**Executive Summary**

UNICEF continued to support China in the achievement of important results for children in 2012. UNICEF provided substantial technical support to the MOE to develop the *Early Learning and Development Guidelines* for 3-6 year olds, officially released in 2012. The guidelines form the basis of future curriculum reform, teacher training and preschool quality assessments.

In 2012, China achieved maternal and neonatal tetanus elimination (MNTE). After collaboration between UNICEF, the Ministry of Health (MoH), and the National Working Committee on Children and Women (NWCCW) in 1999, the Safe Motherhood Initiative expanded to poor counties this year and hospital delivery rates (HDR) improved markedly, reaching 92 per cent in most rural areas. China’s MNTE achievement is largely attributed to significant increases in Hospital Delivery Rates (HDR).

Immunization coverage gaps in border areas led to a wild poliovirus outbreak in Xinjiang, imported from Pakistan. After successfully controlling the 2011 polio outbreak, China was confirmed by the WHO as retaining its polio-free status. UNICEF supported the MoH to improve polio surveillance with zero case reporting, C4D, quality vaccination activities, and OPV coverage and outbreak evaluation.

UNICEF-MoH piloted ying-yang-bao (YYB) micronutrient food supplements for children aged 6-24 months in post-earthquake areas in 2008, leading the Government of China (GOC) to allocate RMB$ 100 million (USD$ 16.1 million) for scaling-up YYB interventions to 100 poverty counties in 2012, reaching 270,000 children. A study in three poverty YYB counties showed significant decreases in anaemia prevalence, and deficiencies in vitamin A, folic acid, and vitamin B12.

With the effectiveness of Child-Friendly-Spaces (CFS), widely recognized though post-Wenchuan earthquake pilot work in 2008, China’s 2011-2020 National Programme for Action (NPA) for Children identified the CFS as a model for delivering family-support and community-based child protection services. Coordinated by NWCCW, the NPA calls for large-scale CFS replication (ie, one CFS in 90 per cent of urban and rural communities), although financing for scale-up must still be sourced.

Progress proceeded more slowly than anticipated in two areas. First, interventions to develop on-line life-skills courses and social networks supporting young people’s preparedness for school-to-work transition, responsible family life and citizenship have stalled, as suitable partners could not be identified. Second, declining partner prioritization of risk reduction and emergency preparedness/response work has meant that the development of procedures/tools for fast-track emergency assessment were put on hold, and limited progress on policy analysis and review of GOC emergency interventions since 2008.

UNICEF-China’s partnership with the LGOP continues to grow. In 2012, UNICEF and LGOP co-hosted an International Symposium on South-South Cooperation (SSC) on Child Poverty, focusing attention on the multi-dimensional nature of child poverty and its application to broader areas of policy and analysis. This follows UNICEF-LGOP collaboration on the Child Poverty Forum, which helped integrate the child poverty concept into the 2011-2020 National-Rural-Poverty-Alleviation-and-Development-Plan.

The Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) provided excellent coordination for several major events in 2012, namely the SSC on Child Poverty, the UNICEF National-Committee Executive Directors’ Annual Meeting, and events commemorating 30 years of UNICEF-GOC cooperation, all of which helped provide strong advocacy for children’s issues in China.

UNICEF continues to benefit from strong government partnerships, particularly with the MoH, the Ministry of Education (MoE) and the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MCA), which form the basis for key programmes in China. Recent commemoration of UNICEF-GOC cooperation underscored these important long-standing partnerships.
Country Situation as Affecting Children & Women

Children in China continue to be profoundly affected by the country’s rapidly changing economy and on-going demographic changes. Rapid economic growth continues with per capita GNI rising to USD 4,940 in 2011 (World Bank). In parallel, increasing disparities remain, reflected in China’s high Gini index of 0.43 in 2005 (World Bank). There is massive internal migration and rapid urbanization; China’s urban population exceeded 50 per cent in 2011. China has an aging population, with the child population declining from 34 per cent to about 21 per cent of the total population between 1990 and 2010. There is also a high, imbalanced male-to-female: there were 21 million more boys than girls below the age of 18 years in 2010 and China’s high male to female sex ratio at birth remains high at 118:100 (2010 Population Census of the People's Republic of China, 2012, National Bureau of Statistics Census).

Some 106 million of China’s 279 million children are affected by migration, according to a recent UNICEF-supported analysis using 2010 National Population Census data. The analysis found that in 2010 there were 36 million migrant children in China (up from 27 million in 2008). About half of all migrant children are from 8 of China’s 31 provinces. The analysis also found that the number of left-behind children whose parent(s) have migrated from home increased to 70 million (up from 55 million in 2008), of which 61 million (88 per cent) were in rural areas, with left-behind children representing 40 per cent of China’s total rural child population. About half of all rural left-behind children are concentrated in 6 provinces. One in three children in China are affected by migration, and these children face more challenges in physical, educational and psychosocial development and wellbeing. Many migrant children are not registered in their new place of residence and remain “invisible” to the local authorities, resulting in less access to public services. Left-behind children, deprived of either one or both parents, often cannot receive adequate care including emotional support, adequate hygiene and nutrition, and homework supervision.

Early 2012 marked the end of three years of China’s implementation of the first phase of its health system reform (HSR), which consumed public investment of over 1.5 trillion RMB (USD 240 billion). Impressively, achievements have been made in health insurance coverage, infrastructure, and uptake of services by both rural and urban citizens. Evidence, however, has revealed persisting gaps in the quality of services at the community level, as well as overall financial protection for individuals including vulnerable women and children. Neither percentage of total household expenditure on health-related expenditure nor incidence of catastrophic spending has registered evident declines from a decade ago (Meng Q et al, 2012). Governance reforms to address low prioritization at local levels and independent HSR progress evaluation are called for. In October 2012, China achieved maternal and neonatal tetanus elimination, and also regained its polio-free status, after a 2011 outbreak of imported polio. The outbreak suggested discrepancies between reported EPI rates and actual OPV coverage and raised the possibility of large numbers of unregistered children in Xinjiang, as well as underscored weakness in the current health management information system and other demographic data management systems. In response, between September 2011 and April 2012, the Government of China conducted five large-scale immunization campaigns in Xinjiang, administering more than 43 million doses of polio vaccine to children and adults under the age of 40. A 2012 UNICEF-supported EPI policy review[1] identified weaknesses in EPI financing and human resource management, which the government pledged to address in view of sustaining renewed polio-free status and other EPI goals. New strategies and capacities developed during the outbreak will continue to be employed in routine immunization work and to ensure that a similar situation does not reoccur.

In 2012, natural disasters in mainland China affected 290 million people, destroyed 906,000 houses, severely damaged 1.46 million houses and caused direct economic losses of more than USD 66 billion, according to the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the office of the National Committee for Disaster Reduction. The main disasters included flood, geological disaster, typhoon and hail. Drought, earthquake, snowstorm, sandstorm and forest fire also affected the population.

[1] Delivery of EPI and its Influencing Factors in the Context of New Health Systems Reform: A Case Study in Southern Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China
Country Programme Analytical Overview

At the end of the second year of the current programme of collaboration, both the Government of China and UNICEF China are confident that our programme remains relevant and effective in addressing identified barriers and bottlenecks for the most disadvantaged children in China. The programme’s focus on the poorest provinces in the centre and west of China, on the poverty battleground counties and, within this context, on remote rural populations and children of ethnic minority populations ensure this focus is on the most disadvantaged.

Our programme of cooperation has also increasingly focused on children directly affected by migration and it is anticipated that this will be an area that will be strengthened further in 2013, particularly through the Mid-term Review process. Strengthening our programme of cooperation, recognition of, and sensitivity to critical gender issues has also been a priority for the programme in 2012. Further strengthening our programme’s response to gender will also be a major focus of our Mid-term Review in 2013.

During 2012 UNICEF China has continued a broad focus on Pilots, Policy, and Results at Scale, as well as a number of case studies, that illustrate a programme strategy to envision remarkable results and investments for China’s most disadvantaged children. A continuing challenge for the programme is to ensure that UNICEF’s direct investments in pilot projects are truly focused on the most disadvantaged children. As we continue to update our understanding of the situation of China’s most disadvantaged children, particularly through further analysis and identification of barriers and bottlenecks, we anticipate an even greater focus of our initial pilot projects on the most disadvantaged.

The programme continues to strengthen its upstream policy engagement with key institutions such as Ministry of Finance, the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) and the Leading Group Office on Poverty Alleviation and Development (LGOP). This work is driving critical reforms for children and is another area that the programme will look to strengthen in 2013.

No major changes in the PCR and IR results structure have been requested or are anticipated in 2013. However the Country Office is planning to replace the cross cutting IRs in the Health and Nutrition programme with IRs that better reflect the “project” structure of that programme. The PCR and overall programme intent, indicators and strategies will remain unchanged. This modification has been agreed in consultation with the Regional Office.

Humanitarian Assistance

In September 2012, a 5.7-magnitude earthquake struck southwest China’s Yunnan and Guizhou Provinces. The most severely-affected area was Yiliang County of Yunnan Province. The earthquake killed 81 people and injured more than 800. Yiliang is a national poverty county, with per capita income of RMB 2,310 (US$ 360) per year. The county has a total population of 561,000, of which 14 per cent are of an ethnic minority. According to a UNICEF-supported survey in 2011, the area affected by the earthquake is characterized by limited access to and uptake of health services, as well as a generally poor health status among children. To address the pre-existing challenges and the new challenges brought about by the earthquake emergency, UNICEF provided a first tranche of necessary supplies to Yiliang, including neonatal rescue tables, delivery kits and delivery beds, targeting the worst-affected townships. These supplies are being used to benefit approximately 5,500 pregnant women in townships in the earthquake zone.

UNICEF provided hygiene kits and basins for 4,750 schoolchildren in 15 village primary schools (including nine boarding schools) in three townships. UNICEF also provided quilts to 38 primary schools, helping 3,000 boarding school students to study and live in warmer, more comfortable conditions.

In collaboration with the National Working Committee on Children and Women (NWCCW), UNICEF launched a compact, rapid response Child Friendly Space intervention to provide psychosocial support services, along with child protection and child development services. To date, 2,000 earthquake-affected children and their parents have benefited from psychosocial support and child development and protection services through three CFS. The rapid launch of the CFS in Yiliang would not have been possible were it not for the experiences
gained and lessons learned from previous CFS efforts in the 2008 Sichuan and 2010 Yushu earthquake zones. UNICEF’s support to the three CFS in Yiliang has already prompted the government to separately fund the establishment and operation of 3 additional CFS alongside the 3 supported by UNICEF, with 2 more CFS to be funded through community donations. Thus, in total, there are now 8 CFS in the Yiliang earthquake zone.

### Effective Advocacy

*Mostly met benchmarks*

### Capacity Development

*Mostly met benchmarks*

### Communication for Development

*Mostly met benchmarks*

### Service Delivery

*Mostly met benchmarks*

### Strategic Partnerships

*Mostly met benchmarks*

### Knowledge Management

*Mostly met benchmarks*

### Human Rights Based Approach to Cooperation

*Mostly met benchmarks*

UNICEF China has continued to ensure that the rights-based approach is central to programme planning, implementation, monitoring and policy advocacy. The progressive implementation of the Monitoring Results for Equity System (MoRES) has reinvigorated rights-based programme dialogue with a number of our partners. In the Education programme, this found expression in a five-day Human Rights Based Approach to Programming (HRBAP) workshop with key programme partners at central, provincial and county levels. The workshop made a substantial contribution to bottleneck analysis and led to a focus on the most vulnerable within the programme design. Similarly, within the Child Protection programme, the focus of programme dialogue has been child rights, which has allowed us to engage more substantively with the NWCCW on the development of a community-based child protection system, built on the learnings from CFS pilot programmes implemented over the last four years. UNICEF China has also been engaged with the Government and the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the periodic report to the Committee, which is due for discussion at the Committee in 2013.

### Gender Equality

*Mostly met benchmarks*

### Environmental Sustainability

*Mostly met benchmarks*
South-South and Triangular Cooperation

In 2012, UNICEF China and the State Council Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development (LGOP) organized a two-and-a-half day international symposium on global child poverty and development. The symposium included country presentations from representatives of 14 developing countries on various aspects of their child poverty alleviation policies and programmes, as well as presentations by experts on related topics. Through question and answer sessions, a panel discussion and other networking opportunities, participating government representatives, UNICEF staff, academics and experts, as well as representatives from media, international organizations, civil society and enterprise, had opportunities for international information exchange and knowledge sharing, and for strengthening and deepening South-South cooperation and support.

The international symposium enriched and contributed to the dialogue about child poverty and development, especially among developing countries and through South-South alliances. The symposium also focused on building capacity, fostering innovative approaches, enhancing data gathering and evidentiary analysis, and improving the situations of impoverished children through better identification of, service delivery to, and encouragement of service uptake by such children and their families. The symposium supported development and implementation of informed policy that reflects and responds to the multi-dimensional nature of child poverty, and facilitated policy diffusion of effective policies adaptable to local contexts.
Narrative Analysis by Programme Component Results and Intermediate Results
China - 0860

PC 1 - Social policy and reform for children

On-track

PCR 0860/A0/04/701 By 2015, children and women in China, particularly the poor and vulnerable, will see improvements in well-being from strengthened policy frameworks and implementation mechanisms consistent with the CRC, CEDAW and the NPA for Children.

Progress: Three IRs encompassing a broad range of counterparts, sectors and approaches have contributed to progress toward the Social Policy and Reform for Children (SPARC) PCR.

Policy analysis and evidence-based advocacy for equity for children and women are a core element in SPARC’s work. Through work with the MoF, evidence-based recommendations were provided regarding reform of government subsidies for primary health and nutrition, rural sanitation, and migrant children’s education, as well as for more equitable budgeting of social protection, including health protection and dibao. Inputs to promote greater equity for China’s children are also supporting development and implementation of the 12th National Five-Year Plan for Basic Public Services, mostly through work with NDRC, including advocating for coverage of the “first 1,000 days” in the essential public service package, and improved governance of basic public services.

SPARC continually seeks opportunities to work on cross-sectoral themes to take advantage of UNICEF China’s broad range of contacts. For example, work with the MoF on more effective dibao targeting to ensure that resources reach the right families has also drawn on our Ministry of Civil Affairs (MCA) contacts. Work with the NWCCW on developing a new child transfer, with huge potential benefit for poor children, included reviews by the MCA and the MoF. SPARC work on improving government policy regarding children affected by migration has included broad review of policy by NDRC, a major new study on financing of education for migrant children with MoF, and scaling up migrant children registration systems in several new cities in Jiangsu province with NWCCW.

