

Cote d'Ivoire

Executive summary

In Cote d'Ivoire, despite a decline in child mortality since 2005 from 125 per 1,000 live births to 96 in 2016, neonatal mortality and maternal mortality rates are still high. Prevalence of stunting decreased from 29 per cent in 2012 to 21 per cent in 2016, but infant and young child nutrition optimal practices remain limited. Cote d'Ivoire has the second-highest HIV prevalence in West Africa, with treatment for children and adolescents still challenged.

However, access to primary education has improved with a net enrolment rate from 69 per cent in 2012 to 76 per cent in 2016. The gender gap in enrolment is decreasing but the opportunities for children to attend preschool or pursue their studies beyond primary school are limited. Out-of-school children are a challenge for the education system in Cote d'Ivoire that concerns 23 per cent of primary school and 41 per cent of secondary school aged children. Violence against children is widespread and the national capacity to prevent it or respond is insufficient. A total of 28 per cent of children under five years old have not been registered. Among them an estimate of 1,000,000 are school children.

In 2017, the CO started implementation of the new Country Programme Document (CPD) aligned to the 'One UN' outcomes on governance and human capital, with objectives to contribute to the development of Cote d'Ivoire.

To reduce child mortality, the CO supported the development of 1) an action plan to reduce neonatal mortality, 2) an action plan to strengthen availability of vaccines, 3) a national bed net distribution campaign, 4) an action plan to spread the coverage of management of acute malnutrition, 5) an awareness campaign on the 1,000 first days of the child and 6) an action plan to strengthen availability of wash services in health and school facilities.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire supported the education sector to finalize its Education Sector Plan (ESP); supported the development of a comprehensive Early Child Development plan; and started the implementation of a project that addresses the issue of out of school children.

UNICEF in collaboration with partners supported the national HIV-response: 84 per cent of HIV-positive pregnant women gained access to antiretroviral; 54 per cent of health centres integrated HIV paediatric care; and 46 per cent of health centres provided a continuum of services to adolescents.

The focus on violence prevention at home and at schools continued with the expansion of the Community Outreach Programme and with partnerships with education unions and primary school teachers. A total of 5,715 children in contact with the justice system accessed case management services, and 1,457 children were supported by social services.

An evaluation of the civil registration system was undertaken and a national strategy for civil registration and identification developed with a budgeted action plan. New laws were drafted

and transmitted to the Minister of Justice. A “special operation” to give legal identity to all primary school students was ongoing.

UNICEF Cote d’Ivoire has a particularly dynamic, integrated and comprehensive youth engagement programme with ‘La Voix des Jeunes’ (Voices of Youth) and youth reporters, to which U-Report was integrated this year with over 160,000 U-Reporters in its first year, making UNICEF Cote d’Ivoire the fourth U-Report country in terms of numbers. The Country Office initiated a global partnership with les Jeux de la Francophonie (the Games of La Francophonie) with top tier visibility for UNICEF’s logos and an estimated audience of 541 million people in 80 countries.

UNICEF Cote d’Ivoire co-sponsored the International HIV and STIS Conference in Africa in Abidjan to raise children and adolescent HIV-related issues in the region. It supported the organization of the First Ladies’ meeting on Child Protection in West Africa and the Sahel, where a declaration committing to end violence against children was approved. And as leader of technical and financial partners for nutrition in Cote d’Ivoire, UNICEF supported the organization of the SUN Movement Global Gathering in November in Abidjan

The harmonized approach for cash transfer (HACT) implementation was improved with the compliance with standards and minimum required assurance activities. Sixty spot checks (102 per cent) were completed and 107 programme monitoring visits executed (115 per cent). Five audits out of the seven planned, and 10 micro assessments, were conducted. Quality assurance activities, capacity assessment, and training on HACT principles were implemented during programme reviews and capacity-building trainings were conducted during spot checks.

Action was taken in 2017 on program review committee limit and review of Office committees. The emergency risk management of the Office was established and risk monitored and actions implemented as planned.

Humanitarian assistance

UNICEF Cote d’Ivoire provided an emergency WASH response to 17,604 people, including 1,700 children under five years of age. In partnership with the national Red Cross, the people were supplied with sufficient drinking water, cooking utensils and items for personal hygiene. A total of 88 per cent of people fleeing inter-community conflict in the western region (Cavally region) received WASH assistance. UNICEF Cote d’Ivoire provided 4,000 WASH family kits, constructed 22 gender-sensitive emergency latrines, built 10 showers and conducted sensitization sessions on key hygiene practices to avoid water-borne diseases. In addition, the CO carried out the chlorination of 1,500 dug-wells in the flooded areas of Bangolo, Duekoue, Guiglo and Toulepleu (western Cote d’Ivoire).

Due to inter-ethnic conflicts that took place from September to October 2017 in Guiglo (western Cote d’Ivoire), 16 schools were closed by administrative authorities following the looting of teachers’ property and their displacement from affected localities. Despite efforts by the national and local authorities to promote dialogue between the two communities in conflict, the situation remained tense. UNICEF Cote d’Ivoire provided 1,838 school kits for affected children and advocated for the reopening of schools and the establishment of safe schools for all Ivoirian girls and boys.

Equity in practice

In 2017, UNICEF Cote d’Ivoire continued to promote equity in its advocacy and in policy development. The Government was supported in the implementation of a pilot safety net

programme, providing non-conditional cash transfers to the most vulnerable households to prevent malnutrition and boost girls' education. The pilot initiative was financed by the Government and the World Bank (US\$ 50 million) and plans to reach 35,000 households. In 2017, the first payments were made and as of December 2017, 15,000 households with children received cash transfers. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire participated in the design of the programme, including targeting and selection mechanisms and works with the Ministry of Social Protection and the World Bank in developing the accompanying measures (e.g. communication for development (C4D) activities to increase the use of social services, community participation and coaching) for the communities where the pilot programme is being implemented.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire promoted the equity agenda in its financing, budgeting and resource mobilization approach and by advocating with Government, donors and partners for child-sensitive resource allocations. Funding proposals were developed, pitching the importance of investing in the most vulnerable children. High-level discussions with the Ministry of Health (MoH) and development partners took place to point out inequities in budget allocations and to encourage a reallocation of resources with a focus on primary health care.

In order to ensure an equitable access to health care for the major mortality childhood diseases, a network of 3,612 community health workers (CHWs) in 52 districts was trained and equipped to cover approximately 1,027,000 children under five years, living in disadvantaged and remote areas. Households in these areas had access to integrated services including the promotion of key family practices. To ensure that the most vulnerable populations were accounted for during government planning processes, the CO in collaboration with the MoH developed a tool to collect data at community level to be integrated into the district health information system.

In terms of access to and equity in education, UNICEF expanded its financial and technical support to the Ministry of Education (MoE) for the establishment of eight new community-based early childhood development (ECD) centres in most deprived rural areas of San Pedro and Odienne (southwest/ northwest). In total 54 centres that provide integrated services to 4,419 children aged three to five years were constructed in four years.

In close collaboration with the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and with the World Bank, UNICEF's ECD approach was scaled-up to establish 101 ECD centres during the next four years. As lead agency in this field, UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire was designated to ensure oversight and provide technical support for the implementation of the ECD component. With the support of the European Union, the CO reinforced the capacities of the MoE to generate evidence on the situation of Koranic schools and the talibe children who are begging in the streets reportedly forced there by their tutors. Preliminary findings identified about 150,000 children who had not been captured in educational statistics before.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire advocated and promoted equity and engagement to ensure that children's voices are taken into account in decision-making processes. In Côte d'Ivoire, more than half of the population is younger than 19 years of age, yet, according to a U-Report poll launched in September 2017, 61 per cent of them think their opinion doesn't matter. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire worked to engage young people in two-way communication, providing them space to express their opinion and ideas through different platforms in a coordinated approach through U-Report, la Voix des Jeunes, young reporters and digital media. A significant accomplishment in terms of youth engagement is the recruitment of more than 160,000 U-Reporters since the soft launch in December 2016, making U-Report Côte d'Ivoire the fourth U-Report country in terms of numbers of U-Reporters.

Strategic Plan 2018-2021

In 2018, the Government of Cote d'Ivoire plans to review the National Development Plan 2016-2020 to align this strategic document to the SDGs. This will be an opportunity for the UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire country office to influence the process and include in the document the child-related objectives of the Strategic Plan, adapted to national context.

