Knowledge for Children in Africa

2018 Publications Catalogue

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Foreword

Every year, UNICEF and partners generate a wealth of evidence on the situation of children in Africa. Knowledge and evidence are essential to informing the development, implementation, and monitoring of relevant policies and programmes for the realization of children's rights. To this end, UNICEF Regional Directors in Africa are pleased to present the 2018 edition of the Knowledge for Children in Africa Publications Catalogue.

The 2018 edition of the catalogue features 131 reports and studies on the situation of children, young people, and women in Africa. These publications represent the collective knowledge generated by UNICEF Country and Regional Offices during the year, and capture the work of UNICEF and partners to support the rights and well-being of children across the continent.

The publications cover a wide range of topics. Publications are listed under the following categories:

- Child Poverty
- Child Protection
- Child-Sensitive Social Protection
- Education and Early Childhood Development
- Financing for Development: Public Finance for Children
- HIV and AIDS
- Humanitarian Action, Resilience and Peacebuilding
- Maternal, Newborn and Child Health
- Nutrition
- Situation Analysis and Socioeconomic Development
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Many of the publications are, or will be, available online. The entry for each study or report includes a short description, as well as information on the authors and contributors, planned publication date, and contact details for obtaining additional information.

Evidence plays a critical role in shaping successful initiatives in support of children and women. We sincerely hope that you will find the publications listed in this catalogue to be a helpful resource for evidence-based decision making and programming.

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PART 1
Publications by Thematic Area

Child Poverty

Child Poverty in Angola: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA)

The 2014 National Population Census and the 2015–2016 Integrated Demographic and Health Survey/Inquérito de Indicadores Múltiplos e de Saúde (IIMS) have generated important new data for Angola. As the first significant update to national child indicators in nearly a decade, the IIMS revealed, among other things, important progress in reducing under-five mortality – from 145 per 1,000 live births in 2001–2005 to 68 per 1,000 live births in 2015–2016. At the same time, poverty data from the 2007 household survey is still widely used, despite being considerably outdated. Moreover, the measure relates only to monetary poverty and does not capture the multiple deprivations that children face.

The Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) study uses data from the recent census and Demographic and Health Survey to identify the type and degree of deprivations faced by Angola's children, and examines how those deprivations overlap and compound. This knowledge product can help prioritize social investments and their geographic and demographic focus as Angola commits to pursuing the Sustainable Development Goals.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Monitoring of progress on key indicators

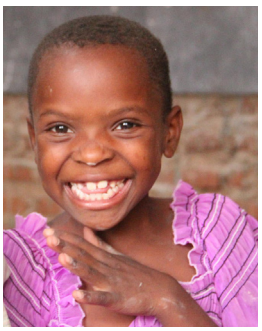
Child Poverty in Guinea: A National Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA)

Analyse nationale de la pauvreté et de la privation des enfants en Guinée

This Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) will examine the multiple dimensions of child deprivation in Guinea. The analysis, based on data from the 2016 Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) and Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), shows that around half (49.3 per cent) of children in Guinea are deprived in 4–8 dimensions, which include areas such as health, adequate housing, water and sanitation, education, and protection against violence.

Child poverty in all its dimensions is an indicator for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). All countries will be required to define multidimensional child poverty and track its evolution over the next 15 years. The Multidimensional Child Poverty Index can be used as the national measure to track child poverty over time. Expected findings include disparities among children from different geographic regions and socioeconomic groups.

The results of this child poverty study will be used (i) to provide a national baseline to measure future progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals related to child poverty reduction; (ii) to inform the planning processes of both Government and United Nations agencies; and (iii) to guide policy dialogue, advocacy and decision-making for more equity-focused and child-centred policies and programmes at national and decentralized level.



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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

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Child Poverty in Lesotho: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA)

Like many countries in Africa, Lesotho faces significant challenges related to persistent poverty. In 2014, 57 per cent of all households were estimated to live below the national poverty line. While it is believed that many children are affected by deprivations including undernutrition, HIV, limited access to schooling, and living without appropriate family care, there is no current evidence on the level and extent of all the deprivations that children in Lesotho face.

This study uses Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) to provide information on the current situation of children and the nature and extent of deprivations affecting children in the country. The knowledge generated will be used to prepare relevant policy recommendations and establish the empirical threshold for monitoring progress toward Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1, End poverty in all its forms everywhere, and specifically the child-related component of Target 1.2, By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.

The results of the study will help policy-makers and development partners understand the patterns of vulnerability affecting children and the extent and overlap of deprivations in areas such as nutrition, HIV, health, housing, protection against violence, sanitation, water, education, information, and registration. Findings and recommendations from the report will enable the Government and development partners to put in place policies and programmes that effectively address child poverty and deprivation in Lesotho.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Monitoring of progress on key indicators

Child Poverty in Mali: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA)

Pauvreté des enfants au Mali : une analyse du chevauchement des privations multiples

Mali has high levels of child poverty: in 2010, the national child deprivation rate was 50 per cent. It is expected that child poverty has increased following the 2012 political crisis. Recognizing the need for an up-to-date child poverty and deprivation analysis, UNICEF will be carrying out a Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) based on data obtained from the 2015 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS).

The results will provide a more accurate picture of the situation of child deprivation in the country, and will help inform the programming approach of both UNICEF and partners. The UNICEF Mali Country Office will use the analysis to reassess the priorities of its 2015–2019 country programme for 2018–2019.

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Policy dialogue

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Child Poverty in Rwanda: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA)

The Multidimensional Child Poverty study provides a comprehensive and nuanced picture of child poverty in Rwanda for the first time. In addition to deepening the understanding of the current context of child poverty, the study establishes a baseline for the multidimensional poverty target of the Sustainable Development Goals, which will help track child poverty in the country over time.

The study profiles the most vulnerable children in Rwanda, in particular those who are simultaneously deprived in several dimensions. It highlights the roles of the social sectors in addressing child poverty, and stresses the importance of scaling up multi-sectoral and integrated approaches to effectively address multidimensional child poverty.

The results of the study will be used to inform advocacy toward more equity-focused national policies and programmes, and will help orient the UNICEF country programme in Rwanda.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Monitoring of progress on key indicators

Sierra Leone Child Poverty Report

The Child Poverty Report examines the different dimensions of child poverty in Sierra Leone. Its findings in relation to child poverty at national and subnational levels will serve as a baseline for measuring multidimensional child poverty in Sierra Leone over time.

The report will help deepen the understanding of child poverty trends in the country and set the stage for the development of strategies and interventions to effectively reduce child poverty and deprivation. The report includes policy recommendations on reducing deprivation and improving children's well-being by sector, which aim to support the focus of national interventions to respond to the needs of children and contribute to reducing multidimensional child poverty in Sierra Leone.

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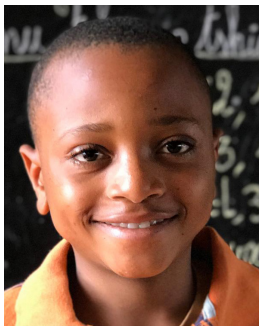
Policy dialogue

Monitoring of progress on key indicators

Child Poverty in South Africa: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA)

While income poverty remains an important yardstick, there is general consensus that poverty must be measured in all its different dimensions. This is why the UNICEF South Africa Country Office and the Government of the Republic of South Africa have identified Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) as a critical step in understanding poverty among children in different contexts and at different stages of their lives.

The results from the study will be used in targeting programmes to the needs of the most vulnerable children, and provide a benchmark for measuring progress in reducing income and non-income poverty as part of the commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The report, which is undertaken together with Statistics South Africa, will help Government departments, including Basic Education, Health, and Social Development, to better target their work to the needs of children in the country. It will also support the numerous civil society organizations representing children and working with children.



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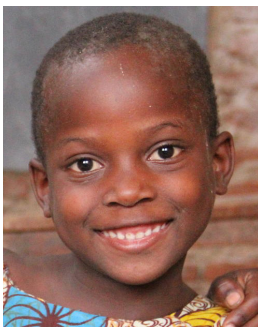
Policy dialogue

Monitoring of progress on key indicators

Child Poverty in Swaziland: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA)

Despite its middle-income status, Swaziland continues to be characterized by high levels of poverty and inequality, and a very high burden of HIV, which also affects child survival and development. While household poverty levels have improved slightly, from 69 per cent in 2007 to 63 per cent in 2010, these continue to be unacceptably high, and child poverty affects 70 per cent of children – and reaches 80 per cent for children who have lost both parents.

Recognizing the need for accurate data on the different aspects of child poverty and the multiple deprivations that children face in the country, this study will use the Multiple Overlapping Deprivations Analysis (MODA) methodology to provide evidence on the nature and scale of child poverty to help support the prioritization of children's needs in national development plans and budgets. This knowledge will also inform UNICEF and partners' programming in Swaziland, and provide a national baseline for Swaziland's efforts to meet the relevant Sustainable Development Goals.



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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Monitoring of progress on key indicators

Child Poverty and Deprivation Analysis in Humanitarian Contexts in Uganda

Uganda has a long history of hosting refugees from across the East African region. In 2017, the country experienced an unexpectedly large population influx. While the country has a welcoming asylum policy, restricted economic resources and limited technical capacity make it difficult to adequately support high numbers of new arrivals, and humanitarian efforts have helped meet the growing needs.

This study assesses poverty levels and service delivery in refugee and refugee-hosting areas in selected districts in Uganda. The overall aim was to compare child poverty and deprivation among refugee and host populations and to identify any significant inequalities or barriers in terms of effective delivery of social services to the populations. Primary data was obtained at the household and community level in Arua, Yumbe, Adjumani, Kamwenge, Isingiro, and Kampala districts. The survey conducted within the framework of this study was the first-ever attempt to use the consensual approach, which provides direct measures of deprivation, to compare multidimensional poverty among host and refugee communities in Uganda.

The research will contribute with evidence on the situation and vulnerability of both refugee and host communities, including those in urban areas, to help provide practical recommendations on areas such as resourcing, social protection, and programmatic responses to help equitably manage effective social service delivery for these communities.

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Policy dialogue

Monitoring of progress on key indicators

Child Poverty and Deprivation Analysis in Uganda (2 volumes: quantitative and qualitative)

Childhood poverty hampers children's health and development and adversely affects education outcomes and job prospects, frequently leading to a continued intergenerational cycle of poverty. Uganda's vision to become a middle-income country by 2040 is highly contingent on the Government's ability to safeguard the rights of children in the country. Children, who account for 57 per cent of the population, have the potential to transform the future of the nation. A healthy, educated and empowered young population will enable Uganda to reap an unprecedented demographic dividend.

In addition, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set an ambitious agenda for Uganda to reduce poverty in line with Goal 1, End poverty in all its forms everywhere, and specifically Target 1.2, By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.

The objective of this research is to provide a better understanding of child poverty in Uganda – beyond traditional measures which focus chiefly on income poverty. The analysis will expand the scope of routine poverty measures thanks to the integration of a deprivation-centred tool in the Uganda National Household Survey to provide a picture of key areas of deprivation facing children in Uganda. The research will form a basis for actionable policy recommendations to help alleviate the burden of poverty on children in the country.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Monitoring of progress on key indicators

Child Protection

Determinants of Violence Against Women in Egypt

محددات العنف الزوجية ضد المرأة في مصر

Egypt was among the lowest performing countries globally in terms of gender equality in 2015, and the country ranked 134th among 144 countries in the Global Gender Gap Report 2017. Gender-based violence is widespread. A 2015 survey by the national Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics in Egypt (CAPMAS) reported that a third of Egyptian women had been subject to violence at least once.

While a number of reports and studies show high prevalence of violence against women, few focus on the determinants of such violence. This study uses secondary analysis of available data to analyze the main determinants of domestic violence against women. Domestic violence committed by husbands against their wives will be the focus of the study, which will look at demographic, psychological, economic, and social determinants of violence against women in the home. This is expected to help policy-makers and social scientists to better understand patterns of violence, and help shape policy responses to reduce the prevalence of domestic violence in Egypt.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Determinants of Violent Disciplinary Practices Against Children in Egypt

محددات الممارسات التأديبية العنيفة لضبط سلوك الأطفال في مصر

The methods used by parents and caregivers when bringing up children have profound effects on their development and well-being. While nonviolent disciplinary practices have been proven to be more effective than violent approaches, 93 per cent of children in Egypt are subject to violent methods of discipline.

The purpose of this study is to examine the demographic, economic, and social determinants of the use of violent disciplinary practices by parents and/or caregivers based Egypt Demographic and Health Survey 2014 data. The study will provide a number or recommendations on supporting and educating families to implement more positive methods of child discipline, including through:

- Providing psychological support to families which practice violent methods against their children;
- Directing more in-depth studies to examine the disciplinary practices of parents towards their children;
- Educate families about positive disciplinary methods;
- Strengthening legal frameworks to prevent and respond to violence against children;
- Encourage media campaigns to raise awareness of children's rights, activate the role of child rights committees and prepare intervention programmes that begin with the most risk variables that are consistent with the high likelihood of children being subjected to violent punishment.

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Advocacy

Inform programmes

Policy dialogue

Formative Research on Child Marriage in Eritrea

Despite a legal minimum age requirement for marriage set at 18 for both girls and boys, child marriage continues to be practiced widely across communities in Eritrea. The Eritrea Population and Health Survey (EPHS) 2010 reported that among married women aged 20–24, 13 per cent were married by age 15, 41 per cent by age 18, and 62 per cent by age 20.

The purpose of the study is to help understand key drivers of child marriage in the Eritrean context and the social, psychological and economic consequences of the practice. The report prescribes a set of strategies and interventions which can help stakeholders run programmes to effectively influence the attitudes and beliefs of communities to help stop the practice of child marriage in Eritrea.

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Inform programmes

Advocacy

National Assessment of the Situation of Justice for Children in Ethiopia

This report analyses procedures and practices relating to treatment of children in contact with the law in Ethiopia. It aims to assess whether current practices adequately reflect international standards for justice for children.