Three important pilot efforts are underway, all linked to policy development to promote equity for China’s children. In Hubei and Gansu provinces, child poverty alleviation is being piloted at village level. That work has now led to the drafting of China’s first provincial child poverty alleviation plan in Hubei. With SPARC support, NDRC is designing a pilot on implementation arrangements for its new Five-Year Plan for Social Service Delivery. UNICEF is supporting the NWCCW in piloting the implementation of the National Plan of Action for Children, through assistance to 7 counties which are developing local plans to address core childhood challenges such as nutrition, sanitation and left-behind children.

South-south cooperation in the alleviation of child poverty was another focus in 2012, as UNICEF and the Leading Group on Poverty Alleviation organized an International Symposium on Child Poverty and Development, which provided a platform for dialogue among government representatives and experts from more than 20 countries.

On-track

IR 0860/A0/04/701/011 By 2015, research, policy analysis and recommendations and pilots contribute to improved Government policy frameworks, laws, national plans and policies on child poverty, social assistance models, budgeting and, social welfare for children that are gender-sensitive and increasingly evidence-based.

Progress: In 2012 SPARC engaged in innovative work on reform of China’s main social assistance instruments and on development of a highly innovative new Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) program. SPARC also continued its close work with China’s Leading Group on Poverty Alleviation and Development on incorporating poor children’s needs into rural poverty alleviation efforts.

A major theme of this year’s policy inputs on social assistance has been that cash transfers, while important,
are only part of the assistance that poor families need to access public services. Pilot work in three locations demonstrated that social work services targeting dibao recipients can greatly improve poor families’ capacity to grow out of poverty, and other work in cooperation with the MoH aims to enhance dibao recipients’ awareness and utilization of public health services. SPARC also supported the Ministry of Civil Affairs to prepare a reform of dibao application, verification, and delivery procedures, to reduce the risks that social transfers could be manipulated by community leaders to the detriment of poor families’ access. An important expansion of MFA to cover Opportunistic Infection for PLWHA is being designed with UNICEF support.

After two years of village-level pilots in Hubei province, local authorities have now drafted a provincial child poverty alleviation program, the first in China, currently under discussion with UNICEF and the central government. Hubei officials joined others from across China at an international symposium on child poverty and development in Beijing in November. Government representatives and academics from more than 20 countries participated, sharing experiences and lessons in alleviating child deprivations.

UNICEF, together with the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) and the Ministry of Health, is now preparing China’s first CCT program, designed to incentivize uptake of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) services in poor rural areas. A launch meeting was held in Yunnan province’s Yulong county from 27-29 November, and rollout to Gansu and Sichuan will take place in Q1 of 2013.

**On-track**

**IR 0860/A0/04/701/012** By 2015, research, policy analysis and recommendations and pilots contribute to better aligned institutional responsibilities, resources and incentive structures for the equitable realization of the rights of children and women in China.

**Progress:** In 2012 UNICEF’s work under IR2 supported the government’s efforts to provide more equitable access to essential public services for China’s children and women. Impact was achieved in a number of important policy areas.

One such policy was the dibao, the government’s main income support program for poor households. UNICEF’s research with Ministry of Finance (MoF) on reforming dibao means-testing was reported to the State Council after joint discussion between MoF and MCA. In June 2012 the State Council released its *Opinion on Further Strengthening and Improvement of the Dibao programme*, which drew significantly from UNICEF research, and aimed to tackle leakage and improve equity and fairness.

UNICEF also worked with the MoF on reforms to improve the scope and equity of key public health spending. A review of earmarked vertical programmes provided valuable inputs to the government’s initiative to consolidate and more effectively monitor these programmes, which include maternal and child health and nutrition, rural sanitation, among others. This engagement also gave UNICEF an opportunity to make the case for expanding programmes in these critical areas, such as for the inclusion of multi-vitamins and iron supplements in government-funded nutrition packages for mothers and infants. This work is now being expanded in 2013.

Education problems faced by internal migrant children are one of the most serious equity challenges in China today. New UNICEF field research with the MoF has provided a more detailed picture of the government financing gaps that are a barrier to equitable access to free compulsory education for migrant children. It also feeds into a UNICEF-supported proposal to establish an electronic registration system for all students of compulsory education age so that government education subsidies follow migrant children as they move.

In 2012, UNICEF also undertook a timely study on rural women’s land rights, helping the All-China Women’s Federation (ACWF) to integrate gender perspectives into the land re-registration drive conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture. The report was highlighted in China’s first national conference on women’s land rights hosted by ACWF in 2012 with the participation of the Ministers of Agriculture and Civil Affairs.
IR 0860/A0/04/701/013 By 2015, Government capacity in monitoring and implementation of the CRC and CEDAW, NPA-Children and NPA- Women is strengthened, with a focus on the rights of poor and vulnerable children and women.

Progress: UNICEF’s support in the implementation of these key international agreements produced noteworthy results in 2012. The Government’s implementation of the CRC is centred around its National Plan of Action for Children (NPA), prepared and coordinated by NWCCW. The new NPA was issued in July 2011, and in 2012 UNICEF worked with NWCCW to identify and support seven pilot counties in their implementation of country-level plans of action for children. These county work plans focus on issues of birth defects, child nutrition, left-behind children, pre-school education, and family education. With the technical support of national resource persons, their work plans have been strengthened and implementation launched, with the goal of providing examples that can be scaled up to other counties around China in the coming two years.

UNICEF also worked with NWCCW and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to build greater understanding of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) within the government and among the general population. One highlight was a very high-profile event to mark the 20th anniversary of China’s ratification of the CRC, at which State Councillor Mme. Liu Yandong and UNICEF EAPRO Regional Director Dan Toole addressed the audience regarding China’s commitment to the cause of promoting and protecting children’s rights. This event, including State Councillor Liu’s call to deepen cooperation with UNICEF, was broadcast on national TV. The event was also joined by CRC Committee member Dr. Hiranthi Wijemanne, who was invited to China by the MOFA and held meetings with the MOFA and the NWCCW to discuss China’s work for children’s welfare.

In 2012 ACWF conducted a survey of 4,000 government officials at various levels, including women cadres, teachers, legislative authorities, media and students on knowledge about CEDAW. Analysis will be completed in early 2013 and will form the basis for advocacy, training and development of IEC materials on gender equality, including for UNICEF joint efforts with other UN agencies in China.

On-track

IR 0860/A0/04/701/014 IR-1.4 UNICEF provided human resource support through this Intermediate Result with the funds utilized to mainly help the organization contribute to the achievement of other IRs within the programme component, or across Programme components in country programme of cooperation.

Progress: UNICEF provided human resource support through this ‘Intermediate Result’ with the funds utilized in this IR to mainly help the organization contribute to the achievement of other IRs within the programme component, or across Programme components in the country programme of cooperation.

PC 2 - Health and nutrition

On-track

PCR 0860/A0/04/702 By 2015, children and women in China, particularly the poor and vulnerable, will enjoy a better health and nutrition status and protection from impoverishment due to ill health.

Progress: In 1999, UNICEF helped launch the safe motherhood initiative in 40 of the poorest counties in China, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and the National Working Committee for Children and Women. The aim was to encourage women to deliver their babies in hospitals instead of at home. Safe motherhood emphasized community health education, subsidies for hospital delivery, provision of clean childbirth kits to rural health facilities, improved obstetric care infrastructure at county and township hospitals, capacity building for rural health workers and midwives and establishment of a “fast channel” referral mechanism for pregnant women near birth. Between 2000 and 2009 the safe motherhood strategies modelled by UNICEF consistently demonstrated improved maternal and child health outcomes and increased hospital delivery rates in the counties where they were piloted. Based on the evidence accumulated, the Government of China funded and progressively expanded safe motherhood strategies to all central and western rural counties in China, with the subsidized hospital delivery policy extended to all 2,297 rural counties in China. China’s hospital delivery rate is now above 92 per cent in most rural areas.
On October 30, 2012, after the World Health Organization (WHO) formally declared that China has eliminated maternal and neonatal tetanus (MNT), joining the 161 countries that have done so. Elimination of MNT is considered achieved when there is less than one case of neonatal tetanus per 1000 live births. China’s success is noteworthy because unlike other countries working on MNT elimination, China has not emphasised and does not have a policy on immunizing pregnant mothers with tetanus toxoid. Instead, China’s elimination of MNT is due primarily to significant increases in its hospital delivery rate, especially in remote rural counties.

Thus, in addition to bringing about a substantial reduction in maternal and newborn mortality, China’s hospital delivery policy has also led to the elimination of MNT as a public health problem. UNICEF’s small investment, initially around $1.5 million per year, has been repaid manifold, saving tens of thousands of hospital delivery lives, and improving survival and life expectancy amongst China’s rural poor.

On October 29 2012 an independent oversight body convened by WHO confirmed China's polio-free status, following China's successful control of the 2011 outbreak in Xinjiang. With this confirmation China and the whole Western Pacific Region retain polio-free certification status.

**On-track**

**IR 0860/A0/04/702/021** By 2015, local government leaders and communities in pilot areas have objectively improved levels of health literacy and give higher priority to preventive health.

**Progress:** The Communication for Development (C4D) concept and methodology were successfully applied in polio vaccination campaigns in Hotan County in Xinjiang to improve immunization coverage and stop the circulation of wild polio virus. Field investigations in the predominantly Muslim communities indicated the importance of involving religious leaders to deliver polio and health messages at Friday prayers. Senior religious leaders at provincial level participated in the C4D training and core message dissemination through mass media channels. Local theatre artists developed a travelling road show with sketches, folk songs, dance, and drama that involved and attracted local minorities on its awareness tour in large communities. Smaller communities were reached through dissemination of DVDs of the taped road show. Children from schools and communities participated in social mobilization activities through a TV quiz, and polio and health knowledge quizzes were held in communities. The successful experience of these C4D activities has been recognized by the MoH and the local government, with suggestions to apply a similar approach to measles SIAs in border areas of Yunnan, routine EPI pilot projects, and other public health issues, such as low breastfeeding and complementary feeding rates.

Ministry of Health, for the first time, adapted the WHO counselling cards for maternal health, developed counselling cards for child health, and a counselling guide for local MCH workers, which will be disseminated to all project sites. About 7,000 MCH workers and health promoters in UNICEF project sites have been trained on infant and young child feeding (IYCF), management of post partum haemorrhage (PPH), and communication for development.

UNICEF, in collaboration with Implementing Partners (IPs), effectively raised public awareness on child injury prevention (CIP) through innovative promotion activities, attended by senior government officials and UNICEF celebrity ambassadors, and disseminated through social media.

**On-track**

**IR 0860/A0/04/702/022** By 2015, health management information systems (HMIS) in pilot areas provide regular, objective, disaggregated, cross-sectoral and quality data on a broader range of indicators.

**Progress:** UNICEF is supporting the MoH in realising its vision of “3-5-2-1,” which includes construction of 3 key health information platforms (at national, provincial and municipal level), use of 5 business application systems (for public health services and supervision, medical care and supervision, medical care, basic medicine system monitoring, and integrated health management), development of an information resource library based on 2 data sources (health records, electronic medical records), and construction of 1 Health
Information Network.

UNICEF support led to several significant developments to improve China’s MCH management information system (MCHMIS), notably: development of a repository of MCH standard indicators; development of an MCHMIS framework (with data collection and exchange standards, monitoring based MCH decision support); application of the ICD-10 classification in the national MCH surveillance system; adoption of this standard for MCH reporting cards; and the development of a national M&E plan on integrated prevention of parent-to-child-transmission of HIV, syphilis, and hepatitis B virus. Research on the development of a sustainable MCHMIS is ongoing.

A nutrition birth cohort was established in Taicang County, Jiangsu Province, the purpose of which is to establish trend data on the effects of early infant and young child feeding on the development of non-communicable diseases, genetic origins of disease and care-seeking patterns for nutrition services.

**On-track**

**IR 0860/A0/04/702/023** By 2015, selected national and provincial MCH, Nutrition and DC & P policies, standards and strategies better address national and international priorities and assure equitable access to quality services, human resources and commodities across geographic areas and socioeconomic and ethnic groups and amongst mobile and migrant populations and populations affected by emergencies.

**Progress:** In 2012, the Minister of Health signed the pledge “A Promise Renewed,” bringing China in line with this international child survival priority.

Together with IPs UNICEF is conducting a policy review on birth certification. Preliminary results indicate there are policy, physical, and administrative barriers that impede access to birth certification and thus to health and education services. IPs and UNICEF are now working towards improved birth certification and registration procedures.

A review found there are policy gaps in access of migrant women and children to health insurance and essential public health services. The findings are used for advocacy in improving migrant’s access to health services and to improve their insurance coverage.

UNICEF with IPs facilitated development of (updated) nutrition standards and guidelines. With UNICEF support, the MoH published the first ever national report on nutritional status of children aged 0-6 years. The guidelines and report will be used for advocacy to scale up nutrition and to support micronutrient supplementation to reduce anaemia.

While China advanced rapidly towards universal salt iodisation (USI), experts are now concerned about over-iodisation. A new three-tiered iodized salt standard was operationalized and evaluated in Fujian, Shandong and Anhui.

An impact study of provision of a soy-based multiple micronutrient powder (Ying Yang Bao) accompanied by communication activities, was conducted in three poverty counties with UNICEF support. Compared to baseline, decreases in anaemia prevalence (by 43 per cent), vitamin A deficiency (by 47 per cent), folic acid deficiency (by 97 per cent) and vitamin B12 deficiency (by 34 per cent) were observed. YYB is now targeted for scale up in 100 counties.

China achieved elimination of maternal and newborn tetanus (MNTE) and retained its polio-free status. Measles elimination is targeted for 2015. While immunization coverage is generally high, improving immunization coverage among disadvantaged populations and preventing new importation from neighbouring countries is a priority. An Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) policy review identified weakness in EPI financing and human resource management, which the government pledged to address in view of sustaining attained polio and MNTE goals.
**PC 3 - Education and child development**

**On-track**

**IR 0860/A0/04/702/024 IR-2.4** UNICEF provided human resource support through this Intermediate Result with the funds utilized in this IR to mainly help the organization contribute to the achievement of other IRs within the programme component, or across Programme components in country programme of cooperation.

