

Colombia

Executive Summary

In 2015, UNICEF Colombia supported Colombia's children, communities, civil society and authorities in the difficult transition between humanitarian response and the longer-term processes of development. Even while actively engaged in delicate negotiations with armed actors, the Colombian Government charted a course for productive, equitable development with peace. UNICEF Colombia forged a role for itself as advisor, advocate and gadfly to the authorities, to ensure that children's rights and welfare is paramount as the country sits poised on the brink of peace.

A major part of 2015 was dedicated to the situation analysis and dialogue with partners from Government, UN agencies and civil society in order to draft the Country Programme Document (CPD) and Action Plan for 2015-2019. Dialogue with national authorities was fluid, constant and productive, jointly identifying priorities for UNICEF Colombia's multi-year cooperation strategy. The analysis highlighted UNICEF Colombia's vital role in bringing together partners to work specifically on child protection, inclusive education, survival and development, social inclusion and the monitoring of child rights. At the same time, 2015 marked the final year of the past CPD (2008-2015), showing the cumulative results from UNICEF Colombia's multi-year efforts. Much of the year was devoted to assessing the achieved results, implementing exit strategies and transitioning to the next cooperation cycle.

In 2015, UNICEF Colombia contributed to national policies and agreements in collaboration with multiple actors that transformed knotty problems into practical solutions with high impact at local levels. Thus, for example, the collaboration with two inter-sectoral commissions on early childhood development (ECD) and on the prevention of recruitment and use of children, produced valuable workable programmes like Seres de Cuidado ("Caregivers") in which UNICEF Colombia trained 8,200 community workers who supported 12,800 families and 61,000 children under six years old. The Entornos Protectores programme ("Protective Environments") has reached 140,000 children and adolescents since 2008, who have learned to build a future far removed from the dangers of armed conflict. Both programmes were applied in targeted municipalities and then appropriated by local and national authorities. UNICEF Colombia worked with the National Directorate of Mine Action on mine-risk education activities, developing models for three contexts: emergency situations, school environments and humanitarian demining. The first has been officially adopted as national policy.

Schools are the most appropriate social institution at local level for engaging in peace-building, and UNICEF Colombia seized on education as a means to construct a culture of peace for stable, long-term development, particularly in communities with weak social indicators communities. UNICEF Colombia's work with the National Ministry of Education (MEN) implemented practical models for promoting quality education, ethno-education, environment-protective educational institutions and minimum standards for boarding schools. These models were carried out with ten Secretariats of Education and 200 schools in ten different departments and municipalities, collectively integrating all three pillars of the Government's new National Development Plan (NDP): equity, peace and education.

In the area of policy dialogue and advocacy, UNICEF Colombia played a major technical and political role in the national process of rendering how effective public accounts are in development plans, focusing on the analysis of children's issues. UNICEF Colombia provided technical tools and guidelines to mayors and governors to enable them to report achievements and shortfalls in guaranteeing children's rights. A major accomplishment was reached when a consensus was achieved with the Colombian Family Welfare Institute (Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar, hereafter referred to ICBF), UNICEF Colombia's national counterpart, on how to strengthen capacity and processes within the National System of Family Welfare.

In terms of knowledge generation, UNICEF Colombia produced evidence on critical issues for children, including: an analysis of the architecture, costs and gaps in the child protection system; the replication of a pilot strategy to prevent commercial sexual exploitation of children; and a toolbox to help private enterprise engagement in children's rights. UNICEF Colombia adapted the new global system Information for Risk Management (INFORM) to the Colombian context, creating a national version of the index, and further consolidated and decentralized its hallmark database, Information System on Children (SINFONIA).

UNICEF Colombia struggled to integrate its disparate sectoral interventions at field level in prioritized communities. This difficulty stems from the sector-specific programmatic approach, as well as the tendency of major donors to earmark funds for specific issues. UNICEF Colombia continues to grapple with the challenge of ensuring sustainable efforts at national and local levels in the face of constant turnover among government officials and political instability.

Despite the local socio-economic context, the Country Office (CO) was able to significantly increase income from local Private Fundraising and Partnerships (PFP).

Humanitarian Assistance

Within the context of a 50 year-old armed conflict, UNICEF Colombia used Central Emergency Response Funds (CERF) in 2015 to respond to key humanitarian needs in four departments chosen due to their particular vulnerability and exposure. In Putumayo department, UNICEF Colombia established protective environments at community level in two municipalities to prevent the recruitment of children into armed groups. The programme used sports and education in emergencies to enable 429 girls, 602 boys and their families to create life-projects far removed from armed violence. In the same department, WASH activities improved the survival prospects of approximately 1,800 children and their families, notwithstanding violent conflict and flooding (which temporarily interrupted activities). In Arauca department, UNICEF Colombia carried out mine risk education for 10,000 people in three municipalities and supported mine accident victims throughout Colombia. In Choco department, UNICEF Colombia implemented water infrastructure and nutrition programmes to benefit largely indigenous communities in the Bajo Baudó región, including 3,700 children and adolescents. WASH and nutrition projects were also implemented at village level in Cauca department, coordinating sectoral interventions in an area of extreme instability. At least 2,000 people benefited from the actions.

Colombia is beset annually by smaller emergencies of various types, not directly related to the conflict. During 2015, UNICEF Colombia responded to three crises within the overall complex humanitarian emergency: a mudslide in Salgar, Antioquia; a massive displacement situation in Norte de Santander; and a drought emergency in La Guajira. In Salgar municipality, sudden

intense rains on 18 May produced a massive flood and mud-slide burying an entire village, killing 78 persons and leaving hundreds homeless, including dozens of children, in the worst natural disaster since the 1999 Armenia earthquake. UNICEF Colombia responded to a request from the Department of Antioquia by training local authorities in the “Return to Happiness” technique of psychosocial recovery for children, and provided printed materials for use in the process.

On 19 August 2015, the Venezuelan Government initiated a progressive closure of the entire border to separate the two countries, affecting long-term Colombian residents in Venezuela. Some 1,800 civilians were forcibly expelled and over 20,000 persons fled with few belongings into four Colombian departments along the border, with the vast majority settling in Cucuta, capital of Norte de Santander Department. In response to the Government's request, UNICEF Colombia organized humanitarian aid for children, adolescents, women and men housed in 20 shelters, providing WASH materials, repair of sanitation infrastructure, psychosocial/recreational activities for children and educational support including “Return to Happiness” in shelters and surrounding schools.

Finally, the worst El Niño phenomenon in forty years severely affected La Guajira Department on the northeast coast, intensifying several years of sustained drought. UNICEF Colombia responded with WASH, nutrition and child survival interventions, addressing the needs of children under five years old, who are traditionally the most vulnerable in such emergencies.

In coordination with OCHA and the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office (LACRO), the CO made a country adaptation of the global Index for Risk Management (InfoRM). The index ranked all departments and districts of the country according to levels of risk, coping capacities, threats, and vulnerability. Both general and child-specific indexes were calculated and used for geographical prioritization.

In practical terms, it is problematic to distinguish which UNICEF Colombia's 2015 work plan activities were specifically humanitarian in nature and which were development-oriented. UNICEF Colombia strategically addresses the underlying structural causes of the humanitarian emergency (e.g., violence, disparity, lack of participation) while working on response to crises. Thus, for instance, UNICEF Colombia's emergency interventions on behalf of children in rural boarding schools in Putumayo Department led to an in-depth analysis of their situation. The findings and recommendations, shared with the MEN were used to design new standards for boarding schools in both humanitarian and longer-term development contexts. These standards are now promulgated by the National Government. The net effect of this linkage between humanitarian and development activities was to foster resilience among the target populations. Colombia participated in a global study of the linkage between humanitarian and development activities, coordinated by UNICEF Headquarters. As one of only four country offices visited by the consultants, UNICEF Colombia was recognized as having successfully implemented strategies that facilitate the linkage, using emergencies as "entry points" to enhance normal programming. This was especially noted in supporting out-of-school children and in fomenting community-based nutritional care.

