 2008, there were clear signs that the global economic crisis was spreading to developing countries, endangering recent gains in development and exacerbating the impact of the energy and food crises that immediately preceded it. Children, already one of the most vulnerable groups in society, are at high risk of suffering serious consequences from the crisis. The impact of the crisis on low-income countries was predicted to be, and has been, significant and in some cases severe. Although the most acute stage has passed, the crisis continues to have complex and profound repercussions in every region, including West and Central Africa.

Early on, UNICEF IRC, supported by the West and Central Africa Regional Office, teamed up with researchers from the Poverty and Economic Policy (PEP) Research Network to develop a means of simulating the impact of the crisis on children. In 2009, a model based on macroeconomic and household data was developed and launched in three countries: Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Ghana. This innovative tool simulates the impact of the crisis on several indicators of child well-being – monetary poverty, nutritional status, schooling, child labour and access to health care. The findings and policy recommendations were published by UNICEF IRC and WCARO in mid-2010 as a *Research Brief*.

Some of the findings and policy considerations include the following:

- * A targeted cash transfer programme is predicted to be by far the most effective intervention, particularly in Burkina Faso and Cameroon.
- * In Ghana, it is suggested that food subsidies will be more effective in counteracting hunger, since the most vulnerable live in urban areas and rely less on food they produce themselves.
- * In Burkina Faso and Ghana, a cash transfer programme is anticipated to almost entirely offset the effects of the crisis on school attendance and child labour
- * A combination of a universal or regionally targeted cash transfer programme for children aged 0-5, together with a school meals programme in poorer areas, can reduce child poverty relatively rapidly and cost-effectively.

While signs of economic recovery have appeared in some of the more economically advanced countries, the road for other countries is going to be long and not without risks for children. Governments are faced with the challenge of making fiscal decisions that support economic recovery but must also ensure adequate and sustainable spending on essential health, education and development programmes – particularly for children. Their policy decisions can be usefully informed by predictive models such as this macro-micro simulation methodology presented by UNICEF IRC.

Research on the governance and financing of early childhood services, funded by the Bernard Van Leer Foundation and conducted by a team from Yale University, was continued in 2010. (The research facilitates achievement of targets 2.1 and 4.2.) A comparative study seeks to understand issues of

equity, access and quality in early childhood services in selected developing countries, and included primary data collection through field visits to Cambodia, Kenya and the Lao People's Democratic Republic. Initial findings of the studies were presented and discussed at a global network meeting of early childhood development experts organized by UNICEF Early Childhood Development Section, New York. Dialogue with key international experts and institutions on the findings contribute to further development of the knowledge base on this issue.

Building on previous research done on immigrant children in developing countries, the Centre focused on profiles and conditions of work for child and youth migrants. A preliminary review of over 200 data sources was completed, in order to identify reliable sources of information on children who migrate for work. When finalized, in order to promote knowledge of the issue and impact policy, the findings will be shared with child migration and child labour research networks, and data-collection specialists as well as with UNICEF counterparts (targets 2.2 and 3.1).

In the coming period, the SEP Unit will expand its activities to link them more directly with the work of UNICEF country and regional offices, and will coordinate its work with other research institutes in both the North and the South. Work will continue on child well-being in industrialized countries, but at the same time, a start will be made on new research lines in social protection developments and their impact in middle- and low-income countries: on the role of social policy in preventing or limiting the number of out-of-school children, reducing barriers to public health provisions, and on early childhood development and malnutrition. New projects on the cross-border migration of adolescents and the position of children in internal and south-south regional migration are envisaged. IRC is also actively exploring contributions to capacity development in economic and social policy among civil servants, civil society and academia in the South.

Report Card 9: Assessing inequality in well-being among children in rich countries

Innocenti's flagship, *Report Card 9, The Children Left Behind* seeks to continue the debate on child well-being in wealthy countries. It analyses how far behind children in the countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) are falling, in terms of material well-being, educational achievement and health. The *Report Card* series has explored a number of different dimensions of child well-being, and this year had a focus on equity. *Report Card 9* finds that while a small group of countries – Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands and Switzerland – are leading the way in promoting equity in these key dimensions of children's well-being, other countries – Greece, Italy and the United States – are allowing children to fall furthest behind. It urges governments to act to close the gap between children in the middle and those at the bottom. In its approach, putting a spotlight on what can be seen as unacceptable gaps, *Report Card 9* links with UNICEF's global drive on equity.

Research process and collaboration

In conducting the research that underpins the report, a new partnership was formed with the international coordination of the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC), a cross-national research study conducted in collaboration with the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe. The earlier partnership with the OECD continued this year, with OECD providing distributional analysis of child well-being indicators for material well-being and educational outcomes. The main survey sources drawn upon also included PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment) and EU-SILC (European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions). OECD and HBSC researchers also played an important role in defining the methodology and refining the focus and the approach of the research. Individual OECD and HBSC researchers

also contributed to the elaboration of the background paper to *Report Card 9*. The research also benefited by the support of a selected group of experts, including during the peer review process

Advocacy and impact

More than a dozen UNICEF National Committees took advantage of *Report Card 9*, both to report on the situation of the most disadvantaged children in their countries and to feed into current discussions on budget cuts austerity. With strong support from the Private Sector Fundraising and Partnerships (PFP) Division, UNICEF Geneva, the Centre undertook significant preparatory work, collaborating with several UNICEF National Committees in sharing the research findings so that they could seek to influence national debate and ultimately government policies. The Committees were engaged early in the process, with a meeting held at IRC in May 2010 to outline the theme and better understand National Committees' advocacy needs. A full communication strategy – the first of its kind for a *Report Card* – was developed and shared three months prior to the launch. A short film was produced, an op-ed shared, and an interview with the report's author filmed. Each National Committee was asked to identify an authoritative national expert with whom the research findings could be shared and be in a position to interpret data in local settings and to spark debate. The *Report Card* was pitched to media, policymakers, academics and child rights defenders. Media coverage of *Report Card 9* was broad. This included, among other significant pick-up: an op-ed in the Saturday edition of *The New York Times* and coverage in *The Financial Times*, *BBC*, *La Repubblica*, Yahoo! News, *RAI TV*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Guardian*, *Sky News*, *The Globe & Mail*, *ABC*, *Irish Examiner* and *El Mundo*. Reporting and debate on the report continued well into the second post-launch week.

