Bolivia

Executive Summary

In the penultimate year of the UNICEF - Government of the Pluri-national State of Bolivia Country Programme (CP), UNICEF achieved significant results in child and maternal health; nutrition; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), child protection, education and social protection. In addition, in close collaboration with the Government, UNICEF Bolivia started the process of preparing the next country programme document (CPD) for 2018-2022, as part of UN Country Team (UNCT) work to design the future United Nations Development Assistant Framework for Bolivia.

In line with the Bolivian President’s ‘Patriotic Agenda 2025’, which outlines the Government's long-term vision for national development, an economic and social development plan for 2016-2020 was launched this year. It established 68 goals and 340 results to achieve the concept of “living well” for the population. This is an ambitious plan that, for the first time, lays out an integrated system for planning at the central and sub-national levels, linked to the allocation of resources.

Despite Bolivia’s status as a lower-middle-income country and the achievement of important progress in social indicators, disparities and inequities remain high, especially among rural indigenous communities and marginalized urban populations. While important poverty reduction has been achieved, children remain among the most vulnerable; 43 per cent are affected by moderate multidimensional poverty (UDAPE, 2013).

This year the Ministry of Health (MoH) launched a study demonstrating that maternal and neonatal mortality continue to be of critical concern. While there has been a reduction from 229 to 160 per 100,000 live births, significant geographical disparities remain, with the highest rates in the departments of La Paz (289), Potosi (255) and Cochabamba (188). Access to education continued to improve, almost reaching universal primary education (97 per cent). However, important gaps persist for early education (63 per cent) and secondary education (72 per cent).

In 2016 UNICEF’s key achievements included positioning integrated early childhood development (ECD) on the national development agenda, with a strong focus on children with disabilities and early detection of difficulties or developmental delays. In addition, priority was placed on identifying coordination mechanisms between the health and education sectors, as well as on developing quality standards for preschool development. The model for promoting timely learning of original languages, cultures and development at the community level – developed by the Pluri-national Institute of Languages and Cultures (IPELC) with important technical input from UNICEF Bolivia – established 126 functional “language nests” in 20 indigenous communities.

As part of the launch of a study on maternal mortality, the national plan to accelerate the reduction of maternal and neonatal mortality was published and disseminated to guide the implementation strategy, which aims to reach the goal of reducing maternal mortality by at least 50 per cent and child mortality by at least 30 per cent by 2020.
Humanitarian efforts largely focused on the response to the Zika virus outbreak, with 127 reported cases in Bolivia; six with microcephaly and one with Guillen Barre. The work of UNICEF Bolivia consisted of technical assistance to the MoH, in close collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO), mainly concerning communication messages, research on risk perceptions and strategic approaches to combat the spread of the Aedes species mosquito, responsible for the spread of Zika and other serious diseases including dengue fever and yellow fever. An integrated response by all programme components was also implemented in the department of Beni.

The most significant shortfalls this year included the considerable delay by the Government in presenting its fourth State Party report on implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) to the CRC Committee, and a new Government bill on youth gangs, which could make juvenile justice measures harsher, and hamper progress on the Child and Adolescent Code.

In terms of partnerships, collaboration with the private sector advanced and a long-term and integrated alliance with the National Bank of Bolivia was developed to promote the rights of children with disabilities. Furthermore, UNICEF Bolivia’s communication campaign #HeroesRSE won in the category of ‘institutional advertising’ at the 2016 Eikon Awards, the most established competition for institutional communication in Argentina. UNICEF Bolivia will also become a member of the board of the UN Global Compact in Bolivia.

The longstanding partnership with the Government of Sweden was renewed, and several joint programmes were implemented in collaboration with several sister UN agencies, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Food Programme (WFP), UN Population Fund (UNFPA), UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM).

**Humanitarian Assistance**

In 2016, Bolivia continued to experience natural disasters resulting from climate change and the first case of Zika was reported in the country. UNICEF Bolivia played an important role in ensuring coordination of the humanitarian response, particularly the drought and Zika emergency, as leader of the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Humanitarian Thematic Group and co-lead for thematic groups addressing nutrition, WASH and education under the leadership of the sectoral ministries.

After decades of worsening drought and following a strong 2014-2016 El Nino, this culminated in declaration of a state of national emergency by the President in late November. Approximately 125,000 families were under severe water rationing. The city of La Paz, which is the seat of Bolivia’s government and home to about 800,000 people (as of 2001) saw its three reservoirs almost completely dry up. The situation was exacerbated by a lack of preparation and limited management capacity, provoking a risk for civil unrest.

The first case of Zika in Bolivia was confirmed on 16 January 2016; by November this number had increased to 127, with nine cases of microcephaly reported. Under the leadership of the MoH, UNICEF supported the implementation of a ‘national integrated management strategy for the prevention and control of dengue, chikungunya and Zika’ in the department of Beni. As a result of the interventions, 1,055 health professionals improved their capacities to perform differential diagnosis and epidemiological surveillance, with an emphasis on microcephaly attributable to Zika. Targets for communication activities on information and prevention were exceeded, for example more than 27,000 students and 900 teachers were reached, compared to targets of 20,000 and 100, respectively.
**Nutrition:** UNICEF Bolivia supported initiatives aimed at: (1) strengthening technical capacities of nutrition staff in the Zika emergency response; (2) undertaking a multisectoral evaluation of the drought response, to identify rises in acute malnutrition; (3) technical and logistical assistance for preparation of a plan to reduce severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in the Bolivian Amazon; and (4) implementation of a joint resilience program to support communities severely affected by flooding in the departments of Bení and La Paz (northern region).

**WASH:** Interventions implemented by UNICEF Bolivia included: (1) supporting upgrading of the national emergency plan; (2) providing technical support for the formulation of technologies for the guide to WASH in emergencies and the WASH supply providers catalogue; (3) enhancing emergency coordination and response within the WASH sector; and (4) reducing vulnerability and improving resilience in water and sanitation in communities affected by recurring flooding.

**Education:** Activities supported by UNICEF Bolivia included: (1) the establishment of six departmental working groups on risk management for the education sector; (2) strengthening capacities of 1,331 teachers responsible for risk management and disaster-prevention in schools; (3) information and prevention campaigns on Zika, dengue and chikungunya in 361 schools and for use in training educational directors; and (4) installing water tanks and providing water through trucks to schools in response to the drought emergency.

**Child protection:** UNICEF Bolivia supported the following initiatives in 2016: (1) training on promoting care, security and protection of children and adolescents and reducing violence, abuse, exploitation and negligence during the flood response; (2) continuing psychosocial support in schools as part of the ‘A New Sun for Community Wellbeing’ initiative; (3) providing support at the departmental level to develop contingency plans for the protection of children and adolescents; and (4) developing material for the care of and attention to children, adolescents and pregnant women affected by Zika and to prevent negligence and abandonment in the case of new-borns with microcephaly.

UNICEF Bolivia also continued its involvement in a joint initiative with the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Department’s Disaster Preparedness Programme (DIEPECHO), under the leadership of FAO, focused on strengthening resilience in communities and among service providers in the areas of WASH and nutrition. The programme targeted 12 municipalities in the departments of La Paz and Beni, and benefitted 200 families.

An evaluation of the El Niño preparedness and response plan was also carried out, jointly with the Vice Ministry of Civil Defence, with the objective of assessing the Government’s capacities in emergency preparedness and response in relation to Law 602 on disaster risk management and the national drought response plan. The results will allow the Government to better incorporate and comply with children’s rights in future emergency preparedness and response plans at the national and subnational levels.

**Emerging Areas of Importance**

In addition to stagnating progress in social indicators for children and persisting disparities, issues emerged in 2016 that present both opportunities and challenges for the future of children and adolescents in Bolivia. These issues were integrated into UNICEF Bolivia’s activities this year and are playing a key role in the design of the next country programme document for 2018-2022. These include:
Early childhood development: UNICEF Bolivia positioned ECD as a key focus area within its annual management plan (AMP) this year to foster an integrated and cross-sectoral approach to programming, responding to the holistic needs of children in their early years. During 2016 collaboration between the health and education sectors was strengthened in the areas of: developing guidance for health professionals in early stimulation and development, quality standards for preschool centres and a national programme for parenting and early education. There was a strong focus on children with disabilities and a strengthened understanding of the importance of birth registration among health professionals in hospitals.

Migration and rapid urbanization: Bolivia is experiencing important demographic transformations, characterized by migration and rapid urbanization. At present, the four biggest cities of Bolivia (La Paz/El Alto, Cochabamba and Santa Cruz) with their respective 16 connected municipalities, are home to almost half of the population (46 per cent). More than half (60 per cent) of all children live in intermediate (27) or major urban (5) municipalities. Therefore, it is crucial to address the needs of both urban and rural regions through an enhanced focus on sustainable cities and communities in the next country programme document. Child protection is a key area in which UNICEF Bolivia has been working in the four large urban areas. Important activities in 2016 included the consolidation and functioning of the centres for prevention and therapeutic care for victims of sexual violence (CEPAT) and interventions to reduce child labour.

Recurrent natural disasters and vulnerability to climate change: Bolivia is highly vulnerable to natural disasters such as drought and flooding, and climate change is likely to increase the frequency and severity of these extreme weather events in the future. After decades of worsening drought and following a strong 2014-2016 El Niño, the President declared a state of national emergency at the end of November 2016. UNICEF Bolivia: supported the Government’s response in the city of La Paz to ensure clean drinking water and sanitation in schools and institutions for children without parental care; participated in a rapid assessment of the drought’s impact on young children’s nutrition in the department of Oruro; supported a national assessment of the Government’s capacity in emergency preparedness and response to the drought; organized a national workshop on adaptation to climate change in the WASH sector and implemented a joint resilience programme with FAO to reduce vulnerabilities in nutrition, health, water and sanitation.

Adolescents with focus on secondary education: UNICEF Bolivia is strengthening its focus on adolescents and will continue to do so in the next country programme document, mainly through the education system and secondary education, creating cross-sectoral linkages between education, health, WASH and protection. While access to primary education is almost universal, a large group of adolescent boys and girls do not advance to secondary education or drop out of school before finishing their formal studies. In addition, teenage pregnancy is a major health concern that puts both mothers and children at high risk of illness and death.

In 2016 UNICEF Bolivia supported the work of the MoE in designing and implementing the "multi-grade modular baccalaureate programme", which aims to ensure secondary education for adolescents in remote and hard-to-reach communities. Meanwhile, teenage pregnancy and violence prevention are addressed in schools as part of the menstrual hygiene management (MHM) initiative.

Support “movements” to accelerate results for children: UNICEF Bolivia continued its efforts to strengthen public advocacy and communication efforts, with a specific focus on violence against children (VAC). A key initiative launched this year was an open forum on “Niñez 360°” (Childhood 360°) to stimulate public interest and discussion on key issues related to children. Strategic multi-stakeholder partnerships positioning the private sector at
their core were also strengthened. One initiative launched this year, which won a prestigious communication award, is the #HeroesRSE campaign positioning UNICEF as the partner of choice of the Bolivian private sector. Four leading companies joined the campaign and are echoing UNICEF’s advocacy messages. The estimated national reach is 26 business associations and 2,850 companies.

Summary Notes and Acronyms

AMP  Annual management plan
C4D  Communication for development
CEDAW  Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
CEPAT  Centres for Prevention and Therapeutic Care for Victims of Sexual Violence
CEPOS  Indigenous Peoples’ Education Councils
CESC  Local Community Education Councils
CIDES/UMSA  Graduate Programme for Development Science/ University of San Andres
CMT  Country management team
CP  Country programme
CQIC  Continuous quality improvement cycles
CPD  Country programme document
CRC  Convention on the Rights of the Child
CRPD  Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
CRBP  Children’s Rights and Business Principles
CRC  Convention on the Rights of Children
CSR  Corporate social responsibility
DHS  Demographic health survey
ECD  Early childhood development
ECHO  European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office
FAO  Food and Agriculture Organization
FAUTAPO  Education for Development Fund
GSS  Global staff survey
GSSC  Global Shared Service Centre
HQ  UNICEF headquarters
HRBA  Human rights-based approach
ICE  Integrated corporate engagement
ICT  Information and communication technology
IOM  International Organisation for Migration
ILC  Language and Culture Institute
INE  National Institute of Statistics
IPELC  Pluri-national Institute of Languages and Cultures

LTA  Long-term agreement
MESCP  Socio-Community and Productive Model
MHM  Menstrual hygiene management
MoE  Ministry of Education
MoEW  Ministry of Environment and Water
MoFA  Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoH  Ministry of Health
MoJ  Ministry of Justice
OMMN  Observatory of neonatal & maternal mortality
UNICEF Bolivia plays a pivotal role in the development of institutional capacities and empowerment of communities and families through a variety of sectoral and inter-sectoral initiatives. Highlights for 2016 are described below.

UNICEF Bolivia continued to generate evidence and update data to ensure equity in the national budget for children and facilitate advocacy for sectoral public policies. This was done in collaboration with the Government, by developing studies on preparation and response to emergencies, the impact of climate change and migration on children, and various studies on protecting children’s rights and preventing violence.

National and sub-national data collection capacity was strengthened. For example, as part of the 2016 national household survey, a sub-survey on child labour was also developed. Support was also given to the MoH for a survey and census study to update maternal mortality indicators.