Mid-term Review of the Strategic Plan

The CO continues fulfilling the ‘core business of UNICEF Colombia in Latin American and Caribbean (LAC)’, to monitor the situation of children in all its aspects as well as monitor the implementation of recommendations of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). A

substantive part of UNICEF Colombia supported actions aims at influencing (sub-) national policies and programmes. Where needed, this work is complemented with the implementation of model projects at the sub-national level, particularly in selected areas where the most disadvantaged populations are living. Emphasis on the combination of 'upstream' policy and sub-national modelling in middle-income countries encourages learning from and obtaining evidence from local experience, used to design and strengthen national policies and programmes.

The programmatic role of UNICEF Colombia is evolving and addressing emerging issues that affect the rights of girls, boys and adolescents. Emerging issues that are not fully mentioned in the Strategic Plan include: a) the emerging health agenda: health systems strengthening, non-communicable diseases, obesity, adolescent health, b) integrated early childhood development (ECD), c) secondary education: specifically attention to the high drop-out rates of boys in secondary education, and attention to enhancing inter-cultural (bilingual) education; and d) prevention of adolescent pregnancy and its connection to addressing (sexual) violence against girls. The Strategic Plan could better reflect these issues with specific results and indicators. A review of the PIDB coding to adequately reflect that emerging programme issues are adequately reflected is recommended. This will also allow for better reporting on results and funding.

Several programmes have identified, as part of the analysis of barriers and bottlenecks, the need to address social norms and therefore include a component of Communication for Development (C4D). This is currently not a strategy in the Strategic Plan and it is suggested to re-introduce it as a UNICEF corporate strategy, which will also better reflect and report the type of on-going work by using C4D approaches. At the same time, south-south cooperation (SSC) is on-going with other countries in the region and beyond. Based on the 2030 agenda and the evolving changes in the aid environment, the application of this strategy is expected to continue. However, so far it has been difficult to demonstrate UNICEF Colombia's value added to obtaining specific results for children through the SSC. Therefore, it is recommended to continue with efforts, also as part of the MTR of the Strategic Plan, in providing global tools for measuring the results of SSC. Linked to SSC is also the need to strengthen our knowledge management function. Although efforts are made at CO-level, it is also recommended to increase global efforts to strengthen the knowledge management function. This could also include increased emphasis on supporting evaluation of (sub-) national policies and programmes rather than focusing on UNICEF Colombia programmes only. With limited resources available, a shift in attention to the type of evaluations expected is suggested.

Finally, the CO faced resource constraints. While income from PFP has been growing, and increasingly such resources are re-distributed in the region through the Regional Thematic Fund, there's still a high dependency on income from the Regional Thematic Fund, Global Thematic Funds and Global Set-Aside funding (in addition to Regular Resource allocation). With such income, UNICEF Colombia is still in the position to deliver substantive results, exercise its mandate and address inequities in the country.

Summary Notes and Acronyms

APX/IXO/IED Anti-personnel mines, unexploded ordinance and improvised explosive devices
CERF Central Emergency Relief Fund
CMT Country Management Team
CO Country Office
CPD Country Programme Document
C4D Communication for Development

CSE Conflict Sensitive Education
 ECD Early Childhood Development
 FARC-EP Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia - Ejercito del Pueblo; Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces - People's Army
 GSSC Global Shared Services Centre
 IMEP Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
 HACT Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers
 ICBF Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar; Colombian Family Welfare Institute
 ICT Information, communications, and technology
 IDE Indice del Derecho a la Educacion; Right to Education Index
 IPSAS International Public Sector Accounting Standards
 LAC Latin America and the Caribbean
 LACRO Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office
 LTC Local Training Committee
 MEN Ministry of Education
 M&E Monitoring and Evaluation
 NGO Non-Governmental Organization
 NDP National Development Plan
 OCHA Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
 OR Other Resources
 PAS Performance Appraisal System
 PFP Private Fundraising and Partnerships
 RR Regular Resources
 SINFONIA Information System for Children and Adolescents
 SSC South-South Cooperation
 UNDSS United Nations Department of Safety and Security
 UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund
 WASH Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Capacity Development

UNICEF Colombia devoted significant effort in 2015 to strengthen the functional capacities of local authorities to render public accounts in favour of children's rights. This year was the last year of the governing term of current mayors and governors. In the 1,157 jurisdictions of the country (comprising both municipalities and departments), the local authorities were obliged by law to provide an overview of how development plans, public policies and social budgets contributed to guaranteeing children's rights. Within the national alliance, Hechos y Derechos ("Deeds and Rights"), UNICEF Colombia supported a comprehensive strategy for capacity strengthening of mayors and governors to push forward this process of Public Rendering of Accounts. Specifically, UNICEF Colombia worked in five prioritized departments, the capital city and 15 municipalities.

The strategy operated on two levels, national and sub-national. At the national level, the CO supported the design of the following inputs for capacity development: i) guidelines and a toolkit about the four phases of the process (awareness raising and readiness; data generation and analysis; public hearings, and sustainability and evaluation of the process); ii) dissemination of the guidelines and toolkit among governors from all 32 departments and mayors from all municipalities; iii) organization of a training of trainers for 130 facilitators throughout the country; iv) organization of one meeting of Departmental Secretaries of Government, Planning and Social Development (232 persons) and one meeting of Departmental Secretaries of Finance (50 persons); v) technical assistance and follow-up support through four working groups. The

working groups covered the issues of data management, social expenditures for children, and children's participation. At the sub-national level, the CO helped to develop 55 department-level workshops and one district-level workshop, with the participation of 89 per cent of municipalities across the country, at which over 6,500 departmental and municipal public servants were trained.

Evidence Generation, Policy Dialogue and Advocacy

In 2015, UNICEF Colombia led two major processes---dialogue and policy advocacy---based on the analysis of data and the generation of new evidence on the situation of children's rights. Working through the national alliance "Education, a Commitment for All", UNICEF Colombia supported the conceptual and methodological update of the IDE. This index catalysed a national and subnational dialogue about the meaning of education as a human right and how it must be measured to verify its effective realization. The IDE encompasses four basic characteristics of education: availability, accessibility, adaptability and acceptability. Available information allowed the alliance to calculate the IDE value for each of the 95 certified Secretariats of Education extant in the country. The data produced served to inform the public rendering of accounts made by local authorities. The conceptual framework of the IDE was also used by the MEN to define the minimum content that new incoming mayors and governors must produce at the beginning of their administration in 2016, on the situation of the right to education in their localities. In 2016, the IDE will be used as an input in the drafting of the Ten Year Education National Plan.

SINFONIA (the Information System for Children and Adolescents) continued to expand to 14 million pieces of data and 131 indicators, disaggregated for 32 departments and 1,102 municipalities. Data from local sources are gathered from micro-territories (counties, towns and villages); to achieve this, UNICEF Colombia developed participatory methodologies of data collection and identification of micro-territories at community level. The data bases of their sub-national SINFONIAS now have local and geo-referenced information about the supply of basic services for children, an input that will be useful in the planning process of the new governors and mayors in 2016.

Partnerships

UNICEF Colombia developed two main strategic partnerships with the private sector in 2015. The first one was with Olimpica, the third biggest retail company in the country, and the second with the Familia company that comprises eight different brands in personal care and hygiene, with a business presence in over 20 countries of the Americas. The partnership with Olimpica involved its philanthropic foundation and resulted in a grant to support UNICEF Colombia's "Seres de Cuidado" ("Caregivers") strategy in the coming years. This strategy implements a comprehensive approach to support families and caregivers in developing adequate practices in child development, including health, nutrition, and hygiene. The strategy also includes direct support to education agents and systematic monitoring of the progress achieved with families. As of today, the partnership has generated US\$ 200,000 that allowed UNICEF Colombia to scale up the aforementioned strategy with the active involvement of the Government, particularly the ICBF (Colombian Family Welfare Institute). The strategy, originally implemented in Quibdó, has now been extended to the departments of La Guajira and Córdoba. To date, significant short-term changes were achieved in the rearing and care practices of over 2,000 children under five years old.

