Annual Results Report 2016
Child Protection
UNICEF’s Strategic Plan 2014–2017 guides the organization’s work in support of the realization of the rights of every child. At the core of the Strategic Plan, UNICEF’s equity strategy – which emphasizes reaching the most disadvantaged and excluded children, caregivers and families – translates this commitment to children’s rights into action.

The following report summarizes how UNICEF and its partners contributed to protection of children from violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect in 2016 and reviews the impact of these accomplishments on children and the communities where they live. This is one of nine reports on the results of efforts during the past year, encompassing gender and humanitarian action as well as each of the seven Strategic Plan outcome areas – health, HIV and AIDS, water, sanitation and hygiene, nutrition, education, child protection and social inclusion. It complements the 2016 Executive Director Annual Report (EDAR), UNICEF’s official accountability document for the past year.
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The start of 2016 marked the end of the time horizon for the Millennium Development Goals set by world leaders, and introduced a new global development era with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda launched a new era in child protection, with the inclusion of specific targets and indicators to track progress towards accomplishing the SDGs. This presents a challenge – and an opportunity – for the child protection sector to get ‘fit for purpose’, especially as the sector adapts to an evolving global context.

UNICEF’s work and results in 2016

During 2016, UNICEF and its partners worked to advance agreements on protection-related child rights at the normative level, addressing all four child-related resolutions of the 71st session of the Third Committee, United Nations General Assembly (migrant children; child, early and forced marriage; protection of children from bullying; and intensifying global efforts to eliminate female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C)).

In particular, to accelerate support for migrant and refugee children, six core advocacy goals formed the basis for advocacy with United Nations partners and Member States in relation to the Summit for Refugees and Migrants. The main outcome document – the New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants – contains significant and specific language concerning children, including towards migrant and refugee children, and affirms strong commitments to provide for the health, education and psychosocial development of migrant and refugee children in countries of origin, transit and destination. The Declaration forecasts a negotiation process leading to the adoption of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration; and a global compact on refugees in 2018.

2016 Results summary: Expanding the reach and coverage of services supported by UNICEF programming

- Approximately 12.3 million births were registered with UNICEF extending its country support by 30 per cent from 2015 levels.
- More than 2,931 communities across 16 countries declared abandonment of female genital mutilation/cutting, representing about 8.5 million people – an increase in outreach of about 41 per cent from previous years.
- Significant progress was made in reaching children at risk and/or withdrawing them from child labour, with UNICEF-supported programmes assisting more than 7.5 million children in 48 countries.
- 4.6 million girls, women and boys in humanitarian situations across 54 countries received assistance in response to gender-based violence and protection issues.
- 3 million children in 65 complex and high-threat situations received psychosocial support.
- At least 3.2 million women and girls accessed hygiene and sanitation facilities in emergency settings through collaboration with the water, sanitation and hygiene sector.
- 4 million children received mine risk education in 20 countries – an increase of almost 40 per cent from previous years, due mainly to work in the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen.
- Some 32,900 unaccompanied and separated children received appropriate care, and 21,994 were reunified with their families and caregivers by the end of 2016.
- During the past 10 years, an estimated 65,000 children (boys and girls) globally have been released by armed forces and armed groups. In 2016, 21,403 children were released – a twofold increase compared with 2015. About 11,300 children were reintegrated into their communities, and an additional 12,700 received appropriate care services.
Improved child protection systems provide a bedrock to achieve equitable results for children. A strong child protection system will contribute to the achievement of all related SDGs. UNICEF plays an active role providing targeted advocacy, policy advice and technical assistance to improve policy/legal frameworks and financial reform, identifying and addressing implementation gaps, and building enforcement systems and service infrastructures that contribute to improving the reach and quality of child protection services. In 2016, support to child protection systems development was provided in 139 countries across multiple aspects of systems strengthening, with an increasing focus placed on building cross-sectoral linkages with other sectors, including health, education and social protection.

The number of countries with child protection legislation consistent with or better than international standards rose by 23 per cent, from 35 countries in 2015 to 43 countries in 2016. There was a 20 per cent increase in the number of countries reporting compliance of their justice systems with the minimum standards set in the Beijing Rules of Justice. Legislation to improve birth registration was passed in 12 countries. More countries are prohibiting corporal punishment in all settings, including in the home (51 countries), alternative care and day care settings (58), schools (128), penal institutions (138), and as punishment for criminal activity (164).

Mappings are critical to identify legislative, policy, and service delivery implementation strengths and gaps. Since 2010, 143 countries have carried out full or partial child protection systems mappings, 83 of which were supported directly by UNICEF; with 6 additional countries mapping or updating their child protection systems in 2016. An important milestone in Kazakhstan (that undertook a mapping in 2012) was the establishment of the country’s first Ombudsperson for Children’s Rights. While the institution is in its infancy, children and families now have an opportunity to address their concerns directly to an institution specialized on children’s rights. UNICEF is supporting the Ombudsperson to perform its work in line with international standards.

More and more countries are investing in exercises to cost out (or budget aspects of) national child protection systems. The number of countries making improvements to budgeting for child protection rose 15 per cent, from 27 in 2015 to 31 in 2016. In terms of child marriage, five countries under the joint United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage have developed national action plans, of which three have been costed out. Recent examples include in Uganda, where ending child marriage is now included as a target and indicator in the new draft Social Development Sector Strategic Plan and a number of district governments have allocated budgets to end child marriage.

Strengthening the social service workforce is vital to improving the quality of service delivery and case management. Yet many countries do not have a sufficient cadre to provide the quality and reach of services required to support all vulnerable and marginalized children. Across many countries, efforts are under way to address this challenge. For example, the Government of Georgia, with UNICEF support, developed a child assessment referral instrument that will be used to identify potential cases of child rights violations and refer them to the respective social workers. UNICEF in Georgia trained all social workers throughout the country. Nationwide piloting of the instrument is currently under way. UNICEF’s collaborative relationship with the Global Social Service Workforce Alliance is also furthering these efforts at the global level.

In 2016, almost 1.9 million children were registered in alternative care across UNICEF programme countries. This is a 20 per cent increase in the number of children registered in such programmes since the start of the Strategic Plan period in 2014; and indicative of the stronger care reform systems being put in place across countries. For example, as part of the childcare reform action in Rwanda, more than 2,000 children have been reintegrated from orphanages to family based care in the past year.