In terms of empowering communities, families, children and adolescents, UNICEF Bolivia supported the development of capacities of personnel to implement cycles of continuous improvement in health; capacities of municipal technicians, to ensure the adequate management of water and sanitation; revitalization of indigenous languages through the bilingual nests; menstrual hygiene management with adolescents; and strengthening disaster risk reduction in education, health, water and nutrition. Capacities were also built in the protection sector; for example, judges received specific training in juvenile justice and dealing with abandoned and institutionalized children.

To ensure the sustainability of its training activities, UNICEF Bolivia established strategic partnerships with the following institutions: NUR University, for training of community agents; Cerebrum and Catholic University, to offer a degree in neuroscience and education; and the
School of Public Management for training community promoters and courses in the protection of rights.

**Evidence Generation, Policy Dialogue and Advocacy**

In 2016, important statistics that will help update the situation of children in Bolivia were collected as a direct result of UNICEF Bolivia’s advocacy. For example, demographic and health survey (DHS) questionnaires included information on violence against children (VAC) and early childhood development (ECD). Additionally, the National Institute for Statistics included a sub-questionnaire on child labour as part of this year’s survey. Further data analyses were conducted with the Department of Political, Social and Economic Analysis (UDAPE), specifically on maternal mortality, social budgets and inequalities. In addition, a national cost-efficiency analysis comparing alternative measures to the deprivation of liberty with imprisonment for adolescents in conflict with the law was launched.

To generate evidence for the vice minister for the defence of consumers and users’ rights on implementation of Law nº 775 (January 8, 2016), which relates to the promotion of healthy nutrition and the regulation of advertising of food and non-alcoholic beverages, UNICEF Bolivia, in partnership with the Universidad San Francisco Xavier (Chuquisaca), conducted a study in schools in Sucre that demonstrates the impact on children’s rights of the marketing and advertising strategies adopted by the food and beverage industry.

Additionally, a series of policy dialogues were launched (Niñez 360°), to bring together decision makers, stakeholders and experts from Bolivia and abroad. The events sought to produce greater understanding of child-related issues, as well as to discuss and share evidence, innovations, policy interventions or initiatives related to children’s well-being. The first event was organized to facilitate a dialogue between national and international experts, including the office of the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, to provide evidence and knowledge and to reflect on the issue of violence, particularly sexual violence against children.

**Partnerships**

UNICEF Bolivia strengthened strategic partnerships with public, civil society and the private sector and academic institutions during 2016. A continued emphasis was placed on interactions with the private sector, resulting in positive advances for children. In 2016, a long-term and integrated alliance with Banco Nacional de Bolivia was achieved, to promote the rights of children with disabilities in Bolivia and within the bank’s value chain. Partnership with the telecommunications company ‘TIGO Bolivia’ is currently being renewed to extend, expand and enhance its scope.

Following implementation of UNICEF Bolivia’s corporate engagement strategy, more than 20 private and public companies, public institutions, business associations, NGOs, specialized business media and international organizations were approached with a marketing proposition to develop integrated corporate engagement (ICE). Five companies from different industries improved their understanding of the impact of their operations and business on children and, as a result, are including children’s rights as a part of their sustainability and corporate social responsibility (CSR) strategies.

In 2016, the National Chamber of Industries joined the group of business associations that in 2015 had partnered with UNICEF Bolivia to promote ‘Children’s Rights and Business Principles’ (CRBP) among its partners and members. In April, more than 30 companies participated in an event organized by the Bolivian Confederation of Private Entrepreneurs and UNICEF Bolivia on how to include the CRPB in corporate social responsibilities (CSR) strategies.
UNICEF also strengthened strategic collaborations with civil society, particularly at the sub-national level, complementing the support already being provided to the Government, with partners including: Action against Hunger, Save the Children, Asociación Quilli Wasi Yuyay Japina, Caritas Cochabamba, Maya Paya Kimsa, Samaritan’s Purse and the Education for Development Fund (FAUTAPO).

**External Communication and Public Advocacy**

External communication was directed in 2016 toward raising awareness about the inclusion and participation of children and adolescents, in order to influence public opinion and decision makers. As part of UNICEF’s 70th anniversary celebration, UNICEF Bolivia received the honour of a Parliamentary Tribute from Bolivia’s Legislative Assembly for its support for children’s rights in Bolivia and worldwide.

To track its performance, raise awareness and create a brand, as well as to develop a national communication strategy and meet specific key performance indicators (KPIs), UNICEF Bolivia aligned itself with UNICEF’s global communication strategy, and carried out a ‘brand barometer’ in Bolivia. This showed that UNICEF Bolivia is the best known social organisation in the country (total awareness: 86 per cent), with a generally positive impression (73 per cent), high levels of trust (63 per cent) and respect for its values (64 per cent).

As a result of the ‘brand barometer’, the #HeroesRSE communication campaign – which included four leading Bolivian companies (Boliviana de Aviación, Banco Nacional de Bolivia, Farmacorp and TIGO) – positioned UNICEF Bolivia as the partner of choice of the Bolivian private sector for CSR and investment in children. The campaign won the category ‘institutional advertising’ at the 2016 Eikon Awards, the most established competition for institutional communication in Argentina. Bolivian businesses also supported the campaign and UNICEF Bolivia’s tools for corporate social responsibility. The estimated national reach was 26 business associations and 2,850 companies.

Additionally, a communications for development (C4D) strategy was developed in response to the Zika emergency, and an alliance with journalists was developed to generate awareness and information on prevention of the disease. Similarly, an awareness-raising campaign to prevent and report violence against children and adolescents was carried out in alliance with the police.

**Identification and Promotion of Innovation**

UNICEF Bolivia constantly seeks opportunities and innovative mechanisms to advance progress towards results for children, especially the most vulnerable. In 2016 UNICEF Bolivia developed a new survey tool to conduct research on child migration in a region affected by recurrent natural disasters, to better understand how environmental erosion is perceived by the population and how it impacts the implementation and realization of children’s rights: a critical emerging issue in Bolivia. This research included quantitative and qualitative surveys, for which 433 parents were interviewed. A complementary survey module, to enable the collection of more in-depth information, was also designed and implemented for interviews with 105 migrant adolescents and young people. This innovative survey tool, which includes implementation guidelines, can be replicated in other parts of the region or country in order to better understand the practices and trajectories of migrant children and adolescents.
UNICEF Bolivia also continued to develop its innovative approach to working with the private sector. It fostered unique multistakeholders partnerships with the private sector with the objective of raising resources for the work of the Office, leveraging assets for children and achieving programmatic goals. Examples include: the tripartite alliance between the telecommunication company TIGO, UNICEF Bolivia and the Supreme Electoral Tribunal to achieve universal, sustainable access to birth registration; the partnership with the National Bank of Bolivia, for which the bank’s donation is used, in accordance with the MoH, to strengthen the institutional capacities of Bolivia’s disability registration system; and the ‘Triple Seal’ initiative to eradicate child labour in the department of Santa Cruz between the departmental government, the sugarcane industry and UNICEF.

Support to Integration and cross-sectoral linkages

In 2016, building on the success of the past and looking ahead to the next CPD 2018-2022, UNICEF Bolivia strengthened cross-sectoral coordination.

Psychosocial emergency interventions: UNICEF Bolivia developed and implemented an intervention package to strengthen and build capacity for education and child protection psychosocial interventions in emergency contexts. The package “A new sun for social welfare” was developed for children from three to five years; 72 public servants from the education and child protection services were trained on how to use it.

Early childhood development: UNICEF Bolivia identified ECD as a cross-sectoral issue, providing the Office with opportunities to coordinate internally, as well as promoting external inter-sectoral coordination, at the national and subnational levels. Activities included a review of the legal framework, which will be followed by the design of public policies, development of a social protection system and sustainable and sufficient allocation of funds from the national budget.

Legal reforms: Cross-sectoral work was implemented with counterparts in different sectors relating to possible legal reforms. This included several initiatives to modify Chapter III of Child and Adolescent Code, which refers to the specialized juvenile justice system.

These three examples demonstrate how UNICEF Bolivia utilized opportunities to complement roles and expertise, internally and externally. The Office also recognized the need for advocating for a platform to bring together different ministries and actors involved in the development of an integrated national ECD action plan and its subsequent implementation.

Service Delivery

One of UNICEF Bolivia’s core strategies for initiating change is the provision of technical assistance to strengthen systems and public policies at both the national and sub-national levels, with a strong focus on the latter. This approach addresses capacity gaps and ensures the effective implementation of policies and plans to reach the most vulnerable children and families.

This year, important progress was achieved through collaboration with the Ministry of Education (MoE) in the implementation of the Education Law through replicable models, particularly in relation to policies on inter-, intra- and multi-lingual education, focusing on indigenous children’s right to education. This included: expansion of the socio-community and productive model (MESCP) to 422 schools in eight school districts, reaching five indigenous peoples (Aymara, Quechua, Guaraní, Yaminahua and Machineri), 53,780 children and 2,861 teachers; the development of 24 regionalized curricula, incorporating ancestral knowledge and languages of 12 indigenous peoples; and the creation of 26
institutes of language and culture (ILC), whose main objective is to research and develop materials in indigenous languages to carry out intra- and inter-cultural and multi-lingual education in classrooms.

In child protection, UNICEF Bolivia contributed to the consolidation and functioning of CEPAT’s in seven departmental capitals and three municipalities, providing therapeutic care to 467 child victims of sexual violence (92 per cent girls) and their families.

To improve conditions for WASH, through leveraging and effective use of resources UNICEF Bolivia supported the implementation of programmes to guarantee access to drinking water and sanitation facilities for approximately 20,000 and 24,000 people, respectively, in vulnerable rural communities. Since the start of the current country programme in 2013, the total number of beneficiaries who now have access to water and sanitation facilities because of UNICEF Bolivia’s support is approximately 140,000 and 78,000 people, respectively.

Human Rights-Based Approach to Cooperation

In 2016, the Pluri-national Legislative Assembly continued to be one of UNICEF Bolivia’s most important partners in upstream policy work to promote and protect children’s rights. Members of the parliamentary network for children and adolescents (PNCA) enhanced the network’s oversight function, supported by training opportunities related to the CRC, Convention on the Elimination of all Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). These trainings equipped members to monitor institutions, ensuring that their roles as duty-bearers guaranteeing and protect children’s rights are fulfilled.

With UNICEF Bolivia’s technical support, the PNCA worked closely with the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), to ensure completion of the fourth State Party report to the Committee of the Rights of the Child, originally due in 2015. Given the challenge in inter-sectoral coordination, the PNCA facilitated the establishment of an inter-institutional committee led by the MoJ, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and State Attorney’s Office ensure finalization of the report. Two members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child visited Bolivia in October and acknowledged the PNCA’s strong advocacy work. Additionally, UNICEF Bolivia’s technical support for analysis of investment in children in the national budget included training on the importance of considering General Comment 19 of the Committee.

UNICEF strengthened its focus on the rights of children with disabilities through a joint UN programme with other UN agencies and through a partnership with the MoH, HANDICAP International and a new private sector partner, Banco Nacional de Bolivia. This work aims at placing the rights of children with disabilities on the political agenda and in public debate, as well as strengthening the capacity of health and education services in early detection, stimulation and development.

Furthermore, UNICEF Bolivia participated actively in inter-agency working groups on gender equality, justice reform and indigenous people’s rights. UNICEF also supported the process of judicial reform with the UNCT.

Gender Equality

UNICEF Bolivia continued to strengthen gender mainstreaming and develop specific targets for gender programming. A gender programmatic review was carried out to inform the new CPD and to ensure better integration of gender equality into the results of the current CPD. The review will be finalized early next year, and includes an action plan with flagship initiatives/gender-targeted areas to further the gender equality approach of UNICEF Bolivia’s actions.
Key areas include menstrual hygiene management (MHM) and working with adolescents to improve access and quality of education for adolescent girls and prevent teenage pregnancies and gender violence. A second study on MHM, based on experiences in the Bolivian Amazon, was published in 2016. The research highlighted the multi-faceted challenges girls face during their menstrual periods in Bolivia, ranging from lack of reliable information to fear and shame, nutrition and hygiene restrictions and sexual concerns. As a result, the president of the association of women councillors of Beni has become a strong advocate for the scaling up MHM initiatives.

UNICEF Bolivia continued its implementation of a social inclusion initiative, “Qullqi Wasi Yuyay Jap'ina”, which aims to economically empower indigenous women in the north of Potosi and Oruro departments. In 2016, the initiative provided seed funds for 40 additional communal banks, under new regulations agreed democratically by all members of the association. The new regulations will ensure the sustainability of the initiative and as part of its exit strategy, UNICEF Bolivia helped to build relationships between the association, the private sector and municipal governments. Lastly, progress was made in implementing child protection programming, with a specific focus on girls, adolescent girl victims of sexual abuse and girls in conflict with the law.

Environmental Sustainability

Because of the effects of climate change are increasingly more prevalent in Bolivia, UNICEF Bolivia is constantly looking for ways to ensure environmental sustainability and limit the negative impact of climate change on the realization of children’s rights. In 2016 UNICEF Bolivia developed several initiatives to strengthen environmental sustainability and resilience.

