Update on the context and situation of children

With the fourth largest population in the world, UNICEF’s mandate in Indonesia has the potential to benefit over 80 million children. While geographically vast, more than half of the population is concentrated on the island of Java. A notable trend is a decrease of the proportion of the dependent population relative to the working age population, creating the conditions for a demographic dividend. However, this window of opportunity is expected to close in the coming decade, after which Indonesia will experience a decreasing share of working age population and an expanding share of elderly.

A second important trend is strong economic growth, averaging 5 per cent per year, with relatively low annual inflation of 3 per cent and a record low unemployment rate of 5 per cent in 2019. Moreover, Indonesia is expected to reach the upper-middle income country bracket in 2020 [1]. Although growth has historically been unevenly distributed to the advantage of Java, peripheral areas are now enjoying slightly higher growth rates.

The general elections of April 2019 at both local and national levels were a win for the incumbent President and his coalition. The elections were free and fair, indicating that Indonesia’s democracy is maturing. The President will face several hurdles in realizing his plans for increased human capital investments, economic transformation and bureaucratic reforms. Firstly, the heavily decentralized nature of Indonesia’s governance system challenges the implementation of national level planning. Secondly, government expenditure of around 13 per cent of GDP (2017), one of the lowest levels in Asia, will hinder the realization of expensive priorities. Unfortunately, without the needed human capital investments in education and healthcare, the government will find itself challenged to capitalize on the demographic dividend.

Steady and high economic growth has allowed for a dramatic decrease of the rate of extreme poverty. Coming from a high of 23.5 per cent in 2000, extreme poverty, as per the national poverty line, fell to a new low of 9.41 per cent in 2019. Nonetheless, extreme poverty is unlikely to be eradicated soon as the rate of annual reduction has been decreasing in recent years. Regional differences are great, with rates of extreme poverty as high as 27.7 per cent in Papua and as low as 3.6 per cent in Jakarta. Extreme poverty among children is high at 12 per cent, and 42 per cent of children live only slightly above the poverty line. Inequality has increased over the last two decades, from a Gini coefficient of around .30 in the early 2000s to a new plateau of around .39 recently.

Nearly one in every 30 children dies before the age of five, with figures as high as one in 10 in some districts. Most of these deaths relate to preventable diseases, exacerbated by poor environmental conditions – pneumonia, neonatal infections and diarrhoea. Despite a progressive universal health coverage system, access to basic healthcare remains challenging, especially in rural areas. Chronic underinvestment in water and sanitation infrastructure, both in rural and urban areas, is impeding 7.4 per cent of households to access safely managed drinking water.

While there has been a significant increase in school enrolment over the past decade, approximately 4.4 million children and adolescents aged 7-18 years are still out of school. As with other indicators, large socioeconomic and geographical disparities prevail. Adolescents of junior secondary school (JSS) age 13-15 years from the poorest households are five times more likely to be out of school than those from the wealthiest households. Many children who do attend school struggle to acquire even basic academic skills. The results of the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) in 2019 revealed that less than half of 15-year-old students achieved a minimum proficiency level in reading and less than one third of them did so in mathematics, with significant disparities and a visible downward trend since 2015.

A national prevalence study on violence against children found 60 per cent of children experience some form of violence in their lifetime. Meanwhile, child marriage is a persistent problem, as an estimated one in nine young women marry before the age of 18 years, a figure that has remained stagnant. Moreover, with large regional differences this number climbs to almost one in five in some areas. However, the 2019 revision of the country’s marriage law, increasing the minimum age at which girls can marry from 16 to 19 years (in line with boys), is a positive step.

Various risks continue to threaten Indonesia, and have a disproportionate effect on vulnerable populations, although
national shock responsiveness has improved. As Indonesia is situated on the ‘Ring of Fire’, natural disasters remain a perennial threat, and as a result of climate change, the country will also face more droughts and fires such as those witnessed in 2019, threatening ecosystems, child health, agricultural livelihoods and supplies of clean drinking water. Children are the most vulnerable to diseases that will become more widespread and are more likely to be affected by water-borne illnesses and poor nutritional outcomes in the face of such changes. An outbreak of vaccine-derived polio in the remote districts of Papua highlighted the challenges still faced to reach full immunization coverage.