UNICEF-supported interventions have seen an increased reach of services to children in fragile countries and those facing conflict, particularly in terms of scaling up psychosocial support and gender-based violence (GBV) interventions (see box). Focus countries in 2016 included Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen. Overall, UNICEF responded to child protection needs in 78 humanitarian situations (regardless of scale), including five Level 3 and two Level 2 emergencies. UNICEF led or co-led the Child Protection Area of Responsibility in 60 countries and the Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility in 12 countries. The Children, Not Soldiers campaign has made significant headway since 2014, and the seven State parties currently listed for child recruitment and use have now signed action plans to end the practice.

Following allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation of children by UN personnel, including peacekeeping troops and troops associated with a UN mandate, UNICEF provided assistance to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse in eight countries in 2016. For instance, in the Central African Republic, UNICEF supported 233 victims of sexual exploitation and abuse (64 per cent girls) with a package of assistance, including the provision of a range of psychosocial, medical and economic support services. In some cases, this also included support to the families of the victims. In addition, UNICEF reached more than 9,000 survivors of different forms of GBV with assistance. UNICEF continues to play a lead role in the United Nations Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Working Group under the
oversight of the Secretary-General’s Special Coordinator and supported the development of a United Nations system-wide protocol on providing assistance to victims.

UNICEF is the global ‘data custodian’ for 10 SDG indicators and joint custodian for an additional 6, of which 8 are child protection indicators. UNICEF is accelerating efforts to improve data coherence in Member States and develop infrastructure for global monitoring. For example, UNICEF plans to establish a global inter-agency expert advisory group on violence against children (VAC) measurement to oversee the development of new data collection tools.

This undertaking will help to ensure that United Nations Member States can measure progress towards achieving targets. Additionally, with support from the expert group and other partners, UNICEF will work to develop methodological and ethical guidelines for the production of statistics on violence against children.

To help accelerate progress in the elimination of early and forced marriage (SDG 5.3), the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage has been working in 12 countries starting in 2016. All of the countries have established benchmarks using data from national surveys with, in some cases, in-depth evidence gathering in hotspots. To date, more than 1 million girls have been reached through life skills and school attendance support and 1.6 million individuals have been engaged in dialogue to support adolescent girls. The programme envisions a 15-year strategy that promotes the right of girls to delay marriage, addresses the conditions that keep the practice in place, and provides care for girls already in union. The programme has the potential to directly reach 2.5 million girls across the target countries by the end of 2019.

Since launching Phase II in 2013 of the UNICEF-UNFPA Joint Programme on FGM/C, 13 countries have developed legal and policy frameworks to address the practice. In addition, the number of countries with established budget lines to address FGM/C has risen from 6 to 13; there have been a total of 685 instances of enforcement of FGM/C legislation; 2,370,429 girls and women have benefited from joint programme-supported FGM/C-related prevention, and globally, 18,431,220 individuals have been involved in public declarations of abandonment since 2013 – including 2,931 communities across 16 countries in 2016. The WePROTECT Global Alliance, currently a partnership of 70 countries, global technology industry and international organizations working together to end online child sexual exploitation, entered its second year in 2016. The UNICEF 2015/2016 Global Programme to build capacity to tackle online child sexual exploitation, implemented in 17 countries, has been instrumental in translating the WePROTECT commitments into concrete action on the ground. To date, some 13 million people have been reached through awareness-raising campaigns, and 60,000 children, parents and teachers and more than 1,000 law enforcement and judicial officers, 2,000 service providers and 1,000 industry representatives have been provided with trainings and information.

Since 2007, 21 countries have completed or are completing national violence against children surveys (VACS). UNICEF is working with those countries to develop and monitor progress on national multisectoral action plans to prevent and respond to VAC. UNICEF is also active in helping to bring together routine monitoring data. In 2016, 29 countries collected and published routine administrative data on violence, exploitation and abuse of children, including violent deaths and injuries. This strengthens the evidence base underpinning the national plans using agreed strategies such as the INSPIRE package of seven violence-ending strategies published in 2016 by the World Health Organization in partnership with nine entities including UNICEF and the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children.

Global guidance also advanced with the production of several programming tools, including in the areas of sexual exploitation and abuse, birth registration, gender-based violence in emergencies, and unaccompanied and separated children. UNICEF also participated in the World Bank’s development of the Principles on identification for sustainable development: toward the digital age, which recognize the potential of strengthened identification systems, including birth registration, to support achievement of the SDGs.

UNICEF acts as leader and coordinator to achieve its strategic outcomes, and more broadly, within the context of the 2030 Agenda. UNICEF’s strong and deepening partnerships are shaping the long-term direction of crucial areas of work. In 2016, UNICEF advanced strategic partnerships for child protection in both humanitarian and non-humanitarian situations across several areas, including violence against children – through the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children and INSPIRE; birth registration and statelessness – through the Coalition on Every Child’s Right to a Nationality, co-led by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and UNICEF; and coordination on standard setting for child protection in all humanitarian contexts – through the Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action. In a year marked by a global migrant and refugee crisis, UNICEF strengthened multi-agency partnerships on migration, including with UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration and UNICEF National Committees in affected countries.
UNICEF expenses for child protection were US$605.7 million in 2016 (a 6 per cent decrease from 2015), representing 12 per cent of the organization’s total programme expenses in 2016. In terms of resource partner contributions in 2016, UNICEF received US$183 million in other resources for child protection, including US$18.7 million in thematic contributions. Overall, other resources (including thematic) funding for outcome area 6 child protection have decreased by 25 per cent since 2014, resulting in a loss of US$60.7 million to programming commitments since the commencement of the Strategic Plan. This loss is explained by a decrease in thematic funds and non-thematic other resources funds. In the case of thematic funding, the sector has suffered a 17 per cent decline over the 2014-2016 Strategic Plan period.

Looking ahead

As UNICEF transitions to the 2018–2021 Strategic Plan, a number of key areas are being ramped up. Increased thematic funding will provide a catalytic impetus to enable UNICEF to maintain momentum to reach child protection targets. Though multi-donor partnerships are increasingly investing in priority issues, such as child marriage and FGM/C, investment lags in other key areas that have a critical long-term impact. These include strengthening child protection systems; improving justice for children; advancing UNICEF’s crucial role in support of the monitoring and reporting on grave violations and the implementation of action plans; and accelerating efforts to improve data coherence in countries and develop infrastructure for global monitoring, especially in the context of UNICEF’s key custodial role in the child protection SDG targets.
UNICEF’s vision, embedded in the human rights-based approach and guided by the principles of equity and gender equality, is to ensure girls and boys are free from violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect; and where laws, services and practices minimize children’s vulnerability and mitigate known risk factors. Addressing systemic factors and building a resilient environment across all sectors and contexts is an imperative if we are to close equity gaps and accelerate and sustain gains for children.

