Executive Summary

The year under review was one of many challenges and significant changes. The country faced political uncertainty following the delay and eventual annulment of the first round of presidential elections in 2015. After a transition period of an interim presidency, elections were held in November and the new President will take office in February of 2017. This political instability in the early months of 2016 was often paralleled by insecurity, street demonstrations and limited access to some areas. UNICEF Haiti’s country programme continued to function, but the transition caused delays as ministers, and often directors general, were replaced.

The political instability was further complicated by increasing humanitarian needs. Three years of successive drought led to worsening malnutrition in some communes in 2016, as agriculture production suffered. Some communities faced great distress as water sources dried up. Deportations from the Dominican Republic (DR), following a constitutional decision stripping some Dominicans of Haitian descent of citizenship, and increased movement across the border required reinforcing UNICEF Haiti’s child protection response.

As of the 29 December 2016, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) estimated that 160,452 persons had crossed into Haitian territory from the Dominican Republic since June 2015. Among those persons, IOM identified 2,551 presumed unaccompanied minors, of which 1,333 were confirmed by UNICEF Haiti’s partners to be in need of assistance and protection.

In October, Haiti was struck by Hurricane Matthew, a category 4 and the most powerful cyclone in the Caribbean for the last 25 years. The storm cut a swath across the southern peninsula of Grande Anse, Nippes and South, leaving over 2 million people affected, destroying homes, crops and livestock. The hurricane caused damage to schools, healthcare centres and hospitals. UNICEF Haiti mounted its biggest humanitarian operation since the 2010 earthquake. Two field offices were opened, over 30 staff recruited and US$30 million spent as part of the response. The Government and UNICEF Haiti co-led thematic working groups in WASH, child protection, education in emergencies and nutrition. UNICEF Haiti also provided significant support to the health sector.

Cholera response experienced ups and downs during 2016. In May Haiti started to experience an increased number of suspected cases of the disease, as high rainfall and lack of funding stretched the capacity of a reduced number of rapid response teams. UNICEF Haiti borrowed funds from UNICEF Headquarters (HQ) and the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to ensure stability, and increased the number of rapid response teams to control the outbreaks.

UNICEF Haiti played a major role in support to the Ministry of Health (MSSP) for review and development of a medium-term plan (2016-2018) – a subcomponent of the 10-year national cholera elimination plan. Development of this plan included reflections on lessons learned, incorporation of evaluation recommendations on the rapid response teams and rigorous prioritization by all partners involved in cholera response. In November UNICEF Haiti
supported a cholera vaccination campaign that reached over 750,000 people with one dose in hurricane-affected areas.

At the same time the UN Secretary General launched a ‘new approach’ to cholera at the end of 2016, which included an expression of regret for the suffering caused by cholera and a commitment by the UN Secretary General Special Envoy on Cholera to raise more funds to support both the emergency response and a long-term improvement of access to water and sanitation for the population. The medium-term plan and the work of UNICEF Haiti informed the development of the Secretary General’s new approach.

Outside of humanitarian assistance, UNICEF Haiti developed a new country programme document (CPD) for 2017-2021. Combined with development of the UN sustainable development framework (UNSDF), led by UNICEF with the ResidentCoordinator’s office, the new country programme consolidates achievements from the previous programme, but proposes increased field presence, greater alignment of WASH and cholera efforts, greater focus on quality education and a systems approach to child protection. The country programme document also places more attention on combatting violence and healthcare system strengthening. The country programme also builds on a revised and updated situation analysis of children and women (SitAn) in Haiti completed in 2016.

UNICEF Haiti used 2016 to expand the evidence base of its support to the country, completing three evaluations on cholera rapid response, and the WASH and Kore Fanmi programmes. A gender review was also completed, as were major studies on children in domestic work and out-of-school children. All studies informed development of the country programme document. The sixth Enquête Mortalité, Morbidité et Utilisation des Services (Survey on Mortality, Morbidity and Use of Services, EMMUS) was launched in 2016, but data will not be available until 2017 and can then be used for mid-course correction for programmes if necessary.

**Humanitarian Assistance**

By 2016 Haiti had already suffered from a three-year El Niño-induced drought, related food insecurity and malnutrition, child protection issues and high rates of infant morbidity and mortality. Meanwhile, the cholera crisis continued, with an increase in cases since May 2016 after funding reductions and heavy rains.

UNICEF Haiti continued to support public health actors, through: (1) improved surveillance and rapid response to cholera alerts, focused on access to sustainable water and sanitation in areas most at risk and strengthening community-based surveillance; (2) increased public awareness about the Zika virus, especially targeting pregnant women; (3) revigorated surveillance sentinel systems to monitor children suffering from, or at risk of, malnutrition and referrals to treatment facilities where they benefited from a preventive package or therapeutic foods; and (4) in response to the deportation of Haitians from the Dominican Republic (DR), UNICEF Haiti supported the child protection brigade and the Institute of Social Welfare and Research (IBESR) to better care for unaccompanied migrant children.

UNICEF Haiti further advocated for birth registration and civil documentation of migrant children, while child protection systems were reinforced by strengthening the capacity of local actors, including those from Government institutions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). In the framework of the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) cluster transition, UNICEF Haiti continued to build the coordination and preparedness capacities of Haiti’s Directorate of Water and Sanitation (DINEPA).

In response to the effects of the persistent El Niño-induced drought, 10,000 children received micronutrients to prevent malnutrition. With the MSPP, UNICEF Haiti developed a
crisis communication plan and prepared a radio programme on Zika prevention, which was broadcast through 40 community radio stations. UNICEF Haiti also provided support to unaccompanied children through family tracing and prevention of exploitation and abuse, and through technical support to IBESR. Over 23,000 people were provided with information on violence, child abuse and gender-based violence (GBV).

On October 4th, ‘Matthew’, a category 4 hurricane, crossed over the southern peninsula of Hispaniola. The population’s coping mechanisms and Governmental capacities were put to the test. Hurricane Matthew displaced about 175,000 people into temporary shelters, and 806,000 people needed life-saving multi-sectoral assistance.

Disrupted access to safe drinking water and adequate hygiene and sanitation further increased the risk of water-borne diseases, including cholera. Therefore, UNICEF Haiti reoriented part of its programme and resources and focused attention primarily on ensuring access to safe water and preventing cholera outbreaks, by scaling up the number of cholera rapid response teams and distributing Aquatabs and hygiene kits. UNICEF Haiti provided medical supplies and health kits to restore general health services, established mobile clinics and scaled up activities to prevent and treat malnutrition.

In the education sector, 481 schools were destroyed nationwide (197 schools in the South department, 190 in Grand-Anse, 39 in South East, 23 in Nippes, 17 in North West, 11 in West, and 4 in Artibonite), and many of the remaining schools were used as shelters, further delaying the start of the school year. UNICEF Haiti’s response focused on assessing schools’ damages in Grande Anse, Nippes and South departments, rebuilding/re-roofing of 80 schools in coordination with Ministry of National Education (MENFP) and providing school materials to 65,000 children. These interventions allowed effective return to school of 5,296 children in 14 schools as of 7 December 2016.

Hurricane Matthew also created a protection crisis, especially for children without parental care. According to limited surveys, upwards of 10 per cent of families in some hurricane-affected areas were contemplating giving up their children to alternative care arrangements, as families could no longer afford child care. Children were also further exposed to risk due to disruptions in their schooling.

Major challenges remain, including: (1) cold chain maintenance in health centres; (2) the wide scale of chronic and acute malnutrition following three consecutive years of drought – 1.6 per cent of children aged six-to-59 months suffered from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in 2016, with a projected increase to 2.6 per cent in 2017; (3) persistence of cholera in six departments; and (4) emergency funding remains uneven and unpredictable, leading to limited preparedness for emergency response.

As of 15 December, UNICEF Haiti had received 87 per cent (US$31.7 million) of the US$36.6 million 2016 in its humanitarian appeal through Humanitarian Action for Children, which includes US$4.9 million carried forward from 2015 and US$10 million in loans from the emergency programme fund and CERF.

**Emerging Areas of Importance**

**Migrant and refugee children.** Since June 2015, the area bordering the Dominican Republic has faced deportations arising from that country’s Constitutional Court decision (TC 168-13) of 23 September 2013, which could retroactively strip hundreds of thousands of Dominicans of Haitian lineage of their citizenship, leaving them stateless. Although the Dominican Republic committed to not deporting minors, children continued to be identified at border points and reportedly arrested, mainly in public areas.
According to estimates presented by United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 133,770 people at risk of statelessness were living in the Dominican Republic and at risk of deportation to Haiti; of whom 76 per cent were children.

As of the 29th December, the IOM estimated that 96,476 households, representing 160,452 persons, had crossed into Haitian territory from the Dominican Republic since June 2015. Among those persons, IOM identified 2,551 presumed unaccompanied minors, of whom 1,333 were confirmed by UNICEF Haiti partners to be unaccompanied minors in need of assistance and protection (total of 737 children, 155 girls, in 2016).

These movements occurred against a background of social exclusion, deprivation and limited services. UNICEF Haiti and partners provided children with transitory care assistance (including shelter, psycho-social support, clothing, medical care, family tracing and reunification) and coordinated with the UNHCR to ensure a case review and support for advocating for citizenship or residence rights.

To strengthen response capacity along the border area to identify, refer, assist and reunify separated children, UNICEF Haiti supported Governmental focal points at all four official transit points along the border (Anse-à-Pitres (South-East), Malpasse (West), Belladère (Centre) and Ouanaminthe (North-East)), and mobilized the presence of partners to receive, document and ensure family tracing services for children identified as unaccompanied or separated.

As of the 30th December, the reception capacity of 11 unofficial border points was strengthened, to guarantee safe reception, documentation and swift transfer to transitory care structures for vulnerable children and families. As much as 15 per cent of the children identified to be in need of assistance and support reportedly entered Haiti through unofficial border points.

Furthermore, UNICEF Haiti contributed to establish processes to ensure efficient sharing of information and referral among actors, particularly UNHCR and IOM, to make sure that children at risk of statelessness (the majority with family members) could be referred to UNHCR and that family members could access assistance to meet basic needs while their cases were being reviewed. Coordination with UNHCR, IOM and border authorities made it possible for 250 migrant households with claims to Dominican citizenship to access assistance provided through UNICEF Haiti’s partner Christian Aid. An additional 1,347 vulnerable migrants were also assisted with temporary accommodation, food, clothing, transportation and communication support.