Another important trend is urbanization. With 55 per cent of Indonesians in urban areas, positive gains have included better access to services and higher wage opportunities. Any successful path for Indonesia to achieve the SDGs will run through sustainable cities. According to a UN report [2], cities are one of the transformative entry points for "strategic, systemic, science-based approach to implementing activities towards the SDGs". Indonesia’s sustainable development pathways will be determined by the urban transition and its environmental implications [3], particularly, in relation to child well-being.

Endnotes:


Major contributions and drivers of results

A selection of key programme results achieved in 2019 include the following (note that emergency-response results are listed separately in the preparedness and lessons learned sections).

- A SDG Data Portal was launched by Bappenas, the National Bureau of Statistics (BPS) and the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office at a National SDG Conference on 08 October 2019. The portal makes data accessible through an interactive design, targeting both policy makers and the public.
- Completion of a multi-sectoral Situation and Risk Analysis of Children and Adolescents (SitAn), which will serve as a reference to inform child rights programmes across the country [1].
- A Health Sector Review report and 10 policy briefs to inform health sector reforms for the new Medium-Term National Development Plan (RPJMN 2020-2024) and health sector strategic plan.
- National scale up of integrated management of acute malnutrition (IMAM) services across all priority districts with high stunting prevalence, covering already 260 districts in 2020, then potentially all 514 districts by 2022.
- 47 districts/ cities have been verified Open Defecation Free (ODF), an increase in 100% from last year.
- Strengthened WASH SDG monitoring systems, including a baseline for safely managed services and monitoring of safely managed sanitation and water quality at community level.
- Frontline health workers in nine provinces trained on integrated management of newborn and childhood illnesses, benefitting 214,143 newborns and 1,041,955 children under-five.
- An integrated biological and behavioral survey on young key populations with new findings on adolescent HIV prevalence to inform national HIV strategic plan development.
- Improvement of access in schools to basic water from 65.69% in 2016 to 78.52% in 2018 and to basic sanitation from 34.12% to 43.81% over the same period.
- Support to a Ministry of Health initiative in which approximately 1.2 million children were immunized against polio in Papua and West Papua provinces, with 95% coverage. Alongside this, a ‘back-log’ fighting programme has been initiated in areas with functioning health services (West Papua, Papua lowlands) which aim to reach children under 3 years with missed doses.
- Completion of the National Out-of-School Children Strategy for achieving universal 12-year education. The national strategy was piloted in two districts with high out-of-school populations.
- Continued replication of the innovative Papuan early grade literacy model, with Supiori district taking the lead by rolling out the model to all primary schools.
- New evidence on child marriage and strategic advocacy together with a network of CSOs, leading to amendment of
the 1974 Marriage Law to increase the minimum age of marriage for girls from 16 to 19 years, in line with the age for boys.

- An evidence-based, adolescent-driven anti-bullying intervention model (Roots Indonesia) reaching 4,421 students. The Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection adapted a similar model in 7 provinces, training 280 students as agents of change.

The following sections focus on progress against the annual priority programme and management results of the office’s 2019 Annual Management Plan (AMP).

Programme priority #1 (Advocacy for anti-stunting movement)

Planned result: One evidence-based cross-cutting advocacy strategy is developed and implemented for National Strategy to Accelerate Stunting Reduction (anti-stunting movement).

UNICEF continued to support the Government’s National Stunting Reduction Movement in 2019 by influencing the views of political leaders and policy makers to improve the coverage and quality of essential nutrition interventions. UNICEF’s successful policy advice resulted in scale-up of integrated management of acute malnutrition (IMAM) services across 260 priority districts with high stunting prevalence. Quality technical support was provided to finalize the national guideline on IMAM, a road map for scaling up IMAM nationwide, and relevant training materials. With UNICEF support, IMAM services are expected to be scaled up nationwide by 2022.

In July, UNICEF jointly hosted a high-level event with the government for launching the Institutional Capacity Assessment on Nutrition Report which intends to strengthen national capacity to deliver quality nutrition-specific services at national and sub-national level. This flagship initiative has channeled high level political commitment to address critical gaps in food and nutrition action plans and supportive legislation, budget allocation, and nutrition service delivery, which in turn led to a human resource restructuring plan for nutrition to better meet these needs.

High-level advocacy focused on the importance of improving adolescent nutrition to address childhood stunting in Indonesia. A field visit with three national media outlets was held to showcase how an integrated package of nutrition-specific and sensitive interventions can address the triple burden of malnutrition among adolescent girls and boys. Subsequent media reports raised awareness of challenges in adolescent nutrition and its strong linkage with childhood stunting, and recommended actions to be taken at national and sub-national level to improve eating behaviors and physical activity of adolescents.

