

Viet Nam

Executive Summary

The year 2015 was a historical year for the continuation of the partnership on children's rights between UNICEF and the Government of Viet Nam. UNICEF and Viet Nam celebrated 40 years of strong partnership, since the reunification of the country in 1975, a period during which Viet Nam has made significant strides for the rights and well-being of its children. UNICEF joined the Government in celebrating 25 years since the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by Viet Nam and capitalized on this occasion to advocate for the pursuit of the unfinished agenda for children, despite the country's impressive Millennium Development Goal (MDG) scorecard. The MDG agenda is being supplanted by the ambitious and comprehensive Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which emphasize ending extreme poverty, reducing inequality and ensuring environmental sustainability by 2030.

UNICEF Viet Nam leveraged this historical transition to, inter alia, advance the legislative work on child law, disseminate the findings of Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) V, and to advocate on the need to attend to the unfinished business of the MDGs for children. This was achieved through key interventions such as addresses from the Executive Director, the Regional Director and the Representative on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary, as well as a series of high-level engagements with national partners and media, including the publication of two op-eds in major national newspapers about the pursuit of children's rights within the SDG agenda.

Social service provision continues to improve, but equity issues persist for the most vulnerable. The education system remains strong but inequalities in quality and access remain, especially in hard-to-reach areas, for ethnic minority children, and for children with disabilities. A focus on twenty-first century skills, such as critical thinking and information and communication technology, is also needed. Infant mortality rates continue to fall, but further investment in understanding nutrition, optimum hygiene and sanitation behaviours, and up-to-date hospital childcare techniques would have significant health impacts for children under 5.

Recognizing the need to innovate and adapt in order to accelerate results for children, UNICEF Viet Nam has considered new modalities, while continuing to influence upstream policy with a strong emphasis on evidence building, advocacy and partnership. These include convening knowledge exchange within the country between focus provinces and with the Sultanate of Oman.

All programmes developed evidence in preparation for the Country Programme Development and new One UN Plan, focusing on the needs of the most vulnerable, including ethnic minority children, girls, orphans, children with disabilities, out-of-school children and children with migrant parents. Both plans will be closely aligned with Viet Nam's National Socio-Economic Development Plan 2016–2020.

Following 10 years of advocacy, Viet Nam's justice system was reformed to include key provisions for child rights through revisions to the Penal Code and Penal Procedure Code of

Viet Nam. Following the revision of the Labour Code in 2012 to extend maternity cover in order to promote exclusive breastfeeding until 6 months of age, UNICEF supported implementation of this law by assisting the development of a decree which clarified legal requirements for employers. These regulations include the establishment of clean, safe lactation spaces at the workplace, and day-care centres and kindergartens near or at the workplace. Following UNICEF's efforts, the draft Child Law now clearly articulates a comprehensive framework for child protection.

Working with a wide variety of government partners, UNICEF Viet Nam has advocated for child-sensitive Socio-Economic Development Plans 2016–2020 at both national and sub-national levels, and supported the reform of the child protection and social-care systems in Viet Nam. The new National Programme on Child Protection 2016–2020 focuses on establishing a comprehensive child protection system and expanding the coverage of the local systems. The UNICEF-supported assessment of the Social Welfare Service Delivery System informed the National Project on Reforming the Social Care Service Delivery System 2016–2025, which should enable Viet Nam to move towards a community-based support approach to social care. Important progress for the rights of children with disabilities were also realized through successful advocacy for the establishment of a National Committee on Disability and a National Plan on the implementation of the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

At the end of 2015, Viet Nam recorded the highest growth in gross domestic product (close to 6.7 per cent) in five years, largely induced by an expanding industrial sector and record-high foreign investments. As Viet Nam consolidates its impressive economic progress, UNICEF, and the United Nations in general, will pursue their historical partnerships to ensure that the Government of Viet Nam's Socio-Economic Development Plan 2016–2020 addresses equity and vulnerability issues impacting children.

Summary Notes and Acronyms

ASEAN – Association of South East Asian Nations
BCP – Business Continuity Plan
C4D – Communication for Development
CATS – Community Approaches to Total Sanitation
CCA – climate change adaptation
CFC – Child-Friendly City
CMT – Country Management Team
CP – Child Protection Programme
CPM – Centre for Preventative Medicines
CRBP – Child Rights and Business Principles
CRC – Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSD – Child Survival and Development
CSO – civil society organization
DCT – Direct Cash Transfer
DRR – disaster risk reduction
ECCE – early childhood care and education
ECD – early childhood development
EENC – early essential newborn care
EPI – Expanded Programme on Immunisation
GOUNH – Green One UN House
GSO – General Statistics Office
GSSC – Global Shared Service Centre

HACT – Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers
HCMC – Ho Chi Minh City
ICRM – independent child rights monitoring
ICT – information and communication technology
IMEP – Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
IPU – Inter-Parliamentary Union
IT – information technology
KMC – Kangaroo Mother Care
MARD/DARD – Ministry/Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
MDG – Millennium Development Goal
MDP – Multi-Dimensional Poverty
MICS – Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys
MNCH – Maternal Neonatal and Child Health
MOET/DOET – Ministry/Department of Education and Training
MOF/DOF – Ministry/Department of Finance
MOH/DOH – Ministry/Department of Health
MOJ/DOJ – Ministry/Department of Justice
MOLISA/DOLISA – Ministry/Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs
MP – Member of Parliament
MPI/DPI – Ministry/Department of Planning and Investment
MPS/DPS – Ministry/Department of Public Security
MR – Measles and Rubella
MTBBE – Mother Tongue-Based Bilingual Education
MTR – Mid-Term Review
NGO – non-governmental organization
O&M – Operation and maintenance
ODF – open defecation free
OR – Other Resources
PAS – Performance Appraisal System
PER – Public Expenditure Review
PM&E – Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
PMTCT – prevention of mother to child transmission
PPC – Provincial People’s Committee
RR – Regular Resources
SASSP – Social Assistance System Strengthening Project
SDG – Sustainable Development Goal
SEDP – Socio-Economic Development Plans
SitAn – Situational Analysis
SMR – Strategic Moment of Reflection
SPG – Social Policy and Governance
SupRSWS – Scaling up Rural Sanitation and Water Supply
UPR – Universal Periodic Review
USSD – Unstructured Supplementary Service Data
VIHEMA – Viet Nam Institute of Health and Environmental Management Agency
WASH – water, sanitation and hygiene

Evidence Generation, Policy Dialogue and Advocacy

UNICEF continued to use evidence generation, policy dialogue and advocacy as a core implementation strategy including, Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), provincial situation analyses, evidence on education and children with disabilities, violence against children, and

justice for children to engage meaningfully with state actors.

Five rounds of MICS have been completed in Viet Nam, with the most recent, MICS V, successfully launched in September 2015. The MICS findings have been used extensively to inform policy decisions, programme interventions and, more importantly, to influence public opinion on how to improve the lives of children in Viet Nam in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Particularly, MICS V findings have been a critical source for monitoring national targets in the 2011–2015 Socio-Economic Development Plan as well as for contributing to the country's final Millennium Development Goal (MDG) report.

Following 10 years of evidence generation, policy dialogue and advocacy by UNICEF, in November 2015, the National Assembly amended Viet Nam's criminal laws, introducing significant reforms on justice for children. Viet Nam's criminal laws now include stronger measures to divert children away from the criminal justice system. The laws provide alternatives and stronger limits to the detention of children and stronger protections against child trafficking, forced child labour, and child sexual abuse. Child and gender-sensitive proceedings have been introduced to strengthen access to justice and the protection of all children during criminal proceedings. For example, court cases involving children will be closed to the public and contact between child victims and alleged perpetrators will be restricted.

Also in 2015, the 132nd Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly and a one-day conference on 'The Role of Parliamentarians in the Fulfilment of Child's Rights to Nutrition and Development' in Hanoi provided an important platform for high-level advocacy and sensitization on the benefits of pro-equity, pro-nutrition programmes and policies.

Partnerships

UNICEF played a major role in enhancing programme partnership among United Nations agencies in a number of results areas of the One Plan implementation, notably in Joint Programme Groups on Health, Education and Social Protection. These efforts have enhanced UNICEF's position in the context of the newly adopted Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). UNICEF Viet Nam also took steps towards strengthening a strategic programme partnership with the World Bank in critical programme areas such as Education, Child Health and Sanitation.

The Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC) Child-Friendly City (CFC) Initiative was launched at a high-level conference led by the Vice Chair of the HCMC Provincial People's Committee (PPC). This initiative aims to leverage the importance of child rights to the highest levels of city government and to advocate for a meaningful participation of children, young people, civil society and private-sector players.

UNICEF maintained its partnership with business leaders through the Corporate Advisory Board, providing advice and support to the implementation of the Integrated Corporate Engagement Strategy. The Corporate Advisory Board enabled strategic engagement on child rights with the business community at the CFC high-level round table.

A strategic partnership with the Viet Nam Business Council for Sustainable Development positioned UNICEF well to advocate for the inclusion of the Child Rights and Business Principles among the business community. A human rights impact assessment in the travel and tourism industry provided evidence for the development of industry-specific tools and contributed to showcase the steps taken to help address children's rights with selected

industries.

In May 2015, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Katy Perry made visited HCMC to give the keynote speech at the inaugural Forbes Viet Nam 30 under 30 Summit. This was an opportunity to engage with more than 1,200 young entrepreneurs to call on them to be socially conscious to improve the lives of children in Viet Nam.

External Communication and Public Advocacy

In line with the Global Communication and Public Advocacy Strategy, communication and external relations contributed to raise awareness on child rights, activate public engagement, influence policy and create opportunities to engage with youth.

The publication of an opinion editorial signed by the UNICEF Representative in several national newspapers for the launch of the Progress for Children Report allowed UNICEF to highlight considerable achievements made for children in Viet Nam in the past 40 years, but also to raise awareness on the widening gap between rich and poor that leaves many children and young adults behind. Following the 132nd IPU Assembly, leaders and parliamentarians from Asian countries also gathered to recognize the vital role they play in advancing child nutrition by strengthening legislation regarding breast-milk substitutes and maternity protection. The conference, organized in collaboration with the National Assembly of Viet Nam, reasserted Viet Nam's regional leadership role on child rights and garnered public support on nutrition issues.

The launch of the MICS report was also widely covered nationally and strengthened evidence-based advocacy to capture the unfinished agenda of the MDGs and to point out the remaining areas of vulnerabilities for children despite the progress of the recent years. The wide traditional and online media coverage reached a large audience and contributed to reaffirm UNICEF Viet Nam's position with key government stakeholders and donors.

In September, the Country Office organized a high-profile ceremony to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of UNICEF's presence in Viet Nam. The Deputy Prime Minister, two line ministers and several high-level government officials attended the ceremony, reiterating the commitment from the Government to work with UNICEF as strong and relevant partners, especially in the current rapid economic development context and in the lead-up to the roll-out of the SDG agenda.

South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation

UNICEF Viet Nam engaged the Director General of Planning and Studies from the Ministry of Social Development of the Sultanate of Oman as a key speaker in the Strategic Moment of Reflection (SMR), as part of the 2017–2021 UNICEF Viet Nam Country Programme development. This was noted as a good practice by the Regional Office. The experience exchange with Oman offered valuable insights to UNICEF Viet Nam, the United Nations system as well as the Government, on the modalities of engagement between UNICEF, One UN and the Government at this critical juncture of Viet Nam's social and economic development. Capitalizing on this opportunity, UNICEF Viet Nam also brokered an exchange of experience on social protection reform processes in Oman and Viet Nam, chaired by Nguyen Trong Dam, the Vice Minister of the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA). Vice Minister Dam conveyed his strong interest to further exchange with his Oman counterparts.

UNICEF joined the South-South knowledge exchange between Viet Nam's National Academy for Public Administration and a delegation of more than 30 ministry representatives from

Bangladesh, sharing knowledge and experience of child-sensitive results-based management and planning, monitoring and evaluation of Socio-Economic Development Plans (SEDPs).

UNICEF also promoted a knowledge exchange and South-South cooperation workshop on independent child rights monitoring (ICRM), engaging senior members from the Child Rights Commission of India, the National Human Rights Institutions of Malaysia and Mongolia, together with the Vice Chairperson of the United Nations Committee on Child Rights and the Norwegian Ombudsperson for Children. It has created an important platform for generating public interest and consensus on the establishment of an ICRM mechanism in Viet Nam. While different ICRM models were discussed, without agreement on specifics, there was commitment to an ICRM clause in the Child Law to pave the way for further dialogue and consultation.

