UNICEF Annual Report 2017



Honduras

Executive summary

Major changes

A total of 462 cases of Zika virus infection were reported in Honduras between January and October 2017. This represents a 99 per cent decrease compared with the same period in 2016, when 31,923 cases were reported. Nevertheless, even with this significant reduction in new infections, 191 cases of congenital Zika syndrome were reported.

Over the past four years, the homicide rate has steadily declined: from 85.5 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants in 2012 to 59.1 per 100,000 inhabitants in 2016, which, however, remains among the highest in the world. According to police data, the downward trend continued in 2017, with a preliminary rate of 42.76 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants.

As of 8 December 2017, 45,102 returned Honduran migrants were registered, which represents a 30.8 per cent reduction compared with 2016, when 65,168 migrants returned to the country. Of the total number of returnees, 4,470 were children (65 per cent boys, 35 per cent girls).

Results achieved

Management. Under the new Country Programme (2017–2021), UNICEF Honduras' budget ceiling was raised from US\$13.7 million to US\$25.5 million, of which US\$20 million was in Other Resources. By December 2017, US\$16.9 million in donors' contributions were secured (85 per cent of the Other Resources ceiling). The recruitment of new professionals increased the number of staff from 15 to 21.

Child protection. Thanks to multi-year funding from the Government of Canada, UNICEF Honduras made progress in the complex process of establishing a national child protection system. Honduras is one of the few Latin American countries still lacking such a structure. The roadmap to the establishment of the system was prepared and approved by both the Government and civil society. A comprehensive capacity gap analysis was completed, to inform the capacity-building strategy. Emphasis was placed on protecting children from violence and restoring the rights of migrant children. With support from UNICEF Honduras, the national child protection institution (Dirección de Infancia, Adolescencia y Familia, or DINAF) harmonized protocols for municipal child protection coordination bodies in 109 of the country's 298 municipalities. Community-based child protection mechanisms were formed in 28 municipalities, comprising community leaders, municipal councils, teachers, youth groups, volunteer organizations and private-sector representatives.

Early childhood development (ECD). The national early childhood strategy, Parenting with Love, was scaled up from 28 municipalities in 2016 to 64 municipalities in 2017. A wide network of facilitators (primarily healthcare workers and preschool teachers) and community volunteers made this expansion possible. With financial support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), technical assistance from the UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office and collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization/World

Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), UNICEF Honduras was able to integrate community-based care and support for children with congenital Zika syndrome and other disabilities into Parenting with Love.

Shortfalls

Juvenile criminal justice system. Honduras is in the process of formulating a public policy for juvenile criminal justice that emphasizes prevention of crime, alternatives to detention and social reintegration of child offenders, using imprisonment only as a last resort. However, serious capacity gaps limit the capacity of the juvenile criminal justice system to ensure due process in the best interest of the child, and in line with international children's rights standards.

Mainstreaming gender and intercultural approaches. Mainstreaming affirmative strategies promoting gender equality in early childhood and education, a protective environment for girls at school, protection of adolescents from sexual violence and girls' participation in decision-making is work in progress which still requires a lot of policy dialogue and advocacy work. Likewise, cultural adaptation of action strategies aiming at the most excluded needs to be informed by a deeper knowledge of values, practices and beliefs of indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples.

Collaborative partnerships

The process of establishing the national child protection system mobilized a large number of partners, including non-governmental organization (NGO) members of the Global Movement for Children, the national association of municipalities, mayors, the Judiciary, the Ministry of Security and the Ombudsperson. During the electoral campaign of November 2017, UNICEF Honduras partnered with members from the Global Movement for Children to organize a national campaign to position children on the electoral agenda. As a result, a Pact for Children was signed by 2,720 mayoral candidates. The pact includes 14 asks related to children's rights and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including the establishment of municipal child protection systems.

Following an intense advocacy effort in partnership with United Nations agencies, the Organization of American States Mission to Support the Fight against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras, the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Violence against Children, media, international experts and NGOs, UNICEF Honduras was able to influence decision makers not to pursue a presidential initiative proposing to reduce the age of criminal responsibility. As a result, the draft legislation was not presented to Congress.

Humanitarian assistance

On 1 February 2016, the Government of Honduras declared a national emergency in response to the Zika virus epidemic. As a result, the National Risk Management System was activated, which involved government institutions, municipalities, private companies and civil society in Zika prevention and vector control. In coordination with PAHO/WHO and the Ministry of Health, the contribution of UNICEF Honduras, with support from the Government of Japan, initially focused on primary prevention of Zika transmission among pregnant women, through communication and education strategies. These coordinated efforts led to the preparation of the Integrated National Strategy of Communication and Community Participation in Response to Zika, with USAID support. The strategy is based in scientific evidence and its design was technically supported by John Hopkins University. The inter-institutional commission in charge of Zika was trained in communication for development (C4D). Communication materials adapted to the sociocultural context and to the different audiences were developed and disseminated.

While in 2017 the number of new Zika cases decreased significantly, Honduras was left with at least 191 reported cases of microcephaly across the country. In this new context of the epidemic, UNICEF Honduras, with support from the UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office and USAID, implemented a five-pronged strategy: strengthen the national strategy for risk communication and community participation; support the development of a regulatory framework for integrated care of children and families affected by the congenital Zika virus syndrome; strengthen the health system and community networks; generate evidence on the impact of the epidemic on children; and strengthen intersectoral coordination to ensure the quality and sustainability of the response beyond the emergency phase.

In this context, a community model of non-clinical interventions for care and support of children and families affected by the congenital Zika virus syndrome was developed in collaboration with the municipalities of Choluteca, San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa, which recorded the highest number of Zika infections and of microcephaly cases. The process saw the participation of 39 health facilities, 58 health workers and a network of 170 community volunteers. In addition to interventions carried out by medical and nursing staff, the model includes eight family education modules, to be used at the community level by the network of volunteers and peer supporters, including home visits, group orientation sessions and attention to individual families.

Through home visits and group sessions, 69 families of children with microcephaly in the municipalities of Choluteca, San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa were trained in care and support of children with congenital Zika virus syndrome. Topics included early stimulation and monitoring of child development, peer support, stress management and family involvement in child rearing. Good practices, lessons learned and tools for caring and supporting children with the syndrome are being integrated into the national early childhood development (ECD) strategy Parenting with Love.

A network of about 600 volunteers from the Municipal Programmes for Children, Adolescents and Youth (PMIAJs) in the 11 municipalities with the highest incidence of Zika infection provided local communication and counselling. They reached 25,000 people with messages on Zika prevention and promoted a favourable environment for children with congenital Zika syndrome and other disabilities, free of stigma and discrimination. Additionally, 1,300 adolescents from all over the country used the U-Report platform to disseminate messages among their peers.

With support from UNICEF Honduras, the Ministry of Education completed the transition from the emergency response to a longer-term preventive strategy with the incorporation of Zika prevention into the curriculum on climate change. Eleven demonstration schools from the 11 municipalities with the highest Zika incidence were selected for an analysis of teacher skills and knowledge, attitudes and practices of parents and students as a result of educational activities carried out in 2016. The educational community (parents, teachers, students and relevant local entities) of the demonstration schools formulated school plans with environmental sanitation interventions and participatory monitoring mechanisms. To ensure sustainability of these educational interventions, UNICEF is providing technical assistance for their incorporation into the primary education curriculum and teacher training programme.

Equity in practice

The situation of children's education

At the end of 2012, the Ministry of Education recognized the need to deepen the analysis of the determinants of educational exclusion to better guide its policies, within the framework of the

new Fundamental Law on Education. The 'National Report on Educational Inclusion and Exclusion,' carried out with UNICEF support, revealed that exclusion in the education system was characterized by: inequities in initial access to school, high rates of failure in the first years of basic education (Grades 1 and 2) and the first years of secondary school (Grades 7 and 8); and high levels of school dropout starting at the age of 12.

The factors that determine these exclusions are related to: (a) educational barriers, such as weaknesses in planning for results, inequitable budgetary allocations, poor information systems, lack of pedagogical alternatives that appeal to adolescents, pedagogical models and teaching methods that undermine learning and wrongly consider repetition as a strategy for dealing with children who have learning difficulties; (b) inadequate infrastructure and teaching capacity (about 75 per cent of classrooms were in poor condition, lacking adequate furniture and teaching materials), not enough teachers and infrastructure at pre-primary and secondary levels, and lack of teacher training in competency-based education; and (c) weak demand for services because of a lack of awareness about age-appropriate enrolment and the perception that education brings few benefits.

Identifying these barriers was the starting point for the design of specific interventions and strategies to remove obstacles that impede quality, inclusive education for all Honduran children.

UNICEF Honduras response

- •Supporting the Fundamental Law on Education, ministry-level agreements and regulations that establish the appropriate age for starting school and aim to reduce grade repetition in first grade and the number of students who are behind the normal grade level for their age.
- •Providing technical assistance for the elaboration of a plan for the universalization of preprimary and lower secondary education; integrating international development aid for the education sector within the framework of the Roundtable of External Cooperation in Education.
- •Developing and implementing a communication strategy geared towards informing families and communities about the appropriate age for entry in pre-primary and primary education, as well as reducing dropout rates in the municipalities with the highest levels of educational exclusion.
- •Supporting the Ministry of Education to implement the pedagogical strategy Everyone Can Learn. The strategy aims to reduce inequities by ensuring that the most disadvantaged children are enrolled in the first three years of primary education; by implementing a truly bilingual intercultural education in indigenous and Afro-Honduran communities; and by creating flexible 'educational bridges' that seek to reintegrate returning child migrants and/or children displaced by violence into the educational system.
- •Supporting decentralized education management in the Ministry of Education, community participation in school management and teacher training in pedagogical modalities that support excluded children.
- •Implementing a system for monitoring results for equity which focuses on monitoring students who are behind the normal grade level for their age, community participation in education management and awareness about age-appropriate enrolment.

Results

The national net enrolment rate for primary education (Grades 1 through 6) increased from 77.1 per cent in 2014 to 83.1 per cent in 2017. In municipalities prioritized by UNICEF, net enrolment in primary education increased from 77.8 per cent to 82.6 per cent over the same period. The net enrolment rate in lower secondary education (Grades 7 through 9) was 44.4 per cent in 2017.

The rate of grade repetition in primary education was 3.1 per cent at the national level (1.2 per cent among girls and 1.9 per cent among boys) in 2017, and 7.3 per cent for lower secondary education (2.8 per cent among girls and 4.5 per cent among boys). In the municipalities prioritized by UNICEF in its Country Programme, the rate of repetition was 2.1 per cent in primary education (0.8 per cent among girls and 1.3 per cent among boys) and 6.8 per cent in lower secondary education (2.6 per cent among girls and 4.2 per cent among boys).

The complex context of multidimensional poverty, insecurity and inequality in Honduras will require stakeholders to redouble their efforts to reduce disparities in education. In the coming years, UNICEF will focus its work on the formation of alliances with donors and stakeholders to achieve results, identify barriers that impede access to school, support municipal governments in the implementation of inclusive pedagogical models, and strengthen the Monitoring Results for Equity System as a tool for decentralized education management.

Strategic Plan 2018–2021

The UNICEF Honduras Country Programme 2017–2021 places a strong focus on the municipal level and the most disadvantaged children, while working at the national level to ensure replicability and sustainability. In 2017, UNICEF Honduras prioritized 36 municipalities (out of 298) for concurrent and convergent implementation of the Country Programme.

Implementing the strategic plan

In line with the Strategic Plan 2018–2021, the Country Programme includes four components: 1) ECD, including interventions in health and nutrition; 2) inclusive and quality education; 3) protection of children from violence; and 4) social inclusion and monitoring of children's rights. While the first two components aim primarily at expanding opportunities for children to develop their full potential, the other components focus on the protection of vulnerable adolescents from violence and exploitation, and the social inclusion of children who are most disadvantaged due to multidimensional poverty, ethnicity and gender-based discrimination. The focus on children's rights will be informed by a gender perspective, the application of an intercultural approach in working with indigenous and Afro-Honduran peoples, and the inclusion of children in conditions of multidimensional poverty.

Key opportunities

The national early childhood strategy Parenting with Love represents an opportunity to implement Goal Area 1 of UNICEF's Strategic Plan ('Every child survives and thrives'), while the 2017–2030 Strategic Plan for Education provides an opportunity to further Goal Area 2 ('Every child learns').