The report identifies promising practices, challenges and gaps and includes concrete recommendations to address issues at the policy, strategic, legislative, and programmatic levels. The findings will help improve development, prioritization and coordination of initiatives aimed at strengthening the ability of the Government to protect children in contact with the law.

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Advocacy

Inform programmes

Policy dialogue

Study of Sociocultural Determinants for the Adoption of Essential Family Practices for UNICEF in Madagascar

This guide proposes a novel methodological approach to researching the social and cultural factors that influence the adoption of essential family practices (EFPs). It argues for a combination of two methodologies: classic ethnographic participant observation to reveal issues of economy and social structure, complemented by Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) to reveal deeper psychological motivations and affective orientations to essential family practices. The research uses the essential family practice of exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of life to illustrate how the two methods combined can help bring about behaviour change at both the individual and social levels.

The guide uses an ethnography of communication approach to identify key influencers, trusted communication modes, and/or channels and strategies for reaching marginalized or isolated communities. It also takes a pragmatic approach to culture as something that can be leveraged to support behaviour change. The publication is intended for a global audience of Communication for Development (C4D) practitioners and theorists interested in innovative approaches to C4D programming.

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Methodological tool

Study of Violence Against Children in Madagascar

In the area of Child Protection, UNICEF has committed to supporting the Government of Madagascar to strengthen the child protection system through the development of a national policy and legal framework to better protect the children of Madagascar from all forms of violence and exploitation.

This study analyses the overall situation and determinants of violence against children in Madagascar. There is a particular focus on the knowledge and perceptions of communities, parents, and children regarding violence against children. The study also examines victims' access to, and utilization of, existing protection mechanisms and structures.

The study complements the wealth of child protection data obtained through the National Survey on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 2012–2013 to paint a comprehensive picture of violence against children for informed advocacy and programming. The findings and recommendations will inform the national child protection policy, legislation, and child protection programmes.

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Advocacy

Inform programmes

Policy dialogue

Violence Against Children and Youth Survey in Rwanda

Recognizing the disastrous long-term impact of violence against children and young people, the Government of Rwanda commissioned a national survey of over 2,000 children and young people to understand the scale and nature of the problem.

The study provides a comprehensive picture of the multiple forms of violence — emotional, physical and sexual — that children and young people experience in Rwanda. The results will inform the National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Children and Youth in Rwanda, including steps to prevent and effectively respond to violence. The survey findings will also form a platform from which to advocate for increased resources to tackle violence against children and youth.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Monitoring of progress on key indicators

Evaluating the Communities Care Programme: Best Practice for Rigorous Research to Evaluate Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Response Programmes in Humanitarian Settings

To create safer communities for women and girls in humanitarian settings, UNICEF has been piloting the Communities Care (CC) programme in South Sudan and Somalia since 2013, in partnership with non-governmental organizations. The programme aims to strengthen support for survivors of sexual violence, and transform harmful social norms that contribute to gender-based violence (GBV) and gender inequality. The process of shifting social norms used in the CC approach involves the collaboration of key decision-makers and community members of both genders to recognize that the entire community benefits from healthier and safer communities where all members enjoy their right to live free from violence.

This research demonstrates that the CC programme has contributed to changes in individual behaviours, collective practices, and widely held beliefs which contribute to gender-based violence. The publication will support replication in other communities across South Sudan and Somalia and will help gain visibility for the programme. The results shows that this is an example of good practice and can be used as global model for promoting positive social norms and significantly reducing the incidence of gender-based violence.

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Advocacy

Monitoring of progress on key indicators

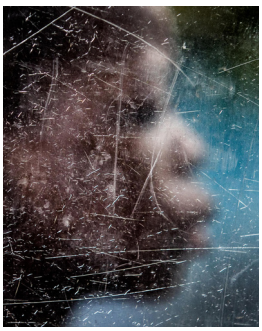
Inform programmes

Violence Against Children in Uganda

The Violence Against Children Survey was commissioned to provide a comprehensive baseline report detailing children's experiences of violence in Uganda. The survey collects data on the prevalence, drivers, and consequences of violence against children to better inform policies and programming aimed at protecting children from all forms of violence and exploitation. The survey is also the first to provide data at the subnational level, which helps facilitate more targeted programme implementation.

The survey includes specific information detailing the violence – sexual, physical, and emotional – that children and young people have experienced in Uganda. This includes overall data on the prevalence of each type of violence, the time and place of the described incidents, the identity of the perpetrators, any health and behavioural consequences resulting from the violence, as well as knowledge and uptake of existing services. The document also extends to related topics, including the overlap between different types of violence, sexual risk taking behaviours of children and youth, knowledge of HIV and testing services, and attitudes toward gender and intimate partner violence.

The results of the survey and its recommendations will be used to strengthen the national child protection policy, legislation, and child protection programmes.



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Inform programmes

Policy dialogue

An Assessment of Case Management Systems for Improved Access to Basic Social Services for Vulnerable Children and Adolescents in Zambia

This assessment focuses on case management systems among social service providers in Lusaka and Copperbelt provinces in Zambia, with a view to developing an integrated case management system. The study examines existing case management systems and processes related to child and family welfare services at national and subnational level, and provides a roadmap and monitoring plan for integrating case management systems.

This focus of the study is specifically on children who receive, or should receive, individual attention within their family situation. The review also provides insight into gaps and opportunities when it comes to integration of a wide array of services, including in the areas of health, nutrition and food security, education, social protection and social welfare, disability support, psychosocial services, community deve lopment, and justice and policing. The assessment examines existing processes for coordination among different technical sectors and how they ensure that children's needs for care, protection, support and services are met, and provides recommendations on how services can be strengthened to create a comprehensive national integrated case management system for child and family well-being.

The findings of this study will inform the priorities and design of a national case management system, with a view to improving the response for children who have been identified as being at risk, or who have been exposed to abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

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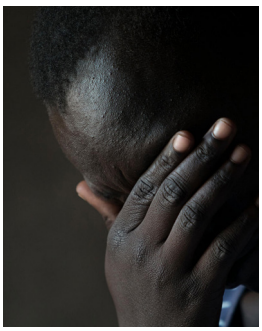
Inform programmes

Care and Protection of Children in the West African Ebola Virus Disease Epidemic: Lessons Learned for Future Public Health Emergencies

This document highlights key lessons learned from the child protection response to the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) epidemic in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. The humanitarian response to EVD exposed weaknesses and gaps in previously established norms for emergency response. There is a need for these findings to be published to ensure that future public health responses build on this knowledge, particularly in terms of linking the child protection and health system response from the outset. The lessons learned point to a set of preparedness actions that can be used as mitigation measures in case of future epidemics.

The report stresses the importance of not separating the health aspect of the response from other programmatic responses during an epidemic, and underlines the need to take measures to ensure a child rights focus is present throughout the response. The role of community dialogue and engagement as a critical component for children's survival, development, and protection is also emphasized.



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Advocacy

Inform programmes

Policy dialogue

Child-Sensitive Social Protection

Accelerating Maternal and Child Survival in Kakamega County, Kenya - Impact Evaluation for Setting the Foundation in the First 1,000 Days of Life

The Imarisha Afya Ya Mama na Mtoto programme is a cash-plus programme implemented in 25 of 150 health facilities in Kakamega County since 2014. The programme aims to support healthy pregnancies and development of children during the first 1,000 days of life by: increasing coverage of skilled attendants during childbirth; reducing maternal and under-five mortality; reducing mother-to-child transmission of HIV; and improving the nutrition status of children under 2 years of age. The programme is targeted to pregnant women who are living in poverty, are under 18 years of age, or are living with HIV. The women receive a payment of KSh 2,000 (US$20) for each of 6 key points of contact with the health facility, beginning with the antenatal appointment, and ending when the child reaches 18 months of age.

The end-line survey complements the baseline carried out in 2015–2016 among 769 mothers who were programme beneficiaries and 134 who were not. The impact evaluation aims to assess whether this cash-plus programme achieved its objective of improving health outcomes for mothers and children. The findings will be used to refine the existing programme and support replication in other locations in Kenya.

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Inform programmes

Policy dialogue

Kenya Social Protection Sector Review

The Government of Kenya has introduced various social protection intervention programmes to address poverty among the most vulnerable population groups. A 2011–2012 sector review noted that the sector was still relatively small and dominated by a few larger programmes, including General Food Distribution (GFD), the Civil Service Pension (CSP), the National Social Security Fund (NSSF), and the National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF). In addition, few social assistance schemes offered regular and predictable cash transfers which were not significant in alleviating poverty.

The Government's Social Protection Sector Investment Plan 2017–2030 calls for increased investment in social protection to reduce economic and social vulnerability, and for improved coordination and collaboration across the various components of the social protection system to increase efficiency.

This Social Protection Sector Review examines the country's social protection sector, focusing specifically on the various programmes and schemes in operation, any gaps in coverage, and the effectiveness of links and coordination mechanisms between existing programmes. The findings will inform policy decisions about the future direction of social protection interventions in Kenya, including in the areas of financing, coverage and access, delivery, governance, performance, accountability, and sustainability.

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Policy dialogue

State of Social Protection in the West and Central Africa Region

Etat de la Protection Sociale dans la région de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre

Over the past decade, the countries of West and Central Africa have strengthened their focus on social protection. Key areas of progress include adoption of policy documents, implementation of reforms in areas such as universal health coverage, and embarking on large social cash transfer programmes.

This study aims to take stock of social protection activities, mechanisms and tools being applied in countries in the region. The findings will help inform national and regional social protection actions and policies, including those within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Education and Early Childhood Development

Qualitative Study on Out-of-School Children in Algeria

Etude qualitative sur les enfants non scolarisés

This study is based on a small-scale qualitative survey carried out among children who have dropped out of school and among those who are at high risk of dropping out. The findings aim to complement existing data on out-of-school children in Algeria, including that from the national census and public administration sources and the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS). The aim of the study is to improve understanding of the factors that force children to drop out of school and to develop response measures to school failure and dropout through appropriate mechanisms.

The study is part of the national education programme and its findings will be used to develop appropriate response measures to encourage children to stay in, or return to, school.

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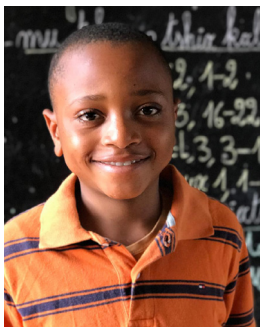
Inform programmes

Final Evaluation of the Unleash the Potential of Children Project in Benin

Evaluation finale du projet « libérer le potentiel des enfants » au Benin

Preschool education opportunities in Benin are mostly found in urban areas, and reach approximately 14 per cent of the target population. The "Unleash the potential of children" project, which is part of a partnership between the H&M Conscious Foundation and UNICEF, has helped to scale up community kindergartens and 'childhood spaces' for children between 3 and 5 years of age in rural and underserved areas.

This evaluation will identify good practices and lessons learned from the project which can be used to guide the strategic direction of the programme going forward. The findings will be used to improve the design and performance of this and similar programmes during the next programme cycle.



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Inform programmes

Study on Out-of-School Children in Cameroon

L'étude sur les enfants en dehors des milieux scolaires

The main aim of this study is to enhance understanding of why some children are out of school in the country, specifically: the distribution of out-of-school children across Cameroon, major reasons for children dropping out of school, and mechanisms which would support vulnerable families to continue sending children to school.

The findings will be used by the Government and key education stakeholders to develop appropriate response measures to encourage children to stay in, or return to, school.

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Inform programmes

Evaluation Report: UNICEF Child-Friendly Schools Construction Component in Malawi

The Child-Friendly Schools concept was introduced in Malawi in 2011–2012 and is being implemented by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology in partnership with the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO), Association of Christian Educators in Malawi (ACEM), and Creative Centre for Community Mobilization (CRECCOM), among others. The UNICEF School Construction Component of the Child-Friendly Schools programme aims to support adherence to child-friendly principles in building design and construction of schools, helping to improve access and quality of education through the provision of more child-friendly spaces.

This evaluation of the CFS School Construction Component seeks to answer several questions corresponding to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) criteria of efficiency, effectiveness, relevance, sustainability, and impact. The findings will support effective approaches to construction of child-friendly schools in Malawi and beyond.

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Inform programmes

Study on the Reasons for School Drop-Out and Profile of Out-of-School Children Aged 6–14 Years in Mauritania

Étude sur les motifs de non scolarisation ou déscolarisation et le profil des enfants hors de l'école âgés de 6–14 ans en Mauritanie

According to Mauritania MICS data for 2015, the proportion of children in the 6–15 age group who are not attending school is 21.6 per cent (204,863 children) – disaggregated into 17.2 per cent (162,830 children) who have never attended school, and 4.4 per cent (42,033 children) who had enrolled in school but dropped out of the system.

This study uses in-depth data analysis to better understand the reasons for children not attending school or dropping out of school. The study provides an evidence base on the issue with the aim of refining strategies and approaches to effectively increase school attendance among children and young people in Mauritania.

The study will be disseminated both at the central level and in the country's regions through workshops. It is hoped that the findings will help tailor appropriate policies and programmes to improve access to education in Mauritania.

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Policy dialogue

Inform programmes

Qualitative Study on Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices Related to Interactions Between Caregivers and Children up to 2 Years in Mozambique

Strong and supportive caregiver–child relationships are central to nurturing child development, and help make children more resilient to adverse life experiences, including the negative effects of poverty.

The aim of this study is to examine the interaction between primary caregivers and children in their first 1,000 days of life in selected districts of Nampula, Tete and Zambezia provinces of Mozambique.

The study is expected to provide information on primary caregivers' knowledge, attitudes, and practices in relation to the care of infants. Specifically, the study will address the following topics: myths and taboos, pregnancy, early childhood, chronic and acute malnutrition, caregiver roles and responsibilities, and birth registration.