**Child hunger and undernutrition.** Haiti joined the Scaling-Up Nutrition (SUN) movement in 2012, but currently lacks a stakeholder network and a multi-sectoral platform around food and nutrition issues. However, the stakeholder networks outlined in the SUN framework do exist. UNICEF and the World Food Programme (WFP), committing to the ‘renewed efforts against child hunger and undernutrition’ (REACH) country committee, agreed to co-lead the UN network. Action Contre la Faim (ACF) has started working on the civil society network, and a bill from 2014 calling for a national food and nutrition security and sovereignty system is currently being revised and would constitute the equivalent of the Government network. UNICEF and the WFP agreed to continue to advocate for a multi-sectoral platform, working closely with Government counterparts. The emergency response on malnutrition, in response to the three-year drought and Hurricane Matthew, remained the major priority for nutrition and food security actors during 2016.
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<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
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<tr>
<td>ACF</td>
<td>Action Contre la Faim</td>
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<td>ART</td>
<td>Antiretroviral therapy</td>
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<td>ARV</td>
<td>Antiretroviral</td>
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<td>AVSI</td>
<td>Association of volunteers in international service</td>
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<td>C4D</td>
<td>Communication for development</td>
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<td>CATS</td>
<td>Community approaches to total sanitation</td>
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<td>CERF</td>
<td>Central Emergency Response Fund</td>
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<td>CLTS</td>
<td>Community-led total sanitation</td>
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<td>CMAM</td>
<td>Community-based management of acute malnutrition</td>
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<td>CP</td>
<td>Country programme</td>
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<td>CPD</td>
<td>Country programme document</td>
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<td>CSO</td>
<td>Country status overview</td>
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<td>DFID</td>
<td>UK Department for International Development</td>
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<td>DINEPA</td>
<td>Direction Nationale de l’Eau Potable et de l’Assainissement</td>
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<td>Dominican Republic</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Direction Sanitaire de la Famille</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECHO</td>
<td>European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office</td>
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<td>EMMUS</td>
<td>Enquête Mortalité, Morbidité et Utilisation des Services</td>
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<td>EPAH</td>
<td>Eau Potable, Assainissement et Hygiène</td>
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<td>EPI</td>
<td>Enlarged immunization programme</td>
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<td>FAES</td>
<td>Fonds d’Assistance Economique et Sociale</td>
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<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization</td>
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<td>FONDEFH</td>
<td>Fondation pour le Développement et l’Encadrement des Familles Haïtiennes</td>
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<td>GBV</td>
<td>Gender-based violence</td>
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<td>HACT</td>
<td>Harmonized approach to cash transfers</td>
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<td>HIV</td>
<td>Human immunodeficiency virus</td>
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<td>HQ</td>
<td>UNICEF Headquarters</td>
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<td>HWTS</td>
<td>Household water treatment and safe storage</td>
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<td>IADB</td>
<td>Inter-American Development Bank</td>
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<tr>
<td>IBESR</td>
<td>Institut du Bien-Etre Social et de Recherches</td>
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<td>ICT</td>
<td>Information and communication technology</td>
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<td>IDETTE</td>
<td>Initiative Départementale contre la Traite et le Traffic des Enfants</td>
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<td>IMC</td>
<td>International Medical Corps</td>
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<td>IOM</td>
<td>International Organisation for Migration</td>
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<td>IYCF</td>
<td>Infant and young children feeding</td>
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<td>KAP</td>
<td>Knowledge, attitudes, practices</td>
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<td>KF</td>
<td>Kore Fanmi</td>
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<td>MDM</td>
<td>Médecins du Monde</td>
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<td>MENFP</td>
<td>Ministère de l’Education Nationale et de la Formation Professionnelle</td>
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<td>MINUSTAH</td>
<td>United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti</td>
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<td>Ministry of Education</td>
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<td>MoU</td>
<td>Memorandum of understanding</td>
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<td>MSPP</td>
<td>Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (Ministry of Health)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-governmental organization</td>
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<td>OCHA</td>
<td>Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs</td>
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<td>OFDA</td>
<td>Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance</td>
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Evidence Generation, Policy Dialogue and Advocacy

Two phenomena significantly affected the realization of children’s rights and equity in Haiti: children out of school and child domestic workers. Despite a de facto recognition at all levels of the relative magnitude of these two issues, the lack of comprehensive or up-to-date factual information has limited the opportunity to engage in policy dialogue with decision-makers with support from an evidence base. Therefore, UNICEF Haiti supported the realization of two studies, respectively on out-of-school children and on child placement and domestic work.

The study on out-of-school children identified important bottlenecks in the Haitian pre-and primary school systems, namely: enrolment of entrants delayed several years (compared to the official legal age); irregular/interrupted schooling pathways; and automatic promotion between two consecutive years. The study also identified a profile of children most exposed to school exclusion and analysed the factors leading to students’ exclusion or drop out. Findings from the study are being used in policy discussion with the MENFP on possible reforms of the education system to address these bottlenecks, and on acceleration strategies to facilitate the reintegration of out-of-school children.

The study on child placement and domestic work established a typology of children in situation of placement, according to their status vis-à-vis the various forms of child domestic work. Findings from the study will be used to explore with the Government alternatives to
address the situation of children in unacceptable forms of child domestic work and to prevent families at risk from placing their children in such situations.

Both studies fed into the updated situational analysis (the SitAn), and reflection and preparation of the new UNICEF Haiti CP for 2017-2021.

Partnerships

As an active member of the UN country team, UNICEF Haiti promoted joint-strategies on protection and health. Moreover, UNICEF Haiti was an engaged member of the UN group supporting roll-out of the SUN movement, in partnership with the WFP, World Health Organization (WHO) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

In close collaboration with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS), UNICEF Haiti supported the ‘All In’ global initiative targeting the elimination of HIV among adolescents by 2030.

Additionally, UNICEF Haiti led the cholera taskforce set in motion in 2016 to implement the new UN approach to cholera treatment and prevention.

Following the end of Hurricane Matthew UNICEF Haiti co-led, with the Government, four humanitarian thematic working groups and invested resources to ensure coordinated humanitarian assistance to crisis-affected populations.

As of September 2016, UNICEF Haiti had a total of 57 partnerships: 17 with Governmental institutions and 40 with NGOs, including 13 international NGOs and 27 local NGOs. Of these, most (41) have long-standing experience with UNICEF, but 16 new partnerships were developed in 2015-16, to expand activities, particularly in respond to the migration crisis at the border with DR, and start work in areas where, UNICEF Haiti previously had no partners.

In October 2016, Hurricane Matthew triggered the need to implement more emergency-response partnerships; UNICEF Haiti signed an additional 36 partnerships with 25 organizations (15 international NGOs, 10 local NGOs) and nine Government institutions, for a total of over US$8 million.

External Communication and Public Advocacy

Using the slogan ‘A Chance for Every Child’ as a common thread, UNICEF Haiti established a narrative of equity and empowerment, placing resilience of young people at the core of its communication. Used as a red line, and in partnership with the UN Communication Group, it linked celebration of International Youth Day, Day of the Girl, Day of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and culminated in UNICEF’s 70th Anniversary. Activities included the beginning of a dialogue with social influencers to stimulate a new social dynamic for children (in August), launch of the ‘My Hero’ Campaign, featuring voices of Haiti’s everyday heroes to inspire hope and commitment (in September) and an ever-widening extension of UNICEF Haiti’s online engagement using its blog “Timounyo”, Facebook and Twitter.

Additionally, UNICEF Haiti was one of the pilot countries for the roll-out of UNICEF’s new brand ‘For every child’, organizing focus groups and producing new material to introduce the brand. Starting in October, communication action focused on UNICEF Haiti’s response to Hurricane Matthew, yet maintained an advocacy approach that seeks inspiration and is rooted in dignity.

Finally, following Hurricane Matthew, UNICEF Haiti, in collaboration with the Government and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), played an active role
in setting-up a pragmatic mechanism for the ‘Communication with Communities’ initiative, aiming at enhanced accountability towards affected populations and improved services on the ground. The approach combined social mobilization with mass media and strategic interaction with local influencers.

### Support to Integration and Cross-Sectoral Linkages

Through 2016 UNICEF Haiti continued to support the Kore Fanmi (KF) multi-sectoral community project in three municipalities of the South-East department of Haiti, which aimed to strengthen community knowledge of existing services, bring them closer to the communities and inform and change behaviours. With the support of 110 KF community health workers and supervisors, the programme reached over 60,000 beneficiaries. The cross-sectoral nature of this programme – which included referral to health services, as well as information on birth registration, outpost medical visits, hygiene sensitization and promotion of toilet construction and disaster prevention messages – showed positive results. However, the challenge lies in the sustainability of this approach via the integration of community health workers within the Government system and its possible replication in other areas.

The preparation of the new CP developed in 2016 built on these lessons learned and identified ‘convergence zones’, mostly in rural Haiti, where several of UNICEF Haiti’s programme components will overlap, in order to reinforce results. Field presence will be strengthened in the convergent departments.

Regarding cholera prevention, a better integration of sectoral activities was encouraged to develop synergies, and a coordination support unit (of which UNICEF is a part) was created. In addition, UNICEF Haiti and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), at the request of the MSPP, were closely involved in the elaboration of the cholera elimination plan.

Furthermore, UNICEF Haiti directly coordinated the actions of NGOs to provide a rapid response, in support of MSPP and DINEPA, while integrating emergency and sustainable WASH programmes by targeting the most affected communities, based on epidemiological surveillance data. The approach pulled together a wide range of activities, such as rapid WASH response, community mobilisation and long-term actions such as rehabilitation of water systems and promotion of hygiene practices.

### Service Delivery

Throughout 2016 UNICEF Haiti implemented communication for development (C4D) strategies to encourage community empowerment for demand, access and use of social services. All those activities contributed to sustainably support service delivery, while also addressing long-term capacity gaps and empowering both duty-bearers and rights-holders.

To combat corporal punishment at school and stimulate children’s positive educational experience, more than 5,000 teachers and parents in the South-East department participated in a sensitization on positive education. MENFP received UNICEF support to finalize a national code of conduct.

Thanks to a new partnership with Adventist churches, 120,000 people learned about essential health practices and utilization of health, protection and education services through parental education based on the handbook “Facts for Life”.

Innovative approaches included community theatre sessions to promote Zika protection, maternal health and stimulate demand for health services in the West department. Similarly, a partnership with the Haitian health journalists’ network enabled UNICEF Haiti to sensitize
about 1 million persons in three departments (West, Artibonite and Centre) on cholera prevention and treatment, as well to get feedback from beneficiaries on the quality of the services provided.

UNICEF Haiti continued its promotion of community-led total sanitation (CLTS), which resulted in 17,500 beneficiaries living in an open defecation-free environment; 20 more communities are awaiting certification.

Along the border, the presence of IBESR child protection services was reinforced to attend unaccompanied children due to the deportation of Haitian migrants from the Dominican Republic. In Belladère (Centre Department) an intense birth registration campaign was carried out, benefitting 500 children.

To reinforce accountability, UNICEF Haiti ensured the participation of civil society, adolescents and children in the preparation of the new CPD, gathering feedback from beneficiaries on service quality and relevance through a series of consultations.

**Human Rights-Based Approach to Cooperation**

Building on evidence generated by the study on child placement and domestic work, programmes were expanded into areas where social exclusion acts as a driver of family separation. This strategic shift provided the Country Programme with an operational base for the emergency response to Hurricane Matthew. UNICEF Haiti placed increased attention on internal programmatic convergence, encouraging Government partners to maximize inter-sectorial synergies in areas most exposed to climatic and economic risks. The purpose was to increase resilience, maximize protective outcomes and increase response capacity in a country that: has one of the highest Gini coefficients in the world, is the fifth most vulnerable to disasters and has the third lowest capacity to cope (United Nations University - 2016).