In partnership with three sister UN agencies (FAO, IOM, UNDP) and four local NGOs, UNICEF Bolivia implemented a project to build preparedness for and resilience to disasters. A community capacity-building approach was used, with the aim of reducing vulnerabilities in nutrition, health, water and sanitation in 60 communities in 12 municipalities of the departments of Beni and northern La Paz. In total, 2,017 families were reached (10,085 people, of which approximately 2,129 were children under five years old).

To promote the exchange of methodologies, experiences and reflections applied in resilience, adaptation to climate change and risk management in the WASH sector, UNICEF Bolivia organized a workshop with the participation of 52 representatives of institutional agencies, NGOs, community leaders, national, departmental and municipal authorities: national workshop on ‘methodologies and experiences in risk management, adaptation to climate change and resilience in the wash sector’. Workshop outcomes included an updated institutional mapping of actors working in disaster risk management, climate change adaptation and resilience, and the development of an action plan to advance implementation of methodologies and replicate evidence-based interventions.

In relation to the extractive industry and its impact on children and climate change, as a result of UNICEF Bolivia’s advocacy efforts, a Bolivian oil and gas company accepted involvement in a regional exploratory study to investigate the impact of the industry on the environment and children’s rights.

With the aim of reducing the Office’s environmental footprint, UNICEF Bolivia regularly reported on its carbon footprint, and in 2016 submitted a successful proposal to the Greening and Accessibility Fund to implement environmentally friendly measures in the office. Because of these interventions, such as sealing and repairing all aluminium window frames and glass overlaps, significant energy cost savings is expected.
**Effective Leadership**

Office leadership focused on three main results: enhanced partnerships; strengthened HR; and simplified workflows and cost reductions.

UNICEF Bolivia utilized 95 per cent of ‘other resources’ (OR) and all ‘regular resources’ (RR) in 2016. This can be attributed to effective office mechanisms in place that assure timely assessment and subsequent actions on key management issues.

The country management team (CMT) and programme management team (PMT) met monthly to review key management indicators, taking appropriate action to reduce bottlenecks in key business processes and streamlining eight key business processes in line with guidance from UNICEF Headquarters (HQ). The CMT also led the preparation of the next CPD, ensuring a participatory process both externally, with the Government, and internally with staff and the UNICEF Regional Office. In addition to online training in results-based management, UNICEF Bolivia benefited from a face-to-face training facilitated by the Regional Office to ensure a strong focus on results within the next CPD.

Regular all-staff meetings, including staff from zone offices, were held after each CMT meeting, enabling transparent feedback on management decisions. The Representative also introduced weekly meetings with the heads of sections to strengthen communication and inter-sectoral collaboration.

The joint consultative committee met twice to discuss staff welfare: specifically, the implementation of a local staff survey to follow-up on progress and actions relating to UNICEF’s global staff survey, and the impact of funding shortfalls on staff.

Under UNICEF Bolivia’s leadership, agreement was reached for sharing office premises with three new UN agencies. Premises have been shared with UNAIDS since 2014; the new agencies are: WFP, UN Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS) and UN Women. This not only allowed for a significant reduction of financial and administrative costs (c. 20 per cent) through savings in rent, maintenance, internet, security and utilities, but also offered greater opportunity for increased collaboration and coherence.

**Financial Resources Management**

In 2016, the support budget was fully implemented and periodically reviewed in operations and country management team meetings. In spite of numerous financial and administrative constraints, improved internal controls and mechanisms were introduced and implemented to reduce risks and generate savings. Management of Insight allowed for close monitoring of key management indicators and corrective action when required. The operations section monitored its annual support and cross-sectoral budgets (US$636,428), representing 7.5 per cent of the overall office budget, ensuring application of cost-effectiveness and cost-savings principles.

Due to large numbers of partners and financial transactions, bank reconciliation was challenging. However, effective management was sustained through follow-up mechanisms and continuous review of unidentified deposits, reversion and external payments. Quarterly forecast reports were prepared to replenish local bank accounts on a “just enough funds, just in time” basis. To maintain a solid partnership with the local bank, new agreements were negotiated to improve identification of deposits and transfer to counterparts in due time.
Following the shift to the Global Shared Service Centre (GSSC), the operations team was reduced from 19 to eight staff, of which two are drivers. Because Citibank is not represented in Bolivia, the Office reprocesses all payments once transaction actions are returned by the GSSC. As a result, payment processes and the workload of General Service staff were analysed, resulting in the review of 13 processes to eliminate bottlenecks, repetitive processes and delays. The revised processes will be implemented in 2017, with monitoring and follow up by the country management team.

**Fundraising and Donor Relations**

UNICEF Bolivia is currently implementing an integrated resource mobilization strategy, incorporating bilateral and multilateral cooperation, UNICEF national committees, and Bolivia’s public sector and private sectors. Complementing the existing education toolkit, a health toolkit was developed in 2016, and the development of a protection toolkit begun. A new online platform was developed to share key projects and programmatic priorities with current and potential donors; it includes eight proposals with a total value of approximately US$8 million.

Good collaboration was maintained with a range of UNICEF national committees, and visits were organised with celebrities. In total, UNICEF Bolivia received approximately US$700,000 through National Committees. Because of an excellent partnership with the Government of Sweden and a track record of delivering results, SIDA will continue providing flexible thematic funding support in 2017, with a particular focus on WASH, child protection and social inclusion. UNICEF Bolivia also initiated a new partnership with the Italian Government for two projects, one in child protection and one in ECD, totalling more than US$2 million.

Additionally, UNICEF Bolivia continued to strengthen its relationships with the private sector, reaching more than 20 public and private companies, institutions and business associations. A new long-term and integrated alliance with ‘Banco Nacional de Bolivia’ was developed and the successful four-year partnership with the telecommunications and media company ‘TIGO Bolivia’ was being renewed and renegotiated to expand its scope at year-end.

During the reporting period UNICEF Bolivia submitted 25 high-quality donor reports, including human interest stories. There were no overdue or late donor reports in 2016. Specific standard operating procedures on donor reports ensure that high quality is maintained.

**Evaluation and Research**

In 2016 eight studies (including one research study and two monitoring and evaluation studies) were recorded in PRIME, and approved and monitored by the country management team. UNICEF Bolivia strengthened its evaluation functions by increasing the number of evaluation activities, with activities led at the global and country levels (by UNICEF and the Government). As a result, an impact evaluation of the integral education management strategy at the municipal level was included in the integrated monitoring and evaluation plan in 2015; it concluded this year and was rated “satisfactory” under GEROS system.

One of the studies registered in PRIME 2016 evolved to become an evaluation: Evaluation/Systematization of the Preparedness and Response Action Plan to El Niño 2015-2016. This evaluation was carried out jointly with the Vice Ministry of Civil Defence; the results will allow the Government to better incorporate and comply with children’s rights in future emergency preparedness and response plans.

To scale-up local programmatic interventions and to provide programmatic inputs for the
design of the next CPD, UNICEF Bolivia undertook an evaluation of the implementation of replicable sanitation projects in rural areas of Bolivia. This evaluation is expected to be concluded in the first half of 2017.

As part of the quality assurance process for evaluations led by UNICEF Bolivia, a mechanism for quality control, including oversight and peer review, was included in the annual work plan with the Postgraduate Department in Development Sciences at the Universidad Mayor de San Andrés.

UNICEF Bolivia is also participating in two evaluations led by the HQ Evaluation Office: a global evaluation of UNICEF’s drinking water supply programming in rural areas and small towns; and an evaluation of UNICEF’s programmes and strategies to reduce stunting among young children.

Efficiency Gains and Cost Savings

In 2016, based on the approved country programme management plan for 2013-2017, the ceiling of the integrated budget was 40 per cent less than 2015. An additional contribution of US$85,836.82 from the regional contingency fund was allocated to cover some of the gap. Income derived from sharing common premises costs with other UN agencies and contributions from programmes, along with US$80,000 from RR funds, also contributed to defraying operating costs.

The agreement for sharing office premises with additional UN agencies helped to resolve important funding gaps. Sharing costs with other agencies generated savings in rent, utilities, internet, cleaning, security, receptionist and other costs, allowing UNICEF Bolivia to save 40 per cent on expenses. UNICEF’s investment to re-equip the office building as UN premises will be recovered in one year. For 2017, cross-sectoral expenses will be drawn from programme budgets calculated on the basis of square meters and number of staff.

The UNCT proposed measures to reduce costs for local travel, resulting in important savings: in 2015 staff travelled 3,897 days at a total cost of US$903,545, while in 2016 staff travelled 2,122 days, with travel costs of US$483,390.

This year the operations management team (OMT) was led by UNICEF. To date, eight LTAs, mostly managed by UNICEF, generated considerable economies, such as advertisement/publications for recruitment of staff and consultants, institutional/corporate and administrative services; radio communications, office supplies, bank services, event logistics, spot checks/audits and recovery of taxes.

For the first time, the OMT prepared a business operations strategy, which included prioritizing the human resources roster and tax recovery, amongst other functions.

Supply Management

UNICEF Bolivia procured and contracted US$762,952 in 2016, representing 9 per cent of total budget implementation (US$8,965,170). With a total value of US$172,385.41, programme supplies represented 2 per cent of the budget. Due to extensive availability of commodities in Bolivia, the majority of the supplies were purchased locally. Procured items included: printing materials, computer equipment, health equipment, water and sanitation material and other communication materials. Institutional contracts with a total value of US$575,125 represented 7 per cent of the country office budget; reflecting the shift from service delivery to upstream work through technical support.
UNICEF Bolivia is responsible for supply delivery, which is generally to local governments and communities, and it has warehouse to manage the kitting, packing and storage, especially for stockpiled supplies. The total value of the inventory for recorded programme supplies in the warehouse as of 11 November 2016 was US$ 205,114.32, of which US$142,780.33 (70 per cent) were supplies prepositioned for emergencies. The remaining 30 per cent of stock in the warehouse were programme supplies, to be distributed to partners. Regular monitoring reports on the aging of stocks and expiry of contracts were shared with programme sections.

The use of various LTAs for supplies and services allowed UNICEF to save on labour, time and operating costs. UNICEF now has established LTAs for transport services, workshops services, micro-evaluation/audit services and water and sanitation supplies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supplies</th>
<th>Amount US$</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operations supplies</td>
<td>15,440.61</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programme supplies</td>
<td>172,385.41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td>575,125.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>762,951.43</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procurement Services</th>
<th>Amount US$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Channelled via regular procurement services</td>
<td>116,960.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channelled via procurement services (GAVI co-financing project)</td>
<td>1,241,460.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,358,420.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Security for Staff and Premises**

As UNICEF Bolivia became a UN premises hosting an additional four UN agencies, office the security services were reinforced and modernized under the supervision of UNDSS. Negotiations with the national police allowed UNICEF to obtain four security guards, reducing costs by 25 per cent compared with private services. To be more effective and mitigate security risks in the building the alarm, fire and lock systems, as well as the security cameras, were upgraded and relocated and preparation of the evacuation plan was fully coordinated with all agencies located in the building.

Furthermore, security measures and protocols were implemented at UN premises and all staff received training through workshops organised by UNDSS. In addition, a rigorous security assessment was carried out in the Cochabamba and Sucre zone offices to improve and upgrade their security systems.

The coordination and evaluation of security measures for eight international staff members’ homes and implementation of UNDSS recommendations were completed and regularly monitored. UNICEF Bolivia scored 99 per cent on security compliance indicators, and the business continuity plan was up-dated, addressing key issues related to water scarcity.

**Human Resources**

In 2016, UNICEF Bolivia reviewed its’ recruitment processes to increase dynamism and efficiency. The revised processes allowed for the acquisition of eight new talents in an average of 50 days, who have proven to be skilled and committed staff.

Under the ACHIEVE performance evaluation system, 100 per cent of performance reviews
were completed and continuous and assertive feedback was conducted through training, follow-up actions and a communication strategy. Efforts to promote professional and personal development by AGORA were carried out, allowing nine individuals to develop their career development plans. Women represented 56 per cent of the overall work force; 19 per cent were senior staff.

To measure advances relayed to the global staff survey, the CMT, HR team and local staff association re-launched a survey locally, within UNICEF Bolivia, allowing for a comparison with the lowest average responses of the 2014 survey (which related to leadership/management, office efficiency and effectiveness, and work/life balance). Based on the results, section heads developed action plans with their teams, which were presented to all staff and closely monitored by the Representative. It is important to highlight the transparent communication and clarity of the new management, which increased staff commitment, engagement and morale.

To support surge capacity during the Zika emergency response, previously assessed candidates were selected from the emergency roster, and proved to be of high calibre. In addition, an updated roster was provided immediately to support the response to the water scarcity and drought emergency.

UNICEF Bolivia complied with the 19 minimum standards for HIV in the work place, including up-dating staff on statistics, advances on prophylaxis, an HIV tool kit, raising staff awareness and providing on-line information.

**Effective Use of Information and Communication Technology**

To improve the effective use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), UNICEF Bolivia assessed ways to streamline daily work and enhance knowledge sharing. A TEAMS shared portal was implemented, promoting an interactive, collaborative and common site under The Medadata classification system. To enhance UNICEF’s digital presence and expand its reach, an online platform to showcase stories and projects with valued partners and donors was created.

The local web page was upgraded to demonstrate key results and relevant information, attracting donors, partners and other users. ICT continued to support the implementation of the ‘health care for pregnant mothers and new-borns’ pilot project, based on Rapid-Pro and mobile technology, benefitting 30 women.

