

# **Colombia**

## **Country programme document 2008-2012**

The draft country programme document for Colombia (E/ICEF/2007/P/L.44) was presented to the Executive Board for discussion and comments at its 2007 second regular session (5-7 September 2007).

The document was subsequently revised, and this final version was approved at the 2008 first regular session of the Executive Board on 1 February 2008.

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Basic data<sup>†</sup>  
(Corresponding to 2005, unless otherwise stated)

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Population under the age of 18 (millions)	16.8
U5MR (per 1,000 live births)	21
Underweight ( per cent, mod & severe, 2003)	7
Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births, 2002)	84
Primary school attendance ( per cent, net male/female, 2004-05)	90/92
Primary school children reaching grade 5 ( per cent, 2004-05)	89
Use of improved drinking water sources ( per cent, 2004)	93*
Adult HIV prevalence rate ( per cent)	0.6
Child labour ( per cent children 5-14 years old, 2004-2005)	5
GNI per capita (US\$)	2 290
One year olds immunized with DPT3 ( per cent)	87**
One year olds immunized with measles vaccine (MMR)	89**

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<sup>†</sup> More comprehensive country data on children and women are available at [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org).

\* *Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) 2005: Improved drinking water sources gives 88 per cent.*

\*\* *DHS 2005: DPT3 is 81 per cent and measles is 82 per cent.*

## Situation of children and women

1. Colombian children comprise 38 per cent, and adolescents 16 per cent, of the estimated population of more than 40 million.<sup>1</sup> Although the population is characteristically mestizo, some 10 per cent defines itself as Afro-descendant and 3.3 per cent as indigenous. Of the 1.4 million indigenous persons belonging to 80 ethnicities, 40 per cent are under age 15. While Colombia is known for having a stable democracy, violence due to illegal armed groups has left innumerable victims, among them more than 1.9 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), of whom 57 per cent are children.

2. The economy has been on a recovery trend during the past three years. The gross domestic product grew by 6.8 per cent during 2006 as a result of favourable external factors, efforts to reduce public debt and export growth.

3. The Common Country Assessment (CCA), the 2006 recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and other recent analyses of the situation of child rights indicators, vast disparities exist and numerous population groups (IDP, indigenous, Afro-Colombian and residents of some geographic areas) have been excluded from these advances. The Government's Millennium Development Goals report indicates that Colombia is on track for targets of reducing extreme poverty, achieving universal access to primary education, promoting gender equality in primary education and achieving sustainable development. Achieving these Goals, however, will require accelerated efforts focused on the most vulnerable

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<sup>1</sup> All figures are from official Government sources.

populations. Significant challenges also need to be addressed in HIV/AIDS prevention, reduction of child mortality, poverty reduction and maternal health.

4. Despite a reduction in poverty (from 56 per cent in 2002 to 45 per cent in 2006), poverty continues to be widespread and particularly prevalent among IDPs (93 per cent); indigenous and Afro-Colombian groups, children under nine (nearly 65 per cent) and rural populations (rural:urban poverty is 3:1). Income distribution shows high inequality, and the Gini coefficient, 0.54, is sharply higher than the 0.45 in 1996.

5. During the last five years, mortality and main health indicators have moderately improved: the under-five mortality rate (U5MR) dropped from 33 per 1,000 live births in 1995 to 21 per 1,000 in 2005, but sharp urban/rural disparities persist (30 rural, 19 urban).

6. The maternal mortality ratio (MMR) dropped from 104 to 79 per 100,000 live births between 2000 and 2004. However in the departments of Chocó, Guaviare, Guanía, Caquetá, Putumayo and Vaupés, the ratio is double the national average. The increase in adolescent pregnancy requires policy action: an estimated 21 per cent of women 15-19 are either pregnant or have had a child (among IDPs, 35 per cent).

7. In 2005, 6 per cent of newborns were underweight. Due to lack of proper integrated health care, feeding and hygiene conditions, 12 per cent of children under age five suffered from stunting (among IDPs, 23 per cent). Some 16 per cent of adolescents manifest delay in growth, and 7 per cent are underweight. The nutritional status of rural, indigenous and displaced children — particularly girls — is well below the national average.