**Progress:** UNICEF provided human resource support through this 'Intermediate Result' with the funds utilized in this IR to mainly help the organization contribute to the achievement of other IRs within the programme component, or across Programme components in the country programme of cooperation.

By 2015, children aged 0-18 years, especially the poor and vulnerable, will benefit from improved access to and delivery of quality early learning, basic education, and non-formal education and from supportive policies and systems.

**Progress:** This PCR supports the implementation of China’s education reform agenda that focuses on enhancing equity and quality of education. It is supported by 6 IRs that focus on policy implementation, system strengthening, development and dissemination of standards, and educational innovation to support access to and quality of schooling for vulnerable children.

Research, evaluation and a strong knowledge exchange program have been put in place to support policy development and implementation. In 2012, two notable studies included a report on special post teachers in rural China and their contribution to the reduction of disparities, and a paper entitled “Education Quality in China,” presented by the Government at the E-9 Ministerial Meeting in November.

Major steps in system strengthening to increase equity included the drafting of the framework and indicators of a national educational index to monitor inter-regional disparities in access to and quality of schooling. The index is expected to influence government decisions on supportive financing. The EMIS underwent further revision and improvement, with the inclusion of new indicators on Early Child Development (ECD), as well as fine-tuning of definitions of vulnerable populations. This work will result in more accurate information on vulnerable groups such as migrant and left-behind children. Work also continued in 2012 on the inclusion of quality indicators in the EMIS that will allow for increased awareness of and follow-up on educational disparities. These initiatives were augmented by support to the MOE's Department of School Supervision to revamp school supervisory systems to focus more on quality indicators.

UNICEF continued its normative function with the development of standards for preschool construction, which have been completed and are now awaiting the approval of the MOE. A major achievement was the official release of the Early Learning and Development Guidelines, which will form the basis of curriculum reform, teacher training and quality assessment of preschools. Work on developing professional standards for school principals and indicators for preschool quality has also been initiated.

Working in innovative ways to reach poor and marginalized communities, UNICEF is implementing an integrated education quality programme covering preschools and primary and junior secondary schools in five counties in western provinces with a high concentration of ethnic and left behind children. In 2012, about 200 preschools were supported with teacher training for improved classroom interaction. Additionally, 200 primary and junior secondary schools were supported in improved teaching and learning, improved emotional responsiveness to marginalized children, and WASH and sports facilities to foster all-round development and career counselling to prevent early dropout.

**On-track**

**IR 0860/A0/04/703/031** By 2015, educational policies addressing elements of the Government’s Education Reform agenda covering equity and quality of education for poor and vulnerable children are strengthened and supported.
Progress: IR1 aims to provide information and knowledge to policy makers and implementers for revisions and fine-tuning of the reform agenda. Evidence is mobilized through policy research, programme evaluations, a knowledge exchange programme and a strengthened EMIS.

To date the section has produced 3 high-quality pieces of research, including: 1) Education Quality in China a study presented by the Government at the E-9 Ministerial Meeting in November, which contributed to an increased knowledge of the general education situation and China's EFA-related achievements; 2) Challenges in Education and Child Development in Rural China, a meta-analysis of rural education issues that provides direction for the next few years of programming and fund raising; and 3) Situation of special post teachers and their role in supporting rural education, a study that helped MOE to advocate for the continuation of the interim policy to support the placement of university graduates in remote rural schools.

The IR is supported by a knowledge exchange programme with an established knowledge website containing information on global policies and best practices targeted to reach 10,000 users. The knowledge website has been online since late 2011 and to date has posted 223 executive summaries of studies and best practices, and a wealth of education statistics for use by academics, students and education administrators.

A third target of the IR supports the fine tuning of the country’s EMIS data, including improved data on education and school quality for disadvantaged groups, as well as alignment of definitions with international standards to facilitate upcoming 2015 MDG reporting. In 2012, one more revision covering six per cent of the EMIS indicators has been completed to better align with international indicators and the number of indicators increased from 71 to 96.

On-track

IR 0860/A0/04/703/032 By 2015, education systems addressing elements of the Government’s Education Reform agenda covering equity and quality of education for poor and vulnerable children are strengthened and supported

Progress: This intermediate result focuses on system strengthening to deliver the results laid out in the Government’s 2010-2020 education reform. It focuses on building the capacity of planners, school supervisors and school principals to improve students’ access to and quality of schooling.

A draft national indicator system to monitor and assess regional disparities in education equity and quality was developed in 2011, and piloted in five regions in 2012. The indicators cover three areas, including education popularization, balanced education, and minimum standards. Indicators cover enrolment in early education and basic education, system capacity in terms of school infrastructure and teacher quality, and equity measures, including financial allocations, condition of school facilities, ICT availability and teacher qualifications.

The National Guidance Note for Supervision in Primary and Secondary Schools developed in 2011 was field tested in 2012 in five regions with different levels of education development. The results were documented to feed into a second round of revision. Additionally, indicators on supervision of school quality and learning quality were drafted in 2012, with field testing scheduled for 2013.

A field study to identify issues related to rural and boarding school principals was completed in 2012, but subsequent progress on the development of professional standards for rural and boarding school principals has been slow. Work on developing a management guideline to ensure safer, more child friendly rural and boarding schools is expected to start in 2013.

On-track

IR 0860/A0/04/703/033 By 2015, elements of the government early Education Reform agenda covering equitable expansion of quality ECE services and family- and community-based early education services are strengthened with policies and tools for monitoring and capacity building of teachers

Progress: The IR focuses on furthering the government’s ambitious plans of ECD expansion and reform.
Main targets focus around developing a national policy on quality monitoring of ECD centres, developing systemic capacity for managing ECD expansion, and developing a cadre of trained teachers to support the implementation of quality readiness programmes and enhance parenting awareness.

Work on quality parameters for monitoring of preschool quality has resulted in the development of an essential equipment list for preschools and a National Guideline on Daily Preschool Routine, which is currently under finalization. Work on the development of the monitoring framework has been slow to take off due to the high workload of managing the expansion.

UNICEF continued to support the development of two training packages to build system capacity for implementing quality ECD services. For the first training package for resource teachers, five of the ten planned modules have been completed and field tested. For the second training package for ECD administrators, UNICEF is identifying international expertise to support course development and delivery.

2012 saw the landmark release of *Early Learning and Development Guidelines* for 3-6 year olds, which will form the basis of teacher training content and methodology. Already, the National Early Learning and Development Guidelines (ELDG) training of trainers has covered all provincial-level trainers. A parallel intervention has worked to develop training content for rural frontline teachers.

The parenting portal has been released and is now available online, with UNICEF supporting the government in a month-long advocacy campaign on scientific parenting, centred on the messages detailed in the portal. UNICEF will be initiating joint pilots with other sectors to popularize the parenting messages through family education programs, community kiosks and school outreach programs.

**IR 0860/A0/04/703/034** By 2015, a package of interventions that enhance the relevance, social emotional climate and quality of education is successfully piloted in primary, junior secondary and boarding schools catering to children from vulnerable communities

**Progress**: In 2012, national (Beijing Normal University) and international (Northampton Centre for Learning Behaviour) technical support teams, with support from UNICEF, collaborated on the drafting of a framework on social emotional learning for China. The drafting of tools for assessing the Social-emotional Learning (SEL) status of schools will also be completed at a technical workshop in December 2012 and will be used to establish baselines and develop programs for schools based on identified needs.

The conceptual framework of the “three pillars of learning”, outlined in the Government’s reform document, along with classroom implementation strategies, were drafted by an expert group from Southwest University. An online survey was used to identify those curriculum topics that teachers find most difficult to transact, and fed into the first round of training of teachers. The training of trainers will be completed in December and training of over 2,000 teachers in project areas has been initiated, and scheduled for completion in early 2013.

Over 7,000 teachers, or 90 per cent of all teachers in five project counties, were trained on using ICT for classroom teaching. Training focussed on using both interactive techniques and inquiry based learning strategies for teaching Chinese, mathematics and science. A mid-term assessment will ascertain the strengths and gaps which will be followed by a development of training resources and supportive supervision.

**IR 0860/A0/04/703/035** By 2015, on-line courses and networking projects for young people’s preparedness for school to work transition, responsible family life and citizenship are piloted and available for replication

**Progress**: The target for five years is to help 10,000 young people access life-skills-based courses on financial management, reproductive health and climate change. Social networks to work against smoking/drug abuse, learn about adolescent health/protection from HIV/AIDS, and support environment and climate change initiatives are utilized in this IR.
Development of essential materials for the life-skills-based courses was completed in 2011. In 2012, 1,000 migrant adolescents in 10 provinces (Qinghai, Guangxi, Hunan, Henan, Inner Mongolia, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Gansu, Guizhou and Yunnan) were trained by China Association for Science and Technology (CAST) on life skills covering career counselling, interpersonal communication skills, independence and self-management, computer skills and self-protection for girls. UNICEF also explored possibilities for the online adaptation of the courses.

Work on social networking and plans to start an online social entrepreneurship model have made slow progress, as the search for suitable partners continues.

An agreement on developing school-based networks on scientific issues like environment and climate change was made with CAST in November 2012, where CAST will provide online and offline support through their website on science resources.

**Constrained**

**IR 0860/A0/04/703/036 By 2015, Government capacities are increased in risk reduction and emergency preparedness and response**

**Progress:** The IR is supported by 3 five-year targets that include the development of procedures and tools for use by decision makers in fast-track emergency assessment and emergency response coordination, education planning and management of emergency reconstruction, long-term education planning and resource mobilization.

The above targets were developed by the government soon after the 2008-2010 emergencies, including large-magnitude earthquakes in Wenchuan and Yushu, when education authorities realized a severe capacity gap in rapid response and emergency reconstruction planning. However, with no similarly large-magnitude emergencies in 2011-2012 and a new set of administrators, these interventions no longer seem to be priorities of the government. Consequently, the development of procedures and tools for fast-track emergency assessment is being put on hold. Similarly, progress on a policy analysis to review the Government’s interventions in emergency response, transition and reconstruction planning since 2008 has been slow. While the policy analysis was meant to feed into the development of planning and management tools for emergency reconstruction, in light of the changed policy environment, continued support to the activity will need to be revisited during the MTR.

A third target of training 75 per cent of educational administrators and school principals on emergency response planning and disaster reduction and school facility safety is on track. With the successful training of all provincial construction focal points on school facility safety completed in 2011, in 2012, work proceeded to focus on training 100 county and school-level construction focal from all 31 provinces. The training provided practical tools and procedures for assessing school construction safety, and organizing regular emergency drills for children in schools.

**On-track**

**IR 0860/A0/04/703/037 IR-3.7 UNICEF provided human resource support through this ‘Intermediate Result’ with the funds utilized in this IR to mainly help the organization contribute to the achievement of other IRs within the programme component, or across Programme components in country programme of cooperation.**

**Progress:** UNICEF provided human resource support through this ‘Intermediate Result’ with the funds utilized in this IR to mainly help the organization contribute to the achievement of other IRs within the programme component, or across Programme components in the country programme of cooperation.
**PC 4 - Child protection**

**On-track**

**PCR 0860/A0/04/704** By 2015, vulnerable children in China benefit from improved access to family and community-based child protection services and a supportive policy, legislative and institutional framework for child protection.

**Progress:** To contribute to a strengthened policy, legislative and institutional framework for child protection system development, UNICEF continued to support the development of key policies and legislative frameworks, including the Child Welfare Act, the Family Violence Law, and the Act on Management of Social Work. Further, through research, policy analysis, and data/experience drawn from pilot projects and international best practise, UNICEF continued to support China as the country develops policies and standards on social work professionalization, and builds up its social work cadre. UNICEF also continued its work in 2012 on deinstitutionalization, universal child welfare, community-based services, juvenile justice and child trafficking.

Through its child protection and welfare pilot projects, UNICEF continued to demonstrate the value of community-based protection and welfare services for vulnerable children, including children with disabilities, street children and migrant and left-behind children. In addition, to promote women’s rights and gender equality, UNICEF and ACWF supported family violence hotlines and Women’s Homes in four pilot sites through capacity building on early detection, intervention, referral and case management. The pilots have contributed to improved protection of women and children at high risk through increased availability and delivery of/referral to family support and community-based child protection services, as well as improved awareness and knowledge among parents, frontline professionals, and community workers.

Further, in 2012 Child Friendly Spaces continued to improve the availability and delivery of family support and community-based child protection services. Through four years of service delivery, the Child Friendly Space initiative has yielded concrete results in both policy change and improved availability and delivery of family support and child protection services. The National Plan of Action for Children (2011-2020) (NPA-Children) cites Child Friendly Spaces as a model/prototype for delivery of community-based child protection services, suitable for national replication. The NPA-Children calls for “[o]ne Children’s Place [to] be established to provide play, recreational, educational, health, psycho-social support and referral services for children in over 90 per cent of urban and rural communities.”

**On-track**

**IR 0860/A0/04/704/041** By 2015, policy, legislative and institutional frameworks are strengthened to better protect children from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation, prevent family separation, assist children without parental care and protect children in the justice system.

**Progress:** To strengthen management and coordination of Child Protection services, UNICEF supported child protection system mapping to describe and analyse the current sectoral roles and responsibilities among government ministries. The report made recommendations on how to link the scattered functions, and is a strong advocacy tool for improving the government’s child protection structure and coordination.

UNICEF also supported the government to develop a draft Act on the Management of Social Work, the National Development Plan of Social Work for Children and a National Guideline on Social Work for Children. Each of the three documents plays a role in laying a foundation for the healthy development of social work in China: the Act is China’s first administrative regulation in this area; the Plan provides key indicators, calling for the mobilization of 250,000 social workers capable of providing services to children by 2020; and the Guideline provides minimum quality standards on social work for children.

Working with the MCA to promote the best care model for orphans and abandoned children in communities, UNICEF supported a review of service provision in Child Welfare Institutes, an assessment of the implementation of the Government’s new orphan subsidy policy, and a costing of community-based care. The results of these studies highlighted community-based care and services as the best approach for orphans and...
other vulnerable children, recommended turning Child Welfare Institutes (CWIs) into resource centres open for all orphans, and provided information on the costing of such services.

Further, to promote equity, UNICEF supported the National People’s Congress to conduct an in-depth analysis of social security law with a focus on migrant and left-behind children. UNICEF also continued to work with the China Disabled Persons’ Federation (CDPF) to develop policy recommendations for enhancing social welfare for children with disabilities and analyse the national monitoring of information of children with disabilities.

