

Chad

Part 1: Situation update in the country

Chad is a low-income, least developed country that relies primarily on oil revenues. The sharp fall in oil prices since the end of 2014 has had serious repercussions for the economy. Per capita income decreased from US\$1,026 in 2014 to US\$670 in 2017 (World Bank, World Development Indicators 2018). The Government responded through fiscal consolidation, cuts to social budgets and reductions in bonuses and allowances paid to civil servants, in order to reduce the wage bill. These measures have had important social consequences, including a series of strikes from January to October 2018, coinciding with major political reforms that marked the beginning of Chad's Fourth Republic on 5 May 2018.

Despite a modest economic recovery and estimated rise in real GDP of 3.1 per cent in 2018 – due mainly to a modest rise in oil prices and increased oil production– the economy remains fragile and subject to significant risks due to its lack of diversification, oil price volatility and regional conflicts.

Throughout the Sahel, the 2017 rainy season was characterized by insufficient rainfall distribution, both temporally and spatially, leading to a rainfall deficit in large grazing areas, a localized decrease in agricultural production, and early onset and prolongation of the 2018 dry season. The cost of staple foods remained high. Around the Lake Chad basin, trade flows were disrupted by armed conflict. The 2018 SMART nutrition survey found a global acute malnutrition rate of 13.5 per cent and a severe acute malnutrition (SAM) rate of 4.0 per cent among children under five years of age. In 12 of 23 provinces, the global acute malnutrition rate exceeded 15 per cent.

In the south of the country in 2018 Chad registered 21,500 new refugees from central Africa (including 14,000 children), who fled following clashes between armed groups in the Central African Republic. In addition, 1,327 new refugees from Nigeria arrived in Lac Province in late 2018. By the end of 2018 Chad was home to 659,326 displaced persons, refugees and internally displaced persons affected by crises in Nigeria, Central African Republic and Sudan (UNHCR November 2018 and January 2019 bulletins).

Health/nutrition and HIV: Changing indicators and systemic challenges

According to inter-agency mortality estimates, Chad has experienced a moderate downward trend in the maternal mortality ratio: from 1,170 per 100,000 live births in 2005 to 856 per 100,000 live births in 2015. The under-five mortality rate declined from 170 per 1,000 live births in 2005 to 123 per 1,000 live births in 2017. These rates, however, are still high.

Chad was declared free of wild poliovirus in July 2016. According to the 2017 vaccine coverage survey, only 22 per cent of children aged 12-to-23 months are fully vaccinated, and only 27 per cent of babies are delivered in a health facility, according to the Ministry of Public Health

(MoPH) Statistical Yearbook for 2017.

Chad experienced no meningitis or cholera epidemics in 2018. Nevertheless, the situation remains precarious because of the low immunization coverage of children. A measles epidemic has been ongoing in 39 of 117 districts since April. A total of 5,336 suspected cases of measles were reported from week 1 to week 52 of 2018, including 96 deaths (MoPH, Integrated Epidemiological Surveillance Service).

According to the 2018 SMART survey, 31.9 per cent of children under five years of age suffer from chronic malnutrition. The survey shows an upward trend in exclusive breastfeeding, from 5.5 per cent in 2015 to 17.7 per cent in 2018. Overall, infant and young child feeding (IYCF) remains a concern, with only 36.5 per cent of children aged 0-to-23 months breastfed during the first hour after birth and 43 per cent of children aged six-to-eight months introduced to complementary foods on time (SMART 2018). Chad is a member of the Scaling-Up Nutrition movement, whose global coordinator visited Chad in July 2018 to advocate for improved nutrition with national authorities. Through the multisectoral platform of the standing technical committee for nutrition and food, a functional capacity analysis of nutrition coordination mechanisms was conducted; based on the recommendations, an action plan was developed.

Chad is facing a generalized HIV epidemic: prevalence was 1.6 per cent in the general population in 2015 (DHS/MICS 2014-2015). Prevalence in urban areas was 4.3 per cent compared to 0.6 per cent in rural areas. HIV is prevalent in seven provinces, ranging from 2-to-5 per cent. Infection rates are higher among women than men (1.8 vs. 1.3 per cent); the difference is most marked in the 15–19 age group (1.2 vs. 0.4 per cent).

Coordination, strategic and operational planning and resource mobilization for the fight against AIDS is provided by the National AIDS Control Council. The programme is multisectoral and decentralized.

Chad adopted a national health policy for 2016–2030 that defines strategic approaches based on the six pillars of the health system. The policy is aligned with Chad's Vision 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The policy is implemented through the third national health development plan 2018–2021 (NHDP III) and advocates for the introduction of new strategies, including universal health coverage and community health, with the future recruitment of 40,000 community agents to provide an integrated package of services and care.

The health sector budget declined from US\$221 million in 2013 to US\$175 million in 2017 and dropped sharply to US\$116 million in 2018. The health sector's share of the state budget decreased from 9.1 per cent in 2013 to 5.6 per cent in 2015. However, it recovered slightly to 6.5 per cent in 2018; with a forecast of 6.9 per cent for 2019. In contrast, household spending on health care doubled between 2013 and 2016 (Statistical Yearbook of Health Statistics, 2016, MoPH).

The Government of Chad has made health a priority, with direct involvement by the Head of State through monthly meetings with the donor group.

Opportunities represented by the adoption of a new MoPH organizational chart in April 2018 designed to better deliver services at the central, intermediate and peripheral levels, in addition to the annual health sector review, were used to strengthen implementation and monitoring of NHDP III. Nevertheless, major weaknesses remain, e.g.: the community component is poorly

developed and poorly structured; the health map is not up to date nor adhered to, resulting in the creation of unplanned health centres and uneven distribution or coverage; and limited implementation of the minimum package of activities.

The health sector's main partners in Chad are: the World Bank, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), GAVI Alliance, Rotary, the French Development Agency, European Union (EU), Swiss Cooperation and China.

Evolution of the water and sanitation sector and systemic challenges

Nationally, access to basic drinking water services is 43 per cent and to sanitation is 10 per cent (Joint Monitoring Programme, 2017). These data conceal disparities: 78 per cent water coverage at the urban level against 32 per cent at the rural level and 33 per cent urban against 3 per cent rural for sanitation. In 2018 actors involved in the sector committed to develop and use a single sanitation monitoring tool to better measure progress.

Less than one in two children has access to safe drinking water, while only one in 10 has access to improved sanitation and just one in 17 children wash their hands with soap and water. Lack of access to adequate water, sanitation and hygiene services causes frequent diarrhoeal diseases and malabsorption phenomena, which together contribute to malnutrition, especially chronic malnutrition, in young children.

The open defecation (OD) rate in Chad is 68 per cent at the national level. To reach SDG 6.2.1, 1 million Chadians must cease this practice every year between now and 2030.

The Ministry of National Education (MNECP) 2015 school statistical yearbook shows that the water and sanitation situation in schools is alarming. Of the country's 12,254 schools, 79 per cent lack water and 81 per cent lack toilets, putting 1.8 million children at risk (700,000 girls).