8. Between 1992 and 2005, net pre-school enrolment rose from 6.3 per cent to 11.6 per cent; net primary school enrolment increased 26.9 per cent; and net secondary enrolment increased 26.2 per cent. Gains have also been made in reducing dropout rates (rural: 11.6 per cent in 1995 to 7.62 per cent in 2004; urban 6.4 per cent to 5.3 per cent). The repetition rate decreased by 1.87 per cent between 1996 and 2006. However, regional disparities exist. The Government has made advances towards a policy on early education and has had promising discussions on eliminating all costs of primary education. However, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women highlighted in 2006 the lack of education policies to address stereotypes, which are needed to address gender discrimination.

9. HIV prevalence grew from 0.02 per cent in 1988 to 0.7 per cent in 2004, with over 55,000 reported cases between 1983 and 2005. Prevalence among pregnant women was estimated at 0.65 per cent in 2005, and the mother-to-child transmission is 2 per cent. Infection among youth 15-24 years old has increased steadily: from 62 cases in 1989 to 706 in 2005. Between 1990 and 2005, in children under 15 years old, 1,343 cases of infection were reported, and 4,000 children were estimated to be living with HIV/AIDS. Reliable data on children orphaned by HIV/AIDS does not exist. The policy response includes the implementation of a National Response Plan for HIV/AIDS (2007-2010).

10. The gap between the men's and women's Human Development Index has decreased steadily in recent years. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women highlighted the Government's efforts in promoting

policy and institutional reform in favour of women's rights but noted the persistence of pronounced gender inequalities. Women continue to be strongly affected by violence (including sexual) caused by illegal armed groups and by domestic violence. It is estimated that 39 per cent of all women who are or have been married or in union have been victims of some form of physical abuse by their husband or partner.

11. Violence caused by illegal armed groups continues to affect children and adolescents, who are often victims of displacement or confinement, accidents caused by landmines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) and recruitment by illegal armed groups. Events involving mines and UXO increased between 1990 and 2006 and registered the highest number of new victims worldwide in 2005. Between 1990 and 2006, 3,108 accidents were reported, involving 6,003 victims, 582 of them under age 18.

12. While the National Army has complied with the Law 548 of 1999 prohibiting forced and voluntary recruitment of children, enrolment by illegal armed groups persists, though the number of cases is impossible to estimate. Poverty, low quality of education in rural zones, lack of opportunities, domestic violence, exploitation, abuse and an idealistic perception of armed groups and weapons are among the risk factors. In 2006, the Committee on the Rights of the Child strongly emphasized the need to end children's participation in illegal armed groups. Meanwhile, from 1999 to 31 May 2007, 3,237 demobilized children and adolescents received specialized attention by the Colombian Family Welfare Institute (*Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar, ICBF*).

13. Colombia is being considered for inclusion in the agenda of the Working Group of United Nations Security Council. The Working Group was created in Security Council Resolution 1612, which gives a mandate to monitor child rights violations in all countries where children and adolescents are affected by violence generated by armed groups.

14. The Committee also highlighted domestic violence, child abuse, sexual abuse and exploitation affecting children and adolescents. Between 2002 and 2005, 5,674 children under 18 were murdered. In 2005, 12,525 cases of domestic violence and 13,835 cases of sexual abuse involving children were reported. Girls aged 10-14 are the most common victims of sexual abuse. Child labour encompasses 8.9 per cent of children and adolescents aged 5-17, reaching 22.9 per cent among adolescents 15-17.

15. The Child and Adolescent Code, which entered into force in May 2007, provides concrete possibilities for building on the well-established framework of laws and regulations guaranteeing the rights of children and adolescents. However, strengthened capacity at subnational levels is needed to ensure the protection of child rights. It is particularly important to strengthen the recently implemented juvenile justice system and to build on efforts to guarantee the care and protection of all demobilized children.

16. The national Government, through the Ministry of National Education and the ICBF, has designed a strategy for children under five that encompasses integrated attention in care, nutrition and primary education. Currently 801,944 children receive care in community homes, and 139,449 in infant care homes.

