In August 2017, Angola elected a new President and Government amid ongoing economic and financial crisis caused by sharp and prolonged decline in oil prices since mid-2014. With oil representing about one third of Angola’s gross domestic product and more than 95 per cent of its exports, reduction of revenue and growing inflation impacted negatively on Angola’s economy, affecting budget allocations for the social sector, in particular on services for children and the most vulnerable. Several emergencies occurred during the year, namely cholera outbreaks, floods and a refugee influx from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, while the country was still responding to the El Niño-induced droughts and the 2016 yellow fever outbreak.

UNICEF Angola used 2015–2016 Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) data and other evidence to achieve better results for Angolan children, through a combination of advocacy, capacity building and strategic partnerships, working in close collaboration with the Government of Angola, civil society organizations (CSOs) and other United Nations agencies, at national and subnational levels. Social mobilization, community engagement and programme integration were also adopted in the delivery of both development and emergency programming.

UNICEF Angola provided technical support for cold chain maintenance and leveraged US$22 million for procurement of traditional vaccines. Some 3.4 million doses of yellow fever vaccine supplied by UNICEF in 2017 allowed the country to reach 22.8 million people vaccinated against the disease since 2016. To promote child registration immediately after birth, 55 birth registration posts out of a target of 60 were established in maternities and health facilities with UNICEF support. During 2017, more than 116,300 children accessed new safe water points and the community-led total sanitation reached 243,392 people since its start in 2015, with 116 villages declared open defecation free.

To promote equitable access to education, support of UNICEF Angola to the Ministry of Education resulted in the adoption and implementation of the National Policy for Inclusive Education, expected to benefit more than 23,000 children with disabilities. A pilot learning assessment in the Portuguese language was conducted in 10 provinces to generate evidence to improve quality of education. In support of the municipalization of social welfare services for children, UNICEF trained officials and activists, provided equipment, engaged civil society partners and funded the installation of integrated social action centres in six municipalities of three provinces, and completed the design of a model for a pilot cash transfer programme. UNICEF also worked with the Ministry of Justice and the National Institute for Children to engage and train relevant arms of the police, judicial authorities, health, social welfare, education and civil society organizations to strengthen justice for children and the child protection system against violence, exploitation and abuse.

During the year, UNICEF Angola responded promptly to cholera outbreaks in Cabinda, Luanda and Soyo provinces, floods in Cunene, droughts in southern provinces and a humanitarian crisis
resulting from an influx of more than 34,000 refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo in Lunda Norte Province.

In all emergency-affected areas, UNICEF provided critical life-saving support and access to water, hygiene and sanitation, child protection, health, nutrition, education and communication for development (C4D), and linked these efforts to regular programme through capacity strengthening of provincial authorities and local CSOs for prevention, delivery of routine service and promotion of community engagement. Shortfalls in programme implementation due to several factors affected HIV and AIDS programming, maternal and neonatal care, adoption of the National Early Childhood Development policy and the start of a pilot cash transfers programme.

While delivering in programmes, in 2017 UNICEF Angola also worked to implement key management priorities. A major undertaking was the relocation of the UNICEF Country Office to new premises, thus resolving longstanding staff safety and security risks. Following an audit conducted by the Office of Internal Audit and Investigation, the Country Office developed a plan and started implementation to close audit recommendations. As part of the extended review of the Country Programme, the office updated the situation analysis and conducted a formative evaluation of the Country Programme, a Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA), an affordability analysis, and in-depth annual reviews with partners. Results and findings of these initiatives were used to sharpen programme focus, promote programmatic integration and convergence, streamline efficiency and effectiveness, and review the priorities for the next two years. It also presented a valuable opportunity to align the Country Programme with the new Strategic Plan 2018–2021 and new Regional Priorities 2018–2021, both within the framework of the Rolling Workplans for the remainder of the Country Programme (2018–2019).

**Humanitarian assistance**

During 2017, Angola continued to be affected by natural and human-made disasters including floods, droughts, disease outbreaks and migration of refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In April 2017, Lunda Norte Province received an influx of refugees fleeing political unrest in the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. By December, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) had registered 34,886 refugees, more than half of whom are children, and out of which 26,163 are currently receiving support. The Government of Angola has a National Contingency, Response and Recovery Plan for 2015–2017 for emergency situations, and provincial contingency plans in some emergency prone provinces. However, no plan was in place for the Lunda Norte refugee crisis. Nonetheless, under the leadership of the Government of Angola, and in close coordination with local authorities, UNICEF responded with critical multi-sector assistance in reception centres in the provincial capital and resettlement villages in Lovua.

From April until December 2017, 190,000 litres of treated water were provided daily to reach 9,421 refugees (24 litres/person/day) in the Cacanda Reception Centre and Lovua Refugee Settlement. Some 210 sanitary blocks (latrines and showers) in Cacanda and 4r water points and 20 sanitary blocks at Lovua Reception Centre were built and maintained. Additionally, communal sanitary blocks and water points in 11 villages of the Lovua settlement were installed, reaching 3,960 people. Prefabricated emergency latrine slabs were donated to all humanitarian actors and partners to reach a target of 35,000 refugees.
In addition, 60 refugees and volunteers from the Angola Red Cross were trained in social mobilization and healthy practices, who reached 17,514 people in Cacanda and Lovua with key messages on sanitation, health and child protection. The social mobilizers promoted messages through family-to-family communication and theatre activities, reaching an average of 3,000 refugees per day. Two community radios were established to broadcast messages in five languages. Monitoring activities confirmed high retention of key messages.

Some 2,892 refugee children accessed child-friendly spaces, 95 out of 128 unaccompanied and separated children were reunified with their families, 108 child victims of violence accessed protection services, and 18,293 people were reached with key protection messages.

Six tents and early childhood development kits were provided for an informal education programme, reaching 2,505 refugee children in three locations.

Essential medicines, health-care supplies, anthropometric equipment, nutrition therapeutic products and vaccines were provided to health authorities to enable immediate care for refugees. In 2017, 4,132 children were vaccinated against measles, 535 received the yellow fever vaccination and 528 children received the pentavalent combination vaccine (DTP/HepB/Hib). More than 600 women were vaccinated against tetanus. In addition, 18,423 refugee children were screened, identifying 598 cases of moderate malnutrition and 130 cases of severe malnutrition that were subsequently admitted for treatment. Also, 5,000 mothers and caregivers were counselled on good feeding practices for infants and young children.

In response to cholera outbreaks in Cabinda, Luanda and Zaire provinces in early 2017, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health to step up surveillance, health promotion and prevention activities, and appropriate case management within a National Cholera Response Plan. A total of 620 mobilizers were trained jointly with the Angola Red Cross and reached 73,925 families with prevention messages in three municipalities. An estimated 650,252 people were reached with complementary messages through radio and community theatre and dialogue. Some 95,600 children and their families in Soyo and Cabinda municipalities were provided with temporary access to safe water. In addition, 537 education personnel were trained to integrate water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) within school plans for prevention of endemic diseases and reduction of risks associated with disease outbreaks. This initiative currently reaches 75,000 children in five provinces.

Droughts related to the El Niño phenomenon left 756,000 people in need of food assistance. In 2017, UNICEF Angola supported the Ministry of Health in training health-care providers and community health agents to conduct nutritional screening and malnutrition case management, provided supplies and equipped 310 nutrition treatment centres. Some 170,882 children were screened for malnutrition and 24,195 children under five were admitted for therapeutic feeding. Additionally, 284,184 people gained access to safe water through the rehabilitation of boreholes. UNICEF provided water treatment supplies, kits for treatment of water-borne diseases and materials to improve basic sanitation facilities in regions of Cunene Province, where an estimated 70,000 people were affected by periodic flash floods.

Since 2016, UNICEF Angola has supported the Ministry of Health to conduct nationwide yellow fever vaccination campaigns, and in 2017, provided 3.4 million doses of the vaccine, injection supplies, and technical and financial support for social mobilization and supervision. In total, 5,037,779 people (97 per cent of the target) were vaccinated during the year.

In December, UNICEF Angola initiated emergency response preparedness planning for 2018.
Equity in practice

During 2017, UNICEF Angola focused on equity in the delivery of programme support and promoted the inclusion of persons with disabilities through evidence collection, legislative support, and participation in a global initiative to design sanitation facilities that meet the needs of users with disabilities in emergency response.

In line with UNICEF’s equity agenda and following an in-depth analysis of the performance of Angola’s immunization programme, the child survival and development programme focused action in the 24 lowest-performing municipalities with multiple vulnerabilities including difficult geographical access. UNICEF Angola ensured these municipalities were prioritized for the distribution and installation of cold-chain equipment and provided support for routine local planning (microplanning) for the expanded programme on immunization and staff training on basic immunization practice. It is expected that preparatory work and implementation of the microplans will significantly improve access to and use of immunization services by the most vulnerable populations.

UNICEF Angola participated in global efforts to improve access to sanitation facilities in emergencies for children and adults with disabilities by supporting the field testing of new designs within its WASH response to the refugee crisis in Lunda Norte. During 2017, the innovation unit within the UNICEF Global Supply Division collaborated with the disability unit at the UNICEF New York Headquarters to issue a request for proposals for designs of universal sanitation facilities that accommodate more users from an equity perspective and people with disabilities in particular.

Two proposals were selected to undergo a field trial phase and UNICEF Angola’s refugee response in Lunda Norte offered an ideal opportunity to field test shortlisted proposals. UNICEF Angola is facilitating the trial of adapted sanitary facilities for refugees with disabilities within the large-scale WASH response in Lunda Norte, using a participatory approach and collecting feedback from beneficiaries in real-life conditions that will contribute to improving a product for all other UNICEF offices. This initiative is currently ongoing and will be concluded in early 2018.

During 2017, UNICEF Angola and the former Ministry of Assistance and Social Reinsertion (MINARS) initiated a study of institutional responses to people with disabilities to assess current models of support offered by the Government of Angola. The study identified weaknesses and challenges in the existing system and provides recommendations to strengthen inter-sectoral support for people with disabilities in Angola. Data collection took place in Bie, Luanda and Moxico and the estimated date of completion of the study is March 2018.

Challenges remain to improve access to quality education for children with disabilities. UNICEF Angola promoted equitable access to education by assisting the Ministry of Education (the MOE) to strengthen the legal framework governing special and inclusive education, facilitating the drafting, approval, and implementation of a National Policy for Inclusive Education for pre-primary and primary education. The policy recognizes and emphasizes the rights of children with disabilities to equal access to quality education and equips the Ministry of Education with guidance to meet the special needs of learners with disabilities. Implementation of the policy is underway and improved understanding of entry points to the education system and teacher training should help increase participation of children with disabilities in regular classes.

Emerging areas of importance
During 2017, UNICEF Angola incorporated climate change and children, refugee and migrant children, urbanization and children and early childhood development within the Country Programme. Results achieved in these emerging areas included a combination of upstream policy development support and downstream capacity development and support, both in emergency and non-emergency related contexts. In the approach to emergency-related interventions, UNICEF consistently sought to implement responses by building a development element from the outset. This was achieved by linking responses to national policies, strategies and plans, developing local capacity for prevention and sustained responses, and by engaging local civil society organizations.

**Refugee and migrant children.** UNICEF Angola played a critical role with UNHCR in the advocacy for the overall protection of refugees in Angola and the access of refugee and migrant children born in Angola to birth registration. In response to the Democratic Republic of the Congo refugee crisis (April–December 2017), UNICEF implemented life-saving interventions in health and nutrition, water and sanitation, child protection and communication for development. To facilitate a smooth and efficient transition from the critical onset emergency response to longer-term development programming, the refugee emergency response was conducted through strong engagement, training and capacity building of local government and CSO partners. A provincial plan for development capacity strengthening was signed between UNICEF and the provincial government to support the most vulnerable populations in the province, beyond the refugees, to ensure sustainability of the response.

**Climate change and children.** UNICEF Angola incorporated in its country programme the response to the perennial emergency caused by El Niño’s droughts in several provinces of the South, and the recurring floods in Cunene Province, which affected more than 1.13 million people combined, including 605,982 children in 2017. Considering the protracted nature of the droughts, while providing emergency WASH and nutrition support, UNICEF partnered with the provincial government, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and CSOs to support resilience building among the most affected and simultaneously most vulnerable populations, using the National and Provincial Contingency, Response and Recovery Plans.

A joint pilot programme was established with the provincial government of Huila, United Nations agencies and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to strengthen the resilience of drought-affected communities, with a focus on minority ethnic groups, including nomadic Khoisan populations, in three municipalities. The pilot promotes integrated access to basic public services including health, education, WASH, civil registration and agriculture through a multi-sector approach to service provision with a strong community engagement component. In collaboration with FAO, the field farmers schools methodology is being used to promote key behaviours in nutrition, hygiene and other life skills.

