

Lebanon

Executive summary

Lebanon started the year with a newly formed government and conservative optimism for a slight growth in the economy. The social, economic and political situations remained volatile and affected by geopolitical and security conditions, as exemplified by the successful August offences by the Government against so-called Islamic State/Da'esh strongholds in the northeast of Lebanon and the short resignation of the Prime Minister.

Within this context, inequity and vulnerabilities among Lebanese poor families and the estimated 1.5 million Syrian and Palestinian refugees continued to be exacerbated. The 2017 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees indicated that 74 per cent of Syrian refugees aged 15 and older did not have legal residency and almost 60 per cent of households lived under the extreme poverty line, making multi-dimensional vulnerability and poverty the largest threats to well-being. More than 10 per cent of Lebanese and 65 per cent of Palestinians lived in extreme poverty.

UNICEF Lebanon started its new 2017-2020 Country Programme, initiating the strategic transition toward longer-term policy support and systems strengthening in the areas of No Lost Generation (including child protection, youth, education and social protection) and child survival (health, WASH). This longer-term strategy continued to be balanced with the development of a more durable humanitarian response and the capacity to meet acute emergency needs.

In collaboration with the Government and partners, UNICEF provided services and assistance to a total of 576,824 children. This included providing quality learning opportunities for children, adolescents and youth, evidence generation and humanitarian cash-based programming.

For the 2016/2017 school year, out of 399,000 Lebanese and non-Lebanese children enrolled in formal public schools, UNICEF supported 236,000 children (50 per cent girls, 50 per cent boys). An additional 47,000 children, either first-time learners or drop-outs, were provided with accredited non-formal learning programmes, which could eventually bridge into formal education. Within a sector-wide back-to-school campaign led by UNICEF, frontline workers reached 146,348 individuals (55,015 households). Fifty eight per cent (84,881) were referred to public school, and 21 per cent (30,733) were referred to regular non-formal education, allowing more than 430,000 children to enrol in formal public schools for the 2017/2018 scholastic year.

UNICEF Lebanon expanded its adolescent and youth programme in 2017. A total of 3,043 marginalized Lebanese and non-Lebanese youth (831 Lebanese and 2,212 Syrians) were supported for enrolment in Ministry of Education and Higher Education technical vocational education and training schools. In total, 22,600 vulnerable youth (13,672 girls, 8,928 boys) received non-formal vocational, innovative skills building or entrepreneurship and employability competency-based skills training.

A humanitarian child well-being grant was piloted in two governorates aimed at assisting refugee children and their families to mitigate negative financial coping strategies such as child

labour, child marriage, school non-attendance or eating less and assisting with the indirect costs of going to school. An impact evaluation of the pilot programme by Innocenti showed higher school enrolment and attendance rates and less reliance on negative coping strategies.

UNICEF Lebanon maintained the same total funding level as 2016, but suffered severe funding gaps for certain sections (child protection, WASH, health and nutrition, social protection and operations). This was due to a significant increase in earmarked funding, unpredictability of funding (timing and amount) and limited willingness by donors to fund cross-sectoral costs. This lack of funding limited UNICEF's ability to respond and cover urgent gaps for services to children and their families. Drastic cuts had to be made in the area of child protection whereby only case management and life-saving services were funded in November and December 2017.

In an attempt to identify and provide cost-effective child survival health interventions at scale, a common costed strategy was developed with WHO and UNHCR and harmonized with the World Bank. Insufficient groundwork to ensure that the framework included strategies of other partners left the sector without an agreed national strategy. With limited funds, UNICEF was able to undertake a polio prevention immunization campaign.

UNICEF rolled out the Lebanon One Unified Inter-Organizational System for E-cards (LOUISE) with non-governmental organizations, WFP and UNHCR, forming the start of a humanitarian safety net bridging into the national social safety net system. UNICEF further emphasized on receiving best value for money through a competitive selection applied for WASH (re-) construction and school rehabilitation projects with savings of up to 50 per cent of the related support costs.

UNICEF continued to play an active role as a key participant and lead in inter-agency and ad hoc IA emergency coordination and responses, UN Strategic Framework, various ministries (specifically, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Ministry of Education and Water and Ministry of Social Affairs) and various donors.

Humanitarian assistance

In 2017 Lebanon still shouldered a disproportionate burden of the Syrian crisis, with 1.5 million Syrian refugees. Lebanon also had 300,000 Palestinian refugees. The situation remained precarious, with sustained anti-refugee rhetoric, recurrent flare-ups in the largest Palestinian camp, and military operations that expelled militant groups from border areas.

UNICEF Lebanon was increasingly transitioning toward strategic and longer-term system strengthening and resilience building, including for humanitarian preparedness and response through government and local institutions, while maintaining response capacity to emergencies through NGOs and contractors where long-term solutions are not available.

UNICEF Lebanon coordinated the inter-agency humanitarian response of the education and water sector and the child protection sub-sector in support of the Government. UNICEF played a key role in the health sector and gender-based violence sub-sector. The transition to a government-led response remained a challenge. Political sensitivities related to refugees hindered implementation of sustainable solutions.

A large number of vulnerable Lebanese and refugee children needed support to access accredited education opportunities. UNICEF Lebanon delivered programmes and services to children in all 1,283 public schools in the country. In the 2016-2017 school year, a total of

101,183 Lebanese children and 128,858 non-Lebanese were supported to enrol in formal education; bringing the percentage of out-of-school children of compulsory age down to 37 per cent.

The No Lost Generation (NLG) Min Ila child-focused humanitarian cash transfer programme was piloted in the 2016/2017 school year and expanded in the 2017/2018 school year. The programme aims to reduce reliance on negative coping strategies among households. Results from the pilot included higher enrolment and attendance and reduced reliance on negative coping strategies.

UNICEF supported improved access to and utilization of public health centre facilities and social development centres, which contributed to 452,029 consultations. UNICEF Lebanon supported the administration of 1,772,469 doses of vaccines to vulnerable children under 5. In close collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health, healthcare workers were trained in effective vaccine management and microplanning, and community workers were trained on raising awareness, identification and tracking children dropped out or left out of vaccination and/or malnutrition screening. A total of 124,158 women who were pregnant or lactating and children under 5 received multi-micronutrient supplementation.

UNICEF Lebanon supported Palestinian refugees living in camps, including through provision of immunization, essential medicines, health, nutrition, water and sanitation services and education supplies and activities. In total, 45,186 children and adolescents received psychosocial support (PSS) and 37,705 people attended a WASH behaviour change session or activity.

In line with the Ministry of Social Affairs National Plan, UNICEF Lebanon continued to expand child protection (CP) and gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response services through 57 social development centres and their surrounding communities in 251 vulnerable localities. UNICEF Lebanon sensitized 307,559 children and caregivers on CP/PSS and 5,253 children were assisted through case management. Specifically, 203,756 individuals were sensitised on gender-based violence, including 60,947 women and girls who accessed mobile and static safe spaces.

UNICEF Lebanon reached more than 65 per cent of Syrian refugees living in informal settlements, approximately 160,000 of whom benefited from a temporary WASH package. This contributed to the absence of major public health outbreaks and to reducing inter-community tensions. UNICEF supported 27 water infrastructure projects, improving sustainable access to water services for 576,824 most-disadvantaged people. UNICEF Lebanon also supported 17 municipalities in improved solid waste management.

Recognizing the Ministry's concern that infrastructure improvement in informal settlements would potentially lead to creating more formal settlements, UNICEF hopes to find alternative solutions to respond to all needs and concerns.

UNICEF Lebanon provided unconditional cash grants for refugee children living in informal settlements. During Winter 2016-2017, 121,282 Syrian refugee girls and boys living in informal settlements and 15,124 Palestinian refugee girls and boys benefited from US\$40 one-off cash assistance. An addition 35,374 Syrian refugee girls and boys aged 0-15 years living in informal settlements in hard-to-reach areas received age-appropriate winter kits.

UNICEF supported a total of 3,043 marginalized Lebanese and non-Lebanese youth (831

Lebanese and 2,212 Syrians) for enrolment in Ministry of Education and Higher Education technical vocational education and training schools, as well as 1,585 out-of-school youth enrolled in agriculture vocational training in technical and vocational education training (TVET) agriculture public schools (32 per cent males, 68 per cent females). Up to 17,121 out-of-school adolescents and youth aged 15 or older benefited from the youth basic literacy and numeracy package. A total of 27,056 adolescents and youth (43 per cent males and 57 per cent females) benefited from competency and market-based skills training. Of those, more than 8,600 youth were supported with Innovation Lab training tracks. A total of 41,058 adolescents and youth enrolled in the life-skills and citizenship education programme, resulting in up to 100 youth-led community initiatives.

Equity in practice

The inequity and vulnerabilities among Lebanese poor families and the estimated 1.5 million Syrian and Palestinian refugees continued to be exacerbated in 2017. Growing inequities included growing poverty among Lebanese and the decreasing coping capacity of Syrian refugees after years of displacement. Baseline survey data showed that indicators were worse for mothers' education (as a proxy of poverty). Based on the 2015 vulnerability mapping, more than 80 per cent of disadvantaged families (Lebanese poor and refugees) lived in just 251 localities (of 1,600 total localities). This methodology was refined and updated in 2017 as the Multi-Sectoral Vulnerability Index, to include a child focus, with key indicators derived from the 2016 baseline survey.

The 2017 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees indicated that 74 per cent of Syrian refugees aged 15 and older did not have legal residency and almost 60 per cent of households lived under the extreme poverty line. The assessment stated that multi-dimensional vulnerability and poverty were the largest threats to the well-being of refugee children and their families. Based on the 2016 Baseline Survey findings, UNICEF conducted a Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis for Syrian, Lebanese and Palestinian. Concerns were identified in the areas of protection and education. UNICEF participated in the Rapid Poverty Assessment led by UNDP. The results will be available in 2018.

An innovative methodology was developed jointly with UN Habitat to profile the most vulnerable neighbourhoods and to assess impact at a local level. The programmatic response in those areas was informed by an integration strategy, ensuring all programs addressed the child in a holistic manner, through a life cycle approach. The strategy was built around on sustainability and a systems building approach. UNICEF Lebanon conducted ongoing social policy and social protection work with key line ministries, including the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and Ministry of Social Affairs. UNICEF also aimed to reinforce the link between social policy systems strengthening at national level with a community-led approach for better services at a more localised level. Community development specialists were recruited in 2017 at field office level.

Strategic Plan 2018-2021

UNICEF Lebanon carried out a review of the UNICEF Strategic Plan (SP) 2018-2021 and identified key links to its approved Country Programme Document (CPD) 2017–2020. The CPD midterm review at the end of 2018 will provide an opportunity to make any necessary adjustments.

The new SP and CPD are aligned with at least 10 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Poverty (SDG 1), Health (3), Education (4), Gender Equality (5), WASH (6), Decent Work and

Economic Growth (8), Resilient Infrastructures (9), Reduced Inequalities (10), Climate Action (13) and Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (16).

