

## Libya

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### Executive Summary

Close to four and a half years after the fall of the Government, under the leadership of Gaddafi, heightened uncertainty, political rifts, conflicts, displacement and insecurity continued to mark the political and economic transition in Libya. The United Nations (UN) strived to support the country with its transition to democracy and the establishment of a Government of National Accord (GNA). Despite the temporary evacuation of all UN agencies and most of the international non-government organisations (NGOs) from Libya in 2014, UNICEF succeeded in maintaining a presence in Tripoli with national staff and qualified national consultants to support and monitor the on-going programmes. UNICEF Libya international staff continued to operate remotely from Tunisia.

In 2015, UNICEF provided continued leadership and support to the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and other teams to ensure that the issues related to women and children in Libya were visible and prioritized. UNICEF chaired the International Support to GNA Committee, which comprised of the Member States and the UN. UNICEF also chaired the Drafting Committee charged with the responsibility to author the Outcome Document that constituted the basis of the London international meeting on Libya. In 2015 UNICEF Libya focused on the advocacy of the rights of children in Libya and developing capacity of partners in evidence-based programming and strengthening education and child protection policies in line with the internationally accepted standards and quality.

The Constitutional Drafting Assembly (CDA) of Libya started working on the new Constitution. UNICEF, together with other UN agencies, supported the CDA to align the draft Constitution with the international human rights standards. UNICEF's consistent advocacy ensured that the universal children's rights are included in the draft Constitution.

UNICEF established innovative partnerships to implement and monitor its programmes. In April, UNICEF launched the 'Together for Children' national campaign with 15 municipalities. The campaign aimed at serving as a vehicle to deliver UNICEF's interventions and advocate for children's rights at the community level.

Decentralization and focus on local governance became a principal strategy for UNICEF during 2015. UNICEF played a leading role in supporting the Ministry of Education in the development of an education information management system for the country. With UNICEF support, the system was piloted in partnership with five municipalities, while a full scale-up is planned for 2016. UNICEF supported the establishment of Family and Child Protection Unit - a 'one-stop-shop' for specialized professional services, with an emphasis on child-friendly procedures essential for children in contact with the law.

In 2015, UNICEF scaled up its humanitarian response to provide lifesaving emergency assistance to the conflict-affected and displaced children and their families in Libya. The Inter-agency Humanitarian Response Plan 2015-2016 painted a dire picture of people in the grip of armed conflict and political instability in Libya. An estimated 2.44 million people were identified in need of humanitarian assistance in 2015-2016, and the UN has requested US\$165.6 million to provide assistance to the 1.3 million most-needy people. In 2015, UNICEF appealed for US\$1.30 million to respond to the humanitarian needs of women and children in Libya. By December 2015, US\$1,068 million had been received from the UN's

Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO), and UNICEF internal funds. With local partners, these funds served to respond to emergencies and to build the resilience of conflict-affected communities by strengthening the provision of basic social services. UNICEF Libya reactivated the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector, led in the education sector and child protection sub-sector together with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Over 6,000 girls and boys were provided with psychosocial support in eight child-friendly spaces, and 264 girl and 286 boy survivors of gender-based violence received specialized psychosocial care through the utilization of UNICEF partnerships with international and local NGOs and municipalities. Specialized training in psychosocial support and community-based child protection services was provided for 225 social workers. Children in contact with the law started receiving specialized services, following the training of 78 professionals on protection for survivors of violence. Some 1,100 girls and 750 boys were enrolled in catch up classes in Benghazi, along with over 4,000 students who participated in recreational and educational activities. Over 64,800 children from affected areas received education supplies. UNICEF provided 1,700 displaced families, the majority being women and children, with access to appropriate sanitation services.

UNICEF encountered considerable challenges and bottlenecks in its programme implementation, including remote programme management from Tunisia, lack of flexible resources to scale up programmes, limited capacity and constrained access of partners to implement programmes in the remote and conflict-affected areas of the country, and effective monitoring and reporting on the results for children.

## Humanitarian Assistance

The ongoing armed conflict in Libya continued to have a devastating impact on the civilian population, depriving the most vulnerable of basic needs and triggering large-scale internal displacements across the country. The protracted armed and political conflict caused extensive damage to infrastructure, basic social services and livelihoods of the people especially in armed conflict-affected areas. The 2015- 2016 Inter-agency Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Libya painted a disturbing picture of people in the grip of armed conflict and political instability, forced to flee their homes, while authorities struggle to provide basic goods and social services such as water, healthcare, education and shelter.

