

Philippines

Executive Summary

In 2015, the final year of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the Philippines continued to achieve high economic performance, with 6.1 per cent gross domestic product (GDP) growth, resulting in many important gains for children. However, the incidence and magnitude of poverty remained high and significant inequalities persisted. A high fertility rate and a young population remains a challenge to the access and delivery of basic services, affecting millions of children who are at a critical stage in their physical, mental and social development. The inequities are magnified for key populations such as children living in armed conflict situations, indigenous populations and regions affected by recurring natural hazards. UNICEF, with other UN agencies, supported the Government to launch the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and establish a high level task force to develop context specific indicators to address these challenges.

The second half of 2015 marked the last year of the current Government administration, as the national election will be held in 2016. The period was characterized by institutionalizing the gains of the current administration and a conservative approach to introducing new priorities. The year 2015 saw setbacks to the peacebuilding processes: fighting broke out between the Government and splinter groups of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and insecurity in the region increased. There is high risk that the legislation on the Bansamoro Basic Law will not be passed before the elections, creating uncertainty over how the roadmap to end the armed conflict between the Government and the MILF will move forward. However, there was progress on the UN-MILF Action Plan, with the majority of the benchmarks completed.

In this context, in 2015 UNICEF Philippines worked together with the other UN agencies to prioritize its three-pronged focus; peacebuilding, humanitarian and regular development programming.

Throughout 2015, the Government demonstrated the capacity to lead and coordinate emergency responses. UNICEF continued to provide technical support and supplies for emergency planning and response via the cluster mechanisms, and expand partnerships for resilience. This included the introduction of new resilient cold chain standards that the Government requested to be scaled up to the entire country. UNICEF Philippines also supported the introduction of Resilient Evidence-based Planning and Budgeting. The initiative provided leadership training and coaching for local government officials with the aim to reduce morbidity and mortality during emergencies.

The closure of the UNICEF Tacloban and Zamboanga zone offices (established during the 2013 emergencies), and transition planning with the multiple partnerships, were important milestones to integrate humanitarian and regular programming. UNICEF undertook a comprehensive process to document the process and lessons learned.

With 30 per cent children under age five stunted, nutrition remained a high priority and in 2015 UNICEF facilitated the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) initiative by working with other UN agencies

(World Food Programme/WFP, Food and Agriculture Organisation/FAO, International Labour Organisation/ILO, and World Health Organisation/WHO) and Government partners. This resulted in the national Government prioritizing investment for improving nutrition, evidenced by developing a costed 'Early Childhood Care Development Package for 1,000 Days'. The linkages between nutrition and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) were strengthened through briefings conducted in Congress and the Senate. UNICEF continued to model the Phased Approach to Total Sanitation (PhATS), to achieve open defecation-free status. Working through municipal governments and community-service organisations (CSOs), over one million people are now living in 'open defecation-free' communities.

The Joint Programme Maternal and Neonatal Health and Nutrition partners – United Nations Population Fund/UNFPA, WHO and UNICEF - achieved convergence in modelling a Service Delivery Network to inform upstream work in maternal and newborn care.

UNICEF hosted a visit by the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth to conflict-affected Zamboanga where he witnessed the comprehensive adolescent response in transitory sites ahead of the finalization of the Amman Youth Declaration on Youth, Peace and Security. UNICEF partnered with the Government to design and implement the National Baseline Survey on Violence Against Children (NBS-VAC). UNICEF's global and regional partners provided support to ensure that the Philippine study would be comparable and relevant to other ongoing violence against children (VAC) research. Data gathered will inform and drive a planned advocacy and communication campaign for 2016 and beyond.

New partnerships were forged in 2015 to tackle Child Online Protection. Global attention to the increasing risk/threats that children face from online abuse and exploitation focused on the Philippines as a country of concern. Lack of information on the issue has limited efforts to prevent and respond to online abuse; and plans for a National Study on Child Online Protection were thus established in 2015 through a contract with the National Institute of Health.

UNICEF supported the revision of the national School Improvement Plan to improve evidence-based planning processes with Local Government Units. The initiative helps schools identify disadvantaged and out-of-school children and those transitioning to elementary schools.

Humanitarian Assistance

The Philippines is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. In addition to the protracted armed conflict in Mindanao in the south, the country is vulnerable to recurrent typhoons, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, flooding and landslides. 2015 was affected by the El Niño phenomenon, which threatened food security, sustainable agriculture and the provision of clean drinking water. Much of Mindanao remained unstable throughout the year, with more than 360,000 people displaced between January and October as a result of fighting driven by insurgency, clan feuds, and the aftermath of the 2013 siege in Zamboanga City.

In 2015, UNICEF responded to 10 humanitarian situations, including three hydro-meteorological, one geophysical, five conflicts and one seasonal water shortage. It also delivered on its ongoing commitment to the recovery effort following Typhoon Haiyan and the Zamboanga siege (both in 2013).

Humanitarian programming focused on strengthening preparedness to respond to hazards and mitigate their impact, with UNICEF participating actively in the 12 Government-led humanitarian clusters. UNICEF humanitarian programming prioritized the integration of disaster risk

reduction, resilience-building and system strengthening. UNICEF pre-positioned supplies and supported the Government on child-focused hazard mapping, preparedness activities and contingency planning. UNICEF also engaged the parties involved in the Mindanao conflict with Action Plans to prevent the recruitment and use of children in the armed insurgency.

Key humanitarian assistance results delivered in 2015 included the following.

- Emergency responses ensured 25,000 people benefitted from the distribution of water and hygiene kits, and over 11,000 people were provided with safe water through the installation of bladders, preventing the outbreak of water-borne diseases, and sex-segregated latrines and bathing cubicles. On-going support to populations affected by emergencies in 2013 ensured 115,000 people benefitted from repaired or expanded water supply systems, with 22,000 people provided with safe sanitation through the repair of latrines and bathing cubicles. Community-led sanitation and hygiene promotion reached over 849,000 people enabling 645 typhoon-affected barangays (villages) to become 'open defecation-free'.
- A total of 52,047 children (aged 6-59 months) were screened for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) in the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) and Zamboanga; of whom 965 with SAM admitted into the programme and 420 discharged as recovered. Peer counselling groups in Zamboanga City and Mindanao were supported to improve sustainability of Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) interventions.
- UNICEF played a key role in strengthening Department of Health (DOH) immunization services by finalizing the restoration of the vaccine cold chain in Haiyan-affected areas; as well as supporting maternal, newborn and child health in Central Mindanao and Zamboanga, the development of both a Nutrition Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan and 50 LGU evidence-based health emergency preparedness, response, and rehabilitation plans (HEPRRP) in Haiyan-affected areas.
- A sharpened focus was placed on adolescent development and participation, particularly in child protection and health. A technical guidance note on adolescent inclusion in humanitarian response was prepared based on the emergencies experienced in 2013 and 2014. This technical guidance and accompanying e-document include strategy examples, case studies and promising programmes, as well as links to additional UNICEF resources on adolescent programming.
- Working with local government and civil society organizations, UNICEF provided learning materials and supplies in transitory sites for displaced persons with low school attendance rates in conflict-affected Zamboanga City, and advocated for the reconstruction of damaged classrooms to allow schooling to continue and provide safe learning environment for children. UNICEF also supported 7,684 children of day care centre and elementary school age whose access to education was disrupted by fighting in Central and Eastern Mindanao to access temporary learning spaces and return to learning.
- UNICEF provided direct support to violence prevention and response activities in areas affected by conflict and the impact of natural disasters. This has included the regular monitoring and response to Grave Child Rights Violations, with a focus on Central, Eastern and Western Mindanao.

- UNICEF, along with the Initiatives for Dialogue and Empowerment through Alternative Legal Services Inc. and UNDP, replaced civil registration documentation, including birth certificates for 116,000 persons (over 50 per cent children) and digitized civil registration documentation. Outreach activities to support civil registration were conducted in 21 target municipalities and Tacloban City.

Finally, UNICEF closed the Tacloban (established during the 2013 Level 3 emergency) and Zamboanga Offices (established during the 2013 siege) in the last quarter of 2015. Transition planning with the multiple partnerships, were important milestones to integrate humanitarian and regular programming. UNICEF undertook a comprehensive process to document the process and lessons learned.

Mid-term Review of the Strategic Plan

The Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the country programme, conducted in March 2015, was an opportunity to further strengthen the alignment of the country programme with global and national strategies and plans. The MTR confirmed that the country programme was consistent with and supportive of the Philippine National Development Plan 2011-2016 and its current revisions. It reflects strong linkages with and is contributing to the objectives of the 2012-2018 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). The MTR found that country programme also demonstrated alignment with global guiding principles, actions toward achievement of the MDGs, the Paris Declaration, and the emerging directions of the Post-2015 development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. The programme was found to be well aligned with the UNICEF Strategic Plan 2014-2017, and a number of certain adjustments were implemented to strengthen this linkage. These included:

- Higher focus on social inclusion through public financing for children as key to achieving social inclusion through transparent, quality and adequate public investments in children and adolescents;
- High-level advocacy and rigorous documentation of scalable practices and municipal models especially related to fiscal flows and leveraging of funds that demonstrate positive changes for children;
- Additionally enhanced emphasis on capacity strengthening for risk reduction, emergency response preparedness, and budgeting in the context of climate change, rapid urbanization and on-going conflicts;
- Special emphasis on Early Childhood Development (ECD) integration into all sectors building on the life cycle approach for achieving a multiplier effect;
- Ensuring that cross-cutting concerns, such as gender equality, resilience, adolescent and indigenous population issues and disability are mainstreamed across all programme sectors;
- Integration of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Emergency Response and Preparedness in all sectoral interventions;
- Strengthening, broadening and integration of Child Protection into the Social Protection agenda of the public sector with special emphasis on prevention;
- Increased engagement in Mindanao with attention to all disadvantaged and vulnerable groups within the context of peacebuilding;
- Continued strengthening of evidence generation and capacity-building for planning through Result-Based Budgeting and Monitoring for Equity and Evaluations;
- Increased focus on HIV prevention, including social mobilization and behaviour change especially for adolescent key populations at higher risk of transmission;

- Addressing social norms through continued strengthening of Communication for Development (C4D) work through all sectoral interventions;
- Innovative resource mobilization from individual, corporate and bi-lateral donors to meet programmatic needs especially in view of reduced Other Resources (OR) in a middle-income country context;
- Recognition and strengthening of civil society partnerships and increased efforts to elicit children's participation across all programmes.

The Management Review of August 2015 involved key programme and operations staff in the development of an action plan to operationalize the MTR. This action plan further strengthened UNICEF Philippines' alignment with the UNICEF 2014-2017 Strategic and was rolled out at regular programme meetings during the fourth quarter of 2015. For each of the priority areas, there was a learning session with staff and a programme guidance note was developed.

These programme discussions focused on promoting a cross sectoral approach. For Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD), there was an explicit focus on strengthening the alignment with existing initiatives and a task team mapped out the Government's ECCD framework, outlined the contribution of the UNICEF programme and identified the key results of each section to this critical investment for children. For adolescent programmes, the focus was on inclusion both in humanitarian response and regular programming to bring about greater alignment with the UNICEF Strategic Plan. The results for adolescents were integrated within strategic result areas, rather than confining to only one, as was done in 2014. A similar cross-sectoral results matrix was developed in a collaborative way with programme teams to promote the mainstreaming of peacebuilding and DRR into all programmes.

There was an internal assessment of the equity focus of the programme which highlighted the need to prioritize gender, as well as programming for and with indigenous populations and children living with disabilities. The quality assurance review of the Government of the Philippines-UNICEF work plans and Project Cooperation Agreement plans for 2016 provided a further opportunity to support the integration of the agreed priorities.

Summary Notes and Acronyms

ADAP - Adolescent Development and Participation
 AFP – Armed Forces of Philippines
 ALS - Alternative Learning System
 ARMM - Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao
 ASRH - Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health
 BBL - Bangsamoro Basic Law
 BCP – Business Continuity Plan
 BDA - Bangsamoro Development Agency
 BUB - Bottom-up Budgeting
 C4D - Communication for Development
 CCA - Climate Change Adaption
 CCC – Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action
 CCT – Conditional Cash Transfer
 CDC - College of Development Communication
 CDW - Child Development Workers
 CMAM - Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition
 CMT – Country Management Team
 CP - Child Protection

CSO - Civil Society Organization
CTFMR - Country Task Force for Monitoring and Reporting
CWC - Council for the Welfare of Children
DCC - Day Care Centres
DCT - Direct Cash Transfer
DepEd - Department of Education
DILG - Department of Interior and Local Government
DFAT - Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Government of Australia)
DBM - Department of Budget and Management
DOH - Department Of Health
DRR - Disaster Risk Reduction
DRRM - Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
DSWD - Department of Social Welfare and Development
ECCD - Early Childhood Care and Development
ECD - Early Childhood Development
EMT – Emergency Management Team
e-SIP - electronic School Improvement Plan
FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization
GCPAS - Global Communication and Public Advocacy Strategy
GDP - Gross Domestic Product
GEROS - Global Evaluation Reports Oversight System (of UNICEF)
GIF - Governance Indicator Framework
HACT – Harmonised Approach to Cash Transfers
HEPRRP - Health Emergency Preparedness, Response and Rehabilitation Plans
HF - Homeless Families
HIV/AIDS - Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
HPM – Humanitarian Performance Management
HR – Human Resources
HSF - Homeless Street Families
HTC – HIV Testing and Counselling
IB – Institutional Budget
ICT – Information and Communication Technology
ILO - International Labour Organization
IMEP – Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
IYCF – Infant and Young Child Feeding
JPMNCH -
KPI - Key Performance Indicators
LGU - Local Government Unit
LTA – Long-Term Agreement
M&E - Monitoring and Evaluation
MCCT - Modified Conditional Cash Transfer
MDG - Millennium Development Goals
MHCV - Multi-Hazard and Child Vulnerability
MHM - Menstrual Hygiene Management
MHPSS - Mental Health Psychosocial Support
MIC - Middle-Income Country
MILF - Moro Islamic Liberation Front
MOSS - Minimum Operating Security Standards
MRM - Monitoring and Response Mechanism
MRRS - Monitoring, Reporting, Response System

MTMR – Mid-Term Management Review
MTR - Mid-Term Review
NBS-VAC - National Baseline Survey - Violence Against Children
NDRRMF - National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Fund
NER – Net Enrolment Rate
NGO - Non-government organization
NowPh (#NowPh) - Not on Our Watch
NPA - New People’s Army
NYC - National Youth Commission
OOSC - Out Of School Children
OOSC/Y - Out Of School Children/Youth
OR - Other Resources
ORE - Other Resources (Emergency)
OSRSG - Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict
PhATS - Phased Approach to Total Sanitation
PIDS - Philippine Institute of Development Studies
PME – Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
PMTCT – Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV
PSAI - Philippine Statistical Association, Inc.
PSFR - Private Sector and Fundraising
PSS - Psychosocial Support
RASC - Regional out of school children Advocacy and Steering Committee
r-CHITS - Real Time Community Health Tracking System
rEbaP - resilient Evidence-based Planning
REP - Reaching Every Purok
RR - Regular Resources
SAM - Severe Acute Malnutrition
SBM - School-Based Management
SDGs - Sustainable Development Goals
SIP - School Improvement Process
SLR - Systematic Literature Review
SRC - School Report Card
SNP - Supervised Neighbourhood Playgroups
SP - Strategic Plan
SRH - Sexual and Reproductive Health
SUN - Scaling Up Nutrition
T4D - Theatre for Development
TB - Tuberculosis
UN - United Nations
UNDAF - United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNICEF - United Nations Children’s Fund
UNSUN - United Nations Scaling Up Nutrition
VAC - Violence Against Children
WASH - Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP - World Food Programme
WHO - World Health Organization
ZOD - Zero Open Defecation

Capacity Development

Capacity development serves as the backbone of the country programme, aiming to strengthen the national Government's capacity to lead, coordinate and monitor sector developments in support of national priorities, human rights obligations and development strategies. In 2015, UNICEF programme continued to engage a wide range of cross-sectoral partners to facilitate and encourage Government partners to tap into a range of expertise and resources. One specific example is the use of theatre and arts groups for C4D activities (known as Theatre for Development/T4D) in the WASH programme, which stimulates community mobilization and empowerment.

The College of Development Communication (CDC) of the University of the Philippines, Los Baños, provided technical support for health, nutrition and early childhood care communications. The support enabled mayors and local councils to work together across all sectors to analyse issues, identify gaps in their activities and redesign, strengthen and develop relevant activities. As a result, local councils reported improved coordination and teamwork, while allocating increased budgets at the local level.

UNICEF Philippines initiated a pilot programme to bring together different local entities to strengthen the equity focus in ECCD in 36 selected barangays. LGUs, together with Department of Education (DepEd) representatives, service providers (day-care workers, social welfare officers, school teachers, health and nutrition workers and barangay councillors) jointly undertook a mapping exercise for children in their communities. The initial findings led to the identification of gaps in services, such as a lack of day care centres, children with no ECCD experience prior to primary education, as well as at-risk and out-of-school children. Some LGUs planned to accommodate those children through alternative or accelerated services delivery modalities, while discussions continue on how to systematically ensure education services to all children in those communities while sustaining good, harmonized and shared data at local level.

