

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The year 2010 saw UNICEF effectively use its voice to mobilise partners and leverage resources for the most disadvantaged children. Significant results included the leveraging of a commitment by the Government to mobilise USD120 million to implement a long-term national programme to develop social work as a profession between 2011 and 2020. Two national laws on Child Adoption and on Persons with Disabilities were passed, bringing Vietnamese laws closer to international conventions. In response to an unprecedented outbreak of measles in 2009 of 8,000 reported cases, over 7 million children were vaccinated against measles, the first such national campaign since 2002. UNICEF provided procurement services, and technical support in the form of monitoring and oversight, together with WHO.

Three areas of shortfall were evident this year. First, the enormous potential for UNICEF in leveraging private sector actors for children's issues in Ho Chi Minh City, the economic hub of the country is insufficiently tapped. Second, there were major shortfalls in the generation and dissemination of quality data and evidence. With only about 40 per cent of planned studies completed during 2010, the Country Office (CO) will work to refine its own capacity and mechanisms for it to become the knowledge leader on child rights. Third, the country programme lacks a coherent and systematic approach to addressing the disparities affecting ethnic minority children and children in poor households and the CO will work to fill this gap.

Partnerships were mobilised in support of children with diverse stakeholders. A stronger relationship was built with the World Bank on social protection. Through the MoU with the Communist Party, the Office was able to mobilise and sensitise party officials on child rights. A new UNICEF Viet Nam Goodwill Ambassador, Ha Anh Vu, was appointed and raised awareness about HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination.

2. COUNTRY SITUATION AS AFFECTING CHILDREN AND WOMEN

Viet Nam is one of the best performing economies in the Asia-Pacific region, likely achieving an annual GDP growth rate of 7 percent. It has reached middle-income country status in 2010. However, recent reports place the overall public debt burden at 56.7 percent of GDP, inflation is persistent, and there is a growing current account deficit.

The profile of poverty is changing. Poverty rates have fallen consistently and are now at around 14 per cent. However, poverty reduction among ethnic minorities (EM) has been much slower. Currently while EM make up around 15 per cent of the population, more than half of the EM population lives in poverty.

Data on non-monetary child poverty, released in 2010, reveal that **29 per cent of children live in poverty**, with huge regional disparities (rates in the Mekong River Delta and Northern midlands/mountainous areas are close to 50 per cent) and **high level of deprivation among EM children** who are almost 3 times as likely to be poor than their Kinh peers.

The key findings of the UNICEF Situation Analysis that was completed in 2010 confirm the overall progress made for children over the past 20 years but also highlight significant and at times increasing **patterns of inequity in: nutrition**, with around one out of three children being stunted on average and with highest rates occurring in the

Central Highlands provinces; **maternal mortality**, estimated at 69 per 100,000 live births nation-wide but four times higher among ethnic minorities; **sanitation**, with close to one third of rural and two thirds of ethnic minority households not having access to adequate sanitation; **education**, with half of children with disabilities not attending school and the primary school completion rate of EM being 20 percentage points below the national average.

New research shows that 58 per cent of ever-married Vietnamese women have experienced some form of **domestic violence** – physical, sexual or emotional – in their lifetime. Almost one in four women with children under 15 years reported that these children have been abused physically by their husbands.

In October 2010, **heavy rains and floods** affected 10 provinces in Central Viet Nam, causing substantial casualties, infrastructure damage, and disrupting livelihoods and local economies. Quang Binh province was among the heavily affected provinces with 25 communes and 90 per cent of all community health centres flooded.

Access to essential social services for children and their caregivers, vulnerable and poor children in particular, is receiving increasing attention. A recent online survey with about 1,500 anonymous respondents indicated that nearly 7 out of 10 respondents had to pay extra in order to get an administrative procedure completed. A UNICEF-supported citizen report card survey on access to health care in Dien Bien province also indicated the occurrence of payments of unofficial service fees by households. Access to essential social services is a major preoccupation for many **migrants. Registered internal migration has risen from 4.5 million people in 1999 to 6.7 million in 2009.** The first nation-wide immunisation campaign since 2002 was completed in 2010, for measles, reaching over 7 million children in all 63 provinces. Monitoring reports indicate that marginalised children (for example, children living in low-income urban areas, fishing villages, and ethnic minority children) are not being fully reached by the campaign.

Critical policy frameworks for children were developed or finalised in 2010 namely, Socio-Economic Development Plan for 2011-2015; Social Protection Strategy; Family Strategy; Plan of Action for Children; and Poverty Reduction Strategy (all for 2011-2020) as well as five-year sector plans for Education, Health, and Child Protection. The Government also revised **Decree 67**, which assists chronically poor, vulnerable, and disadvantaged people with cash, to widen the eligibility criteria and increased benefit levels by over 30 per cent. The Prime Minister issued a landmark decision in 2010, approving a 10-year programme for the development of social work as a profession. The National Assembly approved the **revision of the monetary poverty lines**, and the introduction of a second, and higher (by about 30 percent) set of official 'near poor' lines. This represents an important step towards a differentiated approach to targeting, which is required to address the increasingly heterogeneous nature of poverty in Viet Nam.

3. CP ANALYSIS & RESULT

3.1 CP Analysis

3.1.1 CP Overview:

In 2010, 70% of the AMP results and 58% of the AWP's results were assessed as achieved; 17% of AMP results and 27% of AWP's results were assessed as partially

achieved; and 13% of AMP results and 15% of AWP results were assessed as not achieved.

As part of the refocus on equity, the Office made important progress towards achieving the equity-focused results articulated in the Equity Tracker, as follows:

(1) **Provincial-level knowledge on the situation of children** is being generated via four provincial Situation Analyses underway. The Office started an ambitious study with the Harvard Viet Nam programme in HCM City looking at the situation of migrant children and their families in the HCM City area.

(2) **Demonstration of multi-sectoral and convergent services in five provinces** resulted in more children accessing quality social services, with 90,000 school children (48 per cent girls and 30 per cent ethnic minority children) benefiting from child-friendly and child safe schools and 19,000 people (40 per cent ethnic minority) benefiting from safe water and hand washing messages.

(3) The **National Social Protection Strategy** was finalised in 2010. The Office provided significant technical inputs to this process, in order to mainstream child-sensitive elements of social protection into the Strategy. One important step forward in the Strategy, but also in the overall poverty reduction framework of the Government in 2010, was the recognition of the importance of **non-monetary dimensions of poverty**. Another key component of child-sensitive social protection which saw critical progress was the establishment of **social work** as a profession.

(4) Evidence was generated in the Action Research on Mother Tongue-based **Bilingual Education** (MTBBE), which showed the impact of this approach on learning outcomes for ethnic minority children. MTBBE students performed better in language competency both in Mother Tongues and Vietnamese as well as in Mathematics compared to non-MTBBE students.

(5) **Less encouraging results were achieved with the application of the Marginal Budgeting for Bottlenecks (MBB) tool in the health sector**. The preliminary results generated were not used to inform the development of the 5-year Health Plan, nor the 2011 budget for the National Target Programmes. This was mainly due to the fact that the MMB tool was not “locked down”.

3.1.2 Programme Strategy

3.1.2.1 Capacity Development:

A major achievement of the Office this year was the approval of a long-term national programme to develop social work as a profession. The lack of social workers in Viet Nam was identified by UNICEF as a major gap in providing social protection measures for the most vulnerable children. In order to support the Government’s programme to reach the ambitious target of recruiting and training of 65,000 social workers by 2020, the Office is engaged in a **long-term capacity development effort, focusing on developing university curricula, job codes and professional standards for social workers**. Both the job codes and the professional standards were approved by the Government of Viet Nam this year.

Through the Provincial Child-Friendly Programme in six provinces, UNICEF continues to be extensively involved in local capacity building. Interventions are in the form of trainings, consultations and technical support that together are gradually contributing to make local Socio-Economic Development Plans (SEDPs) and sector plans more

integrated and responsive to children's issues.

Emphasis on capacity development (CD) was identified as an "appropriate change" during the mid-term-review of the programme in 2008. However, the review also noted that UNICEF's capacity building efforts in areas related to organisational capacity lacked strategic focus. It recommended a shift from project-focused CD towards institution-focused, demand-driven, and evidence-based CD plans and interventions based on a clear understanding and analysis of institutions in relation to the fulfillment of children's rights. Accordingly in 2010, UNICEF initiated a **comprehensive institutional capacity assessment of its key national partner, MOLISA**. The assessment is to help MOLISA define what is needed to better fulfil its mandate for child rights in Viet Nam.

3.1.2.2 Effective Advocacy:

Key successes as a result of effective advocacy by the Office in 2010 included: (i) **leveraging of a Government commitment to allocate over USD 120 million to a 10-year programme on social work**. This is strongly related to on-going advocacy efforts for the recognition of social work as a profession, and the introduction of a child benefit as part of a broader social protection advocacy agenda; (ii) **substantial reform of the child adoption system**. The advocacy work that started in 2009 with the external assessment of the child adoption system culminated with the development and passing of a national law on child adoption. The law has substantially reformed the system of inter-country adoption, making it more transparent and in line with the principles of the Hague Convention; (iii) inclusion of a dedicated chapter on **multidimensional child poverty** in the report of the 2008 Viet Nam Household Living Standards Survey, released in 2010. This was the first time that the General Statistics Office published the survey report with data about both the monetary and non-monetary poverty among children.

In a rapidly changing Viet Nam where there is a growing gap between the old and new generations, the Office diversified its advocacy approach by looking at different ways to **reach out to young people, notably through TV**. As a result, it identified a young top model, hugely popular among young people in the country, who was appointed as a Goodwill Ambassador to advocate for societal and cultural changes in critical areas such as sex selection at birth and breastfeeding.

Underpinning the advocacy work of UNICEF was the publication of the national **Situation Analysis of Children in Viet Nam** (the first one in 10 years). The analysis reached a large audience of Government counterparts, civil society organisations, academia, and international organisations. The analysis findings were also used to inform various policy advocacy activities.

The Office provided key strategic information via formal and informal channels to two **UN Independent Experts** (on poverty and on minorities) who visited Viet Nam in 2010, with child rights issues figuring prominently in their respective reports and press releases.

3.1.2.3 Strategic Partnerships:

The Office cultivated and expanded partnerships with several strategic actors this year, including (i) the Communist Party; (ii) the Viet Nam Association for the Protection of Children's Rights (VAPCR); and (iii) the private sector.