In 2017, Honduras carried out a study on violence against children. Its results will be used to generate policy dialogue among key actors, and will inform the review of the national policy for prevention of violence against children in 2018. Honduras is also developing its child protection system, which includes protection from violence as a cross-cutting issue. These processes present opportunities for harmonization and alignment with Goal Area 3 ('Every child is protected from violence and exploitation').

In light of the deep disparities affecting the situation of Honduran children, the UNICEF Country Programme focuses on the departments with the highest levels of multidimensional poverty. In the framework of the 2017 elections, mayoral candidates in 190 of the country's 298 municipalities signed a Pact for Children, which included the commitment to establish local child protection systems. The implementation of Goal Area 5 ('Every child has an equitable chance in

life') will support the country's efforts to reduce disparities.

Monitoring

Strengthening the national statistical system and incorporating children's rights and equity indicators can only be achieved through continuous advocacy and policy dialogue. UNICEF Honduras will provide technical assistance to government institutions for collection and analysis of disaggregated data for reporting on effective service coverage. The Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS)— which will be implemented in 2018 under the coordination of the National Institute for Statistics and the Ministry of Health — will generate baseline data for indicators of impact and results.

Challenges

The main challenges faced by UNICEF Honduras towards the implementation of the Strategic Plan include: limited institutional capacity at subnational level, where interventions are most needed; weak mechanisms for accountability and social participation in public administration; real-time monitoring of results for populations living in hard-to-reach areas with low/unreliable connectivity; lack of inter-institutional models for addressing the structural causes of exclusion of children; and knowledge generation and management to inform strategy development and policy dialogues.

Emerging areas of importance

Refugee and migrant children. In partnership with the Government of Honduras, the Honduran Red Cross, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Norwegian Refugee Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCR), support was provided to 21 municipalities with high rates of children and adolescents migrating north, to seek better economic opportunities, reunification with family members, or help with fleeing from violence. This coordinated effort focused on ensuring quality reception and reintegration services to children and their families, including emotional recovery support, reintegration into school, and protection against violence. Baseline studies were carried out in these 21 municipalities. The studies found that, in addition to returned migrants, these interventions were also benefiting internally displaced children and their families.

In fact, UNHCR, the Government of the United States of America and community-based partners are observing a downward trend in unaccompanied child migrants, whereas the number of internally displaced children and families appears to be on the rise. This observation shall trigger a more in-depth analysis of the internal displacement situation The interventions of UNICEF Honduras in favour of migrant and displaced children form part of the overall strategy of strengthening local child protection systems placed under the responsibility of the municipal government.

Greater focus on the second decade of life. For many years, UNICEF Honduras promoted adolescent participation at the local level in the framework of PMIAJs in 64 municipalities. Through these programmes, UNICEF strengthened the competencies and skills of children, adolescents and youth in communication, leadership, policy dialogue and participation in their community. This contingent of adolescents constitutes a valuable critical mass of young individuals devoted to the rights of children. Many of those now hold public office in their municipalities, or manage projects for children, thus helping to amplify the voice of other adolescents.

In 2017, in partnership with the Population Council, UNICEF Honduras built the capacity of the

PMIAJs on evidence-based planning with innovative tools, such as mobile phone applications to gather georeferenced information. The PMIAJs also contributed to raise awareness and commitment during the electoral campaign of November 2017, when the mayoral candidates signed the Pact for Children.

Accelerate integrated early childhood development. In the context of the longer-term response to the Zika virus epidemic and the congenital disorders it can cause, UNICEF Honduras supported the Ministry of Health in designing and piloting a non-clinical community strategy for care and support of children and families affected by congenital Zika virus syndrome. The purpose was to promote a paradigm shift in the care of children with disabilities: moving from institutional management to community care supported by public services. The pilot phase included the development of a C4D strategy as well as training of health service providers, community networks and other stakeholders in Choluteca, San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa. The NGO Child Fund has joined the initiative, contributing with their knowledge and long-time community experience, and is working in 31 municipalities. The lessons learned from the Zika emergency interventions, training programmes, manuals and guidelines for non-clinical care, methodologies and tools for community work, and educational materials for families and communities will be incorporated into the national ECD programme Parenting with Love, to promote the early development of children with disabilities as well, including those affected by the congenital Zika virus syndrome.

Summary notes and acronyms

AMHON National Association of Honduran Municipalities
CONADEH Comisionado Nacional de los Derechos Humanos

C4D communication for development

DECOAS Department of Education and Environmental Communication and Health

DINAF Dirección de Infancia, Adolescencia y Familia

ECD early childhood development GDP gross domestic product

HACT harmonized approach to cash transfer
INAMI National Institute for Young Offenders
IOM International Organization for Migration
MICS Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys
NGO non-governmental organization
PAHO Pan American Health Organization

PMIAJs Municipal Programmes for Children, Adolescents and Youth

SDG Sustainable Development Goal

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

USAID United States Agency for International Development

WHO World Health Organization

Note 1: According to

: "KoBoCollect is based on the OpenDataKit and is used for primary data collection in humanitarian emergencies and other challenging field environments. With this app you enter data from interviews or other primary data -- online or offline. There are no limits on the number of forms, questions, or submissions (including photos and other media) that can be saved on

your device."

Note 2: PRONIÑEZ is the name of the project to strengthen the child protection system in Honduras led by UNICEF Honduras and generously supported by the Government of Canada.

Capacity development

In 2017, through a series of partnerships, UNICEF Honduras contributed to develop national and local capacities. They included: South-South cooperation with Colombia and Paraguay to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Education and the Directorate for Children, Adolescents and Families, respectively; cooperation agreements with regional centres of excellence such as the International Centre for Education and Human Development, Ecuador's Children's Rights Observatory and Population Council, and with academic institutions such as Diego Portales University, National Autonomous University of Honduras and Francisco Morazán National Pedagogical University; and cooperation agreements with international NGOs, including the Norwegian Refugee Council, Child Fund, Plan International and the International Bureau for Children's Rights, to build capacity of community-based organizations, volunteer networks and local institutions.

UNICEF Honduras also received support from international experts and the UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office for capacity development activities. Specific examples of capacity development include:

Capacity development of Municipal Programmes for Children, Adolescents and Youth (PMIJAs)

Through a cooperation agreement with the Population Council, UNICEF Honduras was able to systematize good practices and lessons learned of PMIJAs over the past 10 years, analyse capacity gaps to achieve the expected results, and implement learning circles with municipal coordinators on result-based management. In addition, the theory of change for adolescent empowerment and participation was updated and tools for working with adolescents were developed.

Communication for development in the context of the Zika epidemic

In the framework of the communication for development strategy on Zika, UNICEF Honduras established an alliance with Johns Hopkins University aiming at developing the capacity of the Inter-Institutional Zika Response Commission. UNICEF Honduras also signed a cooperation agreement with ChildFund for capacity development of community health organizations, volunteer networks and health workers to care for and support children affected by congenital Zika virus syndrome and their families.

Evidence generation, policy dialogue and advocacy

In 2017, UNICEF Honduras generated evidence for advocacy and political dialogue in the education sector and with municipal governments. The UNICEF-supported studies on investment in education, violence in schools, and barriers to education access for adolescents informed the elaboration of the strategic plan for education. The situation analysis of children's rights in Honduras provided hard evidence for the development of municipal policies for children as well as for political advocacy with mayoral candidates during the electoral process of November 2017.

Investment in education

In partnership with the Ministry of Education and the Central American Institute for Fiscal

Studies, UNICEF Honduras carried out two studies on investment in education. The first analysed the efficiency of spending on basic education (first to ninth grade) in 2015; the second estimated the investment needed to cover the basic education access gap with projections until 2030 (SDG 4). The results were used for policy dialogue with the Minister of Education, high-level education authorities, departmental directors and the donors' round table on education, during the formulation of the strategic education plan through 2030.

Situation of children in San Pedro Sula

Until two years ago, San Pedro Sula, the second most important municipality of Honduras, was considered the most violent city in the world. In the framework of the strategy for strengthening local governments for the establishment of Local Systems for the Protection of Children's Rights, UNICEF supported the municipality in a situation analysis with the purpose of revealing the main deprivations faced by children and adolescents, and their causes, as well as mapping the main actors in the municipality. Findings from the situation analysis informed the design of the municipal policy for children and adolescents that will be implemented in 2018 with the newly elected municipal authorities.

Partnerships

Partnership to protect migrant and internally displaced children

Within the Children on the Move Initiative, UNICEF Honduras has been working in 21 municipalities with the highest rates of expulsion of migrant children, in partnership with IOM, UNHCR, NGOs, the Red Cross and the Norwegian Refugee Council. UNICEF and partners are supporting a flexible education model for about 2,800 children from 90 communities excluded from the formal education system due to forced displacement, violence and insecurity. The Red Cross is building local capacities to provide psychosocial support to affected children. UNICEF is also assisting the national child protection agency (DINAF) and consular and immigration institutions to provide child-friendly, rights-based repatriation, reception and reintegration services. UNICEF Honduras is also promoting violence prevention through arts, by incorporating a C4D methodology into adolescents' local networks and child communicators groups.

Alliance for the national child protection system

To accelerate the establishment of an integrated and rights-based child protection system, UNICEF strengthened its partnership with DINAF and other relevant institutions. This ensured good intersectoral coordination in all key areas of the system: progress on reforms to the normative framework; strengthening of the normative and oversight capacities of DINAF; exchange of international experiences towards the establishment of a national observatory for children's rights; and consensus for the modelling in 35 municipalities. In addition to DINAF, the Ministries of Government Coordination and of Foreign Affairs are members of the steering committee. UNICEF is also part of a government-led technical committee on juvenile justice, which was created to articulate all stakeholders involved, including cooperation agencies and the civil society.

At subnational level, municipal authorities together with children and youth of the 35 pilot municipalities participated in the validation of the system's design, in coordination with the National Association of Honduran Municipalities (AMHON), which is a key UNICEF partner.

External communication and public advocacy

Age of criminal responsibility

With the support of the UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office, UNICEF

Honduras succeeded in convincing the highest government's authorities to renounce to the project of lowering the age of criminal responsibility, thus judging adolescents in conflict with the law like adults. Thanks to intense advocacy work and lobbying of the President of the Supreme Court, ministers of parliament, ministries and the state commission on judicial reforms, the project was not tabled in Congress. Technical papers and briefings were provided to decision makers and the mass media, and a public debate was watched live through Facebook by 7,303 people and reached 93,000 people. This galvanized support from many actors, including NGOs, United Nations and bilateral agencies, the Organization of American States Support Mission against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras, and members of academia.

Municipal elections of November 2017

In the context of the electoral campaign, the members of the World Movement for Children promoted and supported the launch of the National Pact for Children. The pact, which includes a list of 14 asks based on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the SDGs, was signed by 2,720 candidates. This contributed to positioning children's rights high on municipal agendas and paved the way for the establishment of the national child protection system.

National child protection system

In alliance with partner agencies and NGOs, and support from the Government of Canada, UNICEF Honduras has been striving to accelerate the establishment of a sustainable and human rights-based child protection system. Meetings with the Office of the First Lady and the Prime Minister, the President of Congress and mayors, as well as radio and television interviews, advocacy material and public speeches, were all part of this strategy. At present, the implementation of the system is in its inception phase.

South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation

South-South cooperation among countries in Latin America and the Caribbean is both common practice and a key strategy promoted by the UNICEF Regional Office, which proactively identifies centres of excellence and good practices for sharing among countries. This year, UNICEF Honduras facilitated two important cooperation initiatives between the Governments of Honduras and Paraguay, on child protection, and of Colombia on inclusive education.

Cooperation with Paraguay for the establishment of the national child protection system With financial support from the Government of Canada and with UNICEF facilitation and technical assistance, a Honduran delegation visited Paraguay to learn from their experience in the development of a national child protection system. This study visit allowed the Honduran agency in charge of child protection (DINAF), as well as UNICEF and staff from the NGO partner Plan Honduras, to appreciate the different components of the Paraguayan system, progress made in strengthening interinstitutional articulation and challenges that remain. The Honduran delegation developed a conceptual model and a roadmap for the establishment of a similar national child protection system in Honduras. These tools have been adopted by the national government and tested in 35 municipalities. In his capacity as President of the Inter-American Children's Institute, the Minister for Children of Paraguay carried out two advocacy and follow-up visits to Honduras to reinforce political commitment towards the creation of the system.