To combat trafficking of children, UNICEF facilitated a meeting between China and Laos to discuss a bilateral MoU as well as inter-agency collaboration on anti-trafficking in China to share key recommendations on the development of China’s second NPA on anti-trafficking. The meetings also contributed to the positive result of China’s effort to rescue some 20,000 children in recent years. The NPA and the Laos bilateral agreement on cross-border trafficking will be finalized in 2013.

On-track

**IR 0860/A0/04/704/042** By 2015, the availability and delivery of family support and community-based child protection mechanisms and services: better prevent, identify, report, refer and assist children victims of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation; prevent family separation; provide family-type out of home care for children without parental care and children with disabilities; utilize community resources, including those for the elderly; and explore the possibility of establishment of care networks for rural left-behind children and migrant children.

**Progress:** To support capacity building for social workers, UNICEF worked with the China Association of Social Work Education to develop a university curriculum on social work for children. The curriculum aims to strengthen tertiary education on social work for children. UNICEF also supported the development of a training manual for para-professionals to learn basic knowledge and skills of social work. With UNICEF technical support, in 2012, the MCA developed a family assessment and reintegration toolkit for community workers to practice case management with vulnerable children and their families. UNICEF also reached an agreement with Beijing municipal government to develop a manual on social enquiry for children in conflict with the law. The tool aims at facilitating social workers to better assist children in the justice process - an exciting new initiative for China’s juvenile justice reform.

Further, UNICEF continued to support NWCCW in the replication of the CFS model, including by marshalling government funding, and by increasing a child protection focus. In 2012, the NWCCW established 24 replica Child Friendly Spaces in 10 provinces that provided child protection, ECD, non-formal education and psychosocial services to 15,000 children and their parents. These Child Friendly Spaces augment the global UNICEF CFS model with micro-child protection systems that integrate case management, referral, early detection, advocacy and other services. Child Friendly Spaces are helping to address disparities in access to community-based social services for vulnerable children.

In the aftermath of the Yiliang earthquake, UNICEF and NWCCW established three CFS to provide timely psychosocial support for 2,500 children and their parents. This has contributed to development of a quick-response model for children in emergencies.

These initiatives at community level have been reviewed, documented and shared in the on-going policy dialogue between UNICEF, the NWCCW and the MCA, creating evidence to advocate for an enabling environment at national level.

On-track

**IR 0860/A0/04/704/043** IR-4.3 UNICEF provided human resource support through this Intermediate Result with the funds utilized in this IR to mainly help the organization contribute to the achievement of other IRs within the programme component, or across Programme components in country programme of cooperation.

**Progress:** UNICEF provided human resource support through this ‘Intermediate Result’ with the funds
utilized in this IR to mainly help the organization contribute to the achievement of other IRs within the programme component, or across Programme components in the country programme of cooperation.

**PC 5 - HIV/AIDS**

**On-track**

**PCR 0860/A0/04/705** By 2015, women, children and young people in China are better protected against the spread and impact of HIV-AIDS

**Progress:** In close collaboration with central and local level counterparts from Government Institutions and civil society, UNICEF has worked to strengthen HIV/AIDS-specific interventions and move towards equitable HIV and gender sensitive programming. Based on a strategy of linking upstream and downstream interventions, UNICEF aims to promote effective policy development and effectiveness in going to scale. The concurrent facilitation of grassroots interventions and support to the development of guidelines, plans and policies has proven most effective to improve interventions, initiate innovative activities and promote appropriate legal framework development.

Counterparts from Government institutions and civil society received technical support, expert consultations, meetings, field visits and policy briefs to support the development of policies and action plans aimed at improving service delivery in regard to HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support. This support contributed to the development of HIV/AIDS-specific and sensitive policies and action plans, including: the Policy Action Plan for Subsidised Opportunistic Infection Treatment, Policy for STD Prevention and Treatment Focused on Prevention of Parent-to-Child Transmission, and the Policy Action Plan for Social Welfare for Children Affected by AIDS and Other Vulnerable Children.

Strengthening of family and community based care for children affected by HIV/AIDS has been promoted through grassroots-level interventions, research, and assistance in the development of guidelines, plans and policies. Implementation and analysis of interventions in project areas led to a better understanding of local needs and best practices to guide policy development and going to scale. As such, the Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) programme expanded to 1,156 prefectures/counties, where over 3,000 children from 30 provinces/municipalities benefited from free paediatric AIDS treatment, about 2,000 children and an additional 2,000 women received PPTCT support, and over 70,000 children from 120 project villages received assistance from village welfare directors who facilitated the provision and coordination of local social services.

A Behaviour Change Communication (BCC)/ICT survey conducted in collaboration with the Ministry of Health found that knowledge about HIV is relatively high, but risk behaviour is still high and awareness of available services relatively low. Awareness raising activities have expanded in innovative areas. National-level awareness raising campaigns continue to promote information sharing and the youth voice in regard to HIV-SRH needs and proposed interventions. Youth Ambassadors continue to work through peer education and awareness raising activities. Life skills education on HIV prevention has been integrated in the juvenile justice system. It has been effective in the use of hotlines, and will further expand to link users with services.

**On-track**

**IR 0860/A0/04/705/051** By 2015, Government policy, capacity and legal environment is strengthened to address children, young people living with AIDS

**Progress:** UNICEF supported the development of policy proposals with the State Council AIDS Working Committee Office, the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the Ministry of Health on: a) the Policy Action Plan for Subsidised Opportunistic Infection Treatment for Rural Populations; b) the Policy Action Plan for Social Welfare for Children Affected by AIDS and other Vulnerable Children, Especially Children Living with HIV; c) the Policy Action Plans for Couples Counselling and Information to Prevent Sexual Transmission; d) Policy on STD Prevention and Treatment, Especially PPTCT; and e) the Action Plan to Encourage and Support Civil Society Participation in HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care. UNICEF support included the organisation and facilitation of policy consultations, field visits (Yunnan, Henan and Sichuan) and expert meetings.
UNICEF supported policy consultations on government funding in HIV responses for cross-border migrants and legal assistance to victims of criminal transmission. Government subsidized counselling, screening and tests for cross-border migrants are now available in UNICEF-supported project areas.

UNICEF provided technical support and attended the bidding and evaluation processes of the national social mobilization programme on central fund allocation to civil society for community screening and care.

UNICEF supported SCAWCO to conduct expert consultations in Sichuan province and support the development of a provincial five-year HIV/AIDS action plan. The plan includes PPTCT, paediatric treatment, care for children affected by AIDS and other vulnerable children, and youth prevention.

UNICEF supported expert consultations and the development of policy recommendations on human resources development at grassroots level for child and family welfare services, including government cash transfer for children without family care.

Insufficient availability of funds at national level hinders development and approval of policy proposals and, more particularly, the central funding allocation to vulnerable children and their families other than those affected by HIV/AIDS.

Organizational and structural linkages between central and lower levels (provinces, prefectures and counties) are weak and challenge efforts to stimulate/advocate local development initiatives that target children and women affected by HIV/AIDS and other vulnerable children.

On-track

**IR 0860/A0/04/705/052** By 2015, children affected by AIDS and other vulnerable children in pilot sites receive improved access to social welfare services and family and community-based care

**Progress:** Since 2004, the UNICEF-supported national PMTCT programme has expanded from 12 counties to 1,156 prefectures/counties. Vertical transmission among reported HIV-infected pregnant mothers has reduced from 1.4 per cent (2009) to 1.2 per cent (2011).

The national paediatric AIDS programme supported by UNICEF and partners started in June 2005. In 2012, over 3,000 children from 30 provinces/municipalities received free paediatric AIDS treatment and care. In project sites, around 2,000 women living with HIV and 2,000 children affected by AIDS now receive PPTCT support.

Village child welfare directors allowed for the provision and coordination of social services in 120 project villages. Child welfare services provided included birth registration for children without “hukou” registration; registration for government-provided medical insurance, low income family subsidies, and/or orphan allowance; and avoidance of school drop-out and inclusion in child activities.

Local information on the needs of children and related good practices contributed to equitable and gender-sensitive local policy development on social welfare services in Yunnan, Sichuan and Henan, as well as the more developed regions of Zhejiang, Jiangsu and Shenzhen.

Several tools were developed to improve access to care and support, including: a) an advocacy and communication plan for inclusive child welfare strengthening; b) a guideline for civil society development and community mobilization to improve equitable access to screening and PMTCT among vulnerable women; c) a guide for families and social workers on HIV testing and follow-up in children; d) a provincial M&E tool on child welfare; and e) a job aid for village welfare directors.

UNICEF supported a study on bottlenecks for women and children in early HIV screening and testing, PMTCT services, treatment services and social care services. The study showed that women and children still face specific difficulties in accessing services, and the results have been used to guide the development of gender-sensitive and equitable local PMTCT implementation plans.

**On-track**

**IR 0860/A0/04/705/053** By 2015, young people in pilot areas, especially the most vulnerable, have increased access to HIV/SRH information and services

**Progress:** Mobile and internet technology show a potential to promote youth-friendly information and services. It has proven effective to promote the uptake of youth HIV-SRH hotlines, which came online on World AIDS Day and are being complemented with monthly themes. Additionally, peer education initiatives promote HIV-STI testing and counselling with participation of the HIV prevention Youth Ambassadors. New manuals to guide peer educators were introduced.

National and local level advocacy activities gathered youth voices on HIV-SRH (Sexual and Reproductive Health) needs and ideas for intervention. Summer camps, mass media events, home visits, and other events mobilised government officials and civil society, and reached an audience of over 200 million people about the needs of vulnerable children, as well as thousands of vulnerable children themselves.

In collaboration with the China National Committee for the Care of Children (CNCCC) Child Development Centre, the China Academy of Science’s Institute of Psychology and the Ministry of Justice, life skills education for HIV and drug prevention has been piloted in 30 juvenile reformatories. Police officers within the national juvenile system received training and a monitoring framework complements the related guidelines. Short videos were also developed on two stories about good practices in case management to support high-level social mobilization.

In collaboration with the National Health Education Centre under the Ministry of Health, a “BCC/ICT survey” was completed. While knowledge on HIV seems relatively high, youth still have low awareness of service availability. Information gained from the study now guides information and awareness raising activities.

**On-track**

**IR 0860/A0/04/705/054 IR-5.4** UNICEF provided human resource support through this ‘Intermediate Result’ with the funds utilized in this IR to mainly help the organization contribute to the achievement of other IRs within the programme component, or across Programme components in country programme of cooperation.

**Progress:** UNICEF provided human resource support through this ‘Intermediate Result’ with the funds utilized in this IR to mainly help the organization contribute to the achievement of other IRs within the programme component, or across Programme components in the country programme of cooperation.

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**PC 6 - Water, sanitation and hygiene**

**On-track**

**PCR 0860/A0/04/706** By 2015, children and women, especially in poor and rural areas, benefit from improved drinking water quality, sanitation and hygiene, and from mitigation measures against climate change and environmental degradation

**Progress:** With increased government investment, access to both drinking water and sanitation has grown rapidly. WASH Programme implementation is on track and has made great achievements. The National Statistics Bureau’s urban and rural integrated household survey questionnaire has been re-designed, with WASH indicators now integrated, resulting form UNICEF’s persistent advocacy and technical support. Since the integration of WASH indicators into EMIS in 2011, the education sector’s capacity at subnational level in collecting and analysing data on water supply and sanitation in schools has improved, with training and further refinement of definitions. Favourable government policies on electricity fees and land use for rural
drinking water plants were established.

To address the low access to improved sanitation, the programme introduced the Community Approach to Total Sanitation (CATS) through piloting the approach in 50 villages of five counties, integrating social norm change, intensive communication on the value of sanitation, and triggering methods. CATS is a complementary intervention to the government’s subsidy programme for latrine improvement, making sanitation development more behaviour-impact-orientated and sustainable.

UNICEF is increasing attention to institutional sanitation by introducing a holistic approach to improve overall school environment integrating WASH, health, nutrition, food hygiene, climate change, environmental protection and disaster preparedness. The implementation of the integrated package will improve the overall school environment for children and contribute to quality education. The success will provide a model for the government to scale up, guiding future government investment. UNICEF is also working with government to address WASH issues in rural township hospitals. This work leverages large investment from central government. The piloting of WASH in township hospitals will be assessed and documented to better provide guidance for government planning and financing for health facility construction and operation, which will contribute to compulsory inclusion of WASH in township hospitals, and the development/revision of related national standards.

In the coming year, UNICEF will increasingly focus on sanitation and hygiene, especially institutional sanitation and hygiene. Efforts are being made to add WASH indicators to MoE’s annual reporting on township hospital operation and maintenance monitoring and strengthen MoE’s capacity in EMIS. Analysis of inequities in access to water and sanitation will be given great attention in 2013.

On-track

**IR 0860/A0/04/706/061** By 2015, Government policies, standards and guidelines better address the water and sanitation needs of the most vulnerable groups and underserved regions, considering sustainability, climate change, environmental degradation and natural disasters

**Progress:** In 2012, this IR aims to support the development of policies, standards and guidelines on water quality monitoring, sanitation promotion, and school and hospital sanitation and hygiene. To accomplish this, UNICEF supported consultations on the selection of monitoring sites, as well as capacity mobilization in integrating heavy metal monitoring into the existing rural drinking water quality monitoring scheme. Sanitation authorities at central and provincial level were exposed to the CATS approach and sanitation marketing, including through regional exchange meetings and at EASAN. UNICEF advocacy promoted hand-washing with soap through formal government channels and through UNICEF-supported pilot CATS villages and WASH schools.

UNICEF also supported capacity-building to strengthen existing management information systems, such as the integration of WASH indicators into the National Bureau of Statistics’ national household survey plan and further refinement of WASH indicators in EMIS.

In partnership with the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) and MoH, UNICEF continued lobbying for the integration of sanitation facilities into township hospital construction plans. UNICEF also supported the dissemination of existing standards, such as the training of administrative staff from the education sector on CFS WASH standards and design of facilities. A baseline survey on WASH in schools was completed, which found that only around 50 per cent of school latrines are sanitary, around 30 per cent of school latrines had soap, and that the female student-to-latrine-pit ratio exceeded 100 in some schools. The baseline survey also found that menstrual hygiene was a concern. Studies were also supported to explore best practices in financing rural sanitation and identify cost-effective strategies for sanitation investment.