In 2017, the UNICEF Strategic Plan (SP) provided the Lebanon Country Office with opportunities to further embed a strategic direction that was already identified in the Country Programme Document (2017-2020). The focus in the SP on internally displaced persons, refugees and migrant children is much needed in Lebanon. There were 1.5 million refugees in Lebanon (Syrian, Palestinian and others) accounting for almost one-third of the country's total population.

More than 80 per cent of the population in Lebanon, including refugees, resides in urban areas. More than 60 per cent reside in large urban centres such as Beirut and Tripoli. There is therefore a need for urban programming (identified in Goal 4). UNICEF Lebanon will seek to further strengthen its urban programming with an area-based programming initiative developed jointly with UN Habitat. In 2017, UNICEF Lebanon began neighbourhood profiling, which provided a population profile (consisting of a household survey, key informant interviews and focus group discussions) at neighbourhood level. This will inform area-based integrated programming.

UNICEF Lebanon further strengthened its approach in the area of social inclusion including the ongoing social policy and social protection work with key line ministries, such as the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) and Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA).

The Strategic Plan provides UNICEF Lebanon with the chance to strengthen and mainstream gender in various programmes. In 2017, UNICEF Lebanon rolled out the Interagency Gender Based Violence (GBV) guidelines with all programme sections.

With the start of a new Country Programme Document, UNICEF Lebanon sought to transition even further toward strategic and longer-term systems strengthening, for example in the areas of No Lost Generation (child protection, youth, education and social protection) and Child Survival (health and WASH).

The conflict in Syria, which began in 2011, has had a significant impact on Lebanon. While focusing on systems strengthening, UNICEF Lebanon also has had to maintain a durable humanitarian response. This dual focus on development and humanitarian programming was not matched by funding needed for the different approaches. Funding to UNICEF Lebanon continued to be increasingly earmarked (in some cases multi-year), making funds for the ongoing humanitarian needs more restricted.

Emerging areas of importance

Urbanization and children. Approximately 80 per cent of the marginalized children in Lebanon lived in urban settings. UNICEF Lebanon made significant strides in 2017 in its collaboration with UNHabitat to engage in identifying the most at-risk locations in the country, undertake neighbourhood surveys using the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey methodology, and then using this data to leverage neighbourhood and municipal resources with support from other UN agencies, EU and other donors for child-focused neighbourhood plans.

There are more than 660,000 refugee girls and boys in Lebanon, in both Syrian and Palestine communities. They comprise just under half of the target population of children included in UNICEF Lebanon's programme interventions. The most urgent needs of most of these children

were met with services provided in public institutions through collaboration with the Government of Lebanon at various levels, including schools, hospitals and social development centres. The policy direction and main activities, including monitoring and evaluation, were agreed upon with the various ministries through national strategies and joint workplans. The activities were implemented with public institutions, with support from UNICEF field colleagues. Many others benefited from outreach and mobile services managed by civil society partners, always with a view to refer children to the best available public services.

Focus on the second decade. Adolescents and young Lebanese, Syrians and Palestinians (15-24 years old) in Lebanon faced particularly high risks, such as abuse and exploitation, including the worst forms of child labour, child marriage, and increasing exposure to sometimes deadly violence. The new country programme created an adolescent and youth programme to help to address those risks. The new country programme sees adolescents and youth as rights-holders and invested in their human capital by increasing access of Lebanese and non-Lebanese youth to basic numeracy and literacy, technical and vocational training, and innovative skills-building programmes for improved professional readiness and employability. This work was carried out in collaboration with the Ministries of Labour, Agriculture and Education as well as with national and international non-governmental organizations and private sector partners.

The programme also increased opportunities for participation and empowerment of Lebanese and non-Lebanese youth through, for example, life skills, conflict resolution and mediation programmes for youth and their caregivers. It also sought to enable healthy lifestyles through awareness sessions on healthy lifestyles and prevention of risky behaviour and promoted active adolescent and youth engagement in their communities through innovative youth-led social initiatives and projects (including on health, WASH, protection, communication and education).

Summary notes and acronyms

AIA	accelerated immunization action
ALP	accelerated learning programme
AWP	annual work plan
BCP	business continuity plan
BOS	Business Operations Strategy
BTS	back to school
C4D	communication for development
CCTV	closed-circuit television
CMT	country management team
CP	child protection
CPD	Country Programme Document
CPMP	Country Programme Management Plan
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSO	Chief Security Officer/ or civil society organization
DCT	direct cash transfer
ECD	early childhood development
EMS	Engagement Monitoring System
EMT	emergency management team
FO	field office
GBV	gender-based violence
GBViE	gender-based violence in emergencies
GEROS	Global Evaluation Reports Oversight System

GOL	Government of Lebanon
GSS	Global Staff Survey
HACT	harmonised approach to cash transfers
HR	human resources
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IMEP	Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
ICT	information communication technology
IS	informal settlement
IYCF	infant and young child feeding
LCRP	Lebanon Crisis Response Plan
LOUISE	Lebanon One Unified Inter-Organizational System for E-cards
LTA	long-term agreement
M&E	monitoring and evaluation
MEHE	Ministry of Education and Higher Education
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MIS	Management Information System
MoEW	Ministry of Energy and Water
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
MoSA	Ministry of Social Affairs
NLG	No Lost Generation
NGO	non-governmental organization
OMT	operation management team
PAR	participatory action research
PGM	programme group meeting
PHC	primary healthcare centre
PRIME	planning, research, innovation, monitoring and evaluation
PSS	psychosocial support
RACE	Reaching All Children with Education
SDC	social development centre
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SOPs	standard operating procedures
SP	Strategic Plan
SP	social policy
STEM	science, technology, engineering and mathematics
TVET	technical and vocational education and training
U5	Under 5 years
UN	United Nations
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDSS	United Nations Department of Safety and Security
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VASyR	Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon
WASH	water, sanitation and hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
YBLN	Youth Basic Literacy and Numeracy

Capacity development

In 2017, UNICEF continued supporting capacity building in national institutions, embedding technical staff in the Ministries of Education and Higher Education, Energy and Water, Public

Health, and Social Affairs. Communication for development (C4D) interventions targeted males and females equally. A partnership with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education focused on improving access to quality education, designing a teacher-training model, and improving data systems, and provided the Ministry with long-term actionable frameworks, evidence, and models to systemically improve components of the national education system. A total of 721 government and civil society social workers and case managers were trained on the new National Standard Operating Procedures for case management of children at-risk and/or victims of violence.

More than 1,600 staff and frontline workers from line ministries and implementing partners were trained on community engagement skills to support behaviour and social change interventions at community level. A total of 140 staff from the Government and 49 implementing partners were trained for the Back-to-School Initiative. Accelerated immunization activities (AIA) to strengthen routine immunization were carried out as part of a polio outbreak prevention effort. Seventy Ministry of Public Health staff were trained on community engagement, data management, monitoring and reporting. Three hundred frontline workers and 120 vaccinators were trained on interpersonal communication, community engagement, monitoring and reporting, and 80 data clerks were trained on data management and reporting. UNICEF provided technical support and training to Ministry of Public Health key staff regarding immunization and nutrition programming and supply chain management. Three hundred community workers received technical assistance on vaccination cards screening, infant and young child feeding awareness, micro-planning and other skills.

The UN Inter-sector Contingency Plan and UNICEF Field Office Contingency Plans were updated and tested during emergencies throughout the year. This included evictions of refugees from internal settlements, clashes in Palestinian camps, and conflicts in border areas.

To further enhance capacities of national partners, UNICEF trained 280 staff of 35 national NGOs in accounting, human resources and procurement, three areas which were observed as high risk in micro-assessments and spot checks.

Evidence generation, policy dialogue and advocacy

UNICEF Lebanon supported a number of evidence-generating activities during 2017. Two programme evaluations for WASH and child protection and two reviews of the capacity and achievements of the Ministry of Social Affairs under the 2014-2016 National Plan for Safeguarding Women and Children in Lebanon were completed. The recommendations will inform the 2018-2021 National Strategic Plan for Child Protection and Gender-based Violence. A feasibility study was undertaken to assess whether a sustainable social safety net programme addressing the multiple deprivations and vulnerabilities faced by children and women can be supported in Lebanon. Findings will contribute to the formulation of a national social protection strategy.

An online assessment tool was developed to track children's learning outcomes in non-formal education programmes. The tool also tracks learning outcomes. Findings from the assessment will strengthen the Non-formal Education system and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education's learning packages and curriculum, thus increasing the chances of children in non-formal learning programmes to transition to formal education. Other efforts in 2017 included work with partners to further participatory action research (PAR) to identify and determine issues of importance to youth and adolescents. A total of 64 young researchers (31 females and 33 males) built their skills, generated new knowledge on their existing social conditions, and

used their findings to identify entry points for effecting change through action and advocacy plans.

UNICEF funded and participated in the technical committee in the National Population and Housing Census of Palestinian Camps and Gatherings in Lebanon undertaken by the Lebanese and Palestinian statistical offices. The results of the census were released on 21 December 2017. Tabulated results were made public on the Central Administration of Statistics website and will be followed by a standardized report and camps profiles.

Partnerships

UNICEF Lebanon's programme results were made possible through partnerships with national and international institutions and actors. In 2017, UNICEF Lebanon engaged with 10 line ministries, 50 national NGOs, 25 international NGOs, 5 UN agencies, and 3 universities. The volume of financial resources transferred to government counterparts exceeded US\$75 million. Private sector partnerships were valued at US\$45,373,241, and civil society collaboration (including national and international actors) was valued at US\$138,955,459.

Partnerships with government counterparts included financial support as well as the provision of senior technical assistance to line ministries. This resulted in reaching poor Lebanese and Syrian refugee communities through the same institutions, a simultaneous investment in system strengthening and responding to acute and chronic needs through the public sector.

UNICEF Lebanon participated in or led various coordination mechanisms with the Government and the UN. UNICEF Lebanon was the principal UN agency working with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education as leader of the education response, led the water response with the Ministry of Energy and Water, and served as lead agency in child protection supporting the Ministry of Social Affairs. UNICEF Lebanon was co-chair for one of three pillars under the UNSF. UNICEF actively engaged in the development of possible joint programmes, notably with UN-HABITAT for neighbourhood profiling.

In 2017 UNICEF Lebanon had 28 donors, including 10 UNICEF National Committees. UNICEF Lebanon also partnered with private donors, such as the Clooney Foundation for Justice (with the US Fund for UNICEF) and the Gates Foundation. UNICEF also explored opportunities with the private sector. A partnership with the Beirut Marathon Association in the form of a fundraising platform was piloted in November 2017. By partnering with private sector companies for WASH (re-)construction and school rehabilitation projects, UNICEF focused on receiving best value for money through a competitive selection process that resulted in savings of up to 50 per cent.