Cooperation with Colombia for the development of inclusive education for adolescents UNICEF Honduras and UNICEF Colombia coordinated a technical interchange between officials of the two ministries of education. The participants learned about progress and innovations in the implementation of flexible modalities for inclusion in lower secondary education of highly

vulnerable adolescents from rural communities and urban slums. This initiative was implemented in the framework of the Symposium on the Universalization of Lower Secondary Education (Tegucigalpa, 2016).

Identification and promotion of innovation

In 2017, UNICEF Honduras participated in the development of mobile phone applications for real-time monitoring of results for children, notably in the areas of Zika virus response and of ECD.

Participatory monitoring of Zika response

In partnership with the Ministry of Education and USAID, UNICEF Honduras supported the development of a vector control participatory monitoring system for Aedes aegypti, using smartphones and engaging schoolchildren and adolescents. In 2016, the application KoBo Collect was selected. The information to be collected and monitored at home and in the neighbourhoods was defined with students and teachers. By the end of 2017, five collection tests were completed. For next year, the development of a home visit protocol is planned, to create WhatsApp groups for information sharing, and to reinforce the KoBo outline of student/teacher shared management scheme.

Monitoring of ECD services

In the framework of the national ECD strategy, Parenting with Love, the Ministry of Health, the National Centre for Social Sector Information and UNICEF Honduras piloted a mobile application for real-time collection of ECD coverage data. In addition, the Ministry of Health developed software to gather information about children's home environment and family health status using mobile devices. UNICEF Honduras provided technical assistance to ensure the software includes information on essential ECD services, including parental competencies and skills. The information will be linked to the National Early Childhood Registry. The pilot phase was carried out with 300 health workers in three departments of the country.

Support to integration and cross-sectoral linkages

The situation analysis of children's rights carried out by UNICEF Honduras in 2016 revealed an overlap between causes of deprivation in childhood and highlighted the need for intersectoral interventions. The backbone of the UNICEF Honduras cooperation programme being the establishment of a comprehensive child protection system at different stages of the life cycle, integrated and cross-sectoral interventions to address the causes of child deprivations are a must. Two examples are given below.

UNICEF support for the national response to the Zika epidemic

When the Zika epidemic was declared a national emergency in 2016, UNICEF advocacy and assistance resulted in an intersectoral response involving health, education, social inclusion, communication and municipal governments, through the Inter-Institutional Commission for the Zika Response. The UNICEF Honduras communication team supported the development of a C4D strategy; the monitoring and evaluation team supported implementation of studies and monitoring and evaluation system design; the ECD team supported implementation of care and support interventions for children with the congenital syndrome; the education team supported Zika prevention in schools; and the social inclusion team supported adolescent participation in preventive actions with families in situation of exclusion.

Protection of migrant children

As Honduras is a country of origin for irregular child migration, UNICEF Honduras focused on

protection of returned migrants during community reception and reintegration. Protection of migrant children is a cross-cutting theme in the cooperation programme: the ECD component addresses situations of stress and/or family separation suffered by migrant children (0–6 years old) and risks of developmental delays; the education component deals with school reintegration of returned migrants and children displaced by violence; the child protection component addresses emotional recovery of migrants and protection against violence; and the social inclusion component develops the capacity of municipal governments to implement social protection strategies for children in multidimensional poverty, one of the structural causes of child migration.

Human rights-based approach to cooperation

The establishment of a sustainable and rights-based child protection system is an important component of the UNICEF Honduras Country Programme. Some progress can be reported: consensus over the elements of the system, a solid roadmap, coordination of the juvenile justice system, technical support to the Supreme Court, and municipalities ready to start the local modelling.

Building the capacities of rights holders is a particularly important strategy for working with the communities most affected by gang violence. For instance, in at least 83 municipalities (out of 298), UNICEF Honduras supported the empowerment of adolescent networks through life skills training, participation methodologies, and promotion of the culture of peace and arts.

UNICEF Honduras continued to support several accountability mechanisms. The Ombudsperson's Office (Comisionado Nacional de los Derechos Humanos, or CONADEH by its acronym in Spanish), improved its capacity to provide effective support and follow-up on cases of human rights complaints affecting children. UNICEF and CONADEH collaborated to develop a web-based database to track complaints on child rights violations with support from the phone company Milicom. UNICEF Honduras assisted the Ministry of Human Rights to systematize recommendations made by the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Inter-American Human Rights system. It also strengthened the capacity of the national child protection agency (DINAF) to provide effective oversight of the state and civil society actors that deliver child protection services towards the restoration of children's rights.

In relation to the 2015 Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, particularly on a) strengthening the capacity of state institutions to generate information on children; b) establish a specific independent mechanism for monitoring children's rights; and c) develop ongoing training programmes on children's rights, some progress can be reported. MICS are scheduled to take place in 2018. An international meeting of child rights' observatories has informed the one that will soon be established in Honduras. Human rights and child rights issues have been included in the teachers training curricula. The Malaga University, in consortium with the National University, DINAF and UNICEF, organized the first master's course on child rights ever given in Honduras.

Gender equality

Ending child marriage

Further to the advocacy efforts deployed in 2016 by UNICEF Honduras, Plan International, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UN Women and other partners towards the elimination of child marriage, in July 2017 the Congress adopted a law to ban early marriage in Honduras.

Advancing girls' secondary education

In 2017, UNICEF Honduras supported the Gender Unit of the Ministry of Education in the revision and elimination of gender stereotypes in textbooks of natural sciences and social sciences in primary and lower secondary education. In addition, UNICEF advocated the inclusion of a specific section on gender in the climate change education curricula and supported the incorporation of the gender perspective in the guidelines for families and facilitators of the national policy on ECD.

An investigation that included a differential analysis of violence against children at different ages led to the design of a C4D strategy in child protection. The strategy aims to increase the social value of girls and addresses specific issues such as sexual violence against girls. This is the first milestone of a broader strategy to prevent and address cases of sexual violence at the local level. Next year, a C4D strategy for the prevention of sexual violence in the community will be launched and, in 35 prioritized municipalities, UNICEF Honduras will strengthen local capacities to provide a comprehensive response to cases of sexual violence.

Promoting gender-responsive adolescent health

At the occasion of the World Menstrual Hygiene Day, UNICEF Honduras developed a social media dissemination package on the results of a knowledge, attitudes and practices survey related to water, sanitation and hygiene in the department of Gracias a Dios, located in La Mosquitia, the most remote region of the country. Through social networks, more than 20,000 people were reached.

Environmental sustainability

The strategic approach of UNICEF Honduras to environmental sustainability mainly focuses on climate change adaptation through resilient development in the school and the community, including evidence generation and advocacy for a child-centred approach to climate change adaptation. With support from UNICEF Honduras, schools and communities of 16 municipalities in seven departments (Intibucá, Copán, Lempira, Santa Barbara, Cortés, Yoro and Francisco Morazán) have been modelling the inclusion of climate change adaptation into the national school curricula. Aiming at strengthening their competencies in climate change adaptation and resilience, an initial group of 500 teachers from these municipalities, as well as 80 education staff from central and departmental levels, were trained as trainers on climate change and resilience. Teaching to pupils and their parents will begin in the next school year. Based on this pilot experience, a climate change educational module, a guide for parents and a guide for teachers will be included in the Integrated Risk Management guidelines of the primary and secondary national education curricula.

In addition, a tool was produced for evidence-based participatory diagnoses of risk management capacities in the school, including prevention of the Zika virus transmission. This climate change education strategy was presented at an inter-institutional workshop jointly organized by the Ministry of Education and UNICEF Honduras. Aiming at raising awareness and commitment, this event saw the participation of the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Health, national and international NGOs, United Nations and bilateral agencies, and the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. Finally, since 2015 UNICEF Honduras has been working at a water, sanitation and hygiene project funded by the Big Lottery Fund in 40 indigenous communities in Gracias a Dios Department (known as La Mosquitia, the most inaccessible area in Honduras). In 2017, the project provided climate-resilient water, sanitation and hygiene services to 9 more schools, for a total of 40 schools, and increased their adaptive capacity. Two

NGOs, Agua Para el Pueblo and Pure Water, were instrumental in reaching these very isolated communities.

Effective leadership

Following the United Nations Country Team decision to relocate the Tegucigalpa UN House to an anti-seismic building, in September 2017 UNICEF and five other United Nations agencies moved to new common premises. Together with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNICEF Honduras researched the market and identified a building which resulted in significant savings in rental and remodelling costs.

During the year, the terms of reference and membership of the statutory management committees were reviewed and approved by the country management team. The business continuity plan was updated and tested. The enterprise risk management catalogue was reviewed, and the early warning early action web-based platform was kept up-to date. To ensure compliance with standard procedures and benchmarks, management indicators were regularly reviewed by the country management team. Programme priorities, management issues and strategies to address risks and bottlenecks were discussed in weekly coordination meetings with programme and operations staff, which resulted in increased teamwork and collaboration.

The staffing structure for the current programme cycle was approved in 2016. During 2017, with support from the UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office, UNICEF Honduras succeeded in filling all vacant positions. Since 73 per cent of the recruited staff were new to UNICEF, the office received support from five UNICEF staff in stretch assignments, signed five temporary contracts, redistributed roles among staff, and established a results-oriented training plan to develop the capacity of the new team and ensure business continuity and work-life balance. Three additional positions for the Operations section approved in May 2017 will be filled in early 2018.

In compliance with the harmonized approach to cash transfers (HACT) guidelines, UNICEF Honduras is carrying out micro-assessments to appreciate the managerial capacity and risk level of each partner. In case a micro-evaluation is not available, a high risk is assumed. Since working also with high-risk partners is a strategic must, direct implementation, direct payments and reimbursement modalities are used to minimize financial risks.

Financial resources management

The country management team monitored financial implementation of the programme, direct cash transfers, timely delivery of donor reports, travel advances, programmatic visits, and spotchecks, and followed up on audit recommendations made to implementing partners. Roles and responsibilities assigned to personnel in the table of authorities and the number of budget owners were reviewed.

The office implemented a more realistic monthly cash flow preparation, reviewed biweekly, and maintained a balance in the local bank account not to exceed the equivalent of one or two weeks of disbursements.

The accounting records necessary for the preparation of monthly bank reconciliations were prepared within the established periods and reconciliations were finalized on time. Since June, reconciliations have been approved by UNICEF Honduras, a function previously performed by the Multi-Country Support Facility.

Overall, the budget implemented by the Country Office in 2017 (as of 22/12//2017) totalled US\$7,017,577.32, with 95 per cent implementation rate for Regular Resources, 95 per cent for Other Resources, and 100 per cent for the Institutional Budget. Remaining other resources funds will be implemented in 2018.

UNICEF Honduras adopted eZHACT, which has simplified and expedited the processing of cash transfers and settlement of funds. The reports generated through eZHACT facilitated a better monitoring of the execution of the funds.

Direct cash transfers older than nine months were liquidated in full. Outstanding balances older than six months amount to US\$10,443.57 (0.31 per cent of total direct cash transfers processed in 2017).

UNICEF Honduras installed an automatic light control system with infrared sensors. Energy consumption in the new building during the first month of installation was US\$332, 10 per cent of the total consumption of the building (US\$3,330). This represents significant savings considering that UNICEF occupies one entire floor of the four-floor building. Energy consumption is projected to remain constant.

UNICEF Honduras was not audited in 2017 and has no pending audit recommendations.

Fundraising and donor relations

The Executive Board approved a total of US\$5.5 million in regular resources and US\$20 million in external resources for the 2017–2021 Country Programme. As of December 2017, UNICEF Honduras had raised US\$16.9 million from external resources, representing 84.5 per cent of the external resources budget for the programme. UNICEF Honduras' main donor was the Government of Canada, with a budget of US\$14.3 million allocated mainly to the protection of children against violence and social inclusion components within the framework of the Project to Strengthen the Child Protection System in Honduras (PRONIÑEZ). In addition, USAID allocated US\$1 million for the response to the emergency generated by the Zika epidemic and its impact on children.

There are financing gaps in the ECD and quality inclusive education components (70 per cent and 77.9 per cent, respectively). In December 2017, UNICEF submitted a proposal to the Government of Korea for US\$5.6 million to cover the funding gap in the education component. In 2018, a fundraising proposal will be prepared to fill the gap in the ECD component.