Evidence Generation, Policy Dialogue and Advocacy

During 2015, UNICEF Philippines undertook increased engagement with various committees in Congress and the Senate for:

- The incorporation of the protection of the rights of children in the draft Bangsamoro Basic Law;
- The inclusion of specific child-rights provisions in draft bills for children;
- Removing the requirement in the Bill to amend the HIV/AIDS Law for written parental consent for adolescents aged below 18 to access reproductive health services, including HIV testing for adolescents aged 15-18, and allowing proxy consent for children without parents or legal guardians,
- Enhancing child participation in disaster-risk reduction mechanisms of the local and national Government in the draft Children in Emergencies Bill.

The Government's Conditional Cash Transfer programme reached around 4.4 million families in 2015. UNICEF generated evidence to enable the extension of the programme to homeless street families and indigenous populations.

As part of the '1,000 Days' campaign, the "National Guidelines on the Management of Severe Acute Malnutrition for Children under Five Years" was developed, endorsed and implemented. It integrates SAM services into the routine health care system, and the commitment of US\$3.3 million in 2016 to reach up to 34,000 children.

The National Baseline Survey on VAC and a comprehensive national study on protecting children from online abuse identified challenges to policy and practice, and facilitated the understanding of the complexities facing multiple sectors. Initial findings from the two studies were shared and validated in the 'Ako Para Sa Bata' (I am for the Child) Conference in Cebu in December 2015.

An initial analysis of the four-year longitudinal study of the effects of early childhood care and development on the learning experiences and performances of Kindergarten to Grade 2 pupils revealed mother-tongue issues, school resource inequities and other factors that will inform the continued inter-sectoral implementation of the Early Years Act.

Partnerships

In 2015, the country programme continued to engage a wide range of stakeholders, particularly with local government, local NGOs, academia, and community-based organisations. Specific attention was given to partnerships within the Haiyan Transition Strategy, prioritizing the shift from emergency response to regular development programming and the documentation of lessons learned.

UNICEF partnered with NGO CODE to build the capacity of civil society organizations to participate and monitor the Government-funded projects through the Bottom-up Budgeting (BUB) process; and the successes of LGUs in the child protection response and emergency preparedness were documented.

A strategic partnership and advocacy with Philippine Legislators' Committee on Population and Development Foundation garnered support for the First 1,000 Days Bill from 75 of the 275 legislators. The Bill includes integrated WASH-Nutrition linkages. This resulted in stronger lobbying to extend maternity leave beyond the existing 60 days, and continued protection of the Milk Code in the Philippines.

UNICEF played a key role in facilitating the Bangsamoro Education Transition consultation process led by Tarbiyah-MILF and the Bangsamoro Development Agency (BDA). With the view of making the learning more relevant and culturally sensitive, the Tarbiyah committee (Education committee for MILF) and BDA requested UNICEF's support in facilitating an inclusive consultation process. UNICEF and the Consortium of Bangsamoro Civil Society supported the consultation from the conceptualization stage. Five consultative workshops were held in Mindanao to initiate the discussion around the education sector development, based on the available data and evidence of the sector and international trends for education development, such as quality, equity, 21st century skills). The process brought together non-state and state entities, including Tarbiyah MILF and DepED ARMM, as well as different stakeholders to discuss the core development issues, and facilitated open dialogue based on the situation of Bangsamoro education sector.

External Communication and Public Advocacy

Known as a leading global mobile and social media capital, the Philippines has one of the highest levels of mass media freedom in the world. The vibrant, pluralistic communication climate enjoys strong popular support and an open space for active socio-political discourse.

UNICEF operates in this favourable, yet competitive environment, to advance its external communication and public advocacy agenda, positioning the brand and the organization as a

credible voice for children both in development and humanitarian contexts.

UNICEF led the UN Communication group to support the Government to launch the SDGs at a public event on the occasion the 70th anniversary of the UN. At the event, the Government demonstrated its commitment to the SDGs and their relevance to the Philippine context.

2015 saw high-level policy advocacy with the Speaker of the House of Representatives, with important legislative committees on children and women, and by participation in Congressional hearings.

Public advocacy initiatives were launched on the 'First 1,000 Days' campaign, 'Children not Soldiers' and the Peace Month observance, which focused on minority children in Mindanao. Recovery actions for Super Typhoon Haiyan and UNICEF's support to the Government-led immediate response in subsequent typhoons (Maysak, Koppu, and Melor) received extensive child-centred media coverage. Fundraising events such as the Heroes Run for Children and Auction for Action raised the visibility of UNICEF.

UNICEF's engagement of spokespersons and eminent allies, including National Goodwill Ambassador and Celebrity Advocates, enhanced the broadcast of key messages. The forum on First 1,000 Days in partnership with ABS-CBN News Channel informed the public by substantive discussion involving policy makers, partners and advocates. Digital media expanded reach and engagement.

UNICEF Philippines is systematically moving toward an integrated advocacy plan on Violence against Children, First 1,000 Days and Peacebuilding by adopting a synergistic approach between cross-sectoral areas (Communication and Public Advocacy, C4D and Social Policy, and sectoral programmes) under the guidance of senior management.

South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation

A consultation between Myanmar and the Philippines' UNICEF Child Protection sections shared experiences in the implementation of the Monitoring and Response Mechanism (MRM) on Grave Violations against Children. The consultation harnessed good practices, identified common concerns and challenges at the country level and agreed on common solutions and advocacy messages to be raised at UNICEF headquarters and to the Office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG).

UNICEF Philippines took part in a Global Conference on Theatre for Development in Lusaka, Zambia, presenting a project on T4D for adolescent sexuality in Haiyan-affected areas. The objectives, processes, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework with some preliminary data, issues and challenges, and lessons learned were shared. The conference was an excellent opportunity for country teams to learn from the Philippines experience and share the passion for community transformation through the performing arts, particularly theatre.

In preparing for and implementing the NBS-VAC survey, the Philippines reached out to other countries that have conducted their own surveys in Asia and globally. Examples of VAC advocacy and communication strategies were compiled from Malawi, Kenya, Lao PDR and Cambodia to understand the stages of developing key messages towards ending violence against children, based on analysis of survey data. A communication specialist from the Lao PDR VAC strategy facilitated a meeting with partners to create a multi-sectoral vision for VAC in 2016 in the Philippines.

UNICEF Philippines sent a team of Government and academic partners to Vietnam for a multi-country training on VAC and Social Norms, to understand the drivers of violence through a systematic literature review and how to use this evidence to guide further research, policy, and legislation for social change. Vietnam subsequently requested technical support to guide their own legislative agenda, recognizing good examples in VAC legislation in the Philippines, thus promoting further South-South cooperation.

Identification and Promotion of Innovation

With a consistently positive pace of economic growth in recent years, the UNICEF country programme has focused on providing a mix of high-quality technical and policy-oriented support towards equitable and sustainable national investments for children. Several programmes have embraced a “modelling approach” at district level that transfers experience into a catalytic engagement in upstream policy dialogue with Government and eventually high-level policy formulation and implementation. Examples included:

- Health financing and insurance to leverage resources and ensure that benefits are evidence-informed, child- and equity-focused, and accessible to millions of beneficiaries;
- Several evidence-informed and equity-focused health care benefit packages; such as the Primary Health Care Package, reaching an estimated 34 million beneficiaries and specifically, 11 million children and adolescents;
- A Benefit Package for Premature Newborns, reaching several hundred thousand newborns every year;
- MDG packages including a Maternity Package and a Benefit Package for tuberculosis (TB), malaria and HIV/AIDS;
- An insurance package covering all five million disabled children in the Philippines (to be finalized and endorsed in 2016).

UNICEF Philippines and National Youth Commission involved children and youth in the development of an e-learning and gaming app on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation (CCA) to ensure that learning is fun. The app integrates arcade games as part of the learning process, and rewards users with badges and certificates.

UNICEF developed and piloted a zero open defecation (ZOD) data collection and monitoring system. Five provinces are now using it to report their ZOD status, with Regional Department of Health (DOH) officials able to remotely monitor progress and plan their technical support in response to identified gaps. The system is now being introduced in other regions and the next step is to identify how lessons from this pilot can be integrated into the national WASH data management system being developed by DOH.

Support to Integration and cross-sectoral linkages

For ECCD, effective advocacy and policy dialogue on investing in nutrition resulted in the development and endorsement of a national multi-sectoral plan: the ECCD Package for 1,000 days (total of approximately US\$133,500 for 2016-2018). This investment is aligned with the Philippines’ commitment to SUN.

The education sector adopted the National Early Learning Curriculum for 0 to four year olds. This was consistent with the Government’s effort to harmonize curricula and standards for early years across different agencies concerned. DepED completed the alignment of Kindergarten and Grade 1 curriculum, with the aim of making the learning of lower-grade children more child-

centred, developmentally appropriate and play activity-based. WASH was further integrated in the First 1,000 Days campaign, with briefings conducted for legislators. Highlighted WASH messages included the importance of handwashing with soap and ending open defecation in relation to its effects on stunting and under-nutrition.

UNICEF Philippines used global best-practices to guide the design of local solutions for peace education, adolescent peace advocacy and leadership. Adolescent inclusion in peace-building included:

- Health - adolescent sexual and reproductive health, and pregnancy;
- Child protection safe spaces and psychosocial support (PSS);
- WASH - menstrual hygiene management (MHM);
- Education - life skills education;
- DRR - resilience and preparedness;
- Social policy - inclusive programming for indigenous and tri-people (Mindanao's native indigenous people).

Philippines hosted the UNICEF Global Adolescent Development and Participation (ADAP) network meeting, where the Philippine Four Pillars ADAP framework helped guide the development and agreement for the UNICEF Core Commitments for adolescents, and further defined integration mechanisms. The UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth visited the Philippines for International Youth Day Celebrations. UNICEF hosted his visit to conflict-affected Zamboanga, where the Envoy witnessed the comprehensive adolescent response in transitory sites ahead of the finalization of the Amman Youth Declaration on Youth, Peace and Security.

Service Delivery

Whilst the Philippines is a middle-income country, some regions remain impoverished. Children's access to critical services are comparable to levels found in many Least-Developed Countries, especially in conflict-affected areas of the south, as well as areas populated by marginalized groups such as indigenous populations. Furthermore, some services remain underdeveloped due to weak public investment and awareness, such as HIV and adolescent sexual and reproductive health (ASRH), and nutrition.

HIV/ASRH for adolescents: UNICEF leveraged results from 2014 evidence-based planning and, in preparation for the passage of the AIDS Bill, initiated programme modelling on HIV/ASRH integrated service delivery for adolescents in five demonstration sites, including Mindanao, to provide essential services and generate programme implementation evidence for future scale-up.

Nutrition: UNICEF supported the extension of CMAM to conflict-affected areas of ARMM. In addition to the results described under 'Humanitarian Response', a Regional Nutrition Advocacy Forum was held, leading to a bill on nutrition during the first 1,000 days being submitted to the ARMM Regional Legislative Assembly.

WASH: UNICEF supported modelling of the Phased Approach to Total Sanitation, under the umbrella of the National Sustainable Sanitation Plan. Working through municipal government and CSOs, community-led behaviour change approaches to improve hygiene and sanitation were supported. At the same time, the capacity of duty-bearers – LGUs, schools, Day Care Centres (DCCs) – were strengthened through the provision of technical assistance, including WASH planning processes. A total of 707 villages and eight municipalities were declared ZOD; with a further 38 villages declared ZOD due to LGU investments leveraged by UNICEF.

Non-state actors: UNICEF continued to support the BDA to provide ECCD services in Mindanao through Islamic day care centres, known as 'Tahderiyah'. With support from UNICEF, BDA trained 497 teachers on an integrated Islamic curriculum, oriented 68 teachers on child protection, and supported 656 Tahderiyah to construct handwashing facilities and set up WASH committees. Over 24,000 children accessed ECCD through Tahderiyah.

Human Rights-Based Approach to Cooperation

Using the UNICEF position paper and data from the 2015 Integrated HIV Behavioural and Serologic Surveillance/IHBSS, the Departments of Health and Social Welfare and Development released key policy position papers recognizing the principle of evolving capacities as aligned with article 5 and 12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and in support of the lowering of the age of consent for HIV services from 18 years to 15 years. These papers helped to accelerate the passage of the AIDS Bill through the Senate. UNICEF continues to advocate to facilitate passage of the Senate AIDS Bill No. 148, allowing adolescents aged 15 years and older to access commodities and services without the consent of parent/guardian.

UNICEF remained concerned with threats that indigenous populations children face, particularly grave child rights violations experienced in areas impacted by armed conflict. As such, UNICEF provided regular monitoring and responses to grave child rights violations, with a focus on Central, Eastern and Western Mindanao. The UNICEF MRM team conducted field missions to monitor incidents of killing, abduction, rape and attacks on schools in indigenous population communities. The verified violations were discussed within the Country Task Force for Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR), reported to the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, and shared with the Government-led Monitoring, Reporting and Response System (MRRS) to guarantee appropriate response and prevent further violations. A strategic partnership was established with the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Populations, who published a statement on these violations.

UNICEF provided support to communities affected by Typhoon Haiyan who remain in the relocation sites and for whom Government has not yet found land to relocate them to. Emergency response activities in the education sector provided the opportunity to encourage mutual understanding and co-existence between Badjao and Tausug indigenous population groups in Zamboanga, who have been severely affected by the siege and displacement.

Back-to-learning activities included educational, sports and theatre activities for children to express themselves, project their voices and work with children from other ethnic groups. These enhanced children's mutual understanding, respect and co-existence, and especially helped them to build positive self-esteem.

Gender Mainstreaming and Equality

UNICEF Philippines undertook several gender-focused initiatives in its Typhoon Haiyan recovery including the inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity, and the role of young men in violence prevention in the comprehensive life-skills education. The education sessions became a venue for young adolescents to challenge normative gender stereotypes related to hetero-normative sex education; and included modules on same-sex attraction in the context of HIV prevention; supporting safe spaces for dialogue related to gender dimensions of unplanned pregnancy; HIV and sexually transmitted infections and violence. It engendered better understanding of the multiple dimensions of gender, power and equality to support them in

making healthy gender-informed decisions. Efforts were made to integrate prevention and response initiatives in their respective workplans.

The data collection of the NBS-VAC was completed in 2015. The data is expected to provide a better understanding of the prevalence of all forms of violence against children and an in-depth analysis of the gender-dimensions of violence against boys and girls. Augmenting this effort was a VAC Systematic Literature Review, currently being finalized, which is also anticipated to provide information on key gendered bottlenecks and barriers that drive violence specific to boys and girls. A comprehensive study will also be undertaken on the scope and trends of the online sexual exploitation of Filipino boys and girls. UNICEF Philippines continued to work with key stakeholders on enhancing gender-specific protective measures to mitigate risks and prevent online sexual exploitation and abuse of children.

UNICEF Philippines promoted menstrual hygiene management in schools as an affirmative action for girl empowerment. A MHM booklet, "Growing Up Healthy: Things that girls need to know," was developed as a tool for stimulating awareness and discussion on the challenges girls face in managing menstruation. The booklet was distributed to 100,000 schoolgirls (Grades 4-12) in areas recovering from the Haiyan disaster. MHM was integrated into the comprehensive life-skills training for youth and adolescents.

Environmental Sustainability

UNICEF expanded implementation of the Phased Approach to Total Sanitation, which enables communities to become open defecation-free (Grade 1) and to gradually upgrade sanitation facilities and services for total and sustainable sanitation across the village (Grade 2) and the municipality (Grade 3). Solid and wastewater management were introduced as part of the action plan to move from Grade 2 to Grade 3, with UNICEF providing technical support to Municipal WASH Task Forces to design appropriate facilities and services, and to leverage funding for their construction and management through the adoption of local ordinances. For example, in Tacloban City (affected by Super Typhoon Haiyan), UNICEF co-financed the construction of a low-cost septic management facility and is working with the City authorities to put operation and maintenance capacities in place (the facility will be operational by early 2016). A number of private sector entrepreneurs were provided with technical support to start-up sanitation businesses, including provision of de-sludging services.

UNICEF supported the "#NowPH: One Million Filipino Voices for Climate Action," a youth-led campaign of the National Youth Commission (NYC) and the Climate Change Commission. The campaign gathered more than one million expressions of support and empowered young people in the call for a positive outcome of the 21st Conference of the Parties (known as COP 21) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. #NowPH, which means "Not on Our Watch," was a response to the Manila Call to Action on Climate Change of the President of the Philippines and the President of France, made on 26 February 2015. It raised public consciousness on the science of climate change and on ways to lead a climate-resilient and climate-smart lifestyle. The campaign culminated with a "Greeneration" Youth Summit attended by 800 youth delegates from around the country. The summit also launched "D'Quest," the e-learning and gaming app on disaster risk reduction and climate change developed by UNICEF and the NYC. The highlight of the Youth Summit was the announcement of Presidential Proclamation 1103, which declared 25 November of every year as the "National Day for Youth in Climate Action."

Effective Leadership

The UNICEF Philippines Country Management Team (CMT) met 10 times in 2015 to analyse progress and constraints against Annual Management Plan (AMP) and UNICEF regional benchmarks. The CMT took decisions on issues raised by office committees, including budget allocations and the Harmonised Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) assurance plan.

The MTR of the country programme strengthened alignment with global and national strategies. It prioritized strengthening the capacity to integrate risk reduction and emergency preparedness and response in all programmes.