The findings and recommendations of this study will help to enhance understanding of the strengths and risk factors relating to care of children in the early years in Mozambique, and will be used to inform design of Communication for Development (C4D) and Early Childhood Development (ECD) programmes, particularly around parenting education.

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Inform programmes

Comprehensive Review of National Examinations and the Assessment System of the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture of Namibia

Over the past two decades, Namibia has undertaken a range of education sector reforms to redress inequalities resulting from discriminatory policies of the past, and to fulfil its constitutional obligation of ensuring the right to education for all citizens. Thanks to this high-level commitment to education, the country has nearly achieved its goal of universal primary education, with 85 per cent of children who begin primary school continuing to lower secondary education (grade 8). Namibia has also recognized the importance of removing financial barriers to education and has successfully eliminated gender disparity in access to education at all levels.

At the same time, despite considerable financial investment, educational outcomes continue to lag behind: a number of studies indicate low levels of literacy and numeracy skills among learners, and national examinations produce consistently poor results.

This comprehensive review of the examinations system has been undertaken to assess the system's efficiency, effectiveness and quality in terms of outcomes for children. The study enhances understanding of the challenges and bottlenecks which contribute to low learning outcomes for learners, and helps identify examples of impactful interventions and best practices which can enhance learning outcomes.

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Inform programmes

Measuring School Readiness Amongst Preprimary School Children in Namibia

In 2010, the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture of Namibia introduced a school readiness assessment tool to gauge the impact of the country's preprimary education programme. The tool focused on evaluating the level of preparation for formal schooling among children who attended preprimary education. The tool was also used to help improve preprimary education services through in-service training and support for preprimary school teachers.

The Ministry has discontinued the use of this tool due to its narrow focus on curriculum implementation over the learner's holistic development at the level of her or his age group. The focus of the current school readiness assessment will be to evaluate whether a child's cognitive, social, and emotional development is within the range expected for children of a given age group.

The findings of this report will be used by education planners, curriculum developers and trainers of educators in the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, to help improve the school readiness tool and to better prepare preprimary-level teachers to support holistic child development.

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Inform programmes

Methodological tool

Participatory Rapid Assessment of Integrated Early Childhood Development Programmes among San Communities in Namibia

Since Namibia's independence in 1990, an ever-growing political, policy and programmatic focus has been given to Early Childhood Development (ECD) and vulnerable children, particularly those from the marginalized San and Ovahimba populations. San communities in Namibia have high rates of poverty and vulnerability, and the literacy and school enrolment rates are around half those of all other language groups in Namibia. Many children drop out of school and less than 2 per cent of learners enrolling in Grade 1 make it through to senior secondary school – seven times less than the Namibian average.

This assessment aims to provide recommendations on how to improve access to integrated early childhood development (IECD) services for children from San communities, with the aim of increasing uptake of preprimary and basic education. The study will detail key challenges and barriers currently hindering access to IECD services, and provide evidence to inform policies and future programme design to benefit the most vulnerable children in Namibia.

The findings will be used by education policy makers, planners, and service providers and help allocate resources to effectively address the needs of the most vulnerable communities in Namibia.

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Advocacy

Inform programmes

Policy dialogue

Situation Analysis, Regional Profiles and a Sector Plan for Basic Education in Namibia

Over the past two decades, Namibia has undertaken a range of education sector reforms to redress inequalities resulting from discriminatory policies of the past, and to fulfil its constitutional obligation of ensuring the right to education for all citizens. Thanks to this high-level commitment to education, the country has nearly achieved its goal of universal primary education, with 85 per cent of children who begin primary school continuing to lower secondary education (grade 8). Namibia has also successfully eliminated gender disparity in access to education at all levels.

Despite all the provisions, recent reports show that there are still inequities in the provision of quality education in Namibia and high disparities in education access, promotion and completion rates.

To obtain an accurate picture of the current situation, a Situation Analysis and Regional Education Profiles for Basic Education in Namibia have been compiled using the latest Education Information Management System data. This process informed the development of the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture Strategic Plan 2017–2022.

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Inform programmes

Trends in Basic Education Learning Outcomes and Academic Performance: The Story of Namibia

Over the past two decades, Namibia has undertaken a range of education sector reforms to address inequalities resulting from discriminatory policies of the past, and to fulfil its constitutional obligation of ensuring the right to education for all citizens. Thanks to this high-level commitment to education, the country has nearly achieved its goal of universal primary education, with 85 per cent of children who begin primary school continuing to lower secondary education (grade 8). Namibia has also recognized the importance of removing financial barriers to education and has successfully eliminated gender disparity in access to education at all levels.

At the same time, despite considerable financial investment, educational outcomes continue to lag behind: a number of studies indicate low levels of literacy and numeracy skills among learners, and national examinations produce consistently poor results.

This publication includes a comprehensive trend analysis on outcomes of several high-stakes examinations and assessments in Namibia. The analysis will identify patterns in overall learner performance across all grades at the subnational and national level, as well as looking at additional factors, including age, sex, location, language, repetition rates, and drop-out rates.

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Advocacy

Monitoring progress on key indicators

Policy dialogue

Republic of The Gambia Early Learning Assessment

As part of a region-wide initiative, an Early Learning Assessment (ELA) was carried out in the Republic of The Gambia in 2017. The official validation of results took place in Banjul in April 2018.

Prior to this assessment, there had been little in the way of evidence on the quality of preschool services and their impact on school readiness in the country. The purpose of the ELA was to fill this gap and provide empirical and contextualized evidence on the quality of different types of existing early years services and the impact of pre-primare attendance on school readiness. The findings will inform specific policies and action plans relating to preprimary education, and is particularly timely given the Government's recent commitment to expanding preschool education.

The study highlights important quality challenges, which will be taken into account in plans to strengthen the quality of existent preprimary services in the country, including through the review of preschool curricula, teachers' profiles, and available training and support. The study will also be instrumental when it comes to defining minimum criteria for service quality.

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Inform programmes

Impact Evaluation of Play-Based Early Learning and Development Through the UNICEF Early Childhood Development (ECD) Kit: Senegal case study in the overall evaluation of the UNICEF Early Childhood Development Kit

Évaluation de l'impact de l'apprentissage et du développement précoce axés sur le jeu dans le cadre du Kit de développement de la petite enfance de l'UNICEF (étude de cas du Sénégal dans l'évaluation globale du Kit de développement de la petite enfance de l'UNICEF)

Play and play-based learning is recognized as an important aspect of a child's development, which should be supported in early learning settings. Additional factors contributing to children reaching their potential in the early stages include health and adequate nutrition, appropriate care and stimulation practices, and a sense of safety. This evaluation focuses on an intervention in a post-conflict development setting characterized by extreme poverty, high prevalence of malnutrition, high morbidity, and limited hygiene and sanitation practices, where preschool infrastructure is often temporary, and teachers lack formal training.

The purpose of this independent evaluation is to assess the impact of Early Childhood Development (ECD) Kit interventions on children's socio-emotional, cognitive, literacy, and motor skills as well as psychosocial well-being within a post-conflict development setting. The evaluation also seeks to gauge the relevance, appropriateness, and effectiveness of ECD Kit interventions in improving interactions between (institutional and primary) caregivers and children. The results will inform UNICEF and the Government of the relevance of continuing to invest in the acquisition of these kits for the well-being of the child.

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Inform programmes

Measuring Early Learning Quality and Outcomes (MELQO) in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar

The United Republic of Tanzania is one of the first countries to implement a national Measuring Early Learning and Quality Outcomes (MELQO) study. The project assesses the level of preparedness of children who have completed preprimary education to progress to school (Standard I) and is being implemented in both Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

The study provides a national snapshot of the quality and learning outcomes of preprimary education, with a view to improving the quality of early childhood education thanks to reliable measurements of children's development and learning, and the quality of their learning environments. The study, which is part of a global initiative, will help to support policy decisions on early learning in the United Republic of Tanzania, and will also provide a set of internationally comparable findings in this field.

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Methodological tool

Policy dialogue

Monitoring progress on key indicators

10 Education Think Pieces

UNICEF has commissioned a series of 10 Think Pieces by leading researchers and practitioners to stimulate debate around significant educational challenges facing countries in Eastern and Southern Africa. These short technical education briefs cover a range of topics, including: pre-primary education, teacher performance, curriculum reform, gender and equity, and the role of parents and caregivers.

While the briefs are rooted in evidence, they are not research papers, and nor do they represent official UNICEF policy. The Think Pieces, which will be published on the global UNICEF blog, aim to engage and inspire fresh thinking to improve learning outcomes for all children.

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https://blogs.unicef.org/blog/girls-education-improving-not-all/
https://www.unicef.org/esaro/EducationThinkPieces_1_GirlsEducation.pdf

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Advocacy

Availability and Institutional Mechanisms Relating to Koranic and Islamic education: Mapping Institutional Mechanisms and UNICEF Interventions on Koranic Education in West and Central African Countries

État des lieux sur l'offre et les mécanismes institutionnels relatifs à l'éducation coranique et à l'enseignement islamique. Cartographie des mécanismes institutionnels et des interventions de l'UNICEF sur l'éducation coranique dans les pays d'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre

This research recognizes the importance of Koranic education in many countries of West and Central Africa, and aims to enhance understanding of this education subsector and potential opportunities for UNICEF involvement in this area of programming.

Research on Koranic education has been conducted in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of The Gambia, and Senegal. The research consists of 14 individual country reports, presenting a mapping of Koranic learning opportunities in each country, and a regional report focusing on institutional mechanisms and UNICEF involvement in the area of Koranic education in the region.

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Inform programmes

Policy dialogue

Opportunities and Challenges of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) in Education in Sub-Saharan Africa

Digital technology has permeated nearly every aspect of our lives: it influences how we manage our money, how we get our news, how we connect with friends and family. Technology also has great potential to support education. There's a growing appetite for education technologies (edtech), with global investment in this area set to reach US$252 billion by 2020.

In this context, UNICEF Country Offices are increasingly investing in projects using information and communications technology (ICT) in education, as well as advising national bodies and forging new partnerships in this area.

Given the great potential, fast pace of change, multiple opportunities, and weak evidence base on ICT in education, UNICEF Regional Offices in Eastern and Southern and West and Central Africa commissioned research to guide Country Offices in their investments, advice, and partnerships related to ICT in education. The resulting report, developed by the Aga Khan Foundation and London-based social think tank Innovation Unit, draws on existing literature, global studies, and Country Office interviews to arrive at important insights to guide UNICEF work on ICT and education. The findings will support UNICEF offices to make value-for-money investments in ICT in the context of education programmes, help guide UNICEF in its advisory role, and provide context for choosing the right technology companies for meaningful partnerships for children.

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Advocacy

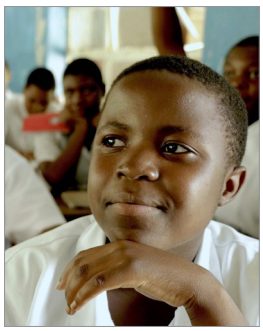
Policy dialogue

Protective Learning Environment in Burkina Faso and in the Lake Chad Basin (Regional Field Study)

Since 2016, the Ministries of Education in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria have promoted conflict sensitivity and disaster risk reduction activities at school level. The aim has been to improve the safety of the environment and protect children against security threats and incidents on school premises, particularly in conflict zones. Teachers and school administrators have worked with students and community child protection focal points to carry out risk assessments using an umbrella methodology designed by the UNICEF West and Central Africa Regional Office. This includes conducting a vulnerability mapping for the school, and looking for affordable solutions within community networks to render schools more resilient to hazards.

The purpose of this study is to provide a baseline on the perceptions of safety and disaster risk reduction knowledge among students, teachers and parents in selected schools in contexts of high insecurity.

The study will generate evidence on the effectiveness of conflict sensitivity and disaster risk reduction activities in schools, which will be used to inform future education sector investments in disaster risk reduction and 'safe school' initiatives. It will also help respond to questions related to resilience in education policies, risk-informed programming in education, and the humanitarian–development nexus.



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Policy dialogue

Inform programmes

Time to Teach

Teacher absenteeism is a significant problem in the education system in many countries of West and Central Africa. It is estimated that the loss of teaching hours due to absenteeism amounts to a waste of approximately 46 cents in every dollar invested in education – equivalent to a loss of approximately 1–3 per cent of GDP every year. It is clear that tackling teacher absenteeism and improving teacher's motivation to teach can make a significant impact on learning quality and education outcomes.

The objective of the research is to develop a knowledge base on the issue of teacher attendance, in particular on the barriers and bottlenecks to teacher attendance and commitment, and strategies to overcome them. The report includes country-specific policy recommendations to improve teacher attendance and student learning outcomes.

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Policy dialogue

Financing for Development: Public Finance for Children

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Angola: 2018 Budget Briefs

Since 2016, UNICEF has been conducting annual analyses of the Government national budget proposal to highlight the scale of investments for children and advocate for increased allocations, or more efficient spending. These analyses were undertaken in collaboration with non-governmental organization (NGO) partners, including ADRA, Mosaico, and Open Society.

The publications are used to promote budget transparency and enhance understanding of the structure and nature of government spending on the social sectors, and the resulting impacts on children. Budget briefs serve as useful entry points for conversation with social sector line Ministries cover key sectors such as Health, Education, Water and Sanitation, Social Protection, Justice and Birth Registration, as well as with the Ministries of Finance and of Planning, and with parliamentarians. Budget briefs are an important starting point for advocacy for increased and effective spending on children.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Botswana: 2018 Budget Briefs

Thematic budget briefs summarize data from budget reports in easy-to-read analyses of spending trends in key social sectors of importance to children and families, including education, healthcare and social protection. The briefs synthesize complex budget information and outline key message which stakeholders can use for advocacy to inform the financial decision-making processes of the Government.

