Turkey

Executive summary

Turkey is an upper middle-income country with substantial capacities to uphold child rights. However, challenges related to child poverty, child labour, gender discrimination and child marriage remain, as well as gaps in access to quality inclusive education and protection from violence and abuse, particularly for the most vulnerable groups. Among the most vulnerable children are children with disabilities, child workers, children in contact with the law, adolescent girls and boys, and refugee children. Turkey is hosting over 3.4 million Syrian refugees with temporary protection status, including more than 1.5 million children, and 365,000 registered asylum-seekers and refugees from other countries. While Turkey is committed to responding to the needs of refugees and has invested significant national resources to provide access to a wide range of services, their unprecedented numbers continue to require increased and sustained international support.

In 2017, the state of emergency imposed after the 2016 coup attempt was extended and continued to impact the space for civil society, including media. However, State institutions partly overcame the impacts of the post-coup atmosphere and dismissals. Political violence and terrorism declined compared to the previous year. The disbursement of international support, particularly from the European Union (EU), for refugees increased within the context of the EU-Turkey Statement.

Progress on the implementation of the 2016-2020 Country Programme accelerated, particularly in Outcomes 1 and 3, and with notable results particularly in education.

By the end of 2017, over 600,000 refugee children, nearly half of whom are girls, were enrolled in formal education, a 24 per cent increase over the end of the previous school-year. For the first time, more Syrian children were enrolled in Turkish public schools than in temporary education centres. Continuous and wide-ranging collaboration between the Ministry of National Education and UNICEF contributed significantly to this achievement. Another major development was the extension of the national system of payment of conditional cash transfers tied to school enrolment and continued attendance to over 188,000 vulnerable refugee children. UNICEF’s multi-faceted support for efforts to remove barriers to refugee children’s right to education also included the development of the accelerated learning programme for out-of-school Syrian children and adolescents, to be launched by the Ministry of National Education in early 2018.

In child protection, UNICEF continued a similar strategy of strengthening national programmes and systems to better serve vulnerable Turkish and refugee children. The emphasis is on prevention, including parent education programmes, family support and strengthening programmes that enhance their ability to access existing services, psychosocial care services and resource centres that offer information and referral services. Through a wide network of community-based partners, UNICEF reached over 150,000 vulnerable children with child protection services.
A child protection outreach component was incorporated into the extension of the conditional cash transfer for education programme for refugees. Collaboration commenced with the Ministry of Family and Social Policies on extending the national family social support outreach programme (known as ASDEP) to cover refugee families.

UNICEF also supported the Ministry of Health in three rounds of a national supplementary vaccination campaign reaching 376,000 refugee children under five years old, and procured 50,000 doses of inactivated polio vaccine for the Ministry on the basis of the contingency plan for the Syrian polio outbreak.

UNICEF continues to support efforts to address secondary school non-attendance and drop-out, girls at risk of child marriage, working children, children with disabilities and children in the justice system in Turkey, regardless of nationality. UNICEF supported capacity development for more than 400 Ministry of Labour and Social Security inspectors for the prevention of child labour. Meanwhile, an initiative began with the Ministry of National Education to ensure the social inclusion of children with disabilities via mainstream early childhood education. UNICEF’s advocacy actively contributed to the legislative reform process to strengthen the administration of justice for children in contact with the law. The draft law on victim’s rights, which officially identifies the Ministry of Justice’s Department of Victim’s Rights as a primary body in charge of developing and implementing policies for children in contact with the law, is expected to be adopted in 2018.

A new work-plan with the Directorate General of Migration Management foresees capacity building to promote the centrality of the best interest of the child in migration management policy. A new partnership with Kilis Municipality supports education and child protection services as well as a special focus on the reduction of child marriage. An agreement signed with the Kirikhan Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundation to provide cash-based winter assistance may open the way to collaboration with other such foundations. The small traders and artisans confederation is a key new partner to combat child labour.

UNICEF Turkey expanded its collaboration with the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority, the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Family and Social Policies and the Turkish Red Crescent Society in sharing their humanitarian experience and expertise with other countries and facilitating their participation in regional and global fora.

**Humanitarian assistance**

In 2017, Turkey continued to host one of the largest refugee populations in the world as the country endured two complex, protracted and closely intertwined humanitarian emergencies: the Syria refugee crisis and the refugee and migrant situation in Europe.

By year-end, Turkey was home to almost 3.8 million registered refugees and asylum-seekers, about 1.6 million of whom were children. There were around 3.4 million Syrians, including over 1.5 million children, under temporary protection, and 365,000 registered asylum-seekers and refugees from other countries, primarily Afghanistan, Iraq and Iran. In 2017, an estimated 30,000 people crossed from Turkey to Europe; around 45 are believed to have died in the attempt.

Given the protracted nature of the crises, UNICEF’s humanitarian response works through national systems and is integrated across the country programme. It focuses on four priority areas – education, child protection, adolescent and youth engagement, and basic needs – to
reach vulnerable refugee and migrant children in camps and host communities, as well as vulnerable Turkish children. The scale-up of services and strengthening of existing national systems remained a top priority, with an increased focus on resilience and longer-term, sustainable interventions that reflect the protracted and complex nature of the situation.

The Government of Turkey remained the largest provider of humanitarian aid in-country, while UNICEF and partners continued to provide complementary assistance to vulnerable children. UNICEF’s support was guided by the Country Programme Document and within the frameworks of the Regional Refugee and Resilience (3RP), and the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plans and the “No Lost Generation” strategy. UNICEF also participated actively in all relevant national and sub-national coordination mechanisms, providing co-leadership of the Education Working Group, the Child Protection Sub-Working Group, the Southeast Turkey Education Working Group and the Southeast Turkey Child Protection Sub-Working Group.

UNICEF worked closely with the Ministry of National Education and partners to increase access and improve the quality of education for refugee children in temporary education centres and Turkish public schools. In 2017, UNICEF supported the extension of the conditional cash transfer for education programme (CCTE) to refugees, which has benefited over 188,444 children to date. UNICEF also constructed seven schools and established 298 classrooms in camps and host communities, while continuing to cover financial incentives for about 13,200 Syrian teachers and providing needs-based training for 126,554 Syrian and Turkish teachers. As a result, over 600,000 refugee children are enrolled in temporary education centres and public schools – a 24 per cent increase since the end of the last school year.

UNICEF worked closely with the Ministry of Family and Social Policies and partners to provide protection and psychosocial support services to vulnerable refugee and migrant children via a network of protection spaces in 19 camps and 11 host communities in 17 provinces. A total of 117,699 refugee children were identified with protection needs and referred to relevant social services. Of these, 27,483 children received specialized services. In addition, 69,709 children received regular, structured psychosocial support. UNICEF also scaled up and strengthened its adolescents and youth programme, expanding partnerships to reach 125,796 Syrian and Turkish young people with social cohesion and empowerment activities.

With respect to non-food items and cash-based assistance, 33,470 children and their families-on-the-move received hygiene kits tailored to their specific needs. UNICEF also continued to provide one-off, cash-based assistance to vulnerable refugee and Turkish families to help them meet increased needs during the winter. During the winter of 2016-2017, UNICEF supported about 34,000 households, benefitting an estimated 102,000 children.

UNICEF provided technical and communication for development support to the Ministry of Health for three rounds of a national vaccination campaign for refugee and migrant children under five. The campaign aimed to protect children against a variety of communicable diseases including polio, influenza, measles, mumps, rubella, and hepatitis B. Over 376,000 children were screened in 20 provinces. Following these assessments, 121,600 children received missing pentavalent vaccine doses and 142,000 received the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine.

UNICEF continued to strengthen preparedness to respond to new crises. Internal preparedness mechanisms were reviewed and revised, and the emergency risk profile updated. Existing partnerships were strengthened with key actors in government and civil society to monitor the situation on the ground and develop comprehensive contingency plans for a variety of potential crises.
humanitarian scenarios.

UNICEF continued to face some challenges in delivering assistance, mostly related to the restricted operational space for humanitarian actors on the ground. The implications of the July 2016 coup attempt persisted, with the state of emergency still in effect and leading to political tensions, pressure on civil society and the closure of some non-governmental organizations (NGOs). However, these challenges were mitigated wherever possible through close relations with the Government, and UNICEF was able to implement all planned key activities for children successfully.

**Strategic Plan 2018-2021**

Although the Turkey-UNICEF 2016-2020 Country Programme is aligned in most aspects to the Strategic Plan 2018-2021, the upcoming mid-term review will be an opportunity to integrate and revise key relevant elements as needed. The development of the United Nations interagency Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) strategy will be another opportunity to better align the Country Programme with the new UNICEF Strategic Plan by integrating the principles of the 2030 Agenda and reinforcing the pledge to leave no-one and no-child behind and to reach the farthest behind first.

The Turkey-UNICEF Country Programme is generally coherent with the goal areas identified by the new Strategic Plan, considering the country-specific needs.

Goal Area 1 – Every Child Survives and Thrives – is an area focused especially on early childhood development (ECD) as well as on the needs of refugee children for full immunization.

Goal Area 2 – Every Child Learns – is addressed from the access and the quality perspectives for both Turkish vulnerable children and refugee children. Efforts are made to facilitate access for out-of-school children, including refugee children, who are amongst the most vulnerable. In response to the specific challenges of an upper-middle income country, there is an increasing focus on early childhood education and on the aspects of quality and inclusiveness.

In Goal Area 3 – Every Child is Protected from Violence and Exploitation - strengthening the existing national institutional capacity to align policies and deliver child protection services in line with international standards remains a key priority. In parallel, direct service delivery for child protection, including psychosocial support, to refugee and migrant children is supported through national systems at central and sub-national level as well as NGOs.

Goal Area 5 – Every Child has an Equitable Chance in Life – is an expanding programmatic area in which UNICEF Turkey has succeeded to integrate refugee children in one of the national social assistance schemes. Addressing the determinants of child labour is another key priority in this area, which involves work with the Government, civil society organizations (CSOs) as well as with the private sector. The concept of ‘equitable chances’ described in Goal Area 5 is also mainstreamed across all components of the Country Programme. The issues of the most vulnerable children (such as children with disabilities, refugee children, children in contact with the law, and children involved in child labour) are addressed from multiple angles and in an integrated manner.

Humanitarian response remains a key priority for the Country Programme, which includes the response to the Syrian refugee crisis and the refugee and migrant crisis. In line with the provisions of the new Strategic Plan, a key feature of the humanitarian response in Turkey is the
emphasis on the system strengthening approach, which allows for greater sustainability as well as for more rapid scale-up of services. The continuum between humanitarian response and resilience approach is ensured.

With regards to the change strategies, programming for at-scale results for children is implemented in the Country Programme through a combination of approaches. These include evidence-based advocacy and policy dialogue, capacity development and facilitation of cross-sectoral linkages. In the context of Turkey – an upper-middle income country with a good level of institutional capacity – these strategies are used to promote and support system strengthening at national and subnational levels. Through this approach, at-scale results are achieved in terms of improved access to and quality of services for the most vulnerable children.

In line with the gender-responsive programming guidelines included in the new Strategic Plan and in the Gender Action Plan 2018-2021, the Country Programme includes three of the five targeted gender priority areas under Outcome 3, while mainstreaming gender in the remaining outcomes. The three cross-sectoral priorities include ending child marriage, addressing gender-based violence in emergencies, and advancing girls’ secondary education, including informal and non-formal education.

Developing and leveraging resources and partnerships for children is another key strategy used in the implementation of the Turkey-UNICEF Country Programme. To complement historical partnerships with key ministries, UNICEF Turkey has been expanding its partner portfolio to include new actors such as municipalities and other sub-national entities (such as the Southeast Anatolia Project/GAP administration) as well as the private sector, starting with the Confederation of Craftsmen and Tradesmen under the child labour programme. UNICEF Turkey is also facilitating agreements with multiple partners. An example is the partnership between the Ministry of Family and Social Policies, the Turkish Red Crescent Society, the Ministry of National Education and UNICEF for the CCTE programme for refugee children. UNICEF has also been closely partnering with the World Food Programme (WFP) to ensure a strong coordination between the Emergency Social Safety Net and the CCTE. The latter represents a good example of the United Nations agencies working together to ensure coherence and make synergies.

Emerging areas of importance

Refugee and migrant children. For the third consecutive year, Turkey is hosting the largest number of refugees worldwide. There are over 3.4 million registered Syrian refugees under temporary protection, including more than 1.5 million children. A significant feature of the Syrian refugee crisis in Turkey is that only about 230,000 (seven per cent) are currently living in camps (temporary accommodation centres) whereas the remainder are living within host communities. In addition, there are about 365,000 registered non-Syrian refugees and asylum-seekers, predominantly Iraqis and Afghans followed by Iranians, Pakistanis and Somalis, including almost 120,000 children.