The closure of the Tacloban and Zamboanga zone offices in 2015 were important milestones. The periodic monitoring and oversight of the process by the CMT were key to the successful closure. Several advocacy events marked the end of UNICEF's emergency interventions. Zone office personnel participated in an all-staff retreat to take stock of achievements and for career planning.

A HACT assurance plan for 146 implementing partners, with an estimated annual fund of over US\$26 million, was developed. The completion rate against the planned assurance activities met or exceeded all key performance indicators:

- 43 of the 38 planned micro-assessments (113 per cent);
- 105 of the 98 planned financial spot checks (107 per cent);
- All of the 20 planned scheduled audits (100 per cent);
- 298 of the 106 planned programmatic visits (281 per cent).

The Emergency Management Team (EMT) convened in response to two significant typhoons; Typhoon Lando (internationally known as "Koppu") and Typhoon Nona (internationally known as "Melor"). Select EMT members participated in national assessment missions to the affected areas.

UNICEF Philippines participated in an internal audit carried out by the UNICEF Office of Internal Audit and Investigation (OIAI), from 14 September to 6 October. The audit assessed the governance, programme management and operations support for the period of January 2014-September 2015. The final audit report was issued on 22 December 2015. The office developed a comprehensive audit action plan to fully address the recommendations.

Financial Resources Management

The total allocation for 2015 with Regular Resources (RR), Other Resources (OR), Other Resources-Emergency (ORE) and Integrated Budget was US\$80 million. By year-end, US\$67.6 million (84 per cent) of the total allocation, was utilized. The un-used balance was related to grants, which are valid beyond 2015 and are part of 2016 work plans. There were 14 grants with a total value of US\$5.4 million that expired, with an average utilization rate of 99.9 per cent.

By year-end, outstanding Direct Cash Transfers (DCT) was US\$7.6 million, of which US\$302,715 (4.1 per cent) was outstanding for longer than nine months. The key performance indicators were monitored on a monthly basis during Programme and Country Management Team meetings. Fund utilization levels were mostly on-track. However, DCT management continued to be a challenge due to several external and internal factors.

The extraordinarily high amounts of DCT as a result of the Haiyan emergency presented some

challenges in the timely reporting and liquidation. This was due to a range of factors including low familiarity of the process in the case of new LGU partners, longer procurement processes also in the case of LGUs, fast turn-over of staff, particularly in CSOs, and in some cases, low absorptive capacity of CSOs and LGUs given the other funding and activities that they had to implement during the emergency recovery period.

During management and workplan reviews, it was agreed as a way forward to minimize DCTs to Government to the extent possible and explore other effective means of extending assistance, such as through technical assistance, using direct payment modality and working more with reliable CSO's. On the part of CSO's, the UNICEF Partnership Review Committee emphasized the importance of realistic assessment of the track-record and absorptive capacity of CSO partners when reviewing and approving new Programme Cooperation Agreements (PCAs).

Fund-raising and Donor Relations

The office submitted 45 donor reports in 2015, of which 26 related to emergency and 19 for the regular programme. All reports went through a quality assurance review by the Deputy Representative and/or Representative prior to final proofreading and editing by the Communication section. Out of the total, 42 reports were submitted on time while three reports were submitted late. To improve timeliness of donor report submission, the office enhanced the observance of internal deadlines, to ensure there was adequate time for quality assurance while keeping donor submission deadlines.

UNICEF maximized the value of its partnerships with the private sector by cultivating integrated alliances that tap the resources of a company's various business units and go beyond fundraising. For example, the partnership with the SM Group of Companies, one of the Philippines' largest conglomerates, is multi-faceted, ranging from corporate philanthropy, advocacy, cause-related marketing, in-kind assistance and sponsorships of events to supply chain monitoring in its supermarkets

The OR ceiling for the country programme is US\$70 million. The office has successfully raised US\$50 million (76 per cent) of the OR ceiling, at the end of the fourth year of the country programme. While the funding level in relation to the five-year ceiling can be considered on-track, it is anticipated that fundraising for OR will become even more challenging in the years to come as traditional donors shift focus due to the country's elevated middle-income status.

The significant amount of carry-over emergency funds provided critical support for on-going preparedness and humanitarian activities, but are expected to finish in 2016. Therefore, UNICEF Philippines has started developing a resource mobilization strategy to ensure adequate and sustainable funding to deliver programme priorities. The development of the strategy and its implementation will be a key focus in 2016.

Evaluation

As part of the evaluation function UNICEF worked with both the Government's National Economic Development Authority and Department of Budget and Management (DBM) to develop a National Evaluation Policy. This policy was approved in mid-2015, and in quarter four of 2015 UNICEF supported a National Monitoring and Evaluation Forum to operationalize the new National Evaluation Policy that included over 100 Government participants.

During 2015 UNICEF Philippines strengthened its management of the Integrated Monitoring and

Evaluation Plan (IMEP), standardizing its review in the CMT meetings. Preparation also began for the 2016 IMEP, with research, studies and evaluations integrated into Government-UNICEF workplans. A specific focus will be placed on strategic evaluations to inform the country programme and the transition to an organization wide e-platform IMEP.

Within UNICEF, two evaluations were completed in 2015, both in the Child Protection sector. These were: 1) the evaluation of Child-Friendly Spaces in Typhoon Haiyan-affected areas (UNICEF Global Evaluation Reports Oversight System/GEROS rating 'Mostly Satisfactory'); and; 2) the evaluation of the intervention and rehabilitation programme in residential and diversion programmes for Children in Conflict with the Law (GEROS rating 'Outstanding, Best Practice'). Timely management responses were developed and monitored through a standard agenda item in the CMT meetings. The Child-Friendly Spaces in Typhoon Haiyan-affected areas evaluation contributed to the dissemination of the National Implementation Guidelines for Child-Friendly Spaces.

They will also input into the development of Government Child Protection Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan for 2016. The intervention and rehabilitation programme in residential and diversion programmes for Children in Conflict with the Law evaluation will be used to support the implementation of the Philippines Juvenile Justice Act, and in the development of an Integrated Care Management Protocol led by the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Council.

Efficiency Gains and Cost Savings

UNICEF continued to participate in inter-agency procurement activities through the issuance of joint Long Term Agreements (LTA). A total of 39 LTAs are currently in place that support UNICEF and other interested UN agencies in securing favourable prices and reducing transaction times for commonly procured goods and services. This includes tents, hygiene kits, warehousing facilities, transport and forwarding services, layout, editing and publication services, hotel accommodations/conference facilities, and HACT assurance and auditing services, amongst others.

The office started the year with nine bank accounts - two disbursement accounts and seven Private Sector and Fundraising (PSFR) or deposit accounts. Maintaining such a large number of bank accounts and relationships exposed the office to potential financial risks and significant costs related to operating them both in terms of bank charges and fees, as well as transaction costs through monthly bank reconciliations and account maintenance. As part of UNICEF's global bank rationalization exercise, the office closed four PSFR accounts due to consistently low levels of proceeds. By mid-2016, the office will close its two local currency disbursement accounts and open an account with one of UNICEF's globally recognized financial institutions.

In 2015, the office reported on its environmental footprint for the first time. The impact from air travel alone, prompted UNICEF Philippines to revisit and reinforce internal controls for travel planning and approval, especially for international travel. With the drawing down of the Haiyan and other emergency operations, the completion of staff and consultant contracts and the subsequent closure of the emergency zone offices, the volume of domestic travel was already trending downward compared to 2014 levels. However, in order to keep the number lower, the office actively promoted a wider use of Skype or teleconferencing for interviews, for meetings and discussions with sub-national partners, and for other internal meetings where face-to-face participation was not required.

Supply Management

The UNICEF Philippines supply function continued to improve in comparison with previous years. Thirty-nine local LTAs for the procurement of goods and services were developed. Through UNICEF's Procurement Services, the office, together with Supply Division, facilitated the procurement of vaccines, cold chain equipment and essential medicines for the DOH and other implementing partners.

UNICEF Philippines continued to provide support to its partners at the national and the sub-national levels, with a focus on building the capacity of those partners, both Government and CSOs, in warehouse and inventory management and in-country logistics.

The office reviewed its emergency response strategy and substantially reduced UNICEF-controlled inventory, through consolidating emergency stocks in the Manila and Cotabato warehouses and pre-positioning stocks with implementing partners.

UNICEF actively collaborated with other UN agencies on common procurement and other areas of supply-chain management. UNICEF Philippines played a leading role in the joint working groups for UN procurement and logistics coordination and actively participated in inter-agency solicitation processes and the sharing of local LTAs with other agencies.

UNICEF Philippines continued to provide technical assistance and support to other UNICEF offices in the East Asia and Pacific region, particularly in the area of emergency preparedness and response.

UNICEF Philippines 2015	Programme in US\$	Operations in US\$
Local Procurement	1,123,390	84,201
Off-shore Procurement	1,345,776	91,294
Institutional Services	5,487,771	-
Procurement Services	27,830,429	-
Logistics	Vaccines (direct delivery to partners)	
	Programme inventory in UNICEF controlled WHs	105,011
	In-kind supplies	1,021,573
	Total value of supplies received:	9,285,746
	Value of supplies dispatched to partners	7,184,389
	Total Warehouse Inventory	2,268,046

Security for Staff and Premises

In 2015, UNICEF personnel were based in Manila, Cotabato City, Tacloban and Zamboanga City. The emergency operations in Tacloban and Zamboanga were completed in November and December, respectively, and the emergency zone offices were subsequently closed. All UNICEF country office and zone office premises were assessed as being compliant with the Minimum Operating Security Standards (MOSS). Due to fire and earthquake risks, two building evacuation drills were undertaken, including a district-wide earthquake drill organized by local government officials in July.

Security levels in Luzon and Visayas ranged from Low to Substantial and from Moderate to High in Mindanao where the Cotabato and Zamboanga zone offices are located. The security situation in each of the respective regions remained conducive for all UN operations with a

minimal number of localized security-related incidents. The movement of staff throughout the Philippines was managed and monitored by security and administrative personnel. Staff were required to obtain a security clearance prior to any travel and were also required to carry emergency telecommunications equipment while on mission, including mobile phones, satellite phones, and VHF radios. UNICEF vehicles are equipped with HF radios and first aid kits.

As an active member of the Security Management Team, UNICEF contributed to annual programme risk assessments and reviewed and endorsed any proposed changes to the UN Security Plan. Staff safety and security advisories were regularly shared with all UNICEF personnel. Emergency communications were supplemented with an SMS blast capacity and VHF radios.

Due to the higher security levels in Mindanao, special purpose Institutional Budget funds of US\$13,500 were allocated to enhance physical security measures and to procure staff safety and security equipment for the Cotabato City zone office. The funds were fully utilized. Additionally, Safe and Secure Approaches in Field Environments, known as SSAFE training, was provided to four Mindanao based-staff.

Human Resources

Building on the changes approved at the MTR Review, including a more streamlined staffing structure given the funding situation, the drawing down and closure of the emergency response operations, the integration of emergency/DRR into the programme sectors, and the requirements of a likely two-year bridge in the current country programme, the office faced substantial challenges in the areas of recruitment, staff development, staff transition, and staff morale. The office also collaborated with the UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office (EAPRO) and other country offices on a new approach that analysed past and future Institutional Budget allocations. This exercise resulted in the creation of a Human Resource Manager post shared by with the UNICEF Papua New Guinea country office and the area office for the Pacific.

Eighteen regular and ten temporary recruitments were completed, with an average time of 66.5 days from advertising closure to release of offer, for both national and international posts. The office also processed 31 fixed-term and 16 temporary appointments, and separated 43 staff – three on abolished posts. At year end, there were 122 staff on-board, with newly created posts under recruitment. With only 39 per cent male staff, the gender balance in the office is off track and will be actively addressed in 2016

The 2015 staff learning plan was almost 100 per cent implemented. Additional learning opportunities that arose during the year were also included. Learning was done through on-line courses, local workshops and some international events. Regular knowledge-sharing sessions and internal “brown bag” sessions were organized to benefit all staff.

The Global Staff Survey indicated there was room for improvement in the areas of transparency, work-life balance and professional management. The Staff Association conducted an internal survey, led all-staff meetings, and worked in concert with the Joint Consultative Committee and the CMT to develop an action plan. The human resources (HR) dimension of the plan was started in December.

Effective Use of Information and Communication Technology

The Information and Communications Technology (ICT) unit built and maintained a digital information system for UNICEF Philippines by providing innovative ways of supporting collaboration and 24/7 availability of systems. The unit provided technical leadership on disaster recovery and business continuity of office operations, which was critical to the work in the country office and emergency zone offices.

In coordination with the UNICEF Information Technology Solutions and Services Division and the EAPRO ICT Adviser, the ICT unit provided front-end/back-end support and technical consultations. Key 2015 achievements included:

- Successfully audit/review of management of ICT systems and technical procedures in compliance to global policies;
- Review of Business Continuity Plan (BCP) including preparation of emergency telecommunications kits, and conduct of BCP functional tests;
- Orientation of more than 150 end-users of the new cloud-based Office365 services and resolved ICT security-related incidents;
- Extensive utilisation of video/audio tele-conference equipment and Internet-based Skype sessions to facilitate coordination and HR-related interviews;
- Upgrade of Internet links in accordance with requirements of cloud-based services like Office 365, One Drive, Sharepoint tools, mobile apps, and Wi-Fi systems;
- Maintenance of network and systems availability at 99.9 per cent by initially developing consolidated network and server monitoring systems with alert notification;
- Conducting of basic vulnerability assessment of systems, including websites managed by the UNICEF sections;
- Improving the administration of the shared office folder/file system, VPN remote access, Windows update services, Symantec anti-virus system, and Outlook email lists – including monitoring of user permissions on shared office files and Active Directory accounts;
- Providing specifications on appropriate hardware/software standards for UNICEF implementing partners, based on budget and project requirements;
- Closure of emergency zone offices through dismantling of emergency telecommunications equipment, computer systems, and termination of Internet/telecommunications services.

Programme Components from Results Assessment Module

ANALYSIS BY OUTCOME AND OUTPUT RESULTS

OUTCOME 1 Special Purpose

Analytical Statement of Progress:

In 2015, UNICEF personnel were based in Manila, Cotabato City, Tacloban and Zamboanga City. The emergency operations in Tacloban and Zamboanga were completed in November and December, respectively, and the emergency zone offices were subsequently closed. All UNICEF country office and zone office premises were assessed as being MOSS compliant.

Security levels in Luzon and Visayas ranged from Low to Substantial and from Moderate to High in Mindanao where the Cotabato and Zamboanga zone offices are located. The security situation in each of the respective regions remained conducive for all UN operations with a minimal number of localized security-related incidents.

Due to the higher security levels in Mindanao, special purpose Institutional Budget funds in the amount of US\$13,500 were allocated to enhance physical security measures and to procure staff safety and security equipment for the Cotabato City zone office, including improved perimeter walls, enhanced external lighting, improvements to onsite safe haven rooms, helmets and ballistic vests, and a vehicle winch. The funds were fully utilized. Safe and Secure Approaches in Field Environments training, known as SSAFE, was provided to four Mindanao based staff.

OUTPUT 1 Premises and Security

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Due to the higher security levels in Mindanao, special purpose funds of US\$13,500 were allocated to enhance physical security measures and to procure staff safety and security equipment for the Cotabato City zone office. The funds were fully utilized.

OUTCOME 2 Advocacy, resource mobilization, partnership, and monitoring and evaluation are addressed through internal management arrangements.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The CMT met 10 times in 2015. It regularly examined and addressed key management issues, reviewed progress against the 2014-2015 rolling AMP and analysed progress and constraints encountered against key management indicators and EAPRO benchmarks. The CMT also reviewed and took decisions on other issues escalated to its attention by the Programme Management Team and the Operations Management Group. These included the results of programme and budget reviews, IMEP updates, HACT assurance plan implementation, outstanding DCT, monthly and year-end closure activities and reporting, and recruitment updates.

The MTR and Mid-Term Management Review (MTMR) of the country programme undertaken at the beginning of the year was an opportunity to strengthen the country programme's alignment with global and national strategies and plans, as well as enhancing the emphasis on capacity strengthening for risk reduction and emergency response in the context of climate change and the integration of disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness and response in all sectoral interventions. The successful closure of the Tacloban and Zamboanga emergency zone offices in November and December, respectively, were important milestones in the successful transition in the integration process.

In 2015, a comprehensive HACT Assurance Plan for 146 implementing partners with an estimated annual throughput of over US\$26.0 million was developed to ensure funds were used for their intended purpose. At year end, the office completion rate against the planned assurance activities met or exceeded all key performance indicators as follows:

- 43 of the 38 planned micro assessments (113 per cent)
- 105 of the 98 planned financial spots checks (107 per cent)
- 20 of the 20 planned scheduled audits (100 per cent); and
- 298 of the 106 planned programmatic visits (281 per cent)

UNICEF Philippines was the subject of an internal audit carried out by OIAI, from 14 September to 6 October 2015. The audit assessed the governance, programme management and operations support over the office's activities for the period from January 2014 to September

2015. The final audit report was issued on 22 December 2015. The office developed a comprehensive action plan to fully address the findings and recommendations by the end of 2016.