An estimated 2.44 million people, including around one million children, were identified in immediate need of protection and humanitarian assistance. Of these, 682,000 people needed access to WASH services, 150,000 children needed access to quality education and approximately 270,000 children in Tripoli and Benghazi needed access to child protection services. There were an estimated 435,000 internally displaced people in Libya, 174,000 of whom were children. In these densely-populated settings, the impact of the conflict on the displaced children and their families was severe. Libya also hosted an estimated 250,000 vulnerable refugees, asylum seekers and migrants, fleeing violence, weak economies and political turmoil in North and Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East. They faced discrimination, marginalization and limited access to basic services while some were detained in harsh living conditions.

Through the HRP, the UN and its partners requested US\$165.6 million to provide humanitarian assistance to over 1.3 million most vulnerable people. Despite the temporary evacuation of all UN agencies and most of the international NGOs from Libya in 2014, in 2015 UNICEF succeeded in maintaining a presence in Tripoli with national staff and with qualified national consultants to monitor and support the on-going humanitarian programmes. In 2014, UNICEF appealed for US\$1.3 million to respond to the humanitarian

needs of women and children in Libya, and by December 2015 US\$1.068 million (82 per cent of the appeal) had been received from CERF, ECHO and UNICEF internal funds.

In 2015, UNICEF worked with partners to respond to emergencies and to build the resilience of conflict-affected communities by strengthening the provision of basic social services. UNICEF Libya established a WASH sector coordination, in addition to leading the education sector, and the child protection sub-sector under the protection sector led by UNHCR. Over 6,000 girls and boys were provided with psychosocial support in eight child-friendly spaces, and 264 girl and 286 boy survivors of gender-based violence received specialized psychosocial care through UNICEF partnerships with international and local NGOs and municipalities. Specialized training in psychosocial support and community-based child protection services was provided for 225 social workers. Children in contact with the law started receiving specialized services following the training of 78 professionals on protection for survivors of violence. Some 1,100 girls and 750 boys were enrolled in catch up classes in Benghazi, along with over 4,000 students who participated in recreational and educational activities. Over 64,800 children from affected areas received education supplies. Vulnerable children were provided with school-based psychosocial support by 127 trained teachers who were equipped with skills on mitigating the impact of armed conflict-associated stress and trauma on children. UNICEF Libya provided 1,700 displaced families, the majority being children and women, with access to appropriate sanitation services.

### Mid-term Review of the Strategic Plan

With rapidly evolving political and economic context of Libya's transition to democracy, and given the need for better social statistics to inform planning and programming on the situation of children and adolescents in Libya, the 2013-2014 country programme was agreed upon between UNICEF and the Government of Libya. Subsequent to the agreement, the Country Programme Document (CPD) was approved in response to the Government's request, based on the Government's priorities and in line with the UNCT's Strategic Framework. While waiting for the establishment of the Government of National Accord, the UNICEF CPD - as a part of the UNCT Strategic Framework - was extended to the end of 2016. The extension allowed UNICEF to scale up the humanitarian programmes in Libya in 2015 and continue with upstream education and child protection work in the partnership with the line ministries and civil society organisations (CSOs) in Libya.

### Summary Notes and Acronyms

Summary: Data cited in the Humanitarian Assistance Section of the Annual Report refers to Humanitarian Response Plan for Libya 2015 - 2016

Acronyms:

CDA - Constitutional Drafting Assembly

CERF - Central Emergency Fund (of the UN)

CMT - Country Management Team

CSO - Civil Society Organization

ECD - Early Childhood Development

ECHO - European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department

EMIS - Education Management Information System

EU - European Union

FCPU - Family and Child Protection Unit

GDC - German Development Cooperation

GNA - Government of National Accord

HACT - Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers

HCT - Humanitarian Country Team

HRP - Humanitarian Response Plan

ICT - Information and Communication Technology  
IDP - Internally Displaced Person  
MENARO - Middle East and North Africa Regional Office (of UNICEF)  
MOSS - Minimum Operating Security Standards for United Nations  
NCO - National Curriculum Office  
NGO - Non-Governmental Organization  
OIAI - Office of Internal Audit and Investigations  
OR - Other Resources  
OR-E - Other Resources (Emergency)  
RR - Regular Resources  
VOIP - Voice-Over-Internet Protocol  
UN - United Nations  
UNCT - United Nations Country Team  
UNDP - United Nation Development Programme  
UNDSS – United Nations Department for Safety and Security  
UNESCO – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization  
UNFPA - United Nations Populations Agency  
UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
UNICEF - United Nations Children’s Fund  
UNSMIL - United Nations Support Mission in Libya  
WASH - Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