This year, **engagement with the Communist Party** revolved around the preparation of the 11th Party Congress scheduled for January 2011, with support provided to the evaluation of two critical Party Directives for children (Directives 54 and 55). The

objective is to advocate for the development of a Resolution of the Polit Bureau on strengthening the role of the Party Committees on children's issues.

UNICEF provided significant support to the VAPCR in 2010, including in the critical area of child rights monitoring and support to the establishment of networks of local NGOs. This support is seen as strategic as it promotes child rights within the very **nascent domestic civil society**.

The Office has formalised a partnership with **Procter and Gamble** focusing on the provision of water and sanitation in schools in disadvantaged areas. It has also started a very promising partnership with a **TV production company** that produces some of the most popular TV shows in Viet Nam, including Viet Nam Next Top Model and DoReMi (children's show).

A mapping of **international and national NGOs** working in the area of child rights was completed to inform the development of the next Country Programme. The Office has also embarked on a stakeholder analysis to review the existing partnerships and identify potential new ones.

As of 2010, UNICEF is **chairing the donor group on social protection**, which will be increasingly important in 2011 with the implementation framework of the national Social Protection Strategy expected to be finalised.

With respect to **emergency coordination**, the Nutrition Cluster coordinated by National Institute for Nutrition and UNICEF jointly undertook rapid assessments in three flood-affected provinces (Ha Tinh, Quang Binh and Nghe An). A MoU was drawn up between UNICEF, Save the Children and the Ministry of Education and Training to strengthen partnership in Education in Emergencies. Partnerships are regularly reviewed as part of mid-year and annual review exercises and a partnership database will be developed.

3.1.2.4 Knowledge Management:

The 2010 Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan included 28 studies, with a total budget representing about 10 per cent of the annual throughput. All of this research was undertaken by local research institutions or individuals, some of it in partnership with international experts. However, there were major shortfalls in the generation and dissemination of quality knowledge, with about 40 per cent of studies planned completed. Out of 28 studies, 13 were specifically **focused on filling knowledge gaps related to the most disadvantaged children**, for example, a survey in Da Nang province on children with disabilities, mother tongue-based bilingual education action research with ethnic minority children, and a study on migrant children in Ho Chi Minh City. Many other studies included specific attention to disadvantaged children, such as provincial Situation Analyses or a national nutrition survey, as part of a broader analysis aimed at identifying disparities and priority issues for children. On the positive side, after three years of intensive work, the key findings of the national Situation Analysis were released.

All staff participated in a mandatory **two-day training on knowledge management (KM)**. A KM strategy was developed to improve the KM function in the Office. The strategy looks at KM from an internal (UNICEF processes and systems) and external perspective (i.e. our KM work with partners), identifies concrete deliverables related to KM, and assigns responsibility for these to different actors within the Office. Internal KM processes such as quality assurance for research TORs, filing of completed studies on

shared office networks, and systematic briefings and orientations to new staff, continued in 2010.

KM capacity building results with partners focused on data collection and data management exercises. The National Nutrition Survey was completed and the final report is pending clearance from the Government before public release. Over 120 surveyors from Provincial Statistics Offices and the General Statistics Office were trained to undertake the MICS4 fieldwork. Further progress was made in the establishment of a child protection monitoring system, with the finalisation of indicators related to children in contact with the law and initial work completed on other child protection indicators with the support of international experts.

3.1.2.5 C4D Communication for Development:

In the area of Behaviour Change Communication (BCC), at the national level, communication campaigns were designed and implemented focusing on **exclusive breastfeeding, good WASH practices, and child drowning prevention**. More than 30 different national and 20 sub-national media have increased awareness of children's issues and how to incorporate them into various media, including TV/radio/ print and electronic newspapers. Partnerships with Government, NGOs, donors and private sector were further developed, including through a `network on creative communication.

Another focus of BCC this year was to **raise demand of the target population for the nationwide supplementary measles immunisation campaign**. A national launch was organized in October, and supported by national TV/Radio spots. IEC materials were produced and disseminated to all 11,000 communes in all 63 provinces. In addition, grassroots health workers in all 63 provinces undertook interpersonal communications around the campaign.

At the sub-national level in four provinces, interpersonal communication campaigns were undertaken, IEC materials developed and disseminated, mass media mobilised, and capacities of local partners improved on children's issues such as health/nutrition, WASH, CIP, education and CP. Through a **school-based approach**, using creative processes with different art forms, students have been empowered to identify problems and solutions within their own context in the six PCFP provinces. A training manual for teachers on creative communication was developed and is being extensively used at the local level.

To generate evidence on what has worked and not worked, the lessons learned from the **Avian Influenza Joint Programme communication** component have been documented to guide and support the Government's future interventions. A National Communication Strategy to promote social inclusion of children with disabilities (CWD) was developed, using evidence generated from KAP studies in three provinces and media analyses. The strategy will be finalised by early 2011.

The Office supported the use of a **participatory approach** to address HIV stigma in the school context, during the launch of a booklet titled "10 Facts about children and HIV/AIDS". A facilitators' guide was also developed to maximise the use of the IEC material in a participatory way.

3.1.3 Normative Principles

3.1.3.1 Human Rights Based Approach (HRBAP) to Cooperation:

The Office integrated HRBAP into the two major programme design processes it was engaged in this year – the **preparation of the One UN Plan 2012-2016** and the development of the **UNICEF CPD 2012-2016**. For the One Plan, the eight UN Programme Coordination Groups (PCGs) undertook comprehensive analyses in their respective sectors, using the HRBAP. The UN also applied the HRBAP to its two major research products this year (Joint Country Analysis and UN Synthesis Report). In discussions on the outcomes of the next One Plan with Government, the UNCT consistently used HRBAP, for example, by emphasising issues of disparity and inequity, highlighting gender inequality in one specific outcome, and advocating to maintain a separate outcome on participation of civil society organisations.

Within UNICEF, the Office produced technical analyses in each MTSP Focus Area, using the HRBAP. The **UNICEF Situation Analysis** released in 2010, explicitly used the HRBAP in its analysis. Efforts were made to strengthen work on children's participation in programming, for example, through the organisation of children's forums at the provincial level and various consultations with children on specific issues (one notable example was a consultation organised for children with and without disabilities around the draft Law on Persons with Disabilities). An **office-wide training on child participation** was organised, at the end of which staff had acquired improved knowledge and skills regarding how to support the participation of children.

In **follow up to Viet Nam's Universal Periodic Review in 2009**, the Government invited two UN Independent Experts (IE) to visit Viet Nam in 2010. UNICEF brought issues of child poverty and ethnic minority poverty to the attention of the UN IE on Extreme Poverty during her visit. The UN IE on Indigenous and Minority Issues was able to travel to Tra Vinh province to meet teachers being trained under the UNICEF-supported Action Research on Mother Tongue Based Bilingual Education (AR-MTBBE). In their draft reports, both IEs included significant mention of children, and the IE on Minority Issues specifically commended the AR-MTBBE and called for the Government to take it to scale.

3.1.3.2 Gender Equality and Mainstreaming:

The Office made moderate progress in promoting gender equality in 2010. The national Situation Analysis released in 2010 paid some attention to examining the situation of girls and boys, as part of the overall HRBAP framework it used. The gender-specific dimensions of certain issues were highlighted in the Analysis, for example, access to basic education and sex ratio at birth. Important studies and surveys initiated in 2010 included attention to sex-disaggregation of data, such as the National Nutrition Survey and the MICS4. The Office consistently advocated for attention to the different situation of girls and boys, for example, in the technical assistance provided to MOLISA for the establishment of a child protection monitoring system.

As part of the quality assurance process of AWP, all 2010 AWP were reviewed with a gender equality lens. As a result, there has been some improvement in gender mainstreaming in the 2010 AWP but there is considerable room for further progress. Despite capacity building efforts on gender equality undertaken in the One UN programming context, there is still limited understanding amongst UNICEF staff on how to mainstream gender equality in programming, limited tracking of gender-related results, and unclear accountabilities in the Office's Gender Focal Point system. As part of the 2011 AMP, the Gender Focal Points system will be reviewed and revised and the other limitations addressed.

UNICEF made contributions to the gender-related work of the UNCT, for example, by providing strategic inputs and advocacy to critical national policy documents including the National Plan of Action on Children, and the National Socio-Economic Development Plan (SEDP) at national and sub-national levels. Through its participation in the Gender-based Violence Sub-group of the UN PCG on Gender, UNICEF provided technical inputs to the first-ever National Survey on Domestic Violence, whose findings were released in late 2010. Under the UN Joint Programme on Gender Equality, UNICEF supported the development of a training manual on promotion of gender equality in child rights implementation for elected officials. The manual was used to raise awareness of elected officials through workshops in HCM City and Hai Phong.

3.1.3.3 Environmental Sustainability:

Title: *Child Survival and Development*

Purpose:

The Child Survival and Development Programme aims to contribute to improved and more equitable child survival and development outcomes, especially in hard to reach areas of the country, through (i) focused and better coordinated programming across health and nutrition, child injury prevention and WASH; (ii) better targeting of interventions; and (iii) use of integrated, cross-sectoral strategies.

The planned results of the programme are: (1) the national policy framework, enforcement and monitoring systems, together with communities, are more able to address disparities in health, nutrition, HIV, sanitation and injury in an integrated manner; (2) the national policy framework, enforcement and monitoring systems, together with communities, are more able to address water supply, hygiene and sanitation disparities in under-served areas; and (3) the national policy framework, enforcement and monitoring systems, together with communities, are more able to prevent injuries among children and young people.

The programme contributes to Outcome 2 of the 2006-2011 One UN Plan, promoting equitable access to quality basic social services including health, nutrition, WASH and protection services. It directly contributes to MDGs 4, 5, 6 and 7 (target 10), and indirectly to MDGs 1, 2, 3, and 8.

The programme has four components: (1) Integrated Health, Sanitation and Injury Prevention Project, implemented by the Ministry of Health; (2) Rural Water Supply and Environment Project implemented mainly by Centre of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (CERWASS) under Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; (3) Childhood Safety Prevention Project, implemented by MOLISA; and (4) the UNICEF part of the Joint UN-Government Programme on Avian and Human Influenza.