In 2013, key studies, including desk reviews and field surveys, will be supported to analyse inequities in sanitation and water and provide evidence for advocacy. A well-planned C4D approach, including effective lobbying/networking and wider advocacy through technical assistance and evidence mobilization will be applied for CATS, and the “whole school” environment approach is expected to be adopted by more
stakeholders in their routine programmes.

On-track

IR 0860/A0/04/706/062 By 2015, institutional and community capacity is increased in development and management of sustainable Water, Sanitation and Environment (WSE) in rural communities and schools

Progress: In 2012, work under this IR aimed to build national and subnational level capacity to implement the “whole school” environment approach, CATS, Water Safety Plans (WSP) and township hospital WASH in selected pilot areas. The implementation of planned interventions is generally on track, with the exception of the planned WSP activities, which experienced delay due to government staff turnover. Participatory training and experience exchange were conducted in pilot areas, including on the “whole school” approach, climate change and environment. Hygiene promotion, centred on hand-washing with soap, was conducted for all project schools. The “whole school” environment project was completed in the first batch of three schools, and experiences will be documented and promoted in neighbouring schools in 2013. CATS methodology was introduced in one of the five pilot counties by the father of CLTS, Kamal Kar, who trained 15 national and county-level facilitators and sensitized more than 30 village leaders from 10 project villages. The national specialists subsequently trained more county-level disease prevention practitioners in the other project counties on the methodology, which was trialled in 20 villages. Hand-washing with soap advocates were chosen from the five pilot counties and trained to communicate and teach people to wash hands with soap correctly at critical times. An expert team consisting of technical staff with backgrounds in water supply, sanitation, wastewater treatment and solid waste management was established with UNICEF support to review WASH construction plans and designs for 25 pilot township hospitals.

In 2013, the whole school environment model will be fully launched in the planned schools and also integrated into the Child Friendly School Project. UNICEF will continue its efforts to trigger more villages to achieve open-defecation-free status and set procedures to validate and verify the status. Guidelines for Water Safety Plans to reduce water supply risks will be developed and township hospital construction work will be completed and documented for scale up. Training tools and easy-to-use guidelines will be developed to facilitate the building of bigger forces in promoting the different approaches.

On-track

IR 0860/A0/04/706/063 IR-6.3 UNICEF provided human resource support through this `Intermediate Result with the funds utilized in this IR to mainly help the organization contribute to the achievement of other IRs within the programme component, or across Programme components in country programme of cooperation.

Progress:

UNICEF provided human resource support through this Intermediate Result with the funds utilized in this IR to mainly help the organization contribute to the achievement of other IRs within the programme component, or across Programme components in the country programme of cooperation.

PC 9 - Cross-sectoral costs

On-track

PCR 0860/A0/04/707 By 2015, cross-sectoral support and operational functions, including supply and logistics, communication and planning, monitoring and evaluation, facilitate effective and efficient implementation of the Country Programme

Progress: In 2012, cross-sectoral support helped to a) improve the quality of studies, surveys and evaluations (SSEs) and develop knowledge management strategies and tools; b) support effective programme advocacy with donors and facilitate donations from public and private contributors; and c) facilitate the national availability and local delivery of essential supplies for UNICEF-assisted programmes.

Evaluation: Regarding SSEs, UNICEF continued to strengthen the strategic use of IMEP and monitored the
progress of over 30 SSEs in 2012. Quality assurance was also provided to the evaluation of a UNICEF-supported education initiative to help earthquake-affected children schools in Gansu. Several UNICEF mechanisms for improving SSE quality were strengthened. This includes a monthly review process by the CMT and by programme sections, new cash assistance modalities to support SSE quality, the initiation of a roster of research partners that includes a review of past work, and the increased engagement of the office Peer Review Group (PRG) which works to ensure quality control and UNICEF standards in SSE reports and TORs. The office also conducted a Strategic Review of Knowledge, Evidence and Advocacy with Office of Research-Innocenti support, which identified key areas for improvement and follow up actions.

**Supply:** In 2012, the value of procurement for the UNICEF China programme totalled US$ 2.5 million, covering 120 Purchase Orders (POs). In addition, 58 institutional contracts worth US$ 1.25 million were processed. Procurement for other country offices, including Afghanistan, DPRK, OPT and PNG, came to approximately US$ 3.5 million. There are a total of 58 valid Long Term Agreements (LTAs), with 18 newly established in 2012. The increasing number of LTAs has facilitated the timely delivery supplies, enhancing quality programme implementation. To ensure quality supplies, ISO certificates were obtained from the manufacturers and factory inspection and PDI were conducted.

UNICEF China also helped manage the Regional Logistics Centre (RLC) in Shanghai, where 122,559 educational kits worth US$ 11.62 million were packed and delivered to 19 different countries globally. UNICEF China negotiated with the Government of China (GOC) to simplify export processes which will ultimately enable the RLC to expand to a regional emergency hub. Within China, the delivery of supplies within a few days after the September 2012 Yiliang earthquake enabled the rapid establishment of Child Friendly Spaces for emergency-affected children.

**Donor relations and programme advocacy:** In 2012, UNICEF-China secured US$ 17.3 million in new funding from National Committees for UNICEF and China private sector partnerships. National Committees and Funds contributed a total of US$ 11.3 million. Major new multi-year funding commitments came from the Hong Kong National Committee (US$ 4.5 million), the Japan National Committee (US $2 million), the Spanish National Committee (US $1.8 million) and the Swedish National Committee (US$ 1 million). China private sector donations exceeded US$ 6 million in 2012 - a 20 per cent growth over 2011. Most of the growth has been in the un-earmarked funding category and is a result of the consistent expansion of repeat giving. Earmarked donations are also on the rise, led by a US$ 3.7 million commitment by Porsche to support a three year integrated early childhood development pilot in China’s poverty alleviation focus areas.

**IR 0860/A0/04/707/071** Efficient and effective supply and procurement service in intersectoral support contributes to successful achievement of Country Programme results.

**IR 0860/A0/04/707/072** Efficient and effective communication in intersectoral support contributes to successful achievement of Country Programme results

**IR 0860/A0/04/707/073** By 2015, efficient and effective planning, monitoring, evaluation and intersectoral support contributes to successful achievement of Country Programme results.

**IR 0860/A0/04/707/074** IR-7.4 UNICEF provided human resource support through this Intermediate Result with the funds utilized in this IR to mainly help the organization contribute to the achievement of other IRs within the programme component, or across Programme components in country programme of cooperation.

**PCR 0860/A0/04/800** Effective & efficient programme management and operations support

**Progress:** Efficient and effective support service was provided in the areas of cash assistance, timely replenishment of funds for programme delivery, implementation of Vision and IPSAS. Results were also achieved on office priorities, cost savings, simplifying business processes, enhancing staff skills and competencies and building staff morale.

On-track
IR 0860/A0/04/800/001 IR-8.1 Effective and efficient Governance

**Progress:** Office priorities are on track. Staff better understand roles and responsibilities through proper orientation in role and responsibilities, financial rules etc., financial authorities delegated through a Table of Authority (TOA), and an external audit noted satisfactory implementation of Vision and IPSAS.

Staff better acquainted with office decision through circulation of minutes such as CMT/Programme Management/JCC, the office-wide risk level adjusted through a review of Enterprise Risk Management (ERM). Lastly, office management committees are established and well-functioning.

On-track

IR 0860/A0/04/800/002 IR-8.2 Effective and efficient Management

**Progress:** The Country Office analysed common risks in the disbursement of cash assistance and the strategy the office should follow to mitigate the risks.

$53K savings realized on various operational areas such as travel, rent, communication etc. and a consolidation of TAs resulted saving in staff time. 25 per cent of TAs and travel payments were consolidated, and 100 per cent of staff completed basic e-learning on IPSAS.

Installation of new a PBX and Voice Over IP (VOIP) service resulted considerable savings in monthly communication costs, various standard operating procedures and work flow processes were established to simplify business transactions, and a monthly cash forecast, timely replenishment and disbursement of funds, bank reconciliations carried out efficiently throughout the year.

On-track

IR 0860/A0/04/800/003 IR-8.3 Effective and efficient management

**Progress:** Staff are now more familiar with HR rules resulting from various training orientations organized by the office. This included people management skills training, coaching, flexi time etc.

The office is constantly working with staff on the issues highlighted in the staff morale survey and an action point developed and being implemented. Staff members can now take care of their young children while at work through the establishment of a play and breast feeding room.

Staff motivation was enhanced through staff awards - Annual awards were given to various sections and staff who worked for 20 years also received awards.

The office rated 100 per cent achievement on the 2012 learning and development plan. HR rules and regulations strictly followed by the office.

On-track

IR 0860/A0/04/800/004 Fundraising: in-country private sector fundraising cost-efficiently generates quality funding to the Country Programme (OR) and, where applicable, contributes to global Regular Resources (RR) and/or Thematic Contributions (ORT) funding for humanitarian programmes

**Progress:** In 2012 the UNICEF China Office secured a total of US$ 17.3 million in new funding from National Committees and China private sector partnerships.

A comprehensive effort to present partnership and funding opportunities in China for UNICEF National Committees was launched in 2012. A set of 20 donor toolkits and fact sheets was completed covering all IRs. In September the annual National Committee Executive Directors’ Meeting took place in Beijing and a very successful presentation on the UNICEF China “pilots to policy to results” upstream programming model was presented.

A total of US$ 11.3 million was secured from National Committees and Funds in 2012. Major new multi-year
funding commitments came from the Hong Kong National Committee (US$ 4.5 million for health, social policy, HIV), the Japan National Committee (US$ 2 million for WES), the Spanish National Committee (US$ 1.8 million for basic education and child protection) and the Swedish National Committee (US$ 1 million for ECD).

Philanthropy in China bounced back after a series of major scandals in 2011. This is a positive sign indicating continued strong willingness of the Chinese public to donate to non-profit organizations. But the nature of giving is evolving; grass root platforms and individual cases are attracting more support than ever before.

China private sector donations reached over $6 million in 2012 - a 20 per cent growth over 2011 income. Most of the growth has been in the un-earmarked funding category, which posted a threefold increase over the last year. This growth is a result of the consistent expansion of repeat giving.

Earmarked donations are on the rise, led by a US$ 3.7 million commitment by Porsche to support a three year integrated early childhood development pilot in China’s poverty alleviation focus areas. This intervention is a significant cross-sectoral project involving health, education, child protection and social policy teams and their counterparts.

**On-track**

**IR 0860/A0/04/800/005 Sales**: sales of cards and gifts, either via direct sales or licensing agreements, generates Regular Resources in a cost-efficient manner

**Progress**: In late 2011, Cards and Gifts were licensed to a company that has substantial experience in this sector. Business was slow in the first full year of operation, with the licensee reporting total sales amounting to about RMB 320,000. Sale prospects should look brighter in 2013 with a wider range of product offering.
**Effective Governance Structure**

UNICEF China’s Country Management Team (CMT) agenda covers all important components, including programme management, operations management, advocacy and communication, emergency preparedness, HR and staff association issues. Monthly updates are also provided on progress with gender and equity issues. Progress on the Annual Management Plan (AMP) and Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) are reviewed twice a year by the CMT. The monthly Programme Coordination Meetings review cross-sectoral issues, travel status, spot check recommendations, supply management, and a status of cash forecast, *inter alia*. Recommendations are made to the CMT for decision-making.

Major CMT decisions in 2012 included action on: a) major advocacy events (such as NATCOM Executive Directors’ meeting, commemoration of 30 years of UNICEF-GoC partnership, South-South Cooperation on Child Poverty); b) adjustments in the risk profile and risk control library; c) a staff retreat with a focus on team building; d) adjustment of standard operating procedures and work processes (on travel, SSA, procurement, attendance); e) endorsement of the 2012 AMP with office priorities; f) allocation of resources to various programmes; g) endorsement of mid-year review recommendations; and h) participation in the PBR exercise.

The CMT actively and regularly followed up on a monthly basis three indicators suggested by the Staff Association during the staff retreat in early 2012. These included: (a) number and percentage of staff who complete Managing Performance Results; (b) number of orientations held and staff attendance on new policies and procedures; and (c) monitoring of number of staff with leave balances exceeding 60 days. The office successfully organized a training on Managing People for Results, combined with training on Coaching for all staff. The office also organized orientations on new policies and procedures in Finance, HR and Supply Management. The CMT also endorsed an action plan prepared by the Staff Association in consultation with staff to follow up on the 2011 staff morale survey. Progress is reviewed quarterly with the Staff Association.

Audit planning and an IPSAS audit were carried out by external auditors from 1-10 August 2012. Ten focus areas were identified, and risk assessments were conducted for each focus area. CMT members fully took part in the audit entrance and exit meetings. Auditors were satisfied with the progress made by the office under the new working environment with the implementation of Vision and IPSAS, and no specific recommendations were issued to the country office at the end of the audit. This was a great learning and self assessment opportunity for the UNICEF China team.

The office continued its support to reconstruction in the Yushu earthquake zone, where an earthquake hit in April 2010. The office also launched an emergency response in Yiliang County in southwest China’s Yunnan province, where a 5.7-magnitude earthquake hit in September. Emergency assistance included the provision of education supplies, MCH equipment, hygiene kits and the establishment of Child Friendly Spaces.

**Strategic Risk Management**

UNICEF has undertaken several initiatives to improve emergency preparedness, and the office has regularly updated information in the Early Warning-Early Action system. From experience in responding to previous emergencies, UNICEF mapped out strategic areas in which it has a comparative advantage to provide assistance in case of an emergency – categorised into interventions in the first eight weeks after a disaster and for those in the recovery, reconstruction and transition phases. For each intervention area and response phase, key supplies, most with long-term agreements with suppliers, and information, education and communication materials have been identified to ensure rapid and well-targeted responses to emergencies.

The office has also worked closely with government ministries and potential donors to lay the groundwork for more rapid needs assessments for women and children and related requests for assistance, and for securing timely and appropriate levels of funding. The office provided quick relief support to the Yiliang earthquake emergency in southwest China’s Yunnan Province in September 2012. Existing LTAs were utilized to quickly deliver critical supplies to earthquake-hit areas.
The office reviewed its risk profile and risk control library at the CMT meeting held in February 2012. The CMT approved adjustments of a few risk components, and an updated risk profile and control library have been submitted to NYHQ. The office continued its efforts using a risk-informed approach in its locally developed Standard Operating Procedure, including for cash transfers, and to guide simplification of business processes.

