

Pacific Island Multi-Country Programme

Executive Summary

UNICEF Pacific's equity agenda aims to support Governments and civil society in the Pacific to enable them to ensure that the rights of every child on every island are respected, protected and fulfilled.

An effectiveness study of Fiji's Care and Protection Allowance for vulnerable children found that 35 per cent of children live below the national basic needs poverty line, compared to two percent reached by the Allowance. The study identified efficiency gains to reach more children for the same cost.

Demographic health surveys, child protection and early childhood studies, and immunization coverage analysis increased knowledge and strengthened advocacy. A Vanuatu study showed that children with disabilities have much less access to education and suffer more from violence. Malnutrition screening results convinced the Solomon Islands (SI) to establish protocols and capacity for treatment.

'Proof of concept' on modernizing birth registration in the Solomon Islands led to the first Government budget line for civil registration. Evidence-based advocacy persuaded the Pacific Ministers of Education to adopt a Teachers' Code of Ethics and Guidelines on Quality Early Childhood Care and Education.

Important regional partners included: UN Country Teams, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Pacific Islands Forum, Pacific Disability Forum, Pacific Immunization Strengthening, Brisbane Accord Group, Pacific Regional Council for Early Childhood Care and Education, Pacific water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) Coalition and the Pacific Humanitarian Team.

The #ENDViolence campaign and the 25th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child were key communication themes. Each month a different child right was highlighted. Behaviour change communication included interpersonal communication, music videos, Bluetooth downloads, mass print, radio and social media and special events.

An affordable, open-source e-database system linked to education and health systems in the Office of the Civil Registrar in Vanuatu proved to work well in the challenging ocean geography - Vanuatu comprises 65 inhabited islands, in more than 700,000 square kilometres of ocean. The use of smart phones to collect monitoring data on the location and condition of water sources in island communities was successfully piloted and is ready for scale up.

Extensive work was carried out to strengthen immunisation programmes. Community-Led Total Sanitation expanded in Kiribati: by December 2014, 103 villages on 12 islands were open-defecation free. US\$722,605 for eleven countries were procured under the Vaccine Independence Initiative and US\$3.2 million of supplies (40 per cent) and institutional service contracts (60 per cent) were procured.

Kiribati ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and withdrew reservations to the CRC. UNICEF Pacific supported CRC reporting by Fiji, Nauru, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Republic of Marshall Islands, and Vanuatu.

UNICEF Pacific collaborated in Joint Programmes to end violence against women and children in Kiribati and Solomon Islands, and carried out gender equity assessment with the Ministries of Public Works, Health and Education in Kiribati, which then wrote a WASH Gender Action Plan. UN Security Trust Fund projects continued in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, including a participatory approach to resilience, in which people in communities undertake their own drinking water safety and security planning through a guided approach to identifying, assessing, prioritizing, and reducing risks.

UNICEF Pacific responded to numerous emergencies, caused by cyclones, storms, drought, volcanoes, and disease epidemics. Humanitarian response included supplies, services, technical and coordination support in WASH, education, maternal and child health and nutrition, and child protection.

An evaluation was carried out of the solar power in schools project in Solomon Islands, and mid-term reviews were carried out of a WASH programme in Solomon Islands and education programme in Tuvalu.

Major initiatives in 2014 to improve operations and programme management performance included an internal audit, a structural affordability review, a Multi Country Programme Mid-Term Review combined with re-structuring to align with a planned global shift of some functions. Programme results were re-focused to align with the new global Strategic Plan. The audit identified internal business processes to strengthen risk reduction, including the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer. Several major improvements were implemented, although more work remains to be carried out in 2015. The Office signed cost sharing agreements and consolidated space to reduce office expenses. The number of full time posts was reduced from 105 to 85.

US\$10.4 million in new Other Resources (OR) income was mobilised. Key donors included Australia, Japan, New Zealand, the European Union, OCHA and UNICEF national committees in Australia, Japan South Korea, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom. Funds available to UNICEF Pacific in 2014 totalled US\$25.9 million.

Humanitarian Assistance

Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) are among the most vulnerable in the world to cyclones, floods, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, king tides, tsunamis and rising ocean levels. UNICEF Pacific is strongly engaged in preparedness, coordination and response and belongs to the Pacific Humanitarian Team, which includes UN agencies, multi- and bilateral partners, non-government organizations (NGOs) and national disaster management offices from all PICTs. UNICEF Pacific has a well-trained, coordinated Rapid Response Team, and also draws on regional and global surge mechanisms as necessary. UNICEF Pacific is the cluster lead in education, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), nutrition and the child protection area of responsibility, and has been effective in capacity building, coordination, assessment, preparation and response, including supply procurement and delivery.

In 2014, UNICEF Pacific responded to various humanitarian situations, caused by cyclones (in

Tonga, Vanuatu, SI), drought (in Fiji), volcanic eruption (in Vanuatu), measles epidemics (in SI and Micronesia), and an acute diarrhoea epidemic (in Kiribati). The ones with biggest impact were Tropical Cyclone Ian in Tonga in February and floods and landslides in SI in April. More than US\$1 million was mobilised from various sources including the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), New Zealand and Japan National Committees, to address immediate needs in health, nutrition, WASH, education and child protection.

UNICEF's humanitarian response included supplies, services, technical and coordination support in WASH, Education, maternal and child health and nutrition, and child protection. In SI, surge support was mobilised for WASH, through a stand-by partner arrangement, for coordination from UNICEF Indonesia and for nutrition from UNICEF India. As part of the SI response, for the first time, nutrition in emergency was addressed, including screening, referral and treatment for moderate and severe malnutrition cases. Also for the first time, and in the absence of a Food Security Cluster in the Pacific, UNICEF worked with Ministry of Education on a school feeding programme for affected primary schools, with the objective of encouraging children to get back to school and ensure at least one nutritionally balanced meal per day. This was enormously successful. In Tonga and SI, UNICEF built understanding, appreciation and capacity for child protection in emergencies and for the importance of education as an immediate, rather than simply recovery, response. UNICEF also contributed to humanitarian action plans in Tonga and SI, and to a recovery plan in SI.

Lessons learnt exercises organised by OCHA and Governments in Tonga and SI commended the role that UNICEF played in coordinating the clusters. While the reviews noted important achievements, areas for improvement for all humanitarian partners included: strengthening evacuation centre management, logistics, monitoring, and impact evaluation. The risks associated with relying on large numbers of short term surge deployment were mentioned, along with the importance of better preparedness, including in supply planning and management. The reports indicate that UNICEF has not made enough use of contingency agreements to prepare and respond to emergencies.

UNICEF continued to work on disaster risk reduction and preparedness, including through national-level cluster approaches. Cluster arrangements were used for the first time in Tonga. Two training events were held on child protection in emergencies for northern and southern Pacific countries. This increased partners' capacity to plan and respond, raised the profile of child protection among National Disaster Management Offices and Ministries, and commitments were made to explicitly incorporate child protection issues into national disaster plans. UNICEF also provided support for humanitarian coordination training for national WASH Cluster members in Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. The capacity building of these national clusters strengthened sector partnerships beyond response, as improved collaboration is evident for DRR and for WASH strategies, policies, research and exchange of best practices.

A full update of the UNICEF web-based early warning and preparedness system was conducted for Fiji, Kiribati, SI and Vanuatu in preparation for the South Pacific cyclone season, which runs from November to April. Emergency contingency supplies were procured and positioned in Fiji, SI and Vanuatu. Assessment of needs and gaps in emergency supplies was carried out and additional supplies were dispatched to complete basic stocks in Vanuatu, and, with logistical support from UNICEF Philippines, to establish stocks in Palau.

Equity Case Study

UNICEF Pacific's sharpened focus on equity began five years ago. The office covers 14 island with all countries and territories (PICTs) covering over 17.2 million square kilometres of ocean, with a total Pacific regional population of about 2.4 million, of which 955,000 are under age 18. Disparities within the region between the countries are indicated by the range in UNDP's 2014 Human Development Report, from low human development to high human development status. PICTs also range from Lower Middle Income to Upper Middle Income according to an International Financial Institution consolidated index in 2014. Five are also on the list of countries in fragile situations; all are vulnerable to frequent natural disasters and rising sea levels.

National level child well-being statistics, monitored and reported annually by UNICEF, show mixed progress towards achievement of Millennium Development Goal targets, while sub national analyses, published in UNICEF Pacific's Child Atlases, show that there are significant equity gaps between urban and rural areas, even on the same main island. Child well-being indicators tend to be much lower for Island provinces or states where the capital city and/or main shipping and airport are not located. However, there is an increasing proportion of children living in urban poverty and with poor status in health, water and sanitation, nutrition, education and protection. The first building block in promoting children's rights to identify these children who are most marginalized and disadvantaged.

Pacific Island Countries have limited capacity to monitor the situation of children and track progress against key development goals. National statistical systems in Pacific Island Countries are among the weakest in the world and are chronically under-resourced in terms of qualified staff and operational budgets. Most Pacific Island Countries also lack high-quality administrative data sources, such as education and health databases and civil registration records. These challenges are compounded by weak coordination and cooperation between government ministries, and low capacity to analyse data and translate numbers into policy-relevant and meaningful information.

Across the Pacific region, it is estimated that one in four children and adults are living below the national poverty line. In recent years, social protection has emerged as a major new focus in efforts to reduce poverty around the world. Social protection can be understood as a set of public actions that address not only income poverty and economic shocks, but also social vulnerability, thus taking into account the inter-relationship between exclusion and poverty. Apart from fee waivers for basic education and health services, coverage of formal social protection is limited in most Pacific island countries. In 2014, to strengthen advocacy efforts, UNICEF continued to build the evidence base on child poverty and vulnerability in collaboration with leading research institutes, and supported the Fiji Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation to assess the effectiveness and impact of the cash transfer and food voucher scheme for vulnerable children, known as the Care and Protection Allowance (CPA).

The study found that 35 per cent of the child population in Fiji was living below the national basic needs poverty line, and analysed disparities by location, sex and other socio-economic variables. Child poverty in rural areas (47 per cent) is more than double the prevalence in urban areas (22 per cent). There is little difference between boys and girls, but the sex of the head of the household does play a significant role, as well as the age of the household head and their educational and employment status. There is significant 'churning' around the poverty line and even children in the middle of the income distribution face significant difficulties, even if they're not officially regarded as "poor". The study also considered deprivations in non-income

dimensions (such as education, housing, access to information) and found that around a third of Fijian children are deprived in several dimensions simultaneously.

Despite high levels of child poverty, coverage of the Care and Protection Allowance (CPA) is relatively modest: the programme reaches approximately 5,000 children (less than 2 per cent of the child population). Caregivers with young (pre-school) children are most at risk of being excluded from the programme (even though in theory they are eligible), as are children living outside of the Central Division. Based on field work and interviews with caregivers, it is clear that the CPA can be considered a necessary source of support for those who benefit from it and a vital lifeline for particularly vulnerable households (solo caregivers without family support and where the CPA is the primary source of income). Cash is fungible but is contributing to child wellbeing in a number of ways – being spent on providing food for the family (the primary expenditure) as well as covering a number of education related costs for children in school. Other important contributions of the grant were to clothes, travel costs, housing in urban areas. A major impact of the programme is the psychological impact and peace of mind that the regular and predictable transfer is providing caregivers, with benefits extending to improved relationships within the family.

UNICEF Pacific and the Fiji Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation also analysed barriers and bottlenecks in administrative processes and institutional factors, in line with UNICEF's Monitoring of Results for Equity System (MoRES), and developed an action plan with short, medium and long-term actions to move forward with building a national social protection system that meets the needs of children. The recommendations are used by the Ministry and other stakeholders in 2015 and beyond to inform planning and resource allocation decisions and optimize the design, coverage and operational management of the Care and Protection Allowance. Lessons learned could also benefit other Pacific island countries seeking to introduce or expand child-sensitive social protection.

Summary Notes and Acronyms

AGI – Adolescent Girls' Initiative
CCA – climate change adaptation
CEDAW – Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women
CERF – Central Emergency Response Fund
CLTS – community-led total sanitation
CMT – Country Management Team
CPA – Care and Protection Allowance
CRC – Convention on the Rights of the Child
CRN – civil registration numbers
CRO – Civil Registration Office
CRVS – civil registration and vital statistics
DFAT – Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Australia)
DGMWR – Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources (Vanuatu)
DHS – Demographic and Health Survey
DRR – disaster risk reduction
ECCE – early childhood care and education
ECD – early childhood development
ECE – early childhood education
ERN – event registration numbers
EU – European Union
FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization (of the UN)
FSM – Federated States of Micronesia

GPE – Global Partnership for Education
GPS – Global Positioning System
GSSC – Global Shared Services Centre
HACT – harmonized approach to cash transfers
ICT – information and communication technology
ILO – International Labour Organization
IMEP – integrated monitoring and evaluation plan
JP – joint programme
KAP – knowledge, attitudes and practices
LTA – long-term agreement
MCPMP – multi-country programme management plan
MDG – Millennium Development Goal
MOE – Ministry of Education
MOH – Ministry of Health
MoRES – monitoring of results for equity systems
MOU – memorandum of understanding
MTR – mid-term review
MWYSA – Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs (Kiribati)
NCD – non-communicable disease
NGO – non-governmental organization
OCHA – Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OR – other resources
PBR – programme budget review
PER – performance evaluation review
PICTs – Pacific Island Countries and Territories
PIF – Pacific Islands Forum
PIFS – Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
PMT – Programme Management Team
PRC4ECCE – Pacific Regional Council for Early Childhood Care and Education
RCSA – risk and control self-assessment
RR – regular resources
RMI – Republic of the Marshall Islands
RMNCH – reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health
SAM – severe acute malnutrition
SAMOA – small islands developing states accelerated modalities of action
SI – Solomon Islands
SIDS – Small Island Developing States
SPC – Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SRA – security risk assessment
UN – United Nations
UNDAF – United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
UNDSS – UN Department of Staff Security
UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF – United Nations Children’s Fund
UNTFHS – United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security
UPR – universal periodic reviews
WASH – water, sanitation and hygiene
WHO – World Health Organization

Capacity Development

The capacity of Pacific state duty bearers to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of all children, varies widely. Lower middle income countries are characterized by weak governance and accountability, and sometimes chronic underperformance.

UNICEF Pacific provides long term in-country technical support in six countries (Fiji, Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Samoa and Vanuatu) and remote or mission expert advice in all countries. Technical support is provided to targeted departments within Ministries, with clear time bound deliverables that include handover and exit strategy. UNICEF leveraged South-South knowledge exchange by bringing together people from the Pacific and international experts to learn about innovations and best practices, share their own experiences and lessons learnt and jointly develop regional frameworks, guidelines and strategies. UNICEF also has contracts with NGOs and private companies for capacity development work at community and facility level. Among a plethora of capacity development activities in 2014, two examples are:

- UNICEF staff developed and are delivering a training package on statistical literacy and use of child-relevant data in programme planning, decision-making and advocacy. In 2014, around 100 civil servants and NGO staff in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Micronesia and Marshall Islands participated in the training and learning was assessed through pre and post training tests.

- In Kiribati, where 48 per cent of classrooms are multi-grade, UNICEF provided a technical expert to work with the Kiribati Teachers College, School Improvement Unit, and the Curriculum Development and Resource Centre of the Ministry of Education. A teacher training course was developed, and a Teachers' Guidebook on multi-grade teaching was piloted in three multi-grade schools.

Evidence Generation, Policy Dialogue and Advocacy

Production of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) Equity Atlas was followed up by meetings with Ministries to discuss findings and corrective actions. Data analysis led to recommendations to improve the Fiji care and protection allowance programme. An analysis of household and education data in Vanuatu revealed a serious education gap between children with disabilities and those without, and that children with disabilities tend to suffer more from violence.

UNICEF Pacific contributed to UNDP's "The State of Human Development in the Pacific: A report on vulnerability and exclusion in a time of rapid change", launched at the Global UN Meeting of Small Island Developing States (SIDS). This report gave high visibility to children's issues, including new estimates of child poverty levels. The SIDS meeting was also used to cite evidence and advocate for change through meeting interventions, presentations, social media and at youth and other activities.

UNICEF Pacific supported inclusion of child nutrition in DHS in Samoa, SI and Vanuatu. Data analysis contributed to successful advocacy with the Interagency Task Force on Non Communicable Diseases (NCD), to include the double burden of malnutrition in NCD strategies and plans. First time nutrition screening in an emergency and a follow up survey convinced the SI Government to establish ongoing identification, referral and treatment for children with severe acute malnutrition.

Proof of concept on modernizing birth registration in the Solomon Islands led to a first time Government budget line for civil registration and doubling of staff in the Civil Registration Office.

Baseline study and evaluation findings persuaded the Pacific Heads of Education Systems and the Ministers of Education to adopt a Pacific Teachers' Code of Ethics. A series of consultations using evidence on the importance of early childhood development resulted in adoption by all Ministers of Guidelines on National Quality Early Childhood Care and Education. Evidence included in the reports for Fiji to the Committee for the CRC led to quick actions by the Government, such as increasing child friendly budget allocations; including children in the name of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Children, Women and Poverty Alleviation, introducing free kindergarten, and additional social welfare officers.

Partnerships

UNICEF Pacific sits on two UN Multi-Country Teams; co-leads the UNDAF Social Services Group and belongs to two other UNDAF Groups. UNICEF engages in seven UN Joint Programmes, including two developed in 2014: Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child & Adolescent Health and Pacific Sexual & Reproductive Health Programme.

Partnership with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) in 2014 included implementing the Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy through data collection and analysis, focusing on youth, human rights, and health communication. Progress was made in harmonizing work on legislative reform for domestic violence. UNICEF Pacific worked with SPC and other regional agencies within the Pacific Regional Sexual Health and Well-Being Agenda, on the Regional Rights Resource Team, and on the Global Fund grant for HIV and AIDS.

UNICEF Pacific partners with the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), within the Pacific Plan for Regional Cooperation, collaborates on CRC Reporting, and works within the Pacific Disability Forum to catalyse actions for peoples with disabilities.

UNICEF Pacific is a lead partner in the Pacific Immunization Programme Strengthening partnership, bringing Pacific knowledge together with global standards and best practices. Membership in the Brisbane Accord Group contributes to scaled-up, modernized birth registration throughout the Pacific.

UNICEF Pacific is the Secretariat for the Pacific Regional Council for Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), a strategic platform for duty-bearers to improve coverage and quality. The SIDS conference focused on partnerships for sustainable development and was an opportunity to strengthen the UN Pacific Inter Agency Task Force and leverage support for protecting Children from violence, abuse and exploitation.

The Pacific WASH Coalition and Regional Infrastructure Facility collaborate on policy development, budgeting, surveying, mapping, minimum standards and technical assistance. UNICEF collaborates with the World Bank's Water and Sanitation Programme on research for equity of services for peri-urban areas.

The Pacific Humanitarian Team, of which UNICEF Pacific is a member, responded to seven emergencies in 2014. UNICEF Pacific leads the WASH Cluster, Co-Leads the Education Cluster; leads the child protection area of responsibility and is a member of the Health and Nutrition Cluster.

External Communication and Public Advocacy

The global #ENDViolence campaign and the 25th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child were the key communication themes in 2014. In Vanuatu, students and teachers discussed bullying and how to stop it and agreed on promoting respect and the campaign was rolled out as 'Leftemap Rispek' in the Bislama language. A 'Respecting One Another' song, produced by the popular Stan Antas, played extensively on radio with national coverage. A complementary music video received more than 1,000 views within one week. A mobile van toured Efate Island, distributing free downloads.

There were 12 months of "CRC@25" celebrations, with a different child right highlighted each month, and communicated on multiple media platforms. Celebrations in Fiji, Kiribati, SI and Vanuatu included games, songs, dance, television spots, football matches, speeches and parades.

104 stories, photo essays or videos were posted on-line, a big increase over previous years, and this enabled UNICEF Pacific to reach almost 64,000 visits to the home website. New visitors increased from 9,860 in 2013 to 15,761 in 2014. Linkages across electronic, print, TV and radio boosted attention to children's issues. Communication on emergencies, featured stories from Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, and a story from the SIDS Conference in Samoa were the most read both regionally and globally.

Facebook followers all increased, as did "likes". Twitter posts, followers and retweets also increased, however total numbers for these two social media remain low.

A second UNICEF Pacific Ambassador was selected: a teacher at a Fijian school for disabled children, is advocating especially for children living with a disability.

Communications support provided to programmes for key events and activities such as Global Hand washing Day, World Toilet Day, World Breastfeeding Week, World Pneumonia Day and World Prematurity Day as well as numerous activities by all programme sectors.

Collaboration with the Oceania Football Confederation (OFC) gave a major boost to spreading knowledge among children and teachers on health, education and protection behaviour, including in numerous schools and at 14 Just Play Festivals and events related to the Football World Cup and the XX Commonwealth Games.

South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation

UNICEF Pacific facilitated South-South cooperation in different ways: regional meetings, workshops and training events, often co-organised with regional partners in all programme areas, built knowledge networks, fostered dialogue, experience-sharing, peer-reviews and decision-making among participating government and non-government staff. Pacific coalitions such as the Pacific Immunization Programme Strengthening, the WASH Coalition, the Pacific Human Resources Association and the Early Childhood Education Council were also delved into formulation of strategies, policies, development of standards and arrangements for technical support across PICTs. UNICEF Pacific supported technical expertise missions and consultancies from one Government to another, from both within and outside the Pacific.

The most successful South-South cooperation in 2014 included:

- Warehouse facilities in Fiji and Vanuatu were used as a hub for pre-positioning supplies used by other PICTs, particularly during emergencies and disease outbreaks. Facilitated by UNICEF

Pacific, the Government of Fiji donated emergency health supplies to the Solomon Islands and a police detective to Tuvalu.

- Deployment from the Government of India Ministry of Health of senior nutrition clinicians to strengthen capacity on child nutrition: Ministry of Health staff from Nauru, SI, Samoa, Kiribati, Vanuatu and Fiji were trained on management of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), and were supported in developing three-year costed action plans focusing on outcomes of the Global Infant and Young Child Feeding Strategy.
- As the demand for support in strengthening child protection systems increases, UNICEF Pacific is responding across a broader geographic area, stretching both technical and financial resources. South-South cooperation helps address this challenge. For example, to support the Tuvalu Police in ensuring child-sensitive investigations, the technical expertise of the Fiji Police was leveraged, resulting in two successful missions and the development of investigation protocols. Similarly, to build capacity of the newly established Child and Family Services Division within the Ministry of Home Affairs in Nauru, a delegation visited Kiribati to learn from their experiences in policy reform.

