

Nepal

Executive Summary

Nepal faced a year of humanitarian crises in 2015. The earthquakes that struck Nepal on 25 April and 12 May 2015 were devastating, with an estimated total affected population of 2.8 million, out of which 1.1 million (40 per cent) were children. In the country, 31 out of 75 districts were considered 'most affected' and within that, 14 districts were classified as severely affected and prioritized for humanitarian assistance. Across the country, more than 5,000 schools are estimated to have been destroyed and thousands more were damaged, which, together with a deterioration in water and sanitation services, disruption of schools and health services, are all having an impact on multidimensional poverty (Post Disaster Needs Assessment 2015). The humanitarian crisis created by the earthquakes is now being compounded by the political unrest in the country's southern belt following the promulgation of the new Constitution of Nepal in September 2015, creating a challenging operational environment.

Achievements: During 2015, UNICEF Nepal worked with its partners to distribute vital supplies, support the restoration of basic services, build capacity of institutions and provide information to benefit children and their families in the 14 most severely earthquake affected districts as well as existing districts targeted by the Country Programme. Despite the diversion of resources for the emergency programme, key results have been achieved in terms of policy and legislative reform, systems strengthening and social change:

Health: UNICEF Nepal reached more than 500,000 children under 5 in earthquake-affected areas with primary health-care services including immunization against measles, polio and rubella. In addition, the Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health Act was endorsed, providing legal provisions for the rights of women to maternity leave during pregnancy and the post-partum period, and free health services for mothers and newborns.

Nutrition: All 481,334 targeted boys and girls 6–59 months old in earthquake-affected areas received vitamin A supplementation and deworming. Furthermore, as part of implementation of the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan, more than 370,000, or 80 per cent, of children under 5 were screened for acute malnutrition. Some 157,660 mothers and caretakers of children under 2 were oriented on breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices.

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH): In earthquake-affected districts, UNICEF Nepal reached 655,910 affected people with safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene, along with 82,000 families that have received family hygiene kits. In addition, six districts (Bajhang, Bardia, Gulmi, Nawalparasi, Surkhet and Rolpa) have achieved Open Defecation Free (ODF) status with UNICEF support.

Education: As part of the earthquake response, 159,900 children were able to continue their education in 1,599 Temporary Learning Centres (TLCs). In districts targeted by the existing Country Programme, 12,516 adolescents (6,312 girls; 6,204 boys) have been reached through UNICEF's Afterschool Programme providing life skills, homework support and sports activities, supporting transition to secondary education.

Child Protection: In earthquake-affected areas, a total of 956 (427 women, 281 girls, 224 boys and 44 men) people have been intercepted from trafficking and 158,478 parents and children have been provided with psychosocial support. The new Constitution of Nepal 2015 includes progressive provisions relating to child protection, including the right to birth registration as well as provisions prohibiting child marriage, illegal transfer, and the abduction of children.

Adolescent Development and Participation: 12,584 adolescents have been equipped with social skills and financial knowledge to influence and participate in decisions that affect their lives.

Social Policy: Social Protection measures have been advanced with the provision of an emergency cash top-up grant to 400,000 existing beneficiaries of the Government's social assistance schemes for Dalit children, people with disabilities, older persons, widows and single women, and highly marginalized ethnic groups across the 19 districts affected by the earthquakes.

Shortfalls: The ongoing earthquake recovery programmes faced difficulties due to fuel shortages and instability in the Terai areas of the country resulting in an acute shortage of essential supplies. Stocks of vital medicines, vaccines and antibiotics are critically low. More than 200,000 families are still living in temporary shelters following the earthquakes, with conditions becoming dire during the winter season.

Partnerships: UNICEF Nepal developed collaborative partnerships to advance its programme results and strengthen its emergency response, building on existing partnerships and working with new partners through the humanitarian clusters. It also worked with the Microsoft Innovation Centre and Google to organize a series of Appathons, an intensive app development competition for young programmers. UNICEF engaged Radio Nepal to launch a radio programme 'Bhandai-Sundai' or 'Talking-Listening' immediately after the earthquake. Along with psychosocial counselling and situation updates, the programme ensured accountability towards beneficiaries by connecting relevant authorities to address concerns from the community.

Humanitarian Assistance

Earthquakes of magnitude 7.8 and 7.3 that struck Nepal on 25 April and 12 May, respectively, left a devastating effect on the country. Out of 75 districts in the country, 31 were affected and 14 were considered to be highly affected. These 14 districts have an estimated population of 2.8 million, of which 1.1 million are children. Nearly 9,000 people lost their lives and 22,400 people were injured, as per the Ministry of Home Affairs. The total financial losses from the earthquakes are estimated at US\$7.06 billion, according to the Government-led Post Disaster Needs Assessment, which is an equivalent to 36 per cent of Nepal's 2014 gross domestic product. It was one of the deadliest disasters in the history of Nepal since the 1934 earthquake.

UNICEF Nepal responded in a coordinated manner as cluster co-lead with the Government and through its own programmes in the sectors of WASH, Nutrition, Health, Education and Child Protection. The total funds utilized to date in the Earthquake Emergency under all programmes is US\$60,900,000. By the end of November 2015, UNICEF Nepal reached more than 500,000 children under 5 with primary health-care services, including immunization against measles, polio and rubella. In the field of Nutrition, more than 370,000 children under 5 – approximately 80 per cent of children in that age cohort – were screened for acute malnutrition. A total of 1,347 with severe acute malnutrition have been admitted to Outpatient Therapeutic Programme centres and a total of 326,091 have been provided with micronutrient powders. In addition,

157,660 mothers and caretakers of children under 2 were oriented on breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices. Similarly, 159,900 children were able to continue their education in 1,599 Temporary Learning Centres (TLCs) and 5,474 teachers have been trained on psychosocial support and life-saving messages for children. A total of 956 (427 women, 281 girls, 224 boys and 44 men) have been intercepted from trafficking and 158,478 parents and children have been provided with psychosocial support including psychosocial first aid. In addition, 655,910 affected people were provided with safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene, along with 82,000 families that have received family hygiene kits.

In addition to the earthquake response, UNICEF Nepal provided technical and financial assistance in other localized disasters, such as fires and landslides in Saptari and Taplejung districts, reaching 105 and 651 households, respectively, through hygiene promotion, distribution of water purification tablets and behaviour change messages.

Humanitarian needs addressed by the Government and humanitarian partners as part of the earthquake response were hindered since August. The country started facing acute fuel shortages as the political strife around its new Constitution became serious. Due to the current fuel shortage, transportation of supplies, including winter materials to earthquake-affected districts became challenging. More than US\$2.1 million worth of nutrition, health and education supplies were stranded across the border, but UNICEF has been trying alternative routes to get them into the country.

The impact of supplies not reaching Nepal and of political turmoil have been far reaching. In nine districts in central and eastern plains alone, closure of schools for an extended period of time has affected the education of more than 1.6 million schoolchildren. In addition, as winter sets in, more than 3 million children under the age of 5 are at risk of death or disease due to a severe shortage of fuel, food, medicines and vaccines. UNICEF has issued statements every month (twice in November) as part of its public advocacy, highlighting Children as Zones of Peace, raising concerns about the school closures and the impacts on the health and survival of children.

In line with the National Disaster Response Framework, and within the scope of Core Commitments for Children (CCCs) in Humanitarian Action, UNICEF has been working closely with the Government of Nepal and other partners to reinforce the disaster risk reduction capacity in Nepal. Following the earthquakes, a regional Disaster Risk Management training was organized in four districts of the mid-western region, attended by 35 people (30 males and 5 females) from Government line agencies such as the District Health Office, Division of Education Office, Water Supply Sanitation Division Office, Women and Children Office, District Administrative Office, District Development Committee and the Nepal Red Cross Society.

Summary Notes and Acronyms

CCA – climate change adaptation
CCCs – Core Commitments for Children
CCWB – Central Child Welfare Board
CFLG – Child-Friendly Local Governance
CMT – Country Management Team
CNW – Child Nutrition Week
DCT – direct cash transfer
DRR – disaster risk reduction
DRM – disaster risk management

DWSS – Department of Water Supply & Sewerage
FACE – Funding Authorization and Certificate of Expenditure
FCHV – Female Community Health Volunteer
GDP – gross domestic product
GSSC – Global Shared Services Centre
GBV – gender-based violence
GPE – Global Partnership for Education
HAC – Humanitarian Action for Children
HACT – Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers
HMIS – Health Management Information System
HPM – Humanitarian Performance Monitoring
HPV – human papilloma virus
ICT – information and communication technology
IMNCI – Integrated Management of Neonatal and Child Illness
LIGHT – Light and Agile IT
IT – information technology
IYCF – Integrated Young Child Feeding
JCC – Joint Consultative Committee (UNICEF)
LMD – Logistics Management Division
LTAs – Long-Term Agreements
M&E – monitoring and evaluation
MICS – Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MoWCSW – Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
MoFALD – Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Government
MoHP – Ministry of Health and Population
MOSS – Minimum Operating Security Standards
MSNP – Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan
NGO – non-governmental organization
NPC – National Planning Commission
NRs – Nepali Rupees
ODF – Open Defecation Free
OIAI – Office of Internal Audit and Investigation
OR – Other Resources
ORE – Other Resources – Emergency
ORR – Other Resources – Regular
OTP – Outpatient Therapeutic Programme
PBA – Programme Budget Allotment
PCV – pneumococcal conjugative vaccine
PDNA – Post Disaster Needs Assessment
PER – Performance Evaluation Report
PMTCT – prevention of mother-to-child transmission (of HIV)
ROSA – Regional Office for South Asia (UNICEF)
RR – Regular Resources
SAARC – South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SAM – severe acute malnutrition
SDP – Sector Development Plan
SWAp – Sector-Wide Approach
TLC – Temporary Learning Centre
UNESCO – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF – United Nations Children’s Fund

VDC – Village Development Committee
VISION – Virtual Integrated System of Information
WASH – water, sanitation and hygiene

Capacity Development

UNICEF Nepal supported the institutional and individual capacities of Government, front-line workers, civil society and communities at national and sub-national levels with humanitarian and development programmes. In Health, UNICEF Nepal provided assistance to the Government to build capacities of 141 nursing staff in skilled birthing, 8 doctors on advanced skilled birthing, 117 nurses on infection prevention, 48 nurses on obstetric first aid, 10 nurses on ultrasound, 20 nurses on post-natal care, and 1,179 watch group members on community mobilization for maternal and neonatal care.

In Nutrition, a national Training of Trainers was conducted on the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan (MSNP) in six districts, covering more than 500 officials and stakeholders. Furthermore, UNICEF is playing a key role in building supportive institutional capacities including development of a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for MSNP in Nepal.

In Education, UNICEF worked with District Education Offices to build the capacities of 87,476 (52 per cent women, 177 children with disabilities) local education stakeholders, including students, teachers and school management committee members, in 380 schools in five districts in the areas of mitigation of disaster risk, development of evacuation routes in schools and simulation drills.

In Child Protection, activities focused on capacity development of relevant actors of Central Child Welfare Board (CCWB) implementing partners and social workers in the 14 earthquake-affected districts on disaster risk reduction (DRR), and on enhancing the capacity of existing child protection systems to mitigate, prepare and respond to emergencies through trainings on security and justice, gender-based violence (GBV) and psychosocial counselling.

In Adolescent Development, 12,584 adolescents in six priority districts have been equipped with social skills and financial knowledge to influence and participate in decisions that affect their lives through the 'Rupantaran' training programme, meaning 'transformation' in the Nepali language. This includes interactive learning sessions on 15 topical and life skills-based modules related to their development and participation.

Evidence Generation, Policy Dialogue and Advocacy

UNICEF, in partnership with the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Government (MoFALD), CCWB, Save the Children, Plan International and World Vision, commissioned consultations with more than 1,800 children in the 14 earthquake-affected districts to understand their issues and concerns. Recommendations from children have informed the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) and High-Level South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Policy Dialogue meeting held in September. Follow-up actions were initiated, such as providing children with life skills to make them more resilient. To ensure sustainability, local bodies' capacities were strengthened in responding to disasters-related demands, to link demands to upcoming planning process, and tap resources allocated for children.

The Nepal Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) 2014 Key Findings tables, along with micro-data, were made public in May 2015 to provide geographic/regional-level data and inform the earthquake recovery planning process, including the PDNA and Nepal Health Sector Strategy

2015–2020. Key evaluations and studies have supported policy dialogue and programme management, including the evaluation of the Let Us Learn programme, which has provided instrumental learnings to support the redesign of the After School Programme. Results of a study on the coverage and effectiveness of the Child Grant for children from poor Dalit families and the Integrated Young Child Feeding (IYCF)/cash grant mid-line survey in five Karnali districts have been used for strengthening the design and implementation of the cash grant programme. Finally, the Paediatric HIV Assessment and Strengthening Paediatric HIV Services in Nepal has identified opportunities and barriers that can be used to improve programming and planning for increased uptake of paediatric HIV services.

Partnerships

UNICEF Nepal's programme is based on partnership with the Government and development partners including United Nations agencies, civil societies, community-based organizations, lawmakers and the private sector. In 2015, 103 humanitarian partnerships were established with civil society organizations, with 59 partnerships for emergency response developed less than one month after the earthquake. Partnerships extend to all key programmes areas. In collaboration with the Microsoft Innovation Center and Google, an Appathon – an intensive assistive devices and applications development competition for young programming enthusiasts – was organized in August. As part of the competition, 28 teams presented innovative ideas, such as an application to help persons with disabilities control computers without using their hands.

With Nepal Scouts, UNICEF mobilized more than 400 scout masters and leaders in 19 districts who informed and motivated 40,000 beneficiaries to uptake the cash transfer provided in earthquake-affected districts. As Global Education Cluster co-leads, UNICEF and Save the Children have an ongoing partnership with the Department of Education to support a cluster response to national emergencies. This partnership was strengthened during Education in Emergencies to coordinate the response after the earthquake.

UNICEF is the current Education Development Partner focal point, responsible for donor coordination with the Government's education sector, including eight Sector-Wide Approach (SWAp) members and three other donors. UNICEF supported the Government's development of a new sector plan through management of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) Education Section Plan Development Grant, helping the Government consult development partners, Association of International NGOs, National Campaign for Education (national non-governmental organization, or NGO) and local stakeholders. With Radio Nepal, UNICEF launched the radio programme 'Bhandai-Sundai' or 'Talking-Listening', four times daily immediately after the earthquake. Along with psychosocial counselling and situation updates, the programme addressed issues faced by women and children due to the earthquake. More than 13,000 minutes of content were broadcast and more than 1,200 calls were received on the show.

External Communication and Public Advocacy

The earthquakes resulted in an opportunity for the Country Office to push harder on child rights issues and to advocate with the Government to build back better. The Government's quick decision to stop inter-country adoption and the transportation of children without guardians or proper documentation, and a ban of new registration of children's homes are concrete examples. The agreement on a Standard Operating Procedure on Trafficking was a major breakthrough in building better systems for child protection. The disaster also pushed UNICEF

Nepal into high-visibility mode using different multimedia communication channels to not only highlight the needs of children, but also gather international support.

In the first month after the earthquake, UNICEF led the global media interest with 38 per cent of the Share of Voice of online and broadcast news in comparison with other aid agencies. National Committees prioritized digital channels in their outreach to donors and media for the Nepal earthquake, and while 92 per cent of all Nepal emergency giving in Australia was driven principally from online channels, 50 per cent of the donors giving to Nepal online were new. The National Committees' support following the earthquakes played a pivotal role. More than 77 per cent of the total Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal was raised by the National Committees, some of them topping US\$12 million each.

UNICEF Nepal's digital footprint over social media jumped significantly in 2015, more so after the earthquake. A 240 per cent increase in Twitter followers was observed since December 2014, with an 86 per cent increase of 'likes' on Facebook during the same period. In 2015, UNICEF Nepal also worked towards collaborating with Facebook's Internet.org initiative, which acts as a platform to provide people (with a special focus on youth) with free access (no data charges) to local content on health care, education, financial services and Government. This will be launched in 2016.