OUTPUT 1 Governance and Systems: Office results are proficiently managed and systems efficiently applied that ensued maximum efficiency of resources.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The CMT regularly examined and addressed key management issues, reviewed progress against the 2014-2015 rolling AMP and analysed progress and constraints encountered against key management indicators and EAPRO benchmarks.

The MTR and MTMR of the country programme undertaken at the beginning of the year was an opportunity to strengthen the CP's alignment with global and national strategies and plans, as well as enhancing the emphasis on capacity strengthening for risk reduction and emergency response in the context of climate change and the integration of disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness and response in all sectoral interventions. The successful closure of the Tacloban and Zamboanga emergency zone offices in November and December, respectively, were important milestones.

Between June and December the EMT convened on a needs basis in response to two significant typhoons, Typhoon Lando and Typhoon Nona.

A HACT Assurance Plan for 146 implementing partners with an estimated annual throughput of over US\$26.0 million was developed to ensure funds were used for their intended purpose. The completion rate against the planned assurance activities met or exceeded all key performance indicators.

UNICEF Philippines was the subject of an internal audit carried out by the OIAI, from 14 September to 6 October 2015. The audit assessed the governance, programme management and operations support over the office's activities for the period from January 2014 to September 2015. The final audit report was issued on 22 December 2015. The office developed a comprehensive action plan to fully address the findings and recommendations by the end of 2016.

OUTPUT 2 Financial Resources and Stewardship: Financial resources are acquired for commitments and efficiently managed to support realization of results.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The total allocation for 2015 with RR, OR, ORE and IB was US\$80 million. By year-end, US\$67.6 million, or 84 per cent of the total allocation, was utilized. The un-used balance is related to grants which are valid beyond 2015 and are part of 2016 work plans. There were 14 grants with a total value of US\$5.4 million that expired, with an average utilisation rate of 99.9 per cent.

By year-end, outstanding Direct Cash Transfers was US\$7.6 million, of which US\$302,715 (4.1 per cent) was outstanding longer than nine months. The above key performance indicators were monitored on a monthly basis during Country Management Team meetings. Fund utilisation levels were mostly on-track. However, DCT management continued to be a challenge due to several external and internal factors. These included the low familiarity of HACT processes in the case of new LGU partners, staff transition, and in some cases, low absorptive capacity of

both CSO's and LGU's given the other funding and activities that were being implemented during the emergency recovery period.

During workplan reviews, it was agreed to minimize DCT's to Government to the extent possible, and explore other effective means of extending assistance, such as through technical assistance, using direct payment modality and working more with reliable CSO's. The Partnership Review Committee also emphasized the importance of realistic assessment of the track-record and absorptive capacity of CSO partners when reviewing and approving new PCA's.

OUTPUT 3 Human Capacity: Staff members empowered to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate agreed programme and management results in a secured learning environment.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

As a result of MTR changes and the MTMR decisions, including a more streamlined staffing structure given the current funding realities, the drawing down and closure of the emergency response operations, and the integration of emergency/DRR into all programme sectors, the office faced substantial challenges in the areas of recruitment, staff development, staff transition, and staff morale. The office collaborated with EAPRO and other country offices in the region on a new approach that analysed past and future Institutional Budget allocations. This exercise resulted in the creation of a P4 Human Resources Manager post shared with the Pacific area office and Papua New Guinea country office, which is now under recruitment.

Eighteen regular and ten temporary recruitments were completed in an average time of 66.5 days from advertisement close to release of offer for both national and international posts. The office also processed 31 fixed-term and 16 temporary contract extensions for expiring appointments, and separated 43 staff, of whom three were on abolished posts. At year end, there were 122 staff on-board, with newly created posts under recruitment. With only 39 per cent male staff, the gender balance in the office is off track and will be actively addressed in 2016.

The 2015 staff learning plan was almost 100 per cent implemented. Additional learning opportunities that arose during the year were also included. Learning was done through on-line courses, local workshops and some international events. Regular knowledge-sharing sessions and internal "brown bag" sessions were also organized to benefit all staff.

A total of 88 (56 percent) of 2014 Staff Performance Evaluation Reports/electronic Performance Appraisal System were signed by February 2015.

The Global Staff Survey indicated there was room for improvement in the areas of transparency, work-life balance and professional management. The Staff Association conducted an internal survey, led all-staff meetings, and worked in concert with the Joint Consultative Committee and the CMT to develop an action plan. The human resources dimension of the plan commenced in December.

OUTCOME 3 By the end of the country programme, increased access to high-impact preventive services for pregnant women, newborns and children and household behaviour change interventions (focused on skilled birth attendance and newborn/child care, nutrition, WASH and HIV) for resource-challenged vulnerable LGUs with high incidence of child mortality (selected regions with 31 per cent underweight) and HIV (selected high incidence LGUS with high-risk youth groups), WASH (selected LGUs with

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Given the economic growth in the Philippines, and a simultaneous increase of inequities, there is a demand from the Government for UNICEF to provide both technical and national policy-oriented support across health, nutrition, HIV and WASH. In 2015, UNICEF continued to support municipalities in the implementation of maternal and child health, WASH, nutrition and HIV, and modelling interventions with the aim of translating such interventions into policies on national level.

Highlights included:

- UNICEF's leadership in conceptualising and developing a comprehensive health insurance package for premature newborns and children with disabilities for the National Health Insurance entity PhilHealth;
- Design of a MDG and HIV Health Insurance Packages for PhilHealth;
- Finalising and launching rollout of a C4D WASH toolkit with focus on advocacy and post-triggering activities in support of the objectives of the national Zero Open Defecation Programme and the National Sustainable Sanitation Plan;
- Launching of Nationwide Basic Emergency Obstetric Care Guidelines reaching 640,000 doctors and midwives in the Philippines;
- Endorsement of "National Guidelines on the Management of Severe Acute Malnutrition for Children under Five Years" (one of the first of its kind in South East Asia);
- Advocacy for the House of Representatives and the Senate to exercise their legislative powers to facilitate passage of the Senate AIDS Bill No. 148 allowing adolescents aged 15 years and older to access commodities and services without the consent of parent/guardian and significant steps towards updating the PMTCT guidelines, and;
- Conceptualising a review of 14 Health Emergency Management – related national policies based on resilient evidence-based planning and budgeting (reap) undertaken in 50 Haiyan affected municipalities.

In 2015, UNICEF initiated a "1,000 Days" advocacy campaign (from a child's conception to the second year of life) with Government officials, Senators and Congressmen. This initiative aims at investing in better health and nutrition in order to help families break the cycle of poverty.

UNICEF also continued to support the Scale up Nutrition movement with participation of a Government delegation at the 2015 SUN annual gathering. Advocacy efforts to strengthen the implementation of the Milk Code and Universal Salt Iodisation (USI) were continued in 2015, the latter mirroring a positive trend in school-aged children's iodine status and the launching of the National Quality Salt Seal.

Programme convergence and integration for UNICEF's comprehensive Health/ WASH/ Nutrition/ HIV programmes was further enhanced: Within the scope of ECCD, collaborative efforts between WASH and nutrition have been strengthened, with an integrated programme model designed for potential testing in 2016. Cross sectoral work in the area of adolescent health and development was coordinated by the Health and Nutrition team in collaboration with Child Protection and Social Policy Sections.

With a 425 per cent increase of cases between 2005 and 2013, HIV remains a major concern. Thus, UNICEF continued to further strengthen the HIV links to adolescent health and development, including integrated approaches with sexual reproductive health and safe motherhood in cities and on national level.

In 2015, C4D remained an important crosscutting strategy that has received increasing attention. The emphasis was on youth engagement through a citizen journalism initiative by using mobile technology; capacity building for municipalities and partners; communication support for national EPI initiatives; and working with theatre groups.

UNICEF also continued to work with municipalities in identifying ways to sustainably support WASH practices in learning centres, with emphasis on advocacy, capacity building and targeted material assistance to demonstrate implementation of the Essential Health Care Package for WASH in Day Care Centres and Schools.

Considering the continued high maternal mortality and newborn mortality rates and very high adolescent fertility rates in the Philippines, a review of the coverage, utilization, and impact of a National Maternity and Newborn Care Packages were commenced in 2015. The institutionalisation of a Real Time Community Health Tracking System, known as rCHITS, and the operationalization of a robust service delivery network were continued. Furthermore, UNICEF continued to support the enrolment of mayors in a country-wide Municipal Health Leadership and Governance Programme, organised in partnership with the Zuellig Family Foundation and the Department of Health.

Government requests for UNICEF to continue facilitation of health and nutrition supplies remained high. UNICEF pre-positioned WASH, nutrition and health emergency stocks, and continued to provide technical support for EPI and vaccine and medicine procurement services to the DOH, with a value of US\$28 million.

In its cluster co-lead role, UNICEF continued to provide technical support towards building the capacity of the National WASH Cluster, the National Nutrition Cluster, and to provide support to the Health Cluster. UNICEF provided WASH coordination support for a number of small-scale emergencies, and continued to support Haiyan-affected areas by developing a Nutrition Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan. UNICEF also played a key role in strengthening immunization services by finalising the restoration of the vaccine cold chain in typhoon Haiyan affected areas in partnership with DOH. WASH Haiyan recovery efforts continued in 46 municipalities, with the Phased Approach to Total Sanitation model providing an opportunity to increase access to sanitation through community-based behaviour change programmes, while strengthening WASH governance. Responding to a specific Government request, UNICEF continued to support 50 municipalities in rEbaP leading to development of a resilient Health Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Rehabilitation Plan, which focuses on maternal and child health, nutrition and HIV in post disaster settings.

OUTPUT 1 By the end of the country programme, increased coverage of births attended by skilled birth attendants with postnatal and newborn care by 15 per cent in partner municipalities and contributions made to strengthen local decentralized health system including evidence based planning and budgeting, preparedness and building resilience as well as advocating for upstream maternal, neonatal and child health policy changes, including health insurance policies (Philhealth).

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF focused on upstream health system support for maternal and child health. UNICEF supported PhilHealth to develop the Benefit Package for Premature and Small Newborns, to address the leading causes of child mortality in the country. Next steps include the approval and launch of the new package. A review of the coverage, utilization, benefit design effectiveness,

and impact of the Maternity Care Package and Newborn Care Packages commenced. Under the Joint Programme on Maternal and Newborn Health (JPMNH), improving quality of care from the supply side involved addressing health human resource capacity through the integration of Essential Intrapartum and Newborn Care in the pre-service Nursing and Midwifery Curricula of 418 schools. Likewise, Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care Modules for Midwives were developed, printed and distributed to 1,565 participants and 100 trainers, with the potential to reach 6,500 midwifery students, 70,000 nursing students, and 4,000 medical students graduating every year. Additionally, 640,000 health professionals are expected to use these manuals in their daily work.

Together with JPMNH partners UNFPA and WHO, UNICEF continued “downstream” work to strengthen local health systems, given the decentralized structure and increased Government funding for health. In selected LGU’s, support was given toward modelling the operationalization of the Service Delivery Network for maternal and newborn care. In the cohort of LGU’s fully supported by UNICEF for Health Leadership and Governance, 11 of 15 LGUs were fully engaged, defined as finishing at least two modules. Institutionalization and linkage of the health information system (“Real Time Community Health Tracking System, or rCHITS 3”) to local governance progressed by development of the software for LGU Dashboard in the targeted seven municipalities and one city. Customization of the rCHITS to support the referral system for delivery care requested by Quezon City led to the development of the Maternal Telereferral System. In the operationalization of the service delivery network, 300 health facilities in Region 12 & QC were assessed. Service Delivery Network Management Teams were formed with signed local issuances or Executive Orders, paving the way for institutionalization.

UNICEF support for the Philippines’ Expanded Programme of Immunization continued at the national level. Support for the development of the Reaching Every Purok (REP) Guidelines and pilot implementation of REP in Regions 3, NCR and 4A was given. Communication-for-development materials were developed to strengthen routine EPI. UNICEF also facilitated procurement of more than US\$13 million worth of vaccines and other health commodities

OUTPUT 2

1. By the end of the country programme, households, schools and ECCD centres will have universal use of sustainable and resilient basic sanitation, and safe water with improved hygiene behaviour in selected barangays within 60 vulnerable LGUs.
2. By the end of the country programme, three national Government agencies include and prioritize, within their sectorial policies and legal instruments, the needs of vulnerable children in households and learning institutions for equitable basic sanitation, safe drinking water, and hygiene programmes; with these being human rights-based; evidence based; and risk-informed.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF continued to model the Phased Approach to Total Sanitation in Masbate and North Cotabato, resulting in 62 communities being certified Open Defecation Free (Grade 1 under PhATS). Through ongoing advocacy and technical support of local government officials, PhATS is now being scaled up beyond the UNICEF areas of direct intervention in both provinces, and was adopted as the provincial strategy in Masbate. Two municipalities in North Cotabato and one municipality in Masbate achieved municipal-wide ODF status and are already implementing activities to take them toward sustainable sanitation status (Grade 2 under PhATS). Support to strengthen WASH governance in these areas and in the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao resulted in the development of 12 municipal WASH plans with allocations from local government budgets.

The C4D toolkit developed in 2014 to support advocacy and post-triggering activities was approved and adopted by the Department of Health. It promotes the objectives of the Zero Open Defecation Programme and the National Sustainable Sanitation Plan. UNICEF initiated rollout activities of the toolkit with an orientation for health professionals from selected regions.

Through the Sustainable Development Goals Fund Promoting Water and Sanitation Access, Integrity, Empowerment, Rights and Resiliency (PRO-WATER) programme, UNICEF and DOH worked closely with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), UNDP and WHO to develop an integrated WASH model to be piloted in 10 municipalities in 2016. Baseline assessments were conducted and UNICEF coordinated a review of the various sanitation programme approaches being implemented by different sector partners, in order to ensure that the programmes are based on best practices and most recent lessons learned.

In 2015, UNICEF continued to work with LGUs at the community and municipal levels to identify ways to sustainably support WASH practices in learning centres. Advocacy, capacity building and targeted material assistance were provided to demonstrate implementation of the Essential Health Care Programme. As a result, children in 1,361 day-care centres, 647 Tahderriyah (Muslim day-care centres) and 95 schools now practice daily group hand washing and tooth brushing. Twenty-three provincial and city LGUs are also now providing financial support for ongoing implementation of WASH in day-care centres.

UNICEF also provided coordination support and WASH response for a number of small-scale emergencies. More than 25,000 people benefitted from the distribution of water kits and 21,870 people were able to practice safe hygiene through the provision of hygiene kits (including menstrual hygiene management supplies). Over 11,000 people displaced by conflict were supported through the provision of safe water through the installation of bladders and sex-segregated latrines and bathing cubicles.

UNICEF continued to pre-position contingency stocks and maintain long-term agreements for critical supplies and services in case of emergency. UNICEF provided ongoing coordination and technical support to the WASH Cluster's Strategic Advisory Group, chaired by DOH. Additionally, UNICEF initiated WASH Cluster training for managing WASH in Emergencies, benefitting 58 LGU officials.

OUTPUT 3 By the end of the country programme, the Government of Philippines at both decentralized and centralized levels is capable of scaling up programmes for improved access to and utilization of essential nutrition services to prevent and treat maternal and child under-nutrition across the first 1000 days of life, with inclusive and exclusive focus on evidence based planning, nutrition preparedness and building resilience.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Effective advocacy and policy dialogue on the need to invest in nutrition during the critical 1,000 days using both global and national evidence, led the National Nutrition Council and the Department of Budget Management to develop and endorse a multi-sectoral plan on ECCD Package for the 1,000 Days programme, totalling US\$133,500 from 2016-2018. UNICEF advocated and played a role of convenor for facilitating the SUN movement in the Philippines, working with other UN agencies and Government partners. This resulted in SUN being identified as one of the key UN priorities under the refocused UNDAF, and establishment of a UN SUN Network, which is being chaired by UNICEF.

As a result of UNICEF's strategic partnership with the Philippines' Legislators' Committee on Population and Development Foundation, 75 of the 275 legislators now support the draft First 1,000 Days Bill, with integrated WASH and nutrition linkages. This complemented UNICEF's advocacy on stronger lobbying on extending the maternity leave beyond the existing 60 days, and continued protection of the Milk Code in the Philippines.

Additional UNICEF partnerships include ABS-CBN News channel for public advocacy on the 1,000 Days; the Nutrition Centre of the Philippines and Hellen Keller International for the European Union-funded Maternal and Young Child Nutrition Security Initiative in Asia (MYCNSIA) project end line evaluation and the ILO for advancing maternity protection. Specifically, the UNICEF-ILO partnership resulted in approval and implementation of Department Order 143, Exemptions and Equivalencies guide for setting up lactation stations in the workplace led by Department of Labour and Employment.

In its final year, the EU-funded MYCNSIA project, contributed toward the training of 75 master trainers with nutrition planning and programming skills as well as 693 peer counsellors being trained to deliver the standard three-day course on IYCF in the 16 programme municipalities. The project further strengthened maternity protection through promoting exclusive breastfeeding initiatives in the workplace, which resulted in establishment of 88 lactation stations in programme areas. MYCNSIA's Enhanced Local Nutrition Interventions/ELNI project addressed the lack of reliable nutrition data in the LGUs by demonstrating and documenting the use of Lot Quality Assurance Sampling model, which was used to monitor implementation of nutrition interventions in target areas.