Resources Used:

Amounts in USD

Funding source	CPAP	Allotment (a)	Requisitioned Amount (b)	Percent c=b/a
RR	1,139,000	816,000	782,660	96%
OR	4,499,376	4,709,525	4,180,181	89%
TOTAL	5,638,376	5,525,525	4,962,841	90%

OR allocation by donor: (Amounts in USD)

KC/2010/0021-00 UNICEF (FOR GR ALLOCATIONS ONLY) : US \$114,404.00
SC/2006/0713-00 Micronutrient Initiative Formerly IDRC: US \$ 125.00
SC/2006/9902-15 BASIC EDUCATION AND GENDER EQUALITY: US \$78,170.72
SC/2006/9903-00 YOUNG CHILD SURVIVAL & DEVELOPMENT: US \$ 44,623.42
SC/2007/0251-00 HIV-AIDS AND CHILDREN: US \$846,105.15
SC/2007/0321-00 Luxembourg: US \$ 229,141.62
SC/2007/0428-00 SIDA - Sweden: US \$220,463.04
SC/2007/0439-00 German Committee for UNICEF: US \$312,742.84
SC/2007/0631-00 UNDP - USA Administrative Services Section: US \$6,860.38
SC/2007/0818-00 Swedish Committee for UNICEF: US \$522,225.23
SC/2007/0982-00 Atlantic Philanthropies: US \$40,000.00
SC/2007/1012-00 United States Fund for UNICEF: US \$57,525.64
SC/2008/0115-00 Norwegian Committee for UNICEF: US \$39,620.69
SC/2008/0375-00 Consolidated Funds from NatComs: US \$162,000.00
SC/2008/0376-00 United States Fund for UNICEF: US \$50,000.00
SC/2009/0459-00 United States Fund for UNICEF: US \$70,593.91
SC/2009/0948-00 Luxembourg: US \$144,580.14
SC/2009/0981-00 Norwegian Committee for UNICEF: US \$1,457,000.00
SC/2010/0107-00 UNDP - USA Administrative Services Section: US \$313,343.00
Total: US \$4,709,525.00

Result Achieved:

Of 27 planned results in the 2010 AWP, 8 were achieved (30%), 15 partially achieved (56%), and 4 not achieved (15%).

Key results achieved:

(1) **Over 7 million children immunised against measles.** The MOH conducted measles Supplementary Immunisation Activities (SIAs) through a nation-wide campaign that reached over 7 million children from 12 to 59 months of age. UNICEF provided procurement services using One UN funds, as well as technical support in the form of monitoring and oversight, together with WHO. Despite missing some vulnerable children, the campaign accessed many who had not been vaccinated in past.

(2) **GAVI-supported new vaccine DPT-HepB-Hib introduced.** UNICEF procured approximately US\$16 million through supply division and, in collaboration with MOH and WHO actively assisted with proposals, implementation and monitoring. This also included communication materials on accessing the vaccine to increase demand and AEFI.

(3) **Improved policy and legal environment to address inequities in CSD.** 2010 was an intensive planning year for the Government, representing the last year before the new national 5-year plans (2011-2015) and 10-year strategies (2011-2020) become operational. UNICEF supported the development, revision, approval and dissemination of numerous MOH, MARD and MOLISA medium and long-term plans, policies, strategies, and other normative documents. Key among those were: (1) National Nutrition Strategy, with a focus on stunting reduction and early and exclusive breast feeding; (2) Food Safety Law passed by the National Assembly, regulating mandatory food fortification with micronutrients; (3) Rural Water Supply and Sanitation National Target Programme.

(4) **Improved national capacity to address inequities in CSD:** (i) about 70% staff of the DOH, Pediatric and Out-patient Departments of provincial hospitals, national and regional pediatric hospitals were trained to apply revised diarrhea case management protocols. This will increase coverage of children treated with zinc supplementation and low osmolarity ORS; (ii) Monitoring and quality assurance of Iodine deficiency disorders was improved through regional trainings of salt manufacturers, programme managers and technical staff in all provinces; (iii) CIP training programmes have integrated into mass organisations such as Youth Union, Women's Union and Farmers' Union Training Institutes to ensure that CIP issues are included in their capacity building programmes; (iv) A communication strategy for Children with Disabilities (CWD) was developed, using

evidence gathered from a KAP study in 3 provinces and media analyses conducted this year.

Critical factors or constraints affecting performance:

(1) Lack of human resource within Ministries and the re-structuring of MARD and MOH counterparts led to delays in implementing AWP activities.

(2) High expectation of planned results while counterparts did not have sufficient capacity to carry out complex upstream activities. This delayed the start up of activities, and led to significant number of "partially achieved" results of the AWPs.

(3) Many communication plans have not been designed properly based on evidence and actual needs of the community. The monitoring system for behavioural changes is poor, leading to difficulties in measuring the changes and effectiveness of the IEC/BCC interventions in the programme.

Monitoring, study and evaluation:

The following key studies were completed and disseminated:

(1) Household surveys on Maternal-Newborn-Child Health and Nutrition (MNCHN) were conducted in 4 provinces. Data were used for improving MNCHN services at local levels.

(2) WASH and Child Nutrition Correlation Study. Conclusions and recommendations have been used to advocate for further investment in water and sanitation in areas with high rates of underweight and stunting.

(3) KAP study on CWD in Dong Nai and An Giang provinces, laying the foundation for developing the upcoming communication strategy for social inclusion of CWD at central and local levels.

Key partnerships and interagency collaboration:

(1) Initiation of a 3-year joint UN programme with WHO and FAO on integrated nutrition and food security strategies for children and vulnerable groups supported by MDG-F.

(2) UNICEF, WHO and Alive & Thrive developed and supported implementation of a Nutrition communication plan with special focus on promotion of exclusive breastfeeding and optimal complementary feeding practices.

(3) UNICEF and WHO jointly support advocacy and communication through mass media on child helmet wearing. As a result, the Law on helmet wearing has been enforced in a number of provinces, although a lot still remains to be done.

Future Workplan:

As 2011 is the last year of the current CP 2006-2011, UNICEF will focus on ensuring planned results for the CP are achieved, as well as easing the transition to the strategic direction of the new CP 2012-2016. The 2011 programme will therefore continue to support achievement of national goals of reduction of child mortality, morbidity and malnutrition by strengthening relevant laws, policies, programmes and their implementation based on evidence, through system strengthening and capacity development of duty bearers to fulfill respective child rights. This will be carried out in close collaboration with respective UN agencies working in the child survival sector, namely WHO, UNFPA, and FAO, within the framework of Programme Coordination Group for Health and Reproductive Rights.

Inequity will be addressed by support to the enforcement and monitoring of implementation of National Policy on Health insurance, particularly free health care for

children under the age of 6 years and also by increased access and utilisation of child survival interventions for children and mothers in hard-to-reach and disadvantaged areas. This will be ensured through the Reach Every Commune/ District approach, policy advocacy and technical support/monitoring of CLTS and WSP roll out, policy advocacy and technical support for scaling up sustainable of PMTCT services including in hard to reach areas, and evidence-based advocacy and planning CIP interventions.-

Title: Education

Purpose:

The Education Programme aims to contribute to the following three main results within the United Nations Viet Nam’s One Plan, by the end of 2011: (i) children up to 6 years of age are physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially ready to enter primary schools with special focus to disadvantaged and vulnerable young children and their families (poorest, ethnic minority, girls, children with disabilities); (ii) primary school age children, particularly disadvantaged and vulnerable children (including ethnic minority children), will learn and complete primary education in equitable, quality and efficient child friendly schools; and, (iii) young people will realise their full potential and rights through access to quality education including life skills education in school and the community.

The programme contributes to the Government’s Socio Economic Development Plan 2005-2010, particularly to ensure progress in the social sectors (i) to improve the material and spiritual lives of the people, through the improvement of preschool, primary and secondary education, and (ii) for improving the quality of human resources in order to meet the needs of industrialisation and modernisation. The programme also contributes to the Millennium Development Goals relating to education, gender equality and HIV/AIDS. In addition, it relates to UNDAF outcome 2 on quality of delivery and equity in access to social and protection services, and supports the country’s efforts to achieve Education for All as well as to realise its commitment to World Fit for Children.

The programme has three components: (1) Early Childhood Development (ECD) Project; (2) Child Friendly Primary Education (CFPE) Project; and (3) Adolescent Development and Participation (ADaP) project. Key implementing partner is the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET).

Resources Used:

Amounts in USD

Funding source	CPAP	Allotment (a)	Requisitioned Amount (b)	Percent c=b/a
RR	448,000	420,000	419,972	100%
OR	1,600,000	2,768,995	2,622,513	95%
TOTAL	2,048,000	3,188,995	3,042,485	95%

OR allocation by donor: (Amounts in USD)

- SC/2003/9901-55 Global - Girls Education (Thematic): US \$1,088.72
- SC/2003/9905-25 Global - Int. Early Childhood Devel THEMATIC FUND: US \$47,806.21
- SC/2006/0511-01 Norway: US \$268,960.82
- SC/2006/9901-51 BASIC EDUCATION AND GENDER EQUALITY: US \$117,860.83
- SC/2008/0115-00 UNDP - USA Administrative Services Section: US \$4,691.09
- SC/2008/0143-00 Consolidated Funds from NatComs: US \$191,855.52
- SC/2008/0144-00 Consolidated Funds from NatComs: US \$130.98
- SC/2008/0375-00 United States Fund for UNICEF: US \$100,471.41
- SC/2009/0233-00 Consolidated Funds from NatComs: US \$ 92,282.28

SC/2009/0234-00 Consolidated Funds from NatComs: US \$ 59,470.96
SC/2009/0937-00 Luxembourg: US \$20,000.00
SC/2009/0981-00 UNDP - USA Administrative Services Section: US \$1,864,376.36
Total US \$ 2,768,995.18

Result Achieved:

Of the 10 planned results in the 2010 AWP, 7 were assessed as achieved (70 per cent), 1 as partially achieved (10 per cent), and 2 as not achieved (20 per cent).

Key results achieved:

(1) **Learning outcomes of ethnic minority (EM) children increased.** With the second year implementation of the Action Research (AR) on Mother Tongue-based Bilingual Education (MTBBE), the programme has generated, documented and disseminated evidence demonstrating that MTBBE approach works to improve EM children's learning. The second cohort of 260 five year old children (123 girls) completed the preschool component in 13 pilot classes in 7 pre-schools in Lao Cai, Gia Lai and Tra Vinh provinces. Assessment results showed that MTBBE students performed better in language competency both in Mother Tongues and Vietnamese, compared to non-MTBBE students. For instance, MTBBE students scored 17 out of 20 in Vietnamese language listening comprehension, as compared to non-MTBBE students' score of 12. Similarly, the first cohort of 255 primary students (138 girls) completed the 1st Grade of primary education. The assessment results showed that MTBBE students outperformed non-MTBBE students in Mathematics. Based on the positive results of MTBBE, the Lao Cai Provincial Department of Education and Training has expanded the approach from the previous 5 classes in 3 districts to 12 classes in 4 districts from the 2010-2011 school year, using the Department's own resources and plans to implement MTBBE until 2016 involving approximately 1,300 students.

