

# UNICEF GOAL AREA 3 OVERVIEW

ANNUAL RESULTS 2019  
JULY 2020

unicef   
for every child



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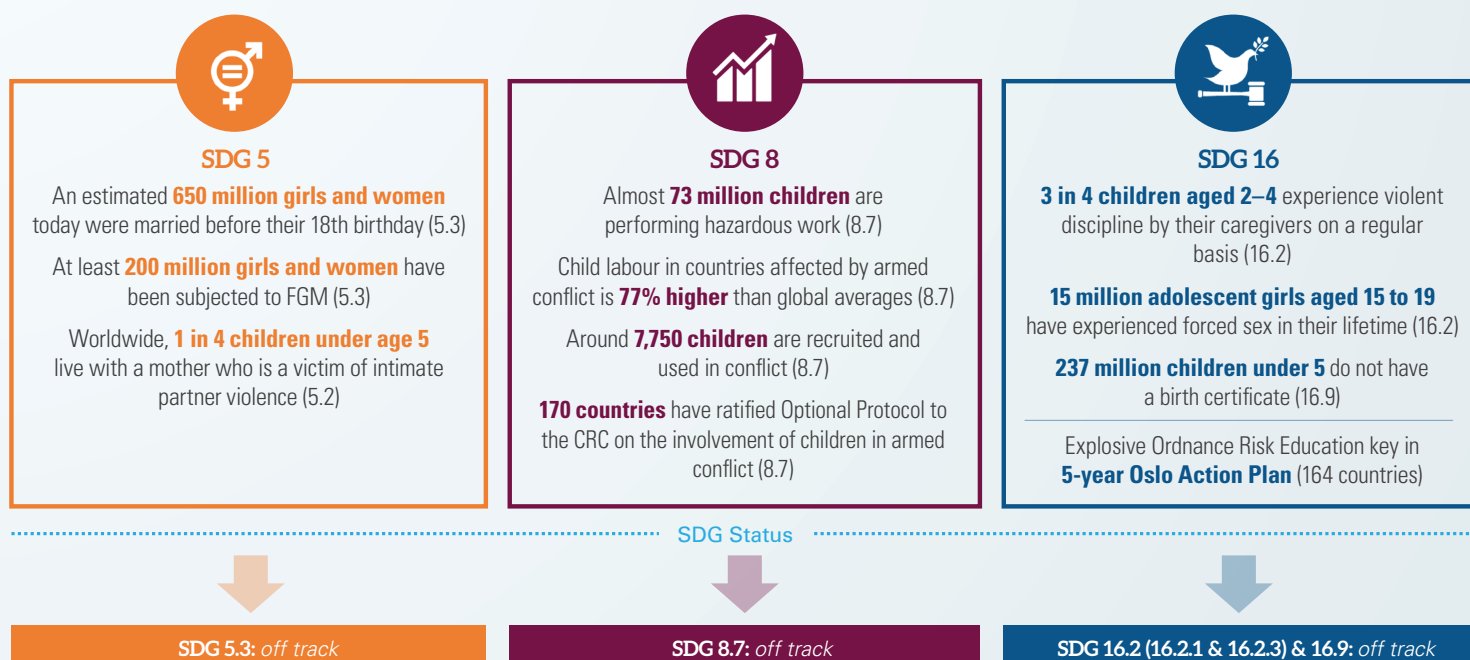
Ma July Moe (2 weeks) at a launching ceremony on mobile birth and death registration services in Mawlamyine District, Mon State, Myanmar. In 2019, the first-ever electronic birth registration took place in Mon State as part of the Mobile Birth and Death Registration project developed through a partnership between the Government of Myanmar, UNICEF and Telenor Group.

The commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in 2019 offered an opportunity to take stock of progress since its adoption. Gains have been made at the impact level. Birth registration levels globally have risen to about 3 in 4 children under age 5 registered today, compared to 6 in 10 in around 2000; the prevalence of female genital mutilation (FGM) has declined by a quarter; and child marriage has decreased to around one in five young women married in childhood in the last 20 years. As we move into the fifth year of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) implementation, more and more countries are putting policies, plans and, in some cases, budgets in place to meet the ambitions of Agenda 2030.

Yet, despite these and other advances, without further acceleration, and hampered by armed conflicts and disasters, none of the SDGs related to Goal Area 3 are on track to be achieved by 2030. With the end of 2019 came the unprecedented global crisis resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The devastating socio-economic impacts of the pandemic will have severe and lasting consequences for children and women, including their care, protection and well-being. The United Nations Secretary-General's 2019 call for a Decade of Action to dramatically scale up transformative action towards achievement of the SDGs is now more relevant than ever.