The five-year Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition/GAIN-UNICEF partnership ended with a key accomplishment showcased by the positive trend in the iodine status of school-aged children (from 132 mg/L in 2008 to 168 mg/L in 2013). A strategic partnership with the SM group of supermarkets for market advocacy, contributed to ensuring the supply of only adequately-iodized salt in their retail markets. Compounded with the continued advocacy through Lady Municipal Mayors Association of the Philippines and the National Nutrition Council in the 48 municipalities, the campaign on salt iodization culminated with the grand launching of the Quality Seal (*Saktong Iodine sa Asin* or Adequate Iodine in Salt) by the Department of Health in July.

OUTPUT 4 By the end of the country programme, increased access to quality life skills education and adolescent friendly health services, including HIV prevention by 15 per cent in priority LGUs.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

With new HIV infections and adolescent fertility statistics remaining high in 2015, UNICEF's response has been to further strengthen the links between the two, using integrated approaches with sexual reproductive health and safe motherhood initiatives.

UNICEF worked with partners to revitalize the HIV response among adolescents through the Global UNAIDS-UNICEF Initiative "All In." The Philippines was the first country to complete phase 1 of the Adolescent Assessment and Decision-Makers Tool. The availability of adolescent data has helped build consensus among Government partners for the passage of the revised AIDS Bill No. 148 to ensure access to services for adolescents.

Using adolescent data, the Department of Health and Department of Social Welfare released key policy papers recognising the principle of evolving capacities as aligned with article 5 and

12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and in support of the lowering of the age of consent for HIV services from 18 to 15 years. These Government positions helped accelerate the passage of the AIDS Bill for majority consensus on lowering the age of consent.

Participation in the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV (PMTCT) task-force meeting helped key decision-makers in the DOH have taken significant steps toward updating the PMTCT guidelines, identifying Category A cities for demonstration of the option B+ implementing rules and regulations with a focus on capacity-building for provider-initiated testing, delivery and treatment.

Adolescents remain invisible and hidden, with very low representation in HIV testing and counselling (HTC), family planning and related services. Leveraging results from evidence-based planning in 2014 and in preparation for the passage of the AIDS Bill, UNICEF initiated programme modelling focusing on HIV/ASRH integrated service delivery for adolescents in five 'demonstration' sites across the Philippines. These models of service aim to (i) provide essential HIV/SRH services for adolescent minors (including operational consent procedures) and (ii) generate programme implementation evidence for Global Fund and Government investment and coordination in 2016 and beyond.

Consolidating best practice has resulted in Government endorsement of key capacity strengthening initiatives including comprehensive life skills education, peer education, assisted referrals for minors and supporting community-based HTC. The adolescent job aid e-learning platform was also delivered to pre-service nurses and midwives. Comprehensive HIV/SRH life skills curriculum was formally endorsed by the DOH and the Population Commission with a significant budget allocated for implementation.

Punitive legislation restricting the provision of commodities and services results in minimal impact for the prevention of pregnancy, prevention of HIV and safe motherhood programmes for adolescent minors. The Philippines was identified as one of three countries globally with a significantly increasing HIV epidemics, concentrated among young key affected populations yet those at higher risk of infection are unable to adequately (and legally) protect themselves and access treatment.

Limited funding specifically for HIV prevention remains a significant constraint. The country office continues to leverage support for HIV from ADAP and by integrating ASRH, safe motherhood and HIV.

OUTPUT 5 To reduce risk of excess morbidity and mortality from childhood illnesses and reduce the risk of outbreaks of vaccine preventable and water and vector-borne diseases; and contributes to reducing risk and strengthening resilience.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Cold Chain Restoration and Strengthening Routine Immunization

In partnership with the Department of Health, UNICEF Philippines played a key role in strengthening immunization services by restoring the vaccine cold chain through the provision of refrigerators and other cold chain supplies and equipment in the areas hit by Typhoon Haiyan. A total of 447 vaccine refrigerators were distributed to 393 health facilities across five regions. For 2015, an additional 113 Local Government Units benefited from improved cold chain facilities, totalling 348 for the entire Haiyan response. All 17 walk-in cold rooms were installed by the end of December 2015. Together with the restoration and provision of infrastructure support, training on Reaching Every Purok strategy was done in Region 7 and 8 targeting mid-level managers

and health workers. Support for restoration of the cold chain and routine immunization contributed to the vaccination of 18,628 children in the 40 priority LGUs.

Maternal, Neonatal, Child and Adolescent Health

UNICEF supported maternal, new-born, child, and adolescent health services in 40 municipalities by training more than 3,500 frontline health workers on management of childhood illness, essential maternal and new-born care, pregnancy care and tracking, and adolescent sexual and reproductive health.

To help address the increasing problem on teenage pregnancy, a pilot project on Adolescent Safe Motherhood in two catchment areas (Tacloban City Main Health Centre and municipality of Balangiga) was launched. It aimed to optimize the outcomes for both the teenage mother and the baby and to generate programme evidence around this issue to better inform policy. Between February and October 2015, 166 pregnant teenagers between the ages 13-19 were identified and are receiving an ongoing, comprehensive maternal care package with close monitoring and follow-up. A baseline assessment was also carried out with a robust database being managed.

Evidence Based Planning for Resilient Health Systems

UNICEF supported 50 LGUs in the development of evidence-based health emergency preparedness, response, and rehabilitation plans. A total of 49 LGUs have finalized their plans. An evidence-based HEPRRP is critical in order to improve resilience of local health systems for long term improved ability to withstand and effectively respond to emergencies.

At the national level, bottlenecks identified at the district level have been consolidated, analysed and packaged as recommendations with the aim of informing high-level policy development.

Based on UNICEF's experience at the sub-national level, 14 health emergency management – related national policies are being reformulated and will be endorsed in 2016. The aim is to implement a single omnibus health emergency management policy that is aligned to the national law on disaster risk management.

OUTPUT 6 Affected families in priority evacuation centres, relocation sites and communities including affected children in priority schools, day care centres, and temporary learning sites have access to safe and secure basic sanitation and safe water facilities with improved hygiene behaviour; and contributes to reducing risk and strengthening resilience.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Through 2015, UNICEF continued to support recovery efforts in the areas affected by Super Typhoon Haiyan, working with both Local Government Units and CSO partners. The main focus of work was on implementation of the Phased Approach to Total Sanitation, supporting community level behaviour change for adoption of improved hygiene and sanitation practices, as well as the strengthening of WASH governance and WASH in learning centres. As a result, 645 communities – totalling 849,747 people – were certified as ODF. Community rewards provided for reaching ODF status (Grade 1 under PhATS) were used to improve community drinking water sources, benefitting 126,211 people. Similarly, rewards were used to help communities move up the sanitation ladder to sustainable sanitation status (Grade 2 under PhATS). This encouraged households to upgrade their sanitation facilities, affecting 205,865 people, and promoted the improvement of WASH facilities in schools and day care centres, benefitting 8,596 learning centres.

To support the Department of Health in monitoring the outcomes of the PhATS programme (and to provide a model for potential national adoption), UNICEF developed a real-time monitoring mechanism using an Open Data Kit tool. The resulting ODF data collection and monitoring system was initially implemented in Region 8, with training provided to responsible health professionals. UNICEF also provided support to extend the pilot programme to Region 6, as well as to a selected number of provinces covered by the regular country programme. Capacity building and DCTs were used to enable Regional and Provincial DOH staff to support scale-up and monitoring of PhATS activities, including beyond the areas covered by UNICEF.

Technical support and Direct Cash Transfers have also been provided directly to the Department of Education in Regions 6 and 8 to support School-Based Management (SBM) of repairs and improvements of school WASH facilities. The experience was documented and developed into a new SBM for WASH in Schools module, to be reviewed in 2016 by DepEd at the national level, for potential integration into the overall SBM programme. The Online Monitoring System for WASH in Schools developed in 2014 was successfully integrated into Regional DepEd planning and monitoring processes in Regions 6 and 8.

Due to some delays in implementation, most of the PhATS PCAs required some additional time to complete their work, and as a result the end line survey for the PhATS programme in Haiyan affected areas was shifted to February-March 2016. A transition strategy was developed for 2016 to provide some limited ongoing capacity building and technical support at the Regional and Provincial levels to institutionalise PhATS within DOH and to strengthen SBM for WASH in Schools within DepEd. These will be integrated into the regular country programme results structure.

OUTPUT 7 All pregnant and lactating women and children under five years have access to nutrition interventions that prevent under nutrition and micronutrient deficiencies, treat acute malnutrition and sustain positive nutrition behaviour; and contributes to reducing risk and strengthening resilience.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Effective advocacy and engagement with the Philippine Government, Nutrition Cluster and other partners resulted in endorsement and the launch of the “National Guidelines on the Management of Severe Acute Malnutrition for Children under Five Years.” The Philippine Government has committed to the integration of services for management of children with SAM into the routine health care system. The Department of Health has committed US\$3.3million in their 2016 health investment plans for scale-up of services for management of SAM, targeted at reaching up to 34,000 children with SAM in 16 priority provinces.

In its Nutrition Cluster co-lead role, UNICEF continued to provide technical support toward building the capacity of National Nutrition Cluster in the core cluster functions. Some key results included:

- Development of the Nutrition Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (draft to be endorsed in 2016);
- Two staff from NNC trained on a 5-day Cluster coordination and information management training, facilitated by Global Nutrition Cluster;
- A total of 1,300 service providers and other stakeholders trained on Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergencies;
- 1,200 people trained on Philippine Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition/PIMAM protocols;

- 1,500 trained on Nutrition in Emergency modules in emergency affected regions (Region VI, Region VII, Zamboanga, Cotabato).

UNICEF strengthened the capacity of local NGOs in the country to support 40 Haiyan-Affected LGUs in planning and providing quality nutrition services. A total of 46 staff from the Health Organization of Mindanao were trained on IYCF, SAM management, growth monitoring and promotion, and the importance of investing in the first 1,000 days, with modules and sessions focused on theory, skills, and practical application.

Under the UNICEF-supported Emergency Response and Recovery across the regions 6, 7, 8 and 9, UNICEF equipped the service delivery points in the affected LGUs with essential nutrition supplies for SAM management programmes, use of micronutrient powders for improving quality of complementary feeding and facilitating IYCF counselling at facility and community level. Over 73,000 children (6-59 months) were screened for acute malnutrition; about 1,062 children with SAM (6-59 months) received lifesaving care through therapeutic care programmes (facility and /or community based); about 17,500 pregnant and lactating women and mothers/caregivers of children 6-23 months received counselling on optimal IYCF; more than 35,000 children (6-59 months) received micronutrient powders) and 30,000 pregnant and lactating women received the complete 180-day course of iron-folic acid supplements. Over 58,000 children received Vitamin A supplements through facility-based and mass distribution campaigns across all emergency areas. Radio commercials on importance of nutrition in 1,000 days reached about 59 per cent of the families in the 40 Haiyan priority LGUs of Regions VI, VII and VIII.

OUTCOME 4 By end of the country programme, increased access to ECCD and elementary education by 20 per cent in 36 most vulnerable LGUs, with special focus on gender parity and policy adaptation for national legislation and improved budget allocations.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

National level access indicators revealed a stagnant situation in 2015, with the primary Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) of 109.20 per cent and Net Enrolment Rate (NER) of 92.57 per cent during the school year of 2014-2015 (DepED EBIS). One alarming trend is the declining NER over the last five years (from 95.92 per cent in 2010). While the DepED's rigorous data clean-up efforts and unavailability of finalised 2010 census data with accurate age group and projection are reported to be the major factors, closer analysis of the situation is required.

In May 2015, the Out-of-School Children study was launched by the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) and DepED with support of UNICEF. Five years of revisions and updates to the study provided a unique opportunity to record significant progress of the past years and to allow its analysis. The study noted that the number of OOSC (5-15 years old), declined from 2.9 million in 2008 to 1.2 million in 2013. The biggest contributor commended was the Universal Kinder Law of 2012, which made the one-year kindergarten education mandatory, and in turn, largely facilitated the smooth transition to grade one. Another contributor was the school participation conditionality in accessing national conditional cash transfer (CCT) programme.

For quality of education, both completion rate, 82.65 per cent, and cohort survival rate, 84.75 per cent (2014-2015), have shown improvement over the last five years (from 72.11 and 74.23 in 2010-2011). The national achievement test results for grade 6 showed moderate progress in mathematics and English (69.71 per cent and 71.80 per cent respectively) while a decline was observed for Filipino language (76.44 per cent in 2010, 68.90 per cent in 2015). Drop-out or school-leaving rate was 4.58 per cent (5.38 per cent-boys, 3.69 per cent-girls), with highest rate

recorded for grade 1 (DepED EBIS2013-2014) with 7.23 per cent (8.06 per cent-boys, 6.25 per cent-girls), and in the most disadvantaged and conflict-affected ARMM region, nearly one in five grade one students left or did not proceed to grade two (18.65 per cent, 19.46 per cent-boys, 17.84 per cent-girls).

The largest-ever education sector reform K-12, which makes significant changes in the length of the education system and its curriculum structure by adding two years of senior high school education (from 10 years to 12 years), is at the last leg of its full implementation. Starting 2016, 16-years old Filipino children (DepED estimates around 1.2-1.6 million) will start enrolling into senior high schools (11th grade), rather than proceeding to universities.

DepED receives the biggest budget allocation from DBM (approximately US\$7.7 billion), mainly due to its core mandate to provide basic education services to all Filipinos and for the K-12 reform. At the same time, DepED's budget inefficiencies are often cited by the DBM and media. Due to its centralised and stringent procurement and financial process, the implementation of key programmes and fund flows to required decentralised entities are slow. In addition, based on the World Bank and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) report in 2013, the country's education expenditures accounted for around 2.45 per cent of GDP, still below the South East Asia countries' average of 3.5 per cent or the globally recommended six per cent.

Whilst efforts have been well-witnessed in giving attention to equity issues, such as the issuance of DepED orders on the adoption of Indigenous People's curriculum framework, the Mother Tongue Based Multi-Lingual Education for lower graders, and the revision of Inclusive Education Law, challenges lie in their implementation and reaching those hard-to-reach and disadvantaged children and schools, for the real policy translation on-the ground.

The following are notable UNICEF technical support and contributions to Early Childhood Care and Development and Basic Education subsectors during 2015.

ECCD:

The DepED recognized developmentally- and age-appropriate and teaching methods as well as play-based learning approach for early grades, and there was adoption of National Early Learning Curriculum for 0-4 year olds.

With Evidence-based local ECCD service planning, LGUs worked with local level DepED to map-out all children and plan different ECCD service modalities (centre-based and outreach) to reach out to all children in their areas and to harness the link with schools for full transition to Kindergarten and grade 1, linking to School Improvement Process (SIP).

The first year administration of the ECCD Longitudinal study was completed in collaboration with DepED, SEAMEO, University of the Philippines and Australian Centre for Educational Research (ACER), collecting baseline data of 4,527 beginning kinder pupils (early literacy, numeracy and socio-emotional skills) in nine municipalities and cities representing the diverse context of learners in the Philippines (urban, rural, disasters, conflict). These same pupils will be followed through up to the end of grade 2 to analyse the different factors affecting early years education and learning in different settings.

Basic Education:

The DepED issued order No. 44 of 2015, which orients all schools nationwide to use the revised School Improvement Plan guidelines. The new SIP process starts with the situational analysis of

the children, school and community (barangay) including mapping of all children in barangay together with the LGUs, with strong vision of transforming schools into quality, child-friendly and child-seeking schools.

The OOSC study report was launched in May 2015 by DepED with PIDS and UNICEF support. Further advocacy will be made to inform DepED's Last Mile Learner strategies.

A series of regional consultations were facilitated to share the education visions and learning needs of children in Bangsamoro in close collaboration with MILF-Tarbiyah, BDA and DepED-ARMM under the context of peace process.

Early initiatives began in harmonising Education in Emergencies-DRR approach and training nationwide taking into account the series of major disasters experienced by the country (natural and man-made).

OUTPUT 1 By the end of country programme, the proportion of 3-5 year old children with quality ECCD experience, increased by 15 per cent from 2011 level, in 36 vulnerable LGUs, focusing on disadvantaged children, with gender parity.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Low access and inequity in early childhood care and development continue to be a challenge, especially in conflict affected ARMM. While the preliminary Annual Poverty Indicators Survey 2014 report shows the national attendance rate of 3-5 year olds is 51 per cent, the UNICEF household survey conducted in seven focus areas in ARMM in 2014 revealed an attendance rate of only 39 per cent. Furthermore, the disparity in ARMM focus areas is very wide with rates ranging from 22 per cent-63 per cent. On a positive note, the per cent ECCD allocation in the LGU budget of the 36 focus areas increased from 1.3 per cent in 2012 to 2.5 per cent in 2014.

The following were the key accomplishments in 2015:

Enhanced policy and programme environment:

To guide ECCD service providers in implementing harmonised quality programmes, the National Early Learning Curriculum for 0-4 year olds, new standards for recognizing centre-based ECCD programmes and competency standards for ECCD workers have been developed. DepED completed the alignment of Kinder and Grade 1 curricula to ensure a seamless continuum of learning standards based on children's developmental stages. The ECCD longitudinal study, which will track the holistic development and performance of a cohort of Kindergarten children until Grade 2, completed the baseline assessment.