In reaching the goals of the Strategic Plan, UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire will conduct a midterm review of its programme strategy to highlight new areas such as urbanization, environment and youth. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire will take into consideration challenges related to unfinished decentralisation agenda, limited participation of the citizens in budget planning and supervision and weak intersectoral approach in planning and implementing of child related interventions.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire will build on the strategic sectoral plans to make sure that the goals stipulated in the Strategic Plan, are adapted to the country specific needs. For example, with the support of the CO, the Government adopted the ESP for the next decade (2016-2025), endorsed by all technical and financial partners.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire was invited by the Government to provide technical support for the development of the ESP and ensured that the document was aligned with the SDG goals; addressed equity issues; and incorporated indicators and targets related to education using the DevInfo monitoring application to review the progress of Cote d'Ivoire's educational targets and facilitate real time updates at local regional and national levels.

Emerging areas of importance

The second decade. Following the situation analysis on adolescent health in 2016, the CO started to conceptualize a comprehensive response integrating HIV and STIs, sexual and reproductive health, nutrition, hygiene and reduction of violence with a dual track on improving the quality of services (capacity building, equipment and medicines) and increasing the demand for services (through communication campaigns, peer educators, outreach activities). In 2017, the CO supported 46 per cent of the schools health centres across the country providing adolescent responsive health services to adolescents and youth. The CO benefitted from the seven per cent set aside fund to strengthen its intervention in 2018.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire engaged its partners in the elaboration of the investment case for adolescent girls in Cote d'Ivoire, with two priorities: advancing secondary girls' education and gender-responsive adolescent health. The investment case draws attention of decision-makers to the situation of adolescent girls (15-19 years) in Cote d'Ivoire to achieve a greater degree of commitment, partnerships and resources. It will be finalized and costed in 2018.

In 2017, UNICEF focussed on adolescent health and well-being in urban settings with support to the MoH, the Ministry of Youth, and the Ministry of Women and Children to provide a comprehensive and integrated package of interventions to adolescents in Abidjan's poorest districts (Youpougon and Abobo). Interventions included HIV- and STI-prevention, sexual and reproductive health, adolescent engagement and participation, prevention of violence and social and vocational reinsertion. This programme was funded by the European Union and will reach more than 3,000 youth within two years. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire deployed efforts to fight urban violence involving adolescents and youth through partnership with the National Security Council to support a programme of reinsertion of adolescents and youth involved in urban violence.

Urbanization. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire conducted a mapping of interventions in Abidjan's urban areas that revealed that the CO is working in three out of five strategic areas in the field of

urbanization (reducing equity gaps, enhancing the voice and participation, strengthen the evidence). The interventions were focused on improving access to social services, particularly in the most disadvantaged districts of Abobo and Youpougon: 11,000 households were reached with awareness campaigns on essential family practices; 100 health workers were trained on early malnutrition, detection and treatment; and 13 health centres were supplied with equipment in Abidjan. The UNICEF CO supported the social reintegration of 450 former young delinquents and trained 200 young leaders in the early detection of school drop-out risks.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire analysed the impact of plastic waste on children and explored ways to address the issue, including an innovation to transform plastic waste into construction material, with the potential of creating income-generating activities for women and young people, improve the environment and sanitize urban and rural settings for better health of children. In 2018 the CO will strengthen these intersectoral interventions in the most disadvantaged urban areas, with particular emphasis on climate change adaptation and education of young the generation.

Early childhood development (ECD). The CO established an ECD taskforce in the office to strengthen intersectoral interventions and synergies between health, education, protection and social inclusion programmes. In 2017, the ECD national coordination achieved an important milestone by leading the development and finalization of a holistic ECD policy for the country. The policy development process fostered constructive dialogue between national and external partners on gaps in sectoral policies and strategies, and how to build a common vision that will enlarge children's access to quality ECD services in a coordinated manner. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire participated in partner's efforts to anchor the national coordination at higher level given that ECD requires intersectoral synergies and strong political leadership to scale up ECD services across the country.

In 2017, the CO supported the National Council of Nutrition to elaborate a plan of action to integrate early child stimulation and parenting into the roll-out of the national multi-sectorial nutrition strategy in collaboration with the Bernard Van Leer Foundation and Helen Keller International. In 2018, the CO will provide technical support in this area in collaboration with other partners including the World Bank.

Summary Notes and Acronyms

AIDS-acquired immuno-deficiency syndrom
C4D-communication for development
CHW -community health workers
CLTS-community led total sanitation
CMT-country management team
CO-Country Office
CPD-Country Programme Document
DCT-direct cash transfer
ECD-early child development
ESP- education sector plan
GAVI-Global Alliance for Vaccine and Immunization
GPE-Global Partnership for Education
HACT-harmonized approach for cash transfer
LLINs - long lasting insecticidal nets
MICS-Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey
MoE-Ministry of Education
NDP-National Development Plan

NGO-non governmental organization
NMODA-national multiple and overlapping deprivation analysis
OCHA-United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
SAM-severe acute malnutrition
SDG-Sustainable Development Goal
SUN-Scaling-up Nutrition
UNAIDS-Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDSS-United Nations Department of Safety and Security
WASH -water sanitation and hygiene
WHO-World Health Organization

Capacity development

In 2017, 1,525 traditional healers, 70 district-level communication and nutrition focal points and 25 NGO staff were trained in communication for development approaches to support essential family practices, referral of women and children to health centres and community-based disease surveillance in 40 health districts. Capacities of local authorities and health directors from eight health districts were reinforced in crisis communication to manage rumours about the introduction of chlorine solution for water treatment at household level to improve the water quality.

The national community health strategy giving community health workers a status and regulating compensation has been adopted, and 14,500 of these workers were mapped nationally.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire supported capacity development of social centres and judiciary services in six regions. Ninety-six magistrates, judicial child protection educators and social workers were trained on national standards of the administrative and judiciary protection of children. All courts and social centres (five courts and 10 social centres) received equipment (computers, printers and new pre-fabricated offices) in targeted areas. For birth registration, 125 health workers were trained to enhance their sense of responsibility and involvement in birth registration.

Capacities of the task force teams in charge of the education sector plan (ESP) implementation were reinforced for sectoral analysis and management of education systems, safe schools and DI monitoring, an innovative tool that will facilitate the follow up of performance indicators aligned with the Plan. The teams received tools and equipment to facilitate the implementation of ESP's activities nationally, regionally and locally.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire supported training and coaching of 384 health workers in paediatric care.

Through the development of investment cases, the CO aims to enhance and support the domestic resource mobilization capacity of line ministries as well as building their skills in promoting child-sensitive and equity-focused budget planning and allocations.

Evidence generation, policy dialogue and advocacy

The National Multiple and Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (NMODA, based on 2012 DHS) and MICS 2017 data on child deprivation were used for the review of the Government's Social Protection Strategy and for the development of its Action Plan. The rights of the children are reflected in the strategic areas of the National Social Protection Strategy.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire supported the organization of national workshops and consultations with state and non-state actors and the donor community to set up the National Child Protection

Committee. Its objectives were to ensure and follow up high-level coordination of child related policies and Convention on the Rights of the Child reporting.

As a co-sponsor, UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire supported the organization of the International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa that took place in Abidjan in December 2017. The conference was an opportunity for UNICEF to position itself as a champion for children and adolescents living with HIV, and it brought partners on board to accelerate results for children.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire played a leading role as the chair of the basic education sector group in policy dialogue around early childhood development that facilitated the development of national policy. This helped to shape UNICEF's approach to expand preschool services by using integrated ECD interventions in most deprived areas.

To provide equitable access to primary health, an investment case was developed, and a policy dialogue with the MoH and partners was started to set up an equitable health system to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

UNICEF supported the First Ladies' meeting on Child Protection in West Africa and the Sahel during which a declaration to end violence against children was approved. UNICEF CO supported the organisation of the SUN Movement Global Gathering in November 2017, in Abidjan.

Partnerships

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire joined the Ivoirian Humanitarian Platform for Private Sector to better coordinate humanitarian response among Government, United Nations agencies and companies.

In collaboration with the Office of the First Lady and companies, the CO strengthened its position in the cocoa sector to protect children against child labour. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire conducted a study on the situation of children in cocoa growing communities to discuss children's rights issues in the sector and proposed innovative programmatic interventions.

To raise multi-year funding, global programme partnerships were deepened with the Global Fund, GAVI and the Global Partnership for Education. As Global Fund and GAVI are extending their health agenda, the CO positioned UNICEF as a main partner for health system strengthening in Cote d'Ivoire with a focus on horizontal programming and an integrated approach to community health.