A global launch of the report was held in Helsinki, opened by Ms. Henna Virkkunen, the Finnish Minister for Education and Science. A panel discussion – aimed to both stimulate interest in the report and inform the next report – then proceeded on '*Why do Nordic countries continually outperform other OECD countries in child well-being, and can it be maintained?*', with participants from Finland's major universities, health and education ministries. Other launches included in the United Kingdom – at the House of Lords – and Italy, where the report was presented to Gianfranco Fini, the President of the Chamber of Deputies. Significant other coverage took place in countries ranging from Canada to Australia to the Netherlands. The report is available in English, French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish, and is accompanied by a technical working paper outlining the methodology used, media materials and several multimedia modules, all available on the UNICEF IRC website, www.unicef-irc.org.

Implementation of International Standards for Children and Child Protection

Preliminary findings from a number of studies were fed into policy development and standard-setting processes, enhancing IRC's institutional partnerships and promoting the mainstreaming of children's issues at global, regional and country levels. Conclusions emerging from the global study underway on the role of independent human rights institutions for children (IHRICs) were presented at an expert consultation for the drafting of an Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on an individual complaints procedure (target 2.4). The meeting was facilitated by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the International Commission of Jurists, and attended by the chairperson of the drafting group. The draft protocol encourages the establishment and strengthening of independent human rights institutions for children at national level, and makes explicit reference to the special role of IHRICs in the communication procedure.

Findings from an ongoing study on children, abuse and new technology, which is exploring protection and the crossover between the 'online and offline' worlds, a strategically significant set of issues that are new for UNICEF, were shared as an input into a public hearing on the drafting of an EU Directive

on combating sexual abuse, sexual exploitation of children and child pornography. This contributed to the achievement of target 3.1. The Centre's contribution, developed in close collaboration with UNICEF Brussels and the UNICEF Child Protection team in New York, sought to steer away from an often highly emotional debate around identifying and prosecuting offenders, and instead focused on prevention, inclusion of provisions on assistance and support to victims, protection of child victims in criminal proceedings and the non-prosecution of child victims. Current studies by other actors on children and new technology tend to focus mainly on the industrialized world, which, given the pace of new technology take-up in the developing world, points to a significant knowledge gap.

IRC continued to support the Child Friendly Cities (CFC) Initiative, a global partnership that promotes the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in local settings, through research and by serving as a secretariat (targets 1.2 and 3.2). Research by partners Childwatch International and the Children's Environments Research Group (CERG) of City University, New York, informed targeted and participatory policymaking by communities and local authorities. Indicators and a toolkit for data collection on 'child-friendliness' linked to the CFC research were defined during the year and used by Country Offices in Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Jordan, Morocco, the Philippines and Sudan, and by National Committees in France and Italy to identify and act on priorities for children in selected communities. IRC supported 15 country offices and 6 UNICEF National Committees in setting up and strengthening CFC initiatives through sharing good practices and providing technical support, and has continued to promote the CFC approach through expert meetings, training and conferences, including the 5th World Urban Forum in Rio de Janeiro and the Child in the City Conference in Florence, Italy. With more than 50 per cent of the world's population, including some of those most marginalized, now living in cities, Innocenti's CFC work is becoming a key component of UNICEF's urban child agenda, and has contributed to strategic discussions led by the Programme Division on the shaping of a new urban strategy. The CFC initiative has made a significant contribution to the achievement of target 3.1.

Protection of Children from Violence, Exploitation and Abuse

IRC's work on protection against violence and abuse centers on increasing awareness and understanding of the reality of children in need of special protection and identifying normative and policy responses to promote the safeguard of their rights, with particular emphasis on (a) child trafficking, (b) violence and (c) armed conflict.

During the year, IRC concluded empirical research in Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Senegal and Sudan on strategies to abandon female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) (targets 1.3 and 3.2). The research project linked UNICEF country offices, academics and activists, and provided insights into innovative approaches to effecting social change. Findings were published in a major report (*see box, page 10*) that gained extensive media coverage and, working closely with UNICEF Brussels and the Child Protection team in New York, were also shared in academic forums.

A long-term research programme on transitional justice and children concluded with two major publications, an edited volume co-produced with Harvard Law School on *Children and Transitional Justice* and a publication produced in cooperation with the International Centre for Transitional Justice (ICTJ), on *Children and Truth Commissions*. These publications, which map out good practice – of a kind that did not exist 10 years ago – are the products of research and advocacy over a number of years that have brought children to the centre of transitional justice mechanisms, providing guidance and

good practice to support measures to realize children’s rights in armed conflict and post-conflict recovery. The research in this area has contributed to the achievement of targets 1.2, 1.3 and 4.2. (See box, page 12, for additional details of the studies.)

Over the next few years, subject to availability of funding, the Centre will be embarking on a forward-looking agenda that contributes to the strategic knowledge base supporting strengthened child protection programming. This will include work on disability, discrimination and exclusion in Africa and Asia, and research on the protective environment among the most marginalized in fast-growing urban centres in the global South. Another significant thematic area with implications beyond child protection is research on social norms and values, and their consequences for initiatives aimed at promoting behavior change. In particular, building on lessons from IRC research on FGM/C finalized in 2010, the Centre will investigate the interplay of factors underlying early marriage, violence and exploitation. Finally, an area that the Centre will continue to investigate is children and their use of new technology, with a view to identifying UNICEF’s research niche.

Towards the abandonment of FGM/C in five African countries

In November 2010, the Centre released a major report in the *Innocenti Insight* series, ‘The Dynamics of Social Change: Towards the abandonment of female genital mutilation/cutting in five African countries’. The study examines a number of promising strategies that are supporting communities in Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Senegal and the Sudan to abandon female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C), a grave violation of the rights of girls and women. The research has brought together UNICEF country offices, academics and activists, and provided a window into innovative approaches to effecting social change around deeply embedded practices that have wider implications than just FGM/C.

‘The Dynamics of Social Change’ reports that while prevalence remains high, success has been achieved in changing attitudes to FGM/C in parts of the five countries through working closely with communities and leveraging the same social dynamics that perpetuate FGM/C in order to drive towards its abandonment. Rather than passing negative judgment on those who uphold the practice, new approaches reinforce positive community values and stimulate discussions as to how they are better upheld by finding alternatives to harmful practices. However, the report cautions that although successful interventions are being made, changing behavior is a complex process that takes time.