Analysis of the structural causes of exclusion was enriched with learning derived from a national study on out-of-school children. This study, carried out in close coordination with the MENFP, was then used to guide programming and policy to ensure strategies that address the main barriers to more inclusive education.

The child protection programme engaged in a partnership with Haiti’s Ombudsman Office geared to improve inter-ministerial collaboration on the issue of pre-trial detention of minors, an important concern given the rate of 76 per cent pre-trial detention among detained minors, including for misdemeanours. This partnership was articulated in complementarity with the International Committee of the Red Cross’s support to the Corrections Office in the field of strengthening judicial guarantees. The partnership contributed to strengthening the Ombudsman’s regulatory, oversight and human rights promotion roles, as well as supporting good governance in the justice and corrections sectors.

Following the 2016 submission of Haiti’s periodic report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child and reception of the related recommendations, UNICEF Haiti engaged Government and civil society actors in a discussion of ways to operationally address these recommendations. As a new country programme starts, UNICEF Haiti will continue to guarantee that a human rights perspective guides this partnership, and ensure that duty-bearers’ institutional performance receives support, to effectively address the needs of the most vulnerable children in Haiti.

**Gender Equality**

During 2016 UNICEF Haiti held its gender review, permitting measurement of the gaps between its planned gender equity results and actual mainstreaming efficiency. Analysis
showed that the indicators were mostly quantitative and needed to be further disaggregated to collect specific data on girls or boys. Additionally, gender monitoring tools were neither developed nor used. Other recommendations concerned internal and external gender inter-sectoriality and the organizational setting of gender within the UNICEF Office. The gender review was used to inform development of the new CP.

UNICEF Haiti continued to support Government counterparts by mainstreaming gender equity within sectoral programmes. The health and nutrition programmes continued to offer equal services to children of both sexes; WASH managed to prioritize construction of sex-separated latrines within targeted schools; and a new focus brought gender-based violence (especially towards girls) into the protection programme, in response to the devastating impact of Hurricane Matthew.

Gender issues were linked with adolescent empowerment and participation, notably within the ‘All In’ initiative that targeted under-18 age groups for HIV prevention activities. Monthly meetings with core adolescent groups involved with this initiative were organized to strengthen their basic knowledge on HIV/AIDS and other health issues. Moreover, adolescents’ participation took a definite step forward within UNICEF Haiti’s programme when a group of girls and boys participated in the CPD process by actively giving their inputs during the strategic moment of reflection, and reacting to the planned programme priorities’ document during a special consultation workshop. UNICEF Haiti also made a strong contribution to adolescents participation at the UNSDF and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)’s International Population Day. Gender and adolescent activities planned for late 2016 were slightly disrupted or postponed to give priority to Hurricane Matthew emergency response.

From the ‘One UN’ perspective, UNICEF Haiti also contributed to inserting gender equity within the UNSDF process.

**Environmental Sustainability**

UNICEF Haiti continued its commitment to reducing its environmental footprint in 2016 with timely completion of the mandated environmental footprint assessment for the last two years and its determined pursuit to install a renewable energy system. In 2016 UNICEF Haiti submitted a proposal to the Greening and Accessibility Fund, and while Haiti was not among the locations to receive funds initially, UNICEF resubmitted its proposal in December in hope of mobilizing funds to install solar panels to provide some of its electricity needs. Prior to the submission of the proposal, UNICEF Haiti also underwent an energy audit to determine its actual levels of consumption of energy and electricity, to present as accurate a picture as possible.

UNICEF Haiti was also able to meet its established target of reducing paper consumption by 15 per cent in 2016, based on baselines established in 2014.

The Office hopes to build on its information campaign to sensitize internal and external staff about reducing carbon emissions and the use of paper and plastic.

The final part of UNICEF Haiti’s greening strategy was a review and simplification of travel, time and attendance transactions. These procedures were conducted manually and paper-based; given the configuration of Vision, UNICEF Haiti anticipates that transitioning to automated authorization of both processes will further reduce its paper consumption.
Effective Leadership

In 2016, UNICEF Haiti continued its efforts to monitor progress toward implementing previous audit recommendations. This included a tracking tool and convening meetings of the audit committee every quarter. UNICEF Haiti also benefitted from a joint HQ/Regional Office audit advisory visit, which reviewed progress since the 2013 audit and advised on further recommendations in anticipation of the 2016 audit. Due to Hurricane Matthew the audit originally scheduled for November 2016 was postponed to 2017. Nonetheless extensive preparation of documents and files had already been completed and the Office continues this practice across many aspects of the emergency related response, through tracking tools and increased meetings and engagements.

Additionally, Hurricane Matthew necessitated the formation of a crisis management team which included all chiefs of section to regularly discuss UNICEF’s response. In the time immediately before and after the hurricane, the crisis group met every day. As the response took shape and stabilized, meetings were held with less frequency.

UNICEF Haiti’s business continuity plan was updated twice in 2016. First at the beginning of the year, to reflect the move to a new office location, and second after the establishment of sub-offices in the South (Les Cayes) and Grande Anse (Jeremie) departments following Hurricane Matthew. The plan and its simulation exercise were also reviewed by HQ and the business continuity manager. UNICEF Haiti conducted a simulation of its telecommunications between essential and all staff just before Hurricane Matthew. This was a success for the office, confirming that its warden system (which serves as a communication tree) permitted contact with all staff within a 30-minute period.

Financial Resources Management

The harmonized approach to cash transfers (HACT) is fully operational; funds were transferred mainly by direct cash transfer (DCT) to 82 implementing partners in 2016 (57 partners before Matthew). In 2016, UNICEF conducted 11 micro-assessments for new partners receiving more than US$100,000 per year, as well as 13 financial spot-checks and 15 audits.

The 2016 HACT plan was on track to be completed, with approximately 70 per cent of all assurance activities completed by September 2016 (thanks in part to consistent follow-up during country management team and programme meetings). However, the impact of Hurricane Matthew led a huge increase in assurance activities, due to the higher number of partners (or current partners receiving additional funds) with less time for programmatic visits. Therefore, the HACT plan by year-end reached only 58 per cent completion. Outstanding DCT of over six months amounted to 3.2 per cent (2.1 per cent for DCT over nine months) of all DCT at the end of 2016.

Grant utilization by end 2016 stood at 100 per cent for regular resources and institutional budget, 32 per cent for other resources regular (ORR) and 59 per cent for other resources emergency (ORE), respectively (not including the emergency programme loan). Almost 100 per cent of the programme budget allotments were used by their expiry date. Low utilization of ORR and ORE in 2016 is explained by the fact that UNICEF Haiti mobilized several multi-year contributions from various donors (Canada, Japan, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and received a CERF loan of US$8 million to cover the new cholera approach until December 2017.

Fundraising and Donor Relations

Resource mobilization was complex in 2016. At the beginning of the year very few ORR/ORE funds were available, which led to contraction in activities in some very important
sectors such as cholera prevention and response, education and child protection.

With the deterioration of the cholera situation in May, several turning points occurred: (1) in August, MSPP presented the new cholera elimination plan 2016-2018; (2) UN system advocacy for new resources to address cholera rapid response and rehabilitation of existing water system; (3) a US$2 million emergency programme fund and US$8 million CERF loan were secured; and (4) the creation of a cholera pool fund to durably finance prevention and elimination by September. Finally, Hurricane Matthew once again raised Haiti's profile among donors.

A total of US$55.8 million was mobilized in 2016 (ORR: US$ 21.9 million, ORE: US$ 33.9 million) from institutional, multilateral and bilateral donors and UNICEF national committees. This included: US$25.2 million raised in response to Matthew from donor partners, including: the UK Department for International Development (DFID); European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO); CERF: the Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA); USAID; the governments of Australia, Canada, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden; and from national committees (US, Fren, Spanish, Danish, German, Canadian, Irish, Dutch, Belgium and Japan) and several UNICEF Offices (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Mexico and Thailand).

Nevertheless, resource mobilization was still suboptimal. The Hurricane Matthew Global Flash Appeal was 38 per cent underfunded (US$86.5 million funded, US$52.5 million unfunded). Also, lack of predictable and long-term funding presented a serious problem for implementation activities.

A total of 47 donor reports were submitted; 42 (89 per cent) on time. All reports sent late occurred in the last trimester of 2016, when all human resources were focused on the Hurricane Matthew response.

**Evaluation and Research**

During 2016 UNICEF Haiti completed three external evaluations: a mid-term evaluation of the Artibonite WASH programme; the final evaluation of the Kore Fanmi programme, to identify strengths and weaknesses and sustainability (including exploring institutional transition under the Ministry of Social Affairs); and an evaluation of the cholera programme component.

All evaluation reports were submitted to the UNICEF Regional Office for quality control at different stages of the process (terms of reference, inception, draft and final reports). The WASH and cholera evaluations led to a management response; for Kore Fanmi the response will be developed in early 2017, since the restitution of the evaluation final report could not take place in 2016 due to the post-Hurricane Matthew and political contexts.

UNICEF Haiti’s integrated monitoring, evaluation and research plan also included two major pieces of research: on placement and domestic work of children and on out-of-school children, which fuelled reflection and guided the upcoming programme cycle and were included in the SitAn. A few activities initially planned were either postponed for lack of funding or interest from the Governmental counterpart (study on HIV and study on water pumps) and/or delayed: this is the case for the nation-wide demographic and health survey exercise (EMMUS VI), for which results are now expected by mid-2017, mostly due to the impact of Hurricane Matthew on the calendar for data collection.
Efficiency Gains and Cost Savings

In term of cost savings, following the move from rented premises to the newly constructed office at the end of 2015, UNICEF Haiti saved about US$400,000 in payment of rent and related services.

Furthermore, in 2016 UNICEF Haiti demonstrated efficiency gains and cost savings within operations with the establishment of a common services memorandum of understanding with FAO to share rented warehouse space. The current warehouse costs are approximately US$10,000 a month, including, rent, labour, equipment maintenance and fuel. With the MoU, FAO covers one-third of all warehouse-related costs.

Following Hurricane Matthew, UNICEF Haiti put in place several cost- and time-saving measures, including resorting to temporary surge and stand-by partners, batch recruitments and fast-track human resources processes (due to Level 2 emergency status). Additionally, the decision to share office space with WFP in the sub-office of Jeremie (Grande Anse) – as well as using common warehouse space at the sub-offices of Les Cayes (South) and Jeremie and use of the WFP convoy and security to deliver material – helped reduce the cost of interventions. Further measures, such as implementation of a shuttle service for UNICEF staff between Port-au-Prince and the affected departments (South and Grande Anse), rather than individual mission planning, were also carried out in the aftermath of the event, but they are hard to measure in monetary terms.

Supply Management

UNICEF Haiti supply team effectively provided support for the procurement of goods and services. A rolling supply plan for 2016 reflecting procurement needs was developed in the beginning of the year. UNICEF Haiti also assisted Government counterparts and other partners through procurement services. The total value of the procurement of goods and services in 2016 was US$8,687,797.