The second partnership resulted in a three-year agreement with the Familia business group,

specifically with its Pequeñín Brand of baby care. This partnership initially mobilized approximately US\$ 180,000. The agreement also foresees three additional funding channels: i) an arrangement whereby Pequeñín Brand donates a portion of sales of its products to UNICEF Colombia nutritional initiatives; ii)) internal donor campaigns among Familia employees; and, iii) direct communication with Familia customers to ask them to support UNICEF Colombia's initiatives. These two initiatives provided numerous lessons to CO staff in how best to engage private sector.

Moreover, the CO participated in a global study on extractive industries, coordinated by UNICEF Headquarters.

External Communication and Public Advocacy

The CO strategy for communications is based on the analysis of both the situation of children and the current political dialogue in the country. The main objective is to better position UNICEF Colombia to carry out political advocacy, promote social mobilization and facilitate fundraising in favour of children's interests. In this vein, the CO established an alliance with Facebook, the first of its kind within the region to strengthen children's rights through innovative platforms. This included the design and launch of three websites: the Facts for Life and Rights mini-site, a website on the situation of children and a desktop and mobile version of the YoProtejo platform. The CO also updated WebUNICEF Colombia, and visits to the site grew by 39 per cent (largely from mobile devices). UNICEF Colombia's audience on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook increased by 23 per cent, 101 per cent and 43 per cent respectively.

An agreement was reached with Caracol Radio, one of Colombia's two major radio stations, to sensitize general audiences about child rights and to support the goal of 100,000 donations by 2017. UNICEF Colombia supported the editing and dissemination of UN position statements on announcements by the Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces/People's Army (FARC-EP) regarding children in conflict. A standardized campaign for emergencies was also developed. Dissemination of UNICEF Colombia strategies were supported by 12 celebrities and the CO actively participated in a regional initiative of the children's programme "Sesame Street. The CO supported the UN Respira Paz campaign and integrated its own Paz a La Joven initiative into this campaign.

With news stories such as BBC's piece on mine risk education in Colombia (the most widely viewed/listened to media story aired that day) or the national global campaign such as #ActúaContraLoInjusto ("Fight Unfair"), media coverage generated 400 million positive views of UNICEF Colombia, valued at US\$ 9.6 million worth of traditional and digital media communications.

South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation

In 2015, a regional coordination process was launched in the Triple Border region of Colombia, Brazil and Peru, to strengthen the response to commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking of girls, boys and adolescents. The agreement reached among the authorities of the three countries was technically led by UNICEF Colombia, with the involvement of NGOs, and resulted in a work plan that includes progress on: a) analysis of the dynamics of exploitation and trafficking along the Amazon Border and b) diagnosis of the legislation, existing agreements and support services for protection and care in each country. These tasks are already providing a baseline to identify the scale of the problem and continue to promote a regional response to commercial sexual exploitation. The initiative takes into consideration the different needs of

indigenous populations, urban and rural communities, with a gender and life-cycle focus. The agreement was signed by the Colombian Police, ICBF and UNICEF Colombia; police attaches from Ecuador, Panama and Peru; and the Brazilian embassy. The context for the signature by so many partners was the Fourth International Symposium on Comprehensive Protection of Girls, Boys and Adolescents, entitled “Secure Borders for Children”.

UNICEF Colombia and UNICEF Ecuador jointly facilitated technical cooperation between the two countries on the issue of monitoring and evaluation of national development plans and social policies regarding children's rights. The planning institutions of both governments were able to exchange practical knowledge on how to create and maintain friendly platforms to follow-up public policies for children.

UNICEF Colombia, in close coordination with Colombian Government, supported cooperation missions by two additional countries: Morocco, with focus on education, and the Philippines, on ECD.

Identification and Promotion of Innovation

UNICEF Colombia provided technical support to the Directorate of Comprehensive Action against Anti-personnel Landmines (DAICMA) in developing the “Model of Intervention for Mine Risk Education (MRE) in Situations of Emergency.” MRE seeks to generate safe behaviours among the civilian population faced with the presence of anti-personnel mines, unexploded ordnance and improvised explosive devices (APM/UXO/IED). The model, tested in 11 departments throughout the country in communities affected by the presence of explosive devices and at permanent risk of an accident, was assessed jointly with local implementing partners. One of the main conclusions of the assessment was that the model is adaptable to local contexts, makes use of local capacities and shows tangible results in improving knowledge, attitudes and practices about safe behaviours. The activities developed centred on the adoption of a competency for self-protection called “I take care of myself and I take care of others.” This competency is taught by facilitators who are from the affected communities themselves and were trained to impart information and evaluate results. Replication of the activities is carried-out based on a community-level diagnostic test. As of today, approximately 104,000 children, adolescents and community members have increased capacity to protect themselves against the risk of APM/UXO/IED.

Participation of local governments is key to implementing this strategy, given that the responsibility for the monitoring and sustainability of Mine Risk Education (MRE) actions falls to municipal mayors. The mayors are expected to designate one of their staff to participate in and actively follow the development of all activities. Sustainability is not based solely on the facilitators trained within the community itself, but also on the inclusion of MRE in municipal planning tools (e.g., local development plans) and on building with the community local “roadmaps” for assistance in the face of future emergencies related to explosive devices.

Support to Integration and cross-sectoral linkages

Within the framework of the Business Principles (2011), UNICEF Colombia helped create an innovative partnership between ICBF and Compartamos con Colombia, a non-profit organization comprising the philanthropic activities of different national and international businesses. The partners identified concerns and capacities of the private sector, national Government and civil society organizations to implement joint initiatives related to children's issues. The partnership then produced a self-assessment tool that allows companies and industries to identify and mitigate potential risks and impacts that their actions may have for

children and adolescents.

In the design phase of the tool, UNICEF Colombia convened different types of actors such as corporate unions and civil society organizations to understand how to measure and better control the risks towards children that businesses create or reinforce. In the application stage, companies from diverse economic industries—e.g., the livestock sector, hygiene and baby care, and travel support services—were able to identify the potential risks that they were creating for children and adolescents, and the possible work plans they can follow to mitigate them. The self-assessment tool has already shown itself to be practical, user-friendly and acceptable to different types of businesses.

The alliance convened areas of ICBF, which is a highly complex institution, with UNICEF Colombia and private sector actors to coordinate their actions for children within the framework of the National Action Plan for Business and Human Rights, recently signed by the Government.

Service Delivery

In terms of service delivery, UNICEF Colombia focused on developing tools and strategies that help authorities meet basic standards and minimal benchmarks related to the direct provision of services, products and processes that are particularly important to the most vulnerable children in the country. Such tools and strategies include capacity-building initiatives and institutional strengthening of communities to achieve efficiency and effectiveness in the adequate supply and sustained demand to basic social services. There are three salient examples in which UNICEF Colombia contributed to the improvement of service delivery for the most excluded and vulnerable children in the country:

- 1) Designed national standards and procedures to treat acute malnutrition in families and communities;
- 2) Promoted care practices to reduce maternal and new born mortality and morbidity rates; and
- 3) Provided WASH services in schools to improve the well-being of children and to reduce absenteeism and drop-outs rates, especially among girls.

During emergencies, UNICEF Colombia coordinated the provision and appropriate use of key supplies at community level, including the use of ready-to-use-therapeutic-food, water filters, water containers, hygiene kits and water tanks. For example in August and September, UNICEF Colombia provided key supplies and technical guidance to national Government during the border crisis with Venezuela. The intervention focused on ensuring adequate conditions in sanitation, protection and education for the 20,000 displaced persons in a score of hastily-established shelters along the border.