Besides being a destination country, Turkey is a transit country for many irregular migrants. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), as of end December, almost 30,000 migrants/refugees arrived into Greece through Turkey in 2017, with 37 per cent of them children. Furthermore, the Turkish Coast Guard reported that about 22,000 migrants/refugees were apprehended during their attempt of irregular migration into Europe. Meanwhile, 684 migrants were returned to Turkey from Greece in 2017, bringing the total number of readmitted migrants under the EU-Turkey Statement since April 2016 to 1,485 (as of
Refugee and migrant children make up a high proportion of the children in Turkey who are most likely to have their rights unfulfilled and are therefore of particular interest to UNICEF. While Turkey is committed to responding to the needs of refugees and has invested considerable domestic resources to ensure their access to a wide range of services, their unprecedented numbers continue to require increased and sustained international support.

In 2017, UNICEF Turkey continued to respond to the Syria crisis and the refugee and migrant crisis in Europe, in coordination with other UN agencies, and with government and NGO partners, within the framework of the Regional Refugee and Resilience and Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plans, and the “No Lost Generation” strategy. UNICEF also participated actively in all relevant national and sub-national coordination mechanisms, providing co-leadership of the Education Working Group, the Child Protection Sub-Working Group, the Southeast Turkey Education Working Group and the Southeast Turkey Child Protection Sub-Working Group.

Given the protracted nature of the crisis, UNICEF’s humanitarian response works through national systems and is integrated across the country programme. It focuses on four priority areas – education, child protection, adolescent and youth engagement, and basic needs – to reach vulnerable refugee and migrant children in camps and host communities, as well as vulnerable Turkish children in refugee-hosting areas. The scale-up of services and strengthening of existing national systems remained a top priority, with an increased focus on resilience and longer-term sustainable interventions that reflect the protracted and complex nature of both crises.

Reflecting the integrated approach to the needs of refugee and migrant children, major aspects of the response are integrated into each outcome of the Country Programme for 2016-2020. Some output-level components are specific to refugee children, whilst others encompass both refugee and non-refugee children. Integrated staffing and management arrangements also reflect this integration of humanitarian and development support and the prioritization of a resilience approach which focuses on working with and through national systems and emphasizes promotion of social cohesion between refugee and migrant and host communities. Many of the issues that affect migrants and refugees (such as child labour, child marriage, poverty, non-participation in education, and social exclusion) also affect some of the most vulnerable Turkish children and addressing bottlenecks and gaps in an integrated manner can help the most marginalized children realize their rights regardless of nationality.

With regard specifically to children on the move towards Europe, UNICEF scaled up efforts to identify children at-risk, including unaccompanied and separated children, and refer them to specialized services more effectively. A total of 3,034 children had been identified and referred to specialized services as of end December 2017. In geographical areas characterized by a higher number of children on the move, UNICEF also facilitated the delivery of non-food items to 33,470 children.

Given the importance of bringing a child focus to migration policy, UNICEF established a new partnership with the Directorate General of Migration Management in mid-2017. A Rolling Work Plan (2017-2018) was signed, which includes key interventions to promote and facilitate children’s protection in the context of migration. This partnership aims to improve data collection on refugee and migrant children, strengthen the child protection capacity of staff, promote social
cohesion in host communities, and increase access to children temporarily placed in reception and removal centres.

Summary notes and acronyms

**Acronyms**

CCTE - Conditional Cash Transfer for Education  
CMT – UNICEF country management team  
CSO - civil society organization  
DCT - direct cash transfer  
ECD - early childhood development  
ESSN - Emergency Social Safety Net  
GAP - Southeast Anatolia Project  
HACT - harmonized approach to cash transfers  
ICT - information and communication technology  
ISAIS - Integrated Social Assistance Information System  
MAPS - mainstreaming, acceleration and policy support approach  
NGO - non-governmental organization  
3RP - Regional Response and Resilience Plan  
SDG – Sustainable Development Goal  
SIDA - Swedish International Development Agency  
TurkStat – Turkish Statistical Institute  
UNCT – UN Country Team  
UNDSS - United Nations Department of Safety and Security  
UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund  
UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
UNICEF - United Nations Children’s Fund  
WFP - World Food Programme  
WHO - World Health Organization  
YOBIS - Education Information Management System for Foreigners

**Capacity development**

Building the capacity of key national institutions, professionals and communities is a key strategy for UNICEF Turkey to ensure sustainable achievement of planned country programme results.

In education, capacity-building focused on system strengthening to provide inclusive education to the most vulnerable learners, including refugees, children with disabilities, and adolescent girls and boys. A total of 18,616 Syrian volunteer teachers received training to improve the quality of education provided to Syrian children, and 107,938 Turkish teachers were trained to enhance their capacities to address the specific needs of refugee children in Turkish public schools and promote social cohesion.

Under the Promoting Gender Equality in Education Programme, which includes the revision and roll-out of gender-sensitive school standards and incorporation of gender-sensitive and gender-specific activities into curricula, guidance materials were finalized and training was provided to 575 teachers, school administrators and other Ministry of National Education staff.

UNICEF is also supporting the development of educational materials and training programmes to ensure the social inclusion of children with disabilities through mainstream early childhood education.
In child protection, UNICEF supported the development of capacities in several ministries and other national institutions, with a particular emphasis on expanding the coverage and strengthening the quality of government-led outreach programmes.

UNICEF supported capacity development for more than 400 Ministry of Labour and Social Security inspectors as part of its efforts to prevent child labour.

UNICEF also supported child protection capacity development for Gaziantep and Kilis municipalities, two key cities in southeast Turkey with a high concentration of refugees. Training and technical assistance focused particularly on child protection outreach, case management and child marriage prevention.

**Evidence generation, policy dialogue and advocacy**

In 2017, UNICEF Turkey continued to engage in policy dialogue and advocacy with partner institutions and decision-makers for the adoption of norms, policies, programmes and practices that would advance the agenda for children. As a result of policy dialogue with multiple government and donor institutions and following discussions started in late 2015, the national conditional cash transfer for education programme was extended to refugee children. UNICEF also advocated for the integration of a child protection component into the CCTE programme for refugee children. This pilot experience is expected to provide evidence to inform future policy-making, particularly in terms of strengthening linkages between social assistance and social services to better serve families.

UNICEF also advocated for the expansion of educational options for refugee children, including the development of the accelerated learning programme, which will be launched in 2018. This is a non-formal education programme customized to the needs of out-of-school refugee children who have missed years of schooling.

In early childhood development, as a result of advocacy conducted over the last years, four levels of Child Development National Professional Standards and the corresponding certification packages were developed and presented to the Vocational Qualifications Institution under the Ministry of Labour. In 2017, the Vocational Qualifications Institution adopted the professional qualification of child caregiver/developer and child development expert.

UNICEF also successfully advocated for the establishment of a Child Justice Unit in the Ministry of Justice, to be responsible for coordinating and overseeing the formulation and application of policies and standards for children in contact with the law.

Evidence generation is vital for policy dialogue and advocacy. In 2017, support for CSO networks concerning the generation of evidence contributed to the issue of 14 publications on several aspects of violence against children. With UNICEF support, evidence was generated on the situations of children of families engaged in seasonal agricultural work and refugee children.

**Partnerships**

In 2017, UNICEF continued to deepen and broaden its partnerships to ensure the successful implementation of the country programme. Historical partnerships such as those with the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Family and Social Policies, the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Youth and Sports and the Ombudsman remain central to upholding the rights of both Turkish citizens and refugee children. In addition, other existing partnerships were expanded,
and new ones established to respond to the evolving needs of the Country Programme.

Collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Social Security to prevent and respond to child labour took on a new dimension through cooperation with the Labour Inspection Board for the training of labour inspectors. In parallel, new partnerships were pursued with the private sector, and UNICEF is now cooperating on child labour with the Confederation of Craftsmen and Tradesmen, which represents small-scale enterprises where children are often working.

A new partnership developed in 2017 with the Directorate General of Migration Management foresees capacity building to promote the centrality of the best interest of the child in migration management policy.

A partnership was established with the Ministry of Family and Social Policies, the Turkish Red Crescent Society and the Ministry of National Education in the context of the CCTE programme for refugee children. UNICEF has also been closely partnering with WFP to ensure systematic coordination between the Emergency Social Safety Net and the CCTE.

Partnerships with sub-national public institutions also progressed in 2017. A cooperation agreement with the Kirikhan (Hatay) Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundation to provide cash-based winter assistance was developed. A new multisectoral partnership was established with Kilis Municipality for education, child protection and child marriage reduction. Partnering with municipalities remained a key strategy to advance child rights, with the child-friendly cities programme reaching more than 100 municipalities, strengthening their child rights programming capacity and establishing knowledge sharing platforms.

Despite the reduced operating space for civil society in Turkey, UNICEF maintained relationships with 10 NGOs for service delivery, awareness-raising and advocacy.

**External communication and public advocacy**

UNICEF Turkey continued to mobilize traditional and digital media to raise the visibility of child rights and support policy dialogue, social mobilisation, fundraising. New partners like Facebook and Grey fostered the voice of UNICEF Turkey contributing to the global goal of reaching one billion people.

The 2017 Barometer Study showed UNICEF is among the top three trusted organizations in Turkey for advocacy on Turkish and refugee children.

High-level events around UNICEF-supported programmes drew attention to the situation of children in Turkey. The UNICEF Regional Ambassador for East Asia and the Pacific, met refugees and service providers, while the United States Permanent Representative to the UN, attended the opening of a temporary education centre in Adana constructed by UNICEF with funding from the United States.

An inauguration ceremony for a school constructed with the support of Germany in Kahramanmaras, an inauguration of additional classrooms established in a public school in Kilis with the EU Ambassador and senior officials, and a field visit by UNICEF Turkey’s National Goodwill Ambassador also took place. These helped to advance social engagement and meet communication and visibility requirements.

The launches of the CCTE and inclusive early childhood education programme for children with
disabilities were successful in engaging relevant audiences and deliver key messages related to these initiatives.

UNICEF Turkey provided communication support to the Ministry of Health during a three-round vaccination campaign that reached 376,000 refugee children.

On the Day of the Girl Child, UNICEF Turkey organized a conference with a well-known foundation to advocate for gender equality and girls’ empowerment, reaching 19 million people with crowd sourcing youth stories and media support.

On World Children’s Day, UNICEF Turkey peaked with 600,000 reach and 21,000 engagements. UNICEF’s Division of Communication’s report indicated Turkish became the fifth most-used among 72 languages.

UNICEF Turkey’s followers grew by 43 per cent on Facebook, 50 per cent on Instagram and 32 per cent on Twitter. Visits to the UNICEF Turkey website increased by 80 per cent.

South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation

Outcome 4 of the country programme specifically aims to enhance the UNICEF partnership for children outside of Turkey including: dissemination of Turkey’s experience and expertise, particularly in humanitarian action for children, education and child protection; exchange of good practices; horizontal cooperation, and participation in multi-country initiatives.

In 2017, UNICEF expanded its collaboration with the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority, the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Family and Social Policies and the Turkish Red Crescent Society in sharing their humanitarian experience and expertise with other countries and facilitating their participation in regional and global fora.

In August, UNICEF worked with the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority to support the International Earthquake Reality and Urbanization Workshop IV in Kocaeli Province, including a presentation on UNICEF’s earthquake response in Nepal. UNICEF also facilitated Turkish Red Crescent Society participation in a Regional Nutrition in Emergencies Workshop in Tbilisi, Georgia. They made presentations highlighting results, challenges and lessons learned from the Syria refugee and Van earthquake crises.

In October, UNICEF facilitated the participation of a delegation from the Ministry of National Education and the Ministry of Family and Social Policies in the Meeting of Statisticians of Europe and Central Asia, organized by UNICEF in Athens, Greece. The Turkish delegation shared their experiences in linking three information management systems during the Syria refugee crisis response: YOBIS/Education Management Information System for Foreigners and E-Okul (education) and Integrated Social Assistance Information System/ISAIS (social protection). This experience represented an innovation in integrating national information management systems to include refugees and enable inter-ministerial monitoring of key indicators for vulnerable children.

In December, UNICEF engaged with the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority and the Turkish Red Crescent Society on Turkey’s planned humanitarian assistance to Bangladesh in response to the Myanmar refugee crisis. The discussions centred on the replication of child-friendly spaces and the establishment of learning facilities in temporary accommodation for
refugees, based on child-friendly practices developed by the Government of Turkey with support from UNICEF during the Syria refugee response.