In July 2017 the Government adopted the national strategy for sanitation in Chad (NSS), which is committed to achieving the SDGs. The new strategy was completed in 2018 with the adoption of a roadmap for an open defecation-free (ODF) Chad free by 2030. Chad has defined a national development plan 2017–2021 that envisages a 15 per cent allocation of financing to the drinking water, sanitation and decent housing sector. In 2018, the ministry's share in the overall national budget was only 3 per cent.

During 2018 the Government pursued reforms to improve the drinking water supply rate for households and maintenance of hydraulic infrastructure in rural areas to enhance the sustainability of investments. The Ministry of Environment, Water and Fisheries (MEWF) has mobilized important investments in the urban and rural water sector, notably through agreements with the Islamic Development Bank, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, Saudi Arabia and the European Union and the revival of partnerships, including with the World Bank.

Education, changing indicators and systemic challenges

With one of every two school-aged children not in school (UNICEF 2016, out of school study) and an illiteracy rate of 65 per cent among girls aged 15–24 (35 per cent for boys), Chad faces a serious challenge if it is to meet the targets of SDG 4. Only 20 per cent of children who complete primary school master basic reading and math skills (PASEC 2014), in either language of instruction (French and Arabic). The education sector is not decentralized, and the power of subnational authorities is limited, making it difficult for them to address constraints,

particularly in rural areas.

The educational situation during the 2017/18 school year was a concern, as was the case during the previous two years— despite strong mobilization of communities whose households cover almost half of public and community primary school enrolment costs (RESEN 2014). Since the introduction of austerity measures and cutbacks in 2014, community teachers, who represent two-thirds of all teachers, no longer receive incentives. As a result, more than 2,300 schools (20 per cent at primary level), have closed since 2016 because community teachers have had to find alternative employment.

Chad experienced several months of teachers' strikes, following the cuts in civil service salaries, which continued into September 2018. While Chad already had a high proportion of children out of school (50 per cent), enrolment declined by a further 200,000 children over the last three years.

The provision of non-formal education, which presents possibilities for transfer to the formal sector, remains limited and under-resourced. The lower secondary enrolment rate is below 30 per cent, absorption capacity is insufficient and technical education, which is predominantly theoretical, rather than practical, attracts few students.

The Government set up a parliamentary commission which conducted a survey on the state of the education system in 2018. The findings, in addition to highlighting the worrying state of education in Chad, made strong recommendations for implementation of the interim education plan for Chad (IEP 2018–2020), which includes a Government commitment to allocate 18 per cent of its budget to the sector by 2020 (14 per cent allocated in 2018).

Although still to be implemented at provincial level, the IEP enabled the Government, with the support of the local education donor group, to obtain US\$62 million in funding from the Global Partnership for Education, managed by UNICEF, the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the World Bank. These investments will commence with the 2018/19 school year for a period of three years. Several technical and financial partners support the sector, notably Swiss Cooperation, the French Development Agency, the United Nations System, and several international and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs); however, partnerships are few in light of national needs.

Child protection: indicators and systemic challenges

According to the 2014-2015 demographic and health survey (DHS) and multi-indicator cluster survey (MICS), at the national level only 12 per cent of children under five years of age have their births registered, and of these only 9 per cent possess an actual birth certificate. Fifty-one per cent of boys and 52 per cent of girls aged 5-to-17 are engaged in child labour and 71 per cent of children have experienced some form of violent discipline. According to the same source, 33.5 per cent of girls aged 15–19 are married, a slight decrease since 2004 when the proportion stood at 39.9 per cent. Despite the increasing denunciation of child marriage since the promulgation of Law 029 of 2015 on the prohibition of child marriage in Chad, negative socio-cultural norms persist. The 2010 MICS reported that 44.2 per cent of 15-to-49-year-olds had undergone female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C), and this figure had only declined slightly by 2014, to 38 per cent (DHS/MICS 2014-2015).

In 2018 the influx of new internally displaced persons from the Central African Republic and increased attacks by armed groups in the Lake Chad area further exacerbated pre-existing

protection challenges and strained response capacities.

Positive developments include: incorporation of the 2017 interim child justice strategy in the 2018 justice sector policy, to ensure consideration of the best interests of children in contact with the law; the integration of offenses relating to child marriage and female genital mutilation/cutting in the Penal Code (2017); and an order (006/PR/2018) against trafficking in persons in the Republic of Chad, providing for measures to curb trafficking in persons in general and children and women in particular.

The assessment of the civil registration system finalized in 2017 identified system flaws and defined strategic guidelines for its strengthening with a focus on the legal environment, national capacity in civil registration and promoting innovations in inter-operability of services.

The current system for social action is based on the organizational chart of the Ministry of Women, Protection of Early Childhood and National Solidarity (MWPECNS), which defines the technical structures responsible for social action at both the central and decentralized levels. A total of 1,152 social workers (569 women) are deployed in Chad's 23 provinces (MWPECNS, August 2018), with a high concentration in the capital city of N'Djamena.

Some degree of decentralization and integration was achieved in the sector, with the support of UNICEF, among others. Pursuant to Decree No. 64 of 5 September 2016, which establishes child protection committees in all provinces, some 145 community-based child protection committees were set up in Mandoul, Ouaddai, Tandjilé, Lac, Logone Occidental, and Guéra provinces. The committees, under coordination by the MWPECNS, constitute action frameworks for preventing and responding to the violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect that children face, including in emergency situations.

Relatively few partners are active in the child protection sector; the main actors are the EU and international non-governmental organizations, including Catholic Relief Services and Cooperazione Internazionale.

Part 2: Major results including in humanitarian action and gender, against the results in the country programme documents

As leader of the results group on human capital, UNICEF Chad strongly supported Delivering as One and contributed to results in all seven UNDAF outcomes, covering: education, health and nutrition integrated quality services, water and sanitation, social protection, crisis and disaster management, inclusive governance and promoting inclusive economic growth and youth employment.

In 2018 key results for children (KR4C) were mainstreamed into UNICEF planning tools, including the annual management plan, which prioritized four KR4C: immunization, equitable and sustainable access to education, birth registration and ending open defecation.

Goal area 1: Every child survives and thrives

In 2018 UNICEF and other partners supported the development of several guidelines, strategic planning and resource mobilization documents, including: the plan to accelerate paediatric HIV

care; the every newborn action plan; a concept note for a new HIV funding model 2019–2021; the 2018–2022 comprehensive multi-year plan for immunization; the Chad polio transition plan; expanded programme on immunization (EPI); strategic communications plan; task-shifting guidelines for comprehensive HIV care; and the national strategy and plan for scaling up IYCF. UNICEF also supported the SMART nutrition survey; and the rapid survey of emergency obstetric and neonatal care, in conjunction with UNFPA and WHO.

