At the 2017 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), the overarching theme will be *Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world*. Additionally, Goal 1 on Ending Poverty in all its forms is one of six goals being examined in depth at the HLPF in 2017.

UNICEF is asking Country Offices in countries participating in a voluntary national review during the 2017 HLPF to get in touch with their national counterparts and encourage to include the following aspects in their respective reports:

- **Reaffirm their commitment to address child poverty**, as a key building block to build a more sustainable and prosperous future for everyone, and ensure no one is left behind;
- **Strengthen partnerships with the national statistics offices towards routinely measuring progress** towards ending child poverty in all its dimensions, and monitor the proportion of children living in monetary and multidimensional poverty;
- **Report progress on national action** to address child poverty through expanding quality social services towards the poorest and most vulnerable children and expanding child-sensitive social protection programmes.

**HEADLINE MESSAGES**

**Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere**

The new SDG Targets aim to end poverty in all its forms, everywhere by 2030, by:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target 1.1</th>
<th>Eradicate extreme poverty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target 1.2</td>
<td>Reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 1.3</td>
<td>Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, and achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

By focusing on children, national governments can address poverty at its root, and build the foundation for stronger, more sustainable and inclusive development.

- **For the first time, there is a global goal (SDG 1) to end extreme poverty, including for children, and halve the proportion of children living in poverty in all its dimensions.**
  This is especially important given that children represent a disproportionate proportion of the world’s poor\(^1\) – indeed, in nearly every country in the world, children are more likely to live in poverty than any other group.

- **Child poverty is a challenge in richer and poorer countries.**
  The goals underline the universal nature of the challenge: child poverty isn’t just a problem in poor countries – but an issue that faces all societies, and must bind us, globally.

- **Children growing up in poverty face an uncertain and challenging future**
  The consequences of growing up with inadequate nutrition, poor healthcare, water or sanitation, and without going to school can and often have long-term consequences for children. They lead to growing deficits that cannot be overcome later, creating and sustaining poverty for generations to come.
• **It is possible to end poverty, by focusing on children.**

  When children grow up free from deprivation and want, their countries are more likely to experience economic growth and sustainable and equitable development. While contexts vary, experience shows that a core agenda for action to address child poverty includes regular data on child poverty, improving access to quality social services, expanding child-sensitive social protection, promoting a decent work and inclusive growth agenda.¹

**DISAGREGATED DATA COLLECTED FROM OFFICIAL STATISTICAL CHANNELS**

The SDG global indicators recommend the following indicators to be reported as part of national assessment towards the SDGs of direct relevance to children living in poverty:³

- Proportion of the children living on extreme poverty on less than US$1.90 a day (1.1.1)
- Proportion of children living below the national poverty line (1.2.1)
- Proportion of children living in multidimensional poverty, according to national definitions (1.2.2)

For these indicators, data is available for less than 50% of all countries and there are no relevant stratifiers currently available (location, wealth, age, sex, other). Extensive support is required to ensure children, especially the poorest, are counted.⁴

**FINANCING STATISTICS, SOCIAL SPENDING AND PROGRESS ON RESULTS FOR CHILDREN**

In addition, countries are encouraged to report on the following indicators to evaluate progress on national action to address childhood poverty:

- Percentage of the population covered by social protection systems, disaggregated by sex, and distinguishing children (Indicator 1.3.1)
- Spending on essential services (education, health and social protection) as a percentage of total government spending (Indicator 1.a.2)

**AWARENESS-BUILDING & PARTICIPATION, ESPECIALLY AMONG CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS**

**UNICEF encourages national partners to involve children**, especially the poorest and most vulnerable, in national processes regarding the review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through consultation and other participatory means and as part of ongoing efforts to: make children and youth aware of these issues, inspire their positive action and expand the space for their participation in accountability mechanisms and activities.

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³. List of global Sustainable Development Goal indicators, Adopted by the UN Statistical Commission at its forty-seventh session
⁴. Is Every Child Counted? Status of data for children in the SDGs.
⁵. Through initiatives like the World’s Largest Lesson and Comics Uniting Nations.