Identification and Promotion of Innovation

The UNICEF Innovation Lab for Viet Nam had its inaugural year in 2015, and focused on three main pillars of engagement: 1) technology as a method of achieving impact, 2) the active engagement of adolescents and young people as participants and leaders, and 3) the engagement of existing and capable communities in Viet Nam. To this end, innovation efforts have led to the piloting of the UPSHIFT Social Impact Workshop programme, providing an opportunity for adolescents and young people from vulnerable communities to identify, analyse, and take entrepreneurial action to address community challenges they care about; helping participants realize their role as agents of social change, and building professional readiness and resilience. These efforts have led UNICEF to engage in broader partnership approaches, such as working with a youth volunteer entrepreneurship organization (Viet Youth Entrepreneurs) as the implementing partner. In this way, the existing local community was empowered to take ownership on the initiative, and helped to build a sustainable and impactful programme.

With a greater concentration on technology, the Innovation Lab has initiated the development of a Memorandum of Understanding with Information Technology Park at Vietnam National University in HCMC, with a focus on real-time information systems (i.e., RapidPro) and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Entrepreneurship for Social Impact. The Memorandum of Understanding will focus on the development of a city-wide platform for child-focused and youth-led innovation, dynamic data collection and analysis, for the CFC initiative with HCMC government.

Finally, the Innovation Lab engaged with the Childhood Survival and Development (CSD) section to assist their efforts with health services supported by mobile devices (mobile health; mHealth) and the first 1,000 days of a child's life. This initiative will focus on utilizing real-time information systems to improve the availability of data and response capacity of local health teams for urgent issues.

Human Rights-Based Approach to Cooperation

UNICEF Viet Nam continued to focus on promoting the human rights-based approach in its work as guided by the CRC and other relevant human rights standards.

UNICEF worked closely with other United Nations agencies, as part of 'One UN', to press for follow-up of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) recommendations. Because of this joint voice, the Government of Viet Nam held a consultative process and developed a comprehensive UPR follow-up plan. The plan was used to identify and confirm UNICEF's support to Viet Nam to implement the recommendations specifically on children's rights over the coming years.

To follow up the implementation of concluding observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, UNICEF intensified evidence-based advocacy and knowledge exchange on the establishment of an ICRM mechanism. This involved development of policy briefs, and visits from the Norwegian Ombudsperson for Children, the Vice Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and the Children's Commissioners from India, Malaysia and Mongolia to advocate for the establishment of an ICRM mechanism. As a result, the National Assembly made a commitment to include in the draft Child Law a provision that provides the legal basis for further development of a specific mechanism in Viet Nam.

UNICEF supported an inclusive and participatory process with civil society to prepare a report on child rights implementation, to inform the preparation of a shadow CRC report and the Government's annual review of its implementation of the most recent recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child. This activity was organized in coordination with Viet Nam's national network of child rights organizations.

Finally, UNICEF successfully advocated for the incorporation of children's rights to inform the draft Law on Access to Information process which was submitted to the National Assembly in November 2015. If successful, this will represent a milestone recognition of children's civil and political rights in Viet Nam.

Gender Mainstreaming and Equality

As per the 2015 annual management plan, the Country Office now has two staff on the Gender Team, and gender equality cuts across all programmes.

The Education Programme i) reviewed the education curriculum, focusing on gender sensitivity and progressing into gender-responsive measures; ii) enhanced partnerships with stakeholders to promote the realization of the right to education for girls and boys with disabilities; and iii) facilitated life skills and education on gender equality for adolescents in Ethnic Minority Boarding Schools. The Ministry of Education and Training's (MOET) nationwide school latrine design regulations integrated UNICEF's recommendations on separated latrines for boys and girls, which also accommodated the needs of children with disabilities.

Under the CSD programme, UNICEF advocated for a Government decree which provides guidelines on implementing maternity protections within the Labour Code, while social marketing initiatives promoted the use of iron-folic acid supplements for the prevention and control of anaemia among women. UNICEF also ensured that the improvement of access to drinking water including activities to transform gender roles and social norms about the collection of water being generally done by women.

The Social Policy and Governance (SPG) programme used the Multi-Cluster Indicator Survey to improve knowledge and public awareness on gender inequality. The report provided evidence that girls in areas which are typically home to ethnic minority groups are particularly at risk of dropping out of school. It also highlighted that they have limited access to higher education opportunities and that they are at high risk of early marriage. In addition, the report provided recommendations to duty bearers and decision-makers on how to remove these barriers to gender equality. UNICEF's work on child participation in monitoring, planning and policy dialogue also provided further insights into girls' lives, by highlighting issues with education and health service delivery.

As an active member of the One UN Gender Joint Planning Group, UNICEF participated in United Nations gender equality events and contributed to gender-related documents, including: the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Regional Plan of Action on End Violence against Women, the Gender Briefing Kit, the Gender-Ethnic Minority Matrix, and the SEDP 2016–2020.

Environmental Sustainability

Throughout 2015, UNICEF has advanced environmental sustainability with a view to improving safety and well-being of children, through support to the Government of Viet Nam.

UNICEF assisted in the development of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA) plans for three high-risk provinces, which were approved by PPCs. The plans outline interventions for safe disposal of human faeces, water source protection, improving hygiene-related behaviours, and associated capacity development of service providers and commune leaders. Technical assistance from UNICEF is being extended to mainstream these action plans into provincial Rural Development Programmes 2016–2020.

UNICEF's support has helped 230 villages (150,000 people), to become open defecation free (ODF). Subsequently, the Ministry of Health (MOH) drafted guidelines for the promotion of ODF communities to support scale-up. UNICEF's advocacy with the Government and the World Bank further supported developing a plan to scale up rural sanitation and water supply programmes across 21 provinces during 2016–2020; a significant step in the promotion of a safe environment and reduced pollution.

To support disaster risk management, UNICEF Viet Nam provided technical assistance to develop an inter-agency contingency plan with humanitarian agencies and officials from 21 provinces, led by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD). The plan helps the line ministry and departments remain aware of and respond to disaster risks.

To promote sustainable water supplies, UNICEF assisted the development of a MARD action plan to improve the operation and maintenance (O&M) management of rural water supply systems in 23 underperforming provinces. As a co-chair to the technical working group on sustainable O&M management, UNICEF has assisted in the development of a detailed action plan for these provinces, thus helping to reduce disparities between communities. The continuation of UNICEF's support is expected to strengthen the sustainability of water supply systems, and is an important consideration for the Government, as one third of rural, hard-to-reach communes fail to secure safe drinking water.

Effective Leadership

The Country Office has prioritized: i) implementing the Mid-Term Review (MTR) decisions, ii) fostering an open and transparent work environment, iii) developing an Office Improvement Plan to address concerns raised in the staff survey, iv) consolidating leadership in the One UN plan joint programming groups and functional clusters; v) ensuring a smooth move to the new Green One UN House (GOUNH); vi) adopting and pursuing a resource mobilization strategy; and vii) proactively preparing for the major milestones relating to the country programme documents and the One UN Plan.

In this context, the office has realigned the staffing structure to better respond to the needs of children in Viet Nam and evolving funding situation. All separations of staff were made

according to policies and no case triggered a rebuttal.

Following the Annual Management Retreat and release of the Global Staff Survey (GSS) results, the management and Staff Association agreed on actions to address the concerns raised by staff. Progress has been made with an open dialogue and collegial collaboration. Management and Staff Association remain committed to this endeavour.

The Office Risk Matrix was updated in working group and the recommendations were endorsed by the Country Management Team (CMT) together with the Annual Management Plan.

An interagency audit on the Delivery as One approach in Viet Nam provided UNICEF with the platform for useful discussions on the ways to improve performance. While the final audit report is still outstanding, a draft version has been received and used to implement some major findings.

The Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) implementation has progressed with auditing 19 implementing partners and training to 9 Programme Management Units. The assurance plan was implemented and spot checks were made as planned. The programme monitoring visits now use a new template developed by the Country Office in line with headquarters' guidance, and implementation is ongoing.

Financial Resources Management

Direct Cash Transfers (DCTs) were monitored on a monthly basis and reports were reviewed at the Programme Coordination Meetings. Efforts from programme sections and Operations were made to keep the average rate of outstanding DCT between six and nine months at 7.6 per cent. As a result of the continuous efforts, the outstanding DCT of more than six months was at zero as of 31 December 2015.

The Table of Authority describing the responsibilities and limitations of staff for approval of expenditure has been updated twice and shared with all staff to ensure that elements of financial control are in place.

The standard operating procedure related to DCT and HACT was revised to take into account changes to UNICEF policies and procedures and to be more efficient.

Cash balances was maintained at two weeks of expenditure and liquidity was at all times ensured. Changes in UNICEF headquarter policy related to local currency replenishment facilitated replenishment requests. As a preparation for the Global Shared Service Centre (GSSC), a new bank transfer modality was implemented, the division of labour for document parking was amended and the periodicity of payments in the office was streamlined.

The different types of budgets were closely monitored. UNICEF was responsible for the implementation of a complex information technology (IT) project for the new One UN office location, the GOUNH, and these funds were well managed and expenses remained within the allocated budget. A preliminary financial report was prepared and shared with the relevant parties.

Unspent office funds, or Regular Resources (RR) were released in a timely fashion to be used for Programme expenses. Full and efficient utilization of the Institutional Budget was achieved.

Monthly bank reconciliations have been completed within the deadlines set by headquarters, and reconciling items were cleared in a timely manner.

Fund-Raising and Donor Relations

The UNICEF Viet Nam resource mobilization strategy was developed to reflect the changing environment as the country's economy is growing fast and the need to continue generating adequate resources for children. The office emphasized strengthening relations with UNICEF National Committees. In October 2015, the UNICEF Viet Nam Country Representative visited Japan and Korea to raise awareness of the needs of children in Viet Nam, and to explore opportunities for private-sector partnerships. In addition, fundraising efforts led by the programmes continued to develop relations with National Committees in Australia, United Kingdom, Finland, Denmark, France and the U.S. Fund, resulting in increased commitments for multi-year funding.

As part of the strategy, the Country Office hosted a number of field visits, including that of U.S. Fund Goodwill Ambassador Angie Harmon, which is expected to directly contribute to fund-raising efforts led by the U.S. Fund in 2016, and for the United Kingdom National Committee and its donor, Wella, offering an opportunity for the donor to play an active role in activities related to child protection and at-risk youth in HCMC.

The Government maintains its reluctance for UNICEF Viet Nam to pursue local private-sector fund-raising before establishing a formal agreement. The absence of such appropriate legal frameworks remains a barrier to UNICEF Viet Nam's ability to conduct local private-sector fund-raising. Advocacy efforts is taking place at the highest level, most recently with Deputy Prime Minister Vu Duc Dam, during the visit of the UNICEF Regional Director in March 2015. UNICEF aims to reach an agreement during negotiation of the 2017–2021 Country Programme of Cooperation, which will pave the way for local private-sector fundraising.

Meanwhile, UNICEF has continued to expand partnership networks by enhancing brand awareness in Viet Nam, using, for example, the visit of UNICEF's Goodwill Ambassador Katy Perry.

Evaluation

In 2015, the evaluation function was led by an independent Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (PM&E) Unit, which was separated from the Social Policy and Governance section following the 2014 MTR.

The 2015–2016 Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (IMEP), approved by the CMT in May 2015, was developed, monitored and updated periodically in coordination with all programmes. The preparation of the IMEP was consultative and took into particular consideration the usefulness and timeliness of activities in creating knowledge for learning, accountability and improvement of the Country Programme.

Among the three evaluations in the 2015-2016 IMEP, the evaluation of Mother Tongue-Based Bilingual Education (MTBBE), one of UNICEF Viet Nam's flagship programmes, is under finalisation while terms of reference for the other two evaluations, namely the evaluation of National Programme for Child Protection and the evaluation of UNICEF's supports to child-sensitive planning, monitoring and evaluation of SEDPs, were developed and the procurement for the latter was completed. Evaluations were co-managed by the PM&E Unit and programme sections, with an emphasis on carefully safeguarding their independence and impartiality.

Programme sections provided technical inputs to the evaluation, but did not exert undue influence on the process and outcomes.

In 2015, UNICEF, through the One UN Results-Based Management Working Group, was actively involved in the planning, preparation and provision of technical assistance and assurance for the evaluation of the One Plan 2012–2016, which is aimed at promoting accountability for results and learning in the context of a Delivering as One and will inform the formulation of the next One Plan in Viet Nam.