Protecting children against vaccine preventable diseases (KRC#1) is a priority for UNICEF in Chad. Given the low immunization coverage, the MoPH, with technical assistance from UNICEF and WHO, organized a national forum on immunization in March 2018, which resulted in the N'Djamena Declaration on Strengthening Immunization, plus a roadmap and accountability framework. This commitment by the Head of State and the country's senior authorities represents a key opportunity to re-engage health personnel in routine immunization.

UNICEF continued advocacy and technical support for securing and managing the flow of vaccines and injection equipment. A 'push' system supply chain for provinces and districts has been operational since the third quarter. However, provisional administrative data from January to October 2018 show a decrease/stagnation in coverage compared to the same period in 2017 (Pentavalent 3: 72 per cent against 76 per cent; measles: 66 per cent in both years). This worsening trend is linked to a seven-month long strike by health staff.

As part of the National Forum commitments, UNICEF installed 155 World Bank-funded solar refrigerators in 16 districts in seven provinces, achieving 100 per cent certified cold chain coverage for vaccines for the 113,000 children under 12 months living in those districts. This contribution will increase national cold chain coverage from 36 to 42 per cent.

The community approach to promotion of routine immunization (CAPRI), including use of community registers, has been deployed since 2017 in 14 districts (of 23 districts supported by UNICEF under the Reach Every District approach). The 2018 lot quality assurance sampling survey showed an increase in the proportion of fully vaccinated children from 10 to 40 per cent, with an average coverage of 56 per cent for Pentavalent 3 in children aged 12-to-23 months.

UNICEF provided technical and financial assistance for the introduction of the meningitis A vaccine into routine EPI in July 2017; preliminary data for 2018 (January to July) indicate that national coverage is 64 per cent.

In 2018 national and subnational polio vaccination campaigns, plus six specific campaigns targeting populations in eight island districts in Lac province, were organized in March and April in order to achieve vaccine coverage of at least 98 per cent.

As part of the fight against malaria, UNICEF supported three monthly rounds of seasonal malaria chemoprevention in five districts of Guéra province during the period of high malaria transmission. In total, 83,692 (137 per cent of target); 87,440 (140 per cent of target) and 90,628 (148 per cent of target) received chemoprophylaxis, compared an estimated target per round of 61,089 children aged from three to 59 months.

In the fight against micronutrient deficiencies, two national campaigns for vitamin A supplementation and deworming were organized in April and November, achieving coverage of 86.6 per cent (3,157,184 children of 4,340,975 targeted), 96.3 per cent (728,774 children of 756,276 targeted) for vitamin A, 93.3 per cent (3,682,892 children of 3,841,628 targeted) and

95.7 per cent (673,068 children of 734,454 targeted) for mebendazole.

To promote essential actions in nutrition, 455 community relays were trained in four provinces (Lac, Mandoul, Mayo Kebi East and Mayo Kebi West). The number of nutritional units conducting awareness sessions on IYCF increased from 624 to 761, and IYCF messages reached 111,738 people during sensitization sessions held in nutrition units and communities through community relays and women's associations. In addition, 20 breastfeeding support cells were set up in Lac province. However, the 2018 SMART survey found that just 41.2 per cent of mothers know at least two essential nutrition practices; down from 56 per cent in 2017. A strategy based on the First 1,000 Days approach was developed through collaboration between UNICEF and the Sahel Alliance for Applied Research for Sustainable Development, to help strengthen the adoption of appropriate practices for young children's health and nutrition.

During initial implementation of community integrated management of childhood illness in Eastern Logone Province, 25 community health workers were trained and equipped and treated 3,188 children under five years of age.

UNICEF provides technical and financial support (with Global Fund financing) for the implementation of HIV / AIDS activities in 10 priority provinces. This support facilitated progress on preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) and paediatric HIV management. The proportion of pregnant women attending antenatal care who know their HIV status increased from 32.6 per cent in 2015 to 87.0 per cent in 2017 and to 92.5 per cent in the 10 supported provinces in 2018. The percentage of HIV-positive pregnant women receiving anti-retrovirals rose from 31.9 per cent in 2015 to 70.3 per cent in 2017, and 80.0 per cent (over 3.6 million women) in the 10 supported provinces. At the national level the rate was 65 per cent (3,925/6,000) by September 2018 (PMTCT Database, MPH 2018). The proportion of health centres providing integrated antenatal/PMTCT activities in the 10 priority provinces increased from 73 per cent in 2017 to 94 per cent (766/811). UNICEF also supported 13 additional health districts in the remaining 13 provinces: an increase of testing in pregnant women from 9.1 per cent in 2017 to 30.2 per cent in 2018 (342 /1142) was observed.

Of 880,126 adolescents and 10-to-24-year-olds who were sensitized on HIV/AIDS, 55,558 (6.3 per cent) were screened, of whom 1,190 were found to be HIV-positive. Of these, 1,145 (96.2 per cent) were put on treatment in 2018. Over a two-year period, 2,286 adolescents and young people enrolled in the Ministry of Youth's reading and cultural animation centre programme, which is used to raise awareness about HIV.

In view of the poor performance of paediatric HIV care (17 per cent coverage), UNICEF supported the MoPH to adopt two new approaches: the 'point of care' approach, that decentralizes early detection of children by placing six GenXpert machines in six provinces; and the family and community-based screening of index cases of affected people.

Sensitization activities carried out by 516 community health animators trained in community dialogue and participatory theatre in eight health districts mobilized 71 per cent of pregnant women to attend ANC (258,141 of 362,880 targeted). Of these, 238,884 (92.5 per cent) accepted testing for HIV and sexually transmitted infections.

Humanitarian response. From January to November 2018, UNICEF supported the care of 244,954 children with SAM (83 per cent of targeted cases), including 27,339 children in provinces outside the Sahel humanitarian emergency zone, plus a further 6,488 children

arriving from Nigeria and Central African Republic. A cure rate of 91.8 per cent was achieved through regular supply of ready-to-use therapeutic food, medicines and technical assistance at the field level. Service coverage improved with the opening of 89 new nutritional units, bringing the total to 761 (of 1,117 functional health facilities countrywide).

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) play an important role in child nutrition. As part its WASH-in-nutrition work in 2018, UNICEF Chad supported 33,686 mother/child couples with SAM to receive WASH-in-Nutrition kits, while 153,642 were educated on good hygiene practices. UNICEF supported access to safe drinking water, sanitation and basic hygiene in 36 health centres providing treatment for SAM.

UNICEF and WHO jointly supported the response to a measles epidemic that commenced in April 2018. Immunization response activities, conducted between May and November 2018, covered 2,451,250 children aged six months to nine years (99.3 per cent coverage) in 52 districts experiencing, or at risk of, measles epidemics. In addition, 24,308 children in that age group were vaccinated against measles, and 20,099 refugee children from Central African Republic as well as children in host communities aged one to seven years were vaccinated against meningitis.

In the zones affected by the humanitarian situation, 100 per cent of identified seropositive children (126) and women (205) were placed on anti-retroviral treatment.