Budget briefs analyse the size and composition of budget allocations for fiscal year 2018/2019 and explore the extent to which the national budget addresses the needs of children in Botswana. The briefs also examine the efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy of past spending.

When consolidated in this form, public budget information can be used by civil society, line Ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs also support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in the country.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Fiscal Space for Children: An Analysis of Options in Botswana

This report presents an analysis of the fiscal space available to the Government of Botswana to undertake and/or expand expenditure for a desired purpose – in this case, social services for children. The paper reviews the current situation and trends regarding government expenditure, revenues and financing, and outlines options that can potentially increase the fiscal space for prioritized child-focused spending, particularly in the areas of education, health, and social protection.

While Botswana's fiscal space is relatively unconstrained in the short term thanks to high fiscal revenues from diamond exports and a history of prudent public financial management, longer-term economic growth is uncertain due to the country's heavy reliance on the performance of the diamond sector.

The report uses projections and a set of illustrative scenarios to present options for the allocation of fiscal resources to areas that would most benefit children in order to identify areas where UNICEF can most effectively intervene to positively influence resource allocation decisions by Government in this country context.

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Advocacy

Methodological Tool

Policy dialogue

Study on National Budget Revenues and Fiscal Space for Children and Women in Burkina Faso

Etude sur les recettes budgétaires ordinaires et le potentiel fiscal en faveur de l'enfant et de la femme au Burkina Faso

Between 2008 and 2013, tax revenues in Burkina Faso rose from 11.9 per cent to 15.2 per cent of GDP, but Burkina Faso remained one of the least performing country after Togo, to comply with the convergence criteria regarding tax minimum threshold ratio of 17 per cent of GDP of set by the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA).

This study aims to explore the potential for increasing tax revenues to create more fiscal space for spending that benefits children and women, and reprioritizing spending on areas such as health and education to enhance equitable access to, and quality of, services.

The preliminary analysis informs the national development planning process and the macroeconomic framework of the National Programme for Economic and Social Development (PNDES). It will also serve as an important advocacy tool with the Government to establish a fiscal law in Burkina Faso, and led to the implementation of an action plan which is expected to increase resources for the National Fund for Social Protection.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Burundi: 2018 Budget Briefs

The Government of Burundi spends a significant portion of its budget on the social sectors, including Education, Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Nutrition, Child Protection, and Social Protection, which are crucial for the survival, development and protection of children. At the same time, large disparities continue to exist.

A series of concise budget briefs aims to provide a sector-by-sector analysis that has the potential to help improve the equity, effectiveness and efficiency of public expenditure on the social sectors. An analysis of the allocation of public expenditure can yield important insights on how Government spending contributes to reducing child poverty in its multiple dimensions. These budget briefs will help support advocacy to increase effective spending for children as part of the 2019 National Budget.

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Advocacy

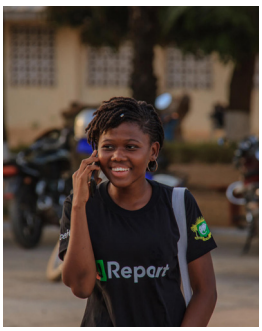
Policy dialogue

Investment Case for Adolescent Development in Burundi

With a population of over 11 million (2018) and a population density of 402.9 people per square kilometre, Burundi ranks 28th in the world and has the second highest population density in sub-Saharan Africa. Around a third of the country's people are between the ages of 15 and 24, and the number is expected to increase to 3.3 million by 2035. A recent study showed that young people in the country are less optimistic about their economic opportunities, more negative about the justice system, and less involved in politics as compared with the overall population. Without targeted efforts, youth unemployment, already a problem in the country, is likely to increase over time.

At the same time, the country's young people have great potential to contribute to the country's development and a surge in their numbers opens a possibility for a 'demographic dividend'. This research study focuses on the necessary investments in the country's adolescents that would enable Burundi to reap this dividend, and the cost of not doing so. Such efforts must be tailored to the needs of the adolescent population, and include a focus on education that equips young girls and boys with the skills necessary to thrive in the labour market, as well as support services which help young people to realize their full potential. These efforts will have a significant impact on the well-being of the whole population.

The publication will provide the evidence to support advocacy efforts with Government and key stakeholders to prioritize interventions for adolescents as a key area to secure a prosperous future for Burundi.



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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Public Expenditure Review in the Education Sector in Burundi

Burundi has made progress in improving access to primary education and has shown strong learning outcomes. However, limited fiscal space and the suspension of donor aid in response to the 2015 political crisis has considerably hampered the implementation of the Government's basic education reform. The education sector is severely underfunded while the population continues to increase.

Given severe budget constraints, there is an urgent need to prioritize the Programme sectoriel de développement de l'éducation et de la formation (PSDEF) Education Plan activities, identify areas of improvement in the efficient and effective use of education resources, and better understand the linkages between inputs and outcomes.

The Public Expenditure Review (PER) is based on a combination of quantitative fiscal and service delivery data, qualitative information collected in interviews with Government officials, NGOs, development partners, and private sector actors, and field visits to capture the views of those delivering public education services. Information from household surveys, econometric models and other relevant multivariable regression and qualitative assessment methods is also taken into account as part of the review.

The review seeks to assess: (i) the adequacy and sustainability of public spending in the education sector; (ii) the efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources; (iii) the equity of education expenditures and whether they protect the poor; and (iv) the key management and governance issues facing the education sector at decentralised level. The review provides policy recommendations to support advocacy efforts for greater effectiveness and equity in the education sector at a time of fiscal distress.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Comoros: 2018 Budget Briefs

Budget briefs summarize data from budget reports in easy-to-read analyses of spending trends in key social sectors of importance to children and families, including education, healthcare, child protection, and social protection. The briefs synthesize complex budget information and outline key message which stakeholders can use to support advocacy to inform the financial decision-making processes of the Government.

Budget briefs analyse the size and composition of budget allocations in the 2018 state budget and explore the extent to which the budget addresses the needs of children in Comoros. The briefs also examine the efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy of past spending.

When consolidated in this form, public budget information can be used by civil society, line Ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs also support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Comoros, and help foster engaged debate, which will be supported and coordinated by the Citizens' Initiative for Budget Transparency.

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Advocacy

Political Economy and Fiscal Space Analysis in Comoros

The political economy analysis uncovers the political and economic incentives in policy- and decision-making throughout the budget cycle. The research outlines principal stakeholders and the incentives that drive them as they prepare the budget and prioritize allocations to key social sectors. The study identifies concrete entry points and strategies that will allow UNICEF to more effectively influence public financial processes for children in Comoros.

The fiscal space analysis reviews the recent evolution of Government spending on priority sectors for children and tests different ways to scale up or improve the efficiency of investment. Through a fiscal space accounting framework, it looks at a wide menu of options to increase spending on priority sectors over the medium term, and then provides an in-depth assessment of the most feasible approaches.

The report is accompanied by an Excel-based model which can be updated by UNICEF and the Ministry of Finance as new data becomes available, so that additional financing options can be reviewed going forward. The report will be utilized by UNICEF to advocate with the Government and relevant ministries for strengthening public investment in children.

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Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Ethiopia: 2018 Budget Briefs

Since 2017, UNICEF has been conducting annual analyses of the Government of Ethiopia's national budget allocation and expenditure to highlight relevant investments for children and advocate for adequate allocations and financing as well as improved efficiency of spending. This analysis is conducted in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation.

On the basis of the 2018–2019 (Ethiopian Fiscal Year 2011) Federal State Budget proclamation and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve four main purposes: (i) promoting budget and public finance management literacy within civil society, the general public, social Ministries and regional authorities; (ii) analysis and monitoring of government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; (iii) informing advocacy, through key messages on changes in policy and financing; and (iv) strengthening UNICEF technical support to social Ministries for budget preparation and analysis in Ethiopia.

Budget briefs are important information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line Ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy and technical engagement for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Ethiopia.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Child-Focused Public Expenditure Measurement in Ethiopia

Children in Ethiopia have historically been exposed to a range of challenging circumstances, including insecurity, poverty, limited access to food and shelter, and constrained educational opportunities. A consistent focus on children's rights and welfare has led to improved outcomes in key areas such as access to certain health services, education and protection. An open, inclusive and accountable national budget is a crucial and necessary component supporting children's development throughout the life cycle.

The objectives of this study include generating evidence and enhancing understanding of the impact of budget allocations and expenditures on children. The study uses the Child-Focused Public Expenditure Measurement (C-PEM) tool to track and analyse budget allocations and expenditures, and advocates for policies and budgets which support inclusive development and results for children.

It is expected that the findings and public expenditure measurement tool developed through this initiative will be used by the Government of Ethiopia to track expenditure and focus resources on children's rights and well-being.

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Advocacy

Methodological tool

Policy dialogue

Financing the Child-Centred Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Ethiopia

Ethiopia has made significant progress in the context of child-centred Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). As the country embarks on the implementation of Growth and Transformation Plan II and Agenda 2030, the important lessons learned in that process must be taken into account in efforts to meet the Sustainable Development Goals.

This study aims to strengthen the capacity of the Government of Ethiopia to use domestic financing to achieve child-centred SDG targets and to improve its analytical capacity to produce public finance analysis on child-centred SDGs.

The findings will include an assessment of foreign assistance, the public finance landscape, and fiscal space to finance the SDGs. The study will include recommendations on how public policies and domestic financing can effectively support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals with equity.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Research Agenda on Fiscal Policy Reform in Ethiopia

To achieve middle-income country status by 2025 and deliver on its commitment to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Ethiopian Government will need to implement fiscal policy instruments to effectively mobilize domestic revenues in the short and medium term. These will contribute to national economic growth and streamline expenditure, budget allocation and administration.

Identifying potential research agendas for the country's fiscal policy will serve as a strategic plan for the short to medium term, guiding the Ministry of Finance and Economic Commission in undertaking research activities in fiscal policy areas. This will inform fiscal policy reforms to help the country achieve its development objectives and ensure inclusive growth, particularly in key social sectors critical for children's well-being.

The research agenda will help the Ministry of Finance and Economic Commission to identify evidence gaps in the area of fiscal policy reforms and help avoid duplication of efforts by different stakeholders. The research agenda for fiscal policy areas, including tax, government expenditure, debt and financing, government subsidies, and performance budgeting will be formulated by the Ministry using the results of the study.

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Advocacy

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Kenya: 2018 Budget Briefs

Since 2016, UNICEF has been conducting annual analyses of the Government of Kenya's national budget proposal to highlight relevant investments for children and advocate for increased allocations and improved efficiency of spending. This analysis is conducted in collaboration with 10 select counties.

The 2018 budget briefs reflect the 2018 state budget and other national budget documents, and provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promoting budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analysing and monitoring Government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) informing advocacy by providing key messages on changes in policy and financing, and how these will affect children and families.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community, and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Kenya.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Lesotho: 2018 Budget Briefs

Recent analyses show that approximately 65 per cent of children in Lesotho live in poverty. Efficient and effective public finance management can support Lesotho to reduce child poverty and exclusion. In 2018, UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Finance to prepare sectoral budget briefs in five areas: health, education, social protection, water and sanitation, and the macro economy.

The briefs analyse the size and composition of budget allocations in the four sectoral areas in fiscal year 2018/2019 and offer insights as to the efficiency, equity and adequacy of past spending.

The main objectives of the briefs are to: (1) synthesize complex budget information so that it can be easily understood by all stakeholders; (2) to put forth key areas of improvement which can inform policy and budgeting decision-making processes; and (3) to provide policy-makers and civil society with up-to-date knowledge on the state of the current budget to promote engagement and support advocacy.

The budget briefs will help enhance accountability of decision-makers, and improve efficiency, effectiveness and equity in public expenditure.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Madagascar: 2018 Budget Briefs

Since 2017, UNICEF has been conducting annual analyses of the Government of Madagascar's national budget proposal to highlight relevant investments for children and advocate for increased allocations and improved efficiency of spending. This analysis is conducted in collaboration with civil society organizations, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Population, Social Protection, and Women, and the Ministry of Finance and Budget.

The budget briefs, which cover education, health, social protection and the overall national budget, are based on the 2018 state budget and other national budget documents, and provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promoting budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analysing and monitoring government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) informing advocacy by providing key messages on changes in policy and financing, and how these will affect children and families.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line Ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community, and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Madagascar.

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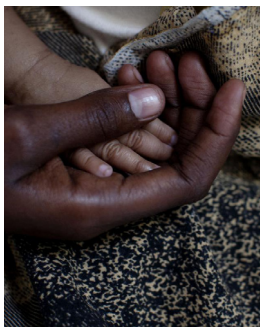
Policy dialogue

Fiscal Space for Children: An Analysis of Options in Madagascar

This report reviews the recent evolution of Government spending on priority sectors for children and tests different ways to scale up investment from current levels. Through a fiscal space accounting framework, the analysis explores a range of options to increase spending on priority sectors over the medium term, and provides an in-depth assessment of the most feasible scenarios. The study is accompanied by a macro-fiscal model that can be used by the Government and development partners, and which can be updated as new data become available to allow for new scenarios to be assessed.



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Advocacy

Methodological tool

Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Malawi: 2018 Budget Briefs

Since 2015, UNICEF has been conducting annual analyses of the Government of Malawi's national budget proposal to highlight relevant investments for children and advocate for increased allocations and improved efficiency of spending. This analysis is undertaken in collaboration with Government officials, development partners and civil society.

Based on the 2018 state budget and other national budget documents, the budget briefs provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promoting budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analysing and monitoring government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) informing advocacy by providing key messages on changes in policy and financing, and how these will affect children and families.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line Ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community, and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Malawi.

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Policy dialogue

Fiscal Space for Children: An Analysis of Options in Malawi

This report reviews the recent evolution of Government spending on priority sectors for children and tests different ways to scale up investment from current levels. Through a fiscal space accounting framework, the analysis explores a range of options to increase spending on priority sectors over the medium term, and provides an in-depth assessment of the most feasible scenarios. The study is accompanied by a macro-fiscal model that can be used by the Government and development partners, and which can be updated as new data become available to allow for new scenarios to be assessed.