Efficiency Gains and Cost Savings

The major cost savings realized in the area of operations are linked to the successful move to common premises. The GOUNH reached a sufficient level of completion in June 2015, and UNICEF was the second of 14 agencies to move into the building. This enabled the Country Office to save more than US\$20,000 per month in rent and to reduce overhead costs. The overall management of the office Administration, Protocol, Reception, Drivers, ICT and outsourced support services such as cleaning and security have been reviewed and significant savings have been achieved through the pooling with other United Nations agencies in the new premises.

The preparation for implementing UNICEF's GSSC is on track, with numerous changes in internal processes and changes in job descriptions of relevant staff.

The sub-regional shared positions of P4 Communications for Development and P4 Human Resources will be filled in due course; both positions are currently under recruitment. This allowed us to abolish two international positions at Country Office level, localizing them and resulting in significant cost savings.

Supply Management

The year 2015 saw a further increase in the number of contracts to 156, compared with only 99 in the previous year period. The procurement value of institutional services was relatively stable at US\$409,985 compared with US\$470,187 in 2014, while the number of low-value purchase orders climbed to 122, at the value of US\$111,431 in 2015 (US\$76,720 in 2014).

UNICEF Viet Nam 2015*	Value in US\$
Communication for Development	12,085
Child survival and development	23,289
COM	22,062
Child Protection	67,382
Education	2,611
GOUNH	20,704
HCMC	32,100
Operations	212,632
Social policy and governance	128,552
Total	521,417

*Data up to November 2015

Following a high level of goods procurement for ICT equipment for the GOUNH in 2014, the proportion of spending for assets returned to normal in 2015, at 24 per cent for goods and 76 per cent for services. Some 24 per cent of all procurement was international, and 76 per cent was conducted locally. The year 2015 was marked by the move to common premises and various purchases related to the move and the finalization of the ICT infrastructure.

During the year, the Supply Unit also continued to lead the procurement process of institutional services, some individual consultancies, and programme supplies such as vaccines and nutrition products, which are directly delivered to partners.

UNICEF is improving its supply management by increasing reporting and monitoring of supply activities, ensuring procurement quality, and allocating workloads to better support programmatic missions. We have also successfully participated in One UN procurement activities, such as the new long-term agreement for travel agencies.

Security for Staff and Premises

The security of staff continues to be a priority for the Country Office, and various measures have been implemented. The biggest improvement has been the move to a common premises with a high security standard. The GOUNH has a sprinkler system and four emergency staircases, and the security company has been trained and ensures the security of the premises and staff to a much higher level than was possible in the previously rented office location. The Security Adviser from the United Nations Department for Safety and Security works in close cooperation with the Common Services team to ensure a high level of protection beyond the minimal security standards.

Furthermore, the Government of Viet Nam posted guards in front of the premises, which was not the case previously. UNICEF Viet Nam has also ordered three new vehicles to replace the older vehicles, which were, on average, 11 years old. This will ensure increased security for the drivers and passengers.

The Business Continuity Plan (BCP) was reviewed and updated to incorporate changes linked to the office move. The BCP will be tested in January 2016 through a desk review and later in 2016 by an off-site test in close cooperation with the Regional Office and involvement of local United Nations Department for Safety and Security staff.

Human Resources

In 2015, the Country Office successfully implemented all decisions related to the staffing structure as agreed during the MTR, while ensuring that the office can attract, retain and develop capable and diverse human resources to deliver the continuously evolving programme requirements. In total, three international professional positions were successfully filled and 14 local staff recruited. All recruitments were done within the recommended time frame. Of particular importance for the office and the human resources section was the nationalization of the human resources post. A National Officer at national officer level was recruited and integrated under the leadership of the Chief of Operations. This smooth transition was beneficial for all staff and the new Human Resources Officer is already fully trained and assists in the preparation of the new management plan and related changes in the office.

The Country Office reached 100 per cent compliance in meeting the staff evaluation submission timelines. Human Resources provided one-to-one guidance when necessary for both staff and/or supervisors to make sure the SMART objectives were set and that fair and timely

assessments were made. The Global Staff Survey results collected in late 2014 were taken seriously. Several all-staff meetings followed and an all-staff retreat was organized in April 2015 to give the team an opportunity to share thoughts in an open and inclusive forum. An Office Improvement Plan was also developed to address staff empowerment, leadership and management, as well as career/staff development.

A Learning and Development Plan was developed based on the needs identified through a Learning Needs Analysis conducted in May 2015 to identify current and future performance gaps and capacity deficits.

The Senior Regional Human Resources manager facilitated a one-day training on Ethics in the Workplace for all staff, which increased awareness on ethical dilemmas and provided tools to manage these.

Effective Use of Information and Communication Technology

The move to the GOUNH in June 2015 has resulted in improvements of ICT services for UNICEF Viet Nam users in term of infrastructure, service level and support. As the leading agency in One UN ICT, UNICEF Viet Nam has actively coordinated with local, regional and headquarters agency staff to implement an integrated common ICT infrastructure and ensure the smooth move-in for 12 UN agencies. UNICEF's efforts have ensured that IT services are harmonized, set up and functioning for 350 users for all 12 agencies.

The new integrated system is equipped with state of the art technology that provides more reliable and stable ICT services. UNICEF Viet Nam users have been provided with new ICT tools to support them to work more efficiently, such as 'follow me printing', enabling staff to print documents using any printer in the office, and a wireless network which allows user to work anywhere inside the building while accessing all ICT resources as normal.

Regarding technical support, UNICEF Viet Nam users now receive quicker and better technical support as a result of outsourced service staff; technical support requests go to the 'one-stop-shop' GOUNH Service Desk, which assigns one Service Desk staff to support the user accordingly.

To ensure that headquarters and other country offices can benefit from lessons learned in Viet Nam during the setup of common ICT infrastructure for the GOUNH, the One UN ICT team (under the leadership of UNICEF) arranged an ICT project debriefing sharing session at the end of June 2015 with the ICT reference group and headquarters/regional agency ICT staff. The sharing session was highly appreciated by the Chair of the ICT Reference Group at headquarters level, who acknowledged that UNICEF Viet Nam has produced a great example of inter-agency collaboration and One UN benefits.

Programme Components from Results Assessment Module

ANALYSIS BY OUTCOME AND OUTPUT RESULTS

OUTCOME 1: By 2016, a more effective national social protection system provides increased coverage, quality and equitable access for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.

Analytical statement of progress:

Programme support maintained a high level in 2015. The Country Office has prepared for the GSSC by changing the workflow of transactions, the use of the Bank Communication Management payment method, and scanning of all supporting documents.

The move to GOUNH has been the biggest change for the office as we moved to common premises in June. Since then UNICEF Viet Nam staff are seated in functional clusters and thus work in a very different environment to before, now in much closer contact with staff from other agencies. A new ICT system supports staff much better and overall service levels of administrative support has been increased. At the same time significant savings have been realized by this move as we harmonised reception, protocol, ICT, registry, security, cleaning and other services. UNICEF Viet Nam led the United Nations working group on the update of the 'Viet Nam – UN Harmonized Programme and Project Management Guideline' in collaboration with other agencies, a process that proved difficult as Government counterparts were not always in agreement with the United Nations on the modalities of implementation.

OUTPUT 1: Office results are proficiently managed and systems efficiently applied that ensured maximum efficient resources.

Analytical statement of progress:

The office has an updated and more exhaustive Table of Authorities to clearly define the delegation of authority to respective staff members in the office. The standard operating procedures for all operations areas such as Travel, Human Resources, ICT, Administration, Finance and HACT has been completely reviewed, updated and shortened to make it more user-friendly and reflect changes in the policy.

In response to the new HACT policy and procedures, UNICEF Viet Nam asked for a HACT oversight mission from the Regional Office and subsequently benefited from useful and practical advice. An action plan was approved by CMT and is being implemented. The assurance activities have been supported by the audit of all implementing partners as per policy.

The procurement of ICT goods and services for GOUNH was much more complex than expected, as the services needed for the implementation and integration were unable to be sourced locally. However, good cooperation between ICT and Supply staff enabled the office to move successfully to the new premises in June 2015.

OUTPUT 2: Effective and efficient management and stewardship of financial resources to support realization of results.

Analytical statement of progress:

Financial resources have been managed effectively and efficiently to support programme implementation to achieve expected results. The cash flow forecast for 2015 was realistic and the monthly cash balances were maintained within the set target.

A graphic funding forecast for Other Resources (OR) has been prepared and shared bi-monthly with senior management for information and discussion.

A quarterly travel report has been prepared to enable managers to review the use of funds for this purpose.

OUTPUT 3: The Country Office and staff members benefited from timely and effective recruitment process and the Performance Appraisal System (PAS), as well as learning and development opportunities.

Analytical statement of progress:

In 2015, two international, 1 UN Volunteer and 14 national (including three temporary) posts were filled within an average of 46.5 days from the date of advertisement.

Phase 2 of ePAS/PAS was 100 per cent completed within the planned time frame. A Learning and Development Plan was developed based on needs identified both from top-down and bottom-up processes. As a result, blended learning activities were arranged throughout the year, including formal learning courses (both office-wide and group learnings) on ethics training, results-based management and theory of change, programme policy and procedures, e-learning, coaching and mentoring, stretch assignments, informal knowledge sharing sessions, and others.

Due to the commitment of staff to the year-end closure and preparation for the Country Programme Development, the selection and contracting of the consultant/institution to conduct two remaining courses (Effective Public Speaking and Public Finance for Children) was completed in November 2015, but the learning activities will be conducted in early 2016.

OUTPUT 4: The Communication function effectively supports the advocacy, external/donor relations, fund-raising and partnership efforts of the Country Office, with a high level of quality assurance and technical expertise, also contributing to One UN communication.

Analytical statement of progress:

Communication and public advocacy activities have continued to enhance UNICEF Viet Nam's brand image with the public in general, and it also reaffirmed the office's position with key government stakeholders, United Nations agencies, donors, development partners and civil society organizations (CSOs). High-level advocacy with the Government has confirmed UNICEF's position as a strong and relevant partner, especially during this period of rapid economic development that the country is experiencing.

The Country Office also reached out to key potential donors in an effort to mobilize adequate resources for the implementation of the current Country Programme and to start building partnerships for the next programme cycle. A mission to Japan and Korea provided the opportunity to brief the National Committees, donors and Japanese International Cooperation Agency on both the overall role of UNICEF in a middle-income country such as Viet Nam, and to focus on interventions in hard-to-reach and hard-to-serve areas. An emphasis was made on the need to fulfil the unfinished agenda for children in the robust framework of the SDGs.

UNICEF has been a full and active member of the One UN communication team, contributing both human and financial resources. The Country Office has accompanied the One UN team in the transition period between the MDGs and the SDGs to ensure that the child rights agenda is well articulated. UNICEF Viet Nam has also contributed to the review and planning process to ensure that the United Nations as a whole stays relevant in the changing context of Viet Nam, and to ensure that the common communication strategy reflects this evolving role.

OUTPUT 5: Programme support.

Analytical statement of progress:

The Finance unit collaborated closely with the PM&E unit in the management and coordination of HACT implementation, and on the finalization of the Programme Visit template, including following up and reporting on the implementation of this template.

The HACT assurance annual plan was developed and approved by CMT, and spot checks and financial management capacity assessments of implementing partners using a simplified financial checklist was complete as planned.

The status of HACT assurance annual plan implementation and required follow-up actions were presented at Programme Coordination Meetings. The Office Spot-Check Pool has been established and is operating well. A training for all UNICEF, United Nations Development Programme and United Nations Population Fund spot-checkers was organized, and was facilitated and well received by all the participants. The participants were trained to apply new guidance on spot-checks and shared their experiences and best practices.

The level of outstanding DCT has been closely monitored with efforts from both programmes and the Operations section, and, on average, remained at 7.6 per cent over the period from January to November.

Procurement processes to select an audit firm was completed, with KPMG selected to perform the HACT audit of 19 implementing partners during the third and fourth quarters of 2015. The audits were completed and final reports were submitted to UNICEF.

The review of the Harmonized Programme and Project Management Guidelines is delayed due to a delay in approval of the questionnaires by the Task Force. The review exercise is expected to be completed in January 2016. A meeting of the Joint Government/United Nations Working Group was organized to discuss the draft interview reports based on the replies from all implementing partners. A meeting with the Task Force was organized in December 2015 to have final decision on next steps.

OUTCOME 2: By 2016, a more effective national social protection system provides increased coverage, quality and equitable access for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.

Analytical statement of progress:

During 2015, the SPG programme made strong, strategic contributions towards the realization of children's rights and the improvement of social protection for disadvantaged and vulnerable children, including ethnic minority children and children living in poverty.