## Data trends and tracking progress: Agenda 2030

Goal Area 3 aims to ensure that every girl and boy is protected from violence and exploitation in keeping with the CRC, and supports the achievement of multiple SDGs, in particular Goals 5, 8 and 16.



# 2019 HIGHLIGHT RESULTS

## OUTPUT 3.1: Accelerating national progress to reduce all forms of violence

In 2019, UNICEF intensified efforts to scale up evidence-based violence prevention interventions and institutionalize response services to child victims of violence in 141 countries, a 5 per cent increase from the countries reporting in 2018.



2.7 million children who have experienced violence reached by services in 115 countries (+17%)



UNICEF stepped up support to governments to institutionalize workforce development. The number of countries reporting progress to strengthen their social service workforce, increased from 114 countries reporting in 2017 to 137 countries in 2019. To support these national efforts, UNICEF rolled out the first ever global *Guidelines to Strengthen the Social Service Workforce for Child Protection*



2.3 million mothers, fathers and caregivers reached through parenting programmes in 79 countries (+10%)



Primer is an innovative inter-agency initiative currently being used in 26 countries, supporting users to manage data from more than 200 organizations. Management of the cases of almost 90,000 vulnerable children are being conducted safely and confidentially, a 102 per cent increase from the 40,000 cases supported in March 2019

## Child protection in humanitarian action

Child protection in humanitarian action achieved breakthrough results in 2019 on many critical fronts. UNICEF provided protective services to millions of children affected by armed conflict, natural disasters and public health emergencies in 74 humanitarian situations.



Around 8.9 million children and adults could access a UNICEF-supported SEA reporting channel in 2019 (+27%)



UNICEF supported around 4.4 million children to receive Explosive Ordnance Risk Education in 22 countries



3.3 million women and children reached with gender-based violence interventions in 46 countries



1.75 million children on the move received protective services in 61 countries



UNICEF recorded the exit or release of nearly 13,200 children (18 per cent girls) from armed forces or armed groups in 17 countries across 6 regions in 2019



UNICEF provided care and services to 14,400 children who had exited armed forces or armed groups over the course of several years, reintegrating over 8,500 of these children into their families and communities

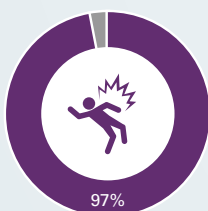
## Mental health and psychosocial support



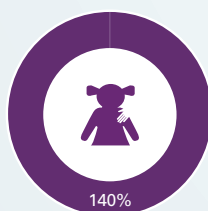
UNICEF deepened its commitment to delivering MHPSS in 2019 by providing community-based MHPSS to more than 3.7 million children and adolescents (+3% compared to 2018) across 60 countries (59 countries in 2018) and almost 517,000 caregivers in 41 countries. To rally behind a unifying and game-changing vision

for Global Mental Health, the Mid Term Review has identified mental health as a priority area for accelerated implementation of UNICEF Strategic Plan, covering 2018-2022. The organization is accelerating prioritization of community-led services, focusing on bolstering family and social networks, as well as MHPSS systems, including building the capacity of front-line workers.

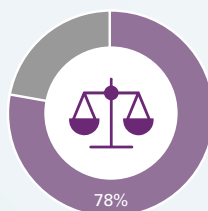
## Meeting 2019 milestones against Goal Area 3 strategic plan outputs (result areas)



**OUTPUT 3.1**  
Accelerating national progress to reduce all forms of violence



**OUTPUT 3.2**  
Strengthening prevention and protection services to address harmful practices



**OUTPUT 3.3**  
Improving access to justice for children

Progress rate by output area: ● ≥90% ● =60-89% ● ≤59%

UNICEF worked in over 150 countries in 2019 in its efforts to protect children against violence and exploitation at an expense of nearly US\$708 million. Two years into the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021, Goal Area 3 had progress rates of over 90 per cent for two of the three result areas. Progress was slowest in the result area on access to justice, specifically on legal aid and birth registration.

## OUTPUT 3.2: Strengthening prevention and protection services to address harmful practices

2019 saw the conclusion of independent joint evaluations of the UNFPA–UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage and the UNFPA–UNICEF Joint Programme on the Abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation. Findings from

these evaluations reinforced their standing as proven examples of how joined-up United Nations action can provide essential political, policy and programmatic leverage to identify and implement collective solutions to achieve the SDGs.

### Child marriage



In 2019, UNICEF and partners supported 58 countries across all regions to implement rights-based interventions aimed at ending child marriage. While child marriage occurs among both boys and girls, the prevalence is about six times higher among girls. Partnering with boys and men in gender equality is crucial to ending child marriage.

Around 5.7 million adolescent girls received prevention and care interventions from UNICEF-supported programming on child marriage across 45 countries (+16%).

### Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)



UNICEF supported 21 countries to eliminate FGM, including strengthening interventions such as building girls' and women's agency to claim their rights, advancing gender equality by engaging men and boys, improving community surveillance and response mechanisms following public declarations of FGM abandonment.

Around 8.5 million individuals participated in education, communication discussions; and social mobilization platforms to promote the elimination of FGM, supported by UNICEF (+22%).

## OUTPUT 3.3: Improving access to justice for children

Strengthening justice systems for children contributes towards ending violence against children and harmful practices, protecting children in contact with the law, protecting the rights

of children without parental care and ensuring legal identity for all, including birth registration – across development, peacebuilding and humanitarian contexts.



UNICEF supported 128 countries to implement a range of interventions to improve children's access to justice, with 22 countries reporting specialized justice systems for children in place.



With UNICEF support, 22 million births were registered (+35%) and 19.3 million children received birth certificates (+46%).



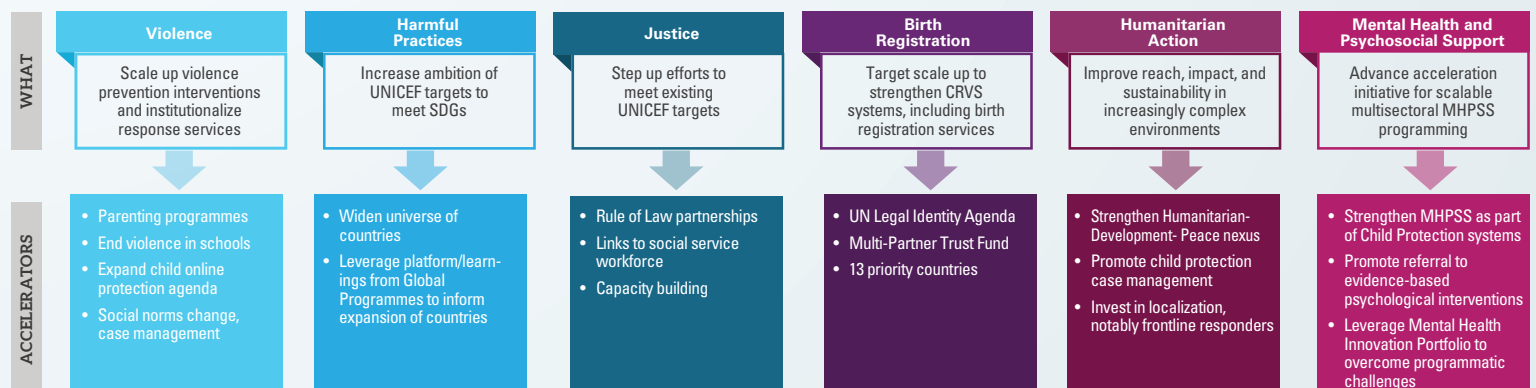
The year 2019 was a watershed moment for care reform globally. The landmark United Nations General Assembly Resolution on children without parental care provided the unprecedented opportunity to advance the care reform agenda globally, including within the disabilities community. UNICEF supported 106 countries across all regions to drive forward their national care reform agenda.



Mohamed Kone and Eric Nissa, both 18, are working as mechanics, in San Pedro, in the Southwest of Côte d'Ivoire. They became friends in a centre supported by UNICEF, which aims to reintegrate vulnerable teenagers and young adults into community life and provide vocational training.

## 2019 Strategic plan midterm review: Findings and accelerators for action

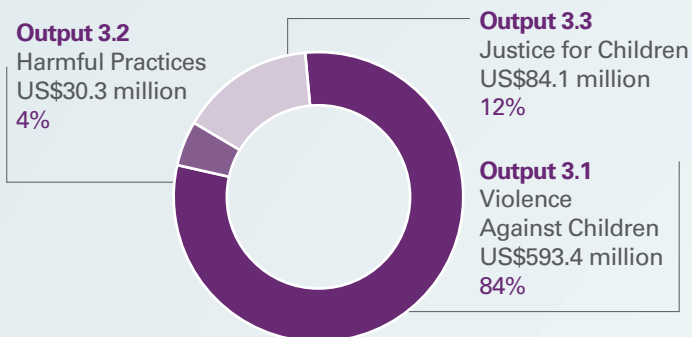
*Doubling down on selected interventions and taking to scale*



# OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW, 2019

In 2019, Goal Area 3 expenses were US\$708 million, an increase of 8 per cent from 2018 levels (US\$658.2 million).