Strengthened capacity, systems, and processes: A series of monitoring visits confirm that the application of knowledge and skills gained through the training of Child Development Workers (CDW) and Kindergarten teachers on child development principles and adoption of age and developmentally-appropriate approaches is already evident in some focus areas. Learning is becoming more fun, enjoyable and interesting to young children. To reach children without access to centre-based ECCD and regular Kindergarten, Supervised Neighbourhood Playgroups (SNP) and Kindergarten Catch-Up Education Programme were supported. The training of CDW Supervisors empowered a total of 43 supervisors from 31 focus and 12 non-focus areas on the mentoring of CDWs in their respective areas toward better quality of service.

The establishment of a link between ECCD/Kinder and Primary School resulted in stronger school-community partnership ensuring that all 3-4 year old children are attending ECCD and are able to smoothly transition to Kinder and to Grade 1. With the mapping of all children in the

community involving different responsible local authority personnel, more accurate service gaps were identified, resulting in the additional establishment of SNPs and Kindergarten Catch-Up Education classes accommodating around 1,000 3-4 year old children in three focus areas.

Further improvements in the implementation of the Islam-responsive and culturally-sensitive early learning for Muslim children (Tahderiyyah) in Mindanao were improved toward sustainability. This included the development of a mentoring and coaching manual to guide the Tahderiyyah supervisors in providing technical assistance to teachers for improved service delivery. Discussion with different government agencies to include Tahderriyah centres as a recognised ECCD service provider continue.

Evidence-based advocacy and resource leveraging: Advocacy to increase investments in ECCD was expanded through the Leagues of Vice-Mayors and Barangay Chairmen in focus areas. The ECCD family education modules were fully integrated to the Family Development Sessions of the CCT across the nation.

OUTPUT 2 By the end of the Country Programme, the proportion of 6-8 year old children participating in quality elementary education (up to Grade 3) is increased by five per cent in 36 vulnerable LGUs, focusing on disadvantaged children, with gender parity.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

DepEd Order No. 44 was issued in September 2015, adopting the enhanced School Improvement Process (SIP) process and School Report Card (SRC) as detailed in the SIP-SRC Guidebook, developed with the support from UNICEF.

The enhanced SIP process calls for an evidence-based, learner-centred school planning with active participation from the community. Through child mapping, which is jointly supported by local governments, the SIP is expected to benefit the out-of-school children by acknowledging and ensuring their access to appropriate education interventions. Initial pilot rollout of the enhanced SIP-SRC was conducted in selected programme focus areas and Haiyan-affected Regions 6 and 8. Following that policy issuance, DepEd conducted the National Training of Trainers on the enhanced SIP-SRC with UNICEF's support. The SIP Guidebook was also tailored for Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

The Philippines OOSC Report was endorsed by DepEd and launched in May 2015. The report provides a comprehensive analysis of the OOSC situation in the country. After the launch, the report was disseminated to various education stakeholders, serving as advocacy for equity in basic education. As a follow up, the DepEd, with UNICEF assistance, initiated a further study to locate and analyse various types of 'last-mile learners' and assess the extent of their access to and participation in education.

UNICEF and DepED rolled out the school-based teacher professional development mechanism called Learning Action Cells/LACs in UNICEF focus areas. This is part of the support to the K-12 curriculum implementation and to help teachers effectively practice child-centred teaching and learning methods in the classrooms with concrete, hands-on, and highly participatory training approach. Further work is planned to be undertaken at the national level to provide an overarching framework and standard to training efforts through LAC mechanism, based on the recent DepED policy of enhancing teachers' continuous professional development at the school level.

A DepED ARMM Education in Emergencies Policy Development workshop was held in

September in collaboration with Save the Children and Community and Family Services International. The sessions on education cluster strengthening and contingency planning in conflict and complex emergencies was followed by the Policy Writeshop. The product of the workshop is reflected in the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) strategies of DepED-ARMM.

UNICEF facilitated the Bangsamoro Education Transition consultation process under the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL) and peace process. The process created a forum where different parties (state, non-state, universities, civil societies) shared understanding of the situation of the education sector in conflict-affected Bangsamoro areas in Mindanao and visions for education that are suited for the children in Bangsamoro.

Through a series of activities including back-to-learning campaigns, summer school programmes, remedial after school tutorials and theatre activities, UNICEF, DepEd, and Western Mindanao State University) supported the educational activities for 1,422 school-aged displaced children who are in a severely disadvantaged situation in the transitory site. The series of activities also enhanced mutual understanding among Tausug and Bajao ethnic minority children, raised the awareness of mutual respect and coexistence, and helped them build positive self-esteem.

OUTPUT 3 Affected pre-school and school-aged children have access to safe and secure quality education and psychosocial support which contributes to reducing risk and strengthening resilience.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF Education continued to implement the response for children and youth affected by Super Typhoon Haiyan. In partnership with international NGOs and LGUs. Some 19,576 school-aged children received learning materials and 12,844 children gained access to rehabilitated temporary learning spaces in 347 classrooms and day-care centres.

An additional 3,048 teachers were trained on emergency-related topics, including trainings on alternative delivery mode (E-IMPACT), school-hazards mapping and school-community Disaster Risk Reduction and Management planning.

As the Education programming slowly transitioned from emergency to the rehabilitation and development agenda, more focus was given to quality and equity of education in the Haiyan-affected areas. UNICEF, together with its national Government and international NGO partners, launched an initiative targeting Out-of-School-Children and Youth (OOSC/Y) in Region 8 which supports the DepED's Alternative Learning System (ALS) Program. A total of 342 ALS facilitators, catering to at least 13,000 OOSC/Y, participated in skills training on non-formal education facilitation and administration of basic literacy assessment. At least 205,952 school-aged children and community members were reached by various information campaigns designed to increase ALS participation, especially in remote villages. This is in line with DepEd region 8's efforts to reduce the high rate of OOSC/Y in the region even prior to Super Typhoon Haiyan. Current data reveals at least 270,000 OOSC/Y in region 8.

The DepED Region 8 Office established the Regional OOSC/Y Steering and Advocacy Committee (RASC) through support of INTERSOS and UNICEF. Represented by all the 13 public schools divisions in region 8, plus other regional agencies and organizations involved in OOSC/Y work, the RASC serves as a platform for stakeholders to conduct a collective analysis of the OOSC/Y situation, formulate strategies, discuss and address programme implementation

bottlenecks and conduct more advocacy for OOSC/Y. UNICEF and INTERSOS provided financial and technical support to the RASC to enhance its capacity to gather evidence and OOSC/Y data, and to come up with results-based planning and M&E for OOSC/Y in the region.

UNICEF and DepED supported the pilot rollout of the Enhanced-School Improvement Planning (E-SIP) manual in Eastern and Western Visayas, both in Haiyan and non-Haiyan affected areas. As a result, 300 education supervisors, school heads, and teachers were trained on E-SIP. E-SIP is a comprehensive approach to school development planning that is risk-informed and in full consideration of inter-sectorial needs such as disaster risk reduction and management, child protection, sanitation, and hygiene practices in schools. The lessons learnt contributed to the issuance of DepED order No. 44, or revised SIP guideline.

Early Childhood Care and Development advocacy activities, as well as capacity-building of day-care workers, were conducted in both Haiyan and non-Haiyan affected areas in regions 6 and 8. A total of 339 LGU officials and day-care workers received these capacity building trainings. The advocacy training-workshop is intended to enhance these LGU officers' appreciation of ECCD and to develop their capacity in evidence-based programming which is, in turn, intended to encourage investment by the LGUs in ECCD.

OUTCOME 5 By the end of the country programme, improved and inclusive access to well-coordinated national and local child protection services in 10 LGU's; supported by a functional public sector institutional framework focused on protective elements of ECD, and promoting equity and social inclusion, in coordination with Social Protection and a broader Social Protection strategy.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

In partnership with the Government, the National Baseline Survey on Violence Against Children was conducted and became a priority in 2015 for key agencies such as Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC). The survey is the culmination of several years of work designing research tools and methods, as well as intensive training of field researchers. This process was guided by UNICEF global and regional partners, and ensured that the Philippine study will be comparable with other ongoing VAC research. The collaboration will continue to learn from and share experiences through South-South Cooperation. The data gathered will inform and drive a planned advocacy and communication campaign in 2016.

In order to complement the VAC survey, a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) on VAC was conducted in cooperation with the University of the Philippines and the University of Edinburgh, guided by UNICEF's Office of Research as part of a multi-country effort. Several East Asia and Pacific region countries participating in the SLR were brought together in Vietnam in August 2015 to learn about Social Norms and VAC, and how to design appropriate prevention and response efforts with an understanding of social norms as potential drivers of violence. The training was designed to build local/national capacity on social norms and VAC research.

Emerging aspects of violence against children were highlighted through new partnerships forged in 2015 to tackle child online protection. Global attention to the increasing risk/threats that children face from online abuse and exploitation has focused on the Philippines as a country of particular concern. A lack of data/evidence on the abuse and exploitation of children online has hampered prevention and response efforts. To address this, plans for a National Study on Child Online Protection began in 2015. The study will be finalized in 2016. Other activities included specialized capacity building and support for the coordination of efforts

amongst key Government agencies in this multi sectoral area of work, and developing partnerships with the private sector as strategic actors in the fight against online exploitation.

Social Protection remains a high priority for the Government and partners such as the World Bank and Asia Development Bank, providing a platform for UNICEF to promote child-sensitive social protection. In 2015 a consultancy to map child protection systems and identify areas of synergy with social protection was initiated with a desk review to be followed by an in-country study in January 2016. This will be linked to the work in 2015 to build the capacity of social workers, particularly on case management and community organizing work in the implementation of the Modified Conditional Cash Transfer programme targeting homeless street families.

The Philippines is recognized in the region for work on Good Parenting, particularly the Family Development Sessions designed within the Conditional Cash Transfer programme of the Government. UNICEF built this interest to promote recognized models of good parenting in partnership with the Government as a tool for violence prevention. UNICEF worked with DSWD and the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade/DFAT to support an evaluation of this programme, launched in 2015, and is part of the technical working group established to ensure improved Family Development Sessions, with greater emphasis on child protection. UNICEF also partnered with DSWD and NGOs to pilot test a good parenting model specifically aimed at violence prevention, known as "Parenting for Lifelong Health."

Progress with Child Protection Information Management included developing new partnerships with the Philippine Statistical Research and Training Institute to review and localize the Governance Indicator Framework (GIF) and determine application of the GIF in the review/refinement of the quantitative and qualitative assessment tool and the local child protection indicator.

UNICEF supported a comprehensive review of mental health and psychosocial support programmes implemented in emergency affected areas (with emphasis on Typhoon Yolanda and Zamboanga) in order to provide guidance for the development of Philippine National Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in emergencies. The guidelines were formulated through a series of consultations with Government and other partners, using the template of the Inter Agency Standing Committee/IASC as framework.

A National Strategic Plan for Child Protection in Emergencies 2014-2016 was finalized in October 2015. Eight of the 17 Regional Sub-Committees for the Welfare of Children issued resolutions to adopt Regional Child Protection Working Group (RCPWG) functions. Capacity building exercises in Child Protection in Emergencies and Information Management were conducted with RCPWG members nationwide. National Implementation Guidelines for Child Friendly Spaces were finalized informed by the Evaluation of Child-Friendly Spaces in the Typhoon Haiyan Response.

Two reports - *Strengthening Local Government Units in a CP Emergency Response* and a UNICEF headquarters-led multi-country study, documenting Child Protection Systems in Emergencies - both highlighted achievements in strengthening systems within emergency response, and good practice in strengthening LGUs and LCPCs during emergencies to better address child protection.

An Assessment of Rapid Family Tracing and Reunification (Rapid FTR) was conducted in February 2015 and provided guidance that informed national dialogue on the institutionalization

of Rapid FTR as an emergency response. The development of national standards on Rapid FTR are being promoted as well as support for the establishment/institutionalization of rapid response surge teams within DSWD and the Philippine National Police.

UNICEF, in partnership with IDEALS (local NGO Initiatives for Dialogue and Empowerment through Alternative Legal Services Inc.) and UNDP supported an ambitious initiative to replace civil registration documentation, including birth certificates for over 130,000 (50 per cent children) and digitize civil registration documentation in target municipalities.

OUTPUT 1 By the end of the country programme, strengthened national and local level institutional capacity to legislate, measure, monitor, advocate and plan for equitable access to child protection services that prevent and respond to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect in ten target LGUs.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Following the work in 2012 on the Governance Indicator Framework and the finalization of the Situation Analysis of National and Local Level Child Protection Information System, work in 2015 was consolidated with new partnerships. Institutional interest and support has encouraged the next phase, pursuing projects that were postponed due to Typhoon Haiyan in 2013. A Memorandum of Agreement was signed with the Philippine Statistical Research and Training Institute with the following objectives:

1. Review the GIF and localize within Philippine context without losing regional applicability;
2. Determine how to apply the GIF in the review/refinement of the quantitative and qualitative assessment tool and the set of local child protection indicators developed by UNICEF and to ensure its consistency with the current national monitoring and evaluation systems;
3. Formulate practical recommendations to ensure the assent of stakeholders in the broad application of the GIF, monitoring tool and indicator set;
4. Field-test the refined child protection monitoring tool and indicator set with pre-selected City/Municipal Social Welfare Departments;
5. Based on the results of the field test, formulate doable recommendations to ensure the broad application of the monitoring tool and indicator set.

This project will be conducted across 18 months, starting November 2015.

One of the most important achievements for child protection in 2015 was the completion of the comprehensive national baseline survey on violence against children (VAC). A total of 4,300 questionnaires were administered in 172 target *barangays* (villages) where 3,866 questionnaires were completed. The overall response rate was 89.9 per cent, with 1,918 females and 1,948 males responding. The study is significant as it provides information on the extent and magnitude of violence against Filipino children and will establish a baseline to measure change/progress in addressing violence against children in the country. This is the first national prevalence study in the country, which provides data utilized in developing prevention and response for strategies, including, recovery and healing approaches. UNICEF has reinforced its multi-sectoral engagement on VAC to prepare for the dissemination of the findings as well the finalization of the response/action plan in 2016. The development of a VAC advocacy/communication plan to raise public awareness including a dissemination plan to ensure that the prevalence study is shared with various stakeholders and levels of governance.

Work around case management protocols for child abuse and exploitation victims and children in conflict with the law (CICL) progressed. Particularly, the Integrated Care Management protocol for the CICL is being developed and validated to ensure the cooperation and

participation of different duty bearers from all relevant agencies within the juvenile justice and welfare system from initial contact to intervention/diversion, up to the point of rehabilitation, reintegration and aftercare. Support of UNICEF in this area is aligned to the recommendations of the Evaluation of the Intervention and Rehabilitation Programme in Residential Facilities and Diversion Programmes for CICL.

OUTPUT 2 By the end of the country programme, improved access to coordinated and comprehensive social welfare services and justice for children, as part of a comprehensive social protection framework/strategy that promotes equitable prevention of and response to violence, abuse, and exploitation and supports ECD through prevention of violence and protection of very young children in ten LGUs.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

In 2015, social welfare systems were strengthened through capacity building of social workers, with an emphasis on case management and community organization. This included targeting implementation of the Modified Conditional Cash Transfer (MCCT) programme for homeless street families.

Government and partner technical capacity to identify and support unaccompanied and separated children in emergencies was improved through an assessment of the use of a FTR system in the Typhoon Yolanda response, providing lessons learned for future emergencies. It was noted that social workers need additional support and capacity to ensure appropriate case management follow up.

Social welfare systems were also supported through a comprehensive review of mental health and psychosocial support programmes implemented in emergency affected areas (with emphasis on Typhoon Yolanda and Zamboanga), that guided the development of Philippine National Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in emergencies. The guidelines were formulated through consultations with Government and other partners, informed by the IASC standard framework.

Further social welfare systems strengthening focused on targeted municipalities in partnership with the Mindanao Child Protection Network, towards improving the functionality of Local Councils for the Protection of Children in LGUs.

Social welfare systems strengthening was also prioritized in Typhoon Yolanda affected areas, as well as conflict-affected locations, through support for preventive interventions and 'referral systems' to protect children, supporting the transition from emergency to development. Support for civil registration and the reconstruction of civil documents, with advocacy on birth registration in emergencies, was part of a broader partnership with Government and other agency partners.

Support for Alternative Care for Children in Regions VI and VIII (Typhoon Yolanda affected areas) resulted in the increase in the number of families qualified for foster care accreditation. In partnership with DSWD and the Centre for Family Ministries, UNICEF supported the capacity building of social workers and psychologists handling children in conflict with the law in selected DSWD managed temporary residential care facilities through the "resiliency program".

UNICEF is supporting an evaluation of the Government's Family Development Session designed to assist CCT beneficiaries to integrate child protection concerns and further enhance good parenting interventions as a tool for violence prevention.

UNICEF supported the first National Summit of Family Court Judges as a platform to share work on child online protection. Sexual exploitation of children was raised as a special concern and emerging issue. UNICEF also supported the Competency Enhancement Training for Judges and Court-Personnel Handling Child Abuse and Trafficking Cases.