External communication and public advocacy

UNICEF supported national mass communication campaigns and projects providing platforms for the voices of vulnerable children.

In partnership with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, UNICEF launched a Back-to-School Campaign, paying tribute to Education Heroes. The campaign included a social experiment, success stories and a media advocacy strategy, reaching more than 8 million people.

In line with UNICEF's global #ENDviolence initiative, an advocacy campaign will be launched in 2018 to end all forms of violence and promote positive discipline. UNICEF Lebanon engaged in

the 16 days Campaign of Activism to end Violence against Women and Girls, and supported girls' empowerment in line with the global celebration of the annual International Day of the Girl Child.

UNICEF Lebanon continued to support the local water establishments by developing brand identities to improve communities' perception of public services. Communication and brand identity campaigns were also developed for the launch of the Innovation Labs for 2018.

UNICEF also worked on several innovative initiatives to communicate the importance of education (#ImagineASchool), stress the impact of war on children (Haneen) and promote youth innovation through production of docu-series. A series of multimedia products on education, child protection, WASH and youth were developed to support donors' visibility. The project ImagineaSchool, launched globally in 2017, had the biggest reach a UNICEF Lebanon campaign has ever had.

Media visits, high-level donor and advocacy missions, and support to Natcoms' campaigns generated an increase in social media followers and media mentions, sparked public debate and helped in fundraising. Media outreach grew by 172 per cent compared to 48 per cent in social media. A visibility reporting system was introduced to keep local donors' representatives updated on visibility. Eighty two visibility reports were developed and dispatched.

South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation

In 2017, the Government of the People's Republic of China contributed at least US\$1 million from their South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund to UNICEF Lebanon to support the procurement of school supplies and winter clothing kits for distribution to Syrian refugee children.

Through the distribution of age-appropriate in-kind winter clothing kits to children living in remote areas of Lebanon as well as the distribution of school supplies for Syrian children enrolled in public formal and non-formal education, UNICEF Lebanon contributed to the realization of the United Nations 2030 SDGs and targets. Specifically, the programme responded to target 1.5 of SDG 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere, by contributing to the reduction of the exposure and vulnerability of children from 0 to 15 years old living in informal settlements to cold.

Although the country's climate is not extreme, the very low temperatures in remote areas in winter and the poor quality of shelters and equipment left refugees extremely vulnerable. The provision of age-sized winter clothing kits to these children also promoted their well-being in the context of their extreme situations, thus responding to the objective of SDG 3: ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. Providing warm clothing and school supplies contributed to the goal of ensuring inclusive and quality education for all and promoting lifelong learning.

Identification and promotion of innovation

UNICEF developed an Engagement Monitoring System online platform to support country offices and their implementing partners (IPs) in Syria, Jordan, and Palestine, as well as UNICEF Innovation Units in Kosovo and Lebanon, to monitor and track the three aspects of the youth and adolescents programme based on the Positive Adolescent Development Theory of Change:

1. **Programme coverage** (Are we reaching the most vulnerable?): by generating real-time data

on the number of young people reached by UNICEF IPs and analysing whether marginalized and vulnerable young people are being reached through the programme;

2. Programme outputs: Assessing the self-perception of adolescents and youth on their knowledge and skills acquired and measuring the actual actions taken by young people to address issues facing them or their communities – this is achieved through the assessment of engagement of young people in the planning, implementation and monitoring of their civic, social and economic engagement initiatives; and

3. Programme delivery/quality: Assessing the quality of the programme service delivery by different groups: young people receiving the programme, partners (Government/ NGOs) delivering the programme and UNICEF Country Offices programme/technical focal points overseeing programme progress and implementation.

Each partner and Country Office can access a pre-customized dashboard that has been adapted to their needs, including analysis of participants by age, gender and location. Data analysis in real time will help UNICEF Country Offices and partners in monitoring the outputs and quality of the programme, which will inform decisions to improve quality aspects for the programmes delivered to youth and adolescents based on evidence.

Support to integration and cross-sectoral linkages

UNICEF Lebanon shifted from programme convergence to integration. Based on the 2015 Vulnerability Mapping, 251 localities had been identified as most vulnerable. UNICEF redirected all programmes toward those localities and monitored convergence on a monthly basis in the programme group meeting.

The methodology of the 251 localities was further refined in 2017 to include a child focus. An innovative methodology was developed jointly with UN Habitat to profile the most vulnerable neighbourhoods and assess impact at a local level. The programmatic response in these areas was informed by an integration strategy ensuring all programs addressed the child in a holistic manner, through a life cycle approach. The strategy hinges on sustainability and systems strengthening as the programme moves from humanitarian to development programming. It has a two-prong-approach, firstly, advocacy and coordination, including capacity building of the municipality stakeholders, as part of systems strengthening to advocate for all program priorities, raise the voices of marginalized children, and promote child budgeting and coordination of partners in the municipality. And secondly, service delivery integration through common gateways to communities, such as social development centres (SDCs), public health centres and schools, serving as information, referral and service provision hubs. Integrated monitoring and referral tools will be developed building on already existing systems, with linkages to government data systems.

As part of the rollout of Inter-Agency Standing Committee 2015 Gender-Based Violence Guidelines aimed at integrating risk mitigation in other sectors. UNICEF Lebanon trained 134 UNICEF staff internally, and an additional 462 staff from seven sectors.

UNICEF Lebanon continued to integrate efforts in program flagships such as the Back-to-School initiative for enrolment and retention, where all programmes supported outreach and referral.

Service delivery

UNICEF Lebanon monitored performance and measured progress of services through field visits, partner reporting, feedback from affected populations, and evaluations. Field offices strengthened their support to Governors in coordinating child-related interventions. In Aarsal, where refugees outnumber locals, the UN was developing an integrated programme approach based on community needs, to enhance systems and develop and implement child-friendly municipal plans. UNICEF Lebanon's health and WASH sectors piloted community-engagement initiatives in three municipalities that supported establishment and training of municipal public health committees on strategic planning and programme management, to assess community needs and propose public health and WASH projects. The initiative will be expanded to the 10 most vulnerable municipalities in 2018.

UNICEF worked through different referral systems to expand outreach, including informal inter-sectoral referrals. This effort was supported by an integrated approach, unified outreach messages and partner trainings. The 'CP/GBV case management geographical hub map' facilitated cross-sectoral referrals for CP/GBV and non-CP/GBV actors by assigning one case management agency per region.

Throughout 2017, UNICEF gender based violence interventions measured qualitative impact on women and girls. Partners reported that 88 per cent of women and girls accessing safe spaces reported feeling empowered, Fifty five per cent of community members demonstrated improved knowledge and attitudes toward gender based violence.

UNICEF Lebanon's communication for development strategy of community engagement reached 217,545 individuals by October 2017, resulting in 58 per cent being referred to public schools and 21 per cent being referred to non-formal education. In a pilot for accelerated immunization action in Baabda/Baalbeck, frontline workers referred 3,654 people for vaccination, 30 per cent of whom visited health facilities within 10 days. The strategy was expanded to hard-to-reach, low immunization coverage cadasters identified by the Ministry of Public Health. WASH and Health committees from conflicting communities in the most vulnerable areas of Tebbeineh/Jabal Mohsen/Qobbeh were trained on community dialogue and advocacy for water/health services, resulting in 65 households agreeing to pay for a water subscription or to settle unpaid bills.

Human rights-based approach to cooperation

Lebanon is a high middle-income country with tremendous disparities that affect all children. The country's socio-political and economic situation has been marked by instability, fragility and the Syrian conflict, all of which threaten children's rights. The efforts of every actor working on child rights have been eclipsed by the fact that child rights are seldom a topic of political discourse and little is known about the amount of the Government of Lebanon's budgetary support for children.

In 2016, the Government of Lebanon submitted the 4th and 5th reports on the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The State Party's Delegation met with the Committee on the Rights of the Child in May 2017. UNICEF will follow up on selected recommendations from the Committee's Concluding Observations. In the area of child protection, actions include development of a National Strategy for addressing child marriage; capacity-building of key stakeholders and support the Government's alternative care reform agenda.

The Government of Lebanon has not ratified the optional protocol to the Convention on the involvement of children in armed conflict. UNICEF Lebanon worked to ensure that the issues

remained on the Government's agenda. Monitoring and reporting on armed violence-related violations continued. A joint approach to address the association of children with armed violence was developed and endorsed by the UN Country Team.

The Country Programme Document 2017 - 2020 was designed based on the findings of the 2016 Baseline Survey. This informed the 2017 Multi-Section Vulnerability Mapping, which identified the 263 most vulnerable localities, as well as National Multiple Overlapping Deprivations Analysis to analyse the various deprivations children face.

In 2017, the agreement reached in 2016 to finance child-rights advisors and data managers in each governorate was implemented. Five child-rights advisors and four data managers were hired and trained. The training included modules on the mainstreaming of child rights; planning; results-based management, advocacy and a mapping exercise of local decision-makers. The positions supported mainstreaming a child-focused human rights-based approach in local situation analysis, planning processes, strategies, and budget, which resulted in five governorate-based workplans.

Gender equality

In line with the gender action plan, UNICEF Lebanon continued its efforts to address gender-based violence in emergencies and child marriage. As of October 2017, UNICEF and partners supported 60,947 women and girls in accessing safe spaces that provided a wide range of age-appropriate psychosocial services and information sessions aimed at empowering women and girls. Case management and referral to specialized services were available for survivors of gender-based violence (GBV). A total of 485 institutional actors were trained on gender-based violence. More than 130,000 individuals were sensitized to the issue through awareness sessions and community group engagement. To strengthen the response to child marriage, a tailored package of services for married adolescent girls was piloted with partners. The Ministry of Social Affairs agreed to develop a national strategy to address child marriage.

UNICEF Lebanon supported the rollout of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee 2015 GBV Guidelines, both internally and at interagency level. Internally, UNICEF Lebanon provided training for 134 UNICEF staff from all sections. At interagency level, 462 staff from 7 sectors received training. All UNICEF sections and interagency sectors agreed to integrate gender-based violence into their annual workplans and Lebanon Crisis Response Plan appeals for 2018. In education, for instance, the monitoring of the barriers and bottlenecks for girls' access to and retention in education was introduced and will be implemented in 2018.

As part of its gender mainstreaming efforts, UNICEF Lebanon, through the youth and adolescent programme's component on youth employability, strived to empower adolescent girls through the development of projects such as Girls Got IT, aimed at encouraging girls to enter STEM fields. In 2017, 18,550 girls were reached throughout Lebanon.

UNICEF Lebanon's education, C4D, and GBV programmes worked together to prepare for the back-to-school campaign to increase the chances for girls to register for school. Key messages related to gender-based violence and child marriage were developed and disseminated to male and female caregivers, as well as girls and boys, to sensitize them to risks related to child marriage and to the benefits of education for young girls.