Some figures: FGM/C prevalence and attitudes*

Indicator	Egypt	Ethiopia	Kenya	Senegal	Sudan
FGM/C national prevalence among women aged 15-49	91% (2008) 74% for girls aged 15-17 (2008)	74% (2005)	27% (2008-2009)	28% (2005)	89% (2006)
Change in percentage of women aged 15-49 who think that the practice should continue	From 82% (1995) to 63% (2008) <i>Data for ever-married women</i>	From 60% (2000) to 31% (2005)	From 20% (1998) to 9% (2008-2009)	18% (2005) Data for later years not available	From 79% (1989-1990) to 51% (2006)

* Data from the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) in Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Senegal. Data for Sudan from the Sudan 1989-90 DHS and 2006 Sudan Household Health Survey.

Research process and partnership

Research for the *Insight* was conceptualized through a consultative process, and benefited from the expertise of academics, researchers and development practitioners from a range of social science disciplines. The analysis was based on research initiated by UNICEF country offices and IRC into abandonment initiatives already underway in the five countries, and explores the interplay between a range of elements that appear to be present when momentum for abandonment begins to take hold. A critical insight is the relative importance of expectations within communities as to both the continuation of FGM/C and its abandonment, and of the importance of safe processes of discussion and deliberation that allow these to be explored and challenged within a broader discussion of human rights and local values. Another element, as befits a social convention, is that the process of abandonment involves public commitment by entire communities. An extensive peer review process was completed for the study, involving individuals from several universities (University of Washington, Purdue University, University of Pennsylvania, University of Western Ontario), and national experts in the respective countries. The publication is supported by a series of *Innocenti Working Papers*, published in 2009 and available on the Centre's website.

Media and advocacy

The Dynamics of Social Change received coverage in influential global and regional press and was featured in medical journals. Soon after its release, it was drawn upon by numerous media outlets including the *BBC*, *AFP*, *Voice of America* and *IRIN*, and the findings were discussed in *The Lancet* and featured by the Kaiser Family Foundation.

An information package related to the study, including the publication (in English and French), a resource page, press materials and a short film, is available on the IRC website, www.unicef-irc.org.

Communications

In 2010, the Communications Unit aimed to set out a multi-year strategy to reassert Innocenti as an authoritative source of research and advocacy on child rights issues. Four central, interlinked targets were established: (i) expand its networks and alliances, with an emphasis on increasing the usefulness and relevance of IRC's research output to UNICEF COs and ROs; (ii) strengthen collaboration between the research and editorial/production processes, from research conception to launch of a report; (iii) increase press awareness and coverage of IRC research, together with expanded use of multimedia and social media platforms; and (iv) redesign of the website, to best respond to the needs and opportunities of research within the organization.

In order to reach the above goals, Communications reached out to other UNICEF offices, and with UNICEF National Committees, strengthening partnerships with key parts of the organization. This has led to a greater awareness of IRC's work, and of areas for potential collaboration and partnership. Outreach will continue in 2011, with the aim of creating additional new linkages both within and outside of the organization. A limiting factor, however, is ensuring timely delivery of the research so as to maintain momentum and interest from advocacy partners, and to be able to pursue launch opportunities strategically timed to coincide with significant events or dates.

The Centre further strengthened its base due to the release of several strong publications in 2010. Supported by a small editorial and production team, Innocenti published several titles, singly and jointly with other organizations, often in several languages, throughout the year. A rebranding exercise is planned for 2011, to provide a more distinct and compelling visual identity for the Centre's research and advocacy publications, and to accommodate the needs of a revamped publications series. The Unit continues to seek ways to streamline internal processes, to minimize delays in research completion and

to further consolidate the Centre's output capacity while ensuring the highest possible standards of accuracy and professionalism.

Press coverage was boosted through initiating several new contacts with journalists, building a new database of key media contacts and experts, and providing members of the media with advance notification and briefings ahead of publication releases. New media materials were created, including videos, a short film and web interviews. Building this network of media – covering both North and South – has contributed to strengthening the Centre's reputation as a source of innovative research findings on children. The ongoing redesign of the website occupied considerable time in the second half of 2010. This is to ensure that the site is an authoritative hub for child-related research and to engage appropriate audiences by offering additional tools such as social and multimedia platforms, flexible navigation and customized content, in addition to new thematic resource pages linking research findings with events and complementary materials. An extensive redesign of the entire site has been completed and awaits official launch. During the year, a new tool that offers users the possibility of accessing web information using a horizontal navigation system was launched. In 2011, the addition of new staff responsible for online content and a continued effort to develop shorter, web-based publications, will allow greater flexibility in further developing the site.

Examining children's role in post-conflict processes

Truth Commissions are a key element of the process of dealing with the past and achieving restorative justice after periods of violence and conflict. They help document the magnitude of violations committed against populations, including children, and may contribute to accountability. They also present an important venue for children's voices to be heard and for their needs to be addressed.

In 2010, IRC concluded two long-term research projects, with their findings published in comprehensive volumes addressing the issue. The first, *Children and Transitional Justice: Truth-telling, accountability and reconciliation*, was jointly developed with the Human Rights Program, Harvard Law School. The authored volume includes contributions from prominent human rights supporters affiliated with organizations such as No Peace Without Justice, the International Center for Transitional Justice, and Global Rights USA, and from research centres and universities including the International Institute for Child Rights and Development (University of Victoria, Canada), Feinstein International Center (Tufts University, USA), and University of Alberta, Canada).

With a foreword by Graça Machel, the publication brings together expert research on new and emerging issues, analysing practical experiences to determine how the range of transitional justice mechanisms can be applied to improve accountability for crimes perpetrated against children and to protect the rights of children involved. It explores issues such as the age of criminal responsibility for international crimes, the protection and participation of girls in transitional justice processes, enabling children's participation while ensuring their protection, and strengthening the international legal framework. *Children and Transitional Justice* was launched in March 2010 in New York by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who lent his personal moral authority to the issue, and by then UNICEF Executive Director Ann Veneman.

The second publication, *Children and Truth Commissions*, was prepared in collaboration with the International Center for Transitional Justice. The study analyses the situation and experience of truth commissions in Guatemala, Liberia, Peru, Timor-Leste, Sierra Leone and South Africa, and recommends steps to promote children's full and effective participation in future commissions. Disseminated to a range of counterparts in all regions, the report's impact will be extended through release of a French version, scheduled for early 2011. The study is complemented by a series of individually authored *Working Papers* on related themes.