Trends and challenges impacting the global context

Exposure to violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect remains a stark reality for millions of children (see global data box, at right). As UNICEF gears up for the 2018-2021 Strategic Plan period, these trends, alongside a number of key global challenges, are shaping the lives of boys and girls and the context in which UNICEF operates.

Urbanization: With around 54 per cent of the world’s population living in urban areas – a proportion expected to increase to 66 per cent (or 2.5 billion people) by 2050, the urban pull (or rural push) can result in families or young people moving away from traditional kin structures. In turn, this could diminish social safety nets and expose children, in particular, to increased vulnerabilities and risks. As urban areas are expected to absorb almost all new population growth over the next 25 years, urban challenges are emerging as a top policy concern.\(^2\)

UNICEF is working with partners to address these issues. For example, the growth of urban armed and gang violence that often stems from the cycle of urban poverty exposes children, especially adolescents, to crime and violence. UNICEF action to mitigate this trend is seen through its armed violence prevention work in Latin America, supporting countries to ensure responses are driven by national priorities, building capacity and ownership at country and local levels.

Similarly, another emerging trend includes the rise in road traffic injuries and deaths. This has led to the inclusion of a target in the SDGs to halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents by 2030. Since 2015, UNICEF and partners are working in key targeted countries to promote road safety – with early successes leading to an extension of programme countries in 2016 to move the work forward.

Global data on the situation of children

**Violence against children:** 6 in 10 children were subjected to physical punishment by caregivers; one in three students experienced bullying; 1 in 10 girls experienced forced sexual intercourse or other forced sexual acts.

**Gender-based violence:** One in three women will experience physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime.

**Armed violence:** In 2012, almost one in five homicide victims worldwide was a child – 70 per cent of whom were adolescent boys; nearly half of all homicides were caused by firearms.

**Children and conflict:** 230 million children live in countries/areas affected by armed conflicts; more than 30 million children are displaced by conflict.

**Child marriage:** 700 million girls and women were married before age 18; some 280 million girls alive today are at risk of becoming brides.

**Female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C):** 200 million girls and women alive today have undergone FGM/C.

**Migration:** 1 in 70 children lives outside her or his country of birth; there are 37 million international migrants aged 10–24.

**Birth registration:** The births of nearly 230 million children under age 5 have never been registered.

**Alternative care:** At least 2 million children globally live in residential care; the majority of these children have at least one living parent.

**Justice for children:** More than 1 million children worldwide are deprived of their liberty by law enforcement officials.

**Child labour:** 168 million children aged 5–17 work, including 5 per cent in the worst forms of child labour; 61 million children worldwide do not go to school, many of them are in child labour.
**Children on the move:** New and accelerated flows of people leaving their communities of origin, often due to safety concerns resulting from conflict, violence, poverty or to seek better opportunities, have made migration and displacement urgent and increasingly polarizing global priorities. Global attention to accelerate action is reflected in four SDG targets. Recent evidence suggests 31 million children live outside their country of birth, 28 million children have been forcibly displaced, and 1 in 200 children across the world is a refugee.

To drive action forward, UNICEF is contributing to policy dialogue at the normative level. Further, UNICEF is working with national authorities and regional bodies to ensure that states comply with their obligations to provide protection and assistance to child refugees and migrants, determining the best interests for unaccompanied and separated migrant children, supporting reintegration to their communities of origin if returned, and providing short-term material and psychosocial assistance.

**The humanitarian and development nexus:** As crises become part of a ‘new normal’ to many nations, they threaten to overwhelm existing capabilities and systems. However, through preparedness and collective, coordinated action, a crisis can act as a bridge or entry point to ‘build back better’. Accordingly, child protection systems are bolstered and prepared for future shocks. Lessons learned in the Ebola epidemic in West Africa serve as a good example to apply for future action. Similarly, UNICEF’s investment in the innovative tool, Primero – a software platform that was developed as a protection-related information management system – to strengthen child protection-related incident monitoring and case management in humanitarian contexts is now supporting longer-term process improvements that enhance national systems. For example, in Jordan, the digital platform is being used to develop a national tracking system for family violence cases, which will ensure sustained continuity of care for vulnerable children and survivors of violence in the longer term.

The nature of conflict is changing in terms of the underlying motives. Conflicts stemming from control of resources and markets are being supplanted by conflicts based on political and ideological motives. The impact on civilians is great, including when civilians, especially children, are directly targeted by attacks. For example, when schools are bombed, children are recruited by armed forces and armed groups, girls are forcibly removed from their homes, or when obstructing civilians’ access to humanitarian action is used as a principal objective of war. UNICEF is a key global advocate against these trends. At the United Nations Security Council Open Debate on Children and Armed Conflict in 2016, a call was issued to all parties to protect children by changing the way war is being waged, including by ending the use of explosive weapons in densely populated areas. UNICEF continues to support the ongoing implementation of action plans to end grave violations against children.

**Violence in a new digital age:** Globally, one third of all Internet users are children. Even in countries where Internet use is relatively low, usage among young people is sometimes as much as double the national average. This exponential growth brings with it tremendous opportunities, yet at the same time it can reinforce inequities among children and lead to harmful consequences and risks. This inequity may be amplified in certain low- and middle-income country contexts as the increased use is not necessarily coupled with corresponding safeguards such as legislation, specialized care services, knowledge of online safety, and reporting hotlines and helplines.

There is an indication of an increase in the amount and circulation of child sexual abuse materials on the Internet. In the first ten months of 2015, INHOPE hotlines processed reports involving 96,334 web addresses containing such materials, representing an increase of 7 per cent over 12 months in 2014. Disturbingly, in 2015, 69 per cent of the victims of child sexual abuse materials were aged 10 or younger. UNICEF is actively engaged in working across contexts and with multiple partners to accelerate action to tackle online child sexual exploitation and build a body of evidence to show the risks of the Internet. This includes innovative projects like Global Kids Online that will generate and sustain a rigorous evidence base on the impact of the Internet for children.

**The impact of climate change:** Climate change and environmental degradation undermine children’s rights, including the right to live free from violence and exploitation. It increases the vulnerability of children and women, and stretches the capacity of organizations mandated to protect them. Nearly 160 million children live in high or extremely high drought-risk zones, and about 300 million children live in flood-prone zones in countries where more than half of the population lives in poverty. The likelihood of displacement due to climate change is 60 per cent higher than it was four years ago, which may increase the risks for girls and boys in multiple ways.