Environmental sustainability

UNICEF Lebanon is committed to generating evidence-based data on climate change and the environment, to identify potential risks to children and women. Lebanon faces severe water challenges, both in terms of quantity and quality, which are expected to worsen over time.

UNICEF Lebanon partnered with Saint Joseph University to support the prediction of periods of potential water scarcity. The first phase of the project, which modelled ground surface without snow, was finalized. The second phase, to be finalized in 2018, will provide opportunities for planning and response to reduce impact on supply continuity and collect evidence on climate change in Lebanon.

UNICEF, jointly with WHO, implemented a national water quality survey that showed that 53 per cent of the population in Lebanon drinks unsafe water contaminated by e-coli. By establishing baselines for the Sustainable Development Goals under indicator 6.1, UNICEF provided a framework to directly address the root causes of environmental impact.

To improve the waste management system at the municipal level UNICEF Lebanon worked with 17 municipalities in the South, Nabatieh and Baalbek Hermel governorates. The support for municipalities in the South and Nabatieh was focused on awareness raising and targeted 44,500 beneficiaries, including 16,200 children in 14 municipalities. The support for municipalities in Baalbek area was focused on reducing organic waste through the construction of composting sites and distribution of bins to promote sorting at-source, which will also help improve compost quality.

At the national level, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Environment to address critical solid waste and wastewater issues. UNICEF's support was directed toward the provision of human resources and transportation facilities to the Ministry to respond to environmental complaints arising from the Syrian crisis.

Effective leadership

During monthly country management team (CMT) meetings, the senior management team discussed and agreed on strategic questions. The meetings' agendas included security management, management indicators, human resources, direct cash transfer (DCT) performance and resource mobilisation. The governance of the team enhanced management's ability to make risk-informed decisions. A new prioritization mechanism was introduced, called ROCKS, in which each CMT member had to identify the most urgent priorities for the next quarter, which were then reviewed monthly at the CMT.

Programme section meetings, chief of field office meetings and programme group meeting (PGM) were held monthly. The PGM allowed for review of key programme indicators, including progress on programming throughout the lifecycle and specific thematic issues. The emergency management team (EMT) meetings were held during rapid evolving events and emergencies such as during winter, evictions, and fights in Palestinian camps, to ensure appropriate focus on emerging humanitarian issues and needs.

The ERM library and mitigation measures were monitored and updated throughout 2017. Five high-level risks were reviewed and re-validated in the office's enterprise risk management exercise in 2017: budget and cash management, funding, human resources and unethical behaviour, supply and logistics, and fraud and misuse of resources. Given significant earmarking and delays in funding, UNICEF Lebanon terminated activities in child protection,

while maintaining case-management and life-saving activities. WASH activities also were scaled back significantly.

The business continuity plan, including essential staff lists and alternate work locations in Beirut and zonal office areas of operation, was updated and tested in 2017.

UNICEF Lebanon underwent two audits in 2017, one thematic and one internal. The action plan to implement the audit recommendations was submitted on time, and the status of implementation of audit recommendations will be a fixed CMT agenda item going forward.

Financial resources management

UNICEF Lebanon signed a lease agreement for its new office at SAMA Beirut. The new office will provide adequate space and enabling work environment for staff and partners. The lease agreement includes an exit strategy that allows for downsizing of the rented space should the staff size decrease.

The management of funds allocation/utilization was a main agenda item in CMT and programme meetings. Reports on grants utilization/expiration were circulated for actions. Grant utilizations at year end stood at 99 per cent for Regular Resources, 99 per cent for Other Resources -- Regular and 98 per cent for Other Resources - Emergency. Total new funds received in 2017 amounted to US\$358 million against 36 grants (thematic 8 baby grants considered as one).

Bank reconciliations were uploaded in compliance with UNICEF NY Headquarters deadlines and open items were monitored and cleared. UNICEF Lebanon had no open items in the bank reconciliation for more than two months.

HACT assurance activities and spot checks were handled using the UNICEF global long-term agreement (LTA) with Moore Stephens and piggybacked on UNICEF Jordan's LTA with Price Waterhouse Coopers. Some spot checks were conducted by UNICEF, but effective the last quarter of 2017, remaining spot checks were shifted to the two audit firms. UNICEF Lebanon maintained zero o/s DCTs greater than 9 months as of December 2017. DCTs at year end were valued at US\$51.5 million. Of those, 83.50 per cent were 0-3 months, 8.70 per cent were 3-6 months, and 7.80 per cent were 6-9 months.

The monthly closure activities were carried out regularly to ensure old items were cleared in a timely manner. The table of authority was regularly reviewed to ensure proper segregation of duties. UNICEF Lebanon continued to capitalise on the use of LTAs to ensure efficient operational support to programme implementation.

Fundraising and donor relations

UNICEF Lebanon's fundraising efforts continued to elicit good donor response. Based on years of ongoing humanitarian and upstream programming, UNICEF remained a key technical partner with bi-lateral and government actors to advocate for child-centred agendas and resource allocation. UNICEF Lebanon demonstrated successful evidence-based programmes that could be taken to scale at national level. Strong bilateral communications and partnerships were strengthened with formal communication through a quarterly partner update, all-donor meetings and exchanges of letters.

During 2017, UNICEF Lebanon hosted 60 field visits with donor representatives and missions.

UNICEF Lebanon received a total of US\$358 million in 2017, representing 76 per cent of its US\$472 million appeal. UNICEF Lebanon's programmes were supported by initiatives such as No Lost Generation (aimed at bridging immediate response plans and development efforts in education, child protection and youth and adolescent engagement for children affected by the Syria crisis), RACE II and the Ministry of Social Affairs National Plan.

2017 represented UNICEF Lebanon's best fundraising year to date, but there were still funding gaps in child survival, child protection and cross-sectoral programmes. Earmarked funds increased significantly and there was limited willingness by donors to fund cross-sectoral costs. Private donors represented less than one per cent of total funds received. This is a priority for future resource mobilisation.

UNICEF Lebanon prepared 52 donor reports in 2017, with a 100 per cent on-time submission rate. The quality of reporting was maximised through use of the General Guidance and Checklist for Country and Regional Offices, with the Deputy Representative and PRIME Chief reviewing reporting documents prior to submission.

Evaluation and research

UNICEF Lebanon's plan for the 2017 Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (IMEP) included five formative programme evaluations, one impact evaluation and four studies.

Three of five programme evaluations originally planned in the 2016 IMEP were finalized during 2017. They were rated satisfactory, with many high satisfactory components, by the Global Evaluation Reports Oversight System (GEROS).

Evaluations finalized in 2017 addressed programmes for winter cash, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and child protection. Two additional evaluations, for education and health and nutrition, were initiated in 2017 and will be finalized during the first quarter of 2108.

The management responses for the winter cash and WASH evaluations were completed. The management response for the child protection evaluation will be uploaded by January 2018.

These evaluations include key data that will be used for the mid-term review for the Country Programme Document (CPD 2017-2020) and for future annual workplans.

Baseline and mid-line follow-up surveys for the impact evaluation of the pilot for the cash-based programme in second-shift public schools and ALP (Min IIa), were finalized, and an end line survey was initiated in October 2017. The final findings and report will be finalized in 2018. Challenges occurred during the impact evaluation process, especially prior to the launch of the end line survey; mainly the reduced budget of the programme; Notwithstanding that fact, it was decided to continue with the exercise, as it offers a unique opportunity to gather findings, recommendations and lessons learned for similar future projects.

Efficiency gains and cost savings

Despite the significant increases in funding levels in 2017, many resources were earmarked, with limitations on use for staff salaries and cross-sectoral expenses. Measures taken to cut costs included prioritizing essential expenditure and freezing recruitment of positions where funding uncertainty existed.

In total, UNICEF Lebanon entered into 56 new long-term arrangements (LTAs) in 2017, of which

42 were for services and 14 were for goods. For one of the LTAs, UNICEF Lebanon issued the LTA based on the tender process of another UN agency. UNICEF Lebanon piggybacked on three LTAs from other UN agencies and shared information on 17 LTAs with three different UN agencies.

One LTA was awarded to a company to provide CSO partner training in HACT-related areas, thereby building capacity in resource management, and leading to efficiency gains in UNICEF-supported programming.

Service-related standard operating procedures (SOP) for human resources recruitment, contract management and construction were introduced, providing clear guidance to staff and avoiding process inefficiencies.

An end-user monitoring tool was piloted to monitor adequacy, appropriateness and timeliness of programme supplies. A digital version was under development and will be rolled out in early 2018. This system will incorporate all the processes of the programme supply SOP, from supply planning to end-user monitoring.

The operation management team (OMT) took action to implement the business operations strategy (BOS) in Lebanon. The roadmap for BOS implementation was endorsed by the UNCountry Team and is ready for implementation effective January 2018. UNICEF Lebanon availed itself of an offer from MENARO for a BOS consultant.

By moving to e-banking and applying UNICEF NY Headquarters recommendations to select the most economic payment methods, transaction costs decreased by 16 per cent.

Supply management

In 2017, the total procurement value reached US\$61.2 million. Procurement of goods increased from US\$7.8 million to US\$12.6 million, reversing the negative trend from the previous year. This was accompanied by a considerable amount of funds being used for procurement of goods by partners (US\$22 million was transferred under PCAs to CSOs for procurement of goods). Training on public procurement principles was carried out for partners (based on assessments of the supply components in PDs and partners' capacity), and new capacity assessment tools for procurement and logistics were developed that will be rolled out in 2018.

Procurement of services increased from US\$28.4 million to US\$47.7 million in 2017. UNICEF Lebanon supported construction and rehabilitation projects valued at nearly US\$35.2 million, which represented 74 per cent of the total service procurement value and included construction related services. The programmes with the largest rehabilitation and construction component were Education, with rehabilitation projects valued at US\$19 million and WASH, valued at US\$14.6 million. UNICEF Lebanon supported the Ministry of Public Health's infrastructure through the rehabilitation of warehouses and installation of 15 walk in cold rooms in public hospitals throughout the country.

A total of 56 local LTAs were issued, (42 for services and 14 for goods), reflecting the emphasis on providing positive impact on the local economy while providing development and emergency support to the vulnerable children in Lebanon.

In 2017, collaboration and technical support continued with regard to procurement processes as well as supply planning and monitoring of supply utilization, particularly for health supplies.

UNICEF's procurement services valued at US\$135,816 were used by UNFPA (for medical equipment and kits, nutrition and pharmaceuticals) and by the Ministry of Public Health (for 175,000 doses of Pneumococcal Conjugated Vaccine, valued at US\$3.4 million).

The total value of inventoried stock in 2017 was US\$2.7 million, of which US\$950,000 represented pre-positioned emergency supplies. Throughout 2017, supplies with a value of US\$9.7 million were issued from UNICEF Lebanon-controlled warehouses, including US\$1.8 million (18.5 per cent) of prepositioned supplies.