As conflict continues to rage in countries across the globe, the groundbreaking, child-specific research on this topic presented in the two *Innocenti* studies, and the importance of learning from what children have to say, will be invaluable to these societies. Both studies are available in easily downloadable PDFs from the IRC website, www.unicef-irc.org.

3. ANALYSIS OF STRATEGIES AND RESULTS ACHIEVED IN 2010

IRC's programme of work needs to be assessed in light of the recommendations of the 2009 Research Review, highlighting the contribution of research to policy effectiveness and partnerships around programme interventions, particularly the MDGs and the Millennium Declaration. It was also a transition year in terms of turnover of professional staff, marking a new phase of the Centre's work.

Child Poverty and Social and Economic Policy Issues

The exploration of new areas and methods of analysis of child well-being and deprivation has been a key strategy employed to ensure the Centre continues to be a reference point on research on child well-being in affluent countries. *Report Card 9*, for example, proposed an approach of comparing inequality by measuring the relative gap between children at the bottom of the child well-being distribution and children in the middle, in order to promote discussions on equity and the impact of policy. Consistent with *Innocenti's 2007 Report Card 7*, the 2010 report confirms a multi-dimensional approach to understanding child well-being.

Key results achieved included reinforcement of a strategic partnership with the OECD, engagement of new technical partners such as Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children (HBSC), and reaching out to numerous media/advocacy partners. A shortcoming identified with *Report Card 9*, however, was associated with the challenge of communicating a complex issue such as equity on key dimensions of child well-being while remaining simple enough to reach a broad non-technical audience. While the *Report Card* series continues to explore new research gaps identified by earlier studies, it is also important not to lose touch with progress on the central research related to child well-being in OECD countries set out in the early *Report Card* series, which may need to be revisited.

The development of technical tools to understand the impact of economic shocks on children and appropriate policy interventions are a significant innovation that can strengthen the Centre's contribution in the area of social policy, particularly in terms of its interactions with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. In Burkina Faso, the UNICEF country office is using the tools in its advocacy with governments and the IMF. Further, given the usefulness of the tool, IRC has received several requests to expand the existing models and to provide simulations in other countries. However, continuing work in this area requires an investment in technical skills; additional human resource needs should therefore be taken into consideration.

IRC sought to mainstream children's issues within the global migration debate by identifying new areas of analysis for the research programme on immigrant children in affluent countries, and by responding to gaps identified in the analysis of the 2009 *Innocenti Insight* on 'Children in Immigrant Families in Eight Affluent Countries'. Major results included completion of a comprehensive review of data

sources on migrant children, carried out in collaboration with the inter-agency child labour research project, Understanding Children's Work (UCW).

IRC continued to provide strategic and technical support to UNICEF offices and other international organizations, including through conducting peer review of studies, such as a paper for the UNICEF global study on child poverty, and by providing input and comments to national human development report guidelines for research on migration. Support was also provided to research on the impacts of the economic crisis on children, reports on migrants and health produced by the World Health Organization, and a UNICEF-World Bank-ILO interagency child labour publication. IRC provided a contribution to a panel discussion on migration organized by UNICEF Brussels and IRC. The event focused on the findings of the Centre's 2009 study on immigrant children, which included participants from the European Commission's Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, the Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe and other experts in the area.

Following on the findings of the *Innocenti Insight* on immigrant children, a new project on immigrant youth in EU countries was developed in partnership with the European Commission. Focusing on the social and economic integration of migrant youth, the project has been strategically developed to correspond with the EU's new agenda on youth and poverty and to inform relevant regional and national bodies on these issues.

Implementation of International Standards for Children and Child Protection

Evidence-based analysis supported by a convening role has been at the heart of IRC's work on child protection and the implementation of international standards. In addition to carrying out primary and secondary research, IRC convened scholars, UNICEF country office and National Committee staff in consultations to support a range of projects. In June 2010, more than 30 experts gathered in Florence to inform a study on children, abuse and new technology that is exploring protection and the crossover between the online and offline worlds, a strategically significant set of issues that are new for UNICEF. A consultation in early December brought together National Committee members and experts to review preliminary findings of a Committee-sponsored study on the relationship between national responses to child trafficking and child protection systems in five Nordic countries. Government investments into anti-trafficking responses are significant, despite the small number of identified victims, but initial findings suggest that children not clearly in the category 'trafficked' may fall out of the protection system.

In the coming period, the section aims to identify a limited number of strategic, global big-picture research themes of significance to UNICEF, governments and other agencies (e.g. discrimination and disability, social norms and violence, children and new technology, and urbanization and protection) with a view to building up a body of quality research on each that is relevant to country offices and other knowledge stakeholders. Greater attention will be paid to synergies between child protection and social protection, methodology and building stronger research partnerships with academic and policy research institutions.

4. PARTNERSHIPS

In 2010, IRC cooperated with a wide range of external and internal partners across the scope of its work. The Centre continued to seek new linkages, and to strengthen existing areas of collaboration with major government, non-governmental, academic and civil society partners.

For the research on rich countries that informed *Report Card 9*, a new technical partnership was formed with Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC), a World Health Organization collaborative cross-national study. The partnership with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) was consolidated for *Report Card* – including during the report preparation process. With development of new project on migrant youth, a partnership was established with the European Commission on the issue of social inclusion. Through a mapping of information on child migrants in developing countries, IRC has this year reestablished channels of technical exchange with Understanding Children’s Work, an interagency project on child labour.

The Committee on the Rights of the Child is a strategically significant institution with which the Centre maintains a supportive relationship. Other key partners on protection issues in 2010 included the European Union Agency for Fundamental Human Rights, the Hague Conference on Private International Law, the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Violence against Children, the European Network of Ombudspersons for Children and individual ombudspersons around the world. These partnerships provide important opportunities for leveraging information and knowledge about protection issues.

IRC researchers made interventions and presentations of their ongoing work at high-level forums such as the Council of Europe Social, Health and Family Affairs meeting in Florence, in March 2010.

Partnerships with several networks were strengthened, including collaboration with the European Network of Child Friendly Cities, the Child the City Foundation, the Italian National Committee and the Istituto degli Innocenti to organize the Child in the City Conference in October. New relationships with academic institutions were formed and existing partnerships strengthened. For example, research on children and transitional justice was carried out in partnership with the Human Rights Program at Harvard Law School, on ECD with Yale University, on Child-Friendly Cities (CFC) with the City University of New York, the University of Madrid and the University of Girona, and with significant non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as Childwatch International and the Better Care Network. Despite these positive exchanges and collaborations, shortcomings were identified. For example, there continued to be an overreliance on individual and northern-based consultants during the year. Strengthened partnerships with key research institutions, and efforts to include technical partners in the South, as called for in the Research Review, will add balance and weight to IRC’s global advocacy, dissemination and policy promotion.