Climate change increases poverty and marginalization of the most vulnerable groups, especially those who are most deprived, thereby limiting their ability to protect themselves from violence or seek justice afterwards. Frequent extreme weather events and natural disasters coupled with shrinking natural resources put considerable additional strain on public social security systems.
UNICEF child protection and achieving the SDGs

Building on the 2015 mid-term review of the current 2014-2017 Strategic Plan and consultations for the 2018-2021 Strategic Plan, the SDGs provide a unique opportunity to build global momentum to achieve accelerated results for children. UNICEF brings extensive field presence, communications outreach, innovation, social mobilization and evidence-based policy engagement to drive the agenda forward.

Children and youth participation were a hallmark of SDG negotiations and remain so for implementation. Such participation provides children and youth with an opportunity to take action within their own communities, promote dialogue, support key issues among peer groups, and participate in monitoring activities to hold governments accountable for commitments. UNICEF-supported mechanisms such as U-Report, EduTrac, digital/community mapping and others are gaining traction in many countries and supporting SDG-related participation, including real-time and participatory monitoring.

Although the SDG agenda includes a strong commitment to generating disaggregated data, for many countries, collecting, analysing and using different types of data – and monitoring a higher number of indicators – will be a significant challenge. UNICEF has a distinct advantage to support these efforts, including long-standing and broad-based field presence and experience with MDG monitoring through household surveys, complementing experience on newer forms of data collection that leverages technologies such as Primero.

Funding is becoming increasingly constrained in a complex and crowded child protection sector. Since 2013, there has been a marked drop in development assistance (excluding humanitarian action) for UNICEF child protection. Funding flows are often channelled to specific programme areas or issues through pooled resources for global frameworks of action (VAC, child marriage and FGM/C). Though this results in buoyant programmatic funds for high-priority areas, this impacts the resources channelled to other areas that attract less funding. Within this context, UNICEF must demonstrate results for children and added value in achieving child protection outcomes.

Demonstrating ‘value for money’ is particularly critical in emerging areas of work and in contexts where results-based performance is constrained by data challenges. Areas of focus should be selected based on UNICEF’s comparative advantages: a clear mandate and strong advocacy voice, its ability to leverage multisectoral action, and capacity to bring deep field experience and evidence to the policy table at the national, regional and global levels.

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**FIGURE 1**

Advancing the global development agenda to achieve results for children

- **Disaster Risk Reduction (Sendai, March 2015)**
- **New York Declaration (November, 2016)**
- **Habitat 111 (Quito, 2016)**
- **COP 21 (Paris, December 2015)**
- **World Humanitarian Summit (Istanbul, May 2016)**
- **Financing for Development (Addis, July 2016)**
- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs, 2016)**

Eight of the 16 SDG indicators UNICEF is sole or joint custodian of are child protection-related indicators.

- **Global Roadmap for increased investment in children – leading to increased domestic fiscal space for child protection.**
- **Recognizing the increasing impact of disasters and climate risks, and their complexity in many parts of the world, Sendai declaration aims to strengthen disaster risk reduction to reduce disaster losses of lives and assets from disasters worldwide.**
- **Global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration and a global compact on refugees.**
- **20 year sustainable urban development roadmap, with significant impact for children, including urban violence and crime, exploitation, child labour, road safety, violence and exploitation.**
- **New international agreement on climate change, applicable to all – provides a framework to advocate for the negative impact and risks of climate change on children’s well-being.**
- **Commitments to Action included a concrete set of actions and commitments in support of the Agenda for Humanity - dignity; safety; resilience; partnerships and finance.**
RESULTS BY PROGRAMME AREA

Drawing on UNICEF’s child protection global theory of change, this report covers the third year of the UNICEF Strategic Plan 2014–2017. It presents programme results and challenges in the child protection sector in seven programming areas, which contribute towards delivering against six Strategic Plan outputs under outcome 6: Child Protection, and more contextually to the achievement of child protection targets in the SDGs. Child protection’s six Strategic Plan outputs include: increasing demand (output a); strengthening supply led services (output b); creating an enabling environment (output c); increasing capacity and delivery of services in humanitarian situations (output d); increasing capacity to respond to gender equality and human rights (output e); and enhancing global and regional-level capacity (output f).

FIGURE 2
Alignment of child protection programme to Strategic Plan outputs and Sustainable Development Goals

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<th>OUTPUT A: DEMAND FACTORS</th>
<th>OUTPUT B: SUPPLY FACTORS</th>
<th>OUTPUT C: ENABLING ENVIRONMENT</th>
<th>OUTPUT D: HUMANITARIAN ACTION</th>
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UNICEF OUTCOME 6: CHILD PROTECTION

1 NO POVERTY
2 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
3 QUALITY EDUCATION
4 GENDER EQUALITY
5 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
6 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

INDICATORS:
• Countries benefitting from psycho-social support
• Children experiencing or at risk of sexual violence receive at least one kind of multi-sectoral support service
• UNICEF-targeted children released/reintegrated from armed forces and groups
• UNICEF-targeted children registered as unaccompanied or separated and reunified/receive appropriate alternative care services
• Country situations with MRM mechanisms on grave violations against children
• Children benefit from weapons-related risk education
• Improved country sub-cluster coordination that meet CCC standards for coordination.
UNICEF’s child protection seven programme areas are:

1. Data and child protection;
2. Child protection systems;
3. Violence against children;
4. Justice for children;
5. Birth registration;
6. Child protection and emergencies; and
7. Strengthening families and communities.

UNICEF child protection programming footprint 2016: Results summary

While the 2016 results for each of the seven programme areas are presented separately for the purposes of this report, in practice they are deeply integrated and form part of a holistic approach to achieving results for children. In the following section, the underlying challenges and constraints hindering progress, cross-sectoral linkages, strategic alliances and partnerships, and evidence-building results are outlined within each programme area. Action and progress on key cross-cutting interventions, notably gender, equality, adolescents and Communication for Development (C4D), are also highlighted.

Country-level result drivers include actions to increase knowledge, change behaviour and encourage participation (addressing demand-related barriers), improve access and quality to essential services for children (supply-related barriers), and strengthen the enabling environment to support the removal of demand and supply barriers. Overall, this has contributed to a number of results for children across the seven strategic plan programme areas, as outlined in the following section (see also the Annex).10

During 2016, a total of 765 professional staff managed child protection programming in 127 countries. The majority were deployed at the country level, with the greatest percentage located in West and Central Africa (20 per cent) and Eastern and Southern Africa (19 per cent) – including in the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Sudan and Zimbabwe.