UNICEF Lebanon 2017 supplies and services received	US\$
Programme supplies	23,595,989
Operations supplies	1,047,996
Services	47,685,419
Total	72,329,405

UNICEF Lebanon 2017 rehabilitation and construction projects	US\$
WASH	14,619,429
Health	222,354
Education	18,940,727
Operations	1,424,432
Total	35,206,942

Security for staff and premises

UNICEF Lebanon's new office, in SAMA Beirut, will have three dedicated floors for UNICEF and one floor with shared access. The office will be compliant with UNDSS Lebanon Identified Existing Security Risk Management Measures, including a swipe card entry system, closed-circuit television (CCTV), two x-ray machines, two walk through metal detectors and a permanent security guard.

All the UNICEF offices in the country were monitored 24 hours per day through a CCTV system, with a central control room operating from Beirut.

Armoured vehicles were assigned to each field office for the conduct of Red Zone missions (with the exception of the Tyre Field Office, which did not require them per the area's security assessment). UNICEF Lebanon also maintained one armoured vehicle for the UNICEF Syria Office as a contingency.

Fire alarm drills and business continuity plan exercises were executed in the Beirut office and the field offices. Warden trainings were conducted on two separate occasions. All new staff

were provided with a security briefing upon arrival.

The UNICEF Lebanon Country Security Advisor was reassigned to Somalia in October 2017, and the post was being covered by a UNICEF staff member on a stretch assignment until 28 February 2018 (transferred temporarily from Darfur, Sudan). He was assisted by a national security officer based in Beirut and two local security assistants based in the Tripoli and Zahle field offices.

During the course of the year, two security staff were trained on SCP and two were trained on SAPP. As a cost saving measure, the trainings were organized within Lebanon.

Throughout 2017, regular updates, briefings, assessments, analysis and recommendations were provided. No security incidents were reported against the staff or UNICEF assets.

Human resources

UNICEF Lebanon implemented UNICEF's human resources reforms across these pillars: improved recruitment, performance management and strategic partnership. UNICEF Lebanon finalized 88 per cent of its recruitments in 95 days. This resulted in a workforce increase of 13 per cent, while reducing the temporary staffing structure to 29 per cent of posts filled by temporary appointments and consultants.

Gender balance in the staff was 52 per cent female/48 per cent male. Achieving gender balance at national office level (69 per cent females) and GS level (65 per cent males) was challenging given the predominantly female workforce. UNICEF Lebanon employed outreach strategies to attract male national office staff.

UNICEF Lebanon promoted UNICEF's new approach to performance management by conducting five clinic sessions for all staff. The office achieved a 91 per cent completion rate on 2016 PERs.

UNICEF Lebanon offered a portfolio of trainings for staff and approved 101 individual training requests. Five ethics sessions were held. Wellbeing was addressed through engagement with the Regional Staff Well-Being Advisor. The training plan for 2018 includes UN Cares. UNICEF Lebanon also provided training (in person and online) on PSEA for more than 200 staff. UNICEF Lebanon worked to improve its HR client services and implemented an orientation programme for new staff. Various HR quality assurance and self-service tools were created to improve overall compliance with HR policies and services.

UNICEF Lebanon responded to the 2017 Global Staff Survey (GSS) results by creating a GSS committee to meet quarterly and oversee the implementation of the office improvement plan responding to these lowlights: work-life balance, HR reform, integrity and career development. This was done jointly with the staff association. Management collaborated closely with the staff association throughout the year. Three joint consultative committee meetings were held. A staff retreat on diversity was organized to encourage cohesion and openness.

Effective use of information and communication technology

UNICEF Lebanon invested in standard cloud tools to boost productivity and results for programmes. Access to mobile e-mail allowed for agile connection for staff. Staff were trained on One-Drive for Business and used cloud storage with data safety. Skype for Business was used for communications between the main office and four zonal offices, contributing to

costsavings. The UNICEF Lebanon teams site on SharePoint served as a knowledge management and collaboration centre.

UNICEF Lebanon adopted cost savings plans, including a plan for switching to Fibre Optics connectivity for Internet access, leading to 60 per cent savings in the Telecom budget. UNICEF Lebanon focused on reducing its ICT footprint and coordinated with the Green Office Focal Point to promote economic use of electricity.

A VPN link was established between UNICEF Lebanon and a local bank, allowing for safe and secure transmission of payment orders to replenish debit cards for Syrian refugees. Innovation labs were established nationally, to engage Syrian, Palestinians and Lebanese youth. A WASH informal settlement assessment was conducted through customizing of ArcGIS mobile and extending access to partners.

A digitization project for human resources files was implemented, which led to agile electronic storage of four years' worth of HR data that could be searched quickly using any embedded word. A tool for Admin Services case management tracking was developed and deployed in December.

UNICEF Lebanon developed several applications to improve business processes. An HR Information System with recruitment data was used to generate infographics for decision-making. A leave management tool developed over SharePoint was used, contributing to more accurate leave transactions, recording and calculation.

The pending move to a new office premise was a priority. LAN and security systems infrastructure were studied and bid specifications were set.

Programme components from RAM

ANALYSIS BY OUTCOME AND OUTPUT RESULTS

OUTCOME 1 1. By the end of 2020, most disadvantaged children have access to safe drinking water, healthy environments, and enhanced health practices.

Analytical statement of progress

UNICEF Lebanon, in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health,(MoPH) reinvigorated the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) in public and UNHCR-contracted hospitals. A rapid assessment was conducted for 35 hospitals and 16 were chosen to be part of the BFHI process. In 2018 UNICEF will continue to work on the BFHI and support the selected hospitals to achieve and implement the required 10 steps.

In collaboration with the implementing partners, UNICEF Lebanon trained 81 health leaders, including lead mothers, midwives and community volunteers, on specific infant and young child feeding (IYCF) packages. They targeted approximately 800 women who were pregnant or lactating at household levels on a monthly basis. Seventy three health care providers from UNRWA clinics received intensive IYCF training that enabled them to provide related services.

During World Breastfeeding Week, UNICEF Lebanon, in coordination with implementing partners and the MoPH, targeted 23,060 women who were pregnant or lactating with specific breastfeeding promotion sessions and counselling. Thirty five primary health care centres were provided with a breastfeeding corner to enable women who were lactating have their own space

to breastfeed their babies.

In spite of a challenging operating environment, UNICEF continued to respond to the Syria refugees crises in 2017 on multiple fronts. UNICEF pursued a dual-pronged strategy to address water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) needs, ensuring the recurrent WASH needs of the most vulnerable people in informal settlements were met, and reaching the most vulnerable refugees living within host communities with sustainable WASH services.

UNICEF provided access to a temporary safe drinking water supply to 178,000 refugees in informal settlements (representing 112 per cent of the target) and sanitation services to more than 165,000 refugees (representing 104 per cent of the target). More than 130,000 refugees in informal settlements were reached with behavioural change communication, more than 85,000 of whom adopted improved hygiene behaviours (representing 109 per cent of the target).

UNICEF provided improved access to sustainable drinking water services to more than 650,000 people (representing 95 per cent of the target). UNICEF efforts represented 58 per cent of the WASH sector delivery at the water service provision front.

A Water Executive Committee was established that approved national solutions for mitigating unsustainable service provision in informal settlements. UNICEF supported the establishment of the SDG baseline for water, sanitation and WASH in schools. UNICEF also continued to support the Government on its communication strategy aimed at boosting consumer confidence for improving revenue collection.

OUTPUT 1 1.1a Government of Lebanon, at national and regional levels, has the evidence and management capacity to address child water- related vulnerabilities (WASH).

Analytical statement of progress

UNICEF Lebanon, in partnership with the Ministry of Energy and Water, pursued a systematic approach to address the endemic challenges confronting the WASH sector at large, which also affected the Syria Crises Response Plan. Following concerted advocacy efforts by UNICEF and partners, a Water Executive Committee was created, chaired by the Minister, which approved national solutions for mitigating unsustainable service provision in informal settlements (ISs).

To guide improved interventions in the informal settlements, UNICEF, through a partnership with Middle East Partners, completed two strategic studies on improved temporary and removable water and wastewater systems. To further support informed decision-making systems and in anticipation of reduced funding levels, UNICEF supported the WASH sector in establishing the WASH Assessment Platform (WAP) to respond in Informal Settlements using an online, interactive GIS database that informed decisions and enabled effective prioritization, targeting and utilization of available funding.

To support evidence generation and informed decision-making, UNICEF completed the first ever national household water quality survey (JMP) and an audit of large and medium size wastewater treatment plants, which provided the SDG baseline for drinking water and sanitation. These surveys highlighted that only 36 per cent of the population had access to safely-managed drinking water and that a meagre 3 per cent of the wastewater was treated

before discharge into the environment. Key challenges in this area were the lack of data sharing by local institutions and the monopolization of information by the private sector.

In partnership with the Ministry of Education, UNICEF established the SDG baseline for WASH in public schools and public health centres (PHCs) through the census. This also improved the Ministry of Public Health's capacity on informed decision-making. Preliminary findings indicated that 60 per cent of schools and 61 per cent of PHCs had access to improved drinking water sources, and 47 per cent of schools and 18 per cent of PHCs had basic sanitation services.

Financial sustainability continued to be a major bottleneck that impeded the Government's ability to maintain services. UNICEF supported the Government in implementing a communication strategy aimed at boosting customer confidence and improving revenue collection.

OUTPUT 2 1.2 Access to safe drinking water, sanitation and environmental conditions are increased as a result of UNICEF direct support.

Analytical statement of progress

UNICEF Lebanon pursued a dual-pronged strategy to address water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) needs, ensuring the recurrent WASH needs of the most vulnerable people in informal settlements were met, and reaching the most vulnerable refugees living within host communities with sustainable WASH services. UNICEF ensured that 178,000 refugees in informal settlements had access to safe drinking water services (representing more than 100 per cent of the target). More than 165,000 refugees gained access to safe sanitation services (representing more than 100 per cent of the target). UNICEF efforts represented 58 per cent of the WASH sector target.

To ensure that sector partners' work was implemented in an integrated manner, UNICEF strengthened the capacity of partners on inclusive WASH and GBV mainstreaming. Partners' capacity was also strengthened on integrating the specificity of people with special needs in their programming.

A major challenge in 2017 was the constant increase in the population in informal settlements and the decrease in the number of organizations involved, which stretched UNICEF capacity as it worked to cover the gaps.

UNICEF provided improved access to sustainable drinking water services to more than 650,000 people (representing 95 per cent of the target). Forty two water systems across the country were rehabilitated and 16 reservoirs were constructed. A total of 9,000 people gained improved access to wastewater services. Projects were implemented directly by the private sector to ensure timeliness and cost effectiveness.