Identification and promotion of innovation

UNICEF needs to innovate continuously to address contemporary child rights challenges in Turkey’s fluid environment, particularly given the unprecedented scale and nature of the protracted refugee situation.

In 2017, UNICEF and key national institutions in Turkey cooperated to extend an existing conditional cash transfer scheme for children in formal education (CCTE) to cover not only disadvantaged citizens of Turkey but also the most vulnerable refugee children, large numbers of whom are out of school. In this way, a part of the national social assistance system is being made available to refugee families and is leveraged to encourage refugee children’s participation in education. The benefits and conditions applying to refugee children are the same as those that apply to Turkish citizens to minimize the risk of provoking inter-communal tensions between refugee and host populations.

The programme is expected to encourage school enrolment and continued attendance among refugee children. Through strengthening of national data systems, it will also promote closer monitoring of school attendance. Finally, a strategic child protection outreach component has been introduced to ensure that the most vulnerable children can sustain their participation in the programme and are linked to complementary social services when needed.

The extension of the programme to refugee children was carried out by building on existing national social protection systems. Besides guaranteeing a more efficient use of resources and promoting cross-sectoral linkages, these arrangements are expected to guarantee greater sustainability. This approach also created an opportunity for the Turkish social protection system to strengthen its delivery capacity and to build its capacity for outreach, community sensitization and monitoring. So far, 188,444 refugee children have benefited from this initiative.

Support to integration and cross-sectoral linkages

UNICEF Turkey has long played an important role in bringing different sectors, sub-sectors and levels of government, as well as non-government actors, together to discuss and address child rights issues. As an example, the Child Inter-sectoral Board chaired by UNICEF’s coordinating partner, the Ministry of Development, brings all child-related sectors to the table at least once a year. In 2017, 55 participants from ministries and 15 CSOs attended the Child Inter-sectoral Board and discussed key child rights issues. These included the importance of increasing inter-sectoral coordination, expansion of early childhood education, special attention to inclusive education, in particular for children with disabilities, integration of Syrian refugee children and promotion of social cohesion, and combating child labour and substance addiction.

The country programme emphasises the promotion of intersectoral cooperation as one of its major strategies for achieving results. In 2017, UNICEF Turkey continued to promote and engage in multisectoral dialogue and action on different child rights issues. For example, intersectoral linkages were essential to the extension of the existing CCTE programme to include vulnerable refugee children. In this initiative, UNICEF facilitated cooperation among the Ministry of Family and Social Policies, the Ministry of National Education and the Turkish Red Crescent Society. The innovative child protection component of the programme draws on the data obtained through the implementation of the conditional cash transfers to identify and reach out to individual children at risk and refer them to appropriate protection services, creating a
strong link between social assistance and child protection.

UNICEF also facilitated dialogue and cooperation between several national institutions on a range of child protection-focused issues. These included child protection in the context of irregular migration, to promote social cohesion among host and refugee communities, for child marriage prevention, for effective and child-friendly intervention and referral systems for child victims, and for probation systems. UNICEF also worked closely with local actors, both government and civil society, to provide services on a multisectoral basis.

**Service delivery**

Within the high middle-income context of the country and acknowledging the humanitarian-development continuum and resilience agenda, UNICEF Turkey sees its primary added value not so much as a direct service provider but as a supporter of the efforts of relevant duty-bearers to provide services on a sustainable basis. In these circumstances, UNICEF seeks to provide evidence-based advocacy, policy dialogue and technical support for the further strengthening, development, expansion, and monitoring of service delivery systems in line with international standards.

Following the mass influx of refugees from Syria and the strain on national service provision systems, UNICEF has been supporting both the Government of Turkey and non-government actors in direct service provision. This includes helping to fulfil urgent need for the provision of certain specific key services for refugees (such as education or psychosocial support) which were not previously available in Turkey or were not easily available to the target populations. In most cases, service delivery strategies are complemented by other strategies such as advocacy, policy dialogue and capacity building, and prioritize the strengthening of existing national systems.

In 2017, in line with the Core Commitments for Children, UNICEF Turkey continued to provide humanitarian assistance through cash-based winterization assistance, procurement of vaccines for the Ministry of Health on the basis of the contingency plan for the Syrian polio outbreak, creation of learning spaces and other education-related supplies, and financial incentives for volunteer Syrian teachers. UNICEF Turkey continued to directly support a range of programme activities including psychosocial support, child protection outreach and referral, parenting education, gender-based violence services, and informal/non-formal education and social cohesion service models specifically targeting refugee and host community girls and boys.

**Human rights-based approach to cooperation**

As in 2016, the issue of human rights in Turkey was high on the agenda throughout the year. The state of emergency remained in force, as did the related derogation from the European Convention of Human Rights. Dismissals and discharges of civil servants, justice professionals and academics continued and various human rights activists were detained, primarily based on terror charges. The Constitutional referendum in April, which resulted in the adoption of a “presidential system” of government, also fuelled the human rights debate in national and international fora.

Despite this challenging environment, UNICEF Turkey continued its efforts to ensure that all its programmes were informed by the guiding principles of the human rights-based approach in both development and humanitarian contexts. UNICEF worked in close cooperation with various human rights stakeholders such as Parliament, the Ombudsperson Institution and civil society.
organizations to obtain credible information on rights violations as well as to strengthen children’s access to justice.

A major development in this context was the ratification by Parliament of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure in 2017. As a result, this is expected to enter into force in Turkey in 2018. Moreover, a draft bill was submitted to Parliament on the establishment of a permanent Parliamentary Committee on Child Rights, in line with recommendations made by UNICEF in 2016.

Throughout the reporting period, UNICEF Turkey continued to contribute to the UN Results Group on Human Rights and Democracy. Monitoring and reporting of grave violations against children within the context of the Syria crisis continued.

**Gender equality**

UNICEF in Turkey promotes and strengthens gender equality in line with the gender action plan. This includes three targeted gender priority areas under Outcome 3 of the country programme, and the mainstreaming of gender across the other outcomes. The three cross-sectoral priorities are ending child marriage, addressing gender-based violence in emergencies, and advancing girls’ secondary education, including informal and non-formal education. In 2017, the expenditure for each of these priorities was US$754,000, US$4.8 million and US$5.9 million respectively.

The Local Model for the Prevention of Child Marriage is being implemented in both Gaziantep and Kilis and will be expanded to other municipalities. A three-year Joint UN Programme on child marriage was developed under the leadership of UNICEF with the participation of four other UN agencies. Implementation will begin in 2018 with financial support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). The Joint Programme builds on each partner’s strengths and aims to strengthen the policy environment and local institutional capacities to address child, early and forced marriage more effectively, and will address the negative social norms which help to sustain and perpetuate the practice in 12 provinces.

Through partner NGOs, UNICEF supported the provision of multi-disciplinary services for at-risk girls and survivors of gender-based violence targeting both refugee and Turkish girls. Among these, integrated services were delivered through Girl Safe Centres that reached 4,226 refugee and Turkish vulnerable girls and young women with structured and community-supported activities designed to prevent and respond to gender-based violence, including tailored psychosocial support care and counselling sessions.

UNICEF continues to support the implementation of the Promoting Gender Equality in Education programme with the Ministry of National Education. In addition, gender concepts were mainstreamed in the school orientation programme, designed to support the completion of secondary education by children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

UNICEF also led the preparation of the 3rd International Conference on the Day of the Girl Child, attended by 240 people from UN agencies, academia, NGOs and the media. The conference was preceded by a three-day youth workshop during which 47 Turkish and Syrian adolescents used the Voices of Youth application to share their views on gender equality issues.
Environmental sustainability

UNICEF Turkey has not been able to prioritize the systematic mainstreaming of environmental sustainability issues or sensitivity to environmental hazards into its planning, programming, monitoring and management procedures. Nor have specific actions been taken to address environmental issues affecting children’s rights. These issues have arisen in various contexts during programme implementation, particularly with respect to earthquakes and other natural disasters. However, more widespread concerns about inequities and child protection issues - and in recent years the urgency of the refugee situation - have made it difficult for UNICEF Turkey to focus on climate change or other environmental issues and to develop targets and programmes.

The Executive Directive on addressing climate change for children was issued after the country programme started, and will therefore be considered within the context of the mid-term review.

There is scope for international exchange of knowledge and capacities in environmental disaster risk reduction and resilience within the context of the proposed transformed engagement between UNICEF and Turkey. This is particularly relevant given the expertise of Turkey’s Disaster and Emergency Management Authority in this field. Under the coordination of the Authority’s Training Centre, three disaster risk reduction mobile units have been promoting disaster risk knowledge among both Syrian and Turkish children since 2015 across the country.

UNICEF Turkey adopted the green office initiative in 2017 and submitted the Environmental Footprint Assessment Tool.

Effective leadership

The 2017 Annual Management Plan identified the programmatic and operational mechanisms for achieving the programme results and operational targets. The country management team (CMT) provided strategic direction, guidance, leadership and oversight to ensure the alignment of the country programme with changing conditions and the achievement of the planned results.

The office statutory committees were revised in March and continued to operate under the relevant terms of reference. Statutory committees met regularly and functioned well. Besides the CMT meetings, intra-office communication was maintained through frequent general staff and joint consultative committee meetings, monthly programme coordination meetings, and weekly heads of section meetings.

The use of feedback from field monitoring visits in programme planning and monitoring was strengthened. The Risk Control Self-Assessment in the Enterprise Risk Management portal was updated and monitored by the CMT. The Early Warning Early Action assessment was also updated. Office planning assumptions for rapid response, first response actions, plans by functions, checklists, contact and potential supplier lists are available. Business continuity in terms of information technology and telecommunications was improved as part of the global VISION preparation, and a backup Internet connection is in place. The Citrix server is functional, and Cisco Any Connect and Citrix Receiver are installed on the laptops of all staff members to ensure remote access to organizational business applications and systems.

The human resource capacities of the country office and the zone office continued to be enhanced as per the Country Programme Management Plan for 2016-2020 and the Programme Budget Review decisions of October 2017.
Financial resources management

The country management team systematically monitored contributions management, budget allocations, fund utilization and outstanding direct cash transfers. The programme coordination meeting coordinated and monitored programme implementation as well as budget performance. UNICEF Turkey continued to make effective use of its bank optimization and cash forecasting tools and met its closing bank balance targets. Deadlines for bank reconciliations and bank optimization targets were met. UNICEF Turkey continued to work with the Global Shared Service Centre in 2017.

With respect to budget control, the CMT reviewed key indicators including grant expiration, direct cash transfer liquidations, and levels of programme implementation expenditures. The annual utilization of funds - the total of actual expenditures and commitments – was US$151 million.

Open travel authorizations were monitored regularly to ensure closure within 15 days after the completion of travel.

Fundraising and donor relations

UNICEF Turkey continued to enjoy a strong reputation for delivering results for children and fundraised successfully, with a 56 per cent increase in Other Resources-Emergency received.

Over 1.5 million children affected by the Syrian refugee crisis in Turkey continued to require humanitarian support. UNICEF Turkey received 82 per cent of its 3RP appeal, with generous contributions from Germany, Japan, Kuwait, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the United States, Sweden, and the European Union. This enabled UNICEF Turkey to achieve key targets from the 2017 Humanitarian Action for Children including in formal education, early childhood education, basic needs, and provision of specialized child protection services. The short-term nature of Other Resources-Emergency funds remained a challenge, but progress was made in securing more multi-year funding. Other Resources for activities outside of the Syria crisis response was a concern, with key areas such as child labour, gender, and inclusive education underfunded.

The strategic partnership with the EU continued within the context of the Facility for Refugees in Turkey, and UNICEF Turkey is now the largest ECHO partner for education in emergencies globally. UNICEF Turkey also successfully fundraised for a UN Joint Programme on child marriage, which will begin implementation under UNICEF leadership in 2018.

Private sector resources are mobilized through collaboration with the Turkish National Committee for UNICEF, with US$119,874.50 received in 2017.

The Deputy Representative remained responsible for oversight of partnership management. The office continued to invest in fundraising and donor relations, establishing a new programme specialist for partnerships, supported by a programme officer and a budget officer. Fund utilization was monitored monthly in the programme coordination meetings and by the country management team. Over US$151 million was utilized in 2017 and all grants were fully utilized at time of expiry. All donor reports underwent rigorous quality assurance and were submitted on time. A strong pipeline of funds for 2018 of over US$89.9 million is in place.
**Evaluation and research**

The evaluation of the UNICEF response to the Syria crisis in the education sector in Turkey was initiated and will be finalized in 2018. It will assess a key component of the Turkey-UNICEF Country Programme and the findings used to inform future programming.