**Early childhood development (ECD).** In 2017, UNICEF Angola assisted MINARS to train 120 early childhood educators in four provinces to improve their practice to benefit children in early childhood education centres. Support to the Ministry of Education and MINARS continued to finalize the National Early Childhood Development Policy.

**Urbanization and children.** In collaboration with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the State Water and Sanitation Utility of Brasilia, UNICEF Angola initiated an innovative pilot on ‘Fostering of Urban Resilience in Slum Areas of Luanda through Condominium Sanitation Approaches and Integrated Solid Waste Management with Local Entrepreneurship’. The pilot will adapt a technological and social approach that has been widely
used in Brazil to reduce morbidity and mortality among children under the age of 5, to build evidence and a model that can be scaled up in informal urban settlements of Angola. During 2017, project design was undertaken with support from national authorities and resource mobilization will continue in 2018.

**Strategic Plan 2018–2021**

The timing of the new Strategic Plan 2018–2021 is particularly valuable for the Country Office, as it aligns with an extensive review of the 2015–2019 Country Programme within the framework of an enhanced annual review and the availability of new and updated national data on the situation of Angolan children. These review processes were conducted with partners and the in-depth assessment of progress towards results defined in the 2015–2019 Country Programme has allowed UNICEF Angola to adjust and sharpen the focus of the Country Programme to accelerate results for children and inform the planning of the next programme cycle. The Country Office has a valuable opportunity to align the Country Programme with the new Strategic Plan 2018–2021, not only within the framework of the Rolling Workplans for the remainder of the Country Programme (2018–2019), but also in the development of the new Country Programme Document 2020–2024.

Further, reflection on priorities for the coming two years and the possible structure of the next Country Programme will benefit from newly available evidence and national data from the Census 2014 and DHS 2015–2016 that has allowed UNICEF Angola to generate new information and update the Situation Analysis of Children in Angola. During 2017, UNICEF Angola carried out a preliminary MODA analysis and an affordability analysis, while a gender programmatic review is planned for early 2018. The Regional Priorities for 2018–2021 provide additional guidance in the definition of priorities for UNICEF Angola, as they define five programmatic priorities to focus cross-country action and learning, and reinforce joint accountability. In addition, the newly elected Government of Angola is preparing its National Development Plan 2018–2021, which represents an important opportunity for UNICEF to mainstream national priorities for children in the new Plan.

Within the context of the country programme review, a formative evaluation was conducted in the last quarter of 2017, which generated the following recommendations to better align the remainder of the country programme with the Strategic Plan 2018–2021:

a) Improve coherence between humanitarian and development programming: UNICEF Angola can combine upstream actions focused on policy development, capacity development and legislation with downstream actions (more focused on project implementation, humanitarian response and the collaboration with civil society, social organizations and local authorities);

b) Strengthen gender equality mainstreaming in programming by developing and implementing a clear gender agenda for UNICEF Angola;

c) Strengthen the role of existing and potential strategic partners, including churches and universities and promote South-South cooperation in programme design;

d) Develop clear guidance to enhance the use of technologies to better engage communities and strengthen accountability, including in humanitarian action; and

e) Strengthen guidance on working together with other United Nations agencies to enhance coherence within the United Nations system and to introduce more integrated approaches.

UNICEF Angola has been involved in discussions within the United Nations Country Team and with the Government of Angola under the leadership of the National Institute of Statistics (INE) regarding the alignment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with national priorities.
and the Strategic Plan goals. UNICEF is represented by focal points on four groups in different programme areas established by the INE to promote a holistic cross-sectoral approach to SDG monitoring and implementation. UNICEF Angola leads the WASH and Education SDG Working Groups on behalf of the United Nations.

In August 2017, Angola held democratic elections and the establishment of a new government has introduced important changes in the structure of some key ministries and focal points for UNICEF programmes. As part of the efforts to reach Strategic Plan Goal 5 (‘Every child has an equitable chance in life’), UNICEF Angola immediately engaged with the new authorities in policy dialogue and advocacy in the areas of public finance for children and budget analysis. In 2017, sectoral budget briefs and a fiscal space analysis of the social sector were produced to support advocacy for adequate investment for children, and to engage bilateral and multilateral partners in accelerating progress for child rights as per national plans and SDG targets. This was achieved through partnerships with the Government of Angola, CSOs and academic institutions.

Given Angola’s graduation to classification as a middle-income country, resource mobilization will continue to be a challenge requiring innovative approaches in complementary areas such as advocacy, partnerships and financing for children.

**Summary notes and acronyms**

Summary notes: During the reporting year, the Ministry of Family and Promotion of Women merged with the Ministry of Assistance and Social Reinsertion to form a new Ministry of Social Action, Family and Promotion of Women

Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APROSOC</td>
<td>Support to Social Protection</td>
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<tr>
<td>C4D</td>
<td>communication for development</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>civil society organization</td>
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<td>DHS</td>
<td>Demographic Health Survey</td>
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<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</td>
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<td>FSS</td>
<td>facility, safety and security survey</td>
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<td>HACT</td>
<td>harmonized approach to cash transfer</td>
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<td>HR</td>
<td>human resources</td>
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<td>ICT</td>
<td>information and communications technology</td>
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<td>INE</td>
<td>National Institute of Statistics</td>
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<td>MICS</td>
<td>Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey</td>
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<td>MINARS</td>
<td>Ministry of Social Assistance and Reintegration</td>
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<td>MODA</td>
<td>Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGO -</td>
<td>non-governmental organization</td>
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<td>SDGs</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goals</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNFPA</td>
<td>United Nations Population Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN-Habitat</td>
<td>United Nations Human Settlements Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNHCR</td>
<td>Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
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<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
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**Capacity development**
Capacity development was a consistent pillar in UNICEF work in Angola in 2017, through significant investment in training and capacity building of government counterparts and civil society partners at the national and subnational levels.

For health system strengthening, UNICEF supported the training on cold-chain management of a team of logistic managers from all provinces. As part of this, 43 immunization programme supervisors and trainers from 17 provinces were trained in the expanded programme on immunization mid-level management course. In addition, 15 subnational immunization programme supervisors were trained on interpersonal communication, social mobilization and planning. A training of trainers of the National Community and Health Development Agent Programme was conducted covering integrated community case management.

Four guidance manuals were developed within the framework of Municipalization of Social Action, under the Support to Social Protection (APROSO) programme. Some 150 service providers were trained through a cascade programme in six municipalities on case management and community initiatives. Additionally, 71 social activists participated in a communication assessment and training.

To strengthen the child protection system, UNICEF supported the National Institute for Children to develop a child helpline and a referral and case management system. In total, 121 health professionals and 1,047 traditional birth attendants were trained to promote birth registration in five provinces.

To support a pilot programme testing integrated social services and a community engagement model at subnational level, 14 social activists and 45 community leaders were trained in partnership with FAO.

To facilitate transition from emergency to development programming in Lunda Norte Province, the capacity of six organizations was built including, 32 members of the Civil Protection Department and the Angolan Red Cross, and 20 participants in Lovua Municipality received training on social behavioural change communication in emergencies. Some 120 law enforcement officials were trained on the protection of the rights of refugee and migrant children in partnership with the Faculty of Law of Lueji ‘A Nkonde University.

Evidence generation, policy dialogue and advocacy

During 2017, UNICEF Angola supported INE to conduct a multidimensional study on child poverty using the MODA methodology to inform programming and public policy. Results will be launched in 2018.

UNICEF Angola supported the national NGO ADRA in an analysis of the 2017 state budget, covering the WASH, education, health, social protection and justice and birth registration sectors. Communication materials and an advocacy campaign were developed to engage the general public and stakeholders in the budgeting process and influence resource allocation for social protection in 2018 planning. UNICEF Angola also initiated a fiscal space analysis and a political economy study to inform dialogue with government partners and leverage investment in social protection.

UNICEF continued to build policy dialogue and advocacy using newly available evidence and demographic data. A joint study on school feeding conducted with the Ministry of Education and the former Ministry of Family and Women Promotion assessed the implementation of existing
policy and initiated dialogue for improvement.

UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education to pilot learning assessments to guide reforms to improve the quality of education. Portuguese language learning assessments were piloted in 10 provinces in 2017. Pass rates for written and reading tests were 22 per cent and 60 per cent, respectively, for Grade 1, and 36 per cent and 67 per cent, respectively, for Grade 2. Learning assessments for mathematics will be piloted in 2018.

Other studies conducted in 2017 included a WASH Knowledge, Attitudes and Practice survey among refugees in Lunda Norte and two studies in Huila Province: (1) a joint study with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on adolescent sexual and reproductive health and; (2) a knowledge, attitudes and practice study of maternal, newborn and child health to inform C4D within a pilot programme for integrated services. A joint study with MINARS on institutional responses to people with disabilities was also initiated.

**Partnerships**

UNICEF Angola strategically focused efforts in 2017 to strengthen and broaden critical partnerships to advance the child rights and equity agenda.

Within the UN, UNICEF Angola engaged UN-Habitat and the Global Water Operators Partnerships Alliance for technical cooperation in the urban WASH sector. Partnership with UNHCR included a letter of understanding and action plan for the refugee response, and with UNFPA to conduct an adolescent pregnancy study. UNICEF Angola and FAO supported an integrated initiative for drought-affected communities, as part of the coordinated initiative of the United Nations and the Huila government to build resilience in drought-affected communities. UNICEF leads the H6 Health Partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO), UNFPA, UN Women, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and the World Bank for coordinated action on maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health.

A strategic partnership was established with the Council of Christian Churches, a network of 19 churches, and collaboration continued with World Vision, Lutheran World Federation, People in Need, Médecins Sans Frontières, Caritas, the Red Cross and a number of local CSOs to deliver services in emergency and non-emergency contexts. Partnership with ADRA produced State Budget analysis and advocacy to increase budget allocations for children.

UNICEF Angola re-established two critical government partnerships in 2017 with: (1) INE to build technical capacity for data collection and analysis on child rights indicators; and (2) the National Institute for Children to strengthen national systems to prevent and respond to violence against children and promote child rights.

UNICEF Angola partnered with the Catholic University of Angola to strengthen the quality of social work through curriculum improvements and the creation of a post-graduate degree in social work. UNICEF also partnered with the Angolan Institute of Religious Sciences to train social activists to deliver services within the Municipalization of Social Action.

UNICEF Angola initiated negotiations with UNITEL, a mobile communication provider, to promote free access to a mobile Internet platform designed to raise awareness on children's rights.

**External communication and public advocacy**
UNICEF Angola maintained a strong voice on behalf of children through public advocacy and external communication, focusing on humanitarian response, health, protection and other key issues to raise awareness and mobilize key audiences and stakeholders to act on behalf of children.

During 2017, UNICEF Angola shared 35 press releases with its network and was represented in 18 interviews on radio, television and the print media which were cited in more than 120 published articles. Some 20 public interventions were made by the UNICEF Representative, including 13 written speeches.


UNICEF Angola’s Facebook audience increased by 30 per cent from 2016, reaching 20,682 followers by the end of 2017. More than 200 Facebook posts were published in 2017 and five editions of the digital bimonthly newsletter reached more than 400 partners, stakeholders and decisionmakers.

UNICEF Angola developed a visibility plan for APROSOC and a communication package for the Municipalization of Social Action in partnership with MINARS.

UNICEF Angola raised national and international awareness of the situation of more than 34,000 refugees who arrived in Angola during 2017, developing human interest stories, press releases, photos and videos that were shared on various platforms.

UNICEF supported participation of an Angolan delegation in the 4th Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics, an opportunity for high-level advocacy on birth registration in Angola with regional bodies such as the African Union, the African Development Bank and the World Bank.

**South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation**

During 2017, UNICEF Angola promoted South-South and triangular cooperation in the areas of child protection, education and WASH.

In child protection, an expert from Brazil was contracted through cooperation between UNICEF Angola and UNICEF Brazil to provide technical expertise to the Government of Angola for an assessment of alternative measures for children in conflict with the law. UNICEF also supported an Angolan Delegation to visit Italy and Mozambique to learn about the implementation of services for child justice. UNICEF Angola provided financial and logistical support for a delegation from Angola to attend the Fourth Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Mauritania, to learn from the experiences of other African states in advancing Civil Registration and Vital Statistics.

UNICEF Angola and UNICEF Mozambique engaged the Rodrigo Mendez Institute on Inclusive Education in Brazil to adapt a series of booklets on inclusive education in Portuguese (‘The Right of Children with Disabilities to Education: A rights-based approach to inclusive education’). These booklets document evidence and good practices in inclusive education to provide a
foundation for national dialogue and advocacy with governments and partners in Angola and Mozambique.