(2) **Improved standards for early childhood education.** Early Learning and Development Standards (ELDS) were endorsed by the MOET. The education system at the national, provincial and school levels has been strengthened to operationalise the ELDS, through the release of a circular on the use of ELDS to all the 63 provinces, and raising awareness of 165 provincial and district education managers and preschool teachers in 15 provinces through dissemination workshops.

(3) **Improved legal framework for children living with disabilities, in the education system.** The education components of the Decree to operationalise the Law on Persons with Disabilities (passed in 2010) were drafted through an inclusive and consultative process, engaging communities, caregivers, and education managers at the national and sub-national levels.

(4) **Children and adolescents more knowledgeable about HIV prevention.** A booklet "Facts on Children and HIV and AIDS" was developed by MOET and UNICEF, with participation of stakeholders including children and women affected by HIV, in partnership with MOLISA, MOH, people living with HIV and the UN. The Facts booklet along with an accompanying Facilitators Guide were distributed to 3,000 schools in 63 provinces, and networks of people living with HIV, to support parental and community education for stigma reduction.

(5) **Dynamic and child friendly learning environment established** in 50 lower secondary schools in 13 districts in 8 provinces, benefiting 70,000 children aged 11-14 years, through operationalising the Adolescent Friendly School framework. Students have become more active in learning and school activities, and communities and local authorities have become more committed to supporting schools. This has been achieved

through capacity building and training of 180 education managers at provincial and district levels and teachers from 50 schools on how to implement School Improvement Plans and teaching life skills education, as well as training for 1,800 teachers on child centred, and active learning and teaching techniques.

Critical factors or constraints affecting performance:

(1) The high turnover and replacement of personnel within the MOET has created challenges in effective and timely implementation of activities, especially related to HIV/AIDS.

(2) Lack of clarification on MOET's role in coordination has created challenges in emergency preparedness and response in the sector.

Monitoring, study and evaluation:

Within the AR-MTBBE, two assessments of student performance were completed. Both assessment results show that MTBBE students outperform their non-MTBBE peers.

Key partnerships and interagency collaboration:

(1) Active participation in the Education Sector Group to assist the MOET to update the Education for All Action Plan 2003-2015, which is part of the process for Viet Nam to submit a proposal for the Fast Track Initiative's Catalytic Funds. The latest updated EFA Plan recognises bilingual education initiatives in the country and suggests a wider application of the MTBBE approach.

(2) Partnership was strengthened with Save the Children in the field of Education in Emergencies.

Future Workplan:

The programme will continue to assist the MOET to strengthen its institutional capacity to provide better support for early childhood development, particularly focusing on the Early Learning and Development Standards. Support will be provided to the continuous implementation of Action Research on Mother Tongue Based Bilingual Education with a refined design in three provinces and evidence will be used to further advocate for policy development on bilingual education. Support will be provided on the Decree to operationalise the Law on Persons with Disabilities. Through partnership with UNESCO under the One UN framework, UNICEF will support education data and promotion of gender equality in education. Efforts to address HIV related stigma and discrimination will be accelerated, using the booklet on Facts about Children and HIV/AIDS and strengthening the MOET's inter-departmental coordination committee. The Adolescent Friendly School initiative experience will be consolidated and disseminated widely. UNICEF will continue support to strengthen the education system for emergencies, in collaboration with Save the Children and Education in Emergency group.

Title:

Child protection

Purpose:

At the national level, the Child Protection programme aims to develop the national legal frameworks, strengthen welfare and justice systems, and improve government capacity on child protection, including monitoring and oversight. Key expected results at national level are: (a) the development of a comprehensive legal framework for children and adolescents in need of special protection (CNSP) and other vulnerable children and

adolescents, including those from ethnic minority groups; (b) strengthened government capacity in monitoring and analysing the situation of CNSP; (c) improved awareness, behaviours and participation among the general public, civil society and children regarding child protection; (d) improved justice for children; and (e) programmes and budgets in place and implemented to reduce the vulnerability of children and to protect them from abuse, violence and exploitation, including sexual exploitation, trafficking, and child labour, HIV/AIDS and deprivation of liberty.

At the sub-national level, the programme aims to support the implementation of laws, policies and programmes for the establishment of comprehensive child protection structures and service systems. Key expected results at the sub-national level are: (a) the piloting of policies and guidelines for the establishment of protective environments for children, including multi-sectoral community-based child protection services and networks for CNSP, local ombuds-systems for children and adolescents, and alternative care for CNSP; and (b) the increased capacity of partners, through the training of social workers, counsellors, and law enforcers, to provide support services for children and families in selected project areas.

The programme contributes to Outcome 2 (social services) of the 2006-2011 One Plan, as well as Outcome 4 (governance). The programme has three components: (1) Child Protection System Project; (2) Justice System for Children and Adolescents Project; and (3) Protection and Care for Children and Adolescents in Need of Special Protection Project. The programme's main partners are: the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA), the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), and the Ministry of Public Security (MPS).

Resources Used:

Amounts in USD

Funding source	CPAP	Allotment (a)	Requisitioned Amount (b)	Percent c=b/a
RR	392,000	437,400	436,458	100%
OR	1,500,000	2,657,177	2,565,190	97%
TOTAL	1,892,000	3,094,577	3,001,649	97%

OR allocation by donor: (Amounts in USD)

SC/2006/9903-00 HIV-AIDS AND CHILDREN: 80,242.84
 SC/2006/9904-00 CHILD PROTECTION: PREVENTING/ R: 110,119.17
 SC/2007/0304-00 Finnish Committee for UNICEF: 220,053.99
 SC/2007/0945-00 United States Fund for UNICEF: 25,000.00
 SC/2007/0982-00 United States Fund for UNICEF: 100,956.59
 SC/2007/1012-00 Norwegian Committee for UNICEF: 45,422.02
 SC/2008/0115-00 UNDP - USA Administrative Services Section: 2,270.73
 SC/2008/0375-00 United States Fund for UNICEF: 382,364.59
 SC/2008/0376-00 United States Fund for UNICEF: 142,705.63
 SC/2009/0525-00 United States Fund for UNICEF: 227,833.53
 SC/2009/0937-00 Luxembourg: 31,160.76
 SC/2009/0948-00 Norwegian Committee for UNICEF: 78,693.00
 SC/2009/0981-00 UNDP - USA Administrative Services Section: 1,193,700.00
 SC/2010/9904-00 Global - Child Protection THEMATIC FUND: 25,454.35
 Total: 2,665,977.20

Result Achieved:

Of the 21 planned results in the 2010 AWP, 14 were assessed as achieved (67 per cent), 5 partially achieved (24 per cent), and 2 as not achieved (10 per cent).

Key results achieved

(1) **Landmark National Programme on the Development of Social Work as a Profession approved** with Government commitment to mobilise US\$120 million for its implementation. The programme includes (i) the development of a legal framework, (ii) social work education and training (including establishment of 65,000 social workers as part of the civil service), (iii) development of social work services, and (iv) improving public awareness on social work role. Social worker job codes have been approved, and curricula and training programmes are being improved and developed at Bachelor's and vocational level respectively for social work education. These improvements in social work will ultimately result in a higher quality of social work-related services, contributing to a continuum of care for children.

(2) **Improved legal and policy environment for child protection.** A key success this year was the passing of the Child Adoption Law by the National Assembly and the subsequent development of an adoption decree that substantially reform the system of inter-country adoption, making it more transparent and in line with the principles of the Hague Convention. Another important result achieved with UNICEF support was the passing of the Law on People with Disabilities. The enforcement of the Law on Child Protection, Care and Education was improved through the revision of the decree to guide the implementation of this law and the development of a Circular on child protection interventions in case of abuse. The programme also provided technical support to the development of the National Programme of Action against Human Trafficking 2011-2015, as well as the draft Law on Human Trafficking. UNICEF advocacy around shifting from an issue-based approach to a systems approach to child protection have led to this shift being reflected in the development of the National Programme on Child Protection and the inclusion of child welfare issues in the National Social Protection Strategy 2011-2020.

(3) **Strong political and institutional commitment for children with disabilities** achieved with development and implementation of Provincial Plans of Action on disability in three project sites.

(4) **Knowledge and skills for over 200 Government staff improved on juvenile justice and child friendly procedures** for children in contact with the law. A new child friendly interview room was established in An Giang, making a total of six child friendly interview rooms nation-wide.

(5) **Increased services for women and children victims of trafficking, sexual abuse and domestic violence** ensured, with support provided to over 300 victims who benefited from safe reception and reintegration into their communities.

Critical factors or constraints affecting performance

(1) Insufficient national expertise on child protection and social work development.

(2) Vertical government programmes on specific categories of children hampers the development of a comprehensive child protection system to protect all children from neglect, abuse and exploitation.

(3) Lack of adequate data on child protection issues.

Monitoring, study and evaluation

(1) Assessment of the current child welfare and protection system completed. Results were used to inform the National Programme on Child Protection and the development of the child protection indicators.

(2) Juvenile Delinquent Prevention Report finalised with clear recommendations put forward to the Government to strengthen prevention of youth delinquency.

(3) Feasibility Study on Establishment of Juvenile Court in Viet Nam completed. Report used to inform efforts to establish a juvenile court in Viet Nam.

Key partnerships and interagency collaboration

(1) Increasing numbers of development partners are supporting the development of social work in Viet Nam, including Atlantic Philanthropies Foundation, Irish AID and Save Children.

(2) UNICEF has taken a leading and convening role with international organisations and bilateral actors in reforming the child adoption system.

(3) Within the framework of the One UN, there was greater collaboration through the PCG in the areas of domestic violence, trafficking, HIV and AIDS and the Bill on Handling of Administrative Violations.

(4) UNICEF strengthened its partnership with local NGOs, notably through raising the skills of staff of the Viet Nam Association for the Protection of Children's Rights, and supporting them to establish a network of child rights NGOs nationally.

Future Workplan:

The year 2011 will be a transitional year during which UNICEF will phase out of projects that have reached a sufficient amount of maturity and carry out some new activities to prepare for its next country programme. The programme will continue its focus on systems building approach. UNICEF will support a review of the 2004 Law on Child Protection, Care and Education, the finalisation of the Bill on Handling of Administrative Violations, development of inter-agency circular on data collection related to juvenile justice, improving capacity of welfare and justice staff, expanding the sub-national child protection systems, and data generation around child sexual exploitation and violence against children.