UNICEF Lebanon worked with 17 municipalities in the South, Nabatieh and Baalbek Hermel governorates to improve the waste management system at the municipal level. The support for municipalities was focused on awareness raising for more than 44,500 beneficiaries, including 16,200 children. A sorting centre in Sarafand was equipped in order to increase its efficiency.

The major challenges in 2017 were transferring the response to local stakeholders and exiting from water trucking and desludging. A pilot project aimed at transferring the response in one

collective shelter to a municipality through donation of desludging and garbage trucks was successfully conducted and the approach will be scaled up in 2018 in the South. Surveys were conducted to identify the technical solutions to exit from water trucking and desludging through temporary and removable systems that do not compromise the service levels to the host communities. UNICEF supported the WASH sector to develop a targeted approach based on informal settlements' vulnerability mapping, enabling sector partners to ensure that the most critical and urgent WASH needs are met by prioritizing the most vulnerable sites first.

OUTPUT 3 1.4a Improved equitable use of WASH and Health services through appropriate community-based mobilization (WASH).

Analytical statement of progress

More than 130,000 refugees in informal settlements (109 per cent of the target) were reached with custom tailored public health promotion messages tackling topics related to safe water chain, chain of contamination, solid waste and communicable diseases and hygiene. Regular monitoring of WASH and environmental health results was carried out through the healthy camp monitoring tool (HCMT), which measures to what extent WASH and environmental health results have been achieved in hundreds of informal Syrian refugee settlements and informs on priority remediation actions by the communities and partners. The tool uses tablets with KoBo data collection systems and an online analysis dashboard. The HCMT was also used to monitor behaviour practices among the Syrian refugees. The results demonstrated that more than 82,000 refugees had adopted three key safe practices.

At least half of the hygiene promoters/community mobilizers were female, which allowed for smooth interaction with female beneficiaries. The partners used harmonized key messages and developed relevant information, education and communication (IEC) material to complement the health promotion activities.

To increase the sustainability of the intervention and enhance refugees' autonomy, partners trained WASH committees and/or community mobilizers who were encouraged to take ownership of the infrastructure built in informal settlements.

UNICEF also piloted a stabilization project aimed at reducing tensions between different communities in Tripoli. In partnership with a local NGO, UNICEF implemented common water, sanitation and drainage infrastructure projects in coordination with WASH committees from different communities. They agreed to collaborate on implementation of the projects. To build trust between the different communities and strengthen collaboration during the implementation of the project, the local NGO partner organized several social events, such as a marathon or rugby training. The NGO started encouraging customers to pay the water fees – before the project started, the population did not trust the public services at all.

OUTPUT 4 1.1b Government of Lebanon, at national and regional levels, has the evidence and management capacity to improve child feeding practices (Health & Nutrition).

Analytical statement of progress

UNICEF, in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health, reinvigorated the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) in public and UNHCR-contracted hospitals. A rapid assessment was conducted for 35 Hospitals and 16 were chosen to be part of the BFHI process. In 2018

UNICEF will continue to work on the BFHI and support the selected hospitals to achieve and implement the required 10 steps.

In collaboration with the implementing partners, UNICEF Lebanon trained 81 health leaders, including lead mothers, midwives and community volunteers, on specific infant and young child feeding (IYCF) packages. They targeted approximately 800 women who were pregnant or lactating women at household levels on a monthly basis. Seventy three health care providers from UNRWA clinics received intensive IYCF training that enabled them to provide related services.

During World Breastfeeding Week, UNICEF Lebanon, in coordination with implementing partners and the MoPH, targeted 23,060 pregnant and lactating women with specific breastfeeding promotion sessions and counselling. Thirty five primary health care centres were provided with a breastfeeding corner to enable women who were lactating to have their own space to breastfeed their babies.

OUTPUT 5 1.3 Children have increased access to routine immunization and exclusive breastfeeding services and promotion

Analytical statement of progress

A total of 83,172 children under five were vaccinated in 2017, and 41,460 children under the age of one year were reached with a first dose of pentavalent vaccine through routine vaccination activities in primary health care centres (PHCs), social development centres (SDCs) and dispensaries. UNICEF also supported the purchase of vaccines and maintenance of the cold chain system in the main network of PHCs, SDCs, dispensaries, and hospitals. All 216 PHCs and 150 of the SDCs were supported with acute medications, vaccines, cold-chain equipment, medical supplies and equipment.

Although the pneumococcal conjugated vaccine (PCV-13) is not included in emergency measures, and is not recommended as a humanitarian response, UNICEF, with the agreement of the Ministry of Public Health, decided to provide PCV13 to Syrian refugees, so that Syrian refugee children obtain similar immunization services in the same facilities as their Lebanese counterparts. To help decrease child mortality and morbidity, UNICEF provided pneumococcal vaccines to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) clinics to be dispensed to Palestinian refugee children. A measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) school campaign was coordinated with UNRWA to vaccinate children in UNRWA schools. A total of 21,578 school children were vaccinated.

UNICEF contributed to provision of primary health care services at 373,323 consultations through either PHC facilities or mobile medical units. UNICEF and partners ensured that capacity was available for the most in need to receive the care they required, including screening for malnutrition and referral for secondary care when needed. UNICEF ensured that all PHC facilities, district physician offices, and SDCs were equipped with adequate quantities of vaccines and assured that vaccine vial management was maintained, so that viable vaccines were administered.

UNICEF, in partnership with the American University of Beirut, supported the training of 10 health staff from the Ministries of Public Health and Social Affairs and NGO partners in nutrition in emergencies (NiE). Micronutrients were provided to 84,382 under 5 children

(46,502 girls, 36,830 boys), and 1,050 women who were pregnant or lactating to prevent micronutrient deficiencies and improve child growth and development. Medical treatment also was provided to 36 children with conflict-related wounds and orthopaedic deformities and 30 children with congenital deformity of cleft lip and/or palate.

UNICEF participated in the updating of the polio outbreak response plan in light of emerging polio threat in Syria, in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health, WHO and other partners. UNICEF began preparing an outreach response plan to be ready in the event of a decision for local and national level campaigns and for any future threats.

OUTPUT 6 1.4b Improved equitable use of Health services through appropriate community-based mobilization (Health & Nutrition)

In the seventh year of Syrian crisis, with the massive impoverishment of the host and refugee population, many families found it harder to access and pay for primary health services, leading to decreased coverage of essential interventions such as immunization and antenatal care. This put Lebanon at risk of developing and importing epidemics of vaccine-preventable diseases such as measles, mumps, rubella, and viral poliomyelitis, and of increased under five and maternal mortality rates.

UNICEF reviewed the polio immunization strategy and supported the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) in launching the accelerated immunization activities (AIA), abiding by three main principles: a combination of communication campaigns with actual provision of vaccination services delivered free of charge in the nearest health centres; a system for tracking the children who were identified as having dropped out of school; and centralizing the local management of the AIA, including data management and analysis at the MOPH district offices.

The MOPH prioritized children living in 209 cadastres that hosted approximately 250,000 children under 15 with low measles coverage, and 120,000 refugee children living in the informal tented settlements across Lebanon.

UNICEF contributed to capacity building of MOPH staff by training 966 community health workers from various partner agencies to screen, track and refer back all zero doses and children who dropped out from immunization; and with local partners, training 105 health care providers on the most updated and evidence-based newborn resuscitation clinical guidelines in order to reduce neonatal deaths associated with birth asphyxia. Through community

mobilization, UNICEF and MOPH also influenced behaviour change toward appropriate infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices and creation of demand to uptake routine immunization services, reaching some 80,000 beneficiaries from various nationalities.

OUTPUT 7 1.5a Appropriate technical expertise and administrative support are provided to the Child Survival (WASH) section to enable delivery of the programme.

Analytical statement of progress

Staff were recruited and were in place to enable delivery of the programme.

OUTPUT 8 1.5b Appropriate technical expertise and administrative support are provided to the Child Survival (Health & Nutrition) section to enable delivery of the programme.

Analytical statement of progress

Staff were recruited and were in place.

OUTCOME 2 2. By the end of 2020, the most disadvantaged children between 03-18 years of age benefit from equitable access to quality, relevant, and inclusive learning and early development.

Analytical statement of progress

UNICEF Lebanon continued to partner with the Ministry of Education to move toward a more systems-based approach for long-term results. UNICEF supported the MoE and education sector partners to take forward the national Lebanese education agenda through the RACE II five years plan, which is structured over three outcome areas: improving access, quality, and systems of education. UNICEF subsidised the costs of education for all children impacted by the Syria Crisis, including tuition fees, school related expenses, rehabilitation of school premises, and improved teaching in schools. More than US\$170 million was contributed to those efforts,

allowing 236,000 children between 3-18 years of age, both Lebanese and non-Lebanese, to access formal education and pre-primary education in public schools. An additional 47,000 children, either first-time learners or drop-outs, were provided with accredited non-formal learning programmes, which could eventually bridge them into the formal education pathway.

UNICEF also supported the drafting, design and implementation of several key national projects, including a teacher-training model, regulated early childhood education programmes, retention support programmes, an inter-ministerial child protection policy for schools, and an inclusive education model. UNICEF supported the MoE design and roll-out a refugee education-data tracking system and was completing its flagship out-of-school-children (OOSC) study. Both of these initiatives will strongly inform future education policies toward more inclusive and efficient systems.

OUTPUT 1 2.1 Increased demand and reduced cultural, financial and gender barriers for enrolment and retention into, formal and non-formal education and early development opportunities for children between 03 to 18 years of age.

Analytical statement of progress

Analysis from focus group discussions and vulnerability surveys showed that poverty and negative attitudes to education were the primary bottlenecks to vulnerable children enrolling in schools or non-formal learning. In response, UNICEF partnered with the Ministry of Education (MoE) to lead education sector partners, (including UN agencies, international and national NGOs) through a national, year-long, “Back-to-School” (BTS) campaign. With the support of more than 15 sector partners and a national mass-media programme, vulnerable households were reached with information around school enrolment and messaging on the importance of education. UNICEF and its partners conducted extensive training for social workers to improve their efficiency in the door-to-door campaigns.

A total of 55,000 households were reached (almost 145,000 children and youth) with education messaging. As a result of these concerted efforts, in the 2016/2017 scholastic year, there was a 14 per cent increase in enrolment of non-Lebanese children and a 3 per cent increase in enrolment of Lebanese children in public schools. UNICEF subsidized the MoE to manage more than 100,000 Lebanese and nearly 130,000 non-Lebanese children to enrol into public formal education both in first and second shift schools. Those children also benefited from subsidized learning supplies and transportation (for those eligible) to ensure their daily attendance. UNICEF also rehabilitated 123 public schools buildings, including WASH facilities, and play areas.