OUTPUT 3 Mandated systems, mechanisms and processes for protection of girls, boys and women are organised/re-organised and further strengthened in priority cities, municipalities and barangays; and contributes to reducing risk and strengthening resilience.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The child protection response to the impact of Typhoon Haiyan met and exceeded planned targets. Key results were achieved through partnerships with Government, target LGUs, international and national NGOs, youth, faith-based organizations and academia. Results in 2015 built on initial response efforts in 2013/2014. Maintaining momentum for the conclusion of activities and reporting, with the loss of key staff from partner agencies and further small-scale local responses to emergencies posed a challenge. Final documents, including reports required several reiterations before finalization. This was time-consuming and required on-going follow-up.

A National Strategic Plan for Child Protection in Emergencies 2014-2016 was finalized with eight of the 17 Regional Sub-Committees for the Council for the Welfare of Children issuing resolutions to adopt RCPWG functions. Extensive capacity building exercises in Child Protection in Emergencies and Information Management were conducted with RCPWG members nationwide. The National Implementation Guidelines for Child Friendly Spaces were finalized and informed by the Evaluation of Child-Friendly Spaces in the Typhoon Haiyan Response.

To assess the outcomes of UNICEF's targeted investment in local government units through the Haiyan child protection response, the efforts made and successes were documented in two publications:

- Documentation of Child Protection Systems Strengthening Initiatives in Typhoon Haiyan Areas
- Strengthening Child Protection – in Emergencies

Both documents provide an overview of the different child-friendly local governance strategies that have been implemented by LGUs. They examine capacity building initiatives that may be undertaken to enable these structures to better meet their mandated roles/responsibilities and how the child protection referral systems were strengthened with the emergency as a springboard for investment and action.

UNICEF implemented the use of Rapid FTR in the immediate aftermath of the emergency, and through this tool was able to identify 132 children. An assessment of Rapid FTR was conducted in February 2015. The findings will: a) inform the national dialogue and debate on the institutionalization of Rapid FTR as an emergency response, for strengthening existing identification and reunification protocols as part of the larger alternative care continuum); b) inform the development of national standards on Rapid FTR and; c) support the establishment or institutionalization of rapid response surge teams in the DSWD and/or Philippine National Police.

An assessment of MHPSS in emergencies in the Typhoon Haiyan Response was conducted. The assessment reviewed the practices used in the implementation of MHPSS in Typhoon

Haiyan affected areas and Zamboanga (conflict-affected area). The outcomes of this assessment will inform the drafting of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Guidelines in Emergencies for children in the Philippines.

UNICEF with Initiatives for Dialogue and Empowerment through Alternative Legal Services Inc. (IDEALS) and UNDP replaced civil registration documentation, including birth certificates for 116,000 persons (over 50 per cent children) and digitized civil registration documentation in target municipalities. Outreach activities to support civil registration were conducted in 21 target municipalities and Tacloban City.

OUTCOME 6 By the end of the country programme, improved policy environment and systems for disadvantaged and excluded children, guided by improved knowledge and data.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Discussion with partners during 2015, together with the analysis for the MTR, resulted in a reframing of the Outcome and emphasis on “social inclusion”, in line with the 2014-17 UNICEF Strategic Plan. The focus of the outcome is still on reducing poverty incidence through social protection but with bias on targeting the excluded and marginalized. Hence, programme intervention is concentrated on the Modified Conditional Cash Transfer (MCCT) for homeless street families and MCCT for Indigenous Peoples in Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas. MCCT programmes were designed to reach the poor and socially excluded populations which resonates well with UNICEF’s focus on equity and social inclusion.

The poverty incidence was 25.8 per cent during the first semester of 2015, with the CCT still the main flagship programme to address poverty. Around 4.4 million families were served in 2015: with MCCT for indigenous populations covering 218,000 families and MCCT for homeless street families reaching 32,000 families. The average cash grant per household is approximately US\$261 per annum. UNICEF supported the MCCT for homeless street families in the conduct of a rapid appraisal of homeless families in six cities of Manila, Quezon, Cebu, Tacloban, Zamboanga, and Davao. The appraisal generated analysis on the situation of homeless street families, the factors that brought them to where they are now, and the appropriate services they need. This appraisal study served as input to the fine-tuning and improvement of the programme. Arrangements have started to support MCCT for indigenous populations through the supply side assessment of health and education services to understand their systems, culture and traditions for a more sensitive, tailored-fit approach. The assessment will be done in 503 municipalities across 16 regions, covering 183,399 indigenous households. There are 7,578 health facilities and 25,039 education facilities and day care centres in the programme areas.

UNICEF worked with ILO and Government partners in the development of the National Social Protection Floor through the Assessment Based National Dialogue on Social Protection Floor. UNICEF ensured the inclusion of basic income security for children, which would benefit around 11,594,000 CCT children. Among the recommendations were: increased health grant from PHP500 (US\$10.75) to PHP600 (US\$12.90); increased education grant from PHP300 (US\$6.45) to PHP360 (US\$7.75) for 3-14 year-olds and PHP500 (US\$10.75) to PHP600 (US\$12.90) for 15-18 year-olds, and; for students, provide meals to all public school students from Kindergarten to Grade 6 for 200 school days.

On policy advocacy, UNICEF increased its engagement with the Congress of the Philippines through its partnership with the Philippine Legislators Committee on Population and Development and succeeded in advocating for the inclusion of specific child-rights provisions in draft bills for children. This included advocacy to incorporate the protection of the rights of

children in the draft Bangsamoro Basic Law; removing the requirement of parental consent to access reproductive health services in the bill to amend the HIV/AIDS Law, including testing for HIV for adolescents aged 15 years to below 18 years, and allowing proxy consent for children without parents/legal guardians; and enhancing child-participation in disaster-risk reduction mechanisms of the local and national Government in the draft Children in Emergencies Bill.

On decentralization and governance, UNICEF assisted the Council for the Welfare of Children in computerizing the Child Friendly Local Government Audit and the Department of Interior and Local Government in analysing the results. Unlike in previous years where the audit just served as basis for recognizing and awarding the winners, non-winners with poor audit results obtained financial support from the DILG through the Bottom-up-Budgeting funds.

OUTPUT 1 By the end of the country programme, strengthened political commitment, accountability and national capacity to legislate, plan and budget for inclusive social policies and social protection measures.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

In support of the Philippine Government's efforts to expand citizen's participation in governance, and in order to become more accountable to its citizens, UNICEF completed its project cooperation agreement with CODE-NGO to build the capacity of civil society organizations (CSOs) to participate and monitor the Government-funded projects through the Bottom-up Budgeting process. BUB is an approach to preparing the budget proposal of national Government agencies, taking into consideration the development needs of cities/municipalities as identified through the Local Poverty Reduction Action Plans that are formulated with the participation of basic sector organizations and CSOs. The project included training for CSOs and the development of a tool for a CSO-led monitoring of BUB implementation. The tool is based on Section 4.7 of the Joint Memorandum Circular No. 6 of the Department of Budget and Management, Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of Social Welfare and Development and National Anti-Poverty Commission. The tools provide the opportunity to promote accountability and transparency in Government spending, and also to empower citizens to become active partners in governance.

In partnership with UNICEF EAPRO, the Child Rights Coalition Asia and other international NGOs, UNICEF Philippines contributed to the enrichment of the draft Convention on the Rights of the Child General Comment Number 19: Public Spending to Realize Children's Rights by co-supporting the Regional Consultation on the Elimination of Violence against Children and Improved Public Investment on Children. A two-day workshop generated comments and recommendations on how to make the draft more practical and understandable for State Parties and other interest groups. Some highlights were the need to: (a) reflect the whole public finance management cycle explicitly; (b) clarify terminology used to ensure common understanding among economists and non-economists, and; (c) clarify concepts and principles to ensure public investments for children are allocated and spent for children. It also led to a realization among Philippine-based CSOs of the importance of understanding and the need to enhance their knowledge of the Government public financial management process so that they can effectively advocate for increased public investments for children.

UNICEF increased its engagement with the Congress of the Philippines through its partnership with the Philippine Legislators Committee on Population and Development and succeeded in advocating for the inclusion of specific child-rights provisions in draft bills for children. This includes advocacy to incorporate the protection of the rights of children in the draft Bangsamoro Basic Law; removing the requirement of parental consent to access reproductive health services

guardians in the bill to amend the HIV/AIDS Law, including testing for HIV for adolescents aged between 15 years and 18 years and allowing proxy consent for children without parents/legal; and enhancing child-participation in disaster-risk reduction mechanisms of the local and national Government in the draft Children in Emergencies Bill.

OUTPUT 2 Typhoon Haiyan-Cash Transfers

Analytical Statement of Progress:

In 2015, UNICEF focused on finishing the work on the cash transfers that was started during the Haiyan emergency. The cash infusion for the entire Haiyan emergency relief period totalled US\$9,480,600. The unconditional cash transfers to 15,801 beneficiary households were distributed as follows:

- Tacloban City
- Leyte municipalities: La Paz, Dagami, Julita, Pastrana, Burauen
- Eastern Samar municipalities: Guian, Hernani, Mercedes, Balangkayan, Salcedo

The third-party monitoring teams, Philippine Statistical Association, Inc. (PSAI) and Alcanz Consulting Group Inc., submitted the terminal reports, which contained lessons learned on using cash transfers as a humanitarian intervention during emergency.

The two studies concluded that emergency unconditional cash transfers ensured food security and met the daily expense needs of families during the critical period of rebuilding shelters and earning a livelihood. Specifically, according to the Alcanz report, there was no evidence to suggest that the spending behaviour of the beneficiaries should cause concern for future direct cash assistance programmes in a crisis situation.

In terms of programme implementation PSAI concluded that, “eligibility criteria should be clear and measurable to ensure that the target clientele are covered. More structured screening of households can be used to facilitate objective selection of beneficiaries. If the main objective is smooth consumption, monthly distribution of cash is preferable over a one-time distribution. The latter would be useful to those who would use the cash to restart a business or repair the house.” (PSAI, 2015)

Both reports serve as evidence for a recommendation to the Department of Social Welfare and Development in drafting a policy for the adoption of emergency unconditional cash transfers during emergencies.

On the assistance provided to LGUs under the Child-Responsive Planning and Development Package, most of the money provided was used for the procurement of equipment, data management training, data collection, and other capacity building activities. LGUs procured desktop and laptop computers, printers, copying machines and other office supplies that aided them in the performance of their functions.

The rigorous process of bidding caused delays in the implementation of some activities, despite the fact that the national government had already issued guidelines and clarifications in the bidding and procurement processes in times of emergencies.

OUTCOME 7 By end of the country programme, an improved and inclusive peace conditions and social service delivery achieved through conflict analysis, integration of child rights

violations information and peace initiatives (UNICEF Action Plans with conflict parties on child soldiers) in national and local plans especially for conflict affected LGUs.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

In 2015 the context for peacebuilding shifted. In 2014 there was significant progress with the formal peace process, with the signing of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro, the drafting of the Bangsamoro Basic Law– the legislative basis for the new autonomous entity – and the completion of the Bangsamoro Development Plan, which was designed to serve as a roadmap for the recovery and rehabilitation of Bangsamoro communities. However, in February 2015, fighting broke out between the Government and splinter groups of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, following a law enforcement operation in Central Mindanao. This led to the displacement of over 120,000 people and a stalling of the peace process. As of December, the BBL had not been approved by Congress. There is a high risk that the legislation will not be passed before the Presidential Elections schedule for May 2016, creating uncertainty over how the road map set out in the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro to end the armed conflict between the Government and MILF will be taken forward. Over 2015 there was increased insecurity, with around a 70 per cent increase in conflict-related displacements compared to 2014. This increase was fuelled by the fighting in February, insecurity linked to the subsequent stalling on the peace process and an increase in forced evacuations of Indigenous People in Eastern Mindanao.

Despite the deterioration, significant progress was made in the implementation of the UN-MILF Action Plan. If progress continues at the same pace there is a prospect that the Action Plan will be fully implemented in 2016. Over the course of 2015 key achievements included the launching of a communications campaign ‘Children Not Soldiers,’ as well as successful advocacy for and support to the Bangsamoro Islamic Women’s Auxiliary Brigade/BIWAB to increase their engagement in Action Plan implementation. There was, however, little movement made in accelerating dialogue on an Action Plan with the New People’s Army/NPA, linked in part to a lack of progress on negotiations between the NPA and Government. Whilst UNICEF continued to support monitoring and reporting on grave child rights violations, challenges remained in strengthening the monitoring and reporting mechanism in insecure and geographically remote areas, including the Sulu Archipelago in Western Mindanao, and indigenous communities in mountainous areas of Eastern Mindanao.

In addition, UNICEF continued to increase its support to local government in conflict-affected areas to deliver key services to children with very limited access. This support included a focus support to government in the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao which has some of the worst indicators in terms of children’s survival and development. These disparities are perpetuated by the conflict, which disrupts access to services in the short-term and undermines development, with adverse effects on governance and service delivery, trapping communities into a vicious cycle of conflict and poverty. Over the course of 2015 UNICEF supported Government interventions to respond to the needs created by the short- and long-term impact of the conflict. This consisted of interventions targeting the early childhood years (0 to eight year olds) in education, nutrition and WASH, as well as adolescence (11 to 18 year olds), which is a period of increased risk. In addition, in 2015 UNICEF conducted a mapping of insecurity in Mindanao to inform geographical targeting, building on a child-centred conflict analysis conducted in 2014.

OUTPUT 1 By the end of the country programme, children's rights are promoted and integrated in the peace process, Action Plan(s) put in place to prevent grave child rights violations are implemented, and systems that prevent and respond to grave child rights violations in conflict

are functioning with expanded capacity, including community based child protection mechanisms.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism is a joint effort of the UN system in the country, which is managed by the Country Task Force Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR).

Negotiations between the UN and Non-State Armed Groups listed in the annexes of the UN Secretary General's Annual Report on Children and Armed Conflict have supported the development and implementation of MRM Action Plans. Specifically for the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, progress was made in the implementation of the UN-MILF Action Plan, with four out of six benchmarks of the Roadmap achieved.

Despite the slow progress of peace negotiations between the New People's Army and the Government, there are some emerging signs of hope. The issuance of the Declaration and Programme of Action for the Rights, Protection and Welfare of Children by the National Democratic Front of the Philippines/NDFP remains an entry point to initiate dialogue on the way forward for children reportedly associated with the NPA. Overwhelming security concerns prevent any specific actions to engage with the Abu Sayyaf Group/ASG and the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters/BIFF.

The Armed Forces of Philippines (AFP) are in the process of finalizing a Strategic Plan with the UN. This strategy will be comprised of a series of concrete, practical measures to better protect children affected by armed conflict in the course of its military operations. The strategy aims at packaging measures taken, strengthening existing Government of the Philippines' mechanism and addressing gaps where needed. The Strategic Plan has yet to be finalized and signed by the leadership of the AFP and the Department of National Defence. This strategic plan is part of the wider Monitoring, Reporting, and Response System (MRRS), an inter-agency government structure established by a Presidential Directive, to coordinate programmes and facilitate implementation of policies related to children involved in armed conflict. The MRRS continued to present challenges in its operationalization, including ensuring local presence and response.

Partnerships with NGOs to assist in the MRM verification process are critical, and presented a constraint due to lack of funds for Project Cooperation Agreements and the limited number of partners for the highly specialized MRM work. The selection of neutral, independent and well-reputed NGOs acceptable to all parties who can provide coverage in all conflict areas including Luzon, Visayas, Eastern Mindanao and the Island Provinces also posed a continued challenge.

Finally, an overarching challenge includes establishment and maintenance of community level structures that respond to child protection concerns in conflict areas. A critical intervention is to pursue changes in norms, behaviours and attitudes at this level.

OUTPUT 2 By the end of the country programme, ensure humanitarian support and development coordination for conflict-affected LGUs.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Consistent with UNICEF's Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action (CCC), UNICEF Philippines supported Government-led interventions to respond to the humanitarian needs created by outbreaks of fighting and protracted conflict. In early 2015, mapping identified the most conflict-affected areas, by triangulating data from a range of sources (OCHA, UNDSS,

NGOs, CSOs) to strengthen targeting. With a focus on supporting LGUs to extend critical services for child survival and development in conflict-affected areas, UNICEF partnered with ARMM and the government at the provincial, municipal and barangay level.

Specific results are detailed below, broken down by sector with the corresponding CCC commitment each contributed to.