As the UNICEF building became UN premises, the relocation of UNICEF computers and telecommunication system, as well as the technical support to other agencies were fully implemented, resulting in an effective and smooth transition. Two key actions were reinforced to mitigate risks to infrastructure, ensure continuity and better Internet access and generate savings: standardization of a radio system HF/UHF between all UN agencies under a unified communication code and training/support led by UNICEF; and negotiation of best prices and improved Internet services/communications with providers (three offices are connected using an optic last-mile fibre).

**Programme Components from RAM**

**ANALYSIS BY OUTCOME AND OUTPUT RESULTS**

**OUTCOME 1 1.1** By 2017, high impact interventions in maternal/child health and HIV/AIDS are being equitably used by children, adolescents and mothers from the most disadvantaged communities in the intervention area
Analytical Statement of Progress:
UNICEF’s health and HIV programme, part of the child survival and development component, focused its support on actions directed towards improving quality and equitable access to health and HIV services. UNICEF strategically identified key actions aimed at eliminating bottlenecks in the supply and demand of maternal and child health and HIV/AIDS services, and actions to address them were defined and agreed with national and department partners. UNICEF also supported the implementation of Zika control and surveillance actions in the department of Beni, with an emphasis on preventing the virus in pregnant women. All activities established in the annual work plans were successfully implemented.

This year, the MoH disseminated the results of a study on maternal mortality, based on the 2012 post-census survey. It showed that maternal and neonatal mortality continue to be of critical concern, with mortality rates at 160 per 100,000 live births. Most deaths take place in the departments of Potosi (333), La Paz (289) and Cochabamba (188). The principle causes of maternal death are: haemorrhage (37 per cent), hypertension (12 per cent) and abortions (8 per cent). Deaths are much more common among indigenous women: 64 per cent are Quechua and Aymara. Forty-two per cent of women die at home, 37 per cent die in health facilities.

Although progress was made in maternal health, there is still a long way to go regarding child health indicators, especially for neonates; neonatal mortality accounts for 50 per cent of the total child mortality rate (54 per 1,000 live births, ENDSA 2008).

Bolivia has made substantial progress in providing access to HIV and AIDS prevention and care services, especially among the adult population, and in prevention of vertical transmission of HIV. However, despite these advances, adolescents, rural and indigenous populations continue to face difficulties in access, which impacts negatively on preventing HIV transmission.

UNICEF provided support at both the central and sub-national levels (mainly in Cochabamba and Potosi), improving access to and quality of health care and HIV prevention among mothers, children, adolescents and their families. UNICEF also promoted the social participation and empowerment of indigenous peoples to increase demand for quality services. Results-based management was promoted, strengthening the processes of planning, definition of indicators and annual goals focusing on health and HIV priorities, identified through an analysis of bottlenecks present in supply of and demand for services.

Actions focused on the implementation of the national action plan for the rapid reduction of maternal and neonatal death; UNICEF emphasized support for: (a) improving community capacities and competencies for participatory health management; (b) improving health networks’ capacity to provide quality services with an intercultural and equitable approach; and (c) developing mechanisms to improve communication between community networks and health services networks, to promote better health management and care. In this context, UNICEF supported expansion of the continuous quality improvement cycle, with standards in maternal and child health and HIV prevention, prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, prevention of HIV in adolescents, kangaroo mothers, home visits and access to remote communities, as well as the participation and empowerment of the community to demand health and HIV services. Inter-programmatic work was promoted in the care of pregnant mothers and newborns, and inter-sectoral work in health and education for HIV prevention and unplanned pregnancies among adolescents was implemented. In conjunction with the Observatory of Neonatal Maternal Mortality (OMMN), evidence was generated on risk factors associated with maternal deaths.
During 2016 alliances established in 2015 were strengthened, especially those relating to maternal and neonatal health and prevention of vertical transmission of HIV. Alliances facilitated coordinated work, both at the national and departmental level, enabling the dissemination of the national action plan for the rapid reduction of maternal and neonatal death, as well as defining strategic responses. The lead partner is the MoH (including its health network services unit, STI/HIV/AIDS Programme and the NGO PAI), together with the corresponding departmental health network programmes of Potosí and Cochabamba. In Cochabamba, UNICEF worked with the Indigenous Health Network and Centre of Indigenous Peoples of the Tropic of Cochabamba to address the health needs of indigenous communities, ensuring equity and culturally appropriate approaches to maternal and child health.

Efforts were also made, in conjunction with PAHO/WHO, UNFPA and other multilateral and bilateral cooperation agencies, to undertake joint actions on HIV, maternal and child health.

OUTPUT 1 1.1.1 Boys, Girls, adolescents, mothers, fathers, families and communities in the intervention area are competent in maternal/child health, and HIV prevention.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
UNICEF supported and developed innovative actions to improve the skills of children, adolescents, mothers, fathers and their families in maternal and child health in rural communities in Cochabamba and Potosí. Participation and mobilization of community leaders and women leaders was important for the dissemination of information on comprehensive maternal and new-born health, emergency referral of pregnant women at risk, and prevention of vertical transmission of HIV.

The Centre of Indigenous Peoples of the Tropic of Cochabamba was an important partner in the implementation of actions at the community level. Coordination was established between community organizations and the promotion of health traditional medicine programme, an MoH initiative.

The empowerment and work of women leaders in their community (rural communities of Potosí, Cochabamba and Santa Cruz) was important in the promotion of dialogue with their peers about safe motherhood (comprehensive care during pregnancy, delivery, postpartum), prevention of vertical HIV transmission, access to the Juana Azurduy Bonus, as well as mechanisms to access referral and follow-up systems for health care. Implementation of actions at the community level allowed women to recognize signs of danger during pregnancy, childbirth, puerperium and in their new-borns.

The dissemination of information by community authorities and women leaders led to an increase in the demand for health services by pregnant women, prenatal care, institutional births, comprehensive new-born care and rapid HIV testing in Potosí and Cochabamba. As a result, there was an increase of prenatal control coverage, institutional delivery, pregnant women carrying out the rapid HIV test, care of diseases prevalent in childhood and vaccination coverage.

Coordination between traditional and academic practitioners was supported, facilitating the identification of key activities for timely care, especially of pregnant women and new-borns, in communities in the tropics of Cochabamba.

Inter-sectoral work between health and education was instrumental for developing activities in the area of HIV prevention and unplanned pregnancies among adolescent students. As a result, the MoE made an important commitment to expand this work in schools.
1.1.2 Health networks and select services are strengthened and provide high impact interventions through quality and culturally appropriate health and HIV services.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
During 2016 UNICEF focused on implementing actions to improve the quality of maternal and child services and pursuing cost-effective and innovative strategies that were defined during the analysis of bottlenecks present in maternal and child health care.

The main implementation partners were the MoH and Departmental Health Services of Potosí, Cochabamba and Santa Cruz (only for HIV/AIDS) and the University of San Andrés.

The actions supported were in line with the national plan for the rapid reduction of maternal and neonatal death, proposed by the Government. Dissemination and implementation of the plan’s strategies were carried out in conjunction with the MoH, bilateral and multilateral cooperation agencies, municipal governments and community authorities.

UNICEF Bolivia supported the strengthening of health management (planning, monitoring and evaluation) within the framework of the national community outreach programme (SAFCI), resulting in improved capacities of health networks to care for pregnant women, children and new-borns. It also supported prevention of vertical transmission of HIV and teenage pregnancy. Support was given for introducing inactivated Polio vaccine into the vaccination schedule and implementation of vaccination campaigns, as well as for Zika control and surveillance, with emphasis on prevention in pregnant women.

Continued support was provided for implementation of the continuous quality improvement cycles (CQIC) to facilitate compliance with protocols for the care of pregnant women and newborns, including HIV prevention. UNICEF also supported efforts to: improve the skills and knowledge of health professionals for maternal and child health care (for example, neonatal resuscitation, prevalent childhood illnesses), apply codes in hospitals during obstetric emergencies, PMTCT, and prevention of HIV in adolescents. Zika control and surveillance actions were implemented in seven municipalities in Beni, and the technical competencies of 1,055 health professionals for performing differential diagnoses and epidemiological surveillance were improved, particularly in relation to microcephaly attributable to Zika.

In conjunction with CIDES-UMSA, evidence was generated on maternal death, which contributed to reorientation of the national policy on maternal and new-born health.

All these actions contributed to increased coverage for prenatal care, hospital births, access of pregnant women to rapid HIV testing, and children born to HIV-positive mothers with viral load at 2 months of age. At the national level 110 health centres applied the 13 quality standards established by the CQIC, focusing on maternal and child health.

1.1.3 Subnational authorities allocate budgets for cost-effective interventions aimed at impacting bottlenecks present in maternal/child health, and HIV/AIDS care

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
In 2016 UNICEF focused on strengthening decentralized planning of maternal and child health and HIV actions, as well as generating evidence and implementing innovative actions to improve access to health and HIV services. Based on its experience at the local level, UNICEF Bolivia provided inputs to health policy with information and evidence that supported decision-making for implementation of maternal and child health actions.

The MoH and its sub-national directorates in Potosí and Cochabamba were the main partners in developing and applying short- and long-term programming instruments. The
analysis of bottlenecks in maternal and child health care and HIV, facilitated the identification of key actions to eliminate bottlenecks and implement cost-effective actions to overcome them.

UNICEF, together with the MoH and bilateral and multilateral partners, supported the dissemination and use of the results of the maternal mortality study at the sub-national level.

Facing a critical situation with regard to maternal health, the MoH launched and promoted the National Action Plan for the Reduction of Neonatal and Maternal Mortality. Several strategic partners committed to support its implementation; UNICEF provided support in the departments of Potosi and Cochabamba.

An important achievement this year was the launch of the OMMN, which conducts research on risk factors associated with maternal and neonatal deaths. The results are being used at the departmental and municipal levels to support decision-making on key issues.

In the framework of the ARIDA (acute respiratory infection diagnostic aid) Project, UNICEF Bolivia and the MoH carried out a study on pneumonia among children under five years and adherence to treatment with amoxicillin. The results will be important to help develop actions to strengthen care and treatment of this disease.

As part of SAFCI, UNICEF Bolivia supported the strengthening and empowerment of indigenous social organizations in participatory health management. Consequently, the demand for maternal health services for children increased.

Actions supported by UNICEF allowed for the implementation of municipal work plans that incorporate actions to reduce bottlenecks in the supply and demand for maternal and child health services, such as home visits to new-borns.

**OUTCOME 2 1.3.** By 2017 improved and equitable use of safe drinking water, and hygiene practices by populations from the intervention area.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
UNICEF Bolivia continued its support for the national sectoral plan and sector-wide approach targeting rural population, with focus on the departments of Beni, Chuquisaca, Potosí, Cochabamba and Pando. This work, carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Water (MoEW), is in line with SDG 6 and the UNICEF Global Strategy for WASH for 2016-2030, as well as national development plan goals defined in the Patriotic Agenda 2025, economic and social development plan for 2016-2020 and the sector plan for the development of basic sanitation 2016-2020.

UNICEF supported implementation of Bolivia’s water and sanitation sectoral development plan 2016-2020, targeting the most vulnerable populations, to improve water sources and sanitation facilities in rural areas. UNICEF provided technical assistance, strengthening national and sub-national capacities to improve WASH interventions, especially in municipal autonomous governments, and to increase the number of inhabitants with adequate services through different national programmes.

Because of UNICEF’s technical assistance and leveraging efforts, in 2016 approximately 20,000 people secured access to drinking water services and 24,000 to appropriate sanitation facilities. Since the beginning of the programme, UNICEF has contributed to increased access to water services for 140,025 people and to sanitation services for 76,809 people.
UNICEF Bolivia accompanied the implementation of rural sanitation projects to promote healthy hygiene practices and improved sanitation. This was achieved through the development of replicable model for sustainable sanitation projects in the departments of Potosí and Beni. In this way, UNICEF contributed to increasing the number of open defecation-free communities, through partnerships with local NGOs, and implementation of community-led total sanitation.

Furthermore, to integrate MHM into the promotion of the three key hygiene practices in schools, an intervention package was successfully implemented, including: (i) a qualitative study on the challenges faced by girls and adolescents of menstrual age, published in 2016; and (ii) a specific intervention in schools in the department of Beni. Approximately 10,000 children in 100 schools, as well as 10,000 families, 500 teachers and 200 local authorities received timely and accurate information to address issues of puberty, menstruation and MHM.

To scale-up local programmatic interventions and provide inputs for the design of the next CPD, UNICEF undertook an evaluation of the implementation of demonstrative sanitation projects in rural areas of Bolivia. This evaluation is expected to be concluded in the first half of 2017. In addition, UNICEF Bolivia participated in the global evaluation of UNICEF’s drinking water supply programming in rural areas and small towns, led by the HQ Evaluation Office.