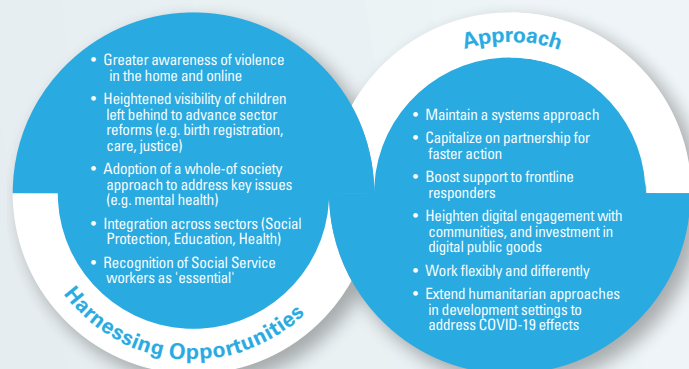
## Expense by output area, 2019: US\$708 million



- ➔ Goal Area 3 expenses represent **13 per cent** of total UNICEF expenditure for 2019 (US\$5,620 million).
- ➔ The **top 10 countries** accounted for 38 per cent of total Goal Area 3 spending for 2019 (US\$269.3 million); these are (listed in order): Yemen, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey, Bangladesh, South Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, and Nigeria.
- ➔ **84 per cent** of 2019 Goal Area 3 global expenses were spent on Output Area 3.1 strengthening prevention and response services for violence against children (US\$593.4 million). This includes expenditure to support programming in humanitarian contexts which accounted for US\$264 million. Additional humanitarian action expenses were drawn from other resources – regular (US\$72 million) and from regular resources (US\$39 million).

## LOOKING FORWARD - RESPOND, RECOVER, REIMAGINE:

### COVID-19: A child rights issue converging humanitarian and development approaches



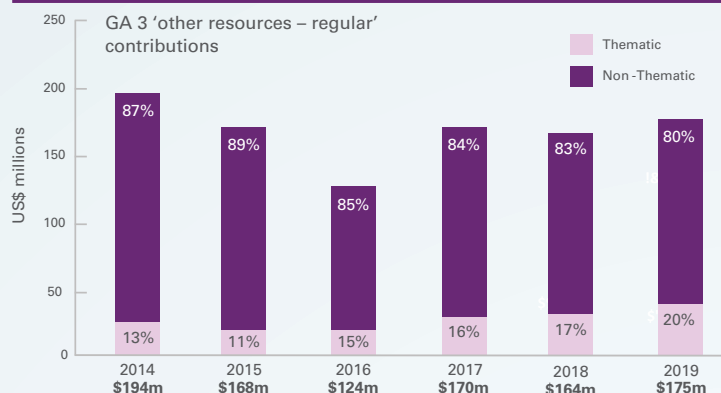
#### Enablers:

Partnerships / Advocacy / Capacity / Knowledge Generation and Management

## DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

UNICEF expresses its deep appreciation to all resource partners who contribute to its work on child protection, enabling UNICEF to support countries in all regions to deliver strategic and direct child protection interventions to marginalized children, their families and communities. This includes, but is not limited to, the governments of Canada, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, and Sweden, United Kingdom and United States of America, and the European Commission. UNICEF would like to extend particular thanks to its partners who provided thematic funding, notably the governments of Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Spain and the Flanders International Cooperation Agency and all National Committees for UNICEF, particularly the National Committees for Korea, Finland, Sweden, United Kingdom and Switzerland. Thematic funds are critical in allowing for greater flexibility, long-term planning and innovative programming. Thematic contributions reflect the trust resource partners have in UNICEF and its capacity and ability to deliver high-quality support. These funds have contributed significantly to the results achieved in 2019.

## Financial Overview: 2019 Income



- ➔ In 2019, partners contributed **US\$175 million** 'other resources-regular' (ORR) for Child Protection, a 7% increase from the previous year.
- ➔ The number of partners contributing **thematic funding** to Goal Area 3 **increased from 22 in 2018 to 31 in 2019**.
- ➔ US\$12.53 million of global thematic funding for Goal Area 3 was allocated, including US\$9.77 million to **49 UNICEF country offices**, US\$1.5 million to **seven regional offices**, and US\$1.25 million to **UNICEF headquarters**, representing 78, 12 and 10 per cent of the total allocations for 2019, respectively.



**154 UNICEF country offices** globally implementing Goal Area 3 programming.

**804 professional staff** managed Goal Area 3 programming, up 2% from 2018 levels. There has been no proportionate increase in the percentage of staff located at headquarters in 2019, with the level remaining consistent with the previous year.



The COVID-19 crisis is a child rights crisis. We need an immediate, medium- and long-term response that not only addresses the challenges created by the pandemic and its secondary impacts on children, but also outlines a clear vision for building back a better world when the crisis finally recedes.

- UNICEF Executive Director, Henrietta H. Fore

#### SOURCES



For primary sources and further results see 2019 UNICEF Goal Area 3 Annual Results Report:  
[www.unicef.org/reports/global-annual-results-2019](http://www.unicef.org/reports/global-annual-results-2019)



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