## Capacity Development

In 2015, UNICEF Libya developed the capacity of partners in evidence-based programming and strengthened the education and child protection policies to be aligned with internationally accepted standards.

UNICEF Libya continued addressing the gaps in child protection systems and service delivery, particularly in sectors associated with management of children in contact with the law. Children in contact with the law in various parts of Libya started benefitting from child-friendly procedures following the training of 158 professionals on child protection. Moreover, children in contact with the law in Al Zawiya city began receiving specialized professional services through the Family and Child Protection Unit (FCPU); a ‘one-stop-shop’ established in April 2015. The work of the FCPU was further enhanced by UNICEF support for 20 Libyan professionals in a study tour to Jordan to gain experience in managing the Units. UNICEF Libya also engaged with several CSOs to address the capacity gaps in Child Protection in Emergency. Children had access to eight different child-friendly spaces, and received appropriate and specialized care after the training of 225 social workers and animators on the basics of psychosocial support and community based child protection services. UNICEF Libya supported the Ministry of Education with the development of the Education Management Information System (EMIS) designed to manage information about the education system in the country. The EMIS was piloted in partnership with five municipalities. Most of the work in the area of strengthening pre-service and in-service teachers training in Libya was completed in 2015, and a Training of Trainers workshop on Early Childhood Development (ECD) essentials was conducted. UNICEF Libya supported the review of the pre-service and in-service curriculum; a four-month training package on pre-school management was drafted to be endorsed and implemented by the Ministry of Education in 2016.

## Evidence Generation, Policy Dialogue and Advocacy

As part of its transition to democracy, the Constitutional Drafting Assembly of Libya started working on the new Constitution. UNICEF Libya, together with other UN agencies, supported the CDA representatives to align the new draft Constitution to international human rights

requirements. UNICEF Libya's area of advocacy was to ensure that the universal children's rights are included in the constitution. As a result, the latest draft of the Libyan Constitution incorporated most of the suggestions by UNICEF Libya, including the article 146 titled 'Child Rights'. This article stipulates that best interests of the children and their rights should be priorities through all the policies and legislation of the country. UNICEF Libya continued to take lead in policy dialogue and partnered with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), and United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) in the development of an advocacy strategy for youth involvement in constitution development. 'Libyan Youth Demands for the Constitution' was an important milestone for the constructive engagement and dialogue between national institutions, local leaders and Libyan youth representatives.

To enable evidence-based child rights programming, UNICEF led an assessment of psychosocial needs of children affected by the conflict in the internally displaced persons (IDP) camps. The assessment revealed that 64 per cent of the 1,600 girls and boys demonstrated moderate or severe post stress symptoms. Around 10 per cent of these cases were victims of sexual violence. UNICEF Libya supported the Ministry of Education with the development of the EMIS designed to manage information about the education system in the country. The EMIS was piloted in partnership with decentralized and/or local government in five municipalities, and the scaling up at the national level is scheduled to take place in 2016. To enhance real-time evidence generation and enable timely programming responses, UNICEF Libya engaged the services of an international third party monitoring organization.

## Partnerships

UNICEF Libya continued to establish partnerships to make sound long-term investments in the next generation of Libyan children despite the conflict, displacement, political instability and economic downturn.

In 2015, UNICEF strengthened partnerships with other UN agencies, governmental institutions, donors, CSOs, communities, the children themselves and coordinated global efforts to advance children's rights. UNICEF Libya worked with key line ministries – Ministry of Education, Social Affairs, Interior, Local Government and Justice - in addition to the Police College, Higher Judicial Institute and the Constitutional Drafting Assembly on the policies and guidelines that would shape the education and child protection services in Libya in the future.