Goal area 2: Every child learns

UNICEF Chad selected the reduction of out-of-school children through equitable and sustainable access to education (KRC#3) as one of its key results, and is working with the Government of Chad to implement the IEP 2018–2020, which aims to foster a supportive environment for education in the country.

The Government, with the support of UNICEF, UNESCO and other partners jointly developed a 'strengthening education in Chad' programme that raised US\$28 million from donors. Programme implementation commenced in July 2018. The programme has five components: improving access to primary education (construction and contracting), improving supervision and teaching conditions (textbooks, training, assessment of learning outcomes), improving the supply and quality of literacy and non-formal education, and improving the system's management capabilities. UNICEF and UNESCO are jointly implementing the programme for a period of three years.

UNICEF supported the MNECP to develop a roadmap for inclusive education in Chad, as well as jointly developing innovative strategies and technologies. The data must speak (DMS) initiative was launched in partnership with the Ministry, technical and financial partners and civil society organizations. It aims to promote close management of education and strengthen equity in the distribution of resources to improve children's access to education and its results. The DMS initiative, together with EDUTRAC (an innovative mobile phone technology for real-time data collection deployed in two provinces and involving 669 school directors and parents of pupils, including 223 mothers of pupils), are fostering community engagement through the use of data visualisation, and strengthening the education management information system.

Demand for schooling was strengthened through multiple supportive interventions in 15 provinces. A total of 17,285 (target 16,100) newly out-of-school children (10,198 boys and

7,087 girls) were enrolled in 2018 with the support of UNICEF. To reduce the burden placed on communities regarding schooling of their children (cost of schooling is a primary cause of non-schooling, especially for girls), UNICEF supported the payment of 327 contract teachers hired by the MNECP and 676 community teachers in the provinces of Logone Oriental, Mandoul, Moyen Chari, and the suburbs of N'Djamena. In total, these teachers reach more than 50,000 children.

Strengthening Parents of Students Associations (APS) and Mothers of Students Associations (AMS) is a strategy being used to encourage their involvement in the management of school activities and to strengthen community leadership for education. Some 1,303 people (935 women) – AMS and APS members; community volunteers; school directors; and about 400 administrative, traditional and religious leaders–received training and made a commitment to support activities focused on children's education, particularly girls, in the provinces of Hadjer Lamis, Kanem and Barh-El-Gazel.

In 2018, some 11,121 girls with a child resumed classes thanks to community mobilization actions. The members of parents' and leaders' associations organized about 800 educational talks on the importance of schooling and keeping children, especially girls, in school; fostering a culture of peace; and essential family practices (including menstrual hygiene) that reached more than 28,000 people.

In parallel, UNICEF Chad supported the strengthening of educational services by ensuring the distribution of teaching materials for 272,397 students (910,794 planned initially, later revised down to 314,000) and 3,342 teachers (24 per cent women) and 271 preschool facilitators (79 per cent women). The country programme supported capacity building for teaching and mentoring staff: 1,342 community teachers (238 women) from a target of 1,250 were trained in teaching approaches in 10 provinces. An additional 74 teachers (63 women) were trained in N'Djamena. Thirty-five teachers from special education schools (six women) were trained in sign language and mentored 688 hearing-impaired students (203 girls).

To enable educational provision that is more sensitive to social and gender issues, 354 teachers (55 women) in three provinces (target 710), benefited from life skills training. This support allowed them to coach their students in peace education, menstrual hygiene management and HIV / AIDS prevention.

Improving learning conditions, which forms part of education sector support, occurred for approximately 5,460 children through the construction and equipping of 91 new classrooms (258 planned), 20 separate latrines for boys and girls, one water point and five sports fields.

Support to secondary education included an experiment involving the development of, and online support for, free courses, benefiting around 7,000 students prior to their lower secondary examination (11 per cent of students). This successful experience will be replicated in 2019 and expanded to high school course materials.

Also on an experimental basis, a radio audience study was conducted in Lac Province to evaluate the potential for using radio as an educational approach.

UNICEF supported capacity building within the education cluster and sub-clusters through training its members and 126 MNECP executives and implementing partners on the minimum standards of education and protection in emergencies.

UNICEF Chad provided support in response to humanitarian crises in Lac Province (Nigeria +), the Southern Provinces (Central African Republic crisis) and the Eastern Province (Sudan/Darfur), in coordination with other humanitarian partners and with the host communities, to promote sustainability and build resilience. As a result, result 107,247 pupils (43 per cent girls) enrolled in primary school out, of the planned 176,000.

In these areas, with the support of UNICEF, 198,065 children in humanitarian situations were provided with teaching materials. With the MNECP, UNICEF supported pedagogical skills development for more than 1,000 teachers, as well as specific training (e.g., psychosocial support and risk mapping in schools) for 78 teachers (nine women).

As part of the humanitarian emergency response, approximately 17,285 of the 107,247 newly enrolled children benefited from 190 temporary learning spaces. In addition, 158 emergency latrines were completed with community involvement.

In partnership with the Higher Council of Islamic Affairs, the MNECP and the communities of Lac Province, initial steps were taken toward providing non-formal education in Koranic schools. This included the development of textbooks and teaching guides, and the joint launch of the approach with communities in three pilot schools.

Lastly, non-formal educational provision at non-formal basic education centres was supported through the development of vocational training (design and production of standards for fishing and car mechanics) and the provision of 15 master craftsmen.

Goal area 3: Every child is protected from violence and exploitation

UNICEF Chad prioritized the preparatory work for strengthening newborn registration (KRC#7) through a reinforced civil registration system, working hand-in-hand with other sectors, especially the health sector. After the 2017 evaluation of civil registration, partnership with the Ministry of Territorial Administration, Public Security and Local Governance resulted in submission of a draft decree establishing a national coordination mechanism for actors involved in the civil registration system and a national action plan on civil registration (2018–2022). Five hundred registrars, health officers, magistrates, administrative, traditional and religious authorities, as well as members of civil society organizations in Hadjer Lamis, Salamat, Batha, Guéra, Kanem and Lac provinces were trained in the legal procedures of birth registration.

UNICEF also continued to build on the positive achievements of previous years, notably the June 2016 national interim children's justice strategy and the adoption of the new Penal Code in May 2017.

To improve the care of vulnerable children in contact with the law, institutional and technical capacities at the Koundoul Hope Centre, the MWPECNS and the sub-directorate for the protection of minors of the national police of Chad were strengthened. A total of 112 police officers, seven magistrates, three clerks, 51 police officers, 41 social workers and eight executives from the central services of the Ministry of Justice and MoPH benefited from training on the coordinated care of children in contact and in conflict with the law. In addition, 140 girls and boys in contact with the law received a minimum protection package including legal aid, psychosocial support and medical attention in 2018.