Seven donor reports were submitted on time and in accordance with established quality standards. The office has a standard operating procedure for internal quality review of the reports and to ensure established deadlines are met. Qualified external consultants participate in quality control of donor reports.

Evaluation and research

UNICEF Honduras carried out an evaluation of the Return to Happiness strategy, which was applied in a humanitarian context with migrant children who returned to the country between 2014 and 2016. The evaluation was conducted by an independent, Canadian-based company with extensive experience. It followed a rigorous quality control process set by the UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office and New York headquarters, including the review of the evaluation protocol by an international ethics committee. The process was participatory,

involving relevant national-level stakeholders and subnational technical teams in charge of the implementation of the strategy.

The evaluation results were presented by the consulting firm to the UNICEF Honduras programme team for a critical review of the implementation strategy and tools. Subsequently, a workshop was held with the government institutions responsible for the protection of returned migrant children, officials of the psychology department of the National Autonomous University of Honduras and NGOs working in the field of psychosocial care.

The evaluation findings and recommendations contributed to sharpening interventions of psychosocial care for migrant and displaced children, and to better adapting the methodology to the Honduran context, whereby migrant children face a prolonged crisis that requires long-term interventions. UNICEF Honduras developed a management response plan to the evaluation findings, outlining compliance timeframes and lines of responsibility. The recommendations are already being implemented, in coordination with the Honduran Red Cross. This methodology of emotional recovery for migrant or displaced children will fill a gap in the psychological care of children in Honduras.

Efficiency gains and cost savings

In 2015, the United Nations Country Team decided to relocate the UN House to an earthquake-resistant building. In November 2016, the Task Team on Common Premises approved a building identified to house agencies in the United Nations system. At the beginning of 2017, new earthquake-resistant options were available on the market, and UNICEF Honduras joined UNDP in the search for cost-effective alternatives. Following the consideration of 13 buildings and two houses, a new case was submitted to the Task Team on Common Premises in March, and approved in April 2017.

Moving to the new United Nations Common Premises resulted in significant cost savings as compared with the building that was initially approved by the Task Team on Common Premises in 2016 (US\$213,742 in rental costs over a five-year period and US\$53,047 in remodelling expenses in 2017). Additionally, UNICEF Honduras saved US\$1,350 as the result of a support agreement with the United Nations Office for Project Services to store furniture and office equipment in their facilities for a period of one month.

The United Nations operations management team continues to work on the implementation of the business operations strategy. As a result, UNICEF is making use of seven long-term agreements, including one for HACT, which have allowed UNICEF Honduras to reduce the administrative burden, obtain lower prices and speed up contracting of goods and services.

In May, the Country Management Team implemented measures to ensure savings in telephone consumption, including decreasing the number of users and limiting usage, resulting in savings of 18 per cent (US\$1,674) in 2017.

The office also reduced expenses by abolishing the Information and Communications Technology Assistant position (GS-6) and outsourcing basic information technology services, with a savings of 57 per cent (US\$27,053).

Supply management

In 2017, UNICEF Honduras executed US\$600,858 in procurement processes, as follows:

Supply and logistics key figures				
Honduras Country Office				
Programme supplies	US\$			
	115,927.00			
Operational supplies	US\$			
	2,200.00			
Emergency	US\$			
	70,637.00			
Services	US\$			
	412,094.00			
Total	US\$			
	600,858.00			

Local suppliers were awarded 69 per cent of contracts executed in 2017, and international suppliers 31 per cent. Institutional contracts represented 46 per cent of all procurement processes carried out in 2017.

Supply management focused on ECD, protection, social inclusion, education and emergencies in order to meet the strategic objectives for the year. Specialized consultants were hired to develop projects such as: a computer system for the coordination of the child protection project supported by Canada, C4D strategies, continuity of the Parenting with Love programme, training workshops on the implementation of child development care and ZIKA care programmes for government officials.

With regard to the vaccine supply agreement between the Ministry of Health and PAHO, UNICEF Honduras continues to support the Government of Honduras by monitoring purchases made through UNICEF's Supply Division. In 2017, 612,600 pneumococcal vaccines were delivered to the Ministry of Health's Expanded Programme on Immunization.

Supplies channelled via procurement services
PAHO funds US\$2,179,580.00

On the basis of the programme cooperation agreement and to provide rapid response to emergencies, UNICEF Honduras agreed to the use of strategic partner warehouses for prepositioning of supplies, including 355 educational kits (school-in-a-box) in the Ministry of

Education; 1,000 personal hygiene kits at World Vision and the Honduran Red Cross (600 kits and 400 kits, respectively); 150 water treatment filters at the World Food Programme; 150 cleaning kits for schools and 490 education kits (backpacks filled with school supplies) at the Honduran Red Cross cellars.

In the framework of the Parenting with Love community strategy, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health (department of primary health care) through the acquisition of 304 tablets for implementation of a digital information system on the coverage of the benefits for children with regard to the ECD component.

Security for staff and premises

In September 2017, UNICEF Honduras and five other United Nations agencies moved to new common premises in an anti-seismic building. The building is located in a relatively safe area of Tegucigalpa.

On September 25, during a mission to San Pedro Sula, a UNICEF driver, an international United Nations volunteer and a national United Nations volunteer were assaulted by two adolescents, apparently directed by adults. The staff did not resist the theft of their property and left unharmed.

Further to the presidential elections of November, the country is experiencing a period of uncertainty and social turmoil. There have been looting and roadblocks and tension all across the country. The Government established a curfew and suspension of constitutional guarantees for 10 days. In addition to the security measures taken by the United Nations Department of Safety and Security, UNICEF Honduras took the following actions:

- Activation of the business continuity plan;
- Application of flexible working schedules;
- Frequent testing of the call chain and radio drills;
- Frequent communications via VHF radio, telephone and Skype;
- Expansion of data limits for personnel telephones;
- Postponement of field missions;
- Purchasing of additional radios:
- Frequent communication with UNICEF's Operation Centre to monitor the security context; and
- Adoption of financial and programmatic mitigation measures related to disbursements.

In the first week of December, the Regional Security Manager (based in New York) visited Honduras to assess the security situation, as well as the United Nations premises and staff safety, to provide basic security training, and to review the security plan and the United Nations Security System accountability framework. In addition to raising awareness among staff, a training plan on safety and security for 2018 was prepared.

Security activities planned for 2018 include the purchase and installation of additional blast-resistant film for the front and side windows of the UNICEF office; purchase of first aid kits and telecommunication equipment; and staff training.

Human resources

In order to align the staffing structure to the new Country Programme (2017–2021), 9 posts were abolished and 15 were established. With support from the UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office, by year-end all vacancies were filled through competitive selection

processes. In addition, three temporary appointments and five national United Nations volunteers were recruited. To support staff in abolished positions, a coaching specialist was hired to provide on-site training and individual coaching in competency-based interviews and career change management.

At present, the UNICEF Honduras team consists of 31 staff (4 international professionals, 9 national officers, 12 general service, and 6 United Nations volunteers). The staffing mix is 71 per cent fixed-term/continuing/permanent appointments, 10 percent temporary appointments and 19 percent United Nations volunteers. The gender balance is 16 women (52 per cent) and 15 men (48 per cent).

To manage the change process, the Country Office mobilized five staff in stretch assignments from other UNICEF offices and two support missions from the UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office. Additionally, the new operations staff received training in Panama and Copenhagen. Compliance with induction and training plans for the newly recruited staff was closely monitored by management.

During the year, the office staff participated in several learning events organized by the UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office and UNICEF New York, including training on results-based management and the new emergency preparedness platform, and carried out an emergency simulation exercise.

In response to the results of the 2017 Global Staff Survey, the Country Office prepared an action plan to address the three most critical aspects: personal empowerment; office efficiency and effectiveness; and career and professional development. An international consultant was hired in December to strengthen internal capacities on teamwork and effective communication, which included individual coaching sessions to promote a results-oriented, collaborative and trusting work environment. The Country Office revised the standard operating procedures and assisted supervisors to address career aspirations and opportunities within their teams using the Achieve platform.

Effective use of information and communication technology

UNICEF Honduras adopted the LIGHT model, which uses UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office Service Centre remote servers, resulting in savings in operating costs in the medium term, as the office no longer needs to maintain and replace servers locally. All users work on laptop computers and use Office 365, a good practice successfully tested in the business continuity plan exercise carried out at the end of November. Following a reorganization of hardware, UNICEF Honduras kept only information and communication technology equipment needed to operate in the LIGHT environment, with two active channels of Internet access for uninterrupted connectivity.

UNICEF Honduras has successfully migrated to electronic banking and the platform entered into operation within the deadline. User productivity was improved through the use of cloud-based tools, such as Skype for Business (used in 99 per cent of video/teleconferences), Outlook for email (used in both computers and smartphones), and SharePoint for financial information and information management for programmes. OneDrive, which is used by 96 percent of staff, allows staff to store information and access their documents from virtually anywhere via Internet connection. UNICEF Honduras is migrating to Windows 10, and renewing laptops to install new software and tools according to UNICEF standards.

UNICEF Honduras has an active social media presence, with a combined total of 27,509 followers on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter as of 21 November 2017, many of them adolescents and youth. The use of Facebook Live/Live Tweeting around the most relevant UNICEF Honduras events has proven successful, allowing UNICEF to connect in real time with national media through retweets/mentions/likes, reaching an average of 95,000 people in real time during the debate on age of criminal responsibility and 170,000 people on World Children's Day.

Programme components from RAM

ANALYSIS BY OUTCOME AND OUTPUT RESULTS

OUTCOME 1 Output 2.1. The Municipal Educational Development Councils and School Councils for the Development of Education Centres in the selected municipalities have the capacity to participate in educational management at the local level

Analytical statement of progress

Since 2015, the Government of Honduras, with support from UNICEF Honduras, has progressed in the implementation of Parenting with Love(Criando con Amor), the national ECD strategy that operationalizes the Policy for Comprehensive Early Childhood Care. By the end of 2017, the strategy was implemented in 64 municipalities in the Intibucá, La Paz and Lempira departments, located in the west of the country. These municipalities are inhabited primarily by indigenous and rural populations, and experience the highest rates of poverty in the country. Results achieved in 2017 are described below.

There is political commitment among national authorities and municipal governments.

Parenting with Love expanded from 28 municipalities in 2016 to 64 municipalities belonging to 12 associations of municipalities in three departments in 2017. The Government of Honduras allocated more than US\$1 million for the scalingup of the strategy. Municipal governments made additional allocations. The advocacy effort for the inclusion of an ECD-specific budget line in the 2018 national budget was informed by a cost study for the scalingup of the essential package of interventions for pregnant women and children under 6 years of age.

Training of Parenting with Love facilitators is certified by an academic institution. UNICEF Honduras and the Ministry for Development and Social Inclusion established an agreement with the National Pedagogical University Francisco Morazán for the academic certification of graduates of the ECD diploma programme. This agreement made it possible to

certification of graduates of the ECD diploma programme. This agreement made it possible institutionalize the training of municipal Parenting with Love facilitators and other specialists while meeting high-quality standards.

Thanks to a partnership between PAHO/WHO and UNICEF Honduras, a group of 16 trainers of trainers were formed to implement the ECD diploma course. Staff from PAHO and UNICEF regional and Honduran offices jointly developed training modules and tools for comprehensive care and community work. They also taught three courses: Care for Child Development, Promoting Child Development in Emergency Contexts, and Child Development in the Context of Zika and Other Disabilities.

Strong community participation in ECD. A network of more than 3,200 volunteers participated in communication and family education activities. They also established coordination mechanisms with community and religious leaders to create a supportive

environment for young children, including children with disabilities. Indigenous communities developed learning mechanisms through the exchange of positive parenting experiences and personal experiences among women.

Development of a regulatory framework. With technical assistance from UNICEF Honduras and international experts, the normative framework for Parenting with Love was developed. In 2017, the country prepared a C4D strategy, ECD training modules, the Path for Comprehensive Service Delivery and essential interventions package, an ECD registration system, and a methodology for ECD cost analysis.

OUTPUT 1 Output 1.1. Parents have developed skills related to the comprehensive development of their children from 0 to 6 years of age in the selected municipalities.