This strong presence allows for collaboration and close relationships with governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society actors and the private sector. UNICEF provides a range of advocacy and technical support to strengthen all components of child protection systems across all seven programme areas. UNICEF staff support regional and country level actions, improving data and evidence and at the global level, support best practices and shape frameworks, policies and partnerships.
By end 2016, 132 countries worked on child protection systems strengthening, a significant increase from 74 in 2013.

By end 2016, 131 countries have a birth registration service within civil registry which is free, continuous/permanent and accessible, universal in coverage, timely and accurate.

6 countries in 2016 (83 since 2010), carried out full or partial child protection systems mapping supported directly by UNICEF.

By end 2016, 33 countries had services and procedures for children in contact with the law in line with international standards.

65 countries now have an alternative care policy in alignment with the UN-welcomed Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children.

20 per cent increase in the number of countries reporting that their justice systems comply with the minimum standards laid down in the Beijing Rules of Justice.

UNICEF led or co-led the child protection Area of Responsibility (AoR) in 60 countries and the gender based violence AoR in 12 countries.

30 per cent of the 139 countries reported functioning child protection systems offering preventive and response services.

31 countries specifically focusing action on child protection budgets or financing – a 15 per cent increase in numbers since 2015.
FIGURE 4
UNICEF’s child protection programming footprint, 2016

2016 UNICEF Programming Reach
(# of children)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Millions of Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weapons-related risk education</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth registration</td>
<td>12.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child labour</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBVIE</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MHPSS</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2016 UNICEF Programming Scale
(# of countries)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th># of Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child protection systems</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence against children</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth registration:</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice for children:</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency response:</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual abuse &amp; exploitation:</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FGM/C
2,931 communities across 16 countries declared abandonment

Children associated w/armed forces/groups
21,403 children released, 53% reintegrated in their communities

Online child sexual exploitation and abuse
Through the #We Protect campaign to tackle online sexual exploitation, an estimated 13 million people were reached through awareness raising campaigns at national and global level

Unaccompanied/ separated children
33,000 received appropriate alternative care services; 22,000 reunited with families/caregivers in crisis-affected countries

Migration
Regarding the European migration and refugee crisis, 95,997 children (5 countries) were reached with psychosocial support and family reunification services
**FIGURE 5**
Illustrative results from thematic resources, 2016

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

**Issue:** Strengthening justice systems and restorative justice

**Results:** Advocacy on developing protocols and standards on processes such as securing the right of a child to be heard during a disciplinary proceeding led to a breakthrough with a ruling issued by the Dominican Constitutional Court revoking a school’s sanction against a child. The ruling demanded private schools to respect children’s right to be heard before sanctions are applied.

**Strategic significance:** Practical example of legal application and improved awareness of respecting children’s rights among judges of the highest national ruling court, setting an important future precedent.

**ZIMBABWE**

**Issue:** Building institutional capacity to deliver decentralized quality services

**Results:** Provision of child-sensitive social protection (cash transfers) to 64,274 households in 23 districts; assistance to 23,944 children with statutory cases through the National Case Management System; diversion of 529 children from being dealt with as adults within the justice system; enabling 1,172 girl and 52 boy survivors of rape to access justice; and delivery of free legal services to 1,381 girls and 223 boys.

**Strategic significance:** Development of national strategies across sectors, including the National Plan of Action for orphans and vulnerable children, the National Social Protection Framework, and the National Action Plan to end child marriage and child pregnancies. Efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery tracked at decentralized levels across the various sectors.

**VIET NAM**

**Issue:** Strengthening child protection systems through improved legislation

**Results:** Inclusion of cash benefits for children up to age 3 (proposed by UNICEF and subsequently included in government strategies). Universal benefits will be introduced in poor ethnic minority areas by 2020, with all children up to age 3 being covered by 2025.

**Strategic significance:** Comprehensive systems strengthening. Drafting of the new Child Law, with key chapters on child protection and justice for children. First-ever costing of the child protection system, a vital step to address implementation gaps.
PROGRAMME AREA 1: DATA AND CHILD PROTECTION

The child protection environment continues to be dynamic and challenging. To achieve sustainable results and reduce equity gaps, UNICEF must demonstrate results as well as a comparative advantage. This cannot be done without improving data, planning, monitoring and evaluation to enable good documentation of results. It must also lead to strategic engagement in the areas facing the greatest need and where UNICEF’s work has the greatest traction.

The SDG targets offer UNICEF the opportunity to think and act in a more integrated manner. They also require the organization to demonstrate its comparative advantage in child protection, while recognizing that other sectors have important contributions to make and that cross-cutting strategies are invaluable. UNICEF is the sole data custodian for 10 SDG indicators and joint custodian for an additional 6, of which 8 are related to child protection.

UNICEF is accelerating efforts to improve data coherence in countries and develop infrastructure for global monitoring. This includes tools for data collection, capacity building, technical assistance, quality assurance and target setting. In 2016, UNICEF improved data coherence through partnerships and alliances, including particularly through contribution to SDG Indicators 5.3.1 (UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage) and 5.3.2 (Joint Programme on FGM/C).

During 2016, a number of countries were provided with support for tracking progress on the SDGs. For example, UNICEF assisted the Government of Indonesia in producing its first report on child marriage trends, which will serve as a baseline for reporting against SDG target 5.3. To strengthen the availability of disaggregated data, Malaysia mapped SDG indicators and produced two studies outlining data gaps. In South Africa, the launch of Global Goals for Every Child: Progress and disparities among children in South Africa galvanized attention on the opportunities and challenges of making the SDGs work for children.

FIGURE 6

Results chain for programme area 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPENDING</th>
<th>OUTPUTS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Periodic data collection and analysis</td>
<td>Collection and publication of routine administrative data on violence, exploitation and abuse of children, including violent deaths and injuries (P.6.e.1)</td>
<td>Reduced rates of sexual violence (P.6.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Routine administrative data collection and analysis</td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduced rates of violent disciplinary practices (P.6.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduced rates of children in detention (P.6.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduced rates of FGM/C (P.6.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduced rates of child labour (P.6.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduced rates of children in residential care (P.6.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Increased rates of child marriage (P.6.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Increased rates of parties to conflict listed in the annex of the Secretary-General’s report on children and armed conflict that enter into action plans to end grave violations against children (P.6.8)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 million US$
To strengthen global evidence and data generation in the context of the SDGs, UNICEF is undertaking a desk review and in-depth country assessment of administrative data sources on Violence against Children (VAC) (15 countries) and civil registration and vital statistics (14 countries) across all seven regions. The reports will provide recommendations on how to use, interpret and strengthen administrative data. These are important sources of information that can be readily accessed and used to complement large-scale data collection, such as household and school-based surveys. Further, approaches to child protection systems strengthening will be informed by the findings and recommendations of the 2017 UNICEF evaluation.