South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation

UNICEF Nepal was engaged with the UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia (ROSA) to build the capacity of member states of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) on Child-Centred Risk Assessment in which high-level delegates from the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Women and Children from Nepal took part. The draft SAARC Regional Framework on Child-Centred Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) was drafted and presented to representatives of the SAARC member states in a high-level policy dialogue. The framework outlines four pillars: 1) Child-Centred Risk Assessment as basis of designing and implementing all sectoral and cross-sectoral programmes; 2) Comprehensive School Safety guidelines and practices are developed, adopted and implemented; 3) Processes and mechanisms to ensure children's participation in DRR are established and implemented; and 4) Child protection mechanisms to reduce risks from disasters are strengthened and operationalized with mandates, resources and capacities.

Similarly, UNICEF Nepal provided technical inputs and support to facilitate the session on child-centred risk assessment during a SAARC regional refresher training and cross learning meeting in India. Child-centred risk assessment tools and methodologies were shared and helped UNICEF India in the development of a risk-informed development planning system software. These exchanges and sharing between SAARC countries with ROSA support provided opportunity for cross learning and possible future collaboration in the areas of DRR.

Identification and Promotion of Innovation

Immediately after the devastating earthquakes of April and May 2015, UNICEF has worked closely with the Government of Nepal and other partners on a large-scale emergency response operation, including actions for immediate relief and early recovery. As part of this assistance, UNICEF has supported the Government to provide relief and recovery cash transfers to beneficiaries of existing social assistance programmes for vulnerable groups and children under 5 who were not part of existing programmes. The programme has also provided the opportunity to strengthen and progressively scale up the Child Grant, reinforce the building blocks of an

integrated social protection system, and help develop a model for social transfers in Nepal that works in both regular development and emergency contexts.

In the first phase of the response, UNICEF provided technical and financial assistance to the Government to deliver a relief payment of NRs 3,000 (US\$30) as a top-up to the regular social assistance payments received by five vulnerable groups (Dalit children under 5, widows, single women over 60 years of age, people with disabilities, senior citizens over 70 years of age or over 60 if Dalit, and highly marginalized Janajati ethnic groups) in the 19 districts most affected by the earthquakes. The cash transfer programme is implemented jointly by the Government through MoFALD, UNICEF and other local partners. Additional measures have been put into place to strengthen the dissemination of programme information to beneficiaries and for M&E. This includes engagement of local organisations for outreach, use of local FM radio, an SMS-based monitoring system, and systematic post-distribution monitoring.

Service Delivery

UNICEF invested in systems strengthening for improved service delivery in the 14 severely earthquake-affected districts and development programmes in 15 priority districts of the Country Programme. In earthquake-affected areas, UNICEF supported the re-establishment of essential life-saving maternal, newborn and child health services in areas where health facilities were destroyed or damaged. The health system capacity was rebuilt as the cold chain logistics and vaccine management were re-established through the repair of equipment in damaged health facilities and regional medical stores, training of health workers on standard operating procedures was provided for effective vaccine management, and provision of additional human resources took place to re-establish the inventory system of vaccines and drugs. Procurement orders totalling US\$49,946,078 and amounting to 6,346 metric tons were made.

In nutrition, UNICEF used its MSNP to intervene in earthquake-affected districts focusing on breastfeeding counselling; complementary feeding counselling; therapeutic feeding; supplementary feeding; and provision of micronutrients to children, and pregnant and lactating women. UNICEF supported the Government and National Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster in providing standardized and harmonized response, reaching 655,910 earthquake-affected people with safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene through water trucking and point-of-use treatment including water kits and water treatment products. UNICEF supported the Education Cluster to complete a structural assessment of all schools in the 14 earthquake-affected districts.

UNICEF also supported the Back-to-School campaign, reaching more than 1 million community members through newspapers, radio and television spots. For the first time, 171 social workers were deployed in all affected districts to identify vulnerable, unaccompanied and separated children and provide appropriate services. Around 13,300 minutes of daily on-air psychosocial counselling and information regarding relief efforts were provided to listeners across the 14 earthquake-affected districts through the UNICEF–Radio Nepal radio programme – Bhandai-Sundai (Talking -Listening). Caller grievances were also handled directly by concerned authorities.

Human Rights-Based Approach to Cooperation

UNICEF Nepal's programming is based on a strong human rights-based approach. It focuses on 15 districts with the poorest social indicators. As a result of UNICEF's continuous advocacy on child rights, the new Constitution, promulgated on 20 September, has preserved key child rights provisions as fundamental rights, including right to name and identity, birth registration,

protection from violence against children, right to participation, early childhood development (ECD), child-friendly justice, and right to compensation in cases of violence. Moreover, the best interest principle, health and education-related rights of children, are recognized under the State Policy and Principles' related provisions of the Constitution. The new Constitution also includes a provision requiring that one of the commissioners of the National Human Rights Commission be a child rights expert, which will significantly contribute to strengthening the independent monitoring of children's rights.

Several UNICEF recommendations related to children's rights were taken into account during dialogue between the Government delegation of Nepal to the Human Rights Council within the Universal Periodic Review process, and were reflected in the outcome document in November. The human rights-based approach was more evident during the humanitarian crisis. An example is cash transfer, through which close to 400,000 vulnerable people including persons with disabilities, older persons, widows, single women above 60 and Dalit children under 5 in 19 severely affected districts received an emergency top-up (US\$ 30) as part of their regular social assistance grants.

During the earthquake emergency, UNICEF acted to ensure the rights of children with disabilities by engaging with NGOs to implement disability-targeted projects. A total of 5,245 children with disabilities (44 per cent girls) were identified in the earthquake-affected areas and 222 children with disabilities were provided with essential services, and 1,911 children with disabilities received access to inclusive, safe and child-friendly facilities.

Gender Mainstreaming and Equality

Gender issues are mainstreamed in the Country Programme through the efforts of the Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI) team that comprises professionals from Management, Programme and Operations. As a result, Country Office has supported a number of gender focused activities, including an advocacy event celebrating the International Day of Girl Child dedicated toward assuring the contribution of adolescent girls toward the SDGs. 10-15% of a UNICEF professional's time was allocated as gender focal point. As a result, Country Office has supported a number of gender focused activities, including an advocacy event celebrating the International Day of Girl Child dedicated toward assuring the contribution of adolescent girls toward the SDGs. 10-15% of a UNICEF professional's time was allocated as gender focal point.

Working in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UNICEF engaged in discussions and debates to influence religious groups, who have moral authority in their communities, to dissuade child marriages within their communities. UNICEF, in joint collaboration with child rights organizations, local partners and the Government, commissioned consultations with more than 1,800 children (50 per cent girls) in the 14 earthquake-affected districts to understand their concerns. Gender-disaggregated participatory tools were used to gather the different perspectives of girls and boys to feedback as part of policy and programmatic advocacy processes. This initiative was implemented during three months, with programme professionals committing approximately 20 per cent of their time and with a budget of US\$75,000 executed through a joint partnership with Save the Children, World Vision and Plan International in collaboration with a local partner working in the field of child rights.

Within UNICEF Nepal, the GESI team is led by the Deputy Representative and facilitated by the Gender Focal Point from the Child-Friendly Local Governance (CFLG) programme. Most sectoral gender focal persons allocate 5–15 per cent of their time to gender issues within their

programmes, however, no specific budget has yet been allocated. The GESI team has a Terms of Reference and its major work is to mainstream gender in the country office programming, monitoring and evaluation.

Environmental Sustainability

UNICEF Nepal contributed towards environmental sustainability through knowledge and skills building of children, community leaders and local government officials on various risks, including environmental risks, and in assessment and local disaster risk management planning. As part of the school-based DRR component, children were taught about concepts and practices (improvising barometers and rain gauge for climate variabilities) on climate change adaptation (CCA). This contributed to the SAARC Regional Framework on Child-Centred DRR through adoption of a Child Centred Risk Assessment as one of its four key pillars. A Total Sanitation Guideline was developed for the WASH sector to support communities in addressing various environmental issues such as solid and liquid waste management, faecal sludge management, risk reduction, safe and sustainable water, as part of post-Open Defecation Free (ODF) initiatives.

UNICEF is now working with Kathmandu Metropolitan City to develop child-, gender- and disability-friendly public toilets in Ratna Park. As part of the emergency response, UNICEF, together with its partner, ENPHO, distributed and utilized 21,020 litres of effective micro-organisms as an environment-friendly solution for vector control solid waste decomposition and an eco-friendly toilet cleaning solution for internally displaced persons and earthquake-affected communities. To promote environmentally friendly livelihood solutions among young people in rural areas, showcase sites of renewable energy technology (solar pumps, bio-gas and hydraulic ram pumps) for improving livelihoods were established in Saptari and Achham districts. These serve as model communities demonstrating the benefits of renewable energy for sustainable livelihoods and act as complements to training on livelihood awareness and micro-enterprise development for adolescents.

As part of the Country Office greening initiative, UNICEF Nepal decided to implement 'Light and Agile' IT (LIGHT) infrastructure after the 25 April earthquake. A shared service centre was set up in the Country Office, and all existing Zone Offices and Emergency Site Locations were converted into light mode.

Effective Leadership

Nepal was declared a Level 2 corporate emergency on 27 April following the major earthquakes of 25 April. The L2 was prolonged until 27 August. The regular development programme was suspended for one month to respond to humanitarian crisis. To ensure UNICEF's presence close to the affected populations, five new Emergency Site Locations were established in the affected districts of Dolakha, Gorkha, Kathmandu, Nuwakor and Sindhupalchowk, and more than 103 staff were recruited to support Nepal's recovery and reconstruction efforts. In addition, the office, under direct supervision of the Representative, co-lead four humanitarian clusters (Nutrition, WASH, Education and Protection).

A special Emergency Management Team was established in May 2015. The Country Management Team (CMT) utilized timely and quality data on key management indicators and effectively performed its advisory role to the Representative for informed decision-making.

UNICEF Nepal is an active member of the United Nations Operations Management Team (OMT). The Representative and Chief of Operations advocacy lead to consensus to construct

an additional earthquake-proof building to accommodate UNICEF staff whose offices were damaged during the earthquake.

The Mid-Term Review was delayed due to the earthquake, and preparations are ongoing to conduct a strategic review of the Country Programme, including the office's Risk Profile, in early 2016.

The Country Office was internally audited in April 2014, resulting in 13 audit recommendations, of which 4 were listed under High Priority and the rest under Medium. As of December 2015, all of the recommendations are closed.

Financial Resources Management

Monthly discussion and follow-up action take place in monthly CMT meetings on funding status; programme implementation rate, including implementation of grants; direct cash transfer (DCT) status and Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) implementation; and Programme Budget Allotment (PBA) expiry and donor reports due date. The Country Office efficiently managed its financial resources and maintained its overall liquidity. All electronic transfers from bank accounts in Nepalese Rupees and US dollars have been properly applied. From November 2015 onward, the Global Shared Services Centre (GSSC) took over the bank reconciliation process.

As of 3 December 2015, 85 per cent of Regular Resources (RR), 61 per cent of Other Resources – Regular (ORR) and 56 per cent of Other Resources – Emergency (ORE) were utilized against planned allocations. The Country Office has US\$389,669 (1.4 per cent) DCTs in excess of nine months as of 3 December 2015, which is more than 1 per cent.

UNICEF Nepal prepared a HACT Assessment and Assurance Plan for 2015. During the year, 28 out of a planned 29 micro-assessments were completed, and 20 spot checks and 300 programmatic visits were carried out. Staff could not implement all planned spot-check activities due to the increase in implementing partners to address the humanitarian response to the earthquakes. Hence, UNICEF Nepal contracted T.R. Upadhya & Company and B & B Associated to carry out 34 spot checks. The Country Office collaborated with the Office of the Auditor General's Office of Nepal to complete the schedule audit of seven UNICEF priority districts. Almost all staff members completed the HACT e-course in 2015.

UNICEF also supported capacity strengthening of 33 implementing partners in financial management, especially on issues related to HACT and Funds Authorization and Certification of Expenditures (FACE). UNICEF Office of Internal Audit and Investigation (OIAI) conducted an internal audit of the Country Office in April 2014 and made 13 recommendations, with 4 high and 9 medium priorities, and all recommendations were closed, except for one that is pending at New York headquarters.

Fund-Raising and Donor Relations

Following the Nepal earthquake of 25 April, an inter-agency Flash Appeal totalling US\$423 million for an initial three months was launched on 8 May 2015. UNICEF's component of this appeal was US\$51.1 million. The appeal was subsequently revised and extended to 30 September and increased to US\$62.5 million. At the same time, a longer-term HAC response was formulated, totalling US\$120 million. By the end of November, the shortfall was less than US\$14 million.

Proactive and purposive multimedia documentation of response activities helped UNICEF Nepal raise one third of the total appeal in the first month alone, when UNICEF also managed to secure a 38 per cent 'Share of Voice of global online and broadcast news. By the third month mark, 60 per cent of the HAC appeal had been funded. National Committees' support to the earthquake response was remarkable, with funds raised by the National Committees amounting to US\$82 million, or 77 per cent of the total amount raised. While the total financial envelope for the Country Programme Action Plan 2013–2017 is US\$144 million, against the US\$29 million allocated for 2015, RR and RR funding (funded and in the pipeline) reached US\$33.89 million (116 per cent).

The Country Office has a Resource Mobilization Strategy and Action Plan to guide fund-raising efforts. The quality and timeliness of donor reporting is assured by the Deputy Representative, who not only alerts CMT members every month of impending submissions in the next three months, but also finalizes and approves all donor reports prior to submission. Availability and utilization rates of RR and OR are regular features of CMT meetings. Of the 65 donor reports due in 2015, nine were submitted late, of which seven were toolkit reports that could not be submitted on time due to further need for clarification.

Evaluation

The (online) Integrated M&E Plan/Integrated M&E and Research Planning is institutionalized in the Country Office to ensure coordination of evaluations, studies, surveys and research, aligned with the Rolling Work Plan 2013–2017. Performance against planned activities has been challenging, particularly following the earthquakes. Concerted efforts are pursued by the Country Office to ensure greater prioritization and strategic focus in evaluation planning and implementation, e.g., with development of Research and Evaluation Standard Operational Procedures.

Strengthening governance structures for management and quality assurance of all research and evaluations activities will be a key priority, including building of relevant internal capacities for planning, management and usage of evaluation. Despite delays in regular programming, five evaluations were initiated in 2015. Two evaluations are related to emergency operations involving UNICEF, i.e., on child-friendly spaces (in collaboration with World Vision/Columbia University) and on UNICEF emergency response and recovery following the earthquakes. The Country Office initiated joint evaluations with relevant government counterparts on the National Plan of Action for Children, Maternal and Neonatal Health Watch Groups and Children Affected by Armed Conflict. All evaluations are expected to be finalized in the first half of 2016.

Use of evaluations within UNICEF remains constrained, with implementation of some management response plans pending for years, partly due to limitations in SMART-formulated actions following from recommendations. Progress in evidence-based policymaking and Government-led evaluations has been constrained due to weak institutionalization and capacities within government institutions. UNICEF supported the National Planning Commission (NPC) in strengthening the evaluation culture and capacity in the third Evaluation Networking Meeting on 29 July 2015 aimed at development of Nepal's integrated EvalYear plan, leading to successful completion of the Global Evaluation Year event held in Kathmandu from 23–27 November. UNICEF also contributed to national discussion on the M&E bill proposed by the NPC.

Efficiency Gains and Cost Savings

A cost savings of approximately US\$813,332.89 through the use of Long-Term Agreements (LTAs); use of information technology (IT) equipment; and a direct treasury offer from the UNICEF headquarters account (in US dollars) to a local currency account and effective price and services negotiations with vendors.

Out of US\$813,332.89 total savings, US\$654,868.75 (81 per cent) was saved through LTAs and negotiations with suppliers; US\$82,400.00 (10 per cent) through the use of IT equipment (video conferencing and Webex, Skype call to reduce travelling, hiring information and communication technology (ICT) consultants instead of regular staff); US\$76,064.14 (9 per cent) was saved through a treasury offer from headquarters in US dollar exchange and negotiation with a Standard Chartered Bank on the normal rate of exchange.