Analytical statement of progress

Parenting with Love helped increase competencies and skills in early stimulation, nutrition of children under 2 years of age, and early identification of common childhood illnesses and danger signs in newborns, in 63 per cent of families (9,219 of 14,716 families) in the departments of Intibucá and Lempira. It also supported the organization of municipal structures covering 4,993 families in the department of La Paz. The support provided by UNICEF Honduras is described below.

Formulation of a communication for development strategy for social and behavioural change. The strategy includes four components: 1) advocacy, 2) social mobilization, 3) community participation, and 4) communication for positive behavioural and social change for children. Community workshops carried out a qualitative analysis of common behaviours. Participants reviewed quantitative evidence and identified the bottlenecks that prevent achievement of desired behaviours (objective/subjective barriers). The C4D strategy includes communication materials appropriate to the cultural context, to be used for both media communication and interpersonal communication within the community and in local churches.

More than 180 facilitators graduated from the ECD diploma course. Parenting with Love employs a network of 393 facilitators (doctors, health promoters and pre-primary teachers), of which 183 belong to the first cohort of facilitators certified in ECD by the National Pedagogical University Francisco Morazán. The curriculum includes maternal and child health modules, nutrition, early stimulation, early education and protection of children 0 to 6 years old, as well as a community education module. A second cohort of 210 facilitators has started the course and will be certified in early 2018.

Training of 3,265 volunteers to promote ECD. Parenting with Love facilitators trained and supervised a network of community volunteers in charge of family education through home visits. UNICEF Honduras supported the preparation of 13 guidelines on pregnancy care and ECD promotion for parents and caregivers. In partnership with the Paniamor Foundation, UNICEF developed a kit of materials on prevention of physical punishment and humiliating treatment in early childhood. These tools equipped facilitators and volunteers to implement family education.

Capacity development for the promotion of child development in children with congenital Zika virus syndrome. In the framework of the response to the Zika virus epidemic, UNICEF, Child Fund and the Honduran Red Cross partnered with the Ministry of Health to develop a pilot

intervention to improve parents' capacity to care and support children affected by congenital Zika virus syndrome. The intervention focused on the cities with the highest number of pregnant women infected with Zika: Tegucigalpa, San Pedro Sula and Choluteca. It included training of health personnel, community organizations and volunteers to implement family education activities. As a result, 69 of the 190 families of affected children increased their capacity to care for and support their children.

OUTPUT 2 Output 2.1. The Municipal Educational Development Councils and School Councils for the Development of Education Centres in the selected municipalities have the capacity to participate in educational management at the local level

Analytical statement of progress

The implementation of the Path for Comprehensive Service Delivery has started in three departments of the country. Coordination between the Ministries for Development and Social Inclusion, Health and Education was achieved under the leadership of mayor's offices, with support from UNICEF Honduras and NGOs that have a local presence.

Consensus on a package of essential ECD. In 2016, the National ECD Inter-Institutional Commission defined – through a participatory process – a package of 22 interventions for the promotion of comprehensive development for children aged 0 to 6 years. In 2017, 15 essential interventions – including birth registration, antenatal and childbirth care, neonatal care, immunizations, pre-primary education and school feeding – were prioritized for implementation in selected municipalities, with the aim of gradually increasing the number of interventions reaching children and families.

Cost analysis for the scaling up of the ECD package. With UNICEF Honduras technical assistance, the National Inter-Institutional ECD estimated the cost of achieving full coverage for pregnant women and children aged 0 to 6 years. This exercise highlighted the financial gaps in each strategic area and identified potential sources of internal and external financing. The evidence generated from the analysis informed the advocacy work for the inclusion of a specific ECD line into the 2018 national budget.

OUTPUT 3 Output 1.3. Inter-institutional Commissions for Early Childhood Development in the selected departments have built their capacity for joint planning, strategic coordination and interinstitutional management.

Analytical statement of progress

The Municipal ECD Commissions include representatives of the municipal government, of health and education sectors, the National Registry of Persons, the Directorate for Children, Adolescents and the Family, the Justice of Peace and the National Police. The commissions ensure a multi-sectoral and comprehensive approach to ECD among public and private stakeholders active in the municipality. They are also in charge of preparing an annual training plan for community facilitators and volunteers, of monitoring compliance with standards for ECD services and of identifying gaps and specific issues affecting children, the environment and the community. The municipal commissions should report to the departmental level. So far, three Departmental Inter-Institutional ECD Commissions have been organized, but their functioning is hampered by the limited presence of state institutions at the departmental level.

Municipal ECD plans. Based on the situation analysis carried out at the end of 2016, 62 out of

64 Municipal Commissions formulated an inter-institutional ECD annual plan, clearly defining the roles and responsibilities of the participating institutions.

Updating of the National ECD Registry (RENPI) for real-time monitoring of interventions. UNICEF Honduras supported the National Centre for Social Sector Information and the Ministry of Health to design and implement a mobile phone application for real-time monitoring of the essential package of ECD interventions and coverage of priority services. This platform also allows monitoring of child development and assessment of family competencies and household conditions. In January 2018, UNICEF Honduras will provide 300 tablet computers to the Ministry of Health, to enable local health workers to digitally record family health cards and household information.

OUTCOME 2 2. By 2021, children and adolescents suffering most from exclusion in the selected municipalities in nine departments access quality and inclusive education at the primary and preschool levels.

Analytical statement of progress

According to the statistics of the Education Ministry, the national education system in 2017 had a student population of 2,024,045 children: 12 per cent in pre-primary, 56 per cent in primary (Grades 1–6), 20 per cent in lower secondary (Grades 7–9) and 12 per cent in secondary education. Net enrolment in pre-primary education increased from 55 per cent (58,000 children 5 years of age) in 2014 to 74 per cent in 2017. However, more than 37,000 5-year-old children still do not access pre-primary education.

The national primary education net enrolment rate increased from 77.1 per cent in 2014 to 83.1 per cent in 2017. In the municipalities prioritized by UNICEF Honduras, net enrolment increased from 77.8 per cent to 82.6 per cent over the same period. The net enrolment rate in lower secondary education was 44.4 per cent in 2017. The repetition rate in primary education was 3.1 per cent (1.2 per cent girls, 1.9 per cent boys) in 2017, compared with 7.3 per cent for lower secondary (2.8 per cent girls and 4.5 per cent boys). In the municipalities prioritized by UNICEF Honduras, the repetition rate was 2.1 per cent in primary (0.8 per cent girls and 1.3 per cent boys) and 6.8 per cent in lower secondary (2.6 per cent girls and 4.2 per cent boys).

Preparation of the education strategic plan and harmonization of international cooperation. UNICEF Honduras contributed to the development of the 2017–2030 Strategic Plan for the Education Sector by providing: a) evidence on educational exclusion and its determinants; b) analysis of the efficiency of education spending and investments needed to achieve SDG4; and c) examples of best practices to improve the quality of education and inclusion of indigenous children, returned migrants and children living in contexts of violence. The United Nations Education Group, coordinated by UNICEF and composed of the World Food Programme, UNFPA, IOM and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) formulated a biannual plan with agency-specific responsibilities to support the country's educational priorities, with emphasis on inclusion of the most disadvantaged children.

Education policies and strategies for the inclusion of out-of-school adolescents. The Ministry of Education formulated a strategy for the universalization of lower secondary education. UNICEF joined the National Pedagogical University Francisco Morazán to carry out an analysis of the technical and budgetary implications of the inclusion of out-of-school adolescents through flexible and engaging learning opportunities. The Culture of Peace,

Coexistence and Citizenship strategy – initiated in 2016 with the International Centre for Education and Human Development of Colombia as a demonstration initiative in municipalities with high rates of violence – has been embraced by the Ministry of Education and is being scaled up. It aims to convert schools into protective environments that promote children's rights. Educational Bridges, an intervention implemented in collaboration with the Norwegian Refugee Council and the Asociación Colaboración y Esfuerzo, has shown its effectiveness for the inclusion of returned migrant children and children displaced by violence.

Normative framework for child participation in education management. Thanks to a partnership between the Ministry of Education, UNICEF Honduras, the GIZ, the network of private institutions for children rights and the Pestalozzi Foundation, the Rules of Procedure for Student Governments were formulated. They constitute the formal basis for the participation of children in decisions that concern their school life. This participatory process was an opportunity to raise awareness on the rights to education and participation among the student community.

OUTPUT 1 Output 2.1. The Municipal Educational Development Councils and School Councils for the Development of Education Centres in the selected municipalities have the capacity to participate in educational management at the local level to improve access to and the quality of education that is free from violence.

Analytical statement of progress

In 36 prioritized municipalities of seven departments (Copán, Cortés, Gracias a Dios, Intibucá, Lempira, Santa Bárbara and Yoro) the Municipal Councils for Educational Development and School Councils for the Development of Education Centres strengthened their capacity to promote community and school participation, developed school censuses to identify children excluded from the education system, motivated and supported families through home visits, and monitored timely entry into school, teacher-student interactions, and learning achievements.

With support from UNICEF Honduras, 36 Municipal Councils for Educational Development, 540 School Councils for the Development of Education Centres and 540 Parent Associations were trained to organize and operate the Municipal Councils and School Councils, to develop workplans, to organize community commissions and out-of-school censuses, and to manage financial resources for school-based initiatives. This training was developed in the framework of the C4D strategy prepared in 2016. Exchange visits and sharing of best practices on reinsertion of out-of-school children and motivating families was important for capacity development. The Ministry of Education's technical teams and departmental and municipal facilitators were responsible for delivering training and support to Municipal Councils and School Councils.

UNICEF Honduras brokered an agreement between the Ministry of Education, the Association of Municipalities of Honduras and DINAF for the identification and inclusion of out-of-school children by eliminating barriers that prevent timely entry, access and retention.

With technical support from UNICEF Honduras, GIZ, the Network of Private Institutions for Children, Adolescents, Youth and their Rights and the Pestalozzi Foundation, and participation of the Ministry of Education, a study of children's perceptions on the right to participate in decisions concerning education and the role of school governments was carried out. The analysis provided guidelines for the formulation of the Rules of Procedure for Student Governments with the participation of 545 children and adolescents, which were presented at the Children's Congress. Starting in 2018, teachers and student leaders will be trained on the

right of girls and boys to participate in decisions about education.

OUTPUT 2 Output 2.2. Schools and communities in the selected municipalities have built their capacity for resilience to climate change.

Analytical statement of progress:

With support from UNICEF Honduras, the Ministry Education's Department of Education and Environmental Communication and Health (DECOAS), implemented a strategy to integrate resilience to climate change into the national education curriculum, through: i) capacity building on climate change management and resilience for staff at the national level and in selected municipalities; ii) teacher training to enable the transfer of knowledge about climate change management and resilience to parents and students; iii) production of educational materials for teachers and parents; iv) tools for capacity assessment and formulation of work plans for prevention of Zika virus infection and comprehensive risk management in schools; and v) climate resilient water, sanitation and hygiene services in indigenous schools in the Mosquitia.

Training of trainers and teachers. Key DECOAS officials from the national level of the Ministry of Education participated in training sessions on climate change from a constructivist approach, and then trained 65 DECOAS officials and coordinators for education and environmental communication and health as trainers of trainers in seven departments. Subsequently, the new trainers trained 500 teachers in 16 municipalities to provide climate change education to students and their parents starting in the 2018 school year.

Pedagogical material for education on climate change. Based on a module on comprehensive risk management developed with the support of UNDP and the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation, UNICEF and DECOAS developed curricular content and teaching manuals on climate change education. DECOAS produced a module on essential concepts of climate change and resilience building for integration into the curriculum of natural sciences and social studies, as well as a booklet for parents and a manual for teachers.

Capacity analysis tools and intervention plans. DECOAS produced and applied two methodological tools for capacity analysis and capacity-building plans for comprehensive risk management and climate resilience in schools, including prevention of Zika virus infection. Capacity analysis and capacity building plans for comprehensive risk management were carried out in 10 pilot schools. Twenty-three DECOAS officials from the central and departmental levels, 160 teachers and 8,000 students participated in the process. As a result, a solid foundation has been laid for the replication of the intervention at the national level, starting in 2018.