UNICEF also supports national and regional alliances to build capacities for planning, monitoring and evaluating child protection programmes through such mechanisms as programme standards and guidance, and results-based monitoring. For example, UNICEF supported the Government of Sudan to undertake an assessment of results-based monitoring and evaluation practices among 340 counterparts and NGOs in all states. Using a comprehensive questionnaire, the assessment revealed significant capacity gaps and led to support for training on results-based monitoring for 50 government counterparts and 100 UNICEF staff members.

During 2016, 29 programme countries collected and published routine administrative data on violence, exploitation and abuse of children, including violent deaths and injuries. Administrative data on certain forms of VAC are also available for more countries, such as figures on homicides, which are available for more than 60 countries. Examples of UNICEF country support to improve routine data collection on child protection indicators include:

- In Bangladesh, a real-time monitoring system to measure basic social service coverage for 200,000 households was established. Annual data collection is linked to the country’s Sample Vital Registration System, and results are shown on an online dashboard, reducing the time between data collection and results reporting.
- Cambodia conducted its first national mapping of all residential care facilities, which details where the facilities are and how many children live in them. With the Open Institute, UNICEF has developed a digital application to improve inspection of residential care institutions.
- Côte d’Ivoire’s data on violence against children in schools are now integrated into collection mechanisms and will be included in yearbooks on school statistics, with plans to begin publishing in 2017.
- Collaboration with Ethiopia’s Central Statistical Agency resulted in improved data on FGM/C and child marriage in the 2016 Demographic and Health Survey. Data on school-related

UNICEF’s role as data custodian

UNICEF is custodian of the following global targets related to child protection in the SDGs:

5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner, in the last 12 months, by form of violence and age group.

5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner, in the last 12 months, by age group and place of occurrence.

5.3.1 Percentage of women aged 20–24 who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18.

5.3.2 Percentage of girls and women aged 15–49 who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age group.

8.7.1 Percentage and number of children aged 5–17 engaged in child labour, by sex and age group.

16.2.1 Proportion of children aged 1–17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month.

16.2.3 Proportion of young women and men aged 18–29 who experienced sexual violence by age 18.

16.9.1 Proportion of children under age 5 whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age.

FIGURE 7
Countries that collect and publish routine administrative data on violence, exploitation and abuse of children, including violent deaths and injuries
gender-based violence will be included in the 2016/2017 Education Management Information System.

- In Kazakhstan, UNICEF supported the review and mapping of data on children and prepared recommendations for data collection and the calculation of new indicators by relevant ministries for inclusion in the data yearbook. Data collection and calculation methodologies were aligned with international standards.

- Uganda's national database on gender-based violence (GBV) was revised to include child marriage statistics and rolled out to 24 districts. Indicators on gender and violence against children in schools were incorporated into Education Management Information Systems and district inspection tools, along with the roll-out of child-friendly reporting, tracking, response and referral guidelines to schools in 10 districts.

Highlights of 2016 collaborative data-driven publications and research: A number of data-driven publications and research papers were authored or co-authored and supported by UNICEF at all levels, together with the Office of Research-Innocenti and other partners. Illustrative examples include:

- The report *Uprooted: The growing crisis for refugee and migrant children*, which offers comprehensive, global data – shedding light on the nature of childhood migration and displacement, and highlighting the major challenges faced by children across regions.

- ‘Information and Communications Technology for Child Protection Case Management in Emergencies: A framework for design, implementation, and evaluation’ will help in designing better, more measurable interventions for using information and communication technologies (ICTs) in child protection.

- New estimates of the number of girls and women affected by FGM/C in 30 countries and a new statistical brochure.

- With an aim to highlight the centrality of girls in the SDGs, a data-driven brochure for the International Day of the Girl in October was published, which included new analyses on the burden of time spent on household chores among girls and data availability and gaps for girls in the SDGs.

At the regional level, improved data collection and exchange on protection concerns for children on the move were advanced in the Middle East and North Africa and CEE/CIS. For East Asia and the Pacific, *A Fair Start for Every Child* highlights six country case studies on government efforts to solve the persistent problems faced by marginalized children, including the ‘barefoot social worker’ initiative in China and UNICEF’s Pacific Birth Registration initiative. New regional networks are emerging in Eastern and Southern Africa and in East Asia and the Pacific, sharing applied research plans and practice around violence prevention. Regional dialogue on violence prevention is increasing, as exemplified by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations debates around the action plan on violence affecting children.

Multi-country studies focus on understanding violence affecting children

The UNICEF Office of Research-Innocenti and its partners generated new evidence on VAC in 2016. For example, the *Multi-Country Study on the Drivers of Violence Affecting Children* – an ongoing action-research project undertaken in Italy, Peru, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe – aims to improve the knowledge base on the greatest threats of violence to children, and to support planning for interventions that promote children’s well-being. The study examines how structural, institutional, community, interpersonal and individual factors interact, with a particular focus on the risks and experiences of violence by gender and age. In 2016, 18 related outputs were produced as part of this initiative, including 5 research papers and several research briefs.

Young Lives, a study of childhood poverty conducted by the University of Oxford, was initiated in 2000 and has followed 12,000 children in Ethiopia, India, Peru and Viet Nam – revealing children’s experiences and the impacts of violence on their lives over time. In Viet Nam, findings have informed the design of a national child protection systems evaluation that resulted in a multisectoral Child Protection Decree and moved the Government to address violent discipline in the home. In Peru, study data hand-carried to Parliament informed the landmark decision to ban corporal punishment, and forged a ministerial partnership to calculate the burden of violence and reduce discipline in the home and schools. By early 2017, initial study findings will be synthesized in a publication introducing a revised conceptual framework for practitioners addressing violence affecting children.
The Office of Research-Innocenti produced 21 reports on child protection topics in 2016 and launched 15 media releases. Issues addressed include the impact of social networks on the rehabilitation of female survivors of sexual violence in Uganda, screening of intimate partner violence in public health settings in Kenya, and the impact of violence on educational outcomes in Peru.11

Collaboration across sectors is also important in enhancing child protection evidence. Child protection and health sector partners are working to strengthen operational links between birth registration and health systems. UNICEF is supporting the World Bank’s Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development initiative, addressing human rights indicators for migrants.