1) Supply: Cost savings through using LTAs and negotiations with suppliers (US\$654,868.75)

- LTAs (US\$329,258.75)
- Negotiations (US\$325,610.00)

2) Finance: US dollar exchange gained through a treasury offer from UNICEF headquarters and negotiation with a Standard Chartered Bank on the normal rate of exchange (US\$76,064.14)

- Cash replenishment of headquarters account (US\$76,064.14)

3) ICT: Cost savings through use IT equipment (video conferencing and Webex, Skype and hiring ICT consultants instead of regular staff) (US\$82,400.00)

- Conferencing tools for meetings (US\$65,000.00)
- Outsourced ICT consultants (US\$12,300.00)
- Office equipment for external meetings (US\$5,100.00)

Total: US\$813,332.89

Significant gains were achieved by centralizing implementation of VISION transactions for ROSA, Bhutan and Nepal Country Offices as well zonal offices, such as faster processing, reduced transaction errors, enhanced process accountabilities and quality time for programme implementation. This has also enabled a smooth transfer of processing of selected transactions to the GSSC since November 2015.

UNICEF Nepal is pursuing simplified approach for local field trips called travel2field where expenses are charged to fund commitments. This approach resulted in efficiency gains and transaction cost savings.

Supply Management

In 2015, UNICEF Nepal total procurement of US\$42 million comprised programme sales amounting to US\$23.75 million, institutional contracts amounting to US\$3 million, assets and consumables amounting to US\$0.9 million and procurement services to Government amounting to US\$16 million. The office issued 365 purchase orders amounting to US\$15 million for UNICEF Nepal and ROSA.

UNICEF Nepal 2015	Value in US\$
Offshore	11,000,000
Local	9,000,000
Assets and consumables	984,128
Institutional contracts	3,026,256
ROSA contracts and purchase orders	1,590,543
Procurement services	16,000,000

During the 2015 earthquake response, UNICEF ensured timely delivery of supplies from pre-positioned stock and the placement of orders from LTA vendors to meet urgent needs. To ensure that supplies reached beneficiaries in remote areas cut off by landslides, a combination of UNICEF and logistics clusters resources were utilized including the use of airplanes, helicopters, trucks, tractors, mules and porters. The Supply Section facilitated quick turnaround of procurement services requested by the Government for vaccines, syringes and safety boxes. It also supported the strengthening of Government's Logistics Management Division (LMD) by facilitating refurbishment of the LMD's office and arranging for capacity development of key government stakeholders.

UNICEF also supported the Government and other implementing partners to overcome logistics bottlenecks and challenges in distributing supplies to beneficiaries by deploying five logistics officers to the field levels. Support was then provided to the partners by joint planning and leveraging on the United Nations logistics cluster assets (helicopters, trucks and porters) to ensure supplies reach beneficiaries.

The warehouse stock levels of US\$2.7 million remained at reasonable levels after completing replenishment of emergency/monsoon preposition items. This stock is monitored regularly, and a monthly report and dashboard of stock at every location is shared with programme managers showing expiry status and storage duration in warehouse.

Security for Staff and Premises

The political climate in Nepal has been strained following the promulgation of the new Constitution in September. The Madhesi minority in the southern plains has protested over its perceived marginalization under the new Constitution, causing instability along the Nepal-India border. Tensions and violence have spread and several rounds of talks with the Government have failed to resolve the issue, leading to a rising death toll followed by recurring curfews. This has negatively impacted UNICEF's humanitarian response in the aftermath of the earthquakes. Fuel, gas and other basic commodities have become extremely scarce. A parallel or 'black' market exists but commodities are sold at up to five times the normal price. Staff movement and passage of goods have been particularly impacted. The Country Office has organized shuttle buses for staff, and submitted requests for staff fuel and gas. Aviation safety in Nepal remains a major risk for staff. The fuel crisis has also led to increased unreliability, with more flight cancellations being reported.

A revised Minimum Operating Security Standards (MOSS) was approved on 9 July. The Country Office and zone offices achieved more than 95 per cent MOSS compliance. Newly established post-earthquake sub-zone offices are progressing towards becoming MOSS compliant. Immediately after the earthquakes, the Country Office undertook assessments of

staff residences and offices, supplied all staff with tarpaulins and water purifying tablets, managed the supply of deployment kits for earthquake response teams, and established site offices for Emergency Response at Sindhupalchok, Dolakha, Nuwakot and Gorkha. The Country Office Operations building in Kathmandu was damaged by the earthquakes and found to be unsafe. This, coupled with a high number of surge staff, resulted in the lease of an additional office to house Operations and Emergency Coordination sections. The Country Office is moving to digital VHF communications starting with Kathmandu, followed by field offices. A monthly radio check is conducted by warden systems.

Human Resources

UNICEF Nepal focused on ensuring that an appropriate organizational structure is in place to achieve results for children. After the earthquakes, the office received 159 staff on surge, and increased its overall staffing from 189 to 292, to acquire enough capacity to address the emergency programme at five new emergency sites, striving to address diversity (gender and social inclusion). Staffing capacity gaps were addressed through group training/learning sessions to strengthen capacity.

NCO developed the 2015 Learning Plan to strengthen skills and competencies of staff to achieve results. During the year, 5 out of 13 planned learning events were completed.

The performance management cycle was given significant attention and, effective 30 October, 100 per cent of 2015 Performance Evaluation Reports (PERs) were submitted to Human Resources. All staff observed the performance management cycle, with regular discussions with supervisors. In addition, the 2015 mid-year review completion rate within global deadlines was 44 per cent.

Several actions were taken by the office in regard to the recent Global Staff Survey, such as quarterly Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) meetings, flexible work arrangements, staff learning and training plan, stress counselling and administrative arrangements linked to earthquake emergency to allow appropriate rest periods for staff. All these have eased staff life, improved the staff working environment and built staff capacity.

UNICEF is one of the lead agencies implementing the 10 minimum standards on HIV in the workplace for UN Cares in Nepal. Unfortunately, no group training session was held this year due to the earthquakes. All staff were required to complete the online HIV/AIDS training.

The office conducted a staffing assessment to enable appropriate earthquake response, ensure effective humanitarian and early recovery in line with the Core Commitments for Children (CCCs). One orientation session was held on emergency risk management and response. To strengthen emergency preparedness and mobilize experts at times of crisis and emergencies, the office continued to strengthen consultant roster as well as local talent pool.

Effective Use of Information and Communication Technology

All users' PCs have been upgraded to Office 365. The automation tools are being used extensively for conducting meetings and sharing documents, thereby increasing the mobility of remote users, especially after the earthquakes. LIGHT infrastructure has been implemented in the Bharatpur, Biratnagar and Nepalgunj Zone Offices, with the Kathmandu data centre serving as Shared Service Centre, which has resulted in cost-savings in terms of hardware, electricity and oversight costs and also in providing higher connectivity to users and increased ease of use.

By implementing various cost-saving measures, ICT made a saving of approximately US\$82,400. Fully functional and high-standard ICT services were set up, following the LIGHT office modality, in the new Operations Wings and in the Emergency Sites Offices in Dolakha, Gorkha, Nuwakot and Sindhupalchowk. As a part of Green Initiative, these offices have been equipped with hybrid solar-powered back-up systems, which provide clean and reliable electricity supply during load-shedding at zero cost. ICT was actively involved in the deployment of RapidPro real-time monitoring systems, which were used for tracking staff members' locations during field missions and for receiving teachers' feedback on the education programme. UNICEF Nepal, in collaboration with the Supply Division and the Information Technology Solution and Services Division, is currently involved in the development and testing of the Supply Chain Tracking and Monitoring System, comprising five applications (UniSupply, Barcode apps (mInventory and mHandover, Product Feedback app and e-tools). Following the April 2015 earthquake, a local service provider has been contracted to provide immediate telephone services to new offices. Telecommunication service is being upgraded with the implementation of digital VHF radio networks in Kathmandu valley.

Programme Components from Results Assessment Module

ANALYSIS BY OUTCOME AND OUTPUT RESULTS

OUTCOME 1: By 2017, national policies, legislation, plans, budgets, and coordination and monitoring mechanisms are enabling the survival, development, protection and participation rights of children, adolescents and women to be fulfilled with equity in all contexts, including humanitarian situations.

Analytical statement of progress:

UNICEF provided support to the Government of Nepal in the area of policy and legislative reform despite key challenges imposed by humanitarian crisis resulting from the two earthquakes in April and May. Across the country, more than 5,000 schools are estimated to have been destroyed and thousands more damaged, which, together with a deterioration in water and sanitation services, and disruption of schools and health services, are having an impact on multidimensional poverty (PDNA 2015). The humanitarian crisis created by the earthquakes is now being compounded by the political unrest in the country's southern belt following the promulgation of the new Constitution of Nepal in September 2015, challenging UNICEF's humanitarian response capacity.

Nepal has been making advances with the integration of technology in health systems strengthening. Through UNICEF's technical assistance, a national e-Health Strategy was developed. Projects include the Community e-Center initiated in 52 districts by the Ministry of Information and Communication to expand the coverage of ICT services, including Internet, email, Internet calls, photocopy, scanning and other IT-based services for telemedicine in rural Nepal.

The Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health Act developed through UNICEF technical assistance was endorsed, providing legal provisions for the rights of women to maternity leave during pregnancy and the post-partum period, and free health services for mothers and newborns. Women working for public or private companies or NGOs will have 16 weeks of leave with pay (before or after delivery), and paternity leave will be 15 days.

In order to sustainably reduce maternal, infant and young child undernutrition in Nepal, the

national MSNP has now reached implementation in 60 per cent of districts (45 out of a total 75 districts).

With UNICEF support, political commitment for accelerated reduction of stunting with equity has been strengthened at national, district and community levels, with an incremental increase in budget allocation of US\$1.3 million from the Government and development partners.

Work to sector harmonization in the WASH sector has advanced with the One WASH Sector Development Plan (SDP) aligned with Sustainable Development Goal pending approval with the Ministry of Urban Development. The SDP targets universal access to basic WASH services by 2020 and improved service levels for everyone, anywhere, everywhere in Nepal, including children in their learning environments, by 2030. UNICEF has played a key role in this process to ensure that programmes target universal access to WASH services with improved sector governance and effectiveness.

Issues of equity are front and centre of education policy and programming with the approval of a US\$387,608 Education SDP grant from the GPE to UNICEF. The national School SDP (2016–2022) includes implementation of the Comprehensive Equity Strategy and Equity Index, both developed with UNICEF technical assistance.

The new Constitution of Nepal 2015 has been promulgated with progressive provisions relating to child protection as a result of continuous advocacy by UNICEF and its partners. The new Constitution enlists birth registration as a fundamental right, and includes provisions for prohibiting child marriage and the illegal transfer and abduction of children. The Constitution also provides for the prohibition of abuse, neglect and exploitation of children through any means, in the name of religious or cultural practices.

The Children's Bill is under review with regular technical and decision-making-level consultations. The current draft version includes key provisions on child protection, including child-friendly justice. UNICEF, as a member of the Steering Committee, has been able to influence the process and incorporate a number of provisions relating to child protection concerns as per the internationally agreed and committed child protection standards, particularly those related to alternative care of children without care and child-friendly justice.

The new National Guidelines for Ensuring Meaningful & Ethical Participation of Children/Adolescents, to which UNICEF had provided inputs, outlines how meaningful and ethical participation can be ensured in different settings, such as within families, schools, local bodies, clubs and by marginalized children/adolescents.

The Nepal MICS 2014 was finalized, providing key data for end-of-cycle reporting on Millennium Development Goal indicators and baselines for some of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as informing the earthquake recovery planning process, including the PDNA.

Social Protection measures have been advanced with the provision of an emergency cash top-up grant to 400,000 existing beneficiaries of the Government's social assistance schemes for Dalit children, people with disabilities, older persons, widows and single women, and highly marginalized ethnic groups across the 19 districts affected by the earthquakes. This innovative programme has provided the opportunity to strengthen and progressively scale up the Child Grant, reinforce the building blocks of an integrated social protection system, and help develop a model for social transfers in Nepal that works in both regular development and emergency contexts.

In the aftermath of the disaster earthquakes of April and May 2015, efforts to integrate and ensure DRR at national and sub-national levels have become paramount. In collaboration with MoFALD, DRR/CCA have been integrated into District Disaster Risk Management Plans and local disaster management plans in four districts (Accham, Dhanusha, Parsa and Saptari), with 5 per cent of the Village Development Committee (VDC) budget allocated to address disaster risk.

OUTPUT 1: By 2017, national and sub-national health related policies and strategies address equity in maternal newborn, child and adolescent health, including HIV outcomes with continuum of care.

Analytical statement of progress:

The Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) developed its five-year Nepal Health Sector Strategy outlining strategic interventions to improve the equity, quality and resourcing of health services in the country. The strategy, based on the National Health Policy of 2014, gives emphasis to the role of health systems strengthening and improvements in the quality of care at the point of delivery, ensuring the equitable distribution and utilization of health services, governance and financing, and strengthening capacities for public health in emergencies and improving the availability and use of evidence. UNICEF played a pivotal role in the development of the strategy through its leadership of the health sector development partner's forum and membership of the strategy development team.

To strengthen the strategic use of ICT for improved health outcomes, UNICEF provided technical support to the MoHP to develop a national e-Health Strategy. The strategy covers three strategic pillars, including efforts towards strengthening the governance of electronic information sharing; enhancing the capacity of human resources to adopt and sustain e-Health solutions; and improving the use of ICT services and applications to address high-priority needs of people, service providers and health-care managers.

The draft Immunization Act was registered with the legislature parliament of Nepal in January 2015 by the MoHP and has undergone an extensive review process within the women, children, senior citizen and social welfare legislature parliamentary committee.

UNICEF provided key technical input towards a draft bill on Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health Care to promote the right of every women for respectful maternity care, before, during and after childbirth. The bill is expected to be finalized and approved by the legislative parliament in 2016. The Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health Act will guarantee the rights of women to maternity leave during pregnancy and the post-partum period, and ensure free health services for mothers and newborns.

The National Every Newborn Action Plan 2015–2035 was finalized with UNICEF technical assistance, setting out ambitious targets for reducing neonatal mortality to 10 deaths per 1,000 live births (from 23) and the rate of stillbirths to 10 per 1,000 delivered (from 22) over the duration of the plan.

Using the district investment case approach in 15 out of 75 districts that emphasize the use of evidence for decision-making, district action plans were produced. These plans have been instrumental in ensuring adequate resource allocations for maternal, newborn and child health services at the district level.

OUTPUT 2: By 2017, the MSNP, targeting the most vulnerable newborn, infant and young children, adolescents – especially girls – pregnant and lactating women, HIV-affected children and women, and children and women with disabilities, has political commitment and sectoral budget allocation.

Analytical statement of progress:

Political commitment for the equitable reduction of stunting was strengthened at national, district and community levels demonstrated by the NPR 113 million (US\$1.3 million) budget allocation for planning and implementation of MSNP in an additional 10 districts, bringing the total number of districts implementing the MSNP to 16.

With UNICEF advocacy, Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committees were formed in more than 45 districts and functional and approximately 1,500 VDCs where the MSNP, Agriculture and Food Security Project and *Suaahara* 'Good Nutrition' projects are implemented. With UNICEF's advocacy and support, the MSNP capacity-building working group has been active with a national Training of Trainers on MSNP successfully conducted in all six MSNP districts, covering more than 500 officials and stakeholders from February to June 2015. District Development Committee and VDC-level planning and orientation were also completed in MSNP districts.

UNICEF has been providing key technical assistance and coordination support to develop an M&E system for the MSNP in Nepal. This includes updating the M&E framework, development of a training guideline and finalization of MSNP sectoral M&E frameworks for six sectors (Health, Agriculture, Education, Federal Affairs and Local Government, Urban Development and Women, Children and Social Welfare).

The anaemia strategy has been drafted and is in the process of receiving approval from MoHP.

UNICEF support to the National Nutrition and Food Security Secretariat Advocacy and Communication Working Group facilitated the finalization of the National Nutrition Advocacy and Communication Strategy.

Recently, UNICEF technical support enabled the development of a national nutrition and food security portal, managed by the National Nutrition and Food Security Secretariat under the NPC, acting as a national repository for nutrition and food-related information to inform decision makers and stakeholders in the sector.

OUTPUT 3: By 2017, a National WASH programme and finance strategy are formulated, approved and regularly monitored to improve equitable access, gender sensitivity, sustainability, and efficiency of the sector.

Analytical statement of progress:

Access to clean water and sanitation has been enshrined as the fundamental right in the new Constitution of Nepal 2015. In line with the Government of Nepal's Three Year Plan (2013–2016), the One WASH Umbrella Act and Policy were finalized and the One WASH SDP aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 6 is pending approval by the Ministry of Urban Development after being delayed due to the earthquake of April 2015. The goal of the SDP is to ensure universal access to WASH services, with improved sector governance and effectiveness.