UNICEF leads the WASH Humanitarian Thematic Group and co-leads the national WASH Cluster in emergencies, ensuring an active response to the drought and Zika virus. In addition, this work contributed to the strengthening of tools such as the national plan for emergencies and a catalogue of options for using technology for WASH in emergencies. UNICEF participated in the implementation of a resilience project funded by the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) in the departments of Beni and La Paz. As a result, approximately 2,000 families in 60 communities and 12 municipalities (San Buenaventura, Guanay, Palos Blancos, Ixiamas, Rurrenabaque, Reyes, San Borja, San Ignacio de Moxos, San Ramón, San Joaquín, Santa Ana Of the Yacuma and Riberalta) reduced their vulnerability to disasters and emergencies by improving their WASH and nutrition practices and strengthening public management at the municipal level.

OUTPUT 1 1.3.1. Rural populations apply hygiene practices and are active in WASH community services management.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
UNICEF continued to support a hygiene promotion strategy, with a cross-sectoral, equity-focused and intercultural approach. UNICEF’s theory of change encouraged the gathering of evidence through studies and replicable experiences to better advocate and position innovative strategies. Community engagement was critical to ensuring sustainable solutions to water delivery and sanitation systems.

In 2016, UNICEF supported the introduction of maternal hygiene management (MHM) as one of the “key hygiene practices” to strengthen hygiene promotion. A new study on the challenges girls face during menstruation at schools was carried out in Amazonian municipalities and published. It was used in advocacy activities and used to design the first Bolivian MHM communication package and action plan. Specific intervention in schools in the department of Beni allowed for outreach to approximately 10,000 children in 100 schools, as well as 10,000 families, 500 teachers and 200 local authorities, with timely and accurate information to address issues of puberty, menstruation and MHM.

Partnerships with national partners such as the national service for basic sustainable sanitation services and NGOs such as Save the Children were essential to achieving these
OUTPUT 2 1.3.2 National and subnational capacities are strengthened to provide WASH services in communities and schools from rural areas.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
UNICEF Bolivia provided important support to the achievement of indicators established in by the MoEW's performance evaluation framework. Major bottlenecks were addressed by providing technical assistance at the national and sub-national levels in different water and sanitation programmes.

UNICEF contributed to the achievement of increased drinking water and sanitation coverage through support to national programmes and projects. As a result of UNICEF's technical assistance and leveraging efforts, in 2016 approximately 20,000 people secured access to drinking water services and 24,000 to appropriate sanitation facilities. Since the beginning of the programme, UNICEF contributed to increased access to water services for 140,025 people and to sanitation services for 76,809. In addition, approximately 10,000 children in 100 schools, 10,000 families, 500 teachers and 200 authorities received timely and accurate information to address issues of puberty, menstruation and MHM.

Technical and social standards were disseminated at the sub-national level through the organization of workshops with professionals in the WASH sector and facilitation of a master's degree in 'project management of water and basic sanitation'. Replicable rural sanitation models were implemented in three communities in the departments of Potosi, in partnership with Sumaj Huasi. This experience was replicated in municipalities affected by flooding in Beni Department in order to adapt the models for use in the Amazon region. To provide programmatic inputs for the design of the next CPD, UNICEF undertook an evaluation of the implementation of demonstrative projects of sanitation in rural areas of Bolivia, to be finalized in 2017.

Families in rural communities in the Departments of La Paz and Beni reduced their vulnerability to emergencies by improving their water and sanitation services and improving nutritional and hygiene practices through an interagency resilience project.

OUTPUT 3 1.3.3 National and subnational capacity is strengthened to formulate and implement policies, norms and programs aimed at providing WASH services in rural areas, as well as identifying, monitoring, and analysing the fulfilment of human rights with respect to accessing water and sanitation services, with equity, gender and intercultural approach.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
UNICEF Bolivia supported capacity building at the national and sub-national levels, with a focus on the elaboration of the national development plans. In February 2016, following the promulgation of the Integrated State Planning System Law (SPIE) as part of the country’s social and economic development plan (PDES 2016-2020), UNICEF started supporting the formulation of the decentralized territorial integral development plans (PTDI). The PTDI constitutes territorial planning for the medium-term of departmental and municipal governments. Together with the water and sanitation directorates of departmental governments, UNICEF provided information on water and sanitation coverage as part of the situational assessments. This information was collected through a systematization of the mapping tool used at the municipal level. The PTDIs constitute the strategic framework for the development of sectoral plans in 2017.

UNICEF, in coordination with the National Regulation Authority (AAPS), supported training, information-gathering, and validation of requirements at the sub-national level to ensure the
registration of Local Water and Sanitation Committees. Registration of these committees allowed for the validation of technical, social, and financial data in the WASH sector at local level. The AAPS recognizes the important contributions made by UNICEF in recent years through the creation and registration of more than 2,000 rural local committees.

UNICEF also supported improvement of the national monitoring of water and sanitation coverage. Since 2013, the MoEW has been using information generated by UNICEF’s experience with the municipal mapping tool for water and sanitation services. Until 2016, UNICEF supported data entry into the national system by capacity building at the municipal level for the collection and validation of information. The implementation of a municipal WASH mapping tool contributed to establishing a culture of monitoring at the national and sub-national levels. At the initiative of the MoEW, Bolivia joined the mechanism that monitors WASH indicators in the Latin American region: the Rural Water and Sanitation Information System. UNICEF fully supported this initiative, which was piloted in the department of Chuquisaca.

**OUTPUT 4 1.3.4** National capacity is strengthened to provide water, sanitation and hygiene services to girls, boys, women and families in humanitarian situations.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
Humanitarian situations are recurrent in Bolivia, exposing populations to risks by undermining provision of WASH services, supply chains, and making the population’s coping mechanisms less effective. In 2016 the drought affected the departments of Beni, Chuquisaca, Cochabamba, La Paz, Oruro, Potosí, Santa Cruz and Tarija affecting 172,180 families.

UNICEF, through coordinated actions between its WASH and nutrition interventions, supported the emergency response through technical assistance to the national WASH cluster to revise the national emergency plan, providing technical support for the use of technology for WASH in emergencies and the development of the WASH supply providers’ catalogue. Additionally, UNICEF carried out emergency response in accordance with the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, ensuring integrated programming and technical leadership to respond to the Zika virus outbreak and drought.

UNICEF continued to enhance emergency coordination and response within the WASH sector, in its role as WASH-in-emergencies sector co-lead, together with the MoEW. UNICEF ensured that efforts were carried out in coordination with non-emergency capacity development initiatives, including resilience promotion. In this regard, UNICEF supported the implementation of an inter-agency resilience project in the departments of Beni and La Paz. In partnership with the local NGO Sumaj Huasi, UNICEF provided technical assistance to strengthen municipal and community capacities to increase resilience and reduce vulnerability during emergencies. As a result, approximately 2,000 families in 60 communities and 12 municipalities (San Buenaventura, Guanay, Palos Blancos, Ixiamas, Rurrenabaque, Reyes, San Borja, San Ignacio de Moxos, San Ramón, San Joaquín, Santa Ana Of the Yacuma and Riberalta) reduced their vulnerability to disasters and emergencies.

**OUTCOME 3 1.4.** By 2017, the equitable use of nutritional support and care practices for are improved among girls, boys, adolescents and women from disadvantaged communities in the intervention area.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
UNICEF continued to implement actions in line with the country programme strategy. The technical assistance provided aimed at balancing and integrating actions within the Child Survival Programme (health, HIV and WASH) in order to address the multi-causality of the country’s nutritional problems. This led to a more comprehensive vision and approach,
carrying out actions to strengthen demand at the local level for quality services and increase their supply through improved services and preventive actions.

The primary objective was to reduce chronic malnutrition in children under five by: strengthening the equitable use of health services to implement more effective nutrition interventions; improving key practices and nutritional care in children, adolescents and women in marginalized areas; generating evidence and advocacy to assign resources for multi-sectoral interventions; and generating the conditions for protecting the nutritional status of children in emergencies.

During 2016 work with the main counterparts continued, including at the national level the MoH, through its food and nutrition unit; and at the sub-national level, regional health services (SEDES), focusing on support to health networks in the Tropic of Cochabamba and the rural health network of Potosí. Focus was placed on capacity building to ensure improved implementation of nutritional strategies, including education about the importance of breastfeeding, adequate complementary nutrition and micronutrient supplementation.

In addition, UNICEF collaborated with the technical coordination unit of the National Food and Nutritional Council, responsible for implementing the national food and nutrition policy. In addition to Government partners, strategic alliances were strengthened with NGOs and other UN agencies, ensuring an improved inter-sectoral approach.

In 2016, the main achievement towards this outcome was the implementation of a joint programme to improve the nutritional status of children by strengthening local productive systems. An innovative and culturally appropriate educational communication strategy on diet and nutrition was developed and implemented in coordination with the MoH, based on a knowledge, attitudes and practices survey.

OUTPUT 1 1.4.1 Children, mothers, fathers, families and communities use key proven nutrition practices to prevent and treat chronic malnutrition and other forms of malnutrition.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
UNICEF Bolivia supported the promotion of key nutritional practices as one of the most cost-effective strategies for contributing to the reduction of child malnutrition and other forms of malnutrition in the current CP. In 2016, this strategy made significant progress through the strengthening of local productive systems, linking production and nutrition, and for which an innovative communication and education social mobilization strategy was developed. The strategy was developed based on a study of knowledge, attitudes and practices in relation to feeding young children. The data and analysis allowed for the design of culturally appropriate key messages and the development of a package of communication/education materials.

The communication strategy was carried out directly in communities through a field-based partner, and indirectly through health, education and production services, including 58 schools in four municipalities of the prioritized departments (Pojo and Pocona in Cochabamba and Tupiza and Villazon in Potosí).

The strategy promoted key nutritional practices linked to the revaluation of local products of high nutritional value for family nutrition (especially young children), increasing food diversity and micronutrient consumption. The health department continuously monitored the strategy and expressed an interest in expanding its implementation to other regions with similar characteristics (Oruro and Chuquisaca).

Another significant marker of progress in 2016 was implementation of the nutritional component of a joint programme (with the WASH sector), funded by ECHO, to increase
preparedness and resilience in vulnerable communities in the Beni and Mamoré river basins. It promoted key practices in food and nutrition, prioritizing the empowerment of women and adolescents and promoting resilient practices based on local knowledge of food preparation and conservation in emergency situations.

**OUTPUT 2 1.4.2** Health services in priority areas implement effective nutrition interventions.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
At the national level, UNICEF Bolivia’s main counterpart was the MoH, through the food and nutrition unit. During 2016 capacities were developed in the following areas: breastfeeding, micronutrients, nutritional food education and strengthening of capacity for delivering nutrition in emergencies.

In breastfeeding, support continued in line with the revised Law 3460, ensuring the application of a set of responsibilities. This implied strengthening the capacity of health personnel in the nine SEDES and the National Breastfeeding Committee for analysis and definition of strategies that comply with the regulatory decree on commercialization of substitutes, and raising awareness of this amongst private companies. In addition, support was also given to the mother- and baby-friendly hospital initiative, which expanded its reach to first- and second-level care facilities through 23 new accredited establishments in 2016.

In terms of micronutrients, UNICEF continued to distribute vitamin A supplements (not currently undertaken by national authorities): 1 million capsules were delivered to children under five and a medium-term strategy for transferring this responsibility to the Government was initiated. Nutritional anaemia is one of the most severe public health problems in Bolivia. UNICEF supported the MoH to build capacities of the Anaemia Technical Board to analyse and revise supplementation rules for use in a high-altitude context. This is expected to lead to the adjustment of policies and strategies in 2017.

UNICEF supported the development of pedagogical techniques and educational strategies for nutrition through educational sessions and the development of key messages and recommendations on key nutritional practices, delivered to technical teams in the nine departments. Support was also given to the National Network of Micronutrient Laboratories on Improving the quality of information, with performance tests for salt, flour and fortified oil.

In emergency nutrition, strong technical assistance was provided to develop capacities detailed in Output 4.3.

At the sub-national level, the SEDES received continued support in the departments of Cochabamba and Potosí, improving the skills of health networks personnel in nutrition practices. At the local level, the capacities of UNIs were developed to support the implementation of nutritional strategies and training of health personnel who work directly with families with children under five. The national multi-sectoral zero malnutrition programme prioritized the establishment of UNIs in 166 vulnerable municipalities nationwide to create demand for more nutritional services. UNICEF supported this work in the municipalities of Pojo, Tupiza and Villazón.

Inter-sectoral work was strengthened because of advocacy efforts with the coordination unit of the technical committee of the National Food and Nutrition Council, and by providing assistance for the implementation and generation of programmes and plans related to the national food and nutrition policy. As a result, UNICEF supported the review the 2016-2020 strategic plan for the new multisectoral zero malnutrition programme, throughout the life cycle. Technical assistance was also provided in the preparation of the plan for reducing SAM and child deaths from malnutrition in the north of the Amazon region.
1.4.3 Subnational governments identify bottlenecks and allocate resources for cost effective key nutrition multi-sectorial interventions.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
Results of the SMART survey on malnutrition and mortality carried out in 2015 were presented in the departments of Potosí and La Paz. In addition, the study on iodine deficiencies in pregnant women, which began in the end of 2015, was concluded and expanded (initially planned for five departments), at the request of the MoH, to all nine departmental capitals and the city of El Alto. Although the study showed that the national average of iodine is adequate, there are regional disparities and salt iodization needs to be monitored closely.