In WASH, UNICEF Angola has initiated a collaboration with UN-Habitat and the State Water and Sanitation Utility of Brasilia on an innovative pilot initiative entitled ‘Fostering of Urban Resilience in Slum Areas of Luanda through Condominium Sanitation Approaches and Integrated Solid Waste Management with Local Entrepreneurship’. The pilot will adapt a technological and social approach that has been widely used in Brazil to reduce morbidity and mortality among children under the age of 5, to build an evidence base and model that can be scaled up in informal urban settlements of Angola. During 2017, project design was undertaken with support from national authorities and resource mobilization will continue in 2018.

**Identification and promotion of innovation**

UNICEF Angola continued to develop and promote content for the Internet of Good Things, a mobile platform which was originally created in 2015 to provide information about life-saving practices in emergency situations, children’s rights, online safety and reproductive health. The Internet of Good Things was a valuable tool in the response to cholera outbreaks in early 2017 promoting key behavioural messages on the treatment of water and hygiene practices, complementing house-to-house community mobilization that was carried out in partnership with the Angolan Red Cross in Cabinda and Zaire provinces. UNICEF Angola drafted memorandum of understanding with a major mobile carrier to provide free access to the Internet of Good Things content and promotion of messages via SMS, and is advocating with other mobile phone companies to provide up to 11 million more people with free access to the Internet of Good Things.

A pilot social inclusion intervention in Huila Province leverages partnerships with local government, FAO and a national NGO, to combine social service provision with resilience building through the Farmer Field Schools methodology of FAO. The initiative addresses children’s chronic nutrition issues by promoting local production of nutritious food and especially benefits ethnic minority populations.

In the WASH sector, UNICEF developed memorandum of understandings and budget proposals for innovative not-for-profit, peer-to-peer technical cooperation between water and sanitation operators (known as Water Operators’ Partnerships) to improve performance and service delivery.

In the Education sector, UNICEF expanded the innovative school mapping initiative to Huambo and Namibe provinces in 2017. School mapping was developed on the back of the Education Management Information System, and implemented in 2016 in Huila Province. The approach gathers data to inform objectives and priorities in local education sector development plans, ensuring these are based on actual local needs.

**Support to integration and cross-sectoral linkages**

In 2017, UNICEF Angola and the provincial government of Huila signed an annual workplan, under which a programme was designed to pilot integrated access to basic public services to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable communities affected by droughts and social exclusion. The programme is characterized by a multi-sector approach in which services in health, education, WASH, birth registration and life skills are coordinated by the Municipal Administration. The pilot aims to achieve convergence of services focused on poor communities and minority nomadic ethnic groups.
The pilot brings together different sectors to coordinate the organization, scheduling, delivery and monitoring of goods and services at the municipal level, to maximize positive impact on the lives of people and especially children in the targeted geographic area. A C4D component promotes community engagement and monitors changes in life-saving and protective behaviours and practices. Partnerships were established to support implementation of the pilot with the national NGO ADRA to facilitate the integrated provision of social services, and with FAO to strengthen agriculture and life-skills interventions. Collaboration with different government departments has posed challenges as service delivery on the ground is not integrated, but the results of this pilot are being closely monitored and documented to inform future UNICEF Angola programming.

Building on the Huila experience, UNICEF initiated a decentralized planning process with the provincial governments of Cunene and Lunda Norte, to develop an integrated approach for the transition from emergency to development programming and for the benefit of both refugees and the host communities.

UNICEF has learned that with the right investment, models of integrated programming are feasible at sub-national level and generate results and sustainable impact for children. The current processes of decentralization, and the promotion of local budgets and development by the new Government offer an opportunity for replicability and scaling-up.

**Service delivery**

UNICEF Angola provided support for the delivery of social services in 2017 through: 1) technical and material assistance, training, exchange visits and multisectoral coordination; 2) strengthening partnerships for local service delivery; and 3) service demand stimulation through C4D.

To address the low birth registration rate in Angola, UNICEF supported the expansion of services to 25 maternity wards and health facilities, bringing the number of facilities providing birth registration to 55 in 7 provinces. To strengthen the justice system, 73 officials of the penitentiary, criminal investigation and social welfare services received training, and infrastructure for a juvenile court was renovated in Huila Province. UNICEF Angola partnered with the National Institute for Children to develop a child helpline, referral and case management system and trained local actors in Luanda in prevention and response to violence against children.

Throughout 2017, UNICEF Angola strengthened the community-led total sanitation programme by training 278 municipal officials in implementation, planning and budgeting, certifying 116 rural communities as open defecation free, and providing 36,490 girls and boys with access to separate latrines in schools. Since 2015, community-led total sanitation has ‘triggered’ a cumulative total of 243,392 people in 320 rural communities.

During 2017, 189,305 children were screened for malnutrition and 24,923 children with severe or moderate malnutrition were treated with a recovery rate of 76 per cent. Some 160 municipalities conducted local planning and implementation of routine expanded programme on immunization activities and as of September 2017, some 562,117 children under 1 had received a third dose of the pentavalent vaccine and 580,562 children were vaccinated against measles. With UNICEF support, the Ministry of Health introduced the injectable inactivated polio vaccine in the expanded programme on immunization.
UNICEF Angola invested in training for staff and partners on procedures for harmonized approach to cash transfer (HACT) to ensure timely micro-assessments, programme visits and spot-checks are conducted to ensure services are delivered.

**Human rights-based approach to cooperation**


UNICEF provided support to the Angolan delegation to dialogue on the country implementation report with the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. Support to CSOs strengthened independent monitoring of the rights of children in Angola as outlined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. UNICEF Angola also developed and presented a confidential report of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and Optional Protocols to the Convention, on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography and on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, to the Pre-Session Working Group for the Committee on the Rights of the Child in October 2017. In response to Committee recommendations, the Government of Angola made efforts to improve the legal framework and establishment of appropriate structures to address child rights issues, as the need for qualified staff to deliver quality services remains a challenge.

During 2017, UNICEF Angola initiated a review of the Country Programme Document that aimed to identify vulnerability, deprivations and disparities associated with geography, gender and age, through recent analyses from the updated situation analysis, the MODA analysis and a formative evaluation.

**Gender equality**

Angola has a solid legal and policy framework for advancing gender equality. Gender equality is enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Angola (2010) and in recent years, several policies and plans have been put in place to improve gender equality. In 2017, Angola approved the Action Plan of the Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women Peace and Security. However, although existing laws and policies have not yet translated into implementation or the realization of the rights of women and girls.

During 2017, UNICEF Angola’s efforts to advance a gender equality agenda focused on the preparation of an extensive gender programmatic review, planned to take place in early 2018 within the framework of the broader Country Programme review. The gender programmatic review will aim to strengthen gender programming and alignment with the gender action plan II and the UNICEF Strategic Plan 2018–2021. Priorities within the gender action plan with relevance to the Country Programme context will be identified to inform planning and to define the resources, processes, capacities and systems necessary for implementation. The Country Office is also currently preparing gender mainstreaming training for all staff.
UNICEF Angola takes an approach to gender equality that extends from programming to institutional results in gender equality with a focus on organizational resource investment, staffing and capacity. At the initiative of senior management, a task force composed of all female staff members was established in 2017 to address career development and gender balance in the workplace.

During 2017, UNICEF Angola supported the generation of evidence on gender disparities in social development. A joint study with UNFPA on adolescent sexual and reproductive health in Huila Province was initiated in 2016 and completed during 2017, with a budget of US$150,000. The study was designed with a gender lens, provided evidence on adolescent health and early sexual practices and knowledge and generated recommendations for the inclusion of sexual education in the school curriculum and design of an adolescent-friendly strategy by the provincial government for prevention of teenage pregnancy and child marriage.

UNICEF Angola partnered with UNFPA to deliver dignity kits to female refugees in Lunda Norte Province.

**Environmental sustainability**

To meet the sanitation Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 6.2), Angola must achieve full coverage of appropriate sanitary facilities by 2030. Current coverage trends indicate that to achieve this goal, Angola needs to adopt a pragmatic vision, operational strategies, strengthened institutional arrangements, adequate resources and expanded and accelerated collaboration with stakeholders.

UNICEF Angola supported the Government of Angola to create a clean, safe and healthy environment by providing international technical assistance for support to the Ministry of the Environment to develop a national strategy on community-led total sanitation for the elimination of open defecation in Angola by 2030. Development of this strategy was initiated in 2017 and will continue in 2018.

During 2017, UNICEF Angola developed an integrated programme on climate mitigation in Huila Province, with the participation of local government, United Nations agencies and CSOs, to deliver basic quality social services targeting minority ethnic groups and drought-affected communities in three municipalities. Initial results show that 928 people were reached with messages promoting birth registration, and 661 people were registered, of which 108 were children under 5 and 194 children aged 6 to 13. Additionally, 1,040 children benefited from the provision of classroom tents and education kits, 29 childhood caregivers were trained on early stimulation, and 24 primary teachers were trained in education skills for the Portuguese language and mathematics. Some 27 master trainers were trained on farmer field schools methodology and 20 community workers were trained on health and WASH.

In 2017, UNICEF Angola took several steps to reduce its environmental footprint. Office relocation to new premises offered an opportunity to adopt energy efficiency and an environmentally friendly office. Greening UNICEF involved reducing equipment through improved use of Office 365 telephony, allowing elimination of 90 per cent of phones, installation of automatic lighting to save energy in common areas, and promotion of the use of soft files and documents to reduce printing and the use of paper. Tree planting is also part of UNICEF Angola’s environment action at the new premises.
**Effective leadership**

In 2017, the country management team met bimonthly to monitor programme and operations priorities, implementation and performance against annual management plans. The country management team meetings were supplemented by weekly meetings between management and section chiefs and monthly programme and operations meetings. Management and statutory committees performed reviews and provided advisory support to senior management. Systems for measuring performance and ensuring staff and management accountability were shared with staff during a retreat in February 2017, at four joint consultative committee meetings, and during regular meetings. The staff association, with support from human resources (HR), organized staff forums and developed an action plan to address five key areas for improvement identified in the 2017 Global Staff Survey.

In May 2017, the Office of Internal Audit and Investigation conducted an audit of governance, risk management and internal control processes with a focus on risks to delivering UNICEF objectives from January 2016 to May 2017. The audit concluded that Country Office controls and processes functioned well and identified 12 areas for improvement as a medium-term priority. The management designated focal persons to follow up on the recommendations. Five standard operating procedures were introduced to guide compliance with procedures and policies. The Country Office carried out six micro-assessments, 56 programme visits and 39 spot-checks to identify and mitigate programme implementation risks.

During 2017, the ongoing financial crisis in Angola negatively impacted government operations as available funding decreased; suppliers increased prices and frequently requested upfront payments. Consequently, UNICEF vendors and suppliers increasingly operated with upfront payments.

During 2017, the business continuity plan was updated to ensure capacity and provide policy and guidance to maintain critical processes and operational services in the face of a range of risks. The Plan incorporates material from and complements the Angola Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan and Security Plan.

**Financial resources management**

During 2017, the country management team met six times and conducted a comprehensive sector-by-sector review of financial performance against programmatic and operational indicators. Recommendations from country management team meetings were followed up by programme sections.

Total allocation to the Angola Country Office was US$31,036,884 comprising regular resources, other regular resources and other resources for emergency. Financial resources were allocated to programmatic outcomes based on the Annual Workplan and donor-approved proposals, to management, and for the office relocation.

As of 31 December 2017, total utilization was US$29,501,182.00, representing a 97 per cent utilization rate. The specific utilization rates for regular resource, other resources for emergency and other regular resources were 100 per cent, 100 per cent and 91 per cent, respectively. All non-expiring other regular resources balances were transferred to 2018. The value of open commitments is US$1,972,149.38, which are eligible to be carried over to 2018. The value of outstanding direct cash transfers to partners is US$2,433,445.71. The number of payments submitted to the Global Services Shared Centre in 2017 was 2,211, with an average performance rate of 97.9 per cent in accordance with the service-level agreement.
The office monitored and efficiently managed cash utilization throughout the year, maintaining the office cash supply within 25 per cent of the monthly request. Bank reconciliations were initiated, approved and submitted within deadlines.

The Country Office held a satisfactory relationship with the local bank and tested a new global initiative for electronic processing of banking transactions, which will start in early 2018.

In 2017, US$4,591,407.00 was disbursed in direct cash transfer for programme implementation, 47 per cent of which was reported on by the partners and approved by UNICEF. More than 98 per cent of programme assurance activities, which include programmatic visits and spot-checks, were conducted on the completed and reported activities.

**Fundraising and donor relations**

During 2017, UNICEF Angola developed several proposals with support from the UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office and UNICEF headquarters to raise funding for humanitarian assistance to refugee populations, resilience building, health system strengthening, and the expansion of community-led total sanitation. As of October 2017, UNICEF Angola had raised a total of US$9.9 million for humanitarian response, including US$3.9 million received against the 2017 Humanitarian Action for Children appeal and US$6 million carried forward from the previous year, comprising contributions from Germany, the Russian Federation, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and Global Thematic Funding for Humanitarian Response.