## **Key results and lessons learned from previous cooperation, 2002-2007**

### **Main results achieved**

17. UNICEF technical assistance and advocacy contributed to the development and adoption of the Child and Adolescent Code, which includes substantial reforms in juvenile justice and child labour, and specifies local government responsibility for promoting and protecting child rights.

18. The 2005 mid-term review (MTR) of the country programme highlighted achievements in replicating and mainstreaming successful Government initiatives supported by UNICEF into public policy. Partnership with the Attorney General's Office and the ICBF helped to translate the Facts and Rights Strategy into national policy and to consolidate political support among the country's 32 governors for implementing child rights. Actions, goals and resources for children were incorporated into departmental development plans, and local management capacity was strengthened. As a result, the number of departments implementing programmes to prevent and address children's issues, such as sexual exploitation and recruitment by illegal armed groups, has more than doubled in the last three years. The School Going to the Child Initiative, which focuses on getting excluded children into school, has been adopted as public policy by one department (Quindio), and is being considered for adoption by others. The Solid Waste Management Programme, which started as a pilot in six municipalities showing substantial morbidity and infant mortality, was developed into national public environmental policy headed by the Ministry of Environment, Housing and Territorial Development. This programme has improved the quality of life of 3 million children and their families, and includes a component for strengthening adolescents' knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding the environment and citizenship.

19. In partnership with various state and civil society organizations, UNICEF waged a communication campaign to prevent the recruitment of children by illegal armed groups, reaching more than 15 million Colombians, including children in high-risk zones. Technical support has been provided to different participatory, sports, educational and vocational strategies aimed at preventing such recruitment in 40 municipalities where it is prevalent. UNICEF also provided technical leadership for the design of a public policy to prevent recruitment.

20. In alliance with various civil and State organizations, UNICEF supported the development of public policies on early childhood as a response to a social mobilization process.

### **Lessons learned**

21. The 2005 MTR concluded that the rights approach has helped to strengthen the programmes of UNICEF and its partners, making them more comprehensive and sustainable. The lack of disaggregated data, however, has prevented effective mainstreaming of gender issues.

22. UNICEF has strengthened its support of and participation in social networks, with a more open and horizontal cooperation with partners and counterparts. Close cooperation with the State bodies (offices of the Attorney General, Ombudsman and Comptroller) has yielded positive results, given these offices' strong political

influence and role in preventive surveillance and the monitoring of public policy results.

23. The MTR and annual evaluations also indicated the importance of strengthening and expanding social responsibility in the private sector. This recommendation responds to the capacity of UNICEF to advocate for private sector engagement in the design and implementation of social policies and programmes, especially in priority areas that will have a positive impact on children's rights.

24. Several pilot projects supported by UNICEF were effective in influencing the development of appropriate policy. The MTR and other evaluations identified key factors leading to success: (a) close collaboration with the national and/or local governments; (b) advocacy based on solid evidence; (c) careful monitoring of project implementation; (d) active citizen participation and community ownership; and (e) documentation of results achieved and lessons learned.

25. Nonetheless, UNICEF still needs to strengthen monitoring and evaluation by increasing support to (a) partners and counterparts in producing and analysing disaggregated data and other information on the situation of children; (b) local governments in the creation local-level monitoring systems; and (c) the strengthening of national capacities to translate public policies into budget allocations and expenditure in favour of children's rights.

26. The MTR and the 2006 year-end review concluded that UNICEF should strive for greater coordination among different programmatic areas, and particularly between humanitarian action and public policy work.

27. The MTR and other evaluations showed the need for increased/decentralized UNICEF field presence in order to: (a) strengthen programme implementation and monitor effective adherence to UNICEF programming principles; (b) provide a faster and more effective response to emergencies; (c) increase access to rural communities that are strongly affected by violence; and (d) harmonize work with other United Nations agencies in the field.

## The country programme, 2008-2012

### Summary budget table

<i>Programme</i>	<i>(In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
	<i>Regular resources</i>	<i>Other resources*</i>	<i>Total</i>
Child survival and development	1 100	5 000	6 100
Quality education, adolescent development and prevention of HIV/AIDS	950	5 000	5 950
Protection and humanitarian action	—	15 200	15 200
Evidence-based public policies	900	3 700	4 600
Cross-sectoral costs	1 500	1 100	2 600
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 450</b>	<b>30 000</b>	<b>34 450</b>

\* In addition, emergency other resources will be sought under the Humanitarian Action Plan.