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Methodological tool

Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Mali: 2018 Budget Briefs (Nutrition, Education and Health)

Analyse du budget des secteurs sociaux (nutrition, éducation et santé) au Mali

Following the socio-political crisis of 2012, an important share of the national budget in Mali has been allocated to defence and security. UNICEF is carrying out budget analysis and related advocacy for an adequate and equitable resource allocation to the social sectors, including nutrition, education and health.

These budgets briefs analysing allocations in the state budget will be shared with Members of Parliament, Government representatives, United Nations agencies, embassies, development partners, academia, and civil society organizations with the aim of sparking broad public interest and debate around the state budget and how resources are distributed.

The budget briefs will mainly be used for advocacy purposes, with the aim of raising awareness of the low levels of spending on social sectors in relation to the needs of children and families in the country.

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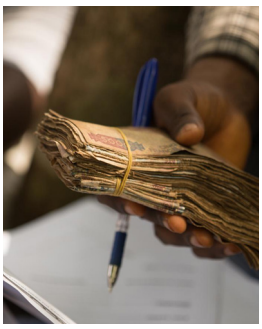
Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Mozambique: 2018 Budget Briefs

In Mozambique, UNICEF has been producing budget briefs – short, reader-friendly analyses of the State Budget Law – since 2007. The briefs cover key social areas and themes and examine linkages between the various planning and budgeting instruments, decentralized governance, inequity, budget classifiers, budget execution rates, etc.

The 2018 budget briefs will focus on the areas of Health, Education, Water and Sanitation, and Social Action. The briefs serve as an important tool in broader advocacy work for improved equity-based allocation of resources to sectors that are important for children, based on sound evidence and the human-rights-based approach to development. The briefs focus on allocation and expenditure trends in specific social sectors in the national budget to help UNICEF, civil society and the general public engage in advocacy and debate around the most desirable budget allocation for the population.

These briefs will be shared with members of the Parliament, Government representatives, bilateral and multilateral Government partners, academia, and civil society for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Mozambique.



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Policy dialogue

Political Economy Analysis and Fiscal Space for Children in Mozambique

This report aims to examine the current political and economic context in Mozambique, with particular focus on the area of foreign direct investment (FDI), developments in the extractive sector, and donor contributions to the State Budget. It also considers possible impacts of the economic crisis sparked by the disclosure of US$2 billion in illegal debts in early 2016.

The report examines the underlying dynamics of decision-making and resource allocation to identify key actors and influencers in the process of budget allocation. The report also reviews the recent evolution of government spending on priority sectors for children and tests different avenues to scale up investment from current levels. Through a fiscal space accounting framework, the analysis explores a range of options to increase spending on priority sectors over the medium term, and then provides in-depth assessment of the most feasible scenarios.

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Advocacy

Methodological tool

Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Namibia: 2018 Budget Briefs

Since 2016, UNICEF has been conducting annual analyses of the Government of Namibia's national budget proposal to highlight relevant investments for children and advocate for increased allocations and improved efficiency of spending. This analysis is conducted in collaboration with the Economic Association of Namibia.

Based on the 2018 state budget and other national budget documents, the budget briefs provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promoting budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analysing and monitoring government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) informing advocacy by providing key messages on changes in policy and financing, and how these will affect children and families.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line Ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community, and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Namibia.

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Policy dialogue

Education Policy Briefs: Education Spending in Namibia

Since gaining independence in 1990, Namibia has made great strides in achieving education for all. Over the past two decades, the country has embarked on various reforms in the education sector to address inequalities resulting from discriminatory policies of the past and to fulfil its constitutional obligation of ensuring the right to education for all citizens. The education sector is also impacted by national development priorities outlined in National Development Plans and Vision 2030.

The education sector continues to receive the largest portion of the National Budget. Despite efforts to increase equitable access, studies show that school fees, accommodation in school hostels, transport, and school uniforms hinder access to education for children from poorer families. Additional risks to educational enrolment and retention have been found to include: poverty, illness in the household, children being sent to another household, extended family taking more children into the household, and maternal death.

Education policy briefs were developed for the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, policy-makers, Parliamentarians and other stakeholders to help evaluate available policy options for implementing the recommendations from the Public Expenditure Review (PER). The briefs help inform the debate influencing budget allocations in education, including equitable resource allocation early childhood development and basic education. The publication will be used by education planners in the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, the Ministry of Finance, Parliamentarians, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to appreciate why it is critical to invest in the different aspects of education to ensure that all children in Namibia, especially those from poor and marginalized communities, benefit from quality inclusive education.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Fiscal Space for Children: An Analysis of Options in Namibia

This report reviews the recent evolution of Government spending on priority sectors for children and tests different ways to scale up investment from current levels. Through a fiscal space accounting framework, the analysis explores a range of options to increase spending on priority sectors over the medium term, and provides an in-depth assessment of the most feasible scenarios. The study is accompanied by a macro-fiscal model that can be used by the Government and development partners, and which can be updated as new data become available to allow for new scenarios to be assessed.

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Advocacy

Methodological tool

Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Rwanda: 2018 Budget Briefs

UNICEF conducts annual analyses of the Government of Rwanda's national budget proposal to explore the extent to which the national budget addresses the needs of children in the country. These budget briefs, based on the 2018/2019 state budget and other national budget documents, provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children: Health (including Nutrition), Education, Social Protection, and Water and Sanitation. The budget briefs aim to synthesize complex budget information to highlight relevant investments for children, offer recommendations to enhance budgeting for children, and advocate for increased allocations and improved efficiency of spending.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promoting budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analysis and monitoring of government budgets that affect children, including a focus on expenditure efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) providing key messages on changes in policy and financing to inform advocacy for public budgeting which supports children's rights and well-being. Budget briefs provided robust information and support advocacy for increased child-centred, transparent and participatory use of public resources in Rwanda.

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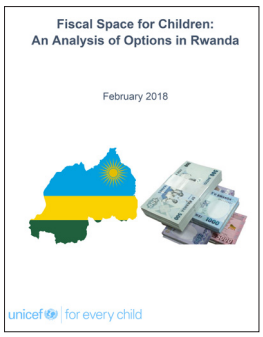
Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Fiscal Space for Children: An Analysis of Options in Rwanda

The fiscal space analysis provides an overview of the recent evolution of government resource allocations to expenditure directly relevant to children's welfare and development. The analysis also examines and evaluates options to increase fiscal space available for the social sectors, and refers to expenditure considered beneficial to children as a priority. This includes public expenditures under the following sectors: Health, Education, Water and Sanitation, and Social Protection. The paper also examines recent and projected revenue and financial constraints to consider future avenues for expanding financing for children.



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Advocacy

Methodological tool

Policy dialogue

Analysis of Social Sector Budgets in Senegal 2013–2015

Analyse du budget social au Sénégal sur la période 2013–2015

This analysis of social sector budgets in Senegal is the second in a series of studies on the evolution of public social spending in Senegal. Previously, a study of 2006–2013 budgets showed that the Government spent on average one third of its budget on social sectors, with the greatest share (7 per cent of GDP in 2013) going to education, followed by the health sector (2 per cent of GDP in 2013).

The objective of this public expenditure review is to contribute to strengthening the analytical capacity of the National Observatory of the Social Budget and to consolidate its role in monitoring public expenditure in the social sectors. This is expected to lead to a more effective allocation of public resources in accordance with the principles of sound management of public finances.

In addition, this study responds to the information needs of a wide range of stakeholders, including: (i) public authorities seeking to better understand their social policies and budgets, (ii) technical and financial partners seeking in-depth information on public policy outcomes, and (iii) the general public wishing to understand the scope and impact of public policies and budgets.

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Advocacy

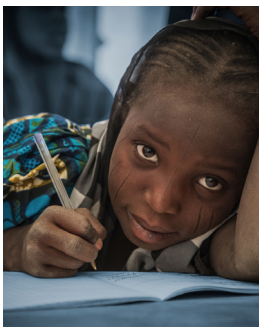
Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in South Africa: 2018 Budget Briefs

Presentation of the annual budget creates an opportunity to understand the resourcing strategy of the Government of South Africa and how the choices are likely to impact the realization of child rights and support for children's well-being, especially for those living in poverty.

In a context of austerity and a sluggish economy, effective resource allocation, use and management has become especially important in the struggle to overcome poverty and inequality. Recent expenditure cuts have had serious consequences, especially for provincial governments who deliver the bulk of services for children.

Independent analyses of the national budget and four key sectors – Education, Health, Social Development, and Social Protection – will provide important information for key stakeholders, including line Ministries, parliamentarians, and civil society actors on how the 2018 budget supports children in the country. The analysis will include assumptions of the various sector budgets, notes on how departments propose to allocate reduced budgets, and whether the planned course of action supports the development and well-being of the most marginalized children in South Africa.



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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in South Sudan: 2018 Budget Briefs

Since 2017, UNICEF has been conducting annual analyses of the Government of South Sudan's national budget proposal to highlight relevant investments for children and advocate for increased allocations and improved efficiency of spending. This analysis is conducted in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare.

On the basis of the 2018 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promoting budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analysis and monitoring of government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) delivering key advocacy messages on changes in policy and financing.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line Ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community, and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in South Sudan.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Swaziland: 2018 Budget Briefs

Since 2017, UNICEF has been conducting annual analyses of the Government of Swaziland's national budget proposal to highlight relevant investments for children and advocate for increased allocations and improved efficiency of spending. This analysis is conducted in collaboration with key line Ministries, including the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and Training, and the Deputy Prime Minister's Office.

On the basis of the 2018 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promoting budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analysis and monitoring of government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) key messages to inform advocacy on changes in policy and financing.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line Ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Swaziland.

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Policy dialogue

Fiscal Space for Children: An Analysis of Options in Swaziland

This report reviews the recent evolution of Government spending on priority sectors for children and tests different ways to scale up investment from current levels. Through a fiscal space accounting framework, the analysis explores a range of options to increase spending on priority sectors over the medium term, and provides an in-depth assessment of the most feasible scenarios. The study is accompanied by a macro-fiscal model that can be used by the Government and development partners, and which can be updated as new data become available to allow for new scenarios to be assessed.

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Advocacy

Methodological tool

Policy dialogue

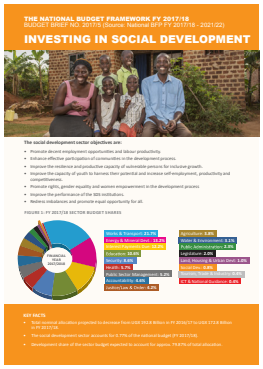
Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Uganda: 2018 Budget Briefs

Since 2014, UNICEF has been conducting annual analyses of the Government of Uganda's national budget proposal to highlight relevant investments in key social sectors. This analysis is conducted in collaboration with the Economic Policy Research Centre.

On the basis of the 2018 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promoting budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analysis and monitoring of government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) informing advocacy, through key messages on changes in policy and financing.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line Ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs support advocacy for a more child sensitive, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Uganda.



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Policy dialogue

Social Policy Outlook – Uganda

This document summarises findings published in two UNICEF publications: Uganda: Fiscal Space Analysis and Uganda: Political Economy Analysis, and includes additional statistics from the Uganda National Household Survey 2016–2017, and the Uganda Demographic and Health Survey 2016–2017. In addition to a fiscal outlook, the report provides insights on current trends and examines critical junctures for the Government to capitalize on the country's demographic transition and stable economic performance to achieve the long-term vision for the country.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in the United Republic of Tanzania: 2018 Budget Briefs

Since 2016, UNICEF has been conducting annual analyses of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania's national budget proposal to highlight relevant investments for children and advocate for increased allocations and improved efficiency of spending. This analysis is conducted in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and Planning of the United Republic of Tanzania.

On the basis of the 2017–2018 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promoting budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analysis and monitoring of government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) informing advocacy by providing key messages on changes in policy and financing.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line Ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community, and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in the United Republic of Tanzania.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Zambia: Budget Briefs

As Zambia continues on the path of recovery, Government spending in the social sectors remains critical to providing expanded high-quality services to its growing population. The level of resources allocated to these sectors through the national budget is an important indicator of the Government's commitment to addressing poverty and inequality. While increases in budgetary allocations to the social sectors in recent years show a promising trend, there have been some challenges in budget performance and coherence between policy and budget.

The main purpose of this brief is to provide a strategic overview of the 2019 budget allocations and trends and to examine how these will affect service delivery in key social sectors.

The 2019 budget briefs will inform national discussion among stakeholders – the media, civil society, Parliamentarians – on the 2019 National Budget for social sectors prior to its approval. This will allow for effective policy engagement with the Treasury and help inform budget debates in Parliament before approval, with the potential for advocating for substantive changes in the budget.

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Policy dialogue

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Zimbabwe: 2018 Budget Briefs

Since 2015, UNICEF has been conducting annual analyses of the Government of Zimbabwe's national budget proposal to highlight relevant investments for children and advocate for increased allocations and improved efficiency of spending. This analysis is conducted in collaboration with social sector Ministries, Parliament and the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development.

On the basis of the 2018 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promoting budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analysis and monitoring of government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) key messages to inform advocacy on changes in policy and financing.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line Ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community, and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Zimbabwe.

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Advocacy

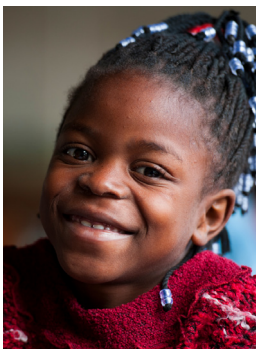
Policy dialogue

The Potential Role of Corporate Social Investments in Financing for Children in Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe is facing serious fiscal space constraints, which undermine the level of public investments for children. Hence the need to explore innovative financing mechanisms to support children's rights and well-being in the country.