Donor funding for regular programming in 2017 totalled US$10.8 million. The European Union remained the biggest contributor to regular programming, donating US$3.2 million for the Social Policy programme and US$2.4 million to the Child Protection programme. Additionally, the Country Office acquired a total of US$5.2 million in grants for regular programming from the National Committees for UNICEF of Germany, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as funds from Global Thematic Funding for WASH, Nutrition International and the Gavi Alliance.

In addition, 72 per cent of the country programme Other Resources ceiling of US$76,000,000 was absorbed, and the funding gap of the programme was reduced to 28 per cent. The Country Office monitors fundraising needs monthly with the programme sections and through the country management team.

To ensure on-time and quality reporting, standard reporting processes were followed and a standard operating procedure on donor reporting was updated. In 2017, UNICEF Angola submitted 17 donor reports in fulfilment of accountability and reporting commitments. All reports were submitted on time.

**Evaluation and research**

During 2017, UNICEF Angola used PRIME as a planning tool for research and evaluation activities. UNICEF Angola commissioned a formative evaluation of the current Country Programme (2015–2019) as a learning exercise within the framework of the enhanced annual review, to analyse relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability. The findings will be used to sharpen the focus of the Rolling Workplan (2018–2019) and in the preparation of the next Country Programme (2020–2024). The terms of reference and inception report were assessed by a third-party quality assurance team under the supervision of the UNICEF Eastern
and Southern Africa Regional Office. The Country Office also has a research officer position to support quality assurance and ethics compliance.

UNICEF Angola supported the Ministry of Education to pilot learning assessments in Portuguese language in 10 provinces, to guide reforms to improve the quality of education.

In 2017, UNICEF Angola updated the Situation Analysis of Children in Angola using newly available evidence from the Census 2014, DHS 2015–2016 and other studies. The analysis was used to engage counterparts in conversations about emergent programming priorities and geographic focus and was referenced during annual review workshops with governmental and non-governmental counterparts.

An affordability analysis was also conducted to determine the conditions necessary to ensure the sustainability of UNICEF Angola’s work and inform the country programme review process.


**Efficiency gains and cost savings**

All payment disbursements were made from UNICEF Angola bank accounts with a local bank. Successful negotiation and follow-up with the local bank resulted in a refund of US$16,000 that had been previously charged to UNICEF as banking fees, violating specially negotiated banking terms with United Nations agencies in Angola.

A new global initiative to introduce online banking using host-to-host connections between the local bank in Angola and the UNICEF VISION database was tested during 2017 in preparation for the automation of banking transactions in the first quarter of 2018. The automation is expected to improve the quality of services, eliminate the need for printing, paper waste and signing of payments, and significantly reduce the time staff spend travelling to the bank.

UNICEF Angola recognizes and uses common review bodies, long-term agreements, and a local vendor database and has supported the United Nations Country Team in discussions on a common approach to procurement services. The Operations Management Team drafted the Business Operations Strategy for Angola and conducted an analysis of potential cost savings to United Nations agencies generated through joining operations and procurement. The cost-benefit analysis revealed that if the business operations strategy is implemented effectively, United Nations agencies in Angola will accrue savings of approximately US$442,853 in staff time and additional savings of US$733,859 in transaction costs over the next two years (2018–2019). Priority areas for quick gains were identified, including procurement of stationery and office supplies, Internet and telecommunication connectivity, customs and clearance of goods, travel management and vehicle maintenance.

**Supply management**
In 2017, UNICEF Angola continued to see a significant increase in the value of the procurement of goods (programme supplies), reaching a total amount of approximately US$8 million. Offshore procurement accounted for 85 per cent and local procurement accounted for 15 percent of total procurement. At the beginning of 2017, the supply plan was estimated at a total value of US$4.5 million, but was surpassed during the year due to emergency response, in particular the response to the refugee crisis.

Vaccines procured with government funds and GAVI co-financing accounted for the bulk of procurement services in 2017 (GAVI co-financing will be phased out by end of the 2017). The Supply Division received US$22 million from the Government of Angola for direct procurement services to purchase traditional vaccines. Including procurement services provided to the Government, the total value of the UNICEF Angola supply chain processed in 2017 was more than US$38 million (see table below).

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Angola Country Office total supply chain office expenditure</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Country Office expenditure</strong></td>
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<td>Supply chain value</td>
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<td><strong>Total amount</strong></td>
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The office continued to use long-term agreements to enhance the work of the supply section by providing a more diverse pool of suppliers. The Office of Internal Audit and Investigation conducted an audit in 2017 and made recommendations to strengthen performance in supply and logistics management, highlighting the following areas for improvement: warehouse management, regular physical verification of programme supply inventory, and acceleration of distribution to partners to reduce stock in the warehouse. With respect to procurement, the audit recommended more realistic supply planning for programme implementation, intensification of assurance activities, and a local market survey to update the vendor database. Two consultants were recruited to support the ongoing implementation of these recommendations.

The Country Office faced challenges in warehouse stock management due to partners’ lack of readiness to receive items during 2017; warehouse stock reached a value of US$1.0 million, with items more than 12 months old worth US$29,729 (1 per cent of the total value). Warehouse management was improved through a strengthened monitoring system by the section.

During 2017, the value of prepositioned supplies for emergency response was US$0.8 million; the cost of in-country logistics for 2017 was approximately US$244,747, and the office spent more than US$457,328 for clearing and handling charges.

**Security for staff and premises**
In 2017, Angola experienced a smooth change of leadership following general elections. In the pre-election period, isolated security incidents were reported by the United Nations Department of Safety and Security, but no UNICEF staff were affected. UNICEF kept staff abreast of the evolving security situation through weekly reports, two sessions with the Department, and briefings by the regional security adviser. Staff security in the field was monitored through security clearances and weekly updates on vehicle movements from the Department. UNICEF supported the Department’s presence in emergency response areas (Lunda Norte and Soyo) and participated in the security management team. The business continuity plan was updated and tested twice, reports were issued, and improvements were made to banking services, security activities and information and communications technology (ICT) solutions. Staff lists and the communication tree were updated quarterly.

UNICEF Angola invested in the minimum operating security standards-compliant equipment, observed mandatory security briefings for staff travelling to high risk areas, and kept a map of updated United Nations Department of Safety and Security mine-free roads. A Women’s Security Awareness Training was conducted in May 2017.

In November 2017, UNICEF relocated to new premises, after signing a memorandum of agreement with the National Institute for Children for long-term lease of their premises. Renovation was undertaken with funding support from UNICEF NY Headquarters and the UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office and included Minimum Operating Security Standards-compliant improvements. Personnel now enjoy dedicated parking space and a secure and safe conducive working environment. Further security enhancements are planned for 2018, including installation of closed circuit television and access control, construction of visitor parking and installation of a high-frequency base repeater. The relocation resolved security and safety risks that affected the staff, both inside the United Nations building and in the surrounding area.

In the provinces of Bie, Cunene, Huila and Moxico, UNICEF negotiated office spaces within the offices of key government implementing partners. The vehicle list was maintained and a Minimum Operating Security Standards compliance evaluation conducted in 2017 found the Country Office to be compliant.

**Human resources**

In 2017, UNICEF Angola implemented three global HR reforms on recruitment, performance management, and HR business partnership. In partnership with the country office staff association, a plan of action was developed to respond to results of the Global Staff Survey, and a month was dedicated to dialogue about ethics, during which opportunities were provided for staff to openly discuss ethical dilemmas. Issues and solutions raised were followed up in management meetings with action planning, and a quarterly ethics review was established.

The vacancy rate reached 25 per cent during 2017 (including four section chief positions), making recruitment a high priority. During 2017, 20 advertisements were issued, and 1,218 applications processed. Although the high cost of living, availability of affordable education and health services for expatriate children, and language requirements posed challenges to identify a strong pool of suitable candidates, 13 positions were successfully filled during the year.

With 31 per cent female and 69 per cent male staff, gender representation improved by 7 per cent compared with 2016. In the international professional category, the proportion of female staff increased from 20 per cent in 2016 to 53 per cent in 2017. A total of 28 consultant
contracts were issued in 2017, including 6 in support of the refugee response.

The Country Office organized two half-day training sessions on performance management and provided individualized guidance and counselling to staff and supervisors. As off 31 December, 88 per cent of all staff completed the performance evaluation.

In line with the Country Office learning plan, seven workshops were conducted on topics such as results-based management and HACT, some with support from the UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office. The Country Office achieved a 65 per cent completion rate for mandatory trainings.

**Effective use of information and communication technology**

In 2017 the Country Office continued to take advantage of cloud-based unified communication tools provided by the organization through the Office 365 platform for emails, information management and voice communication, promoting efficiency, business continuity and work-life balance.

During 2017, four projects were implemented to enhance ICT infrastructure and services:

1. Office 365 telephony: reduced equipment footprint by elimination of 90 per cent of physical phones and improved availability of communication services through use of Skype for Business client installed on mobile phones;
2. Modernization of the data centre during office relocation: Removal of unnecessary equipment and CAT6 LAN cabling has improved network speeds, eliminating bottlenecks while perimeter demarcation of the LAN has improved security, increased energy efficiency, and enhanced compliance with infrastructure standards;
3. Replacement of old hardware improved equipment performance while an upgrade of the operating system to Windows 10 has improved user experience, security and performance; and
4. Deployment of caller user group for mobile telephony coupled with data bundles generated cost reductions, providing users Internet connectivity for remote access to business tools.

In support of the refugee response in Lunda Norte, the ICT team provided security communications services with deployment of high-frequency radio, satellite phones and 3G modems for data.

UNICEF ICT supported programme implementation with the provision of technical expertise to two significant information system projects: (1) Management Information Systems components of the APROSOC programme: ICT collaborated with the Social Policy team to identify appropriate information technology solutions and a consultancy firm to assist the Government with an information systems needs assessment, and design and implement solutions; and (2) integrated information system for justice for children: UNICEF Angola ICT provided technical guidance to define specifications of the information system and procure equipment.

The office continued to actively participate in United Nations ICT inter-agency activities.

**Programme components from RAM**

**ANALYSIS BY OUTCOME AND OUTPUT RESULTS**

**OUTCOME 1** Common premises
Analytical statement of progress
In 2017, UNICEF Angola successfully addressed long outstanding issues related to the safety and security of the office building in Luanda, moving the office to new premises. In March 2017, the management signed a memorandum of agreement with the National Institute for Children for a long-term lease of the new office building. Renovation was undertaken through funding support from UNICEF Headquarters and the UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office. Upon inspection and issuance of the second FSSS by the UNICEF Regional Office Security Adviser and the United Nations Department of Safety and Security, the office relocated to the new premises in mid-November 2017. Security improvements made to the new premises during phase 1 included a perimeter wall secured with razor wire, walk-through machines, hand-held metal detectors and vehicle inspection mirrors.

Staff now enjoy dedicated parking and a secure and conducive working environment.
Operational support to the office enabled effective responses to several emergencies, including cholera outbreaks and the refugee crisis in Lunda Norte. Due to budget constraints, the Country Office was not able to complete all required improvements and renovations during 2017. Pending activities under phase 2 are planned for completion in 2018, subject to funding availability and support from the UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office and UNICEF headquarters.

The country management team tracked operations and programme management indicators through platforms including Monday morning meetings of senior management and section chiefs, and monthly programme and operations meetings. Established management and statutory committees performed reviews and acted in an advisory role to senior management.

The country management team agreed and shared systems for measuring performance and holding management and staff accountable through the country management team, programme management team and operations meetings. During the reporting year, the Office of Internal Audit and Investigation conducted an audit of the Country Office that assessed governance, risk management and internal control processes, with a focus on risks to the delivery of planned UNICEF work from January 2016 to May 2017. The audit concluded that controls and processes were generally established and functioning well but identified 12 areas for improvement as a medium-term priority. The management identified focal persons to address the audit recommendations and report to the country management team. Standard operating procedures were introduced to guide the office in compliance with policies related to donor reporting, HACT and programme cooperation agreement formulation.

Successful negotiation and follow-up with the local bank in Angola resulted in a refund of US$16,000 that had been previously charged to UNICEF as banking fees, violating specially negotiated banking terms with United Nations agencies in Angola. A new global initiative for online banking through a host-to-host connection between the local bank and UNICEF VISION was tested in preparation for electronic processing of banking transactions in the first quarter of 2018.