The evaluability assessment of the conditional cash transfer programme for education was conducted in collaboration with the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre and will be finalized in January 2018. The findings will be used to strengthen the monitoring system of the programme and to prepare the ground for its evaluation in 2019.

All actions included in the management responses for the two evaluations conducted in 2015 (the Evaluation of UNICEF’s Response to the Syria Crisis in Turkey and the Evaluation of the Psychosocial Support Programmes Implemented After the Van-Ercis Earthquake) were completed.

The 2017 Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Plan for Research, Impact Monitoring and Evaluation (known as PRIME) was designed to respond to the knowledge requirements of the Country Programme and to add to the body of knowledge on the situation of children. It was regularly monitored and reviewed through the online platform.

**Efficiency gains and cost savings**

Common agreements for travel, courier, cleaning, security and telecommunication services saved both costs and staff time by avoiding the need to undertake separate bidding processes on every occasion. These agreements also provided cost benefits by combining volumes with other UN agencies. Sharing long-term agreements with other UN agencies also helped to streamline contracting for frequently used services.

As per the agreement concluded with the telecommunications company Turkcell, staff members are able to call mobile lines from desk phones through fixed cellular terminal devices with SIM cards. This results in mobile to mobile communication and generates cost savings when compared to regular desk-line to mobile communication.

In 2018 the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) will move forward with the development and implementation of the Business Operations Strategy and new areas for cost savings should be identified.

**Supply management**

The value of procurement of goods and services (individual and institutional) handled by UNICEF Turkey was US$25.9 million. This included US$75,161.26 in procurement of good and services for other UNICEF country offices.

Programme supplies were US$19.3 million. Most were procured in-country, thus contributing to strengthening the capacity of local vendors. For education, text books, classroom containers, preschool materials and toys, school furniture, school bags, stationery kits were provided. Toolkits used for training of teachers and other stakeholders were provided in the form of books and videos uploaded in USBs. For health, UNICEF Turkey procured vaccines to the Ministry of Health. For the vaccination campaign, posters and leaflets were procured and delivered to 20 provinces. T-shirts, raincoats and caps were procured for the health workers in different provinces. Different types of hygiene kits, toys and furniture for child-friendly spaces and printed
materials for child protection programmes, and information and communication technology (ICT) equipment purchased for the CCTE programme. UNICEF also supported communication activities by providing visibility items, communication materials and training materials.

Services procured through contracts amounted to US$5.9 million, including US$4.5 million for institutional and US$1.4 million for individual consultancy services.

| UNICEF TURKEY 2017 PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Programme supplies               | $19,351,058.49   |
| Operational supplies             | $658,789.91      |
| Services (Institutional)         | $4,482,689.38    |
| Services (Individual)            | $1,404,076.76    |
| TOTAL                           | $25,896,614.54   |

UNICEF Turkey continued establishing and renewing long-term agreements for commonly procured goods and services to increase procurement and contracting efficiency and improved service delivery by reducing procurement turnaround time and transactional costs. There are 25 long-term agreements in place for the procurement of goods and services to meet recurring needs.

The supply unit conducted orientation sessions for staff on “UNICEF Supply Chain Management”.

UNICEF Turkey does not have a warehouse and continued distribution of programme supplies in cooperation with and in line with the requests of counterparts.

UNICEF Turkey continued with the procurement of goods and services for UNICEF offices in Iraq and Ukraine, as well as the Europe and Central Asia Regional Office hub in Istanbul and the Middle East and North Africa Regional Office for cross border operations in Gaziantep.

Security for staff and premises

The security of staff and premises remained a priority in 2017. Due to the ongoing increase in staff numbers and the overall security concerns with the former premises, UNICEF Turkey conducted an analysis of the office conditions, risks and opportunities both for the main office in Ankara and the field office in Gaziantep. In order to enhance the safety and security of staff and premises, new premises were identified in Ankara for the main office. The lease agreement was signed on 21 December 2016 and the move to the new premises was completed in April 2017. A new building was identified also for the field office in Gaziantep, with lease agreement signed in January and the move completed in March. The move to the new premises and the adoption of key measures such as strengthened access control, secure room in case of intrusion, installation of additional alarm systems, security equipment and evacuation exercises contributed to improve staff security and safety in both locations.

UNICEF Turkey continued to coordinate closely with the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) and other UN agencies through Security Management Team meetings. The UNDSS is fully functional in Turkey. UNICEF is member of the Security Management Team and fully implemented the decisions taken both for staff and premises.

Movement of staff, especially on travel to the camp locations close to the Syria border, is
monitored daily by both UNICEF and the UNDSS. UNICEF has two armoured vehicles in Gaziantep for staff safety and drivers are trained to drive these vehicles.

A women’s security awareness training for all female staff was organized in May. Three sessions of Basic Disaster (Earthquake) Preparedness Training and Simulation were offered to all interested staff, in cooperation with the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority.

**Human resources**

In line with the needs of the country programme, the recruitment plan established by the human resources unit was almost fully achieved with 95 selection processes fully completed and three ongoing. In addition, to fulfil functions required by the evolving situation in Turkey, a new submission to the UNICEF Regional Programme Budget Review committee was approved in October 2017. As a result, 27 new posts have been established, bringing the total number of posts to 140, effective January 2018.

In terms of geographical diversity, UNICEF Turkey has significantly improved its ratio from 35 per cent programme country staff in December 2016 to 52 per cent in December 2017.

All staff completed the performance planning phase in ACHIEVE before the deadline and no staff are under a performance improvement plan.

As part of the effort to increase competencies and performance, a two-day induction session for all new staff and a one all-staff retreat to strengthen team cohesion were organized. UNICEF Turkey invested in first-aid training for all staff, as well as in women’s security awareness training for all female staff. Three sessions of Basic Disaster (Earthquake) Preparedness Training and Simulation were offered to all interested UN staff in cooperation with the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority. Harmonized approach to cash transfers (HACT) training as well as introduction training to eZHACT were conducted for key users (programme and finance staff). An orientation on supply and procurement was organized for programme staff. In October, as part of the Ethics Month, a projection of video and information on resources available on ethics was organized during an all-staff meeting. UNICEF mandatory training was closely monitored, and all staff obtained the ethics training certificates.

Results of the Global Staff Survey were reviewed and discussed during joint consultative committee and all-staff meetings, and a committee was established to follow-up on the key issues identified.

**Effective use of information and communication technology**

UNICEF Turkey benefited from cloud-based automation tools (Office 365, Outlook, Skype for Business, OneDrive, SharePoint) efficiently since their introduction in UNICEF. Staff can easily connect to Outlook anywhere, anytime by using different devices such as laptops, smartphones or tablets. These tools helped to increase communication among the staff. Since there is no file server in the Gaziantep office, OneDrive is an efficient way for file sharing between the staff in Ankara and the Gaziantep offices.

A new printing management software, named Equitrac, was purchased to manage the print jobs in the office. It helps to reduce paper and power consumption eventually. To reduce ICT footprint, the office has also set all the active devices such as wireless access points, printers, monitors, laptops to sleep mode if they are not used for a certain period of time.
UNICEF Turkey plans to use RapidPro, an SMS-based open-source application that will facilitate communication and data collection with key beneficiaries of the Country Programme. To enable the deployment of the application, the ICT team has dedicated a server and has supported the initial discussions with potential telecommunication service providers.

The ICT team has supported the communication section in the management of the country website and social media such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Considering the high penetration of mobile phones in the country, the UNICEF Turkey continued to place great importance on the use of social media to convey key messages.

The ICT team also supported the child protection section to develop a web application to monitor the adolescent and youth engagement and social cohesion training programmes. The application will support the reporting of child rights committees. As of December, the application is at the coding phase.

Programme Components from RAM

ANALYSIS BY OUTCOME AND OUTPUT RESULTS

OUTCOME 1 Special Purpose Outcome

Analytical statement of progress
Support services to all programmes were on track throughout the year. The revised committees and relevant terms of reference continued to be used. The table of authority was revised in March and the second revision was completed in November. All statutory committees met regularly and functioned well. The country management team met regularly. Intra-office communication was maintained through regular general staff meetings and heads of section meetings.

Targets in the areas of financial resources management, human resources, procurement management, the efficiency of ICT systems and reduction of overall operating costs were successfully met.

OUTPUT 1 Staff Costs

Analytical statement of progress
The annual management plan was developed and identified the programmatic and operational priorities and related mechanisms to reach the planned results for 2017. It was updated in mid-year.

The table of authority approved in March was revised in November to reflect relevant changes. All statutory committees met regularly and functioned well. The CMT continued to meet regularly. Intra-office communication was maintained in 2017 through regular general staff meetings, heads of section meetings, the monthly programme coordination meeting, and section meetings.

Regular interaction was maintained with the staff association and the joint consultative committee met regularly. Risk assessment mechanisms and business continuity plans are in place.
With the ongoing increase in the staffing structure, in line with the Country Programme Management Plan for 2016-2020 and the deterioration in the overall security situation, it was necessary for UNICEF to relocate to larger and safer office premises in Ankara and Gaziantep.

UNICEF is part of the UN Security Management Team and fully implemented the decisions taken for both staff and premises. UNICEF maintained two armoured vehicles in Gaziantep for the safety of staff. Armoured vehicle and safe driving training for drivers was organized by UNICEF in Gaziantep. All UNICEF drivers were trained to use armoured vehicles.

OUTPUT 2 Programme Coordination

Analytical statement of progress
The office continued to make effective use of its bank optimization and cash forecasting tools and met its closing bank balance targets. Deadlines for bank reconciliations and bank optimization targets were met. With respect to budget control, the CMT regularly reviewed key indicators including grant expiries, direct cash transfer liquidations, and levels of implementation of programme expenditures. A dedicated HACT specialist was recruited to help manage risk associated with a high volume of direct cash transfers. All grants were fully used before expiry dates. UNICEF Turkey continued to work smoothly with the Global Shared Services Centre throughout 2017.

Supply and procurement activity was conducted effectively and efficiently in the face of an increased workload due to the programme expansion mainly related to the Syria crisis. Most of the procurement was done locally. The distribution of goods to Syrian refugees was organized in cooperation with the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority, the Ministry of National Education, and the Turkish Red Crescent Society. Joint procurement of some common services with other UN agencies helped to maximise efficiency and effectiveness, and work to identify more common procurement activities is ongoing.

OUTPUT 3 By 2020, the education, child and social protection and health systems, NGOs, communities and families provide vulnerable children with increasingly inclusive opportunities to realize their rights to protection, education, development and participation.

Analytical statement of progress
In line with the programmatic strategy and the corporate effort to support the response to the protracted crisis affecting millions of Syrian and other refugees, the 2016-2017 recruitment plan was almost fully achieved with 95 selection processes fully completed and three ongoing. In addition, to fulfil functions required by the rapidly evolving situation, a new submission was successfully made to the regional programme budget review committee. It was developed using a consultative process including team meetings within each section, consultation with staff association, and review by an internal committee including section heads and staff association representatives. The key changes included establishing fixed-term posts in lieu of existing temporary appointment positions, strengthening management arrangements through changes in reporting lines and creating new posts. As a result, 27 new posts were established, bringing the total number of posts to 140, effective January 2018.

As part of the UNICEF Turkey’s efforts to increase capabilities and competencies amongst its staff, the human resource development team held one meeting in 2017. It reviewed the
implementation of training activities conducted in 2016, discussed the office’s approach to human resource development and agreed on the specific training plan for 2017. The plan included a two-day induction session organized in May for all new staff and an all-staff retreat in September, with the participation of all staff from Ankara and Gaziantep offices to strengthen the team cohesion.

Individual induction sessions were conducted when new staff assumed duty. UNICEF Turkey invested in first aid training for all staff as well as in women’s security awareness training for all female staff. Under the coordination of UNDSS, three sessions of Basic Disaster (Earthquake) Preparedness Training and Simulation were offered to all interested UN staff. HACT training, as well as introduction training to EZ-HACT, was conducted. An orientation on supply and procurement was organized. In October, as part of the Ethics Month, a projection of video and information on resources available on ethics was shared during an all-staff meeting.

UNICEF mandatory training was closely monitored and 100 per cent of the staff obtained the ethics training certificates as well as required security training (Basic Security in the Field and Advanced Security in the Field). Relevant staff members participated in regional and global workshops and training.