UNICEF Viet Nam has advocated for child-sensitive SEDPs for 2016–2020 at both national and sub-national levels through evidence generation and dissemination, including national and provincial Situational Analyses on Children (SitAns) and MICS, in collaboration with the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), the Department of Planning and Investment (DPI), the General Statistics Office (GSO) and the National Assembly. Through intensive advocacy, key child indicators for equity, such as stunting rates and access to safe latrines, have been positively considered for further inclusion in the new medium-term plan. The evaluation plan of the Project on Strengthening Capacity in Child-Sensitive Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation of SEDP was completed and a consulting firm retained. This evaluation report is expected to be available in early 2016 to inform the Government of Viet Nam's planning for 2016–2020 and the Country Programme between UNICEF and the Government of Viet Nam for 2017–2021.

In recognition of the importance of sound financial management for the realization of children's rights, UNICEF strengthened its partnership with the Ministry of Finance (MOF) to work in this

areas. For example, UNICEF, in collaboration with the World Bank, worked on a Public Expenditure Review (PER) for the education sector, which discussed efficient and inclusive public finance management in the sector.

In relation to evidence generation for child rights advocacy, the MICS Viet Nam 2014 report was launched and provided disaggregated child-related data and evidence to monitor and report on the progress towards the achievement of national goals and global commitments related to child rights, in the context of the newly adopted SDGs. UNICEF started working MOLISA on the harmonisation of the Multi-Dimensional Child Poverty approach into the Multi-Dimensional Poverty (MDP) measurement, which has now been officially established as a poverty assessment monitoring tool following the Prime Minister's decision in 2015.

In collaboration with the World Bank, UNICEF Viet Nam continued to support the implementation of the Social Assistance System Strengthening Project (SASSP). UNICEF provided technical assistance to the development of the baseline and monitoring research to ensure the documentation of lessons generated from the project, which extended the coverage of social assistance to poor families with children (0–3 years old). The project also introduced a mechanism to ensure that payments would reach beneficiaries on time and without leakage.

UNICEF also played a significant leadership role as a convener of the Joint Programme Group of Social Protection under the One UN system, as well as an informal donor's group on social protection to improve coherence of approaches to social protection among United Nations agencies and other donors.

As part of UNICEF's efforts at capacity building of elected officials on children's rights, UNICEF organized biannual, pre-National Assembly sessions, which were official platforms to generate technical discussions among elected officials and partners on particular child-related legislative reforms. Members of Parliament (MPs) and relevant stakeholders deepened their awareness and understanding regarding the alignment of Vietnamese laws with international child rights standards, and child rights principles were incorporated into the revised draft of the Law on Access to Information under consideration by the National Assembly. The draft manual on child-sensitive SEDPs was developed, incorporating detailed comments on how elected officials could better protect and promote children's rights during assessment of the SEDP.

UNICEF provided technical support to conduct a feasibility analysis on the establishment of an ICRM mechanism, in response to the concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child. The key findings, based on organisational capacity and legal gap analysis from the study, informed a high-level policy dialogue. As a result, awareness increased among National Assembly members and Government officials about the need for Viet Nam to establish an ICRM mechanism, although further consultation will be needed to explore the most appropriate model in the context of Viet Nam. The National Assembly is further discussing the incorporation of ICRM principles into the Child Law, with a view to establishing a solid legal basis for such mechanism.

In addition, with UNICEF support to follow up on concluding observations and preparations for the upcoming CRC reporting cycle, a consultative process led by CSOs was initiated, which culminated in a detailed plan to monitor the Government's implementation of the concluding observations. A road map for producing an independent report on child rights implementation was developed.

Viet Nam demonstrated its commitment to play a major role in international development on a

number of fronts, with implications on children globally and domestically. Viet Nam was re-elected to the United Nations Economic and Social Council for the 2016–2018 tenure, expected to take forward the SDGs, especially those related to poverty reduction, sustainable and comprehensive economic growth and environmental protection. In reflecting its commitment towards SDGs, the Government adopted the Statistics Law; for the first time incorporating the statistical indicator system with a view to monitoring and evaluating the SDGs, including key equity indicators on child well-being such as child and infant mortality rate, birth registration and undernutrition.

OUTPUT 1: By 2016, strengthened child-sensitive planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of socio-economic development outcomes, plans and programmes.

Analytical statement of progress:

The national and sub-national capacity in evidence-based planning, monitoring and evaluation was enhanced; as a result, children's issues were more systematically addressed in SEDPs through the finalisation of the national guideline on child-sensitive SEDPs. Advocacy efforts with the Government and its ministries (MPI, MOLISA, MOH, MOET) ensured that key priorities including stunting, sanitation and early childhood development (ECD) are reflected in 2016–2020 SEDP and sectoral plans.

Importantly, evidence-based policy planning and development was strengthened through the use of: updated and rigorous evidence on the situation of children; the MICS 2014's full report; the sub-national SitAn (Kon Tum and Gia Lai); the Citizen Report Card, to assess birth registration services for children 5 years old to inform policy and decision-making for the new planning cycle (2016–2020); and reporting on MDGs. At the same time, necessary arrangements (targets and indicators related to equity and children) were made to develop a road map for equity profiling and monitoring of SDGs in relation to children.

Significantly, the partnership between UNICEF Viet Nam, MOF and the World Bank on Public Finance for Children was enhanced through the undertaking of the 2015 PER for the education sector, and preliminary capacity building in child-sensitive planning and public finance management for children. Finally, preparation for the evaluation of the Project on Strengthening Capacity in Child-Sensitive Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation of SEDP was completed. The Evaluation Report is expected to be available in early 2016 to inform the Government of Viet Nam's planning for 2016–2020 and the Country Programme between UNICEF and the Government of Viet Nam for 2017–2021.

OUTPUT 2: By 2016, expanded coverage of child-sensitive social assistance for poor, ethnic minority and other vulnerable children.

Analytical statement of progress:

UNICEF, with the World Bank, continued to support the SASSP, a loan-based project which extended the coverage of assistance to poor families with children (0–3 years old). UNICEF supported the development of the project baseline monitoring research to ensure the documentation of lessons learned, and also the finalization of the C4D strategy and action plan based on comments received during two provincial consultations. Based on selection guidelines developed, village collaborators have been selected in four pilot provinces.

The UN Social Protection Joint Programme Group, chaired by UNICEF, developed a joint discussion paper on the impact of the commercialisation of public services, triggering a rise in household out-of-pocket spending on health and education that potentially has adverse

consequences on vulnerable children. The informal development partners group on social protection, also chaired by UNICEF, worked to ensure coordination in support of nationally led social protection reform.

In response to the Prime Minister's decision on the nationalization of MDP measurement and the Government's commitment towards the SDGs, UNICEF's advocacy culminated in MOLISA's decision to harmonize the Multi-Dimensional Child Poverty measurement into MDP. Vital evidence was packaged into advocacy materials – for example, as a leaflet summarizing the key findings from the Ethnic Minority Multi-Dimensional Child Poverty.

Greater focus was placed on evidence generation to inform policy dialogue around social assistance reform. The Child Grant Simulation Study was drafted and is expected to inform the implementation of the social assistance policy reform agenda, with focus on the early years. In collaboration with MOLISA and GSO, the pilot testing of the MICS Social Protection module was implemented, using the recently established database of consolidated cash transfer programmes, and questionnaires including components on cash assistance for children under 3 years old that began in July 2015. Technical support was provided to refine baseline data collection and monitoring tools on consolidated cash transfer programmes, to inform further child-focused analysis in 2016.

In addition, analyses on equity and disparities affecting children were developed, including: analysis on Multi-Dimensional Child Poverty and Ethnic Minority Children; study on Climate Change and Children in the provinces of An Giang, Kon Tum and Quang Nam; and the first draft of the study on Socio-Cultural Aspects of Caring Practices for Young Children, with a view to strengthening the capacity of the Committee on Ethnic Minorities.

OUTPUT 3: By 2016, enhanced capacity of elected officials in the National Assembly and in selected Provincial People's Councils to oversee the realization of child rights, policy formulation and implementation, and the performance of State agencies in delivering services to children and their caregivers

Analytical statement of progress:

The National Assembly's capacity to make decisions in the best interests of children continued to be improved. UNICEF Viet Nam provided the National Assembly with technical support for the legal gap analysis on the Law on Access to Information and Law on Association from a child rights perspective. Key findings were discussed in the National Assembly's pre-session meetings among MPs, line ministries and CSOs, on child-related issues to be addressed in Viet Nam's legislation. As a result, MPs and relevant stakeholders deepened their awareness and understanding of international child rights standards, and child rights principles were incorporated into the revised Law on Access to Information, submitted to the National Assembly for the first discussion session in November 2015. In addition, the draft manual on oversight for child-sensitive SEDP was developed, aiming to help elected officials better protect and promote children's rights during SEDP assessment. The NA's Committee of Economic Affairs conveyed strong commitment to finalize and introduce the child-sensitive SEDP oversight manual, alongside a checklist, to elected officials at both national and sub-national levels.

Furthermore, the 132nd Assembly of the IPU was hosted by Viet Nam in early 2015, and several issues with critical relevance to children were discussed with international MPs – for example, ECD and ICRM. Given that Viet Nam was elected to the IPU Executive Committee at the 133rd Assembly, this was an important opportunity for continued advocacy on the incorporation of children's rights issues into the IPU agenda.

With a view to respond to the concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, UNICEF provided technical support to conduct a feasibility analysis on ICRM. The findings informed high-level policy dialogue and facilitated knowledge exchange at an international workshop participated in by senior Government officials, representatives from human rights institutions from other countries and CSOs. As a result, National Assembly members and Government officials achieved a consensus on the need for Viet Nam to establish an ICRM, although further consultation is needed on the most appropriate model. The National Assembly committed to incorporate an ICRM principle provision into the Child Law with a view to establish a solid legal basis. In addition, with UNICEF support, a consultative process led by CSOs was initiated, which culminated in a detailed plan to monitor the Government's implementation of the concluding observations of the CRC, and a road map for producing an independent report on child rights implementation was developed.

OUTPUT 4: By 2016, enhanced citizen and child feedback-based monitoring of the quality and relevance of HCMC's budgets, plans and public services for all children, including those living in migrant families.

Analytical statement of progress:

As the result of 2014 MTR of the Country Programme, the management of sub-national results using eight SPG provincial outputs was seen as complex and very ineffective in results reporting. Therefore, eight SPG outputs for managing results at sub-national levels were merged into one consolidated SPG provincial output, offering a more effective and efficient platform to manage programme implementation covering the eight focus provinces of UNICEF in Viet Nam. Report on this output is integrated into the reporting of Output 'SPG Consolidated Provincial Output'.

OUTPUT 5: The SPG programme is effectively and efficiently managed and implemented, through quality assurance, technical expertise and results monitoring for children.

Analytical statement of progress:

Quality technical assistance for the social policy and governance programme was being effectively and efficiently managed and implemented.

OUTPUT 6: By 2016, enhanced capacity for child-sensitive planning, budgeting, monitoring and oversight of the provincial socio-economic development plans and underlying sector plans in selected provinces.

Analytical statement of progress:

Advocacy on key children's issues, especially issues related to children from ethnic minority backgrounds, was conducted through various channels and subsequently incorporated in provincial SEDPs for 2016–2020 (especially in Lao Cai, Dien Bien, Gia Lai, Kon Tum and Ninh Thuan Provinces). This process used evidence generated from provincial SitAns, social audit exercises and consultations with children (with preliminary and comprehensively validated findings and recommendations), with strong political commitments in the provinces of Kon Tum, Gia Lai, Lao Cai and Dien Bien. Preparation for the SitAn in HCMC was completed, and the report is expected to be available in early 2016 to inform local planning and policies.

More specifically, Lao Cai Province adopted results-based planning, monitoring and evaluation of SEDP with a focus on equity and the participation of citizens and children. This result was built on the joint partnership with other development partners (the World Bank and Oxfam).

Children voices were captured to inform Lao Cai's 2016–2020 SEDP through a child forum. In addition, initial consultations and dialogues between UNICEF and Government counterparts were made to develop and update the mapping of poverty reduction and development programmes and dissemination of key children-related indicators through yearly statistical reports in the provinces of Lao Cai, Dien Bien, Ninh Thuan, Gia Lai and Kon Tum.

Finally, a joint partnership among UNICEF, the World Bank and Lao Cai province in the public finance management area was established through the PER for the Education sector in Lao Cai. These best practices generated from the provincial engagement will be utilized as good evidence to support UNICEF advocacy on the policy changes at the national level.