A renewed effort has been made to generate awareness on the importance of improving complementary feeding and maternal nutrition. A comprehensive policy and programme landscape analysis on children’s diet and maternal nutrition was conducted, and a relevant action framework developed. The framework was disseminated through a high-level event attended by senior representatives from 23 key line ministries and multiple stakeholders including development partners, professionals, civil society and private sector. Key messages on how to improve children’s diets and maternal nutrition were disseminated through social media platforms.

Programme priority #2 (SDGs side-event at High-Level Political Forum)

Planned result: Side event on Indonesian progress towards the child-related SDGs held at High Level Political Forum (HLPF)
The Government of Indonesia together with UNICEF co-hosted a side event at the High-Level Political Forum in New York on 15 July 2019, presenting Indonesia’s commitment to achieving the SDGs for children. The event complemented Indonesia’s presentation of its second Voluntary National Review (VNR) report on progress towards the 2030 Development Agenda. The report, prepared by Government through consultations with partners, focused on many child and youth-related SDGs. The report highlights both successes and challenges the country faces. In the education sector, the report addresses inequitable access to quality learning and out-of-school children, as well as need for expanded coverage of early childhood education. Other topics covered include child and maternal mortality, high rates of malnutrition, and efforts to stop child marriage and violence against children. Many of the statistics on children and youth refer to the 2017 SDGs Baseline Report on Children [2], a joint initiative by the National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas) and UNICEF.

Following a request from Government, UNICEF supported the organization of the HLPF event “Leave No Child Behind: Achieving the SDGs through investing in the Rights of the Child” [3]. Co-hosted by the Governments of Indonesia, Ghana and Viet Nam, the Child-Focused Agencies (Plan International, Save the Children, SOS Children’s Villages International, World Vision, Child Fund Alliance), the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, and UNICEF, this event brought together over 150 participants from governments and civil society.

At the event, Indonesia’s Minister of Bappenas launched the preliminary report “Achieving the SDGs for children in Indonesia: Emerging findings for reaching the targets” [4], supported by UNICEF. This report highlights the key drivers of SDG progress for children up to 2030, and areas where acceleration is needed. The UNICEF Executive Director stressed the importance of investing in children to accelerate results for the SDGs. Noting the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the CRC, she urged leaders to include children as agents of change in SDG processes. Two youth representatives (including one from Indonesia) also spoke to their experiences as child rights activists and urged leaders to give children a voice.

Programme priority #3 (Generation Unlimited roadmap)

Planned result: Development and operationalization of a roadmap for Generation Unlimited (GenU) in Indonesia

Generation Unlimited (GenU) is a multi-partner platform focused on promoting education, skill development and employment opportunities for young people. It brings together UNICEF and other UN agencies, government and private sector partners to support country actions in these focus areas.

Since 2018, UNICEF Indonesia has supported communication between the Indonesian Minister of Finance and the GenU Secretariat in UNICEF New York, which resulted in the Minister becoming a Global Board Member for GenU in September 2018.

To contribute to this area of work, UNICEF conducted a study on Skills for the Future in three locations (Jakarta, Semarang and Sorong) and used U-Report (almost 3,000 respondents) to validate the field results. The study highlighted a skills mismatch in Indonesia in the areas of critical thinking, problem solving and communication. This study’s results have been the basis for discussions with Government around human capital and the education pillar in the country’s new RPJMN. UNICEF will support the government to develop a comprehensive skills development strategy in 2020.

In March 2019, UNICEF Indonesia supported a senior advisor from the Ministry of Finance to participate as a judge for the
global GenU Youth Challenge. This has affirmed GenU’s alignment with the Government’s vision on human capital development stipulated in the new RPJMN, especially the link between GenU and the Ministry of Manpower’s Skill Development Fund. This would address issues in the Indonesian labour market such as low productivity, skills mismatch and low quality of vocational training.

**Management priority #1 (Emergency preparedness)**

Planned result: Emergency Preparedness (clarify roles and responsibilities of Field Offices in emergencies; transition of current emergencies to regular programme).