Public awareness campaigns on abandoning female genital mutilation/cutting and child marriage and on promoting schooling and retention of girls in school were conducted by His Majesty Le Bang de Bédaya and on radio broadcasts in schools in Ouaddai, Mandoul and Tandjile, reaching 685,233 people out of a total target population of 1,224,089. Eighty-six of 90 targeted communities reported abandoning child marriage and female genital mutilation/cutting. Outreach sessions on Law No. 029 of 21 July 2015, prohibiting child marriage, resulted in the denunciation of 21 cases of child marriage and handling of four cases of rape of minors. Engaging local traditional authorities and leveraging their power to influence will remain a priority in 2019.

Technical support was provided to the NGO consortium to elaborate and validate the complementary report by civil society organizations on the state of implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In 2018, the Government submitted a combined report comprising the country's third, fourth, fifth and sixth periodic reports, preparation of which UNICEF supported in 2017.

In response to the Central Africa crisis, 5,791 children (3,222 boys, 2,569 girls) received psychosocial care, as well as 472 children (205 boys and 267 separated and unaccompanied girls) in host families. Eleven children were reunited with their biological families. Strengthening of the protection system in the emergency areas continued, through close collaboration with the Provincial Department of Social Affairs, including capacity building and technical assistance. In Lac Province, psychosocial care activities reached 7,575 children, including 3,671 girls. Care was provided for 150 separated and unaccompanied children (81 girls, 69 boys), and five children were reunited with their families.

Overall, 13,487 children (7,195 boys, 6,292 girls) who had experienced violence received child protection support, including 13,366 children (7,126 boys, 6,240 girls) affected by the humanitarian crises (target 30,250). Support provided included psychosocial care for all children and documentation and temporary care within a protective family environment for 622 unaccompanied and separated children (274 boys, 348 girls)

Prevention and response to gender-based violence continued through outreach sessions in communities, as well as care provided to vulnerable adolescent girls. A multi-sectoral cash transfer initiative implemented with UNHCR and WFP, targeting 6,678 returnee beneficiaries, was accompanied by awareness-raising activities carried out by UNICEF's partners (Catholic Relief Services and the Provincial Department of Social Affairs). These efforts targeted opinion leaders and beneficiaries, to reduce the occurrence of gender-based violence, gender-based discrimination and exploitation of children. The Bol transit centre remains operational and since the beginning of the Lake Chad Basin crisis has helped 111 children, including 19 girls suspected of being associated with armed groups, to reunify with their families.

Capacity building continued for 408 officers and non-commissioned officers. A child protection unit within the Chadian Committee for the Peace Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) was created to promote respect for the rights of the child and child protection. In Lac Province 52 members of the humanitarian community (17 women) and 46 representatives of civilian and military authorities (two women) were trained on serious violations and on the monitoring and reporting mechanism for grave violations.

Due to limited funding, only 2,675 children (1,125 girls, 1,550 boys) received mine and

unexploded ordnance risk education in Lac Province out of the 14,500 targeted in 2018.

Goal area 4: Every child lives in a safe and clean environment

KRC#8, ending open defecation, is a top priority for UNICEF Chad. Following the 2017 evaluation of the implementation of the community-led total sanitation (CLTS) strategy, UNICEF supported government adoption of a roadmap for a Chad free from open defecation by 2030. The roadmap defines the country's commitment to meeting the challenge of SDG 6.2.

A national WASH strategy for schools, with a component on menstrual hygiene, was also adopted. UNICEF successfully advocated for the establishment of a National Alliance for Healthy Schools under the joint leadership of the MNECP and MoPH. This alliance serves as the coordination platform for promoting health, water, sanitation and hygiene in schools. The WASH strategy will be implemented starting in 2019.

In 2018 some 48,895 people gained new access to ODF communities, representing 19 per cent of the planned target for 2018. Creating an enabling environment through the development of strategies, including the Chad roadmap and the WinS strategy, was prioritized during 2018.

The district approach was adopted and eight priority provinces will be targeted through 2021, the goal being to implement community-led total sanitation at the level of an administrative entity to avoid fragmented actions that yield scarce results. In 2018 two districts were certified ODF, and 104 villages certified for total sanitation, with a planned target of 250,000 people in 10 districts. A harmonized CLTS guide was finalized and a pool of 59 facilitators established in October 2018 to accelerate implementation of the district strategy.

During the year under review 229 of 346 villages with a target population of 222,476 persons self-diagnosed their WASH practices, following the community accountability approach launched in 2017 and sanctioned by decree. These communities made commitments and are following up on the community action plans developed. The interventions provided improved access to drinking water for an additional 100,553 people (52,288 women), reaching 73 per cent of the overall target of 138,400.

By 2018 some 14,452 children from 28 of 37 planned schools (76 per cent) had access to separate toilets for girls and boys and could study in healthy environments. This includes four schools in peri-urban areas, where menstrual hygiene management was implemented for the benefit of 2,752 girls. Tools on puberty and menstruation were tested with girls and boys, and 300 teachers provided feedback on the tools, which are being validated by the MNECP.

Special attention was paid to the effect of climate change on water resource management and mitigation measures. A study on the potential of sand dams was finalized with the MEWF. Two dams will be built in 2019 with support from UNICEF in the provinces of Sila and Ouaddai. In addition, UNICEF is working with the University of N'Djamena to better understand aquifer recharge and propose solutions.

UNICEF, as lead agency of the WASH cluster, facilitates coordination of crisis preparedness and response. In 2018, as part of the humanitarian response, WASH cluster partners provided access to water for 175,625 people of the targeted 638,900 people (27 per cent), and access to latrines to 69,715 people of 361,256 targeted (19 per cent). The cluster was only able to reach

about one quarter of the planned targets as only 4.9 per cent of the WASH humanitarian response plan was funded. In the fight against malnutrition, only 38,479 (23 per cent) of the predicted 169,174 mother-child pairs benefited from WASH kits and were sensitized on hygiene promotion.

During 2018 UNICEF's WASH humanitarian response reached 73 per cent of its target for access to drinking water (92,079 people reached; 126,672 targeted) and for sanitation the figure was 14 per cent (15,770 people covered; 108,868 targeted) in the highly fragile context of South and Lac regions. Resource mobilization was again a challenge, as only 26 per cent of the humanitarian action for children (HAC) funding requirement for the sector was raised. The WASH sector contingency plan developed in 2017 was updated in July 2018, with participation by government partners, United Nations agencies and NGOs.

In view of the nutritional crisis in Chad, the WASH-in-nutrition strategy is fully operational across both the nutrition and WASH clusters. Some 36,473 mother/child pairs received a WASH kit and learned about good hygiene practices, representing 59 per cent of the planned target. This contributed to 95 per cent of the results achieved by the WASH cluster overall.

Goal area 5: Every child has an equitable chance in life

In support of public finance reform and in partnership with the Ministry of Finance and Budget (MFB), UNICEF contributed to strengthening budget management mechanisms for the social sectors. Ten sectoral ministries benefited from training on medium term expenditure frameworks. Ministry executives were also trained to design a computable general equilibrium model to assess the impact of lower oil prices on child poverty in Chad. The fiscal space study was launched in September 2018 and will provide a clear idea of needs in four social sectors (health, education, WASH, protection and social action) and prospects for improving efficiency and increasing funding.