A case study of Bolivia’s mother- and baby-friendly hospital initiative was carried out as part of a series of 38 case studies worldwide and presented during the World Breastfeeding Congress, which reviewed the progress of the initiative 25 years after its implementation began, and enabled new strategic guidelines to be based on concrete experiences. Additionally, baselines and situation assessments of joint interventions and the plan for reducing acute malnutrition in the northern Amazon region were carried out. Through the joint Sustainable Development Goals Fund (SDGF) program, spaces for cross-sectoral dialogue and social participation focused on national standards for food and nutrition, and municipal food and nutrition councils and CAI information analysis committees were developed. These forums were conducive to building commitment based on analysis of available evidence by local authorities for the creation of UNIs in the municipalities of Pojo, Tupiza and Villazón.

Furthermore, disaster risk reduction prevention and preparedness actions were intensified in 2016 through the consolidation of a national nutrition structure for emergencies and responding to Law 602 on risk management. At the national level, the sector working group on health and nutrition in emergencies was consolidated and the National Committee on Nutrition in Emergencies developed a technical and operational branch. Assistance was therefore provided in formulating the terms of reference, activation protocol and nutrition in emergencies national plan, as key tools to ensure adequate preparation and response by the nutrition sector in emergency situations. At the sub-national level, technical and logistical support was provided for the establishment of departmental committees on nutrition in emergencies in Pando, Beni, Cochabamba and Oruro; formation of committees of Chuquisaca, Potosí and La Paz was in process in late 2016.

Together with the NGO Action against Hunger, UNICEF initiated a mapping of actors and capacities of humanitarian institutions that work in nutrition.

**OUTPUT 4 1.4.4 Increased national capacity to ensure protection of the nutritional status of girls, boys and women in humanitarian situations.**

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
In 2016, there were no specific interventions in nutrition in response to emergency situations. However, UNICEF supported the response to the Zika virus outbreak, strengthening the technical capacities of nutrition staff in the department of Beni, including the correct way to measure head circumference and the continuous promotion of breastfeeding.

The western region of the country was affected by severe drought because of El Niño, especially the department of Oruro. UNICEF supported a rapid multi-sectoral evaluation led by the WFP, where primary information was collected through interviews and nutritional status. Supply support to five affected municipalities that showed an increase in acute malnutrition was provided. In addition, because of technical support provided to SEDES
during technical meetings held by the Departmental Committee on Nutrition in Emergencies with municipal governments, a nutrition emergency plan was developed. In the northern region of the Bolivian Amazon there was an increase in severe acute malnutrition. As a result, the MoH and the departmental government of Beni provided technical and logistical assistance to develop a plan to reduce SAM and prevent mortality in the region, focusing on interventions in the municipality of Riberalta. Emergency response actions were initiated by the Government and a comprehensive approach is planned for 2017.

The Government did not declare a national emergency to activate humanitarian aid, therefore the focus was on emergency preparedness. UNICEF implemented an integrated resilience program (with the WASH sector) in the departments of Beni and La Paz (northern region), focused on institutional strengthening and community actions in 60 communities in 12 municipalities along the banks of the Beni and Mamoré rivers.

OUTCOME 4 1.5 By 2017, children and adolescents in the intervention area increased their access to, learning, and completion of a culturally appropriate education at an adequate age and at early childhood, pre-school, primary and early secondary levels

Analytical Statement of Progress:
In keeping with the Education Law (Law 70), UNICEF Bolivia supported the pluri-national education system at all levels, provided technical assistance and strengthened institutional capacities at the national and sub-national levels in the areas of planning and budgeting, and developed innovative ways of working to demonstrate experiences that can be scaled up to the national level with domestic funds.

In 2016 UNICEF’s contribution included support for change strategies, such as technical assistance, advocacy, policy dialogue, building partnerships, mobilizing resources and generating evidence. Work plans and cooperation agreements were signed with the MoE, MoH, Plurinational Observatory for Quality Education, Plurinational Institute for the Study of Languages and Cultures (IPELC), departmental government of Potosí (GAD), national community coordinator of the indigenous people’s education councils, FAUTAPO, the Organization of Ibero-American States (OEI/OAS), the NGO Cerebrum, Catholic University, the NGOs Aldeas SOS, Handicap and Plaza Sésamo, as well as UN agencies (UNESCO, OHCHR, UNFPA and UNDP). Further partnerships were strengthened with the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and the private sector.

Implementation of the intercultural, intracultural and multilingual education approach (EIIP), whereby indigenous organisations decided on the content of their education, was one important achievement. Fourteen regionalised curricula were developed, with research inputs on ancestral knowledge and languages of 14 indigenous peoples. At the same time, 29 language and culture institutes were established, with UNICEF support. The institutes’ main purpose is to conduct research on indigenous languages and develop materials so that the EIIP can be applied in the classroom, in turn improving the quality of education.

The pilot experience of implementing the social, community and productive education model in 51 schools in eight education districts, with representation of five indigenous peoples (Aymara, Quechua, Guarani, Yaminahua and Machineri) led to the development of good practices and tools. The MoE is scaling up this model to other districts; by end-2016 there were 422 schools, with 2,861 teachers and 53,780 students involved.

UNICEF’s work in generating evidence for equity included conducting an evaluation and documenting two models, developing baselines using data from multiple indicator cluster surveys, and the use of tools such as “simulations for equity in education”, with the aim of addressing the main bottlenecks in education.
In ECD, UNICEF Bolivia supported the development of guides and methodologies to be used in the planning and implementation of pre-school education in families and communities and non-formal education in education services, coordinated between the MoE and MoH (a tool to measure development is being validated, along with tools for the early detection of developmental delays or disabilities). These initiatives are national policy measures; one of the key objectives is to develop capacities among health and education staff, parents and caregivers. In partnership with the World Bank, a model was developed to support quality assessment and improvement in early childhood centres, with defined standards, in addition to a model to promote early childhood stimulation for indigenous peoples through “bilingual nests”. Strategic alliances were developed between the state, academia and pre-school centres specialising in neuro-education (NGO Cerebrum) to fill capacity gaps in the country.

The scaling up of the bilingual nests strategy began in 2016, increasing the number of indigenous groups involved from eight in 2015 to 20 in 2016 (Aymara, Quechua, Guarani, Chiquitano, Ignaciano Moxeño, Yuki, Machineri, Yaminahua, Movima, Yuracare, Uru, Itonama, More, Kallawaya). The number of nests rose from 42 to 126, involving 396 adults (grandparents, educators and parents) and 1,254 children.

Cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms were strengthened in several areas including: emergencies, ECD, disabilities, MESCP steering committee, and new partnerships were developed with the private sector and civil society.

With the strengthening of UNICEF’s dialogue and advocacy on education policies with the MoE, and following several years of joint advocacy with UNESCO, Bolivia’s membership of the Latin American Laboratory for Assessment of the Quality of Education was achieved. This is the first step toward setting up a system to evaluate learning, produce evidence on the status of learning among Bolivian children and influence improvements in the quality of education.

UNICEF Bolivia made a decisive contribution to the institutionalization of the government’s response to emergency situations in the area of education. There are now established coordination mechanisms led by the government, and regulations, materials and methodologies have been developed to ensure that the impact on the education system is kept to a minimum.

Among the constraints preventing further progress were factors such as: the MoE no longer received funding through a joint donor “Basket Fund”, and a notable reduction of funding from the direct tax on hydrocarbons normally allocated to departments and municipalities for education. Furthermore, UNICEF faced fundraising challenges. In response to this situation, UNICEF carried out a strategic analysis of partnerships in terms of the achievement of results, which led to a reduction in the number of partners and the establishment of strategic collaboration with the private sector. This made management more efficient and effective, enabling greater impact with fewer resources. The sector improved its efficiency thanks to these measures and the implementation of annual working plans, ensuring transparency and efficiency in the use of available resources.

**OUTPUT 1** Families and communities in priority areas are organized to support timely school entry, permanence and learning, particularly that of girls in pre-school, primary and early secondary levels

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
UNICEF continued to provide support to Indigenous Peoples’ Education Councils (CEPO) to create demand from civil society, especially indigenous peoples, for quality education. To
achieve this, capacity building of 393 local community education councils (CESC) at two levels was conducted. At the national level, through the National Coordinating Committee for the Indigenous Peoples’ Education Councils, and at the local (school and district) levels by supporting specific CEPOs such as the Education Councils of the Quecha Nation (CENAD), the Guarani (CEPOG) and the Aymara (CEA) communities. The work was carried out in partnership with the local NGO FAUTAPO, leading to the following achievements: IPELC and the ILC provided training in indigenous languages for public servants and the general public.

The local curricula, known as regional curricula (RC), in indigenous communities was harmonised with the national Basic Curriculum (BC).

In November, the MoE, IPELC and CNC CEPOs organised the second Conference on EIIP to assess progress and challenges regarding social and community participation in education, the RC and the development of indigenous languages.

Initial education in the family and community was positioned as a priority for the CESC as part of the RC for the Aymara, Quechua and Guarani communities. In coordination with Plan International, guidelines were formulated for developing the RC in initial education at the family and community levels for an additional 25 indigenous communities. 50 per cent of the CESC were given training to develop action plans to advocate for additional municipal government investment in education, work with teachers to improve quality, and influence other organisations to improve the quality of education. A support guide for CESC was produced as a result. Half of the CESC have effectively included students as committee members. There is still a need to guarantee gender parity in these mechanisms.

Seven tools to monitor the implementation of the RC in indigenous communities, the learning of indigenous languages by teachers and the development of EIIP in the classroom were validated.

The main challenge was the duplication of responsibilities between the CEPOs (recognised in the education law) and the school committees (recognised in previous laws). UNICEF therefore increased its support for training and advocacy work with the MoE to eliminate this duplication and ensure that the law is applied. The sustainability of the training was also affected because of high turn-over among committee members. UNICEF provided support to ensure a more effective transition and the participation of students and women. This is a task that requires reflection and training, given deep-rooted cultural practices that need to be overcome.

OUTPUT 2

1.5.2 Educational services in priority areas implement innovative strategies that guarantee school entry, completion and learning of the most vulnerable children and adolescents.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF supported MoE, IPELC and CEPO to implement the social, community and productive education model in eight education districts serving five indigenous peoples, comprising 422 schools, 2,861 teachers and 53,780 students. Progress achieved included: 91 per cent of the schools have consolidated social-productive projects (PSP) as a learning tool, involving students, teachers, local authorities and municipal governments. 14 regionalised curricula were officially approved under the leadership of indigenous organisations.

The ILC ran language courses in Quechua, Aymara and Guarani for teachers working in the pilot clusters, to prepare for implementation of the RC.
Autonomous municipal governments are more engaged: five of eight increased their budget for education in the intervention areas.

UNICEF Bolivia provided technical assistance to the five municipalities of the Chaco Chuquisaqueño to design quality standards for early childhood centres. These were applied in 57 centres, involving 1,254 children and 600 parents, in carrying out stimulation, learning or preparation for school activities.

UNICEF supported the MoH’s ECD Unit to design a tool to monitor the development of children aged zero-to-six. This will be used to carry out check-ups on healthy children at all primary health centres. It will also enable parents or other carers to monitor the child’s development and detect warning signs of developmental delays (coordinated with the IDB and Aldeas SOS).

UNICEF assisted the MoE in drawing up a parenting programme, deciding on the content of the modules for training motivational agents (teachers, doctors, nurses, community facilitators) and providing advice to parents by setting out child development route maps. The materials were produced by a cross-sectoral technical committee from the MoE, MoH and MoJ.

Additionally, and as part of a regional initiative, UNICEF signed an agreement with Sesame Street for the adaptation and use of the programmes it has produced for Latin America, which will be broadcast in Bolivia in 2017.

UNICEF signed an agreement with the MoH, Handicap International, and a new private sector partner (Banco Nacional de Bolivia), to strengthen capacities at the 21 Rehabilitation Centres around the country. Materials were being designed to train health staff, along with protocols for care and for referral and follow-up mechanisms between the health services and rehabilitation centres. UNICEF also supported the ‘teacher at home programme’ to provide access to education for children with disabilities.

UNICEF Bolivia provided technical assistance to IPELC to scale up the language revitalisation and child development strategy called bilingual nests. In 2016, the strategy was rolled out to 20 indigenous peoples, and by year-end 126 bilingual nests were serving 1,254 children, supported by 396 parents, grandparents and/or educators, in 80 communities in 25 municipalities.

Constraints included the low level of engagement from some authorities at the local level, weak application of the decentralisation approach and a lack of effective coordination between stakeholders, particularly in relation to addressing issues related to disabilities.

**OUTPUT 3 1.5.3** Capacity of public institutions is strengthened to plan, coordinate, implement, monitor and evaluate cost-effective interventions in priority areas, with an equity-based approach.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**

With UNICEF’s technical assistance and advocacy, two departmental governments now have ECD programmes. The departmental government of Potosí made progress in implementing the ECD Programme (PAPI), and gathered information on children under six in the four municipalities where PAPI will be providing different types of services. The two departmental governments included these programmes in their development plans for the next five years and allocated resources.
Agreements were signed with the NGO Cerebrum and the Universidad Católica Boliviana, resulting in a diploma course in Neurosciences and Education with 70 students (teachers and staff from various institutions and NGOs).

UNICEF concluded the first phase of the ECD programme with the adoption of the quality management model for child development centres by the municipal governments of La Paz and El Alto. These municipalities now have capacity to provide technical assistance to other municipalities.