An MOU with UNFPA to support back-up office space and facilities has also been renewed as part of the office’s business continuity plan.

**Evaluation**

The CO continues to strengthen the strategic use of IMEP to monitor progress of studies, surveys and evaluations (SSEs) which are strategic - both at programme level and cutting across programmes. The CO managed and provided continuous technical support to an on-going evaluation of the “Building Back Better” (BBB) project implemented in Xihe County of Gansu Province. The final report, due out in early 2013, is expected to provide valuable information for guiding similar initiatives. Management responses of previous evaluations were completed and closed in the global tracking system by 2012.

In efforts to make internationally-validated research/survey tools available as a resource in China, the CO translated into Chinese the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) questionnaires and indicator lists together with selected sections of survey manuals for wider use by Chinese audiences.

In 2012, mechanisms were maintained to strengthen the quality of SSEs. Three indicators showing the status of IMEP-SSE TORs and reports were integrated into the Programme Performance Dashboard and reviewed by the CMT on a monthly basis. The status of SSEs not tracked in the IMEP is reported through Section Monthly Reports. Reimbursement is now encouraged over other modalities of cash assistance to give more leverage for SSE quality control. The CO also started work to establish a China-based roster of research consultants/institutes to assist in the selection of quality research teams.

The Peer Review Group (PRG) is involved at key stages to provide technical support for SSEs tracked in the IMEP. Good progress has been made since its establishment in mid-2011 to meet the purposes of improving SSE quality, sharing expertise and experience across the office, and increasing office capacity for conducting quality SSEs. Review of TORs was enhanced in 2012 along with provision of comments on full reports for further improvements. Many good PRG comments were well received and followed-up by research managers and teams.

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The Office is aware of the importance of realistic plans for a manageable number of SSEs, development of rigorous TORs, selection of good research teams, identification of proper methodology, and ensuring the adequate use of research findings. Despite progress in institutionalizing quality control mechanisms for SSEs, long-existing factors still affect the quality of final reports. In responding to these challenges, in 2012, the CO conducted a Strategic Review of Knowledge, Evidence and Advocacy with support from the OoR-Innocenti. Areas for further improvements were identified, including enhancing overall strategic directions of research, strengthening linkages between research and policy advocacy, improving capacity for managing research and involving external researchers in SSE review to more objectively ensure quality of research.

**Effective Use of Information and Communication Technology**

The implementation of a centralized business system shows that UNICEF is striving to use Information and Communication Technology in a more effective way. Vision, the new business system, was rolled out to all country offices in 2012. The China office undertook significant preparation work for this change. Overall, the transition from Proms to Vision went smoothly. The office will continue to make efforts to improve the performance of Vision access.

The office completed all global ICT projects on time. All major servers, including Domino mail server and File
& Printing Server, were migrated to the Windows Server 2008 platform, which will change IT operations in the office to reduce costs and deliver more value. To date, six physical servers have been virtualized in the office. Server virtualization will help the office reduce expenditure on computer hardware and further improve efficiency and ICT management capabilities. With successful implementation of WSUS (Windows update service), security patches and software updates will be applied to the servers and client computers in a more timely way.

In an effort to improve communication with internal and external partners, the office replaced its PBX with an IP-based system and subscribed digital trunk lines. The new system provides more efficient voice services to users and has reduced telecommunication costs. The new system can also be integrated with the UNICEF mail system in the future.

The office continued to pay attention to its emergency preparedness and response capacity, and tested the ICT disaster and recovery plan during the office business continuity test.

The China office is working actively to integrate ICT with its programmes. The office website was revamped with social media integration to better support programme advocacy and fundraising. Mobile technology and cloud computing are being considered to address programme issues.

The office will further strengthen its ICT governance mechanism to provide strategic oversight and resource management to ensure that usage of ICT is aligned with the office's strategic objectives.

Fund-raising and Donor Relations

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A comprehensive effort to present partnership and funding opportunities in China for UNICEF National Committees was launched in 2012. A set of 20 donor toolkits and fact sheets was completed covering all IRs. In September the annual National Committee Executive Directors’ Meeting took place in Beijing and a very successful presentation on the UNICEF China “pilots to policy to results” upstream programming model was presented.

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Earmarked donations are on the rise, led by a US$ 3.7 million commitment by Porsche to support a three year integrated early childhood development pilot in China’s poverty alleviation focus areas. This intervention is a significant cross-sectoral project involving health, education, child protection and social policy teams and their counterparts.
Management of Financial and Other Assets

The office organised several orientations for staff to enhance their understanding of Vision roles and responsibilities, implementation of IPSAS, the new policy on financial control, supply and procurement and HR issues. Several Vision clinics were organised for programme and operations staff. Office staff also benefitted from WebEx seminars organised by NYHQ on a range of issues. All China staff have completed the basic e-course on IPSAS.

The office also analysed common risks in the disbursement of cash assistance and developed strategies to mitigate these risks. Internal assessment of partners based on spot check findings was carried out with a view to focus assurance activities on high risk partners. A monthly spot check plan was prepared and implemented by the office. All program officers and program assistants were trained by the Finance Unit on basic accounting knowledge, spot check activity procedures and the use of spot checklists before going to the field. Spot check recommendations were strictly followed by the office and reviewed at the Programme Coordination Meeting on a monthly basis. UNICEF China remains committed to supporting implementing partners and building their capacity in financial management and the efficient and effective use of UNICEF financial resources. The office has successfully eliminated the issue of DCTs that remain outstanding for more than six months.

Bank reconciliations were prepared and reviewed on a monthly basis, and reconciliation reports were submitted to HQ as per deadlines. All reconciling items were cleared within 10 days of the following month. Interim closure activities were successfully carried out and reports submitted to NYHQ as per the deadlines.

A rise in national staff salaries, appreciation of local currency against USD, and a rise in operating costs have resulted in considerable pressure on available funds, with reduced funds for programme activities. The China office experienced a shortfall of US$ 110,000 in the institutional budget for national staff salaries in 2012. The problem was resolved with an additional allocation of resources from the regional office and DFAM.

The office also took active part in addressing conflicting Vision role assignments, with all conflicting roles now eliminated or mitigated. The office is also in the process of issuing a Table of Authorities as per NYHQ guidance. In 2012, the CMT approved a number of local Standard Operating Procedures in line with global policies. These included SOPs on travel, SSA, attendance and absence, year-end closing, etc.

The office has utilised 100 per cent of RR and institutional budget in 2012.

Supply Management

In 2012, the total value of procurement for the UNICEF China programme was US$ 2.5 million, covering 120 P0s. Altogether, 58 institutional contracts worth US$ 1.25 million were processed. The value of the contracts increased by 178 per cent compared to 2011. Delivery of supplies within a few days after the September 2012 Yiliang earthquake enabled the rapid establishment of Child Friendly Spaces for emergency-affected children just days after the earthquake. Local procurement was undertaken for procurement services and activities funded by UNITAID.

Procurement for other country offices, including Afghanistan, OPT, PNG and DPRK, reached approximately USD 3.5 million, of which 77 per cent was for DPRK. UNICEF China also managed complex shipments of goods for UNICEF Afghanistan and DPRK, including one charter flight to DPRK.

UNICEF China trans-shipped some US$ 2.27 million worth of vaccines and other supplies for UNICEF DPRK procured by Supply Division (SD). To support the smooth operation of the supply chain system, four missions were undertaken to UNICEF DPRK.

18 new LTAs were established in 2012, bringing the total number of valid LTAs to 58, which includes LTAs for common UN Procurement of stationeries. The growing number of LTAs has further helped the office to deliver
supplies in a timely way for timely, quality programme implementation.

To ensure that quality supplies are procured, ISO certificates were obtained from the manufacturers, and factory inspection and PDI were conducted. UNICEF China contributed to the work being done on Child Rights and Business Principles in China by developing and testing the Social Accountability Checklist, which is being integrated into factory inspections.

UNICEF encouraged local manufacturers to produce and obtain WHO certification for solar refrigerators, which will enable UN agencies to procure solar refrigerators at a globally competitive price. In collaboration with the Supply Division and UNICEF China nutrition colleagues, a local manufacturer was approved for procurement of multi-micronutrient powder.

UNICEF-China supported the management of the Regional Logistics Centre (RLC) in Shanghai, where 122,559 educational kits worth US$ 11.62 million were packed and delivered to Burundi, Chad, DR Congo, Fiji, Guinea, Haiti, Ivory Coast, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Myanmar, Niger, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe. This is an increase of 123 per cent compared to 2011. On behalf of the Supply Division, UNICEF China also negotiated with the Government of China to simplify the export process and ultimately enable the RLC to expand to become a regional emergency hub.

Several training sessions on Vision were organized for staff for smooth transition to the new system. Supply staff were sent on three missions to India and DPRK to learn/share experiences in the management of service contracts, logistic arrangements, and standardization of WASH supplies.

Based on the experience and the capacity of the Government, changes were made to the Project Operation Manual (POM) to include procurement of printing materials, small value emergency supplies, and construction materials through the Government using reimbursement mode.

Human Resources

UNICEF China’s staffing profile is based on the 2011-2015 Country Programme Document (CPD) staff structure and was developed based on needed competencies to achieve results for children. In 2012, the office conducted periodic reviews of staff composition and Job Descriptions (JDs), and worked with programme sections to develop appropriate staff profiles, competencies and capacities towards improving programme results. Consequently, UNICEF China identified several areas for staff development (ie, knowledge management, advocacy, fundraising, social policy, VISION, team effectiveness) and developed corresponding learning sessions. International staff composition continues to be diverse with eight different nationalities represented. The male to female ratio for all staff is 1:2.2, and the male to female ratio for P5 staff and above is 4:1; the office continues to work to address these imbalances. The office also sought to bring in young talent, enlisting 37 interns and volunteers in 2012 to support innovative initiatives.

HR monitors performance management carefully and achieved 100 per cent completion of the 2011 assessment cycle, 2012 planning component and mid-term review by all staff. UNICEF China gives significant weight to performance management for results. In 2012, the office organized a Managing People for Results training through which 80 per cent of supervisors and supervisees were trained. Managers are using these skills to improve performance through constructive feedback to supervisees. Management continues to deal with non-performance issues.

At the start of 2012, UNICEF China assessed staffing gaps based on EPR and provided the required training. The Emergency team, led by the office Emergency Focal Point, meets monthly to ensure that staff are aware of emergency risk and management issues and ensures that the required emergency training is provided. UNICEF collaborated with the UN Country Team (UNCT) to ensure that new staff members receive HIV/AIDS training. UNICEF plays a positive role, which was acknowledged when two UNICEF China staff were nominated for an award recognizing for their active participation as UNICEF UN Cares team members. In addition, four trained Peer Support Volunteers (PSV) are available to provide counselling to staff members.
Following the 2011 Global Staff Survey, an office Task Force, in consultation with HR and the Staff Association, identified areas for improving staff well-being and productivity (i.e., transparency & accountability, supervisor interaction, personal empowerment, work/life balance, and career/professional development), and developed a corresponding action plan with follow-up actions and monitoring indicators. Consequently, all staff were trained on the Office’s flexible working hours policy and other HR policies, about 80 per cent of staff members participated in Managing People for Results learning session, and the office organized management coaching programs for four senior staff members. Management and the Staff Association have set up a breastfeeding room and playroom for staff with young children. This room is used frequently and is highly appreciated by breastfeeding mothers and other staff members, enabling staff to have more flexible working arrangements, allowing staff to work while also having their children nearby. The office will continue to address the issues raised in the staff survey and will conduct a mini-survey to find out how the implementation of the staff response action plan has improved the staff morale.

### Efficiency Gains and Cost Savings

A cost saving plan was approved by CMT in June 2012 and monitored by the office on a regular basis. Several areas such as travel, utilities, rent negotiation, replenishment of currency, communication and recruitment were identified.

The CMT also took the decision to consolidate travel to gain efficiency and effectiveness from the beginning of September 2012. One TA/DSA payment policy was adopted per staff per month. The office was able to consolidate 25 per cent of the travel authorisations from September 2012 onwards. This is estimated to result in 15 hours of staff time savings per week, which can be utilized for important activities such as monitoring of programme activities, spot checks and other assurance activities.

UNICEF China worked with other UN agencies to issue LTAs for cleaning, security, stationery, and travel services. Discount rates were negotiated with various hotels and airlines. Air China offered a 2 per cent discount on all domestic flights to UN agencies. UNICEF serves as Vice-Chair for UN OMT and also served as Chair from July to September 2012 during the absence of the UNDP Operations Chief.

In an effort to improve communication with internal and external partners, the office replaced its decade-old PBX with an IP-based system and subscribed to digital trunk lines. The new system provides more efficient voice services to users and the office has already saved around US$ 500 per month in telecommunication costs. Replenishment of currency through DFAM has resulted in savings of approximately US$ 16,000. The Bank of China also waived bank charges based on our request effective August 2012. This will result in savings of US$ 100 on a monthly basis.

The office has put more emphasis on good planning for savings on air tickets. A system to verify fares quoted by the travel agent has also been established. UNICEF China staff travel on economy class.

On the basis of the above, the office saved more than US$ 53,000 as of end-November.

### Changes in AMP & CPMP

Review of the AMP by the CMT in June and again in December revealed that we are on track to achieve targets detailed in the AMP. AMP priorities on successful implementation of Vision and IPSAS have been fully achieved. Vision clinics and WebEx sessions were helpful for normalizing day-to-day transactions, property management, bank reconciliation, DCT liquidation, and carrying out interim closures. Earmarked donations from the private sector in China also rose significantly in 2012.

The China Country Office will hold a Mid Term Review (MTR) in 2013. This will be an opportunity for the office to further strengthen its upstream work in line with the guidance to be released by NYHQ for middle income countries.
An all-staff retreat has been planned in January 2013 to review office priorities and discuss further efficiency and effectiveness gains with staff.

