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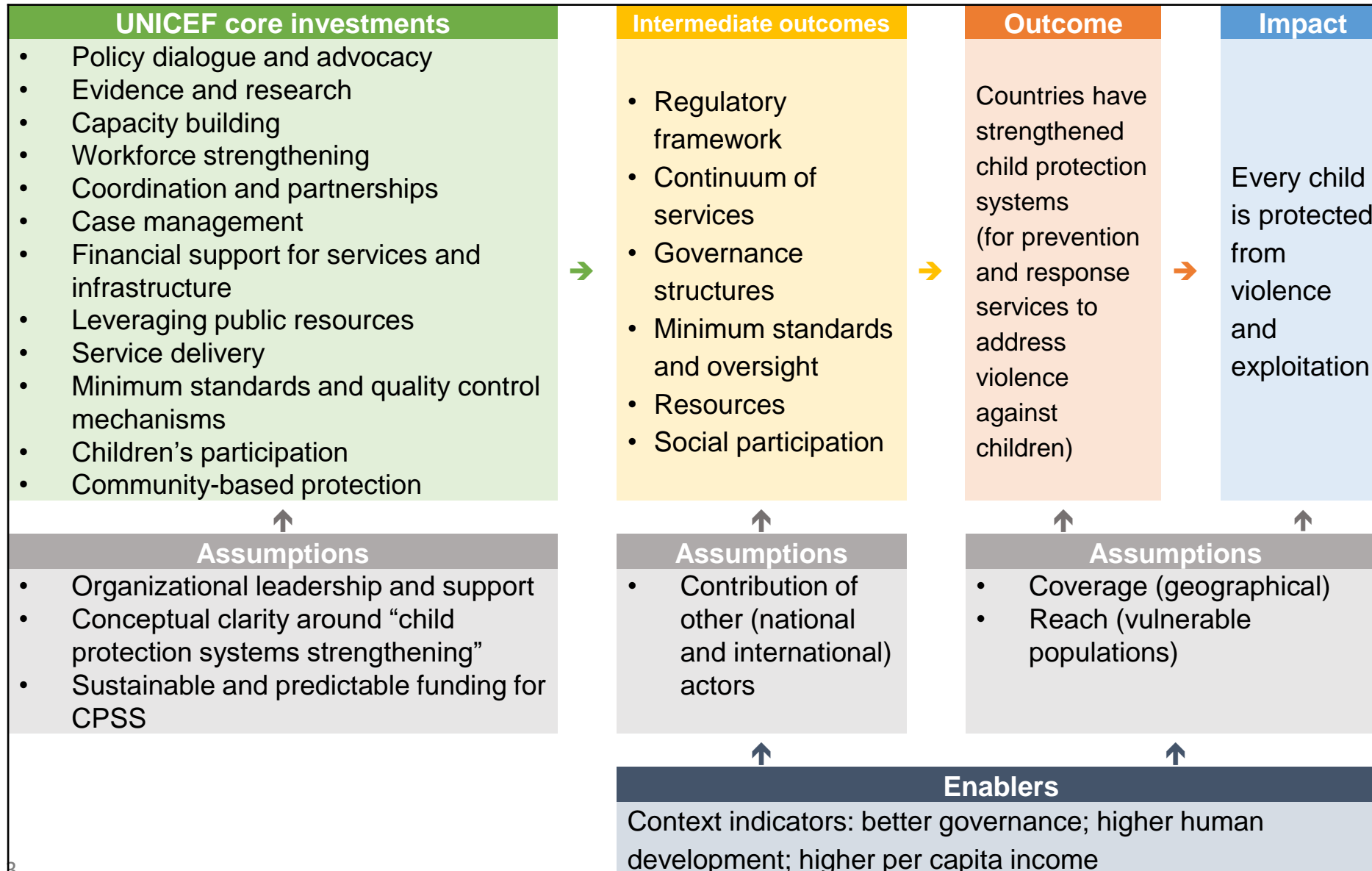
Strengthening Child Protection Systems: Evaluation of UNICEF Strategies and Programme Performance

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Rationale for the Evaluation

- Child Protection Systems Strengthening (CPSS) has been an organizational objective since adoption of UNICEF Child Protection Strategy, 2008
 - Ongoing work – yet never comprehensively evaluated
- Renewed emphasis on **systems strengthening as a change strategy** in the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021
- Monitoring reports do not provide a clear **picture of progress in CPSS**
 - Need for an evaluation to understand what is working/not working and what further needs to be implemented
- **Humanitarian-development nexus imperatives** require a stronger understanding of systems strengthening.

Evaluation Framework



Conclusion: Uneven programme performance

- UNICEF's **programme performance** on CPSS has been **moderate** overall. Progress was **uneven**, with stark **gaps in low-income and humanitarian contexts**
 - *Strong performance*: strengthening legal and regulatory frameworks; supporting government-led reform of existing CP systems
 - *Weak performance*: strengthening embryonic systems not widespread
- UNICEF's **corporate reporting systems on expenditures and results are inadequate** to demonstrate the exact level of UNICEF's contribution.

Conclusion: Effective interventions

- The evaluation has identified **a number of interventions** that are particularly **effective** for strengthening CP systems, including:
 - **capacity-building/social workforce strengthening**
 - **leveraging public resources**
 - **evidence and research**
 - **policy advocacy**
- Staff lack technical support for **operationalizing CPSS approach in different programming contexts** and against the backdrop of large issue-based initiatives and VAC as unifying umbrella concept.

Conclusion: Unclear commitment from UNICEF and donors and incomplete national ownership

- **Donors** have played a largely adverse role in advancing national CP systems by **distributing funding on a narrow issue-by-issue basis and using parallel monitoring and reporting systems**. UNICEF needs to present key donors with a compelling '**business case**' for CPSS.
- While UNICEF has had considerable **success** in raising awareness among national partners, by and large, this has **not translated into adequate domestic investments** in CPSS.



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Key Results on Gender & Equity

- Many programmes show **adequate attention to the evolving capacities and age** of girls and boys
- Response services target the **most vulnerable boys and girls** while prevention and early intervention services have a wider focus. Children living with **disabilities** are sometimes overlooked
- **Gender analysis** on population-level data, needs assessments and impact measurement not widespread
- There were **good synergies** (and some competition) between GBV and CPSS programming.

Recommendations

- 1. Make clear the UNICEF definition** of and **role** in CPSS and ensure that this approach is **prioritized** in organizational strategies, policies and plans
- 2. Invest** in the most impactful CPSS areas, according to the **UNICEF niche**, to strengthen child protection systems: social-service workforce-strengthening; the leveraging of public resources; evidence and research; policy advocacy; as well as child-protection information systems; case management; and coordination
- 3. Strengthen** staff and partner **capacities** and learning on CPSS
- 4. Address CPSS funding** challenges: **business case** for donors, leverage earmarked funds, support analysis and advocacy for **domestic investments**
- 5. Address** the CPSS data and **measurement** challenges.

Thank You

Our Products

- Website: https://www.unicef.org/evaldatabase/index_103557.html
- Final Report: https://www.unicef.org/evaldatabase/files/CPSS_Evaluation_final_report_with_ExSum_translations.pdf
- Summary Report: https://www.unicef.org/evaldatabase/files/2018-UNICEF_CPSS_Summary.pdf