The human resources unit supported the Country Office on several key initiatives, including implementation of three global HR reforms in the areas of recruitment, performance management and HR business partnership. The unit also led two significant initiatives in 2017: (1) development of an action plan in response to findings of the Global Staff Survey in collaboration with the staff association; and (2) facilitation of dialogue during UNICEF Ethics Month.
The Country Office strengthened ICT with increased use of Office 365 tools for emails, more efficient information management and voice communications. As a result of staff being able to access business tools away from the office, the business continuity plan and work-life balance also improved. The ICT unit completed five projects in 2017, including: Office 365 telephony, modernization of the data centre, replacement of laptop and servers, improvement of UHF and VHF radio coverage, and deployment of caller mobile telephony coupled with data bundles.

In 2017, the value of the procurement of goods by UNICEF Angola reached a total of approximately US$8.5 million. Offshore and local procurement accounted for 85 per cent and 15 per cent, respectively, of total procurement. At the start of 2017, the supply plan was estimated at a total value of US$4.5 million, but this was surpassed due to emergency response, in particular to the refugee crisis in Lunda Norte. Sourcing in the Angolan market was a major challenge during 2017 as a result of the economic crisis in Angola. Regular suppliers frequently ran out of stock or insisted on full advance payment before delivery. In 2018, the Country Office has planned to conduct a market survey to understand the local market and update the supplier database.

Vaccines procured for the Government with GAVI co-financing (phased out at the end of 2017) represented the bulk of procurement services in 2017. The Supply Division received US$22 million from the Government for direct procurement of traditional vaccines. The total value of the UNICEF Angola supply chain processed in 2017, including procurement services provided to the Government, was more than US$39 million.

**OUTPUT 1** UNICEF Angola has improved function, resources and programme performance.

**Analytical statement of progress**

The country management team tracked operations and programme management indicators through platforms including Monday morning meetings of senior management and section chiefs, and monthly programme and operations meetings. Established management and statutory committees performed reviews and acted in an advisory role to senior management.

The country management team agreed and shared systems for measuring performance and holding management and staff accountable through the country management team, programme management team and operations meetings. Organization-wide performance standards and indicators endorsed by UNICEF Headquarters and the UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office were used to guide programme and operations performance. During the reporting year, the Office of Internal Audit and Investigation conducted an audit of the Country Office that assessed governance, risk management and internal control processes, with a focus on risks to the delivery of planned UNICEF work from January 2016 to May 2017. The audit concluded that controls and processes were generally established and functioning well but identified 12 areas for improvement as a medium-term priority. The management identified focal persons to address the audit recommendations and report to the country management team. Some of the identified audit recommendations could not be closed in 2017, as they required thorough analysis and evaluation of the office programme and structure to ensure adequate resources for programme delivery and subsequently approval by the UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office. Those recommendations will be prioritised in 2018. Standard operating procedures were introduced to guide the office in compliance with policies related to donor reporting, HACT and programme cooperation agreement formulation.
A business continuity plan was operationalized and tested twice during the preparation of the national general election. Gaps identified during the first test were addressed through a change of strategy and a follow-up training of staff. The second test was conducted in collaboration with the Business Continuity Management unit and United Nations Department of Safety and Security and was successful.

Management recognizes and uses common review bodies, long-term agreements and an established local vendor database. In 2017, the operations management team supported United Nations Country Team discussions to implement a common approach to the procurement of goods and services. The operations management team drafted the business operations strategy for Angola and conducted analysis of the potential savings that United Nations agencies would accrue through joint operations and procurement. A cost-benefit analysis found that if the strategy is implemented, over the next two years (2018–2019), United Nations agencies in Angola will accrue savings of approximately US$442,853 in staff time and US$733,859 in transaction costs. Priority areas identified for quick gains will be implemented in 2018, including procurement of stationery and office supplies, Internet and telecommunication connectivity, customs and clearance of goods, travel management and vehicle maintenance.

OUTPUT 2 UNICEF Angola has effective management of its financial resources.

Analytical statement of progress
Key performance indicators tracked by the country management team include: outstanding direct cash transfers, utilization of funds from the institutional budget, regular resources, other resources and other resources for emergencies. All allocations under the Institutional Budget, Regular Resources and Other Resources for Emergencies were fully utilized, while 94 per cent of unexpired Other Resources were utilized and the balance rolled over to the next financial year. The overall level of outstanding direct cash transfer was mostly kept below corporate benchmarks during 2017. At the end of the year, six- to nine-month direct cash transfer was 2.5 per cent and there was no outstanding direct cash transfers more than nine months. A direct cash transfer monitoring dashboard was used to track performance. The utilization of funds was on track through most of the year and maintained within an acceptable threshold throughout 2017.

The United Nations inter-agency network on finance and HACT was revived, facilitating the sharing of assessment reports and planning for 2017 joint HACT-related activities. Coordination among agencies remains a challenge in undertaking joint activities. In 2018, the Inter-Agency HACT Committee on Finance will spearhead training for implementing partners and conduct micro-assessments and assurance activities.

A follow-up on negotiations with the bank resulted in a refund of US$16,000 that had been previously levied as bank fees over a two-year period. Bank reconciliation and monthly closure of accounts was completed in a timely manner and all open items were closed within benchmark times.

OUTPUT 3 UNICEF Angola has effective management of its human resources.

Analytical statement of progress
During 2017, the Country Office responded to cholera outbreaks and a refugee crisis in Lunda Norte Province. Emergency response generated increased human resource needs and the HR unit collaborated with emergency management team members to identify and meet HR needs, filling staffing gaps with consultants. An HR specialist joined the Country Office in March 2017. The HR unit supported the Country Office on several key initiatives, including implementation of three global HR reforms in the areas of recruitment, performance management and HR business partnership. Two sessions to promote the performance management reform were conducted during 2017 and HR provided individualized guidance and counselling to staff and supervisors.

The unit also invested in two major activities to address Global Staff Survey results and ethics in the Country Office. In collaboration with the local staff association, the HR unit spearheaded the development of an action plan in response to the Global Staff Survey results that committed the Country Office to address five areas which received low ratings in the survey. The HR unit continues to monitor the implementation of that action plan. For Ethics Leadership Month, the HR unit facilitated dialogue through sessions in which the staff discussed ethical dilemmas and reviewed UNICEF policies and regulations.

The office faced high staff turnover in the fourth quarter of 2016 and first quarter of 2017, resulting in several open vacancies, including the positions of four section chiefs. The vacancy rate reached 25 per cent, making recruitment a high priority. By the end of 2017, 20 positions (13 full-time and 7 temporary appointments) were successfully filled. Gender representation among Country Office staff improved by 7 per cent from 2016 and is currently 31 per cent female and 69 per cent male. Significant improvement was made in the IP category, which was 53 per cent female in 2017, as compared with only 20 per cent female in 2016. The Country Office struggled to identify a strong pool of suitable candidates, in particular women, due to the high cost of living in Angola, availability of affordable education and health for expatriate children, and language and management requirements. In 2018, the Country Office will look to expand outreach activities and solutions to attract female candidates, including internships and stretch assignment modalities. Several trainings were offered to strengthen staff capacity, including workshops on results-based management and HACT. Both results-based management and HACT trainings were facilitated by the UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office.

OUTCOME 2 UNICEF Angola implements an equity-focused, evidence and rights-based, results-oriented country programme in line with national, regional and global strategies and priorities, and in development and emergency contexts.

Analytical statement of progress
In 2017, the socio-economic and political context of Angola was marked by significant developments: the deep economic and financial crisis, which continued to affect budget allocations for the social sector, the occurrence of several emergency situations during the year, cholera outbreaks, floods, and a the Democratic Republic of the Congo refugee influx, while the response to the El Niño-induced droughts and the 2016 yellow fever outbreak continued, and a new Government was elected in August, introducing changes in key ministries and leadership engaged with UNICEF-supported work.

The Country Office used available opportunities to continue rebuilding the trust and confidence of the Government and civil society, establish key partnerships, support strategic advocacy and provide quality technical assistance to achieve key results for Angolan children, as follows:
• The Country Office used the results of the 2015–2016 Integrated Demographic and Health Survey, officially launched in 2017, to refocus advocacy and re-adjust programmes. As the first significant update to national child indicators in almost 10 years, the survey revealed important progress in child mortality (under-five mortality is now estimated at 68 per 1,000 live births, a major reduction in relation to previous estimates of 145 per 1,000 live births for 2001–2005). After strong advocacy by UNICEF and the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Inter-Agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation endorsed the DHS/Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) data, though with a slight difference (under-five mortality rate at 82.5 per 1,000 live births).

• Building on the 2014 Population Census and the DHS/MICS survey data, UNICEF provided technical assistance to the INE to conduct Angola’s first Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) in 2017. Preliminary information on child poverty and deprivation in Angola was used to update the Analysis of the Situation of Children in Angola and will serve as basis for advocacy in 2018 once officially endorsed by the Government of Angola.

• UNICEF responded promptly to cholera outbreaks in Cabinda, Luanda and Soyo, floods in Cunene and drought in southern provinces. Since the outset of the Democratic Republic of the Congo refugee crisis in Lunda Norte Province, which affected 34,886 the Democratic Republic of the Congo refugees, from April to December 2017 UNICEF provided critical life-saving support, and access to WASH, child protection, health, nutrition and C4D, while bridging emergency and development through support to capacity strengthening of provincial authorities and local civil society for systems strengthening in Health, WASH, Child Protection and Education.

• The Country Office provided 3.4 million doses of the yellow fever vaccine and supported the Ministry of Health to continue vaccinations, reaching 97 per cent of the target population in 76 out of 166 municipalities in 2017. Since 2016, 22.8 million people have been vaccinated against yellow fever. Simultaneously, in support of the weak national routine immunization, UNICEF Angola successfully advocated for direct funding of US$22 million by the Government of Angola for UNICEF Supply Division procurement of traditional vaccines, providing technical support to the cold-chain system.

• From 2015 to November 2017, a total of 243,392 people were reached by the Community Led Total Sanitation programme in 320 communities, with 116 villages already declared open defecation free, benefiting 103,956 people.

• UNICEF-supported assessment of learning achievements was piloted in 10 provinces. Some 22 per cent of children passed the Grade 1 written test, while 60 per cent passed the reading test. In Grade 2, the figures were 36 per cent and 67 per cent, respectively. The pilot will be replicated for other subjects, and the generated evidence will be used by the Ministry of Education in the reform process for improvement of quality of education. In addition, UNICEF supported the implementation of policies for early childhood development and special education.

• In support of decentralized municipalization of social welfare services for children, UNICEF trained officials and activists, provided equipment, engaged civil society partners and funded physical rehabilitation of offices for installation of integrated social action centres in six municipalities of three provinces. Thanks to UNICEF advocacy, in 2017 a green light was received from the Government of Angola (pending since 2014) to move forward with the design of a first cash transfer programme for vulnerable children. The design was completed in December and presented to the authorities and donor (European Union). The cash transfer programme is planned to start beneficiary payments by the second semester of 2018 once approved by the Government of Angola.
UNICEF worked with the National Institute for Children to engage and train relevant arms of the police, judicial authorities, health, social welfare, education and civil society organizations as part of efforts to strengthen the national child protection system. An inter-sectoral workshop was undertaken to define roles and responsibilities of each entity, resulting in the adoption of workflows for referral and case management of different types of violence against children.

Moreover, UNICEF provided capacity development of government counterparts and civil society partners at the national and subnational level in virtually all areas of programme implementation. With the United Nations Country Team, UNICEF catalysed the establishment of the H6 Partnership, led by UNICEF, and established bilateral collaboration with FAO, UN-Habitat, UNFPA, the World Food Programme, UNHCR and WHO. UNICEF also engaged and supported international NGOs, in particular for delivery of emergency response, namely, People in Need, Lutheran World Federation, World Vision and Médecins Sans Frontières.

In 2018, the key management priority for UNICEF Angola is the development of the new Country Programme 2020–2024, and some key programmatic and advocacy priorities for 2018 are vaccine procurement, public finance for children, newborn care and inclusion of the SDGs in the National Development Plan 2018–2022.

OUTPUT 1 UNICEF staff and partners are provided tools, guidance and resources for effective communication on child rights issues with stakeholders.

Analytical statement of progress
UNICEF Angola maintained a strong voice, delivering key advocacy messages to stakeholders and partners on humanitarian response to emergencies, social protection, child health, access to clean water, appropriate hygiene and sanitation, and birth registration. Five editions of an online newsletter reached more than 400 partners, stakeholders and decision makers with regular updates on programme highlights. The Country Office provided technical support to MAFSPM to promote decentralized social protection services and reviewed the visibility and communication plan.