Improved access to water and sanitation services in schools in indigenous communities. With the support of Agua Para el Pueblo and Pure Water for the World, children from 40 schools in isolated indigenous communities in the Mosquitia region of Honduras improved their access to climate-resilient water and sanitation services (gender-segregated latrines, rainwater harvesting systems, drinking water basins and manual pumps). Infrastructure interventions were accompanied by education on hygiene and sanitation, basic climate change concepts and comprehensive risk management. In addition, the school committees received training to ensure the operation, maintenance and sustainability of the infrastructure.

OUTPUT 3 Output 2.3. Educational teams in the selected departments and municipalities have acquired competencies to implement a decentralized management model of quality education and development of educational alternatives for children aged 3 to 6 years and out-of-school adolescents so that they can enter and complete preschool and primary education on time.

Analytical statement of progress

Plan for the Universalization of Pre-Primary Education. In 2017, UNICEF Honduras supported technical teams from the departments of Copán and Lempira to strengthen teacher capacity in 40 pre-primary education centres in order to expand coverage in these departments through educational exchange networks. The training was carried out using pedagogical manuals and educational materials prepared in 2016. In 2017, the Government allocated US\$5.5 million to continue the expansion of the universalization plan. In 2018, an evaluation is planned to identify results, lessons learned and good practices to reorient the strategy.

Education for indigenous peoples. UNICEF Honduras supported the Ministry of Education in training 112 teachers from 60 indigenous schools in the villages of Misquito and Tolupan on school management improvement, creation of child-friendly school committees and collaborative work with children. Approximately 3,000 parents were trained to organize commissions in the areas of recreation, identity and culture, school and community hygiene, school feeding, school gardens and kiosks for outdoor group learning. The commissions, coordinated by school principals and teachers, are organized according to the priorities of each education centre and in coordination with local indigenous authorities. By the end of 2017, 3,600 children benefited from the intervention. In 2018, UNICEF Honduras plans to sign a cooperation agreement with a university specialized in intercultural bilingual education.

Culture of Peace, Coexistence and Citizenship. In 2016, UNICEF Honduras and the International Centre for Education and Human Development Foundation of Colombia provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Education in methodological development and pilot implementation of the Culture of Peace, Coexistence and Citizenship initiative. The initiative aims to develop capacities for violence-free education, in the framework of the National Plan for Prevention of Violence. In 2017, the initiative was expanded from 16 to 70 education centres. Nine municipal and district technical teams from the Ministry of Education, 31 trainers of trainers from five municipalities prioritized for their high level of violence, 330 teachers and 240 school commissions received training. As a result, 32,082 children were reached with educational activities promoting a culture of peace.

Returned migrant children and children affected by violence. In partnership with the Norwegian Refugee Council, Asociación Colaboración y Esfuerzo, IOM and the Ministry of Education, UNICEF Honduras implemented the Educational Bridges strategy to ensure reintegration of migrant children into school. Out-of-school children were identified through a community census. Families were sensitized to support the return of children to school, including ludic activities, flexible educational modalities and school placement. In 2017, 1,800 children received assistance in the municipalities of Choloma, San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa.

OUTPUT 4 Special Purpose

Analytical statement of progress

The Ministry of Education is updating its policy framework to harmonize it with the SDGs. UNICEF Honduras is actively participating in this process in its dual role as member of the education sector donors' table and as coordinator of the United Nations Education Group.

Formulation of the 2017–2030 Strategic Plan for the Education Sector. As an active member of the interinstitutional commission in charge of the education system analysis and formulation of the 2017–2030 sector plan, UNICEF Honduras contributed with three studies: i) analysis of educational exclusion among adolescents in situations of socio-economic vulnerability; ii) analysis of the efficiency and effectiveness of spending on the Ministry of Education's Basic Education Programme (Grades 1–9); and iii) costing analysis for the achievement of the SDGs to fulfil the right to education of Honduran children. In addition, UNICEF Honduras provided evidence of good practices in intercultural education, education in contexts of violence and educational bridges for the reintegration of migrant and displaced children.

Laying the foundation for the universalization of lower secondary education. Ministry of Education officials participated in two regional workshops on the evaluation of innovative experiences in secondary education organized by the Central American Educational and Cultural Coordination of the Central American Integration System with support from the UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office. In coordination with the UNICEF Colombia Country Office, a study visit of eight Honduran officials to the Colombian Ministry of Education was organized. This week-long study visit allowed the Honduran staff to learn about successful pedagogical experiences for excluded adolescents. In coordination with the Organization of Ibero-American States and the National Pedagogical University, UNICEF assisted the Ministry of Education in a study on technical and financial implications of universalizing the different modalities of lower secondary education. A plan and road map were formulated and will be implemented in 2018, aiming at including 200,000 out-of-school children.

A robust information system that generates disaggregated information. The System for the Administration of Education Centres improved its capacity to generate disaggregated data as a result of training of technicians and visits to El Salvador and Mexico to learn from those countries' experiences. Ministry of Education officials now have access to disaggregated data on enrolment at the appropriate age, underachievement, causes of school dropout, and availability of teachers by school, among others. Additionally, technicians from the National Educational Information System of Honduras participated in training activities and regional events with support from the Economic Commission for Latin America, UNESCO and UNICEF Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office.

OUTCOME 3 3. By 2021, the country has a better system to protect against violence in its various forms in the selected municipalities and departments.

Analytical statement of progress

Between 2008 and 2015, there were 3,179 child homicides in Honduras, which represents one violent death of a child every 22 hours. In 2015, the child homicide rate in the country was 11.6 per 100,000 inhabitants under 18 years of age. Prevalence of child sexual abuse in Honduras is 7.8 per cent, the highest in Central America. Two in every five legal medical exams conducted on children were due to sexual assault, with 90 per cent of these assaults committed against girls. These stark data on violence affecting Honduran children and adolescents informed UNICEF's violence prevention strategy for the country. The strategy aims to increase knowledge about children's rights among children, adolescents and their parents, raising awareness on the various forms of violence within schools, homes and communities. The strategy also aims to develop tools on violence prevention, while ensuring that resources are available for the restoration of rights when violated.

While designing the roadmap to guide the creation of a national child protection system, UNICEF Honduras signed an agreement with NGO members of the Global Movement for Children to harmonize technical assistance and build an advocacy strategy, and for the establishment of the national child protection system. The system will articulate existing local protection systems and will reach a first set of 109 municipalities (out of 298). UNICEF Honduras support also included capacity building of DINAF to effectively promote, protect and fulfil the rights of children and adolescents.

UNICEF Honduras and its partners supported the Technical Committee for Juvenile Justice, a government-led coordination body consisting of the main national and international institutions working to strengthen the juvenile justice system, through technical assistance for regulatory framework reforms and inter-institutional coordination. In 2017, UNICEF supported the Technical Committee to define standard operating procedures and developed specialized training curricula integrated into the academic institutions of the justice sector. A total of 250 staff from five juvenile detention centres of the new National Institute for Young Offenders (INAMI) – representing 85 per cent of INAMI's total personnel – received training on children's rights and on the obligation to respect the rights of young offenders. In collaboration with the Supreme Court of Justice, UNICEF Honduras provided five regional workshops on the specialized norms and regulations of the juvenile justice system, with the participation of 175 justice-sector personnel from 16 Inter-Institutional Justice Commissions, which strengthened their capacity to apply restorative justice principles when trying young offenders and defending child victims.

In partnership with Plan International Honduras, UNICEF is working to increase the availability of services at the municipal level by designing and implementing pilot programmes for restorative justice in 35 municipalities. In 2017, Plan International Honduras initiated a mapping of existing restorative justice programmes and mechanisms both in Honduras and regionally, aiming at implementing a pilot programme in 2018.

In 17 municipalities, an analysis of the current response procedures of key government service providers was concluded. The analysis identified bottlenecks and capacity gaps related to coordination and accountability of service providers. These must be addressed through municipal child protection workgroups, and integrated pathways to prevent and respond to all types of violence against children. Community-based child protection mechanisms have been formed in 28 municipalities, comprising community leaders, municipal councils, school administrators, youth groups, volunteer organizations and private-sector representatives.

True to a rights-based approach, UNICEF Honduras has placed children and adolescents at the centre of its interventions to develop integrated pathways for protection from violence. Through a series of cultural, artistic and sporting events in 64 municipalities, which incorporated key violence prevention messages from UNICEF's C4D strategy, UNICEF strengthened knowledge and competencies of children and adolescents who participated in PMIAJs to prevent peer violence within their schools and communities.

UNICEF Honduras and its partners assisted about 12,000 children and adolescents affected by irregular migration. In partnership with the Honduran Red Cross, psychosocial support was provided to 4,000 children and adolescents to recover from trauma and violence. Nearly 2,000 young migrants were enrolled into non-formal educational bridges to facilitate their return to the formal system or to technical training options.

Finally, UNICEF Honduras and partners contributed to build community resilience in 12 of the most violent municipalities of the country by developing and implementing an arts and culture programme that incorporates violence prevention and peaceful coexistence messages, reclaims public spaces and engages children, adolescents and adults. This has helped ease the reintegration within their communities of some 6,000 children and adolescent returned migrants. Within a framework of general consensus around a national child protection system and minimum standards, the programme priorities for 2018 will include strengthening of municipal systems and building integrated pathways to quality, accessible and differentiated violence prevention services at the local level.

OUTPUT 1 Output 3.1. Children, adolescents and their families in the selected municipalities have the competencies they need to prevent violence and ensure protection against violence, including gender-based violence and corporal punishment in the community and in schools.

Analytical statement of progress

Participatory development of the C4D strategy. The C4D strategy was built upon a participatory investigation in both rural and urban settings. The investigation showed that both girls and boys of all ages suffer from violence, but a gender-sensitive approach is required. The investigation allowed for a better understanding of the myths related to corporal punishment and sexual violence, and how deeply they permeate Honduran society. To change social norms and behaviours on corporal punishment, it is imperative to communicate C4D messages through a medium-to-long-term process, to challenge myths and integrate new behaviours through interpersonal communication, training workshops and dissemination of communications materials to families, communities and trainers. The C4D strategy was validated by the Under-Secretary for Violence Prevention, the Association of Municipalities, the network of NGOs, DINAF and other child protection partners. The implementation of the C4D strategy is planned for 2018.

UNICEF Honduras, in collaboration with NGO Paniamor, integrated prevention of corporal punishment in C4D materials provided to families, volunteer facilitators and social workers. The aim was to help understand the myths surrounding corporal punishment and the reasons why it is detrimental to the socio-emotional development of the child, and to promote non-violent methods of discipline. The information was also conveyed through community-level workshops and training of facilitators and social workers.

Use of the arts to communicate about violence against children. UNICEF Honduras and Mujeres en las Artes are working in 12 of the most violent municipalities to strengthen community resilience through arts and cultural programmes incorporating violence prevention and peaceful coexistence messages, engaging children, adolescents and adults. With a C4D methodology, cultural events addressed community-based violence and violence related to irregular migration. This intervention reached 6,000 beneficiaries, including PMIAJ coordinators, volunteers and young communicator networks, children and families.

This intervention was also implemented in the 64 municipalities with PMIJA programmes. PMIAJ coordinators incorporated C4D messages on peer violence into cultural activities. They raised awareness among youth volunteer networks through workshops and ongoing support, thus increasing their understanding of the different types of violence they are exposed to. Emphasis was placed on building healthy relationships, non-discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersexual youth, and protection from sexual and gang-related violence. Volunteers were encouraged to replicate these messages through cultural, artistic and

sporting events. Youth communicators in the 64 municipalities learned to film and edit documentaries showcasing issues affecting them, such as bullying, and promote peer support and positive and respectful engagement with the community.

In 2017, 340 parents and community leaders were informed on the negative impact of corporal punishment on the emotional development of children and sensitized on non-violent methods of discipline. These parents became active participants in school-based outreach activities; for instance, the parent committee of Presentación Centeno school in Choloma carried out the first ever community-based census to identify out-of-school children, and implemented a solidarity fund to secure their enrolment in the 2018 school year. In addition, 325 teachers in 70 schools were provided with coaching to adopt a child-friendly, participatory teaching approach and terminate corporal punishment in their classrooms.

OUTPUT 2 Output 3.2. The communities with the highest rates of violence in the selected municipalities have built their resilience capacities against violence in all its forms, and have acquired competencies to generate protective environments for children and adolescents with a gender perspective.