OUTCOME 3: By 2016, a more effective national social protection system provides increased coverage, quality, and equitable access for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.

Analytical statement of progress:

In 2015, the Child Protection programme continued to make substantial contributions to a more effective national social protection system and justice for children through the building of child protection systems in Viet Nam by i) strengthening the legal and regulatory framework on child protection, ii) improving child protection structures and services at national and sub-national levels, and iii) supporting the establishment of a child-friendly justice system.

Effective policy advocacy efforts contributed to the submission of the draft Child Law to the National Assembly for the first round of discussions. The draft Child Law, for the first time, clearly articulates a comprehensive national framework for child protection, including authorising state interventions to prevent and respond to violence against children. Following UNICEF Viet Nam's extensive evidence generation, policy dialogues and advocacy, the revised Penal and Penal Procedure Codes were approved in late 2015, introducing major changes to justice for children in Viet Nam. The two newly amended laws incorporated key children's rights principles in line with international standards, including the 'best interest' principle for all children in contact with the law, and the principle of detention as a measure of last resort for children in conflict with the law.

UNICEF Viet Nam supported the ongoing effort to reform the social care system in Viet Nam. UNICEF supported MOLISA to conduct an assessment of the Social Welfare Service Delivery System, which was used to inform the development of the National Project on Reforming the Social Care Service Delivery System 2016–2025. The Project, approved by the Government, charts a pathway for Viet Nam to progressively move away from institutionalization of children towards community-based support. At the same time, important achievements have been made with UNICEF Viet Nam support regarding the promotion of the rights of adults and children with disabilities; UNICEF successfully contributed to the advocacy work on the establishment of a National Committee on Disability, and the development of a National Plan on the implementation of the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

At the sub-national level, access to social and child protection services for the most vulnerable groups of children has been increased through the expansion of the community-based child protection systems to 107 communes within 28 districts, in eight UNICEF focus provinces of Dien Bien, Lao Cai (northern Viet Nam), Kon Tum, Ninh Thuan, Gia Lai (central Viet Nam), Dong Thap, An Giang and Ho Chi Minh City (southern Viet Nam). The provincial Social Work Service Centres are operating in six provinces (An Giang, Dong Thap, HCMC, Lao Cai, Ninh Thuan, and Kon Tum), providing child protection services including case management, psychological support, care and support for victims of trafficking, legal aid, and community-

based and residential support for orphans and children with disabilities. UNICEF Viet Nam supported a review of the case management system in selected focus provinces. The findings of the review have been used to inform the development of the new guidelines on case management, which will be used by front-line workers to increase community-based service delivery, and by social workers in the Social Work Service Centres to provide tertiary services for abused and exploited children. Alternative care continues to be improved with UNICEF technical support for the development of training materials for local social welfare officers in foster care. Respite day-care centres are being expanded in selected provinces to provide day-care services for children with disabilities who are not able to access the mainstream schools. Viet Nam's adoption system has also been further strengthened with an increase in domestic adoption and a focus of Viet Nam for inter-country adoption of children with special needs.

OUTPUT 1: Child protection human resource and service structures are better able to prevent and respond to child neglect, abuse, violence and exploitation.

Analytical statement of progress:

During 2015, UNICEF has supported improvements to the legal and policy framework, to generate a more enabling operating environment for child protection. The draft Child Law, articulating a comprehensive framework on child rights and child protection, was submitted to the NA for the first round of discussion. The new National Programme on Child Protection 2016–2020, focused on establishing a comprehensive child protection system and expanding the coverage of the local child protection system at sub-national levels, was approved with strong technical assistance from UNICEF. UNICEF also assisted in the drafting of a specific National Programme on Child Online Protection 2016–2020.

Sub-laws to guide the implementation of the new civil status law with regard to children were also developed, with the support of UNICEF Viet Nam. These documents have introduced important measures to improve birth registration for children in need of special protection, especially abandoned children, child victims of cross-border trafficking, children of failed marriages between Vietnamese and foreigners, migrant children and children living in remote areas.

The ongoing development of social work in Viet Nam continues to strengthen child protection human resources. For example, UNICEF-supported training on social work administration to 100 social welfare managers has contributed to stronger service delivery at the local level. At the national level, UNICEF assisted MOLISA to draft the next Strategic Plan for Social Work Development (2016–2020), and advocacy efforts have been conducted on the development of a law on social work profession.

Increasing domestic understanding and evidence on child neglect, abuse and exploitation is also vital for a more effective response. UNICEF has supported MOLISA attending an international forum on Sexual Violence Research Initiatives, and Vietnamese participation at a training on 'Social Norms and Violence against Children' for key officials, officers and researchers from Indonesia, the Philippines and Viet Nam.

MOLISA, with support from UNICEF, has now finalized the literature review of the Study on the Drivers of Violence against Children in Viet Nam. Findings include that the overwhelming majority of reported victims of sexual abuse are girls (although Viet Nam lacks official statistics for boys), and 67 per cent of children are exposed to violent forms of discipline. Based on this information, MOLISA, concerned government agencies, and researchers and United Nations

staff in Viet Nam are working to formulate the next phase of the study, aiming to gain a deeper understanding of the drivers of violence against children.

OUTPUT 2: Special protection measures are developed and implemented to provide care, support and protection for the most vulnerable children, including exploited and trafficked children, children without parental care, children affected by HIV/AIDS and children with disabilities.

Analytical statement of progress:

In 2015 UNICEF promoted community-based support for vulnerable children and an increase of social work services. An assessment of the social welfare service delivery system informed the successful development of the National Project on Reforming the Social Care Service Delivery System 2016–2025.

UNICEF gave technical advice to increase availability of foster care through the draft Child Law, while a foster care guideline and manual for sub-national social welfare staff for establishment of fostering services in the provinces were finalized. The adoption system was also strengthened, focusing on domestic adoption; children in residential institutions are more likely to place for adoption because an inter-agency circular between MOLISA and Ministry of Justice (MOJ) was drafted.

The establishment of the National Committee on Disability in 2015 prepares the way for better realisation of the rights of children with disabilities. UNICEF contributed to the development of a national plan, now awaiting Government approval, to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, advocating for specific targets for children with disabilities. UNICEF also played a leading role in the development of the National Strategy on Mental Health, advocating for an integrated service that addresses the diverse needs of adults and children with mental health issues.

Viet Nam's response to child victims of trafficking was strengthened through UNICEF's technical assistance to conduct child-focused analysis of the National Plan of Action to Counter Human Trafficking 2016–2020, and lobbying for amendment of the Penal Code to align with international standards. Child victims will benefit from UNICEF's support to the Viet Nam Women's Union and MOLISA to develop child and gender-sensitive preventions, victim support, and protection strategies, plus direct support for emergency protection, recovery and reintegration, with a view to inform policy development.

UNICEF provided technical assistance to finalize the National Program on Prevention and Reduction of Child Labour 2016–2020 (awaiting Prime Ministerial approval) including: greater attention to the elimination of the worst forms of child labour; addressing the demand for child labour; private-sector engagement; stronger efforts to disaggregate data; alignment of the child labour identification index with International Labour Organization Conventions No. 138 and No. 182; comprehensive monitoring and evaluation; and individualized support services for victims. To generate evidence to support such efforts, UNICEF began three studies on the drivers and gender dimensions of child labour in Viet Nam, child labour issues in the footwear and apparel industries, and in the hotel and tourism industries.

OUTPUT 3: A child-friendly justice system is established in line with the CRC and other key international standards to protect the rights of children in contact with the justice system.

Analytical statement of progress:

This past year, 2015, saw the results of many years of UNICEF support to Viet Nam to develop a more child- and gender-sensitive justice system which aligns with the CRC and other international children's rights standards.

Specifically, UNICEF successfully influenced the reform of the Penal Code and Penal Procedure Code. The revised Penal Code substantially shifts national criminal policy for juvenile offenders by introducing new diversion measures, broadening alternatives to detention, limiting criminal records for juvenile offenders to facilitate better reintegration, and introducing parole as a new mechanism for early release of juvenile offenders. These reforms will significantly impact vulnerable adolescent boys in Viet Nam; 96.7 per cent of juvenile offenders are boys aged 16–18.

The Penal Procedure Code was revised to strengthen protection of juvenile alleged offenders, victims and witnesses. Girls, who make up the highest number of reported child victims of sexual abuse, will now be protected by more child- and gender-sensitive criminal proceedings. Importantly, the new law also includes specific provisions to limit the use of detention for juvenile offenders.

UNICEF facilitated civil society participation in the reforms by supporting consultations, policy dialogues, and civil society led-research on child protection within the justice system. With UNICEF support, civil society research findings and recommendations were provided to the Government and used to influence the reforms.

The centrepiece of Viet Nam's child-friendly justice system is the new Family and Juvenile Court, two of which were established at high court level in Hanoi and HCMC. UNICEF successfully advocated and provided technical support to stipulate the court's jurisdiction in the Civil Procedure Code and the Supreme People's Court Guidance. In preparation for the courts in HCMC at city and district level, UNICEF organized a training course which equipped 40 judges with understanding of justice for children principles (national and international) and knowledge on how to adapt court proceedings to be more child- and gender-sensitive.

The majority of cases of children in conflict with the law remains administrative (more than 70 per cent) rather than criminal, thus UNICEF continued to support law enforcement and justice actors to implement child justice reforms under the Law on Handling of Administrative Violations. This was achieved through development and delivery of a MOJ-Ministry of Public Security (MPS) training package to 117 participants in HCMC and Dong Thap, and nationwide training, with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, for 114 provincial judges on handling administrative cases related to child-alleged offenders and drug users.

OUTPUT 4: Technical Assistance for child protection is effectively and efficiently managed and implemented, through quality assurance, technical expertise and results monitoring for children.

Analytical statement of progress:

Quality technical assistance for the child protection programme is being effectively and efficiently managed and implemented.

OUTPUT 5: By 2016, the provincial plans on child protection available and the implementation of provincial plan on child protection started to effectively preventing and protecting children from neglect, abuse, violence and exploitation, in particular the most vulnerable children and

children in conflict with the law in Lao Cai, Dien Bien, Ninh Thuan, Gia Lai, Kon Tum, An Giang, Dong Thap and MHMC.

Analytical statement of progress:

During 2015, the implementation of child protection systems at the provincial level continued, with UNICEF technical support to the operation of the community-based child protection systems in 107 communes, 28 districts, in eight project provinces of Ninh Thuan, Dien Bien, Lao Cai, Kon Tum, Gia Lai, Dong Thap, An Giang and HCMC. In these provinces, districts and communes, inter-sectoral child protection committees have been established and are functioning to prevent, identify and provide protection responses to cases of child abuse and children in need of special protection.

Case management has been implemented increasing the access of abused, trafficked and exploited children and other children in need of special protection to relevant social and protection services including emergency protection services, counselling, birth registration, social assistance, health care, education, legal aid and alternative care. About 2,825 children in need of special protection and those at-risk in the project communes have been referred to relevant services each year.

The provincial social work service centre are operating in six provinces (An Giang, Dong Thap, HCMC, Lao Cai, Ninh Thuan, and Kon Tum). The centres are contributing to improved child protection service delivery, including case management, psychological support, care and support for victims of trafficking, emergency support, legal aid, referrals to foster care, and transfers to residential care for orphans and children with disabilities. Case conferences are conducted on a monthly basis where case managers, multidisciplinary specialists and social workers discuss specific cases of children in need of special protection to find the best solutions for the child and his or her family.

Behaviour change communications on prevention of violence against children has been conducted in 45 communes in Ninh Thuan, Dien Bien, Lao Cai, Gia Lai, Kon Tum and HCMC. 280 case managers and collaborators were trained on basic skills on communication and child abuse preventions, and were supported to organize communication activities for parents and caregivers, teachers, and children to strengthen their awareness on child protection issues and report problems to the local child protection committees.

OUTCOME 4: The Country Office is able to deliver programmatic results effectively through enhanced coordination, communication and partnership.

Analytical statement of progress:

Following high-level advocacy support from UNICEF and the UN Joint Programming Group, the MOH recommended the inclusion of indicators on the stunting of growth and sanitation in the National SEDP 2016–2020. This is expected to significantly increase investment in programming areas which contribute to the growth and development of children under 5. Although further advocacy is needed to work with MPI for the final decision, the change in the position of MOH is considered a significant development.