Title: Provincial child-friendly programme

Purpose:

The overall purpose of the programme is to strengthen decentralised planning for children within the context of the local Socio-economic Development Plan (SEDP). In doing so, the programme supports integrated projects to demonstrate the value of coordinated, multi-sectoral investments for children. The key programme results are: a) strengthened sub-national capacity for realising the rights of children and women in selected provinces; b) improvement in the realisation of the rights of children and women in selected provinces as demonstrated by improved data from social indicators and other forms of evaluation; c) development of replicable models of integrated programming for children which are properly assessed and evaluated, with lessons learned being taken to scale and replicated in other provinces; and d) testing of national policies and standards, and support for development of provincial regulations and standards as necessary, based on local/provincial characteristics and situations. The programme contributes to Outcomes 2 (social services) and 4 (governance) of the 2006-2011 One Plan.

The programme has six components: one project at national level (Capacity Building and M&E) and six projects at provincial level (Dong Thap, Ninh Thuan, Dien Bien, An Giang,

Kon Tum, and Ho Chi Minh City). The latter is co-managed by Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) and Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA), whereas the Provincial projects are managed directly by the Provincial Peoples' Committees and coordinated by the Department of Planning & Investment (DPI), except for HCMC where the Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs coordinates the project.

Resources Used:

Amounts in USD

Funding source	CPAP	Allotment (a)	Requisitioned Amount (b)	Percent c=b/a
RR	901,000	665,000	594,294	89%
OR	6,000,000	4,056,106	4,004,709	99%
TOTAL	6,901,000	4,721,106	4,599,002	97%

OR allocation by donor: (Amounts in USD)

SC/2006/9901-51 BASIC EDUCATION AND GENDER EQUALITY: 34,000.00

SC/2007/0251-00 Luxembourg: 78,000.00

SC/2007/0321-00 Netherlands Committee for UNICEF: 20,204.01

SC/2007/0982-00 United States Fund for UNICEF: 100,000.00

SC/2008/0115-00 UNDP - USA Administrative Services Section: 15,117.51

SC/2008/0143-00 Consolidated Funds from NatComs: 36,000.00

SC/2009/0525-00 United States Fund for UNICEF: 12,118.00

SC/2009/0981-00 UNDP - USA Administrative Services Section: 3,654,000.00

SC/2010/0107-00 UNDP - USA Administrative Services Section: 106,666.24

Total: 4,056,105.76

Result Achieved:

Of the 65 outputs in the 2010 AWP, 41 were assessed as being achieved (63 per cent), 13 as partially achieved (22 per cent), and 11 as not achieved (15 per cent).

Key results achieved

(1) Planning reform initiated in favour of children at national and sub-national levels.

In 2010, UNICEF advocacy led to the issuance of guidelines by MPI encouraging the PCFP provinces to replicate the reform initiatives. Various capacity building interventions with local Government officials on the identification and integration of children's issues into sub-national planning resulted in the five-year SEDPs and selected sector plans of four provinces being more responsive to children's issues. For example, dengue fever was included in the health sector plan of Dong Thap province. In Ninh Thuan province's 2010 SEDP, a separate section on children is included, which highlights children's issues such as malnutrition, school dropout, and children working at an early age to support their family.

(2) Increased access to quality services for disadvantaged children in 5 provinces. (i) 90,000 school children (48 per cent girls and 30 per cent ethnic minority children) benefited from child-friendly and child safe schools; (ii) 19,000 people (40 per cent ethnic minority) benefited from safe water and hand washing messages; (iii) 2,716 households (90 per cent ethnic minorities) reached with sanitary latrines resulting in 40 villages declared "open-defecation-free"; (iii) 27,000 pregnant women including 7,000 ethnic minority women benefited from improved antenatal care including iron supplementation, HIV screening and information and education on PMTCT and breastfeeding; and (iv) 2,000 children in need of special protection (CNSP) reached with a community-based protection system.

(3) Government resources leveraged for the most vulnerable children.

Leveraging government resources for infrastructure work in project districts and

communes continues to yield positive results. In Dien Bien, an amount of USD\$ 2.5 million was leveraged through national targeted programme and other local government sources to build basic infrastructure (schools, health centres, semi-boarding facilities and WES) in project communes covered by the programme.

(4) **Government disaster preparedness improved in 5 provinces.** UNICEF helped improve the flood and storm control plan of one flood-prone province (An Giang). The focus was to make the provincial plan more evidence-based and ensure that children's issues were adequately addressed in line with the Core Commitments for Children. UNICEF supported stock piling of essential supplies in five provinces. The supplies in Ninh Thuan province helped local authorities to respond quickly and effectively during the flood in early November.

Critical factors or constraints affecting performance

(1) Although the programme has forged strong partnerships with MPI and DPI, it has found it difficult to fully engage line departments in the provinces in the planning reform process in the absence of a formal working relationship with line Ministries;

(2) Technical support from sectoral programmes in the Office to engage in sector related work at the sub-national level was limited.

Monitoring, study and evaluation:

(1) A Situation Analysis of children in Dien Bien province was completed. The report will be disseminated in 2011 and support UNICEF's evidence-based advocacy effort for reducing prevailing disparities in the country. Two other provincial situation analyses were also initiated.

(2) The Mid-term Evaluation of the Kon Tum Joint Programme with UNDP and UNFPA was conducted. It concluded that while the project and its components are relevant in terms of alignment with government policies and reform agendas, the overall capacity development efforts made under the project had limited sustainability. Hence, the project needs to focus more on organisational level issues to enhance sustainability.

(3) A baseline survey to collect data on children with disability was undertaken in An Giang province, which shows that about 2.2 per cent of children under the age of 16 years have some form of disability.

Key partnerships and interagency collaboration:

(1) Partnership with the UN agencies was fostered under the Programme Coordination group on Governance.

(2) An agreement with Proctor and Gamble (P&G) was reached whereby P&G provided US\$250,000 to UNICEF for the improvement of water and sanitation facilities and to promote better hygiene in remote schools in four PCFP provinces.

(3) New partnership was established with the Harvard Kennedy School to conduct a study on migration in HCMC.

Future Workplan:

In 2011, the programme will consolidate the work thus far, and phase out its integrated service delivery component from provinces like An Giang and Dong Thap where the situation of children is comparatively better than poor provinces like Dien Bien and Kon

Tum. Given the modest progress the programme made to carry out the planned IMEP activities in 2010, major efforts will be made in 2011 to complete various studies and research carried over from 2010, including completing two provincial situation analyses, the Harvard study on migrant children and the evaluation of the programme, as well as the dissemination of the findings of these studies at different levels.

In all sector related work under the provincial projects, attention will be given to support implementation and monitoring of various sector policies and standards in education, health and nutrition, water and sanitation and protection. While doing so, linkages and coherence with sector related work at the national level will be a priority. Engagement in provincial SEDP related work will establish stronger linkages with the social audit work of the Planning and Social Policy programme in order to explore the opportunity to apply social audit tools and approaches in the M&E framework of provincial SEDPs. In 2011, the programme will also strengthen partnership with the Communist Party officials at the national and sub-national level to secure greater support to influence local SEDP from children's perspective.

Title: *Planning and social policy*

Purpose:

The key expected results of the Planning and Social Policy (PSP) programme are: i) increased knowledge of policy makers and the public on new areas of social policy and their impact on children, with special focus on policy and planning on the Vietnamese family; ii) strengthened policies on ethnic minorities, particularly for ethnic minority children; iii) strengthened capacity at the national level for participatory formulation, implementation and monitoring of socio-economic development plans, with special focus on child poverty; iv) improved capacity for elected officials to address issues relating to the rights of children and women; and v) improved monitoring and evaluation of the situation of children and women and the impact of programmes aimed at realising their rights, including implementation of DevInfo and stronger knowledge management. The PSP programme contributes most significantly to Outcomes 1 (policy) and 4 (governance) of the One Plan, and all MDGs and VDGs. It is also closely linked to national poverty reduction programmes and the Socio-Economic Development Plan.

The programme has five components: (1) Social policy project; (2) Capacity building for legal and elected officials project; (3) Planning, monitoring and evaluation project; (4) Country programme management project; and (5) Capacity building for social audit project. Implementing partners include the Committee for Ethnic Minorities, the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs, the Family Department in the Ministry of Culture, Sport and Tourism, the Office of the National Assembly, the Ministry of Planning and Investment, and the General Statistics Office. The programme also has a link to the Communist Party through rights promotion work with the Ho Chi Minh Political-Administrative Academy.

Resources Used:

(Amounts in USD)

Funding source	CPAP	Allotment (a)	Requisitioned Amount (b)	Percent c=b/a
RR	460,000	526,000	458,846	87%
OR	430,000	1,688,904	1,623,328	96%
TOTAL	890,000	2,214,904	2,082,173	94%

OR allocation by donor: (Amounts in USD)
GS/2010/0028-00 UNICEF (FOR GR ALLOCATIONS ONLY): 350,000.00
SC/2006/9901-51 BASIC EDUCATION AND GENDER EQUALITY: 50,000.00
SC/2006/9905-00 POLICY ADVOCACY AND PARTNERSHIP: 148,278.03
SC/2008/0115-00 UNDP - USA Administrative Services Section: 5,826.69
SC/2009/0290-00 UNDP - USA Administrative Services Section: 2,799.13
SC/2009/0525-00 United States Fund for UNICEF: 40,000.00
SC/2009/0981-00 UNDP - USA Administrative Services Section: 1,092,000.00
Total: 1,688,903.85

Result Achieved:

Of the 24 outputs in the 2010 AWP, 15 were assessed as being achieved (63 per cent), 5 as partially achieved (21 per cent), and 4 as not achieved (17 per cent).

Key results achieved

(1) **The importance of addressing child poverty is evident in the policy discourse and actions of the Government.** In the process of the development of the operational framework of the National Social Protection strategy that was finalised this year, UNICEF mobilised MOLISA and other Ministry leaders around child poverty through the completion of the first phase of a study exploring options for the introduction of a child benefit as part of social protection in Viet Nam. A dedicated chapter on multidimensional child poverty was included in the report of the 2008 Viet Nam Household Living Standards Survey, released in 2010. This was the first time that the General Statistics Office published the survey report with data about both the monetary and non-monetary poverty among children.

(2) **Social audit pilots carried out and documented in 4 provinces,** demonstrating relevance of the key tools in the Viet Nam context. The social audit included the development/adaptation and use of tools such as Gender Audit, Citizen's Report Cards, Community Score Cards and Public Expenditure Tracking Surveys. A capacity building plan for MPI on social audit methodologies suitable for Viet Nam was drafted. The plan will be finalised in 2011 and used to guide future capacity building for MPI to institutionalise this new approach.