Human Rights-Based Approach to Cooperation

In January 2015, Colombia sat before the Committee on the Rights of the Child to review its latest country report. The Committee expressed concern over various specific violations to children's rights, and referred broadly to challenges to the effective implementation of existing laws and guaranteed access to justice for children. UNICEF Colombia had submitted a background brief to the Committee in preparation for this session, identifying the key gaps and challenges that Colombia faces. The Committee highlighted its concern over the lack of knowledge and scarce application of the principle of "the best interests of the child" in administrative, judicial and budgetary decisions, as well as the non-compliance with children's right to be heard and taken into account. The Committee also mentioned the need to strengthen

culturally sensitive, child-friendly measures to ensure immediate care for physical recuperation, psychological recovery and social reintegration of child victims of the conflict. UNICEF Colombia actively disseminated the Committee's recommendations in different technical and political fora.

UNICEF Colombia carried out a series of activities designed precisely to bring attention to the problems identified by the Committee and to strengthen Government accountability for children's rights and welfare. In 2015, UNICEF Colombia elaborated its new CPD, prioritizing solutions to the most salient risks and bottlenecks that the Committee and the Government recognize.

UNICEF Colombia has long advocated for a more rights-aligned approach to the national process of Public Rendering of Accounts on Children, and developed tools and guidance to increasingly report progress in terms of rights protected rather than solely based on money spent or activities completed. In a similar fashion, UNICEF Colombia and its partners in the National Alliance for Education developed the Right to Education Index (IDE) which calculates the level of accessibility, availability, adaptability and acceptability of educational services, ranked by educational secretariat.

In coherence with the rights-based approach, UNICEF Colombia raised the visibility of child victims of the armed conflict during 2015, working closely with the Victims Unit, the Land Restitution Unit and the National Centre for Historical Memory to ensure that the best interests of the child are recognized and fully applied in transitional justice mechanisms.

Gender Mainstreaming and Equality

UNICEF Colombia, in line with its policy and plan of action for gender equity, focused its efforts on inequality and gender violence issues that impact the exercise of girls, boys and adolescents' rights. The office developed a training process on gender, sexual and reproductive rights that was used with 5,000 adolescent participants from 11 municipalities, including representatives of the National Youth Council for the Prevention of Teen Pregnancy. The course addressed gender myths and stereotypes that affect the free and responsible exercise of girls' and boys' sexuality.

UNICEF Colombia's work to prevent commercial sexual exploitation of children—one type of gender violence that most affects girls and adolescents—involved many partners in the public, private and civil society domains. The CP supported the development of behavioural-change strategies among the actors of the child protection system, the justice system and the tourism sector. Pertinent examples included work with hotels in Amazonas Department to prevent CSEC; technical assistance to local authorities from the border region of Colombia and Ecuador; continuing engagement with tour operators in Cartagena as part of the novel "La Muralla soy Yo" initiative; and national level technical assistance to the police, the Attorney General's Office, the Ombudsman and other authorities.

UNICEF Colombia continued to pioneer local level activities to strengthen protective environments that prevent recruitment and use of children in the armed conflict. A key principle underlying all initiatives is gender equality, seeking to transform the perception and attitudes of boys and girls about stereotypes and gender roles, through Golombiao ("the Game of Peace"), Skills for Life, the Return to Happiness and other programmes.

Colombia's current context demands that girls, boys and adolescents capacity as citizens build peace and reconciliation based on gender equality. Toward this end, the CO developed

methodologies that allowed 4,195 girls and boys to participate meaningfully in the definition of public policies on children and adolescents in the Departments of Cauca, Chocó, Putumayo, Guajira and Córdoba.

Environmental Sustainability

In Colombia, environmental threats such as deforestation and global warming have a significant impact on children's lives. Each year, the country is affected by floods, droughts and landslides. In the past year, the country witnessed an increased prevalence of vector-borne infectious diseases such as chinkunguña and Zika. The 2015-16 El Niño is categorized as the strongest on record, affecting the availability of safe water, food security and access to energy resources. Numerous populations were forced to migrate to other parts of the country in search of better conditions for basic livelihood.

UNICEF Colombia's actions regarding sustainability of the environment and effective adaptation to climate change were part of a comprehensive approach that included the sectors of health, WASH, nutrition, education and protection as well as emergency preparedness and response. Advocacy work was carried out at national and subnational level, to encourage measures that promote actions that are environmentally sustainable and reduce risk towards children and their communities. UNICEF Colombia promoted behavioural change in water use and solid waste treatment at household level in five prioritized departments, with special emphasis on WASH services that use technologies responsive to climate change in northern Cauca and La Guajira. In these two departments alone, UNICEF Colombia reached 12,000 in communities and 3,500 students in school environments.

As the national cluster lead in WASH, UNICEF Colombia promoted institutional coordination between the National Unit for Risk and Disaster Management, the Vice-Ministry of Water and other national institutions to implement the WASH sector policy. This role included both advocacy and technical assistance, taking into consideration the threats against, and the vulnerabilities and capacities of local communities to protect children and adolescents against common risks.

The CO took the following measures to reduce its carbon footprint: 1) a modified work schedule to reduce lights at 18:00 hours; 2) recycling paper, plastic and other types of waste; 3) disincentives to air travel, encouraging the use of Skype for business meetings; 4) sale of three office automobiles to reduce emissions; and 5) banning disposable (plastic) items for everyday use.

Effective Leadership

The Country Management Team (CMT) held nine meetings in 2015. In the sessions, the CMT reviewed the performance indicators established in the Manager's Dashboard in VISION system, especially concerning the implementation of funds; donor reports delivery; grant expiry dates; timely closing of travel authorizations; and Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) activities. Systematic monitoring of the key performance indicators permitted the CO to achieve compliance with UNICEF rules, regulations and policies.

The Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) met three times during the reporting period; the meetings allowed office Management and the Local Staff Association board to address and come to agreement on key staff issues, including staff development, health insurance coverage and working climate.

Due to changes in global HACT policy and the initiation of the new CPD, the CO hired an external firm to perform audit exercises and micro-assessments on 19 implementing partners. The results were reviewed by the newly created internal HACT committee.

Since the CO joined the Global Shared Services Centre (GSSC) in November, the office conducted a review to facilitate processes and clarify roles of staff members working directly with the GSSC or involved in business processes affected by the GSSC.

Financial Resources Management

The CMT used InSight/Manager's Dashboard and reports provided by LACRO to follow up on the use of financial resources, from budgeting to payments. During CMT meetings, all areas of the office—Programme, Operations, PFP and Communications—flagged problems in key performance indicators and acted to address them, with deadlines and staff responsible identified.

Due to the initiation of a new CP in October 2015, all contracts and agreements with implementing partners were closed at the end of the previous CPD and were reopened in the new CPD structure.

The CO has three bank accounts, two for the receipt of donations and one for disbursements. The bank accounts were reconciled monthly following the organization's procedures with no cash-flow problems. Prior to the entrance of the CO into the GSSC, the account used for disbursement was successfully tested within the Business Continuity Management System.

In 2015, there were significant reductions in administrative costs mainly due to the adjustment of contracts with service suppliers and the installation of more efficient operational systems. Among the cost reductions were two related to telephone contracts and the acquisition of a new PBX.

Changes in the security system provided further savings, including hiring a different security firm, reducing the number of guards to one during regular working hours and installing new security doors.

Fund-raising and Donor Relations

In terms of local private fundraising, the CO developed a system to increase and maintain the number of individual pledge donors. The web-based payment platform was updated to guarantee timely processing of monthly donations. As a result, the payment rate rose from 61 per cent to 80 per cent in 2015. This high level of donor compliance is significant in light of the fact that the number of individual active pledge donors increased from 19,230 in September 2014 to 27,000 in September 2015 while the donor drop-out rate lowered by half. The CO made great strides in increasing the quality and quantity of alternative channels for attracting donors (e.g., telemarketing, digital fundraising, direct response television, and face-to-face campaigns).