### **Programme preparation process**

28. Following the 2005 MTR, the 2008-2012 country programme was designed simultaneously with the preparation of the CCA and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), in which UNICEF participated actively and provided leadership. Subsequently, several consultations took place with partners, counterparts, beneficiaries and donors to plan the new programme.

### **Goals, key results and strategies**

29. The proposed country programme will contribute to the ability of Colombian children and adolescents to live in a country where the State and society guarantee the full realization of their rights, social inclusion and non-violence within the framework of national legislation and human rights instruments and international law (Convention on the Rights of the Child and Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women). The programme will have a strong focus on the most disadvantaged geographic zones and vulnerable population groups (those who are internally displaced, affected by violence, in rural and/or poor areas, Afro-Colombian, and indigenous) and will prioritize 11 departments with key social development and child rights indicators significantly below national averages and where violence and its consequences have had a significant impact on children and their families.<sup>2</sup> At the national level, efforts will focus on thematic areas such as the Facts and Rights Strategy and implementation of the Child and Adolescent Code, benefiting all departments. UNICEF cooperation will seek to influence public policies, legislation and public spending through an evidence-based approach involving technical support; generation of key information and knowledge stemming from monitoring and evaluation activities; programme communication; and social mobilization strategies. Special emphasis will be placed on generating, collecting and analysing disaggregated information in order to better address gender, social and ethnic disparities and strengthen gender mainstreaming and disparity reduction.

30. The new programme will support legislation, policies and national development plans (such as the 2007-2012 Plan for Childhood and Adolescence), pilot projects, and comprehensive community-based interventions, placing special emphasis on strengthening the capacity of rights holders to claim their rights, and the capacity of duty bearers to meet their obligations towards children. It will also promote the right to participation throughout the life cycle, strengthening the capacity of children and adolescents to contribute to their own well-being in the school, family and community environment, as well as strengthening their role in the design and implementation of policies, programmes and plans.

31. The programme builds on efforts in the previous cycle to strengthen local government capacity to promote and protect child rights at the municipal level, within the framework of the Facts and Rights Strategy. Several successful pilot projects, e.g., The School Going to the Child, will be mainstreamed and taken to national scale under this strategy. Based on lessons learned from previous

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<sup>2</sup> These departments are: Amazonas, Antioquia, Bolívar, Boyacá, Córdoba, Cauca, Chocó, Guajira, Huila, Magdalena and Nariño. Criteria used for focalization: poverty line, maternal mortality, infant mortality and education net coverage. This prioritization does not exclude the possibility of expanding UNICEF cooperation to other Colombian departments throughout the next programme cycle if deemed necessary.

cooperation, the new programme will focus on strengthening the links and synergies between local-level projects and upstream public policy work at national, departmental and municipal levels, through mutually reinforcing communication, mobilization and evidence-based advocacy strategies, including a new focus on promoting social responsibility within the private sector. Cross-cutting strategies for participation, non-violence and social and gender equality will address key issues identified in the situation analysis and the MTR. Cognizant of the risks of natural disasters, UNICEF will join efforts with other United Nations agencies and national counterparts to develop local capacities in emergency preparedness and response in coordination with the national Government.

### **Relationship to national priorities and the UNDAF**

32. The country programme coheres with the social goals of the 2006-2010 National Development Plan, particularly the sectoral goals for education and health. Under the Facts and Rights Strategy, UNICEF action will be fully integrated with governmental initiatives, including in the areas of protection and humanitarian action. UNICEF will play a major role in achieving UNDAF results, especially in the areas of mother/child survival and health, reproductive health and HIV/AIDS, nutrition, healthy environment, child development, primary education, protection, governance and local development, humanitarian action and the promotion of peace.

### **Relationship to international priorities**

33. The country programme is fully aligned with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Millennium Declaration, the Millennium Development Goals, and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Humanitarian action to protect children from the consequences of violence generated by illegal armed groups and humanitarian situations will also be guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its optional protocols, the UNICEF Core Commitments for Children in Emergencies (CCC), the Geneva Conventions on International Humanitarian Law and their protocols, the Ottawa Treaty on Landmines, the Statute of the International Criminal Court and the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council resolutions on the use of children as soldiers.