This analysis of Corporate Social Investment (CSI) intends to establish the magnitude and extent of private sector investment in child-focused social sectors (Education, Health, WASH) in Zimbabwe. The analysis focuses on companies trading on the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange and uses trend data obtained from companies' annual reports for the period 2009–2016. The study advocates for CSI budgets to be channelled toward investments that have a high impact on society, particularly children.

The report will help assess whether Government tax credits offered to companies are delivering rewards in the social sector in Zimbabwe, especially in the area of Corporate Social Investment for children. The findings will be used to inform advocacy efforts to influence the direction of corporate social spending on programmes benefitting the country's children.



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Advocacy

Financing Development and Investing in Africa's Future: Children, Open Budgets and the Demographic Dividend

This study builds on the findings of the 2017 Open Budget Survey, which captured information on 38 African countries, to better understand the environment for budget transparency and accountability and what this means for investing in children.

The study addresses the knowledge gap on the links between budget openness and social sector investments.

The study summarizes the general strengths and weaknesses in government budget systems in African countries and identifies key recommendations for increasing investments in children through government budget systems.

The report serves as an entry point for dialogue about the need to invest in children, and generates advocacy opportunities to promote effective mobilization and use of domestic resources for children, particularly in the context of follow-up to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and financing the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

The State of Education Budgets in Eastern and Southern Africa

This study aims to fill a critical void of evidence on education budgets in the countries of Eastern and Southern Africa. This is the first publication covering the entire spectrum of education budget issues in a single document. In addition to looking at all levels of education – from early learning to tertiary education – the study also includes the overarching sector context, government spending, donor spending, private spending, the quality and equity of spending, spending and results, the financing gap, and financing options.

The study presents the first comprehensive overview of education budgets in the countries of the Eastern and Southern Africa region, bringing together evidence, data and analysis from a variety of national and global sources. The regional focus on Eastern and Southern Africa has hope of inspiring similar exercises in other regions. The report will be accompanied by country profiles on education to support the monitoring of progress and challenges facing individual education systems, beyond financing issues.

The main report and accompanying country profiles will equip UNICEF and partners with the latest available information on education budgets at both regional and country levels to support advocacy efforts to improve the level and quality of investments in education systems.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

HIV and AIDS

Community Case Finding and Care of Children Living with HIV in Cameroon

With the support of a community-based organization, UNICEF implemented a door-to-door outreach strategy consisting of HIV counselling and testing of pregnant women and children and adolescents in a community in Cameroon. Those who tested positive were referred to health facilities for HIV care and treatment. Members of the CBO also advocated with community and religious leaders to back the initiative, combat discrimination, and encourage families and communities to support mothers, children and adolescents to remain under treatment.

A community-based approach to advancing children's rights can be appropriate in challenging circumstances, and may be considered in areas such as birth registration, increasing school enrolment and attendance, hand-washing with soap.

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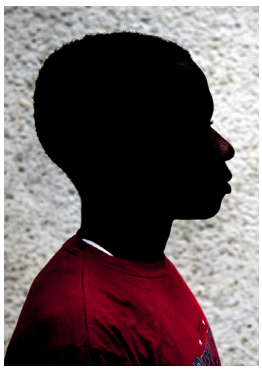
Inform programmes

‘All-IN’ Ending the AIDS Epidemic in Adolescents – Phase 2: Adolescents Living with HIV, Formative Research in Mozambique

Adolescents and young people account for the highest numbers of people living with HIV in Mozambique. At 16.8 per cent, new infection rates are particularly high for girls and young women aged 15–29. Mozambique was among the 18 countries in sub-Saharan Africa which adopted the All In! to #EndAdolescentAIDS platform to help accelerate progress in the area of HIV and adolescents.

Following the Rapid Country Assessment and the establishment of an Adolescent Think Tank led by the National AIDS Commission (NAC) in Phase 1, the second phase of the initiative was launched in 2017. Phase 2 included an in-depth analysis of programmatic bottlenecks and gaps that limit the impact of priority interventions for adolescents.

This formative research on adolescents living with HIV complements the Phase 2 bottleneck analysis: it also looks at existing barriers and motivating factors for adolescents to get tested, counselled, and adhere to antiretroviral treatment. Research results will help inform the direction of policy and programming at both national and subnational levels, to help limit the impact of HIV on adolescents in Mozambique.



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Policy dialogue;

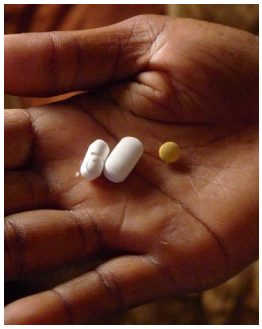
Inform programmes

Impact Evaluation of Teen Club Programme on Adolescents Living with HIV in Swaziland

In Swaziland, UNICEF has invested in improving access to HIV and sexual and reproductive health information and services for adolescents in the context of Teen Clubs, in partnerships with the Ministry of Health and Baylor College of Medicine. The programme supports treatment of adolescents living with HIV.

The purpose of this impact evaluation is to determine the effectiveness of the Teen Clubs initiative among adolescents living with HIV and to identify key examples of good practice and lessons learned to inform future work with adolescents and HIV.

The report will be used by UNICEF and partners to share knowledge and build on existing evidence when designing or expanding effective approaches to adolescent HIV programming.



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Inform programmes

Humanitarian Action, Resilience and Peacebuilding

Evaluation of the Rapid Response to Population Movements (RRMP) Programme

The rapidly changing nature of population movements in Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Kasai region has contributed to an increasingly complex humanitarian environment in a country already affected by multiple crises and prolonged conflict. The UNICEF emergency response increasingly includes cash-based systems to protect the lives and dignity of those affected and to ensure aid is spent in a timely and effectively way.

This evaluation of the Rapid Response to Population Movements (RRMP) programme aims to provide useful strategic and operational recommendations about how the programme must evolve to remain relevant to the shifting context. Its findings and recommendations will help refine strategies and operational modalities but also help build consensus among stakeholders on the objectives, strategies, planned results and partnerships for the programme.

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Inform programmes

Generation El Niño: Long-Term Impacts on Children's Well-Being

The 2015 occurrence of El Niño, a climatic phenomenon, caused and, in some regions, deepened a state of drought across large parts of eastern, southern, and central Ethiopia. Among its impacts were failed and/or delayed belg rains and erratic kiremt rains which contributed to widespread crop failure, asset depletion and food insecurity. The humanitarian crisis continued into 2016, when 10.2 million people required immediate food assistance and emergency relief. The effects of the drought and associated humanitarian emergency continue to linger and unfold in the affected regions.

This research project has been commissioned to study the long-term impact of the drought on the holistic well-being of children in Ethiopia. The paper seeks to generate evidence and build understanding on the long-term impacts of the 2015–2016 El Niño on households and children's well-being. The evidence generated will be used to inform Government and UNICEF programming and broader policy decisions, so as to effectively strengthen community resilience to shocks and shield children from the long-term negative impacts of humanitarian crises.

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Policy dialogue;

Inform programmes

Real-Time Evaluation of the Emergency Drought Situation Response in Kenya

Below average performance of the critical short and long rain seasons in 2016 has led to a severe drought in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) of Kenya, which caused the number of people considered food insecure to more than double to 2.6 million in the 23 most severely affected counties.

UNICEF responded to the drought disaster together with the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), United Nations agencies, and other partners. UNICEF contributes through supporting national coordination mechanisms as the Cluster Lead Agency for Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) and Nutrition, as well as contributing to the Health response, and undertaking upstream advocacy with Government.

The evaluation seeks to review operations in the early stages of the UNICEF response in drought-affected areas, both in its role as implementing agency responding to the WASH, Nutrition and Health needs of children and caregivers, and in its capacity as Cluster Lead. The findings will inform operational decision-making and drought responses in the affected counties, and will also be used as part of the UNICEF commitment to best practice and quality programming for drought emergencies in general.

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Inform programmes

Policy dialogue;

Maternal, Newborn and Child Health

Evaluation of the Training of 'Mourchidates' and Midwives and Its Impact on Women of Childbearing Age in Algeria

Evaluation de la formation des Mourchidates et des sages-femmes et son impact sur leur travail avec les femmes en âge de procréer

In Algeria, Mourchidates (women preachers, female religious leaders) help inform women and girls about key aspects of maternal and child health. This evaluation will assess whether training with the aim to empower mourchidates to promote and protect the health of women and children in Algeria, carried out for 400 Mourchidates and 230 midwives in 2013, 2014 and 2016 across the country has brought about the desired effects, and whether it has had any impact on influencing household behaviour in the localities where Mourchidates and midwives practice, including the Central Highlands and the south of the country. This evaluation is part of the Communication for Development (C4D) programme.

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Inform programmes

Readiness of Primary Health Care Units (PHCU) in Addressing Facility-Based Newborn Care in Ethiopia

Despite remarkable progress in reducing the under-five mortality rate in Ethiopia, each year more than 175,000 children under five years of age continue to die of largely treatable or preventable causes. Newborn deaths account for 43 per cent of under-five deaths. Ethiopia is making a significant investment to ensure newborn care services are part of a comprehensive service package available at all health facility levels.

The purpose of this study is to assess the convergence of integrated maternal and newborn health services across different levels of the primary health care system in Ethiopia and to consider scaling up community-based newborn care in the country.

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Inform programmes

The Effect of Community-Based Newborn Care Interventions on Utilization of Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health Services at Primary Health Care Unit Level in Ethiopia

Provision of services through the Health Extension Worker Programme platform is a key strategy to increase utilization of newborn care services in Ethiopia. In March 2013, the Ethiopian Government launched the Community-Based Newborn Care (CBNC) programme which trained community health workers, provided essential commodities, and supervised provision of appropriate newborn care practices at the community level, including management of newborn infections.

The purpose of the study is to assess the effectiveness of the CBNC programme in improving relevant health services at the community level, and to provide recommendations with regard to potential expansion of this intervention to other areas of the country.

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Inform programmes

Integrating Immunization Services into Nutrition Sites to Improve the Immunization Status of Internally Displaced Persons – Children Living in Bentiu Protection of Civilians (PoC) Site, South Sudan

The protracted war in South Sudan has led to a severe humanitarian crisis accompanied by high levels of malnutrition and significant disruption of the health system. Continuous displacement and low immunization coverage predispose the population to vaccine-preventable diseases.

This study aims to evaluate the effect of integrating immunization services into already established nutrition services in resource-constrained humanitarian response settings. The study evaluated whether children accessing nutrition services received appropriate immunizations, and whether there was a significant rate of children dropping out of the vaccination programme.

The study indicated that immunization coverage improved when integrated with nutrition services in line with the Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI) and the Global Immunization Vision and Strategy (GIV) and that, with adequate planning, such integration can improve coverage, reduce costs, and create synergies.

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Inform programmes

Nutrition

Community-Based Nutrition Programme in Ethiopia – End-line Evaluation

In Ethiopia, Community-based Management of Nutrition, including monthly growth monitoring and promotion of children under 2 years of age, was first implemented through the UNICEF Country Programme in Ethiopia, and then transferred under the responsibility of Health Extensions Workers.

The aim of this evaluation is to measure the impact of the programme on child nutritional status and infant and young child feeding practices in communities. The findings will help refine and/or expand the programme.

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Inform programmes

Analysis of Determinants of Stunting Reduction and Improvement of Other Forms of Malnutrition in Kenya from 2008 to 2014

Thanks to significant Government financial, technical, and commodities investment in the Nutrition sector, Kenya has shown tremendous improvements in nutrition outcomes between 2008 and 2014. The incidence of underweight among children decreased from 16 to 11 per cent, stunting from 35 to 26 per cent, and wasting from 7 to 4 per cent. Exclusive breastfeeding rates for the first six months of life also improved, from 31 per cent in 2008 to 61 per cent in 2014.

This study aims to identify the context-specific determinants driving improvements in key nutrition outcomes and examine whether progress has been equitable within and across Kenya's counties between 2008 and 2014. Specifically, the study objectives are to: (i) assess trends and proximal determinants of stunting and other forms of malnutrition in Kenya using nationally-representative data and existing/ongoing analysis of determinants of undernutrition, and (ii) identify key drivers leading to the improvements in key nutrition outcomes, including qualitative factors, such as enabling environment policies and guidelines, financing, coordination, institutional capacity, and social norms.

The findings of the study will be used to improve the design of nutrition programmes in Kenya.

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Monitoring of progress on key indicators;

Inform Programme;

Policy dialogue

Baby-Friendly Workplace Research

Employment plays a key role in a woman's decisions about infant feeding, including the decision whether to breastfeed exclusively and for how long to breastfeed. Working outside the home negatively affects both initiation and duration of breastfeeding. Low-income women return to work sooner and are more likely to be engaged in jobs that make it challenging for them to continue breastfeeding.

To promote breastfeeding in the workplace, the Ministry of Health, UNICEF, and the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) committed to implementing Child Rights and Business Principles to influence corporate policies in favour of children. This is especially critical in the rural farming sector which employs 61 per cent of the female labour force, of which more than a quarter in agriculture, mainly on cash crop plantations of tea, coffee, sisal, and horticultural produce. A supportive workplace model was tested in the Eastern Produce Tea Estate in Nandi County.

The implementation research aims to (i) test a model for enhancing workplace support for breastfeeding in selected workplace(s) and (ii) strengthen workplace support for breastfeeding in selected workplace(s) through advocacy, public–private partnerships, and development of guidelines, job-aids and tools.

The main projected use of the findings will be to assist in the development of best practices for promoting breastfeeding in the workplace among companies in the rural farming sector, to help support the best nutritional start for babies.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Implementation Research on Linking Management of Acute Malnutrition and Integrated Community Case Management (ICCM) in Kenya

In Kenya, the treatment of acute malnutrition has traditionally been restricted to facility-based approaches, which may have limited its coverage and impact. Recent evidence suggests that children with acute malnutrition can be treated in their communities, with weekly or biweekly visits to primary health facilities, without being admitted to a health facility or therapeutic feeding centre. Bringing free and effective treatment close to communities through trained community health workers (CHWs), will likely improve access to, and utilization of, such services.