Internal partners throughout the year included UNICEF New York, and country and regional offices, which were all involved in the research on FGM/C, child sexual exploitation and abuse and the CFC initiative. Research on child protection and the implementation of international child rights standards also benefited from IRC’s historically close partnerships with UNICEF National Committees. For example, National Committees funded and participated in the Nordic child trafficking study, the Swiss Committee in particular funded and supported research on social norms, and the Japanese Committee has played an active role by funding and supporting work on sexual exploitation. These partnerships have also helped substantively, with National Committee staff helping facilitate research in some areas.

The Centre's close relationship with National Committees in Europe remains a valuable asset. As IRC moves towards embracing a stronger global programme of research in support of country and regional offices, it will be important to find the right balance between this shift and continuing to maintain its advocacy role for children in industrialized countries.

Joint preparation of the *Research Brief* on the effects of the global economic crisis on children in West and Central Africa with the UNICEF West and Central Africa Regional Office (WCARO), facilitated collaboration with the Poverty and Economic Policy Research (PEP) Network, Consortium pour la recherche économique et sociale (CRES) in Senegal and Laval University, Quebec, Canada. The UNICEF Division of Policy and Practice (DPP) provided strategic direction and guidance throughout the process. The development of this innovative technical tool paves the way for new arenas for research and policy discussions.

IRC strengthened collaboration with several UNICEF offices and headquarters divisions. In addition to the WCARO and DPP partnerships cited above, IRC continued its collaboration with the regional office in Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CEE/CIS) in support of the TransMONEE database. A new partnership was also established with DPP, UNICEF NY, on mapping of social protection issues and a channel of technical exchange was established with the Early Childhood Care Section, Programme Division, UNICEF New York, through the IRC project on the governance and financing of early childhood care services. Given the Centre's small size and ambitious agenda, internal collaborations such as these are essential to gain sufficient traction to enable wider dissemination and programmatic and policy impact of its research.

IRC will continue to develop partnerships with different entities and experts, striving to create stronger institutional ties with a wider range of relevant institutions in the global South, as well as with academia, think tanks and policymaking bodies. Such relationships must seek to go beyond engagement with specific experts around specific studies, and must expand to include institutional engagements in the South helping define the longer-term IRC research agenda, identifying key issues and themes and providing ongoing capacity-building.

5. MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

Management

The Research Review underlined the significant contribution that IRC has made in thematic areas such as child rights, child protection and innovative approaches to economic and social policy analysis. At the same time, it called for a shift in direction so that IRC becomes much more relevant to the rest of the organization, engages more systematically with the South, and finds a new role within the Office of Research. During the year, a number of initiatives were launched to rethink and reorient the Centre towards this new and demanding role. In making these shifts IRC Senior Management was supported by a team of consultants who worked with the Centre at various periods in 2010, providing strategic guidance and planning in the research and communication areas for the future development of the IRC programme.

One of the weak points in IRC's performance identified in the Research Review was the lengthy gestation period of a number of research projects and the lack of clear mechanisms of quality assurance in research undertaken by IRC. In response, a detailed review of all pipeline research was carried out

midyear with views taken on the continued added value of those that were excessively delayed or of uncertain quality. Steps towards formalizing and strengthening peer review mechanisms of IRC's own research, till now an informal process, have also been put in place with the RC9 as the first candidate for this stricter approach.

The Centre hosted a number of meetings over the year, both internal and external. In March, the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe organized its meeting in Florence. The UNICEF-WHO Interagency meeting for global estimates of immunization coverage convened from 28 June to 9 July. A gathering of child protection experts from UNICEF and major NGOs met in Florence over two days for the Child Protection Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group Meeting. Rounding off the meeting schedule for the year was the 5th global technical Consultation on the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys, from 8-12 November. This 'knowledge brokering' role takes advantage of IRC's superb setting as a privileged place where research and reflection is possible.

The year marked completion of the final stages of the approved research programme. The last part of the year saw a start to rethinking the future research agenda for IRC and dialogue with different partners.

Operations

Availability and allocation of resources

Delays in recruitment of the full contingent of IRC staff had two visible effects during the year: On the one hand, the delay/gap in filling posts in the research sections led to a lower than normal draw down on the financial resources that were available for 2010. On the other hand, staff shortages put extra work pressure on those staff in place. Overall expenditure in 2010 eventually reached a high level. This was due to an intensive effort in the second half of the year to more clearly define project needs and to take management decisions on slower than expected progress on some research projects.

The resource envelope available to IRC included:

- \$1.8 million of Regular Resources (RR) approved by the Executive Board in September 2009 for the research cluster, broken down as follows:
- \$1.2 million for the Office of Research in New York, and \$600,000 for the Innocenti Research Centre (IRC) for the biennium 2010-2011. The availability of Regular Resource (RR) funding for IRC for the first time provides more flexibility to the research agenda and makes it less dependent on the variability of external funding.
- As IRC has up until this point been almost exclusively funded from Other Resources (OR), the new RR funding will be very important to support the new programme cycle. In addition to the new RR funding, the Executive Board approved an additional Support Budget-funded post, Chief of Communications at P4 level.
- The total allocation for 2010 was \$6.6 million, of which \$4.6 million (69 per cent) was implemented with the remainder of \$2.0 million (31 per cent) rephased to 2011 to enable implementation during the second year of the programme cycle.
- IRC's main donor in 2010 was the Government of Italy, providing core funding for IRC technical capacity, management and operations. Important individual contributions were received from

UNICEF National Committees, representing 18 per cent of IRC's OR contribution received in 2010. Other key contributions were received from the Governments of France, Norway and Switzerland, representing 13 per cent of total income.

Human Resources.

In 2010, several key positions at the Centre were filled. These appointments followed a relatively long period of uncertainty following the departure of several international professional staff members in 2009, and the challenges faced in recruiting suitably qualified people for the one-year extension of the IRC programme.