In the area of corporate partnerships, the CO signed major agreements with two of the biggest companies in Colombia. The first one, with Pequeñin—a baby care and hygiene products' corporation—has already provided a first tranche of financial resources to support programmatic activities in the nutrition sector. The second, with Olimpica (the second largest retail company in

Colombia), allows for the collection of donations at cash registers and via direct contact with employees, among other fundraising strategies.

PPF gross income rose from US\$ 2.4 million in the first nine months of 2014, to US\$ 2.9 million in the same period of 2015. This increase was achieved despite a 37 per cent devaluation of local currency. The CO doubled its RR contribution to US\$ 501,000.

All available funds were utilized before the expiry date.

Funding was received from Norwegian and Canadian Governments, while negotiations are underway for possible funding from Canadian Embassy and European Union.

All 13 donor reports were submitted on time, following the quality control and monitoring mechanisms established in the CMT.

Evaluation

According to the Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (IMEP) that was approved in 2015, the CO planned one external evaluation, one major field research, six studies and five sectorial reviews. With a level of implementation of 95 per cent, virtually all planned activities were completed with the participation of government institutions in the areas of child protection, early childhood development, education and others. It is noted that research and studies were carried out with centres of academic excellence, ensuring rigorous methodologies, reliable findings and useful recommendations for decision-making in and beyond UNICEF Colombia.

The evaluation assessed the effectiveness and potential replication of the “La Muralla soy yo” (“I am the Wall”) project that was designed to prevent and respond to sexual commercial exploitation of children and adolescents in the context of tourism. The complexity of the evaluation---the sensitivity of the subject and the methodological challenges that it posed---demanded a lot of effort and resources from programmes including child protection, monitoring and evaluation, and communications. The evaluation provided practical recommendations that are already informing new CP programmes and contributing to the programming of external partners and donors.

The other research and studies were particularly demanding. Many were part of either global or regional initiatives in which Colombia was selected as a case study, and the report must meet quality benchmarks. Other research activities were so new in terms of content and methodology (e.g., assessing menstruation practices of rural girls in indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities) that translating the results into practical action-recommendations proved highly challenging. In any case, the studies’ information improved internal CO decision-making and in many cases offered useful guidance to Government partners and civil society actors.

Efficiency Gains and Cost Savings

The CO made changes in contracts with suppliers and in systems in order to reduce administrative costs. The cell phone service provider contract was improved, implementing voice and data via internet. Electricity costs were reduced by acquiring a new model of Private Branch Exchange. A new guard company was hired, and by installing new security doors, the number of guards were reduced during regular working hours. Nine Long Term Agreements (LTAs) were processed and approved, significantly reducing the contract process time, use of

funds for job advertising, while reducing financial risks of long contracting processes.

The CO shifted to corporate credit card use for greater efficiency (not issuing checks) and for better reconciliation of accounts and payments (avoiding issues of un-cashed checks and bank accounts' monthly reconciliation).

With the depreciation of the Colombian peso, the value in US dollars for local administrative costs was greatly reduced.

Supply Management

UNICEF Colombia utilized almost US\$ 2.3 million on the procurement of goods and services. The breakdown by type of contract is summarized in the table:

UNICEF Colombia 2015	Value in US\$ up to 30 September 2015
Programme Supply	46,793
Operational Supply	6,737
Services	2,221,594
Total Supplies	2,275,124

As indicated, 97 per cent of those resources were used for services and only two per cent were utilized for actual supplies. This indicates that the CO focussed its resources on knowledge generation, capacity building and technical assistance, and less on procurement.

Following the UNICEF Colombia rules and regulations, the CO used the Contract Review Committee to revise and approve requests of all types of contracts (for goods, services, individuals and corporate) strengthening the risk analysis and oversight of the whole contracting process in order to provide a better-informed analysis to the management.

Security for Staff and Premises

The safety and security of UNICEF Colombia staff and assets continued during the reported period with the following: The security wardens system was updated in collaboration with United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS); access doors to the premises were replaced with level-two type doors; the IT system was changed to the modality of mission control to improve both security and communications protocols from the office to internet and to UNICEF Colombia in general; approved and supported the "refurbishment" of the building electric and hydraulic systems, and reinforced security of common building areas.

Human Resources

UNICEF Colombia carried out six selection processes, four of which were for Fixed Term and two for Temporary Assignment posts, taking into consideration technical experience, competencies, and gender equity in the office. One staff member resigned this year. The CO completed 41 selection processes for consultants in full compliance with the established rules.

Local Training Committee (LTC) developed a training plan for the office based on staff member requests in their Performance Appraisal System (PAS) and the prevailing rules regarding staff development. The LTC met three times per year to monitor the plan. Staff members invested an

average of 4.5 days per person in training during 2015, emphasizing the mandatory courses for all staff including basic and advanced security in the field, ethics, sexual and workplace harassment at the office, and achieving 100 per cent completion. There were two Peer Support Volunteers who participated in stress training courses provided by UNDSS. Staff also received training in new technologies, such as use of Windows 365 and new telephone system.

All staff members complied with dates and quality rules established for completion of their PAS. Human resources worked closely with staff association to ensure appropriate management of issues around work environment and differences between staff members and their supervisors. Following the publication of the results of the global staff survey, the Local Staff Association, Human Resources and the Representative agreed upon a methodological proposal for improvement and shared it with the staff. The office discussed the four variables with the lowest scores, two of which were prioritized by staff members to be collectively addressed in a plan of action. Activities were carried out, designed to improve the working environment, create confidence and build a sense of belonging among staff members. GSS follow up plan was prepared and sent to regional office before the set deadline.

Three Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) meetings were held during 2015.

Effective Use of Information and Communication Technology

In 2015, the CO focused in making a more efficient use of available resources in Information, Communications, and Technology (ICT) as well as helping to reduce costs in the monitoring activities of the programme on the field. To that end, two major processes were completed: i) the OneDrive tool was promoted as the platform to create, share and edit key documents that would involve the contributions and responsibilities of various staff members. The documents elaborated on in Onedrive included the CPD, the Country Programme Action Plan, the CO Annual Report, internal surveys, and joint reports for partners and allies. ii) The ICT department trained all personnel in the use of Skype for business, allowing staff members to increase on-line meetings with partners around the country, and reduce travel and phone call expenses. Skype allowed the programme officer based in the Quibdó field office to often communicate with colleagues from the main office in Bogotá, guaranteeing a more harmonized action in the field. And Skype allowed the CO to invite more candidates from outside Bogotá to recruitment processes in which field experience is essential.

In the area of PFP, ICT reached more new individual donors. The CO made a significant effort to make its digital platforms user-friendly and provided new “landing pages”. For established donors, the CO created a special web module where individuals have a more fluid communication with UNICEF (e.g., update personal data, request donation certificates, etc.) Finally, the CO reviewed and adjusted the process and platforms to collect on-line donations, in order to verify rapidly the status and actions of all active donors.

Programme Components from Results Assessment Module

ANALYSIS BY OUTCOME AND OUTPUT RESULTS

OUTCOME 1 By September 2015, children, adolescents and women in situations of inequality and exclusion, have access to social services of higher quality.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Official information shows that children and adolescents continue to lack full opportunities to grow and develop given the inequities in access to, quality and relevance of basic services that still persist due to geographic, gender, ethnic and economic reasons. For example, the highest maternal and child mortality rates exist in the regions of the country that have a higher proportion of rural, indigenous and Afro-Colombian population. According to the National Ministry of Health and Social Protection, the maternal mortality rate in Chocó is 225 per 100,000 live births, 3.4 times higher than the national average (65.9), and the infant mortality rate is 26.6 per 1,000 live births, two times the national average.

While the country shows slight increases in the coverage of primary and secondary education and consistent reductions in repetition rates, these averages hide significant inequity gaps at the subnational level, especially in those areas with high presence of indigenous and Afro-Colombian populations. While the net coverage rate in primary and secondary education in the country reached 87.6 per cent in 2013, in Putumayo it was 77 per cent.