The Ministry of Health is exploring the potential for linking Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) and integrated Community Case Management (iCCM) to improve both nutrition and health outcomes for children in the hard-to-reach and sparsely populated Semi-Arid and Arid Lands (ASALs).

This implementation research assesses the feasibility and effectiveness of integrating management of moderate and severe acute malnutrition with iCCM and identifies enabling factors for effective integration as well as challenges, constraints and potential pitfalls of the approach. The research is being undertaken with the Ministry of Health in collaboration with Save the Children in Turkana and Action Against Hunger in Isiolo.

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Inform programmes

Causal Analysis of Pockets of High Rates of Acute Malnutrition in the South of Madagascar

In response to a severe food crisis affecting the south of Madagascar since 2015, UNICEF worked with the Ministry of Public Health (MPH) and the National Office of Nutrition (ONN) on an emergency response that included treatment for 35,000 severely acutely malnourished children.

This study focuses on the causes of acute malnutrition in 8 communes in southern Madagascar and is part of an initiative funded by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).

The research study will use a mixed-method approach based on Link nutrition causal analysis (NCA) methodology to address the following questions: (i) What is the prevalence of known risk factors responsible for undernutrition in the population and groups vulnerable to undernutrition?; (ii) What are the mechanisms and pathways of undernutrition which cause some children in this population to be subject to acute or chronic malnutrition?; (iii) How has the acute and/or chronic malnutrition situation and its causes evolved over time due to historical trends, cyclical seasonal episodes and recent shocks?; (iv) What mechanisms and pathways are likely to explain most cases of undernutrition?; (v) What set of risk factors and causal mechanisms are likely to be influenced by the actions of actors in a given context and time?; and (vi) What recommendations can be made to improve nutrition security programmes?

The findings of this study will help refine existing programmes and inform the development of future programmes, with the aim of increasing nutrition resilience and reducing the need for emergency assistance in the medium to long term.

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Inform programmes

Republic of The Gambia Micronutrient Survey (GMNS) 2018

In Republic of The Gambia, there are limited nationally representative data on micronutrient status and diet-related non-communicable diseases. For example, while the 2013 Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) found that 76 per cent of household salt was iodized, but no results of adequately iodized salt coverage had been reported.

This micronutrient survey will measure the nutritional status of the Gambian population at both national and subnational level. The findings will be used as a baseline for Nutrition and Health indicators in the Republic of The Gambia National Development Plan and help inform nutrition programme planning, advocacy, awareness raising and behaviour change communication.

The publication will be used by Government, donors, think tanks, research organizations, universities, United Nations agencies, development practitioners, and other partners.

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Monitoring of progress on key indicators;

Policy dialogue

Nutritional Survey – SMART 2017 (Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions) Senegal

Enquête nutritionnelle – SMART 2017 (Mesure de la Mortalité, du Statut Nutritionnel (et de la Sécurité Alimentaire) en Situations de Crise)

In line with its commitment to improving the nutritional status of children, including as part of Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 3, Senegal has revised the national protocol for management of acute malnutrition; invested in training of healthcare providers, nutritional supplies and anthropometric equipment for health centres; and strengthened management, communication and monitoring tools.

The objective of this survey is to assess the nutritional status, mortality and morbidity of children aged 0–59 months and women of reproductive age in the regions of Saint-Louis, Louga, Matam, Diourbel and Tambacounda. The study will help the Food and Nutrition Division of the Ministry of Health and Social Action to monitor malnutrition trends and implementation of the National Nutrition Policy in the target regions and to assess whether nutrition interventions have had the desired effect in the most vulnerable areas of these regions.

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Monitoring of progress on key indicators;

Integrated Food and Nutrition Security Causal Analysis in the Former States of Warrap and Northern Bahr el Ghazal, South Sudan

South Sudan continues to experience extreme food insecurity and acute malnutrition, made worse by a protracted civil conflict and its effects on the economy, livelihoods, social services, and community safety nets. As of July 2017, every other person in South Sudan was facing severe food insecurity and 1.1 million children under the age of five were subject to acute malnutrition.

This study, commissioned by the Ministry of Health, FAO, UNICEF and WFP, seeks to identify more sustainable solutions to the perennially high food insecurity and acute malnutrition in the former states of Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Warrap. The purpose of the study is an in-depth causal analysis to arrive at a clear understanding of the factors associated with persistent high malnutrition and food insecurity in the two states. The study showed that major drivers of food and nutrition insecurity include: gender norms and high proportion of households headed by women; returnee influx and their poor reintegration; sudden hyperinflation and loss in value of the South Sudanese pound; livelihood changes; shocks; and lack of physical access to food.

These findings will contribute to a robust multi-sectoral response plan based on an understanding of the complex links and factors influencing food security and nutrition in the study area. Specifically, the findings strongly imply the need to: promote rural employment for the poor; improve childcare and the socio-care environment; support improvements in access to sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services; mainstream gender in food security and sustainable livelihoods; and support infant and young child feeding.

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Inform programmes

Nutrition Sector Public Expenditure Review

While the prevalence of stunting in the United Republic of Tanzania has reduced from 42 per cent in 2010 to 34 per cent in 2015, nutrition activities remain poorly funded at the decentralized level.

The Nutrition Sector Public Expenditure Review assesses public expenditure on nutrition – both in terms of development and recurrent spending – for fiscal years 2013/2014–2015/2016 in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

Study findings are expected to examine trends in public spending and performance in achieving the targets of the National Nutrition Strategy 2011–2016, and help support advocacy efforts to mobilize resources for implementation of the National Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Action Plan 2016–2021.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Situation Analysis and Socioeconomic Development

Situation Analysis of Children and Women in Angola

Despite progress in reducing child mortality, the situation of children in Angola continues to be challenging, especially in light of a deep economic crisis brought about by the drop in oil prices in late 2014. The crisis prompted reductions in spending on the social sector to a level of approximately 8 per cent of the budget, adversely impacting services for children and the most vulnerable. The situation is improving slightly following August 2017 elections and associated restructuring of key social sector institutions.

The central theme of the Angola Situation Analysis is "addressing the multifaceted nature of vulnerability at decentralized level, with a specific focus on providing access to social services to the most vulnerable to reach the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)."

This analysis of the situation of children and women analyses the current social, economic and political context and trends, and sheds light on the causes, patterns and dynamics of poverty and vulnerability in the country. The paper draws on a number of documents produced as part of the Enhanced Annual Review of the Country Programme 2015–2019, which includes an analysis of new data from the 2014 Census and the 2015–2016 Demographic and Health Survey, as well as a child-focused Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis. The Situation Analysis is expected to provide a solid basis for programming to improve the situation of children and women in the country.

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Inform programmes

Policy dialogue

In-depth Analysis of the Benin 2014 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) (Education Module)

The in-depth data analysis of the Benin 2014 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) is designed to generate further evidence on the situation of adolescents in Benin. The analysis will form the basis of three thematic reports: on the overall experience of adolescence; marriage and pregnancy; and the adolescent 'demographic dividend'.

The findings of this study will be used by the Government, communities, civil society, and technical and financial partners to help enhance understanding of the situation of adolescents in the country, and approaches that may effectively support them.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Assessing the Social Impact of the Bamangwato Concessions Limited (BCL) Mine Closure on Families and Children in Botswana

In October 2016, the Government of Botswana put its largest copper-nickel producer, the Bamangwato Concessions Limited (BCL) Mine in the eastern town of Selebi-Phikwe, under provisional liquidation due to non-profitability. The mine closure resulted in approximately 5,000 job losses, significantly impacting businesses and livelihoods in the local community.

This assessment seeks to identify and quantify the social impact of the mine closure on families and children. The findings will be used to raise awareness of the social and economic consequences of such an event and provide recommendations for potential areas of mitigation and intervention by Government Ministries, the business community, and other stakeholders. The report can also be helpful in designing activities that can mitigate the impact of job losses on children.

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Inform programmes

Situation Analysis of Children and Women in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

This Situation Analysis provides an updated, equity-focused, and risk-informed analysis of the situation of children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The analysis includes updated information on emerging issues, including climate change, urbanization, and adolescents.

The paper will serve as a useful foundation for programming, evidence-based advocacy and Policy dialogue at the national and subnational level. It is hoped the Situation Analysis will contribute to enhanced understanding of the situation of children and women in the country, and lead to greater prioritization of children's rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

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Advocacy

Inform programmes

Policy dialogue

Household Poverty and Child Malnutrition in Equatorial Guinea in relation to trends in Sub-Saharan Africa

High levels of stunting, wasting and underweight prevalence among children under five indicate that child malnutrition continues to be a significant public health problem for countries in the sub-Saharan region, including Equatorial Guinea. Children under five from the poorest fifth of the population are affected by stunting and underweight at more than twice the rate of children from the richest quintiles: stunting affects 35 per cent of children in the former and 17 per cent in the latter group, while underweight affects 29 per cent in the former and 13 per cent in the latter group.

This paper uses DHS data to provide a descriptive analysis of the unequal distribution of child malnutrition patterns in sub-Saharan Africa presenting findings of how malnutrition figures in Equatorial Guinea relates to those in other sub-Saharan African countries. The findings reveal children who live in poverty are more likely to be stunted, wasted or underweight than other children. The principal audiences for this publication include the Government of Equatorial Guinea, academia, the general public and development actors.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Urbanization and Its Impact on Children in Ethiopia

Strategies to eradicate poverty in Ethiopia have mainly focused on rural areas. Urban poverty, growing alongside urban affluence, remains mainly unnoticed and, therefore, unaddressed.

Urbanization is an issue of growing concern in Ethiopia, fuelled by rural–urban migration as people seek to escape rural poverty and find new opportunities in the city. Urbanization has been recognized as an emerging priority, and is reflected in the country's Growth and Transformation Plan 2015–2020 and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) commitments. This study seeks to expand understanding of trends related to urbanization and child poverty in urban settings in Ethiopia, with a view to better respond to the needs of children in urban settings, including through urban safety net programmes.

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Advocacy

Inform programmes

Policy dialogue

Situation Analysis of Children and Women in Guinea

Analyse de la situation des enfants et femmes en Guinée, 2017

This Situation Analysis assesses the situation of children and women in Guinea. The report follows the child's life cycle as it investigates the well-being of children and women and the realization of their rights to survival, development, protection and participation in the country.

The analysis aims to identify disparities, gaps and barriers in access to health care, nutrition, water and sanitation, education, protection and participation; and to determine the root causes of inequities and shortfalls in achieving desired outcomes for children and women. The Situation Analysis draws on key informant interviews and focus group discussions with both rights holders and duty bearers, and reflects lessons learned during the country's recent experience with the Ebola epidemic.

Report findings will be used in the planning processes of the Government and United Nations agencies, and will help guide Policy dialogue, advocacy, and decision-making. The results are also expected to make an important contribution to the development of national poverty reduction and development strategies.

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Inform programmes

Policy dialogue

Children of Mali at the Crossroads of Crisis and Progress

Les enfants du Mali au carrefour de la crise et du progrès

The main purpose of the study is to provide the Government of Mali and other stakeholders working in social and development sectors with an up-to-date quantitative and qualitative analysis of the situation of children and women.

The publication will help support policy and programme decisions and serve as a useful point of reference for informing policies and national strategies in the country's fragile and volatile context. The analysis will also be used to inform UNICEF strategic programming directions in the country. Other audiences include international and national partners, Parliamentarians, civil society, traditional leaders, and anyone working to improve the situation of children and women in Mali.

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Policy dialogue

Mozambique Situation Analysis of Adolescents in Mozambique 2018

The 2018 Mozambique Situation Analysis focuses specifically on children and young people in their second decade of life – encompassing ages 10–14 (early adolescence) and 15-19 (late adolescence).

This Adolescent-Led Situation Analysis outlines the most significant factors affecting the lives of adolescents in Mozambique, and tunes into the voices of adolescents to discover their needs, priorities and suggested solutions. The Situation Analysis will form the basis for recommendations and strategies on how UNICEF can address inequalities, bottlenecks and barriers to realizing adolescents' rights in programming and advocacy.

The publication will inform the design of future UNICEF programmes for adolescents, and will help in mainstream adolescents' perspectives across programmes and sectors.

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Inform programmes

Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Situation Analysis of Children and Women in Namibia 2018

The Situation Analysis provides an analytical overview of the situation of children which is used as a foundation for the development of the new UNICEF country programme and for supporting advocacy with key partners and donors.

The 2018 Namibia Situation Analysis identifies and analyses critical barriers and bottlenecks that prevent children and families from realizing their rights with equity – and suggests ways that such barriers can be overcome. It also aims to strongly position the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for children within the national development context.

The publication includes targeted recommendations on how to reduce or eliminate bottlenecks, and suggests policy and programmatic avenues to bring about sustainable change in the longer term. It also serves as a useful resource for advocacy on policies and strategies to strengthen the rights environment for children and women in Namibia.

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Advocacy

Inform programmes

Policy Dialogue)

Republic of The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS IV), 2018

The fourth round of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) carried out in the Republic of The Gambia will help create an updated picture of the socioeconomic, health, education, WASH and child protection situation of the Gambian population.

The survey will provide data which will be used in the development of strategies and operational plans of the National Development Plan (NDP). The data will also be used to track progress against the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and to inform policy advocacy and programme design.

Main audiences for this publication include the Government and development partners, research organizations and universities, and civil society.