Following the consensus developed with the MOH to include international standards on early essential newborn care (EENC), the intervention has been rolled out to all provincial hospitals. In addition, Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) is being implemented in 22 provincial hospitals, with improved skills among health staff. EENC and KMC interventions reportedly improved with supportive monitoring indicators in the Government's Maternal Neonatal and Child Health

(MNCH) system. The number of children under six years of age receiving health insurance increased with the finalisation of the MNCH benefit service package by MOH, developed with technical assistance from UNICEF; reported children receiving a health insurance card has increased to 87.7 per cent by the end of 2014.

With UNICEF support, the registration, licensing and supply procedures for the timely procurement of measles and rubella (MR) vaccines were improved. Use of a national communication plan to promote childhood immunization has improved levels of trust across the country in the vaccine, and resulted in increasing MR vaccine coverage to more than 97 per cent among children aged 1–14 years old.

Following UNICEF's pro-nutrition policy advocacy during the IPU Assembly in Hanoi, at least five plans of action were prepared to take legislative measures in favour of: regulating breast milk substitutes, providing maternity protections, designing pro-nutrition budgets, and increasing accountability of local governments in reducing malnutrition in their respective regions. With trained health inspectors now working across Viet Nam, the monitoring and inspection of compliance to Decree 100 on the marketing regulations for breast-milk substitutes is now carried out in all provinces. This is expected to improve feeding practices for children across the country.

Following the establishment of 280 ODF villages in seven provinces over the past two years with UNICEF's technical assistance, the Viet Nam Institute of Health and Environmental Management Agency (VIHEMA) at the MOH has scaled up Community Approaches to Total Sanitation (CATS) and Sanitation Marketing to 21 underdeveloped provinces, with a set of trained managers in provincial Centres for Preventive Medicines (CPMs). There is noticeable change within the VIHEMA/MOH, as it has also decided to promote low-cost sanitation solutions for the poorest quintile of the population, in order to progress the nation's commitment to eliminate open defecation by 2025.

Selected low-performing provinces have prepared plans of action for the improvement of O&M management of rural water supply schemes, following UNICEF's technical advice in the working group on sustainable O&M management of rural water supply. The National Centre for Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation under MARD has agreed to lead the process across all 21 low performing provinces. Continuation of this effort, along with supportive policy legislations to strengthen local institutions and enhance private sector participation, has the potential to scale up sustainability of water supply schemes across Viet Nam in forthcoming years.

Both MARD and MOH were assisted in the design of an integrated rural WASH programme proposal for 21 underdeveloped provinces that mobilized a soft loan of US\$200 million from the World Bank, as part of a UNICEF's efforts to enhance sector financing.

The PPCs (the highest provincial decision-making institutions) in eight provinces have approved the DRR and CCA plans, following advocacy efforts from UNICEF. However, the challenge remains to develop plans across communes/districts, and to ensure that these plans are funded in the new Rural Development Programme during 2016–2020.

OUTPUT 1: By 2016, identified beneficiaries are covered with social health insurance and benefit equitably from increased access to sustainable, quality and integrated basic MNCH services.

Analytical statement of progress:

Through national-level advocacy and direct technical assistance for staff on the ground, UNICEF is strengthening Viet Nam's capacity to scale up vital preventative health-care procedures for babies and children.

With UNICEF's support, the latest international standards on newborn care are included in the final draft of the National Action Plan on MNCH 2016–2020. The plan incorporates important provisions to reduce neonatal and maternal mortality, especially in the underdeveloped provinces with hard-to-reach populations and ethnic minority groups.

UNICEF strengthened three national centres of excellence for (EENC) by supporting training, coaching and supervision capacity to support the quality implementation of EENC at provincial health facilities. Key messages on EENC have been finalized and disseminated, including at the grass-roots levels. Skilled birth attendance and EENC have also been introduced in pre-service training programmes of all medical schools.

With support from UNICEF and partners, training materials on KMC were developed and the MOH has issued a decision in support of these methods. By rejuvenating coaching capacity in two regional hospitals and providing training support, provincial health-care staff in 22 provinces have improved knowledge, understanding and skills in order to implement KMC. EENC and KMC monitoring indicators are incorporated in the routine MNCH reporting system.

Following advocacy from UNICEF and partners, the MR vaccine is now included as part of the national Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) since June 2015. Preparation for the introduction of inactivated polio vaccine is on track; however, due to a shortage within the of global vaccine supply, actual introduction has been delayed until September 2016. With technical inputs from UNICEF, a review of the EPI review and effective vaccine management assessment has been conducted, and the key findings and recommendations have been incorporated into the Joint Annual Health Report 2015, which serves as a key reference document for development of the next five-year health sector plan. Guidelines to operationalize the Reach Every Commune strategic approach for hard-to-reach areas have been developed and endorsed by the EPI, working as a key guiding document to support increased immunization coverage in those areas.

National guidelines on the integration of prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV in reproductive health-care systems have been developed, and with UNICEF's training inputs, the knowledge and skills of reproductive health staff from 21 provinces on voluntary counselling and testing (and counselling on PMTCT) have been improved.

OUTPUT 2: By 2016, identified beneficiaries benefit equitably from increased access to sustainable, quality and integrated nutrition services.

Analytical statement of progress:

UNICEF explored the opportunity to enhance commitments from more than 1,000 MPs across countries to promote pro-nutrition programmes and policies, as the 132nd IPU met in Hanoi in April 2015. Some 60 parliamentarians participated in a conference on the Role of Parliamentarians in the Fulfilment of Child's Rights to Nutrition and Development, resulting in action plans on legislation, developing pro-nutrition budgets, and issues to increase government accountability in reducing malnutrition in the region. The group also participated in field visits to: a nutrition counselling centre; a baby-friendly hospital; a workplace lactation programme; and a plant that produces ready-to-use therapeutic foods for children with acute malnutrition. The

group subsequently called for Viet Nam to expand these initiatives.

With UNICEF's support, a technical guideline for social marketing of nutrition was developed and approved in 2015. The approved guideline is integrated in the national nutrition programme, demonstrating progress towards the scaling up of social marketing in nutrition. A handbook on the application of Hospital Quality Criteria and a training package for health-centre staff has also been drafted. More than 180 health inspectors from 63 provinces were trained on compliance with Decree 100 on the marketing of breast-milk substitutes, facilitated by senior legal experts from the International Baby Food Action Network.

UNICEF Viet Nam also supported the development and approval of Decree 85, which promotes the rights of female workers in the Labour Code. The decree regulates the responsibility of the state and employers to establish day-care centres and kindergartens, and mandates the establishment of lactation rooms in workplaces with a high proportion of female workers.

In addition, with UNICEF's support, the MOH drafted a new government decree to regulate food fortification with micronutrients, which are scientifically proven to be deficient and have a negative health impacts. The decree regulates mandatory iodisation of salt, flour fortification with zinc and iron, and oil fortification with vitamin A. The final draft was submitted for review and approval in November 2015.

UNICEF Viet Nam supported a user-friendly SMS-based communication technology to support a remote sentinel-based nutrition surveillance system using Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD), by the National Institute of Nutrition and service provider Viettel. However, trials have been delayed due to the lack of availability of a Rapid-Pro platform in Viet Nam.

Provincial, regional and national nutrition profiles, based on the 2014 data, have been prepared and published on the National Institute of Nutrition's website.

OUTPUT 3: By 2016, identified beneficiaries benefit equitably from increased access to sustainable and hygienic sanitation.

Analytical statement of progress:

UNICEF assisted the VIHEMA of the MOH to establish models of ODF villages across seven provinces by using CATS and Sanitation Marketing approaches. A low-cost sanitation manual was developed to meet the affordability of the poorest quintile of the population and also the hydro-geological challenges across Viet Nam.

With technical assistance from UNICEF, the MOH prepared revised guidelines on ODF verification, ensuring inputs from practicing provinces and sector partners. A field assessment is being supported by UNICEF to review the effectiveness of ODF guidelines prior to their finalization and issuance nationally by early 2016.

UNICEF engaged the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicines to carry out a formative research on sanitation and hygiene in the central highlands and northern mountainous provinces of Viet Nam. The research contributed to the program design process of Scaling up Rural Sanitation and Water Supply (SupRSWS) in 21 underdeveloped provinces, which helped the Government to secure a soft loan of US\$200 million from the World Bank.

UNICEF worked with MARD to prepare a national plan of action for the improvement of the

O&M management of rural water schemes in low performing provinces. As the co-lead agency of the working group on sustainable O&M management, UNICEF provided further technical assistance to document best practices and develop provincial plans for improved O&M of water services in three provinces, ensuring leadership of the National Centre for Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation.

An inter-ministerial plan of action has been prepared between MARD and MOH to support drinking water safety, as a result of UNICEF's joint advocacy with the Australian Government and World Health Organization. A feasibility study to explore production of clay-pot ceramic filters, in collaboration with local entrepreneurs in selected provinces, was completed in December 2015. Technical assistance is sourced from an international non-governmental organisation, Resource Development International, which has successfully produced and marketed affordable water filters in Cambodia.

An Inter-Agency Contingency Plan (IACP) for the emergency WASH cluster was developed in collaboration with MARD, provincial counterparts and other humanitarian agencies in January 2015. In an effort to promote DRR and CCA, UNICEF supported the development of plans of action for eight high risk provinces, and is demonstrating the development of a participatory commune DRR/CCA plan in Dien Bien Province.

OUTPUT 4: By 2016, identified beneficiaries benefit equitably from increased access to PMTCT services and paediatric treatment of HIV.

Analytical statement of progress:

As a result of the 2014 MTR of the Country Programme, the Output IR 803004 was merged into Output IR 803001 into and thus reported under Output IR 803001.

OUTPUT 5: Technical assistance for the CSD programme is effectively and efficiently managed and implemented, through quality assurance, technical expertise and results monitoring for children.

Analytical statement of progress:

The coordination and technical assistance of the CSD programme for planning, implementation and monitoring results remained on track. Throughout 2015, regular meetings with the counterparts to review the implementation and budget utilisation were organized and appropriate steps are taken to ensure programming on track. A number of field and provincial visits were organized to review progress and technical assistance support across all the UNICEF support provinces.

Technical assistance from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine was managed successfully to input to the appraisal, design and planning process of a new Government programme on SupRSWS, which helped to secure a soft loan of US\$200 million from the World Bank. Technical assistance for the ZEROworkplace formative research is being mobilised to develop toolkits for the promotion of hand washing with soap, in collaboration with the Communication for Development unit.

As a part of the Innovation Lab, technical assistance to the National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) has been provided to develop a user friendly communication technology to send texts between a mobile phone and an application programme to support a remote surveillance system for nutrition, using USSD in collaboration with the service provider, Viettel.

Timely support was solicited from Regional Office and Headquarters advisers prior to the SMR to ensure feedback to the outcome papers which serve as a basis for the upcoming Country Programme Development. Technical assistance was successfully received during the SMR event from the regional advisers in the areas of health, nutrition and WASH.

As indicated in the results of the MTR, the reduction in CSD staffing is a constraint to ensure timely and effective coordination and technical assistance of CSD in implementing activities and monitoring results. It is a challenge for CSD to take up office-wide coordination roles for Kon Tum and Ninh Thuan, while managing internal coordination of three CSD components, as well as ensuring individual component technical expertise for planning, implementation, and monitoring activities in eight provinces. At the same time, CSD staff were involved in coordination, planning, implementation and monitoring results at national level. The challenge continues as it is difficult to meet to all important consultative, coordination and partnership meetings where UNICEF's participation is required with limited CSD staff.

OUTPUT 6: By 2016, identified beneficiaries in HCMC, An Giang, Dong Thap, Ninh Thuan, Kon Tum, Dien Bien, Gia Lai and Lao Cai are covered with social health insurance and benefit equitably from increased access to sustainable and quality basic integrated CSD services (MNCH, Nutrition, WASH).

Analytical statement of progress:

All provincial health staff in the eight UNICEF focus provinces were trained by UNICEF and government partners in EENC, including the aspects of KMC and PMTCT in the reproductive healthcare system. Additional coaching and supportive supervision was provided by national experts from the Maternal and Child Health Department at the MOH. This has resulted in improved performance of provincial and districts hospitals.

HCMC has taken the lead in applying nutrition criteria for hospitals. Detailed guidelines are being finalised, including the screening of nutrition status of hospitalized patients, nutrition counselling for patients, and the procedure of establishing and operating the nutrition department within a hospital.

Integrated management of severe acute malnutrition has been implemented in four provinces: Lao Cai, Dien Bien, Kon Tum, and Ninh Thuan. Some 534 children under 5 were reported to have been treated for severe acute malnutrition through such integrated management in these provinces.