Value of all supply inputs (goods & services)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of Procurement</th>
<th>US Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programme</td>
<td>US$5,330,424 (61%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procurement services</td>
<td>US$1,821,327 (21%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational supplies</td>
<td>US$360,002 (4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td>US$1,176,044 (14%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction (where applicable)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>US$ 8,687,797</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of the US$1,821,326 for procurement services, 93 per cent were funded by Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI), for a total of US$1.7 million. These funds permitted
the procurement of 1 million single doses of oral cholera vaccine for the post-Matthew vaccination campaign. The remaining US$121,327 was financed by the Global Fund.

A UN procurement group was established in Haiti and members have access to common long-term agreements (fuel, security) and to other agencies’ supplier databases, which resulted in shortened lead time for procurement processes. In addition, UNICEF Haiti established long-term agreements with many local suppliers and service providers (transport, customs clearance, office supplies, and WASH products). However, there is an urgent need to identify new entrants in the market, and UNICEF Haiti is planning a thorough market survey, in collaboration with other UN agencies, for 2017.

The total value of the inventory of UNICEF Haiti programme supplies in 2016 was US$3,147,561, of which US$905,319 were stocked in the Office’s warehouse and US$ 2,242,242 were at local warehouses, as of 02 December 2016.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew, UNICEF Haiti set up temporary transit warehouses in the field to facilitate the pre-positioning and distribution of emergency supplies to its partners. Also, there was an increased need to perform logistics assessments to UNICEF Haiti’s implementing partners, in order to identify areas requiring capacity development. Furthermore, due to the increased volume received by the warehouse, UNICEF Haiti was chosen by UNICEF Supply Division to use the M-Inventory application (software tool developed by Supply Division) that facilitated the receipt of UNICEF-controlled goods at the warehouse.

**Security for Staff and Premises**

UNICEF Haiti took significant steps in 2016 to enhance the safety and security of its staff and premises. The Office upgraded its security surveillance system to accommodate its new building.

In addition to surveillance measures, UNICEF Haiti also upgraded and installed a fingerprint system to enter the building. This technology allowed monitoring of access and provided real-time data during emergencies and evacuations regarding staff presence in the office.

With the establishment of sub-offices in Les Cayes and Jeremie as a result of Hurricane Matthew, UNICEF Haiti undertook measures to ensure that the identified premises were compliant with UNICEF security standards, or could meet the standards with minimal investment. In Les Cayes, UNICEF signed a 12-month lease agreement of a one-story house, which serves as the sub-office, while in Jeremie UNICEF negotiated a memorandum of understanding with WFP for common services, establishing a camp in Jeremie with a warehouse and office space.

In addition, UNICEF Haiti continued to work with partners in Hurricane Matthew-affected areas to deliver medicine and other supplies to the affected populations, with the assistance of military escorts provided by United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) military personnel. Security issues including roadblocks, and hijacking of trucks remains a concern in the area, especially along key roads.

Earlier in the year, when MINUSTAH closed its camp in Gonaïves (Artibonite department), UNICEF Haiti was also able to shift office premises with WFP under the framework of a common services agreement.
Human Resources

UNICEF Haiti’s human resource unit was busy in 2016 with the implementation of three key initiatives linked to the organizational human resources reform: the new talent management system, performance management tool (ACHIEVE) and MyCase for personnel administration. UNICEF Haiti invested significant time in communication, coaching sessions and individual capacity-building activities for both staff and managers.

The new country programme management plan (2017-2021) resulted in the abolishment of 12 positions, of which eight were encumbered. Three staff holding abolished positions were appointed to other positions within UNICEF Haiti, one reached mandatory retirement age and one resigned for family reasons. UNICEF Haiti is providing support to the three staff still holding abolished positions and exploring alternative placements.

UNICEF Haiti took the lead in diffusing the very public UN salary crisis and organized a local training in the salary survey methodology, followed by two interim salary surveys.

Regarding the 2014 global staff survey, UNICEF Haiti organized a local ethics workshop and four career development sessions. UNICEF Haiti also introduced time-bound special measures allowing locally recruited staff to seize new career opportunities while finalizing requirements for university degrees. Starting in January UNICEF defined a holistic approach to staff-wellbeing, with various activities, including a half-day dedicated to personal goals and mindfulness in February, a one-day teambuilding retreat in September, bi-weekly yoga classes and monthly tips on mindfulness.

The human resources unit managed 59 recruitment cases (as of 1st December 2016), 11 of which were completed before Hurricane Matthew and 48 were linked to the humanitarian crisis. The unit provided technical leadership, advice and support during the emergency response and related staff issues.

Effective Use of Information and Communication Technology

During 2016 UNICEF Haiti faced several challenges in information and communication technology (ICT) and had to adjust its strategies to improve its services to the organization. Also, the disaster recovery plan was reviewed after the visit of the information technology regional advisor.

Following Hurricane Matthew, the ICT unit was confronted with a serious challenge, having to set up an emergency response strategy and provide support to many new staff and stand-by partners. During the first days after the hurricane, broadband global area network devices were deployed in the field for Internet connectivity, as all telecommunication infrastructures were down in South and Grande-Anse provinces. After a site assessment and discussions with the Regional Office, UNICEF Haiti found that an emergency kit would be more efficient and feasible given the urgency, offering easy UNICEF connectivity for local and surge staff, kits were deployed in the field within a week.

In addition, the ICT unit promoted good practices, such as implementation of paessler router traffic grapher (PRTG) network monitoring tool, which helps measure the bandwidth quality provided by the internet service provider, to assess the service’s value for money. Equally, the PRTG software appropriately allowed UNICEF Haiti to monitor its servers in the datacentre and have a quick view of their status, which enables a quick recovery in the event of a failure. Service management software was deployed in UNICEF Haiti for assets, monitoring, contracts and help-desk management.
Finally, UNICEF Haiti leveraged its digital presence to amplify its voice online. Multimedia material was shared via UNICEF Haiti’s blog (Timounyo) in English and French, and disseminated via Facebook and Twitter. On YouTube, the “My Hero” video series gathered a loyal following, and its pursuit is planned for 2017.

Programme Components from RAM

ANALYSIS BY OUTCOME AND OUTPUT RESULTS

OUTCOME 1 By 2016, girls, boys and women have equitable access to, and benefit from, an essential package of curative and preventive nutrition interventions in community levels as well as in healthcare institutions

Analytical Statement of Progress:
Political instability and delayed elections contributed to a fragile governance structure. Within the MSSP, lack of governance capacity limited various programmatic outcomes. Key staff requirements within the ministry remained vacant by year’s end. Two departments (Grande Anse and Sud) in the southwest region were severely affected by the passage of Hurricane Matthew. Other areas, in the northwest region, were also affected.

In 2016 community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) interventions reached 10,028 children at 304 outpatients units and 38 inpatient sites. UNICEF Haiti supported the management of CMAM services in Haiti. In these locations, all ready-to-eat therapeutic food (RUTF) was funded by UNICEF, which also provided supervision and technical support jointly with MSPP staff. In parallel, other sites located in government facilities were managed with more direct involvement from international and NGOs such as ACF, the Association of Volunteers in International Service (AVSI) and International Medical Corps, with costs funded by their donor base but using UNICEF Haiti-financed RUTF.

Several challenges exist in securing sustainability for CMAM services. First, Government commitment and financing for the nutrition programme is weak; without UNICEF Haiti’s support, no supplies would have been available to manage SAM. Second Haiti lacks long-term funding for nutrition; most funding to date has been emergency in nature, which impedes long-term programme development and decreases attention to chronic malnutrition. Third, due to insufficient numbers of health agents for community activities (active screening, follow-up of children at home) the default rate increased and the proportion of children reached was inadequate.

UNICEF Haiti continued to contribute to efforts to safeguard the nutritional status of children in emergencies. The year under review was particularly crucial for nutrition, as the country already faced a significant reduction in the availability of local food products, substantial price increases and reported shortages at household level of main staple foods due to reduced rainfall over three years. The impact of the drought affected more than 1.5 million people, who became severely food insecure.

To support the evidence base, UNICEF Haiti substantially contributed this year to rapid surveys to provide analysis at the communal level. Thanks to donor funding (OFDA and CERF), UNICEF was able to provide appropriate infant and young child feeding for malnourished children.

UNICEF Haiti played a key role in assisting the Government to advocate for ratification of the Law on Food Fortification, developed in 2013. In 2016, the law was approved by the House
and the Senate and is awaiting publication and dissemination, which will probably not take place until the first quarter of 2017.

OUTPUT 1 By end 2016, government and communities have technical skills and tools needed to implement effective, quality and evidence-based nutrition interventions

Analytical Statement of Progress:
At the national level, UNICEF strived to improve the capacity of the MSPP, particularly the Directorate of Nutrition, through several areas, including improving service quality and management of the nutrition programme (training, leadership and supervision). In addition, UNICEF supported the Ministry improve the collection and analysis of data, so that information on treatment of malnutrition was available.

To achieve sustainable capacity in Haiti’s departments, UNICEF continued to improve the capacity of 10 nutrition focal points. Some 304 outpatient care units were directly managed by the MSPP and closely monitored by UNICEF. At the community level, an additional 180 staff were trained on the management of SAM, 350 were trained in the prevention and management of malnutrition, 170 people trained on Aid-Memory of ASCP. To address constraints, UNICEF established periodic spots-checks to improve financial and technical reporting.

OUTPUT 2 By 2016, children, adolescents and women, particularly the most vulnerable among them, including those with handicaps, living in rural and urban areas, are regularly dewormed with albendazole and benefit from adequate supplementation with essential micronutrients such as vitamin A, iron/folic acid, iodine and zinc.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
Regarding micronutrients, UNICEF Haiti helped improve policies and programmes to address deficiencies at a large scale. Haiti now has legislation to mandate food fortification. UNICEF Haiti also supported the prevention of anaemia among pregnant and lactating woman. For children from six-to-59 months, UNICEF continued to drive the scale-up of micronutrient powder interventions through its programmes. For 2016, 69,568 children received supplementation with micronutrient powder.

Routine coverage of vitamin A reached over 400,000 children aged six-to-59 months in 2016. The MSPP also improved its capacity to monitor and report on activities. Some 22,100 women, representing 35 per cent of pregnant women, received iron and folic acid supplementation and 69,578 of children with diarrhoea received zinc in addition to oral rehydration solution. About 178,366 (representing 40.36 per cent of the target) received Albendazole (deworming tablets).

Around 12,000 households (approximately 60,000 people) received iodized salt locally produced at the MSPP plant supported by UNICEF.

UNICEF Haiti served as co-chair of the SUN and REACH movements, and supported collective efforts to combat different forms of malnutrition and reduce stunting.

OUTPUT 3 By end 2016, newborns and young children, including those living with disability, benefit equitably from improved feeding practices and nutrition care

Analytical Statement of Progress:
To improve exclusive breastfeeding rates, UNICEF Haiti supported the promotion of behaviour-change communication strategies, building the capacities of Government and partners, and supporting the implementation of counselling and mother support groups in
different regions. UNICEF, through its partners, supported improved complementary feeding, with specific counselling on IYCF.

A complete package of preventive and curative nutrition interventions was delivered through a network of national and international NGOs (Gheskio, FONDEFH, SHAASMEPPE, Hopital Albert Schweitzer and Medecins du Monde), as well as through direct technical and financial support to the MSPP at departmental levels, to a total of 304 health facilities in all 10 departments. A total of 10,028 children with SAM received timely and effective care in 2016.