Key activities in response to earthquakes in Central Sulawesi and Lombok have included:

- UNICEF operations in Central Sulawesi (Palu) and NTB (Lombok), following the devastating 2018 events, are ongoing until the end of 2020 based on demand from local government and other partners, and are progressively being mainstreamed within the regular development programme.
- Key results in 2019 have included, among others: Over 27,000 children and adolescents receiving psychosocial support; over 12,000 children receiving new birth certificates; over 6,200 families (including 13,500 children) receiving cash-based assistance to mitigate the impact; infant and young child feeding counselling provided to more than 50,000 pregnant mothers and caregivers; completion of a structural assessment of 1,200 school buildings; and innovative financing for community-based water and sanitation facilities, benefitting 20,000 people.
- Focus in the second half of the year has shifted to longer term recovery and resilience in key sectors, in particular for WASH, Child Protection, Education, and (adaptive) social protection.
- A Humanitarian Contingency Partnership Cooperation Agreement (PCA) was put in place with IFRC/PMI for the WASH sector (as the priority), with additional areas of collaboration in accountability to affected populations and C4D to allow for expedited future response.

Complementing the response and recovery phase, UNICEF undertook various preparedness activities.

**Short-term preparedness:**

- To develop UNICEF’s ability to rapidly address gaps related to the Core Commitments for Children in emergencies (CCCs), capacity development of key UNICEF staff and consultants was conducted in 2019 in partnership with RedR Indonesia.
- Stand-by agreements were brokered with humanitarian partners (ie. Wahana Visi, PMI/IFRC, MuslimAID, among others) to facilitate effective and early response covering the most-at-risk geographic and CCC areas.
- Contingency stocks for WASH, Education, Health and Nutrition were procured and stored with national government and the Red Cross (PMI); in addition, stand-by cash-based assistance partnerships were established (with Wahana Visi).
- A strategy to fundraise for a range of emergency situations in Indonesia was developed.

**Medium to long-term preparedness:**

- UNICEF is building national and local capacities to meet the CCCs to ensure child rights in emergencies are met with minimum UNICEF involvement through medium-term recovery and risk-informed development programmes.
- Design of the next country programme will embed risk monitoring, linked closely with the public advocacy function, to analyse and respond to government and civil society’s capacity to meet the CCCs in emergencies.
- Business and Community Resilience: UNICEF co-organised a successful high level conference to encourage private sector’s engagement in disaster risk management and resilience, which led to commitments of the private sector to
work towards development of a national private sector engagement framework, participation in a partnerships ‘incubator’ and network capacity building on shared value partnerships.

Management priority #2 (Diversification of funding sources)

Planned result: Diversification of sufficient funding sources across the office (private sector, innovative financing modalities, bilaterals/government, NatComs, UNICEF internal and global funding sources).

While funding for UNICEF Indonesia in 2019 came from a range of different sources, the largest part was provided by two categories of private partners - UNICEF National Committees as well as domestic fundraising. The office Resource Mobilization Committee analyzed the funding gap in relation to the targets set in the multi-year work plan on a quarterly basis, and discussed additional opportunities, strategies and tools for donor engagement. The remainder of the current country programme (2016-2020) is well funded, therefore resource mobilization is shifting the horizon to the ambitious new country programme 2021-2025 with important donor engagement events planned in 2020.

Given recent trends, it is expected that UNICEF Indonesia will increasingly rely on private funding sources, as follows:

1. Domestic Fundraising

Income raised from the Indonesian public as well as companies and foundations based in Indonesia continues to grow, with a significant portion allocated to domestic programme activities (and a portion contributing to global UNICEF resource pools). With most donors recruited through Face-to-Face fundraising, additional growth will rely heavily on the digital channel. The office is preparing for this through an expanding digital team.

1. International private fundraising through National Committees and donor-government sources.

To strengthen relationships with National Committees and other international donors, and to better coordinate these increasingly diversifying funding and resource mobilization efforts, a dedicated Resource Mobilization Manager was recruited and commenced work in June. Immediate results could be seen regarding organized resource mobilization processes, the proactive exploration of additional funding opportunities, and better knowledge-sharing. Programme managers continue to play essential roles in fundraising efforts with institutional global partners.