Dialogue among technical and financial partners in the macroeconomics, public finance and private sector group and collective advocacy by donors combined to facilitate increases in the Public Finance Law 2019 (PFL) of 1.3 per cent for education and 5.6 per cent for health compared to PFL 2018. The share of all social ministries combined (health, education, training, higher education, social action, justice and water and sanitation) in the state budget rose from 26.5 to 30.2 per cent between the two PFLs.

Technological innovations were pursued in relation to monitoring public expenditure. Based on the results of the 2014 PASEC survey, which identified teacher absenteeism as one of the causes of declining student achievement, the MFB collaborated with the MNECP to launch the UNICEF-supported initiative to establish a mobile citizen control platform using mobile 'quick codes' (USSD) technology.

Strengthening of the national statistical information system continued, through UNICEF support for the DHS-MICS6 survey and World Bank support for the ECOSIT4 survey, both implemented by the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies. These surveys will provide data on key SDG indicators and will be used for collective advocacy around public investment for social sectors implemented through the 2017–2021 national development plan. Capacity building for 11 sectoral ministries on updating statistical databases facilitated production of the first national development plan monitoring report. Two programmatic evaluations were launched under the leadership of the Ministry of Economy and Development

Planning (MEDP) with the MNECP and the MWPECNS, respectively, in 2018, despite difficulties related to the narrow pool of qualified firms applying, which necessitated re-advertising and thorough reference checks.

To contribute to strengthening the national strategy for social protection coordination and monitoring mechanisms at the local level, UNICEF strengthened the social protection capacity of 42 partners in Guéra, Salamat and Batha provinces, in collaboration with the MEDP, UNICEF Regional Office for West and Central Africa and the FAO and WFP. To make this mechanism operational, members of the technical secretariat and steering committee will receive training in 2019 in the design and monitoring of social protection programmes and projects.

As part of joint partner support for extending (currently low) social protection coverage for children; discussions were underway in late 2018 to ensure better use of the harmonized questionnaire of the unified social register. The social safety net project supported by the World Bank, with funding from the International Development Association and United Kingdom Department for International Development (DfID), benefitted only 19,315 children in Barh El Gazel and Logone Occidental provinces.

Two municipal development plans (Mongo and Am Timan) and two provincial development plans (Salamat and Guéra) were finalized, and include consideration of issues facing adolescents and young people (e.g., access to education, water, sanitation and hygiene, protection and employment opportunities). Joint UNICEF and UNDP support in Lac Province to develop a development and security plan will serve as a practical example of operationalization of the humanitarian/development continuum in an area affected by insecurity, high poverty and very low coverage by social services.

In 2018 journalists continued to disseminate the Convention on the Rights of the Child, resulting in publication of 112 articles mentioning UNICEF in the three main media channels. In the international media, a television report on the effects and consequences of violence and the role of sport in overcoming girls' trauma was broadcast on "Inform Robinson" on the Movistar network in Spain. A film on the humanitarian needs of 10 million people in the Lake Chad Basin was presented at a conference in Berlin, Germany, in early September. International visits, including from the Norwegian and Korean UNICEF national committees, UN Under-Secretary-General Ursula Mueller and philanthropists Bill Gates and Dangote, enhanced visibility and advocacy efforts. Through digital networks, social media and technology for development initiatives, UNICEF Chad now engages with 129,256 individuals, 39 per cent more than in 2017.

As part of partnerships with youth and women's networks, 1,362 community volunteers and social mobilizers were trained, and engaged in, community dialogue activities on key family practices and children's rights—involving more than 203,439 women, authorities, youth and community members—thereby equipping traditionally vulnerable and marginalized groups with the tools/capacities to participate in local debates and decisions.

The launch of 'Voices of Youth' in Chad helped to raise the visibility of young people's capabilities to address issues affecting their communities. The U-Report platform continued to grow, expanding the community to 30,985 young U-Reporters in 16 provinces.

Results of the 2018 cooperation programme were obtained through funding and/or

partnerships with: United Nations system agencies: WFP, FAO, UNHCR, WHO, UNFPA, OCHA (CERF), UNAIDS, PBSO, UNICEF National Committees; multilateral and bilateral cooperation: EU, World Bank, Canada, Denmark, France (French Development Agency), Germany (KfW), Italy, Norway, South Korea (KOICA), Sweden (SIDA), United Kingdom (DfID), United States (USAID, CDC), Switzerland (Swiss Cooperation), Education Cannot Wait, Global Partnership for Education (GPE), Global Fund, BMGF, GAVI Alliance, Rotary; and civil society organizations and communities.

Cross-sectoral results

In terms of mobilization and resource management, in 2018, UNICEF Chad received US\$86.6 million (of which regular resources accounted for US\$20.2 million (target: US\$ 14.7 million, 138 per cent); other regular resources (ORR) for US\$41 million (target: US\$43.2 million, 95 per cent) and other resources-emergency (ORE) for US\$25.4 million (HAC target: US \$53.9 million, 44 per cent), through 29 contributions from 17 partners and an in-kind donation of air freight delivery. Ongoing advocacy had disparate results for the sectors: health, education, WASH and HIV were the most effective at mobilizing ORR, while nutrition was the most heavily funded through ORE.

Despite advocacy for vulnerable populations affected by crises, only 44 per cent of HAC funding needs were met. The majority of funding received was earmarked, and only in a few cases was it multi-year funding (of the 64 grants active in 2018, 17 expired in 2018, 36 will expire in 2019, five in 2020 and six in 2021). The office needs to attract more donors willing to support diverse programmatic priorities and donate flexible resources. Seventy-six per cent of donor reports were submitted on time in 2018. Improved monitoring of reporting deadlines and higher quality reports are needed. The office reduced the balance of unutilized funds before expiration in 2018 to US\$174,498, or 0.3 per cent of allocations— an improvement over 2016 (US\$1.7 million) and 2017 (US\$206,464).

The main donors were: (1) for development: KfW, Global Partnership for Education (GPE), KOICA, GAVI Alliance, World Bank, France, GFATM, United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), UNAIDS and UNICEF National Committees of the United States, France and Republic of Korea; and (2) for humanitarian action: EU/ECHO, Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), USAID, SIDA and United Kingdom (DfID). The office also benefited from regular receipt of thematic and humanitarian funds.

In 2018 UNICEF contributed to strengthening the national emergency preparedness and response system, including the development and simulation of contingency plans, aligned with the national contingency plan, in Salamat and Logone provinces to better equip them to anticipate and respond to emergencies. Synergies between contingency plans and provincial development plans have strengthened the link between humanitarian action and development. Mechanisms for community acceptance of humanitarian assistance and complaint contact points require strengthening.

In November 2018 the education, WASH and nutrition clusters and child protection sub-cluster participated in the design of emergency projects as part of the 2019 humanitarian programming cycle. About 102 projects were uploaded to the online OCHA project system; 71 had been approved by end-November 2018.