Major investments were made to develop partnership with 17 key municipalities in 2015. Municipalities played a key role for UNICEF Libya's work with the affected communities and provided an important programme oversight. Partnerships with CSOs were key to delivering emergency assistance to the children and families caught in the midst of conflict, displacement and insecurity.

UNICEF collaborative efforts were renewed and expanded with the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides Association - an impartial body with access to the whole country - for humanitarian programmes. Building on the comparative advantages of the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, UNICEF supported them at sub-national level to deliver recreational and educational awareness and psychosocial activities to children in 17 cities.

The Libyan Society for Charity Works was selected to implement emergency sanitation projects in nine camps benefiting 8,730 IDPs, including children.

UNICEF Libya developed strong partnerships with donor country representatives to expand the resource mobilization efforts. In 2015 funds from CERF, ECHO and German

Development Cooperation were utilized to deliver lifesaving humanitarian and resilience-building of children and their families.

### **External Communication and Public Advocacy**

A major focus of UNICEF Libya's external communication work in 2015 was supporting advocacy around the impact of heightened uncertainty, political rifts, conflict, displacement and the insecurity of children and their families in Libya.

UNICEF Libya developed a communication strategy in alignment with the Global Communication and Public Advocacy Strategy, and based on the current situation of Libya.

In April, UNICEF launched the 'Together for Children' national campaign with 15 municipalities. The campaign serves as a vehicle to deliver UNICEF's interventions and to communicate about UNICEF-supported programmes, including provision of psychosocial support for the internally displaced children, establishment of child-friendly spaces, prevention of school dropouts, integration of school-based psychosocial activities, non-involvement of children in the armed conflict, and empowering young people and engaging their parents through community actions.

UNICEF Libya continued advocating for the incorporation of child rights in the new Libyan Constitution. The UNICEF Special Representative presented in several meetings the concept note on incorporating child rights in the new Libyan Constitution to the CDA. The latest draft incorporated most of the suggested articles by UNICEF. Article 146 of the final draft Constitution titled 'Child Rights' stipulates that best interests of the children and their rights should be priorities through all the policies and legislations of the country.

During the last quarter of 2015, UNICEF Libya embraced social media, and launched a Facebook page and a Twitter account alongside other social media tools. The social media allowed UNICEF to establish a two-way communication with the broader public (over 5,600 Facebook fans and 380 Twitter followers), and to expand the outreach and dissemination of media products and key messages.

### **South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation**

UNICEF Libya has a strong commitment to South-South cooperation. In September, UNICEF Libya in partnership with the UNSMIL supported a study tour for 20 Libyan professionals (social workers, police officers, prosecutors, judges and civil society institution representatives) from the Family and Child Protection Units to Jordan, a country with acknowledged regional experience in the subject matter. The overall objective of the visit was to promote South-South cooperation through knowledge exchange and sharing of good practices in protection of children from all types of violence. More specifically, the study tour exposed Libyan professionals working with children in contact with the law to the Jordanian experiences in the same field. The learning and experience gained from this important study tour will be fundamental for the Libyan professionals to develop a Libyan model of specialized child-friendly justice system for children in Libya. In 2016, the Family and Child Protection Unit programme will be extended to Tripoli and Misurata cities.

### **Identification and Promotion of Innovation**

The armed conflict and political instability has left UNICEF Libya and the UN team at large with limited access to children and their families to assess and address their humanitarian needs.

UNICEF Libya needed a breakthrough strategy to implement and monitor its programmes to reach vulnerable women and children. In April 2015, UNICEF launched the 'Together for

Children' national campaign with 15 municipalities. The campaign served as a vehicle to deliver UNICEF's interventions and to communicate about UNICEF-supported programmes including provision of psychosocial support for the internally displaced children, the establishment of child-friendly spaces, the prevention of school dropouts, the integration of school-based psychosocial activities, the non-involvement of children in the armed conflict, empowering young people and engaging their parents through community actions.

For example, the Janzour municipality supported and monitored the provision of psychosocial support and the establishment of child-friendly spaces benefiting both the displaced and host community families. The Tawergha municipality funded and completed a rapid assessment for water and sanitation infrastructure in nine IDP camps. Five municipalities became strategic partners for UNICEF Libya in decentralizing the implementation of the EMIS, by facilitating the software testing in ten schools.