Challenges: One year since the launch of the SDGs, a number of key challenges persist to improving data, planning, monitoring and evaluation in child protection. For example, although administrative data might be the best source of data on violence against children, in countries where solid data collection methods and tools are still lacking, quality and coverage may be limited – with inconsistencies among national, subnational and international definitions of VAC impacting comparability across administrative data points. Another challenge is the accurate recording of numbers, as there can often be duplication in recording of incidences of VAC and children affected by VAC across administrative data sources due to parallel recording-keeping systems.

UNICEF’s analysis of administrative data on violence against children is identifying the various sources of data on VAC, and assessing their strengths and weaknesses. This work is expected to contribute to a broader exploration of administrative data (and constraints) across a variety of child protection areas. Building country-level capacity to develop methodologies, carry out complex analysis, and use ethical procedures is essential. In response, UNICEF undertakes comparative research to build planning and programming responses, including those undertaken in 2016, on ‘children and the digital age’, and the five country reports, as part of the Global Kids Online project (Argentina, Montenegro, the Philippines, Serbia, and South Africa) comparing trends in children’s Internet use, risks and opportunities.

PROGRAMME AREA 2: CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEMS

Child protection systems seek to address the full range of risk factors in the lives of all children and their families and cut across the social welfare, education, health, and security sectors. UNICEF plays an active role by supporting capacity development and providing technical assistance to translate global commitments into national contexts, ultimately building the infrastructure to strengthen the quality and reach of child protection services.

The SDGs offer an important opportunity to drive actions for strengthening child protection systems. Improved systems provide a bedrock to achieve equitable results for children. A strong child protection system will contribute to the achievement of all related SDGs and is an outcome of multisectoral drivers, including actions involving the justice, social welfare, social protection education and health sectors.
**FIGURE 8**
Results chain for programme area 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPENDING</th>
<th>OUTPUTS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child protection systems strengthening</td>
<td>Functioning child protection systems offering preventive and response services (P6.b.1)</td>
<td>Reduced rates of sexual violence (P6.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduced rates of violent disciplinary practices (P6.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduced rates of children in detention (P6.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduced rates of FGM/C (P6.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduced rates of child labour (P6.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduced rates of children in residential care (P6.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Decreased rates of child marriage (P6.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Increased rates of parties to conflict listed in the annex of the Secretary-General’s report on children and armed conflict that enter into action plans to end grave violations against children (P6.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative care</td>
<td>Legislation on child protection consistent with or better than international standards (P6.c.1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapping and assessment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget analysis and tracking</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2016, total global expenses for child protection systems strengthening amounted to US$80.5 million, excluding cross-thematic funds and operational or other costs. This represents an increase in overall spending of 19 per cent from 2015 figures. Eighty-four per cent of the expenses are allocated to intervention actions across the spectrum of systems development. In addition, 12 per cent was spent on actions specifically relating to alternative care for children who do not or cannot live with their parents or traditional and non-traditional caregivers.

In 2016, 139 UNICEF country offices reported that their country had child protection systems that provided a mix of preventive and responsive child protection services, with 30 per cent stating they had a functioning system offering preventive and responsive services, an increase of eight countries from 2015.

Strengthening alternative care options is most effective when it is built into wider child protection reforms. Improving budget analysis and tracking represents around a half a per cent of programme area investment.

Between 2014 and 2016 there has been a 30 per cent increase in the number of countries with legislation on child protection that is consistent with or better than international standards.
Mappings are critical to identify implementation strengths and gaps. Since 2010, 143 countries have carried out full or partial child protection systems mappings, 83 of which were supported directly by UNICEF, with 6 additional countries mapping or updating their child protection systems in 2016 (Algeria, Belize, Chile, Paraguay, Sri Lanka and Togo).

During 2016, at least 62 countries were working on the development or implementation of legislation, policies or standards. For example, Ghana has been systematically making legislative improvements since its systems mapping in 2010, including most recently an amendment of the Children’s Act and its accession to the 1993 Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption, which creates a more robust framework for alternative care arrangements for children.

**FIGURE 9**
Countries with legislation on child protection consistent with or better than international standards

**MAP 1**
Global reach of child protection systems mappings, 2010-2016
Creating the necessary fiscal space for strengthening child protection is becoming more critical, with 31 countries specifically focusing action on budgets or financing – a 15 per cent increase in numbers since 2015. For example:

- In Myanmar, sustained UNICEF advocacy for increased national budgets and budgeting for an expansion of social work case management led to significant increases in relevant budget ceilings for 2017/2018.

- In Uganda, a joint initiative on public finance for children has led to firmer integration of equitable budgeting at the local level and continues to provide a systematic platform for improving budgets in the future.

UNICEF continues to develop a financial management package for child protection systems to standardize and analyse government expenditures and to inform subsequent advocacy and guidance. The financial benchmarking exercise was completed in Côte d’Ivoire, and work in Indonesia was extended by the Government to apply the methodology to additional locations and is informing the global financial benchmarking manual under development.

At least 60 country offices supported actions to expand the quality and reach of service provision, including financial and technical assistance, with 11 countries showing significant effort to scale up or roll out services. For example:

- In China, the National Programme of Action recently committed to establishing child-friendly spaces in 90 per cent of all urban and rural communities by 2020.

- In Guinea, as part of the ‘building back better’ strategy following the Ebola crisis, targeted social services support reached 6,153 orphans and 800 caregivers, mostly female heads of household who are Ebola survivors.

Building multisector links to strengthen child protection systems is an increasingly effective strategy, with 19 country offices focused on facilitating sustained, systemic changes through coordination across sectors. For example:

- In Gabon, a draft child code is a major step towards bringing cross-cutting legislation to the health, education and social protection sectors.

- In Oman, cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms were highlighted as a priority in the National Strategy for Children, the National Early Childhood Education Action Plan and the National Strategy for Social Work.

- In Zambia, legislative provisions related to child protection involved eight ministries, requiring significant cross-ministry and cross-sectoral coordination.

In West and Central Africa, a regional workshop on key competencies and strengthening the social service workforce was co-hosted by the International Bureau for Children’s Rights, Terre des Hommes-Lausanne, Social Services International and UNICEF. Government departments working in child protection came together with NGOs from eight participating countries to develop a common agenda, resulting in a revised regional road map. UNICEF is partnering with the Global Social Service Workforce Alliance to undertake an evidence based review.
of the social service workforce. The review will identify existing challenges such as the lack of personnel; clarity concerning roles of the different cadres: availability of training materials and courses; and challenges to the professionalisation of the sector. These findings will support social service workforce development at country level.

In 2016, almost 1.9 million children were registered in alternative care across UNICEF programme countries. This is a 20 per cent increase in the number of children registered in such programmes since the start of the Strategic Plan period and indicative of the stronger care reform systems being put in place across countries.