**OUTPUT 4** By end 2016, the government of Haiti and its partners have adequate means and technical skills to reduce disaster risks vulnerability and to provide an adequate and coordinated response in emergency situations

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
In response to the state of emergency generated by the drought and Hurricane Matthew UNICEF, through partners, continued to respond to the nutritional crisis. The capacity of public health institutions was improved and nutritional community-based surveillance strengthened. Children were screened, and those who suffered from malnutrition were managed with therapeutic RUTF.

A national contingency plan for nutrition was developed for emergency preparedness and response. UNICEF provided and pre-positioned therapeutic and medical supplies in all 10 departments.

**OUTCOME 2** By 2016, most vulnerable girls, boys, adolescents and women have equal access and use integrated and quality health services

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
In 2016, UNICEF Haiti aimed to improve equal health care access to women, girl, boys and children, with a special focus to the most vulnerable. The 2016 UNICEF target was to improve access to safe delivery from 36 per cent to 46 per cent, to increase complete immunization coverage from 68 per cent to 90 per cent and maintain at 91 per cent the percentage of pregnant women with HIV receiving anti-retrovirals (ARVs) to reduce mother-to-child transmission and maternal deaths.

Most of these health targets, except for HIV and cholera, remained constrained with only 57 per cent of boys and girls able to access basic health services, 59.7 per cent of skilled birth attendance deliveries and 68.5 per cent of pentavalent vaccine coverage. The reasons for this slow progress were: limited capacity of qualified staff at all healthcare levels, constant turnover of trained professionals at departmental levels, reduced government funding for health and a high dependency on external donors and lack of coordination among health development partners. To tackle these bottlenecks, UNICEF Haiti supported capacity building for health staff in maternal and new-born care and immunization, strengthened MSPP’s coordination and created the ‘new-born care alliance’.

HIV figures in 2016 showed that: 91.9 per cent of pregnant women diagnosed with syphilis has been treated; 93.6 per cent of HIV-positive pregnant women were placed on anti-retroviral therapy; and 90.6 per cent of HIV-exposed infants received prophylaxis. "All In" (the new strategy to eliminate the HIV epidemic among adolescents) was implemented in five geographical districts.

In addition, UNICEF Haiti continued to support the implementation of the Kore Fanmi programme in three communes of the South East department (Anse-à-Pitre, Grand Gosier
and Thiotte) with a pool of 99 polyvalent community workers (trained in MSPP community health modules), nine supervisors and three coordinators.

To date, 29 maternity clinics (exceeding the planned target of 27 basic and comprehensive obstetric emergency facilities have equipped. UNICEF Haiti continued to facilitate institutional capacity building by reinforcing the core of human resources in public health districts in the South and Grande-Anse departments and also at the newborn unit of the State University Hospital in the West Department, providing specialized care to premature and low-birthweight newborns. This resulted in 1,500 newborns being cared for in 2016 and a decline in mortality rates from 19 per cent to 15 per cent (State University Hospital report).

For the first decade of life, UNICEF Haiti provided technical and financial assistance for the development of a PMTCT training manual, to improve the quality of care of newborns and children infected or affected by HIV, participated actively in the country dialogue and provided financial support for the coordination committee mechanism, as a primary voting member.

To assess UNICEF Haiti’s efforts national response to children and HIV throughout the last decade (2005-2015), UNICEF conducted in 2016 a “light-touch” case study that provided in-depth information and showed that Haiti has made good progress in scaling-up PMTCT and ART programs over the last decade, despite considerable challenges related to political, economic and other crises.

For the second decade of life, in close collaboration with UNAIDS, the new global initiative targeting the elimination of HIV among adolescents in 2030 “All In” was launched (September 2015) and implemented in four districts (North East, North West, Artibonite and West). The adolescent advisory board created in 2015 continued to be operational; adolescents were part of all decision-making at UNICEF regarding prevention of HIV and other STIs and early, undesired pregnancies.

To support the country in the elimination of maternal and neonatal tetanus, UNICEF supported MSPP’s extended programme of immunization to complete the vaccination campaign and prepared to carry out a pre-evaluation of the disposal. National coverage of the third dose (TT3) was 82 per cent.

UNICEF Haiti continued to support implementation of the ‘reaching every district’ approach in 10 departments with a total of 70 municipalities. The results were significant, showing an increase of 31 per cent compared to vaccine coverage during the first half.

Due to the increase in cholera cases following Hurricane Matthew UNICEF, in collaboration with WHO, supported the MSPP to conduct a cholera vaccination campaign The campaign achieved final coverage of 96 per cent in Grande Anse and 90 per cent in South, for a total of 756,191 (of the targeted 817,000) people, including over 288,000 children aged from one to 14 years.

UNICEF supported the MSPP to implement the social mobilization component for Zika, which included sensitization sessions on vector control, information sessions at churches, home visits, community meetings, sanitation and community clean-up days. These activities were carried out in departments with the highest prevalence of the virus (Artibonite, Centre, North, Southeast and West); other departments were reached through mass media.

OUTPUT 1 By 2016, MSPP has models of decentralized health management system based on performance and budget planning tools centred on high-impact child survival interventions
Analytical Statement of Progress:
To reinforce the capacity of the MSPP in particular the Health Promotion Directorate, the following interventions were conducted: validation of the national health communication strategy, dissemination of the document "Facts for Life", reinforcement of the committee reviewing communication materials, production of educational materials, production of a crisis communication plan, development of a community mobilization guide in response to the epidemic of Zika, production of community radio talk show and knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) survey on family health care practices.

With the support of HQ and the Regional Office, UNICEF Haiti’s health, nutrition and WASH staff benefited from a training in the utilization of the tool "Equist" for child survival and identification of areas with inequities.

Through partnership with an international NGO (Heart to Heart), UNICEF successfully implemented a network of 99 agents, nine supervisors and three coordinators in three communes of South East Department (Anse a Pitre, Grand Gosier and Thiotte) through a family approach to the most vulnerable known as ‘Kore Fanmi’ (family support in Creole). Kore Fanmi networks started their interventions with C4D (promoting ‘Savoir pour sauver’ – ‘Knowledge for health’), health (immunization, maternal health) and nutrition (micronutrient supplements, growth monitoring). Local communication plans were drafted to disseminate KAP survey results; and culturally adapted materials are regularly used by community agents to reinforce essential family practices.

In 2016, Kore Fanmi continued to enhance the capacity of the community agent pool. However, through an MOU between MSPP and Fonds d’Assistance Economique et Sociale, MSPP continued to provide health training and deliver material and commodities in the three communes, in partnership with Heart to Heart. UNICEF, in collaboration with the South-East Health Department will continue to support the implementation of Kore Fanmi in three communes and the health sector, through supportive supervision of trained polyvalent community workers, sensitization of the surrounding communities on family care practices and reinforcement of basic health and nutrition services.

OUTPUT 2 By 2016, emergency obstetric and neonatal maternities and community-based services in the targeted areas ensure a correct and integrated management of newborns.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
UNICEF Haiti supported the MSPP by strengthening maternities and emergency neonatal and obstetric care sites (E-mons) by providing material, equipment and training for health providers. To date, 29 maternity clinics (exceeding the planned number of 27) have been equipped.

UNICEF continued to facilitate institutional capacity building by reinforcing the core of human resources in public health districts in the South, Grande-Anse and also at the neonatal unit of the state university hospital in the West, providing specialized care to premature and low birth-weight new-borns. This resulted in 1,500 new-borns being cared for in 2016 and a decrease in the mortality rate from 19 to 15 per cent (State University Hospital report). In addition, 65 maternal healthcare staff were trained in obstetrics and neonatal care in the South and Grande-Anse health districts, and 45 community health workers also received training on community mobilization and reproductive health. The neonatal operational plan was finalized and approved by the MSPP.

Communication and social mobilization continued to be an integral part of the maternal and neonatal component of UNICEF’s work. Educating young girls, women of childbearing ages and young men on reproductive health issues was key to ensuring a decline in maternal,
neonatal and child mortality. By the end of 2016 more than 30,000 individuals had been reached with information and materials on reproductive health. Some 3,500 pregnant women were trained on safe motherhood via the mothers’ clubs initiative.

Maternal and neonatal care continued to experience a deficit of human resources, and poor access to maternity clinics in remote areas with very few institutions offering 24 hours service for labour and delivery. To contribute to the reduction of maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality, UNICEF finalized the construction of a comprehensive Emonc facility in Cerca la Source, a remote area of the Centre department.

In 2017 the maternal and neonatal health component will continue to support to the MSPP in the South-East, South, Grande-Anse, Centre and West departments and will also include Nippes. Emphasis will be placed on (i) continued training of healthcare providers to build capacity for the provision of optimal maternal and new-born care, (ii) support through equipment of comprehensive and basic Emoncs, (iii) intensified community mobilization to serve hard-to-reach communities in remote areas, in an effort to narrow the equity gap, and (iv) emergency response to health districts affected by Hurricane Matthew in the southern region (rehabilitation and rebuilding capacities of damaged health centres).

**OUTPUT 3** By 2016, pregnant women have access to a full package of PMTCT services to prevent vertical transmission of HIV and congenital syphilis in the target areas.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
During 2016 UNICEF Haiti supported the MSPP, in particular the family health directorate (DSF), the entity in charge of eliminating mother-to-child-transmission (MTCT) of HIV and syphilis. HIV indicators showed progress: (i) 91.9 per cent of pregnant women diagnosed with syphilis were treated, (ii) 93.6 per cent of HIV-seropositive pregnant women were on ART, and (iii) 87.9 per cent of HIV-exposed infants received ARV medication. These successes are due to strong partnership and substantial financial support from the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the Global Fund.

In 2016 UNICEF Haiti developed, with the DSF, a PMTCT training manual aimed at improving the quality of care of new-born and children infected or affected by HIV, and participated actively in national dialogue and provided financial support for the community case management.

To assess UNICEF’s efforts to support the national response to children and HIV throughout the last decade (2005-2015), in 2016 UNICEF HQ conducted a “light-touch” case study. It was a theory-based evaluation approach – using mixed methods, including a structured document review, country case studies, global and regional-level key informant interviews and a survey – in coordination with the MSPP, UNAIDS, WHO, NGOs and people living with HIV. This study provided in-depth information and illustrated theory of change: Haiti has made good progress in scaling-up PMTCT and ART programs over the last decade, despite considerable challenges related to political, economic and other crises (2010 earthquake, among others).

Furthermore, in close collaboration with UNAIDS, the new global initiative targeting the elimination of the HIV among adolescents in 2030 (“All In”), launched in September 2015, was implemented in Haiti in four districts (North East, North West, Artibonite and West). The adolescent advisory board created in 2015 continued to be operational, and adolescents are now part of all decision-making at UNICEF regarding prevention of HIV, other STIs and early, undesired pregnancies. However, country-wide scaling-up of this initiative remains a challenge.
In 2017 UNICEF Haiti will continue to collaborate with MSPP in monitoring and evaluating MTCT of HIV and syphilis. Technical assistance will be provided for creating a network of healthcare institutions within and among districts to better deliver care and services needed to reaching the targeted of 95 per cent coverage. Collaboration with all stakeholders involved in ‘All In’ will continue, and clear strategic cross-sectorial guidelines with all involved sectors beyond health (education, youth and protection) will be defined.