Analytical statement of progress

In 2017, UNICEF Honduras spearheaded an agreement with key members of the Global Movement for Children – Plan International Honduras, Save the Children, World Vision and Child Fund – aiming at harmonizing community-based violence prevention programming and ensuring adherence to international standards and a rights-based approach to preventing and responding to violence within the community. Community-based violence prevention initiatives will be strengthened, with particular attention to the most insecure communities in 37 priority municipalities, seeking to contribute to a sustainable and community-based approach to resilience building.

Community-based child protection mechanisms were established in 83 communities, comprising community leaders, more than 328 community-based organizations, school administrators, youth groups, volunteer organizations and private-sector representatives. UNICEF Honduras and Plan International are preparing action plans to prevent violence against children. In 2017, building on positive results from a pilot implemented by Plan International since 2011 in Copan and Santa Barbara, the focus has been on strengthening integrated protocols for prevention, identification and treatment of sexual violence. Over the next five years, the pilot will be expanded to violence-prone communities in all of 37 priority municipalities.

These interventions helped increase knowledge among justice-sector personnel, children, parents, teachers and community-based organizations about the use of protocols, policies and standards for identification, protection and care of child victims of sexual violence. Plan International has been working directly with children and adolescents through a series of workshops applying C4D materials ('Sexual abuse is intolerable, use your six senses'). The workshops resulted in increased numbers of children able to identify risks of sexual abuse, describe self-protective behaviours they can use in a risk situation, and identify channels for violence protection/reporting in their community (family members, school teachers, community nurse/social worker, DINAF, *defensoria de la niñez*, police, judicial system, children's ombudsman).

This initiative has also reached community organizations and parents through advocacy and

training to identify and report cases of sexual abuse against children. Community-based surveys identified a decrease among both men and women in the use of messages that discriminate against girls, with women showing the greatest reduction. Men and women surveyed were also able to recognize children that fit the profile of a victim of sexual abuse and gave greater credibility to children who reported being victimized. Plan International also worked with teachers and school principals in target communities by providing regular workshops and promoting peer support to increase knowledge of sexual violence and of how to identify and report cases of sexual abuse.

OUTPUT 3 Output 3.3. The specialized criminal justice system at the national level has built its capacity to respond to situations of adolescents in conflict with the law, guided by a children's rights-based approach.

Analytical statement of progress

As of December 2017, 586 children under 18 were deprived of liberty (519 boys and 67 girls). An additional 2,000 children were under special measures of conditional liberty. The juvenile justice system in Honduras intends to implement rehabilitation and reintegration measures for children aged 12 to 17 years. However, judicial and police training academies do not have specialized programmes on children's rights, and neither does the juvenile justice system. As a result, the system favours detention over non-custodial measures and reintegration. UNICEF is working with the justice system to consolidate juvenile justice reforms that promote the enforcement of international standards.

Strengthening the Technical Committee for Juvenile Justice. UNICEF Honduras and its partners are supporting the Technical Committee for Juvenile Justice, a transitional, government-led coordination body consisting of national and international institutions committed to strengthening the juvenile justice system, including the Supreme Court, the National Institute for Young Offenders, several ministries, the police, DINAF, international and bilateral cooperation agencies and NGOs. Technical support was provided to reform the regulatory framework, reinforce inter-institutional coordination, and develop standard operating procedures and training curricula for the justice sector. In 2017, an analysis of the current regulatory framework was undertaken by an international expert to identify sectors requiring further legislative reforms and facilitate inter-institutional coordination.

Training 250 staff from the new National Institute for Young Offenders. A total of 250 staff (including security guards, custodians, social workers, nurses, educators, psychologists, cafeteria workers and administration) from five INAMI juvenile detention centres (85 per cent of INAMI total personnel) received training on children's rights and the obligation to respect the rights of young offenders.

Strengthening Inter-Institutional Justice Commissions. In collaboration with the Supreme Court, UNICEF Honduras supported five regional workshops to train 175 justice-sector personnel from 16 Inter-Institutional Justice Commissions on the operational manual for interinstitutional coordination in the juvenile justice system. This resulted in improved capacity to enforce national and international norms. The workshops increased understanding among judges, prosecutors and public defenders of their obligation to guarantee the best interests of the child, prioritizing alternatives to detention, with deprivation of liberty as a measure of last resort. A better understanding of each institution's role and responsibilities, as defined in the operational manual, increased the efficiency of the judicial process.

Mapping existing restorative justice programmes. In partnership with Plan International, UNICEF Honduras is working to increase the availability of municipal services by designing and implementing pilot programmes for restorative justice in 35 municipalities. In 2017, Plan mapped existing restorative justice programmes and mechanisms in Honduras and regionally, aiming to implement a pilot in 2018.

National policy on juvenile justice. An agreement was signed with the Diego Portales University in Chile to support INAMI and the Supreme Court to develop the national policy on juvenile justice in 2018, to help mainstream the restorative justice approach in all sectors (state institutions, municipal governments and civil society), which is a key weakness of the current juvenile justice system. The initiative is coordinated by the Technical Committee for Juvenile Justice to ensure government ownership and avoid duplications among cooperation agencies.

OUTPUT 4 Output 3.4. The institutions involved in the prevention and treatment of violence have integrated pathways and capacities for providing accessible, quality, culturally acceptable services in the selected municipalities.

Analytical statement of progress

In 2017, in partnership with Global Infancia, the drawing of the roadmap towards the establishment of the national child protection system began. Advocacy and policy dialogue took place with government authorities, including ministers, the First Lady, the Attorney General and Juvenile Justice Prosecutor, judges, the Association of Municipalities, ministers of parliament from different parties, mayors of the 35 priority municipalities and NGOs. UNICEF Honduras signed an agreement with NGO members of the Global Movement for Children to harmonize technical assistance and build an advocacy strategy for the establishment of the national child protection system. The system will articulate existing local protection systems, and will reach a first set 109 municipalities (out of 298).

Partner NGOs supported the launch of the National Pact for Children in September/October, a list of 14 asks based on the SDGs, which was signed by some 2,000 mayoral candidates. As a result, children's issues and the creation of the national child protection system were placed at the heart of the municipal agenda for the general election of November 2017.

Plan International developed an analysis of current response procedures among government service providers in 17 municipalities, including health, education and justice. Methodological tools are being developed to increase coordination and accountability, including working with community leaders, municipal governments and national institutions through child protection workgroups to develop standard operating procedures to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against children.

UNICEF provided technical assistance to strengthen DINAF's capacity, and supported DINAF's oversight and regulatory role over public and private child protection services. A diagnosis of DINAF staff internal capacity to assess, diagnose and record all forms of violence was carried out. Standard operating procedures weredeveloped and all 145 DINAF staff were trained on their application.

The International Bureau for Children's Rights completed an analysis on the protection of children from violence. The information gathered from judges, lawyers, judicial school instructors, police and DINAF is groundwork for developing institutional and inter-institutional standard operating procedures and appropriate training materials for each sector and context.

At the community level, UNICEF Honduras supported the Human Rights Commissioner (CONADEH) in developing nine local child protection systems while engaging children and youth in identifying human rights abuses, and coordinating community response mechanisms. Strengthening of the SIQUEJASWeb-based platform has provided the national ombudsman staff with real-time data on human rights violations faced by children, women and other vulnerable groups, thus strengthening CONADEH's capacity to followup on individual cases. UNICEF is also carrying out a feasibility study on creating a child helpline and a digital platform for violence prevention.

An innovative approach to increasing knowledge of justice and social-sector workers. In collaboration with DINAF and other partners, UNICEF Honduras launched the first master's programme in child protection and juvenile justice, hosted by the National Autonomous University of Honduras, under the direction of the University of Malaga. The programme has reached 90 students, all active judges, lawyers, prosecutors, senior government officials, juvenile detention centre staff, police officers, psychologists and social workers.

OUTPUT 5 Output 3.5. The relevant institutions have information systems and capacities to collect data, generate evidence and use information on violence against children.

Analytical statement of progress

Two demonstration municipalities (Choluma and San Pedro Sula) have a conceptual and methodological proposal for a results-oriented monitoring system with an equity focus to monitor the implementation of strategic plans for coexistence and citizen security, which include specific interventions to prevent and reduce violence against children. UNICEF partnered with UNDP to provide technical assistance to the municipal governments in the development of the proposal.

The proposal includes: 1) a theory of change for the prevention and reduction of violence, validated by the members of the Committee for the Prevention of Violence in both municipalities, including government and civil society actors; 2) indicators and respective technical data sheets; 3) the mapping of information sources for the proposed indicators (where information gaps exist, reliable institutions for data collection and processing of information are identified and tool and protocols for data collection are provided); and 4) a preliminary cost analysis for information-gathering activities.

UNICEF continued its partnership with the Observatory on Violence of the National Autonomous University of Honduras, to publish newsletters on violence against children at the country level, to disseminate data related to homicides, child deaths due to traffic events, suicide, child abuse, criminal incidence, etc. In 2017, dissemination of information was carried out through interactive maps that facilitate remote access to these types of data, while also facilitating reading and analysis for decision making.

CONADEH's SIQUEJAS Web system was improved with an online system for registering and processing complaints, which can be accessed by institutions at central and local levels via mobile devices. In addition, a user-friendly reporting system that generates statistics in real time on selected fields/variables was designed. The system has the capacity to cross-reference fields as required by CONADEH.

OUTPUT 6 Children on the move

Analytical statement of progress

In partnership with IOM and NGOs, UNICEF Honduras supported the Government to protect the rights of migrant children in 21 municipalities reporting the highest rates of children and adolescents migrating North in search of better economic opportunities or family reunification, or fleeing from violence. DINAF strengthened its capacity to provide child-friendly, rights-based repatriation, reception and reintegration services through ongoing training at border patrol offices and at the national centre for returned migrant children and families.

Emotional recovery of returned migrant children. UNICEF Honduras and the Honduran Red Cross are implementing a strategy for emotional recovery of returned migrant children and adolescents in 21 municipalities to support 4,000 children (5–18 years old). In 2017, UNICEF and UNHCR provided training on the adapted methodology of psychosocial support and care for returned child migrants based on UNICEF's Return of Happiness methodology to 28 volunteer psychologists, 210 UNHCR volunteers, municipal employees, members of municipal child protection working groups, NGOs and other stakeholders. The volunteers and professionals can now identify signs of emotional trauma in children, apply the Return of Happiness methodology for emotional recovery, and refer cases requiring professional help to UNCHR's network of volunteer psychologists.

A community-based violence prevention strategy was developed in 12 municipalities to promote peaceful coexistence among children, adolescents and youth in collaboration with Women in the Arts and Spain's Cultural Centre. UNICEF Honduras supported consolidation of artistic and cultural programmes and generation of dynamic youth groups, including young communicator networks trained in social and traditional media, and other local networks of child/adolescent volunteers in selected municipalities. UNICEF Honduras, Women in the Arts and the Spanish Cultural Centre in Tegucigalpa hosted community-level events promoting culture and art incorporating a C4D methodology that addresses community-based violence and violence prevention strategies, adapted to adult and youth audiences, strengthening the protective environment for children and youth as a preventive approach to violence-related irregular migration. In its first three months, the initiative reached 1,000 beneficiaries, including PMIAJ coordinators, volunteers, young communicator networks, children and families.

Reintegration of returned migrant children into school. UNICEF Honduras promoted educational bridges to reintegrate children and adolescents displaced by violence into the education system. In partnership with the Norwegian Refugee Council and Asociación Colaboración y Esfuerzo, UNICEF Honduras is striving to ensure out-of-school children in areas affected by migration, violence and insecurity can return to school through flexible learning alternatives. In collaboration with the Ministry of Education, the capacity of teachers has been strengthened to support at-risk families and ensure they see education as an opportunity for their children. UNICEF and partners work directly with children and adolescents in prioritized municipalities to promote relevant, meaningful and quality education in a friendly and protective environment. More than 2,000 children in situations of vulnerability due to migration or affected by violence in Francisco Morazán (Comayagüela and Tegucigalpa) and Cortés (Choluma and San Pedro Sula) were reached.

OUTCOME 4 4. By 2021, the context of social policies is based on a rights-based approach and takes gender differences into account, as well as places an emphasis on children who suffer exclusion.