### **Programme components**

34. The 2008-2012 country programme, developed using a rights approach and results-based management framework, has four components: child survival and development; quality education, adolescent development and prevention of HIV/AIDS; protection and humanitarian action; and evidence-based public policies. Partners will include the Government, non-governmental organizations, civil society, the private sector, and community (including indigenous and Afro-Colombian), women's, youth, media and academic organizations, as well as United Nations agencies. All partners are listed in the results matrix.

35. **Component 1: child survival and development** will contribute to reducing maternal and infant mortality from preventable causes, including HIV/AIDS, and will foster early childhood development (ECD) and improvement in the nutritional situation of very young children — including attention given to anaemia and water and basic sanitation conditions — emphasizing internally displaced and other



vulnerable populations. It includes three subcomponents: health and nutrition; water, sanitation and hygiene, and ECD.

36. In **health and nutrition**, UNICEF will provide training and technical assistance to seven departments to implement the Women- and Child-Friendly Hospitals Initiative in at least 50 hospitals, aiming to provide quality, gender and ethnic-sensitive care in health and nutrition to 274,000 women of childbearing age (including pregnant and breast-feeding women) and 210,000 children under five. Technical assistance will be provided to Social Security System actors (health secretariats, public health insurance companies, hospital directors, among others), as well as to four departments, for preparing Food Security and Nutritional Plans in the framework of national policies, in partnership with Plan International, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). UNICEF will also participate in efforts to reduce anaemia and other micronutrient deficiencies.

37. In **water, sanitation and hygiene**, UNICEF will support national programmes, including “Home and well-being” to expand equitable and sustainable access to safe drinking water, sanitation, solid waste management and hygiene improvement in rural areas, including indigenous territories. Support will cover 14 departments,<sup>3</sup> 4.4 million children and 3.3 million women, providing technical assistance, and influencing policy, training, social mobilization and research. Counterparts include the Ministry of the Environment, the ICBF and sectoral institutions, regional and local institutions, the International Organization for Migration, PAHO, the United States Agency for International Development and the World Bank. Access to safe drinking water, sanitation and solid waste collection coverage in rural areas is expected to be increased by 10 per cent.

38. UNICEF will provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Education, the ICBF, and departmental and municipal entities to formulate and implement a national and local public policy guaranteeing early childhood education to 400,000 children under five during 2007-2010.<sup>4</sup> In addition, UNICEF will support integrated care and development for children under five by assisting local initiatives that promote family and community participation and use an ethnically and culturally sensitive approach.

39. **Component 2: quality education, adolescent development and prevention of HIV/AIDS** includes the three subcomponents named above. UNICEF will provide technical assistance to increase the content and quality of education to ensure that girls, boys and adolescents from vulnerable populations in the priority departments acquire skills for life, including HIV/AIDS prevention, citizenship skills, vocational training and increased respect for and exercise of human rights.

40. The **quality education** subcomponent focuses on technical assistance and advocacy for access by vulnerable children to quality and inclusive primary and secondary education, aiming to create opportunities that promote a culture of peace and respect for diversity. These efforts will contribute to the achievement of basic education and social and citizenship skills which will, in turn, help children to plan and implement life goals and to develop to their full potential. This subcomponent

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<sup>3</sup> Poorest populations, internally displaced, indigenous and Afro-Colombians.

<sup>4</sup> This figure corresponds to the goal set by the Colombian Government in its National Development Plan.

seeks to increase coverage and reduce repetition and dropout rates in primary and secondary education, scaling up successful initiatives that promote gender equality. Expected results in 11 priority departments include: (a) 100 per cent children complete primary and secondary education until 9<sup>th</sup> grade and at least 40 per cent of adolescents in eleven priority departments complete secondary education (until grade 11) that meets quality, pertinence, relevance and equality criteria; (b) In 11 priority departments, there is an increase in access of vulnerable children and adolescents to flexible learning opportunities, including in emergency situations.