This innovative strategy of reaching out to children and their families in the conflict-affected areas provided UNICEF Libya with three important lessons:

1. During times of disputed legitimacy of constitutional bodies, resorting to the elected local government bodies is an appropriate and effective strategy for service delivery and programme oversight;
2. Applying community-based approaches saves money and time, and ensures the relevance of programmes, especially in a crisis situation;
3. Decentralization remains a very efficient approach, especially when ministries' effectiveness is affected by political and security instability.

### **Support to Integration and cross-sectoral linkages**

UNICEF Libya identified and leveraged positive cross-sectoral synergies and linkages in programming for children and their families affected by conflict, displacement, political instability and economic downturn.

The support to education and child protection programmes by UNICEF Libya were coordinated in order to have a holistic impact on children's development by addressing issues related to access to quality education, psychosocial recovery and the best practices to address violence against children. Children gained access to 28 child-friendly areas established in the vicinities of schools through the partnership with the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides of Libya. Children began receiving specialized care following a Training of Trainers conducted for 53 scouts on the basics of child protection and education in emergency, covering issues related to the psychosocial recovery, best practices of children's protection from violence, and peer education on HIV/AIDS, resilience and others. In 2015, UNICEF started a WASH programme aiming to upgrade water and sanitation services in the schools and child-friendly spaces supported by UNICEF Libya. The sanitation interventions in IDP camps also contributed to the establishment of a safer and healthier environment for children and their families.

### **Service Delivery**

In response to the humanitarian crisis in Libya, UNICEF developed a multi-sectoral emergency response strategy for both internally displaced and conflict-affected children and their families.

In 2015, the focus of UNICEF Libya emergency response was to deliver basic social services in education, child protection and WASH.

In education, the service delivery evolved around provision of improved access to quality education and recreation opportunities for the displaced and conflict-affected children.

Provision of improved quality of teaching/learning processes in UNICEF-supported programmes by capacity development of the teachers and teaching tools was prioritized.

In child protection, conflict-affected children received quality care following the scaling up of specialized psychosocial support spearheaded by UNICEF. Specialized and culturally-adapted psychosocial services were considered essential to assist children dealing with the conflict-induced stress and trauma in child-friendly spaces which are mostly established in the vicinity of schools.

In WASH, the focus of UNICEF Libya was to improve the hygiene practices, sanitation facilities and systems in the IDP camps.

To strengthen the quality of service delivery, UNICEF streamlined culturally-sensitive communication for development practices across all its humanitarian programmes.

### **Human Rights-Based Approach to Cooperation**

As part of its transition to democracy the Constitutional Drafting Assembly of Libya started working on the new constitution. UNICEF Libya, together with other UN agencies, supported the CDA representatives to align the new draft constitution to international human rights requirements. UNICEF'S area of advocacy was to ensure that universal children's rights are included in the Constitution. The UNICEF Special Representative presented in several meetings the concept note prepared by UNICEF to address the importance of incorporating child rights in the new Constitution. The latest draft incorporated most of the suggestions by UNICEF, including Article 146, titled 'Child Rights'. This article stipulates that best interests of the children and their rights should be priorities through all the policies and legislations of the country.

UNICEF also used its international mandate and influence to encourage youth and young Libyans to participate in the constitution-drafting process. A six-day workshop "Finding Our Future: Libyan Youth Demands for the Constitution" was organized by UNICEF together with other UN agencies and UNSMIL in May. The workshop provided a platform for participatory work on formulating the demands, discussing them directly and openly with CDA representatives and planning for a subsequent advocacy phase.

One of the requirements for children's protection rights is the existence of effective child-friendly courts and systems to deal with children in contact with law. UNICEF supported the establishment of the Family and Child Protection Unit (FCPU) - a 'one-stop-shop' for specialised professional services with emphasis on child-friendly procedures - in Azzawiya city as a step towards a more coordinated response to the protection of children in contact with the law. The FCPU programme will be further expanded in 2016.

### **Gender Mainstreaming and Equality**

Gender mainstreaming and equality guided UNICEF Libya programme planning and emergency response in 2015. Information generated from UNICEF-supported assessments led to the adoption of acceptable, culturally -appropriate gender-based standards in the provision of WASH services to conflict-affected populations, including internally displaced children and their families. Some 1,700 displaced families were supported with sanitation facilities in 2015. Appropriate quality and quantity of water and water storage facilities were provided to the displaced households to enable women to take care of their families. The involvement and support of women, boys and girls, elderly and the disabled people in accessing WASH services ensured the attainment of programme equality.