- Education (CCCs 2, 3 and 4): Both the regional and sub-regional divisions of the Department of Education ARMM assisted 6,328 elementary age children and 931 day-care centre age children in returning to learning in 22 barangays affected by fighting. Provision of learning supplies and training of 22 day-care centre teachers was also accomplished. The City School Division of Tandag provided access to temporary learning for 425 elementary age children from Indigenous People communities, displaced by fighting. The Bangsamoro Development Agency and education committee of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front were also supported to consider how the future devolved government would support education.
- Education (CCC 5): Context-relevant life skills programmes for adolescents were developed and implemented by CSOs in partnership with local government. A total of 253 facilitators were trained and 3,377 young people were reached in 19 municipalities. Over 3,000 adolescents were reached through a 'Peace Month' campaign.
- Nutrition (CCCs 3, 4 and 5): Regional Department of Health and municipal/barangay LGUs extended Community Management of Acute Malnutrition, Infant and Young Child Feeding and Micronutrient Supplementation for children and pregnant or lactating women in 25 municipalities. This included IYCF counselling to 6,003 pregnant or lactating women by IYCF-trained government health workers; 51,581 under-fives screened for malnutrition; 955 children identified with SAM and admitted to therapeutic feeding programmes, with 405 discharged as recovered; 5,229 6-23 month olds provided with micronutrient powder; 26,409 6-59 month olds given Vitamin A supplements; and 3,566 pregnant or lactating women received a complete course of iron folic acid tablets.
- WASH (CCCs 2, 3 and 4): DoH and municipal DRR offices provided emergency WASH to 5,376 children and 6,720 women in two cities and eight Municipalities in ARMM. WASH continued to support the Phase Approach to Total Sanitation to three Municipalities, with 58 communities certified as open defecation free reaching 109,412 individuals (22,798 households) and two municipalities achieving Municipal-wide open defecation free status. Support to strengthen WASH governance included training of at least 250 LGU officials, with six Municipal child/conflict-sensitive WASH Plans developed.
- Child Protection (CCC 7): Child recruitment was addressed and prevented through a communication campaign 'Children Not Soldiers', reaching 15,085 people including 2,457 children, and 3,201 members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces in 61 municipalities in eight provinces. A total of 3,256 Bangsamoro Auxiliary Women's Brigade members in 29 battalions were also reached.

OUTCOME 8 Improved capacity of public sector institutions at the national and local level to prepare for and mitigate risks from emergencies/ hazards in line with UNICEF Core Commitments for Children.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The Philippines Government has demonstrated its increasing capacity, independence and leadership in managing disaster response. Despite being battered by at least three strong typhoons, the Government did not appeal for international humanitarian assistance, and responded to these emergencies essentially using their own resources, with selected technical support and supplies from international humanitarian organisations based in-country.

The level of destruction and casualties of these strong typhoons were mitigated by the Government's amplified efforts on preparedness and increased capacities. The United Nations lauded the efforts of the Philippine Government in saving lives and minimizing damage when Typhoon Lando (international name Koppu) struck Luzon in October 2015. The UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction cited regular briefings from the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration/PAGASA and the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council/NDRRMC in helping guide the actions of local government units and volunteer groups. UNICEF highlighted the Government's pre-emptive evacuation and widespread public information. Pre-emptive evacuation of entire communities imposed by LGUS is now becoming an accepted norm among families in coastal and flood-prone areas under threat of an incoming typhoon.

On 30 July, 2015, the national Government conducted an elaborate, Metropolitan Manila-wide earthquake drill in anticipation of a massive earthquake they call "The Big One" that may hit the capital because of the movement of the West Valley Fault, east of Manila. The simulation was participated in by about six million people, and involved all the local governments of 16 cities and one town in Metro-Manila. A 2004 Metro Manila Earthquake Impact Reduction Study had revealed that without the necessary interventions, a 7.2-magnitude earthquake in Metro Manila could destroy 40 per cent of residential buildings, damage 35 per cent of all public buildings, kill 34,000 people, injure 114,000 individuals, and the ensuing fires will also result in 18,000 additional fatalities.

Several Government agencies, with assistance from UNICEF, issued policies and guidelines that make Government preparedness and response further aligned with the basic concepts of UNICEF's Core Commitment for Children, as follows:

- The Department of Health and the National Nutrition Council launched the National Guidelines on the Management of Acute Malnutrition among Children under five. The management of acute malnutrition, which started as an emergency intervention, will now be integrated and institutionalized into routine health and nutrition programmes, and scaled up effectively to address severe acute malnutrition in both emergency and development contexts. Under-nutrition continues to be a public health priority in the country.
- The DoH-Health Emergency Management Bureau together with UNICEF and other partners, developed the Evidenced-Based Planning for Resilient Health Systems Project (rEBaP) which assisted LGUs in crafting their Health Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery Plans, a long-term plan to increasing local capacity in addressing emergencies and disasters. The project was implemented in 50 LGUs, six provincial governments and three regional offices of DoH as part of UNICEF's Strategic Response Plan for Haiyan. The DoH is now moving toward the national adoption of the rEBaP initiative.

- The Department of Education issued DepEd Orders No. 23 on Student-Led School-Watching and Hazard Mapping and No. 44 on the Guidelines on the Enhanced School Improvement Planning Process and the School Report Card. The former encourages student participation in hazard assessment in the schools, while the latter introduced natural and human-induced hazards as factors to be considered in preparing school improvement plans.
- The Council for the Welfare of Children endorsed the Guidelines on Establishing Child-Friendly Spaces during Emergencies, which provides for designating safe areas for children in evacuation centres or displacement camps where they could play and be among their peers. The guidelines, which recognise the right of children to play and be given psychosocial support especially during crisis situations, were developed with the Department of Social Welfare and Development Regional Councils for the Welfare of Children were organised and trained to act as the coordinating body for child protection interventions during emergencies, including the setting up of CFS.

OUTPUT 1 By end of the country programme, at least 60 per cent of priority LGUs have integrated a child-centred disaster and climate risk analysis in their development and emergency response plans and the national Government has enacted or issued at least one national law or policy that supports child-centred DRR.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation remained high on the agenda of the national Government while local governments are realising the need to consider them in planning for their programme of services to achieve their development goals.

UNICEF Philippines used the growing public awareness of DRR by introducing the child-centred approach that gives particular focus on the rights and vulnerabilities of girls, boys, adolescents, youth and women and their participation in DRR programming. Advocacy with the Department of Interior and Local Government and the National Youth Commission prompted the issuance of Joint Memorandum Circular JMC 2015-01, which encourages all LGUs to include the youth sector as members of the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Councils while integrating youth-oriented activities into their Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plans. To engender the meaningful participation of youth in DRR programming, a training module designed for young people was developed and a pool of trainers was organised by NYC, with help from Bicol University and the Climate Change Academy of the Province of Albay. Sub-national consultations among youth leaders were conducted to get their views and formulate plans of action for their participation. An interactive electronic learning and gaming application on DRR and CCA was also developed to motivate more children and youth to learn and become involved. The app can be downloaded for free initially at the NYC and UNICEF websites.

A prototype of the Global Information System's Multi-Hazard and Child Vulnerability (MHCV) data processing and mapping system was piloted in the Mercedes municipality of the Camarines Norte province. The MHCV system designed for LGUs and enables them to process data on vulnerabilities, capacities and exposure of children, families and communities. It uses a colour code system to determine the level of risk (low/alert-yellow, medium/serious-orange, high/critical-red) and presents them in tables and geo-spatial maps. Sixty staff members from 20 LGUs were trained to use the MHCV system.

Community-based child-centred DRR models were established in 22 barangays in eight municipalities and two cities, in collaboration with five local civil society organisations. The communities established the link and the areas for collaboration between the schools and the communities. They also demonstrated how girls, boys, adolescents, youth and women in the schools and communities could be organised and mobilised for mitigation, preparedness and response activities.

DRR assistance to Haiyan-affected areas was also concluded. Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Offices across 41 municipalities and six provinces are now better equipped to anticipate, withstand and respond to emergencies and hazards with the adoption of risk-informed programming and child-centred disaster risk reduction interventions. New competencies, like the use of Global Information Systems, which are crucial in risk management, were also introduced to priority LGUs.

OUTCOME 9 Cross Sectoral - Advocacy, resource mobilization, partnership, monitoring and evaluation and emergency response are addressed through management arrangements.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Progressing as planned

OUTPUT 1 M&E: Enhanced capacities for collection, access and utilization of disaggregated information at national and sub-national levels to monitor and evaluate policies and plans.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The UNICEF Philippines MTR expanded the Monitoring and Evaluation section to include Planning. The Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (PME) priorities and accountabilities were revisited in quarter three of 2015 to address changes in context and priorities, and now has three broad focus areas.

The first PME focal area is 'vertical' programming with national Government agencies, which is envisaged to use approximately 30 per cent of PME time and resources. During 2015, UNICEF worked with the Government National Economic Development Authority and the Department of Budget and Management to develop a National Evaluation Policy. The policy was approved in mid-2015, and in late 2015 UNICEF supported a National Monitoring and Evaluation forum to operationalize the new National Evaluation Policy.

During 2015 UNICEF also worked to support the Government in transitioning to the SDGs, which was a key theme of the National Monitoring and Evaluation forum. UNICEF, with other development agencies, supported the development of Philippines-specific SDG indicators with a focus on children. Supporting Government to operationalise their National Evaluation Policy forms the framework of ongoing PME 'vertical' programming.

In 2015, UNICEF worked with Government to strengthen their rapid needs assessment process and tools during sudden onset emergencies. This was through supporting the development of an online hazard-mapping platform to allow the overlaying of child-focused variables on hazard maps. UNICEF also worked with other UN agencies, NGO partners and Bicol University to strengthen the Government Rapid Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis/RDANA tool for the Philippines Office of Civil Defence.

The second focus area is 'strategic PME' to inform the broader country programme. This led to the strengthening of the management of the UNICEF Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and incorporating its review in the CMT meetings. The 2016 IMEP will be drawn from the 2016 Annual Work Plans with research, studies and evaluations being integrated into Government–UNICEF plans, with a specific focus on strategic evaluations to inform the Country Programme.

A number of Standard Operating Procedures were developed or revised, including incorporating the revised UNICEF Quality Assurance and Ethics in Research guidance. UNICEF Philippines annual work planning and annual reporting processes were strengthened, and a clear quality assurance process established. Humanitarian planning for the UNICEF Philippines Humanitarian Action for Children appeal was integrated into regular annual work planning.

The third focus area is 'PME programmatic support'. In 2015, UNICEF completed two evaluations, both in the Child Protection sector. These were: 1) the evaluation of Child-Friendly Spaces in Typhoon Haiyan-affected areas, and; 2) the evaluation of the intervention and rehabilitation programme in residential and diversion programmes for Children in Conflict with the Law.

The revised global CSO partnership guidelines for Programme Cooperation Agreements led PME to revise its approach to reviewing PCA results matrices, leading to a lighter and more streamlined process.

OUTPUT 2 By 2016 child rights realized through increased awareness of UNICEF's focus areas (multiple vulnerabilities and MDGs with equity) through public debate and discussion and targeted advocacy campaigns.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF Philippines advanced the organization's public advocacy agenda through key advocacy priorities drawn from the AMP and programme priorities. These include the '1,000 Days of a Child's Life' campaign, child nutrition and breastfeeding initiatives, the 'Children Not Soldiers' campaign, and ongoing peacebuilding activities in Mindanao.

Additional media coverage generated throughout the year included spotlighting health financing, adolescent development and participation, fundraising events and themes, education, positive parenting (against corporal punishment), child trafficking, and online protection of children.

Fifty eight press releases and 37 human-interest stories and video features garnered an estimated US\$500,000 worth of media coverage in television, newspapers, radio and online media. UNICEF Philippines also appeared in several international media interviews.

Communication support for advocacy priorities were facilitated through media partnerships and campaigns. UNICEF and ABS CBN News Channel brought to the public the 1,000 Days campaign. Learning sessions with Congress and the Senate provided opportunities for high-level and policy advocacy promoting important legislation for children.

Public events and messages enjoyed significant reach through active work with Goodwill Ambassadors and celebrity advocates, including a fun run initiated by Anne Curtis to raise funds for UNICEF titled 'Heroes for Children' and a field visit by Daphne Paez encouraging support for breastfeeding mothers in the workplace. A field visit by UNICEF'S National Goodwill Ambassador Gary Valenciano spotlighted the work in child-centred disaster risk reduction.

Issues surrounding children and armed conflict were brought to the public domain through a press conference and a dedicated digital campaign in September celebrating Peace Month. The online community reach increased to more than 237,000 users visiting the UNICEF Philippines website in 2015, registering at least 615,000 page views. Social media accounts had 175,000 followers, with content on Facebook –UNICEF Philippines’ main channel - reaching more than 13.18 million users, a 1.17 per cent increase from 2014.

UNICEF’s preparedness and response to emergencies in 2015 received recurring and significant coverage. Typhoons Maysak and Koppu were the two strongest typhoons. Video features, human interest stories, photo essays and press releases profiling work in Super Typhoon Haiyan and the Zamboanga conflict continued to receive multi-media attention until the closure of the response in November, two years after that emergency.

UNICEF signed an innovative electoral media partnership with ABS-CBN, Halalan 2016 to promote child rights advocacy for setting a child-centred agenda in the Presidential elections scheduled for May 2016.

Public advocacy priorities for 2016 have been selected through a consultative process and management endorsement for rollout in 2016 in line with the UNICEF global strategy framework. A robust media measurement method has set baseline and targets for voice, reach and engagement, alongside the engagement of a bigger public relations agency to support media outreach.

OUTPUT 3 High quality income from private individuals and corporations is increased to US\$4 million.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

By the end of quarter three of 2015, UNICEF had raised US\$4.25 million from private individuals and corporations in the Philippines. This is slightly lower as compared to the same period in 2014, largely due to the decline in emergency-related corporate contributions.

Major initiatives in 2015

Aligned with the global strategy to develop a third fundraising channel in addition to pledge and corporate fundraising, the UNICEF Philippines Private Fundraising and Partnerships unit initiated a major donor fundraising programme targeted at recruiting the support of philanthropic individuals capable of making substantial contributions to UNICEF. A temporary post was created to lead this initiative and the programme is still in its initial stage of development.

To further stabilize the pledge programme, another major initiative was the inclusion of a second face-to-face agency. A new strategy for pledge recruitment is currently under testing in collaboration with this second agency, called tele facing (combined telemarketing and face-to-face recruitment). Initial results are promising, hence the need to invest in and develop this new fundraising technique in 2016. The funds raised in-country contribute 15 per cent of the total gross income to global Regular Resources, and also contributes to the regional thematic fund.

OUTPUT 4 Typhoon Haiyan- PME

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF Philippines began a process of transitioning out of Typhoon Haiyan operations in 2015. Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation activities began to reduce as the year progressed and the Tacloban Field Office closed on 30 November 2015.

In quarter two of 2015 the second round of 'e-Humanitarian Performance Monitoring' (e-HPM) was completed for the 40 UNICEF Haiyan priority LGUs. This is a household survey approach at the LGUs that is based on the CCCs at the Outcome level. While innovative in nature, operationally there were many challenges and lessons/experience indicate that it is not a good return on investment, being costly, slow and not providing information on UNICEF specific results. In parallel to the UNICEF Philippines e-HPM approach the global Humanitarian Performance Monitoring was maintained in 2015. The Global HPM is designed to be lighter, linked to UNICEF cluster results, based on UNICEF results and linked to the Humanitarian Situation Report. The Global HPM informed the two year UNICEF internal Haiyan report in November 2015.

The UNICEF PME unit produced two internal 'lessons' documents from the Haiyan response. These related to the use of Direct Cash Transfers at the LGU level as a programme implementation strategy in humanitarian contexts, and the use of global HPM for monitoring UNICEF results.

OUTPUT 5 Haiyan: Multi-sectoral operational costs

Analytical Statement of Progress:

UNICEF's ongoing recovery activities following Super Typhoon Haiyan involved significant communication support including the hosting of visits and the documentation of programmes and interventions in 2015. Informative outreach included regular updates to both national and international media, as well as UNICEF headquarters, UNICEF National Committees and donors.

Nine human interest stories, 15 photo essays and 21 feature films were produced, focusing on the recovery and progress made through a range of interventions for children, and the building of resilience and disaster risk reduction. With input from affected communities, the stories conveyed the continuing challenges they face in the recovery process. Sectoral interventions were featured in health, nutrition, safety and protection, WASH, and education, while other stories and features highlighted the overall situation through a community perspective and a child-focused lens.

UNICEF valued the participation of children and youth in telling authentic stories about their experience with disaster. From the 'One Minute Jr' participatory video workshops, young participants produced 19 one-minute films about safety and protection issues affecting children and youth. The 'Eye See Young Photographers' workshop which culminated in a powerful photo exhibition in 2014, was followed up in 2015 with continued training and encouragement for the participants. The group continues to record their experience of recovery and beyond. Their latest work produced a week-long photo exhibit in Tacloban City prior to the second anniversary of Super Typhoon Haiyan. The videos and photo displays conveyed their stories at the exhibition, which coincided with the launch of the Youth Hub in Tacloban City.

UNICEF produced a comprehensive communication package, which was widely shared for the second year commemoration of Super Typhoon Haiyan. The package included key messages, a press release, human interest stories, photo essays and video features.

On 30 November 2015 the Tacloban zone office closed, after two years of response and recovery operations. Communication and media support was provided in a closing ceremony with partners, beneficiaries, children and staff members. Video documentaries were also produced to feature the hard work and contribution of the emergency staff members who worked tirelessly over the past two years.

In recognition of the commendable recovery efforts made by the Department of Education in Region 8, UNICEF supported the production of a coffee table book. The publication, entitled '*Padayon: Rebuilding Hope in Eastern Visayas*' features stories of survival and the resilience of school children, teachers, parents, and communities.

In addition to the seven visits from UNICEF National Committees, media and donors that UNICEF hosted in close partnership with local government and communities in the affected areas, three Goodwill Ambassadors visited from UNICEF Germany, Korea and France.

OUTPUT 6 Haiyan: Multi-sectoral operational costs

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The closure of Tacloban office, which was established during the 2013 Level 3 emergency, and transition planning with the multiple partnerships, was an important milestone in the transition to integrate humanitarian and regular programming. UNICEF Philippines undertook a comprehensive process to document the process and lessons learned.