41. In coordination with national policies and partners, the **adolescent development** subcomponent will focus on supporting and influencing adolescent public policies at all levels and articulating public investment. Adolescents (age 10-17) will be recognized (by themselves, families, schools, communities and the country as a whole) as agents promoting socioeconomic development and social cohesion in the country. The following results are expected: (a) 50 per cent adolescents in 11 priority departments have and apply knowledge on citizenship, peace, sexual and reproductive health including HIV/AIDS.; (b) 30 per cent of adolescents access sexual and reproductive health services and programmes for the prevention of pregnancy, addictions and violent behaviour; (c) Legislation and public policies for adolescents and youth in 11 priority departments are designed and implemented in a coordinated, appropriate and effective manner with the active participation of adolescents.

42. The **prevention of HIV/AIDS** subcomponent will support coordinated actions in education, health, protection and participation to promote sexual and reproductive health and reduce HIV/AIDS infection and adolescent pregnancy. Gender and racial/ethnic inequality will be addressed, since this contributes to the spread of the pandemic. UNICEF will also provide technical support to the implementation of the National HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan (2007-2011) through the United Nations Theme Group on HIV/AIDS. In specific departments with high HIV/AIDS prevalence, including those strongly affected by violence, UNICEF will support education and health programmes offering age-appropriate, and gender and culturally-sensitive sexual and reproductive health information, skills and services to reduce young people's risks and vulnerability to HIV and adolescent pregnancy. The participation of adolescents and the expansion of adolescent-friendly voluntary counselling and confidential testing services will be emphasized, as well as targeted interventions providing information and education to promote healthy habits and skills for life. Expected results in 11 priority departments include: (a) at least 70 per cent of pregnant women are taking an HIV test; and (b) the main health-service delivery institutions in 50 per cent of all departments will provide sexual and reproductive health services that are accessible and affordable and have personnel trained in the provision of services to adolescents.

43. **Component 3: protection and humanitarian action.** Within the framework of the humanitarian Inter-Agency Standing Committee, UNICEF will provide technical assistance to national and local institutions responsible for ensuring a gender-sensitive protective environment for children and adolescents affected by violence. The four subcomponents will focus on: (a) preventing the recruitment of children into illegal armed groups; (b) landmine risk education and care for victims; (c) protection of displaced and confined child populations; and (d) protection of children from violence, exploitation and abuse.

44. The **prevention of recruitment** subcomponent will promote the adoption of national public policies to prevent the recruitment of children and adolescents into illegal armed groups, and the strengthening of the National System for Family Welfare, responsible for providing assistance to support the reintegration of demobilized children and adolescents.

45. The **landmines** subcomponent will provide technical assistance to local and national strategies and policies for education on the risk of antipersonnel mines and UXO, and to those providing care for child and adolescent victims. The protection/displaced component will strengthen national and local capacity to guarantee the rights to survival, development and protection of children who are displaced or affected by humanitarian situations resulting from violence by illegal armed groups and from natural disasters, within the framework of the UNICEF CCC. This subcomponent will also strengthen national capacity to monitor grave violations of children's rights and infringements of international humanitarian law. The protection/violence subcomponent will provide technical assistance to strengthen national and local capacity to protect children and adolescents from violence, exploitation and abuse, in accordance with national policies, plans and programmes and the Child and Adolescent Code, and in line with the recommendations of the United Nations Secretary-General's Study on Violence against Children. Special attention will be paid to gender-based violence in all interventions. Technical assistance will also be provided to institutions responsible for implementing the new Child and Adolescent Code, with emphasis on creating a juvenile justice system. UNICEF will support ongoing efforts for the approval and implementation of new legislation to prevent violence against women and to eradicate child labour and commercial sexual exploitation. The implementation of timely birth registration will be promoted, focusing especially on vulnerable populations.