OUTPUT 4 By 2016, girls and boys under five years and pregnant women, particularly the most vulnerable, use prevention services against EPI targeted diseases and integrated management of childhood illnesses.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
Following the corrective measures introduced in the second half of 2015, vaccination coverage for different antigens improved but did not reach the coverage targets set at the beginning of the year: BCG - 51.9 per cent; Penta 1 - 70 per cent; Penta3 - 68.5 per cent; OPV3 - 65.1 per cent; RR - 70.4 per cent; Rota 2 - 60.6 per cent; and Dt2 - 46 per cent (routine)

UNICEF Haiti continued to support the implementation of the RED approach in 10 departments with a total of 70 municipalities. The results were significant, showing an increase of 31 per cent compared to vaccine coverage during the first half of 2016.

Other partners in the immunization programme (EPI), particularly PAHO, contributed to better management of vaccine stock with the installation of software (VSSM), training for cold chain technicians and supportive supervision in the field.

UNICEF Haiti also supported implementation of the GEV improvement plan and contributed significantly to strengthening the cold chain. UNICEF financed the installation of 23 solar refrigerators purchased by the U.S. Centres for Disease Control to replace refrigerators using propane.

In 2017 UNICEF will continue to support the MSPP to increase immunization coverage through the RED approach and the purchase of vaccines and cold chain equipment; purchases will depend on the availability of donor funding.

OUTPUT 5 By 2016, Ministry of Health and its partners and communities have adequate means and technical capacity to reduce vulnerability to disaster risks and to provide an adequate and coordinated response in emergency situations.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
UNICEF contributed to cholera prevention by scaling-up the number of response teams and supporting 2016 vaccination campaigns, the latest of which reached 756,191 people, including over 288,000 children between the ages of one and 14 years. UNICEF’s intervention placed special emphasis on information and social mobilization while promoting good hygiene and sanitation practices aimed at cholera prevention. Additionally, nearly 281,000 people were provided with safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene. April to August is usually a period when fewer diseases are contracted, during which elimination could have been achieved in 2014 and 2015. But this year adverse factors (such as reduced funding) resulted in an early upsurge of the disease. While UNICEF took immediate steps to scale up the level of response nationwide, resulting in fragile control of the disease, Hurricane Matthew intensified pre-existing localized outbreaks in the South and Grande Anse departments.

The departments of West, North and Centre continue to account for more than three-quarters (77 per cent) of suspected cholera cases. However, within these departments
Localized epicentres of cholera outbreaks are characterized by lack of infrastructure and basic services, overpopulation and high population movement. These epicentres are also characterized by poor coverage of potable water and improved sanitation, compounded by unsafe hygiene practices, including open defecation.

As of September 2016, the communes of Croix des Bouquets, Tabarre, Port au Prince, Carrefour and Cabaret in West department; Mirebalais, Hinche and Lascahobas in the Centre; Gonaives, Saint-Marc and Saint-Michel in Artibonite; and Cap Haitien and Limbe in the North accounted for 54 per cent of suspected cholera cases. These figures are in line with the prioritization for the medium-term phase of the elimination plan (2016-2018), to which UNICEF’s work will be a substantive contribution.

Additional cholera outbreaks occurred in the South and Grand’Anse departments (Randel, Chardonnieres, Port-a-Piment), which are not usually cholera-prone areas. The national number of suspected cholera cases increased from 2,236 reported in the four-week period prior to the hurricane to 5,100 cases reported in the four weeks after the hurricane. Over half (52 per cent) of new cases seen in the latter period were reported from the departments of Grand’Anse and South, whereas before the hurricane they represented just 8 per cent of cases. This increase in suspected cholera cases is a result of Hurricane Matthew’s landfall in the south of the country, but must be taken with some caution as most of those cases are actually acute watery diarrhoea cases resulting from a combination of factors: disruption of safe water access, displacements and unsatisfactory access to basic sanitation in shelters, under-nutrition, rainy season, etc.

The Government of Haiti has a long-term (2013-2022) cholera elimination plan and a medium-term phase covering 2016-2018. The epidemiological curve shows an encouraging decrease since the onset of the outbreak, which means that immediate, adequate and simple actions will have a strong impact while sustainable solutions are put in place to prevent future cases.

**OUTCOME 3** Children, women and their families in rural and poor urban areas, especially the most vulnerable, have gained equitable and sustainable access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services as well as to hygiene education

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
During 2016, UNICEF continued to support Government agencies such as DINEPA, MENFP and MSPP, and to develop partnerships with various NGOs to implement WASH projects in Sud, Grande Anse, Nippes, Centre, Artibonite and South East departments. UNICEF supported coordination and planning mechanisms at the national, departmental and communal levels for the effective use of resources and better synergy among various actors. UNICEF continued to build Government and civil society partners’ capacity in areas such as hygiene promotion, household water treatment and safe storage (HWTS), CATS, WASH in Schools and C4D.

The country status overview of water supply and sanitation in Haiti, which was developed at the end of 2015, was used to identify major bottlenecks that prevent effective delivery and use of water and sanitation services. The overview contributed to the revision of Haiti’s water and sanitation strategic plan (2016-2025). UNICEF is also member of the steering committee of the WASH sector strategic plan. The national technical guidelines developed with the support of UNICEF in 2015 continued to be used by WASH actors in 2016.

Additionally, UNICEF supported DINEPA to improve water services in rural areas in 55 communities. Feasibility studies for water systems were completed for Centre Department and partially in Artibonite. The rehabilitation of seven water supply systems (benefitting around 30,000 persons) was completed in Mirebalais and Cerca La Source districts. Some
30,000 additional persons will have access to improved water sources in Artibonite through the systems being completed. In regard to the sanitation component, the community-led total sanitation (CLTS) approach was implemented in three departments (Artibonite, Centre and South East). Advocacy is ongoing to mainstream CLTS approach in the national strategy. Over 50,000 people were reached by hygiene messages in both communities and schools in Artibonite and Centre. WASH-in-schools interventions benefited approximately 13,000 children in 38 schools.

Regarding cholera, the crisis continued, with an increase in cases since May 2016 after funding reductions and heavy rains. Combined with the impact of Hurricane Matthew in October 2016, the coping mechanisms of the population and the capacities of the Government were stretched to the breaking point. Four departments were severely affected and UNICEF reoriented part of its programme and resources to respond to this emergency. UNICEF’s first priority remained to provide safe water and sanitation to people affected by the hurricane, controlling cholera and ensuring dignity and protection to those affected, particularly those displaced by the crisis.

**OUTPUT 1** By 2016, DINEPA and its partners have norms, standards, technical guidance and monitoring tools on safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene that sustainably address the needs of children and women, in particular the most vulnerable.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
UNICEF Haiti continued a dialogue with DINEPA to move forward with the partnership for ‘Sanitation and Water for All’ (SWA). As a result, Haiti attended the SWA meeting held in Addis Ababa in March 2016 and is preparing for the high-level meeting scheduled for Washington in April 2017. UNICEF supported DINEPA to disseminate the national sanitation strategy; DINEPA continued the dissemination and use of technical guidelines for the WASH sector; which are currently being used widely by WASH actors and technical and financial partners.

UNICEF continued to support DINEPA in developing a WASH Sector Strategic Plan 2016-2025. UNICEF supported DINEPA to develop the country status overview, a situation analysis of the water and sanitation sector. UNICEF hosed the secretariat of the working group of WASH sector technical and financial partners. In partnership with the World Bank, IADB and Spanish Cooperation, UNICEF actively engaged in a national water and sanitation infrastructure mapping, which will be crucial for evidence-based planning and prioritization. UNICEF also supported the MSPP to develop a medium-term cholera strategic plan for 2016-18.

**OUTPUT 2** By 2016, children and women living in rural communities and urban poor areas have access to sustainable WASH services

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
UNICEF Haiti developed partnerships with Zanmi Lasante, Oxfam QC and Hear-To-Heart to increase access to water, sanitation and hygiene promotion services in 12 rural cholera prone/poor districts in Artibonite, Center and South East departments. As a result, 60,000 people gained access to improved sources of drinking water and 17,500 people from 35 communities live in an open defecation-free environment, while 20 more are awaiting certification. Interventions in Artibonite were readjusted to better target cholera-affected communities, review the tedious tender process for the construction of infrastructure and advocate with Government to endorse and take CATS to scale. UNICEF initiated support to the Health Department of Centre, to implement the CATS approach through its health agents. The main challenges include weak Government decentralized structure and capacity, as well as low prioritization of the WASH sector in the national budget. Although DINEPA issued a circular clarifying that household sanitation should not be subsidized,
some NGO working closely with project communities continue to do so, hampering the results of CATS strategy. UNICEF worked closely with DINEPA to disseminate the national policy promoting zero subsidy, and with the World Bank, particularly in Centre Department, to ensure complementarity and synergy of interventions.

**OUTPUT 3** By 2016, school children benefit from WASH services that respect “child friendly” norms, standards and technical guidance and adopt improved sanitation and hygiene practices.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
With UNICEF’s support, 12,800 school children (including 5,875 girls) from 38 schools in Artibonite and Centre departments gained access to improved WASH facilities meeting national standards. UNICEF continued to provide technical assistance to the MoE to establish and scale up a ‘hygiene-friendly schools’ programme based on the three stars approach. The MENFP and stakeholders were in the process of revising WASH standards for schools to match the local context. UNICEF also advocated with the MoE and DINEPA to lower water and sanitation infrastructure standards, in order to increase the scalability of the WASH-in-schools programme.

**OUTPUT 4** By 2016, DINEPA and its partners have adequate means and technical skills to reduce disaster risks vulnerability and to provide an adequate and coordinated response in emergency situations

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
Through its humanitarian action in 2016, UNICEF continued to support local public health actors through improved surveillance and rapid response to cholera alerts, focusing on access to sustainable water and sanitation in areas most at risk and strengthening community-based surveillance. Further, to respond to increased needs caused by the disruption of access to safe drinking water and adequate hygiene and sanitation, which further increases the risk of water-borne diseases, including cholera, nearly 281,000 people were provided with safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene.