In addition to supporting those children who were eligible to enrol into formal education, UNICEF provided support to out-of-school children. The majority of these out-of-school children required substantial educational support to prepare them for (re)/integration into formal education. UNICEF and education sector partners contributed to the formalisation of alternate pathways to education in Lebanon, enabling children to acquire the needed skills before accessing the correct formal education program tailored to their age. For children aged 3-5, UNICEF’s partners administered the MEHE-regulated community-based early childhood education programme, which reached nearly 16,000 children. Basic literacy and numeracy programmes were administered to 13,000 children. For those children whose education was interrupted for more than two years due to the Syria Crisis, an accelerated learning programme (ALP) was put in place; benefiting more than 17,000 children. Forty four per cent of the children who completed an ALP round in 2017 successfully transitioned into the formal education system

(Lebanese public schools) the following scholastic year. All children enrolled in non-formal programmes received learning materials and those eligible received transportation support to ensure their continuous attendance and completion of the coursework.

OUTPUT 2 2.2 Increased capacity of education sector (formal and non formal) to deliver quality opportunities for learning and development in inclusive environments.

Analytical statement of progress

UNICEF aimed to reduce the numbers of out-of-school children and the number of those at risk of dropping out. The capacity of teachers and educators was enhanced to appropriately teach, mentor, and guide children enrolled in a learning/education opportunity. UNICEF trained and/or coached teachers (from public schools) and educators (in the non-formal sector) to provide children with improved learning strategies to increase retention in schools and learning in foreign languages. UNICEF also trained educators/facilitators on the content of regulated non-formal education programmes, including community-based early childhood education, basic literacy and numeracy, and accelerated learning programmes. To further reduce the number of children excluded or unable to attend formal learning or certified education, UNICEF partnered with the MoE's Inclusive School Pilot project, in which 30 public schools were revamped to mainstream children with special needs into existing classrooms. This included hiring and training special educators, paraprofessional teams, and therapists. The project was piloted over two scholastic years and will inform an inclusive education policy for Lebanon.

UNICEF also invested heavily in the MoE's quality assurance arm – the Department d'Orientation et Pedagogique Scolaire (DOPS), to ensure that teachers are delivering with quality within public schools. Academic, psychosocial, and health counsellors were deployed in all Second Shift schools, where the majority of Syrian refugee children were enrolled. This was made possible thanks to the international community's investments in quality education through UNICEF. Report from DOPS counsellors regularly visiting schools were fed back to the MoE to help continuously improve service delivery in public schools.

Most of the indicators listed under the quality pillar have either had a delayed start (inclusive pathway, inclusive pilot), been launched with the World Bank (teacher training national indicators), not been published because of incorrect data collection at the MoE or unwillingness to share sensitive data (CP referral mechanism), or been stalled at the MoE (NFE educator/facilitator standards). There were however, several successful projects, for which indicators were not headline indicators in the AWP/RAM framework. These have been reported in the analytical statement.

OUTPUT 3 2.3 Governance and managerial capacity of institutions are enhanced to effectively plan, budget, deliver, monitor education services (formal and non formal).

Analytical statement of progress

UNICEF contributed to the MoE's capacity to better manage the education response to the Syria Crisis. This included improvements to technical capacities at MoE departments, improved education data systems, regulated non-formal education programmes, competency frameworks for teacher training, and actionable research to improve education policies. Given the lack of refugee tracking data, UNICEF designed a data-management system for the MoE. To ensure the quality of this data, UNICEF provided technical assistance to the MoE to collate, reference,

and analyse education data in real-time. This improved the MoE's ability to plan ahead of each scholastic year, and the ability to report publicly on refugee education in a timely manner.

Building on UNICEF's success in 2016 in completing the content and training for the accelerated learning programme (ALP), UNICEF's team continued to provide technical support for development of content, training, and learning materials for community-based early childhood education (CB-ECE) and retention support programmes, in partnership with the MoE. The rollout of the CB-ECE package was crucial to supporting 3-5 year old children's access quality early learning. The rollout of the remedial and homework support packages, especially in the context of the refugee children learning in foreign languages, reduced the number of refugee children at-risk of dropping out of formal education.

An inter-ministerial child protection policy was developed that provides an integrated, systems approach to improving the protection of children inside public schools. The policy lays out legal referral pathways that the concerned ministries (Ministry of Social Affairs and Justice) are meant to coordinate in support to children victim of violence and/or abuse in public schools

In partnership with the Ministry of Education Institution mandated for Curriculum Development, Training and Research (CERD) a Teacher Training Curriculum Model (TTCM) was designed, based on the national Lebanese competency framework and quality standards. Workshops for 240 master trainers were completed, with a vision to train 5,000 teachers on the three developed modules.

UNICEF's flagship Out-of-School-Children Study was close to completion. The study (expected early 2018) will provide the evidence-base to support key education interventions to improve the MoE's reach of children left out of the education system in Lebanon.

In summary, UNICEF's support to the MoE and its institutions at the systems level paved the way to a long-term vision that will impact future policies around a more inclusive education system for the children in Lebanon.

OUTCOME 3 4. By the end of 2020, the most disadvantaged youth (15-24) increasingly influence policies and engage in quality learning, employment, and healthy lifestyles.

Analytical statement of progress

With the initiation of a new programme for adolescent and youth aged 15-24 years (the second decade of child's life) and the start of the 2017-2020 Country Programme Document, vulnerable adolescents and youth were supported with an integrated package of learning, education (formal and non-formal), skills training and healthy engagement services.

UNICEF Lebanon's work in 2017 was directed to respond to the needs of marginalized adolescents and youth in Lebanon. UNICEF also provided technical and financial support to government and non-governmental partners to move toward stronger and sustainable approaches that fed into the different national agendas and policy frameworks addressing young people. These included RACEII, the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan, No Lost Generation, and Lebanon's United Nations Strategic Framework.

Donors increased their support for UNICEF's youth programmes in 2017, for a total of US\$ 26 million, to ensure marginalized and out-of-school adolescents and youth were provided with the

necessary formal and non-formal education, healthy life skills and skills building services. That funding also led to the growth of the youth and adolescent (YAD) section from three staff in 2016 to 12 staff in 2017, including five new program officers in the field and a new section chief who arrived in late May 2017. The increased capacity enabled UNICEF to expand partnerships with 23 local and international organizations and reaching approximately 76,929 adolescents and youth by year end (out of a target of 100,000 beneficiaries in the 2017 YAD Annual Workplan).

UNICEF continued to support the Ministry of Youth and Sports to take forward the National Youth Policy and develop the action plan required to implement the recommendations focusing on youth in Lebanon. The plan will be finalized the first quarter of 2018. This support was coupled with recommendations for youth policy and system strengthening, including the technical and vocational education and training (TVET) initiative that UNICEF Lebanon initiated with the UNICEF Regional Office. UNICEF collaborated on TVET with the ILO and the Ministries of Agriculture, Labour, Social Affairs and Education. Efforts focused on supporting the strategic reform and strengthening of formal and non-formal TVET to ensure the skills provided to youth meet the needs of the labour market. The initiative also focused on increasing enrolment and turning the TVET system into an appropriate option for young men and women to secure their social and material aspirations.

UNICEF Lebanon also supported access into formal vocational education within the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) TVET schools for 3,042 adolescents (27 per cent Lebanese and 73 per cent non-Lebanese) and for 1,585 out-of-school adolescents and youth (32 per cent males and 68 per cent females) enrolled in the Ministry of Agriculture TVET schools' vocational training. UNICEF supported a variety of competency and market-based skills training packages reaching a total of 27,056 adolescents and youth (43 per cent males and 57 per cent females). This number includes 8,622 youth (38 per cent males and 60 per cent females) enrolled in the innovation lab programme.

As part of the RACEII programme, UNICEF supported the development of a regulated non-formal youth literacy and numeracy package with the MEHE and its Centre for Education Research and Development, which will be tested the first quarter of 2018. UNICEF also supported the delivery of modular literacy and numeracy courses to 17,121 out-of-school adolescents and youth based on their assessed learning levels (41 per cent males, 59 per cent females, 26 per cent Lebanese and 74 per cent non-Lebanese).

Within the framework of the regional life skills and civic education initiative launched by the UNICEF Regional Office, UNICEF Lebanon also worked to strengthen mechanisms and increase opportunities for meaningful participation and empowerment of the most disadvantaged Lebanese and non-Lebanese adolescents and youth at central and local levels. This support enabled active engagement by the youth in their communities as social agents in conflict management, social cohesion and promotion of healthy lifestyles. The four dimensions of the life skills programme were utilized, integrated and piloted with the NGOs partners delivering the life skills programme and sports for development, reaching a total of 41,058 adolescents and youth (40 per cent males and 60 per cent females); inclusive of the 12,000 adolescents and youth reached through the sports for development and healthy lifestyle programme (40 per cent males and 60 per cent females).

OUTPUT 1 4.1 Strengthened government capacity to implement and monitor inclusive youth policies for Lebanese and Non-Lebanese youth.

Analytical statement of progress

In 2017, UNICEF Lebanon provided technical support to specific ministries and other government entities, using different approaches based on the challenges and needs reported in assessments, including the four studies conducted in 2017 (Palestinian Youth SitAn, Child and Youth Labour in Agriculture fields, Innovation Labs establishment assessment, and Assessment for Mentorship in Lebanon.)

Consequently, and building on efforts from 2016, UNICEF Lebanon, in coordination with UNFPA, continued its work with the Ministry of Youth and Sport (MoYS) to finalize the development of a three-year action plan for the existing National Youth Policy. While the work was interrupted for several months due to issues internal to different MoYS stakeholders, the consultants restarted their work in November 2017 and the action plan (including a gender specific focus) is scheduled to be completed in early 2018.

UNICEF has initiated the student councils pilot, which established student councils within public schools with MEHE and the TVET initiative. The student council pilot was well received and is now awaiting a decision from MEHE on how to institutionalize them.

UNICEF Lebanon worked with the UNICEF Regional Office, ILO, and four ministries to develop the TVET Strategic Paper and Roadmap to guide programming in this area, which led to better linkages with the labour demand market requirements and the aspirations of youth aged 12 to 21 years. The initiative consisted of an overview of all TVET services in Lebanon (government and non-governmental) through mapping of existing TVET programmes, identifying the strategic directions for the improvement of TVET systems, and outlining an action plan for the operational steps needed to enhance managerial and educational capabilities. The TVET national strategic paper is scheduled to be released in the first quarter of 2018.

In line with UNICEF's TVET focus and specific to the agriculture field and its market needs, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Agriculture in completing an infrastructure assessment of its seven TVET schools. UNICEF also supported capacity building on the curriculum and new syllabus for the courses developed by UNICEF for 31 teachers and personnel.

UNICEF worked with MEHE to develop the 'Youth Basic, Functional Literacy and Numeracy Programme'. The new standardized basic literacy and numeracy curriculum framework was finalized, along with the learning materials and facilitators' guides. It is scheduled to be rolled out across all UNICEF partners and entities providing literacy and numeracy in the first quarter of in 2018. Overall four of the six results under this output were achieved as planned, while two were partially achieved.