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Monitoring of progress on key indicators

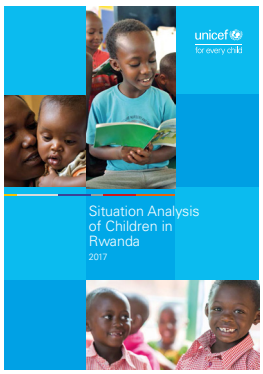
Policy dialogue

Situation Analysis of Children in Rwanda 2018

This Situation Analysis aims to put children first in Rwanda's national development planning, in the context of its National Strategy for Transformation 2017–2024, Vision 2050, and commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Situation Analysis provides a comprehensive picture of the status of children in Rwanda, highlighting the achievements made so far and outlining a roadmap for the future advancement of children's rights and well-being in the country.

The analysis touches upon a wide spectrum of issues relating to children in Rwanda, including health, nutrition, water and sanitation, education, child protection, social protection, and early childhood development. The document forms the basis for the new UNICEF country programme and supports the United Nations Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP).

Further, the Situation Analysis is an important advocacy resource for the government, UNICEF and partners with an interest in promoting children's rights and well-being.



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Advocacy

Inform programmes

Policy Dialogue)

Continuous Demographic and Health Survey Report – Senegal Regional Analysis 2017

Enquête Démographique et de Santé (EDS-Continue) 2017

Senegal implemented a series of national Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) in 2012–2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017. The objective of the DHS is to meet ongoing data needs for planning, monitoring and evaluating health and population programmes. DHS results help decision-makers monitor socio-demographic indicators and allow them to adjust programme strategies and resource allocations in light of the evolving situation.

DHS results are also used for programme planning purposes and for monitoring progress toward Sustainable Development Goal targets.

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Inform programme

Monitoring of progress on key indicators

In-Depth Analysis Based on the Urban Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) Data in the Dakar Region of Senegal

Analyses approfondies basées sur les données de l'enquête par grappes à indicateurs multiples en milieu urbain dans la région de Dakar au Sénégal

With 45 per cent of the population living in urban areas, urbanization is a key issue for Senegal.

The Urban Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) 2015/2016 collected data on a wide range of indicators. Secondary analyses have been conducted on the themes of neonatal mortality, early childhood development, immunization, out-of-school children, and the situation of children living without their parents, resulting in a series of publications.

This series of in-depth studies aims to examine the determinants of specific outcomes for children in order to help better target policies and programmes for children in urban areas. The findings of the studies will help adjust urban programming and resource allocations to address major barriers and bottlenecks to improving the situation of children in the Dakar region.

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Advocacy

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Situation Analysis of Children and Adolescents in Senegal

Situation des enfants et des adolescents au Sénégal : diagnostic et analyse

The aim of this Situation Analysis is to enable the Government and partners to take stock of the realization of the rights of children and adolescents in Senegal, and to focus on the barriers preventing children from reaching their full potential.

The Situation Analysis examines the situation of children, women and vulnerable groups in the country and evaluates the implementation of the ambitious national economic and social policy strategy, Plan Sénégal Émergent (PSE) 2014–2018. The country's national development plan focuses on improving the supply of basic social services, eliminating inequalities, and promoting sustainable development approaches.

The Situation Analysis will be used as a foundation for development of the new UNICEF country programme and United Nations Development Assistance Framework in Senegal. The findings will also support formulation of PSE action plans for the period 2019–2023.

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Statistical Tables on Children in Senegal (Second Edition)

Tableaux statistiques sur les enfants au Sénégal (deuxième édition)

UNICEF produces a comprehensive compilation of key statistics on children in Senegal to help track progress in the realization of children's rights. This book of statistical tables serves as a useful resource for decision-makers and development actors engaged in policy and programme decisions affecting programmes targeting children in the country.

This second edition will provide an update on key indicators based on recent surveys and official government reports, with a focus on regional data from the 2017 Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) survey. An interactive online version of the data will also be made available on the UNICEF website.

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Methodological tool

Monitoring of progress on key indicators

Policy dialogue

Sierra Leone Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) 2017: Survey Finding Report

The Sierra Leone Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) is a nationally representative survey of households, women, and children that is carried out every 3 years. The purpose of the survey is to collect up-to-date information on the situation of children and women in Sierra Leone. The survey helps identify vulnerable groups and disparities in results between groups, which helps inform policy and programme choices.

Results from the 2017 edition of the survey will be used to monitor progress toward relevant international goals and targets, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as for evidence-based advocacy and policy interventions.

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Advocacy

Monitoring of progress on key indicators

Policy dialogue

Children, Families and the State – Collaboration and Contestation "Welcome to this World" – The South African Child Gauge 2018

In South Africa, only 23 per cent of children live with both their biological parents in a family. There is a great variety of family models. The 2018 Child Gauge report focuses on the diversity and mutability of family structures in the country, which have implications for national policies and programmes.

The report examines the historical and structural context influencing processes of family formation and household strategies, particularly around children, and maps respective roles and responsibilities of the family and state toward children, drawing on international and domestic statutory law.

The purpose of the report is to advocate for improved policies, programmes and responsive services that support families in caring and providing for children. The South African Child Gauge 2018 seeks to shift a deeply entrenched and often conservative set of assumptions about what a family is or should be, and to challenge perspectives that pathologize certain families or particular groups.

The primary audience for the report is the state: policy-makers across government, including departments that are not typically seen as engaging with families; and also international bodies and development funding agencies that influence the state. The report also addresses those who are implementing programmes and on-the-ground practitioners who engage with, or deliver services to, families. Finally, it will be a useful reference point for the general public and the media, and may help shift public discourse around families; support advocacy; and be used as a resource for teaching and training.

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Situation Analysis of Children and Women in Swaziland

This report is based on an analysis of a number of studies, national policy analyses, and management information system data which provide up-to-date information on the situation of children and women in Swaziland. The paper identifies social, political, economic and budgeting trends affecting children and adolescents in the country.

The purpose of this document is to outline the current situation of children and women in Swaziland, with a particular focus on vulnerabilities and needs across different stages of the life cycle to help support targeted programming and policy efforts. The report will be used as a reference point during the review of the UNICEF country programme and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework.

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Policy Dialogue)

Tourism Industry Impact Assessment on Children and Communities in Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania

The semi-autonomous region of Zanzibar in the United Republic of Tanzania relies heavily on tourism. The industry employs approximately 45,000 people – over a tenth of the working population – and accounts for 27 per cent of GDP. As everywhere, tourism is likely to bring both positive and negative effects for local communities and their children.

The purpose of this study is to identify the impact of the tourism industry on children and communities in Zanzibar and to provide a set of recommendations on how the Government and UNICEF should engage to leverage opportunities and mediate risks.

The study examines the many positive and negative impacts of tourism on the local population, and identifies model business practices which can help strengthen local development. The study focuses on children and families and considers protection risks for children, and other issues and challenges that must be addressed.

The research will be used to inform concrete responses, and to identify opportunities for collaboration between communities and the tourism business with the aim of supporting local development for the direct benefit of children and their communities.

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Advocacy

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Situation Analysis of Children and Women in Zambia

Children under 17 years of age account for 52 per cent of the Zambian population. Recent estimates suggest 59 per cent live in poverty and 41 per cent are subject to three or more deprivations.

The purpose of the Situation Analysis is to improve understanding of the current situation of children and women in the country, with a particular focus on the causes of deprivations and inequities. The document will be used to help refine the country programme and support evidence-based decision making when it comes to programmes benefitting children and women.

The Situation Analysis provides a human-rights-based and equity-focused information base on the current situation of children and women in Zambia, highlighting key factors that contribute to or hinder the realization of their rights. The document identifies trends, patterns, and causes of key deprivations (e.g. child mortality, stunting, low levels of birth registration, low school enrolment and achievement, or violence against children), and provides disaggregated data to show gaps and disparities. The document will also be used to inform the Mid-Term Review of the UNICEF Country Programme 2016–2021.

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Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Generation 2030

The Middle East and North Africa region includes countries that are very diverse, both in terms of economies, and demographic trends and dynamics. While most countries in the region have medium or high fertility rates, others are past the demographic transition and have very low fertility rates.

The purpose of this demographic projections paper – MENA Generation 2030 – is to outline the future demographic patterns for the countries of the Middle East and North Africa in order to best prepare for the situation ahead and to appropriately tailor programmatic and policy options to the needs of children and young people.

The paper examines estimates and projections of population size, age structure and spatial distribution for countries of the Middle East and North Africa for the first half of this century. It also highlights important demographic differences between countries, and provides a brief analysis of key policy issues.

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Policy dialogue

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Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Improving Menstrual Dignity to Strengthen Girls' Education (ADMIRE) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Etude ADMIRE (Amélioration de la Dignité Menstruelle pour Renforcer l'Éducation des filles)

This research is undertaken to bridge the knowledge gap on menstrual hygiene management (MHM) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The study focuses on the knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) relating to menstrual hygiene among schoolgirls in the country. The paper assesses the extent to which female students in a low-income setting can manage their menstrual hygiene effectively and whether this impacts on their education.

This research will form part of a global evidence base on the subject and the findings will help to design and test interventions to support effective menstrual hygiene management in development and humanitarian settings.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, UNICEF plans to integrate menstrual hygiene management into the clean villages and schools programme, which currently focuses on improved access to drinking water, reducing infant mortality and the spread of waterborne diseases.

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Advocacy

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Policy dialogue

Assessment of the Impact of Cultural Taboos and Practices on Menstrual Hygiene Among Schoolgirls in Ethiopia

This assessment establishes baseline data on menstrual hygiene management (MHM) in 4 regions of Ethiopia to help guide the design and monitoring framework of a pilot UNICEF MHM programme. The study focuses on current knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) around menstrual hygiene among schoolgirls, and assesses the available water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities in 39 schools in the four selected regions.

Findings from the study will be used to inform WASH programme design in general, and school WASH and MHM programmes in particular.

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Inform programmes

The Spread of Cholera and Migration Flows Around Lake Chad: Niger Case Study

Cholera remains a critical health problem with recurrent outbreaks. While Niger has a relatively low annual prevalence of cholera compared with its neighbours, the country periodically witnesses cholera outbreaks which may be connected to immigration flows from across the country's borders.

This research aims to identify the most relevant mechanisms for cholera transmission in Niger and the surrounding area through an analysis of a detailed epidemiological dataset of cholera prevalence in the country over the period 1994–2016. The research is being undertaken in close collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health and CERNES, and with the external contribution of Institut Pasteur Dakar and will be useful for practitioners in the areas of WASH, Health, Emergency and Communication for Development (C4D).

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Advocacy

Policy dialogue

Inform programmes

Project Evaluation Report – Ensuring Access to Adequate Drinking Water, Hygiene and Sanitation Services in Koubenni Moughataa, Hodh el Gharbi, Mauritania

Evaluation du projet « assurer l'accès aux services adéquats en eau potable, hygiène et assainissement dans la moughataa de Koubenni, Hodh el Gharbi »

Limited access to drinking water, poor sanitation and insufficient hygiene practices increase the vulnerability of populations to food insecurity and contribute to exacerbating nutritional crises in Mauritania.

UNICEF supported the Government of Mauritania response to the 2012 nutritional crisis with a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) project in Koubeni zone – a region which had reported some of the highest rates of children affected by severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in the country.

The project evaluation documents examples of good WASH practices and helps assess the effectiveness of WASH interventions in reducing the prevalence of diarrhoea among children, especially those most vulnerable. The findings will be a useful reference point for discussions about areas of convergence and practical modalities between humanitarian and development programming.

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Advocacy

Participatory Research with Adolescents on Factors Influencing Hand-Washing with Soap

Recherche participative avec les adolescents sur les facteurs influençant le lavage des mains au savon

Poor hygiene practices remain a major challenge in Senegal. According to the 2015 Demographic and Health Survey (DHS), 73 per cent of households did not have dedicated hand-washing facilities. In households with a dedicated area for hand-washing, 70 per cent had soap and water.

More in-depth qualitative studies are needed to identify the habits of the most at-risk population groups, the cultural and behavioural determinants of hand-washing, and the barriers and opportunities for promoting hand-washing at critical times, in order to develop effective communication strategies for behaviour change.

This study focuses on changing the hand-washing behaviours of adolescents. It aims to determine, in a participatory process involving a group of adolescents, the methods of communication that are most relevant to support the practice of hand-washing; research the sociocultural and behavioural determinants of hand-washing, as well as barriers and opportunities for promoting hand-washing at critical moments; and formulate recommendations and action points.

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Inform programmes

Epidemiological Study on Cholera Hotspots and Basins in Eastern and Southern Africa

Cholera is now endemic in more than half the countries of Eastern and Southern Africa. Approximately 70,000 cholera cases were reported in 2016, which represented 68 per cent of all cases on the continent. With frequent population movements, including forced displacement, cholera outbreaks easily spread across borders.

The purpose of this study is to establish an epidemiological evidence base, outlining the patterns, causes, and effects related to cholera in the region, focusing in particular on the two specific areas of Horn of Africa and Zambezi basins. A regional approach will be useful in understanding the patterns of transmission and mapping key cholera hotspots in the region. This evidence will help countries in the region to better prepare, respond to, and prevent cholera outbreaks.

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Advocacy

Inform programmes

Policy Dialogue)

Country-Led Monitoring of the Sustainability of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Services in West and Central Africa

Systems used to monitor Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in many countries of West and Central Africa are often weak and do not necessarily support effective decision-making. There are also significant challenges related to the long-term sustainability of WASH infrastructure and behaviour change.

Since 2013, UNICEF and partners have worked with the Governments of 10 countries in the region strengthen the focus on sustainability; support a government-led assessment of existing WASH Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) systems; and develop national WASH M&E plans. This is in line with Agenda 2030, the Sanitation and Water Agenda, and regional initiatives, which call for stakeholders to work together to reduce fragmentation and strengthen coordination in monitoring WASH sustainability, and to strengthen country-led national WASH M&E systems.

This report examines the results of the initiative undertaken in 9 countries of West and Central Africa as well as global work on reference tools for sustainability monitoring to provide general recommendations for strengthening country-led monitoring in the area of WASH.

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