UNICEF managed the inter-agency contingency stock, consisting of three cholera kits and household items with potential to cover the needs of 28,000 households. This stock was used

to supplement resources made available by UNHCR to cover the needs of 6,500 of the 21,000 Central African refugees who arrived in Chad between December 2017 and March 2018, following the deteriorating security situation in the Central African Republic.

A procurement plan with an overall annual commitment of US\$27.6 million for the purchase of goods was implemented in 2018. From January to November 2018 procurement amounted to US\$24.9 million, a 90 per cent execution rate. The supply section, in response to the nutritional crisis– the main activity in 2018 – delivered 5,000 tons of inputs valued at US\$20.8 million to partners. This supported the provision of care to 268,837 individuals suffering from severe acute malnutrition. Institutional contracts initiated in 2018 had a total value of US\$5,333,595 (covering transit, transport, car rental, information and communications technology, administration, visibility, workshop, construction); this amount includes US\$950,000 for construction.

Collaboration between UN agencies through long-term agreements and some common services continued, with a view to reducing costs.

Harmonized approach to cash transfers (HACT) activities included 53 financial spot-checks of the required 55 (96 per cent); 100 per cent of programmatic visits were completed. Among the 11 partners to be audited in 2018, four audits were in progress in December 2018, the others will continue in January 2019.

The last internal audit was conducted in May/June 2017. All 21 recommendations were closed and a sustainability strategy to strengthen risk-mitigation measures was designed and is monitored regularly by the country management team.

The staff, its well-being and the desire to create and maintain a positive work environment free from all forms of abuse remained priorities. Measures have been put in place to implement the recommendations of the staff survey: flexible working hours, improved working conditions in high-risk environments and SECTO, among others.

Capacity building was effective, with a completion rate for the country office training plan of 82 per cent. The recruitment strategy resulted in finalization of 64 staff recruitments (43 in N'Djamena, 21 in zone offices) and 74 consultants (59 in the field and 15 in N'Djamena), while improving diversity. For the first time, UNICEF Chad achieved a 50:50 gender balance for international professional staff and a 4 per cent increase in the geographic ratio for non-programme countries (from 31 to 35 per cent). The completeness rate of personal evaluations was 99 per cent at the cut-off date.

Part 3: Lessons learned and constraints

The economic and financial crisis that affected the country has been the main constraint hindering implementation of the country programme of cooperation throughout 2018. Over the last few years Chad has experienced significant reductions in domestic revenue, which prevented the Government from delivering on its commitment to invest in priority programmes such as immunization, child health, HIV, education and implementation of the multisectoral nutrition action plan and DHS-MICS6 survey – which to date has been solely funded by UNICEF. Recurrent and prolonged strikes by public service personnel negatively affected

programme performance and results for women and children, especially in the health and education sectors.

Additional constraints include: the prevailing insecurity in neighbouring countries and in northern Chad; inequitable in-country distribution of human resources and relatively limited in-country presence of bilateral and multilateral development partners in an environment characterized by relatively low overall donor interest. The humanitarian response in Chad remained underfunded: UNICEF received only 44 per cent of the US\$54 million HAC appeal required to implement a multisectoral response for children and women.

In December 2018 two decrees were issued by the MEDP that may constrain the operating environment for international NGOs, depending on implementation modalities.

Communication for development (C4D) is an essential strategy that contributes to increased use of services and social behaviour change in areas such as education, child marriage, nutrition during the first 1,000 days of life and hygiene). However, it currently lacks an institutional home. With the exception of the MoPH, ministries and those dealing with media relations do not have a communication structure. This hampers the development of integrated strategic communication approaches that combine communication for social change, advocacy and community participation.

Every child survives and thrives: Other than the systemic issues mentioned in the contextual analysis, the specific constraint with the strongest impact on the health sector in 2018 was the country's financial difficulties, which led to delays in paying for vaccines and caused stock-outs of certain antigens during the year, particularly for vaccines purchased exclusively with government resources. Stock-outs ranged from 76 days for BCG to 34 days for measles and anti-tetanus vaccines. Low cold chain coverage, problems in vaccine flow management and limited implementation of outreach activities are only some of the additional barriers to strengthened routine immunization coverage.

The Government of Chad's policy of free healthcare for children under five and pregnant women has not been implemented effectively during the past two years, also due to financial constraints. The latter, combined with the public services strikes that persisted over several months led to a substantial decrease in health-seeking behaviour during 2018. Finally, the low availability of quality essential drugs due to the collapse of the national essential drug supply system, the weak organization and accountability of health personnel in stocks management (including ready-to-use therapeutic foods provided by MoPH partners) negatively impacted service provision.

Every child learns: Weak ownership of the education sector's new interim education plan and its action plans by authorities at the central and subnational/local levels, as well as of their roles and responsibilities, had a direct impact on implementation and monitoring, and partly explains delays in achieving the results. This challenge should be resolved through dissemination of the strategy and development of subnational action plans covering the IEP period (to end 2020). Chad's partners in education will fund the dissemination activities to representatives of decentralized authorities, union representatives, opinion leaders and parents' representatives in the 23 provinces. This effort will also contribute to addressing the recommendations of the 2018 education sector review, and ensure that local education development plans are owned and aligned with the sector's national strategy.

Every child lives in a safe and clean environment: Insufficient data quality (completeness, timeliness, processing, analysis and feedback) is a serious bottleneck to effective implementation. A single database is needed as a planning and monitoring tool for community-led total sanitation (CLTS), as well as to support data-driven decision-making to facilitate adjustments in implementation and prioritization of actions. UNICEF is committed to supporting the MEWF to develop a monitoring tool to assess the quality of CLTS implementation, measure ODF indicators and progress towards SDG 6.2. The absence of an overall sectoral review process results in lack of prioritization and duplication of efforts. In addition, the MEWF is not decentralized. At the provincial level it is represented by sector heads that do not always have the appropriate water and sanitation profile. As regards achievement of SDG 6.2, the sanitation sector is underfunded, and technical and financial partner interest in the sector is currently limited.

Every child is protected from violence and exploitation: The MWPECNS received just 0.7 per cent of the state budget in 2018, making it the lowest-funded ministry. The Government's contribution to the sector is reduced to funding the salaries of its civil servants. The sector is characterized by both fragmentation and centralization, with the majority of social workers based in N'Djamena and working in isolation in different services without a unified strategic vision.

While regulatory and policy frameworks have gradually been put in place for specific issues such as child justice, harmful practices and birth registration, an overall guiding framework and vision, such as a national child protection policy, is lacking.

In the fight against harmful practices, resistance to change by some traditional leaders is a factor slowing progress. The non-application of certain laws, combined with a frequent lack of consequences for perpetrators of violations, remain obstacles to the achievement of child protection results, particularly in child marriage. The current birth registration system is antiquated and administratively burdensome.