OUTPUT 2 4.2 Increased access of Lebanese and Non-Lebanese youth (15-24 years) to technical and vocational training and innovative skills building programmes for improved professional readiness and employability.

Analytical statement of progress

In 2017, UNICEF Lebanon provided technical support to specific ministries and other government entities, using different approaches based on the challenges and needs reported in assessments, including the four studies conducted in 2017 (Palestinian Youth SitAn, Child and Youth Labour in Agriculture Fields, Innovation Labs establishment assessment, and Assessment for Mentorship in Lebanon). Consequently, and building on efforts from 2016, UNICEF Lebanon, in coordination with UNFPA, continued its work with the Ministry of Youth and Sport (MoYS) to finalize the development of a three-year action plan for the existing National Youth Policy. While the work was interrupted for several months due to issues internal to different MoYS stakeholders, the consultants restarted their work in November 2017 and the action plan (including a gender specific focus) is scheduled to be completed in early 2018.

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Overall, four of the six results under this output were achieved as planned, while two were partially achieved.

OUTPUT 3 4.4 Appropriate technical expertise and administrative support are provided to the Youth section to enable delivery of the programme.

Analytical statement of progress

Staff were recruited and were in place to support programme delivery.

OUTCOME 4 5. By the end of 2020, multidimensional child poverty in Lebanon is reduced with increased national and community level action for children

Analytical statement of progress

At the local level, constructive dialogue and partnerships were established with child rights advisors and governors to provide an effective protective environment for the most vulnerable children. This included progressive compliance of principal policy documents and legislation regarding all aspects of child rights, including monitoring. Advocacy with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Higher Council of Children was ongoing to support establishment of an inter-ministerial coordination mechanism on child rights to enable sustained and proactive commitment to the Convention of the Rights of the Child and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Strategic discussions on public financing for children were initiated with the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), to roll out child-focused PFM training, support expenditure review of MoSA, and advocate for better collection of information on state budget and spending patterns on social services.

UNICEF contributed to social protection systems strengthening by undertaking two assessments on social protection, providing support to joint formulation of social protection strategy through sustained dialogue with stakeholders, establishing coordination mechanisms on social protection and advocating with UN partners, the Government and the World Bank on jointly supporting social transfers through existing country systems. UNICEF continued to manage its humanitarian safety net programmes to support all children during winter and to increase enrolment of Syrian refugee children.

In 2017, a knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) survey was conducted that will provide the evidence base for developing a communication for development (C4D)/demand component strategy for the programme and will also be the basis for developing the annual workplan for 2018.

UNICEF, in partnership with Beirut DC, conducted 18 caravan shows on child rights awareness raising in the five zones of Mount Lebanon/Beirut, Zale, Quobayat, Tyre and North, reaching 2,230 children and 1,215 adults (both Lebanese and Syrians). Save the Children and Akkar Network Development (AND) conducted a study on existing community committees promoting child rights that will be the main vehicle of implementation for outreach and awareness creation and community engagement in 2018. Save the Children and AND also trained 75 trainers on child rights, who in turn reached 43 community groups with child rights messages. The community groups reached 737 people through dialogue sessions on child participation and child rights. Community events reaching 800 children and 42 parents aimed to improve children's participation and enhance their involvement in decision-making at governorate and community levels.

Through the Higher Council for Children (HCC), a strategy document was developed on child participation through establishment of platforms to raise children voices. The document will be presented to the Ministry of Social Affairs for endorsement in 2018

OUTPUT 1 5.1 National and sub-national capacities and systems are strengthened for data collection and analysing multidimensional child poverty and the rights of children and women

Analytical statement of progress

In 2017, important strides were made in the area of data collection, surveys and analysis. A National Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (N-MODA) was conducted with the

American University in Beirut (AUB) and presented to the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA). The findings were also used for the Rapid Poverty Assessment (RPA), which was led by UNDP. The 2016 Baseline Survey was used to strengthen UNICEF Lebanon's vulnerability mapping, with a new Multi Sectoral Vulnerability Index (MSVI). The 2015 methodology was updated and now follows a Multiple Deprivation Index (MDI) based on 2016 findings, which allows the vulnerability mapping to be more child-sensitive.

The child poverty feasibility study with IPC influenced the update of the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) to include a child grant for poor Lebanese adolescents. In 2017, UNICEF Lebanon and the Central Administration of Statistics (CAS) continued to build their partnership for the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) 2018. CAS joined UNICEF for the regional MICS workshop that was held in Beirut in April 2017. A cross sectoral knowledge, attitudes and practices survey was conducted in 2017, and the preliminary findings were used to develop the annual workplans for 2018 with key line ministries.

In 2017, UNICEF contributed to the Vulnerability Assessment for Syrian Refugees (VASyr), together with UNHCR and WFP, and made recommendations to strengthen the VASyr process for 2018.

Another important area of work in 2017 was UNICEF's support for routine administrative data systems. UNICEF worked together with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) on the Compiler, a routine administrative data system that captures enrolment data for second shift students. In December, MEHE and UNICEF added the child level monitoring component to the compiler, providing the Ministry with information at child level on learning outcomes (test results). UNICEF worked on the rollout of PRIMERO and CPIMS.

UNICEF Lebanon strengthened internal monitoring processes for near real time monitoring with monthly dashboards, for which PowerBI was piloted and will be fully in use in 2018. Planning, monitoring and evaluation (PME) processes were documented in the PME guide as a good practice. UNICEF conducted several evaluations for its winter, WASH, child protection, education and health and nutrition programmes. The management responses for the winter and WASH evaluations were finalised. An impact evaluation was conducted for the humanitarian cash programme 'Min Ila' and the findings will be published in 2018.

OUTPUT 2 5.4 Strengthened partnerships and community engagement to advocate for behavioural social change, and demand for essential services among the most disadvantaged.

Analytical statement of progress

UNICEF supported capacity building of several ministries and implementing partners on community engagement skills to enable community empowerment and participation in transforming their communities. A total of 35 were trained as trainers who also cascaded training to 1,570 frontline workers. The training of ministry staff and national and regional levels was aimed at strengthening their capacity to implement behaviour and social change interventions.

UNICEF supported the back to school initiative through which six training of trainers were held for government and implementing partners, reaching 133 participants from 49 organizations. Accelerated immunization activities (AIA) were aimed at strengthening routine immunization as part of polio prevention. A total of 986 people including Ministry of Public Health staff, NGO

frontline workers and vaccinators were trained on AIA principals, vaccination, IPC skills, community mapping, data collection and management, supervision, monitoring and reporting. More than 24 AIA trainings took place all over Lebanon.

In partnership with LebRelief, UNICEF brought conflicting communities together to advocate for water/health services for the most vulnerable in the areas of Tebbeineh/Jabal Mohsen/Qobbeh. LebRelief trained 10 committee members representing six committees on how to conduct community dialogues to bring government and communities together, how to convince people to pay for water services and how to advocate for services with government. With the committees taking the lead in implementation, a total of 88 households agreed to pay their water subscription or agreed on a settlement of their unpaid bills. Through community engagement and dialogue, the frontline workers reached 55,015 households (146,348 individuals) by the end of October 2017. Of those reached, 58 per cent (84,881) were referred to public schools, and 21 per cent (30,733) were referred to regular non-formal education.

In a pilot for accelerated immunization activities in two cadasters of Hay Farhat, Hay Aarsal, Baabda District, and Chemstar, Baalbeck District, the trained frontline workers referred 3,654 children who had dropped out of school for IPV and MMR vaccination. Thirty per cent of those referred turned up for vaccination at the health facility within 10 days of referral. The strategy emphasized house to house visits and dialogue with families to better appreciate the need to complete vaccination. It was expanded to reach hard to reach, marginalized households in the low immunization coverage cadasters as identified by the Ministry of Public Health.

OUTPUT 3 5.5 Appropriate technical expertise and administrative support are provided to the Social Policy and Social Protection Section

Analytical statement of progress

Staff were recruited and were in place to support the Social Policy and Social Protection Section.

OUTPUT 4 5.6 Appropriate technical expertise and administrative support are provided to the C4D Section.

Analytical statement of progress

Staff were recruited and were in place to support Communications for Development efforts.

Document centre

Evaluation and research

Title	Sequence Number	Type of Report
Lebanon Water Quality Survey	2017/004	Study
Lebanon Water Quality Survey. Lebanon	2017/010	Study
Evaluation of the UNICEF Child Protection Programme for	2017/002	Evaluation

Vulnerable Children and Women in Lebanon 2013-2016		
Evaluation of the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Programme within the UNICEF Country Programme in Lebanon (2013-2016)	2017/001	Evaluation

Other publications

Title
GGIT South/ Youth/ Innovation Labs
Innovation Labs Manual / Youth/ Innovation Labs
Innovation Labs Inauguration/ Youth
S4D / Youth
GGIT Akkar/ Youth/ Innovation Labs
BTS – A3 posters / Education
Water is Life/ WASH
Providing Life Skills Trainings for Vulnerable Youth in Lebanon / Youth
Sharifa’s Story – Providing Competency Based Skills for Youth/ Youth
Accelerated Learning Programme Training of Trainers/ Education
Ensuring Gender Equality in Outreach and Enrollment/ Education
Ensuring the Enrolment of Children in Schools/ Education
Qusai’s Story –Psycho Social Support Programme/ Child Protection
Rahaf’s Story- GBV Peer Training Programme/ Child Protection
Omar’s Story – GBV Peer Training Programme/ Child Protection
Arab Women Speak Out – Women Empowerment / Child Protection
BTS - 4 Public schools waiting for students/ Education
BTS - 3 success stories / Education.
Video /Giving dignity back / UN Common Card
Video / We are trying to coach leaders / Sports and Development
Video / Soura Wa Hikaya / Vocational Training
Video / Simpler Access to Humanitarian Aid / UN Common Card
Video / This year I’m going to school / Back to School
Video / School Heroes / Back to School
Video / Uniting Communities / Palestinian Programme
Website / Imagine A School, an interactive web documentary / Education
Photo Essay / Fares / Hedinn Halldorsson / Education
Photo Essay / Sharifa’s Salon / Vocational training
Photo Essay / Children losing their right to play / Stephen Gerrard / Child Labour
Photo Essay / A beaded bracelet / Bilal Jawish / Disability
Photo Essay / Empowering Girls in Lebanon / Dalia Khamissy / Education

Lessons learned

Document Type/Category	Title
Innovation	Innovation in Communication for Development monitoring: Using technology for timely evidence based monitoring

Innovation	Lebanon UNICEF Cash Transfers MIS
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Programme documents

Document Type	Title	Name
CPD	UNICEF Lebanon Country Programme Document	Lebanon_CPD_2017-2020.pdf
CPD	Result matrix	LaoPDR-resultsmatrix.pdf
Country Update	LCO Sitep-Nov Final	LCO Sitrep November 2017 - Final.docx