### Acronyms

- **ACWF**: All-China Women’s Federation  
- **AMP**: Annual Management Plan  
- **ANC**: Antenatal care  
- **APEC**: Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation  
- **BCC**: Behaviour Change Communication  
- **C4D**: Communication for Development  
- **CAST**: China Association for Science and Technology  
- **CBO**: Community-based organization  
- **CCT**: Conditional cash transfer  
- **CDPF**: China Disabled Persons’ Federation  
- **CEDAW**: Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women  
- **CFS**: Child Friendly Schools  
- **CFS**: Child Friendly Spaces  
- **CIP**: Child Injury Prevention  
- **CLTS**: Community-Led Total Sanitation  
- **CMT**: Country Management Team  
- **CNCCC**: China National Committee for the Care of Children  
- **CRC**: Convention on the Rights of the Child  
- **CWI**: Child Welfare Institute  
- **ECD**: Early Childhood Development  
- **EFA**: Education for All  
- **ELDG**: Early Learning and Development Guidelines  
- **EMIS**: Education Management Information System  
- **EPI**: Expanded Programme on Immunization  
- **ERM**: Enterprise Risk Management  
- **GIS**: Global Information System  
- **GNI**: Gross National Income  
- **GOC**: Government of China  
- **HDR**: Hospital Delivery Rate  
- **HRBAP**: Human Rights Based Approach to Programming  
- **ICT**: Information and Communication Technology  
- **IEC**: Information, Education and Communication  
- **IP**: Implementation Partner  
- **IPSAS**: International Public Sector Accounting Standards  
- **IR**: Intermediate Result  
- **IYCF**: Infant and Young Child Feeding  
- **LGOP**: Leading Group Office on Poverty Alleviation and Development  
- **LTA**: Long Term Agreement  
- **M&E**: Monitoring and Evaluation  
- **MCA**: Ministry of Civil Affairs  
- **MCH**: Maternal and Child Health  
- **MDG**: Millennium Development Goal  
- **MIS**: Management Information System  
- **MNTE**: Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus Elimination  
- **MOE**: Ministry of Education  
- **MOF**: Ministry of Finance  
- **MOFA**: Ministry of Foreign Affairs
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<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
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<tr>
<td>MOFCOM</td>
<td>Ministry of Commerce</td>
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<td>MOH</td>
<td>Ministry of Health</td>
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<td>MORES</td>
<td>Monitoring Results for Equity System</td>
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<td>MOU</td>
<td>Memorandum of Understanding</td>
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<td>MTR</td>
<td>Mid-Term Review</td>
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<td>National Committee</td>
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<td>NDRC</td>
<td>National Development and Reform Commission</td>
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<td>NPA</td>
<td>National Programme of Action for Children/Women</td>
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<td>NWCCW</td>
<td>National Working Committee on Children and Women</td>
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<td>NYHQ</td>
<td>New York Headquarters</td>
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<td>OPV</td>
<td>Oral polio vaccine</td>
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<td>PCR</td>
<td>Programme component result</td>
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<tr>
<td>PMTCT</td>
<td>Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission</td>
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<tr>
<td>RMB</td>
<td>Renminbi (Chinese currency)</td>
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<td>SD</td>
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<td>SEL</td>
<td>Social-emotional learning</td>
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<td>SRH</td>
<td>Sexual and reproductive health</td>
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<td>SSC</td>
<td>South-South Cooperation</td>
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<td>United Nations Children's Fund</td>
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<td>Universal Salt Iodization</td>
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<td>YYB</td>
<td>Ying Yang Bao (micronutrient sachets)</td>
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## Evaluations

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<tr>
<td>2 Engaging Sub-national Governments in Addressing Health Equities: Challenges and Opportunities in China’s Health System Reform</td>
<td>2012/002</td>
<td>Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Final Report on Baseline and Follow-up Surveys Evaluating the Effect of YingYangBao Distribution in Areas Affected by the Wenchuan Earthquake</td>
<td>2012/005</td>
<td>Survey</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Delivery of EPI and Its Influencing Factors in the Context of New Health Systems Reform: A Case Study in Southern Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China</td>
<td>2012/007</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 The Case-Control Study on the Maternal Deaths of Migrants</td>
<td>2012/003</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 The Comparative Study on Antenatal Health Care between Migrant and Resident Population</td>
<td>2012/004</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 BCC/ICT Survey on Youth HIV and Sexual Reproductive Health Knowledge, Skills and Service Uptake</td>
<td>2012/009</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Mapping Environmental Issues to Develop Responsive Strategies of Education to Climate Change in China</td>
<td>2012/011</td>
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<td>12 Chinese-Style Decentralization and Health System Reform</td>
<td>2012/012</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Improved Breastfeeding is Urgently Needed to Address Child and Population Health Risks in China</td>
<td>2012/013</td>
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<td>14 Mixed Method Evaluation of the Introduction and Impact of China’s National Essential Medicines Scheme in Three Provinces</td>
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### Other Publications

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<td>1 The State of the World’s Children 2012 (Chinese translation)</td>
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<td>2 CRC and Children’s Rights (in Chinese)</td>
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<td>3 2012 National Report on the Nutritional Status of Children Aged 0-6 Years (in Chinese and English)</td>
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<td>4 Village EPI Doctor Pocket Book (in Mandarin and Tibetan)</td>
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<td>5 Routine EPI Mobilization  (immunization card, pamphlet and poster, in Mandarin and Tibetan)</td>
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<td>6 Eight Stories for Children as part of School Readiness Curriculum (in Chinese)</td>
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<td>7 Blue Book of Special-Post Teachers In China  (in Chinese)</td>
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<td>8 Best Practices of Child Friendly Space (in Chinese)</td>
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<td>12 NPA for 2001-2010 (Facts and Figures, in Chinese and English)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Women and Men in China (Facts and Figures 2012, in Chinese)</td>
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Lessons Learned / Innovation

1 Children with Disabilities in China

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Document Type/Category</th>
<th>MTSP Focus Area or Cross-Cutting Strategy</th>
<th>Related Links</th>
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<td>Lesson Learned</td>
<td>Child Protection from Violence, Abuse and Neglect</td>
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Abstract

There are an estimated 5 million children with disabilities in China, only 2% of whom have access to special care and education that can meet their needs. Many of these children face discrimination. In rural areas, where 80% of children with disabilities live, these children may be regarded as a “shame” or may represent a burden leaving them confined in their homes with their caretakers. These children are often deprived of opportunities to develop to their full potential and participate in society.

The national government has recognised the importance of social welfare services for disabled children as a long-term strategy. The Chinese government revised the Law of the People Republic of China on the Protection of Disabled Persons, and the Ministry of Civil Affairs has been developing community child welfare services in its 12th Five Year Plan. But there is a lack of well-developed mechanisms for implementing the policies. It is critical to develop a demonstrated model to bring sustained systematic change to the care of disabled children in rural areas.

UNICEF works in partnership with the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MCA) to prevent recourse to institutional care and family separation through the establishment and strengthening of community-based day care services, early childhood development services, home care, counselling, psycho-social support and parenting support as well as foster care.

Innovation or Lesson Learned

Marginalization begins at home. Eighty per cent of children with disabilities live in rural areas, where communities still consider disabled children a shame and/or burden. Many disabilities still go undiagnosed or untreated because of a lack of awareness about options and available services. As a result, many families respond to the challenges of raising a disabled child by abandoning him or her. Nonetheless, while services for disabled children are sometimes under-utilised, often they are simply unavailable. An unfortunate gap persists between national policies and entitlements, and local enforcement and implementation. Local operating guidelines, capacity building for care providers, community-based alternative care instead of institutionalization, and support for access to rehabilitation, education and other services are all necessary.

In certain impoverished rural and urban communities, Child Friendly Spaces have evolved towards the delivery of complementary support services to vulnerable children. Child Friendly Spaces, initially introduced as an emergency response, have shown a potential to function as a component in community-based child welfare and protection systems.

A new initiative has been launched to enable people with a disability and their family to have a level of choice and control over their disability supports and services. The challenges are numerous, but contextual factors are favourable, including high-level engagement and expansion of community-based social work. Early inclusion of disability in current social service system strengthening efforts presents a unique opportunity. Yet, the challenges of human resources development and general unavailability of adequate services for children with disabilities cannot be underestimated and will require a mid to long term strategy.

Potential Application
**Issue**

Children with disabilities are often regarded as a “burden” to be hidden away from their own community and society. The discrimination they suffer often leads to poor health, substandard education conditions and low outcomes. Children with disabilities often experience severe difficulties in accessing basic social services and benefits, especially in rural areas, where most of them live. While the majority of children with disabilities live with their families, many children with disabilities are abandoned shortly after birth or diagnosis. An estimated 90% of the 66,000 children living in Child Welfare Institutions across China are children with disabilities.

The SNSSD revealed that among services needed, the medical needs of 40% of children with disabilities, rehabilitation needs of 40% of children with disabilities, and education allowance needs of 13% of children with disabilities were not being met.

Since 1987 (the time of first national sample survey), the overall percentage of children with disabilities enrolled in compulsory education in China increased from 55.2% in 1987 to 62.1% in 2006. The national monitoring reports conducted by CDPF in 2007 and 2008 have demonstrated a further increase in compulsory education enrolment, to 63.8%, for children aged 6-15. Yet, 36.5% of children with disabilities aged at 6–14 years still do not have access to compulsory education compared to 0.1% of non-disabled children (2008). Moreover, the majority of children with disabilities enrolled in compulsory education do not continue their studies beyond primary school education, and girls with disabilities are less likely to be educated than boys with disabilities.

**Strategy and Implementation**

UNICEF China’s child protection section contributes to the improvement of the situation of vulnerable children in China through both upstream and community-based initiatives. Our upstream work involves strengthening the policy, legislative and institutional frameworks for developing, implementing, and monitoring an integrated and comprehensive child protection system that will expand child protection services. To support this initiative, we contribute to building the capacities of professionals who will screen, detect, monitor, report, refer and provide other child protection services. In addition, we are working with the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MCA) to develop national standards and guidelines for social workers qualified to work with children.

We are providing technical support to facilitate inclusion of a clear policy framework into the Child Welfare Act, and we have supported China’s first National Plan of Action on Anti-trafficking. We are also helping to clarify the roles and responsibilities of government departments providing child protection services, as well as assisting to coordinate multi-sectoral child protection responses. Our research, analyses, policy recommendations and advocacy facilitate development of policies that prevent unnecessary family separation, support cash assistance to vulnerable children and orphans, and enhance domestic, community- and family-based alternative care options for children without adult caregivers.

Our downstream work focuses on improving the availability and delivery of family support and community-based child protection services. Our pilot projects promote recognition of the value of family- and community-based services for vulnerable children and their families, social support to assist families in their child-care roles, and specialized protection for vulnerable children.

Our continuous piloting of innovative child welfare and protection models provides an important evidence base for advances in child protection law, policy and service delivery. Our comprehensive child welfare and protection models are important components of China’s process of adopting and implementing a child welfare system, and our demonstration pilots of community-based services to support disabled and vulnerable children have facilitated the development of Chinese policy recognizing that community- and family-based care is best for children.

**Progress and Results**

UNICEF is working in partnership with the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MCA) to establish community-based day care services to prevent recourse to institutional care and family separation through strengthening community-based day care centres, ECD services, home care, counselling, psycho-social and parenting support and foster care. The project helps disabled children in rural areas access quality care, rehabilitation, and development; advocates alternatives to institutional care; and supports family centred child welfare by
Three major lessons were learned from the CFS experience. First, the strength of UNICEF China’s partnership with NWCCW was most important in successful implementation and sustainable adoption of the CSF model. The partnership facilitated effective coordination and communication among stakeholders, fostered a sense of ownership among stakeholders, and stimulated local initiatives.

**Next Steps**

The long term goal and ambition of the UNICEF child protection programme in China is to support the government to establish a basic Child Protection System in the coming years. The focus will be particularly on the policy, community based service, and human resource development. To improve the quality of community based services and availability of adequately staffed services, facilities and information, UNICEF has supported the government in developing technical analysis, studies, guidelines to advance policy and legal framework development. Further, by providing global and local best practise and technical expertise through pilots, UNICEF has continued to contribute to the establishment of professional and child-sensitive social work in China as the country develops policy and national standards on social work professionalization and builds up its social work cadre.

### 2 Child Friendly Spaces in China

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<td>Child Protection from Violence, Abuse and Exploitation; Humanitarian</td>
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**Contact Person**

hayang@unicef.org

**Language**

English

**Emergency Related**

Yes

**Abstract**

In certain impoverished rural and urban communities, Child Friendly Spaces have evolved towards the delivery of complementary support services to vulnerable children. Child Friendly Spaces, initially introduced as an emergency response, have shown a potential to function as a component in community-based child welfare and protection systems. Communities that suffered limited and inequitable access to public services now increasingly enjoy child welfare and protection benefits generated by the CFS. Official acknowledgment that Child Friendly Spaces can have a role in both, emergency situations and child welfare/protection systems is evidence by the inclusion of CFS in China’s National Plan of Action for Children (2011-2020). The latest request by NWCCW for UNICEF to support CFS was in the 2012 Yiliang earthquake zone.

The CFS project worked closely with the Communication Section in the use of social media to advocate for children’s rights and communicate key information on child welfare and protection across millions of people. In Sichuan, Yushu and Yiliang, real-time tweeting through Weibo (both Sina and Tencent) helped to communicate with the public about services provided by CFS and child welfare/protection issues.

**Innovation or Lesson Learned**

Three major lessons were learned from the CFS experience. First, the strength of UNICEF China’s partnership with NWCCW was most important in successful implementation and sustainable adoption of the CSF model. The partnership facilitated effective coordination and communication among stakeholders, fostered a sense of ownership among stakeholders, and stimulated local initiatives.
Second, establishment of volunteer Children’s Committees and Parents’ Committees galvanized participation by children and parents in Child Friendly Spaces. Third, the integration of international best practices with local innovations and contextually appropriate practices supported effective, culturally-appropriate service delivery that met community needs.

**Potential Application**

**Issue**

On 12 May 2008, a massive earthquake measuring 8.0 on the Richter scale struck Wenchuan County in Sichuan Province. The earthquake had a devastating impact on children, women and families. UNICEF and NWCCW worked together to establish Child Friendly Spaces and deliver psychosocial and other support services to affected children.

**Strategy and Implementation**

Four years of experience with Child Friendly Space have led to both policy change and improved availability and delivery of community-based family and child support/protection services. CFS have been able to improve their service delivery capacity through formulation and delivery of a core package of support services, and improvements in community outreach functions. A strong partnership with NWCCW at all levels was the most important factor in successful implementation and towards sustainable adoption of the model. The CFS concept operates under three different models: a) under the direct supervision of the local WCCW; b) in collaboration with local primary schools or kindergartens; and c) in collaboration with local community organizations. Presently, in the former Sichuan earthquake zone, the Child Friendly Spaces are managed by the Sichuan Provincial Working Committee on Children and Women (SWCCW) in collaboration with local government authorities under the overall coordination of the National Working Committee on Children and Women (NWCCW) and with technical and financial support from UNICEF.