(3) **The oversight function of the National Assembly was reinforced in favour of children's rights,** through support to fact-finding trips of Parliamentarians on key children's rights issues, including trafficking. These trips enabled the NA members to acquire first-hand information on the situation of trafficked children at the local level, and also to advocate directly with local officials about the legal and policy provisions related to protection of children and women from trafficking.

(4) **Field work for the fourth Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) started.** All preparations for MICS4 were completed, including training of 123 fieldworkers from North and South, revision/finalisation of questionnaires in both languages, and training of GSO staff on data entry and processing via a regional UNICEF workshop. MICS 4 field work began in November and will continue until January 2011.

Critical factors or constraints affecting performance:

(1) Changes/shortages in staffing in key line ministry partners as well as within the programme in UNICEF;

(2) Competing priorities within Government partners resulting in insufficient priority for some UNICEF-supported activities.

Monitoring, study and evaluation:

(1) The first phase of the study on child benefit costing/modelling was completed. The second phase will be conducted in 2011. Results will be used to inform policy makers on the child benefit's feasibility for Viet Nam.

(2) The second round of Rapid Impact Monitoring (RIM) on the effects of the economic crisis on children and families was conducted and findings shared with policy-makers in Government and in the National Assembly.

(3) The National Situation Analysis of Children was finalised. Key results of the analysis reached a large audience of Government counterparts, civil society organisations, academia, and international organisations.

(4) Many useful analyses were produced this year by other partners to inform SEDP and SEDS development, on topics such as poverty, social protection, and ethnic minorities. The Joint Country Analysis and the UN Synthesis Report were notable contributions which shed light on the urgency for Viet Nam to change its development trajectory to make it more inclusive, sustainable and of higher quality.

Key partnerships and interagency collaboration:

(1) UN PCG on Social and Economic Policy, co-convened by UNICEF and the MPI. The PCG was used as the vehicle for sharing the findings of many of the studies mentioned above, as well as to facilitate policy dialogue around poverty reduction with development partners.

(2) Through the P135-II donor group on ethnic minorities, UNICEF was able to draw attention to specific issues relevant to ethnic minority children (for example, nutrition and education) in policy development discussions looking at the next phase of this initiative.

(3) Closer and constructive partnership with the World Bank was achieved in the area of child-sensitive social protection policies and programmes.

Future Workplan:

In 2011, the priorities will be completing current efforts in all areas, and advocating more systematically for inclusion of key initiatives into Government processes, systems and approaches. One of the most important activities will be the completion of all phases of the child benefit study, and the further mobilisation of MOLISA and line ministry partners around the introduction of the benefit likely as a pilot in the first stage. Finalisation of the social audit reports and implementation of the institutional capacity building plan with MPI on social audit will be important to ensure sustainability and internalisation of this new approach. The MICS4 is expected to be completed by quarter 3, and innovative ways to disseminate the MICS results will be explored. Advocacy around child poverty in the SEDP/S will be undertaken in the lead up to the Party Congress in 2011, and concerted efforts will be made to build new partnerships with the new National Assembly deputies following the elections planned for mid-2011.

Title: *Cross-sectoral costs***Purpose:**

This programme consists of 3 components: (1) Ha Noi Costs Project; (2) HCMC Costs Project; and (3) Communications Project. The Ha Noi and HCMC Costs cover all the

operational costs of the 2 Offices of UNICEF in Viet Nam (Ha Noi and HCMC), including renting of premises as well as expertise in the areas of Operations, Finance, Human Resource, Information Technology, Administration and Supply. The Communications Project covers all the external communication activities of UNICEF in Viet Nam.

The expected results for these three projects are: (1) The Ha Noi Office is able to deliver programme results for the most disadvantaged children in a manner which manages risks and seizes opportunities effectively; (2) The HCMC Office is able to deliver programme results for the most disadvantaged children in a manner which manages risks and seizes opportunities effectively; and (3) The Country Office effectively communicates about the rights of children in Viet Nam, and the achievement of programme results for the most disadvantaged children.

Within the framework of the One UN initiative, UNICEF Communications section has been integrated into the One UN Communications Team: a 'pilot-within-a-pilot'. This reform initiative brings together a team of communications specialists from UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNAIDS and UNV, working together under a single manager. The team follows a common work plan and sits together in the same office to support the UN-wide advocacy and communication agenda, the internal and external communication needs of the One UN Initiative in Viet Nam, and the agency-specific communication needs of the five participating organizations.

Resources Used:

Amounts in USD)	Funding source	CPAP	Allotment (a)	Requisitioned Amount (b)	Percent c=b/a
RR		660,000	1,015,379	826,449	81%
OR		0	395,038	276,873	70%
TOTAL		660,000	1,410,417	1,103,322	78%

OR allocation by donor: (Amounts in USD)

SC/2006/9902-15 YOUNG CHILD SURVIVAL & DEVELOPMENT: 157,214.34

SC/2006/9903-00 HIV-AIDS AND CHILDREN: 45,000.00

SC/2007/0251-00 Luxembourg: 940.00

SC/2007/1012-00 Norwegian Committee for UNICEF: 67,655.51

SC/2009/0981-00 UNDP - USA Administrative Services Section: 124,228.58

Total: 395,038.43

Result Achieved:

Office managed effectively to deliver programme for children. In 2010, the Office was found by internal audit to manage risks satisfactorily in all three dimensions reviewed (Governance, Programme Management, Operations Support).

Better awareness and knowledge among the general public about the situation of children. *The Analysis of the situation of Children in Viet Nam 2010*, was launched in Ha Noi in August. Over 150 participants from the Government, Donors and Embassies, UN Agencies, International NGOs, Civil society, Research institutes and the Media joined the event. Vietnamese adolescents and children's voices were also presented with nearly 300 message cards exhibited in the conference hall. Written by Vietnamese children, the messages conveyed their dreams and suggestions, on issues ranging from education and the environment to health and the family, for an ideal future. The event provided a unique opportunity to strengthen UNICEF's standing as a leading international organisation for children in Viet Nam.

In 2010, the Government and UNICEF jointly celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by hosting a National Conference which brought

together high ranking officials from the Government, UNICEF, international and national NGOs, civil society and the media.

UNICEF continued to support print, radio and television journalists to write and produce numerous articles and programmes ensuring enhanced media coverage of children's issues. Topics included: child rights and the CRC; child protection; childhood injury prevention; early childhood development; HIV/AIDS and child poverty issues.

Internationally renowned model Vu Nguyen Ha Anh appointed as UNICEF Viet Nam's Goodwill ambassador. Ms. Vu Nguyen Ha Anh will focus her public engagement and support to UNICEF on various issues, including: combating stigma and discrimination towards children affected by HIV/AIDS; raising awareness among young people about HIV and AIDS prevention; advocating for road safety and the importance of helmet wearing by children; encouraging social and cultural change in relation to breastfeeding and sex selection at birth; and combating violence against children and women. The duration of Ms. Vu Nguyen Ha Anh's appointment as UNICEF Viet Nam Goodwill Ambassador is for two years, from August 2010 to July 2012.

UN communicated with one voice on socio economic development issues:

UNICEF was instrumental in supporting the functioning of One UN Communication team, both in terms of financial and technical support.

Future Workplan:

The One UN Communications Team in Viet Nam is currently building a Case that aims to inform the planning and decision making processes that will define the future set-up of the team in the context of the next One Plan cycle (2012-2016). The Case will assess the current effectiveness and efficiency of the team, both in terms of structure as well as content, and will look into issues of sustainability in the context of the Next One Plan cycle. The findings and recommendations will provide key inputs into the ongoing preparation process for the One Plan Management Plan for the new programme cycle, as well as considerations regarding the establishment of other joint structures. UNICEF will continue to play a lead role in supporting the communication activities of the One UN Communication team.

4. OPERATIONS & MANAGEMENT

4.1 Governance & Systems

4.1.1 Governance Structure:

The 2010 internal audit of the Country Office provided a "**satisfactory**" rating in the **area of Governance**. The Office governance structure is outlined in the Annual Management Plan (AMP), which is developed in participatory manner whereby all staff have an opportunity to contribute to its development. The process starts in December and culminates in January/February with the Annual Management Retreat, when the draft AMP is reviewed before finalisation. The AMP outlined: (1) the key results that the Office plans to achieve in the area of Management, Operations and Programme (extracted from the AWP). All results are associated with the responsible section/staff member for office-wide monitoring, reporting and accountability; and (2) the membership and the Terms of Reference of various governance bodies in the Office (statutory committees, non statutory committees, Working Groups and Task Forces). The 2010 internal audit observed that the Office Governance structure was too heavy, with too many Working Groups and Task Forces. The 2010 end-year review was an opportunity to conduct a comprehensive review of the Office Governance structure and rationalize it. The AMP also outlines the mechanisms and responsibilities for emergency preparedness and response.

The Office follows strict results-based-management practices. All results in the AMP and the AWP have corresponding performance indicators. AMP and AWP results are monitored twice a year (mid-year and end-year reviews) through a review of their corresponding performance indicators. The review of these indicators allows the Office to assess achievement through a "traffic light" system. In 2010, 70% of the AMP results and 58% of the AWP results were assessed as achieved (green); 17% of AMP results and 27% of AWP results were assessed as partially achieved (yellow); and 13% of AMP results and 15% of AWP results were assessed as not achieved (red).

The AMP also includes a list of 22 key Management Performance Indicators to measure performance in the areas of (i) resource mobilisation, contribution management and financial management; (ii) programme management; (iii) supply management; and (iv) HR management. The CMT reviews indicators on a quarterly basis and the PCM on a monthly basis.

4.1.2 Strategic Risk Management:

In 2010, the Office was found by internal audit to manage risks satisfactorily in all three dimensions reviewed (Governance, Programme Management, Operations Support). The Office has intensively assessed risks and internal weaknesses through a programme management self-assessment in 2007, external audit the same year, office self-assessment and review of key work processes in 2009, internal audit in early 2010, and a Risk Control Self-Assessment (RCSA) thereafter. In addition, the Office follows strict results-based-management practices that allow a constant management of risks.

The RCSA determined four high risks (aid environment, UN reform, predictability of funding and talent management), two medium-to-high, thirteen medium-to-low, and seven low risks. Mitigating actions for the first two categories were identified and will be implemented in 2011. The 2010 Annual Management Review (AMR) established links of the risks with the organisational functions and the management objectives, as a way to ensure that actions and planned results are risk informed and prioritised accordingly in 2011.