1. Innovative finance and other new funding mechanisms

The office has embarked on diversification initiatives towards non-traditional financing mechanisms in collaboration with the East Asia and Pacific Regional Office (EAPRO) and UNICEF’s Private Sector Fundraising (PFP) division in Geneva. In July, UNICEF Indonesia signed an MOU with the National Zakat Agency (BAZNAS), encompassing both funds-leveraging (e.g. Zakat for WASH) as well as fundraising components (e.g. the Global Muslim Philanthropy Fund for Children). UNICEF Indonesia is currently funding a study entitled “Systematic review study on Zakat as an alternative funding/financing option for reducing inequality in access to sustainable WASH services in Indonesia”. Furthermore, UNICEF Indonesia is working on the establishment of the first ever Development Impact Bond (DIB) in Child Protection, in collaboration with UBS Optimus Foundation and Hopeland.

In addition to regular fundraising and resource mobilization activities, UNICEF Indonesia in 2019 received additional earmarked emergency funding for UNICEF’s response to the earthquakes and tsunami that struck Lombok and Central
Sulawesi in August and September 2018. This additional funding became available in late 2018 and early 2019 and was largely programmed in 2019. By November 2019, approximately 93% of the US$ 26 million Humanitarian Appeal for Children (HAC) target had been funded.

Management priority #3 (Strengthened position of field offices)

Planned result: Strengthened position of Field Offices, including through increased discretionary funding, clear management structure, transfer of Palu hub, and better infrastructure.

UNICEF Indonesia maintains five field offices (FOs) and two sub-offices. In 2018, a review of field office presence was commissioned by EAPRO [5], to assess how effectively current field office models were being applied towards UNICEF’s vision of a world where the rights of every child are realized. The study was informed by a visit to Indonesia.

Significant progress was made on this result area. Specific contributing actions include:

- Allocation of discretionary funding: Each FO was allocated a modest amount of discretionary funding to further UNICEF’s agenda outside of routine programming. This could be used to explore new possibilities, monitoring, or other advocacy-related activities to expand reach and improve quality. In addition, staff in Jakarta worked with the Ministry of Home Affairs (Directorate General for Regional Development, Bangda) and FOs to develop mechanisms to allow for the transfer of UNICEF funds to local government entities, thus encouraging greater sub-national ownership and accountability for UNICEF’s work.
- Matrix management: Staff working in FOs had at least one of their workplan outputs developed in close consultation with programmatic leads in Jakarta to ensure relevance and coherence. Other supervisory responsibilities reside within the FO. Furthermore, all staff from a specific programme area working in FOs are now expected to participate in routine section meetings via remote connection, together with staff in Jakarta.
- FO involvement in development of new country programme: Key FO staff were invited to Jakarta to participate in the Strategic Moment of Reflection (SMR) and the Results-based Management (RBM) Workshops in 2019 to identify key priorities for the next country programme 2021-2025. FO staff also participated in section-wide meetings to discuss new priorities prior to the SMR.
- Transfer of Palu Emergency Response Hub from Jakarta to closest field office: The core accountability for emergency response in Palu shifted from Jakarta to Makassar during the year to allow for principal accountability and oversight to take place at FO level closer to where the emergency took place.
- Better infrastructure: Three of the five principal FOs have been allocated funding to improve security and infrastructure (physical and connectivity).
- Better representation: FOs report back on activities during weekly check-ins, and have a standing slot during monthly management and all-staff meetings.
- The Jakarta office moved to new premises that include a situation room for closer connectivity with FOs, in addition to more adequate space for an expanding private sector fundraising operation.

These activities, taken together, have strengthened the positioning of FOs across the country to better support results for children at local levels.

Endnotes:

[1] Data from the 2019 SitAn has informed all parts of UNICEF Indonesia’s end-year report.


Lessons Learned and Innovations

Sub-national engagement for UNICEF programmes has been strongly influenced by the effects of government regulation PP/10/2011 on procedures for acceptance of foreign grants. In practice, UNICEF and other development partners have not been able to transfer funds to sub-national level, thus making national line ministries the responsible parties for UNICEF workplans. Despite efforts to strengthen national cooperation, the decentralized nature of the country and continuing demand for UNICEF interventions have shifted the focus of implementation to sub-national civil society organization (CSO) partnerships that pilot innovative approaches to key development challenges for children. While this has somewhat reduced ownership by sub-national government over the UNICEF programme, it has also strengthened the innovation capacity of the FOs. In 2019, this lesson led UNICEF and Bangda/MoHA to pilot a new sub-national fund channeling mechanism, developed with the Ministry of Finance, which allows Bangda to “implement” sub-national activities on behalf of the provinces. By the end of the year it was clear that this approach was leading to strengthened capacity for engagement, coordination and monitoring of UNICEF programmes by sub-national government.

