MTSP FOCUS AREA 5: RESULTS AND LESSONS LEARNED

Presented by the Division of Policy and Strategy, May 2012
A Changing World

- The global context for child survival and development is changing

- The food and the financial crises, together with climate change, rapid urbanization, demographic shifts and escalating numbers of humanitarian crisis threaten to thwart efforts at faster progress

Food Price Index:

Source: FAO

An Urban World:

Source: UNICEF SOWC
Focus Area 5: Policy Advocacy and Partnerships

Designed to strengthen the capacities of states and societies to design and implement policies that enable them to meet their obligations to children.
Turning Crisis into Opportunity

- The food price crisis and fiscal austerity measures threaten the well-being of children
- Deep inequalities both within and among countries marginalize millions
- Many children are excluded from the gains of economic and social progress
- Most of the poor live in middle-income countries - making the case for focusing on policy analysis, advice and advocacy even stronger.
Creating an enabling policy environment to achieve equitable development for children

- Currently, the organization is engaged in legal, institutional and sector policy reform in 124 countries
- The renewed emphasis on equitable development: advocacy and policy engagement are key strategies
- Recognition of the interaction of multiple deprivations on children and interventions to adequately address them
Creating an enabling policy environment to achieve equitable development for children (Cont.)

Social protection has emerged as a key response to address barriers to equitable access of services. UNICEF is engaged on social protection in 93 countries.
Identifying and Focusing on the Most Deprived and Vulnerable

- Data collection and analysis on the situation of children
  - Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) in more than 100 countries
  - Real-time monitoring to assess the impact of shocks on children, especially during crises
Identifying and Focusing on the Most Deprived and Vulnerable (Cont.)

Data collection through MICS and DHS are the primary source of disaggregated data.

**Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS)**

MICS provides data for 126 indicators which can be disaggregated by:

- geozones
- residence (urban, urban-poor, rural)
- gender
- education
- age
- wealth
- ethnicity/religion/language
- other stratifiers
- combinations of the above
India: 166 million people gained access to improved sanitation since 1995, but little progress has been made in the poorest households

Trends in the use of sanitation facilities, by household wealth quintile

Identifying and Focusing on the Most Deprived and Vulnerable (Cont.): Data Driven Reports

**UNICEF flagship publications**

- *Progress for Children: A report on millennium development goals*

**Sector-specific Reports**

- *Roll Back Sickle Cell*
- *Progress and SDGs*
- *Opportunity*

**Major global publications**

- *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2011*
- *Trends in Maternal Mortality: 1990 to 2010*
www.childinfo.org

Latest data on statistics for children and women updated and maintained.

- MICS information and reports
- Overview of trends and current status
- Disparity databases
- Country statistical profiles
- Data driven reports
Focusing on the Most Deprived and Vulnerable (Cont.)

Analytical work on multidimensional child poverty and disparities in 54 countries
UNICEF resources represent a modest share of total resources needed for children – leveraging is a key strategy.

UNICEF engages in social budgeting in 102 countries.
An example from Ghana: $38,700,000 leveraged for Children

UNICEF, DFID, and the WB partnered with the Govt. - 2012 allocation increased by 80%

Policy work is cost-effective

Tripling the value of the transfer is predicted to increase girls’ secondary school enrolment by 5.5 percentage points
Partnering with Children and Youth

- A fundamental right: participation of children and young people at all levels in policy development, and especially at the local level through their civic engagement.

- Three major lessons have emerged from this area of work.
  - Engagement at local level is essential
  - Inclusion of marginalized children and adolescents
  - Information and communications technology, and social media in particular, has become an increasingly important tool
Lessons Learned:

- Supporting sectoral programmes with greater investment in data work, social and economic policy analysis and strategic partnerships is a good way to maximize outcomes for children.

- Evidenced based advocacy has resulted in more public resources for children, and improved effectiveness of programmes.
Lessons Learned:

- Investing in economic and social policy work is cost-effective: examples of a return of 8-10 times the investment in terms of additional national public expenditure on children.

- The Importance of:
  - Strategic Partnerships – Working with other UN agencies, the International Financial Institutions, Civil Society Organizations.
  - Strengthened capacity - the number of economic and social policy officers increased from less than a dozen in 2004 to 64 in 2007 and rose to 173 in 2011.
  - Fostering Innovation and Knowledge Sharing
Challenges:

- Responding effectively to increasing demands
- Monitoring and Evaluation of Policy Advocacy work
- Emerging trends (climate change, extractive industries, urbanization, commodity prices, etc.)
- Closer integration with sectoral policy work
- Declining resources - FA5 Thematic Funds
The way forward: Investing in data, policy advocacy and partnerships for children

- Deepen understanding of childhood deprivation through enhanced collection, analysis and dissemination of data
- Continue to strengthen the policy advisory capacity of UNICEF, and its ability to provide technical support and advocacy
- Growing emphasis on advocating for child-friendly policies with a focus on the most disadvantaged. A particular area for attention and investment is social protection.
- Strengthen partnerships with Ministries of Finance, international financial institutions, statistical agencies and civil society organizations
- Maximize UNICEF’s unique comparative advantage