UNICEF continued to support IPELC to set up seven new ILC (in Baure, Itonama, Leco, Pacahuara, Canichana, Ayoreo and Chácobo), in coordination with the CEPO, and the MoE. The priority for the ILCs was to develop RC and produce teaching materials for the education system.

In addition, UNICEF and the Organization of American States implemented a communication strategy using media channels, particularly radio, to strengthen the use of and teach the Aymara language. Experience using Aymara language teaching methods and materials, including 28 mobile apps, were systematized, a proposed curriculum for Aymara language teaching on the radio was developed and 18 short radio programmes and radio dramas were produced.

UNICEF Bolivia supported studies on: i) capacity assessment of the national committee of people with disabilities, which allowed for the identification of capacity gaps, a capacity development plan and a five-year strategic plan; ii) systematization of experiences with bilingual nests for indigenous peoples, with IPELC; and iii) systematization of MESCP implementation in the Quechua, Aymara and Guaraní indigenous communities.

With UNICEF's support, the strategic plan for education was completed for the five Chaco Chuquisaqueño municipalities, using the simulations for equity in education tool, with an emphasis on inclusive education. The plan includes interventions to improve access to primary and secondary education and its quality, as well as actions to improve the coverage and quality of ECD services. The municipal governments have allocated a budget to finance the main high-impact interventions included in the integrated development plans (PTDI) for the next five years.

However, ECD is still largely invisible in policy and financial decision-making. Lack of coordination between the sectors creates duplication and inefficiency in the use of resources. UNICEF is providing technical assistance to the MoH and MoE to set up integrated mechanisms to support families and monitor ECD, and has begun the mapping of existing services to encourage coordination.

**OUTPUT 4 1.5.4** Capacity of public institutions to ensure children and adolescent access to educational services in emergency situations is strengthened.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**

UNICEF Bolivia supported the setting up of departmental working groups on risk management for the education sector in six of the country’s nine departments (Potosí, Santa Cruz, Pando, Beni, Chuquisaca and Tarija). They working groups now have terms of reference and founding charters. The three remaining departmental working groups are in the process of being set up in Oruro, Cochabamba and La Paz. Most of the working groups are led by the departmental education directorate, with members from several key groups, such as the specialised units for ongoing teacher training (UNEFCO), departmental civil defence and departmental government offices including the human development secretariat,
risk management unit and hydrometeorology and hydrology service. In some cases, they also include representatives of the municipal government in the departmental capital.

To strengthen the capacities of the institutions responsible for risk management in schools, UNICEF worked in partnership with UNEFCO to take forward ongoing training for teachers on risk management and climate change. This training was carried out using training booklets produced by the MoE and members of the working group on risk management in education, and reached 1,331 teachers. In addition, “practical guides for disaster prevention and response in schools” were drawn up for four types of disasters. These are being used by teachers and school directors to prepare schools for possible emergency events.

In addition, information and prevention campaigns were carried out on Zika, Dengue and Chikungunya, with information leaflets and posters being produced and distributed in 361 schools. These materials were used to train district education directors in the departments, prioritised according to their risk of exposure to these threats: Santa Cruz, Beni, Pando, northern La Paz, Tarija and Chuquisaca.

Technical assistance was provided to train staff to implement the “A New Sun for Community Wellbeing” programme for children aged three-to-six and school age children during emergencies. Staff were also shown how to analyse indicators related to ECD, education and child protection. At least 120 people were trained as volunteers, ready to support in times of crisis, in departments of Beni, Pando and Santa Cruz as of late 2016.

In response to the drought and water shortage emergency declared in November 2016, UNICEF supported the MoE to install water tanks and provide water through trucks to schools. Ninety-four areas of the city of La Paz were affected, including 29,625 students and 80 schools.

An emergency preparedness and response structure is in place at the national and departmental levels. However, one of the most important challenges is sustainability at the technical level with the members of the departmental working groups, as constant staff turnover undermines the capacities developed at these departmental levels. Another challenge is maintaining close coordination between the education sector and other autonomous territorial government bodies (departmental and municipal governments). This was achieved by means of regular visits and ongoing support from the central government MoE, as well as improving the flow of information within the education system in emergency situations

OUTCOME 5 2.6. By 2017, children and adolescents, especially the most vulnerable, are protected by a judicial framework that is aligned with international standards and have access to protection programs and services (including timely birth registration), that prevent and protect them from violence, negligence, abuse and exploitation

Analytical Statement of Progress:
2016 was the penultimate year of the country programme and steady progress was achieved against the targets for the year. However, challenges were faced both in terms of demand for quality services and prevention of abuse and VAC, and in the provision of quality services for appropriate care of victims.

The child protection system suffered from the fall in the global oil and gas prices negatively affecting the budget allocation to social services. This situation affected mostly the governments at the subnational level as they depend on this income for ensuring service delivery. They are directly responsible for the implementation of child protection policies – designed at national level- and hence, for the provision of specialized services – ranging
from psychosocial interventions for child victims of sexual violence to offering alternatives to imprisonment to adolescents in conflict with the law. The major impact was on human resources as well as the reduction of prevention activities.

This situation was exacerbated by the change of public servants at decision-making levels, resulting in implementation delays and affecting the sustainability of previous achievements. Despite this, the capacity building of key counterparts continued, and further trainings were conducted with the Pluri-national School for Public Management, particularly in juvenile justice and child labour, exceeding the target number of participants and demonstrating the need for further training in child protection.

UNICEF successfully managed to strengthen the demand for and supply of increased protection, particularly strengthening the capacities of child protection service providers as well as disseminating information about the magnitude of violence against children among the wider population in Bolivia. In August, UNICEF successfully organized and launched an open forum to stimulate discussion of violence against children, particularly sexual abuse of girls. International and national experts participated in the event, including the Office of the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children.

A further challenge was continued implementation of the Child and Adolescent Code particularly in relation to child protection. Progress was achieved in providing technical assistance for the development of protocols and referral instruments related to the Code and its regulation. Furthermore, there was progress in the development of referral and attention routes for children without parental care – developed in Cochabamba – and the design of three police protocols to address issues concerning adolescents in conflict with the law, child abuse and violence and child trafficking.

Regarding the situation of adolescents in conflict with the law, UNICEF and the MoJ launched a special protocol and an innovative study that provides an economic comparison of the benefits of implementing alternative measures to the deprivation of liberty versus detention – the latter being very expensive and with no positive results for children’s rehabilitation. In addition, UNICEF provided technical assistance for an initiative seeking to enact a new law to reform some aspects of the existing specialized juvenile justice system.

As one of the key strategies in child protection interventions, UNICEF successfully engaged with the private sector to incorporate the issues of child labour and birth registration within private sector corporate social responsibility initiatives. The partnership with TIGO aimed at promoting timely birth registration ended this year, with several successful outcomes: 111 hospitals now have a civil registration service, with 80 mobile booths that facilitate registration at health centres and provide a platform for registering children and adults at fairs and community events. From January 2014 until September 2016, 28,280 children were registered at the right time because of this initiative.

In terms of child labour, and particularly the eradication of one of its worst forms – child labour on sugar cane plantation – two companies operating sugar mills, UNAGRO and GUABIRA, ratified their commitment to this goal, and continued progressing towards the different stages of the ‘Triple Seal’ certification, becoming an example for other companies. In 2016, emphasis was placed on promoting the use of Triple Seal products among consumers, beyond existing commitments in mills, families and municipalities. One of the pending actions from the Child and Adolescent Code was to conduct a survey on child labour, to update existing data, from 2008). The Government of Bolivia took strong leadership in developing a survey that now includes a definition of child labour in accordance with the Code.
Awareness-raising on child protection issues at the community and family levels was continued and strengthened. This ensured the availability of reliable information and knowledge on how to proceed in case of violence against children, a priority that UNICEF furthered in 2016 through community child protection strategies (such as backpacks for community promoters). The work was initially in rural areas and will be adapted in 2017 for urban areas. It is only once awareness is raised and communities, families and children themselves have access to the necessary information that the population will be empowered to reduce all forms of violence against children.

The focus in 2017 will be on strong advocacy initiatives to implement the Code, the presentation of the pending fourth CRC State Party periodic report and the transition to the next Country Programme cycle 2018-2022.

OUTPUT 1 2.6.1 Families, communities and social organizations in priority areas promote good treatment, reject violence, and report all forms of violence against children and adolescents

Analytical Statement of Progress:
Several challenges were faced under this output, as it focuses on achieving behavioural changes based on increased understanding of what violence against children and its consequences, including exploitation, abuse and neglect. Nevertheless, UNICEF successfully strengthened the capacity of municipal children and adolescents defence offices, providing specialized training to 200 public servants from 35 municipalities.

Furthermore, a capacity assessment of these municipal offices (the main actor in child protection at the local level) was conducted to better understand how they function, where the bottlenecks are and how to tackle them in the coming years. The analysis was shared with the municipalities to raise awareness of the issues. UNICEF increased its presence in large cities such as La Paz and El Alto, to strengthen urban programming in the transition to the next CP.

Regarding the right to live within a family, and to prevent children's institutionalization, UNICEF Bolivia implemented an innovative and unique intervention in the department of Cochabamba. Working together with the judiciary (specialized family judges), departmental of social services and civil society organizations, the intervention had a two-pronged approach: i) preventative actions to avoid the separation and abandonment of children from their families, by strengthening parental skills to promote good treatment and care; and ii) direct interventions with institutionalized children.

Additionally, to prevent all forms of VAC, UNICEF Bolivia, in alliance with the Vice-Ministry of Home Affairs, strengthened the national police’s capacity to protect children through awareness-raising and the production of material on preventing violence against children in homes and communities. The material will be distributed and used by the police in three departments in 2017, to increase awareness on this topic.

Finally, the alliance with private sector was further strengthened. With TIGO, a telecom company, UNICEF reached the end of a three-year agreement with excellent results achieved, particularly regarding the child’s right to an identity. Regarding child labour, the central strategy was the Triple Seal strategy, which continued to be used by sugar cane owners and companies. In 2016, further actions were implemented to sensitize individual sugar consumers so that they purchase products that promote and guarantee human rights. UNICEF organized a high-level public event on violence against children, with the participation of key experts (including Paulo Sergio Pinheiro) in August this year, which had an important impact in putting the issue on the public agenda.
OUTPUT 2 2.6.2 Children and adolescent victims of all forms of violence, abuse and negligence in priority areas have access to institutional protection services, with a focus on gender and interculturality

Analytical Statement of Progress:
Strengthening institutional capacities in child protection is a priority for UNICEF due to the capacity gaps in the sector. Within the framework of the national training strategy, more than 1,000 public servants were trained through specialized short courses, and four virtual courses were conducted in the areas of: the child and adolescent rights, juvenile justice, child labour and girls living on the streets. Also, tools and protocols were developed that contribute both to strengthening capacities within the services and to starting new programmes and services. Among the most important were: a manual on crime prevention (through social skills when dealing with children and adolescents) and a protocol for care and intervention routes for adolescents who have committed crimes. Specialized child protection services, such as CEPAT, were consolidated; with 10 centres across the country. During 2016, some 467 child and adolescent victims of sexual violence benefitted from psychosocial attention, while 11,820 participated in actions to prevent sexual violence.

The specialized centre for alternative measures to the deprivation of liberty in Santa Cruz provided support to 143 adolescents in conflict with the law, continuing to be the only centre of this kind in Bolivia.

The Pluri-national State of Bolivia has progressed considerably in reducing gaps related to unregistered children. At present, 88 per cent of children under five have their birth certificate; however, more than 143,000 children have not benefited from this right. In support to the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, strategies to reduce the gap were promoted, including strong involvement by the education and health sectors. Because of activities implemented in 2016, some 111 hospitals have birth registration officers and 14,538 children were registered. Institutional strengthening activities included a national study of the status of birth registration officers and an analysis of birth registration in the department of Chuquisaca, using the ‘monitoring results for equity systems’ tool.

OUTPUT 3 2.6.3 Capacity of public institutions (national and subnational), within the framework of protection, have an improved legal framework and strengthened its capacity to plan, coordinate, implement, and monitor cost-effective interventions, with a rights-based and equity-based approach.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
UNICEF made significant contribution toward implementation of the Child and Adolescent Code, with the opening and operationalization of specialized child protection programmes and services at the sub-national level. In 2016, there were 10 centres providing psychosocial services to child and adolescent victims of sexual violence in eight departments, one orientation centre for adolescents in conflict with the law, two programmes to reduce child labour and 111 birth registration officers in hospitals.

UNICEF promoted the development of replicable interventions, innovations and good practices in services and programmes, including: i) reducing child labour in the sugar cane harvest, with the implementation of the Triple Seal (as a result 33 per cent of sugar cane harvests are free of discriminatory and forced child labour) and a child-friendly market model (in Santa Cruz); ii) identifying alternatives to guarantee the right to live with the family, for which the document "Routes of Attention for Children and Adolescents" on the right to a family life was published (in Cochabamba); and iii) the development and application of alternative measures to the deprivation of liberty of adolescents in conflict with the law, with the opening of Counselling Centres (in Santa Cruz).
UNICEF supported the development of studies and diagnoses on the situation of children and adolescents, especially in relation to child labour, sexual violence and the prevalence of cases attended by Child Defence Office and the institutional functioning of those services. These studies generated evidence that now contributes significantly to state planning processes, as well strengthening competencies for systematization and data analysis.