Improved sector coordination has been achieved through the institutionalization of the Sector

Stakeholder Group annual meeting. At sub-national level, UNICEF supported an annual review and planning meeting led by the Department of Water Supply & Sewerage (DWSS) with chiefs from all 75 district offices. The meeting identified strategic sector priorities for closing the gap on water supply and sanitation coverage, including the reduction of open defecation in low-performing areas such as the Terai and improved water quality and safety.

To support the implementation of the SDP, the Ministry of Urban Development, UNICEF and the World Bank have begun preparatory work on a Sector Financing Strategy. In addition, a sector gender budget analysis has been initiated for implementation in 2016.

Some 60 per cent (32 out of 75 districts) of the population use improved sanitation, out of which the lowest wealth quintiles account for 73 per cent (MICS 2014). With the support of UNICEF, four districts (Dhankuta, Ilam, Jajarkot and Nawalparasi), including three municipalities (Dhankuta, Ilam and NawalParasi) have been declared as ODF, enabling more than 1.2 million people, including the most deprived and disadvantaged communities and families, to live in an ODF environment.

In addition, 25,000 households have now purchased toilets in the Terai following community triggering and sanitation marketing supported by the Government and UNICEF. Through this initiative, partners have encouraged the establishment of markets closer to the villages to meet increasing demand for toilets. More than 20 VDCs in Terai alone have been declared as ODF with collective inputs from stakeholders.

The nationwide Coverage and Functionality Status of Water Supply and Sanitation has been updated by DWSS for improved sector monitoring. To complement this update, a web-based M&E system has been initiated by DWSS and annual progress updated for all 75 districts.

OUTPUT 4: By 2017, national-level education policies and strategies demonstrate greater gender and social equity.

Analytical statement of progress:

The MoE secured a GPE Education Sector Programme Development Grant of US\$387,608 for implementation of the Equity Strategy Paper targeting girls and marginalized children. UNICEF played a key role in this effort using its convening capacity as Coordinating Agency for the GPE.

UNICEF is currently supporting the MoE in the development of the Equity in Education Index covering indicators relating to resourcing, education outcomes and context at the district and sub-district level. The Index will use data from key surveys including the 2011 Population & Housing Census and the 2014 MICS. Based on the results of the index, the Government is committed to ensuring the allocation of resources to low-ranking districts. The Equity Index will also play a key role in monitoring the sector, having been included as a key indicator for tracking the US\$59.3 million GPE grant approved in May 2015.

The post-2015 development agenda has been a focus of the year, with UNICEF supporting stakeholders in conducting a gap analysis using the recent Global Initiative on Learning Metrics Taskforce consultation report to address the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goal for education. The consultation focused on seven key domains, including Physical Well-Being, Social and Emotional elements, Culture and Arts, Literacy and Communication, Learning Approaches and Cognition, Numeracy and Mathematics, and Science and Technology.

A review of scholarship and incentive schemes for children implemented by the MoE, MoH, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MoWCSW), MoFALD, and Ministry of Youth and Sports has revealed a number of overlapping initiatives targeting improved education outcomes for girls, children with disabilities and Dalits. With UNICEF's support, an inter-ministerial task-force team has now been formed to review and align these scholarship and incentive schemes to ensure greater accountability and efficiency in the allocation of resources for marginalized groups.

OUTPUT 5: By 2017, the enabling environment, including the governance system, is strengthened to protect, inform and empower adolescent boys and girls to claim their rights, and provides opportunities for their participation.

Analytical statement of progress:

In consultation with partners, UNICEF supported the development of an adolescent-friendly version of the National Plan of Action on holistic adolescent development. This version aims to inform adolescents about the Government's commitment to their holistic development and how they can contribute towards this process by participating in local planning; tracking implementation and engaging with and mobilizing other adolescents. The Adolescent Development & Participation and CFLG programmes jointly developed a capacity strengthening training package for child club networks involved in local planning to better equip them to negotiate for block grants set aside for children and adolescents by VDCs. Training in 6 districts covered all 15 UNICEF priority districts and 8 municipalities.

To enhance systematic participation of children and adolescents and to promote civic engagement and social accountability, adolescent development programme with support from CFLG supported MoWCSW in developing National Guidelines for Ensuring Meaningful & Ethical Participation of Children/Adolescents, which are expected to be approved in 2016. The guidelines outlines how meaningful and ethical participation can be ensured in different settings such as families, schools, local bodies and clubs, and by marginalized children/adolescents such as those with disabilities and from historically excluded groups. Consultations were held with children/adolescents to understand where, how they wanted to participate, and from whom, what type of support they needed and how. Inputs from child rights/participation experts were taken to reflect child/adolescent participation provisions made in the new constitution.

Supported by UNICEF, Nepal Rastra Bank, Central Bank of Nepal, organized Global Money Week to raise awareness on financial skills, creating livelihoods and developing entrepreneurship skills. Banks and financial institutes, school networks and 4,000 stakeholders including children participated in a rally with the slogan 'Save Today, Safe Tomorrow'. Nepal Rastra Bank also organized programme on Financial Literacy and Child and Youth Finance to mark Global Money Week. This programme was chaired by the Governor of Nepal Rastra Bank, who encouraged adolescents to start saving and to develop their entrepreneurial skills. UNICEF efforts towards integrating Child Social and Financial Education in school curricula were recognized. Integration of such education in the social studies curriculum of Grade 9 is expected in 2016.

The National Strategy on Ending Child Marriage developed in 2014 is under final review and endorsement. The strategy was presented during fourth International Day of the Girl Child celebration hosted by MoWCSW together with UNICEF and other partners.

OUTPUT 6: By 2017, a national system to protect children and adolescents, especially girls, from abuse, neglect and exploitation is incorporated in legislation and policies, and planned,

resourced, monitored, documented and coordinated across sectors and actors at national and local levels.

Analytical statement of progress:

The Government of Nepal promulgated a new Constitution in September 2015, encompassing progressive provisions relating to child protection under the fundamental rights as a result of continuous advocacy of UNICEF and its civil society partners. The new Constitution of Nepal enlists the right to birth registration as a fundamental right. The Constitution also prohibits child marriage, illegal transfer, and abduction of children. As provided for in the Constitution, no child shall be subjected to being held hostage or employed in factories, mines, or in any other hazardous works. Likewise, prohibition of physical and mental torture in home, school or other places or situations is also guaranteed. The Constitution also provides for the prohibition of abuse, neglect or exploitation of children through any means, in the name of religious or cultural practices. There are provisions on special protections and benefits for children with disabilities or children without parental care, as well as conflict-affected, displaced or vulnerable children.

The earthquake response emphasized a system-wide and cross-sectoral approach to child trafficking. Thus, agreement has been reached on an identification and referral mechanism to ensure systematic reporting of trafficking, access of survivors to services, and improving overall coordination. UNICEF's advocacy and facilitation brought together key partners including the Nepal Police, CCWB, Department of Immigration, MoWCSW, airport authorities and two NGOs, namely Maiti Nepal and Sakti Samuha. The next step will be to formalize this mechanism and ensure its sustainability through the formulation and approval of the Anti-Trafficking Standard Operational Procedure.

The Government of Nepal has approved the posts of Child Protection Officers and Child Protections Inspectors dedicated for child protection-related work in all 75 district Women and Children Offices. This is an important step towards ensuring more focused attention to the protection of children at the district level and the application of the case management guidelines.

UNICEF is supporting CCWB to customize and adapt a case management system (global Child Protection Information Management System CPIMS+ software).

OUTPUT 7: By 2017, government institutions at national and sub-national levels that promote the rights of children, adolescents and women are more able to generate and use evidence to develop, fund and monitor equity-focused, gender-sensitive, multi-sectoral planning, governance and social protection frameworks and related policies.

Analytical statement of progress:

UNICEF continued its support to strengthening national monitoring, including piloting the web-based District Planning, Monitoring and Analysis System in five districts with MoFALD. Attempts were been made to closely align the Bottleneck Analysis database with the system, and to support district- and local-level planning. The situation in earthquake-affected districts and restrictions in movement due to acute fuel shortages and the security situation in Terai have constrained advancing technical support.

The revised Nepal MICS 2014 key findings with geographic/regional-level data were made available to inform the earthquake recovery planning process including the PDNA. The Nepal MICS will be officially launched by the NPC in early 2016.

The third Evaluation Networking Meeting organized by NPC, United Nations agencies and civil society was held on 29 July 2015 to coordinate planning for the successful Global Evaluation Year event held in Kathmandu from 23–27 November. UNICEF commented on the national M&E bill proposed by the NPC, which emphasizes the role of evaluation for public and social accountability. UNICEF has initiated joint evaluations with relevant government counterparts on the National Plan of Action for Children, Maternal and Neonatal Health Watch Groups, and Children Affected by Armed Conflict.

UNICEF supported the Government of Nepal to deliver an emergency cash transfer programme that reached more than 400,000 vulnerable individuals across the 19 districts affected by the earthquakes. A top-up payment of NRs 3,000 (US\$30) was provided to all existing beneficiaries of the Government's social assistance schemes for Dalit children, people with disabilities, older persons, widows and single women, and highly marginalized ethnic groups.

On average, 15 per cent of district budgets were allocated for children and 11 per cent were expended. In addition, UNICEF monitoring found that the interventions with the highest budget allocations were CD centre management, support for birthing centres, antenatal care, -capacity building training for child club members and the provision of play materials for children. Social budget analyses at the district and national levels are progressing towards building a stronger evidence base for advocacy.

The promotion of innovative solutions continued this year with a series of Appathons or application development competitions among groups of young social innovators, usually college students. Through this initiative UNICEF supported a Child Gamethon based on nine problem statements provided by different programme sections within UNICEF. The Appathon on wearable technologies included top solutions such as shoes connecting Google maps with their wearer and 'smart gloves' created to assist persons with severe disabilities to communicate better.

OUTPUT 8: By 2017, national and provincial legislatures and administrative authorities have improved capacity to draft, reform and implement legislation that complies with international child rights standards and to undertake priority advocacy actions for child rights.

Analytical statement of progress:

The new Constitution enshrines the rights of children as fundamental rights, including the right to a name and identity, birth registration, protection from violence, the right to participation, ECD, child-friendly justice, and the right to compensation in case of violence. The best interest of the child principle, and the health and education-related rights of children are recognized under the State Policy and Principles'-related provisions of the Constitution.

UNICEF advocacy in ensuring the child-friendliness of the Constitution was undertaken through its engagement with Constituent Assembly members, key child rights activists and civil society, as well as systematic follow-up on recommendations submitted by UNICEF and partner organizations for the Constituent Assembly's consideration and acceptance.

As a next step, UNICEF will be focusing on supporting the Government of Nepal and the Legislative Parliament in bringing domestic legislation in line with the new Constitution and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

OUTPUT 9: By 2017, policies, strategy, guidance and budget of four sectors (WASH, Education, Child Protection, and Health and Nutrition, including HIV and AIDS, integrate DRR

and CCA for disaster risk management, with special attention to most-at-risk children, adolescents, especially girls, and women.

Analytical statement of progress:

In collaboration with the MoFALD and local authorities/implementing partners, DRR/CCA have been integrated into District Disaster Risk Management Plans and local disaster management plans in four districts (Accham, Dhanuach, Parsa and Saptari). This pilot has resulted in the allocation of 5 per cent of the VDC budget to address disaster risk. Disaster management has also been incorporated in the newly prepared periodic plan of the District Development Committee, along with other cross-cutting issues such as gender and CFLG as a result of UNICEF advocacy with MoFALD.

Following the earthquakes of April/May, comprehensive school safety focusing on three pillars (safe learning facilities, school disaster management and risk reduction/resilience) has been recognized as a major component in the new School Sector Development Plan (2016–2022). Under the leadership and coordination of the Department of Education and District Education Offices, UNICEF supported the capacity building of 87,476 (52 per cent women, 177 children with disabilities) local education stakeholders in 380 schools from five districts in the areas of mitigation of disaster risk, development of evacuation routes in schools and training on simulation drills.

The draft WASH SDP provides dedicated and integrated sections on DRR and climate change. A study on the effects of climate variabilities on WASH service delivery has now been initiated with the support of UNICEF. The Disaster Risk Management guideline drafted in 2014–2015 is in place and currently being implemented in earthquake-affected districts as a part of capacity building and reconstruction work.

UNICEF supported the development and finalization of the National Guideline on the Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition, integrating and mainstreaming DRR.

The Nepal Health Sector Strategy 2015–2020 incorporates a separate outcome on DRR, including the strengthened management of public health emergencies. Drawing on the lessons from the earthquake, the MoHP will revise protocols and guidelines for improved health-sector emergency response at the central and decentralized level.

DRR has been integrated within the national government plan and programmes of the Department of Women and Children in the fiscal year (2072/32). Activities have focused on capacity enhancement of the existing child protection systems to mitigate, prepare and respond to emergencies, such as training on security and justice, GBV and psychosocial counselling.

OUTCOME 2: By 2017, in selected areas (the most disadvantaged districts and municipalities), social sector systems are providing integrated, quality services to fulfil the survival, development, protection and participation rights of children, adolescents and women, with equity in all contexts, including humanitarian situations.

Analytical statement of progress:

UNICEF continued to support improvements in social service systems, focusing on the 15 most disadvantaged districts in the middle and eastern region and in the Terai. Through technical support from key sectors such as Health, Education, Nutrition, WASH, Education and Child Protection, quality services were made available at district and village levels.

The reporting year faced unprecedented challenges due to two earthquakes in April and May that affected 31 out of 75 districts with 5.2 million people, of which 1.2 million are children (40 per cent). This humanitarian crisis diverted financial and human resources from UNICEF priority districts, causing delays in some programme implementation.

UNICEF's strong advocacy resulted in a 40 per cent increment of government allocation (US\$600,000) for CFLG, targeting 61 districts and 191 municipalities.

Despite massive damage to water systems and sanitary latrines in the earthquake-affected districts, the ODF movement gained further momentum. Six districts (Bajhang, Bardia, Gulmi, Nawalparasi, Rolpa and Surkhet) achieved ODF status with UNICEF support. Altogether, a total of 227 villages and 270 school catchment areas have been declared as ODF, benefiting 681,000 people and 81,000 students, respectively.

In UNICEF, 15 priority districts, all 481,334 targeted boys and girls aged 6–59 months old received vitamin A supplementation and deworming medicine in April 2015. UNICEF supported the training of health workers on the Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition in 11 districts – approximately 8,500 Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs), 2,400 health workers in 11 programme districts have benefited from the training through acquiring knowledge on diagnosis and referral of acutely malnourished children. Out of a target of 6,000, a total of 3,301 children under 5 (1,949 girls) with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were admitted. Out of the total discharged, 78 per cent recovered and 0.2 per cent died, which is well above the global SPHERE standards.

Despite achieving the goal on reduction of under-five mortality, Nepal has not been able to proportionately reduce neonatal mortality from the current neonatal mortality rate of 23 per 1,000 live births against the Every Newborn Action Plan target of 17.5 per 1,000 live births by 2020. Neonatal intensive care units were established in 12 tertiary and zonal hospitals and 13 district hospitals have newborn stabilization units. At the community level, the Integrated Management of Newborn and Childhood Illness (IMNCI) programme was developed and implemented in 40 districts. UNICEF supported quality of care in the 15 most deprived districts through the supply of medical equipment and training of health workers. During the reporting period, UNICEF capacitated 46 nurses and auxiliary nurse midwives from the 15 districts, contributing towards ensuring access to quality services closer to their community. Some 55.6 per cent of deliveries were conducted by skilled birth attendants and 56.2 per cent of pregnant women delivered their babies in health facilities in the 15 UNICEF districts.

EC) festivals were conducted in two districts (Bajura and Surkhet) where participants were drawn from 10 districts and 100 villages to get first-hand experience on implementation. UNICEF also equipped 300 ECD centres with ECD kits and basic and refresher training on ECD.

In March, the first National Children's Literature Festival was held in Kathmandu, before travelling to four of the country's most remote districts, contributing towards UNICEF's ongoing efforts to improve the quality of formal education through Early Grade Reading. The Festival reached 16,000 children and parents to promote a culture of reading and learning. In total, 12,516 adolescents (6,312 girls; 6,204 boys) have been reached through UNICEF's Afterschool Programme, which targets disadvantaged adolescent and provides life skills, homework support and sports activities in partnership with an NGO (Restless Development), with improved enrolment rates in priority districts through supporting transition to secondary education.

Significant progress was made in providing safe and victim-friendly environments for all children, including children in conflict with the law. The Office of the Attorney General, in collaboration with UNICEF, established victim-friendly rooms in public prosecutors' offices in 20 districts in 2015. In addition, 64 districts now have with juvenile benches enforcing child-friendly practices, which are reducing the detention of minors while promoting their reintegration into society. With UNICEF's technical and financial support, the CCWB has completed the individual assessment of 746 (44 per cent female) children affected by armed conflict who are residing in childcare homes for family tracing and their deinstitutionalization.

As essential emergency supplies were pre-positioned for at least 5,000 people, UNICEF was one of the few agencies able to distribute emergency supplies (hygiene kits, water tankers, etc.) within the first 24 hours after the first earthquake in April. The Country Office also organized training on emergency preparedness for UNICEF, government and non-government staff.

An all-sector Disaster Reduction Management Plan (was developed in 14 districts out of 20. These plan includes WASH, Education, Health/Nutrition and Child Protection. In addition, the process has been initiated for Dolpa, Humla, Kalikot and Mugu districts.

In 2015, UNICEF used the Government's social protection system to support 400,000 of the most marginalized people in 19 earthquake-affected districts. UNICEF Nepal has been advocating and working with MoFALD to expand the Child Grant scheme.

In addition, UNICEF supported seven training workshops on linking social protection (i.e., disability, child and elderly grant) with civil registration in 2015, where 178 government officials from 64 districts and 114 municipalities participated.

OUTPUT 1: By 2017, selected district and municipal health systems are able to provide quality, gender-sensitive and equitable maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health and HIV services.

Analytical statement of progress:

At community level, 96 per cent of all children with diarrhoea received services from FCHVs and, of these, 89 per cent received oral rehydration solution and zinc, and 79 per cent were referred to health facilities for treatment (Department of Health Annual report 2013/2014). In 2015, UNICEF supported training of 24 Master Trainers, 324 service providers and 495 health volunteers in 4 out of 15 districts using the revised IMNCI package.

A total of 61,426 (59.8 per cent) children received newborn care services from 361 birthing centres in 2015. UNICEF supported 75 birthing centres to establish newborn corners this year, with essential equipment, in addition to 30 centres supported by the Government. UNICEF supported training of 187 service providers to improve quality newborn services in two of the 15 targeted districts. Standard Operating Procedures for newborn care services sites at different levels have been developed and endorsed with UNICEF's support.

In addition, 162 (32.5 per cent) HIV-positive pregnant women out of 489 estimated HIV-positive pregnant women received antiretroviral therapy from 56 hospital service sites for prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV. UNICEF supported capacity building of 12 doctors and 48 nursing staff from these hospitals in 2015. In addition, PMTCT of HIV services were expanded to community-level health facilities in 6 districts, reaching 9 out of 15 UNICEF priority districts. UNICEF supported the integration of services for HIV and post-partum

haemorrhage for pregnant women before and during delivery and also in the post-natal period. Also, 38 people were trained as Master Trainers, who in turn trained 126 district trainers, 804 service providers, 250 councillors and 2,879 FCHVs. These trainings resulted in HIV counselling and testing services in 138 birthing centres and HIV counselling and referral services in 81 health facilities. According to the Health Management Information System (HMIS), of 67 per cent of counselled pregnant women who went for HIV testing, 0.09 per cent were found to be positive.

Due to the current political crisis that started in September 2015, the implementation of Community-IMNCI, Newborn Care and PMTCT is almost non-functional in the five Terai districts. In addition, immunization outreach activities have been reduced by 45 per cent in the eastern region.

OUTPUT 2: By 2017, access to and utilization of essential nutrition services are increased, targeting newborn, infant, young children, adolescents, pregnant and lactating women, HIV-affected children and women, and children and women with disabilities.

Analytical statement of progress:

Nepal continues to maintain high coverage in essential nutrition services with sustained coverage of vitamin A, iodized salt and iron folic acid, as well as management of SAM among children under 5.

In the 15 priority districts targeted by UNICEF, all targeted boys and girls, totalling 481,334 boys and girls 6–59 months old, received vitamin A supplementation and deworming medicine during the distribution rounds of April 2015, 76 per cent of boys and girls (out of 218,826) 6–23 months old received multiple micronutrient powders and 81 per cent of pregnant women (out of 137,637) were covered with iron deficiency anaemia tablets. Similarly, out of 80,327 households in two districts in the Far-Western Hills, 49.6 per cent were using iodized salt.

MSNP has been ongoing in six districts. In this running fiscal year, the Government of Nepal identified 10 additional districts with its fund allocation for MSNP scale-up. District nutrition and food security steering committees have been formed in 45 districts, focusing on implementing nutrition-specific and sensitive interventions targeting the first 1,000 days of life.

Approximately 8,500 FCHVs and 2,400 health workers in 11 programme districts were provided Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition basic and refresher training to support the screening of children with SAM and moderate acute malnutrition and referral to Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP), provision of counselling, SAM case follow-ups and defaulter follow-ups.

In 2015, out of a target of 6,000, a total of 3,301 children under 5 (1,949 girls) with SAM were admitted in OTPs centres across 11 Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition districts; out of these, 2,725 (1,556 girls) were discharged. Out of the total discharged, 78 per cent recovered and 0.2 per cent died, which is well above the global SPHERE standards.

UNICEF supported the MoHP to apply and revise the HMIS indicators in the field. Some 27 core indicators on nutrition are now being used to track the progress in maternal, infant and young child nutrition.

Operational challenges are being experienced due to ongoing political instability in the Terai and fuel shortages impacting on field movements and logistics.

OUTPUT 3: By 2017, people living in selected districts, VDCs and municipalities (including schools and vulnerable communities) increasingly stop open defecation and utilize and participate in managing safe and sustainable, gender- and disability-friendly sanitation facilities and functional water supply facilities.

Analytical statement of progress:

Three districts – Bardia (mid-western region), Gulmi (western region) and Nawalparasi (western region) have achieved ODF status with UNICEF support. Additionally, nine more districts (Baitadi, Bajhang, Doti, Jumla, Khotang, Rolpa, Shaynga, Surkhet, Udayapur,) are ready to declare being ODF by the end of 2015, aiming to improve the sanitation and hygiene behaviour of children, women and men in these areas. All of the eight low sanitation-coverage Terai districts have expressed commitment to achieve ODF status by 2016 in a Regional Sanitation Conference addressed by the Minister for Urban Development.

Altogether, a total of 227 VDCs and 270 school catchment areas have been declared as ODF, benefiting 681,000 people and 81,000 students, respectively. Moreover, seven districts have developed/revised total sanitation strategies to achieve total sanitation status.

UNICEF, together with the Government, stakeholders and other partners, has developed a national total sanitation guideline for building uniformity and standardization for achieving universal coverage of sanitation. In total, 47,320 people have enhanced knowledge and skills on translating learning of sanitation and hygiene promotion for productive results in UNICEF's supported districts. In the area of improved water quality and functionality, which remains the biggest challenge, 132 water and sanitation user committees have been supported with capacity building, Water Safety Plans have been introduced and 250 water supply schemes/projects have undergone repair and maintenance, benefiting 138,430 people.

OUTPUT 4: By 2017, in selected districts and municipalities, young children (up to 5 years old), especially the most vulnerable, have increased access to holistic developmental opportunities for improved school readiness.

Analytical statement of progress:

In Nepal, UNICEF has continued national-level advocacy and provided technical support, including through participation in regional network meetings, conferences (2015 Asia-Pacific Regional ECD Conference), providing exposure for key parliamentarians and government actors to global ECD innovations and best practices. The new Nepal Constitution and the draft to the Amendment of the Education Act include early childhood education and development rights. These achievements will support increased access and improved quality of ECD programmes in Nepal for the youngest children.

To improve the quality of ECD centres, UNICEF partnered with the national NGO Seto Gurans and the Department of Education. UNICEF provided technical support in strengthening the sub-national ECD programme through sensitization and capacity building of ECD committees at district and village levels. Some 18 of 25 priority districts continue to develop annual multi-sectoral ECD plans and budgets through the District Development Committees. In coordination with Seto Gurans and the Department of Education, UNICEF has supported the strengthening of 300 ECD centres with ECD kits in the most disadvantaged districts of the country, as well basic and refresher training to ECD facilitators that increased access to holistic developmental opportunities and improved school readiness for 7,500 young children, especially the most vulnerable.

In addition, UNICEF provided technical support to update the ECD curriculum guidelines, and developed a new edition of the National Minimum Standards for ECD in a pictorial booklet. Some 5,000 copies were printed and disseminated through the Department of Education, making available 1 copy per ECD centre in the 15 priority districts. In addition, 10 districts and more than 100 VDCs in the mid-west and far west of the country participated in two festivals with local leaders, District Development Committees and VDCs, ECD facilitators, parents and relevant stakeholders to advocate for ECD and increase local budgets for access and quality opportunities for younger children.

The Peacebuilding in Early Childhood project is being implemented in Rautahat district in the Terai in collaboration with the District Education Office and the NGO Seto Gurans since January 2015. This project ensured holistic development opportunities to children under 5, facilitated and supported quality and peace education, in one of the regions affected by the political situation. Some 35 district-level stakeholders, including 14 head teachers and 14 ECD facilitators, were sensitized on basic concepts of peace education and its implementations through different tools and methods such as storytelling, music, meditation and arts, so as to enable them to convey peace messages to children through various creative means. The project will be expanded to other districts in 2016.

Regular programming was suspended for three months due to the earthquakes in April in May, leading to some delays in implementation and government reporting timelines. In addition, the Parenting Education Initiative ready to be piloted in 2015 was postponed due to the earthquakes and is ready to start in 2016 with a Knowledge, Attitude and Practice study to measure the effectiveness of the new parenting education package.

OUTPUT 5: By 2017, in selected districts and municipalities, children, particularly girls and marginalized children, have increased access to and complete uninterrupted child-friendly basic and secondary education.

Analytical statement of progress:

Regular programming was suspended for three months due to the earthquakes in April and in May, leading to some delays in implementation. Despite these challenges, UNICEF's major programmes focused on formal education continued in the mainly unaffected priority districts.

As part of UNICEF's ongoing Early Grade Reading Programme, Nepal held its first National Children's Literature Festival in Kathmandu in March before travelling to four of the country's most remote districts. The festival reached 16,000 children and parents. The festival was one part of a comprehensive programme including the provision of training, orientations and materials development and provision. Endline results from the first phase of the programme were conducted by implementing partner World Education using a government-approved Early Grade Reading individual assessment tool. The endline found that total reading scores in Bajura District increased to 65 per cent, compared with 42 per cent in the same grade the previous school year for children in Grade 3, showing that early grade reading interventions have accelerated skills acquisition in targeted schools. This improvement is a result of training more than 540 teachers and orienting 800 school leaders on the importance of reading in the early years, reaching more than 25,200 children. An innovative Library Book Horse was piloted as part of the programme, capitalizing on the local practice of using horsepower to bring heavy loads to remote locations, by employing horses to carry books to remote mountain schools, where learning resources are scarce.

UNICEF's Afterschool Programme, which targets disadvantaged adolescent and provides life

skills, homework support and sports activities in partnership with Restless Development, is seeing good results and improved enrolment rates in priority districts through supporting transition to secondary education. Some 12,516 adolescents (6,312 girls; 6,204 boys) have been reached. An end-line survey conducted after a year of implementation saw encouraging results: adolescent girls in the project schools were attending 21 days of school per month on average, compared with 15 days per month in the previous year, an average increase of 72 days more per year per student. As a result of community mobilization, seven child-marriage-free wards were declared with the initialization, active participation and involvement of child clubs and Young Champions. Two wards were also declared *chaupadi*-free (reducing the practice of isolation during menstruation).

Supporting the Government to achieve Priority Minimum Enabling Conditions, WASH in schools work is progressing well, with the development of national WASH in School Guidelines to standardize the provision of child-, gender- and disability-friendly sanitation, hygiene and water facilities in schools throughout the country.

Some 16 districts have now mainstreamed the Schools as Zones of Peace framework in their Annual Strategic Implementation Plans and reinforced their commitment to safeguard children's uninterrupted right to education. Nationally, the Schools as Zones of Peace coalition partners have advocated with political parties to end the disruption to education caused by the political disturbances in the Terai. An estimated 1.6 million children have been unable to access education for more than months as a result of civil unrest.

OUTPUT 6: By 2017, in selected districts and municipalities, children and adolescents at risk or victims of abuse, neglect and exploitation, children affected by conflict and by AIDS, and children with disabilities benefit from quality social welfare services which address the specific needs of boys and girls.

Analytical statement of progress:

With technical assistance from UNICEF, the CCWB has successfully completed the piloting of case management guidelines. Some 50 social workers from eight districts were trained on the guidelines.

Care plans have been finalized for the 747 children affected by armed conflict, (44 per cent female) residing in childcare homes.

UNICEF provided technical and financial support in eight municipalities, which have identified 1,000 children involved in the worst forms of child labour (58 per cent female) and a case management plan was made for 555 child labourers (55.5 per cent female) who were released and have also received various reintegration services.

The programme faces challenges, as there is often lack of coordination and clear roles and responsibilities among the key government agencies responsible for service delivery. UNICEF is intensifying its advocacy and coordination with key government counterparts to move forward with clarifying such roles.

OUTPUT 7: By 2017, in selected districts and municipalities, children and adolescents who are victims, witnesses, offenders or who are in contact with the law for any other reason, have access to child- and gender-sensitive formal justice.

Analytical statement of progress:

In collaboration with the Office of the Attorney General, victim-friendly rooms were established in 20 district public prosecutors' offices. The establishment of these rooms have facilitated victims' access to justice: age determination has improved; privacy has been ensured for all cases related to children; and continuous hearing of cases has been enforced.

UNICEF also supported Nepal Police to implement a peace ambassador programme in six districts (Banke, Chitwan, Kailali, Lalitpur and Sunsari) to reduce the risk of delinquencies among young people and promote non-violent behaviour by building trustful relations with youth. This programme is expected to lead to increase in reporting of cases by establishing close collaboration between police, children/young people and the community structures.

Child protection-related themes were incorporated in the office of the Attorney General's official training programme. As a result, 60 government attorneys have been trained on the procedures of justice for children, including child-friendly measures, diversion, restorative justice and child victim/witness protection.

For the first time, UNICEF financially supported the Juvenile Justice Coordination Committee to train and deploy three social workers, two legal counsellors and two psychosocial counsellors in the child correction homes to provide rehabilitation and social reintegration support of juveniles in their own communities. In total, 75 juveniles who were in the pre-release stage have benefited from this service and have been reintegrated to their community.

Some delays were experienced with the implementation of the agreed activities due to the April and May earthquakes. The delay impacted particularly the capacity enhancement of the justice and security personnel. UNICEF's plan with the justice and security partners was revisited and agreed on strategies to meet the defined targets.

OUTPUT 8: By 2017, Government institutional capacity is strengthened for effective registration, delivery and monitoring of social protection benefits.

Analytical statement of progress:

Social security/protection implementation guidelines was reviewed with UNICEF technical support to improve and strengthen the national social protection system linking with civil registration. An assessment was conducted on the efficiency and effectiveness of the Child Grant of the Government's social protection system and lessons have been fed in the implementation guidelines.

Seven regional capacity development workshops on strengthening social protection and civil registration were organized during 2015, where 178 government officials from 64 districts and 114 municipalities contributed towards systems strengthening for birth registration.

By November 2015, a Management Information System for Social Protection was rolled out to 21 out of 75 districts. Government also initiated branchless banking system in 10 districts to improve the social protection delivery system. Government, UNICEF and other development partners including the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), the World Bank and the Asia Development Bank are collaborating to rollout a comprehensive Management Information System nationally.

Through the lessons from the Cross Sectional Survey 2014 on Child Grant, UNICEF has refocused towards increasing birth registration and coverage of the Child Grant among children younger than 12 months old, linking with the IYCF programme.

Linking with emergency cash transfer, UNICEF is advocating towards scaling up the Child Grant in districts highly affected by the earthquakes. UNICEF's analytical paper 'Strategies and Options for Scaling up the Child Grant' (2015) has stimulated discussion on scaling up the Child Grant among policymakers.

Social protection interventions are based on a human rights approach and highly sensitive towards diversity and equity, as this focuses on vulnerable and marginalized communities (children, widows, disabled and geographically remote populations). Resource constraints (human and financial) have constrained the ability to roll out the Management Information System nationally on the scale required. In addition, the banking system is still not fully able to reach remote areas for cash transfers and manual payments, as this takes time and comes with security challenges.

OUTPUT 9: By 2017, in selected districts and municipalities, local bodies maintain a child- and gender-friendly governance system for integrated planning, monitoring and investment in accordance with their child profile, investment plan, status report and minimum indicators on child survival, development, protection and participation.

Analytical statement of progress:

The MoFALD increased its funding for the financial year 2015/2016 against the CFLG framework by 40 per cent (US\$600,000) compared with the previous year. UNICEF advocacy was instrumental in this effort, with funding targeting 61 districts and 191 municipalities to ensure that the voices of children and adolescents are heard in every VDC (2,030) and every municipality (121) through the national local governance and community development programme. In addition, of the 15 priority district and 7 municipalities, 10 districts and 6 municipalities, respectively, have allocated 15 per cent of the block grant for children, complying with government policy recommendations.

With technical support from UNICEF, 63 districts, 38 municipalities and 1,056 VDCs have initiated actions to work towards make their villages and municipalities child friendly in line with the Government's national strategy on CFLG.

Sunwal Municipality was declared as the first child-friendly municipality in Nepal in June 2015, completing all key requirements to make a municipality child friendly (16 processes, meeting the target of 39 CFLG indicators, such as 100 per cent of children's births registered, 100 per cent school enrolment, 100 per cent of children immunized, 100 per cent of households using toilets, and reduced child marriage and child labour.

UNICEF has influenced policy provisions within the Local Governance and Community Development programme to roll out Child Friendly Local Governance nationally. One such example is the inclusion of CFLG-related functions in the role of the 4,430 Local Governance and Community Development Programme social mobilizers, thus ensuring national roll-out.

OUTPUT 10: By 2017, selected hazard-prone districts and municipalities have strengthened capacity and systems for disaster preparedness and emergency response in line with National Guidelines for Disaster Preparedness and Response Planning and the UNICEF CCCs in Humanitarian Action.

Analytical statement of progress:

The UNICEF contingency plan targets 45,000 people for winterization of earthquake-affected areas and flood and pre-positioning supplies in four strategic locations are in place as a

preparedness action for timely and immediate response based on learning from the earthquake response.

UNICEF zonal office staff have been trained on emergency preparedness. Similarly, UNICEF contributed to the development of the Emergency Response Preparedness (plan facilitated by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. This led to preparedness actions in 18 flood-prone districts. UNICEF, in coordination with other humanitarian actors under the leadership of the Ministry of Home Affairs, contributed to build the capacity of district stakeholders for Emergency Preparedness Response, especially in Parsa District, with the United Nations' Resident Coordinator's Office and Nepal Red Cross. Similarly, 30 government and NGO officials were trained on Disaster Risk Management, targeting four disadvantage districts (Dolpa, Humla, Kalikot and Mugu) for better emergency preparedness for response and DRR. This led to mainstreaming DRR into local development plans and programme of sectoral line agencies. Sector-specific results included:

WASH: Some 17,029 people benefited from WASH response (provision of hygiene kits, water purification solutions, water storage vessels, including temporary WASH facilities) in Saptari, Surkhet and Taplejung districts. A total of 70 government officials received orientation on emergency preparedness and response and development of the Business Continuity Plan in Kathmandu and Bardiya for the mid-western and far-western regions.

Education: UNICEF supported the preparation and updating of national and district contingency plans in 31 vulnerable districts, which led to the activation of the cluster mechanism at the national level to guide earthquake-affected districts for better and effective education response – i.e., establish of temporary learning centres, provision of education materials and development of teachers' training for immediate response, including proper coordination.

Child Protection: The Department of Women, Children and Social Welfare recently allocated a budget to establish psychosocial counselling centres in 15 districts (14 earthquake-affected and one in Tanahun) as a result of continuous advocacy from UNICEF.

Nutrition: The capacity of Chiefs and Nutrition Focal Points of District Public Health offices from 18 flood-prone Terai districts was enhanced, a cluster contingency plan was developed, and supplies were pre-positioned in five strategic locations, including Pathalaya Government warehouse.

As the Government has limited capacity on response, preparedness and DRR, extensive technical support is required from development partners. Frequent rotation of government officials constrains the institutionalization of capacities and delays the achievement of results.

OUTCOME 3: By 2017, in selected areas, children, adolescents, women and men, and all relevant duty bearers, are engaged in social change and action to realize the survival, development, protection and participation rights of children, adolescents and women with equity in all contexts, including humanitarian situations,

Analytical statement of progress:

Some 92.5 per cent of children 12–23 months old received measles vaccination by their first birthday. Furthermore, all children in 1,130 VDCs, 5 districts, 50 municipalities and 1 sub-metropolitan city received antigens as per schedule. The Government introduced the pneumococcal conjugative vaccine (PCV) and human papilloma virus (HPV) vaccine with UNICEF support.

The first Multi-Sectoral Advocacy and Communication Strategy on Nutrition and Food Security was launched. As a result of support and strong advocacy from UNICEF, nutrition has remained high on the Government's agenda, and an additional budget of US\$1.1 million for the nutrition sector for 2015/2016 has been allocated by the Government. The Communication Action Plan for Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition was published by the MoHP. Refresher trainings on IYCF for volunteers and mothers of young children in 15 IYCF/ Micronutrient Powder districts targeted on the basis of the prevalence of anaemia and complementary feeding practices as well as 5 IYCF-Cash Grant districts have contributed to more children receiving nutritious food and care.

The global initiative on Out-of-School Children led by the MoE was rolled out with the support of UNICEF and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The study aims to support countries in achieving a breakthrough in reducing the number of out-of-school children by developing comprehensive profiles of excluded children, using consistent and innovative statistical methods, linking these profiles to the barriers and bottlenecks that lead to exclusion and identifying, and promoting and implementing sound policies that address exclusion from a multi-sectoral perspective. The study report will be launched in January 2016 jointly by the MoE and UNICEF/UNESCO.

Some 12,584 adolescents (53.4 per cent boys, 46.6 per cent girls, 0.1 per cent transgender) in six priority districts, including marginalized adolescents, have been provided with social skills and financial knowledge to influence and participate in decisions that affect their lives through an ongoing training package called 'Rupantaran', meaning 'transformation' in the Nepali language. They constitute 25 per cent of adolescents in the implementation VDCs and 2 per cent of adolescents at risk of HIV. By developing adolescents as change agents who can influence decisions, the programme envisions an empowered and competent new generation. In addition, some 26,785 adolescents (56 per cent boys, 44 per cent girls) demonstrated an increase in knowledge, from 1.53 per cent to 82.14 per cent through 'SangSangai', a participatory knowledge-building training on six topics related to adolescent sexual and reproductive health and financial literacy. Also, 7.2 million (2011 estimates) young people were reached on a regular basis through the long-running weekly radio programme called Saathi .Sanga Mann Ka Kura (Chatting with my best friend), which aims to share knowledge, enhance life skills and empower young listeners to take control of their own lives and make informed decision about their future.

Some 6,836 parents were capacitated on holistic adolescent development as a supplemental intervention to the adolescent empowerment programme. Moreover, 300 religious leaders were trained by UNICEF to reach out to 172,353 parents and community stakeholders with messages around changing the harmful social norm of child marriage during community religious functions. Also, 3,999 community-level stakeholders received orientation to create awareness among the representatives of VDCs, Health Posts, community-based organizations and others about holistic adolescent development, ongoing government initiatives, adolescent needs and issues, and their role as stakeholders in the community to ensure the realization of adolescent rights.

The endline survey on Knowledge, Attitude and Practice on Violence against Women and Children 2015 reported the percentage of boys and girls experiencing physical violence at home fell by 35 per cent and the percentage of those who experienced violence in schools fell by 22 per cent, while the number of women experiencing violence from their husbands decreased by 57 per cent. UNICEF-supported community-level interventions and referral systems contributed towards this change.

In 35 GBV prevention programme districts, 3,920 Women's Groups and 1,025 GBV Watch Groups were established in the past fiscal year (July 2014–July 2015). Around 80 per cent of GBV Watch Groups were engaged in community awareness raising. In addition, 2,786 Women's Groups and 853 GBV Watch Groups were mobilized in awareness raising, psychosocial support, GBV prevention and referral of cases, as well as relief items distribution in 400 VDCs of the 14 earthquake-affected districts. In addition, as a result of UNICEF advocacy and support to GBV-related interventions, the Government increased its annual budgets for women development programmes for the fiscal year 2015/2016 by 27 per cent.

The Government allocated NRs 2.4 crore (approximately US\$ 224,657) for annual consultations with children and adolescents (Bal Bhelas) in 3,174 VDCs and 217 municipalities before local plans are endorsed by the councils. Bal Bhelas are now institutionalized as a mechanism to incorporate children's and adolescent's voices in local planning processes across the country.

As a result of Bal Bhelas conducted in 15 districts, 11 municipalities and 400 VDCs of 15 focused districts, 56 per cent of children's demands have been addressed by the local councils. As provisioned by policy guidelines, a total number of 63,284 children (girls and boys in equal number) across the nation participate in local-level decision-making processes. Some 70 per cent of local bodies have approved children's and adolescent's demands emerging from Bal Bhelas in their councils. Some of the demands from children and adolescents included local-level action against child marriage, libraries for children, separate toilets for girls and boys in schools where they do not exist, and provision of sanitary pads in schools.

OUTPUT 1: By 2017, in selected districts and municipalities, families, especially the most vulnerable, practice promotive and preventive health behaviours, including reduced harmful social practices that affect girls and boys with active involvement of male, family and community members

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Routine reporting does not capture information on delayed bathing of newborns, but the 2014/2015 figures for institutional delivery (56.7 per cent) can be used as a proxy indicator. In 2015, UNICEF Nepal provided assistance to the Government to establish 318 Birthing Centres in 15 districts and to build the capacity of 141 nursing staff in skilled birthing, 8 doctors on advanced skilled birthing, 117 nurses on infection prevention, 48 nurses on obstetric first aid, 10 nurses on ultrasound, 20 nurses on post-natal care, and 1,179 watch group members on community mobilization for maternal and neonatal care. In addition, the national referral guidelines were endorsed in 2015. These initiatives contributed towards the provision of quality treatment and care services for mothers and newborns.

In 2015, 92.5 per cent of children younger than 12–23 months old received the measles vaccine by their first birthday. In addition, all children in 1,130 VDCs, 5 districts, 50 municipalities and 1 sub-metropolitan city in Nepal received all antigens as per the immunization schedule. Furthermore, the Government introduced new vaccines in the country, namely PCV and HPV vaccine, with UNICEF support.

UNICEF has been collaborating with the MoHP to strengthen the immunization supply chain and cold chain system in Nepal since 2013. In 2015, the Effective Vaccine Management (Secretariat) conducted monthly performance review meetings, developed training manuals on Standard Operating Procedures and quality improvement tools, created a pool of trainers on Effective Vaccine Management Standard Operating Procedures at central and regional levels,

developed cold chain equipment specifications, established a web-based vaccine reporting software, oriented central- and regional-level cold chain staff on online vaccine reporting, auctioned all non-functional cold chain equipment in seven districts, hired refrigerator technicians for diagnostics and repair of cold chain equipment in 28 districts, and took action for the safe disposal of expired vaccines at the Central Medical Store.

OUTPUT 2: By 2017, in selected districts and municipalities, families, especially the most vulnerable, practice essential maternal, adolescent, newborn, IYCF and early stimulation, hygiene and sanitation, with active involvement of male, family and community members.

Analytical statement of progress:

The Government launched the first Multi-Sectoral Advocacy and Communication Strategy on Nutrition and Food Security in Nepal. Due to continuous support and strong advocacy from UNICEF, nutrition has remained high on the Government's agenda in Nepal. An additional budget of US\$1.1 million for the nutrition sector for 2015/2016 has been allocated by the Government. Nutrition has also been identified as a separate sector in the PDNA. The honourable members of parliament representing the Social Committee were oriented on issues of nutrition, and their role in prioritizing nutrition in their local plans as well as leveraging additional resources for nutrition. As a result of the orientation of journalists from the central and regional levels, nutrition related issues are receiving stronger coverage in the local media. A national portal for Nutrition and Food Security was also operationalized by the NPC, improving knowledge management on nutrition and food security issues.

The Communication Action Plan for Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition was endorsed and published by the MoHP. Preparation for the Golden 1,000 Days communication campaign has been completed and will be launched in 2016. The refresher training on IYCF for volunteers and mothers of young children in 15 districts targeted by the IYCF programme as well as in 5 districts targeted for cash grants have contributed in improving their knowledge on child feeding practices and, as a result, more children are receiving nutritious food and care with the increased role of fathers, mothers-in-laws and community leaders. A parenting education manual with strong nutrition and WASH components is being rolled out in pilot districts.

The consistent generation of quality data and analysis of nutrition indicators through the HMIS system of the MoHP has remained a challenge. UNICEF and other partners have supported consultants at MoHP to speed up the process of HMIS software maintenance for nationwide recording and reporting.

OUTPUT 3: By 2017, in selected districts and municipalities, parents' and stakeholders' support quality alternative learning opportunities for out-of-school girls and boys, and improve education attendance and retention of girls and boys, from early childhood to adolescence.

Analytical statement of progress:

Some 1,112 adolescents from Dhanusa, Parsa and Rautahat have been mainstreamed into formal schools through bridge classes supported by UNICEF. No classes were operationalized during the year except the bridge classes. In line with recommendations from the Let us Learn evaluation, steps to link non-formal sessions with formal sessions could not be operationalized due to the ongoing agitation in the Terai districts in the country.

Nepal faces a significant challenge in terms of its 1.2 million out-of-school children, and the figure is likely to increase due to the earthquake, as the PDNA reported almost 34,500 classrooms as being either fully or partially damaged. However, no official figures are available

on the number of such children.

Efforts on the part of the Government and partner have focused on mainstreaming issues concerning children with disabilities, orphans and street children and the promotion of multilingual/mother tongue education. Within the framework of the equity strategy, the integration of out-of-school children into formal education is a priority for the sector.

The global initiative on out-of-school children led by MoE was rolled out with UNICEF ROSA support and collaboration with the UNESCO Institute for Statistics. This initiative aims to support countries in achieving a breakthrough in reducing the number of out-of-school children by developing comprehensive profiles of excluded children; using consistent and innovative statistical methods; linking these profiles to the barriers and bottlenecks that lead to exclusion; and identifying, promoting and implementing sound policies that address exclusion from a multi-sectoral perspective. The study report will be launched in January 2016 jointly by the MoE and UNICEF/UNESCO.

As a follow up to recommendations by a visiting delegation from the Philippines on education, a series of interactions and meetings with the Government took place. This led to the formation of a task force through which efforts are under way for the development of a 'ladderized' qualifications framework under the leadership of the MoE, supported by UNICEF and UNESCO. Ladderization is the process of creating an interface between formal education and technical/vocational education systems. This allows for a two-way flow of students (out-of-school children to go to technical and vocational education and also from such type of education to the regular education system, including higher education).

Delays in implementation of non-formal classes have had an impact on transition of children to formal education.

OUTPUT 4: By 2017, in selected districts and municipalities, adolescent girls and boys are applying age-, sex- and issue-appropriate life skills to influence decisions that affect their development.

Analytical statement of progress:

Some 199 adolescents in six priority districts who are members of child club networks have been equipped with knowledge and skills through a capacity strengthening training to represent their issues in local planning process and negotiate for the minimum 10 per cent block grant set aside for children by VDCs.

OUTPUT 5: By 2017, children, families, communities and society acquire knowledge and attitudes, and take action to protect all children and adolescents, especially girls, at risk or victims of abuse, neglect and exploitation, in selected districts and municipalities.

Analytical statement of progress:

UNICEF supported the Department of Women and Children and its district offices to establish community-based mechanisms to increase awareness on prevention of violence against women and children, change attitudes and behaviours, as well as establish a referral system for cases of violence. These contributed to the reduction of physical violence against women and children.

Women Development Officers from 75 Women and Children Offices benefited from UNICEF orientation on planning and implementing GBV prevention programmes. In addition, as a result

of UNICEF advocacy and support to GBV-related interventions, the Government increased the allocation of its annual budget for women development programmes for the fiscal year 2015/2016 by 27 per cent.

Social norms relating to gender-based discrimination, low value of girls and widespread practice of violent discipline compounded by protracted political tensions in the programme districts have hindered initiatives to change behaviours during the reporting period.

In order to address the bottlenecks, UNICEF is working to leverage resources and initiate the implementation of a strategy on behavioural change, with relevant stakeholders working on violence against women and children.

OUTPUT 6: By 2017, in selected districts and municipalities, public opinion, media, community networks, employers, government institutions, religious organizations, local political leaders and families address harmful social norms and practices affecting the rights of children, adolescents, especially girls, and women.

Analytical statement of progress:

As of June 2015, 6,836 parents (of the adolescents enrolled in Rupantaran sessions) from six priority districts participated in training on holistic adolescent development. As a supplemental intervention to the adolescent empowerment programme, parents were capacitated on adolescents' specific needs and issues and holistic adolescent development. A standard training package mirroring the adolescent package has been developed covering eight topics (child rights, puberty, sex and gender, sexual and reproductive health, harmful social norms such as child marriage, child abuse, HIV and drug abuse, and livelihood, financial literacy and employability). The package facilitates the process for parents to create a protective and enabling environment for adolescents to realize their full potential and achieve their rights. Similar to the social and financial skills training package for adolescents (Rupantaran), other partners such as the Department of Women and Children, Restless Development and Child Workers in Nepal have also implemented the parents' orientation package using their own resources to increase the coverage.

Some 300 religious leaders representing various religions from the six priority districts were trained using a training manual developed with technical and financial support from UNICEF. The religious leaders have reached 172,353 parents and community stakeholders through messages on harmful social norms on child marriage during community religious functions.

UNICEF, together with UNFPA, has been partnering with religious leader networks to reduce, through discussion and debate, the prevalence of harmful social norms and practices like child marriage that are rooted in the traditions of many Nepali communities for generations. Religious leaders have moral authority in their communities and hence have a critical role in providing social approval to marriages.

During 2015, 3,999 community-level stakeholders received orientation. The purpose of this orientation was to create awareness among the representatives of the VDCs, Health Post, community-based organizations and others about holistic adolescent development and ongoing government initiatives, adolescent needs and issues, and their role as stakeholders in the community to ensure the realization of adolescent rights. The programme has set up a monitoring mechanism which is being piloted to capture changes among parents, religious leaders and community leaders.

An advocacy package which builds on the Rupantaran package on adolescent development and participation for district-level adult stakeholders was also developed to support the community stakeholders' sensitization programme. The advocacy package includes specific messages and description of roles for various agencies.

OUTPUT 7: By 2017, in selected districts and municipalities, children, adolescent girls and boys, women and other disadvantaged groups meaningfully participate in decision-making bodies.

Analytical statement of progress:

Some 57 per cent of adolescent girls were represented as formal members in various governance structures. Out of this 17 per cent of girls were from the Dalit communities. In addition 7 per cent of children participated in Citizen Awareness Centres that are formed by the Local Governance and Community Development Programme to address equity nationwide. A total number of 63,284 (girls and boys in equal number) children across the nation participate in Ward Citizens Forum decision-making processes.

In addition, 121 Municipal Associations, 56 districts and 2,030 VDCs across Nepal have organized Bal Bhelas and identified children's needs and incorporated programmes to address children's needs.

Some 70 per cent of local bodies have approved children's demands emerging from Bal bhela in their council. In 15 priority districts, 746 VDCs and 11 municipalities have conducted Bal Bhela using child-friendly tools and methodologies. Out of 746 VDCs that conducted Bal Bhela, 522 VDCs and 37,806 children participated in Bal Bhela in 746 VDCs in priority districts.

OUTCOME 4: Office management costs.

Analytical statement of progress:

All indicator targets for efficient governance, CMT functions, management and stewardship of financial resources, and management of human capacity were successfully met during 2015.

OUTPUT 1 Office Management Costs

Analytical statement of progress:

Nepal was declared a Level 2 corporate emergency on 27 April following the major earthquakes of 25 April. The L2 was prolonged until 27 August. The regular development programme was suspended for one month to respond to humanitarian crisis. To ensure UNICEF's presence close to the affected populations, five new Emergency Site Locations were established in Dolakha, Gorakha, Kathmandu, Nuwakot and Sindhupalchowk and more than 100 staff were recruited to support Nepal's recovery and reconstruction efforts. In addition, the office, under direct supervision of the Representative, co-lead four humanitarian clusters (Nutrition, WASH, Education and Protection).

A special Emergency Management Team was established in May 2015. The CMT utilized timely and quality data on key management indicators and effectively performed its advisory role to the Representative for informed decision-making.

UNICEF Nepal is in the first group to use the GSSC. The Country and Regional Offices have

been working closely together to ensure a smooth transition to the new global arrangements.

UNICEF Nepal is an active member of the United Nations Operations Management Team. The Representative and Chief of Operations advocacy led to consensus to construct an additional earthquake-proof building to accommodate UNICEF staff whose offices were damaged during the earthquake.

The Mid-Term Review was delayed due to the earthquake, and preparations are being taken to conduct a strategic review of the Country Programme, including the office's Risk Profile, in early 2016.

The Country Office was internally audited in April 2014, resulting in 13 audit recommendations, of which 4 were listed under High Priority and the rest under Medium. As of December 2015, all of the recommendations are closed.

OUTPUT 2: Office management costs.

Analytical statement of progress:

Monthly discussion and follow-up action take place in monthly CMT meeting on funding status; programme implementation rate, including implementation of grant; DCT status and HACT implementation; PBA expiry and donor reports due date.

The Country Office efficiently managed its financial resources and maintained its overall liquidity. Electronic bank transfers for all transfers in Nepalese Rupees and US dollar bank accounts have been properly applied. From November 2015 onward, the GSSC took over the bank reconciliation process.

As of 3 December 2015, 85 per cent of RR, 61% of ORR and 56 per cent of ORE were utilized against planned allocations.

The Country Office has US\$389,669 (1.4 per cent) DCTs in excess of nine months as of 3 December 2015; which is more than 1 per cent.

UNICEF OIAI conducted internal audit of the UNICEF Nepal Country Office in April 2014 and made 13 recommendations, with four high and nine medium priorities, and all recommendations were closed except the one pending at New York headquarters level.

OUTPUT 3: Office management costs.

Analytical statement of progress:

The Nepal Country Office focused on ensuring that an appropriate organizational structure is in place to achieve results for children. After the earthquake of 25 April and 12 May, the office has received 159 staff on surge, and increased its overall staffing from 189 to 292, specifically to expand technical expertise to address the emergency programme located at five new emergency sites, striving to address diversity (gender and social inclusion). Staffing capacity gaps are addressed through group training/learning sessions focused on strengthening staff capacity.

The performance management cycle has been given significant attention and effective 30 October, 100 per cent of expected 2014 PERs were submitted to the Human Resources unit. All UNICEF Nepal staff have observed the performance management cycle with regular

discussions with supervisors.

Several actions were taken by the office with regard to the recent Global Staff Survey, such as quarterly JCC meetings, flexible work arrangements, staff learning and training plan, stress counselling and administrative arrangements linked to Earthquake Emergency to allow appropriate rest periods for staff. All of these have eased staff life, improved staff working environment and built staff capacity.

UNICEF is one of the lead agencies that implements the 10 minimum standards on HIV in the workplace for UN Cares in Nepal. Unlike previous years, due to the earthquakes no group training session was held this year. All staff were required to complete the online HIV/AIDs training.

The office conducted an assessment of staffing in order to respond to the earthquakes, and to ensure effective humanitarian and early recovery in line with the CCCs. One orientation session was held on emergency risk management and response. For the purpose of strengthening emergency preparedness and to mobilize experts at times of crisis and emergencies, the office continued to strengthen the consultant roster as well as the local talent pool.

OUTPUT 4: Monitoring of HACT results.

Analytical statement of progress:

UNICEF Nepal prepared a HACT Assessment and Assurance Plan for 2015. During the year, 28 out of a planned 29 micro-assessments were completed and 20 spot checks were carried out. Staff could not implement all planned spot-check activities due to the increase in implementing partners to address the humanitarian response to the earthquakes. Hence, UNICEF Nepal contracted T.R. Upadhyaya & Company and B & B Associated to carry out 34 spot checks.

The Country Office collaborated with the Office of the Auditor General's Office of Nepal to complete the schedule audit of seven UNICEF priority districts.

Almost all the staff members have completed the HACT e-course in 2015. UNICEF has also supported capacity strengthening of 33 implementing partners in financial management, especially on issues related to HACT and FACE.

OUTCOME 5: Emergency earthquake response.

Analytical statement of progress:

Considering Nepal's vulnerability to different geophysical and climatic hazards, UNICEF has been working closely with the Government of Nepal and other national and international development and humanitarian partners to ensure preparedness and reinforce the country's DRR capacity. In particular, UNICEF Nepal has remained engaged in: (i) developing a multi-hazard scenario based contingency plan for the humanitarian clusters UNICEF is lead or co-lead to, namely: WASH, Education, Nutrition and Child Protection; (ii) enhancing the capacity and skills of the Government and NGO partners on disaster response; and (iii) maintaining the stockpiling of essential life-saving goods and equipment (for 5,000 families) pertaining to the four clusters of UNICEF's responsibility.

The Contingency Plan of all the UNICEF led and co-led clusters were implemented immediately

after the 25 April earthquake, which became instrumental to coordinate with partners and organize timely response in the earthquake-affected districts. UNICEF supported the establishment and operationalization of district-level clusters to coordinate the response, in addition to the early deployment of UNICEF staff in all 14 highly affected districts. The emergency supplies and equipment that were prepositioned for 5,000 families were distributed from day two of the earthquake. These supplies provided a life-saving bridge while awaiting for international supplies to arrive. The standby partnership with local partners, especially Nepal Red Cross Society, facilitated immediate response in affected areas.

As the emergency response gradually transitions to early recovery and reconstruction priorities, UNICEF established five emergency sites covering the 14 most-affected districts in Dolakha, Gorkha, Kathmandu, Nuwakot and Sindhupalchok. The main purpose of these emergency sites is to support ongoing response and early recovery initiatives of affected communities, support a coordination mechanism and enhance local capacity and ownership for building and sustaining resilience.

Improved monitoring systems for earthquake emergency response have been developed, including a Country Office response plan with 17 Humanitarian Performance Monitoring (HPM) indicators covering five clusters and two cross-sectoral interventions like social protection and C4D. HPM will help to ensure accountability and measure the progress of humanitarian response to the earthquake-affected children and women of Nepal.

Due to the difficult geographical terrain, reaching the affected populations in remote areas of the affected districts has remained a challenge. The subsequent monsoon season, landslides and road obstruction compounded the problem in transporting supplies to those areas. In addition, the current fuel shortage caused by the ongoing protests in the Terai district has added more challenges in the overall emergency response situation. Due to the current fuel shortage, transportation of supplies, including winter materials to earthquake-affected districts, has become challenging.

OUTPUT 1: Education – Emergency earthquake response.

Analytical statement of progress:

In collaboration with the Government and implementing partners, UNICEF has set up 1,599 Temporary Learning Centres (TLCs) benefiting 159,900 children and adolescents 3 to 18 years old, to provide them with a safe learning environment.

In addition to the TLCs built, approximately 568,380, or 57 per cent, of the affected children have been provided with education supplies, and 5,474 teachers have been trained on psychosocial support and life-saving messages for children.

UNICEF supported the Education Cluster under the leadership of the Department of Education to complete a structural assessment of all schools in the 11 most-affected districts (the other 3 districts were covered by other Education Cluster partners in coordination with the Government). Of the 55,000 classrooms assessed, 34,500 classrooms were deemed unsafe for use, with clear designation of safe and unsafe buildings provided. In addition, UNICEF supported the Back to School public information campaign, reaching more than 1 million community members through newspapers and radio and television spots, reassuring children, teachers and families that returning to school would help children return to normality.

In collaboration with the Education Cluster and the National Centre for Educational

Development, the government agency responsible for teacher training, UNICEF developed and printed 15,000 copies of a two-volume teacher activity book, which provides practical guidance for teachers on psychosocial support and risk reduction messages as well as integration of disaster information into curriculum subjects. UNICEF also supported the establishment of a Teacher Hero Network, an SMS-based network that provides information and gathers feedback from teachers in affected districts. Some 1,300 teachers are now registered and are receiving updates and providing snapshots of the education situation in their schools.

Challenges remain with the achievement of results, including difficulties with the delivery of essential education supplies. Fuel shortages leading to increased delivery costs throughout the country have further hindered delivery capacity in some remote areas. To manage this issue, UNICEF is engaging in additional partnerships with key partners who have access to remote and un-reached areas to ensure that supplies reach children. These partnerships include provisions to cover the increased transportation costs partners are facing on the ground in order to timely deliver education materials. In December 2015, the Education Cluster detailed lessons learned within the report 'Lessons Learned and Recommendations from the Nepal Earthquake Response', which include issues such as assessments, response, community mobilization, supplies, teacher training, coordination, information management, cross-sectoral engagement, advocacy and preparedness.

OUTPUT 2: Field Operations: Earthquake response.

Analytical statement of progress:

UNICEF's WASH response has achieved 78 per cent of its target to provide safe water of sufficient quantity in the 14 severely affected districts.

UNICEF Nepal continues to provide support to Government and the National WASH Cluster as co-lead to support the coordination for standard and harmonized response, reaching 655,910 earthquake-affected people with safe water for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene through water trucking and point-of use treatment including water kits and water treatment products. Some 455,613 people have also been assisted through the repair and rehabilitation of water supply systems. UNICEF-supported sanitation interventions have benefited 279,263 people covering emergency and sustained sanitation. To promote good hygiene practices, UNICEF distributed more than 82,000 family hygiene kits and implemented hygiene education benefiting 631,992 people. For quality assurance, the WASH Cluster, together with UNICEF and Cluster members, conducted a joint monitoring visit to all 14 affected districts through engagement with households, communities and District WASH Cluster.

UNICEF Nepal provided technical and humanitarian assistance to address the cholera outbreak in Kathmandu valley through engagement with government and non-government agencies, activating its cholera response plan, mobilizing 92 volunteers in Kathmandu district and mobilizing partners in Bhaktapur and Lalitpur for mass hygiene promotion, water-quality testing and provision of water purification solutions in highly affected areas of Kathmandu.

Achievements in the area of sanitation have been slow due to lower demand for sustained sanitation at the community level than the provision of emergency sanitation through camp settings. UNICEF, together with the WASH Cluster, is working closely with districts to transit from cluster to the District Water Sanitation and Hygiene Coordination Committee to achieve this target and, further from the WASH Cluster side, to link this sanitation with shelter support.

The monsoon has induced landslides and floods, exacerbating access to hard-to-reach and

remote areas and hindering the provision of essential sanitation and hygiene materials. Further, availability and consistency of supplies, and high staff turnover in government and partner organizations had to be dealt with in various forms, creating added challenges to the WASH programme interventions. The fuel crisis affecting the country has had a direct negative impact on service delivery, constraining the movement of essential supplies and partners in the field. UNICEF is working closely with its partners to identify alternate mechanisms to reach remote areas using local transportation mechanisms and other possible means.

OUTPUT 3: Field Operations: Earthquake response.

Analytical statement of progress:

With UNICEF support, 46,522 mothers and newborns were reached with essential and emergency care in earthquake-affected areas. UNICEF also deployed 25 nurse midwives and 8 senior mentors for reactivation and onsite coaching on maternal and newborn health services. In 11 affected districts, 22 transitional shelter homes were established to provide care for pregnant women awaiting labour, and mothers and newborns who were discharged from hospitals and who do not have adequate accommodations to return to.

UNICEF facilitated the procurement of 125,000 vials of measles rubella vaccines, 3,487,667 vials of OPV vaccines, 50,000 vials of BCG vaccines and 20,000 vials of Tdap vaccines for the MoHP. Cold chain and supply logistics were re-established in damaged health facilities and regional medical stores to build back the capacity of health systems.

UNICEF, in collaboration with MoHP and WHO, developed and implemented a preparedness and response plan for diarrhoea and cholera outbreaks. In line with the plan, UNICEF trained 721 public and private health-care providers and 994 FCHVs on the protocol of IMNCI including diarrhoea, and provided and pre-positioned a total of 50 diarrhoeal disease kits through district health offices and regional medical stores. UNICEF also trained and deployed 330 social mobilizers, and 334,000 people were reached through them with information and education on health, nutrition, and water and sanitation. Through these processes, more than 400,000 children have been ensured access to life-saving care for diarrhoea treatment.

Difficulties have been encountered in terms of access and transportation in the northern areas of affected districts due to landslides during the monsoon. UNICEF supported the pre-positioning of supplies in Kathmandu, although further support is required for regional hub centres to alleviate the challenges of urgent procurement and transportation. In addition, health-care providers and FCHVs were among the affected populations hampering the resumption of service provision. Incentives were provided to FCHVs as a motivation to continue their vital role at community level.

OUTPUT 4: Field Operations: Earthquake response.

Analytical statement of progress:

With UNICEF support, 956 people (427 women, 281 girls, 224 boys and 44 men) were intercepted from potential trafficking as a result of intensified prevention and response interventions in border areas and strategic locations. In collaboration with the MoWCSW and with support from UNICEF, Nepal police established and/or strengthened at 84 police checkpoints in border areas and strategic locations including the international airport. In addition, UNICEF worked with the Department of Immigration to ensure that immigration officers received effective training to prevent possible cases of trafficking at the border areas. Some

67,227 (42,414 children and 24,813 adults) were reached through awareness-raising initiatives against trafficking using different methods such as campaigns and door-to-door and camp visits.

UNICEF played a key role in national-level coordination efforts for the response to the earthquakes, co-leading the Child Protection Sub-Cluster. As a result of UNICEF's continuous advocacy with the MoWCSW, inter-country adoption and the registration of new childcare homes were suspended one week after the earthquake. Guidelines on unaccompanied and separated children have been endorsed by the Government and used by all agencies. UNICEF supported 10 NGOs who deployed 171 social workers in all affected districts to identify vulnerable, unaccompanied and separated children and provide appropriate services. In addition, UNICEF supported the CCWB to deploy 14 information officers in the affected districts to manage child protection data and support case management. Furthermore, 14 UNICEF child protection officers were deployed to support the child protection interventions and coordination of the Protection Cluster in the affected districts until the end of September 2015.

Some 16,094 children were reached through 226 child-friendly spaces established in the 14 most-affected districts. UNICEF support enabled the provision of psychosocial support, including psychosocial first aid and focused psychosocial counselling.

Timely assessment for identification of child protection needs remains a challenge among service providers. UNICEF is working in coordination with Women and Children Offices to ensure local-level actors mobilized to identify vulnerable children for appropriate response.

OUTPUT 5: Field Operations: Earthquake response.

Analytical statement of progress:

To prevent deterioration in nutrition status leading to disease outbreaks and excess child deaths in the earthquake-affected communities, the Nutrition Cluster focused its response on five key interventions: 1) breastfeeding counselling; 2) complementary feeding counselling; 3) therapeutic feeding; 4) supplementary feeding; and 5) providing micronutrients to children and pregnant and lactating women. Implementation of activities started slowly, until coverage significantly increased with the launch of the Child Nutrition Week (CNW) initiative from 28 June to 4 July. The CNW increased coverage of interventions and access to people in hard-to-reach areas.

UNICEF jointly with MoHP launched CNW in 14 earthquake-affected priority districts from 28 June to 4 July 2015. The objective of the CNW was to increase coverage of comprehensive nutrition interventions and reach out to the hard-to-reach areas and populations to provide comprehensive nutrition response. In CNW, more than 90 per cent of targeted children and women were reached with different nutrition interventions. Similarly, in order to see the cost-effectiveness of CNW, the UNICEF nutrition section analysed cost-effectiveness through economic analysis of the CNW and found that the CNW had high costs with high impacts.

OUTPUT 6: Field Operations: Earthquake response.

Analytical statement of progress:

A one-day internal After Action Review was conducted one month into the emergency as a stock-taking and learning exercise with participants from the CMT, Emergency Unit, District Emergency Coordinators and ROSA. Altogether, 238 responses were entered in wiki learning by SMs highlighting to know the effectiveness during the initial three-week response period. This was later on fed into the AAR review process. Similarly, debriefing interviews with more

than 20 surge staff were conducted and documented to inform decision-making and contribute to the global knowledge base on humanitarian response. Implementation of 21 key actions from the After Action Review are being tracked through the management response plan. As of December 2015, 14 actions (67 per cent) are closed, 5 actions (23 per cent) are ongoing and 2 actions (10 per cent) are planned for early 2016.

The Country Office introduced a third-party monitoring mechanism to reach end users in the 14 most severely earthquake-affected districts and thereby better understand and inform UNICEF's humanitarian response. It covered seven major components; health, WASH, nutrition, education, cash transfer, child protection and C4D. Regular feedback from the third-party monitors has helped UNICEF to adapt and better programme in order to respond to the needs and claims of the rights holders in the respective districts. The current fuel crisis is, however, restricting the movement of field monitors to reach targeted end users within the stipulated time frame, leading to an increase in associated costs.

OUTPUT 7: Field Operations: Earthquake response.

Analytical statement of progress:

More than 1 million people across the 14 earthquake-affected districts were reached with key life-saving messages and critical information through mass media, and around 130,000 people were directly reached through community sessions and household visits by youth volunteers as well as Entertainment Education activities.

Around 13,300 minutes of daily on-air psychosocial counselling, key life-saving messages and information regarding relief efforts were provided to listeners in affected districts through the UNICEF–Radio Nepal radio programme - Bhandai–Sundai (Talking–Listening). The programme received around 1,220 calls. Caller grievances were also handled by directly calling concerned authorities to address them.

More than 100,000 minutes of life-saving messages were disseminated through 191 community radio stations. As many community radio stations were damaged, affecting people's access to information, UNICEF supported an assessment of the damage and is providing rehabilitation and capacity-building support. Five television channels and national dailies also disseminated critical information. Due to lack of electricity, people were not able to regularly charge their mobile phones, through which they mainly receive information – either through the radio application, voice calls or SMS. As a result, UNICEF supported intensive community promotion of the Back to School campaign and CNW, and a cash transfer scheme was also carried out.

Some 19 types of communication materials on Health, WASH, Nutrition, Protection and Education were developed and more than 1.8 million copies of the same were printed for distribution in affected districts.

UNICEF supported a long-running radio programme on empowering adolescents – Saathi Sanga Mann Ka Kura (Chatting with my Friends) – and aired specific content to help adolescents deal with the aftermath of the earthquake.

OUTPUT 8: Field Operations: Earthquake response.

Analytical statement of progress:

An emergency cash top-up transfer was provided to an estimated 395,000 vulnerable individuals in 19 most-affected districts of the earthquake-affected areas, building on the

existing Child Grant scheme. Following a decision by the Cabinet, the initial programme was expanded from 11 to 19 most-affected districts, in line with the PDNA. A Project Agreement was signed jointly by UNICEF and the Ministry of Finance for US\$15 million, and US\$14.02 million was transferred to all 19 districts through the District Development Funds.

Approximately 500,000 programme leaflets were delivered to the Scouts Association (with C4D) and other local partners for dissemination. An agreement with the Scouts Association was put in place (with Adolescent Development & Participation) and programme information leaflet dissemination was undertaken in all 19 districts by Scouts and other local partners. Local FM radio stations broadcast programme information 10 times a day for 10 days, in two rounds in all 19 districts (with C4D).

Key messages on positive behaviours to reduce households' vulnerabilities were developed, printed and delivered to all 19 districts.

An SMS-based monitoring system was set up using Rapid-Pro. Responses from more than 2,000 individuals provided additional monitoring information and learning for future use of the system.

An M&E framework was developed to support the scheme for which a partnership was formed with NEPAN, a local NGO. Enumerators were trained, and district focal persons were actively involved in coordination and monitoring in the first 11 districts. Post-distribution monitoring data collection is now complete and data entry is under way.

As of 15 November, 99 per cent of VDCs had reported to have completed the cash distribution, to an estimated 395,000 vulnerable individuals. The first completion reports have been received from Dhading, Kavre and Okhaldunga.

Phase two of the programme has been developed and will focus on providing recovery payments to all children under 5 years old in 11 districts in 2016.

OUTPUT 9: Field Operations: Earthquake response

Analytical statement of progress:

UNICEF ensured a continuous feed of high-quality multimedia materials to draw attention to the needs of the children in earthquake-affected districts in Nepal. The multimedia feed also contributed towards the ability of the UNICEF National Committees to raise US\$70 million for emergency response.

Following the earthquake, UNICEF Nepal has been producing multimedia products, including stories, videos, photographs and infographics, to reflect the work being done by UNICEF and its partners as relief and response to the earthquake in all sectors. These were shared within the organization and promoted through social media portals. During this period, there were more than 50 human interest stories supplemented by related video footage and photographs; 23 Situation Reports; 3 Milestone – 1-month; 3-months and 6-months-- Reports and 17 press releases. There has been a 55 per cent increase in the number of likes on the UNICEF Nepal Facebook page, and a 176 per cent increase in the number of followers on UNICEF Nepal's Twitter account since 25 April 2015.

OUTPUT 10: Field Operations: Earthquake response

Analytical statement of progress:

Operations staff are in place in the majority of emergency sites, with three vehicles allocated to each site. Three out of five emergency sites are almost fully furnished and four out of five sites are in an office building structure.

Establishing four sites outside of Kathmandu in the earthquake-affected districts of Dolakha, Gorkha, Nuwakot and Sindhupalchowk has been a challenge. In three of these locations, office buildings have been established, and as for the Sindhupalchowk office, which is currently a tented office, it will be switched to container offices in 2016. Initially the plan was to have a prefabricated structure, but due to many constraints, plans have changed and container offices will now be established.

Furniture is in place in three out of five locations, and Dolakha and Sindhupalchowk locations remaining to be furnished. Operating policies and procedures, related to Administration, Finance, Supply, Logistics and Human Resources, are being put into place.

All staff have completed their mandatory trainings and are well versant with UNICEF policies and procedures related to travel.

The delay in establishing an office in Sindhupalchowk has led to a new plan of using container offices, which may be the best option in terms of handing the offices over to the Government at a later stage.

OUTPUT 11: Field Operations: Earthquake response

Analytical statement of progress:

More than 90 per cent of the staff recruited and based in the five emergency sites, covering 14 most-affected districts. Three of the offices are functional with furniture, Internet connectivity and only minor works to be completed. Programme monitoring has been impacted by the current fuel crisis. Programme implementation has been delayed due to lack of supplies and fuel.

Staff based in Emergency Site Locations have received the necessary orientation. In each site location, at least one UNICEF staff member is placed on stretch assignment, with some locations having up to three staff. These staff members have provided the much-needed guidance and support on the UNICEF processes that are new and unfamiliar to the rest of the team members.

The current fuel crisis in the country has led to the shortage of fuel and gas as well as food, medicines and vaccines. The fuel crisis has impacted the monitoring of programmes and the ability of partner NGOs to implement the programme. With winter now here, the situation is dire and likely to become a humanitarian crisis.

One of the major bottlenecks has been in establishing the office in Sindhupalchowk. The vendor was not able to provide the necessary materials in a timely manner due to various reasons, including the current fuel crisis. A new provision to make available containers for the office in Sindhupalchowk has now been initiated.

Evaluation and Research

Title	Sequence number	Type of report
How Does Nepal's Child Grant Work for Dalit Children and their Families?	2015/001	Research
Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis for Nepal	2015/018	Research
Parliamentary Oversight in Nepal: The science of legislation (The right of children – A case in point)	2015/017	Study
Post-Constitutional Nation Building in Nepal: Equal, citizen market social protection and the rule of law	2015/016	Study
The Indirect Cost of Infant Mortality in Nepal	2015/015	Study
A Multi-temporal, Multivariate Index to Dynamically Characterize Vulnerability of the Children and Adolescents in Nepal	2015/014	Study
The Road To Recovery: Cash transfers as an emergency response to Nepal's earthquake of 2015 and a catalyst for consolidating Nepal's social protection floor	2015/013	Study
Strategies and Options for Scaling Up and Enhancing the Child Grant Nationally in Nepal	2015/012	Study
Constitution Making Process in Nepal: Citizenship discourse, impact on women and children	2015/011	Study
IYCF/Cash grant mid-line survey in 5 karnali districts	2015/010	Survey
Female Community Health Volunteers, National Survey Report 2014	2015/009	Survey
Urban multi-dimensional child poverty analysis	2015/008	Study
How Does Nepal's Child Grant Work for Dalit Children and their Families	2015/007	Study
A Value for Money Case Study: UNICEF One WASH Programme, Nepal	2015/006	Study
Iodized Salt Social Marketing Campaign Baseline Study	2015/005	Study
Endline Survey on Integrated Development Programme of Women Cooperatives to Reduce Gender-Based Violence	2015/004	Survey
Nepal PPHW Programme Evaluation: Report on Midline Assessment	2015/003	Study
Report on Mapping of Financial Institutions and Livelihood-Related Institutions and Programmes in the selected Districts and Municipalities	2015/002	Study
Nepal Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey: Key Findings report	2015/001	Survey

Other Publications

Title
Radio: Measles-Rubella Campaign Public Service Announcement
Radio: Polio Campaign Public Service Announcement
Video: Keeping Families Healthy In Nepal (PMTCT)
Risk factors for antepartum stillbirth: A case-control study in Nepal

Level of mortality risk for babies born preterm or with a small weight for gestation in a tertiary hospital of Nepal
Validation of the foot-length measure as an alternative tool to identify low birthweight and preterm babies in a low-resourcing setting like Nepal: A cross-sectional study
Equity improvements in maternal and newborn indicators: Results from Bardiya district of Nepal
Dimensions of Learning Organizations Questionnaire in low resource setting of Nepal
Emergency Measles-Rubella Campaign booth banner
Emergency Measles-Rubella Campaign invitation card
Emergency Measles-Rubella Campaign poster
Emergency Measles-Rubella Campaign factsheet
Emergency Measles-Rubella Campaign brochure
Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine poster
Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine factsheet
Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine brochure
Communication Case Study: First Inactivated Polio Vaccine Introduction in South Asia and among GAVI-eligible countries globally
Introduction of Inactivated Polio Vaccine in Nepal
Formative research on child marriage (e-copy)
Adolescent Development & Participation baseline report
Social and Financial Skills (Rupantaran) adolescent training package with supporting materials
Participant work book Micro Enterprise Development Training
Social and Financial Skills (Rupantaran) module 15 on MEDT
Social and Financial Skills (Rupantaran) Participant work book for 15–19 age group
Social and Financial Skills (Rupantaran) Participant work book for 10–14 age group
Training Guideline Materials for Post-Disaster Situation (Vol-II)
Training Guideline Materials for Post-Disaster Situation (Vol-I)
Fact Sheets on Girls Education
Early Childhood Development- ECD center's Minimum Standard Pictorial Booklet
Go Bag Brochure
Drop, Cover & Hold Posters
Earthquake Safety Poster
Pamphlet-Trafficking prevention
Brochure-Waterborne disease Prevention
Brochure-Household water treatment methods
Leaflet- Cash Transfer
Poster- Hygiene and Sanitation
Poster - Newborn Care
Poster - Postnatal Care
Poster- Pregnancy Care
Poster - Menstrual Hygiene
Poster - Sexual Abuse
Poster- Stress Management
Poster- Psychosocial Support
Earthquake Emergency Response-Comprehensive Booklet
Earthquake Emergency Response-Comprehensive Flipchart
Child-Centred Disaster Risk Reduction-Flipchart

Child-Centred Disaster Risk Reduction-Facilitator Guide
Meena Earthquake Preparedness
Tyo Ek Din
Jhilko
Dolma
Milijuli
Mero Aatma Katha
Earthquake, Daily Situation Report (April, May, June, July)
Nepal Earthquake: Humanitarian Situation Report, Three Months Review
Earthquake, Bi-Monthly Situation Report (May, June, July)
Nepal Earthquake: Humanitarian Situation Report, Three Months Review
Earthquake, 6 August 2015 Situation Report
Earthquake, 20 August 2015 Situation Report
Reaching the Unreached, Nepal Earthquakes: Six Months Review
One WASH Annual Report, 2014

Lessons Learned

Document type/category	Title
Innovation	Cash Transfers as an Emergency Response and a Catalyst to Consolidate the Social Protection System in Nepal