A Project Steering Group (PSG) consisting of representatives from UNICEF, NWCCW and SWCCW advises on the strategic development of CFS based on information and recommendations collected at the provincial and community level through quarterly meetings and regular communications. Smooth collaboration facilitated effective coordination and communication amongst all stakeholders ensuring effective operation and management of the CFS. Strong partnership between UNICEF and NWCCW facilitated local ownership at provincial, prefecture, county and township level WCCWs.

Participation has been another critical element of success. Children’s Committees (child volunteer groups), Parents’ Committees and multi-departmental coordination meetings have helped to create an enabling and supporting environment for CFS.

**Progress and Results**

Children affected by earthquakes in Yushu, Yiliang and throughout the 2008 Sichuan earthquake zone have benefited from services from CFS.

UNICEF supported documentation of CFS project experiences and best practices. During the past three years, UNICEF has supported MCA to collect key developments in social work theory and practice in Wenchuan earthquake relief. In 2012, these were compiled in a publication titled Social Work in Emergencies.

UNICEF provided technical expertise and capacity building in an Emergency Preparedness Training organized by MOH in the Sichuan provincial capital of Chengdu and in an APEC Seminar on Capacity Building in Disaster Recovery hosted by MCA/APEC and NDRCC. The training aimed to link child protection and health work during emergency and reconstruction phases. At the APEC Seminar, UNICEF presented the positive outcomes of CFS in earthquake-affected areas and their potential for leading to sustainable child protection mechanisms.

UNICEF provided support for the set-up of new CFS sites in response to the Yiliang earthquake. Moving ahead, UNICEF will continue to provide further technical assistance, field monitoring and capacity building to CFS sites.
Next Steps

The Child Friendly Space model has demonstrated that it is possible, even in hard-to-reach rural areas where limited services are available, to “build back better” and establish micro child welfare services providing basic social work through outreach and referral. UNICEF works closely with NWCCW to document best practices and lessons learnt and guide replication, starting with a few pilots in Hebei, Jiangsu and Zhejiang. Presently, 36 CFS continue to deliver child-friendly services in rural Sichuan with local government funding and technical support from UNICEF. NWCCW works with UNICEF to leverage local government funding to ensure the replication and sustainability of Child Friendly Spaces.

The long term goal and ambition of the UNICEF child protection programme in China is to support the government to establish a basic Child Protection System in the coming years. The focus will be particularly on the policy, community-based services, and human resource development. This will include support to the issuance of a number of key pieces of legislation and policies, expansion of good practice of family support and community-based services in China’s 50,000 townships, and contributions to the development of 200,000 child focused social workers.

3 Mobile phones as data collection tools

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<tr>
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Contact Person
rscherpbier@unicef.org
English

Abstract

Surveys are usually conducted with paper questionnaires that need to be (double) entered into electronic format, cleaned and subsequently analysed. We used mobile phones to collect and upload data, thus avoiding the need for double data entry and data cleaning. Results for 4,394 children were available within 2 weeks after the survey.

Innovation or Lesson Learned

Preliminary results of the large-scale application of smartphones for data collection were similar to results published earlier this year from a small-scale survey, quoted below (Zhang et al. J Med Internet Res 2012;14(5):e119): “The smartphone questionnaires were automatically uploaded and no data entry errors occurred. We found that even after double data entry of the pen-and-paper questionnaires, 65% of the questionnaires did not match and needed to be checked. The mean duration of an interview was similar between smartphone and pen-and-paper. The mean costs per questionnaire were higher for the smartphone questionnaire (¥143, equal to US $23 at the exchange rate on April 24, 2012) than for the pen-and-paper questionnaire (¥83, equal to US $13). While the costs for the smartphone method were higher than the pen-and-paper method in our small-scale survey, the costs for both methods would be similar for a large-scale survey. Smartphone data collection should be further evaluated for other surveys and on a larger scale to deliver maximum benefits in China and elsewhere.”

Potential Application

While the use of mobile phones was considered useful by surveyors and end users of study results, the small size of the phone screens slowed down the application of questionnaires. In future surveys, the use of tables needs to be considered.

Issue

We used mobile phones for data collection for a nutrition survey (a standardised UNICEF/WHO adaptation for sub-national use of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey) in poor counties in Qinghai province.
Strategy and Implementation

See above.

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<td><a href="mailto:rscherpbier@unicef.org">rscherpbier@unicef.org</a></td>
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Abstract

More and more countries are moving towards polio eradication, and elimination of maternal and newborn tetanus (MNTE) or measles. China has valuable lessons to share on polio eradication and MNTE.

Innovation or Lesson Learned

The recurrence of polio in Xinjiang has provided us with three powerful lessons:

1) In spite of the tremendous successes of China’s immunization services, there is no room for complacency. Immunization activities should remain a visible, public health priority with routine vaccination programmes maintained and strengthened in order to continue to prevent avoidable death and disability.

2) Pockets of unimmunized children continue to exist. They are concentrated in China’s border areas, among ethnic minorities and among urban migrant children. This is where an equity focus is critically important. Identification of those most difficult to reach children requires redoubled social mobilization efforts, often involving traditional village and religious leaders. The equity focus can be more expensive, but the pay-off in health dividends is also much greater.

3) The polio campaigns in Hetian, Kashgar, Bazhou and Aksu have provided us with a number of lessons learned: on how to improve surveillance, in health worker preparedness for side effects, and in social mobilization and communication for development.

Potential Application

These successful campaigns now need to be transformed into sustainable routine immunization programmes to ensure further reduction of hepatitis B transmission and measles eradication. In turn, many of these lessons can be applied to remaining public health challenges facing China: ensuring universal birth registration, high coverage of breastfeeding, appropriate feeding for pregnant women and children and effective child injury prevention and control.

Issue

China was first declared free from endemic polio in the year 2000. In spite of China’s near universal immunization coverage rates, progress is uneven and gaps exist in coverage, in particular in western provinces and border areas. This made an outbreak of wild poliovirus, imported from Pakistan, possible.

Strategy and Implementation

Highest level policy support from the Minister of Health, Vice Ministers and heads of UN agencies assured attention to key polio activities, including: (1) improved Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) surveillance with zero case reporting, (2) improved social mobilization and Communication for Development (C4D), (3) improved quality of vaccination activities, and 4) improved OPV coverage and outbreak evaluation. An impressive feature of the response was the wide array of stakeholders, including the Bureau of Religious Affairs, the Propaganda, Radio and Television Bureau, local media, village and religious leaders, coordinated by the Ministry of Health with UNICEF support, to reach the most vulnerable families and children.
Progress and Results

The C4D concept and methodology was successfully applied in the polio vaccination campaigns in Hotan county in Xinjiang province to improve immunization coverage and stop the circulation of wild polio virus. Field investigation in the predominantly Muslim communities indicated the importance of involving religious leaders to deliver polio and health messages to Muslim men and their communities at Friday prayers. Senior religious leaders at provincial level participated in the C4D training and core message dissemination through mass media channels. Local theatre artists developed a travelling road show with sketches, folk songs, dance, and drama, that involved and attracted local minorities on its awareness tour to large communities. Smaller communities were reached by disseminating DVDs of the taped road show. Children from schools and communities participated in social mobilization activities through a TV quiz and polio and health knowledge quizzes were held in communities.

Next Steps

China is moving towards the "polio endgame. Next steps in implementation include moving away from Supplementary Immunization Activities (SIAs) and strengthening routine immunization. Introduction of an early dose of injectable poliovirus vaccine (IPV) and bivalent oral poliovirus vaccine (bOPV) to prevent Vaccine Derived Polio Virus from starting to circulate and Vaccine Associated Paralytic Polio from happening.

5 Strategies for improving ANC, PMTCT and paediatric services in the context of HIV/AIDS

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<td><a href="mailto:epoirot@unicef.org">epoirot@unicef.org</a></td>
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Abstract

China is a country where HIV is currently spreading predominantly among vulnerable and at-risk groups. The percentage of HIV+ pregnant women identified has increased from 20% in 2009 to 65% in 2012. We can see progress in coverage and uptake of ANC and PMTCT services, but women at greatest risk of infection with HIV are often neglected.

Innovation or Lesson Learned

In partnership with MOH, UNICEF supported advocacy for strengthening the health system to eliminate paediatric HIV infection, particularly to:

- Increase coverage and quality of antenatal care services and of attended deliveries to improve maternal healthcare.
- Strengthen policy commitments, including resources, for comprehensive approaches to HIV prevention and care for mothers and children. PMTCT is now one of the top priorities and the national budget for PMTCT is over USD 120 million.
- Expand the services of PMTCT of HIV to prevention of vertical transmission of three diseases (HIV, syphilis and HBV).
- Strengthen effective governance, financial and delivery arrangements within health systems and social protection system, and ensure effective implementation strategies.
- Strengthen access to family planning for all women, including young, marginalized and vulnerable women.
- Integrate packages for maternal, newborn and child health care within a gradually strengthened primary health care system, in order to improve continuity of care, including access to basic referral care before and during pregnancy, birth, the postpartum period, and throughout childhood.
Potential Application

Issue
In the past 5 years, there have been three major shifts in the predominant route of HIV transmission in China: from injecting drug use to sexual transmission, from high-risk groups to the general population, and from predominantly rural areas to both rural and urban areas. Heterosexual transmission accounted for 52% of the 48,000 new infections in 2011. Feminization of the epidemic is also taking place in China. Women aged 15 and above accounted for 15% of the people living with HIV in China in 1998, but accounted for 29% of the estimated 780,000 people living with HIV in China in 2011. The number of people affected by HIV/AIDS continues to rise, with average annual increases in reported HIV infections and AIDS deaths totalling 15% and 25%, respectively, due to low coverage of prevention and treatment efforts.

Based on the HIV/AIDS surveillance data from Sichuan, Xinjiang and Yunnan, some population groups are disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, STDs, and TB. Differences may occur by gender, ethnicity, education, income, disability, geographic location, and sexual orientation, among others. Social determinants of health like poverty, unequal access to healthcare, lack of education, and stigma are linked to health disparities. It is important to examine the structural drivers of health disparities in addition to individual behaviours. Social determinants comprise a complex, integrated, and overlapping set of social structures and economic systems, and have been shown to influence health outcomes, and may have a tremendous impact on the health of a society and of an individual.

Strategy and Implementation
Health-seeking behaviour research conducted in partnership with the Ministry of Health will help to design further strategies to provide ANC, PMTCT and paediatric services. The research report explains how these essential health services have to be linked to improving maternal health, reducing child mortality and eliminating paediatric HIV. To eliminate paediatric HIV will require a complete, integrated approach to providing family planning, maternal and child health, and HIV-related services for all HIV-affected individuals and families.

6 ICT to reach adolescents with HIV/STI/SRH counselling and referral

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Abstract
In a country of 1.3 billion people, a low HIV epidemic and high stigma/taboo around open discussion of HIV and sexuality, ensuring young people’s access to quality HIV-SRH services requires an approach that is sensitive to the needs of young key affected populations (YKAPs), cost-effective, and capable of real-time data. The use of internet and communication technologies (ICT) may offer an opportunity.

Innovation or Lesson Learned
Young people have demonstrated enormous creativity and energy in innovative use of ICT in HIV knowledge sharing, skills building and skills promotion. How to harness this power, channel it for upstream work, and create better linkage with services will require further exploration. The opportunity for data collection, especially on YKAPs should be explored.
ICT has shown great potential in reaching youth on a “sensitive” subject matter, that is fast, cost effective and youth friendly.
Progress has been made at small scale, but on a national scale, the internet is still looked at as something potentially dangerous and hard to control, or ICT as a one-way information dissemination process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential Application</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application of ICT-based health service promotion for other service recipients and in other health related issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1) Complete the on-going setup of ICT-driven youth HIV-SRH counselling platform, and ensure built-in data collection and feedback;</td>
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<td>2) Documentation of small progresses/challenges at national and local level for timely scale up or adjustment.</td>
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<th>Issue</th>
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<td>China’s HIV epidemic, at 0.058% of the total population, remains one of low prevalence overall, but with pockets of high infection rates among specific sub-populations. In 2011, sexual transmission accounted for around 76.3% of the newly reported HIV infections, up from 33.1% in 2006.</td>
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<td>Infection among youth 15—24 is on a steady increase. From January to October 2012, there were a total of 9,514 reported cases, a 12.8% increase compared to the same period in 2011.</td>
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<th>Strategy and Implementation</th>
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<td>Building on previous progress with youth participation in HIV prevention with the Youth Ambassador network, UNICEF is working with MOH’s China Centre for Health Education to explore the use of ICT to reach adolescents and youth with HIV-STI-SRH counselling and referral to testing and treatment, and to enable youth networking on working in communities and among peers. Specifically, the programme explores:</td>
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<td>1) Promotion of the existing telephone HIV/SRH hotline run by Youth Ambassadors via tweeting (Weibo), and migration onto a web-platform to provide counselling on HIV-STI-SRH, and referral to testing/counselling services run by the Government and CBOs (especially for YKAPs);</td>
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<td>2) GIS marking of VCT sites and CBO community rapid testing, accessible via internet and mobile phones, to be made available for promotion via e-incentives (QR codes, e-coupons, etc.) with data collection;</td>
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<td>3) Knowledge based with youth friendly content and format, supplemented with expert-monitored online discussions and polls;</td>
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<td>4) At provincial level, Youth Ambassadors connect with peers and share information on locally available youth friendly services.</td>
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<th>Progress and Results</th>
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<td>A partnership has been developed among UNICEF, MoH and a major internet portal to set up a web platform for the aforementioned functions. So far, a national mini-video contest has been launched on World AIDS Day to collect youth ideas on HIV and STI prevention, their needs and barriers on services, and ideas on how to encourage peers to get tested. GIS marking of services has been completed for major cities. The online counseling will be launched by end-2012.</td>
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<td>At sub-national level, tweeting among youth and with the Youth Ambassador network has doubled call-ins of the youth telephone hotline. Moreover, Youth Ambassador-run HIV discussion, sharing and service promotion integrating online and offline activities have demonstrated some good initial results, with one mini-video made by Youth Ambassadors reaching 300,000 hits in less than 3 days.</td>
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