Analytical statement of progress

Gross domestic product (GDP) in Honduras has been increasing in recent years – at annual rates of 3.1 per cent in 2014, 3.6 per cent in 2015 and 3.8 per cent in 2016. But alongside economic growth, the country's external debt grew from 18.1 per cent of GDP in 2010 to 30.1 per cent of GDP in 2017. Total public debt represented 47.9 of GDP in 2016. This level of indebtedness restricts the fiscal space for improving investment in children and expanding development opportunities.

In absolute terms, public investment in children and adolescents has been growing in recent years. However, public expenditure on children as a percentage of total public social expenditure dropped from 45.2 per cent in 2014 to 35.7 per cent in 2016. Likewise, public investment in children as a percentage of GDP decreased from 7.3 per cent in 2014 to 6.5 per cent in 2016. Hence, it becomes of paramount importance to prioritize investment in children to generate opportunities, accelerate poverty reduction and break the intergenerational transmission of poverty.

Updated information on child poverty (income poverty) in Honduras is now available, including information on child poverty trends over the past 15 years (2001–2016). Honduras also made progress in measuring multidimensional poverty for children (2015) and signed an agreement with UNICEF Honduras to implement a Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey in 2018. The survey will provide relevant information to measure the evolution of other dimensions of children's rights while also developing indicators related to the SDGs.

UNICEF Honduras supported the Ministry of Education to conduct a study on the efficiency of social spending in education, and to carry out an analysis of the level of investment needed to cover the basic education access gap by 2030. Evidence from these studies contributed to the formulation of the 2017–2030 Strategic Education Plan.

At the municipal level, UNICEF Honduras promoted a supportive environment for the generation of local policies and plans for children. In the lead-up to the November 2017 elections, UNICEF Honduras and the World Movement for Children successfully advocated the establishment of a Municipal Pact for Children with mayoral candidates in 190 municipalities. The document specifies 14 commitments to children, supporting their rights to survival, development, protection and participation. The candidates also committed to the implementation of a child protection system at the municipal level.

In partnership with the Population Council and Plan International, UNICEF Honduras strengthened the leadership capacity of adolescents to analyse their situation from a child rights perspective, build agendas and participate in policy dialogue with political authorities to promote their rights. The results of these activities include the Pact for Children and the commitment taken by Congress to develop a legal framework for the national child protection system.

OUTPUT 1 4.1 Relevant government institutions and civil society organizations have developed capacities to monitor the situation of children and implement the recommendations of the Inter-American System and United Nations system pertaining to human rights, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, with disaggregated statistics and other evidence.

Analytical statement of progress

Commitment to implement Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys. The Government of Honduras and UNICEF Honduras signed an agreement to carry out MICS for the first time in the country. Planned for 2018, the survey will also collect data on topics for which updated information is not available, such as child discipline and functional capacity and competencies for learning. Information on early childhood development will be collected and compared with the 2012 Demographic and Health Survey data. By applying the sixth round of MICS, Honduras will have the opportunity to collect data on SDG indicators related to children. UNICEF Honduras advocated before the National Institute for Statistics, the Ministry of Health and the Office for General Government Coordination, and invited technicians from these institutions to the Regional MICS Workshop to learn about the survey's advantages and its approach to strengthening national capacity.

Multidimensional Child Poverty Index in Honduras. Updated information on child poverty in Honduras is now available, including child poverty trends over the past 15 years (2001–2016) from an income perspective. The information is disseminated through the Information System on Children, Adolescents and Women, an online platform developed by the National Institute for Statistics with UNICEF technical support. In 2016, UNICEF Honduras published the study 'Multiple Faces of Child Poverty in Honduras', which initiated methodological discussions on measuring multidimensional child poverty in the country. In 2017, the Office for General Government Coordination processed multidimensional child poverty data as part of a disaggregated analysis on poverty with Oxford University's methodology. The Office for General Government Coordination presented its experience in designing Honduras' Multidimensional Poverty Index at the international seminar on measurements of well-being organized by UNICEF Argentina.

Laying the foundation for the Observatory on the Rights of Children. Conceptualization of the National Observatory on the Rights of Children was initiated after an International Meeting of Social and Child Observatories in which the experiences of Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico and the United States were presented. The event gathered representatives of governments, civil society and academia to discuss approaches, operational aspects, sustainability and advocacy processes developed by observatories in the region, to inform the design of a children's rights observatory in Honduras. A road map will be drawn in 2018.

Sub-national situation analyses to guide municipal policies on children. The municipality of San Pedro Sula, second in importance in Honduras, formulated a Municipal Policy on Children and Adolescents with support from UNICEF Honduras, the International Development Law Organization and Save the Children. UNICEF provided technical assistance for the situation analysis of children in the municipality, using the 2016 Situation Analysis methodology and instruments.

Follow-up on the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and other international human rights bodies. UNICEF Honduras supported the Ministry of Human Rights, Governance and Decentralization to establish an inter-institutional coordination board to follow up on recommendations of human rights bodies that relate to children. The board received training on the child rights-based approach from Global Infancia.

OUTPUT 2 4.2 Central Government has the capacity to monitor and analyse the efficiency and effectiveness of public investment in children and adolescents.

Analytical statement of progress

Studies on investment in education were incorporated into the formulation of the Strategic Education Plan. In partnership with UNICEF Honduras and the Central American Institute for Fiscal Studies, the Inter-Institutional Committee on Public Investment in Children and Adolescents conducted two studies that contributed to the analysis of public investment in education. The first study analysed the efficiency of public spending in primary and lower secondary (Grades 1–9). The second study estimated the investment needed between now and 2030 to close the access gap in primary and lower secondary education. The results of the studies were discussed with high-level education authorities during the formulation of the 2017–2030 Strategic Education Plan. The results were also presented and discussed at the donors' education table and with the departmental directors of education. The Inter-Institutional Committee published, for the fourth consecutive year, the study 'Public Investment in Children and Adolescents in Honduras', which strengthened the policy dialogue on increasing public investment in children.

The Inter-Institutional Committee on Public Investment in Children and Adolescentsachieved institutional sustainability and capacity for policy dialogue. In 2017, the Ministries of Finance, General Government Coordination and Development and Social Inclusion, under the leadership of DINAF, developed a strategic institutional plan, with technical assistance form UNICEF Honduras. The plan sets out a medium-term perspective on evidence generation and policy dialogue on investment in children. The document includes a mission, vision and multi-year plan for the Inter-Institutional Committee, as well as the development of a public policy advocacy strategy, planned for 2018.

OUTPUT 3 4.3 The selected municipalities develop and implement, at the municipal level, results-based management and accountability tools with a children's rights- and gender-based approach.

Analytical statement of progress

Establishment of the national child protection system. In 2017, Honduras has made important progress towards creating a national child protection system. Key milestones reached in 2017 include: i) agreement on a model for local child protection systems in consultation with the prioritized municipalities; ii) mapping of coordination mechanisms at municipal level; and iii) drafting of a manual for establishing coordination mechanisms at the local level. UNICEF Honduras supported DINAF in the process of generating conceptual and methodological consensus.

Political commitment to incorporate children's rights in municipal plans. In the lead-up to the November 2017 elections, 7,200 mayoral candidates from 190 municipalities (out of a total of 298) signed the 'Municipal Pact for Children: 14 Commitments for Children and Adolescents'. Among the commitments included in the pact is the establishment of local child protection systems. UNICEF Honduras led the development and consensus building around the agenda for children's rights within the Honduran Chapter of the World Movement for Children, as well as the development of the advocacy strategy for the initiative. In partnership with the Honduran Association of Municipalities, UNICEF Honduras used departmental training seminars with mayoral candidates as a platform for the signing of the pact.

Analysis of municipal public management capacity to realize children's rights in 37 prioritized municipalities. UNICEF Honduras established an agreement with the Colombian company Democracia, Ciudadanía y Desarrollo to develop a municipal capacity index to measure the extent to which planning, investing, managing and monitoring of results at the

municipal level are child rights-oriented. In addition, a municipal scorecard with basic child rights indicators was proposed. The scorecard will inform the 2018 Situation Analysis and will be used to monitor progress in each municipality. The analysis of capacity gaps will inform the capacity-building strategy for municipal governments starting in 2018.

Mapping of actors and services to fulfil children's rights. In partnership with Plan International, UNICEF Honduras developed a guide for the analysis of service providers' performance at the municipal level (Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, National Registry of Persons, Attorney General's Office, judicial branch). The guide has been applied in the prioritized municipalities to identify capacity gaps at the subnational level. This analysis complements the analysis of the public management capacity of municipalities.

OUTPUT 4 4.4 Adolescents in the selected municipalities participate significantly in social oversight processes related to policies and programmes relevant to their integrated development.

Analytical statement of progress

UNICEF Honduras promoted adolescent participation in the 64 municipalities covered by the PMIAJs. The PMIAJs empowered adolescents to claim their rights, strengthen their leadership skills, establish dialogue with public authorities, and participate in their community on issues of their concern.

Systematizing PMIAJs' good practices and lessons learned for replication in other municipalities. UNICEF Honduras established an alliance with the Population Council for the systematization of good practices, lessons learned, methodologies and tools of the 64 PMIAJs supported by UNICEF over the past decade. Preliminary results show that PMIAJs achieved an important level of institutionalization, since they are now part of the management structure of these municipalities.

Analysis of the capacity of children's organizations at community level. In partnership with Plan International, UNICEF Honduras carried out a capacity analysis of nearly 300 organizations that work with children and adolescents in the prioritized municipalities. The analysis included leadership identification – with emphasis on female adolescents – organizational skills, construction of agendas, and dialogue with authorities. The results of the analysis will inform and reorient strategies aimed at empowering children and adolescents.

Capacity development of PMIAJ coordinators in situation analysis, planning and monitoring. In partnership with the Population Council, UNICEF strengthened the capacity of 49 PMIAJ coordinators in evidence-based planning. The coordinators completed four training modules: i) analysis of the situation of children; ii) analysis of service coverage; iii) identification of excluded populations and policy targeting; and iv) identification of protective assets (human skills and competencies that are developed in adolescents to empower and equip them to reduce risks and expand opportunities). A georeferenced mobile phone application was developed to collect information on the situation of children and on coverage of social services, to identify excluded population groups for proper targeting of programmes.

Political dialogue between adolescent leaders and congressmen in the framework of the Children's Congress. The National Congress of Honduras requested UNICEF support to carry out the XXI Children's Congress under the slogan 'I want a good birth, a good development and a good living in my country'. The event brought together 128 'congress-children' from the

country's 18 departments. They presented their proposals to Congress, aiming at their inclusion in the legislative agenda. UNICEF Honduras partnered with the World Movement for Children to strengthen the capacity of the 'congress-children'. As a result, the National Congress committed to develop a robust regulatory framework for the establishment of the national child protection system.

Document centre

Evaluation and research

ΙΙΙΤΙΔ	Sequence number	Type of report
	2017/006	Study
Generating Budgetary Evidence for Greater and Better Investment in Honduran Children and Adolescents		Study
Analysis of the Situation of the Rights of Children and Adolescents in Honduras	2017/004	SitAn
Determinants of Risk Behaviour among Adolescents in the Areas of HIV, Pregnancy, Violence and Migration	2017/003	Study
Attitudes, Knowledge and Uses of Physical Punishment and Psychological Aggression	2017/002	Study
Evaluación de implementación estrategia Retorno de la Alegría para la niñez migrante en Honduras	2017/001	Evaluation

Other publications

Title
Integrated National Communication and Community Participation Strategy in Response to Zika
in Honduras
Publication of the Cooperation Programme Document (2017-2021)
Human interest story on International Day of the Girl (in video and written format)
Competency framework of the Peace, Coexistence and Citizenship committee
Video 'A different vision' for the Peace, Coexistence and Citizenship Strategy
Guide of the Peace, Coexistence and Citizenship Strategy for Trainers
Guide for the implementation of Peace, Coexistence and Citizenship Strategy
Module VI Guide for Parents
Module VI. Teaching guide, knowledge delivery
Module VI on Climate Change
Toolbox for the prevention of physical and humiliating punishment of early childhood
C4D Strategy, Raising with Love
Early Childhood Development Guides
Municipal Pact for Children, Honduras
Human interest stories and video on a peace, coexistence and citizenship strategy for schools –
Violence Prevention Model in Schools
Adaptation of communication materials for the prevention of Zika in the Garifuna language

Lessons learned

Document type/category Title	
Lesson Learned	Violence prevention in school