46. Expected results include: (a) a total of 95 per cent of children under one have civil birth registrations; (b) a total of 70 per cent of all children and adolescents demobilized from illegal armed groups have access to non-institutionalized programmes, allowing them to receive health, education, protection and reintegration services while living with their families; (c) 20,000 families and their communities develop capacities to prevent APM/UXO related accidents; (d) 80 per cent of all new civil victims of APM/UXO, their families and communities know their rights and access mechanisms to receive support and care; (e) 100 per cent of all adolescents in conflict with the law are judged under the juvenile justice system as established in the Child and Adolescent Code; (f) an increased number of adolescents in 11 priority departments have knowledge of their rights and develop skills for the prevention of violence, exploitation and abuse; (g) children and adolescents are protected by a legal framework that adequately penalizes sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children; (h) children and adolescents with disabilities are protected by an adequate legal framework that is in conformity with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and (i) public servants and members of society have increased knowledge of and comply with the Child and Adolescent Code; (j) 50 per cent of all children and adolescents affected by internal displacement and/or natural disasters access health, education and protection services.

47. **Component 4: evidence-based public policies** includes three subcomponents: knowledge management; monitoring and evaluation; public policies; and

communication and mobilization. Under this cross-cutting component, UNICEF will strengthen State and civil society commitment and capacity, at national and local levels, to child rights, poverty reduction and strengthened participation by children and adolescents. The component will promote more democratic relations in various contexts (family, school, community) in survival, development, protection and participation, and is expected to develop capacities for influencing the entire cycle of public policies by providing technical support to making child rights a priority in public policy and budgets.

48. **Knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation** will help generate and analyse disaggregated data, support participatory monitoring of the situation of children, including at community level, and will help to identify and systematize good practices and lessons learned. **Public policies** aims at using strategic information and data as a basis for formulating, implementing and evaluating effective public policies to implement child rights and the Millennium Development Goals, particularly among vulnerable populations. Technical assistance will be provided at the national and local levels to increase the amount, quality and equity of public social spending and the transparency of the budgeting process.

49. These strategies will be implemented in parallel with communication, social mobilization and private sector activities, grouped together in the **communication and mobilization** subcomponent. UNICEF will support key communication and social mobilization strategies to inform, advocate and mobilize the actions of governments, legislators, the judiciary, civil society, the media, the private sector and stakeholders, including children and adolescents, to ensure the priority of children in public policies.

50. UNICEF will promote the social responsibility of private sector and its involvement as a key actor in public policies affecting children. UNICEF will also work with mass media and advertising agencies to enhance their awareness of child and women's rights and enlist them as allies for child rights.

51. Expected results include: (a) children's rights are prioritized in public policies and social investment at the national, departmental and municipal levels; (b) all Departmental Development Plans (2008-2011) incorporate child rights and actions for their promotion and protection, along with the required budgetary resources; (c) a total of 60 per cent of the main childhood programmes, the Institutional Education Plans, and the Departmental Development Plans in 11 departments are designed and managed with the active participation of children and adolescents, and a national network of children and adolescents participation is formed to influence policy in areas that concern them; (d) public social spending for children is increased by 5 per cent in at least 11 departments; (e) in at least 11 departments, DevInfo is used to compile, analyse and disseminate data for monitoring the Millennium Development Goals and inform public policy; and (f) the number of businesses adopting Corporate Social Responsibility programmes on children and adolescents is increased.

#### **Cross-sectoral costs**

52. These will cover recurrent costs for activities supporting overall programme execution, including staff salaries and technical assistance, monitoring and evaluation-related travel, and office supplies.

### **Monitoring, evaluation and programme management**

53. The programme will be monitored through semi-annual and annual programme implementation reviews, as well as through regular field monitoring and periodic analyses with partners at all levels. All monitoring, research and evaluation activities will align with the UNDAF five-year Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, and an MTR will be performed jointly with the Government in 2010. Government counterparts will include Acción Social (the Presidential office responsible for international cooperation), the National Statistical Institute, sectoral Ministries, and local government and departmental planning offices.

54. As recommended in the 2005 MTR, UNICEF will give greater attention to internal monitoring and evaluation functions, including collecting and analysing disaggregated data, programme evaluation, and the periodic systematization of lessons learned. The new country programme will also focus on strengthening capacity at the local and national levels to generate data and to monitor and evaluate policies, plans and programmes regarding the rights of children and adolescents. UNICEF will provide technical support for the adoption of DevInfo at the departmental level.

55. As also recommended by the MTR (see paragraph 27), UNICEF will establish a decentralized field presence to strengthen programme implementation, monitoring, response to emergencies, access to rural communities and harmonization with other United Nations agencies in the field.

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