Matters related to local administrative and human resources issues which were of general concern to staff were discussed in the joint consultative committee and CMT meetings and in other platforms such as all-staff meetings. A Global Staff Survey Working Group was established to follow up on the survey findings, and this work will continue in 2018.

Supervisors were encouraged to have regular performance discussions with their supervisees as part of the new organizational human resources reform. All staff completed the performance planning phase in ACHIEVE before the deadline and no staff are under a performance improvement plan.

In terms of diversity, UNICEF Turkey significantly improved its ratio from 35 per cent programme country staff in December 2016 to 52 per cent in December 2017 and the gender balance from 38 per cent male to 41 per cent in the same period.

OUTCOME 2 Cross border operations.

Analytical statement of progress
UNICEF Turkey continued to enhance programme effectiveness by streamlining internal processes of coordination, planning, monitoring, reporting and resource mobilization.

The number of rolling work plans developed and signed with Government partners increased to 14. Collaboration with national and international NGOs was also expanded through multiple Programme Cooperation Agreements. The 2017 Child Intersectoral Board Meeting took place on 2 November 2018, co-chaired by UNICEF and the Ministry of Development with wide participation from key line ministries, public institutions, and representatives from the civil society.

The 2017 Annual Management Plan was designed to reflect the programmatic and operational priorities of the new Country Programme, and the majority of the actions planned against these priorities were completed.
Sixteen new programme documents with 10 CSO partners were signed in 2017, while the implementation of others continued.

Implementation of the harmonized approach to cash transfers system was a major priority area for UNICEF Turkey. A memorandum of understanding was signed with the Turkish Court of Accounts) enabling UNICEF to conduct audits of relevant government partners. All relevant CSO and government partners have been micro-assessed and results of the assessments used to determine the frequency and timing of HACT assurance activities and cash transfer modalities. Scheduled audits and spot checks of all relevant CSO and government partners were conducted. Programmatic visits were conducted as per the HACT plan and the findings are being used for programme feedback and adjustments. Training was conducted for partners and UNICEF staff which resulted in improved understanding on HACT.

The implementation of the country programme was facilitated and strengthened the various elements of the advocacy and communication strategy. High level visits and UNICEF’s significant presence in Turkey’s media, including social media, ensured visibility and helped to keep children’s issues on the agenda of partners and the public.

UNICEF maintained two premises in Turkey: the main national office in Ankara, and the zone office in Gaziantep. Due to security concerns and need for additional space, UNICEF relocated to new premises in both Ankara and Gaziantep in 2017.

OUTPUT 1 Premises and Security

Analytical statement of progress
UNICEF Turkey continued to enhance programme effectiveness by streamlining internal processes of coordination, planning, monitoring, reporting and resource mobilization. In addition to the existing ones, work plans were signed with Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Confederation of Turkish Tradesmen and Craftsmen and Izmit Municipality, increasing the number of work plans to 14.

The 2017 Child Intersectoral Board Meeting took place on 2 November 2018, co-chaired by UNICEF and the Ministry of Development with wide participation from key line ministries, public institutions, and representatives from the civil society. The Child Intersectoral Board is an important platform for partners to share information, discuss issues of common concern, and develop synergies and complementary strategies of intervention.

In late 2017, the Government of Turkey initiated the process of developing the 11th National Development Plan. UNICEF programme specialists were invited by the Ministry of Development to join technical commissions, and UNICEF has used this opportunity to advocate for children and youth to remain at the centre of the national development agenda.

UNICEF Turkey continued to be actively engaged in the UN Sustainable Development Goals Working Group. A workshop was organized by the UN SDG Taskforce for the Ministry of Development staff, Turkstat and UN staff on 28-30 November 2017 to strengthen the capacity of the SDG Task Force of the Ministry of Development, guide the process of SDG nationalization and help support the elaboration of the 11th National Development Plan in line with the Agenda 2030. The meeting also introduced the UN Development Group approach to SDG
Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) and paved the way to defining the scope of a MAPS mission, planned for early 2018.

The 2017 Annual Management Plan was reviewed, and indicators were updated. It defined the key priority areas, the internal processes of coordination, monitoring and reporting procedures, and the roles and responsibilities. The AMP was endorsed and regularly reviewed by the CMT.

A total of 16 new programme documents with 10 CSO partners were signed in 2017, while the implementation of others has continued. HACT implementation was a major priority area for UNICEF Turkey. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Turkish Court of Accounts (enabling UNICEF to conduct audits of relevant Government partners. All relevant CSO and Government partners were micro-assessed and results of the assessments used to determine the frequency and timing of HACT assurance activities and cash transfer modalities. Scheduled audits and spot checks of all relevant CSO and Government partners were conducted. Programmatic visits were conducted as per the HACT plan and the findings used for programme feedback and adjustments. Training was conducted for partners and UNICEF staff which resulted in improved understanding on HACT.

**OUTPUT 2 External Relations Public Advocacy**

**Analytical statement of progress**
UNICEF Turkey maintained close relations with donors and partners in 2017. Three high-level visits were organised early in the year. UNICEF Deputy Executive Director visited refugee camps and host communities and discussed further collaboration between UNICEF and the Government of Turkey with senior Turkish officials. The UNICEF Regional Ambassador for East Asia and the Pacific Region, met refugees and service providers, while the US Permanent Representative to the UN, attended the opening of a temporary education centre in Adana constructed by UNICEF with United States funding.

Inauguration ceremonies for a school constructed with the support of Germany in Kahramanmaraş and for additional classrooms established in a public school in Kilis with the participation of the European Union Ambassador and senior officials, along with a field visit by UNICEF Turkey National Goodwill Ambassador Tuba Büyüküstün also took place. These helped to advance social engagement and to meet communication and visibility requirements.

UNICEF Turkey’s Facebook page reached 190,000 likes – an increase of 43 per cent over 2016. There were 885,934 engagements on Facebook posts. The Twitter account reached 33,500 followers with 61,400 engagements. Followers on Instagram increased by more than 50 per cent to over 58,100. Unique visits to UNICEF Turkey website increased 80 per cent to 303,948.

All UNICEF activities were supported using electronic communications. Twelve new human-interest stories and 13 press releases were published on the UNICEF Turkey website. Another 64 press releases/statements were relayed from global and regional offices. Fifteen UNICEF Turkey stories and press briefs appeared on the UNICEF global website and ICON.

During the year, UNICEF Turkey supported many global social media campaigns including Early Moments Matter, children uprooted/children on the move, the Syria crisis, Narrowing the Gaps, CHILD ALERT on Rohingya refugee children, World Breastfeeding Week, immunization, International Day of the Girl Child, World Children’s Day, #ENDViolence and the State of the
OUTPUT 3 Costs associated with field monitoring

Analytical statement of progress
UNICEF has a separate zone office in Gaziantep which includes UNICEF Turkey and UNICEF Middle East and North Africa Regional Office cross-border team. The zone office in Gaziantep moved to new premises in March 2017.

Gaziantep field office operations continued to be managed effectively. Field office teams conducted situation monitoring with a focus on refugee children and represented UNICEF with local and provincial authorities. Gaziantep office staff also conducted programmatic monitoring and provided technical assistance to counterparts at the local level and led sub-national inter-agency coordination for education and child protection as per the 3RP coordination structures.

OUTPUT 4 Cross border operations

Analytical statement of progress
Throughout 2017, UNICEF Turkey continued to provide administrative and logistical support to UNICEF Middle East and North Africa Regional Office cross-border team based in Gaziantep.

OUTPUT 5 Operating Costs

Analytical statement of progress
The 2017 office management priorities and key programme results were clearly defined in the annual management plan, which was developed through a participatory process involving both operations and programme teams.

UNICEF Turkey continued to apply UNICEF financial and administrative control systems to ensure good management of financial and other assets.

The office maintained two premises in Turkey: the main national office in Ankara, and the zone office in Gaziantep which was approved for establishment in April 2013. Due to security concerns and need for additional space, the UNICEF office in Ankara relocated to new premises in April. UNDSS is fully functional in Turkey and is located in the same building as UNICEF, together with the UN Resident Coordinator’s office. UNICEF remained an active member of the UN Security Management Team. UNICEF has a separate zone office in Gaziantep which for the same reasons relocated to new premises in March 2017. This office includes UNICEF Turkey and UNICEF Middle East and North Africa Regional cross-border teams.

UNICEF served as co-Chair of the UN Operations Management Team. In this context, UNICEF actively participated in joint activities mainly in the functional areas of procurement and human resources. Cost-efficiencies were secured through joint procurement.

Some of the core programmatic functions of monitoring and evaluation, child protection, education and social policy continued to be funded through Regular Resources. The UN House common services and office premises expenses were also partially covered through the regular resources.
OUTPUT 6 Technical Assistance for Programme Effectiveness

Analytical statement of progress
A separate output is dedicated to cover the payroll of staff members working to achieve the outputs under the Outcome for Programme Effectiveness. The payroll is affected monthly. Planning of payroll and alignment of resources to posts is undertaken as per the new 2016-2020 Country Programme Management Plan. The grant expiries are monitored and monthly updates to payroll is executed with new registry of cost distributions.

OUTCOME 3 By 2020, the education, child and social protection and health systems, NGOs, communities and families provide vulnerable children with increasingly inclusive opportunities to realize their rights to protection, education, development and participation.

Analytical statement of progress
This outcome promotes the social inclusion of vulnerable groups of children in Turkey including the large refugee population, socioeconomically disadvantaged and working children and adolescents, children with disabilities, and children in contact with the law. It contributes to:

- SDG 1 (End poverty in all its forms everywhere);
- SDG 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages);
- SDG 4 (Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all);
- SDG 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls);
- SDG 10 (Reduce inequality within and among countries) and;
- SDG 16 (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels).

By the end of 2017 the number of Syrian children accessing formal education had increased by 24 per cent from the end of the 2016-2017 school year. UNICEF contributed to this achievement through policy advocacy, expansion of learning spaces, provision of supplies, and training and financial support for Syrian refugee teachers.

In a landmark development, and with UNICEF support, the system of conditional cash transfers for education for children of disadvantaged Turkish families was extended to cover refugee families. However, an estimated one-third of Syrian children remain out of school, with substantial obstacles remaining for them to access appropriate forms of education. Within the context of the progressive integration of refugee children into Turkish public schools, UNICEF is continuing its support for initiatives ranging from the training of teachers to the development and implementation of informal and non-formal learning models.

UNICEF also contributed to strengthen child protection systems by expanding the coverage and quality of child protection services across the continuum of care and different sectors, including social welfare, justice and social protection. The quality and coverage of essential child protection services, including outreach, psychosocial care and case management was strengthened and expanded in areas with a high concentration of refugee families. The link between social assistance and child protection was reinforced in the extension of the conditional cash transfer for education programme to refugee children.
Alongside its contributions to capacity development for the sustainability of child care reforms and standards, UNICEF engaged with the Directorate General of Migration Management to promote consideration of the best interests of the child in migration policy and adherence to appropriate standards for children and families in reception and removal centres.

To promote the inclusion of refugees at the community level, the social cohesion programme involving refugee and Turkish children, adolescents and youth was expanded.

In the health sector, UNICEF provided support to the Ministry of Health for a national immunisation campaign targeting refugee children.

Child labour among both Turkish and refugee children remained a concern. Turkey renewed its strategy and action plan to combat child labour in 2017, which will be a framework to scale up multi-sectoral interventions in 2018. UNICEF contributed to capacity development of labour inspectors and strengthened its partnerships with employer associations and municipalities in this area, and continued to expand service delivery for children at risk of, or engaged in, labour, particularly in the agricultural sector.

UNICEF continued to support the development and implementation of programmes to make the education system more equitable and inclusive. Previously-developed programmes, such as the grade nine orientation programme, were scaled up, and the development and implementation of a Remedial Education Programme for disadvantaged students in grades three and four began.

Within the context of a new national policy for one year compulsory preschool by 2019, UNICEF continued its advocacy and partnership building in early childhood education focussing on ensuring the provision of disadvantaged children (including children with disabilities and refugee children) with equitable education opportunities. UNICEF also contributed to the adoption of professional standards for child caregivers.

UNICEF also continued to work in close collaboration with relevant authorities to strengthen the justice system’s capacity to more adequately address the specific needs of children in contact with the law. The focus was to promote the development of laws, policies, and capacities for quality alternatives to judicial proceedings and deprivation of liberty; promote the establishment of child-sensitive procedures for children victims of crimes as well as the provision of legal aid services for children seeking redress for rights violations.

**OUTPUT 1** By 2020, the education system has increased capacity to provide formal education opportunities for refugee children (3-17 years old).