The country has progressed in the definition of policies, plans, programmes and strategies that seek to guarantee the rights of children and adolescents, especially those who are more economically vulnerable, or more excluded. Today, Colombia applies several national strategies such as: (i) improvement of quality, relevant and inclusive education, (ii) expansion in access to and quality of health care and social basic services, (iii) implementation of the National Youth Policy and the national strategy on the prevention of adolescent pregnancy, and (iv) provision of comprehensive attention to children under five years through the early childhood development strategy, *De cero a siempre* (“From zero to Always”).

In this context, during 2015, UNICEF Colombia contributed to strengthening the capacity of departmental and municipal authorities, service providers and community agents in the prioritized territories and populations. With regard to child survival and development, the following stand out:

1. Endorsement of the early childhood development strategy, *Seres de cuidado* (“Care-Givers”), at the national and local level (prioritized territories). UNICEF Colombia added value by providing an operational, inter-cultural perspective of indigenous and afro-descendant households and communities, to effectively protect children under five years of age
2. Significant reduction of maternal mortality in eight of the twelve priority municipalities, through the provision of technical and financial support for the development of local, quality improvement plans in health services for pregnant women and children under two years of age;
3. Dissemination among relevant stakeholders of the national rural water policy and the risk management policies for water and basic sanitation; and
4. Application of an integral model of environmentally protected schools.

With regard to education and adolescent development, the following stand out:

5. Support for effective student retention, via assistance to the Ministry of National Education in expanding the programme, *La escuela busca al niño, la niña y el adolescente* (“The School Seeks the Child and Adolescent”), in the municipalities with the lowest rates of education coverage and highest risk of student dropouts in the departments of Nariño, Putumayo, Cauca, Córdoba and Norte de Santander (with emphasis on rural and marginal urban areas);

6. Increased relevance of educational inclusion, in which UNICEF Colombia, together with the Secretariats of Education, executed strategies for educational inclusion, improvement of the learning process, the development of citizen competencies and construction of a culture of peace;
7. Support for greater articulation of secondary education with technical and higher education;
8. Expansion of ethno-education;
9. Promotion at local level of the strategy for the comprehensive development of adolescents; and
10. Strengthening the capacity of children and adolescents for participation and communication with regard to their sexual and reproductive rights, with emphasis on the prevention of adolescent pregnancy and of HIV (fighting stigma and discrimination).

UNICEF Colombia will continue to support national and sub-national authorities in guaranteeing the rights of children, adolescents, and pregnant and breastfeeding women so they have universal access to quality services in education, health, nutrition, development, water, sanitation and hygiene, with special emphasis on indigenous, Afro-Colombian, scattered rural and marginal urban populations.

In preparation for the the application of the Presidential Decree 1953, which hands the administration of education, health, water and sanitation services over to indigenous peoples, the capacity of indigenous organisations, of the Secretariats of Education and Health, and of Water and Sanitation will be strengthened so that they can jointly assume the policies, roles and functions that derive from application of this decree.

OUTPUT 1 By September 2015, national and local authorities, including ethnic authorities, and civil society organizations have strengthened their capacity to develop and implement comprehensive strategies that promote quality and inclusiveness of education for the most vulnerable populations (with emphasis on indigenous and Afro-Colombian populations).

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF continued to execute a comprehensive strategy for the improvement of educational quality. This strategy enabled the identification of the educative challenges observed at national and sub-national levels, which are: (a) the retention of children in school (b) increased relevance of educational inclusion, (c) greater articulation of secondary education with technical and higher education, and (d) expansion of ethno-education.

Retention of Children in school: UNICEF has provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Education and the Secretariats of Education. UNICEF's support has facilitated the incorporation of the "School Seeks out Children" strategy into local educational plans, programmes and policies. The educative authorities, teachers, parents and communities have strengthened their capacities to implement the "School Seeks out Children" strategy; which has scaled-up to national level and is being implemented in 15 Secretariats of Education.

Relevance of educational inclusion: UNICEF has focused its actions on primary education schools developing different educative models, such as "Schools, promoters of rights", "Comprehensive Attention Quality Schools, "Quality of life in school" and "Think, Dream and Express yourself", programmes for the improvement of educational quality with a rights perspective for educational inclusion, improvement of the learning process, development of citizenship competencies and the construction of a culture of peace. UNICEF's technical assistance contributed to the improvement of the learning process and educative tools for

teachers. The educative models also strengthened the management committees with the active participation of parents and students.

Articulation between secondary and higher education: with the Ministry of National Education, UNICEF implemented strategies to strengthen and improve secondary education quality and strengthen its articulation with higher education and professional life. These strategies included (i) provision of technical support and assistance for the development of conceptual, methodological and operational guidelines of the national policy for secondary education and its coordination with the technical and higher education policy; (2) National experts have developed documents and case studies which allowed a comprehensive analysis of secondary education and its main challenges; and (iii) 95 Secretariats of Education developed and implemented the regional articulation plans of secondary education with technical and higher education.

Ethno-education: UNICEF has developed advocacy and technical assistance actions in 4 Secretariats of Education incorporating ethno-education into national ethno-education policies and subnational education plans. This has facilitated planning, management, budgeting, the availability of specialized equipment and the development of pedagogical ethno-education proposals, tailored to the needs of indigenous and Afro-descendant schools, strengthening the local capacities of teachers.

Knowledge creation: the index of Colombia's right-to-education was developed by the "Commitment to Education for All alliance", which has increased awareness regarding the right-to-education in the public policy arena.

UNICEF supported the development of the national adolescents' pregnancy prevention strategy, accomplished with: the implementation of health friendly service centers for adolescents and youth; an integrated command chart to monitor the strategy; and pedagogical booklet for the prevention and attention of adolescent pregnancy. At subnational level: inter-sectoral coordination for the implementation of the strategy in four departments and in 13 municipalities; demonstrative models were implemented to promote sexual and reproductive rights and prevent adolescents' pregnancy and transmission of sexual disease.

OUTPUT 2 By September 2015, decision makers have acquired political and technical guidelines that improve comprehensive early childhood care at institutional, community and family level.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

1. Caregivers were trained using different approaches involving comprehensive care in early childhood at home, which reached 8,265 education agents, 12,867 families, 61,761 girls and boys under six years of age, in 24 municipalities. The "Seres de Cuidado" ("Caregivers") strategy originally implemented in Quibdó, during 2015, was extended to La Guajira and Córdoba. The strategy achieved significant short-term changes in the rearing and care practices of children under five years of age, by implementing a comprehensive approach that included care activities in health, nutrition, child development and hygiene, combined with education agents and systematic monitoring of families.
2. The national protocol for integrated management of acute malnutrition has been developed for the Ministry of Health with UNICEF's technical and financial support. The pilot experience for implementing this protocol was being carried out in La Guajira, reaching 5,800 families, 4,980 children under five years and 1,115 pregnant and

lactating woman; 400 acutely malnourished children received treatment with ready-to-use- therapeutic food .

OUTCOME 2 By September 2015, institutional and community environments have enhanced their capacity to prevent and protect children and adolescents from violence, exploitation, and the effects of the armed conflict and natural disasters.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

This result refers to reducing the vulnerability of children and adolescents to violence, in both their daily surroundings and within the context of armed conflict. Despite continuation of the peace talks started by the Colombian Government and the FARC-EP in 2012, in 2014 the level of impact of the armed conflict has continued to be especially serious, having particular impact on rural areas and on indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities. As of 2014, children and adolescents represented 47.6 per cent of the officially registered displaced persons – and are likewise disproportionately vulnerable to accidents with antipersonnel mines, recruitment and utilization by illegal armed groups, as well as sexual violence. In the second half of 2014, at last, the subject of children has been touched on in the talks between the Government and the FARC-EP in Havana during discussion of point 5, on victims, a positive step that should be brought down to earth in terms of concrete measures for the final agreement.