The Internet of Good Things, a mobile platform created by UNICEF Angola, continued to grow both in audience and content in 2017. Some 71,000 users accessed information on life-saving practices, children’s rights, online safety and reproductive health. The platform is free of charge for Movicel users and in 2017, a memorandum of understanding was finalized with UNITEL, to be signed in January, to provide free access to up to 11 million more mobile phone users. During the cholera outbreak, the platform was promoted through a digital campaign on Facebook to deliver behavioural messages related to water treatment and hygiene practices. The campaign ran for two months and reached approximately 1,085,324 people.

For the celebration of World Children’s Day, UNICEF collaborated with the Council of Christian Churches to hold a Conference on the Rights of the Child, at which more than 230 children discussed their situation and access to rights. The National Institute for Children supported advocacy throughout the year with public events and interviews on child rights issues.

In 2018, the Country Office’s focus will be on expanding reach to decision makers, through strategic engagement with parliamentarians and stronger collaboration with the Ministry of Social Communication to leverage advocacy capacities.
OUTPUT 2 UNICEF staff and partners are provided guidance, tools and resources to effectively plan and monitor programmes.

Analytical statement of progress
In 2017, UNICEF Angola undertook a mid-term review process, and the following deliverables were produced: a) results-based management learning; b) a formative evaluation of the Angola Country Programme (2015–2019); c) an updated Analysis on the Situation of Children; d) child poverty measurement, including the MODA analysis; e) affordability analysis of the Angola Country Programme; f) annual reviews with partners; and g) UNICEF Internal Enhanced Annual Review. The analysis from the mid-term review deliverables were used to engage counterparts in conversations about emergent programming 2018–2019 priorities and geographic focus and was referenced during annual review workshops with governmental and non-governmental counterparts.


In 2017, UNICEF Angola released US$3,921,317 as direct cash transfer to partners. The office planned and conducted 39 spot-check visits and 57 programmatic visits of all partners and therefore met the requirements of the HACT assurance, as per UNICEF rules and regulations.

In 2018, the key priority for UNICEF Angola is the development of the new Country Programme 2020–2024. The Country Office has already developed the preliminary vision and road map for the new Country Programme, and it will be further discussed and finalized in the staff retreat planned in February 2018, in consultation with the Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office. In addition, separate discussions will be held with UNFPA and the United Nations Development Programme to align the development process for the new Country Programme Document for the submission of the June board in 2019.

OUTPUT 3 UNICEF partners are provided tools, guidance and resources for effective communication on child rights issues with stakeholders.

Analytical statement of progress
UNICEF Angola maintained a strong voice, delivering key advocacy messages on humanitarian response to emergencies, social protection, child health, access to clean water, appropriate hygiene and sanitation, and birth registration. During 2017, UNICEF shared 35 press releases with its media network and participated in 18 interviews on radio, television and the print media that were cited in more than 120 published articles. Communication assets (branding, videos, brochures, articles in national media) were produced throughout 2017 to strengthen the advocacy component of the country programme. Global campaigns such as World Children’s Day, the International Day of Girls, World Water Week, World Breastfeeding Week, World Vaccination Week and Children on the Move were adapted to the local context through small social media campaigns and media engagement around relevant topics. In 2018, activities will
be aligned with global campaigns and regional strategies, and collaboration with the Ministry of Social Communication is envisaged to strengthen advocacy.

UNICEF Angola continued to expand digital communication channels during 2017. The UNICEF Angola Facebook audience increased by 30 per cent to reach 20,682 followers by December. The Country Office published more than 200 posts, including 10 human interest stories, 25 videos and 16 articles in 2017. Five editions of an online newsletter reached more than 400 partners, stakeholders and decision makers with regular updates on programme highlights. The Country Office provided technical support to MAFSPM to promote decentralized social protection services and reviewed the visibility and communication plan.

UNICEF Angola communicated widely to raise awareness about the refugee crisis in Lunda Norte through press releases, human interest stories, photos and videos on social media and in the national media. The communications section fulfilled donor reporting requirements both for emergencies and regular programming, and the heavy volume of reporting in 2017 constrained capacity to deliver other communication products.

The Internet of Good Things continued to grow both in audience and content in 2017. Some 71,000 users accessed information on life-saving practices, children’s rights, online safety and reproductive health. The platform is free of charge for Movice users and, in 2017, a memorandum of understanding was finalized with UNITE – to be signed in January – to provide free access to up to 11 million more mobile phone users. During the cholera outbreak, the platform was promoted through a digital campaign on Facebook to deliver behavioural messages related to water treatment and hygiene practices. The campaign ran for two months and reached approximately 1,085,324 people.

Internal support was provided across sectors for the drafting of speeches, briefing notes and talking points for several high-level public events. For the celebration of World Children’s Day, UNICEF collaborated with the Council of Christian Churches to hold a Conference on the Rights of the Child, at which more than 230 children discussed their situation and access to rights. The National Institute for Children supported advocacy throughout the year with public events and interviews on child rights issues. UNICEF Angola also partnered with the television channel Zap to participate in a children’s take over of their most popular evening talk show, Zap News.

OUTPUT 4 Staff costs

Analytical statement of progress

In 2017, UNICEF Angola resolved the long outstanding issue of safety and security of the office building in Luanda. In March 2017, the Country Office signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the National Institute for Children for a long-term lease of a new office building. Renovation was undertaken with funding support from UNICEF NY Headquarters and the UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office and upon inspection and issuance of the second FSSS, UNICEF Angola relocated to the new premises in mid-November 2017. Security improvements include a perimeter wall secured with razor wire, walk-through machines, handheld metal detectors and vehicle inspection mirrors. Staff now enjoy dedicated parking space and a secure and conducive working environment. Operational support to the office enabled effective response to several emergencies, including the cholera outbreak and the refugee crisis in Lunda Norte.
Successful negotiation and follow-up with Standard Bank resulted in a refund of US$16,000 that had been previously charged to UNICEF as banking fees, violating specially negotiated banking terms with United Nations agencies in Angola.

The Country Office strengthened ICT with increased use of Office 365 tools for emails, more efficient information management and voice communications. As a result of staff being able to access business tools away from the office, the business continuity plan and work-life balance also improved. The ICT unit completed five projects in 2017, including: Office 365 telephony, modernization of the data centre, replacement of laptop and servers, improvement of UHF and VHF radio coverage and deployment of caller mobile telephony coupled with data bundles.

In 2017, the value of the procurement of goods by UNICEF Angola reached a total of approximately US$8.5 million. Offshore and local procurement accounted for 85 per cent and 15 per cent, respectively, of total procurement. Vaccines procured for the Government with Gavi co-financing (phasing out by the end of 2017) represented the bulk of procurement services in 2017. The total value of the UNICEF Angola supply chain processed in 2017, including procurement services provided to the Government, was more than US$ 39 million.

OUTCOME 3 By 2019, the most vulnerable children, boys, girls, adolescents and women of child-bearing age will have reduced reported common preventable illnesses and disease conditions

Analytical statement of progress
The overall survival rates and health outcomes of children in Angola have improved over the past 15 years. Under-five mortality declined by 53 per cent from 145 in 2001 to 68 per 1,000 live births in 2015. During the same period, neonatal mortality was reduced by 31 per cent from 35 to 24 per 1,000 live births, and currently represents 35 per cent of all under-five deaths. Although estimates show that maternal mortality has declined significantly from 924 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births in 2000 (WHO, 2015, Trends in Maternal Mortality: 1990–2015) to 239 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births in 2016 (Multiple and Health Indicator Inquiry 2015–2016), it remains high.

Progress in maternal, newborn and child health can be attributed to investments in the health sector by the Government of Angola and development partners. Improvements have been made to the network of health-care infrastructure and in specific programmatic areas targeting major child killer conditions, such as malaria. However, progress is unevenly distributed among the population. For example, child mortality rates vary greatly, from 98 per 1,000 live births in rural areas to 68 per 1,000 in urban settings. Provinces in the southern part of the country and households within the lower wealth quintiles present worse child mortality rates.

Malaria remains the main cause of child mortality in Angola, combined with diarrhoea and acute respiratory infection and malnutrition. The recent Multiple and Health Indicator Inquiry 2015–2016 reported a 14 per cent prevalence of malaria among children under five. Some 16 per cent per cent of children had suffered at least one episode of diarrhoea and 3 per cent experienced symptoms of acute respiratory infection during the two weeks before the Multiple and Health Indicator Inquiry 2015–2016 survey. The prevalence of stunting in children under five was found to be 37 per cent, the prevalence of acute malnutrition was 5 per cent, and 66 per cent of children under five in Angola are estimated to suffer from anaemia.
Although the main conditions that contribute to childhood mortality can be effectively controlled with high-impact interventions implemented at scale, coverage levels of these interventions remain woefully low in Angola. Just 50 per cent of deliveries are attended by qualified health personnel, 31 per cent of children 12–23 months old received a full course of childhood vaccinations, 6 per cent of children under five receive vitamin A supplement, and 22 per cent sleep under an insecticide-treated bed net. Only 49 per cent of children suffering from pneumonia and 53 per cent of those suffering from diarrhoea are able to access and receive treatment. Although Angola has relatively low HIV prevalence (2.1 per cent among the general population), only 14 per cent of HIV-exposed newborns receive anti-retroviral treatment.

Low coverage of health services is reflective of a generally weak health system that has insufficient funding and human resources, and faces enormous challenges to deliver health-care services to the population. Angola has faced an economic crisis during the past two years and the health sector will face further difficulty with financing in 2018, as it graduates from the invaluable support of the vaccine alliance for the national immunization programme. In 2017, the health sector was tested with cholera outbreaks in three provinces including the capital, the effects of a prolonged drought in the southern part of the country and an influx of refugees into the northern part of this country. Humanitarian response to emergencies and the conclusion of a nationwide yellow fever epidemic response started in 2015–2016 overshadowed regular programme implementation, to become the main focus in the health sector during 2017.

During 2017, UNICEF Angola supported the Ministry of Health to conduct three phases of a nationwide yellow fever vaccination campaign with financial support from the Russian Government. UNICEF Angola also responded with health and nutrition services to the three emergency situations: a nutrition crisis in the southern provinces (with financial support from the German Government), the refugee crisis in Lunda Norte (with financial support from the Russian Government). UNICEF also partnered with GAVI and WHO to strengthen the routine immunization programme cold chain and acquisition of vaccines for both routine and emergency vaccination activities. UNICEF Angola provided significant services to the Government of Angola and the World Bank for procurement of vaccines, cold-chain equipment and essential health-care commodities. Delivery of these services drew on partnerships with civil society organizations including Caritas Diocesana in Dundo and ADRA. As part of the domestication of the SDGs by Angola, UNICEF worked with the National Institute of Statistics to define the country’s baseline values and targets for the SDG indicators.

The programme faced both internal and external challenges during the year. Internally, due to transitions in the child survival and development team, the section was void of any professional staff for several months. Externally, the Government was preoccupied with presidential and parliamentary elections and, during the second half of the year, the new Government brought changes in personnel at both decision-making and technical levels that affected work in the sector. With the new health team fully reconstituted, UNICEF Angola will engage and work closely with the new authorities at the Ministry, the National Directorate of Public Health and partners to accelerate programme implementation and achievement of results.

**OUTPUT 1** The Government of Angola ensures increased equitable access and demand to quality maternal, newborn and integrated HIV services and interventions.

**Analytical statement of progress**
Following the adoption by the Government of Angola of a National Community and Health Development Agent Programme, UNICEF worked with MAT to define priority axes for roll-out of
the programme. UNICEF provided funding and technical assistance for training of trainers of the programme conducted by the Provincial Directorate of Public Health in Huila that took place in the last quarter of the year in selected provinces. Recently trained trainers will in turn train new programme trainers starting in the first quarter of 2018.

UNICEF also supported the application of international standards for the development of a national immunization cold-chain inventory, and a cold-chain rehabilitation plan was developed during 2017 and is currently being implemented.

Newly available data on children from the DHS and preliminary results from MODA Analysis (ongoing work with INE) have informed the review and adjustment of health and nutrition interventions throughout the country. The SDG framework is used as a reference for new UNICEF support to government programme planning and implementation.

During 2017, UNICEF engaged with the National Institute of Statistics to define baseline values and targets for the SDG indicators in Angola. While the health sector has a National Development Plan that covers the period 2012–2025, under the leadership of the Ministry of Planning, the new Government is currently developing a five-year development plan, which will focus on strengthening the health system. A Health Information Management System is being piloted, which should lead to the creation of a comprehensive data system to replace existing programme-specific data collection and management systems that operate in parallel.

With recruitment of a new health team completed that brings strong expertise in nutrition; maternal, newborn and child health; and HIV, UNICEF will support policies and strategies to advance nutrition, maternal, newborn and child health/Every Newborn Action Plan and HIV (prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV and antiretroviral therapy paediatric) agendas. In 2018, UNICEF Angola will focus particularly on evidence generation, advocacy and policy dialogue, as well as broadening partnerships.