Lessons learned

Despite the many challenges, the development context in Chad also presents opportunities for developing good practices and building on lessons learned to improve programme results. The strategy of joint donor dialogue, coupled with capacity building of sectoral ministries in public finance management yielded results, with increased allocations to the social sectors, including health and education, in the PFL 2019. The results demonstrate the value-added of this approach, which will continue in 2019, in coordination with major partners supporting public finance reform, in particular the EU and World Bank.

Every child survives and thrives: The various community-based approaches in use present an opportunity to integrate high-impact interventions that need to be harmonized and scaled up. The community approach to promoting immunization, the child-friendly community initiative, with real time tracking of performance; the community-based approach to optimizing screening and treatment that integrates maternal, neonatal and child health into PMTCT; community-based interventions in nutrition focusing on the first 1,000 days have all contributed to promoting utilization of antenatal care and assisted delivery, childhood immunization, utilization of mosquito nets, better child feeding practices and increased care-seeking behaviour. However, the fragmentation of these approaches has led to inefficiencies that need to be addressed to achieve a harmonized vision of community health that is owned by and based

within the MoPH and its provincial delegations.

The survey of 21,818 youth and adolescents shows that the U-Report platform is an important communication and counselling tool for teenagers. It helped to understand young peoples' need for an anonymous platform that allows them to interact with specialists in health, sexuality and HIV issues and to obtain answers without revealing their identity.

Every child learns: Building on the findings of the education expenditure tracking system study (UNESCO, 2017), which shows that a large portion of centrally released education funds for basic education does not reach schools, UNICEF Chad supported local-level interventions by building community capacity, promoting their independence through functional literacy and income-generation activities, and also by strengthening social dialogue and local monitoring of education results. This approach has yielded good results, such as girls' return to school after childbirth, support for community teachers' incentives, construction and maintenance of classrooms, etc., while also ensuring that maximum resources reach the beneficiaries. This aligns with the approach set out in the education programme component strategy note, which places priority on strengthening education supply and demand through community involvement. In Lac Province, where enrolment rates were lowest, the complementarity between community mobilization and strengthening of education services made it possible to respond to education constraints in a sustainable way.

The use of innovative technologies for payment of teachers' incentives and involvement of local authorities and parents in school management and monitoring was another good practice in 2018. Payment of incentives for community and contract teachers via mobile technology will be scaled-up by UNICEF in 2019, and has also been adopted by the World Bank. The use of mobile technology to develop a platform for decentralized authorities and parents in school management to support better monitoring at the local level will help bring services closer to beneficiaries and ensure real-time local decision-making and problem solving.

Every child lives in a safe and clean environment: The 2018 study conducted in Kanem province unsurprisingly demonstrates that recent episodes of diarrhoea, fever and pneumonia are strongly associated with malnutrition in children. The implementation of the ODF Chad roadmap is an opportunity to promote good handwashing and hygiene practices that directly prevent episodes of diarrhoea and mitigate their impact on malnutrition. However, the limited participation in the November 2018 launch of the ODF roadmap unfortunately demonstrated that sanitation is not a perceived priority, neither for the Government nor the donor community. It will be important to mobilize donors and the country around this SDG commitment through a communication plan and a donor round table. A financing strategy to mobilize resources for rural sanitation is planned for 2019. The office will advocate for integration of the CLTS strategy into the construction projects currently being negotiated with donors in the water sector. Specific coordination will be put in place to build leadership and ensure continued Government commitment to monitor implementation.

The 2018 development of a national WASH strategy for schools revealed the need for clarification of roles and responsibilities across the ministries involved and within MNECP directorates. The strategy has strengthened understanding around the WinS environment. In 2019, the 23 provinces will finalize their action plans and start activities so that schools have the minimum package of services defined in the strategy. A strong link was established between the Chad ODF roadmap and the priority provinces for these interventions.

Every child is protected from violence and exploitation: The establishment of 145 community mechanisms, in support of decentralization of the child protection system demonstrated success in engaging and mobilizing communities for child protection and highlighted the need for greater involvement by traditional leaders in community mobilization, especially in the fight against harmful practices. This strategy, which will be pursued in 2019, complements efforts to develop a favourable legal environment against child marriage as one example of harmful traditional practices.

The mobilization of technical and financial partners around civil registration in October 2018 had positive effects, but more advocacy is needed to mobilize technical and financial partners in support of this sub-sector. Adoption of a new national child protection policy, which UNICEF will support in 2019, should serve to reduce fragmentation in the system.

The youth and adolescent engagement strategy, developed in 2017 by the Ministry of Youth with UNICEF support, provided a clear intervention framework for supporting the mainstreaming of youth engagement within social sectors. The piloting of several projects by young people – through youth organizations and structures – demonstrated the expectations of young people and opportunities for transforming them into change-makers.

Cross-sectoral results: Reviews of joint UNDAF work plans underscored the importance of ensuring better engagement of national partners, as well as the need for more effective joint programming among United Nations agencies. In line with the Delivering as One approach, UNICEF will continue to: enhance collaboration within the resource mobilization group and the communication group, strengthen its engagement in the humanitarian advocacy group and undertake joint missions with partner agencies to increase the coherence of interventions by United Nations agencies.

Operations: Transaction times improved significantly with use of the VISION Hub, and this will continue in 2019. The shift to electronic funds transfer has been effective in meeting the needs of both partners and providers. Measures taken in 2018 for monitoring consultancy contracts had a positive effect, considerably reducing the number of open contracts with unspent balances at the end of the year.

UNICEF Chad will use the results of the 2018 annual review and MTR, under the UNDAF joint MTR, to take forward some of the lessons learned and integrate the revised strategies, with a focus on accelerating the achievement of key results for children. This will require significant strengthening of implementation of national commitments such as the vaccination roadmap, ODF roadmap, interim education plan and civil registration action plan, and support for the decentralization/de-concentration of service provision by enhancing the role of zonal offices, while diversifying strategic partnerships and the quality of the country programme resource base. Findings of ongoing major programmatic evaluations of the education and child protection components will help strengthen the achievements made to date and validate what should be brought to scale in future. They will also help to reorient strategies for overhauling the way systemic deficits are tackled, especially in the child protection sector.

In 2019 more focus will be placed on supporting the humanitarian/development continuum, so that local-level structural bottlenecks can be addressed sustainably. Equally, UNICEF Chad's resource mobilization strategy will take into account the increasing focus on the continuity and sustainability of results, especially in host communities. New opportunities arising from the upcoming Chad-Arab World Forum planned for April 2019 in N'Djamena will also be seized.

The forum is expected to attract US\$1.5 billion in investment in private, public and public-private partnership projects over the next few years, with an expected increase in interest in the water and sanitation sector.

Joint programming with other United Nations agencies in convergence provinces and leveraging of large donor investments in large structural programmes in other intervention provinces will also be sought. (World Bank for social protection, EU for inclusive and sustainable development), in the context of strengthening the humanitarian/development continuum.

Since 2019 will be an election year (with elections announced towards the end of the first semester), UNICEF Chad will need to revise its risk assessment and business continuity plans to mitigate potential impact on country programme implementation and delivery of results.

END/