The high rates of under-reporting have continued in cases of violence against children and adolescents, both within the family and outside of it, including sexual violence in particular. The rate of violence against children and adolescents decreased less during the last five years than for any other victim age group. In the case of sexual violence, according to the data for 2013, 86.34 per cent of all victims of sexual crimes reported by Forensic Medicine Institute were under 18 years of age. Girls between the ages of 10 and 14 suffer the highest rate of sexual violence of any age group.

The United Nations Secretary General's annual report on children and armed conflict for 2013, presented to the public on July 1, 2014, states that the recruitment and use of children and adolescents by non-state armed groups, criminal bands and gangs continues to be a common phenomenon, above all in rural areas, and especially in the departments of Antioquia, Caquetá, Cauca, Córdoba, Chocó, Nariño and Putumayo. According to the monitoring carried out by the Special Team for Resolution 1612 in Colombia, in 2014 the country has continued to record grave violations of the rights of children in the context of armed conflict, among which forced recruitment and use, sexual violence, attacks on and occupation of schools, and the death and mutilation of children stand out. Around 4,000 cases of recruitment of children and adolescents were documented during 2013 in this report; 81 cases were verified in 25 departments of Colombia, in addition to the 342 children and adolescents demobilized from illegal armed groups reported by the Colombian Family Welfare Institute, ICBF. These data underline that the problem of recruitment persists, even while the process of de-linking children from illegal armed groups continues.

Ironically, and despite how greatly they are affected as victims, both within and outside of armed conflict, adolescents tend to be perceived by civil society mainly as perpetrators, which in many cases leads to high levels of exclusion, stigmatization and re-victimization.

In recent years UNICEF has dedicated significant efforts to ensuring a child-rights perspective in the implementation of the Victims and Land Restitution Law of 2011 (Law 1448) and the public policy on care for victims. Likewise, in the peace negotiation processes between the

Government and the FARC-EP, UNICEF Colombia worked to raise the visibility of children and adolescents who are victims of recruitment, sexual violence, mines and other harm derived from the conflict. Under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator, UNICEF Colombia has worked in coordination with other United Nations agencies to collect from civil society, through regional panels and national forums, inputs that have subsequently been delivered to the parties at the Havana negotiation table.

UNICEF has also contributed to strengthening the entities responsible for preparedness for, response to and recovery from emergencies, both those caused by conflict and/ or by natural disasters. In similar fashion, UNICEF has paid special attention to guaranteeing the access of historically excluded indigenous and Afro-Colombian populations to quality services in the framework of the Core Commitments for Children in Emergencies (CCC). UNICEF has worked with Government entities at all levels (local, regional and national) to include the subject of protection of children in humanitarian situations. Lastly, it is critical to continue strengthening local capacities of the responsible authorities and the designated mechanisms for inter-sectorial coordination that permit implementation of the various policies to effectively protect children against violence.

OUTPUT 1 By September 2015, children, adolescents, families, communities and institutions in the areas most affected by the armed conflict, have increased their capacity to protect children and adolescents; the direct victims will have received comprehensive care as part of the national and international legislation.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Between 2011 - September 2015, UNICEF has implemented the model to build protective environments for the prevention of recruitment. This model allowed the strengthening of the capacities of 140,280 children and adolescents, their families and communities, to build a life-project away from the violence, in the areas most affected by armed conflict, in Sucre, Córdoba, Antioquia, Chocó, Cundinamarca, Meta, Cauca, Nariño and Putumayo. Using these model with partners and Government counterparts, UNICEF managed to reach XX,YYY girls, boys and adolescents with timely, effective and life-saving information on protecting themselves and their communities from mine accidents.

UNICEF, in its role as Technical Secretariat of the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanisms of the UN-RSC 1612 in Colombia, has strengthened its information system and guaranteed the timely delivery of all inputs for the required *horizontal global notes*, the annual reports of the United Nations Secretary General, and for the specific report on Colombia. The Country Office provided additional information as required by the Office of the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict. Trend analyses have been carried out for presentation in various public fora. Monitoring of the Secretary General's recommendations and of the Security Council Working Group's conclusions were strengthened through regular meetings with Government institutions, including the Ministry of Foreign Relations and the Technical Secretariat of the Intersectorial Commission for the Prevention of Recruitment, Use and Sexual Violence against Children and Adolescents by Illegal Organised Groups.

In the current context of peace negotiations between the FARC-EP and the Colombian Government, officially held in Havana, Cuba since 2012, UNICEF has advocated strongly that the child-related issues be included in the agenda, including the participation of adolescents in the regional and national Victims Fora organized by the United Nations and the National University at the request of all the parties in Havana. UNICEF has accompanied an SRSG

CAAC official visit to Havana to meet both parties in order to strengthen children protection issues. Work on transitional justice has been strengthened through direct collaboration with the Victims Unit, specifically on collective reparations, transitional justice committees and satisfaction measures for child victims, and with the National Center for Historical Memory, on the right to Truth with and for children.

During this period, UNICEF developed two models (ERM in emergency situations and ERM in the school environment). These models have strengthened the capacities for self-protection of 138,234 girls, boys and adolescents and their families, as well as the capacities of communities and institutions, in areas of high risk of APM/UXO/IED accidents in the most affected Departments (Antioquia, Cauca, Nariño, Chocó, Córdoba, Sucre, Bolivar, Norte de Santander, Meta, Guaviare, Arauca, Caquetá, Putumayo, Nariño and Tolima). These two methodologies were adopted by DAICMA and the Ministry of Education for use as national models. UNICEF also provided humanitarian assistance to approximately 26% of the new victims in prioritized Departments to ensure their access to institutional care and physical rehabilitation. In addition, UNICEF strengthened six victims associations, which provide support and aid to 134 mine victims and their families.

OUTPUT 2 By September 2015, national, departmental and local institutions that are part of the National Disaster Prevention and Assistance System, and related programmes for assisting populations affected by the armed conflict, have increased their capacity to prevent and provide assistance in emergencies in the framework of the CCC (Core Commitments for Children).

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The results achieved are satisfactory. UNICEF focused on supporting national and local governments' humanitarian response for children affected by emergencies, especially on the most vulnerable children in areas affected by poverty, natural disaster and conflict, as well as areas of Afro and indigenous populations. As the leader of the WASH cluster, UNICEF promoted a holistic approach, including access to water, proper management of excreta and solid waste systems in schools and households in rural communities of targeted Departments. UNICEF provided emergency nutrition assistance (ready-to-use therapeutic food, micronutrients and support to breastfeeding) to the most vulnerable indigenous children and mothers in the departments of Chocó, Córdoba, Meta, Guaviare, Putumayo, Cauca, Nariño and La Guajira. UNICEF also supported the National Institute of Family Welfare (ICBF), the Ministry of Health and the departments of Chocó and La Guajira to develop and implement the protocol for community-based management of acute malnutrition.

As co-leader of the National Board for Education in Emergencies, UNICEF supported the Ministry in designing and implementing the 12th and 16th Ministerial Directives (2009 and 2011 respectively) and the guidelines to formulate Risk Management Plans at Secretariat level. UNICEF assisted 95 Secretariats of Education to develop Risk Management Plans. Challenges remain in allocating resources to respond to emergencies, especially in the rural dispersed areas.

731 schools in all 32 departments have implemented School Risk Management Plans (SRMP). UNICEF's added value focused on the provision of technical assistance and methodological procedures to formulate guidelines and support their implementation in selected schools. Functionaries and teachers from these schools have strengthened their knowledge to

design and implement the SRMPs, which include Mine Risk Education and Recruitment Prevention strategies.

UNICEF accompanied the strengthening of the Ministry's information systems. The Ministry now has an Emergency Support System that allows the Secretariats of Education and schools to elaborate online reports about the situation of schools in emergencies, complementing the government's response. Along with the National Emergencies Working Group allies, UNICEF supported and provided technical assistance to implement flexible and alternative educative models in armed conflict affected areas. UNICEF elaborated and socialized the document "Recommendations for the Elaboration of an Inter-sectorial Policy for a Comprehensive School Protection of Armed Conflict Effects", to national educative authorities, which has been an important input for national policy.