The following post changes occurred in 2010:

- The P4 Chief of Communications post was filled in early February.
- Two P5 posts of Chief of the Social and Economic Policy Unit and the Chief of the Child Protection Unit were filled in early September. The P4 Child Protection Specialist post was filled in August.
- The P2 post of Programme Officer, Social Policy, under the Junior Professional Officer (JPO) Programme funded by the Italian Government, was filled in November.
- A temporary position at P2 level of Social Policy Officer to carry out research on the impact of the economic crisis on child poverty was created in the Economic and Social Policy Unit.
- Recruitment was also finalized for the post of Publications Assistant.
- The IRC Deputy Director was reassigned to the post of Regional Chief, Programme and Planning, East Asia and Pacific Regional Office (EAPRO), and a Child Protection Specialist was reassigned to the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Two staff members on Temporary Appointments moved to Fixed Term Appointments in New York and Haiti.
- A visiting lecturer from Tokyo University, Japan, carried out a month-long research assignment at IRC, focusing on the Child Friendly Cities project.
- At the professional level, there are nine vacant posts yet to be filled. These have been held unfilled pending the appointment of the new Director of the Research Function/IRC.
- In order to further development of the research function in UNICEF, a four-month assignment at IRC was carried out by a former staff member as a Special Advisor to the Deputy Executive Director. A Director ad interim has provided guidance and leadership to the Centre since June 2010.

Following the above staff changes, the IRC Office Management and Coordination Mechanisms were all revised and new committees were constituted on 26 October.

IRC Staffing Situation as of 31 December 2010

	International Posts (IP)			Local Posts (GS)			Temporary Appointments (TAs)
	Approved	Filled	Vacant	Approved	Filled	Vacant	

Director's Office	3	0	3	1	1	0	0
Research units	11*	5	6	2	1	1	4
Communication Unit	2	2	0	2	2	0	0
Operations Unit	1	1	0	5	5	0	0
Total	17	8	9	10	9	1	4

*Includes two (2) JPO posts.

Training and Staff Development

The following staff development activities occurred in 2010:

- The e-PAS Performance Evaluation System for the International Professional (IP) category staff was implemented following an internal training course led by the Chief of Operations.
- A Local Learning Committee was established and met to identify and propose for management consideration staff training needs and opportunities.
- Technical seminars were held on IRC research themes throughout the year, as a practical and positive means of information-sharing, staff technical update and capacity-building.
- All staff participated in one-day training on the Revised Programme Structure and key changes to the Programme Manager System, ProMS 9.1.
- Staff participated in an Office Retreat that took place in Florence from 16 to 17 September.
- Throughout the year, the IRC 'work-in-progress' seminars provided staff with an opportunity to learn of, inform and critique the work of colleagues, and to gain valuable insights from presentations given by external researchers. Topics included: migration and young people (School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London), the impact of child labour on health (University of São Paulo), and exploring diversity of cognitive development (European University Institute).

A delegation of young diplomats from Afghanistan paid a half-day study visit to the Centre in December. Organized by the Italian School of Public Administration in cooperation with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the session allowed Innocenti to provide participants with an overview of the work of the Centre and wider UNICEF, and for engagement in lively discussion and debate.

Global Staff Survey and Staff Morale

Staff morale has been a major concern throughout the year given the lack of clarity about the future of IRC and the broader research function. However, at the day-to-day working level, morale has remained relatively high, with staff demonstrating considerable commitment to their tasks and resilience.

Uncertainty regarding the future of the Centre, poor work-life balance, an urgent need to permanently fill vacant senior positions, the need to define and implement the research agenda and the lack of a strong vision for the Centre were identified as the key concerns by staff in the Global Staff Survey. The IRC Staff Association Executive Committee discussed these results with IRC management and in April conducted an internal survey to further explore areas that had raised concern. Throughout the year, the staff association has supported management in addressing these issues, and has played a role in highlighting the importance of the research function within UNICEF, including through representation in the Global Staff Association. Appreciation was expressed for the 'open-door' policy implemented by the new management and the more open communication and dialogue between management and staff that had followed. Regular 'stand-up meetings' led the Director a.i., have allowed wider sharing of

mission updates, news and events among all staff, and are thought to have promoted greater cross-collaboration across functional units.

Clarity on the definition of the future research agenda was seen as a major concern by the staff, and as essential to contributing to a better work-life balance and to further improving morale. The recruitment of the senior posts was seen as a welcome development and as crucial to providing leadership and vision in the Centre.

Special Separation Allowance

In the past, the application of United Nations Staff Rules and Regulations at IRC had resulted in a policy gap with regards to special separation payments for General Service staff. In Italy, the special payment (or ‘liquidazione’) allows employers to set aside a proportion of an employee’s salary, which is to be reimbursed when the employee retires or resigns from the organization, and is likened to a deferred salary scheme. Prior to 2010, IRC had made separation payments to General Service staff following the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Staff Rules. After lengthy consultation with the UNICEF Division of Human Resources in New York, it was clarified and officially approved by DHR that the Special Separation Allowance should continue to be applied at IRC in Florence, at the level equivalent to that stipulated in the FAO Staff Rules, to ensure that the allowances of General Service staff working with IRC are in accordance with local United Nations practice in Italy.

Information Technology

Information Technology and Communications (ITC) systems were fully utilized and reinforced, in compliance with ICT standards, with all elements maintained and upgraded in line with corporate requirements. IT governance has been enhanced, and staff IT capacities have continued to be strengthened. Significant developments include an update to the ProMS service and desktop clients; a full replacement plan of obsolete IT equipment; the procurement and installation of videoconferencing equipment for the first time in IRC; and the active involvement of the Senior IT Assistant in the framework of a regional project aimed at implementing network monitoring capabilities in all UNICEF country offices. IT remains a critical area for an outposted headquarters function such as the IRC in Florence.

Internal Work Processes

In contribution to the overall management of IRC and to ensure greater effectiveness, a review of internal work processes in the areas of travel, consultancies, official working hours, core hours and flexible work arrangements was conducted in 2010. The results of the review were developed through a process of consultation and benefited from the support of teams established to lend their respective areas of expertise and provide guidance. The outputs obtained were: a) definition of accountabilities; b) group recommendations submitted to the IRC management and c) internal policies drafted to provide clear guidance to the staff. The proposals and recommendations will be submitted to the IRC Office Management Team (OMT) for consideration in early 2011.