The AMP contains management priorities and key programme results as well as the main governance and coordination mechanisms for the year. This document is informed by the AMR, in which risks and constraints are analysed in a participatory fashion.

The EPRP was updated as part of the 2010 AMP. Progress on preparedness activities, including pre-positioning of supplies, was reviewed regularly by the Emergency Management Team in order to ensure operationalisation of the EPR. As an active member of the UN Programme Coordination Group (PCG) on Natural Disasters and Emergencies, UNICEF also contributed to inter-cluster coordination and updating the UN Disaster and Pandemic Response Plan. Guided by the Core Commitments for Children in humanitarian action, UNICEF co-led with Government the WASH and Nutrition clusters and the Education in Emergencies Group in partnership with Save the Children.

The BCP was updated as part of the 2010 AMP. Staff have been oriented on the document and its components, and a drill was carried out assuming inability of staff to get to the office. Work from home arrangements and remote access were tested and lessons learnt are being incorporated to the 2011 updated BCP.

4.1.3 Evaluation:

The Office has an IMEP, which is updated quarterly and whose status is reviewed by the PCM and CMT regularly. Four evaluations were included in the 2010 IMEP, of which three were completed. The quality of the evaluations completed this year is however not optimal. Capacity for evaluation is highly limited in Viet Nam, and the Office has had several experiences of poor-quality evaluations or incomplete evaluations due to poor

capacity of the evaluators. Often, international evaluators are needed, which can be significantly more costly. In addition, the internal capacity and appetite for evaluation remains limited. Management responses are not made systematically to all evaluations. The Office is addressing these constraints.

The basis for evaluations is clearly established. Evaluations are undertaken where the intervention is significant enough and has been implemented long enough to merit an evaluation (e.g. Child-friendly education project evaluation completed in 2010), where there is a pilot/model being demonstrated in order to be taken to scale (e.g. evaluation on model on juveniles in conflict with the law in Hai Phong carried out in 2009), or where there is a need for a more strategic review of the work in a particular area (e.g. evaluation on UNICEF's work on Ethnic Minorities conducted in 2009). The 2009 evaluation of UNICEF's work on Ethnic Minorities was conducted by an independent consultant. In light of the importance of its findings to strengthen the equity focus of the Country Programme, efforts were made in 2010 to systematically follow-up on the evaluation's recommendations as part of the AWP mid-year and end-year reviews. The Office also used the findings of the high quality evaluations conducted as part of the MTR in 2008/2009 for the development of analytical papers for the CPD process, as well as for the development of 2011 AWPs.

4.1.4 Information Technology and Communication:

The Office initiated exploring possibilities for ICT as a component of the programme. This has been done by identifying lessons learned and studying experiences in other countries, e.g., on the use of SMS for rapid communications in remote areas. A partnership with a mobile service provider is being explored.

As Chair of the local ICT Workgroup and in the context of the One UN initiative, the ICT Specialist led the collaboration of UN ICT staff for the development of a Concept Note "ICT as a Subscription Common Service," an enabling element of harmonisation and collaboration in the upcoming Green One UN House. UNICEF has also been active in providing technical input and support on ICT to the Design Team of the Green One UN House.

As preparatory measures to corporate initiatives, a second connectivity line was integrated into the office infrastructure, ensuring redundant bandwidth; staff was oriented on the new systems and remote access; and 65 per cent of staff equipment is already compliant with the UN House policy of converting desktops to energy efficient Laptop-on-Docking configuration.

The BCP was updated for 2010, and was tested in a "work from home" scenario; findings and lesson learnt are being incorporated into the 2011 BCP.

The ICT Specialist actively participated in the Global Team on the development of the next version of UNICEF Servers image, as well as testing of the Windows 7 image, and facilitated several trainings on the subject within EAPRO and ROSA countries. This participation is part of continued productive and helpful dialogue between some NYHQ ITSSD units and FOs' ICT staff.

Delays on the implementation for the new initiatives, unplanned roll-outs (ProMS 9.1 and SAP-HR&Payroll) and delay of the Windows 7 migration, have been challenging. Some actions have converged at the end of the year and have caused difficulties in having a manageable workload of ICT staff, and stressed normal office operations. However, all necessary actions have been successfully taken and positively assimilated by staff, and all regular systems and infrastructure have been functioning satisfactorily throughout the year.

4.2 Fin Res & Stewardship

4.2.1 Fund-raising & Donor Relations:

As at December 2010, the Office has received USD 62.5 million of OR for the CP. This corresponds to about 80 percent of the approved OR ceiling of USD 79.8 million for the 2006-2011 CP.

The Office updates on an annual basis its Resource Mobilisation and Contribution Management Strategy as part of the AMP. The source of OR funding has gradually changed over the course of the CP, with an increasing amount of funds being mobilised through the One Plan Fund (OPF) and a corresponding decreasing amount of funds being mobilised from individual Governments. In 2010, over 50% of the OR available for implementation of the 2010 AWP originated from the OPF.

For the first time since 2008, the OPF is not fully funded to meet the funding needs of all agencies in 2011. In light of the difficult funding situation of the OPF, which can be attributed to (i) attrition of ODA for Viet Nam and (ii) donor fatigue with the UN reform process, the Office has redoubled its resource mobilisation efforts outside the OPF. It is therefore actively pursuing alternative resource mobilisation opportunities, targeting in particular National Committees, UNICEF global/regional thematic funds, as well as the private sector in Viet Nam.

The Office places major emphasis on timely and quality reporting to donors and quality management of PBA, with related performance indicators included in the AMP and closely monitored by the PCM and the CMT (e.g. 100% of donor reports submitted on time and 100% utilisation of expiring PBA). These targets are reflected in Section Chiefs PER. In 2010, all donor reports were submitted on time, following a thorough internal quality assurance process. All PBAs expiring in 2010 were fully utilised (100 per cent). Extensions were requested minimally, with four requests submitted and approved by donors.

The Office is actively participating in four Joint Programmes (AI, Kon Tum, Gender and Nutrition), two of which are funded by MDG-F. South-South cooperation was fostered, through mutual learning in the area of child protection systems (Russia), trafficking (China, Cambodia), and research on child benefits (South Africa).

4.2.2 Management of Financial and Other Assets:

The 2010 internal audit of the Country Office provided a **"satisfactory" rating in the area of Operations**. The four medium risk observations identified in the area of operations have already been closed.

The Office updates on an annual basis a Resource Mobilisation and Contribution Management Strategy for securing resources for all planned results. In 2010, the AWPs were fully funded. They were all signed by mid-February, with clear links of results, activities and resources required. Contributions management, cash assistance and budget control was monitored on a monthly basis through the Programme Coordination Meeting (PCM), and quarterly by the CMT using a set of standard indicators included in the AMP.

As at 20 December, expenditure levels of OR and RR were 85% and 81% respectively. Outstanding DCT between 6 and 9 months were consistently kept at or below 5%, while no amount outstanding for over 9 months occurred; 25% of PBAs (4 out of 16 expiring PBAs in 2010) were extended due to the need to manage other donor contributions and delays in implementation with partners.

Cash balances have consistently been lower than two weeks of operations and at the same time funds have been released as required. Bank reconciliations have been completed within 15 days of month end with reconciling items cleared within 1 month.

DCT has been closely monitored by the programmes and by finance staff. A monitoring system was established for the implementation of the Office Assurance Plan, reaching completion of 100 per cent of planned activities, as well as a mechanism for following up on recommendations derived from assurance activities to implementing partners. This has been effective in ensuring proper use of funds transferred to counterparts, as well as to support implementing partners in capacity building of their financial management systems, in concordance with the HACT framework.

4.2.3 Supply:

The supply component functioned satisfactorily in 2010 reaching US\$ 0.9 million of regular programme supply expenditure; 29% of this amount was off-shore procurement and 71% local procurement. The main item categories procured in monetary terms were printing (25%), IT & Office supplies (19%), water and sanitation supplies (17%), and education supplies (14%). Emergency-related pre-positioning for WES, Health, Nutrition and Education amounted to USD 0.3 million. These supplies were delivered to and managed by the implementing partners since UNICEF does not keep inventory in the country. Procurement Services soared from US\$ 1.6 million in 2009 to US\$ 21.3 million in 2010, and consisted of vaccines (96 per cent), ARVs (3 per cent) and micronutrients (1 per cent).

UNICEF continued leading the UN procurement working group in identifying possibilities for UN joint procurement, including the development of a Concept Note for an Integrated Procurement approach in line with the Guidelines for Harmonized UN Procurement, and in preparation for the One Green UN House. The group was active in maintaining and setting up LTAs for regularly procured items such as stationery, IT equipment, printing, and graphic design services. The Office used LTAs for 43 per cent of locally procured supplies resulting in considerable efficiencies in terms of time per transaction and cost derived from bulk negotiations.

In the spirit of increasing the use of national systems and specializing UNICEF resources in handling essential supplies, procurement through DCT resulted in over US\$ 1.4 million procured under this modality. These items included mainly small upgradation work, design and printing services, and IT/office equipment. An assessment of the effectiveness of this modality is being conducted, and the outcome will be used to improve the modality in 2011 and to influence the implementation of HPPMG.

Supplies are monitored on a monthly basis through a number of indicators; these include requisition and expenditure level, Goods Receipts, and delivery by Implementing Partners to end users. The supply component was assessed in the March 2010 internal audit as being "...adequately planned; selection of qualified suppliers followed procedures for competitive bidding and supplies were delivered to the partners in a timely manner."

4.3 Human Resource Capacity:

The shifting focus of the Office on knowledge generation, advocacy, partnerships for children, and technical assistance for policy development requires further retooling of staff. In order to address this challenge, the Office is engaged in a change management process, which will culminate in 2011 with the development of a new CP and the recruitment of staff to achieve the right skills mix.

In preparation for the upcoming change, a key focus has been to develop and implement learning plans especially aimed at strengthening staff skills in areas that have been identified as critical in the next CP (e.g. knowledge management). An important element of the learning plan has been the introduction of learning days, which staff were encouraged to use. The global funds allocated to the Office for learning were fully utilised.

Another key focus in preparation for the upcoming change was the implementation of an office skills profile and gap analysis, which was conducted by an external and highly qualified human resources consultant.

Within the framework of the One UN, three joint UN training sessions on HACT, Gender, and UN Cares were organised with participation of UNICEF. The UN Cares continued to function throughout the year. Training sessions on HIV/AIDS were held for all UN staff (97% of UNICEF staff attended). The Office has implemented the 10 minimum standards on HIV in workplace.