Over 6,000 girls and boys received psychosocial support after the rehabilitation of safe learning spaces including child-friendly spaces. A total of 264 girl and 286 boy survivors of

gender-based violence were provided with specialized psychosocial care. Some 1,100 girls and 750 boys were enrolled in catch-up classes in Benghazi, along with over 4,000 students who participated in recreational and educational activities.

## Environmental Sustainability

Under the WASH programme, UNICEF Libya incorporated environmental concerns into programme design, focusing primarily on environmentally sound criteria for the wastewater disposal and appropriate on-site location of sanitation facilities.

Rapid and inter-agency WASH and Environmental Assessments were conducted in four IDP camps and 19 Libyan cities. The assessments reviewed the water, hygiene, sanitation and environmental situation. The outcome of the assessments formed a foundation for UNICEF Libya and partners' emergency response to the affected communities. These took environmentally-friendly approaches and the 'do no harm' principle into consideration. Some of these considerations were:

- Using renewable energy for water pumping;
- Minimizing, recycling and re-using solid waste;
- Composting measures to reduce and dispose organic garbage;
- Re-using treated wastewater.

In line with the global UNICEF strategy 'Greening UNICEF', a first Environmental Footprint Assessment for the UNICEF office in Tripoli was undertaken. In 2016, UNICEF Libya will develop an emission reduction action plan for the temporary office established in Tunis. The action plan for Tripoli will follow, as soon as the international team returns to Libya.

## Effective Leadership

In 2015, UNICEF Libya provided continued leadership and support to the UNCT, Security Management Team/SMT, Humanitarian Country Team/HCT, Programme Management Team and UNSMIL to ensure that the issues related to women and children in Libya were visible and prioritized.

UNICEF chaired the International Support to GNA Committee, which comprised of the Member States and the UN agencies.

With the continuous deterioration of the humanitarian situation in the country, the coordination and humanitarian action in Libya was prioritized by the UNICEF CMT. In 2015, UNICEF led the coordination of education in emergency sector, established and led the WASH sector, and contributed to the protection sector work's to address the emerging child protection needs in the country.

Resource mobilization was one of the key priorities of CMT to allow timely and coordinated response in Libya. Under the leadership of the UNICEF Special Representative, the office established mechanisms to track funding trends, coordinate the approach to donors and capitalize on all donor opportunities.

Scaling up and improving the quality of the programmes was another important priority for the CMT. The CMT took steps to strengthen programme management skills of the UNICEF team. All but three recommendations issued by the 2014 audit were closed in 2015. It is noteworthy though that one of the remaining three recommendations cannot be closed until the international staff members return to Libya. The other two recommendations have been addressed properly during 2015 and progress communicated to the UNICEF Office of Internal Audit and Investigations. The UNICEF Business Continuity Plan was updated to reflect the emerging risks and mitigation plans.

## Financial Resources Management

With the new funds coming in, strengthening the financial management of the UNICEF Libya was identified as a priority for the CMT. The CMT closely monitored the budget versus expenditures to ensure effective and efficient use of limited financial resources for a greater programmatic impact for women and children of Libya.

Financial procedures were implemented following regular review of work processes as per global UNICEF financial requirements. The Table of Authorities was regularly revised to reflect staff turnover and approved changes to the office structure.

Most of the financial system transactions for Libya were performed by the Operations Support Centre of the UNICEF Middle East and North Africa Regional Office. This provided an additional layer of oversight. UNICEF Libya carried out monthly bank reconciliations in line with UNICEF global guidelines. The year-end closure for 2015 was finalized smoothly.

UNICEF Libya managed a total of ten individual grants/funding sources during 2015.

The level of cash transfers to partners was low, which reduced the risk of large sums of aging Direct Cash Transfers. By the end of 2015, all UNICEF Regular Resources (RR) allocated to Libya were utilized by 100 per cent. The implementation rates of Other Resources (OR) stood at 91 per cent, while Other Resources Emergency (OR-E) stood at 25 per cent. As most of OR-E funds were received at the end of 2015, UNICEF will have more financial capacity to scale up its humanitarian programmes in 2016.