UNICEF also supported the design of the national policy pillars for boarding schools for children living in scattered rural areas, especially those affected by the armed conflict. A technical board led by the MEN was created to develop the guidelines. It is expected that these guiding principles will provide education in boarding schools in 2015. UNICEF's contribution consisted in (i) making visible to authorities and civil society the armed conflict effects on schools; (ii) advocating for increasing the allocation of public financial resources to improve the protection and life qualities of children, and (iii) promoting a comprehensive education and protection model that improves the opportunities for children and adolescents to access school and an effective learning while living in the most conflict affected areas.

OUTPUT 3 By September 2015, the national family welfare system and the justice system, as well as local communities, have increased their capacity to protect children and adolescents from violence, exploitation, abuse and other violations of their rights, consistent with applicable national and international law.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF Colombia strengthened the State capacity of prevention and response to violence against children through the provision of technical assistance to entities of the National Family Welfare System -SNBF- on subjects related to child protection rights. Studies aimed at generating recommendations, were carried out on Protection system, Juvenile Justice, Sexual Exploitation, Adoption, and Birth Registration.

UNICEF supported initiatives for the strengthening the implementation of the Criminal Responsibility System for Adolescents in Colombia (in Spanish, SRPA). Academic, technical and legislative debates were held in order to ensure that the system maintains its alignment with international standards. The CO participate as an observer within the Commission for monitoring the situations of the human rights of adolescents deprived of liberty, mandated by Congress.

Child rights content was incorporated into the regular training of the National Police. Two published documents were recognized as very useful material for the day-to-day work of the Polic: (i) Guidelines for Training National Police Instructors in the Rights of Children and Adolescents and the Children's and Adolescents' Code, and (ii) Basic Recommendations for Action by the National Police Related to Children and Adolescents. UNICEF Colombia, along with other entities of the SNBF and civil society, held seminars that have improved the

knowledge of diverse actors with regard to the rights of children and adolescents in Colombia, and which has informed public policy decisions.

UNICEF supported the identification of institutional barriers regarding birth registration of indigenous populations and strengthened health institutions to guarantee the registration in the moment of birth. Additionally, UNICEF supported Mobile Units that deliver the Birth Registry in marginalized areas.

With technical and financial support from UNICEF, the Colombian government formulated the National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents (2006-2011) and is reviewing it in 2015. UNICEF strengthened capacities for the implementation of new law, developed as part of the initiatives within this Plan.

UNICEF supported a comprehensive strategy model for the prevention of sexual exploitation of children and adolescents associated with travel and tourism in Cartagena, named La Muralla Soy Yo in reference to Cartagena's surrounding walls. Just as these walls protected the city for over two centuries, the strategy contributes to the consolidation of a network comprising public, private and civil society stakeholders that protect children and adolescents from ESCNNA. Agreements with local authorities have been signed in different cities to replicate this experience. Coordinated strategies between Brazil, Peru and Colombia are being developed to address the ESCNNA in the Amazonian border region. One of the key action lines of the strategy has been the promotion of corporate social responsibility among tourism businesses through The Code certification. Up to September 2015, 234 businesses has been certified in Colombia.

UNICEF supported indigenous authorities to build a Resolution (with legal status) that recognizes the need of complement efforts between indigenous and occidental law in order to protect children against violence in Amazonas. Based in this experience, the CO is strengthening community and institutional strategies in other areas.

OUTCOME 3 By September 2015, children and adolescents constitute an evidence-based priority in national legislation and in socioeconomic policies, at national and sub-national levels.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

This result aims to contribute to overcoming the difficulties related to the creation, circulation and use of up-to-date, disaggregated and differential knowledge and information on the situation of children's and adolescents' rights as basic inputs for decision making. It likewise contributes to the national goal of strengthening institutional capacity, understood on the one hand as the availability of human, physical, technological and financial resources, and on the other as knowledge and application of the basic processes of planning, management, organisation, execution, monitoring and control that constitute public administration, with emphasis on the policy of decentralisation and territorial development. Lastly, it contributes to the strengthening of a culture of legality that recognises and applies the principles of the international instruments ratified by Colombia, the National Constitution and the laws that form the framework for the protection, guarantee and restitution of the rights of children, adolescents and young people.

OUTPUT 1 By September 2015, representatives of public sector and civil society, have increased their capacities to produce, circulate and apply evidence-based knowledge in the

formulation, management and monitoring of policies, budgets and laws to guarantee children's and adolescents' rights

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Between 2010 and September 2015, UNICEF produced knowledge on a wide range of topics, including: child poverty; the situation of indigenous children and women; Social Protection Systems and corporate social responsibility focused on children and adolescence. UNICEF supported the design of National Development Plans helping the national government on making accurate policy and public budget designs focused on updated analysis of the situation of children and adolescents. Besides this, new mechanisms were designed to encourage co-responsibility of the private sector to guarantee children's rights and informing the decision making processes of a range of actors involved in the integrated protection of the rights of this population.

OUTPUT 2 By September 2015, representatives of public sector and civil society from the prioritized departments and municipalities have increased their capacities to manage public policies that guarantee children's and adolescents' rights.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF supported the design of public policies for children in priority areas, also being part of the technical assistance scheme for the accountability process on the guarantee of rights of children in local governments. After this, UNICEF was also part of the alliance "Hechos y Derechos" by which was granted technical assistance to all departments and some municipalities for the accountability process on the guarantee of rights of children in local governments.

Document Center

Evaluation and Research

Title	Sequence Number	Type of Report
Análisis de resultados de la campaña "Respira paz" (2014)	2015/002	Review
Estrategia de atención en salud y nutrición con enfoque comunitario	2015/013	Study
EMBARAZO SUBSECUENTE EN LA ADOLESCENCIA (ESTUDIO DE CASO)	2015/012	Study
Inclusión efectiva de niñas, niños y adolescentes en procesos de reparación colectiva.	2015/011	Review
Las medidas de satisfacción como expresión del derecho a la reparación de niños, niñas y adolescentes (2015)	2015/010	Review
Análisis sobre los Comités Territoriales de Justicia Transicional y los Planes de Acción Territoriales, desde el enfoque de niñez (2015)	2015/009	Study
Building a comprehensive child protection system in Colombia	2015/008	Study
Índice del derecho a la educación (actualización conceptual y metodológica.) 2015	2015/007	Study
Prácticas de higiene menstrual en las niñas de las escuelas del	2015/006	Research

área rural del pacífico colombiano (2015)		
Estado actual de la cobertura de servicios de agua potable y saneamiento básico en Colombia (2014).	2015/005	Review
SANEAMIENTO E HIGIENE EN LAS INSTITUCIONES EDUCATIVAS EN COLOMBIA (2013-2015)	2015/004	Review
UN ACERCAMIENTO AL ROL DEL HOMBRE EN EL CUIDADO Y CRIANZA DE LOS NIÑOS Y LAS NIÑAS	2015/003	Study
Evaluación de la Estrategia de Comunicación para el Cambio Social La Muralla Soy Yo.	2015/001	Evaluation

Other Publication

Title
Guías y materiales de la estrategia "Seres de cuidado."
Comunidades Tejedoras de vida
Sistematización de experiencias educativas en construcción de paz
Proyectos Educativos Comunitarios (lectura integral del territorio)
Proyectos Educativos Institucionales de los municipios del Norte del Cauca Santander de Quilichao, Suárez y Buenos Aires
Caja de herramientas de la estrategia El Golombiao
Justicia Transicional: Voces y oportunidades para los niños, niñas y adolescentes en la construcción de paz en Colombia
El derecho a la verdad de las víctimas. Los casos de niños y niñas en Colombia