Premises

Current Premises. The premises currently occupied by UNICEF provide a very modest total workspace for IRC and no longer suit the Centre’s needs in terms of office space, security standards, accessibility and availability. The following developments also impact on IRC’s office space:

- The Istituto degli Innocenti (IDI) intends to undertake work in order to create a museum in the area of the building where the UNICEF offices are currently located. This is likely to create disruptions in the proper functioning of IRC. The latest available information indicates that the work for the IDI museum is likely to start by mid-2011.
- Given that an alternative location proposed for IRC (see ‘New Premises’ below) will not be available until at latest early 2014, IRC continues to have discussions with IDI to find suitable available space inside the same building.
- Finding adequate and appropriate office space for expanded numbers of IRC staff will be a key challenge facing the office in 2011.

New Premises. Office space was an issue of ongoing discussion with the Tuscany Region, Azienda Sanitaria and among UNICEF and UN colleagues. UNICEF was offered a rent-free location at Villa Basilewsky in Florence by the Tuscany Region, and a declaration of intent between the Tuscany Region and UNICEF was signed in March 2010. A fresh design brief was developed by IRC and includes a set of principles that can guide the renovation, informed by details of the different functions that will form part of the research centre and other functions that may be co-located by UNICEF in Florence. The project proposal has been used by Azienda Sanitaria as an overall overview of the renovation of the premises, including cost implications, which it is expected will be covered by the Tuscany Region. The project was presented (by Azienda Sanitaria to the Tuscany Region) in December, and will be submitted to the Executive Board of the Tuscany Region for their review and final decision.

Staff and Office Security

Continued attention was paid during the year to address emerging risks and promote security improvements in the office.

- The Business Continuity Plan was updated twice during the year and shared with all staff; all new staff were briefed on the plan.
- Active participation of IRC through the Chief of Operations on the Security Advisory Group meetings held in Rome.
- Monitoring of travel, compliance with security training of travelling staff members and consultants, and advance request of security clearance was carried out.

External Audit

A field audit of the operations and financial records of IRC for the biennium 2008-2009 was completed by a group of external auditors from 24 August to 11 September 2009. The findings and recommendations were discussed during the exit conference with the auditor, and in February 2010, the Centre received the management letter. A workplan was developed and implemented to close all the audit recommendations in 2010.

6. INNOVATIONS AND LESSONS LEARNED

The Research Review finalized in mid-2010 contains the first substantive reflection on ‘lessons learned’ on research across the organization.

Many of IRC's research projects in 2010 contain elements of new knowledge and innovation. Of particular mention, however, are the technical tools developed to simulate the effects of crisis on children. A 'macro-micro' methodology underpinned the tools, which were operationalized in three countries in West and Central Africa. The research opens the Centre to new research and knowledge-sharing partnerships, and places it more squarely at the table for high-level policy discussions with governments and the international financial institutions. However, there is a need for improvements in the communication around the tools, both of their advantages and limitations, and for technical capacity-building.

7. WEBSITE, STUDIES AND PUBLICATIONS COMPLETED IN 2010

Despite having built up a portfolio of multidisciplinary research and issued numerous influential publications over the past 20 years, Innocenti has frequently been less than fully successful in communicating its image and promoting its products and services both internally to UNICEF and externally. In order to increase its utility to UNICEF country offices, and to promote its research among academics, policymakers, NGOs, civil society and others, a Communications Rapid Assessment and Action Strategy was drafted during the year. The strategy will serve as a bridging document ahead of decisions taken on the future of Innocenti, which will then allow for a more comprehensive communication strategy to be implemented.

Website

In 2010, activities focused on the primary objective of ensuring continued visibility to the Centre as an authoritative hub for child-related research. This was achieved through development of a new navigation strategy and implementation a tool that enables improved retrieval of information; and a redesign of the website (to be launched in 2011) to provide a broader view of research both within the Centre and across the rest of the organization. The new site, which will include fully operational social and multimedia platforms, will enable the Centre to strengthen its identity as a go-to think tank for research on issues related to children across a range of disciplines and themes. The developments in the website architecture and design have been accompanied by an advocacy strategy strongly supported by the website. Ongoing revamping of the site allows regular sharing of information about Innocenti's research findings, activities and events, using the opportunities offered by the new social communication channels and tailored to specific groups.

The Child Friendly Cities website, maintained by Innocenti, continued to reflect project developments and activities, including a major conference in October jointly organized by IRC, which brought together almost 300 delegates from 38 countries.

Publications and Studies

As publications have been at the heart of IRC's work, these have been highlighted throughout this *Annual Report* in text boxes. In addition, the following *Innocenti Working Papers* and *Innocenti Discussion Papers*, grouped by theme where appropriate, were produced, and several earlier IRC titles were translated. The IRC publications series is currently under review and is being redefined to take account of the emerging vision for the Centre. In 2011, a rebranding exercise is planned for all the Centre's research and advocacy products.

Working Papers:

Innocenti Working Papers and *Innocenti Discussion Papers* provide a vehicle for sharing the initial results or findings from a range of research topics, in order to encourage discussion and debate. In 2010, numerous papers were issued, many of which were linked to major publications, either providing technical information as background (e.g. in the case of *Report Card 9*) or complementary research (*Children and Transitional Justice*).

Report Card 9 (also see box, page 7)

* Currie, Candace, Dorothy Currie, Leonardo Menchini, Dominic Richardson and Chris Roberts, 'Comparing inequality in the well-being of children in economically advanced countries: A methodology', IWP 2010-19.

Children and Transitional Justice (also see box, page 12)

*Aptel, Cecile, 'Children and accountability for international crimes: The contribution of international criminal courts', IWP 2010-20.

*Bakker, Christine, 'Prosecuting international crimes against children: The legal framework', IWP 2010-13.

*Betancourt T.S., and A. Ettien, 'Transitional justice and youth formerly associated with armed forces and armed groups: Acceptance, marginalization and psychosocial adjustment', IWP 2010-17.

*Carlson Khristopher and Dyan Mazurana, 'Children and reparation: Past lessons and new directions', IWP 2010-08.

*Harvey-Blankenship, Michele, Phuong N. Pham and Rachel Shigekane, 'Genetic tracing, disappeared children and justice', IWP 2010-12.

*Herencia Carrasco, Salvador, 'Transitional justice and the situation of children in Colombia and Peru', IWP 2010-16.

*Hirst, Megan and Ann Linnarson, 'Children and the Commission for reception, truth and reconciliation in Timor-Leste', IWP 2010-07.

*Liwski, Norberto and Daniel O'Donnell, 'Child victims of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment', IWP 2010-11.

*Michels, An, 'Psychosocial support for children: Protecting the rights of child victims and witnesses in transitional justice processes', IWP 2010-14.