**Analytical statement of progress**
UNICEF’s partnership with the Ministry of National Education resulted in a significant increase of the enrolment of Syrian children in school. By the end of 2017, over 600,000 refugee children – nearly half of whom are girls - were enrolled in formal education. For the first time since the beginning of the crises, more Syrian children were enrolled in Turkish public schools than in temporary education centres. However, more than 350,000 children remain out-of-school and the education service needs to continue expanding to provide equitable access to education for all refugee children.

Monitoring conducted by UNICEF at the beginning of the school-year showed that Syrian
families were interested and made considerable efforts to enrol their children in school. However, some faced challenges including lack of clear information about the registration process, financial barriers and communication difficulties. The underlying causes are related to the supply of services as well as to difficulties faced by refugee families on the demand side. UNICEF interventions address both aspects.

On the supply side, UNICEF continued to support the Ministry of National Education in providing monthly incentives to Syrian volunteer teachers, establishing and furnishing additional learning spaces and making financial resources available to ensure safe school environments. About 13,200 Syrian volunteer teachers – 54 per cent of whom are women - received a monthly stipend through the Ministry of National Education, Turkish post office/PTT and UNICEF Teacher Incentives Programme. A revision of the Syrian Education Personnel Management Strategy is being discussed in order to define the status of Syrian teachers and their future roles. This relates to the transition of Syrian students from temporary education centres to Turkish public schools and the roles that Syrian teachers can play to facilitate a smooth transition and ensure effective learning by Syrian children.

The construction of seven prefabricated schools with a capacity of 9,660 children was completed in camps and host communities in five provinces. In addition, 530 classrooms for formal education and 304 classrooms for early childhood education were added to existing schools. These provide learning spaces for over 38,000 children in formal education and 15,200 children in early childhood education. UNICEF also supported 1,903 classrooms with school furniture and equipment, while 732 sets of early childhood education learning materials were distributed, benefiting 26,920 children. Support for school maintenance costs was provided to 404 temporary education centres, benefiting over 230,000 children.

On the demand side, the CCTE programme for refugee children was launched in June to support regular school attendance and encourage enrolment among children from the most vulnerable refugee families. To improve refugee families' access to information on educational opportunities, UNICEF facilitated information sessions on pathways to education for field-workers and NGO staff, and supported a door-to-door outreach programme in eight provinces. These reached 46,653 individuals with information on the available education opportunities. In addition, over 372,000 refugee children in temporary education centres and Turkish public schools received stationery kits and school bags.

Following the handover of the Education Management Information System for Foreigners (YOBIS) to the Ministry of National Education in 2016, UNICEF continued to support capacity development for users through a workshop attended by 600 Ministry staff from 23 provinces. The system contributes to the government’s ability to measure key education indicators for refugee children.

**OUTPUT 2** By 2020, the education system has increased capacity to provide quality inclusive education for vulnerable children aged three to 17 years old (including refugee children).

**Analytical statement of progress**
UNICEF continued to engage in policy dialogue and provision of technical support to the Ministry of National Education to strengthen the ability of the education system to provide quality inclusive education for all children, especially the most vulnerable, including children with disabilities and refugee children.
A total of 18,616 Syrian volunteer teachers and trainers received training in inclusive education and pedagogic knowledge and skills. Among these, 13,537 teachers received a third and final phase of training, and 94 per cent passed the written exam and received certificates. In addition, 107,938 Turkish teachers received training to enhance their capacity to support refugee children in Turkish public schools by promoting social cohesion and supporting the children’s academic and psychosocial needs. The psychosocial support module is currently being revised in order to improve school counselling services. Two guidebooks, on special education and counselling services, were developed and published to support the enhanced capacities of teachers, schools and counsellors working with refugee children.

With respect to standards, curricula and learning environments, the development of the school orientation and child social and financial education extra-curricular programmes, which enrich the learning experience and complement the core curriculum in public schools, was completed.

Tools to assess and diagnose children with disabilities were developed and tested in ten guidance and research centres in Gaziantep, Ankara and Istanbul. The development of the remedial education programme, which aims to assist third and fourth grade primary school students to complete their primary education equipped with basic literacy and maths skills, is underway. Activity books for children and guidebooks for teachers in these two grades were developed. Some 234 Ministry of National Education staff and education experts contributed to the development and piloting process, through a needs analysis workshop and training-of-trainers. One million sets of Turkish language textbooks (A1 and A2 level) were procured and distributed to Turkish public schools and temporary education centres, targeting 500,000 Syrian children aged eight to 17.

The Government of Turkey has declared one year of pre-school education compulsory by 2019. In support, UNICEF continued to engage in policy dialogue with the Ministry of National Education regarding the expansion of access to early childhood education as a critical strategy for providing disadvantaged children with equitable education opportunities. Support was extended to the Ministry’s early childhood education regulation and planning meetings and the Fifth International Early Childhood Education Conference organized by Gazi University, which has 875 participants. UNICEF expanded its partnerships with the Southeast Anatolia Project Administration/GAP and the Development Foundation of Turkey/TKV to implement community- and home-based early childhood education programmes. These included including bilingual (Arabic/Turkish) early childhood education summer schools reaching 8,574 Turkish and Syrian children (4,189 girls; 4,385 boys).

The Ministry of National Education and UNICEF collaborated to ensure the social inclusion of children with disabilities using early childhood education as an entry point. Through awareness-raising among families and communities and the development of tailored educational materials and teacher training programmes, this initiative initially targets 1,180 children with disabilities who will attend mainstream early childhood education in Antalya, Bursa, Gaziantep, Izmir, Konya and Samsun.

OUTPUT 3 By 2020, the child protection system, including the psychosocial support services, has increased capacity to detect, refer, assess, prevent and manage cases of children in need of protection.
Analytical statement of progress

UNICEF continued to work with its partners to strengthen national child protection systems to address the needs of vulnerable Turkish and refugee children more effectively.

In collaboration with the Ministries of Family and Social Policies and National Education, and in partnership with the Turkish Red Crescent Society, a child protection component was integrated into the conditional cash transfer for education programme supported by UNICEF. The component aims to reach 49,600 refugee children with protection services in 15 provinces. In the first six months of implementation, 24,461 children in 11 provinces were reached by outreach teams. These numbers are expected to increase significantly beyond the initial phase of the programme.

UNICEF and the Ministry of Family and Social Policies also started to collaborate on extending the coverage of the national Family Social Support outreach programme (known as ASDEP) to refugee families. The programme, currently implemented in six provinces, will be expanded to 15 provinces in 2018 targeting 28,800 refugee children. Efforts to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Family and Social Policies to respond to the psychosocial support needs of children continued, and training was delivered to 45 staff.

To sustain the implementation of the care reforms and standards initiated in 2016, UNICEF continued to support the implementation of quality assurance mechanisms in the Ministry of Family and Social Policies residential care units. Seventy-six technical personnel were trained as trainers and 172 institutions implemented self-assessment standards and systems.

A new workplan with the Directorate General of Migration Management was developed. It focusses on: (i) legislative analysis of provisions for migrant and refugee children, including unaccompanied and separated children; (ii) child protection capacity development of staff for the identification, registration and referral of children; (iii) creation of child-friendly spaces in reception and removal centres; (iv) minimum standards for the protection of refugee and migrant children in centres and; (v) social cohesion initiatives to promote the integration of refugee children in host communities. The collaboration will contribute to ensure that the child’s best interest is central to migration management policy development and implementation.

Consolidating partnerships with government institutions and CSOs, UNICEF strengthened child protection service delivery to refugee children. With a network of partners providing community-based services, 69,709 refugee children benefitted from structured psychosocial support in 55 safe spaces. In addition, 117,699 refugee children were identified with protection needs and referred to relevant social services. Of these, 27,483 children received specialized services. Mobile units operated by the Turkish Red Crescent Society provided psychosocial care services to 5,898 Syrian and Turkish children in 14 temporary education centres and one removal centre, in collaboration with the Directorate General of Migration Management and provincial departments of National Education. UNICEF supported the training of 36 NGO psychologists and family consultants as trainers for the Ministry of Family and Social Policies parenting programme. These then trained 16,247 parents and local stakeholders in facilities run by 15 municipalities.

Through partners, UNICEF supported the distribution of 41,759 protection e-voucher cards to 18,812 Syrian families evaluated as medium or high risk for child protection concerns, reaching 106,363 beneficiaries including 57,705 children.
OUTPUT 4 By 2020, families, local authorities and the social protection system (including governmental and non-governmental actors) have increased capacity to support vulnerable children in accessing the means to fulfil their rights.

Analytical statement of progress
The extension of the conditional cash transfer for education programme, which was already in place for disadvantaged Turkish children, to include refugee children became operational in 2017. This was the result of a policy dialogue initiated by UNICEF between the Ministries of Family and Social Policies and National Education and the Turkish Red Crescent Society in 2016. In the first payment in May 2017, families of over 56,000 refugee children received cash assistance. By December, the number of beneficiaries reached 188,444 (95,108 girls and 93,336 boys). The payments are conditional on minimum 80 per cent school attendance and are expected to encourage the enrolment and support the continued attendance of children from vulnerable refugee families in formal education.

UNICEF also reached over 34,000 households with cash or voucher payments to help families cover their increased expenditures on essential household items during the winter months. This support benefitted over 102,000 children.

UNICEF is pursuing a multidimensional strategy to address child labour in Turkey as working children, whether refugee or Turkish, remain one of the most vulnerable groups in the country. In 2017, UNICEF and the International Labour Organization (ILO) established a child labour technical group to provide support to development and humanitarian actors to make their programmes more effective in addressing child labour. UNICEF also expanded its partnerships with NGOs to generate evidence on child labour for programming and advocacy purposes, as well as to support families of working children. Social, economic, psychosocial and educational support provided to families reached almost 15,000 individuals, almost half of whom are children.

To strengthen preventive measures, UNICEF Turkey established a partnership with the Labour Inspection Board of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, under which more than 400 labour inspectors received training about child labour, child rights and business principles. The programme will continue in 2018 and will also include the development of a model to strengthen the linkages between social protection, education and labour inspection. This work is being complemented by a partnership with the Confederation of Craftsmen and Tradesmen, which represents small-scale enterprises of the kind where many children are working. Through this collaboration, the capacities of Confederation members to adopt child rights in their workplaces and support referrals to technical and vocational training opportunities are being strengthened.

The child-friendly cities programme has reached more than 100 municipalities, building their capacity for child rights programming with a specific focus on child labour, child marriage, child participation and child-responsive budgeting and planning. It has also contributed to advocating for increased fiscal space and establishing platforms to foster knowledge sharing among municipalities. Guidelines based on this experience were prepared and will be disseminated through the Union of Municipalities.

OUTPUT 5 By 2020, the justice and protection systems have increased capacity to provide children and adolescents in contact with the law with a second chance.
Analytical statement of progress
In 2017, UNICEF continued to strengthen the justice system for children in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, the Union of Turkish Bar Associations and CSOs.

According to the latest Ministry of Justice statistics, the number of criminal cases filed against children continued to decrease, from 173,297 in 2015 to 135,517 in 2016. Despite the increasing number of child courts across the country, 51.3 per cent of children in conflict with the law were tried in non-specialized courts. Moreover, the number of children in pre- and post-trial detention reached 2,940, which represents an approximate 20 per cent increase compared to December 2016. At 83,607, the number of children victims of crime increased by 7,000 compared to the previous year.

UNICEF actively contributed to the legislative reform process to strengthen the administration of justice for children in contact with the law, and particularly the rights of child victims in criminal proceedings. The draft law on victim’s rights, which officially identifies the Department of Victim’s Rights in the Ministry of Justice as a primary body in charge of developing and implementing policies for children in contact with the law, is expected to be adopted in 2018.

UNICEF also worked in close collaboration with the Ministry of Justice to draft the legal framework for child-friendly judicial interview rooms, designed to ensure child-sensitive judicial interviews and prevent secondary victimization of children in contact with the law while safeguarding the right to fair trial for all parties. To date, 30 such interview rooms have been established at courthouses in 23 cities. Another 31 will be established in 2018.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Justice and the Child Protection Centres Support Society, UNICEF contributed to the development of the capacities of 518 court-appointed experts and 83 judges and prosecutors with respect to international normative frameworks, communication skills, child development and child-friendly judicial interview techniques. Starting in April, more than 1,245 interviews were registered in the system, with a rapid increase following the training of judges and prosecutors.

UNICEF also expanded its focus on children’s equitable access to justice through its cooperation with the Union of Turkish Bar Associations. An analysis conducted on Legal Aid Services within the Scope of Children’s Right to Access to Justice in Turkey identified significant bottlenecks in access to and provision and quality of legal aid services, while also underlining issues specific to refugee children such as legal representation, guardianship and status determination. UNICEF was granted ex officio membership of the newly-established Union of Turkish Bar Associations’ Child Rights Commission.