Following the successful implementation of community-based infant and young child feeding model in Lao Cai, the model has been expanded to four communes in Ninh Thuan Province, under the framework of the United Nations Joint Programme on the Integrated Strategy on Nutrition and Food Security, which was developed as the SDG Fund was approved.

Social marketing support for the promotion of iron-folic acid supplements has been maintained in 71 communes of Dong Thap and in 18 communes of An Giang, with quarterly monitoring and supervision support from provincial health departments. Some 25 provincial and district health staff were trained on the application of the MOH's hospital assessment criteria relating to EENC practices and the standards of the baby-friendly initiatives.

With the support of UNICEF, 230 villages with 150,000 people achieved ODF status in 5 provinces: An Giang, Dien Bien, Kon Tum, Lao Cai and Ninh Thuan. Hand washing with soap was promoted as an integral part of CATS and is included as a criterion for verification of ODF.

HWTS has been promoted across 400 villages in 50 communes across 7 provinces.

As an effort to scale up sanitation in 21 underdeveloped provinces in the central highlands, south central cost and northern mountainous regions, more than 100 managers and support staff from the CPMs were oriented on CATS and Sanitation Marketing in Dien Bien and Hoa Binh. This is also useful for the provinces to initiate the recently launched SupRSWS programme.

OUTCOME 5: The Country Office is able to deliver programmatic results effectively through enhanced coordination, communication and partnership.

Analytical statement of progress:

The progression towards an equitable, quality and inclusive education system and related services at the national and sub-national levels in Viet Nam was strongly supported by UNICEF's activities for policy advocacy, knowledge generation, capacity development and C4D.

UNICEF supported a high-level consultation of MOET, MOLISA and National Assembly leaders on the need to make education more child-rights sensitive. The draft Child Law highlights comprehensively the Government's accountability in ensuring equity in education in Viet Nam and stipulates the need for greater responsibility of duty bearers to provide rights-based quality inclusive education, learning, assessment and participation for all children.

The evidence generated from the 2014 MTBBE Impact Evaluation and the 2014–2015 Annual Primary Education Assessment reconfirmed the relevance of MTBBE in Viet Nam. One significant result is the issuance of a Prime Minister's Decision on Viet Nam Basic Education Curriculum/Textbook Reform, which allows development of learning materials in selected subjects in the mother tongue and Vietnamese. The MTBBE programme supported by UNICEF continues to be one of the solutions addressing the language challenges for children from ethnic minorities. Its relevance is also demonstrated by the continuation and expansion of the approach by provincial authorities such as in Lao Cai and An Giang Provinces.

Inclusive education for children with disabilities was upheld at national and sub-national levels through ongoing research on screening tools for children under 6 years old and on children with learning/intellectual disabilities, resource rooms for children with disabilities in national standard schools, and exploring the demand and supply sides of early educational interventions for these children.

In 2015 the MOET, UNICEF, and University of Toronto Study on Readiness for Education of children with disabilities in eight provinces in Viet Nam highlighted the equity gaps in inclusive education for children with disabilities. The inter-ministerial Circular on the Job Code for assistant teachers in mainstream schools, aiming at improving learning for children with disabilities while addressing human resource gaps of service providers for the education children with disabilities in school, is under finalization.

UNICEF gave technical support to a diversified network of partners such as Hanoi University of Education, international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and Teacher Training colleges, to organize communication events on children with disabilities, which, alongside an international scientific symposium and policy dialogue, significantly contributed to changing the mind-set of education managers, teachers and the community from a charity-based approach to disability to one which is more rights-based. Many of these events also featured the active

participation of boys and girls with disabilities, which further helps children with disabilities fulfil their rights.

MOET, with UNICEF support and in coordination with MOLISA and MOH, conducted cross-sectoral monitoring visits to 13 provinces/cities in Viet Nam on the implementation of the HIV Law and the National Action Plan for Children Affected by HIV/AIDS 2013–2020. Concrete recommendations and actions, especially practical solutions to reduce stigma and discrimination against children with disabilities to address these gaps, were put forward.

In line with Target 4.2 of the SDGs, UNICEF Viet Nam provided an elevated focus on integrated early childhood development, with a more comprehensive support to MOET for ECCE for i) the ongoing research on an ECCE low-cost model, focusing on disadvantaged children under 3 years old, targeting the industrialized zones in HCMC, ii) development of the 10-year strategy plan, and iii) provision of substantial inputs for the revision of the ECCE curriculum. UNICEF's partnership with the private sector through the Korean National Committee for UNICEF contributed to the development of a quality model for a community-based child-friendly library initiative in two preschools in Dong Anh, Hanoi, for demonstration and for nationwide policy advocacy on early learning. In addition, UNICEF supported a strong high-level government delegation, led by the Vice Minister of MOET, to participate in the Fourth International Childhood Development and Poverty Reduction Summit and the 2015 Asia-Pacific Regional ECD Conference, along with 700 Government leaders, policy experts and NGOs from 23 countries. Following the conference, MOET officials became aware of ECD as a key driver of sustainable development and the need for integrated interventions addressing all dimensions of child development, from health care, nutrition, education, protection and cognitive stimulation, beginning in the womb up until 8 years of age.

With regard to curriculum reform, the capacity of national experts was enhanced. UNICEF played a significant role in leveraging available resources for substantive debates on curriculum reform through an international workshop on the application of information technology, with the participation of around 700 Vietnamese education experts, researchers, education managers and teachers, exchanging with experts from Canada and Finland.

UNICEF also contributed to the PER conducted on the education sector and led by the World Bank and the MOF. Draft reports including three case studies on Lao Cai and HCMC are available. An evidence-based analysis of the different financing systems in the education sector informed the development of education strategic interventions in the coming years.

With UNICEF support, the National Action Plan for DRR/CCA was completed. Initiatives to develop Provincial Action Plans are under consideration. Additionally, the training materials for DRR/CC have been finalised by MOET and adopted countrywide to strengthen the school preparedness and resilience to DRR/CCA. A national framework for child-sensitive resilience building, comprehensive school safety for DRR and CCA, and Education in Emergencies is under development.

OUTPUT 1: By 2016, disadvantaged children benefit from an education system that provides quality and relevant inclusive education

Analytical statement of progress:

UNICEF's support to high-level consultation of MOET, MOLISA and NA leaders on the ongoing revision of the Child Law aimed at making education-related chapters more child-rights sensitive. The evidence generated from the MTBBE Impact Evaluation and 2014–2015 annual

assessment helped reconfirm the relevance of MTBBE in Viet Nam and contributed to the formulation of the Prime Minister's Decision No. 404 QD/TTg on Viet Nam Basic Education Curriculum/Textbook Reform, which allows development of learning materials in selected subjects in both mother tongue and Vietnamese and makes teaching more culturally responsive, was based on information from the MTBBE.

The inter-ministerial Circular on Job Code for assistant teachers for children with disabilities, which went through several levels of consultations before publication on the MOET website for public consultation, addresses disparities in learning and bringing equity and inclusiveness to education for children with disabilities. The ongoing research on screening tools for children under 6 years old and on children with learning/intellectual disabilities, and resource rooms for children with disabilities in national standard schools, contributed to rising inclusiveness in education for children with disabilities.

With UNICEF's support, communication activities to reduce stigma and discrimination against children affected by HIV/AIDS were conducted in four provinces through a consultative process, including with the engagement of children and adolescents living with HIV, to enhance awareness within the community. MOET in coordination with MOLISA and MOH, conducted cross-sectoral monitoring visits on the implementation of the HIV Law and the National Action Plan for Children Affected by HIV/AIDS 2013–2020. Gaps were identified in the implementation of both laws; concrete recommendations and actions to address these gaps were then put forward for further consideration by concerned authorities.

The focus on ECCE was substantively elevated through support in the development of the National ECCE Development plan for 2016–2025, and substantial technical support to the revision of the ECCE curriculum. Research on a low-cost model for ECCE focused on disadvantaged children under 3 years old in targeted industrialised zones, and remote ethnic minority areas. UNICEF also supported the participation of a high level delegation led by the MOET Vice Minister in charge of ECCE and one representative of Lao Cai DOET to the Fourth International Childhood Development and Poverty Reduction Summit and the 2015 Asia-Pacific Regional ECD Conference, along with 700 Government leaders, policy experts, and NGOs from 23 countries.

OUTPUT 2: By 2016, education managers undertake child-focused national education planning, monitoring and evaluation, and provide response to emergencies and climate change

Analytical statement of progress:

UNICEF ensured the leveraging of available resources for substantive debates on curriculum reform, through international workshops supported by bilateral partners and researchers from Canada and Finland that mobilised more than 500 Vietnamese education experts. These international workshops focused on twenty-first century skills and application of ICT in the new curriculum. During another international workshop, attended by more than 200 education experts and researchers, UNICEF's technical assistance was provided to members of the Curriculum Development Steering Committee and Core Experts Team.

UNICEF contributed to the PER conducted on the education sector, led by the World Bank and MOF. Draft reports are available, including the three provincial (Lao Cai, HCMC and Quang Nam) case studies. The data and findings have informed on significant efficiency and equity issues in education to be addressed, such as the disparity of teaching time and parental costs.

UNICEF supported the development of a concept paper on equity in education with a focus on disadvantaged children, and including gender analysis, to bring an equity lens to the planning and budgeting sector plan and in education policies. UNICEF, along with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, supported MOET to compile education financing data to contribute to annual state budget planning for better budgeting, programme and project implementation, and reporting. This effort will also contribute to advocacy for increased participation and role of MOET in state budget allocation in order to realise equity in education.

UNICEF's strong technical and financial support on the Out-of-School Children Study resulted to the integration of the indicators for out-of-school children in the education gender- and equity-sensitive data collection form that helped improve inter-sectoral cooperation and partnerships, and strengthened understanding of linkages between the education sector and other sectors. Issues regarding out-of-school children were also integrated in the National guidelines for Provincial Education Sector Planning 2016–2020. An updated analysis of out-of-school children profiles, on the basis of MICS 5, is under way for education planning and policy advocacy on education equity.

With UNICEF support, the National Action Plan for DRR/CCA was completed and is available, and initiatives to develop Provincial Action Plans are ongoing. Additionally, training materials for DRR/CCA have been finalized by MOET and adopted nationwide to strengthen the school preparedness and resilience to DRR/CCA. A national framework including considerations of gender, ethnic minority groups and children with disabilities for child-sensitive resilience building and comprehensive school safety for DRR, CCA and Education in Emergencies is under development.

OUTPUT 3: Technical assistance for the education programme is effectively and efficiently managed and implemented, through quality assurance, technical expertise and results monitoring for children.

Analytical statement of progress:

Quality technical assistance to improve policy and systems capacity for inclusive quality education in Viet Nam has been effectively and efficiently provided to the implementing partners both at provincial and central level, and results monitoring was carried out through six programme visits.

The programme provided substantial technical inputs to the education component of the Government's first action plan to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs in ethnic minority areas. UNICEF Viet Nam's Education programme provided timely technical support for the review of the education policies that support the execution of the Government Resolution 80/NQ-CP on the National Targeted Programme for Sustainable Poverty Reduction 2011–2020.

UNICEF played a leading role in facilitating a joint high level mission led by the Norwegian Prime Minister in April to Lao Cai, during which provincial authorities demonstrated strong commitment to enhance advocacy for the child rights and equity agenda. In addition, during the year, UNICEF supported in convening relevant stakeholders and facilitating exchanges of best practices on how to ensure children have access to basic services, building on local evidence and exchange of experiences.

Holistic ECD was extensively discussed through joint meetings with the Government of Viet Nam and UNICEF with the support of the Regional ECCE/Gender Specialist. In addition, ECCE-

related interventions were upheld at provincial level through research, studies and a community-based ECCE model. UNICEF provided financial and combined technical support from both country and regional offices to a high level delegation from Viet Nam led by the MOET Vice Minister in charge of ECE to attend the Asia-Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood workshop on ECD in Beijing, China. This helped the government partner align ECD in Viet Nam with broader global perspectives, namely the SDGs, and also allowed a new positioning of the holistic approach of ECD with regard to Viet Nam's middle-income country status.

Throughout the implementation during the year, the programme contributed to the reduction of barriers which hindered the right to education of these disadvantaged children, including addressing the challenges pertaining to the demand for education from the parents and communities and supply of capacity and quality of education provided by the education system, as well as barriers within and outside education system.

OUTPUT 4: By 2016, disadvantaged children, particularly ethnic minority children, in selected provinces benefit from relevant and quality preschool and basic education supported by the provincial Education Sector Plans.