In 2017, the CO initiated a global partnership with les Jeux de la Francophonie, an international sports and arts event held every four years in French-speaking countries, with top tier visibility for UNICEF logos and an estimated audience of 541 million in 80 countries.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire co-sponsored the International HIV and STIS Conference in Africa in Abidjan, an opportunity to raise children and adolescents' HIV related issues in the region. It strengthened partnerships with community organizations, resulting in the scaling up of the promotion of essential family practices. It supported the organization of the First Ladies' meeting on Child Protection in West Africa and the Sahel, during which a declaration committing to end violence against children was approved. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire signed a formal agreement with the World Bank for the implementation of a pilot project on in-service teacher training for preschool teachers.

External communication and public advocacy

In 2017, UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire developed and implemented a multi-year external communication and advocacy approach in line with global, regional and national priorities, contributing to increase youth engagement in the country as well as the awareness and willingness to act for children's rights.

The quantity and quality of the CO's external communications improved, quadrupling its social media presence on Facebook (10,757 in 2016 to over 43,000 in 2017), tripling its Twitter audience (1,171 in 2016 to over 3,300 in 2017) and extending its presence to two new platforms (Instagram and LinkedIn with each over 1,500 followers). UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire was the most followed international organization in the country and amongst the top three UNICEF CO in the region. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire multimedia content improved through the creation of a new photo bank available on We Share, widely used on global social media, including a video that generated the most engagement ever on UNICEF Global Instagram with 200,000 actions.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire was proactive in global communication campaigns including World Children's Day, with Kids Take Over at its office, the Government, the UN system, in schools, media and on social media with the participation of 10 of the top influencers in country.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire has a particularly dynamic, integrated and comprehensive youth engagement programme with la Voix des Jeunes and Youth Reporters to which U-Report was integrated this year, with more than 160,000 U-Reporters in its first year, making UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire the 4th U-Report country in terms of numbers.

Finally, the CO facilitated several high-level and ambassadors' visits, including the UNICEF Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director and Regional Director, and Kids United.

South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation

South-South cooperation with Colombia was initiated that links the transformation of plastic waste into construction materials, income-generation opportunities for adolescents and positive health benefits for children. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire fostered the collaboration between the MoE and Community Systems Foundation, an organization based in India, to build an innovative monitoring system to facilitate real time performance monitoring of the ESP. Experts from Community Systems Foundation reinforced the capacity of 12 national experts and provided them with the tools and knowledge to assess the progress made in implementing the ESP.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire contributed to South-South cooperation and knowledge exchange by organizing a visit of representatives of Côte d'Ivoire's Ministry of Youth to Nigeria to better understand recruitment, scaling-up mechanisms, and how Government can give a voice to the youth and take action.

Identification and promotion of innovation

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire established an Innovation Centre as an incubator of ideas to deliver results. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire constructed an electronic signboard at a market place that has an average of two million people. The board is controlled at the office location and programmatic messages are broadcasted.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire pursued innovation in resource mobilization. It developed 'scalable and modular budgets' to attract resources at scale and started using it in donor proposals. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire advanced its innovative work on investment cases and engagement strategies to align Government, partners and their resources to maximize finances.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire supported a promising routine pilot in collaboration with Helen Keller International in northern Cote d'Ivoire. This experience strengthened demand for health and nutrition services over 1,000 days using SMS reminders.

A new design of basic emergency obstetrical and neonatal care training was adopted (ESM-UBT training approach) in collaboration with Harvard University. The ESM-UBT device rapidly halts blood loss in women suffering from uncontrolled postpartum haemorrhage. The approach is combined with the Helping Baby Breathe approach. A pool of 128 trainers was established and will support training in 2018.

U-Report reached people during the malaria campaign; 12 million long-lasting Insecticide Treated Nets were distributed to 3.4 million children to cover four million households. This platform will be used in 2018 to follow up on mosquito-net utilization. U-report was used for HACT implementation to ascertain if payments and activities were carried out.

Support to integration and cross-sectoral linkages

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire developed an integrated and cross-sectoral approach to adolescent development. The concept includes adolescent health and well-being (including HIV, sexual and reproductive health, prevention of unwanted pregnancies, nutrition and hygiene including menstrual hygiene management), prevention of violence against adolescents (focused on preventing violence in school) and increasing adolescent competencies to support their transition to employment and active citizenship

In terms of promoting ECD in an integrating manner interlinking education, health and nutrition, the CO supported the launch of a campaign focusing on the first 1,000 days of a child's life, critical for optimal growth and development. The campaign was launched during the celebration of the breastfeeding week and was an opportunity to raise awareness of the first 1,000 day period, including early child stimulation a multi-sectoral, child-friendly, community approach. Through cross-sector collaboration, a concept note was validated and institutional arrangements finalized.

The National Strategic Plan for community health was used as platform for the development of a multi-sectoral child-friendly community approach. Through cross-sectoral collaboration, a concept note was validated and institutional arrangements were finalized.

Service delivery

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire provided learning kits and playing materials to 56,924 primary school students and 2,374 children aged three to five. A total of 298 teachers were trained on psychosocial support to detect children in need of care and protection and to refer them to appropriate services. Almost 12,000 children suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were treated with a cure rate of 78.0 per cent.

About 7.4 million children aged six to 59 months received a biannual dose of Vitamin A supplementation and oral polio vaccine during national immunization days. Participatory community-based interventions for the promotion of essential family practices reached 56,824 households living in 14 slums in Abidjan and 40 health districts.

A total of 745 adolescents and youth who tested HIV-positive were put on treatment, supported and followed up; 1,614 HIV-positive pregnant/breastfeeding women on treatment were followed-up and 1,200 treatment-kits of STIs were distributed. One million condoms were distributed.

With the Global Fund, UNICEF CI undertook a nation-wide distribution of over 12 million bednets covering 3.4 million children.

A total of 8,399,598 children aged 0 to 59 months were vaccinated against polio through National Polio Campaigns, 7,918,452 children aged six to 59 months received vitamin A, and 2,250,489 children were dewormed.

A total of 46,000 people were provided with water, sanitation and hygiene services through a World Bank-supported WASH in Health programme in 64 health centres, with focus on water supply in delivery rooms.

The Ministry of Justice in partnership with UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire launched a special operation to register 1,165,325 children enrolled in primary school, to provide them with a birth certificate.

Human rights-based approach to cooperation

In 2017 the CO strengthened efforts to create a national intersectoral mechanism to report and follow-up on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other human rights treaties. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire provided support to the Ministry of Women and Children to draft a decree on the creation of the National Child Committee.

Child labour is a priority in Cote d'Ivoire for the Government, development partners and private sector. The latest MICS data highlighted that there has been no significant progress in child labour rates in the country in all sectors including household work. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire met with the authorities to discuss internationally-accepted methodology used for the calculation of child labour in MICS5 influencing policy responses to prevent child labour, including by supporting and participating in the high-level meetings on child protection issues.

The Cote d'Ivoire delegation participated in a meeting organized by the Coordination Group on Prevention of Child Labour in Cocoa Industries, held in Washington and also at a regional First Ladies' conference on preventing violence against children in Abidjan in 2017. The results of participation in these for a, and advocacy efforts taking a holistic approach to child labour, will be seen in 2018 when a new action plan on child labour will be developed.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire leads the working group on civil registration and wrote a joint advocacy letter to the Prime Minister signed with the World Bank, European Union, Belgian Embassy and AFD calling for a clearer commitment from the Government on implementation of the reform of the Civil Registration System.

Gender equality

The Country Office CPD 2017-2020 focussed on two gender priorities: gender-responsive adolescent health and advancing girls' secondary education. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire started developing an investment case for adolescent girls, to obtain a greater degree of commitment, partnerships and resources for this category of population.

On girl's education, 2017 witnessed a significant improvement in girls' net enrolment rate (90 per cent versus 86 per cent) and a slight reduction of the gender gap (3.1 versus 3.5 points). Efforts for girls to complete primary and secondary school: boys' primary school completion rate is 73 per cent for and less than 65 per cent for girls; secondary completion rate is 69.9 per cent for boys compared to 56.6 per cent for girls. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire reinforced its advocacy for

the establishment of nearby secondary schools for better access and retention of adolescent girls.

On adolescent health, the human papilloma vaccine pilot project reached 18,000 girls, including health visits and deworming. A total of 151,600 adolescent girls aged 10-24 were reached by behaviour-change communication interventions; operational research on the needs of pregnant adolescents was carried out to better respond. Main recommendations focussed on better linkages between health and social services for a comprehensive support to pregnant adolescent. A successful advocacy to the Global Fund led to the inclusion adolescent's girls and young women as priority population for the next subvention 2018-2021 with additional budget of US\$ 500,000.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire supported the empowerment of adolescent girls and women in terms of skills and confidence to foster their engagement in peace-building work with their male peers in western region and Abidjan, in partnership with UN Women. Thus, 119 young girls and 81 adolescent boys were trained in conflict prevention and the use of early warning mechanisms like U-Report to raise their voice on this issue. In collaboration with communications and communications for development sections, the Girls'Day on the issue of school related gender-based violence was celebrated gathering 500 girls and 100 boys to share their experiences and address this topic in freedom.

Environmental sustainability

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire received funding from the Environmental and Accessibility Fund from UNICEF NY Headquarters to change all bulbs from fluorescents to Light Emission Diode (LED) and to use solar power for the information and communication technology (ICT) server room. The two initiatives reduced overall Co2 emissions of the office by about 30 per cent with a corresponding reduction in the electricity energy consumption.

Network-shared printers were installed with unique printing password codes for each user. Users had to manually input their assigned code on the printer before they could print a document thus minimising wastages due to erroneous printing. Furthermore, retro verso printing was enabled for network-shared printer, further reducing paper consumption.

To reduce travel of staff members, the CO made use of Skype for Business video conferencing facilities meetings of such as statutory committees, staff and section meetings. Hence staff in the field offices did not need to travel to attend these meetings and could join remotely and participate actively in these meetings.

Effective leadership

Management presented the priorities of the CO in the CPD at an all staff meeting. Based on this, a bottom-up process with dual and continuous flow of information between management and staff was used to develop the annual management plan (AMP). The AMP was presented at an all staff meeting by the UNICEF Representative and staff raised questions and comments on the document. The final plan took into account the comments and was shared to all staff by the Representative. Management ensured that country management team (CMT) meetings were done and performance indicators established which were reviewed and corrective action taken as necessary.

Management had joint consultative committee meetings with staff representatives, and staff "get togethers" to reinforce team spirit. Also for team spirit, a staff retreat was held and the climax of this retreat was a video song on UNICEF's mission done by staff in the CO.

Programme and operations meetings were held to review pre-established performance indicators and operations staff participated in programme meetings and vice-versa. The CO developed its business continuity plan and used Rapid Pro to create an alternative communication medium in addition to the primary radio communication channel. Certain components of the business communication plan, such as the communication tree, were activated during security incidents.

The CO developed its risk profile with full staff participation. A mid- and end-year review was conducted and shared with all personnel. Management encouraged staff to consider opportunities, new ways of doing things and associated risks.

Financial resources management

Donor reports, budget utilization and direct cash transfers are monitored monthly at the CMT. Donor contributions are followed up on a monthly basis in the CMT meeting. As a result, utilization rates are 96 per cent for Regular Resources (RR), 94 per cent for Other Resources – Emergency (ORE), 85 per cent for Other Resources – Regular (ORR) and 99 per cent for Institutional Budget. One hundred per cent of donor reports (42) were submitted on time. Outstanding Direct Cash Transfers (DCTs) were reviewed on a weekly basis resulting to the office having no DCTs more than nine months as of year-end; through regular review of outstanding bank items, there were no long outstanding un-reconciled bank items.

Regular reviews and reconciliation of asset registers, and timely execution of PSB decisions, resulted in a complete and error-free asset database. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire provided vehicle support to UNAIDS, UNWOMEN, UNDP and UNESCO, appreciated by the respective heads of agencies. Awareness sessions on travel management and its impact on funding and on the traveller were conducted resulting to Travel Authorisations being closed within the stipulated time-frame by travellers or their designate.

Fundraising and donor relations

The overall level of CO funding for 2017-2020 is US\$ 68,5 million (RR US\$ 11,5 million + ORR: US\$ 57 million) which represents 49 per cent of the CPD ceiling (US\$ 139,8 million) during the first year of the CPD. Of this amount, US\$ 43 million were new ORR funds mobilized in 2017.

The Resource Mobilization, Leveraging and Partnerships Strategy 2017-2020 was finalized. Beyond a traditional approach to mobilizing resources for UNICEF programmes, it proposes a new strategic framework to leverage public-private investments to catalyse change and deliver nationwide results for children. Tapping into domestic resources through partnering with the domestic Government and private actors was put forward as an effective way to strengthen national development and ownership.

Whilst partnerships with the European Union, World Bank, Global Fund, GPE, GAVI, Korea International Cooperation Agency, Japan, Natcoms and the private sector were reinforced, the office ran outreach initiatives (KfW, IDB, USAID, Canada) to diversify and ensure high quality revenue.

The CO advanced its upstream work through the development of sectoral investment cases (sector budget analyses, unit costs, fiscal space, economic returns) and engagement strategies of partners around the investment cases. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire developed 'scalable and modular budgets' as an innovative means to attract resources at scale and used it as a new tool in donor proposals.

In 2017, 42 donor reports (100 per cent of reports on time) and 31 donor proposals were submitted. Social media for donor visibility, human interest stories and photos were used to keep donors engaged. In terms of capacity building, the focus was on strengthening awareness of leveraging and positioning UNICEF (technical expertise, relational power, bargaining power, voice, reach) as well as on building resource mobilization knowledge across the CO.

Evaluation and research

In 2017, the CO ensured the implementation of the response plan to the evaluation of sustainability in the WASH sector that was carried out in 2016. The response plan was integrated in the AWP for 2017 and was reviewed quarterly, as a standing item of the WASH cluster.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire supported the evaluation of the 2012-2015 Plan for the elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV conducted by an international independent consultant. The evaluation report identified weaknesses in implementation and made recommendations to all stakeholders to reach elimination. The report confirmed the relevance of the plan and its contribution to undeniable programmatic results. As response to this evaluation, the Government adopted new regulations on access HIV/ AIDS treatment.

Efficiency gains and cost savings

The CO created a share-point application for visitors and staff access, vehicle requests, travel management and leave and attendance monitoring. The CO reduced the use of paper by 50 per cent with savings on average of US\$1,000 per month. These applications increased transparency and monitoring and reduced the processing time of transactions by 40 per cent.

The CO used pre-cleared talent pools for recruitment for general and national staff. Also, the office established and monitored its bi-annual recruitment plan for temporary assistants and consultants thus ensuring that these recruitments were done as per schedule. Vacancies were filled using the rosters, which shortened the recruitment process for general and national officers. The office established 22 long term agreements in seven categories for the procurement of goods and services resulting to a savings in staff time transaction cost of US\$7,465 per long term agreement per transaction. A total of 217 purchase orders were placed under the long term agreements that resulted in a monetary gain in staff labour cost of US\$ 1,619,905.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire negotiated simplified procedures for customs exemption thus reducing the time for custom clearance of shipments from 12 to two weeks.

Supply management

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire commenced distribution of over 12 million LLINs for malaria prevention to households in the country. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire implemented an agreement with the MoH where all supplies and in-country logistics, including storage, are managed by the ministry. The office provided capacity-building training for partners in the areas of forecasts, warehouse and logistics management. The result of these actions is that Government contribution for the procurement of essential vaccines has started to be collected for 2018.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire procured goods and services for UNICEF Central Africa Republic, Niger and Burkina Faso, for a value of US\$64,000. The CO worked with the MoE to standardize school kits for children and specifications for the construction of schools. Based on the standard

kits, the CO advocated and the Government provided 2,731,423 kits with a value US\$25,293,922 in addition to 59,298 kits procured by the CO with a value of US\$ 549,120.

(2) Total value of supplies and services received (i.e. irrespective of procurement location)	
Programmatic supplies including PS-funded	\$37,580,576.59
Channelled via regular Procurement Services	\$5,353,908.67
Channelled via Gavi	\$26,603,873.19
Channelled via Programme	\$5,622,794.73
Operational supplies	\$338,729.67
Services	\$8,169,386.36
International Freight	\$2,439,845.62
TOTAL supplies and services received	\$48,528,538.24

Security for staff and premises

All UNICEF's premises within the COs were MOSS compliant. All personnel were provided with handheld radios and included in the security plan of the office. Completion of advanced and basic security training was strictly enforced and staff who travel made periodic radio checks with the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS). From the security funds received from the UNICEF Regional Office, 15 staff were trained on first aid and one staff undertook the emergency trauma training.

The office maintained contact with UNDSS locally and the Regional Office Security Adviser as required. Drivers took a basic vehicle maintenance and defensive drivers training. Security briefings were conducted for all personnel and security awareness sessions were conducted to facilitate knowledge sharing and exchange of information. Security guard trainings on hostile surveillance, terrorism and security access procedures were done by UNDSS. Management ensured that broadcasts on security incidents were sent out through radio, email and text messages to ensure greater coverage. The office collaborated with the UN Country Team to ensure the security and safety of personnel including the timely review and approval of the UN Common Security Budget.

Human resources

Based on competency gaps and skills noted during the performance planning phase, learning plans were prepared. Seventy-five per cent and 65 per cent of approved group and individual learning activities were implemented by the year-end 2017. Staff provided eight technical missions (covering human resources, supply, finance, HIV/AIDs, protection, planning monitoring and evaluation) to other COs and the UNICEF Regional Office. Six staff went on stretch assignments. These missions provided a forum for learning and sharing best practices across offices. The office ensured that all but one of the OR posts funded from RR were reversed by year-end to the relevant OR funding source. Funding not reversed was for one abolished post.

The CO conducted a staffing competency analysis and implemented two approved programme budget review decisions. Management encouraged staff to discuss ongoing performance and give timely positive and constructive feedback. A training facilitated by UNICEF NY Headquarters was conducted for staff on performance management. Also, performance planning was an indicator monitored at the CMT.

There is an action plan with a June 30 2018 deadline to address the CO priorities on career development, office efficiency and effectiveness and human resources reform. Ninety-four per

cent of staff completed the "UN Cares: HIV in the workplace" training online in 2017. The CO used RR funds to temporarily bridge funding for eight positions.

Effective use of information and communication technology

Trainings were conducted on the use of office automation tools, and there was increase in the use of these technologies for meetings and collaboration on project documents. Use of these tools enabled the office to collaborate on documents with partners.

The CO provided support to the Institute of National Statistics for use of a Computerized Assisted Personal Interview System for data collection and analysis for the MICS. This system facilitated the near real-time analysis and correction of field data, with monetary gain of US\$60,000, and a reduction in data processing time from 60 to 35 days and in data collection from 135 to 90 days.

Programme Components from RAM

ANALYSIS BY OUTCOME AND OUTPUT RESULTS

OUTCOME 1 New Element

Analytical statement of progress

Management presented the priorities of UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire as reflected in its CPD to an all staff meeting. Based on this, a bottom up process with dual and continuous flow of information between management and staff was used to develop the AMP. Programme and operations meetings were held to review pre-established performance indicators and operations staff participated in programme meetings and vice-versa. The office developed its business continuity plan and used Rapid Pro to create an alternative communication medium in addition to the primary radio communication channel.

The CO developed its risk profile with full staff participation. A mid- and end-year review was conducted and shared to all personnel. Training was conducted on the use of Office Automation tools and there is an increase in the use of these technologies for meetings and collaboration on project documents. The CO provided support to the Institute of National Statistics for use of a Computerized Assisted Personal Interview System for data collection and analysis for the MICS. This system facilitated the near real-time analysis and correction of field data with a resulting monetary gain of US\$60,000, and a reduction in data processing time from 60 to 35 days and in data collection from 135 to 90 days.

Donor reports, budget utilization, direct cash transfers were monitored monthly at the CMT.

Regular reviews and reconciliation of asset registers and timely execution of PSB decisions resulted to a complete and error-free asset database. The CO provided vehicle support to UNAIDS, UNWOMEN, UNDP and UNESCO which was appreciated by the heads of agency.

The CO commenced distribution of 15.72 million LLINs for malaria prevention to households in the country. The CO implemented an agreement with the MoH where all supplies and in-country logistics, including storage, were managed by the ministry. The CO provided capacity building training for partners in forecast, warehouse and logistics management. As a result, Government contribution for the procurement of essential vaccines started to be collected for 2018. The CO procured goods and services for UNICEF Central Africa Republic, Niger and Burkina Faso for a value of US\$64,000. The office worked with the MoE to standardize school kits for children and

specifications for the construction of schools. Based on these standard kits, the CO advocated and the Government provided 2,731,423 kits with a value US\$25,293,922 in addition to 59,298 kits procured by the CO with a value of US\$ 549,120.

Based on competency gaps and skills noted during the performance-planning phase, learning plans were prepared: 75 per cent and 65 per cent of approved group and individual learning activities were implemented by the year-end 2017. The CO conducted a staffing competency analysis and implemented two approved PBR decisions. An action plan was developed with a June 30 2018 deadline to address career development, office efficiency and effectiveness and Human Resource Reform.

OUTPUT 1 Governance and Systems

Analytical statement of progress

Management presented priorities of the office in CPD to an all staff meeting. Based on this, a bottom up process with dual and continuous flow of information between management and staff was used to developing the AMP. The AMP was presented at an all staff meeting by the Representative and staff had the opportunity to raise questions and comments on the document. The final AMP took into account comments of staff and was shared to all staff by the Representative. Management ensured that CMT meetings were done and performance indicators established which were reviewed and corrective action taken as necessary.

Management had Joint Consultative Committee Meetings with staff representatives and a staff 'get together' to reinforce team spirit within the office. To further the objective of team spirit, a staff retreat was held and a video song on UNICEF's mission was done by staff in UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire.

Programme and operations meetings were held to review pre-established performance indicators and operations staff participated in programme meetings and vice-versa. The CO developed its business continuity plan and used Rapid Pro to create an alternative communication medium in addition to the primary radio communication channel. Certain components of the business communication plans, such as the communication tree, were activated during security incidents.

The CO developed its risk profile with full staff participation. A mid- and end-year review was conducted and shared to all personnel. Management encouraged staff to consider opportunities, new ways of doing things and associated risks.

Training was conducted on the use of office automation tools and there is an increase in the use of these technologies for meetings and collaboration on project documents. Use of these tools enabled the office to collaborate on documents with partners.

The CO provided support to the Institute of National Statistics for use of a Computerized Assisted Personal Interview System for data collection and analysis for the MICS. This system facilitated the near real time analysis and correction of field data, with a resulting monetary gain of US\$60,000, and a reduction in data processing time from 60 to 35 days and in data collection from 135 to 90 days.

OUTPUT 2 Financial Resources and Stewardship

Analytical statement of progress

Donor reports, budget utilization, DCTs were monitored monthly at the CMT. Donor contributions were followed up on a monthly basis in the CMT meeting. As a result, utilization rates were 96 per cent for RR, 94 per cent for ORE, 85 per cent for ORR and 99 per cent for IB. One hundred per cent of 42 donor reports were submitted on time. Outstanding DCTs were reviewed on a weekly basis resulting that the office had no DCTs that were more than nine months as of year-end; through regular review of outstanding bank items, there are no long outstanding un-reconciled bank items.

Regular reviews and reconciliation of asset registers and timely execution of PSB decisions resulted to a complete and error free asset database. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire provided vehicle support to UNAIDS, UNWOMEN, UNDP and UNESCO which was appreciated. Awareness sessions on travel management and its impact on funding and on the traveller resulted intravel authorizations being closed within the stipulated time-frame by travellers or their designates.

The CO commenced distribution of 15,72 million LLINs for malaria prevention to households in the country. The CO implemented an agreement with the MoH where all supplies and in-country logistics including storage were managed by the ministry. The CO provided capacity building training for partners in forecast, warehouse and logistics management. The result of these actions is Government contribution for the procurement of essential vaccines started to be collected for 2018.

The CO procured goods and services for UNICEF Central Africa Republic, Niger and Burkina Faso for a value of US\$64,000. The CO worked with the MoE to standardize school kits for children and specifications for the construction of schools. Based on these standard kits, UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire advocated and the Government provided 2,731,423 kits with a value US\$25,293,922 in addition to 59,298 kits procured by the CO with a value of US\$ 549,120.

OUTPUT 3 Human Resources Management

Analytical statement of progress

Based on competency gaps and skills noted during the performance-planning phase, learning plans were prepared: 75 per cent and 65 per cent of approved group and individual learning activities were implemented by the year-end 2017. Eight technical missions covering human resources, supply, finance, HIV/AIDs, protection, planning monitoring and evaluation was provided by staff to other UNICEF country offices and/or the UNICEF Regional Office. Six staff went on stretch assignments. These missions provided a forum for learning and sharing best practices across offices. The Office ensured that all but one OR posts funded from RR during the year were reversed by the year-end to the relevant OR funding source. Funding not reversed was for one abolished post.

The CO conducted a staffing competency analysis and implemented two approved PBR decisions. Management encouraged staff to discuss ongoing performance and to give timely positive and constructive feedback. A training facilitated by UNICEF NY Headquarters was conducted for staff on performance management. Also, performance planning was an indicator monitored at the CMT.

An action plan with a June 30 2018 deadline addressed the office priorities of career development, office efficiency and effectiveness and Human Resource Reform. Ninety-four per cent of staff completed the "UN Cares: HIV in the workplace" training on line in 2017. The office used RR funds to temporarily bridge funding for eight positions. The Office ensured that all but one OR posts funded from RR during the year were reversed by the year end to the relevant OR funding source. Funding not reversed was for one abolished post.

OUTCOME 2 Country programmes are efficiently designed, coordinated, managed and supported to meet quality programming standards in achieving results for children.

Analytical statement of progress

To ensure efficiency in the implementation of programmes, sections and partners were supported in the cross-sectoral areas namely coordination, advocacy, partnership, communication, planning, monitoring and evaluation.

Thus, taking stock of lessons learned from previous programmes, the CO signed bi-annual workplan with Government. This approach helped the Ministries of Planning, Health and Child Protection to mobilize around US \$ 8 million in the framework of the 2018-2020 Public Investment Programme. The resources will complete 49 per cent of the CPD ceiling (US\$ 68,5 million) mobilized during 2017.

Quality assurance activities (spotcheck, programme monitoring visits, audits and micro-assessment) in the framework of the HACT implementation were planned and implemented in compliance with the minimum standards required. This was facilitated by capacity assessment and training on HACT principles.

In the domain of external communications, progress was made on visibility and interaction of the target groups of the programme. Thus, the CO become the most followed international organization in country due to, at least, the tripling of its audience on Facebook and Tweeter and extending of its presence to two new platforms (Instagram and LinkedIn with both over 1,500 followers). The CO has a dynamic, integrated and comprehensive youth engagement programme with la Voix des Jeunes and Youth Reporters, to which U-Report was integrated this year, with more than 160,000 U-Reporters in its first year, making UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire the fourth U-Report country in terms of numbers. UNICEF facilitated several high-level and ambassador visits, i.e. the Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, Regional Director and Kids United.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire strengthened the Government capacities to monitor the development of human capital, including child rights, with new data on child rights by the finalization of the key finding report of the MICS 5. Government endorsed the findings and used them in the first annual report of the National Development Plan (NDP) and national strategies related to SDGs. The CO strengthened the capacities of the Government in result based management. This resulted in the finalization of the Education and Training Sectoral Plan, the finalization of the Result Framework of the NDP and of the National Strategy of Social Protection (NSSP). For the NSSP, a 2018-2020 Action Plan have been developed. For NDP and Education Sectoral Plan an online integrated system for planning, monitoring and evaluation was under development.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire as lead of UN technical group on M&E in the country, was working on a partnership with UN Agencies to mainstream SDGs in the NDP. A roadmap for this work was validated by the UN Country Team and advocacy to strengthen the Government leadership was

ongoing.

In 2017, the CO strengthened its collaboration with the Office of the First Lady, companies and platforms to advance children rights, with focus on child labour in cocoa sector. It joined the Ivoirian Humanitarian Platform for Private Sector to better coordinate humanitarian response among Government, UN agencies and companies. Taking advantage of international events (Francophone Games, International HIV and STIS Conference in Africa, SUN Movement Global Gathering, First Ladies meeting on Child Protection in West Africa and the Sahel), the CO raised the issues of children, adolescents and women rights concerning HIV, sexually transmitted infections, protection and nutrition.

In C4D, the UNICEF CO strengthened partnerships with Government, community media, religious organizations, traditional healers, NGOs, UN agencies and donors, resulting in, among others, (i) the scaling up of interventions targeting the promotion of essential family practices, (ii) the advocacy for a more comprehensive and inter-sectoral implementation of civil registration reform, (iii) the development of the first national communication strategy for the education sector along with a communication strategy on malaria, (iv) the development of child-friendly communities programme to be implemented in 92 rural and urban communities, (v) capacity strengthening of local authorities and health directors from eight health districts in crisis communication to better manage rumours related to the introduction of chlorine solution for water treatment at household level to improve the water quality, (vi) the development of operational communication plans were developed and implemented to support national and regional communication campaigns on hygiene, polio, home based water treatment, first 1,000 days, routine immunization and the distribution of LLINs.

OUTPUT 1 UNICEF Staff and partners are provided guidance, tools and resources to effectively design and manage programmes

Analytical statement of progress

In 2017, the CO began a new programme cycle and to implement the new CPD, the CO developed in partnership with the Government a bi-annual workplan to achieve the targeted results of the programme strategy notes. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire planned to use US\$ 22 million OR and US\$ 11 million RR to implement the activities. Due to the bi-annual workplan and the support of CO, ministry partners (health, planning and protection) mobilized almost US\$ 8 million in the framework of the 2018-2020 Public Investment Programme.

The overall level of CO funding at the end of 2017 was US\$ 68,5 million (RR US\$ 11,5 million + ORR: US\$ 57 million), which represents 49 per cent of the CPD ceiling (US\$ 139,8 million) during the first year of the CPD. Of this amount, US\$ 43 million were new ORR funds mobilized in 2017.

As of 31 December 2017, the implementation rate was 92 per cent (96 per cent for RR and 90 per cent for OR).

In 2017, 42 donor reports (100 per cent of reports on time) and 31 proposals were submitted. Social media for donor visibility, human interest stories and photos were used to keep donors engaged. In terms of capacity-building, the focus was on strengthening awareness of leveraging and positioning UNICEF (technical expertise, relational power, bargaining power, voice, reach) as well as on further building resource mobilization know-how across the CO.

HACT implementation was improved with compliance with standards and minimum required assurance activities. Sixty spotchecks (102 per cent) of the minimum required were completed, and 107 programme monitoring visits executed (115 per cent of the minimum required due). Five audits out of the seven planned and 10 micro assessments were conducted. Quality assurance activities, capacity assessment, and training on HACT principles were implemented during programme reviews and specific capacity building trainings were conducted during spotchecks.

OUTPUT 2 UNICEF Staff and partners are provided tools, guidance and resources for effective communication on children rights issues with stakeholders

Analytical statement of progress

The quantity and quality of the CO's external communications was significantly improved: quadrupling social media presence on Facebook (10,757 in 2016 to over 43,000 in 2017), tripling its Twitter audience (1,171 in 2016 to over 3,300 in 2017) whilst extending its presence to two new platforms (Instagram and LinkedIn with both over 1500 followers), making UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire the most followed international organization in the country and amongst the top three UNICEF CO in the region. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire multimedia content was improved through the creation of a new photo bank available on We Share, widely used on global social media, including a video that generated the most engagement ever on UNICEF Global Instagram with 200,000 actions (like, shares, comments).

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire was proactive in global communication campaigns including World Children's Day with Kids Take Over at UNICEF office, the Government, the UN system; in schools, media and on social media with the participation of 10 of the top influencers in country.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire had a dynamic, integrated and comprehensive youth engagement programme with la Voix des Jeunes and Youth Reporters to which U-Report was integrated this year, with more than 160,000 U-Reporters in its first year, making the CO the fourth U-Report country in terms of numbers.

Finally, UNICEF facilitated several high-level and ambassadorial visits, i.e. the Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, Regional Director and Kids United.

OUTPUT 3 UNICEF programmes, government and partners are provided guidance, tools and resources to effectively plan, monitor and evaluate programmes including in emergency situations

Analytical statement of progress

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire strengthened the national monitoring system on child rights through the MICS5 done jointly with the Government. This survey tracked progress on basic child rights' indicators to monitor the performance of NDP and national strategies related to SDGs. The finding of the MICS will allow for better UNICEF and UN in general programming. The MICS was validated by the Government in the Ministers Council.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire supported line ministries in charge of education to develop a result-based ten-year strategic plan for the sector. The ten year plan was endorsed by the Government and the global education partners. The CO supported the plan's coordination team in programme monitoring and evaluation through the development of a web-based tool for programme monitoring built on the DevInfo technology.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire developed the same tool with Ministry of Planning to monitor the NDP. The tool allows online monitoring of progress on the implementation of the NDP by Ministry of Planning and sectoral ministries. The strategic module of the results framework is available online. This strengthened the Government capacity to monitor human resource capital as well as child rights.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire as lead of UN technical group on M&E in the country worked on a partnership with UN agencies to mainstream SDGs in the NDP. A roadmap for this work was validated by the UN Country Team and advocacy to strengthen the Government leadership ongoing.

OUTPUT 4 UNICEF staff and partners are provided tools, guidance and resources for effective advocacy and partnerships on children rights issues with stakeholders

Analytical statement of progress

In 2017, the CO joined the Ivorian Humanitarian Platform for Private Sector; this will better coordinate any humanitarian response among Government, UN agencies and companies.

Through collaborations with the Office of the First Lady, businesses and civil society, the CO significantly strengthened its positioning in the cocoa sector (a key industry in Côte d'Ivoire, touching +three million children) in order to advance children rights (with particular focus on child labour). UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire conducted a study on the situation of children in cocoa growing communities to identify the most salient children's rights issues in the sector and inform both UNICEF programmatic interventions and industry's sustainability/CSR initiatives through advocacy and strategic engagement with selected companies and platforms.

At the international level, amongst other significant activities, the CO initiated a global partnership with les Jeux de la Francophonie, an international sports and arts event held every four years in French-speaking countries, with top tier positioning for UNICEF logo and an estimated audience of 541 million in 80 countries. It co-sponsored the International HIV and STIS Conference in Africa in Abidjan in December, an opportunity to raise children and adolescents' HIV related issues in the region. As the lead of technical and financial partners for nutrition in Côte d'Ivoire, the CO supported the organization of the SUN Movement Global Gathering which took place in November, in Abidjan. Finally, the CO supported the organization of the First Ladies' meeting on Child Protection in West Africa and the Sahel where a declaration committing to end violence against children was approved.

At the national level, the CO strengthened partnerships with community media, religious organizations and traditional healers, resulting in the scaling up of interventions targeting the promotion of essential family practices. It led an important donor's working group on birth registration that includes the World Bank, African Development Bank, European Union and advocated for a more comprehensive and intersectoral implementation of civil registration reform. Finally, the CO signed a formal agreement with the World Bank for the implementation of a pilot project on in-service teacher training for preschool teachers.

OUTPUT 5 UNICEF programmes, Government and civil society partners are provided guidance, tools and resources to effectively design and manage C4D interventions including in emergency situations for demand creation and community empowerment in targeted regions

Analytical statement of progress

Communication for development contributed in programme results through the development of the first national communication strategy for the education sector along with a communication strategy on malaria. Operational communication plans were developed and implemented to support communication national and regional campaigns on hygiene, polio, home-based water treatment, first 1000 days, routine immunization and the distribution of LLINs.

Government and civil society actors, including 1,525 traditional healers and 70 districts level communication and nutrition focal points, and 25 NGO members were skilled in C4D approaches to promote essential family practices, the referral of women and children to health centres and the community-based surveillance of diseases in 40 health districts. Capacities of local authorities and health directors from eight health districts were reinforced in crisis communication to manage rumours related to the introduction of chlorine solution for water treatment at household level to improve the water quality.

Participatory community-based interventions were implemented in 14 slums in Abidjan and 13 health districts with two local NGOs, the religious alliance and traditional healers' networks. Cumulative actions reached 56,824 households and led to the completion of required antenatal visits by 1,415 pregnant women, the facilitation of birth registration for 733 children over 1,174 identified, the complete vaccination of 1,056 children aged 0-11 months, the actual use of LLINs by 995 households and 2,320 households practicing correct hand washing.

Communication for development and child survival and development sections supported the MoH to develop child-friendly communities programme to be implemented within 92 rural and urban communities. The communication for development and education sections supported the empowerment of adolescent girls and women to participate in peace-building and social cohesion in the northern, southern and western parts of the country. A total of 119 girls and 81 boys were trained in conflict prevention and the use of early warning mechanisms including U-report. Together with communications and education sections, Girls' Day was celebrated with 500 girls and 100 boys who were sensitized on of school-related gender-based violence issues.

Within the scope of the child-friendly radio project, guidance and tools were provided to community media to promote child rights. This resulted in the enrichment and quality improvement of radio programmes carried out by 72 radio stations covering 68 health districts. A manual on child rights promotion related radio programme was produced for this purpose.

UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire played a lead role to set up a coordination committee including all the national programmes and directorates under MoH to improve synergies of C4D interventions for better results.

C4D strengthened partnerships with community media, religious organizations and national programmes to scale-up interventions targeting religious and rural communities for the promotion of essential family practices.

In 2018, actions will focus on engagement with universities and research institutes to support capacity building, research and strategic planning in C4D. C4D will work to better monitor and evaluate its contribution to programmes results.

OUTCOME 3 By 2020, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, and children under five utilize quality nutrition services offering high impact interventions and promoting optimal nutrition behaviours.

Analytical statement of progress

Recognizing the importance of nutrition for survival and development, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire joined the SUN Movement in 2013, which was a turning point in the fight against stunting and all forms of malnutrition. A National Nutrition Council was established in the Prime Minister's Office to strengthen cross sectoral coordination and leadership for nutrition and a national nutrition strategy was validated and successfully integrated in the NDP 2016-2020. From 2011 to 2016, national stunting decreased from 29.8 per cent to 21.6 per cent and exclusive breastfeeding increased from 12 per cent to 23.5 per cent.

Despite progress, challenges remain in terms of leadership for nutrition at all levels, planning, supervision, monitoring and supply management. The coverage of key nutrition interventions needs to be improved at decentralized level and stunting needs to be further reduced with an increased focus on overweight trends in vulnerable groups.

In 2017, the CO, as lead of the technical and financial partners for nutrition, provided strategic technical support to the National Council for Nutrition for the implementation of the national nutrition strategy. A plan to initiate the implementation of multisectoral nutrition actions at decentralized level in northern Côte d'Ivoire was developed with the CO's support. Coordination efforts resulted in the elaboration of a national mapping of nutrition interventions and partners in collaboration with the World Bank and other partners. This mapping will be a decision-making and evidence-based monitoring tool to guide the implementation of the strategy. In collaboration with the European Union, UNICEF supported the elaboration of a project to establish a multi-sectoral information system for nutrition (including financial tracking system), to be implemented as of 2018.

Noteworthy, the CO supported the Government in the organization of the SUN Movement Global Gathering which took place in November 2017, in Abidjan. The CO co-organized a side-event to raise awareness on the importance of the integration of ECD approaches into nutrition policies, programmes and interventions.

In addition to the technical support provided at upstream level, the CO worked in close collaboration with the MoH to develop technical tools and improve the coverage of essential nutrition interventions at decentralized levels with a focus on the most deprived areas (Northern, Western regions and Abidjan). UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire was involved in the capacity building of health workers and community agents, the promotion of adequate infant and young child feeding practices with a focus on the first 1,000 days, nationwide Vitamin A supplementation and deworming as well as the management of SAM. In 2017, the CO mobilized generous funding from new donors to deliver these interventions, including the Government of Canada, UNICEF France and the World Bank.

In 2018, the CO will continue to ensure that adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and children under five years of age utilize nutrition services offering high-impact interventions and promoting optimal nutrition behaviours. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire will focus on building a robust nutrition information system at national level, leveraging partnerships and resources to accelerate the implementation of the multisectoral nutrition strategic plan at decentralized level. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire will advocate for a regulatory nutrition framework, particularly regarding the marketing of breast-milk substitutes and food fortification. At the operational level, the CO

will build capacities to improve delivery of high-impact nutrition interventions in the deprived regions of the north, northwest, west and in poor neighbourhoods of Abidjan. Knowledge of caregivers on essential nutrition practices will be reinforced, including through the roll-out of the first 1,000 days communication campaign.

OUTPUT 1 By 2019, Government has the capacity to operationalize a multi-sectoral coordination and monitoring system for the implementation of the nutrition strategic plan at central and decentralized levels.

Analytical statement of progress

Following the country's joining to the SUN Movement in 2013, a National Nutrition Council was established under the leadership of the Prime Minister and a national nutrition strategy was validated and successfully integrated in the NDP 2016-2020.

In this context, UNICEF has facilitated the coordination of nutrition partners (United Nations agencies, international donors and NGOs) since mid-2014 and successfully led quarterly meetings of the nutrition platform.

In 2017, UNICEF provided strategic technical support to the National Nutrition Council for the implementation of the national nutrition strategy validated in 2016. A plan to initiate the implementation of multi-sectoral nutrition actions at decentralized level in Northern Cote d'Ivoire was developed with UNICEF support. Coordination efforts resulted in the elaboration of a national mapping of nutrition interventions and partners in collaboration with the World Bank and other partners. This mapping will be a decision-making and evidence-based monitoring tool to guide the implementation of the strategy.

In collaboration with the European Union, UNICEF supported the elaboration of a project to establish a multisectoral information system for nutrition (including financial tracking system), to be implemented as of 2018. Finally, an action plan to integrate early child stimulation and parenting into the roll-out of the national nutrition strategy was developed in collaboration with Bernard Van Leer foundation. Collaboration with parliamentarians was initiated and will be strengthened in 2018.

Noteworthy, UNICEF supported the Government in the organization of the SUN Movement Global Gathering which took place in November 2017, in Abidjan. During the gathering, UNICEF co-organized a side-event to raise awareness on the importance of the integration of ECD approaches into nutrition policies, programmes and interventions.

In the context of enhanced UN Coherence, UNICEF worked in collaboration with UN agencies to move forward the nutrition agenda at national level. UNICEF is the lead of the UN network for SUN established in Cote d'Ivoire in 2015. Increasingly, the UN shares work and resources to assist the country in ensuring the implementation of the national nutrition strategy. In 2017, a concept note to guide joint programming in highly vulnerable areas was developed and a joint proposal submitted for resource mobilization.

UNICEF will play a key role in the nutrition sector in 2018 by supporting the implementation of the national nutrition strategy at decentralized level. While partnerships for nutrition are expanding and coordination mechanisms are in place, challenges remain in terms of planning, capacity building, supervision and monitoring for an adequate implementation of multi-sectoral interventions at all levels.

OUTPUT 2 By 2019, government offices at ministry levels, involved in the nutrition sector, have the tools to scale up specific nutritional interventions and essential regulations and directives are available

Analytical statement of progress

Given that vitamin A supplementation is not yet systematically integrated in health routine services at district level, national events like National Immunizations Days remained the main delivery mechanism for vitamin A supplementation in children under-five in Cote d'Ivoire. In 2017, about 7.4 million children aged six to 59 months received biannual vitamin A supplementation during National Immunizations Days held in March and November, with a 94 per cent administrative coverage at national level.

In 2017, anticipating the phasing out of National Immunizations Days, UNICEF initiated a strategic thinking process to ensure the integration of vitamin A supplementation into routine mechanisms. A technical working group was established under the leadership of the MoH to design a common approach to enhance routine vitamin A supplementation. UNICEF worked in close collaboration with the national nutrition programme and health partners involved in immunization and Vitamin A Supplementation, such as WHO, GAVI, MAP, HKI and the World Bank (performance-based financing). The group agreed to initiate routine vitamin A supplementation in 2018 in selected health districts. The development of strategies for routine National Immunizations Days is ongoing by building on existing opportunities (Immunization, performance-based financing, community-based approaches). A protocol to conduct an operational research to identify opportunities to enhance routine vitamin A supplementation at health facility and community levels was drafted. The research is planned to be launched in 2018.

Regarding the code of marketing of breastmilk substitutes and large-scale food fortification, the main bottleneck to be addressed in 2018 is the endorsement of the legislation and inter-ministerial orders.

In 2018, UNICEF will continue to support the introduction of vitamin A supplementation and deworming in the health system and support innovative approaches with the introduction of multiple micronutrient powders and an operational research on anemia prevention in adolescent girls.

OUTPUT 3 By 2020, health districts in targeted regions and areas of Abidjan have the capacity to offer specific high impact nutritional interventions to adolescents girls, pregnant and lactating women and children under five including in humanitarian situations.

Analytical statement of progress

Since 2015, the CO reiterated its support to the Nutrition Department of the MoH to strengthen the service delivery of essential nutrition interventions at district level including the Integrated management of acute malnutrition programme. The national protocol for the management of acute malnutrition was updated and data collection tools developed.

In 2017, the CO contributed to ensure the delivery of essential nutrition interventions in specific geographic areas with high prevalence of malnutrition (84 per cent of health structures in 15 districts in northern and western regions and in Abidjan out of 83 health districts nationwide). Capacity building and supervision was ensured and essential supplies were made available. As

a result, from January to December, almost 12,000 children with severe acute malnutrition were treated with a cured rate of 78 per cent (sphere Standards>75 per cent) out of a annual target of 15,000 new admissions for the severe acute malnutrition. One of the main challenges is to further improve the quality of the nutrition programme, and decrease dropout rates that remain at 19.8 per cent. Furthermore, the programme is gradually being extended to Abidjan's peri-urban area and a partnership with the World Bank was signed to cover 14 additional health districts as of 2018.

Significant efforts were made to improve evidence generation and management and ensure the integration of nutrition into the health system at all levels. In this regard, key nutrition indicators were integrated in the national health information system in 2017. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire contributed to initiate annual review meetings with health districts to discuss results, identify bottlenecks and priorities. UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire contributed to improve the supply chain management of nutrition products including therapeutic foods. Therapeutic foods were integrated in the list of essential medical supplies and the CO signed an agreement in November 2016 with National Public Health Pharmacy. The agreement was progress for nutrition and was operationalized in 2017. Remaining bottlenecks will be addressed in 2018 to ensure an uninterrupted pipeline of nutrition supplies at all levels.

At facility-level, the CO supported the revitalization of the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative in Côte d'Ivoire in collaboration with WHO by providing technical and financial support to the MoH. The implementation strategy was revised and a scale-up plan elaborated to accelerate the process in 2018.

In 2018, the CO will continue to support targeted health districts to offer specific high impact nutritional interventions, with a focus on the information system, supply chain as well as supervision to further improve quality.

OUTPUT 4 By 2020, adolescent girls, mothers, caregivers and communities have knowledge on essential nutrition practices including in humanitarian situations.

Analytical statement of progress

Regarding the improvement of nutrition practices and demand for nutrition services, UNICEF supported the launch of a campaign focusing on the first 1,000 days of a child's life, which are critical for optimal growth and development. The campaign was launched during the celebration of the breastfeeding week and was an opportunity to raise awareness of the first 1000 days, including early child stimulation. According to a U-Report poll launched in November 2017, only 38 per cent of respondents think the first 1000 days is the most important period of a child's life. The campaign will continue to be rolled-out in 2018 in collaboration with the Government, civil society, including community and religious leaders, media and nutrition partners.

At community level, C4D activities were conducted with UNICEF support reaching key community actors: 1,525 traditional medicine practitioners, five leading religious leaders and 138 religious leaders and 87 faith communities, 54,504 households in Abidjan on essential nutrition practices and 4,501 grandmothers on breastfeeding. Also, 72 radio stations covering 68 health districts out of 83 were involved in the promotion of child's rights issues including essential nutrition actions. A total of 292 radio programmes on essential family practices including nutrition were broadcasted in French and local languages reaching a potential audience of more than seven million people.

Since 2016, UNICEF supported a promising routine pilot in collaboration with Helen Keller International in northern Côte d'Ivoire. The experience strengthened demand for health and nutrition services over the first 1000 days period using SMS reminders. This innovative pilot experience provided evidence to the MoH on the benefits of the utilisation of new technologies to improve demand for nutrition and health services and key principles are planned to be replicated in 2018 at larger scale.

In 2018, UNICEF will strengthen partnerships with development actors such as community health workers, media, traditional leaders, and seize the opportunity of new technologies to further reach caregivers and strengthen knowledge on essential nutrition practices and demand for nutrition with a focus on the first 1000 days. Attention will be given to the monitoring of communication activities with the implementation of a monitoring plan for the first 1000 days campaign.

Document centre

Publications

Title
Broadcasting spot on polio campaign
Broadcasting spots and micro programmes on 1000 first days of life
Radio Programmes Guide on children's rights promotion
Violence in School Environment. Break the Silence

Lessons learned

Document Type/Category	Title
Innovation	U-Report Cote d'Ivoire: more then 160 000 users in one year, giving a voice to young people through their mobile phones.
Lesson Learned	Special operation to register the children enrolled in the primary schools reduced the registration costs for the parents from US\$ 30-50 to approx. US\$ 2.

Programme documents

Document Type	Title	Name
CPD	Cote_d_Ivoire_CPD_2017-2020	Cote_d_Ivoire_CEP_2017-2020.pdf
CPD	Cote_d_Ivoire_CPD_2017-2020	Cote_d_Ivoire_CPD_2017-2020.pdf