UNICEF also continued efforts to promote and expand alternatives to detention for children in conflict with the law, with an emphasis on strengthening the quality and availability of probation services. Work commenced on developing risk and needs assessment tools and designing supportive intervention programmes for children under probation. These will be finalized in 2018. These tools and programmes are a first step towards the provision of more effective probation programmes and an important contribution to ensure more alternatives to detention for children in conflict with the law.

OUTPUT 6 By 2020, Turkish and refugee adolescents and youth have increased opportunities for participation, meaningful engagement and interaction with peers.
Analytical statement of progress
UNICEF responded to the needs of adolescents and youth by supporting the provision of meaningful engagement opportunities and fostering social cohesion among Turkish and Syrian young people. UNICEF provided technical assistance to government partners including the Ministry of Family and Social Policies, the Ministry of Youth and Sports and the Southeast Anatolia Project/GAP Administration, as well as international NGO partners, with the aim of creating a robust and extensive network for young people in over 20 host communities. This investment in expanding the reach of social cohesion initiatives allowed UNICEF to support young people in need on a wide scale. In 2017, 644 Turkish and Syrian young people (369 girls, 275 boys) were trained as master trainers and reached 125,796 Turkish and Syrian young people (77,494 girls, 48,302 boys) in their communities.

Under the child-friendly cities initiative, UNICEF trained 27 adolescent and youth volunteers (18 females and nine males) as trainers on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adolescent and youth engagement, and how to build more child-friendly cities and neighbourhoods. They were subsequently appointed as “master trainers” who will support municipalities in training more young volunteers to monitor child rights in their communities.

UNICEF began a review and analysis of its adolescent development and participation programme using the lessons learned over the past two years to develop a new strategy to engage Syrian and Turkish adolescents and young people more effectively in socially meaningful activities. The strategy is to be finalized and rolled out in 2018.

As the social cohesion programme expands, UNICEF is focusing on strengthening the quality of the peer-to-peer sessions. An interactive toolkit was developed with the Ministry of Family and Social Policies to provide trainers with new tools – including a customized board game – to engage and inform adolescents and young people on issues such as child rights, conflict resolution and social cohesion. The kits are being tested and refined.

The UNICEF-supported girl and adolescent-friendly centres continued to provide life skills development for Turkish and Syrian young people. This is through activities to support their emotional and social wellbeing, learning and use of essential skills, and opportunities for active involvement in projects that match their interests. Among these initiatives is a comprehensive life skills programme for Syrian and Turkish young people living in low-income settings with a high number of refugees. The curriculum, which focuses on personal development, was developed jointly with the Ministry of National Education’s Directorate General of Special Education Guidance and Counselling Services and an NGO partner, RET. It follows a cascade model in which the trainees graduate to become youth facilitators who organize social action projects with and for their peers in their communities. A total of 3,229 adolescents (2,128 girls; 1,101 boys) successfully graduated from the programme. In collaboration with the Turkish Red Crescent Society, 727 Syrian adolescents participated in the Volunteer Leadership Programme which equips young people with leadership skills for volunteer-based programmes such as the child-friendly spaces.

OUTPUT 7 By 2020, the protection and health systems have increased capacity to timely detect and address developmental needs of young children and to address the health and nutrition needs of refugee young children.
Analytical statement of progress
In response to concerns regarding immunization coverage among refugee children, the Ministry of Health decided to conduct a supplementary vaccination campaign in 2017 targeting both registered and unregistered refugee children under five years old. The campaign was supported by UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO). Three rounds of vaccination were carried out nationwide, with an emphasis on 20 provinces with high concentrations of refugees. Using a network of health centres, temporary vaccination centres and mobile units, the campaign reached 376,000 refugee children under five years old and assessed their immunization status for the pentavalent (DaPT-IPV-Hib), MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) and Hepatitis B vaccines. Following these assessments, 121,600 children received missing pentavalent vaccine doses and 142,000 received the measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine.

The outreach strategy of the campaign involved NGOs in information dissemination and included a communication for development campaign supported by UNICEF. UNICEF also procured 50,000 doses of IPV (inactivated polio vaccine) for the Ministry of Health on the basis of the contingency plan for the Syrian cVDPV2 (circulating vaccine derived poliovirus type-2) outbreak.

Since 2016, UNICEF has engaged in policy dialogue and has supported the development of professional standards for child caregivers. With UNICEF support, the Child Development and Education Association (Çocuk Gelişimi ve Egitimcileri Derneği) and the Binbirçiçek (One Thousand and One Flowers) Foundation organised a workshop on this topic with international participation. As a result of this dialogue and follow-up consultations with relevant specialists, four-levels of Child Development National Professional Standards and the corresponding certification packages were developed and presented to the Vocational Qualifications Institution under the Ministry of Labour. In March 2017, they adopted the professional qualifications of ‘child caregiver/developer’ and ‘child development expert’. This is an important step forward for strengthening early childhood development approaches in home-based child care in Turkey.

OUTPUT 8 Technical Assistance for Outcome

Analytical statement of progress
A separate output is dedicated to cover the payroll of staff members working to achieve the outputs under Outcome 1. The payroll is affected monthly. Planning of payroll and alignment of resources to posts is undertaken as per the new 2016-2020 Country Programme Management Plan. Grant expiries are monitored and monthly updates to payroll are executed with new registry of cost distributions.

OUTCOME 4 By 2020, child rights monitoring systems use solid evidence for policy-making, reporting and advocacy on child rights, and facilitate claiming and redress procedures for the child rights’ violated.

Analytical statement of progress
This country programme outcome intends to enable evidence-based policy-making, reporting and advocacy on child rights as well as effective claiming and redress of child rights violations. The contributing outputs aim to strengthen the capacity of child rights monitoring systems in Turkey: the civil society organizations and national statistics systems and the national human
rights monitoring mechanisms, including the Ombudsperson Institution, the National Human Rights and Equality Institution and the Parliament.

This outcome contributes particularly to SDG 16, focusing on the ‘promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, access to justice for all and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels’. It also contributes to SDG 17 on ‘strengthening the means of implementation’ for the Agenda 2030, with a focus on strengthened data collection to enable evidence-based decision-making and accountability.

The implementation of this outcome faced some challenges in 2017 due to the political situation and the shrinking operating space for civil society. Nevertheless, progress was made in several respects. One of the key priorities for this year was strengthening the capacity of CSOs to generate and use quality evidence to report on and advocate for the full realization of child rights, especially the rights of vulnerable groups of children.

As a result, the Partnership Network for Preventing Violence against Children and its members issued 14 publications and policy papers as well as guidelines on different aspects of violence against children. In addition, efforts in developing tools for monitoring and reporting child rights violations by bar associations and hospital-based child protection centres were initiated and will be finalized in early 2018. UNICEF also facilitated regular dialogues on violence against children between the Partnership Network and public institutions, including the Ombudsman Institutions and municipalities. In addition, a new network was established, the NGO Network for the Rights of Children with Disabilities, bringing together 45 non-governmental organizations.

UNICEF is involved in the consultations for the preparation of the 11th National Development Plan for 2019-2023 and the nationalization of the SDGs, led by the Ministry of Development. Both processes represent important opportunities to contribute to the definition of national priorities and to advocate for inclusive strategies that advance the agenda for children in the mid- and long-term. In this framework, the engagement with the Ministry of Development and the Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) opened a dialogue on the measurement of indicators to set baselines and measure progress against the SDGs in the country.

Another aspect of work within this outcome is to strengthen the capacity of national human rights monitoring mechanisms to detect child rights violations and activate redress actions in line with international standards and good practices. According to the Ombudsperson Institution’s 2017 records, a total of 271 applications were directly lodged by children. This represents a three-fold increase since 2016, and is partly the result of the efforts to expand the visibility and accessibility of the Institution among children.

**OUTPUT 1** By 2020, relevant line ministries, the Turkish Statistical Institute, National Human Rights Institution and CSOs have increased capacity to generate and use quality and disaggregated evidence on the situation of children for monitoring, reporting and advocacy purposes.

**Analytical statement of progress**
As a result of ongoing policy dialogue and intersectoral coordination facilitated by UNICEF, 45 national NGOs working for or with children with disabilities established the NGO Network for the Rights of Children with Disabilities. With UNICEF’s support, the first initiative of the Network will be the preparation of a situation analysis of children with disabilities.
In 2017, UNICEF technically and financially supported at least four civil society organizations in conducting research and other kinds of evidence-generation, including surveys and qualitative studies. This contributes to strengthening their capacity to generate and use quality evidence to monitor, report on and advocate for the realization of child rights, especially the rights of vulnerable groups of children. The focus so far has been on CSOs engaged with children involved in seasonal agricultural work, refugee children and children with disabilities. Despite some positive achievements, more solid and sustainable results in this area are constrained by the complex political situation and the shrinking space for civil society in the country. In addition, continuing restrictions on data collection concerning refugees continue to be an obstacle for monitoring the realization of the rights of this highly vulnerable group.

In collaboration with other UN agencies, UNICEF is contributing to the preparation of the 11th National Development Plan for 2019-2023 and the nationalization of the Sustainable Development Goals SDGs. The ongoing consultations for the National Development Plan, coordinated by the Ministry of Development, represents an opportunity for UNICEF and its CSO and Government partners to advocate for national strategies that advance the agenda for children, especially the most vulnerable. The dialogue around the Agenda 2030 has been connected to the National Development Plan process. A workshop with the Ministry of Development, TurkStat and UN agencies was an important milestone of Government-UN collaboration in this process, which will continue in the first half of 2018. A series of workshops and other preparatory steps for the MAPS (Mainstreaming Acceleration and Policy Support) mission will bring together experts from various UN agencies, the Ministry of Development, TurkStat and other relevant stakeholders for the development of plans for the nationalization of the SDGs and corresponding indicators.

In the past, UNICEF supported the development and establishment of YOBIS, an education management information system for refugee children studying in temporary education centres. In 2017, in the context of the recently launched Conditional Cash Transfer for Education programme, UNICEF provided financial and technical support for the creation of linkages between YOBIS, E-Okul (education management information system for Turkish public schools) and ISAIS (the information management system for social assistance). This link will allow the Ministry of Family and Social Policy and the Ministry of National Education to monitor indicators related to school attendance and to the cash transfer programme in a coordinated manner.

OUTPUT 2 By 2020, relevant human rights monitoring mechanisms have increased capacity to monitor child rights violations and activate redress actions in line with international standards and good practices.

Analytical statement of progress
UNICEF maintained its dialogue and partnership with the Ombudsperson’s Institution to strengthen independent child rights monitoring mechanisms and advocate for the positioning of child rights on the national agenda.

The number of applications continued to rise, reflecting its increased visibility and growing public recognition of its role and mandate. In 2017, 271 applications were lodged directly by children through the child web portal, tripling the number of applications in 2016.

UNICEF and the Ombudsperson’s Institution adopted a new workplan. The workplan aims to the Ombudsperson’s Institution's capacity to manage and investigate complaints concerning children more effectively, to increase demand for its services by expanding outreach efforts, and
to promote dialogues both with civil society and directly with children. UNICEF also contributed to enhanced institutional capacities by training approximately 30 Ombudsperson’s Institution experts on children’s rights, violence against children, violence in education settings, and the structure and modus operandi of child protection systems.

UNICEF and the Ombudsperson’s Institution also agreed to promote international knowledge exchange through events at which good practices in fulfilling its mandate on children’s rights are shared and discussed. In this context, UNICEF facilitated the participation of the newly-elected deputy ombudsperson in charge of women’s and children’s rights in the European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC) and UNICEF Capacity Building Seminar for newly established or newly appointed Ombudspersons for Children in Europe’ held in Sofia, Bulgaria in May. Following the meeting, the Ombudsperson’s Institution lodged an official application to the European Network, and expects to become an associate member in 2018.

UNICEF also supported the systematic engagement of the Ombudsperson’s Institution with children, young people and civil society actors. As part of the events marking Universal Children’s Day, the Chief Ombudsperson met with the Child Advisory Board of the Ministry of Family and Social Policies and led a dialogue with children on children’s rights. UNICEF also convened several meetings between the Ombudsperson’s Institution and child rights organizations to advocate for the role of CSOs in advancing the fulfilment and monitoring of children’s rights.