In the framework of the WASH cluster transition, UNICEF Haiti continued to build the coordination and preparedness capacities of the Directorate of Water and Sanitation. Following Hurricane Matthew (which hit Haiti on 4 October 2016, severely affecting four departments), UNICEF reoriented part of its programme and resources to respond to this emergency. UNICEF’s priority remained providing safe water and sanitation to people affected by the hurricane, controlling cholera and ensuring dignity and protection to those affected, particularly those displaced by the crisis. Nevertheless, major challenges remain, including the persistence of cholera in six departments. In addition, to bring cholera under control, consistent programming must be implemented, requiring reliable funding. The current unpredictability of funding results in an inability to effectively plan and develop programming;

**OUTCOME 4** By 2016, girls and boys aged 0-14 years in the three poorest quintiles benefit from education policies to ensure equitable access to quality basic education and opportunities for early childhood development.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
In terms of the socio-political and economic context, 2016 was a very challenging year for Haiti in general and for the education sector particularly. Until October, the MoE spent much of its resources responding to internal conflicts and teachers’ protests. while trying to reshape the contested free universal education programme (PSUGO) that has had an adverse impact on public financial resources and been heavily criticized as being mismanaged. Due to these budgetary constraints, the Government had to further reduce the
scope of the PSUGO, leaving thousands of children with three choices: enrol in already overcrowded public schools, resume paying school fees or drop out. The out-of-school children (OOSC) report of October 2016 showed an increase in the number of OOSC children since 2013, when the level of PSUGO-linked subsidies began to steadily drop. Indeed, despite noticeable progress in access, the MoE and its partners need to address the issues of excluded children as well as those at risk of dropping out and those who are over-age. The OOSC report put the total number of out-of-school six-to-11-year-olds at 257,776, representing 18 percent of the entire age group.

The political turmoil following the invalidation of the October 2015 presidential election led to major changes at the ministry’s highest levels: the minister, director general and several directors were replaced. Although the new team continued on the same path as the previous one, the pace of sector reform implementation initiated by the previous minister slowed down.

Last year also witnessed an escalation of the bi-national crisis between Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Several thousand families returned or were sent back to Haiti from the Dominican Republic. In June 2016, the IOM registered 74,000 people of whom 22,200 (30 per cent) were children under 18 years of age. Returnees were sheltered with host families, except in the Southwest Department where they settled in tent camps. A majority of child returnees are out of school, as they either lack resources to enrol or do not speak French or Kreyol, making their integration arduous. UNICEF supported the MoE to implement innovative, tailored strategies to contribute to fulfilment of the right to education of the child returnees.

Despite these difficulties a number of important achievements and major strategic milestones took place throughout the year. The MoE continued to focus on improving quality education through important measures. For instance, as a follow-up to some 70,000 teachers (of a total of 120,000, 80 per cent from the private sector) who have received a temporary teaching permit, the MoE finalized its new national teacher training policy. This represented a major milestone in Haiti’s education system as the first step towards enhancing quality and children’s learning achievement. The new policy lays out the path for teachers who received temporary teaching permits to obtain definitive permits.

The OOSC report, carried out with the technical and financial assistance of UNICEF, also addressed the situation of exclusion, representing the first step toward developing evidence-based strategies to tackle issues relating to over-age and out-of-school children.

The second national evaluation to assess the level of fourth graders in literacy and numeracy was conducted in June 2016; but the results had not been made public as of this writing. Pre-training on the first-ever preschool curriculum was carried out; UNICEF will support its testing in selected schools in the near future.

Development of the new sectoral plan started in November 2016, with technical support from several donors and agencies, such as the World Bank, UNICEF and UNESCO. Designed to guide the education sector from end-2016 through 2021, the document represents a major opportunity to include strategies addressing key issues affecting the Haitian education system, including over-age and out-of-school children.

The MoE also invested much effort and resources in addressing violence in schools. In addition, UNICEF contributed to finalizing the code of conduct for teachers, children and schools for the promotion of non-violent conflict resolution in classrooms and positive discipline practices in schools where many educators and principals still use corporal punishment.
While these achievements all constitute important steps toward improving overall access to and quality of the education system, significant challenges remain. One is the uncertainty linked to the socio-political context and changes in government, which could hamper the MoE’s capability to implement reforms and ensure continuity. Further, as measures take time to yield positive effects and real impact on the sector, children who are in classrooms today are not learning adequately. When Hurricane Matthew hit southern Haiti, over 1,000 schools were affected, negatively impacting the education of more than 400,000 children. The hurricane’s ill effects will last over a long period, putting at stake the right to education of thousands of children in a region that already has the biggest proportion of children not in school. UNICEF partnered with the MoE to restore the education system in affected areas and ensure that affected children could return to school rapidly.

**OUTPUT 1** By 2016, mechanisms to promote access for all children aged 0-14, including opportunities for early childhood development and quality basic education are in place, as well as to improve the efficiency of governance at central and local levels.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
In 2016, as in previous years, UNICEF supported the MoE to improve governance mechanisms, one aspect of ministry reform along with curriculum, vocational training and teacher qualifications.

As its efforts to build the capacity of decentralized ministry structures was discontinued due to lack of funding, UNICEF Haiti supported central governance bodies and technical directorates – in collaboration with other partners such as the Inter-American Development Bank, World Bank and UNESCO – particularly to carry out the school census and ensure readily available, up-to-date data on the education system. UNICEF’s experience supporting decentralized structures in data collection and analyses, with the goal of defining local education development plans, was shared with the two partners, which plan to utilize the same strategies and build on UNICEF’s lessons learned to expand the local capacity-building programme in Haiti’s departments.

As mentioned above, UNICEF supported the MoE to finalize the education community’s code of conduct against violence in schools. School principals, teachers, parents and students will be required to adhere to the code promoting non-violent school communities and reducing the impact of violence in schools. The code of conduct should have been publicly validated by the Minister of Education before Hurricane Matthew hit Haiti, but the natural disaster postponed the step.

UNICEF Haiti was also a member of the task force that finalized the national school feeding policy, which aims to scale up school feeding programmes. UNICEF was also a key participant in the local education group chaired by UNESCO, which convenes all donors and technical partners.

Furthermore, UNICEF was a partner in the development of the 2016-2021 Sectoral Plan, which will promote strategies to tackle key issues concerning the promotion of more inclusive education. Although UNICEF did not directly participate in its development, finalization of the new national teacher training policy was another major milestone toward improved quality education. However, the law on a national education fund law has not been approved by Parliament to date.

The main constraints of the past year were an important decrease in funding, which not only negatively impacted the expansion of activities but also obliged UNICEF to re-focus its contribution on a few key actions only. Combating violence in schools and increased
involvement in the development of the new operational plan will be the two major areas of focus in forthcoming months.

OUTPUT 2 By 2016, 150,000 children, of which 80% are in the most remote targeted areas, have access to quality education based on an essential package which can be used as a standard for the definition of a national policy.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
From 2011 to 2014, Haiti’s education sector saw considerable progress in terms of access, thanks to PSUGO. However, exclusion is still strong within the lowest quintile. Quality continued to be a major concern, as children’s learning achievement remains low. Little has changed since the 2015 IADB study, which revealed that the majority of children lack important skills in literacy and numeracy. In response, the MoE has taken serious steps toward the implementation of comprehensive education reform.

The MoE rolled out the second national fourth-grade exam to assess students’ skills at an earlier stage in their learning path. The exam was designed to help improve results and find appropriate alternative learning opportunities for all children. Similarly, the new national teachers training policy represents a major milestone toward improving teaching methodology. All partners and teacher training initiatives are expected to align with the new policy.

Due to lack of funding, the UNICEF pilot to strengthen reading and writing in 100 schools in the North and South departments was discontinued at end-2015. However, UNICEF Haiti partnered with USAID and other donors to continue its involvement in strategic discussions around improving reading and writing and setting national standards. In the second half of the year, UNICEF partnered with USAID to implement the scale-up of USAID’s programme promoting early grade reading and writing in some additional 120 schools in the North, North East, and South East, benefitting 28,800 children from grades one to four, and highlighting UNICEF’s role as a major player in promoting the “quality agenda” and “quality reforms”. UNICEF’s other school-based interventions were concentrated in the remote areas of Anse-à-Pitre, responding to the needs of the many out of-school children returning from the Dominican Republic. To date around 5,000 children in the 14 public schools of Anse-à-Pitre have benefitted from an improved education.

The OOSC study was completed, highlighting several issues. From 2011 to 2013 the number of out-of-school six-to-11-year-olds was almost halved: 412,000 in 2011, 200,000 in 2013. However, the number has been increasing and in 2014 reached 257,776. The MoE must continue to pay attention to avoid a worsening of the situation, which may wipe out gains. Over-age children remain a significant issue: 50 per cent of children currently in primary school are two years or more above the legal age for the grade they are enrolled in; only 21 percent are of the right age. The OOSC report is an important starting point to develop new evidence-based strategies to respond to the right to education of children currently out of school. The OOSC report should have been launched in November, but Hurricane Matthew resulted in a delay.

UNICEF’s education programme will continue concentrate on promoting reading and writing skills in 120 schools, to contribute to improving learning achievement.

OUTPUT 3 By 2016, 45,000 children aged 0-5 years particularly the most vulnerable, are benefiting from services following development norms and standards as well as from early learning and stimulation programs in selected areas.
Analytical Statement of Progress:
In the early childhood development sector, with UNICEF’s contributions and those of other partners, such as the IADB, the MoE continued to work on the establishment of norms and standards for preschool education and finalized the first-ever preschool curriculum, which the MoE pre-piloted in selected schools. Due to budgetary constraints, UNICEF could not contribute to the pre-piloting, but remained active at discussions, and will support the new pilot of the curriculum beginning in 2017.

UNICEF continued to support the MoE to carry out activities in preschool classrooms, where 1,160 children are better prepared for primary school thanks to the provision of an adequate playing and learning environment (PLAY). The PLAY project also connected targeted schools with their communities and other schools in the area. The programme was implemented by long-time early childhood NGO partner ‘Tipa Tipa’ (Step by Step). Compared to those who did not engage in play, children who did performed better in class. They were more focused and motivated to learn. However, when considering overall school performance in terms of grades, only a slight difference was observed with school mates who did not engage in PLAY.

The main constraints regarding ECD programmes in Haiti are the lack of interest and funding among donors, with only UNICEF and the IADB supporting the MoE in the sector. Fortunately, with increased budget availability over the next three years, UNICEF can resume stronger engagement in the sector, primarily focusing its interventions on preschool and the transition to primary school. Constraints are linked to the MoE’s lack of financial capacity to put in place more preschool classrooms in public schools, as foreseen in the 2010-2015 strategic plan. In addition, preschools are plagued with the over-age phenomenon, with more than 30 percent of children six years or older. The new teacher training policy, which includes preschool, is an opportunity to strengthen interventions in the sector and the new sector plan is an opportunity to streamline pre-school.

OUTPUT 4 By 2016, the Haitian educational system and its actors have the means and technical capacities to reduce the vulnerability and the impact of emergency situations on children of preschool and basic education levels.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
The year under review was marked by two major crises in the education sector. The first was the bi-national crisis, which displaced more than 74,000 people of whom 30 per cent (22,200) were children under 18. The second was Hurricane Matthew, which slammed into Haiti on October 4 and caused heavy damage, putting at stake the right to education of more than 400,000 children. Activities related to Hurricane Matthew response took up most of the last quarter of the year.

To contribute to the response to the binational crisis, UNICEF combined its programme in South East Department (Anse-à-Pitre), benefitting 5,000 children through support of the MoE for organizing remedial classes during the summer vacation for around 500 returnee children who did not speak French, but were subsequently integrated into the formal education system.

Regarding disaster risk reduction and management, UNICEF supported the MoE with the finalization of the report by Miyamoto (a specialized engineering firm) on the 131 school buildings assessed in West Department for potential risks and possible impact in case of an earthquake. The report was also distributed at a regional conference on disaster risk reduction in the Caribbean held in Port-au-Prince in September 2016.

The tense situation all over the country due to the postponed elections, which impacted
education programme implementation, was also a major constraint for the implementation of disaster risk reduction activities. Moreover, the decrease in related funding considerably reduced the scope of activities that were planned with the MoE. Only after Matthew was UNICEF able to mobilize additional funds for emergency and set a target of reaching 65,000 children.

OUTCOME 5 By 2016, Girls and boys, including adolescents, are protected by social and legal systems at national and community levels against gender-based violence and other forms of violence, abuse and exploitation as well as separation from their families.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
The child protection legal environment improved over the course of the programme cycle, with revised legal frameworks on adoption, family law and prevention of trafficking. Understanding of the situation of children also improved. In a context in which more than 28,000 children are in institutional care facilities, a national study carried out in 2015-2016 shed lights on some of the drivers of voluntary family separation and child domestic labour. Family separation affects one out of four children in Haiti. Political instability has hampered progress in the fields of birth registration and juvenile justice. Although 80 per cent of Haitian children are registered with civil registry services, this figure masks geographical inequalities as well as systemic problems affecting the reliability of both certificates and accessibility of services. Inter-ministerial cooperation was one of the main stumbling blocks, along with the limited resources devoted to child protection services and interventions. Indeed, the Institute du Bien Etre Social, the state agency in charge of protecting vulnerable populations (including children), depends on external support for its functioning. In a context of decreased funding for juvenile justice programming 76 per cent of the children in detention have not been tried including 12 per cent in pre-trial detention for more than two years.

In 2016 UNICEF continued its support to ensure that IBESR and the Brigade de Protection des Mineurs (Children’s protection brigade) could maintain a presence in all 10 departments, including areas affected by emergencies. This included providing technical, financial and material (equipment, vehicles) support to IBESR staff deployed in departments. Support was aimed at improving child protection systems in the targeted areas. In six areas affected by emergencies, UNICEF support enabled the establishment of referral systems and coordination mechanisms. In 2016, UNICEF’s child protection programme evolved from its institutional support profile toward an increased field presence, including programmes addressing the consequences of cross-border movements of children (407 children assisted with interim care and family reunification); foster care (methodology adopted by the Government, 32 certified families, 20 children placed in families); prevention of prolonged pre-trial detention (project aiming at developing the capacities of the corrections service legal assistants, developed in coordination with ICRC and targeting 75 children); and support to facilitate access to birth certificates for 500 children (240 girls) in the border town of Belladère.

The protection programme developed the evidence base to address child abandonment and child labour through a national study carried out in partnership with 28 different organisations. Response to the hurricane also led the protection programme to pilot an open-market voucher approach to addressing the needs of vulnerable families. The programme innovated by developing a partnership involving both the Ombudsman’s Office and the corrections office to address the prolonged pre-trial detention of children. The main challenges were: (i) weak Government capacity to ensure continuous social services; (ii) lack of leadership for coordination of social services; and (iii) limited existing capacity to address the socio-economic drivers of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation.

Following Hurricane Matthew, UNICEF reoriented part of its programme and resources to respond to this emergency. As the Hurricane hit Grande Anse and South, two of the
departments most vulnerable to family separations, child labour and institutionalization, the toll on families’ livelihood prospect could represent a factor feeding an upsurge in child placement/voluntary family separation. According to registration data in public shelters 57 per cent of households registered are female headed, 10 per cent of which mentioned that they were contemplating sending their children to family members within Haiti, while 3 per cent offered strangers to take care of their children. These figures are to be read against a backdrop of systemic family separation (25 per cent of children do not live with their parents in Haiti), high institutionalization rates (an estimated 28,000 children in more than 750 mostly unregulated private institutions) and trafficking risks. UNICEF’s response consisted primarily of: (i) setting-up systems to rapidly identify unaccompanied and missing children; (ii) assessing the situation of children living in institutions; (iii) providing emergency assistance to 3,785 children in residential care centres located in areas directly affected by the hurricane and initiating a process to re-establish family links; (iv) interventions aiming at supporting 1,000 families at risk of separation and psychosocial interventions through child-friendly spaces, including mobile child-friendly spaces targeting 20,000 children, in partnership with Save the Children, Plan International, Terre des Hommes, AVSI and local anti-trafficking partner IDETTE (Initiative Departementale de Lutte contre la Traite et le Traffic d’Enfants). Protection responses also addressed risks and response to gender-based violence by integrating the response into UNICEF-supported mobile clinics (with Médecins du Monde), strengthening community-based referral systems (with Oxfam) and capacity building of services providers (with International Medical Corps).

These results would not have been possible without the financial support of DFID, he Canadian government, OFDA, ECHO, CERF, UNICEF national Committees (France, China, Italy) and technical partnerships with Terre des Hommes, AVSI, Service Jesuite des Migrants, Groupe d’Appui aux Refugies et Raptaries, Soeurs Saint Jean de l’Evangile, Christian Aid, Rezo Fwontalye Jano Sikse, Croix Rouge Haitienne, Save the Children, Plan International, Fanm Deside, Oxfam and International Medical Corps.

OUTPUT 1 By 2016, Haiti has a policy of child protection based on evidence and a legal framework based on human rights.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
Over the programme cycle significant progress was made in reforming Haiti’s legal and policy frameworks for child protection. Progress was achieved in a volatile and at times unstable political environment, characterized by changing Government counterparts. UNICEF provided technical expertise for drafting the Law reforming the adoption system and Haiti’s ratification of the Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption, as well as Haiti’s periodic report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child. The latter presented an opportunity to enhance Government’s dialogue with civil society; UNICEF was able to support these exchanges, thus ensuring that civil society had a voice in the process and could submit an alternative report.

The reporting period also saw headway in other areas: coordination among IBESR’s financial partners led to the development of a central child protection database (SYNAPSE), which is now available but has yet to be put into operation and deployed at the decentralized level.

UNICEF coordinated a national study on the issue of child fosterage and child domestic work in Haiti. This study convened 28 organizations working on a variety of issues, which provided material, technical and financial support to the development of a sound evidence base to guide programming on voluntary family separation, child abandonment, institutional care and child labour. This pioneer study now guides most of UNICEF’s child protection regular programme, and will also be used to inform developments in the field of alternative care and violence prevention.
OUTPUT 2 By 2016, boys and girls, including adolescents, have access to adequate services and coordinated programmes to ensure the prevention and response to violence, abuse and exploitation in target departments including in emergency situations.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
In all targeted departments the development of standard operating procedures related to the situation of unaccompanied minors and development of a referral system along the area border with the Dominican Republic. The procedures support an inter-agency referral system, which to date has failed to translate into inter-ministerial coordination at the local level, and still requires partner support. The system incorporates a process of determining a child’s best interest, in order to address specific situations where alternative care arrangements need to be identified. This was carried out in coordination with Service Jesuite des Migrants, Groupe d’Appui aux Rapatriés et Réfugiés, Soeurs Saint Jean and Rezo fwontalye jano Sikse – Haitian NGOs that provide support to local IBESR branches.

The tools developed during these interventions were shared with all members of the child protection working group, to ensure that focal points in municipalities can develop integrated referral systems that incorporate all vulnerabilities identified, through consultations with communities.

OUTPUT 3 By 2016, girls and boys, including adolescents are aware of the risks and situations that hinder the protection of children and engage in prevention and response to violence, abuse and the exploitation

Analytical Statement of Progress:
Youth participation methodologies remain limited to programming in Cité Soleil and Martissant, and depend on partners’ capacity to provide technical support and ensure that youth-led processes incorporate both advocacy and support for improving the reporting of cases and promotion of services. It is planned during the next programme cycle to develop this aspect, including through support for inter-generational dialogues and collaboration to prevent violence. Partnership with community-based youth organizations need to be reinforced. UNICEF supported youth clubs through its partner AVSI, as well as through its communication programme outreach to teenagers programme, which contributed to training 15 youth leaders in South East Department.

As part of the response to Hurricane Matthew UNICEF developed a partnership with the Ministry of Youth, which provided 60 volunteers who participated in the national civic service programme. These volunteers supported the response in the department of Grande Anse through 15 mobile child-friendly spaces, as well as by facilitating the registration of vulnerable families in shelters and conducting sensitization sessions. This partnership will be expanded in other municipalities, and possibly other departments.

OUTCOME 6 By 2016, policies, legislation, and budgeting are based on evidence, including for measures to reduce child deprivations and disparities, are implemented.

Analytical Statement of Progress:
According to the latest Finance Law (2015-2016), there was a significant increase in budget allocation for social sectors.
One of the main challenges to advancing the social protection agenda was weak leadership by the Ministry of Social Affairs. However a social protection working group. Including UNICEF, was officially set up, and was holding regular meetings.
The update of the Situation Analysis of Children and Women in Haiti was completed; findings will be used for advocacy on relevant themes. At the local level the data collected will help local authorities to reinforce the use of map of opportunities for advocacy purposes.
The EMMUS VI was underway in late 2016, but the data collection phase was delayed due to Hurricane Matthew, among other factors. A formative evaluation of Kore Fanmi was completed. However, due to the post-Matthew and political context, this could not take place in 2016, and therefore was rescheduled for early-2017.

**OUTPUT 1** D’ici 2016, le Gouvernement d’Haïti dispose et utilise des données et des analyses désagrégées aux niveaux national et local sur la situation de l’enfant et de la femme, pour une prise de décision basée sur l'évidence et axée sur l'équité.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
Despite some delays, the EMMUS VI was underway in late 2016. UNICEF Haiti contributed to various stages of the EMMUS: preparation (mapping), training of enumerators and data collection. Other partners also provided support, such as UNDP, UNFPA, World Bank and USAID.

UNICEF Haiti continued supporting for an update of socio-economic surveys in the three communes targeted by Kore Fanmi.

In addition, the update of the SitAn of Children and Women in Haiti was completed.

Finally, support to Haiti’s statistics and information institute (IHSI) was provided to assist with the pre-census mapping exercise.

**OUTPUT 2** D’ici 2016, la capacité du Gouvernement est renforcée pour l’élaboration et la mise en œuvre d’un cadre de protection sociale orienté sur les besoins des enfants et basé sur le Socle de protection sociale.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
This output encountered significant bottlenecks, due to the lack of an enabling environment and weaknesses at the Ministry of Social Affairs, keeping it from effectively taking the lead on social protection. However, the Ministry established a social protection working group, of which UNICEF is member.

**OUTPUT 3** By 2016, the most vulnerable households in targeted communes are identified and benefit from support services for family development aimed at reducing their vulnerability and reinforcing their resilience to shocks.

**Analytical Statement of Progress:**
A formative evaluation of Kore Fanmi was completed. The evaluation involved line ministries at the central and local levels, local authorities, communities, beneficiaries of Kore Fanmi, Kore Fanmi agents and other implementing partners. Although a restitution of the evaluation was envisaged, due to the post-Matthew and political contexts, it was re-scheduled for early-2017.
Evaluation and Research

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Other Publication

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Lessons Learned

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