In addition, Government counterparts in the Pacific appreciated surge support from UNICEF staff from India, Indonesia and Pakistan, while UNICEF Pacific staff gave emergency support to the Philippines.

Identification Promotion of Innovation

In 2014 Vanuatu accomplished an unprecedented increase in birth registration of children under age five by introducing decentralized services and a national electronic data management system. Birth registrations increased from 40 per cent in January 2013 to 56 per cent at the end of 2014.

UNICEF supported the Office of the Civil Registrar, under the Ministry of Home Affairs, to develop a low-cost, open-source electronic database system linked to education and health systems and accessing outer islands, for transfer of timely, accurate and secure data. The selection of the system was grounded in a comprehensive literature review of CRVS systems in developing countries worldwide. The expanded and decentralized approach addresses the unique challenges of civil registration in Vanuatu, which comprises 88 islands, 65 of them inhabited, spread over more than 700,000 square kilometres of ocean.

The system has:

- A loose framework that was customised to include the organizational and user hierarchy of Vanuatu's decentralised administration;
- Simplified system use through a modular approach;
- Clearly assigned ownership of data and software to the relevant department;
- Education, Health and Civil Registration databases are integrated with each other using Event Registration Numbers (ERN) and Civil Registration Numbers (CRN);
- Record retrieval is easy with a searchable index.

The Civil Registrar and the Ministry of Education in Vanuatu signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to promote registration of children through schools as part of their initial enrolment process. This system benefits both departments; it encourages birth registration by improving access, and allows the Ministry of Education to track student progress by using birth certificate numbers as unique identifiers. The Civil Registrar also established a partnership with

the Ministry of Health to introduce birth registration in hospitals and link with the Health Information System to provide on-site registration prior to discharge. 'Catch up days' were introduced in remote areas where families do not have regular contact with government. Although not available at all sites, colour printers produce an informal certificate with a photo of mother and child, which itself has proved a powerful motivator to have newborns registered.

Support to Integration and cross-sectoral linkages

UNICEF Pacific is the lead development partner in the Pacific for early childhood development (ECD), and serves as Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Council for Early Childhood Care and Education (PRC4ECCE). Thirteen PICTs as well as other regional stakeholders participate in the PRC4ECCE.

All Ministers of Education endorsed the 'Pacific Guidelines for the Development of National Quality Frameworks for ECCE', which is a multi-sector book that includes health, nutrition, protection and water and hygiene. PRC4ECCE regional meetings included multi-sector presentations, and stimulated action plans for multi-sector planning at country level. Future PRC4ECCE regional meetings will engage country-level partners from additional ministries, in particular Ministries of Health, to better link education, immunization, nutrition and clean water services. PRC4ECCE participants also shared good practices with each other, including cost effective ways to make learning aids from local materials, and ways to enhance cultural relevance in curricula. The recently completed situation analysis and knowledge, attitude and practice studies of early childhood in Vanuatu and Solomon Islands has opened doors for a more structured inter-sector approach at country level.

The UNICEF Mid Term Review facilitated the progressive integration of the HIV and AIDS programme with the health and nutrition programme. This is appropriate to the low HIV prevalence levels in the Pacific, the comparative advantage of UNICEF in prevention of mother to child transmission and adolescent prevention. The integration will strengthen leveraging and synergy with ongoing health initiatives, especially in reproductive and sexual health. In Kiribati, the Adolescent Girls' Initiative (AGI), is housed in the Youth Division of the Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs (MWYSA), and supported by UN agencies. The initiative's core areas for increasing knowledge and changing attitudes and behaviour are girls' health, girls' education, girls' peer leadership, and protecting girls from abuse and exploitation. Other cross cutting programme linkages are WASH and solar power in schools; and ending bullying and other violence in schools.

Service Delivery

UNICEF Pacific helps governments identify, agree on, implement and monitor quality service standards for health, nutrition, WASH, education and protection, including standard for disaster risk reduction and environmental sustainability. Mechanisms for this are:

- (i) Reports prepared for sector working groups and development partner working group meetings;
- (ii) Reports prepared for sector and multi-sector regional fora and partnerships;
- (iii) Joint monitoring missions;
- (iv) Joint reporting forms and reporting, for example in WASH and health;
- (v) Assessments, reviews and evaluations;
- (vi) Internal mid-year and end year review process;
- (vii) Bilateral performance and review discussions.

An example is UNICEF Pacific support to government immunisation programmes for micro-

planning and for rapid coverage assessments. Analysis of the coverage leads to “mop-up” campaigns in low performing areas. UNICEF also supports Ministries of Health to improve routine data collection and analysis, and to regularly report performance results so that causes and corrective actions can be agreed. In 2014, UNICEF undertook an intensive review of vaccine procurement in the Pacific as well as a case study of Solomon Islands’ immunization programme. Solomon Government staff and donors participated. Service delivery successes were noted for sustaining and replicating; while in depth discussions led to recommendations on addressing bottlenecks to increasing immunization rate.

On the demand side, UNICEF Pacific’s communication for development strategy is a synergy of public advocacy, stakeholder knowledge and attitude change, family and individual knowledge, attitude and behaviour change and social mobilization. An example is the success of Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) in Kiribati in 14 outer islands, with 103 villages on 12 outer islands declaring themselves open-defecation free within two years. UNICEF Pacific secured Presidential, Cabinet and other high level support, as well as working with village leaders and families.

Monitoring, reviews and assessments increasingly point to non-technical bottlenecks to service delivery. Rather than lack of technical knowledge and expertise, equity gaps in access to service tend to be caused by poor governance and management, including lack of accountability. At the same time, high rates of staff loss and turnover do require commitments to repeated technical training.

Human Rights-Based Approach to Cooperation

UNICEF Pacific maintains a human rights-based approach to programming at both the normative level and in the results focus of its initiatives. The multi-country programme was informed by in-depth, rights and equity focused studies on children and climate change, children living with disabilities, children and urbanization and children and the impact of the global economic crisis. This analysis supported the framing of results and programme interventions on building the capacity of duty-bearers to respect, protect and fulfil children’s rights and the capacities of rights-holders to claim their rights.

All PICTs have ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). All but Palau and Tonga have also ratified the Convention on Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) (although Palau signed it in September 2011). In 2014, Kiribati ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and withdrew all reservations to the CRC.

UNICEF provided technical support toward the completion of pending CRC Reports for Nauru, Solomon Islands, Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI) and Vanuatu (Optional Protocol Report on the Sale of Children), and continued to advocate with Kingdom of Tonga toward the submission of their first report. Samoa submitted its combined second to fourth period report to the CRC Committee. Fiji’s combined second to fourth period report was discussed with the CRC Committee in September. The government of Fiji has taken concrete steps toward implementing CRC recommendations, including a specific allocation in the 2015 Budget.

UNICEF Pacific provided support and inputs to a UN interagency team for the Universal Periodic Reviews (UPR), including for Kiribati, Fiji and RMI, and provided a statement in Geneva during the review of Vanuatu’s UPR Report by the Human Rights Council. UNICEF Pacific also contributed to the UN Pacific Country Team joint confidential report for CEDAW Tuvalu.

Gender Mainstreaming and Equality

An increasing body of evidence in PICTs shows high prevalence of violence against children and women. Media coverage as well as studies confirming an inter-generational cycle of violence have recently spurred policy action and government commitments, including legal reforms. The complexity of addressing violence demands an integrated and systematic approach by partners.

The Pacific offices of UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, the International Labour Organisation, WHO and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are collaborating on regional advocacy for #ENDViolence, and with Governments to end violence against women and children in Kiribati and Solomon Islands. Joint Programmes were formulated for the period 2014-2017, based on three strategies: systems strengthening and integration, social transformation and evidence-based programming with the overall objective to strengthen capacity within Government and civil society to expand survivor services and primary prevention interventions. Both Joint Programmes have now been endorsed by the respective Governments. UNICEF is contributing US\$ 60,000 to the JP in Kiribati and US\$ 65,000 in SI. The processes of developing the JPs generated political commitment, enhanced inter-agency coordination and improved partners' understanding of common areas of work in child protection and gender based violence.

Gender disaggregated health and nutrition data have not shown any gender differences; disparities are rather related to socio-economic status, parents' education and place of residence.

Gender equality is a goal in the 'Pacific Guidelines for the Development of National Quality Framework for ECCE.' Boys and girls in the Pacific are equally likely to be enrolled (or not enrolled) in ECCE, but a UNICEF KAP study showed there is a gender issue regarding parental involvement. UNICEF Pacific is working with partners to increase fathers' involvement in early learning and stimulation. At primary school level, there are no gender differences in enrolment and completion; however boys are more likely than girls to drop out of school at secondary level.

The UNICEF Pacific WASH programme carried out gender assessment and analysis with staff from the Ministries of Public Works, Health and Education in Kiribati, who then wrote a WASH Gender Action Plan and Checklist. This approach will be replicated in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

Environmental Sustainability

Safe and sustainable water and sanitation solutions are central to building resilience of Pacific communities to the increasing threats of climate variability and change, and natural hazards. Achieving water security in the face of these potential shocks requires that countries use all available water sources, including rainwater, groundwater, surface water, and in some cases desalinated water. Small, isolated, traditional communities without access to government services must safely and sustainably manage their own drinking water, sanitation and hygiene. In Vanuatu and Fiji, drinking water safety and security planning is being used as an entry point to both strengthen community management of water supply and sanitation, and increase resilience to climate variability and extreme events.

UNICEF Pacific is supporting replication of this successful approach at 14 sites across six provinces in Vanuatu. Ten of these sites were selected through the Community Resilience and

Coping with Climate Change and Natural Disasters in Vanuatu project, funded by the UN Trust Fund for Human Security and jointly implemented by the Pacific offices of UNICEF, UNDP, and FAO. Participatory tools were developed for people in communities to undertake their own drinking water safety and security planning through a guided approach to identifying, assessing, prioritizing, and reducing risks. The programme drew on sanitation survey results and guidance developed by Live and Learn Environmental Education NGO in their toolkit, "Keeping your drinking water safe". In Vanuatu, seven sites have completed the planning and another three will do so in early 2015.

Led by SPC, UNICEF Pacific participated in the development of the new Pacific Regional Strategy on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction, and contributed to preparatory meetings for the 3rd World Conference on DRR to be held in Japan in March 2015. The Pacific Platform has three strategic goals: strengthen risk management for CCA and DRR; lower carbon emissions; strengthen preparedness, response and recovery. There is recognition of the cross cutting importance of human rights in DRR, gender dimension, children and youth and vulnerability of disabled people. The commitments in the Strategy were re-affirmed at Geneva preparatory conferences, and in the SIDS Conference and the Samoa Pathway document.

Effective Leadership

UNICEF Pacific carried out several major initiatives in 2014 to improve operations and programme management performance, including an internal audit in March 2014, a structural affordability review in May, a re-structuring in operations posts to align with the planned global shift of some functions to a Global Shared Service Centre, and a mid-term review exercise between May and August 2014. This mid-term review paved the way for a revision of the five year multi-country programme management plan (MCPMP 2013-2017).

The audit found no incidence of fraud or failure, but did identify 23 internal business processes to strengthen in order to reduce risk. One of the most important of these was to improve work processes related to the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT), an approach used by UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF for planning, transferring, certifying and accounting for cash transfers to government and non-government partners for implementation of programmes. The Management Team made strengthening multi-dimensional facets of HACT a key priority in 2014; significant progress was made on training, micro-assessments, governance framework and assurance plans.

UNICEF Pacific needs to identify efficiency gains, and re-prioritise programme objectives. The 2014 Mid Term Review was therefore carried out earlier than originally planned, with a strong focus on structural affordability, efficiency and effectiveness while retaining capacity to achieve results on the most important issues for children. Specific recommendations were accordingly made for shifts in programme structure, reduction in total number of posts as well as re-profiling of some Job Descriptions to adjust functional responsibilities. The Mid Term Review also formalised modest adjustment of planned results to harmonise with UNICEF's global Strategic Plan and to streamline and focus planned results to ensure that the programme's overall objectives and targets are realistic and achievable. The office also adjusted staff structure and responsibilities in line with UNICEF's global move to a global shared service centre.

UNICEF Pacific contributed to a UN Country Team decision to conduct a review of the UN Joint Presence System in the Pacific; findings and recommendations will be discussed in early 2015. Concurrently, UNICEF Pacific worked with UNDP, UNFPA and UN Women to agree on amounts and modality for cost sharing shared premises in Vanuatu and Kiribati. Memoranda of

Understanding were signed and cost sharing will begin on 1 January 2015, resulting in savings in UNICEF Pacific's operational budget.

Management indicators, reports from field offices and from Office Committees and task forces were regularly reviewed by the Country Management Team, with appropriate actions agreed. For example, the amount of non-liquidated cash with Government partners was reduced, although still more effort is required and the management team worked systematically on closure of audit findings. Programme and Operations work plans take into consideration the risks and mitigation measures identified through an annually updated Risk and Control Self-Assessment (RCSA). The effective segregation of duties within the UNICEF Pacific Office supports risk mitigation by helping to identify risks and effectively manage them.

Financial Resources Management

The UNICEF Pacific Country Management Team reviewed key performance indicators on financial resource management at least once a month. A new resource mobilization strategy was drafted, and successful efforts were made to raise funds.

Efficiency gains were mainly through cost reductions in rent, as described in the Efficiency section of this report.

UNICEF Pacific utilized 100 per cent of its Institutional Budget of US\$ 315,571, and received a special allocation of US\$ 50,000 for office renovation in Fiji. Total funding from all sources and years, available in 2014, was US\$ 25.9 million. Utilization of Regular Resources was estimated at 97 per cent. 24 per cent of a special allocation of US\$ 425,000 from UNICEF Headquarters was utilized, the remainder will be used in 2015. Other Resources (OR) of US\$ 18.9 million (including emergency grants), was allocated for 2014, out of which 77 per cent was utilised.

UNICEF Pacific strengthened application of its harmonised approach to cash transfers (HACT), including through training on global guidelines, twelve micro-assessments of implementing partners, updating assurance plans under an improved HACT governance framework, and ten spot checks of implementing partners' management of funds.

Some of UNICEF Pacific's government partners continued to find it difficult to liquidate cash transfers within the three month expected period. Several tactics were employed: Assiduous follow up and assistance by UNICEF staff; direct payments to vendors; technical assistance by bilateral donors to the accounting departments of Government Ministries. All of these tactics are improving timely accountability: as of 31 December 2014, only US\$ 150,656 of funds disbursed six to nine months earlier was not yet liquidated, or 4 per cent of total.

23 internal audit recommendations were made in 2014, of which nine were closed by the end of the year, with work on all others in progress.

Fund-raising and Donor Relations

Funds available to UNICEF Pacific in 2014 totalled US\$ 25.9 million. Financial utilization was 82.6 per cent. Of the 16 grants that expired in 2014, 15 met the 95 per cent utilization rate target. Extensions, based on strong justifications and agreed with donors, were requested for 8 of the 41 grants managed in 2014.

At year end new OR funds mobilised were 133.8 per cent of the 2014 ceiling, while performance against the five year Executive Board approved ceiling was 87.46 per cent. This is largely due to

fundraising by the Health and WASH components, while other programme areas still have insufficient funds to achieve their programme results.

All 22 donor reports due in 2014 were submitted on time through tracking and email alerts, and quality was assured through use of a checklist, editors on contractual arrangement, and peer and supervisor review and sign-off.

Key donors included the Governments of Australia, Japan, and New Zealand, the European Union, UNOCHA and the UNICEF National Committees of Australia, Japan (Vaccine Committee), Republic of South Korea, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom. A new multiyear contribution agreement was signed with Australia for Child Protection. New funding was agreed with New Zealand, through the UNICEF New Zealand National Committee, for WASH in Kiribati and Vanuatu, and with the Australia National Committee in support of Education. In addition, funds from the New Zealand government were received through a Joint Programme led by UNFPA, for sexual and reproductive health.

The largest amount of emergency response funding came from UN OCHA, with two Central Emergency Fund grants and an emergency cash grant. Other emergency response funding came from the Australian, Japanese and New Zealand National Committees (the latter drawing on the New Zealand Government).

Close donor relations were maintained through a variety of communication means and meeting fora, as well as field visits.

Evaluation

The five-year Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (IMEP) outlines requirements for research and studies, surveys, monitoring systems and evaluations linked to the key programme component results and core indicators presented in the summary results matrix of the 2013-2017 multi-country programme. The annual IMEP reflects key activities planned by programmes relating to the broad areas stated above. The 2014 IMEP was revised to include categories of assessments and humanitarian monitoring. The UNICEF Programme Management Team ensures that all research, studies, surveys, assessments and evaluations fit with strategic priorities. Implementation of planned activities is assessed during mid- and end-year reviews, and is tracked as part of quarterly programme reviews.

To ensure that evaluations are objective, fair and impartial, terms of reference for major evaluations funded or supported by UNICEF include a standard set of evaluation criteria: relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability; and advice is sought from the Regional Evaluation Adviser. The evaluation carried out in 2014 was of a solar power in schools project in Solomon Islands. The evaluation report is pending, but it is expected to recommend project expansion. Additional efforts were devoted to implementing the recommendations from the HIV & AIDS Response Fund. At end 2014, about 30 per cent of the recommendations have been implemented, including to adjust key expected results and strengthen the HIV & AIDS Programme.

Additional major evaluative exercises in 2014 included the mid-term review of the European Union funded WASH programme in Solomon Islands, the mid-term review of the Australia-funded education programme in Tuvalu, and the mid-term review of the multi-country programme. Recommendations from those assessments are tracked by the Programme Management Team through internal management responses agreed with relevant partners, and

contribute to strengthening cooperation.

UNICEF Pacific also participated in several humanitarian After Action Reviews and Lessons Learned exercises.

Efficiency Gains and Cost Savings

UNICEF Pacific undertook restructuring and changes to work processes in 2014 to reduce its operational costs. These included:

- Full time staff posts were reduced from 105 to 89. The new structure decreased Regular Resources (RR) funded posts from 46 to 37. The Other Resources (OR) funded posts decreased from 47 to 38, representing 53.8 per cent of staff cost based on the OR ceiling of US\$26.4 million. Staff posts now use 69 per cent of RR funding, an additional amount used for operational costs brings the RR expenditure to 72 per cent. The overall total staff cost from all funding sources is 52 per cent from all funding sources, reduced from 59 per cent. When combined with operational costs, it is 55 per cent, down from 62 per cent.
- Relocating all staff in the Fiji office to one floor instead of two resulted in an annual savings (after renovation and moving costs) estimated to be at least US\$ 55,000.
- Scoping and discussions started for development of long term institutional contracts that would reduce business costs of contracting multiple short term consultants, and that would reduce risks of non-continuity in programme work.
- Alternate building locations were identified in Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, in which rent will either be reduced or stabilized, and security concerns mitigated.
- A cost sharing agreement was signed with UNDP and UNFPA, so that UNICEF can invoice them in 2015 for space and other business costs in the shared office premises in Kiribati and Vanuatu.

The office closely reviewed all travel in order to contain costs, which are very high in the Pacific region. In 2014 UNICEF Pacific participated in 12 long term agreements (LTAs) with other UN agencies, with only small savings resulting.

Supply Management

As a multi-country office, UNICEF Pacific has a consolidated supply plan that caters to the needs of fourteen countries and territories as well as all UNICEF programme areas, with most procurement being carried out for the programmes of health, nutrition and water and sanitation. In addition, UNICEF Pacific supports UNICEF Supply Division (in Copenhagen) with vaccine procurement and delivery for eleven countries, under a reserve, pooled funding arrangement called the Vaccine Independence Initiative. The supply value of the vaccines (not including shipping and storage costs) was US\$ 722,605 in 2014.

Total procurement, for supplies and institutional contracts, was valued at around US\$ 3.2 million.

Of the programme and operational supplies, 11 per cent (US\$ 1,117, 141) were outside the Pacific and 89 per cent (US\$ 1,117,141) were procured within the Pacific, mostly from Fiji. Of the institutional contracts procured, 25 per cent were from outside the Pacific and 75 per cent were procured from Pacific countries. UNICEF Pacific's country management team identified improved supply planning as a management and training priority for 2015.

The immunisation section in the UNICEF Pacific Health Programme does considerable work on supply chain strengthening, including assisting Ministries of Health with vaccine forecasting; warehousing, in country distribution, maintaining the cold chain to the final delivery point and

end-user monitoring and assessment. This support ranges from research such as vaccine wastage and investment cases, to procuring and installing cold chain equipment to assistance with assessments, inventories and micro-planning. UNICEF Pacific maintains two regional warehouses in Fiji including a cold room, and through Government and other partnership arrangements, currently pre-positions contingency supplies for emergencies in five countries.

Security for Staff and Premises

UNICEF Pacific worked with the UN Department of Staff Security (UNDSS) in 2014 to update security assessments on its four offices in the Pacific. Based on these assessments, only the Vanuatu Office complies with standards. The multi-country office is located in a building which does not have a fenced premises or a strong enough screening system on the ground floor. These issues are expected to be addressed by the building landlord during planned renovations in 2015. UNICEF Pacific is in the process of identifying a new location for the office in Kiribati. A new building in Solomon Islands, built to modern, Australian seismic and security standards, has been identified for UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, and UN Women. After a UNDSS assessment and clearance from different UN Agencies, the move is expected in 2015.

UNICEF Pacific offices have staff designated and trained as floor wardens, and evacuation drills are conducted. Extinguishers and safety kits are regularly inspected, with expired materials replaced. Water safety is a particular concern, and the field offices keep life vests for staff travelling by boat to do programme work. A priority for use of new security funding is to upgrade these vests to fit better and to have GPS locators. International staff and national staff with business continuity responsibilities are required to do radio checks with UNDSS once per month; an ICT committee of the UN Security Management Team has recommended switching to a more modern, less costly system that would allow more staff to be issued with emergency communication devices.

UNICEF Pacific worked with UNDSS to devise the UN Security Risk Assessment (SRA) that is used as a basis for risk mitigation for programme implementation in fourteen countries and territories.

Human Resources

Due to a global plan to move many business processes to a Global Shared Service Centre, and to reduce funding for support functions, several administrative, human resource and finance posts were abolished or re-profiled. In addition, after a mid-term review that included a structural affordability analysis, as well as a programme by programme and country by country consideration of staffing needs vis a vis planned programme results, the staffing structure was reduced from 105 to 89 posts.

At year end, 70 of 89 approved full time posts were filled. In 2014, 13 positions were recruited as a result of resignations, staff transfer to other UNICEF offices and retirement, and numerous temporary appointments and consultancies were managed, to meet specific, short term requirements for technical expertise. In addition, UNICEF Pacific recruited emergency surge staff from India and Indonesia and deployed its own staff from Fiji to Solomon Islands during the April-June 2014 flood emergency.

The Human Resources Development Team developed a learning and development plan for 2014 that formed the basis for the annual work plan and budget for Office priorities. This included a mix of on-line learning, workshops and some international travel for training. The Office conducted an Ethics training and HACT training in March. After results of the Global Staff

Survey, and through consultations between Staff Association and management, a staff retreat for all staff, consisting of team building exercises, took place in October.

The 2014 work plan from the UN Cares Committee was implemented throughout the year and included making condoms available, training for committee members and focal points on ten minimum standards, including Post Exposure Prophylaxis kits and confidential handling of personal information.

Effective Use of Information and Communication Technology

UNICEF Pacific migrated four offices to Office 365, Lync, OneDrive and SharePoint by mid-2014, and all staff emails were moved from Lotus Notes to MS Outlook. Most meetings between different locations were conducted via Skype or Lync (within UNICEF); however poor connectivity remained a problem, necessitating use of telephone or multiple methods. OneDrive and SharePoint were not as widely used as MS Outlook and Lync, since two offices (Solomon Islands and Kiribati) are forced to remain on Very Small Aperture Terminal technology for Internet, and lack of bandwidth did not make cloud-based storage an attractive option. UNICEF ICT staff is a member of the Joint UN ICT Working Group, and following negotiations, the Fiji internet service provider agreed to reduce by ten per cent the cost for increases in bandwidth. A major project in 2015 will be to link the telephone systems of the different UN agencies and implement the use of Session Initiation Protocol and Internet Protocol telephony.

UNICEF Pacific piloted the use of smart phones to collect monitoring data on the location and condition of water sources on an island in Vanuatu, and in 2015 a partnership with Akvo will replicate this initiative.

The use of social media platforms, particularly Facebook, Twitter and blogging, has expanded. On Facebook, 756 posts were shared or re-posted by followers. In 2014, UNICEF Pacific significantly increased its presence on Twitter, with 1,141 posts and 1,617 retweets, compared to 459 posts and 263 retweets in 2013.

Programme Components from RAM

ANALYSIS BY OUTCOME AND OUTPUT RESULTS

OUTCOME 1 Effective & Efficient Programme and Operations Support for the 2013-2017 Country Programme

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF Pacific carried out several major initiatives in 2014 to improve operations and programme management performance. UNICEF Pacific underwent an internal audit in March 2014, a structural affordability review in May, a re-structuring in operations posts to align with the planned global shift of some functions to a Global Shared Service Centre, and a mid-term review exercise between May and August 2014. This mid-term review paved the way for a revision of the five year multi-country programme management plan (MCPMP 2012-2017), presented and approved by the regional budget committee early October.

OUTPUT 1 Staff cost related to the Management of Overall Country Programme and the UNICEF Pacific Mandate

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Please refer to Efficiency and management sections of this report.

OUTPUT 2 Staff cost related to the Financial and Administrative management of the Office.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Please refer to the financial resources management chapter of this report

OUTPUT 3 Human Capacity

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Please refer to the Human Resources chapter of this report.

OUTCOME 2 Maternal and Child Health equitably benefit from high impact interventions for accelerated improvement of neonatal, child and maternal survival, health and nutrition.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The PICTs have made significant progress in reducing child and maternal deaths. This is largely due to high political commitment, steadfast partnership and prioritization of the issue in national plans and budgets. Neonatal causes remain the leading cause of under-one and under-five mortality by far, followed by pneumonia and injuries. Diarrhoea is of concern in Kiribati, Micronesia and Solomon Islands (5 to 9 per cent of under-five deaths) and malaria is of concern in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu (9 to 10 per cent of under-five deaths).

In addition, morbidity from these diseases interacts with poor feeding practices and suboptimal treatment practices, leading to stunting and even acute malnutrition, and contributes to impaired cognitive development, low school attendance and poor learning outcomes. While gains are being made through increased parental awareness and knowledge of and access to effective preventive and curative health services, there are significant disparities to overcome in many PICTs in both service delivery and demand determinants of morbidity and mortality.

In 2014, UNICEF expanded support to nutrition programmes as 6 countries developed three-year costed action plans focusing on outcomes of the global Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) strategy and training on severe acute malnutrition. To address some misconceptions leading to the low prioritization of nutrition activities by most countries, an advocacy meeting was organized to present available data on under-nutrition as well as draft costed IYCF action plans to partners for potential collaboration. A key lesson learned in 2014 was the added value of south-south collaboration using the India experience and leveraging partnership support through WHO and partners to address malnutrition.

Following the 2014 mid-term review (MTR) of the Multi-country programme recommendations, in 2015 and beyond UNICEF will strengthen attention to under-nutrition within the regional non-communicable disease agenda and at political and technical levels in countries; increase focus on nutrition programming for five target countries and a comprehensive and intensive package for countries with moderate to severe malnutrition; and maintain a regional contingency stock of supplies needed for treatment of severe acute malnutrition, including for emergency response. To maintain visibility and ensure continuity of work on nutrition, strengthening staff capacity is critical and both the human and financial resources should focus on data and data analysis, service delivery (along with identification of new partners) and advocacy.

Despite gains in immunization coverage, there is still a need to expand coverage in low-performing countries and introduce new vaccines. The region has been polio-free since 2000. All countries in the Pacific except Micronesia, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, which experienced outbreaks in 2014, have likely interrupted transmission of measles. Fiji, Palau, Micronesia and Marshall Islands have introduced pneumococcal conjugate, rotavirus and human papillomavirus vaccines. Seven countries are still without any of these vaccines. All countries now need to introduce inactivated poliovirus vaccine and eventually phase out the trivalent oral polio vaccine.

Following the MTR recommendations for EPI, in 2015 and beyond UNICEF will consolidate and expand support to immunization across the Pacific, including building capacity for supply forecasting and funding, expanding and maintaining the cold chain, and mobilizing and carrying out routine immunization for improved coverage; fast track remedial action for immunization as required, with a likely continued focus on Vanuatu and Solomon Islands; advocate for inclusion of additional or newer vaccines in the Vaccine Independence Initiative (VII) and in ministry plans and budgets.

The Safe Motherhood initiative recently received more attention thanks to additional funding mobilized from the New Zealand government. Accordingly, support to the Early and Essential Newborn Care (EENC) strategy continued and neonatal intensive care unit and other newborn health equipment and supplies were procured. Additionally, there was a successful launching of the World Breastfeeding, Pneumonia and Prematurity Days. Main challenges include the slow pace of adoption of the EENC strategy. The focus in 2015 will be to expand EENC to at least 3 other PICTs and continue with certification of hospitals as “Mother and Baby Friendly”.

The proposed Joint Programme on Reproductive Maternal Neonatal Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) is an important platform for greater coordination and synergy across WHO-UNFPA-UNICEF in providing a comprehensive package of support toward continuum of care for pregnant women, mothers, newborns and under-fives, and adolescents, in three countries. This is a Pacific adaptation of the global agreement among the agencies and other health sector partners to break down inefficient silos that have developed in ministries of health and among development partners. RMNCAH is much more than a joint UN programme in three countries: as a health systems-building approach, it is being promoted through the regional health architecture (such as Pacific Ministers’ and Directors of Health forums), with regional organizations, and at national level.

UNICEF-Pacific’s two major funding gaps are for nutrition and immunization. Unfortunately, this coincides with a withdrawal of the Japanese Government from immunization support in the Pacific and with the eventual ending of GAVI financial support in the Pacific. The situation is of concern given that despite their middle income status, many countries’ health systems are fragile and there are serious gaps of non-fully immunized children and non-rollout of new vaccines. Currently, there is no funding available for emergency preparedness work (including contingency supplies) for the health and nutrition cluster, although immunization, water and sanitation, and nutrition were funded for the 2014 April flood response in Solomon Islands through Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and UNICEF New Zealand and UNICEF Japan.

OUTPUT 1 Sustained maintenance of polio-free status and enhanced progress towards the achievement of the global twin goals of measles elimination and hepatitis B control. IR: 1.1: By the end of 2017, sustained maintenance of high coverage for immunisation and other child survival interventions.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Thirteen Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) benefited from the Vaccine Independence Initiative by accessing the World Health Organization prequalified vaccines at competitive prices and technical support for forecasting and stock management. PICTs received support to determine measles risk status which categorized them based on high, medium and low risk levels. All PICTs were supported to complete annual WHO/UNICEF Joint Reporting Forms, including immunization coverage. Four countries and territories -- Samoa, Vanuatu, Tokelau and Tuvalu -- received technical support in developing costed plans for the introduction of the Inactivated Poliovirus Vaccine (IPV) in line with the Polio Endgame Strategy. UNICEF Pacific advocated strongly for development of standardized procedures and secured financial support to cover vaccines and implementation costs for the first year of introduction.

Nauru received replenishment of vaccines and two new refrigerators to increase its cold chain capacity. Tuvalu received financial support and in-country technical assistance for development of an IPV introduction plan, measles outbreak preparedness, updating of the Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) handbook and training for health care workers. In response to a measles outbreak in the Federated State of Micronesia (FSM) UNICEF provided both in-country technical assistance and vaccines. In Samoa UNICEF funded EPI technical support for the national immunisation efforts and provided financial support to conduct an EPI managers meeting and activities to mark the World Immunisation Week. A high level delegation from the UNICEF Regional Office, Headquarters and Supply Division conducted a joint mission to discuss the operations and strategic direction of the VII. A review of the vaccine management practices at the regional vaccine warehouse was conducted and plans are underway to implement remote temperature monitoring and real time logistics management systems.

OUTPUT 2 KIRIBATI: Sustained maintenance of polio-free status and enhanced progress towards the achievement of the global twin goals of measles elimination and hepatitis B control in Kiribati.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF supported timely procurement and shipment of vaccines to Kiribati. There were no significant vaccine stock outs. A walk-in cold room was purchased and will be installed to increase storage capacity at the national level. Integrated visits to outer islands were conducted, with immunization as the core activity. Toward the end of 2014, supportive supervisory activities were successfully performed in Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) low-performing Islands, including Onotoa and Tabeues.

UNICEF provided technical assistance towards rotavirus introduction, and continues to follow up on required additional funding towards this important activity. UNICEF also contributed to the survey on Hepatitis B coverage, and supported community awareness/mobilization on the importance of hepatitis vaccine administered within 24 hours of birth. UNICEF supported development and printing of information, education and communications materials on preventing the spread of Hepatitis B and other vaccine-preventable diseases. Refresher training on Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses was also conducted with UNICEF support.

UNICEF participated in a Ministry of Health and World Health Organization-led effective vaccine management assessment. The assessment will inform the procurement of cold chain equipment in 2015. UNICEF and MOH also completed awareness exercises on EPI for mothers in maternity and paediatric wards. UNICEF recruited an EPI Specialist to support the Ministry of Health and EPI at least until October 2015.

OUTPUT 3 Sol - EPI Plus maintenance of polio-free status and enhanced progress towards the achievement of the global twin goals of measles elimination and hepatitis B control in Solomon Islands.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The Vaccine Independence Initiative has assured uninterrupted vaccines and devices for Solomon Islands. The GAVI Vaccine Alliance approval was secured for a Measles Rubella (MR) Supplementary Immunization Activity (SIA), and introduction of Inactivated Polio Vaccine, Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine and the Human Papilloma Vaccine in 2015. Due to the measles outbreak, the MR campaign initially planned for 2015 was moved up to 2014. UNICEF donated MR vaccines and provided technical assistance for proposal writing, planning, and implementation of social mobilisation and monitoring of MR campaigns post floods and measles outbreak. Prior to the SIA, micro-planning, training and social mobilization were conducted in each province. A total of 67,283 children between the ages of 6 months and 59 months were vaccinated and 29,579 received vitamin A.

A UNICEF joint mission from Programme Division, Supply Division, Regional Office and the UNICEF Pacific Multi-Country Office was undertaken to Solomon Islands. This mission primarily served to clarify the recent GAVI decision and the upcoming opportunities and deadlines. It also followed up on several key recommendations from the 2012 Expanded Programme on Immunisation review.

Ten solar chill refrigerators were procured, distributed and installed in selected provinces, in line with the cold chain rehabilitation plan. UNICEF provided technical and financial support to the government to develop micro-plans and conduct training in two provinces of Choiseul and Isabel, and plans to scale up support to other provinces in 2015.

Future plans include supporting implementation of 2012 EPI review and EVM assessment recommendations, and preparations for the upcoming GAVI health system strengthening application in 2015.

OUTPUT 4 Van - EPI Plus

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Focused, intensified support was provided to respond to the measles outbreak that began in September 2014, including vaccine micro planning, training, default tracing and cold chain management. The response has been effective in mitigating a more widespread outbreak.

Ten new solar chills were procured and installation was subcontracted to a private company. In addition, 25 vaccines carriers were procured to support outreach services.

There were no reports of vaccines stock-out at the national level; however, there is a need for further assessment of the provincial and district facilities to determine vaccine availability and quality.

National Immunization Week was celebrated in Vanuatu, and outreach services were reactivated in 21 health centres/dispensaries in the provinces of Shefa, Sanma and Tafea. Social mobilization efforts also were intensified through development of new immunization posters, public service announcements on television and radio, newspaper articles during outreach services.

Child Health Weeks were conducted in the three most populated areas (Port Vila, Luganville and Lenakel), targeting approximately 17,000 children under 5 with an integrated child survival package that included immunization, Vitamin A, deworming tablets and soap. Activities also were linked with birth registration for children without birth certificates.

Support was provided to ensure that health facilities conducted micro-planning using the Reach Every Community strategy in all six provinces. To date, 83 out of 99 health facilities with available personnel (84 per cent) have updated micro-plans. Support was also provided for immunization outreach services in several low performing zones in the provinces of Penama and Malampa, and funds were provided to 31 health centers and dispensaries to support outreach services.

Child health books were finalized and translated into French and Bislama. The books contain immunization records, growth monitoring, child development checklists and other important children's records.

OUTPUT 5 Multi Country T2/T3: Strengthened national capacity to deliver quality and timely Newborn, maternal and Nutrition interventions at health facility and community levels.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

In a south-south cooperation effort, the Pacific and India offices engaged senior experts/trainers from the Kalawati Saran Hospital to facilitate a workshop on Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). Ministry of Health representatives from five of the Pacific Island Countries (Nauru, Samoa, Kiribati, Vanuatu and Fiji) were trained and supported in developing three-year costed action plans focusing on outcomes of the Global Infant and Young Child Feeding Strategy. These plans were presented in an advocacy meeting with partners. UNICEF also procured therapeutic foods (F75, F100 and ReSoMal) for Samoa and Fiji for the management of SAM.

There was renewed commitment to improving health outcomes, during the 2014 Joint meeting for the Ministers of Health and Finance: the next meeting agenda will focus on child survival. UNICEF with other UN agencies formally launched the United Nations Pacific Inter Agency Task Force at The Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS). A comprehensive mapping of each UN agency's comparative advantage was conducted. UNICEF is the co-lead agency on the thematic focus addressing the double burden of malnutrition, which refers to both to under- and over-nutrition.

UNICEF supported the incorporation of the Nutrition Module in the Samoa 2014 Demographic Health Survey. The data collected will inform nutrition programming: nutrition data on women and children is scarce and not routinely collected in the national health information system (HIS). UNICEF also provided nutrition supplies and technical support to the Tonga Health Cluster as part of the emergency response to Cyclone Ian. Three nutritionists from Samoa, Fiji and Tonga were also supported to attend NIE training in Thailand.

UNICEF supported the pilot roll out of the multi micronutrient powder (MNP) distribution targeting 6504 children 6-23 months of age in selected sites in Fiji. 27 per cent of children completed the first round and 15 per cent completed the second round. Bottlenecks will be reviewed in 2015 with the Fiji Ministry of Health. UNICEF also co-funded the study on impact of Cash Transfers and Food Voucher Programme in Fiji.

World Breastfeeding Week was commemorated in Fiji, Tuvalu and Samoa. For the World

Prematurity Day, UNICEF donated baby blankets to Fiji, Tokelau, Palau, Niue, Samoa, Cook Islands, Tuvalu, Marshall Islands, Nauru and FSM, and 95 resuscitation sets, 2000 thermometers and respiration counters and Information, Education, Communication materials were distributed to 10 PICs.

OUTPUT 6 KIRIBATI: Strengthened national capacity to deliver quality and timely Newborn, maternal and Nutrition interventions at health facility and community levels in Kiribati.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF supported an Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (EmONC) assessment. Neonatal Verbal Autopsy data indicated a need for Maternal and Newborn Health scale-up of evidence-based interventions in Kiribati. The WHO/UNICEF home visit policy through Community-based Maternal Newborn Care (CBMNC) mobilized Kiribati communities for neonatal care improvement to reduce child mortality. One hundred teenagers trained as Community Health Volunteers learned about the CBMNC package of interventions and helped link villages to the formal health service. Ten outer Atoll Health Centres achieved Basic EmONC status, which means that they can offer some basic services when pregnant women are facing emergencies. Mother Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (MBFHI) coverage improved from 75 per cent in 2013 to 91 per cent in 2014. Two hundred health care workers, including doctors, midwives, and nurses, participated in the MBFHI trainings. Two thousand mothers, their partners and families received the free 'Breastfeeding: the Best Start for Your Baby' handbook, as well as counselling on breastfeeding, safe childbirth and recognizing obstetric and newborn danger signs; and family planning advice.

Given the increasing concerns over the rising incidence of malnutrition in Kiribati, UNICEF supported six nutrition and health managers, including one paediatrician, for training in facility-based management of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). A three-year comprehensive costed action plan was developed for expanding infant and young child feeding activities in Kiribati. In-country integrated refresher training of nurses and youth volunteers were completed in Temawaiku and Betio to provide support in the community to the Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses, EPI and nutrition. This should result in greater attention to malnutrition prevention activities. Oral Rehydration Solution were provided in response to the diarrhoea outbreak. Nutrition supplies for routine nutrition programming, including micronutrients, as well as therapeutic feeding supplies for the treatment of SAM, and emergency prepositioning were procured. The second round of Vitamin A supplementation and deworming was carried out nationally in October and November.

The UN Joint Programme on Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescents Health has been made operational by the development and signing of the Joint Workplan. This is the first time in Kiribati that all the inputs from the three UN agencies, regardless of funding source, are being consolidated into a single workplan with consolidated budgets for each activity. The workplan results are directly contributing to the country's National Health Strategic Plan indicators.

OUTPUT 7 SOLOMON: Strengthened national capacity to deliver quality and timely Newborn, maternal and Nutrition interventions at health facility and community levels in Solomon Islands.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

A total of 200 health workers from seven Solomon Islands provinces and newly-created Community Health Volunteers (CHVs), acquired skills through trainings in Mother Baby Friendly Health Initiative (MBFHI), Early and Essential Newborn Care, Newborn Resuscitation, Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (EmONC), Postnatal care and Focused Antenatal Care. UNICEF expanded national MBFHI coverage from 60 per cent of hospitals in 2013 to 75 per cent in 2014. CHVs received locally adapted training and were provided with core equipment for implementing Community Based Maternal and Newborn Care at village level, linking communities to the formal health service. Neonatal Intensive Care Units were set up in Central and Makira Provincial Hospitals. All pregnant mothers attending antenatal services received free copies of the *'Breastfeeding: the best start for your baby'* handbook. Counselling to improve knowledge and skills for successful breastfeeding, safe childbirth, early recognition of obstetric and newborn danger signs, and family planning were given to mothers, their partners and families. Forty Health Centres were upgraded to Basic EmONC status which can provide some level of care to pregnant women during emergencies. Jointly with UNFPA and Ministry of Health and Medical Services, a comprehensive maternal and newborn care package is being implemented. Discussions are ongoing to foster a strategic partnership with the WHO Collaborating Centre on Child Health for the Pacific region.

UNICEF provided nutrition supplies in response to the floods in February which affected 52,000 persons including women and children in Guadalcanal and Honiara Provinces. 30 health workers were trained in the national Training of Trainers for the Integrated Management of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), by experts/trainers from the Kalawati Saran Hospital in India through a south-south cooperation effort by the UNICEF Pacific and India offices. A Stabilization Centre for children with SAM is being set up in the Honiara National Referral Hospital, and a three-year costed action plan was developed for expanding infant and young child feeding activities in Solomon Islands. Another 40 health workers have been trained on the community based management of SAM in the selected pilot sites, and 25 community workers sensitized on the same, for active screening for SAM in the community. One nutritionist was also supported to attend a Nutrition in Emergency training in Thailand.

The UN Joint Programme on Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) has been made operational by the signing of the Joint Work Plan with government.

OUTPUT 8 VANUATU: Strengthened national capacity to deliver quality and timely Newborn, maternal and Nutrition interventions at health facility and community levels in Vanuatu.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

In a south-south cooperation effort, the UNICEF Pacific and India offices engaged senior experts/trainers from the Kalawati Saran Hospital to facilitate a workshop on severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Four Ministry of Health representatives were trained and were supported in developing a three-year costed action plan focusing on outcomes of the Global Infant and Young Child Feeding Strategy. Nutrition supplies, including therapeutic foods, were provided. Training of core Ministry of Health staff on the treatment of SAM is planned for the first quarter of 2015.

OUTCOME 3 Children and families benefit from equitable and sustainable access to safe drinking water, improved sanitation and hygiene within communities that are increasingly resilient to the impact of climate change and natural disasters.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The Pacific has uniquely fragile water resources and are vulnerable to natural and other hazards, including drought, cyclones and pollution. Water and wastewater service providers are constrained by lack of human and financial resources, making cost-recovery very challenging. Water and sanitation governance is complicated by disconnection between traditional community and national administration practices and instruments, as well as by fragmentation of responsibility. Traditional sanitation practices, including open defecation, are not environmentally sustainable in areas that have grown more populous. In addition, on water-scarce atolls and in urban areas where there are already dense buildings and roads, modern sewage or septic systems are either environmentally inappropriate or very expensive to construct. The Pacific has shown low increase in access to improved drinking water and sanitation since 1990 and is off-track to meet the MDGs.

UNICEF-Pacific support for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) has substantially grown in scope and volume which is indicative of Pacific Island governments' need for additional support in this area and of the added value UNICEF is providing to donors and partner organizations in the Pacific on sector coordination, best practices and models for scaling up and replication of WASH efforts in rural and peri-urban areas. Additional funding from thematic funds, and New Zealand (Government and UNICEF New Zealand) was received in 2014. In view of this, as well as to better align with UNICEF strategic plan 2014-2017, the Mid-Term Review of the multi-country programme held in July 2014, decided to restructure and strengthen the management and oversight of WASH activities.

Following this decision, a WASH strategic planning process in consultation with Government counterparts and key development partners resulted in strategies that will be applied for the remainder of the multi-country programme, addressing support to six interrelated areas.

UNICEF-Pacific supported Governments, NGOs and communities to improve access to safe drinking water in rural and peri-urban areas in Kiribati, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu, using innovative and appropriate technologies such as ventilated improved pit latrines, rainwater harvesting systems and hydraulic Ram pumps, accompanied by water quality monitoring and measures to maintain drinking water safety.

UNICEF-Pacific also provided support to improve access to and use of basic sanitation in those countries, focusing on eradicating open defecation and scaling up sanitation in rural and peri-urban areas. Demand-driven, community-based sanitation approaches were used to generate demand and achieve open defecation free communities. Behaviour change was fostered through the introduction of participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation methods, targeted hand washing campaigns with involvement of the private sector, and triggering for hand washing in communities linked to National campaigns on key family practices.

Technical assistance was provided for the development and implementation of WASH sector policies in Kiribati, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu, with an emphasis on rural and peri-urban services. This included influencing national policy making, budgeting, development of minimum standards and offering a supporting role in sector-wide approaches.

Support was also provided to enhance the advocacy and evidence-base required for sector

reform and for attracting adequate investments, through enhanced data collection, monitoring and mapping. An analysis of the JMP 2013 Update for the Pacific was published and widely distributed. In collaboration with WHO, UNHABITAT and SPC, UNICEF prepared a synthesis report for release in 2015 on the status of water and sanitation access and the development of Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goal targets for water, sanitation and hygiene. Pacific best practices were shared through partnerships with the Pacific WASH Coalition and regional science and research institutes such as the University of the South Pacific, the International Water Centre and the Murdoch Children's Research Institute.

UNICEF-Pacific fostered partnerships with other agencies (SPC, UNHABITAT, PWWA) to provide regional support on WASH in conjunction with investments led by bilateral donors, ADB, EU and World Bank. Lessons on policy development, budgeting, surveying, mapping, minimum standards development and WASH Sector support were shared through engagement in the Pacific WASH Coalition and the Pacific Regional Infrastructure Facility.

UNICEF-Pacific supported Governments, NGOs and communities in the promotion of WASH in schools, including training for teachers, hygiene promotion (including hand washing and menstrual hygiene management), development of minimum standards, and construction of WASH facilities. Behaviour change approaches such as the Three Star Approach were piloted in selected schools in Kiribati and Fiji, for potential replication in Vanuatu and Solomon Islands. Sports for development activities also provided strong communication channels.

UNICEF has both a development and a humanitarian mandate. Emergency relief efforts and fulfilling UNICEF's global, regional and national obligations as WASH cluster lead, agreed with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, the Pacific Humanitarian Team and PICTs are a significant responsibility in the disaster-prone Pacific, but preparedness work, including staff costs, has proven difficult to finance. In 2014, UNICEF-Pacific provided emergency support to Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu to ensure children and women had protected and reliable access to sufficient, safe water and sanitation and hygiene facilities. This support was coordinated through the Pacific Humanitarian Team and provided in line with the Core Commitments for Children in Emergencies. As Lead Agency for the Pacific WASH Cluster, UNICEF also facilitated exchange of lessons on preparedness and response, in close collaboration with the Pacific WASH Coalition.

Building on earlier work on child-centred risk assessment in the Solomon Islands, UNICEF Pacific supported climate and disaster risk resilience through drinking water safety and security planning at the community-level and facilitated "twinning" between Fiji and Vanuatu under the human security concept and action plan.

OUTPUT 1 Multi Country - WASH: Communities, schools and health centres use improved water and sanitation facilities with a focus on outer islands, rural and peri-urban villages

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The economic and social well-being of Pacific Island countries is dependent upon the quality and quantity of their water. Challenges in water management include geographic isolation, environmental fragility, urbanization, vulnerability to natural hazards, and limited human and financial resources.

There is a discrepancy between urban and rural access to water and sanitation in the region, and inequity of access within growing peri-urban areas. Safe drinking water and adequate

sanitation facilities are uncommon in Pacific schools and health centers, and where they exist, facilities are frequently under-performing or broken.

UNICEF actively fostered partnerships with other agencies (Secretariat of the Pacific Community, UNHABITAT, Pacific Water and Wastes Association) to provide regional support on WASH, in conjunction with investments led by bilateral donors such as the Asian Development Bank, the European Union and the World Bank. Lessons on policy development, budgeting, surveying, mapping, minimum standards development and WASH Sector support were shared through UNICEF's engagement in the Pacific WASH Coalition and the Pacific Regional Infrastructure Facility.

In Fiji, a programmatic approach for WASH in Schools was rolled out with the Ministries of Education and Health in collaboration with a consortium of the Fiji Teacher's Association, the Access to Quality Education Programme, and NGOs active in the WASH Cluster. The monitoring of WASH in Schools and bottleneck analysis was being carried out with innovative technologies using mobile phone data collection and analysis, including a new application on water quality testing in line with new indicators under the sustainable development targets. The programmatic approach on WASH in Schools in Fiji served as a model for replication in other countries. It includes linkages to accompanying programmes on behaviour change and sports for development through national campaigns.

WASH research was supported with the World Bank's Water and Sanitation Programme on equity of services in peri-urban areas with increasing growth of informal settlements. Studies on WASH resilience linked to integrated water resources management were supported through partnerships with the International Water Centre following flood in the Nadi river basin.

OUTPUT 2 Communities, schools and health centres use improved water and sanitation facilities with a focus on outer islands, rural and peri-urban villages in Kiribati

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF supported the Government of Kiribati in improving water supply, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) in schools and communities on 16 outer islands, in partnership with the Ministry of Public Works and Utilities (MPWU), Ministry of Health, Ministry of Internal Affairs and island councils. Support was provided through the EU-funded KIRIWATSAN project, which aims to increase access to safe and sustainable water and sanitation and reduce WASH-related diseases in at least 70 of 139 villages in 16 islands of the Gilbert group by 2016.

In 2014, hydrogeological assessments were completed in outer islands, along with preliminary designs of water and sanitation systems for 35 villages on eight outer islands. Community mobilization, capacity assessments and water committee formation and training were completed in 16 outer islands, and 100 rainwater harvesting systems were installed on six islands. Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) was introduced in 14 outer islands, with 103 villages on 12 outer islands declaring themselves open-defecation free.

At the national level, CLTS rollout in the outer islands created strong, high-level political commitment to achieving an open-defecation free nation.

At the suggestion of the European Union Results-Oriented Mission, a gender assessment was conducted in December 2014, which led to the development of a gender action plan and checklist for the programme.

A WASH in schools project was designed in collaboration with the education sector that will reinforce community-led approaches to total sanitation by empowering children as agents of behaviour change for WASH practices and upgrade WASH facilities at schools on Outer Islands. The project builds on previous UNICEF Pacific Education programme successes with the Ministry of Education in South Tarawa.

The EU approved a no-cost extension for KIRIWATSAN project activities, which are now expected to be completed by December 2016.

OUTPUT 3 Communities, schools and health centres use improved water and sanitation facilities with a focus on outer islands, rural and peri-urban villages in the Solomon Islands.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

WASH activities were implemented in 67 communities and 15 schools in Temotu and Guadalcanal provinces with support of two main funding partners. With support from the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) activities were implemented in four schools in Guadalcanal province. Activities funded by the European-Union were implemented in Temotu and Makira provinces and preparatory activities in Isabel province.

A total of 17,899 people were reached with improved water supply through gravity-fed, borehole, protected wells or rainwater systems. The construction of 27 rainwater tanks was completed at 11 schools in 16 villages. In Temotu, 10 gravity-fed systems were rehabilitated and the construction of four new systems is ongoing.

Eight schools serving more than 2,000 students in Temotu and Guadalcanal provinces were supported with improved water supply. The Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach was facilitated in 28 communities in Temotu. Hygiene behavior change messages were communicated to village households, including water handling and storage and hand washing at critical times. WASH messages were developed by a specialized consultancy firm with policy guidance from Ministry of Health and Medical Services and implementing partners World Vision, Save the Children, and Live & Learn.

WASH activities were constrained by weak institutional support, which resulted in late start of programme implementation. Lack of technical support constrained the community engagement required for CLTS in Temotu Province.

OUTPUT 4 Communities, schools and health centres use improved water and sanitation facilities with a focus on outer islands, rural and peri-urban villages in Vanuatu.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF continued to support community water supply and sanitation facilities, introduced innovative water supply technologies using hydraulic RAM pumps, provided technical assistance to support WASH sector strengthening, and supported establishment of a national WASH monitoring and reporting system through a partnership with not-for-profit organization AKVO.

Under the New Zealand-supported Water for Life project, water holding tanks and standpipes were completed in six communities, providing water within 50 meters reach for 9.6 per cent of the target population. Under the WASH Component of the Community resilience and coping with climate change and natural disasters in Vanuatu project funded by the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS), materials for water and sanitation construction were

purchased and delivered to three communities, two on Santo and one on Ambae, for completion in 2015.

Through the sanitation component of the UNTFHS project, 39 representatives from 19 communities were trained as Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) facilitators to conduct training in their respective communities. A total of 150 ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrine concrete slabs were constructed. Twelve VIP latrines were completed, with hand washing facilities as demonstration toilets in each community.

Water sector partners utilized skills gained during the AKVO training to map 1,657 water sources in Shefa province using AKVO Flow, an innovative mobile data collection and reporting tool in less than a month. WASH partners also gained knowledge and skills in AKVO RSR (real simple reporting) for monitoring individual project progress serving as potential 4W (who, what, where, when?) database, which is useful for humanitarian contingency planning and response.

Forty seven community members from 19 Water for Life communities in Tanna were trained in small business development and acquired knowledge to establish small businesses in their communities to generate income to support their families and enhance the sustainability of newly-gained WASH Services.

OUTPUT 5 Multi Country: Communities and Government have the capacity in coping with disasters and adapting to the climate change in relation to WASH Sector

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The Pacific WASH Cluster supported national WASH cluster arrangements in Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu to coordinate WASH responses in collaboration with national disaster management offices under the Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT)'s preparedness and response arrangements.

Emergency supplies were mobilized for emergencies related to Cyclone Ian in Tonga, volcanic eruption in Vanuatu and flash flooding in Solomon Islands, including the provision of WASH kits, purification tablets and relevant WASH communication and awareness products to affected populations.

As follow-up to a WASH cluster coordination training, a dedicated emergency WASH officer was supported in Fiji to develop a contingency plan for floods and cyclones, standard operating procedures and standards for WASH in emergencies, contact lists, and a strategic action plan.

In collaboration with the Pacific WASH Coalition, the WASH Cluster organized regular meetings to provide updates on responses and share lessons learned and best practices among development partners and develop a WASH Cluster Workplan for 2015. Discussions are ongoing with humanitarian partners and national WASH Sector stakeholders on establishing contingency arrangements for countries without a UNICEF field office, such as Tonga, Palau and Samoa.

UNICEF continued to collaborate with regional partners on climate adaptation and risk resilience, including on drought preparedness and responses with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and with Partners in Community Development Fiji on drinking water safety planning and water security. Drinking Water Safety Planning approaches were shared with focus countries (Kiribati, Solomon, Vanuatu) and will be mainstreamed into ongoing WASH initiatives.

OUTPUT 6 Communities and Government have the capacity in coping up with disasters and adapting to the climate change in relation to WASH Sector in Kiribati.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Kiribati has limited exposure to natural disasters such as cyclones, but periodically faces drought conditions related to the El Niño Southern Oscillation phenomenon as well as periodic outbreaks of diarrhoea due to water-borne and water-washed diseases mostly prevalent on the island of South Tarawa. Overtopping of the groundwater South Tarawa reserve has large potential impacts on the capital's water supply. During La Niña periods, droughts are common on outer islands, particularly in the southern Gilbert group islands.

To mitigate the potential impacts of drought on WASH, health, food security, and livelihoods, the Kiribati Government developed a water master plan for South Tarawa under the multi-donor Kiribati Adaptation Programme facilitated by the World Bank. UNICEF supported the formulation of a drought response plan, along with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), UNOCHA, for consideration by the National Disaster Council. A drought committee was established and is chaired by the National Disaster Management Office.

UNICEF will work closely with the New Zealand-funded drought resilience project (2014–2019) implemented by SPC on mainstreaming drought management and achieving drinking water safety and security under the KIRIWATSAN and WASH in Schools projects.

Overall coordination of infrastructural investments was undertaken with support from the Pacific Regional Infrastructure Facility (Asian Development Bank, World Bank, Australia, New Zealand, Japan International Cooperation Agency and European Union). Efforts are largely concentrated on South Tarawa and do not include disaster response and climate adaptation.

WASH sector coordination was constrained by the Ministry of Public Works and Utilities human resource challenges. The National Water and Sanitation Coordination Committee has not been meeting frequently, mainly due to a general lack of capacity at the Water Engineering Unit.

OUTPUT 7 Communities and Government have the capacity in coping up with disasters and adapting to the climate change in relation to WASH Sector in the Solomon Islands.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

As WASH cluster co-lead with the Ministry of Health and Medical Services, UNICEF-Pacific prepared the Cluster Terms of Reference pre-disaster, organized WASH in emergency training for members of the Solomon Islands WASH Cluster and drafted an operating framework and a WASH contingency plan. UNICEF pre-positioned emergency supplies in Government warehousing facilities.

After the floods in April that affected over 52,000 people and displaced over 12,000 people in Honiara and some parts of Guadalcanal province, UNICEF worked with the Solomon Islands Government and all WASH Cluster partners to facilitate a coordinated emergency response.

UNICEF assisted the WASH Cluster to provide a contribution to the humanitarian action plan (HAP) in consultation with all partners and secured financing for priority actions through the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). UNICEF partnered with NGOs including World Vision, Save the Children Fund and the Solomon Islands Red Cross to implement emergency activities in Honiara city and Guadalcanal province, assisting in total more than 42,062 affected

people.

Under a “stand-by” partnership agreement between UNICEF and the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency, a WASH information management specialist was deployed to support the Rural Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Unit (RWASH) in the Ministry of Health and Medical Services to develop consolidated data from various sources.

UNICEF will continue to provide technical assistance in support of cluster coordination in the Solomon Islands.

OUTPUT 8 Communities and government have the capacity in preparing and responding to disasters and adapting to climate change in the WASH/Health and Nutrition sectors in Vanuatu.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF continued to work with the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), the Vanuatu Humanitarian Team, and sector partners to strengthen WASH emergency preparedness and response capacity. Emergency stock lists kept by WASH partners were updated and shared with the Vanuatu Humanitarian Team and the NDMO. Priority was given to developing emergency plans for each of the hazards that could potentially affect Vanuatu.

Three communities completed their drinking water safety plans and identified gaps for upgrades to their water systems. In collaboration with WHO and WASH Sector stakeholders, a concept for achieving drinking water security is being developed in line with global guidance on increasing WASH resilience addressing climate and disaster risk through drinking water safety and security planning.

Work continued on digitizing the WASH cluster initial rapid assessment survey questionnaire using AKVO Flow tools to ease data collection, analysis and decision-making based on sound data to effectively respond to emergencies.

OUTCOME 4 An increased percentage of children aged 3 to 5 benefit from quality early learning and development opportunities.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF consulted widely with Pacific partners active in early childhood sub-sector and conducted a mapping exercise to identify the gaps in support for early childhood development and education by the development partners. As the majority of children under five do not access ECD services, UNICEF Pacific decided to use Education Global Thematic Fund resources to focus on supporting these children and their parents to promote early learning and school readiness at their homes. The mid-term review (MTR) also recommended that UNICEF take on a more integrated approach to early childhood development (ECD). In 2014, UNICEF’s focus on family support for ECD included knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) studies in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu to identify the current practices that promote school readiness at home in a holistic way. The results of the studies highlighted limited involvement of fathers in the learning activities with young children. The studies also revealed that family support for learning was strongly associated with the maternal level of education: mothers who had formal schooling were more likely to engage in early learning activities with their child than mothers who did not have formal education. The information gathered will form the basis for interventions in targeted vulnerable communities.

Overall, the key challenge for early childhood care and education (ECCE) development in the Pacific is the lack of data. Though commitment to ECCE in the region is high, this has not translated into full support for young children, especially in terms of allocation of budgets for ECCE services at all levels. It is anticipated that with the inclusion of ECCE quality indicators in the regional M&E framework, the availability of data at country and regional level will be addressed, which can then pave the way for future targeted research and programs.

To address the challenge of data and information on ECD, UNICEF supported the development of a situation analysis (SITAN) of ECD in selected countries in the region, to guide policy and planning in those countries. The SITANs revealed that while enrolments of 3-5 year olds have relatively increased, overall there is no multi-sector policy nor is there a coordinated effort to determine ECD budget allocation across ministries and due to limited budget reporting, the level of ECD financing across sectors is largely unknown. To address some of these issues, UNICEF supported a cost and financing study in ECD in one country to determine the best case scenario that would help with planning towards universalizing ECCE.

As the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Council for Early Childhood Care and Education (PRC4ECCE), UNICEF facilitated the development of the 'Pacific Guidelines for Development of National Quality Frameworks for ECCE'. The guidelines have been developed to assist Pacific Island Countries (PICs) governments in developing their own national ECCE policy framework. In April the guidelines were endorsed by all Ministers of Education in the Pacific at the Pacific Forum of Education Ministers Meeting. The endorsed guidelines pave the way towards systematic monitoring of Early Childhood Care and Education in the region. Data on enrollment, teachers' qualification, finances and budget will be collected by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat from the Pacific Island countries (PICs) on an annual basis to provide updates on the status of ECCE in the region.

UNICEF also facilitated the development of PRC4ECCE's action plan for 2015-2017. Baseline data was also collected on the status of 13 PIC members in terms of their level of early childhood development (ECD) sub-sector system-building, based on the regional guidelines. Twelve of 13 country responses were received and all 12 respondents highlighted the 'policy and legislation' sub-component as a primary area for action. This information will provide the basis to measure countries' progress in translating the regional guidelines to meet their own specific needs.

Partnership was forged with OMEP (World Organization for Early Childhood Education) and Asia-Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood (ARNEC) to support ECCE in the Pacific. UNICEF supported participation of PRC4ECCE representative in the ARNEC regional conference to present the work of PRC4ECCE.

Funding and securing technical staff for early childhood work has been the key challenge for UNICEF Pacific. For UNICEF to maintain its leadership in early childhood in the Pacific region, will require securing solid funding to support ECD and move the regional agenda forward.

OUTPUT 1 ED: By 2017 young children in targeted areas in the Pacific benefit from increased access to quality ECD programmes through regional and country interventions including during emergency.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

As the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Council for Early Childhood Care and Education (PRC4ECCE), UNICEF facilitated the development of the 'Pacific Guidelines for Development of National Quality Frameworks for ECCE. In April the Guidelines were endorsed by all Pacific Ministers of Education at the Pacific Forum of Education Ministers Meeting. The endorsed guidelines have paved the way for putting in place a systematic monitoring of Early Childhood Care and Education in the region. UNICEF also facilitated the development of PRC4ECCE's action plan for 2015-2017. Baseline data was also collected on the status of 13 PIC members in terms of their level of early childhood development (ECD) sub-sector system-building, based on the regional guidelines. Twelve of 13 country responses were received and all 12 respondents highlighted the 'policy and legislation' sub-component as a primary area for action.

UNICEF consulted widely with partners active in early childhood and conducted a mapping exercise to identify the gaps where very few or no partners were addressing ECD. It was found that the majority of children under five are at home and therefore UNICEF decided to use Education Global Thematic Fund resources to focus on these children and their parents to promote early learning and school readiness at their homes. In 2014, UNICEF's focus on family support for ECD included Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) studies in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu to identify the current practices that promote school readiness at home. The information gathered from these studies will form the basis for targeted and integrated interventions in targeted vulnerable communities.

Situation analysis (SITAN) of ECD in Kiribati and Tuvalu were completed, providing additional information and data to guide policy and planning in those countries. The SITANs revealed that while Tuvalu has increased enrolment of 3-5 year olds, there is no multi-sector policy nor is there a coordinated effort to determine ECD budget allocation across ministries; and due to limited budget reporting, the level of ECD financing across sectors is largely unknown. To address this issue, Tuvalu, with support from UNICEF and DFAT, conducted a cost and financing study in ECD to determine the best case scenario that would help Tuvalu move toward universalizing ECCE. The Ministry of Education in Kiribati has appointed a working group, with UNICEF as a member, to move ECCE policy and legislation forward.

Overall, the key challenge for ECCE development in the Pacific is gathering data from the countries in the region. Though commitment to ECCE in the region is high, this has not been translated into full support for young children, especially in terms of allocation of budgets for ECCE services at all levels. It is anticipated that with the inclusion of ECCE quality indicators in the regional M&E Framework, the availability of data at country and regional level will be addressed, which can then pave the way for future targeted research and programs.

OUTPUT 2 ED: By 2017 young children in targeted areas in the Kiribati benefit from increased access to quality ECD programmes through regional and in-country interventions, including during emergencies

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) is a sub-sector within the Ministry of Education (MoE) and lacks defined policy, legislative and financial support. For example, in the latest Education Act (2013), there is no mention of ECCE to guide the direction of this sub-sector. To address these challenges, UNICEF used Education Global Thematic Fund resources to finance technical support for the development of a national Situation Analysis (SITAN) of ECCE to gain a better understanding of how Kiribati is addressing ECCE, in particular in the areas of

policy and legislation, human resources, curriculum, child assessment, and environment, performance monitoring and assessment and community partnerships. Desk review of related document and policies, and interviews with stakeholders such as officials, teachers and parents highlighted that: the provision of free pre-primary education is not mandated by national law; there are limited coordination meetings between the different implementing State and non-state actors to collaborate to promote the provision of quality ECCE; and there is no law establishing the minimum level of public funding for early childhood.

To address some of these challenges, through the Education Partners in Kiribati meeting in November 2014, the Ministry of Education (MoE) set up a working group for ECCE to focus on the issues of legislation and coordination. UNICEF is a member of this working group and will be working with the MoE and other stakeholders in these areas.

As the secretariat of the Pacific Council for Early Childhood Care and Education, UNICEF took stock of the status of ECCE in the Pacific in terms of: (i) policy, legislation & governance; (ii) human resources; (iii) curriculum, child assessment & environment; (iv) performance monitoring & assessment, and (v) community partnerships. Kiribati was rated 'latent' in the 5 system components mentioned above, which means that little to no systems are in place and functioning. Only 25 per cent of ECCE teachers meet the basic teacher qualification requirements. There are no minimum standards for ECCE center registration, and there is no ECCE monitoring system. Teacher training or parenting support is extremely limited or non-existent and curriculum will need reform. The MoE conducted a rapid review of the existing ECCE policy, which may be further reviewed with support from the recently-appointed ECCE Working Group.

OUTPUT 3 ED: By 2017 young children in targeted areas in the Solomon Islands benefit from increased access to quality ECD programmes through regional and in-country interventions, including during emergencies

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Following the Mid-Term review recommendations to focus on school readiness at home, the programme used Education Global Thematic Fund resources to finance technical support for conducting a knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) study to learn about the current care practices at home that promote or contribute to school readiness and to identify areas that need to be strengthened and further promoted through key interventions. The study was conducted in targeted sub-districts in the Guadalcanal province in households with children under 5 and it was found that in two-thirds of households, at least one parent engaged in four or more early learning and school readiness activities with their young child in the past three days (e.g. reading, storytelling, playing, singing, and drawing). Parents engaged in more early learning activities with infants/toddlers than with kindergarten-aged children. Reading was the least common early learning activity and singing was the most popular activity that parents engaged in with their child. Inequalities in early learning opportunities were associated with socioeconomic status: families that had fewer household assets and/or low levels of maternal education were less likely to engage in early learning activities. Fathers had an extremely limited involvement in learning activities with young children. At the same time, fathers influenced mothers' breastfeeding and early feeding decisions. The study also found that most infants and toddlers, were exposed to a mix of violent and non-violent discipline. The findings of this study will form the basis for the design and implementation of Early Childhood Development (ECD) programme interventions in 2015.

The communication for development tool with key ECD messages for parents was postponed due to technical support constraints. The production of the children's story books and parent materials will resume in early 2015.

Early childhood education was included in the recently-revised Education Act of Solomon Islands. The draft ECD situation analysis (SITAN) was completed and awaits final endorsement. The Ministry of Education requested UNICEF support for the review of the early childhood sub-sector before actually revising the existing 2008 ECD policy. The ministry's cost and financing study of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) services indicated that their current financial support for the ECCE sub-sector will not be sustainable.

The review of the early childhood sub-sector and the ECCE SITAN will eventually inform the development of the new early childhood policy and help the Ministry in identifying the most sustainable approach to supporting ECE in Solomon Islands.

OUTPUT 4 ED: By 2017 young children in targeted areas in Tuvalu benefit from increased access to quality ECD programmes through regional and in-country interventions, including during emergencies

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS) has demonstrated a commitment to strengthen the Early Childhood Development (ECD) subsector through targeted interventions aimed at improving quality of service delivery. School improvement grants were distributed to all Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Centers in the country to support implementation of their plans. UNICEF also trained MEYS staff three times in 2014 to strengthen institutional capacities to better manage and monitor the education programme. Monitoring reports indicated that teachers need more coaching and mentoring in using the resources provided to them. A key gap identified was underutilization and lack of creativity to use the children's books as a tool to support their emergent literacy.

With UNICEF Pacific support, MEYS developed early learning and development standards (ELDS), which outline the social, emotional and kinaesthetic behaviour of typical children ages 3 to 5. Although MEYS has yet to endorse ELDS for implementation in 2015, ELDS will inform the development of an appropriate ECCE Curriculum in 2015.

MEYS, with technical support from UNICEF and financial support from the Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, has identified the need to professionalize the ECCE workforce for better service delivery. UNICEF will facilitate upgrading of teaching certifications of 21 unqualified teachers (approximately 30 per cent of the ECCE teaching force) in 2015. MEYS also has agreed to invest in teachers beginning in 2015 by contributing substantially (within the range of US\$307,000 to US\$586,000 annually) toward teacher salaries, which have historically been funded by island councils, parents and other community actors. UNICEF also commissioned a Cost and Financing Study to provide MEYS with sustainable financing options for ECCE services in Tuvalu.

While there is an emerging enabling environment, sustainability of commitment to ECD can be further bolstered by legislating the ECCE policy in the Education Act and identifying viable financing mechanisms for service provision. A new emerging partnership with the World Bank is proposed for 2015, which will contribute significantly to the early learning component of the education programme.

OUTPUT 5 ED: By 2017 young children in targeted areas in the Vanuatu benefit from increased access to quality ECD programmes through regional and in-country interventions, including during emergencies

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The majority of children under 5 are at home and a key bottleneck to assist these children in their development relates to the lack of interventions to support families in Early Childhood Development (ECD) and in particular to support school readiness at home. To address this issue, UNICEF Pacific used Education Global Thematic Fund resources to finance technical support for a knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) baseline study to determine current care practices at home that promote or contribute to school readiness, and to identify areas that need to be strengthened and further promoted through key ECD interventions. The study covered 247 households with children under 5 in the UNICEF-targeted province of Penama.

Key findings show that family support for learning is strongly associated with mothers' level of education: those who had formal schooling were more likely to engage in early learning activities with their child than mothers who did not have formal education. In 29 per cent of households, fathers did not engage in any early learning activity. Recommendations from this study will form the basis for parenting intervention programmes for 2015 in vulnerable communities. A key lesson learned from the KAP study was the importance of ensuring the active involvement of the Provincial Education Officer for greater sustainability and ownership in ECD programming.

To further strengthen ECD advocacy and parenting care practices, UNICEF supported the development of the national ECD communication strategy and continued to support the development and broadcasting of parenting messages through a weekly radio programme and publication of a weekly local newspaper article.

The Early Learning and Development Standards that benchmark learning achievements of Early Childhood Care and Education students were completed in close collaboration with the Hong Kong University, after validating these standards in a study involving 900 children.

The development, validation and training of the early identification tool that assists teachers in identifying child developmental delays and appropriate interventions was completed, involving 149 parents and community leaders. The next step is to widely introduce this new tool and to ensure its optimal utilization in early detection and prevention. UNICEF also supported the development of a parent handbook for children with special needs.

With support from Australia Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, UNICEF leveraged resources to pilot the Early Childhood Education curriculum and observation tools in 60 schools across three provinces.

OUTCOME 5 ED: By 2017, an increased percentage of girls and boys access schools that uphold minimum national quality standards and support student achievement to the end of the primary cycle in at least 4 Pacific Island Countries.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

In preparation for the mid-term review (MTR), UNICEF conducted a series of consultations with key partners in targeted countries on strengthening UNICEF's strategic focus in education in the Pacific region. In doing this, UNICEF also conducted a stakeholders' analysis in targeted

countries identifying the key gaps in education that no other partner is supporting. The finding revealed that very few partners are actively supporting teachers' continuous professional development (CPD) through in-service training. Strengthening the CPD system, therefore, is one particular area that countries need support with. Support to this specific area was timely as most countries in the region are facing low literacy and numeracy achievements in their national and regional standard tests, and teachers need to update their skills to further improving teaching literacy and numeracy. To address this issue, UNICEF made a strategic shift to focus on supporting in-service teacher education in its targeted countries. Teacher-classroom baseline surveys will be conducted early 2015 to establish current teaching and learning practices and the findings of these studies will form the basis for the design and implementation of teacher continuous professional development and head teacher instructional leadership interventions in 2015 and beyond to further improve teaching and learning processes in targeted areas. UNICEF used Education Global Thematic Fund resources to provide technical support for the development of a school-based in-service teacher training for literacy and numeracy teaching in early grades for implementation in 2015. In addition, UNICEF supported capacity building of head teachers to enhance their instructional leadership skills, enabling them to play a greater supporting role as they are currently not being equipped providing that support to their teachers.

As Cluster co-lead for the Pacific, UNICEF expanded efforts in education in emergency (EiE) response in several countries in the region during 2014, and took the lead in emergency response and coordination where necessary. UNICEF also partially replenished emergency supplies and prepositioned the supplies for 2015 with support of donors and thematic funds. In total, more than 12,000 children in affected countries in the Pacific benefited from UNICEF's response in 2014, and were able to continue their schooling. However, the capacity of some ministries in coordination and response indicates a need for more capacity development in EiE coordination and planning.

UNICEF presented the Pacific Teachers' Code of Ethics to the Pacific Ministers at the Forum of Education Ministers Meeting (FEEdMM) in April in Cook Islands. The Code was endorsed by all Pacific Ministers. As one of the steps toward improving education quality, the Ministers agreed to consider putting in place the Pacific Teachers' Code of Ethics to enhance teacher standards, either as a module of the Strategy for Monitoring and Improving Teacher Effectiveness (SMITE) initiative or as a new teacher training module in individual Pacific Island Countries.

UNICEF forged a partnership with the South Pacific Board of Education Quality (SPBEQ), and supported the development of the teachers' competency framework and teacher self-appraisals. These results will be used for teacher professional development activities in 2015. UNICEF also signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with USP on knowledge management and presented the national minimum quality service standards in the context of child friendly schools to a group of USP academics. UNICEF also continued to serve on the human resource development working group led by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) for monitoring and tracking the FEEdMM key recommendations.

UNICEF supported selected countries in the region with the development and finalization of the national minimum quality education service standards (NMQSS). Further monitoring of schools developing and implementing their SIPs is needed to monitor implementation of the standards and identify bottlenecks schools face in implementing them.

UNICEF was selected as the managing entity for Kiribati Global Partnership for Education (GPE), providing support to the development of their education sector plan. UNICEF is also

supporting Vanuatu Ministry of Education in assessing its current sector-wide planning, management, budgeting and monitoring in anticipation of joining the GPE initiative.

UNICEF also led the UNDAF sub-committee for education and prepared a monitoring matrix to track the Pacific Island countries efforts in meeting their education commitments as per UNDAF outcomes.

UNICEF Education section continued to be challenged by funding especially for securing staff to support implementation of education programme in targeted countries. Very limited funding for the UNICEF Education programme has resulted in posts being left vacant and others in jeopardy. The small number of funded staff have to multitask, splitting time between humanitarian work (including co-lead with Save the Children of the regional education cluster) and development work. Further funding needs to be mobilized for disaster risk resilience, including emergency preparedness.

As recommended by the MTR, UNICEF Pacific will continue to strengthen its approach in support of a package of complementary interventions with tangible results and interrelated inputs across programs such as solar power, ICT-based knowledge and monitoring systems, and WASH in Schools.

OUTPUT 1 ED: By 2017 children in Pacific Island Countries including those living with disabilities in targeted areas benefit from increased enrolment and retention rates as well as from improved literacy & numeracy outcomes

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF supported education in emergency response in Fiji, Tonga, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu through the supply of water tanks, tents for temporary safe learning spaces, tarpaulins and learning materials benefitting more than 12,000 Pacific children. In Tonga, UNICEF also provided psychosocial support to the affected children. The capacity of some ministries in coordination and response indicates a need for more capacity development in EiE cluster coordination and planning.

The Pacific Teachers' Code of Ethics was endorsed by all Pacific Ministers of Education at the Forum of Education Ministers Meeting in April in Cook Islands. As one of the steps toward improving education quality, the Ministers agreed to consider putting in place the Pacific Teachers' Code of Ethics to enhance teacher standards, either as a module of the Strategy for Monitoring and Improving Teacher Effectiveness (SMITE) initiative or as a new teacher training module in individual Pacific Island Countries.

UNICEF used Education Global Thematic Fund resources to support the strengthening of in-service teacher education and continuous professional development (CPD) systems in Kiribati, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu. In Kiribati, UNICEF supported the development of a pre-service course for students at the Kiribati Teacher College on multi-grade teaching since forty eight per cent of Kiribati schools are multi-grade schools. UNICEF supported development of the school-based, self-learning, in-service training module on early literacy teaching for early grade teachers in Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands. In Vanuatu, in collaboration with the in-service unit of MoE, UNICEF supported development of the training manual on instructional leadership for head teachers to increase mentoring and coaching for teachers. Funding challenges remains with rolling out these initiatives in 2015.

UNICEF supported Tuvalu and Kiribati with the development of the national minimum quality

education service standards (NMQSS) and in Kiribati the standards have been officially endorsed with the approval of the Education Act. In Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu the standards are being linked to school improvement plans (SIP). Further monitoring of schools developing and implementing SIPs is needed to monitor implementation of the standards and identify bottlenecks schools face in implementing them.

UNICEF was selected as the managing entity for Kiribati Global Partnership for Education (GPE), providing support to the development of the education sector plan. UNICEF is also supporting Vanuatu MoE in assessing its current sector-wide planning, management, budgeting and monitoring in anticipation of joining the GPE initiative.

OUTPUT 2 ED: By 2017 children in Kiribati including those living with disabilities in targeted areas benefit from increased enrolment and retention rates as well as from improved literacy and numeracy outcomes

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Forty eight per cent of schools in Kiribati are multi-grade schools. UNICEF used Education Global Thematic Fund resources to finance technical support for building teachers' capacity in multi-grade teaching in close collaboration with the Kiribati Teachers College (KTC) and other Ministry of Education (MoE) departments. A KTC multi-grade teaching course was established and a teachers' guidebook was developed. The guidebook was successfully piloted in three multi-grade schools and feedback from teachers indicated that the guidebook is user-friendly. The guidebook will be widely distributed in 2015.

With support from UNICEF and the Council of Pacific Education, the Teachers' Code of Ethics was launched in all primary and junior secondary schools on South Tarawa. Baseline data collected on teachers' attendance and punctuality in Term 2 was compared with this data from Term 3 after launching the Code. It was revealed that teachers' attendance improved from 77 per cent to 87 per cent, while punctuality improved from 61 per cent to 78 per cent.

To promote adequate water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) practices and facilities in all primary and junior secondary schools on South Tarawa, UNICEF introduced the "Three Star Approach", which encourages schools to meet essential WASH in Schools criteria. Each targeted school was assessed and none of the schools met minimum standards. This means that practices such as daily hand washing with soap, daily cleaning of toilets, and the provision of drinking water and soap are not fully established. Wash basins, running taps, hands free tippy taps and soap have been set up to help the targeted schools reach at least 'one star' status.

UNICEF Pacific and Kiribati Education Facility provided financial support for the development, implementation and monitoring of the School Improvement Plans (SIPs). These are developed by teachers, community members and students to implement activities that address specific obstacles faced in ensuring access to quality education for all. Monitoring visits to 28 per cent of all schools in Kiribati documented that most of the schools are on track with implementing their SIPs.

The MoE has requested UNICEF to be the managing entity for the implementation of Global Partnership for Education (GPE) initiative in Kiribati, to which UNICEF has agreed. The first draft of the GPE application document was submitted in December 2014.

Implementation of the MoE-UNICEF 2014 work plan was challenging because of the competing demands for time of MoE officials to effectively manage and monitor progress. This was further compounded by the irregular and expensive transportation to outer islands.

OUTPUT 3 ED: By 2017 children in Solomon Islands including those living with disabilities in targeted areas benefit from increased enrolment and retention rates as well as from improved literacy & numeracy outcomes.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The quality of teaching in literacy and numeracy is a key bottleneck in improving learning achievements. UNICEF Pacific's focus has therefore shifted from support to school-level planning to providing support for school-based in-service teacher training and continuous professional development. As requested by the Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development (MEHRD), UNICEF supported the development and field testing of the first school-based, self-learning in-service teacher training module with focus on early literacy and numeracy, targeting Grade 1 and 2 teachers in selected schools in Guadalcanal. The programme will be rolled out in a phased approach to all targeted schools in Guadalcanal province by 2017.

The solar power installation in ten schools in Guadalcanal and Choiseul provinces, supported by the New Zealand National Committee for UNICEF and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, was completed and evaluation of the project is currently underway. Initial findings show that students spend more time doing their homework and that enrolment and attendance have improved. Schools also have become a hub, resulting in greater community participation and involvement. On their own initiative, teachers have started buying laptops using their personal funds and as a result all teachers in two schools now have purchased their own laptop. In addition, Titinge community high school used its budget to buy 10 laptops this year, to be used by teachers for class preparation.

In response to the April flash floods in Honiara and Guadalcanal province, UNICEF worked in close collaboration with the education cluster members led by the MEHRD, to address the impact of the disaster. UNICEF supplied the 13 most affected schools with school-in-a box kits, ECD kits, and tents for temporary safe learning spaces benefitting approximately 4,494 children (girls: 2,293). In addition, 900 students received UNICEF school backpacks. These supplies supported attendance and the return of children to school.

Through the United Nations Development Programme, UNICEF received emergency cash grants from the Central Emergency Fund, in the amount of US\$40,000 and facilitated school feeding of 3,951 children (girls: 2,001) in 12 affected schools. This effort resulted in children returning to school, and supported re-establishing normalcy while reducing parents' burden and anxiety regarding feeding their children in times of crisis.

A key lesson learned in light of the Ministry's restructuring and approach to decentralization is that UNICEF should have much more direct interaction with provincial education authorities in terms of planning and capacity development support.

OUTPUT 4 ED: By 2017 children in Tuvalu including those living with disabilities in targeted benefit from increased enrolment and retention rates as well as from improved literacy and numeracy outcomes

Analytical Statement of Progress:

In order to aid better learning outcomes, UNICEF, with financial support from the Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), is supporting targeted interventions to strengthening systems in teacher education and development, improve school-based management (SBM) and enhance education planning through upgrading the Tuvalu education information management system (TEMIS).

The teacher competency framework was finalized, along with teacher self-appraisals on the competencies. These results will be used to design the teacher professional development activities in 2015.

With MEYS' recent curriculum review to move to an outcomes-based approach of assessing and reporting learning outcomes, UNICEF supported the development of a new science curriculum, textbooks and teacher manual for Years 7 and 8. Head teachers, assistant head teachers and a selection of teachers were trained on the use of the new curriculum. In 2015, all teachers will be trained on the new curriculum to ensure appropriate implementation. Some delays in revision of English and Mathematics' curricula were encountered due to late recruitment of technical experts by MEYS.

UNICEF has continued to invest in systems building with technical support to strengthen devolved decision making at the school level. This has been carried out through establishment of school management committees and through development of school improvement plans and utilization of school grants. All 14 schools in Tuvalu have now developed their school improvement plan and received their 2013 and 2014 school grants. Lack of continuous monitoring by MEYS and absence of a strong working relationship with island councils are barriers to successful implementation of the SBM programme. Formalizing the role of island councils and to institutionalizing a SBM policy by legislating it in the Education Act in 2015 will address these bottlenecks and ensure sustainability of the initiative.

While the programme is on track to collect data for TEMIS statistical digest, there was no progress this year on training stakeholders to use data for planning and decision making. This is largely due to the MEYS's lack of expertise in this area. The MEYS envisions using the services of UNICEF and regional partners such as South Pacific Community and Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat in 2015 to facilitate capacity building of the MEYS staff at all levels.

UNICEF also commissioned an external Mid-Term Review of the programme and the results are forthcoming. MEYS, UNICEF and DFAT also finalized a Programme Operational Guidelines Framework to further strengthen accountability and improve governance.

OUTPUT 5 ED: By 2017 children in Vanuatu including those living with disabilities in targeted benefit from increased enrolment and retention rates as well as from improved literacy and numeracy outcomes

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The strategic focus of the UNICEF Pacific education programme aims to improve the teacher education system through strengthening of school-based in-service teacher training and continuous professional development (CPD), combined with enhanced instructional leadership skills for head teachers, enabling them to play a greater supporting role. Currently there is no CPD system in place that solely focuses on updating teachers' skills. Head teachers are not being equipped to provide that support to their teachers.

UNICEF, with financial support from the Education Global Thematic Fund, assisted the Vanuatu Institute of Teacher Education in-service unit in the development of a training manual for head teachers on strengthening their instructional leadership skills. The capacity of two national master trainers was built to train the Zone Curriculum Advisors from Penama province. The capacity of all 62 head teachers in the three islands of Penama province was built to initiate school-level teacher education interventions such as coaching, mentoring and teacher peer support to further enhance the quality of teaching in schools. The coaching and mentoring approach used with the Ministry of Education and Training (MoET) team will also be used in 2015 for the development of the training module for grade 4-6 teachers. UNICEF will continue to support the implementation and fine-tuning of these interventions in 2015.

Vanuatu joined Phase II of the Out-of-School Children regional study. A National Steering Committee was formed to oversee the study and to inform key stakeholders. MoET assigned a technical working team to collect an initial set of data, which was presented at an international conference in Bangkok by a MoET delegation in November 2014.

The planned joint communication for development interventions with MoET and the Coffey consultancy firm to further strengthen school-level decision making on the use of school grants was not implemented due to delays in Coffey project implementation.

To further strengthen Vanuatu education sector coordination, management, financing, planning and monitoring, UNICEF provided technical assistance to MoET in identifying the sector's current status and gaps. The consultant also assisted MoET in preparation for joining the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) initiative in the future.

In response to Tropical Cyclone Lusi in March 2014, the education specialist based in Port Vila supported the rapid needs assessment on the island of Maewo, Penama Province. UNICEF provided 27 tarpaulins to affected schools. UNICEF Vanuatu Field Office replenished the education supplies that were given to Solomon Islands following the April flood emergency.

OUTCOME 6 HIV&AIDs: PICs have and use sound strategic information/data for effective gender and equity focused HIV advocacy, policy development, planning and programming.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Available data indicates that the prevalence of HIV in the Pacific is low, however, surveillance and data collection mechanisms across all countries in the region are generally weak. Most countries have not been able to collect reliable, quality HIV data on which to base key programmatic decisions and HIV information systems continue to operate outside the national health information system.

A key outcome for the 2013-2017 UNICEF-Pacific HIV & AIDS Programme is for Pacific Island countries and territories to have reliable and updated data on HIV & AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) that is used by governments to inform HIV prevention policies and programmes. To achieve this outcome, UNICEF-Pacific continued to provide technical and financial resources and collaborated with regional, national and sub-national partners to strengthen data collection and reporting systems on HIV & AIDS.

Several capacity building efforts were undertaken to strengthen HIV data collection systems and the use of strategic information. Support was provided to Fiji, Solomon Islands, Kiribati and Vanuatu to develop annual monitoring and evaluation frameworks and national annual work

plans that guide activity implementation, monitoring and reporting. Quality monitoring and evaluation (M&E) frameworks and costed operational plans provide a systemic means for HIV surveillance, ensure relevant data will be collected and allow an assessment of progress against key targets and indicators. UNICEF-Pacific, along with UNAIDS and the World Health Organization have and will continue to advocate for the development of M&E and costed implementation plans that are aligned with the HIV/STI national strategic plans.

In an effort to generate high-quality data about HIV, UNICEF-Pacific has started a study in the Solomon Islands to better understand the risks and spread of HIV/AIDS and other STIs. The study is expected to be completed in 2015.

To strengthen routine data collection and reporting, UNICEF-Pacific, with the support of the Regional Office, began the exploratory phase of the use of mobile health (mHealth) technology in Fiji and Solomon Islands. The assessment findings indicated that mHealth solutions, and more specifically the use of open source applications, are a promising way to address current gaps in data collection, especially in geographically isolated areas. UNICEF-Pacific will continue to invest in mHealth in 2015 as a means of strengthening HIV, STI and maternal and child health data collection systems.

UNICEF-Pacific collaborated with UNAIDS to support ten Pacific Island Countries (Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Samoa, Tonga, Republic of Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru and Cook Islands) to update HIV epidemiological data and fulfil requirements of the Global AIDS Periodic Reporting (GAPR). All ten countries successfully submitted their reports and the data presented has supported improved planning and implementation of national HIV responses.

UNICEF-Pacific is a member of the regional technical working group that is supporting the rollout of the Global Fund-supported HIV programs. Through the working group, UNICEF-Pacific advocated for the prioritization and scale-up of point of care testing, prevention of parent to child transmission (PPTCT) services and prevention in adolescents. The next request for funding from the Global Fund will be submitted in January 2015.

The limited amount of funding available for HIV programmes has been a challenge. Major regional funding concluded in 2013, which led to staff reduction at the national HIV units, lack of funds to implement planned activities, and disruption in plans to scale up HIV testing and counselling services, including PPTCT and prevention programmes for adolescents and youth. To address funding challenges and ensure that countries adopt a more coherent approach to sexual and reproductive health issues, UNICEF-Pacific and regional stakeholders developed a regional agenda on sexual health and well-being that provides countries with a framework to address sexual and reproductive health, including HIV and STIs, in an integrated way. In the first quarter of 2015, the sexual health and well-being agenda will be further translated into national and regional costed implementation plans to strengthen integrated programmes and service delivery on sexual and reproductive health, HIV & AIDS and STIs.

In July 2014, UNICEF conducted a mid-term review (MTR) of the current multi-country programme. The MTR focused on streamlining programme support to countries to better adapt to new and emerging priorities, partnerships and funding, reviewing strategies to deliver planned results given critical funding constraints, and harmonizing programmes that support delivery of results for children. The review concluded that UNICEF contributed significantly to the inclusion of interventions such as PPTCT, paediatric antiretroviral therapy, early infant diagnosis and HIV/STI prevention among adolescents in government plans and budgets. These results will be consolidated for the remaining country programme, with the view to assist Pacific Island

Governments to sustain and finance HIV interventions. In this respect, UNICEF will complete its current commitments, using thematic and core funding, to strengthen HIV/AIDS surveillance and scale up PPTCT and adolescent prevention in five countries, including the use of this routine data for planning, referral management and coordination between services.

To better align with the Pacific Regional Reproductive Maternal Newborn Child and Adolescents Health (RMNCAH) strategy as well as with the UNDAF Outcome on Health, and to realize synergies from programming and funding for RMNCAH, HIV and AIDS work will be better integrated with the UNICEF-supported health programme. Integration offers the opportunity to eliminate duplication and use existing infrastructure and personnel more efficiently. The proposed integration approach is expected to strengthen national responses to health care for mothers, adolescents and children generally and HIV specifically by linking what are now separate health information systems and prevention and treatment services.

OUTPUT 1 HIV&AIDS: National stakeholders` capacity to plan, coordinate, implement and monitor & evaluate studies/ surveys and HIV & AIDS programmes is strengthened by 2017.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

In collaboration with regional and national partners, UNICEF-Pacific supported activities to strengthen national stakeholder`s capacities on planning, implementing and monitoring national HIV/AIDS responses in Kiribati, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Fiji. Activities included the finalisation and endorsement of the Pacific Sexual Health and Well-Being Shared Agenda (2015-2019), which provides countries with guidance to integrate programmes for a more comprehensive approach to sexual and reproductive health. It is expected that the shared agenda will improve programme implementation and increase coordination of resources within and between programmes to better enable universal HIV testing of all pregnant women, the elimination of parent to child transmission of HIV and HIV prevention for high risk adolescents.

UNICEF-Pacific collaborated with UNAIDS to support ten countries (Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Samoa, Tonga, Republic of Marshall islands, Micronesia, Nauru and Cook Islands) to update HIV epidemiological data and fulfil requirements of the Global AIDS Periodic Reporting. As a result, all ten countries successfully submitted their reports and the data presented has supported improved planning and implementation of national HIV responses.

To support a strengthened routine data collection system for HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), UNICEF-Pacific supported a preliminary assessment on the feasibility and appropriateness of introducing mobile health (mHealth) solutions in Fiji and the Solomon Islands. The assessment findings indicate that mHealth solutions, and specifically, use of open source applications, are promising solutions to address current gaps in data collection, especially in geographically isolated areas. UNICEF will continue to invest in mHealth in 2015 as a means of strengthening HIV, STI and maternal and child health data collection systems.

Fiji, with support from UNICEF-Pacific, successfully developed a national annual work plan that was endorsed by the HIV/AIDS Board. Implementation of activities was regularly monitored by stakeholders. National annual work plans in other countries were not finalized due to limited dedicated human resources and competing priorities in-country.

OUTCOME 7 HIV&AIDS: Pregnant women and adolescents aged 15-19 years, particularly those who are at higher risk to HIV exposure, have increased access to relevant information, skills and services to prevent and reduce impact of HIV.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Available data indicates that the prevalence of HIV in the Pacific is low. However, there has been a notable increase in the number of cases being reported in recent years. For example, since 2010, Fiji has been reporting an average of 60 new cases every year, up from an average of 30 new cases per year between 2000 and- 2008. Solomon Islands and Vanuatu have reported new cases in the last few years after no new cases being reported for some time, including several cases of paediatric HIV.

Challenges include inadequate financing resulting in large programmatic gaps, weak coordination and programme integration, weak capacity of service providers, complex HIV testing protocols and limited availability of HIV rapid testing. In the majority of Pacific Island countries, clients are not able to obtain their HIV test results on the same day, which adds to the high percentage of HIV cases being lost and not being followed up on. High rates of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) among the reproductive age group, low comprehensive knowledge of HIV, low condom use, poor risk perception among adolescents and young people, stigmatization and legal issues surrounding sex workers and men having sex with men (MSM) exacerbate the region's vulnerability to the HIV epidemic.

The availability of HIV testing and counselling services in the region is low. According to the Solomon Islands Global AIDS Periodic Reports (2013) only 4.3 per cent of clinics offered HIV testing services and only 2.5 per cent of pregnant women had received an HIV test and knew their results (Second Generation Sentinel Surveillance, 2008).

UNICEF-Pacific continued to advocate for 'opt out' (versus 'opt in') approaches to testing – pregnant women should be getting routine testing and counselling for HIV/AIDS. Only Fiji and Kiribati have taken this option thus far. To support the scale-up of HIV testing and counselling, prevention of parent to child transmission (PPTCT) services and prevention in adolescents and youth, UNICEF provided funding and technical support to Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Kiribati. UNICEF supported the governments of Fiji and the Solomon Islands in developing a National HIV Testing and Counselling policy and PPTCT policy guidelines that support point of care testing and provider-initiated counselling and testing, critical interventions that ensure that priority populations, particularly, pregnant women, their partners and high risk adolescents and youth, have access to and benefit from efficient and effective services. As a result, as of December 2014, Solomon Islands has 20 facilities using point of care testing to provide services to pregnant women and young people. Test results are delivered instantly, and the sites are reporting 100 per cent of pregnant women tested for HIV receiving their results. With UNICEF support, point of care testing is currently being scaled up in the provinces of the Solomon Islands.

Fiji is introducing point of care testing in the remote and outer islands of Northern Fiji and Kiribati has a rollout training planned for service providers in early February 2015. Challenges in scaling up services include inadequate supplies for HIV testing and high turnover of trained nurses and counsellors. To address those issues, UNICEF supported procurement of HIV testing supplies and a regional training centre, Empower Pacific, in providing training of counsellors on point of care testing and provider-initiated counselling. UNICEF-Pacific continues to advocate for other countries to adopt Option B+.

In PICs, adolescents are at considerable risk for HIV given a generally low knowledge of HIV, early sexual initiation, low condom use and high rates of STIs. To strengthen HIV prevention programmes for adolescents and youth, support was provided for awareness and education activities, mainly peer-based and through mass media. Community awareness was complemented with prevention messages disseminated through radio spots, posters, and traditional/religious networks. Funding remains a critical challenge in implementing HIV prevention programmes for adolescents and youth. A joint proposal developed by UNFPA and UNICEF was funded by the New Zealand Aid Programme, with UNICEF receiving US\$500,000 for a period of five years (2015-2019) to strengthen HIV prevention programmes for adolescents. In 2015, UNICEF-Pacific will build on sports for development initiatives to disseminate messages on HIV and will collaborate with UNFPA to review and update guidelines and standards for adolescent and youth-friendly health services and provision of peer education.

The 2015–2019 Sexual Health and Well-Being Shared Agenda for the Pacific, which was endorsed this year by Pacific health ministers, provides an important opportunity to integrate HIV and STI surveillance, testing, counselling, care and treatment programmes within an integrated Reproductive Maternal Newborn Child and Adolescents Health (RMNCAH) programme.

OUTPUT 1 HIV&AIDS: By 2017, at least six PICs have PPTCT, HIV Testing & Counselling and ART policies/ guidelines and services in line with the international and global recommendations.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Significant gains were achieved in strengthening HIV testing and counselling and PPTCT services in Fiji, Kiribati, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands. UNICEF-Pacific technical assistance and funding resulted in Fiji successfully launching an updated PPTCT policy, ART guidelines and a training manual on PPTCT for service providers. Fiji trained 45 service providers on the revised guidelines, including adoption of Option B+, whereby treatment is provided for life for HIV-positive women. Fiji also was able to decentralise confirmatory testing for HIV at divisional and sub-divisional hospitals and to introduce point of care testing at remote and rural ante-natal clinics. These initiatives resulted in improved access and quality of HIV services for pregnant women, children and their partners with more than 80 per cent of pregnant women being tested for HIV and receiving their results.

With UNICEF-Pacific support, Solomon Islands conducted two trainings at provincial level to scale up point of care testing using rapid diagnostic tests. At year end, 20 facilities at national and provincial levels are providing HIV point of care testing to pregnant women and their partners and young people.

UNICEF-Pacific successfully advocated for provider-initiated testing and counselling (PITC), with all focus countries (Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Vanuatu and Fiji) embracing the concept. With UNICEF-Pacific funding, and in partnership with the Ministries of Health and Empower Pacific (a regional organisation providing HIV counselling training), a training of trainers on PITC was completed for 19 trainers. Ten Empower Pacific trainers (four from Fiji and two each from Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu) were trained to scale up provider-initiated testing and counselling in their respective countries. The in-country trainings are scheduled in the first quarter of 2015.

In collaboration with other stakeholders, UNICEF addressed these issues through mHealth initiatives with the aim of strengthening routine data collection on STIs, HIV and broader maternal and child health programmes. Countries also face additional challenges, including frequent stock out of HIV test kits, and human resource and funding constraints to sustaining HIV interventions.

OUTPUT 5 HIV&AIDS: By 2017, at least six PICs have strengthened capacities to deliver HIV prevention and services for adolescents (10-19) including adolescents at higher risk to HIV exposure.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF-Pacific, in collaboration with UNFPA, mobilized additional funds to support HIV prevention and services for adolescents in the region. A joint proposal totalling US\$500,000 was funded by the New Zealand Aid Programme (NZ Aid), to reduce the risk of sexually transmitted infections and HIV and to decrease vulnerabilities among adolescents and youth in Kiribati, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Samoa and Tonga. A regional UNICEF, UNFPA and UNESCO joint programme on comprehensive sexuality education was endorsed at the Forum of Education Ministers in April 2014. At year end, the joint programme document was being finalized and a proposal was being drafted to support rollout of comprehensive sexual education in Kiribati, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Samoa.

The Fiji national peer education forum was held from 7-8 July 2014. The forum brought together peer educators from all 23 youth-friendly health service facilities to share experiences in providing sexual reproductive health and HIV-related information and services to their peers. Peer educator roles and responsibilities were reviewed and capacities developed to strengthen interaction in the communities they serve. In Kiribati, a strategy on youth programming was developed to address the issue of HIV and AIDS among Kiribati adolescents and young people and to design, plan and monitor the implementation of HIV prevention programmes for and with adolescents and young people. In Fiji, support was provided to finalise the 2015 adolescent health and development plan, which articulates HIV risk reduction activities for high risk adolescents and youth.

UNICEF also supported Solomon Islands to strengthen point of care HIV testing and counselling services for adolescents and youth, with five facilities now providing adolescent and youth friendly services, including HIV testing and counselling.

Lack of funding, insufficient and unstable human resource capacities are key challenges that impede the advancement of HIV prevention and service delivery for adolescents in the Pacific Island countries and territories. High turnover of adolescent programme staff, particularly in Kiribati and Vanuatu, caused delays in implementing planned activities in 2014.

OUTCOME 8 Child Protection Systems (including Justice and Police, child and family social services, health and education and communities) provide improved quality of and access to services for the prevention of and response to violence, abuse and exploitation of children at all times.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The absence of a cohesive child protection programme in many Pacific Island Countries (PICs) is evident: the legal frameworks for child protection are weak, programmes and services lack strategic direction and vulnerabilities facing children are largely unattended. Families and communities seem to be caught between traditional and modern ways of bringing up and

disciplining children. Baseline reports from four countries in the South Pacific (Fiji, Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu) and three countries in the North Pacific (Federated States of Micronesia, Palau and the Republic of Marshall Islands) reveal that corporal punishment in homes and communities and bullying at school are major protection issues. Coupled with high rates of domestic violence across the PICs, this means that an unacceptably high number of children grow up exposed to violence and abuse on a regular basis and in places that should be considered safe.

A key UNICEF Pacific strategy is to improve child protection services, laws and regulations and increase enforcement of these laws and regulations. The 2014 Mid-Term Review of the UNICEF Pacific Multi-Country Programme found that overall strategy remains valid and progress towards this outcome is on track. Progress has been made in strengthening child protection systems in 11 Pacific Island countries. Law reform continues to improve the protective environment for children with new bills drafted in Samoa (Child Care and Protection Bill), Solomon Islands (Child and Family Welfare Bill), and passing of legislation to prevent and respond to domestic violence in Kiribati and Solomon Islands. Countries with enacted legislation have seen an increase in number of reported cases of child abuse and domestic violence, in the case of Kiribati a 33 per cent increase in child protection cases reported to the social welfare department from outer islands from 2013 to 2014. However, capacity for service delivery falls short of adequate and appropriate response in many instances. To address this shortcoming, the child protection programme has an increased focus on strengthening service delivery.

In the area of birth registration significant progress has been made in decentralization of services in Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, leading to increase of coverage rates of more than 12 percent. A number of countries have benefited from increased government budget allocation to birth registration.

The reach and impact of the programme has been enhanced by expanded partnerships with development and regional partners, particularly in civil registration, ending violence and law reform. Decentralization of services to provincial, district and/or island council level, particularly with regard to birth registration and delivery of some social welfare services, have more effectively reached vulnerable populations outside remote areas. Integration of child protection with other sectors/ministries through innovative partnership arrangements such as health for birth registration, education for prevention of violence and abuse in schools, protection in emergencies mainstreaming is improving both accessibility of services for children and families, and capacity of service providers to provide services for prevention, detection and response.

Challenges remain due to weak or non-existent structure for child protection in most Pacific countries. Given the wide demand from both governments and civil society to improve child protection systems, resource limitations both technical and financial constrain reach of the programme. While the programme has mobilized resources, in particular from DFAT and the European Union, funding gaps have meant limited capacity to support sensitive areas, drive innovations, demonstrate results to leverage resources, and improve emergency preparedness and response.

Costs associated with the large geographic area of the Pacific are also a challenge. As the demand for support in strengthening child protection systems increases, with the governments of Tonga, Tuvalu and Nauru engaged for the first time, UNICEF Pacific is responding across a broader geographic area, stretching both technical and financial resources. To address this challenge, which represents an opportunity to ensure stronger child protection throughout the

Pacific, the Child Protection Programme strategy is to encourage and foster South-South cooperation where possible. For example, to support the Tuvalu Police in ensuring child-sensitive investigations, the technical expertise of the Fiji Police was leveraged, resulting in two successful missions and the development of investigation protocols. Similarly, to build capacity in policy reform of the newly established Child and Family Services Division within the Ministry of Home Affairs in Nauru, an exchange with Kiribati took place.

OUTPUT 1 CP: By 2017, PICs children are better protected by strengthen legal, regulatory and policy frameworks at national level, including in emergencies.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Progress is on track. The knowledge base on child protection has improved in three countries, and results of these assessments have been used to inform policy decisions. Child protection baseline reports were launched in Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Marshall Islands and Samoa. In Samoa, the Baseline report has informed prioritization of law reform. The Child Care and Protection Bill currently under review by the Attorney General's Office is expected to be submitted for first reading during the first sitting of Parliament in 2015.

Assessments of child protection systems using the Global Governance Framework were completed in Fiji and Kiribati and are informing advocacy for policy and budgetary reforms. These reports also support tracking of results from baseline surveys that were completed in 2008.

Strengthening of capacity to implement laws was promoted. Samoa hosted the South Pacific Child and Youth Court Conference, which brought together judges, magistrates and other legal officials from countries throughout the Pacific, Australia and New Zealand. It focussed on implementation of family courts. Samoa followed up with training for youth advocates and lawyers on child rights. This initiative is supporting the capacity of legal personnel in the recently-established Family Court, the second such court of its kind in the Pacific.

UNICEF is providing technical support to the Government of Tuvalu, focusing on increasing the understanding of child-sensitive justice procedures by police and the Attorney General's Office. In a demonstration of South-South cooperation, an expert officer was deployed from the Fiji Police Force to build the skills of the Tuvalu police.

An advisory committee for a child protection study was formed in Nauru, and initial consultations with partners were held to determine the study's scope. The study will focus on legislative review, availability and accessibility of services, and community attitudes and norms. This is the Child Protection programme's first substantive engagement with the Government of Nauru.

OUTPUT 2 CP: By 2017 Kiribati, develop and strengthen legal, regulatory and policy frameworks at national and sub-national levels for the protection and participation of children, adolescents and youth including in emergencies.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The legislative and policy framework has been enhanced through the continued rollout of the new Child Young People and Family Welfare (CYFW) Act of 2013. CYFW regulations were drafted that will operationalize the law by providing direction on procedures and standards related to child custody, monitoring, reporting and standards of care. Consultations on the draft

regulations were undertaken, and further refinement is ongoing (to be finalized in 2015). An inter-ministerial working group was established to lead policy design and implementation around child protection. The working group has sufficient authority to ensure coordination and oversight, which is especially important in Kiribati's political context.

The Government and key stakeholders are currently working on the Youth Justice Bill, which will address commercial sexual exploitation of children, child trafficking and other issues. Ten public consultations on the Bill have taken place, with the participation of 350 stakeholders, including community leaders, members of Parliament, youth representatives, leaders of faith-based organizations and women's groups. Feedback from the consultations is currently being incorporated into the draft bill, which will be finalized and tabled in Parliament in early 2015.

Parliament ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Cabinet withdrew all reservations to the CRC.

The Civil Registration Code, which dates from the colonial era, was reviewed, and the Birth, Deaths and Marriages Registration Ordinance and Regulations were revised after public consultations were carried out. The draft regulations include revised registration forms to ensure greater accuracy and reduce discrimination for children born to non-married parents.

Implementation of laws to protect children from violence has been supported with the expansion of the network of Domestic Violence and Sexual Offences units with the police and the provision of comprehensive child protection training to 103 police officers in South Tarawa and Betio. Support was provided to enhance capacity of law enforcement bodies in remote areas. Magistrates and court officers in Conton, Tabuearan, Line & Phoenix Island, Tenana Island and Christmas Island were trained for the first time on child protection, including the Child, Young Persons and Family Welfare Act and Policy. Participation was near 100 per cent.

The police Standard Operating Practices for Child Protection and Handling Young People have been promulgated and associated training will continue into 2015, including police specialist skills in child protection.

OUTPUT 3 CP: By 2017 Solomon Islands develop and strengthen legal, regulatory and policy frameworks at national and sub-national levels for the protection of children, including in emergencies.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

With the passing of the Family Protection Act in August 2014, the legislative environment for protecting women and children from violence was significantly strengthened. As a member of the legislative working group, UNICEF provided technical assistance for the development, finalization and tabling of this legislation to Parliament. The Act criminalizes domestic violence, which includes physical, sexual, psychological and economic abuse of children who are either directly affected or who witness domestic violence. UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Women, Youth, Community and Family Affairs (MWYCFA) in ongoing public awareness on the provisions of the Act and finalization of the Act's Implementation Plan. During the 16 Days of Activism at the end of November UNICEF and partners supported the "Hapi Famili, Hapi Kandere: Endim Vaelens Insaed Hom" campaign focussing on raising awareness on the Act.

Along with this progress on strengthening legislation against violence, the legal assessment of the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) Comprehensive Assessment has been completed and endorsed by the CRVS National Steering Committee, paving the way for drafting

of revised legislation in 2015. This is an important step to streamline birth registration and to ensure legal provisions keep up with developments in registration processes and introductions of new technology.

The Cabinet tabling of the Child and Family Welfare Bill was delayed when other bills took priority, in particular, the Family Protection Act. The Bill is expected to be introduced and advocacy and awareness are expected to continue with the new Government in 2015.

Progress on the finalization of the Child and Family Welfare Policy of the Social Welfare Department within the Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) was constrained due to competing government priorities. It was further delayed as a result of the April 2014 flash floods, after which concerned ministries, partners and UNICEF re-oriented work to support humanitarian response. Work on the Policy is expected to resume with UNICEF technical assistance in the first half of 2015.

The Government endorsed a Review Committee mandated to draft the Government's CRC and CEDAW reports. The Review Committee includes representatives from the community, churches, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Law Reform Commission and Office of the Attorney General. UNICEF is a member and continues to provide guidance and assistance toward the finalization of the second, third and fourth period report to the CRC. The report is expected to be finalized by mid-2015.

OUTPUT 4 CP: By 2017 Vanuatu develops and strengthen legal, regulatory and policy frameworks at national and sub-national levels for the protection of children.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Progress has been made in strengthening the court response to child protection cases and in identifying key areas for law reform. In collaboration with stakeholders in the justice sector (Police, Judiciary, Public Prosecutor's Office, Vanuatu Law Commission), activities focussed on establishing a child-friendly legal and regulatory system, with capacity building of law enforcement officials being a priority. Four workshops were held in three provinces, including Port Vila and Luganville, with 55 police officers, including 9 female officers, trained on Standard Operating Procedures for handling young people and investigative methods. Informal police diversionary approaches such as on the spot warning, formal caution, mediation and community conference or custom resolution were used more frequently for minor offences as more frontline police officers were trained on how to deal with children who come in contact with the law. Discussions are ongoing between the Ministry of Justice and the Vanuatu Police Force to identify and appoint specially trained police officers in 2015 to be responsible for handling all children's cases.

The Vanuatu Law Commission completed a review report and the Civil Status Registration Act CAP 61 after consultations with stakeholders and reports shared with national Civil Registration and Vital Statistics committee for feedback and comments. Drafting instructions will be sent to the State Law Office in early 2015 to finalize amendment of the Act, ready for tabling in the first session of Parliament. The revisions will legally allow other stakeholders (including health, education and area secretaries) to facilitate civil registration tasks at the subnational level. The Council of Ministers endorsed the combined second, third and fourth periodic State Report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child on 5 June. With support from UNICEF, the Ministry of Justice is finalizing the reports, which should be ready for submission to the Committee on the Rights of the Child in early 2015.

OUTPUT 6 CP: By 2017, governments and civil society have strengthened capacity to provide children and families with improved access to child and family welfare and child justice services to prevent and respond to violence, abuse and exploitation, including in emergencies.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

In UNICEF's role as lead in the Child Protection Area of Responsibility, support was provided to build capacity of partners to respond to disasters. In January, Child protection staff was deployed to support partners in Tonga following Tropical Cyclone Ian. They provided technical support to assess child protection needs, psychosocial support capacity building, input into the Humanitarian Action Plan and monitoring of response. Support also was provided through the Ministries of Education and Internal Affairs to child-friendly spaces. The Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation in Fiji conducted protection training for all social welfare staff throughout the country, building capacity for first-line service providers. Child protection in emergencies training was conducted for key officials from Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Marshall Islands and Tonga. This was the first such training of its kind to take place for countries of the North Pacific and has raised the profile of child protection with the national disaster management offices in these countries. Child protection in emergencies is expected to be incorporated into national disaster plans.

Progress was made in the development of protocols and guidelines to improve service delivery. The Ministry of Health Fiji launched the Child Protection Guidelines for Health Workers, which operationalize the Child Welfare Decree and support improved service quality when identifying, responding to and referring child abuse cases. Sustained advocacy also led to the Government of Fiji creating 12 additional social welfare staff positions in the structure of the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, and announcing an allocation of US\$240,876 in the 2014-2015 budget for better service delivery and monitoring programs. Resources have also been allocated by the Government of Fiji for creation of a Child Helpline.

Coordination with partners on implementation of the Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) plan continued. A Pacific Civil Registrars Network (chaired by the New Zealand Registrar) was established. The Pacific Civil Registrars network provides an opportunity for Civil Registrars to convene, share good practices, and learn about promising innovations in the field of CRVS. It also provides a platform for South-South cooperation. Eleven governments of the Pacific participated in the Ministerial Conference on CRVS in November and endorsed the Asia-Pacific Regional Action Framework on CRVS, which provides goals and targets to support governments to achieve universal birth registration.

OUTPUT 7 CP: By 2017 Kiribati government and civil society strengthen quality of and access to child protection services

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The Government has begun to modify institutional structures for child protection, making them more responsive to the needs of vulnerable children. Inter-agency coordination has been streamlined by an executive sector-level Working Group, which meets regularly and is an effective decision-maker.

Community police conducted household and school visits to raise awareness on violence and abuse prevention and on how to respond to cases involving children. A youth community forum was held in Betio in collaboration with faith-based organizations and community police. The

event will be conducted with three other police stations in South Tarawa. A two week training session for 29 social welfare assistants from South Tarawa and all 23 outer islands was held, focusing on the CYFW Act and the roles and responsibilities of social welfare officers, parents and communities in protecting children from physical, emotional and sexual violence and exploitation.

The national committee on the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) was established. It includes members from the health, civil registry and national statistics offices. Progress was made on the Comprehensive Assessment, with three out of five components completed.

The percentage of children under the age of five registered in Kiribati increased from 68 per cent in January 2013 to 87 per cent at the end of 2014. In addition, rural/urban disparities in registration rates are decreasing, with rates of registration in urban areas increasing from 70 per cent to 87 per cent and rural rates increasing from 55 per cent to 68 per cent. Current rates surpass initial project targets and expected results (75 per cent) and show how birth registration is increasingly systematized as the civil registration system is strengthened.

Decentralization of service delivery has been supported. An additional eight electronic databases have been installed in the Civil Registration Offices in outer islands, bringing the number of databases connected to the central Civil Registration Office to 15. The rollout of the database to the outer islands has been supported by training and capacity building of officers on data management. There are currently challenges with regard to Internet connectivity in the outer islands. The Civil Registration Office and Ministry of Health have established a registration unit within the main Tarawa hospital and 100 per cent of babies born in the facility have been registered and given birth certificates.

OUTPUT 8 CP: By 2017, in Solomon Islands government, civil society and communities have strengthened capacity to provide children and families with improved access to child and family welfare and child justice services to prevent and respond to violence, abuse and exploitation, including in emergencies.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Access to birth registration (BR) significantly improved, with ten additional service points established in health facilities in Makira and Temotu Provinces, bringing the number of health facilities providing BR services to 37. Ongoing advocacy resulted in improved resource commitment to BR. For the first time, the national government included a budget line on civil registration in the national budget (2014) of US\$127,700. Public Service approved the creation of three data entry clerk positions, doubling staffing from three to six officers which results in overall increased capacity of Civil Registration to process birth and death registrations.

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) advanced under the Brisbane Accord Group partnership, with three national assessments completed by the CRVS Committee (cause of death, legal frameworks, and registration practices). With the completion of the Comprehensive Assessment, the CRVS Committee is now focussed on prioritizing and developing a Plan of Action.

UNICEF supported Civil Registration's IT infrastructure capacity through introduction of the e-database and the procurement of equipment, and also assisted with data entry. For the first time, registration rates can be tracked, with data entry results showing approximately 25,000 registrations completed in 2014, of which 15 per cent are for children under five years of age.

The April 2014 flash floods displaced 10,000 people in the capital Honiara and wider Guadalcanal Province. Under the Welfare and Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) Cluster, and as lead agency for the Child Protection Area of Responsibility, UNICEF contributed to protection assessments, IDP registration, coordination, capacity building on child protection in emergencies and psychosocial support. Assistance was also provided to establish child-friendly spaces and to monitor child protection interventions. UNICEF further contributed to drafting of the Humanitarian Action Plan, development of communication materials and support to service providers' outreach programmes in evacuation centres and communities of return. UNICEF supported activities aimed at assisting affected people to re-register children who had lost documentation in the floods and to conduct late registration for children who had never been registered. These efforts will continue in 2015.

As part of the United Nations Joint Programme on Ending Violence against Women and Girls (a collective effort of United Nations and government partners on a coordinated response to gender based violence in Solomon Islands), a Safenet stakeholder's consultation took place with the aim of strengthening the referral pathway. A number of programmatic recommendations for child protection partners were agreed to, and will require follow up in 2015.

OUTPUT 9 CP: By 2017, in Vanuatu government, civil society and communities have strengthened capacity to provide children and families with improved access to child protection services to prevent and respond to violence, abuse and exploitation, including in emergencies.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Significant progress has been made in strengthening service delivery and coverage rates for birth registration. Significant constraints remain for provision of services to prevent and respond to violence against children.

There is a continued focus on birth registration, including strengthening routine services. Targeted community outreach activities continue to play an important role in hardest-to-reach areas, including South Santo, Paama Island, Iepkeusip and Iakel custom villages on Tanna and Aneityum Island. Provincial Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) committees organised registration activities on Tanna, Luganville and Ambae. Outreach activities resulted in the registration of over 2,000 children.

Decentralization of civil registration functions with the engagement of the health and education sectors has significantly improved accessibility and continues to result in increased birth registration rates. All provincial hospitals can now perform registration services and issue birth certificates. This contributed to an increased percentage of registered children under 1 from a baseline of 12 per cent to 60 per cent at the end of 2014. The percentage of registered under-fives increased from 40 per cent in 2013 to 56 per cent by the end of 2014.

All six provinces are connected to the e-Government system, which has expedited birth registration. Schools can also facilitate registration, which has enhanced under-five registration through pre-schools. Discussions are ongoing with provincial education offices to make birth registration an annual activity so that all unregistered school children would be reached during the first term.

The final draft comprehensive assessment on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) was finalized in September. A draft Five Year Improvement Plan for Vanuatu was completed and will be finalized by the national CRVS committee by February 2015.

An in-depth analysis was conducted with Child Protection stakeholders to assess the current state and progress of Vanuatu's Child Protection System since the 2008 baseline, using a Governance Indicator Framework. Government consultations and field research were completed in the last quarter of 2014. The study will enable government and civil society partners to monitor and measure the quality of managerial decisions and resource allocation to child protection in the country.

The Gender and Protection Cluster was established in March and is led by the Ministry of Justice. Plans are underway to develop a preparedness plan and training for partners in 2015, including on child protection in emergencies.

OUTCOME 9 CP: Parents, caregivers, and children demonstrate skills, knowledge and behaviour enabling children to grow up in caring homes and communities, including schools that are free from violence, abuse and exploitation

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Public acceptance of violence as a suitable punishment for children remains high in Pacific Island Countries. In countries where baseline data exist (Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu), more than 70 per cent of adults admit to using corporal punishment on children at home. Baseline data from North Pacific countries (Federated States of Micronesia, Palau and Republic of Marshall Islands) reveal that more than 20 per cent of parents use physical punishment "that hurts a child" on a daily basis and that "verbal humiliation" is used on at least 12 per cent of children on a daily basis.

Strategies for promoting positive behaviour to prevent violence and abuse of children included promotion of positive parenting tools and capacity; ensuring violence free schools; and generating youth engagement in the End Violence campaign. The 2014 Mid-Term Review of the UNICEF Pacific Multi-Country Programme found that overall strategy remains valid and progress towards this outcome is one track with a stronger programmatic focus on social norms needed.

UNICEF Pacific has supported capacity of partners on positive parenting in several countries. In Fiji, focus of behaviour change was structured around a positive parenting package, "Children are a Gift from God", which builds on existing positive attitudes to develop appreciation of currently unfamiliar child protection concepts and objectives. The package is being used by various ministries including Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Ministry of I Taukei Affairs; Ministry of Youth and Education through creative interaction with parents, teachers and children. Evaluation of this package will be undertaken in 2015.

In Kiribati a positive parenting package is being developed to accompany and support the roll out of the Child, Young Persons and Family Welfare Act and Policy. Consultation processes have taken place with all stakeholders generally discussing their knowledge of, attitudes and practices in child protection. Interesting revelations identified kava bars and bingo activities contributing to the abuse and neglect of children. Based on these consultations, a facilitation package will be developed for the community based parenting activities. This will take into

account elements of the developed manual for the policy implementation with a view to harmonise all components of Kiribati's child protection systems.

Progress was achieved in ensuring nearly universal coverage of schools in Fiji, both primary and secondary, for the roll out of the Child Protection Policy in Schools with Ministry of Education. It is a Ministry of Education requirement that all schools implement the Child Protection Policy. By end of 2014, 99 per cent of all primary and secondary schools have been reached. Interest in the policy has been generated in several Pacific Island countries including Vanuatu and Tuvalu with plans to use the Fiji policy as a model for country expansion in 2015.

A key issue that has emerged through both baseline reports and stakeholder consultations is bullying both in person and through social media. Bullying rates in the Pacific are comparatively high, with reported rates of student bullying of 67 per cent in Vanuatu. Support was provided to Ministry of Education in Vanuatu to address the high rates of bullying through research to verify the underlying causes of bullying and associated behaviours, and to develop and pilot campaign to address bullying. This included a mix of school-wide surveys, smaller student focus group sessions, and student-led research. Results of the research with both teachers and students, led to a campaign focus on a behaviour change intervention to change the culture of the schools from a "culture of violence" to a "culture of respect." A multi-media campaign was developed and rolled out during the 16 Days of Activism and included music video, graffiti art in schools, radio spots, a 'Respect van' with mobile messages, and print materials. Campaign is currently being monitored.

Linked to bullying are cyber-safety issues which were identified in a number of Pacific Island countries as internet coverage improves. UNICEF Pacific provided support to the Government of Tonga through the National Forum of Church Leaders and the Ministry of Internal Affairs Youth Division to raise awareness on the issue of cyber-safety and cyber-bullying and to provide input for the cyber-safety policy of the Cyber Challenges Task Force. Support was provided to conduct a rapid assessment of perceptions and use of the internet by both youth and parents/guardians, which informed development of messages for youth that were disseminated during the national Youth Week, and are informing policy development.

OUTPUT 1 CP: By 2017, parents, families and communities demonstrate strengthened knowledge, attitude and practices creating an environment that protects children from violence, abuse and exploitation in T2 and T3 countries

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Support was provided to the Ministry of Education in Fiji for the continued rollout of the Child Protection Policy in schools. The Ministry of Education requires that all schools implement and monitor the Child Protection Policy. By the end of 2014, 99 per cent of all primary and secondary schools have been reached and are implementing the policy. Anecdotal evidence from the Ministry of Education indicates a reduction in the use of corporal punishment since the implementation of the Child Protection Policy. Further monitoring and evaluation of the impact of the policy is needed and is planned for 2015.

Cyber-safety issues were identified in a number of Pacific Island countries as internet coverage improves. Support was provided to the Government of Tonga through the National Forum of Church Leaders (NFCL) and the Ministry of Internal Affairs Youth Division to raise awareness on the issue of cyber-safety and cyber-bullying and to provide input for the cyber-safety policy of the Cyber Challenges Task Force. Support was provided to conduct a rapid assessment of

perceptions and use of the internet by both youth and parents/guardians, which informed development of messages for youth that were disseminated during the national Youth Week, and are informing policy development.

OUTPUT 2 CP: By 2017, in Kiribati parents, families and communities demonstrate strengthened knowledge, attitude and practices creating an enabling environment that protect children from violence, abuse and exploitation

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Faith-based organizations and churches are significant opinion leaders in Kiribati and could be proactive agents of behavioural change. Stakeholder consultations on community child-friendly practices for social welfare officers and faith-based organizations were conducted. During the consultations, kava bars and bingo activities were identified as contributing to the abuse and neglect of children. The findings will be used to support the development of a community child-friendly facilitation package, and will be included in the Child, Young Persons and Family Welfare implementation manual.

Community outreach to promote understanding on the new Child, Young Persons and Family Welfare Act was conducted by social welfare services in South Tarawa and three outer islands (Kuria, Makin and Marakei Island). The purpose of the sessions was to make the families, elders (*unimane/unaine*), teachers, police officers and youth aware of the existence of the new policy.

OUTPUT 3 CP: By 2017, in Solomon Islands parents, families and communities demonstrate strengthened knowledge, attitude and practices creating an enabling environment that protect children from violence, abuse and exploitation

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Progress under this output was partially constrained due to the need to prioritize humanitarian emergency response in April 2014. UNICEF, together with Save the Children and World Vision, continued to strengthen the existing Welfare and Internally Displaced Persons cluster through its support to the newly-established Protection sub-cluster being supported by Oxfam, developing assessment tools, Terms of Reference and Standard Operating Procedures. Support also included training for stakeholders on Child Protection in Emergencies.

With UNICEF support, the national Child Protection Task Force under the National Advisory Committee on Children (NACC), chaired by the MWYFCA, has strengthened the collaboration with the Solomon Islands Christian Association. This partnership will assist the Task Force in the development of a community facilitation package on positive parenting. The facilitation package will be the key resource for government and can be used by other stakeholders to facilitate training on Child Protection at the community level.

UNICEF supported the establishment Information, Education and Communication committee under the NACC. The IEC committee includes stakeholders such as Save the Children, World Vision, Immigration Department, Social Welfare Department and Children's Desk Division. UNICEF supported printing of IEC materials developed by this committee for dissemination to the wider community during the 16 Days of Activism in December.

OUTPUT 4 CP: By 2017, in Vanuatu children, families and communities demonstrate strengthened knowledge, attitude and practices creating an enabling environment that protect children from violence, abuse and exploitation

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Progress was made in engaging youth in developing responses to violence against children. Partnership with local non-government organization, Wan Smol Bag is ongoing and includes outreach to selected communities in Tafea, Sanaa, Penama and Malampa provinces. Theatrical productions focus on norms and practices that expose children to violence, how to change such practices, and information sharing on available support services for children and families.

The Ministry of Education has developed a draft Child Protection Policy, including mechanisms for prevention, reporting and handling of issues when they arise. The policy will be finalized in 2015. The “end violence in schools” initiative was piloted in two secondary schools of Port Vila, where research and discussions on bullying were conducted with students and teachers. A culture of respect was built through the campaign ‘Leftemap Rispek/Respecting One Another’. A ‘Respecting One Another’ song with key messages was developed with popular Vanuatu artist Stan Antas. The song was launched on radio Vanuatu and gained national coverage. A respect one another music video was launched at the 16 Days of Activism event in November, and reached more than 1,000 views within one week. Four videos with four key messages were developed with popular Vanuatu comedian Timothy Natongtong and were distributed from December 1-6 via bluetooth to Efate communities and Port Vila.

Five radio spots with key messages derived from the videos were developed and aired on Radio Vanuatu FM 100 six times daily for 16 days from November 25 to December 10, gaining national coverage. A comic series was developed and printed. T-shirts were printed and distributed to students, teachers, and the general public, and Graffiti sessions held in the two schools. Monitoring of the reach of the campaign is currently underway.

OUTCOME 10 PAPE: Social policies, safety nets and budgets progressively address disparities and build resilience for the realization of child rights.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The first building block in promoting children’s rights is to identify those children who are most marginalized and disadvantaged. Pacific Island Countries have limited capacity to monitor the situation of children and track progress against key development goals. National statistical systems in Pacific Island Countries are among the weakest in the world and are chronically under-resourced in terms of qualified staff and operational budgets. Most Pacific Island Countries also lack high-quality administrative data sources, such as education and health databases and civil registration records. These challenges are compounded by weak coordination and cooperation between government ministries, and low capacity to analyse data and translate numbers into policy-relevant and meaningful information. In 2014, UNICEF continued to invest in data on children by providing targeted support to national data collection activities; producing statistical, equity-focused publications to inform decision-making; and building national capacity to use child-relevant data in planning and programming processes.

Across the Pacific region, it is estimated that one in four children and adults are living below the national poverty line. In recent years, social protection has emerged as a major new focus in efforts to reduce poverty around the world. Social protection can be understood as a set of public actions that address not only income poverty and economic shocks, but also social vulnerability, thus taking into account the inter-relationship between exclusion and poverty.

Apart from fee waivers for basic education and health services, coverage of formal social protection is limited in most Pacific island countries. In 2014, UNICEF continued to build the evidence base on child poverty and vulnerability in collaboration with leading research institutes, and supported the Fiji Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation to assess the effectiveness and impact of the cash transfer and food voucher scheme for vulnerable children. Results will be used to inform reforms to more effectively tackle child poverty.

While all Pacific countries have ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), government machineries to coordinate remain weak and only 5 out of 13 countries are currently on track with their reporting obligations. In 2014, UNICEF Pacific supported five countries with their CRC reporting obligations and strengthened partner engagement with key regional bodies (Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community) on human rights.

Overall, progress toward planned outputs under this programme component is considered to be on track. The 2014 Mid-Term Review of the UNICEF Pacific Multi-Country Programme confirmed that work under this outcome will continue to focus on strengthening research and evidence on children; addressing the social protection agenda and child poverty; and delivering support for CRC reporting and contributing to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), universal periodic reviews and other treaty reporting processes across all Pacific island countries.

OUTPUT 1 PAPE: By 2017, collection, analyses and dissemination of disaggregated data on the situation of children and women strengthened.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF is increasingly supporting Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) across the Pacific – in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, national statistics offices, and other development partners – as a means of collecting representative information on the situation of children and women and addressing critical data gaps on issues such as malnutrition and child protection. In 2014, UNICEF supported Samoa's DHS and contributed to the development of survey tools, training of fieldworkers, and procurement of measurements boards, scales and testing kits for biomarkers for nutrition-related indicators. Implementation is progressing according to plan, with fieldwork completed in 2014 and data analysis and report writing to be completed by mid-2015. New partnerships were initiated with the Solomon Islands National Statistics Office and the Fiji Bureau of Statistics for integrating child-focused data modules into their 2015 DHS surveys.

As lead partner in the UN Pacific Joint Programme on Disability, UNICEF continues to work toward improving information on the situation of children with disabilities. The new module on child functioning and disability developed by UNICEF and the Washington Group on Disability Statistics was field tested in the Samoa 2014 DHS. UNICEF and the Vanuatu National Statistics Office also finalized a study on the situation of children, women and men with disabilities based on a detailed analysis of Census, DHS and education data sets. The study estimates prevalence of disability and examines disparities across a range of outcomes based on disability status. Among others, it concludes that children with disabilities are significantly less likely to attend school than their non-disabled peers (the gap in primary school attainment is more than 53 percentage points); children with disabilities are more likely to experience violent methods of discipline, especially psychological aggression (21 percentage points higher); and people with severe disabilities are twice more likely to be located in the poorest wealth quintile.

Using data to inform decisions, policies and targeting of resources has a measurable impact on the lives of children. UNICEF developed a new training package to build national capacity in statistical literacy and improve the use of child-relevant data in programme planning, decision-making and advocacy in 2013. Delivery of this training is being rolled-out progressively to social sector ministries in Pacific countries. In 2014, some 100 civil servants and NGO representatives in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Micronesia and Marshall Islands received the training. Pre-and-post assessments indicate that this type of training is effective in boosting participants' knowledge and ability to use child-relevant data.

OUTPUT 2 PAPE: By 2017, governments' policies, budgets and social protection systems enhance resilience and reduce disparities for children.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF-Pacific supported the Fiji Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation to conduct an assessment of child poverty and review the effectiveness and impact of the national cash transfer and food voucher programme for vulnerable children, known as the Care and Protection Allowance (CPA). The study found that 35 per cent of the child population in Fiji was living below the national basic needs poverty line, and analyzed disparities by location, sex and other socio-economic variables. Despite high levels of child poverty, coverage of the CPA is relatively modest: the programme reaches approximately 5,000 children (less than 2 per cent of the child population). Based on field work and interviews with caregivers, it is clear that the CPA is a vital lifeline for recipients and is making a positive contribution to child well-being. The study also analyzed barriers and bottlenecks in administrative processes and institutional factors. Recommendations of the study will inform future reforms of Fiji's social protection system and be used to draw lessons learned that could benefit other Pacific island countries seeking to introduce or expand child-sensitive social protection.

UNICEF-Pacific also contributed to the UNDP-led report on *The State of Human Development in the Pacific: A report on vulnerability and exclusion in a time of rapid change*, ensuring strong visibility of children's issues, including new estimates of levels of child poverty in the Pacific island countries. The Government of Kiribati also launched its national study on child poverty and disparities.

As the era of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) comes to an end in 2015, a new framework for global development will be put in place. The 'Post-2015 Development Agenda' will culminate in the formulation of a new set of goals and targets that will build on the progress of the MDGs and also address the shortcomings. UNICEF-Pacific, together with other UN agencies and regional partners, played a lead role in lifting the visibility of children and youth in high-level processes and dialogue on the Post-2015 Agenda and the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS), which was held in Samoa in September 2014. The outcome document S.A.M.O.A (Small Islands Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action) Pathway reaffirms that SIDS remain a special case for sustainable development given their extreme vulnerability to climate change and disasters. It also highlights priorities for children and youth across the three dimensions (social, economic and environmental) of sustainable development.

OUTPUT 3 PAPE: By 2017, national child rights coordination and reporting mechanisms strengthened guided by national child and youth policies, with increased participation of young people.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF-Pacific has been supporting governments in the region with their CRC reporting obligations – 5 countries (Fiji, Samoa, Niue, Tokelau and Tuvalu) are on track with their reporting. Samoa submitted its combined periodic report in April 2014 and the other four countries have all undergone their review(s) with the Geneva CRC Committee. Fiji was the most recent to go through its second reporting cycle for its 2nd – 4th combined periodic report, in September.

UNICEF-Pacific provided technical support to five countries (Nauru, Solomon Islands, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Vanuatu and Fiji) to advance CRC reports and/or state responses, and to Fiji for the plenary review with the CRC Committee in Geneva in September. UNICEF Pacific also contributed to Joint UN Submissions for Pacific country reviews through other human rights treaty processes, including Universal Periodic Review (UPR) for three countries (Fiji, Kiribati and RMI); delivery of statement at the adoption of the Vanuatu UPR Report; and input to CEDAW review for Tuvalu.

UNICEF-Pacific continued to strengthen partner engagement with key regional bodies (Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community) and in 2014 there were three opportunities for joint missions: Nauru (Universal Periodic Review Consultation Workshop, with approximately 40 participants from government and Civil Society), Samoa (CRC Training – nearly 60 participants from government and civil society) and a Training for Small Islands States Officers/Human Rights Focal Points (for 6 officers, held in Suva, Fiji). UNICEF Pacific's Representative and UNICEF's National Committee in New Zealand also conducted a workshop on Child Rights and Development for the staff of New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

OUTCOME 11 PAPE: Governments, communities, youth networks and media engage in advocacy, communication and partnerships to reduce inequities and promote care and protection of children.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

In the Pacific, large distances between islands and countries, combined with low rates of internet, TV and radio penetration make it difficult for the most vulnerable and remote families to access the information and knowledge they need to ensure the health, safety and resilience of their children. UNICEF-Pacific is therefore pursuing an advocacy and communication strategy that is centred around use of multiple media channels to maximize reach and participatory use of radio and digital and social media to engage key influencers and decision makers, and coordination with UN agencies, line ministries and development partners on initiatives to strengthen and use interpersonal communication structures for integrated promotion of lifesaving, care and protective family practices.

A number of major campaigns aimed at increasing awareness and influencing behaviours were implemented in 2014, including a comprehensive campaign in Vanuatu called 'Respect Me' that addressed the issue of violence in schools. In Kiribati, the Adolescent Girls Initiative (AGI) continued to cover issues of gender, equity, leadership, participation and governance. WASH in Solomon Islands has had a strong communication for behaviour change focus this year with the completion of a Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices study and development of the first comprehensive WASH multi-media package targeting households, schools and communities. It

will be rolled out in 2015 in a nation-wide campaign. This initiative has also resulted in the establishment of a youth-led talk back radio program called 'Youth to Youth', which is the most successful youth media platform supported by UNICEF Pacific to date. Sport for Development is another key focus area being used as an additional strategy to further drive key messages focussed primarily on reducing vulnerabilities and addressing social issues affecting young people in the Pacific.

Disasters such as Tropical Cyclone Ian in Tonga (January 2014) and the flash floods in Solomon Islands (April 2014) and subsequent measles outbreak (July 2014) resulted in the need for substantial support for communication in emergencies, including capacity strengthening and technical support for micro-planning and social mobilization, as well as development and timely dissemination of key health/life-saving messages and multi-media products through mass media and interpersonal communication emergency response campaigns.

Overall, progress toward planned outputs under this programme component is considered to be on track. In line with recommendations from the 2014 Mid-Term Review of the UNICEF Pacific Multi-Country Programme, efforts will be intensified to: ensure that both external and behavioural change communication are based on the latest evidence and target group analysis; pre-position communication materials in-country; and train relevant interpersonal communicators to strengthen emergency preparedness.

OUTPUT 1 By 2015, media and knowledge partners in Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Kiribati and RMI produce and broadcast productions for, with and about children and youth, in support of UNICEF Pacific key programme component results

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Media coverage of children's issues in newspaper articles, radio and TV increased by 67 percent this year (from 162 items in 2013 to 270 items in 2014). In Solomon Islands, UNICEF initiated a weekly youth-led radio programme in collaboration with Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation. In Vanuatu, a weekly page in the local newspaper is available to promote child-relevant content and protective family practices. UNICEF also actively uses social media to promote key messages in support of children's rights. There has been a significant increase in activity and engagement on all social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) in 2014.

2014 marked the 25th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). As part of CRC@25 celebrations, every month a child's right was highlighted in relation to an event (launch of a report or campaign, international day, or high level meeting such as the Small Islands Developing States meeting in Samoa). Celebrations took place in most countries, with fun days, production of songs and television spots, high level involvement at events, and football matches with high level representation from governments, the diplomatic corps, NGO partners and children from early childhood centres, public primary schools and special schools.

With funding from the UK National Committee, UNICEF Pacific uses Sport for Development (S4D) as a platform for promoting positive behavioural change (e.g. physical activity and addressing poor nutrition, gender inequality, stigma and discrimination towards children with disabilities). Working in close partnership with the Oceania Football Confederation's Just Play programme, S4D interventions targeting children 6-12 years old are implemented in selected communities in Samoa, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands. During 2014, some 44 teachers (25

males and 19 females) and 108 community volunteers (61 males and 47 females) were trained as facilitators. A total of 4,232 children (2,604 boys and 1,628 girls) were engaged in weekly sessions, with 17 Just Play Festivals featuring integrated social messages, across the three countries. Beginning in 2015, geographic coverage will be expanded to include an additional five countries (Cook Islands, Fiji, Nauru, Tonga, and Tuvalu) and the programme will expand and reach children 13-16 years old.

Significant support was provided for communication during emergencies in Tonga and Solomon Islands. In Fiji, UNICEF completed a review of the 'Get Ready. Disasters Happen' campaign to draw lessons and inform potential next steps for emergency-preparedness communication activities with government departments and other key partners.

OUTPUT 2 PAPE: By 2015, 60 per cent of women and men, boys and girls, in areas experiencing greatest disparities are knowledgeable of key lifesaving, care and protection family practices, including during emergencies, in Kiribati.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Ten radio programmes were broadcast through the Public Broadcasting Association, focused on child rights on sexual abuse, exploitation and neglect issues as well as general awareness raising on child protection issues targeting primarily children, adolescents and caregivers. Youth groups were trained and are engaged to perform street dancing and singing to raise awareness on health topics such as safe motherhood and immunization. All youth activities are coordinated under the Adolescent Girls' Initiative (AGI), which is housed in the youth division of the Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs (MWYSA), and supported by UN agencies. The initiative's core focus areas include girls' health, girls' education, girls' peer leadership, protecting girls from abuse and exploitation and counting girls. It provides a strategic channel to promote C4D key messages to accelerate results for young people in Kiribati. As part of the Community Led Total Sanitation interventions, school teachers have been trained and hygiene/hand washing among children has become popular behaviour; 11 islands have become "open defecation free". Through high level advocacy, decision makers and leaders such as the President, the first Lady for AGI, Ministers, cabinet members, parliamentarians and Unemanee also have confirmed their political commitment to and support for child survival, participation and development.

OUTPUT 3 PAPE: By 2015, 60 per cent of women and men, boys and girls, in areas experiencing greatest disparities are knowledgeable of key lifesaving, care and protection family practices, including during emergencies in Solomon

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The Rural WASH and Health Promotion Department, with support from UNICEF and key WASH partners and Pasifika Communications, developed a C4D WASH multi-media package. The Knowledge Attitudes and Practices study initiated in 2013 was completed, and was used to inform the development of evidence-based key messages, a strategic communication plan, and production of subsequent media products and materials. The multi-media package includes 12 30-second radio spots and a weekly one hour youth radio talk back program with Solomon Island Broadcasting Corporation, a series of 11 posters, an integrated WASH pocket guide, bookmarks, flash cards, games and an animation series that can be used for facilitation of both community and school awareness activities. All media products and materials are now in the final stages of production and will be rolled out in 2015 as part of a nation-wide campaign with a specific water, hygiene and sanitation focus, including WASH in emergencies. The WASH C4D project's youth media component ('Youth to Youth' weekly talk back radio program) is the most successful youth-driven media platform supported by UNICEF Pacific to date.

Solomon Islands was hit by flash floods in April 2014. UNICEF provided technical support during the emergency response efforts, including for broadcasting of radio spots, talk back radio programs, dissemination of IEC print materials, blogs and coordination of external relations/media coverage. In response to a measles outbreak, UNICEF also supported micro-planning and implementation of social mobilization activities for the measles outbreak at national and provincial levels. This included production of materials, printing of IEC materials, broadcasting of radio spots, talk back radio, youth radio programs, printing of campaign t-shirts and point of service flags for social mobilization activities, as well as procurement of other related supplies and materials for selected social mobilization teams.

OUTPUT 4 PAPE: By 2015, 60 per cent of women and men, boys and girls, in areas experiencing greatest disparities are knowledgeable of key lifesaving, care and protection family practices, including during emergencies in Vanuatu.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The Child Protection programme, in partnership with the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Education, developed the '*Respect Me*' campaign aimed at increasing awareness about and addressing the issue of violence in schools. UNICEF collaborated with Vanuatu artist Stan Antas to produce the campaign song, '*Respecting One Another*', which was launched on VBTC FM 100 (National Coverage) and on Sound-Cloud. The song was played more than 2,000 times within two weeks. The music video for '*Respecting One Another*' was launched at the Department of Women's Affairs 16 Days of Activism opening, and received 1,000 views on YouTube within one week. A series of short video spots also were produced in collaboration with popular Vanuatu comedian Timothy Natongtong and distributed via the '*Rispek Van*' (a bus touring rural and semi-rural areas of Efate and blue-toothing media to communities directly). Five radio spots were developed and broadcast on Radio Vanuatu FM 100 (with National Coverage). A comic series '*Wan Story We Yu Save Finisem*' was printed (5,000 copies) and 500 '*Mi Rispektem Yu Rispektem Mi*' T-shirts were distributed to students, teachers and the general public.

In Vanuatu, the National Communication Strategy for Early Childhood Education was developed, along with a budget and Implementation plan for ECCE approved by the Ministry of Education. A set of IEC materials for ECCE were developed, pre-tested, and distributed, and the Communication Strategy was implemented accordingly. A number of media partnerships were successfully established, including a Daily Post weekly Children's Page on ECD issues, a special radio programme on ECD in Bislama with Radio Vanuatu, and a special radio programme in English with Buzz FM.

OUTCOME 12 PAPE: Programme results enhanced through effective planning, monitoring, evaluation, joint UN coordination, and resource mobilization.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF Pacific organized a midterm review of the Multi-Country Programme 2013–2017 to review programme cooperation and office structure in light of current evolution in global, regional and internal environments, including resource constraints, to ensure effective and efficient delivery of results for children. The 2014 Midterm Review was informed by a set of interrelated processes, including an internal audit, an external structure affordability review, and a rapid programme review organized as part of regular mid-year discussions with partners. The review also benefited from feedback from development partners and representatives of some Pacific island countries.

The 2014 Midterm Review endorsed a number of recommendations to further strengthen UNICEF Pacific's results-based planning, monitoring and evaluation functions, including to: retain Executive Board-approved programme components but reduce total number of planned results to a more manageable and affordable number; identify and implement a more strategic approach to planning, data collection, analysis and use of information, with stronger support to specific programme results, and monitor progress towards reducing inequities, particularly by gender, children with disabilities and other groups identified as chronically deprived (strengthen implementation of UNICEF's Monitoring of Results for Equity System); strengthen evidence, verification and results-based reporting, including in internal and external reports and systems; and strengthen field-based monitoring and evaluation (including interventions for results in development, humanitarian, recovery). As a result, the management structure for the programme planning, monitoring and evaluation functions will be streamlined beginning in 2015 and placed directly under the Deputy Representative.

OUTPUT 1 PAPE: Planning, monitoring, and resource mobilization and evaluation by UNICEF and partners supports achievement of results for most disadvantaged children and women in Pacific Region.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The office's progress towards the full implementation of the Monitoring Results for Equity System (MoRES) has been constrained due to lack of internal capacity, particularly in the field offices. It accelerated in the second half of the year with the recruitment of a planning and monitoring expert. All programmes have now completed a barriers and bottleneck analysis and a total of 75 determinants were identified, with baselines, targets and source/means of verification.

In the aftermath of tropical cyclone Ian, which struck Tonga in January 2014 and major flooding in Solomon Islands in April 2014, UNICEF conducted post-emergency monitoring missions in partnership with the New Zealand National Committee and government partners to assess the effectiveness, efficiency and impact of UNICEF-supported emergency interventions. Lessons learned from these exercises will inform future emergency preparedness and response.

UNICEF Pacific continued to be an active member in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) M&E Working Group. UNICEF provided support for monitoring the implementation of the UNDAF across the Pacific, contributing to reviews and reports with Pacific island governments for eight countries.

UNICEF, through the HIV and AIDS programme, continued to support government and NGO partners in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Kiribati and Fiji to implement the recommendations from the HIV Response Fund Evaluation conducted in 2013. Eight of the 26 follow-up activities have been completed, 14 are underway and progressing, and implementation of the remaining four activities has not yet begun, making the current completion rate 31 per cent.

OUTPUT 2: PAPE: Planning, monitoring, and resource mobilization and evaluation by UNICEF and partners supports achievement of results for most disadvantaged children and women in KIRIBATI.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Progress against this result is reported above under "Planning, monitoring, and resource mobilization and evaluation by UNICEF and partners supports achievement of results for most disadvantaged children and women in Pacific Region".

To further streamline the UNICEF Pacific's results structure and simplify results reporting, this output will be discontinued from 2014 onwards and progress reports will be captured under the multi-country result.

OUTPUT 3 PAPE: Planning, monitoring, and resource mobilization and evaluation by UNICEF and partners supports achievement of results for most disadvantaged children and women in SOLOMON ISLANDS.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Progress against this result is reported above under "Planning, monitoring, and resource mobilization and evaluation by UNICEF and partners supports achievement of results for most disadvantaged children and women in Pacific Region".

To further streamline the UNICEF Pacific's results structure and simplify results reporting, this output will be discontinued from 2014 onwards and progress reports will be captured under the multi-country result.

OUTPUT 4 PAPE: Planning, monitoring, and resource mobilization and evaluation by UNICEF and partners supports achievement of results for most disadvantaged children and women IN VANUATU.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Progress against this Result is reported above under "Planning, monitoring, and resource mobilization and evaluation by UNICEF and partners supports achievement of results for most disadvantaged children and women in Pacific Region".

To further streamline the UNICEF Pacific's results structure and simplify results reporting, this output will be discontinued from 2014 onwards and progress reports will be captured under the multi-country result.

OUTCOME 13 Effective & Efficient Programme Management& Operations Support

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF Pacific carried out several major initiatives in 2014 to improve operations and programme management performance. UNICEF Pacific underwent an internal audit in March 2014, a structural affordability review in May, a re-structuring in operations posts to align with the planned global shift of some functions to a Global Shared Service Centre, and a mid-term review exercise between May and August 2014. This mid-term review paved the way for a revision of the five year multi-country programme management plan (MCPMP 2012-2017).

Emergency preparedness and response is mainstreamed through all programme areas and key results, and UNICEF Pacific contributed to humanitarian action efforts across the region, as presented in other parts of this report. The Office further invested in strengthening staff capacities, particularly those of the office emergency response team, which plays a pivotal role, particularly in absence of a dedicated emergency coordinator.

OUTPUT 1 Cross Sectoral - Fiji Governance & Systems

Analytical Statement of Progress:

To further streamline the UNICEF Pacific's results structure and simplify results reporting, this output will be discontinued from 2014 onwards and progress reports will be captured under the multi-country result.

OUTPUT 2 Cross Sectoral Kiribati - Governance

Analytical Statement of Progress:

To further streamline the UNICEF Pacific's results structure and simplify results reporting, this output will be discontinued from 2014 onwards and progress reports will be captured under the multi-country result.

OUTPUT 3 Cross Sectoral Solomon - Governance

Analytical Statement of Progress:

To further streamline the UNICEF Pacific's results structure and simplify results reporting, this output will be discontinued from 2014 onwards and progress reports will be captured under the multi-country result.

OUTPUT 4 Cross Sectoral Vanuatu - Governance

Analytical Statement of Progress:

To further streamline the UNICEF Pacific's results structure and simplify results reporting, this output will be discontinued from 2014 onwards and progress reports will be captured under the multi-country result.

OUTPUT 5 Cross Sectoral - Emergency Preparedness & Response

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The Pacific is prone to multiple disasters every year and there is a need for coordination of disaster preparedness and response that meets UNICEF Core Commitments for Children and matches efforts and services provided by key humanitarian organisations and government institutions. UNICEF Pacific collaborates with the National Disaster Management Offices in disaster-prone countries and contributes to emergency preparedness and response with UN agencies and other partners through the established Cluster approach, and the Pacific Humanitarian Team, coordinated by UNOCHA. Disaster Risk Reduction (including Emergency Preparedness) and Humanitarian Response are mainstreamed in all programmes and reflected in workplans. Sector related preparedness and response activities are therefore reported in other sections of this report.

In 2014, UNICEF Pacific responded to seven humanitarian situations. Among those, the most significant disasters were Tropical Cyclone Ian in Tonga in February and floods and landslides in SI in April. More than US\$1 million was mobilised from various sources including from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), New Zealand and Japan National Committees, to address immediate needs in health, nutrition, WASH, education and child protection.

UNICEF Pacific used core and other sources of funds, including Emergency thematic funds to support contingency stocks management, facilitate surge deployment of an emergency coordinator to Solomon Islands in response to floods, as well as to train key members of the Office emergency response team.

A full update of the UNICEF web-based early warning and preparedness system was conducted in September for Fiji, Kiribati, SI and Vanuatu in preparation for the South Pacific cyclone season, which runs from November to April. Emergency contingency supplies were procured and positioned in both UNICEF and government warehouses in Fiji, SI and Vanuatu. Assessment of needs and gaps in emergency supplies was carried out and additional supplies were dispatched to complete basic stocks in Vanuatu, and, with logistical support from UNICEF Philippines, to establish stocks in Palau. Discussions are underway towards possible repositioning arrangements in Tonga and Samoa.

Due to financial constraints, the post of emergency coordinator remained vacant from March 2014, and was abolished following the structure affordability review and the revised office structure approved early October 2014. The office has established an Emergency Response Team (PERT) comprising trained and experienced staff from both Programme and Operations, including field based staff. The PERT meets throughout the year, on DRR and preparedness as well as to plan and coordinate response when necessary.

OUTPUT 6 Cross Sectoral - Stewardship of Financial Resources

Analytical Statement of Progress:

To further streamline the UNICEF Pacific's results structure and simplify results reporting, this output will be discontinued from 2014 onwards and progress reports will be captured under the multi-country result.

OUTPUT 7 Cross Sectoral Human Capacity

Analytical Statement of Progress:

To further streamline the UNICEF Pacific's results structure and simplify results reporting, this output will be discontinued from 2014 onwards and progress reports will be captured under the multi-country result.

OUTPUT 9 Enhanced capacity of the Field Offices in Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Country Office in Fiji in programme implementation and monitoring

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Please refer to the efficiency and management related sections of this report

OUTPUT 10 Staff Support

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Please refer to the Human resources section of this report.

Document Center

Evaluation

Title	Sequence Number	Type of Report
Case Study on Narrowing the Gaps in Birth Registration	2014/001	Study
Report on the Midterm Review of the UNICEF Pacific Multi-Country Programme 2013-2017	2014/009	Study

Vanuatu: Tracking Progress in Maternal and Child Survival: A Case Study Report, 2014	2014/008	Study
Kiribati: Tracking Progress in Maternal and Child Survival: A Case Study Report, 2013	2014/007	Study
Federated States of Micronesia: Tracking Progress in Maternal and Child Survival: A Case Study Report, 2013	2014/006	Study
Fiji: Tracking Progress in Maternal and Child Survival: A Case Study Report, 2013	2014/005	Study
Child Protection Baseline Report for the Federated States of Micronesia	2014/004	Survey
Child Protection Baseline Report for Samoa	2014/003	Survey
Case Study on Narrowing the Gaps in Birth Registration: Born Identity Project Solomon Islands Report	2014/002	Study

Other Publication

Title
S4D – OFC President’s Cup - T-shirts
S4D – OFC President’s Cup - Children’s CRC@25 Drawing Book
S4D – OFC President’s Cup - Training Bibs
S4D – OFC President’s Cup - Eco Friendly Bag
S4D – OFC President’s Cup - CRC@25 Banner
S4D – OFC President’s Cup - Just Play Sports Day Banner
S4D – Sports Day Flag
S4D – OFC President’s Cup - Just Play Sports Day Flag
S4D – UNICEF S4D Display Pull up Banners
S4D – Just Play Programme Summary and Brief
CRC Banners
UNICEF Pacific Pocket Folders
UNICEF Pacific Pocket Folders
UNICEF Pacific Banner Stands
Looking Back Moving Forward 2013/2014: a snapshot of UNICEF’s work for Pacific Island Children
2015 Desk Top Calendar
Education Posters (1, 2 and 3)
ANC Counselling Books
Community Health Workers Booklet
Solomon Islands Baby books for Boy and Girl
Pacific Guidelines for the Development of National Quality Frameworks for ECCE Folder–Programming for ages 3-5
Kiribati Translation Teachers Code of Ethics

Lessons Learned

Document Type/Category	Title
Innovation	WASH sector monitoring using Akvo FLOW smartphone application