Vaccine hesitancy emerged in 2018 during the second phase of measles-rubella campaign: this shook public confidence in vaccines and highlighted challenges in reaching all children. To increase vaccine acceptance, with the support of UNICEF, the MoH has launched several innovative initiatives. Considering the decentralized government, as well as geographic and cultural diversity, a tailored bottom-up, Human-Centered Design (HCD) approach has been introduced. Staff from MoH, eight provinces, and CSOs have been trained in HCD methodologies, to inform a foundation for sub-national health programming.

In 2018, UNICEF conducted a formative evaluation of its partnership strategies [1]. The evaluation noted the vast array of partners, including government, civil society, academia, donors, private sector, media and other groups. Given the substantial growth in CSO partnerships noted above, the evaluation recommended that UNICEF consider its overall upstream theory-of-change in Indonesia and re-prioritize the role of central and provincial government to increase the impact of its work. The evaluation also recommended that UNICEF strengthen its overall approach to non-financial partnerships, since an effective advocacy agenda requires engaging partners for their catalytic influencing capacity, not simply as channels for fund implementation. Management response to the evaluation in 2019 led to the improved fund-channeling mechanism noted above, improved partnership review procedures, and strengthened attempts at long-term partnerships beyond specific funding cycles.

In 2019, UNICEF conducted a formative evaluation of the CSD cluster [2], which noted significant progress in advancing results for children across the health, nutrition and WASH sectors, yet found little added value in the clustered approach at outcome level. The evaluation has therefore recommended that the next country programme have greater explicit attention to integration and collaboration strategies across all sectors, in addition to recommendations related to programme priorities, programme strategies, additional capacities, and gender analysis.

UNICEF response to the devastating earthquakes that struck Central Sulawesi and Lombok in mid-2018 led to significant refreshing of in-house emergency response capacity. The office raised approximately US$25m through the 2018 and 2019 Humanitarian Action for Children appeal, funds that were intended to be spent in the initial six months (October 2018–March 2019). However, implementation rates proved to be much slower since needs assessment, recruitment and partnership building in a region of the country where there was previously no UNICEF cooperation (Central Sulawesi) took time. The key lesson learned has been that preparedness and disaster risk reduction (DRR) need to be integral aspects of UNICEF cooperation in Indonesia, including at sub-national level, with focus on the humanitarian-development nexus to sustain the long-term benefits of investments that were made by government, UNICEF and partners during the response.
In 2019, two best practice UN partnerships were identified:

First, UNICEF worked in close collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) to provide support to the government to respond to the polio outbreak in Papua. Through a combination of technical assistance, communication for development and advocacy, nearly 1.2 million children in Papua and West Papua provinces received at least one dose of polio vaccine, achieving the required herd immunity of 95 per cent. This included, through Special Logistic Air Support, 32,000 children immunized in the remote Yahukimo district, the epicenter of the outbreak. The partnership between UNICEF and WHO proved vital in supporting the government to obtain these results. The main components were: joint planning with the government at national and subnational levels; close coordination with subnational authorities and a clear division of labour among key stakeholders.

Second, on nutrition, there has proved to be strong lessons learned on inter-agency coordination. The Donor and UN Country Network for Nutrition (DUNCNN) of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement is a coordination platform for donors and UN agencies that have significant contribution to the government’s nutrition agenda. The DUNCNN is chaired by UNICEF and the World Bank and meets quarterly to support the SUN Secretariat under Bappenas and share ongoing activities and good practices in nutrition. For example, the DUNCNN conducted an activity mapping exercise and knowledge compilation to inform the government on what nutrition-related programmes that donors and UN partners are implementing and what learning has emerged.

UNICEF also chairs the UN Working Group for Nutrition and Food Security. This year, the group focused on three nutrition and food security challenges (anaemia, overweight and obesity and food systems) and developed joint statements targeting both policy makers and the public. UNICEF also embarked on a new programme to develop nutrition literacy products for primary school children with the World Food Programme. Given the lack of investment in the nutrition of school-age children by the government, UNICEF and WFP have partnered to bring together nutrition and food security expertise to tackle the double burden of malnutrition among this age group. UNICEF and WFP have advocated to include nutrition education in the national curriculum and for nutrition literacy products.

Endnotes:
