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Update on the context and situation of children

1. Update on the context and situation of children

In 2019, the last year of the current Cooperation Program, efforts were directed to address educational exclusion, maternal and neonatal mortality and perceptions that legitimize violence, and to promote interventions in early childhood and adolescent development. UNICEF played a key role in strengthening the Government's commitment to early childhood, including the design of the Social Protection System (VAMOS) launched in 2019 with a priority focus on children. However, the great challenge of strengthening and scaling up actions to reduce disparities and to reach indigenous populations, rural areas and children with disabilities persists and will be given greater attention in 2020.

Paraguay is a young country, with a population estimated in 2019 of 7.1 million. In 2018, according to the General Directorate of Statistics, Surveys and Censuses (DGEEC), more than 50% of the population was under 30 years old: 35% were children and adolescents (0-17 years); and 27 % young people (15-29 years). The 19 indigenous groups represent 1.7 % of the population and are concentrated in the rural area (92.7%).

The country has made significant economic and social advances over the past two decades. The economy grew by an average of 6% in the 2013-2017 period, and in 2018 the country reached a high human development index (0.702). Total poverty has decreased considerably and by 2018 stood at 26.4% (36.22% in rural areas). However, in 2019 economic growth decreased to 1.5 %, largely due to the weak performance of its main trading partners, in addition to other factors such as floods and droughts that caused significant damage to public infrastructure (schools, roads, health centers) and agricultural activities. These aspects affected the availability of resources for children and generated greater vulnerability in low-income families and communities.

Although Paraguay has not been affected by the migratory crises in the region, there are preliminary data on the arrival of families from Venezuela. Likewise, recurrent emergencies and climate change situate Paraguay as a medium risk country. Vulnerability is high due to poverty conditions, low risk perception and limited institutional and infrastructure capabilities. During 2019, floods caused considerable damage and losses including 380 schools and the displacement of 45,000 families. Droughts and forest fires mainly affected Chaco, where 240,000 hectares were razed by fire, leading to the declaration of an environmental emergency.

The country also faced a political crisis at the executive level that affected State institutions, while public investment remained limited due to the high burden of wages and social benefits that constrains resources for social investment. Conversely, UNICEF leveraged significant domestic financial resources and partnerships, especially with the private sector on early childhood development.

Despite achievements and advances in maternal, child, and neonatal health, there are significant gaps that impact the poorest and indigenous populations, and those living in rural areas. Maternal mortality decreased from 162/100,000 in the year 2000 to 70.8/100,000 in 2018, and neonatal mortality from 10.9/1000 in 2000 to 9.4/1000 in 2018. By 2018, global malnutrition affected 4.4% of children under five years of age (9.9% in the indigenous population) and chronic malnutrition 12.1% (41.7% in indigenous population), with greater concentration in rural areas. Only half of newborns in 2018 started breastfeeding in the first hour of life and only 31.3% of children under 6 months received exclusive breastfeeding. By 2017 16% of children under 1 year old had no birth registration (42.4% of them in indigenous populations).

In water and sanitation, by 2018 about 85% of households have access to treated water sources and 63% to the water network; 79% have improved sanitation infrastructure and only 11% have sanitary sewer systems. The water and sanitation deficit mainly affect the periurban and rural marginal areas, populations living in poverty, dispersed communities, settlements and indigenous populations.

In education, problems concerning quality and coverage led to the government's decision to launch the initiative for the transformation of the education system. In 2019, only 51.6% of children attended preschool, with greater inequity by area of residence: 67% of children in urban areas with access to preschool education versus 33 % in rural areas. Educational exclusion remains a challenge as approximately 153,000 children and adolescents are outside the educational system. Only 41% of those enrolled in primary level complete secondary level and completion rates for upper secondary is 65.5% in urban areas (only 19.6% in rural areas). Over one third of students are at the lower proficiency level in the national learning assessments. School dropout is one of the factors that contributes to the persistent problem of child labor. 26.4% of children and adolescents aged 5 to 17 (around 460,000) work mainly due to the lack of employment for adults, extreme poverty and cultural factors.

Violence against children is a challenge for the country. The Public Prosecutor's Office recorded in 2018, more than 5000

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cases due to punishable crimes against children and adolescents (i.e. violence, child and sexual). About 51% of the cases recorded by the Public Prosecutor concerned sexual abuse (25 % mistreatment, 13% abuse, and 10% child pornography). Sexual violence mostly affects girls and adolescents, with teenage pregnancy and adolescent mothers being one of its consequences. Data from UNFPA (2019) states that Paraguay holds the highest adolescent fertility rate in the subregion: 72 births per 1000 women aged 15-19 years. 5% of female adolescents aged 15-19 living in poverty have had a least one child before age 15, the percentage doubles in indigenous adolescents.

For the preparation of the 2020-2024 Cooperation Program, in addition to the situation analysis of children, UNICEF held consultations with stakeholders and partners from government, civil society, the private sector, and with children, adolescents and women from vulnerable groups, to ensure alignment with the SDGs and the National Development Plan 2030 and to hear the voices of the most excluded populations. Together with Government and agencies of the United Nations System, the 2020-2024 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) was developed, which will facilitate articulation and coordination of actions with other agencies of the system.

Major contributions and drivers of results

2. Major contributions and drivers of results

In 2019, the last year of the current Cooperation Program, efforts were aimed at consolidating key initiatives prioritized at the start of the Country Programme and to create enabling conditions for the development and implementation of the 2020-2024 program. Programme activities were aligned with the UNDAF (United Nations Development Assistance Framework) and to four results related to health, social vulnerability, social protection and violence and discrimination.

PROGRAM AREA 1 - Every child survives and thrives

In 2019, drawing on the achievements of previous years of cooperation, UNICEF strengthened the capacities of the Ministry of Health (MSyBS) and health providers to respond to the problems associated with maternal and child health, including nutrition and the emergence of the Zika virus in the country.

Due to an increase in maternal deaths in the first quarter of the year, the MSyBS, with the support of UNICEF, UNFPA and PAHO, implemented an accelerated plan to reduce maternal, fetal and neonatal mortality focused on four regions of the country, which included the strengthening of the surveillance system and the qualified and timely care of obstetric and neonatal emergencies. With UNICEF's technical support, the Neonatal Alliance and National Mobilization for the Reduction of Maternal and Neonatal Mortality was reactivated to promote key interventions, in coordination with other international organizations (i.e. the Pan American Health Organization), scientific societies (i.e. the Paraguayan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology), universities (i.e. Universidad Iberoamericana) and related institutions. This effort contributed to containing the increase in mortality. By the end of 2019 the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) was 72.3, very close to the 70.8 MMR reported in previous years.

As part of its support for programme excellence at scale, UNICEF implemented the Family-centered and Safe Maternity (MSCF) model, in partnership with the Binational ITAIPU (Paraguay/Brazil hydroelectric dam) and the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MSyBS), aimed at improving the care of pregnancy and childbirth, reducing obstetric violence, increasing male participation in prenatal care and childbirth, promoting respect for the rights of mothers, newborns and health personnel, and strengthening community participation through the Family Health Units (USF). UNICEF supported actions focused on 16 districts, which benefitted some 659,761 people through the strengthening of competencies and capacities of 805 officials to provide quality of care for pregnant women, mothers, newborns and their families in 20 USFs in the San Pedro and Concepción departments, and through the installation of 8 maternal shelters in Alto Paraná and Canindeyú that improved access to timely health care for more than 1,500 women and their newborns.

UNICEF strengthened the responsiveness of health care providers to the complications associated with the Zika virus, through the design and implementation of a model of care and support for children with disabilities and their families. The capacities of health personnel were strengthened with an emphasis on primary care, and social actors such as teachers and local governments were involved in a comprehensive response with 19 support networks to provide care for 58 children with disabilities and their families. Supported provided to families also included training on stimulation and training kits, based on the WHO/UNICEF Nurturing Care Framework for the comprehensive care of children with disabilities. Knowledge about the prevention of Zika, birth defects and timely stimulation and child development care was improved through 522 education professionals who provide services to nearly 10500 children. The implementation of the directory of services available for child development and monitoring of children with condition of risk or disability will facilitate better coordination of a multi-sectoral response for children with disabilities.

The rate of exclusive breastfeeding in Paraguay is one of the lowest in the region (31.3% in the first 6 months). To

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contribute to the reversal of this situation, UNICEF concentrated advocacy efforts on the positioning of breastfeeding, through the certification of health services as Mother-and-Baby Friendly Hospitals (IHAMN), the development of nutrition educational materials for primary care providers, community outreach to 667 families together with the National Institute for Nutrition (INAN), and through awareness workshops in partnership with the private sector that led to the opening of more 30 nursery rooms that will benefit at least 900 families. Progress was made with the INAN in the prevention of obesity in school children through the development of the Dietary Guidelines for Pupils and Adolescents, which promote adequate and healthy eating. This initiative will eventually reach about 1,400,000 children and adolescents throughout the country.

PROGRAM AREA 2 - All children learn

UNICEF's efforts in this component focused on consolidating the achievements made in early childhood, inclusive education and the participation of children and adolescents to help guarantee their rights to quality and inclusive education.

UNICEF provided technical support to the Ministry of Education and Science (MEC) in the ongoing elaboration of the National Plan for Educational Transformation 2030, on issues regarding intercultural education, early childhood and educational inclusion, which are aligned to the SDG 4 and will benefit all children in the country. Advocacy actions facilitated the initiation of the development of an intercultural bilingual curriculum with emphasis on vulnerable populations, actions that will be continued in the next Cooperation Program.

In collaboration with "Together for Education", a private sector coalition, and the Citizen Educational Observatory (supported by European Union and nine CSOs), UNICEF supported the development of a study of public education funding as a critical action for the development and improvement of the education system. The study, consistent with UNICEF's focus on using the power of evidence to drive change for children, estimated that the country needs to invest about 9.8% of GDP to cover the deficit accumulated over the past decades and to guarantee access to an equitable and inclusive education for all children and adolescents.

To promote greater opportunities for access to quality and inclusive education, UNICEF supported the production of video stories and the design of a prototype of the first accessible text DUA ("Universal Design for Learning", in Spanish) based on the "Leo, Pienso y Aprendo" (I read, I think, and I Learn) component of the national literacy strategy. Developed in conjunction with the MEC and SENADIS (National Disability Secretariat), and validated in 4 locations, this prototype, one of the CO's innovation in programming and advocacy for children, facilitates the learning of children with visual, auditory, intellectual, motor and psychosocial disabilities and includes the Guarani language, taking steps towards compliance with the Marrakech Treaty -ratified in 2017- and with the Inclusive Education Law.

UNICEF and other strategic partners (i.e. World Bank, the European Union and the UNICEF Business Advisory Council), provided technical assistance and implemented advocacy and public communication action to promote the importance of investing in early childhood. This advocacy contributed to the government's decision to launch a National Early Childhood Initiative in 2020. In addition, following advocacy and engagement with the Technical Unit of the Social Cabinet (UTGS), government authorities agreed to implement the VAMOS Social Protection System with early childhood as a central axis of its social protection policy. Similarly, in collaboration with the Business Advisory Council, UNICEF launched the Business Initiative for Early Child Development, which will leverage the reach of the private sector to employees, customers and communities of influence to promote early stimulation, exclusive breastfeeding and affection.

In 2019, prior efforts in the implementation of the Care for Child Development package (CCD) were consolidated. The CCD aims to strengthen the capacities of service providers who work with families to enable environment for affectionate and child-sensitive parenting. As part of the communication strategy "Toys for Lifelong Learning", families with children with disabilities were trained in positive parenting practices and stimulation. Awareness workshops and training were conducted for 175 parents and caregivers, 120 local community leaders and 32 Early Care Services (SAT) educators, all of which are reaching and engaging thousands of families and children.

UNICEF also led the positioning of bilingual multicultural education in the design of the educational transformation strategy 2030. UNICEF supported the development of a bilingual multicultural curriculum, which encourages instruction in the mother tongue and will continue into 2020. Additionally, in line with UNICEF's gender responsive programming, the Paraguay CO supported strengthening of leadership skills of indigenous women and adolescent girls. 19 indigenous female leaders benefitted from training and skills development that have allowed them to position in the public sphere key problems indigenous children face and to actively promote public dialogue about the need for urgent solutions.

The country's vulnerability to emergencies was evidenced by the floods registered in several regions, which affected over 49,000 families and school infrastructure particularly in indigenous communities. UNICEF supported the MEC in an intersectoral response strategy to keep affected children in school. Ten mobile classrooms were provided, which allowed the safety and learning conditions for 340 children in the affected communities (5 of them in indigenous communities) and this

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way finish the school year. This experience highlighted the need to strengthen the development-humanitarian continuum in the next country programme.

PROGRAM AREA 3 - All children are protected against violence and exploitation.

Efforts in this area prioritized greater access to services and protection from violence, abuse and exploitation, including domestic violence. UNICEF supported the Ministry of Children and Adolescents (MINNA) in the reengineering of the ABRAZO program, which included a review of the protection interventions directed to vulnerable families and to children who live in the streets. This effort helped increase coverage from 10773 children attended in 2018 to 11600 in 2019.

UNICEF provided technical support to the MINNA, to the National Adoption Center, and to the Parliamentary Front for Children, in the revision of the law for the "Promotion and Protection of the Right to Live in Family", which governs alternative care and the adoption of children and adolescents. The law was approved by Congress and will strengthen the child protection system, including improvements such as the time reduction in the adoption process. Duration of the adoption process is expected to change from a range of 4-8 years currently, to 6-9 months. It will also have an immediate impact on the lives of more than 1100 children and adolescents who are in the system waiting for a family.

With regards to the country's commitment known as "Paraguay: Pioneer Country and End of Violence", UNICEF in collaboration with MINNA, the Christian Children's Fund of Canada (CCFC) and SOS Children's Villages International, supported the elaboration of its National Action Plan which includes a roadmap for strategic interventions to prevent and address violence against children. Plan International, CCFC, SOS Children's Villages International, the MINNA, and UNICEF launched a communication campaign to address the normalization of sexual abuse and to promote reporting of cases. This effort contributed to raising the level of citizen awareness about child abuse and to an increase in reported cases, which went from 2,608 in 2018 to 2,671 by October 2019. Through the alliance with the telecommunications company, MILLICOM and its local subsidiary Tigo, a pilot experience to develop adolescents' skills to prevent violence in social media networks was implemented in four schools, a model that will be scaled up in 13 locations in 2020.

UNICEF implemented an integrated model of programs and services for child protection, with a focus in municipalities and on the articulation with the health and social protection systems. This included skills development in positive parenting of members of the National Child Protection System in two regions of the country. More than 250 health, education and municipal officials developed skills to promote positive parenting in their institutions and communities and are gradually reaching thousands of families and children. UNICEF leveraged the power of the private sector to provide support in the establishment of the Municipal Center for Comprehensive Early Childhood Care in Asuncion, which articulates actions of the Municipality and the MINNA by offering health services, food and non-formal education, and psychosocial support to children who live around one of the most populous markets in the city. Approximately 80 children and members of their families benefit daily from a safe space and comprehensive social services.

Various actions to promote adolescent civic engagement and participation were implemented as part of the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. This initiative, aligned with UNICEF's emphasis on winning support for the cause of children, included co-creation of communication campaigns and the promotion of children and adolescents' view of reality through photographic records that described their daily experience and own vision of children's rights. Together with "DEQUENI", 300 adolescents participated in life skills workshops for the prevention of violence with emphasis on school bullying and sexual abuse; actions incorporated art and play as tools to facilitate learning about topics such as the right to participation, safe mobility and inclusion of people with disabilities.

In response to the emergency caused by heavy rains and floods in 2019, with the support from the Paraguayan Red Cross and in collaboration with MINNA, UNICEF provided psychosocial assistance to children and adolescents with emphasis on resilience. Support was provided to teachers from affected schools to implement a return to school strategy, and to developing educational materials for improved prevention and response to future emergencies. Due to its success, the strategy was replicated in four shelters located in Asunción and in the educational institutions of the surrounding areas, benefiting more than 800 children and adolescents and their respective families.

PROGRAM AREA 4 - All children live in a safe and clean environment

In efforts to contribute to the SDG 6, UNICEF supported the socialization process of the National Water and Sanitation Plan, and the definition of a work plan with the General Directorate of Statistics (DGEEC) and the Directorate for Potable Water and Sanitation (DAPSAN). In partnership with the World Bank and the Ministry of Public Works, UNICEF conducted a study on public investment in water and sanitation at municipal level. UNICEF also supported the development of a communication plan to improve DAPSAN's communication and engagement with citizens.

UNICEF supported the Inter-institutional Committee for Coordination of the Potable Water and Sanitation Sector (CICOSAPS), which led to the inclusion of the MEC in the Committee. This is a key step to achieve greater coordination

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between State organizations and international cooperation to improve access to water and sanitation in schools. Technical assistance from UNICEF and other partners facilitated the reactivation of the coordination working group of Chaco (MIAS CHACO), which includes CSO representatives, the definition of the content of the national hygiene kit, and the production and application of the WASH rapid assessment tool for health services and communities. The last two actions have provided strategic inputs to UNICEF's support to communities affected by flood emergencies. UNICEF also signed cooperation agreements with four municipalities of Chaco Central to develop water and sanitation projects. Approximately 1540 children in rural and indigenous communities in 22 schools in Chaco benefited from practical training on hygiene practices, an activity coordinated with municipal authorities, SENASA and the MSyBS regional management.

To promote safe school environments, UNICEF reinforced the capacities of 30 municipal officials in road safety education. Nearly 2,500 children and adolescents participated in activities in public areas and an estimated 4,000 drivers and pedestrians were engaged through awareness messages about the right of children to safe mobility. With the assistance of UNICEF NY and through a road safety project that UNICEF also implements in the Philippines and South Africa, the Paraguay CO promoted the creation of safer urban and school environments and strengthened the capacities of professionals from 21 institutions and State agencies for urban planning with a focus on child-friendly environments. The training study program on "urban planning and sustainable transport" was transferred to the Ministry of Urban Planning, Housing and Habitat, which has established that construction projects incorporate concepts of urban planning sensitive to children. Together with the National Traffic and Traffic Safety Agency and the MEC, UNICEF strengthened the capacity of 100 teachers to address road safety issues in early education.

At community level, UNICEF engaged volunteers to work in areas that affect children. Volunteers, adolescents and young people between 13 and 30 years old were trained in human rights, water and sanitation, and road safety, and participated in the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In coordination with the Communications and Protection areas, UNICEF implemented actions with volunteers as protagonists of change. Volunteers facilitated play and learning in shelters, indigenous communities and schools. Currently, over 1370 volunteers in different institutions are engaged in promoting citizen participation and in advocacy for children's rights.

PROGRAM AREA 5 - Every child has an equal opportunity in life

As part of the SDGs commitment to providing an equal opportunity to children, UNICEF's advocacy efforts to promote greater investments in early childhood contributed to the positioning of this issue as a national priority and influenced the design of the Social Protection System (VAMOS). Launched in 2019 by the government through the Technical Unit of the Social Cabinet and the Management Unit of the Presidency of the Republic, VAMOS seeks to ensure access to social benefits through a comprehensive lifecycle approach that will prioritize young children as one of the target populations. As part of this initiative, UNICEF, together with the ILO, initiated a joint project funded by the European Union to support the implementation of VAMOS with an emphasis on the creation of fiscal spaces for early childhood investment and the implementation of early childhood development interventions in prioritized municipalities.

In line with UNICEF's Global Gender Action Plan, program activities with a focus on gender as a cross-sectoral component was strengthened, especially through the promotion of the participation of men in caring for pregnancy, childbirth and the care of the newborn baby. Through the "Toys for life" initiative, participation of fathers in the care for children was heavily promoted. At the Indigenous Women's Forum supported by UNICEF, emphasis was placed on participation of adolescent girls and promotion of leadership opportunities for them. Likewise, protection and education actions aimed at adolescents included the analysis of gender roles and the promotion of more equitable relationships.

Lessons Learned and Innovations

3. Lessons Learned and Innovations

The implementation of programme activities in 2019 provided key lessons learned and helped identify limitations which will guide the implementation of the 2020-2024 cooperation program.

- A key lesson was the need to complement the successful focus on policy advocacy thus far with a more robust presence in prioritized municipalities. This will facilitate the implementation of cross-sectoral demonstration projects, greater efficiency in resource allocation and evidence for replication and scale up of key interventions. This dual approach will be an important component of the 2020-2024 cooperation programme.

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- Collaboration with the UNICEF's Business Advisory Council corroborated the growing interest of the private sector in addressing issues that affect children. UNICEF and the Council launched in 2019 the Business Initiative for Early Childhood Development, to be rolled out in 2020. This is a unique opportunity to leverage the private sector value chain to increase the number of children and families that benefit from these interventions.
- The systematization of the Family-centered and Safe Maternity (MSCF) model demonstrated the need for better articulation at the first level of care with community engagement to ensure sustainable changes in norms and behavior for prevention, adequate home care and timely care seeking. This will guide technical support to the MSyBS to strengthen primary health care in 2020.
- The ongoing articulation of the health and education components in the country programme facilitated the development of integrated strategies for children with disabilities, increasing and improving stimulation and development services, creating community care networks and positioning disability issues. These learnings will be key to the new Cooperation Program's intersectoral focus.
- Greater engagement with civil society was key in advocacy efforts for public policies (i.e. the Adoption Law, Health and Education components). In 2020, national policy advocacy and improvement of government capacities must be complemented by strengthening civil society as a key partner for children's rights.
- Improving the wellbeing of adolescents remains a challenge for the country and UNICEF. Actions to strengthen and expand programs for the integral development of adolescents, including citizen participation, violence prevention, gender equity and employability, are critical and represent a strategic opportunity for technical cooperation, which will be emphasized in 2020.
- In communication and advocacy, the use of social networks to promote key messages played an important role, including sustained growth of social media followers and website visits. Strengthening of these platforms will remain vital to promote children's rights and will be complemented by participatory platforms such as U-report and other communication for development actions in 2020, and to strengthen resource mobilization efforts.

Limitations faced in 2019 also should be considered for the new Cooperation Program starting in 2020.

Despite significant progress in social areas, challenges persist in the development and implementation of public policies that effectively reach the most excluded populations, especially in rural areas. Although the country has substantive legal frameworks, well-developed policies and programs, and a well-conceptualized National Child Protection System, gaps persist in their operationalization and local reach, especially in the articulation of social services. This is compounded by entrenched cultural practices and norms that impact children's well-being (i.e. widely accepted use of violence as a form of discipline; unequal gender roles).

Leadership changes in public institutions, government's limited capacity in logistics and infrastructure and UNICEF's engagement in emergency response impacted the pace of implementation and achievement of certain results. One example is the emergencies caused by heavy floods and by forest fires, which required reorientation resources to support the country's response to protect families. In 2020 efforts will be intensified to strengthen the CO's capacity to respond to emergencies, with an emphasis on preparedness and prevention (including leveraging the emergency and preparedness platform).

Generation of and access to reliable and timely data and evidence for decision-making continues to be a challenge, particularly on children's issues. UNICEF's advocacy contributed to reinvigorate the government's interest in the measurement of issues such as child poverty. External technical assistance will be key to strengthening institutional capacities in this area in 2020.

In 2019 UNICEF implemented several innovations, some of which will carry forward in 2020. UNICEF will strengthen its focus on innovation including the implementation of Innovation Labs in coordination with the UNDP:

- The **prototype of accessible text in DUA**: As part of a global initiative, UNICEF implemented the first experience to produce inclusive texts in the country, in collaboration with technicians from MEC, the SENADIS and the Planning Technical Secretariat (STP). The prototype facilitates the learning of children with visual, auditory, intellectual, motor and psychosocial disabilities, including in Guarani language, taking steps towards compliance with the Marrakesh Treaty ratified in 2017, and the Inclusive Education Law. This process has been recognized for its potential and technical quality and could be expanded through a potential partnership with Google.
- Inclusive toys for lifelong learning and stimulation: Stimulation games incorporated a multisensory kit for children with disabilities. This approach strengthened early childhood actions and reinforced the capabilities of service-provision institutions and community agents. In 2019, one of the components of this initiative received a silver prize at the Tatakua Awards (the country's main creativity contest), in the category of "public welfare campaigns".
- Technology for prevention of online violence: The initiative 'Children and Adolescent, Digital Citizenship and Protection Mechanisms in Situations of Violence', focused on adolescent-led online engagement for violence prevention, was piloted in local schools with the support of MILLICOM and its local affiliate Tigo. This is a promising

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innovation to be scaled up in 2020 that has enabled the use of adolescent language to the traditional prevention methods and generated a greater motivation and appropriation of content by adolescents.

In 2020, strategic alliances will be strengthened to scale up innovative models and interventions, especially with the academic and private sectors and other UN agencies. Initiatives include actions in the health sector to incorporate a training curriculum in early childhood and early stimulation in university education, improvement of access to service availability through an interactive mapping of health care services and innovation labs with UNDP and vulnerable adolescents in local municipalities.