All but three recommendations issued by the 2014 audit were closed in 2015. One of the remaining three recommendations cannot be closed until the international staff are able to return to Libya. The other two recommendations have been addressed properly during 2015. Four field party monitoring visits were conducted as part of the assurance activities for the Harmonised Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT).

## Fund-raising and Donor Relations

UNICEF used its international mandate and influence to mobilize and leverage financial resources for children in Libya and their families. Under the leadership of the Special Representative, UNICEF established mechanisms to track funding trends, coordinate and capitalize on all donor opportunities. By the end of 2015, UNICEF received funds from the German Development Cooperation and ECHO. Substantial progress was achieved in negotiating with the European Union (EU) for a multi-year grant to address adolescents and youth-related challenges in Libya: a contract was prepared by the EU in December 2015 to be signed in early 2016. Under the premises of Inter-Agency Humanitarian Response Plan 2015-2016, UNICEF revamped its fundraising efforts for the humanitarian response in WASH, education and child protection.

UNICEF Libya utilized 91 per cent of available OR and 25 per cent of OR-E in 2015. The remaining balances were on continuing grants that will be utilized in 2016.

Ten Programme Cooperation Agreements and Small Scale Funding Agreements.

With the challenges involved with the remote management of programmes in Libya from Tunisia, all the outputs from the implementing partners were regularly monitored by the programme team of UNICEF staff and senior consultants based in Libya. By the end of 2015, UNICEF Libya established a Programme Monitoring mechanism under the supervision of the Deputy Representative to stream-line the development of donor proposals, reports, expenditure monitoring and HACT assurance activities.

## Evaluation

The Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for 2015 included sector-specific assessments and establishment of monitoring systems. Despite the protracted conflict and insecurity, UNICEF Libya led an ECD comprehensive assessment and a survey on access to education for vulnerable children in Libya. The findings of the survey provided insights on access and quality of education-related bottlenecks. The findings and recommendations of the survey will be used as a basis for evidence-based programme planning and advocacy in 2016.

As the WASH and education sector lead, UNICEF Libya supported the Inter-agency Humanitarian Needs Overview assessment in Libya and the rapid WASH assessment in cities which have internally displaced children and their families. The results of the assessments were consolidated in the Humanitarian Response Plan 2015-2016, and used as a critical input for establishment of partnerships with NGOs to respond to the most urgent humanitarian needs of the affected communities. The commissioning of Education Management Information System awaits the establishment of the Government of National Accord in Libya.

## Efficiency Gains and Cost Savings

The main cost savings of UNICEF Libya were achieved by sharing the premises and associated utility costs and security services with UNICEF Tunisia country office in Tunis, and UNESCO and UNFPA in Tripoli, Libya. In Tripoli, a number of services were shared with other UN agencies, including the procurement of goods and services as well as bank, pouch and travel agency services. The UNICEF Tunisia operations staff supported UNICEF Libya with information and communication technology (ICT) services, and participation as members in different office committees.

## Supply Management

In 2015, UNICEF Libya's total procurement value was estimated at US\$550,062. The procurement represented 17 per cent of the US\$3,180,402 budget. Given the scale of the programme and its needs, UNICEF Libya had a relatively small supply component of US\$134,106, representing 17 per cent of total procurement value.

A considerable proportion of the procurement for UNICEF Libya related to institutional services. With the remote programme management from Tunis, UNICEF Libya relied heavily on institutional contracts, with the estimated value of US\$171,507. The consultants were used to implement and monitor the programmes in the country.

In 2015 the procurement services for UNICEF Libya were largely managed through the Operations Support Centre in MENARO and through the support of the operations staff in UNICEF Tunisia.

## Security for Staff and Premises

Despite the temporary evacuation of all UN agencies and most of the international NGOs from Libya to Tunisia in 2014, UNICEF successfully maintained a presence in the country with its national staff and with qualified national consultants tasked with the responsibility of supporting UNICEF interventions.

As a part of capacity development and programme monitoring, UNICEF Libya continued meeting with Libyan partners in Tunisia throughout 2015; although the security developments both in Libya and in Tunisia at times affected these activities. Frequent

blockage of the coastal road from Tripoli to Ras Jedir on the Libyan-Tunisian borders limited the travel of partners, while the terrorist attacks in Tunisia led to the cancelation or rescheduling of some workshops and meetings.