In 2010, the Office handled recruitment of four international positions and ten national positions. Recruitment remains a lengthy process. On average, recruitment recommendation actions (i.e. recommendations sent to HQ) were completed within 78 days of receipt of short list for IP posts and within 90 days for local posts. Status of recruitment actions is monitored on a monthly basis through the PCM and quarterly basis through the CMT.

The 2009 PER and 2010 Key Assignments were completed by February, and mid-year reviews by July. Key Assignments are clearly linked to AMP and AWP results to ensure accountability of all team members. Learning needs are extracted and monitored by the HR Unit and the HRDT to ensure further consistency and actual implementation.

4.4 Other Issues

4.4.1 Management Areas Requiring Improvement:

Programme expenditure increased by about 6% in comparison to 2009. Implementation through DCT accounted for 67% of expenditures, with a reduction of transactions by 16% (DCT CRQs) and an increase in the average amount per transaction of 35%. It is however difficult to clearly link reduced transaction costs with efficiency gains in programme operations. In addition, there are still issues related to duplicative or heavy external processes in the One UN initiative that are affecting Office efficiency (e.g. double reporting). Within the One UN, marginal savings were associated with reduction of transaction costs and bulk negotiations through LTAs.

4.4.2 Changes in AMP:

A new CPMP will be developed in 2011. In the context of the One UN initiative, this will consider the right mix of staff skills and interagency arrangements (Green One UN House, Integrated Support Teams, capacity in the UN, and joint funding scenarios). It is envisaged that common functions may have common structures, which will require them to coordinate and devise mechanisms for inter-agency accountability and authority.

The 2011 AMP will be structured around the core organisational functions, and the risk control library developed under the ERM policy. The RCSA will allow risk-informed and consistent prioritisation of priorities and results.

5. STUDIES, SURVEYS, EVALUATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

5.1 List of Studies, Surveys & Evaluations:

1. *Feasibility study on the establishment of juvenile and family court in Viet Nam*
2. *Assessment report on juvenile crime prevention programmes in Viet Nam*
3. *Review of Child Injury Prevention in Viet Nam*
4. *Evaluation of National Strategy on HIV/AIDS prevention and control (2001 - 2010) and national PMTCT programme of action (2006-2010)*
5. *Study on procedure of State budget allocation for children in education sector at national level and in a PCFP province*
6. *Situation Analysis of Children in Dien Bien province*
7. *Assessment of the current child welfare and child protection services system and procedures*
8. *Qualitative KAP Study on Social Inclusion for CWD in Dong Nai and An Giang provinces*
9. *Study on Child Rights Monitoring in Viet Nam*
10. *Review of International Experience on Child Participation*
11. *Analysis of the Situation of Children in Viet Nam*

5.2 List of Other Publications

1. *Booklets on child injury prevention for H'Mong people*
2. *Training manual and CD ROM on development and implementation of Water Safety Plan*
3. *Programme Brief on Mother Tongue-Based Bilingual Education*
4. *Three IEC leaflets for promotion of male involvement in HIV/AIDS, PMTCT and MCH*
5. *Integrated IEC materials on key issues of health and nutrition, CIP, WASH, CP and Education in An Giang and Ninh Thuan provinces*
6. *Analysis of the Situation of Children in Viet Nam*

6. INNOVATION & LESSONS LEARNED:

Rethinking UNICEF's knowledge leader and advocacy roles in 'sensitive' contexts – lessons learned from the Situation Analysis process in Viet Nam

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Abstract:

UNICEF Viet Nam undertook a Situation Analysis (SitAn) of Children in Viet Nam in 2008, using the HRBAP as the overall framework. Despite three years of intensive work with consultants and Government staff, several consultations, and at least seven draft versions of the 300 page+ report, the final printing and launch were jeopardised by some concerns and reservations expressed by government counterparts over some of the content such as references to duty-bearers, the legal and political framework in the country, and child protection practices. Accordingly, certain changes were made ensuring the public release of the full document at the end of December 2010. The experience sheds light on the specific challenges that may arise in certain contexts when UNICEF attempts to adhere to its core role of advocate and knowledge 'leader' on children

Innovation or Lessons Learned:

(1) Undertaking a SitAn is at the core of UNICEF's work. The SitAn preparation process in Viet Nam started in 2008 and took nearly three years to complete. The process required respecting internal sensitivity in government to certain aspects of the contents.

Lesson: Balancing objectivity with sensitivity is complex, and objectivity is not always assured.

(2) Compromises need to be made (e.g. following official request, the SitAn relied primarily on officially published and recognised GoVN data/information sources).

Lessons: Objectivity is relative and not always achieved without compromise. Consensus on what constitutes quality, objective and analytical research needs to be built and maintained throughout the process.

(3) Despite lengthy dialogue, the purpose of SitAn initially was not sufficiently clear to all stakeholders. Hence, the importance to stress that the objective of SitAn is not simply to applaud the efforts being made to improve the situation of children, but also to show the areas of shortfall, where additional efforts are needed, and by which duty-bearers. The HRBAP approach required greater effort initially for recognition of its value to, and its acceptance as the analytical framework for, the study. However, partners were keen to adopt this new and more meaningful approach to the analysis. In hindsight, the difficulty later came from previously not ensuring sufficient appreciation of the implications of applying HRBAP and the likely findings (positive and negative) it would yield.

Lessons: It is important to be clear on the methodology and types of critical objective analyses that a good SitAn should include. It is especially vital to prepare partners for whatever results that could emanate from an analysis that uses international human rights standards as its reference point.

(4) Considerable time was invested by UNICEF and Government technical staff in the process of developing the SitAn, including through several workshops (co-chaired by Government), and in-person dialogues. Even so, the report's approval for public release was temporarily jeopardized from insufficient consensus on some of its contents, and some amendments had to be made for its acceptance.

Lesson: A solid technical/substantive preparatory process is useful and essential, but final endorsement and ownership of an end product that throws unfavourable light on some aspects of a country, society or community can be put at risk if it lacks government's understanding and support. In this context, it is also important to make wise starting choices on the Departments in government who are identified as partners, and the potential they have to mobilize support from others for the study's widest acceptance and for following up on its recommendations.

Potential Application:

UNICEF globally will – and should – always support strong, robust, objective, rights-based analyses of the situation of children. These are at the core of our global role as an advocate for children's rights; the Sitan is the basis for our advocacy. Hence, the lessons above apply to all countries but especially to those where UNICEF role is changing, from service provider (and relatively uncontroversial partner) to advocate in policy dialogue, (on what include sensitive issues with potential for controversy).

Issue/Background:

The last SitAn to be completed and published was in 2000. As part of the MTR in 2008, the Country Office and Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) decided to undertake a comprehensive, rights-based SitAn. Just days before the official launch, the MPI requested UNICEF not to release the document due to 'factual errors and inconsistencies.' UNICEF felt compelled to agree to this request, and did not release the full document on the day of the launch (August 31 2010). Instead, only the Executive Summary and a presentation of key findings were released at the launch. The report was

issued later at the end of December 2010 after the required changes had been made. The process took over three years and the SitAn report was released at the end of December 2010.

Strategy and Implementation:

Following steps were followed:

- Agreed on TOR/scope/objectives of the SitAn, as part of 2008 MTR.
- Hired 1 international and 2 national consultants following a competitive process.
- MPI established, via official letter, an inter-ministerial task force to support the SitAn process, consisting of key line ministries.
- HRBAP-based analysis/structure agreed with key stakeholders.
- Drafts prepared by the consultant team and shared via three workshops with key stakeholders in 2008.
- Final draft shared with MPI in 2008; UNICEF requested to solicit more comments from line ministries.
- UNICEF staff worked with line ministry partners on each chapter in detail throughout 2009-10, producing two subsequent drafts.
- Final draft shared with MPI in mid-2010. MPI reverted back to UNICEF mid-August 2010, requesting a delay in the launch, scheduled for August 31. UNICEF agreed to release only the Summary, and make further revisions to the full document.
- Following more comments from line ministries (very few of which were on the technical substance of the document), final text was revised for reprinting at the end of December 2010.

Progress and Results:

Progress was slow, and involved several careful steps. Substance underwent several revisions to accommodate changing data and perceptions about the study, and to take into account the views and comments of line ministries and MPI.

Constraints have been largely around the sensitive nature of some of the issues addressed in the SitAn, including the identification and description of duty-bearers for children's rights, use of international sources for data that were sometimes perceived as inaccurate or biased, and the adoption of a critical analysis approach, which featured some conclusions that were considered to be judgmental or inaccurate.

In terms of results, the SitAn key findings were disseminated in August 2010 to about 200 stakeholders, and the launch event received major media coverage. A painting exhibition by the famous Vietnamese painter Pham Luc and a display of children's messages for the future were also part of the launch event. The full document will be disseminated, together with a 2011 calendar as a dissemination tool, in early January 2011 to over 500 stakeholders at national and sub-national levels.

Next Steps:

The SitAn will be disseminated to all stakeholders in early 2011. It will be used as a reference document for policy processes during 2011, including those related to the UNICEF CPD, One UN Plan, and Government planning processes.

7. SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION:

Technical and financial support was provided to MOLISA in its Chairing of the ASEAN Social-Cultural Community (ASCC) in 2010. All current ASEAN legal documents and work plans on Social Welfare and Development for women and children were reviewed, providing solid background for the development of a new, more comprehensive Declaration. UNICEF worked directly with the national drafting team to produce the

outlines and zero draft ASEAN Declaration, which was developed and discussed in the UNICEF-supported national consultation workshop.

The Office also supported MOLISA to hold a two-day regional consultation workshop with all ASEAN member states on the *Enhancement of Social welfare and development of ASEAN women and children* to discuss the draft ASEAN Declaration as well as the draft ASEAN Strategic Framework for Social Welfare and Development for 2011-2015. The Declaration was adopted on 28 October 2010 during the ASEAN Summit in Ha Noi and is called the "Ha Noi Declaration on the Enhancement of Welfare and Development of ASEAN Women and Children".

The Office initiated a study with the Economic Policy Research Institute (EPRI) in South Africa as part of the implementation of the multi-dimensional child poverty approach in Viet Nam. In 2010, EPRI completed phase 1 of the study, together with the Institute of Labour Science and Social Affairs (ILSSA), which examined the various child-related social protection cash transfers in Viet Nam. Based on this analysis, EPRI and ILSSA will develop options for the introduction of a child benefit in Viet Nam, and cost and model these options. An important feature of this process is to ensure that EPRI works very closely with ILSSA throughout the study period to help them to improve their skills around social protection modelling and costing exercises in a way which can inform future policy development.