OUTPUT 2 The Government of Angola ensures increased equitable access and demand to quality maternal, newborn and integrated HIV services and interventions.

Analytical statement of progress
In April 2017, refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo began to arrive in Lunda Norte Province of Angola and as of 4 December, a total of 34,886 refugees had been registered by UNHCR, of whom 26,163 are actively receiving assistance. UNICEF Angola mobilized a cross-sector response in health, nutrition, WASH, child protection, education and C4D to implement life-saving interventions for the refugees.

With emergency funds and grants from the German Government, UNICEF Angola formed a partnership with the national and provincial governments and CSOs, including Caritas and the Red Cross, to provide, emergency curative health care to injured and sick refugees, as well as preventive services. Cumulatively, 4,132 children were vaccinated against measles, 535 received the yellow fever vaccination and 528 children received the pentavalent combination vaccine. More than 1,600 women (pregnant or of child-bearing age) received tetanus vaccine. UNICEF Angola supported weekly nutritional screening of children and acutely malnourished children were admitted for treatment at the reception sites. A total of 18,423 children were screened for malnutrition and 598 cases of moderate malnutrition and 130 cases of severe malnutrition were subsequently admitted for treatment. Some 5,000 mothers and caregivers were counselled on good feeding practices for infants and young children.
In three southern provinces affected by drought (Cunene, Huila and Namibe), UNICEF Angola provided health authorities with technical assistance, supported training of health-care providers and community health agents on nutritional screening and malnutrition case management, provided nutritional supplies and equipped 310 nutrition treatment centres that are now fully functional. During 2017, 189,305 children were screened for malnutrition in Angola (including children screened and treated within the refugee response) and 24,923 children below five years were admitted into therapeutic treatment, with a recovery rate of 76 per cent. In 2017, UNICEF established partnerships with Caritas and ADRA to ensure continued support to health and nutrition service delivery at the community level.

UNICEF Angola provided timely material and technical support to the Ministry of Health to respond to cholera outbreaks in Cabinda, Luanda and Zaire provinces.

Finally, UNICEF Angola continued its support to the Ministry of Health to conclude nationwide mass yellow fever vaccination campaigns initiated in 2016. UNICEF provided 3.4 million doses of the vaccine, all relevant injection supplies, and technical and financial support for social mobilization and supervision. During two campaigns organized in February and June, more than 18 million and 2.4 million people, respectively, were vaccinated in 123 of the 166 municipalities in the country. A final round of vaccination took place in November in 43 municipalities, through which 2,360,885 people aged 6 months and over were vaccinated (95 per cent of the target). With the conclusion of this nationwide vaccination campaign, Angola has successfully protected the full population against yellow fever infection.

During 2017, UNICEF Angola focused on responding to emergencies and disease outbreaks and moving forward. Attention will shift to strengthening the health system through planning, routine programming, improved procurement, supply management and the Health Management Information System, and community health.

OUTPUT 3 The Government of Angola invests in increased national human and institutional capacity to provide child health, nutrition and immunization services.

Analytical statement of progress
To date, all basic vaccines for Angola’s immunization programme are being primarily funded by the Government of Angola using extra-budgetary financing mechanisms that are not sustainable. UNICEF continued to advocate on several fronts, leveraging the voice of the visiting Director of the UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office, for the Government of Angola to prioritize immunization financing and put in place a sustainable state budget mechanism to ensure timely fund disbursements. UNICEF Angola provided support for procurement services to purchase vaccines and supplies with government funds worth US$22 million, and to purchase new vaccines and cold-chain equipment with GAVI funding.

UNICEF Angola supported the national cold-chain improvement plan following the 2016 inventory through procurement of 277 vaccine refrigerators in 2017 that are being installed in 42 municipalities in 12 provinces. Continuous temperature monitoring devices (MultiLogs2) were procured and successfully installed for the central walk-in cold room and nine provincial vaccine stores. UNICEF Angola is currently seeking technical assistance for installation at lower administrative levels and for the training of provincial cold-chain managers. A 30m³ walk-in cold room was procured and support is underway for its installation.
As part of the Polio End Game and graduation from GAVI support, UNICEF Angola, in collaboration with WHO, supported the Ministry of Health to organize a workshop to identify mechanisms and options to sustain the programme following transition. A polio outbreak simulation workshop was also organized.

UNICEF and WHO supported the training of 43 immunization programme supervisors and trainers from 17 provinces on the expanded programme on immunization mid-level management course in an effort to revitalize routine immunization activities that were recently been neglected in favour of campaigns. UNICEF provided technical and financial support to prepare the introduction of new vaccines, including support for local planning and cascade training of health staff from national to facility levels. In December 2017, the Ministry of Health introduced the injectable inactivated polio vaccine into the routine programme and introduction of the combined measles/rubella vaccine is scheduled for February 2018.

UNICEF Angola provided further support to Luanda Province to develop and implement local plans to intensify routine vaccination in a bid to address a major backlog of unvaccinated children in the province that alone accounts for 70 per cent of all unvaccinated children nationwide.

From January to September 2017, a total 580,562 children (59 per cent of the target) were vaccinated against measles through routine vaccination activities.

During 2017, UNICEF Angola supported the Nutrition Department of the National Directorate of Public Health to conduct a review of the national nutrition programme and generate a two-year draft action plan. Guidance, manuals and protocols for the integrated management of acute malnutrition are currently being updated in line with the most recent WHO/UNICEF guidelines on treatment of severe acute malnutrition.

During 2017, the general elections and shifting political context in Angola drew the attention of the Government of Angola and partners, away from routine health programme activities. Several humanitarian emergencies also distracted resources and attention for routine programming. In 2018, UNICEF Angola will focus on broadening partnerships and strengthening resilient health systems.

**OUTCOME 4** By 2019, the most vulnerable children and adolescents will benefit from accessible, equitable, affordable and high-quality child protection services, including birth registration, response to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect and child-friendly justice.

**Analytical statement of progress**
In 2017, great strides were made to expand service provision in birth registration, increase capacity to deliver justice for children, develop systems for protecting children from violence, and accelerate the delivery of child protection services in emergencies. A mid-term evaluation of European Union-funded components of the programme provided scope for the revision of programme targets and strategies.

To date, 55 birth registration service posts have been established with UNICEF support, exceeding 90 per cent achievement of the 2018 target. Thirty-one of these posts use ICT and an electronic registration system. Some 121 civil registration staff in 6 provinces were trained on registration procedures. To promote birth registration for children born outside of maternity facilities, 1,047 traditional birth attendants were trained on birth registration and C4D materials.
were developed and disseminated to target provinces to increase knowledge of and demand for birth registration. Additionally, radio and television spots were developed and will be broadcast in 2018. UNICEF worked closely with key partners in the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics group, including the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health and INE, to expand birth registration services in the targeted provinces. Several challenges were encountered, including delays in the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Education to pave the way for birth registration in schools, technical challenges with the birth registration system software, problems with data flow from the field to central levels, and lack of adequate staffing for registration posts in maternity wards. In 2018, UNICEF will provide technical support to the Ministry of Justice and INE to improve the data flow process. UNICEF will also continue to engage the Ministry of Justice to ensure adequate staffing for new registration posts.

In the area of justice for children, UNICEF partnered with the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of the Interior and MINARS to validate a diagnostic study of the justice system for children in Angola. The recommendations of the study were utilized to revise and strengthen programme design. Juvenile justice services were expanded to Huila Province, where renovations for the juvenile court were initiated and furniture was procured to be delivered once renovations are completed. The Juvenile Court in Huila is expected to open in early 2018. Information technology equipment was procured and will be distributed to modernize the Juvenile Court in early 2018.

The Commission for the Guardianship of Minors in Huila was also strengthened and reached 29 children in conflict with the law with alternative measures in 2017. UNICEF promoted South-South and South-North cooperation, supporting a delegation to visit Italy and Mozambique to learn about justice for children services in those countries. Both missions reinforced sectoral knowledge with a special focus on the operationalization of custodial and non-custodial socio-educational measures and the training of justice for children actors. Two training courses were delivered to 73 technicians of the Criminal Investigation Services and Social Welfare services to further build capacity for justice for children in Angola. A partnership between the National Institute for Judicial Studies and the University of Comillas was renewed to facilitate a training for trainers course to be held in February 2018. This training is expected to enhance the sustainability of training of judicial actors.

Progress in justice for children was challenged by delays on behalf of the Government in identifying infrastructure for juvenile courts, lack of adequate staffing for juvenile courts and logistical challenges in the operations of Commissions for the Guardianship of Minors. Delays were also experienced in obtaining necessary approvals for the tendering process for a consultancy to develop and install an integrated MIS for the justice system and for the terms of reference for the development of Standard Operating Procedures for Alternative Measures. In 2018, UNICEF will intensify advocacy with the Government to provide infrastructure and more staffing for the juvenile courts. UNICEF will also engage the Ministry of Justice at the State Secretary level to improve coordination and expedite decision making on key programmatic issues. UNICEF will provide funding for the operation of Commissions for the Guardianship of Minors while lobbying the Government to make budgetary provisions in the future.

UNICEF strengthened prevention of and response to violence against children in Angola through support to establish a child helpline service, and development of a referral system for child survivors of violence. UNICEF supported a team of Angolan officials to make a learning visit to Portugal that provided vital insight for the creation of the helpline service. UNICEF also
provided technical support to document lessons learned from the previous SOS child helpline pilot project implemented in Viana Municipality as well as support for the development of a referral system. Key stakeholders form several sectors participated in the process, including judicial, police, health and social welfare actors. Work-flow charts were developed, including roles and responsibilities of different sectoral actors in the referral system.

In the context of emergency response, UNICEF worked closely with MINARS, the National Institute for Children and civil society to respond to the refugee crisis in Lunda Norte Province, with services for the prevention and response to violence against children, prevention of family separation and provision of recreation and operation of child-friendly spaces. A total of 2,892 children benefited from child-friendly spaces, 119 separated and unaccompanied children accessed alternative care services, 108 child victims of violence accessed child protection services and 18,293 people were reached with key child protection messages.

**OUTPUT 1** The Government of Angola has increased national capacity to provide birth registration services.

**Analytical statement of progress**

The Birth Registration and Justice for Children project implemented by the Government of Angola and financed by the European Union achieved progress in strengthening and expanding birth registration in Angola during 2017. With UNICEF support, birth registration services expanded to 25 new maternity wards and health facilities, increasing the number of facilities providing birth registration to 55 (out of a target of 60 facilities in seven provinces by 2018). Some 31 of these posts use ICT and an electronic registration system. In Luanda Province alone, 16 additional birth registration posts opened during 2017, bringing the total number of posts in Luanda to 22. In expectation of the final endorsement of a memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Education, two provinces have already initiated birth registration in schools, while primary schools in 19 municipalities across seven target provinces have been identified to host birth registration services.

During 2017, 65 civil registration staff received legal, technical and information technology training in six target provinces.

Some 121 nurses, hospital administrators and health staff received training to enable them to deliver information on birth registration during patient contacts beginning with prenatal medical checks and extending through delivery and post-natal checks including immunization visits. During the initial phase of the project, 1,000 copies of a previously drafted and approved handbook on birth registration were distributed to health workers and 23,000 copies were printed and will be distributed during the second phase (2018), to all provinces in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Justice. Given that about 50 per cent of births in Angola take place outside of health facilities, the programme has also engaged traditional birth attendants in the 19 municipalities with the highest number of births across the seven target provinces. With UNICEF support, 1,047 traditional birth attendants were trained to ensure that at least 50 traditional birth attendants in each of the most populated municipalities have the necessary knowledge and skills to provide information about birth registration.

UNICEF continued to play a key role in supporting the Ministry of Justice to coordinate the multisectoral Civil Registration and Vital Statistics working group during 2017. Civil Registration and Vital Statistics actors were engaged through regular coordination meetings and, at the end of 2017, UNICEF provided technical and financial support for the participation of a multisectoral
Angolan Delegation in the 4th Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration in Nouackchott, Mauritania. The outcomes of the conference for Angola included: the establishment of a high-level platform to coordinate efforts between the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Health and INE to accelerate birth registration and the promotion of South-South cooperation with Mozambique and Saint Thomas.

Although important progress was made, some planned activities for 2017 were adversely affected by partners’ delays in accessing funds. In 2018, UNICEF will engage the Ministry of Justice’s planning office to identify causes and address constraints. The mid-term evaluation provided a valuable opportunity to revise targets based on emerging evidence and updated demographic and health indicators. The birth registration target for 2019 has been realistically adjusted to 38 per cent of children under five.

OUTCOME 5 By 2019, the most vulnerable boys and girls will have increased access to social assistance programmes, through improvement of policy environment and systems.