The UNICEF office in Tripoli does not comply with the Minimum Operating Security Standards for United Nations (MOSS). While other options had been evaluated by the Special Representative and the Field Security Officer, the 2014 evacuation brought the office relocation plans to a halt. With the return of the international staff to Libya, establishing a MOSS compliant office and maintenance of armoured vehicles will be a priority. Security assessment of premises for international staff evacuated to Tunis was conducted by the United Nations Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS) Tunisia team. UNICEF Libya addressed the UNDSS recommendations to make premises MOSS compliant, along with other three UN agencies who will be using the same building. International staff will start using the premises in Tunis as of early January 2016, until their return to Tripoli.

## Human Resources

The UNICEF Libya country programme is framed around two component results: (a) knowledge generation and monitoring for fulfilment of children's and adolescents' rights; and (b) sector policies for delivery of quality social services. The approved staff structure for UNICEF Libya for the 2012-2016 country programme was designed to bring on board staff with the right competencies to achieve these results. The staff structure includes seven international professionals and nine national staff. By the end of 2015, six out of seven international positions were filled, and seven out of nine national positions were filled.

In 2015, three programme staff attended international trainings, while all the professional staff members participated at various workshops and security related training organized in Tripoli and Tunis.

A key CMT priority in 2016 will be to review the staffing structure of UNICEF Libya. The new structure will need to be fit for purpose of delivering scaled up programmes to respond to the rapidly evolving political and economic context of Libya's transition to democracy and its impact on children and their families.

## Effective Use of Information and Communication Technology

UNICEF Libya ICT support in both locations - Libya and Tunisia - is provided by the MENARO ICT Support Hub, which also remotely manages the overall ICT functions for the office. On-site support is provided by a local service provider in Tripoli and UNICEF Tunisia this was supplemented by one visit in 2015 to Tunis by the UNICEF Regional Hub Information Technology Officer.

The utilization of Office 365 cloud-based services enhanced user mobility, access to corporate applications, brought cost savings in hardware and software, and also improved business continuity. UNICEF corporate free Voice- Over-Internet Protocol (VOIP) and Skype-for-Business unified-communication tool were largely used to strengthen collaboration between staff in both locations and external partners, offering free, self-managed online meetings, chat services, and audio/video calls, and also was a cost saving tool. The use of the OneDrive file sharing tool helped staff upload important documents, share, and access virtually from anywhere. As a result, this has facilitated additional information-sharing and business continuity.

In 2016, the office in Tunis will move from UNICEF Tunis to a new office location: the procurement of the ICT equipment for the new office was completed by the end of 2015.

## ANALYSIS BY OUTCOME AND OUTPUT RESULTS

### OUTCOME 1 Technical assistance

#### **Analytical Statement of Progress:**

The latest draft of the Libyan Constitution incorporated most of the suggestions submitted by UNICEF to the Constitution Drafting Assembly, including the article 146 titled 'Child Rights'. This article stipulates that best interests of the children and their rights should be priorities through all the policies and legislations of the country. This is a commendable milestone considering the operational environment and political instability affecting the country. It should be noted that since the eruption of the conflict in July 2014, UNICEF Libya has put on hold some of its efforts in legislation reform until the political situation in Libya stabilizes with the establishment of Government of National Accord.

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### OUTPUT 2 National Child Protection system capacities for implementation of new/enhanced legislation and application of equity and gender lens strengthened.

#### **Analytical Statement of Progress:**

The justice system in Libya remains retributive rather than restorative, especially for children in contact with the law. The justice system is neither integrated nor specialized, and the capacity of child protection professionals needs to be strengthened. Rehabilitation and recovery services for victims and/or survivors of violence are poor. Hence, child protection service delivery is constrained in Libya.

In 2015, UNICEF Libya continued addressing the gaps in child protection systems and service delivery, particularly in sectors associated with the management of children in contact with the law. A total of 158 professionals were trained on the protection of children in contact with the law, while 20 professionals attended a study tour in Jordan to gain experience in managing the Family and Child Protection Unit - a 'one-stop-shop' for specialized professional services with emphasis on child-friendly procedures. The establishment of the Family and Child Protection Unit was a significant step towards a well-coordinated response to the cases of children in contact with the law.