**OUTPUT 4** 2.6.4 Children and adolescents in emergency situations that have access to services protecting them from violence and providing psycho-affective recovery therapy.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
Bolivia’s vulnerability to climate change is a concern, given the presence of contagious diseases, often transmitted by insects that are difficult to control, such as dengue, chikungunya and Zika. In the face of emergency situations, children are exposed to additional dangers, and this is exacerbated when institutional mechanisms in place to protect children and adolescents from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation are already weak.

In 2016, there was no displacement from an emergency. However, UNICEF focused efforts on strengthening capacities for disaster preparedness. Seventy-two public servants were trained, under the training- of-trainers modality, and received instruction on how to use the strategy ‘a new sun for community welfare’ for children from three-to-five and six-to-12 years. Similarly, institutions responsible for the protection of children and adolescents and humanitarian response were trained in the minimum standards for child protection in humanitarian action, involving 53 staff from Risk Management Units, the Department Service of Social Management (SEDEGES) and DNA.

With the presence of the Zika virus in Bolivia, there is a risk that 10 per cent of pregnant women could give birth to babies with microcephaly, resulting in the inability to talk, walk, and disabilities in their psychomotor development. This can trigger abandonment and neglect, hence UNICEF, in alliance with the INGO Samaritan’s Purse, initiated a partnership for the sensitization and development of guidance material for the care and attention of children, adolescents and pregnant women affected by Zika.

**OUTCOME 6** 3.7 By 2017, public policies, social protection systems, legal framework, and budget allocations in favour of children, adolescents and vulnerable women are strengthened at national and subnational levels, and are based on evidence and backed by disaggregated data.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
UNICEF Bolivia continued to focus on: collecting evidence-based advocacy information, knowledge management and increased budget allocation and implementation at all levels of the state, in partnership with the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance and the Legislative Assembly’s (PNCA). At the end of the year, the Ministry of Economy and Finance and UNICEF published a ‘Public Budget for Children and Adolescents in Bolivia’.

The PDES was approved this year to cover the period 2016-2020. It includes an organized and articulated set of norms, subsystems, processes, mechanisms and procedures for Bolivia’s long-term, medium-term and short-term planning. The Government’s integrated planning system will allow it to conduct an integrated development planning process for the first time. To support implementation of the PDES, UNICEF developed a tool that aligns the plan to SDG targets and results for children. This tool also allows for a focus on planning with corresponding budgets, to ensure the achievement of SDGs relating to children.

The SPIE requires timely, relevant and official information that allows for planning, budget allocation and M&E of development plans at all levels. Therefore, different support platforms
were created, one of them is geo-referential (i.e. the Información del Sistema de Planificación Integral del Estado -- InfoSPIE), which includes all the information that will support territorial and sectoral planning. UNICEF is working with the Ministry of Planning to include information and data related to children in this platform, which will be used for planning and budgeting for children at a later stage.

Since the approval of the Child and Adolescent Code (2014), UNICEF has advocated for the development of a social protection programme to eradicate child labour, based on updated data. With these advocacy efforts, the Parliamentary Network, the Ministry of Economy and Finance increased the budget allocated to the National Institute for Statistics (INE), to include a module to obtain data on child labour in the national demographic household survey. It is expected that results will be available in the first quarter of 2017. While updated data is available for the design of the social protection programme, UNICEF took the opportunity to support the Government in the implementation of the new planning system, which will include social protection programmes. This will also allow the planning process to have a child-friendly lens and simultaneously advance achievement of the SDGs.

**OUTPUT 1 3.7.1** The most marginalised and disadvantaged children and adolescents (particularly indigenous and afro-descendent) have participatory spaces for use in developing and implementing laws, public policies, and allocating budgets

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**

In 2015, the Ombudsperson Office had organized the first Pluri-national Assembly of Children and Adolescents, which later served to create a Council of Children and Adolescents in each of the nine departments. In 2016, these Councils were strengthened, and in April the second Pluri-national Assembly was held in La Paz. Eighteen delegates (two representatives from each departmental council – one boy, one girl) participated in the event. During this event, activities of the councils were evaluated and a national work plan was developed, in which three thematic strategic lines were prioritized: i) teenage pregnancy; ii) juvenile justice; and iii) implementation of departmental plans by departmental autonomous governments.

UNICEF Bolivia’s support aims to promote the participation of children at the departmental level. Likewise, according to the Child and Adolescent Code, committees of children and adolescents should be established at departmental and municipal levels. In the municipalities of some departments (Oruro, La Paz, Chuquisaca and Pando) children and adolescents of the councils are also members of the committees.

In Chuquisaca, with the support of UNICEF, a workplan was elaborated for the first official session of the Committee of the Departmental Committee of Children and Adolescents of Chuquisaca, formed by representatives of schools, municipalities, and civil society organizations. The work-plan has allowed for monitoring the implementation of the departmental plan of children and adolescents of Chuquisaca, concluded in 2016, by the social management leadership, with technical assistance from UNICEF. The committee was elected at the II Biennial Departmental Congress of Children and Adolescents, realized at the end of 2015, and is part of the implementation of Children and Adolescent’s Code (Law No 548).

The First Municipal Congress of Children and Adolescents of the city of Sucre took place with the support of UNICEF. The Congress had the objective of promoting municipal public policies to empower Sucre’s children to realize their rights. Proposals were submitted for the Municipal Law and Plan for Children and Adolescents of Sucre, currently being elaborated.

In May this year, the Ombudsman finished his term in office and the new Ombudsman was elected, taking office in July. During the second semester, the Ombudsman's Office carried
out an institutional reorganization that involved personnel changes of many officials in national and departmental offices. A proposal to reform the Law of the Ombudsperson's Office was presented to the Legislative Assembly. It is expected that the Division of Children and Adolescents will be ranked as an adjunct, in accordance with the commitment assumed by the previous Ombudsman when the budget was increased for this purpose.

**OUTPUT 2 3.7.2** Institutional capacity at the national and subnational levels are strengthened to develop inclusive systems that protect the most vulnerable based on evidence-based knowledge.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
The year under review was important in terms of the production of statistics that will help to update the situation of children in Bolivia. The DHS was initiated at the time of this reporting. It is collecting information on violence against children and ECD, which is a direct result of UNICEF's advocacy efforts. In addition, as part of the DHS, the country will implement a sub-survey on child labour. UNICEF supported the INE in the identification of information gaps on this topic. With UNICEF's technical and financial support, the MoH and INE conducted a post-census survey and published a study to update the maternal mortality indicator, which was last updated 10 years ago. INE produced an estimate for 2012-2020 of the child population by single ages (0-17) and by municipality, to help calculate coverage of social services. INE also produced a dossier of indicators on children. This information will support the Ministry of Planning (MoP) in the design and implementation of the infoSPIE, the state integrated information system for planning, and will ensure that the situation of children will be included in monitoring and evaluation of the PDES.

UNICEF supported the MoP's social and economic policy analyses unit and the University of San Andres in the generation of evidence around areas such as: the determinants of malnutrition, child and social expenditures, multidimensional child poverty, child labour, VAC, perinatal and neonatal mortality, adolescents in conflict with the law, migration and climate change. UNICEF’s situation analysis was updated accordingly, taking in account these latest investigations and analyses; however, its official launch is embargoed by the Government until it obtains final approval.

Additionally, for the first time two sub-national situation analyses were developed jointly with departmental governors of Chuquisaca and Potosí (the poorest areas in the country). Based on the latter evidence, in alliance with the University of San Francisco Xavier of Chuquisaca, a Centre of Economic and Social Analysis is in the final process of being established. The Centre will work towards highlighting gaps and disparities on vulnerable and excluded populations, with a special focus on monitoring SDG's at the sub-national level. In addition, a platform was established to build capacities of key stakeholders (academics, Ministry of Autonomy, INE, UNICEF and the governments of Chuquisaca and Sucre) to identify knowledge gaps.

One evaluation (impact evaluation of the integral education strategy management at the municipal level) was concluded, and four are ongoing: i) the evaluation / systematization of the action plan preparedness and response to El Niño 2015-2016, ii) the evaluation of the implementation of demonstrative projects of sanitation in rural areas of Bolivia, iii) UNICEF's global evaluation of drinking water supply in rural areas and small towns; and iv) the global evaluation of UNICEF's programmes and strategies to reduce stunting among young children.

**OUTPUT 3 3.7.3** Political commitment, accountability and national capacity to legislate, plan and fund inclusive social policies are strengthened
Analytical Statement of Progress:
In 2016 members of the PNCAs focused on their oversight function; training courses in CRC, CEDAW and CRPD were organized for them and their respective attachés. This will allow them to monitor other institutions and fulfill their roles in guaranteeing and protecting children’s rights. With UNICEF’s technical support, parliamentarians have closely followed the work of the MoJ, in charge of completing the country report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child. The parliamentary network facilitated the formation of an inter-institutional committee (ministries of justice and foreign affairs and state attorney’s office) to advance the finalization of this report, which will be presented next year.

UNICEF and PNCA advocacy also played a key role in influencing the Ministry of Economy and its budget allocations for the survey on child labour, which as a result was included in the 2016 DHS. It is expected that results will be available in the first quarter of 2017. Furthermore, PNCA members have analysed and followed-up on bills presented by the Executive. One bill seeking to reform the Children’s Code by reducing the age of adolescents’ criminal responsibility, was rejected. Another bill to combat “pandillas” (gangs) is under consideration, and would categorize as a crime children’s and adolescents’ involvement in gang activities. Parliamentarians managed to postpone the vote on this bill pending further analysis.

As to public budgeting for children, two important results were achieved: the PNAC requested all nine departmental governments to send information on the budget allocated to children and related programmes in 2015 and 2016. Eight departments sent the information and UNICEF provided support to carry out budget analyses. It is expected that these analyses will facilitate coordination with the Ministry of Economy and allocate public budgets for the realization of children’s rights at all levels of government, using the public finance for children methodology developed last year. Additionally, UNICEF’s support to the work of parliamentarians on public budget included two capacity-building activities around General Comment 19 by the CRC Committee. Twenty-six MPs (24 women and 2 men) and 57 technical advisers (40 women and 37 men) were trained accordingly.

At the sub-national level, the Children’s Departmental Plan of Chuquisaca and the Strategic Children’s Departmental Plan of Potosí were established as public policies in the framework of the Children’s Code, thanks to leadership by the social management (Chuquisaca) and the social management service (Potosí) and the contribution of departmental situation analyses. Both plans were concluded and are now focused on closing the most relevant gaps and inequalities, as well as being harmonized with Bolivia’s national economic and social plan and the 2025 Agenda.

OUTPUT 4 3.7.4 Local level capacities are strengthened to design plans for the prevention and preparation of risk management and emergencies aimed at assisting children and adolescents

Analytical Statement of Progress:
UNICEF Bolivia’s work resulted in advances in the regulation and operationalization in different levels of territorial management – central, departmental and municipal – in relation to emergency preparation and response. Some departments have contingency plans; however, they are not yet explicit strategies or mechanisms to protect children in situations of risk and/or emergencies. In the departments of Beni, Pando and Cochabamba, which have emergency operation centres, the organization of health, education and protection has started. One of the limitations to regular functioning is the lack of institutionalization of these spaces to assist in the attention to risk management during emergencies.

In Pando, UNICEF prioritized the strengthening of information systems on children’s rights, providing technical support. DevInfo was introduced in coordination with work with the
departmental systems. Situation analyses were developed in the departments of Pando and Cochabamba, in coordination with the Centre of Management Planning of the Greater University of San Simón) and secretariats of planning and human development of the governments. These efforts resulted in the development of the territorial integrated development plans, supported by national planning regulations.

Support for sectoral programme components was provided on the basis of annual work-plan consolidation. Work initiated included the mapping of sector priorities by department and type of collaboration. This facilitated greater understanding and teamwork and created synergies in some cases. For example, in Pando coordination was carried out with the protection sector for operation of the departmental protection panel at the emergency operation centre, and the organization and creation of CEPAT within the secretariat of human and social development. Further, in coordination with UNFPA, synergies were developed to respond to the Secretariat of Human Development and the Assembly on the demand to reduce adolescent pregnancy. This also followed a request from the Governor of Pando to provide technical assistance for the preparation of the departmental PTDI, which is almost finished.

In terms of communication and advocacy for children, an alliance was established with the governments and the departmental legislative assemblies to strengthen the communication and functioning of networks against violence, through different social mobilization actions. It is important to explain the process of developing departmental communication strategies based on evidence that is generated through M&E.

To strengthen political commitment at the municipal level of Chuquisaca, UNICEF supported the sixth meeting of mayors and councillors in the human and social development area, under the theme "For the Wellbeing of Children and Adolescents in the Municipalities of Chuquisaca", convened by the Autonomous Government, the Department of Human Development (DIGES), and the Association of Municipalities. Situation analysis results were disseminated, and commitments were made to socialize Law 247, implement the INA departmental plan and strengthen municipal committees of the INA and adolescence. The monitoring of these commitments is carried out by DIGES with the support of UNICEF Bolivia.

### Evaluation and research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Type of Report</th>
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<td>Study</td>
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## Other publications

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## Lessons learned

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## Programme documents

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