Analytical statement of progress
In the course of 2017, substantial progress was made in the operationalization of the new institutional model for decentralized access to social welfare services. During the year, several trainings were offered at central and provincial levels to more than 150 government staff. The trainings were focused in the manuals 3 and 4 of a set of five manuals that constitute the core basis for the methodology of the municipalization of the social action services. These two manuals are focused on the individual management of vulnerable cases and on the design and follow-up of several communitarian projects, under which civil society and local administrations can partner to (partially) cover the local gap of social services and provide a more integrated support for the most vulnerable populations. The trainings were provided by a national team of trainers from several ministries (former MINARS, former Ministry of Family and Women Promotion and MAT), with the support of UNICEF representatives in the provinces as well as the focal points for the project at the provincial government.

Additionally, during the last quarter of the year, UNICEF developed jointly with the former MINARS, a methodology to select the social activists at communal level, which aimed to be transparent and promoted a more locally focused approach, as the selection, including the interviewing process were performed all at communal levels, with the strong involvement of representatives from the municipalities and the province, an innovation for the local governments of the three provinces involved (Bie, Moxico and Uige). The trainings for the social activists started in the two municipalities of Moxico in December, with the support of the Institute of Religious Sciences of Angola as the main training institution for the social educators in Angola. The programme is being developed with the direct involvement of the Ministry and is being adapted to the specific needs of the work of the social activists, under this new model for the decentralization of social services (Municipalization of Social Action).

Moreover, in August a public call for proposals was held, in order to identify an NGO with local presence and capacity to implement the civil society strategy in each province, including the transfer of funding to and respective monitoring of local communitarian-based organizations that will implement the communitarian projects on the field. World Vision Angola was the selected organization. Long-term sustainability of the intervention will be ensured through inclusion of the Municipalization of Social Action in the medium-term government strategic plans. To this end, and as a result of the recent merge of the former Ministry of the Family and Promotion of
Women and MINARS, the Municipalization of the Social Action Services is being incorporated as a programme of the National Plan for the Fight Against Poverty (2018–2022).

Political space was created for a cash transfer programme in Angola and in May a letter was sent from the minister of MINARS requesting UNICEF to move forward with the implementation of the programme. An external provider, Development Pathways, was selected to design the programme and preparatory activities are ongoing since September. The high-level design was provided in December and was presented to the Ministry of Social Action, Family and Promotion of Women during the first half of December. Final decision on the main features of the programme design need to be agreed with the Ministry by the end of January.

The social policy team strengthened its activities in public finance for children during 2017, by widening its budget brief analysis based on the state budget to an additional number of sectors. The partnership with the national NGO ADRA was maintained for the budget analysis and dissemination of the main conclusions. However, due to some delays in the data analysis, and taking into consideration the institutional governmental changes occurred after the legislative elections held in August, some of the dissemination activities, in particular with ministries and parliamentarians, were postponed until the first quarter of 2018. On top of the budget briefs performed, a fiscal space analysis and a political economy study were started with the support of the UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office and a team of external consultants during the last quarter of the year.

With regard to the research for generating quality evidence in sectors related to children's rights, the partnership between the Catholic University of Sao Paulo, PUC and Catholic University of Angola was maintained and a review of the current academic curriculum of Catholic University of Angola was finished, as was the design of a curriculum for a new master course in social services. As part of the partnership, a number of studies were performed, among them a school feeding study, which has been disseminated among several ministries with the aim of reviewing the actual programme and policy. Furthermore, studies of specific interest of the former MINARS are ongoing, particularly a study on the institutional response to people with disabilities and a multidimensional study on child poverty MODA, which was developed jointly with INE. The draft results of the study were already available in October and a public launch of the results is scheduled for January 2018.

**OUTPUT 1** The Government of Angola has a strengthened social assistance institutional and operational framework, for substantial scale-up of main social protection interventions.

**Analytical statement of progress**

During 2017, progress was made in the operationalization of the new institutional model for decentralized access to social welfare services. The model, entitled Municipalization of Social Action (derived from Municipalization of the Social Action Services), started to be piloted in six municipalities of three provinces (Bie, Moxico and Uige) where centres are being set up. Each municipality hosts one municipal centre and three communal centres. Twenty social activists per municipality (120 in total) were selected between November and December and started a first cycle of trainings in December 2017.

Although delays prevented the opening of Municipalization of Social Action centres during 2017, progress was made in the preparation of infrastructure and training of technical staff and social activists, and the municipal centres are planned to open to the public and start offering social support services in early 2018. Municipalization of Social Action activists will identify the most
An external provider was selected to design the programme and a high-level design is being proposed to the Government. An operational manual and the MIS are currently under preparation, and terms of reference to issue a request for proposals for payment providers is also being finalized.

In August 2017, a public call for proposals was issued to identify an NGO with local presence and capacity to implement one of the pillars of the civil society strategy in each province, including the transfer of funding to and respective monitoring of local community-based organizations to implement community projects. World Vision Angola was selected for this role. The sustainability of Municipalization of Social Action will be addressed through its inclusion in the medium-term government strategic plans. Due to the recent merger of the former Ministry of the Family and Promotion of Women and MINARS, Municipalization of Social Action is being incorporated as a programme within the National Plan for the Fight Against Poverty (2018–2022). Political space was created through UNICEF advocacy for a cash transfer programme in Angola and in May 2017, a letter was received from the minister of MINARS requesting UNICEF to move forward with the implementation of the programme.

An external provider was selected to design the programme and a high-level design is being proposed to the Government. An operational manual and the MIS are currently under preparation, and terms of reference to issue a request for proposals for payment providers is also being finalized.

**OUTPUT 2** UNICEF Angola generates quality evidence in sectors related to children’s rights, informing policy and budgetary frameworks.

**Analytical statement of progress**

UNICEF Angola strengthened activities in public finance for children during 2017, widening a budget brief analysis of the state budget to additional sectors (six sectors were analysed in 2017 compared with four in 2016). UNICEF Angola maintained a partnership with the national NGO ADRA for the analysis and dissemination work in 2017. A fiscal space analysis and a political economy study were also initiated in 2017 with the support of the UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office and a team of two external consultants, during the last quarter of 2017. An inception mission took place in November to prepare and design the methodology of the study, during which the UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office and consultant team met with all Country Office programmatic sections and stakeholders from civil society and the Government. A second mission is expected to take place during the first quarter of 2018.

Under the framework of the SIMSAP Study and Research strategy (APROSOC component under the responsibility of UNICEF), three lines of work were implemented in 2017: 1) a multidimensional study on child poverty (MODA) in partnership with INE; 2) partnership with the Catholic University of Angola; and 3) studies in partnership with MINARS. MODA provides information on emerging issues for children that will inform the Country Office sections in programme design and implementation as well as inform public policies and programmes. UNICEF supported a training for approximately 20 staff from INE during the first two weeks of December, on use of the statistical analysis software package STATA to support the MODA.
Preliminary results of MODA were used internally in the review of the Situation Analysis of Children in Angola and a public launch is scheduled for 2018.

The multi-stakeholder partnership with Catholic University of Angola involves three main entities within the university: Catholic University of Angola’s Centre of Studies and Research, Catholic University of Angola’s Instituto Superior Joao Paulo II (tertiary education for social workers) and the Association of Social Workers from Angola. Through this structure, UNICEF Angola and Catholic University of Angola are pursuing several strategies to strengthen social work in Angola: 1) academic capacity building; 2) promotion of high-quality research to inform improvements in policy and programmes; 3) improvement of university education on social services; and 4) strengthening the professional association of social workers. During 2017, the partnership between the Catholic University of Sao Paulo and Catholic University of Angola was maintained and a review of the current academic curriculum of the Catholic University of Angola was completed. The curriculum was also designed for a new master’s degree programme in social services.

Within the Catholic University of Angola partnership, UNICEF supported studies including a School Feeding study, which was disseminated to several ministries to promote review of current programme implementation. A study on the current situation of social workers was carried out by the Association of Social Workers and findings are being used to design a strategy to cover the provincial shortage of social workers. Studies of specific interest to the former MINARS are ongoing, including a study on the institutional response to people with disabilities and the MODA analysis jointly with INE. Findings from these studies have informed the UNICEF Angola Enhanced Annual Review, providing new information to adjust future UNICEF interventions.

OUTCOME 6 By 2019, leading decision makers will have increased knowledge about child rights issues and children and caregivers have positive behaviours around infant and maternal care, child protection, participation and social protection.

Analytical statement of progress
UNICEF Angola implemented interventions informed by formative studies to promote birth registration, health and protection for children in priority communities, including in emergency situations. A C4D strategy focused on birth registration based on the evidences of a formative study was approved by the Government and implemented in seven provinces. Birth registration became available in 55 maternities in the target provinces and 40 health workers, 45 community leaders and 1,047 traditional attendants were trained on interpersonal skills.

As part of UNICEF response to the Democratic Republic of the Congo refugee influx crisis, UNICEF designed and implemented C4D interventions based on social mobilization and community dialogue. A group of 60 refugees and Angola Red Cross volunteers, together with two community radios, worked as a functional communication and community engagement mechanism. The volunteers were identified and trained on social mobilization and inter-personal communication and community theatre methodologies. More than 80 per cent of refugees in both Cacanda and Lovua can recall the main key messages on WASH, child protection and health. A WASH C4D Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices study conducted by UNICEF in Cacanda and Lovua reception centres, as well as Dundo community, confirmed the positive results of the social mobilization and informed the C4D interventions.

As part of the a pilot programme of convergence of services in Huila Province, a knowledge,
attitudes and practice study on maternal, newborn and child health was conducted at the end of November to create a baseline and inform C4D interventions, including those focusing on nomadic communities. Another component of this programme is the joint agreement with FAO signed in October. The initiative combined children’s rights aspects with the FAO’s field farmers schools methodology. In total, 27 master trainers of the field farmers schools were trained to promote key behaviours in the areas of nutrition, hygiene and birth registration.

**OUTPUT 1** Children, parents, caregivers and communities have knowledge of at least three key protective behaviours for children.

**Analytical statement of progress**

During 2017, UNICEF strengthened the capacity of community leaders, influencers and social mobilizers to promote protective and life-saving behaviours, including in emergency situations. A comprehensive response plan supported by UNICEF successfully prevented the spread of a cholera outbreak at the beginning of 2017. Some 620 social mobilizers were trained and promoted dialogue within communities in the municipalities of Cabinda, Luanda and Soyo, providing 73,925 families with life-saving information. More than 650,252 people in these communities also received information through radio, theatre and community dialogue.

UNICEF Angola responded swiftly to the refugee crisis in Lunda Norte Province, identifying and training 60 refugees and Angola Red Cross volunteers on social mobilization, interpersonal communication skills and community theatre methodologies. A survey found that more than 80 per cent of refugees in Cacanda and Lovua were able to recall key messages on WASH, child protection and health. UNICEF set up two community radios in both camps that broadcast life-saving information in five languages. A knowledge, attitudes and practice study conducted among refugees confirmed that C4D interventions successfully promoted behaviour change around latrine use and the adoption of positive personal hygiene practices.

A C4D strategy to promote birth registration was developed based on evidence from a formative study, approved by the Government of Angola, and implemented in seven provinces. During 2017, UNICEF support made birth registration services available in 25 maternity wards and health facilities (55 in total) in the target provinces and UNICEF supported training for 40 health workers, 1,047 traditional attendants, and 45 community leaders and mobilizers on interpersonal communication and birth registration procedures. These actors currently support vulnerable families to access and use birth registration services.

Within a pilot programme of integrated service delivery in Huila Province, UNICEF Angola trained 14 social activists and 45 community leaders on social mobilization and interpersonal communication. A knowledge, attitudes and practice study on maternal, newborn and child health was conducted to provide a programme baseline and inform C4D interventions, including for nomadic communities.

UNICEF partnered with FAO to include elements of children’s rights in FAO’s Farmer Field School methodology. In total, 27 field farmers schools master trainers were trained in 2017 to support interventions to build the resilience of vulnerable and drought-affected communities to climate change, with a focus on children.

UNICEF Angola conducted a microplanning exercise for social mobilization for routine immunization and polio and measles/rubella campaigns with 15 provincial supervisors and
seven municipal supervisors in Luanda Province. Participants are now better prepared and equipped to plan and monitor social mobilization activities.

UNICEF strengthened the capacity of service providers involved in the municipalization of social action pilot in six municipalities. In total, 71 pre-selected social activists from six municipalities participated in a communication channels assessment, testing of messages to promote life-saving and protective behaviours, and interpersonal communication exercise sessions.

UNICEF renewed a partnership with the Council of Christian Churches and defined interventions with an influential association of taxi drivers for 2018. During 2017, 13 supervisors of the Council were trained on social and behaviour change communication for emergency preparedness and 20 of the taxi association members participated in a training on children’s rights.

### Evaluation and research

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