Analytical statement of progress:

Lao Cai and HCMC were among the three provinces participating in the education sector PER led by the World Bank and MOF. This evidence-based analysis of different financing systems in the education sector and existing disparity on learning, especially for the most disadvantaged children, informed UNICEF for future development of strategic education interventions. Policy monitoring and consultations with stakeholders on education planning and implementation were conducted in four provinces and helped UNICEF and government partners to have shared understanding on equity issues for the most disadvantaged children.

Lao Cai and An Giang provincial authorities shared experiences on mother tongue education, resulting in the revised provincial MTBBE plan for 2016–2020 in Lao Cai, while An Giang PPC issued the decision to utilize local resources for preschools in two districts to ensure better preparation for school for Khmer children. UNICEF has played a critical role in convening relevant stakeholders to build on local evidence, exchange best practices on ensuring children have access to basic services, and increase the mobilization of domestic resources for disadvantaged children.

Significant achievements in three provinces enhanced inclusive education of children with disabilities. Ninh Thuan Province, with UNICEF's support, opened its first-ever Provincial Inclusive Education Resource Centre for persons with disabilities in December 2015. Work around inclusive education for children with disabilities in HCMC has been enhanced through the capacity building of two special schools, in order to turn them into Resource Centres for Persons with Disabilities. These centres contribute to the identification, assessment, and orientation on educational interventions, for children with learning difficulties.

Information exchange, awareness raising and monitoring trips were conducted to assess the implementation of policies related to education for children with disabilities. This exercise helped generate greater consensus on solutions and more effective coordination mechanisms among different line departments (DOLISA, DOF, DOET, DOH, PPC) to improve the implementation of education policies for children with disabilities, from initial identification to comprehensive interventions from all sectors.

The PPC of Lao Cai supported the establishment of a multi-sectoral mechanism on ECCE, and

a community-based ECCE model was established in two selected communes. In HCMC, a UNICEF-supported DOET study on the low-cost private ECCE centres in industrial zones began, and will inform interventions to ensure quality care and education for young children in industrial zones.

A safe school model for DRR and CCA was tested in five provinces, in line with MOET's instruction on 2015–2016 academic year priorities.

OUTCOME 6: The Country Office is able to deliver programmatic results effectively through enhanced coordination, communication and partnership.

Analytical statement of progress:

Throughout 2015, the cross-sectoral units have continued to support and elevate the sectoral programmes, to enable the latter to increase their impacts for education, child protection, social policy and governance, and child survival and development.

The C4D Unit focused on awareness raising, capacity building, promotion of social inclusion, and advocacy for participation of children and young people in decision-making. Key awareness raising campaigns included working with the MOH to provide positive health impacts for children, focusing on campaigns on hygiene and immunisation, and on advocacy for ICRM. C4D promoted the inclusion of children with disabilities, and the participation of children and young people in the development of SEDP. Capacity in communication for development was build through evaluation and training.

The PM&E Unit was separated from the SPG programme in 2015 in order to better support strong, integrated PM&E across the Country Office. This serves to raise the quality, consistency, efficiency and capacity of PM&E across the Country Office, which in turn ensures that programme implementation is better managed. Good practices and lessons learned are also more easily captured and compared across programmes for the elevation of programme design and implementation in the future. The PM&E also serves to ensure consistency and quality for donor reports, evaluations, toolkits and other documentation across programmes, enabling UNICEF to ensure a cohesive country programme, and to contribute more easily to One UN due to working as a connected agency.

In addition, UNICEF Viet Nam recognized the importance of a diverse and wide network of partners, including the private sector, central and provincial level governments, CSOs, young people, and the public in general, for innovative and impactful programming; thus significant efforts to expand this network were conducted in 2015. As a result, UNICEF is able to augment programme implementation through innovations such as the ZEROworkplace (eliminating preventable child deaths) mobile platform, which will be scaled up with a focus on migrant workers. Developing intimate private sector partnerships, such as by becoming an honorary member of the Viet Nam Business Council of Sustainable Development, is expected to further UNICEF's understanding of the private sector, and subsequently increase UNICEF's influence in engaging the private sector in actions for sustainable development and equity. A commitment to developing long-term partnerships with the Government, as evidenced by the relocation of key roles to HCMC for this purpose, has thus far been seen to be beneficial, as UNICEF is better placed to leverage advocacy efforts to wider and more influential audiences.

OUTPUT 1: The C4D function is strengthened and efficiently managed across all programme components, with a high level of quality assurance and technical expertise.

Analytical statement of progress:

The C4D Unit continued to provide the technical lead on behaviour and social change related areas towards the achievement of programme outcomes laid out in 2015–2016 work plans.

C4D contributed to the Assessment of Child Survival and Humanitarian C4D Initiatives and Support Needs in East Asia and Pacific, by completing the report for the Viet Nam County Office.

To strengthen evidence-driven hygiene promotion efforts, the findings of the formative research for improved maternal, neonatal, and child health in Viet Nam were disseminated to the MOH and related stakeholders.

C4D continued to support the MOH to implement communication interventions which contribute to the programme goal of ensuring all children under 2 years old are immunized. Interventions include both national and sub-national activities which target health managers, hard-to-reach communities and migrant parents.

C4D supported the Ministry of Education and related partners (e.g., National Traffic Safety Committee) in evidence-based advocacy related to road traffic injury prevention for children and promotion of child helmet use.

C4D continued to support social inclusion of children with disabilities through the implementation of the 2014 National Communication Strategy for People with Disabilities. The mass media, a key player in changing social perceptions and negative norms towards children with disability, was targeted for capacity development through a rights-based and social inclusion approach.

An assessment of the 2014 End Violence against Children campaign, as part of the global #ENDViolence campaign, was conducted to inform continued interventions for long-term behaviour and social change. The study is part of the C4D evaluation framework development project, which is a partnership between UNICEF headquarters, country offices, Australia's RMIT University and India's University of Hyderabad. A training curriculum is under development to equip child protection communicators with cutting-edge C4D skills.

Throughout 2015, C4D supported policy and governance advocacy including organisation of consultations with children and young people and dissemination of an advocacy film on child-sensitive SEDP. Various communication materials were developed for social media and event advocacy related to the establishment of an ICRM and for awareness raising on multi-dimensional child poverty.

The SASSP project, in partnership with MOLISA and the World Bank, includes a substantial C4D component, guided by an all-rounded strategy to raise demands for an advanced assistance programme.

OUTPUT 2: Planning, monitoring & evaluation.

Analytical statement of progress:

From 2015, the 'Sub-national coordination' Output has been converted into 'Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation. In accordance with the 2014 MTR's recommendation, an independent PM&E Unit, managed by a senior national manager at national officer level under the leadership of the Deputy Representative, was separated from the Social Policy and Governance section and established in order to ensure strong PM&E functionality as a key

structure in an office operating in a middle-income context.

This new structure allowed for UNICEF to provide a dual role in providing high-quality PM&E technical assistance to UNICEF programmes and One UN partners, as well as fostering capacity development with implementing partners at national and sub-national levels in critical areas such as situation monitoring, results-based management, evaluation and results reporting.

The PM&E Unit managed the IMEP for the Country Office in collaboration with programme sections. The 2015-2016 IMEP, approved by the Country Management Team in May 2015, was developed, monitored and updated periodically in coordination with all programmes. The preparation of the IMEP was consultative and took into particular consideration the usefulness and timeliness of activities in creating knowledge for learning, accountability, and improvement of the country programme.

In 2015, under the leadership of the senior management, PM&E Unit made vital contributions to the preparation of the 2017–2021 Country Programme. This included support of the Management Retreat in January 2015, the development of roadmaps and work-plans alongside associated guidelines and technical support for programme sections, and successful organisation of important events including the Programme Policy and Procedure training from 22 to 26 June 2015 for all professional staff, and the Strategic Moment of Reflection from 21 to 22 October 2015.

In addition, PM&E Unit provided technical quality assurance to the National SitAn of Children, MICS 5 report and other evaluations and studies, donor reports, and toolkit updates.

In 2015, through the One UN Results-Based Management Working Group, UNICEF was actively involved in the planning, preparation and provision of technical assistance and assurance for the evaluation of the One Plan 2012-2016. The One Plan 2012–2016 aims to promote accountability for results and learning in the context of a Delivering as One and will inform the formulation of the next One Plan in Viet Nam.

OUTPUT 3: Resources and partners, in particular the corporate sector, are leveraged, and the HCMC Office is maintained to efficiently achieve results for children.

Analytical statement of progress:

UNICEF revised the Corporate Engagement Strategy to strengthen programme-based approaches to private-sector engagement.

To strengthen the Country Office’s partnerships with HCMC government, civil society and innovation partners, the sub-national programme manager position was relocated to HCMC, as Chief of Programme Partnerships. The Innovation Lab Lead was also relocated to HCMC in June with a focus on a) equipping at risk young people with capacity and skills to engage in the innovation agenda and b) developing a strategic partnership with the Information Technology Park at Viet Nam National University HCMC, to place child-focused and youth-led social impact innovation into the city’s existing innovation agenda.

The Child Rights and Business Principles (CRBP) agenda was strengthened in collaboration with the Private Fundraising and Partnerships department in Geneva, which enabled a Travel and Tourism impact assessment to be conducted with global partners, for input to industry-specific tools for global/local engagement. A grant was also secured through the US Fund,

focusing on preventing child labour and promoting children’s well-being through CRBP in the footwear and apparel supply chain. UNICEF became an Honorary Member of Viet Nam Business Council of Sustainable Development, positioning the Country Office to advocate for inclusion of CRBP into its agenda.

The ZEROworkplace platform, aiming to eliminate preventable child deaths, was further developed with new private sector partner Mobivi, to scale up the toolkit implementation with migrant workers in many factories in Viet Nam. The development of two new toolkits (handwashing/hygiene, and sanitation and breastfeeding) began, and will be tested and rolled out in 2016.

UNICEF’s work with media-focused private sector and youth partners led to the visit of UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Katy Perry to HCMC in May 2015, to talk at the first Forbes in Viet Nam ‘30 under 30’ event. Katy Perry talked with passion to the 1,200 young participants on subjects such as the importance of education and exclusive breastfeeding, and was followed by an interview in June on YanTV Channel, one of the most popular youth channels in Viet Nam.

The HCMC CFC Initiative was launched in September 2015 as part of UNICEF Viet Nam’s fortieth anniversary, at a high-level round-table conference co-chaired by the PPC Vice Chair and UNICEF Country Representative. Central- and HCMC-level government leaders participated in the conference with mass organizations, CSOs and private-sector stakeholders. Subsequently, a forward-looking plan was agreed upon which will further shape the multi-stakeholder CFC Initiative.

Document Centre

Evaluation and Research

Title	Sequence number	Type of report
Vietnam Effective Vaccine Management Assessment (17 August–4 September 2015)	2015/026	Review
An Assessment of the Viet Nam National Communication Campaign to End Violence against Children (EVAC) June–August 2014	2015/022	Review
Feasibility study for the establishment of an independent child rights monitoring mechanism in Viet Nam	2015/006	Study
Citizen Report Card on the Birth Registration Services in Lao Cai Province	2015/002	Study

Other Publications

Title
Innovation in sanitation sector analysis and monitoring in Viet Nam (Water Lines publication)
Leaflet for mothers, poster for health staff and video clip on Benefit of early essential newborn care (EENC) practices
Advocacy film on the Establishment of an Independent Mechanism for Monitoring of Child Rights Implementation
Child-sensitive Social Economic Development Planning (SEDP) advocacy film
Lao Cai Consultation with Children Workshop process documentary film

Documentary: 40 years working for the children of Viet Nam
Photobook: 40 years of UNICEF in Viet Nam
Sanitation Low Cost Option Manual
The Rise and Fall of Universal Salt Iodization in Viet Nam: Lessons Learned for Designing Sustainable Food Fortification Programmes With a Public Health Impact (The Food and Nutrition Bulletin)
Operational Guidelines for Social Marketing of Nutrition Programmes and Commodities in Viet Nam 2015–2020
UNICEF Schools for Asia: Bilingual Education in Viet Nam
C4D booklet – Right to education of children with disabilities
Video on children and climate change in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC)
Policy brief on key findings from the climate change
Poster on key findings from the ethnic minority child poverty

Lessons Learned

Document Type/Category	Title
Lesson Learned	Lessons learned from the diversified partnership in promoting quality of ethnic minority education in Mekong Delta
Lesson Learned	The importance of a long-term and thorough advocacy strategy: Ensuring provisions for female workers, mothers and children in the workplace in Viet Nam