As part of its efforts to accelerate the agendas related to violence against children and children with disabilities, UNICEF contributed to strengthening the capacity of civil society to monitor children’s rights and to promote inclusive and innovative services for children. Despite the challenging political environment, the NGO Network on Preventing Violence Against Children were able to achieve significant progress during the year. They developed draft guidelines for children and families on how to file complaints to the Ombudsperson’s Institution and assessed the capacity gaps of different authorities in responding to cases of violence against children. The NGO Network also began to develop indicators to guide the university-based Child Protection Centres and the Bar Associations in their efforts to collect and analyse data on violence against children, to enhance child rights monitoring and reporting at the local level.

UNICEF continued to hold regular bilateral meetings with NGOs, Bar Associations, Parliamentary Committees and other UN agencies to monitor the situation and protection of children in Turkey.

**OUTPUT 3 Technical Assistance for Outcome**

**Analytical statement of progress**

A separate output is dedicated to cover the payroll of staff members working to achieve the outputs under Outcome 2. The payroll is affected monthly. Planning of payroll and alignment of resources to posts is undertaken as per the new 2016-2020 Country Programme Management Plan. Grant expiries are monitored and monthly updates to payroll are executed with new registry of cost distributions.

**OUTCOME 5** By 2020, the education and child protection systems, NGOs and communities increasingly provide vulnerable girls and boys with gender-sensitive opportunities to realize their rights.
Analytical statement of progress

Ending child marriage and addressing gender-based violence in emergencies are key targeted gender priorities of the country programme. Outcome 3 of the programme also covers UNICEF’s ongoing efforts to support educational opportunities for adolescents, both girls and boys, incorporating the targeted gender priority of gender equality in education. Through these interventions, Outcome 3 contributes to SDG 4 (Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all), SDG 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls) and SDG 16 (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels).

In 2017, advocacy with the Ministry of Family and Social Policies contributed to the development of key policies on girls’ and women’s rights. These included the Draft Strategy Document and Action Plan on the Elimination of Early and Forced Marriages and the Draft Strategy Document and Action Plan on Women’s Empowerment. Substantial technical assistance was also provided to government counterparts on the review of the Law that Amends the Law on Civil Registration Services and Some Other Laws.

A UN Joint Programme on child marriage was developed under the leadership of UNICEF, with the participation of four other UN agencies. With financial support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency beginning in 2018, this joint effort is expected to play a catalytic role in combating child marriage. At the local level, the consolidation of strategic partnerships with local administrations enabled UNICEF to strengthen the institutional capacities to combat child marriage of two municipalities in South-East Turkey (Gaziantep and Kilis).

UNICEF and partners also continued to address different forms of gender-based violence in the context of the refugee crisis. In 2018, UNICEF will prioritize the design and implementation of communication for development interventions for gender-related social norms change and the scale-up of gender-based violence interventions.

In conjunction with the Ministry of National Education, national programmes to strengthen the capacity of the education system to provide and facilitate gender-sensitive and inclusive formal, non-formal and informal education opportunities for adolescent boys and girls were further implemented and developed. These include the Promoting Gender Quality in Education Programme and the School Orientation Programme and Intervention Model. UNICEF also expanded its collaboration with partners in support of the development of models for non-formal and informal education of refugee adolescent boys and girls. All these efforts will see further expansion in 2018.

A gender perspective is also present in the extension of the conditional cash transfer for education programme for Syrians and other refugees. The largest transfers are provided to girls in secondary school to mitigate the risk of drop-out due to restrictions in mobility, safety issues and child marriage; while a child protection component targets early detection and response in all violence cases, including those triggered or exacerbated by negative gender norms.

UNICEF continued to participate in the UN Gender Result Group and Gender-Based Violence
Working Group. UNICEF also led the organization of the 3rd International Conference on the Day of the Girl Child in Turkey, which was attended by 240 people from UN agencies, academia, civil society and the media. To mark the 16 Days of Activism on Gender-Based Violence, UNICEF supported partner organizations to implement awareness-raising and social mobilization activities across different provinces.

OUTPUT 1 By 2020, the education system, NGOs and families have increased capacity to provide and facilitate gender-sensitive and inclusive formal, non-formal, informal education opportunities for adolescent boys and girls.

Analytical statement of progress
UNICEF partnered with the Ministry of National Education and the Ministry of Youth and Sports in addressing the challenges faced by vulnerable Turkish and Syrian adolescent girls and boys in accessing quality inclusive education. For out-of-school Syrian refugee children, outreach activities reached 46,653 individuals and identified obstacles to school participation including financial problems, the opportunity cost of child labour, lack of information about educational opportunities, and difficulties in school registration.

These outreach activities aim at facilitating access and addressing the educational needs of out-of-school refugee children in informal and non-formal settings. Together with the Ministry of Youth and Sports, UNICEF is striving to extend support for Turkish language courses for 10,000 Syrian children at 41 youth centres in 15 provinces. In addition, cooperation with civil society organizations made it possible to deliver Turkish language, basic literacy and numeracy, catch-up and remedial classes for 5,279 children (3,204 girls; 2,075 boys).

UNICEF also provided technical and financial assistance to the Ministry of National Education’s Directorate General of Life-Long Learning for the development of an Accelerated Learning Programme for out-of-school Syrian children and adolescents who have missed several years of schooling. The curriculum was developed and finalized by the Ministry of National Education. Once launched in early 2018, the programme will benefit at least 20,000 children in its first 18-month cycle.

To prevent non-attendance or drop-out at upper secondary level, the school orientation programme for grade nine children from disadvantaged backgrounds was revised and strengthened. A total of 16,000 sets of the School Orientation Programme Resource Pack were distributed and implemented in all ‘general’ upper secondary schools, facilitating the transition of more than 600,000 students, including refugee children, from lower secondary school to upper secondary school. The programme will also be implemented in vocational/technical and religious (imam hatip) upper-secondary schools in 2018, completing its roll-out.

OUTPUT 2 By 2020, the child protection system, NGOs and families have increased capacity to detect, refer, assess, prevent and manage cases of children victims of gender-based violence and child marriage.

Analytical statement of progress
The Local Initiative for the Prevention of Child Marriage initiated in 2016 in collaboration with Gaziantep Municipality includes actions to strengthen local multisectoral coordination, prevention and response interventions, and institutional capacities. In 2017, the programme reached 960 service providers with capacity building programmes. In 2018, approximately
100,000 children and parents will be reached through community-based prevention activities specifically targeting men and boys. A similar partnership was also developed with Kilis municipality, with the goal of reaching a total of 2,000 service providers with capacity development programmes and 1,000 community members and 70,000 children and families with awareness-raising interventions by end 2018.

At the policy level, UNICEF continued to advocate with the Ministry of Family and Social Policies for the formulation of a multi-sectoral strategy with time-bound objectives and targets to address the economic, structural and social factors that contribute to child marriage.

Through the child-friendly city programme, UNICEF supported the training of 69 service providers from 51 municipalities, contributing to greater awareness and enhanced capacity for combating child marriage in 25 cities. A total of 136 field workers, outreach and child protection officers and psychologists from 18 provinces were trained on child marriage prevention and response strategies through training-of-trainers sessions conducted for UNICEF’s partner organizations.

A UN Joint Programme on child marriage was developed under the leadership of UNICEF with the participation of UN Women, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Implementation will begin in January 2018 with financial support from SIDA. The Joint Programme builds on the comparative strengths of different UN agencies and aims to strengthen the policy environment and local institutional capacities to address child early and forced marriage more effectively and will address the negative social norms which help to sustain and perpetuate the practice in 12 targeted provinces of Turkey.

Through partnerships with NGOs, UNICEF supported the provision of multi-disciplinary services for girls at-risk and survivors of gender-based violence, with community-based prevention and response services. The psychosocial programme reached 69,709 refugee children including gender-sensitive activities, while the parenting programme run by the Ministry of Family and Social Policies, reached 16,247 Syrian parents in 15 municipalities, and included modules on gender.

Support for the provision of multi-disciplinary, integrated services for girls and gender-based violence survivors through girl safe centres continued. They reached 4,226 Syrian and Turkish girls and women with structured and community-supported activities that are designed to prevent and respond to gender-based violence. The activities include tailored psychosocial support care, individual and group counselling sessions. The Women’s Rights Commission of the Bar Association of Şanlıurfa delivered regular sessions on legal rights and access to law enforcement and the justice system to 737 young mothers and fathers, while 3,039 individuals were reached through awareness raising and parenting training sessions.

UNICEF collaborated closely with the Ministry of National Education to follow up the implementation of the Promoting Gender Equality in Education Programme. This Programme aims to promote gender equality throughout the education system through the revision and roll-out of Gender-Sensitive School Standards and the incorporation of gender-sensitive and gender-specific activities into 12 subjects.
OUTPUT 3 Technical Assistance for Outcome

Analytical statement of progress
A separate output is dedicated to cover the payroll of staff members working to achieve the outputs under Outcome 3. The payroll is affected monthly. Planning of payroll and alignment of resources to posts is undertaken as per the new 2016-2020 Country Programme Management Plan. Grant expiries are monitored and monthly updates to payroll are executed with new registry of cost distributions.

OUTCOME 6 By 2020, relevant national entities share validated good practices with other countries

Analytical statement of progress
This outcome in the Country Programme for 2016-2020 reflects the joint commitment of the Government of Turkey and UNICEF to explore additional opportunities for the systematic exchange of knowledge and good practices for children across borders. In particular, it focuses on Turkey’s humanitarian preparedness and response experience, expertise and good practices. UNICEF aims to facilitate Turkey’s participation in South-South cooperation initiatives as well as the development of innovative alliances for children beyond its borders. Through this approach, this outcome contributes to SDG 17, which focuses on ‘Strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development’.

Although challenges were experienced in 2017 due to the political and security context in Turkey, different initiatives were carried out; given the significant scale and scope of the protracted Syria refugee crisis, as well as the still-substantial numbers of refugee and migrant families on the move toward Europe, this outcome remained focused especially on humanitarian action. Turkey also has extensive experience in responding to earthquakes and other natural disasters. UNICEF sustained a close collaboration with the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority in sharing its disaster management expertise with other countries. Discussions continued for it to become a UNICEF Global Standby Partner.

UNICEF expanded its collaboration with the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority, the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Family and Social Policies and the Turkish Red Crescent Society in sharing their humanitarian experience and expertise with other countries, facilitating their participation in regional and global forums. Additional opportunities will be identified in 2018 to facilitate Turkey’s participation in the dissemination of knowledge across borders and in triangular and thematic initiatives for inclusive quality education, child protection and child-focused humanitarian action.

OUTPUT 1 By 2020, relevant national entities have increased capacity to validate, document and share good practices with other countries.

Analytical statement of progress
Building on the interest of the Government and UNICEF in extending the partnership for children beyond borders, UNICEF continued to support key partners in Turkey in sharing their emergency preparedness and response expertise, best practices and lessons learned with other countries.

In August 2017, UNICEF worked with the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority to
support the “International Earthquake Reality and Urbanization Workshop IV” in Kocaeli Province, which featured a presentation on UNICEF’s earthquake response in Nepal. UNICEF also facilitated the participation of the Turkish Red Crescent Society at a Regional Nutrition in Emergencies Workshop in Tbilisi, Georgia. The Turkish Red Crescent Society made several presentations highlighting results, challenges and lessons learned from the Syria refugee and Van earthquake crises.

In October, UNICEF facilitated the participation of a delegation from the Ministry of Family and Social Policies and the Ministry of National Education in the Meeting of Statisticians of Europe and Central Asia organized by UNICEF in Athens, Greece. The Turkish delegation shared their experiences in linking three information management systems used in the Syria refugee crisis response – YOBIS and E-Okul (education) and ISAIS (social protection). This experience represented an innovation in integrating national information management systems to include the refugee population and facilitate inter-ministerial monitoring of key indicators for vulnerable children.

In December, UNICEF engaged with Disaster and Emergency Management Authority and the Turkish Red Crescent Society on Turkey’s planned humanitarian assistance to Bangladesh in response to the Myanmar refugee crisis. The discussions centred around the establishment of child-friendly spaces and learning facilities in temporary accommodation for refugees, based on practices developed by the Government with support from UNICEF during the Syria refugee response in Turkey.

**Document centre**

**Evaluation and research**

**Other publications**

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<td>Ortaöğretim Uyum Programı (School Orientation Programme Resource Pack)</td>
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<td>“Geçici Koruma Statüsündeki Bireylere Yönelik Rehberlik Hizmetleri Kilavuz Kitabı – Öğretmenler İçin” (Counselling Services Guidebook for Individuals Under Temporary Protection – For Teachers)</td>
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### Lessons learned

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### Programme documents

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