*Nosworthy, David, 'Children and security sector reform in post-conflict peace-building', IWP 2010-09.

*Smith, Alan, 'Children, education and reconciliation', IWP 2010-10.

*Stovel, Laura and Marta Valiñas, 'Restorative justice after mass violence: Opportunities and risks for children and youth', IWP 2010-15.

Global Economic Crisis and Children (also see box, page 6)

*Antwi-Asare, Theodore, John Cockburn, Edgar A. Cooke, Ismaël Fofana, Luca Tiberti and Daniel K. Twerefou, 'Simulating the impact of the global economic crisis and policy responses on children in Ghana', IWP 2010-05.

*Balma, Lacine, John Cockburn, Ismaël Fofana, Samuel Kaboré and Luca Tiberti, 'Simulation of the effects of the economic crisis and response policies on children in West and Central Africa: The case of Burkina Faso', IWP 2010-03 (available in English and French)

- *Bibi, Sami, John Cockburn, Ismaël Fofana and Luca Tiberti, 'Impacts of the global crisis and policy responses on child well-being: a macro-micro simulation framework', IWP 2010-06.
- *Cockburn, John, Ismaël Fofana and Luca Tiberti, 'Simulating the impact of the global economic crisis and policy responses on children in West and Central Africa', IWP 2010-01.
- *Arnault Emini, Christine, Sami Bibi, John Cockburn, Ismaël Fofana, Paul Ningaye and Luca Tiberti, 'Impacts of the global economic crisis on child poverty in Cameroon and options for a policy response', IWP 2010-04 (available in English and French).
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- *Frederick, John, 'Sexual abuse and exploitation of boys in South Asia. A review of research findings, legislation, policy and programme responses', IWP 2010-02.
- *Vuvkovic-Sahovic, Nevena, 'The role of civil society in implementing the General Measures of the Convention on the Rights of the Child', IWP 2010-18.

Discussion Papers

- *Fasting, Kari, Sandra Kirby, Trisha Leahy, Sylvie Parent, Trond Svela Sand, 'The place of sport in the UN Study on Violence against Children', IDP 2010-01.
- *Kools, Marco, and Virginia E. Vitiello, 'Good governance of early childhood development programmes in developing Countries: The need for a comprehensive monitoring system', IDP 2010-02.

Translations:

In 2010, the 2009 IRC publication entitled *Handbook on the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography* was translated into French, German, Italian and Portuguese. 2010 publications translated were: *Report Card 9* (into French, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish) and 'The Dynamics of Social Change: Towards the abandonment of female genital mutilation/cutting in five African countries' (into French).

External Publications

Menchini, Leonardo and Gerry Redmond, 'Extreme poverty among children in South-Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States', chapter in *Child Development and Poverty*, edited by Anselm Fiedler and Isodor Kuester, Nova Publisher, 2010.

Menchini, Leonardo, 'Povertà e benessere dei bambini nei paesi economicamente avanzati', in *Il Mondo Domani*, Italian Committee for UNICEF, Rome, December 2010).

Menchini, Leonardo, 'The ongoing transition of child care in the economically advanced countries', in 'Early Childhood Education and Care Services in the European Union Countries', *ChildOnEurope Series* No. 3, November 2010, available at: www.childoneurope.org/

Tiberti, Luca, Sami Bibi, John Cockburn and Massa Coulibali, 'The impact of the increase in food prices on child poverty and policy responses in Mali', in *Child Welfare in Developing Countries*, edited by John Cockburn and Jane Kabubo-Mariara, Springer, 2010.

Country case studies from the IRC publication entitled *Innocenti Insight* on ‘Children in Immigrant Families in Eight Affluent Countries’ (2009), co-managed by Otoe Yoda in 2009, were published in *Child Indicators Research*. Available at: www.springerlink.com/content/1874-897x/3/4/.

Presentations, Speeches and Papers presented

Alexander, Gordon, Presentation at a seminar on ‘How to measure extreme poverty in the EU’, Brussels, 1 July 2010.

Alexander, Gordon, Speaker in the European People’s Party Hearing of the Working Group Legal and Home Affairs on Sexual Abuse of Children on the Internet, European Parliament, Brussels, 1 July 2010.

Elder, James, Presentation on sport for development at the Luis de Carlos Forum on Sport and Development, Fundacion Real Madrid, Madrid, 4-5 March 2010.

Elder, James, Presentation to the Australian Parliamentary Association for UNICEF (on UNICEF in emergencies and Innocenti’s work and focus on equity through *Report Card 9*), Sydney, 19 October 2010.

Menchini, Leonardo, ‘The child care transition: Implications for a new policy approach’, presented at the ChildOnEurope Seminar on “Early Childhood Education and Care Services and Promotion of Social Inclusion”, Florence, 28 January 2010.

Menchini, Leonardo, ‘The living conditions of children in immigrant families in affluent countries’, presentation for a seminar organized by the Regione Toscana, Florence, 15 February 2010.

Menchini, Leonardo, ‘Migration and children in Italy: Demographic and economic issues’, presentation for a training organized by the Regione Toscana entitled ‘Migration: Legal and sociological aspects’, Florence, 24 May 2010.

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ABBREVIATIONS

CEE/CIS
CERG

Central and Eastern Europe, Commonwealth of Independent States
Children's Environments Research Group (City University, New York)

CFC	Child Friendly Cities (initiative)
CO	country office (UNICEF)
DPP	Division of Policy and Practice (UNICEF)
DFAM	Division of Financial and Administrative Management (UNICEF)
EAPRO	Eastern Asia and Pacific Regional Office (UNICEF)
ECD	early childhood care and development
e-PAS	electronic Performance Appraisal System
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GS	General Service (category of staff within the UN System)
HBSC	Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children (a World Health Organization collaborative cross-national study)
IDI	Istituto degli Innocenti
IHRIC	independent human rights institutions for children
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IT	information technology
ITC	information technology and communicaitons
JPO	Junior Professional Officer
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys
NATCOM	National Committee (UNICEF)
NGO	non-governmental organization
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OR	Other Resources
PFP	Private Fundraising and Partnerships (Division, UNICEF)
ProMS	Programme Manager System
RO	regional office (UNICEF)
RR	Regular Resources
SEP	Social and Economic Policy (programme unit at IRC)
TA	Temporary Appointment
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WCARO	West and Central Africa Regional Office (UNICEF)
WHO	World Health Organization

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