Strengthening social sector workforce: The case of Rwanda

Strengthening the social service workforce is vital to improving the quality of service delivery and case management. Yet many countries do not have a sufficient cadre to provide the quality and reach of services required to support all vulnerable and marginalized children. Across many countries, efforts are under way to address this challenge.

UNICEF and the Government of Rwanda have partnered to recruit, train and deploy 68 social workers and psychologists to act as first ‘port of call’ for protecting children’s well-being. In partnership with the National Commission for Children, Tulane University, and Hope and Homes for Children, UNICEF implemented a national capacity-development programme for these professionals to equip them with the necessary skills for assisting families and communities in caring for and protecting children.

Social workers and psychologists from across the country attended a practical training workshop, focused on the reintegration of children from orphanages into families, which provided an opportunity for social workers to share experiences and exchange best practices in alternative care. Additionally, over 29,000 community-based para-social workers called ‘Inshuti Z’ Umuryango’ or Friends of the Family, in all 30 districts received a country-wide training – equipping them with the skills and knowledge to provide child and family protection services at the village level.

As part of child care reform action in Rwanda, more than 2,000 children have been reintegrated from orphanages to family based care in the past year. About 1,100 children remain in orphanages, and their situation is being assessed by a dedicated social workforce to ensure the safe and sustainable reintegration of children into families.

Sixty-five countries now have an alternative care policy in alignment with the United Nations-welcomed Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children. Alternative care reform should be part of wider child protection systems strengthening to ensure services are available to prevent institutionalization and to support children who return to the community.
During 2016, at least 42 UNICEF country offices worked on different aspects of reform to strengthen alternative care. Key results include:

- Thirteen countries are working on issues related to deinstitutionalization, including Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Guatemala, Malawi, the Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, the Sudan and Zambia.
- Seven countries are focusing on strengthening family care and foster care – Colombia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Paraguay and Rwanda.
- Seven countries are strengthening prevention mechanisms – China, the Republic of Moldova, Paraguay, Romania, Rwanda, Serbia and Sri Lanka.
- Six countries are building capacity, including Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cuba, Malawi, Paraguay and Serbia.
- Seven countries are working on strengthening and improving services to support children – Colombia, the Gambia, Guatemala, Kosovo, Montenegro, Paraguay and Uganda.
- Colombia and Tajikistan are working on guidelines and procedures to improve their alternative care systems.
- Three countries are strengthening or using standards and procedures for childcare facilities and referral mechanisms – the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Cape Verde and the Republic of Moldova.

At the global level, UNICEF continues to work in partnership with the Better Care Network to develop a tracking tool to measure the implementation of the alternative care guidelines, due to be tested in 2017. Regionally, a Care to Practice initiative was launched to provide online collaboration and support for practitioners in Eastern and Southern Africa.

**Challenges:** A number of challenges impact structural and systemic improvements for child protection across all contexts. It is necessary to build understanding of the key requirements and roles of each stakeholder, including generating sustained political will to steer the necessary changes from policy development to sustained enforcement of child protection systems and mechanisms in the long term. Changes in government stability can also impact the continuity of long-term action. Further, the availability of fiscal space for child protection can be impacted by economic shocks, as noted in several programme countries.

Limited investment in building capacity in terms of quality and reach of the workforce, especially social welfare,
remains a significant impediment to effective programming at scale. It can also affect rates of employment and retention. There remains an underutilization of administrative data, and countries are impeded by the quality of their information management and referral systems. Further, humanitarian crises can severely impact (or halt) implementation of national planning, diverting resources to address immediate and long-term humanitarian needs. Building resilience and flexibility into systems to respond to unanticipated risks and shocks in the wake of crisis is an essential component to sustained strengthening of child protection systems.

PROGRAMME AREA 3: VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

By addressing VAC, the SDGs and associated targets have elevated the protection of children against violence and exploitation on the international agenda, and provide a platform from which to accelerate efforts and monitor progress. UNICEF is engaged with governments and other partners to operationalize commitments to the SDGs.

FIGURE 11
Results chain for programme area 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPENDING</th>
<th>OUTPUTS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Violence against children</td>
<td><strong>30.9</strong> Children’s capacity to identify, prevent and/or report sexual violence (P6.a.1 (a))</td>
<td>Reduced rates of sexual violence (P6.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender based violence, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation</td>
<td><strong>15.7</strong> Children’s capacity to identify, prevent and/or report physical violence (P6.a.1 (b))</td>
<td>Reduced rates of violent disciplinary practices (P6.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adolescent development</td>
<td><strong>6.2</strong> Children’s capacity to identify, prevent and/or report more than one form of violence (P6.a.1 (c))</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armed violence</td>
<td><strong>5.2</strong> Child-rearing practices programmes (P6.a.2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotional and physical violence</td>
<td><strong>3.6</strong> Functioning Child Protection Systems offering preventive and response services (P6.b.1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Despite progress, violence against children remains pervasive from birth through adolescence. It takes many forms in many settings and is exacerbated in emergencies. Just 10 per cent of the world’s children live in States where the law recognizes their right to protection from all violent punishment and to equal protection from assault.\(^{13}\)

Efforts to prevent and respond to violence range from early childhood (detecting children at risk) to adolescence (addressing physical, emotional and sexual violence). UNICEF’s emphasis is on reducing violent discipline in home and schools, addressing sexual abuse and exploitation, and preventing armed violence (see programme area 7 for results on reducing violence at home).
At a normative level, several resolutions on the protection of children’s rights were adopted at the 71st session of the United Nations General Assembly: on the rights of the child – with a special focus on migrant children; on child early and forced marriage; on protecting children from bullying; and on intensifying global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilation.

The resolutions called upon Member States to strengthen national efforts to protect the rights of all children, in particular children in vulnerable situations, migrant children and indigenous children, children placed in alternative care and within the juvenile justice system. The General Assembly decided to continue to address these child rights subjects at its next sessions, and to dedicate a thematic focus on the topic of violence against children at its 72nd session in 2017.

In 2016, total global expenses for VAC amounted to US$61.6 million, excluding cross-thematic funds and operational and other costs. This reflects a 20 per cent increase compared to 2015 expenses and due in part to spending allocated to cross-sector interventions addressing violence against children in all its forms – approximately half of total spending. The second greatest area of spending targeted specifically gender-based violence, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation. This included the growing efforts to address online child sexual exploitation, which accounted for 25 per cent of total spending in 2016.

In 2016, 124 UNICEF country offices carried out programming to prevent and respond to violence against children through a combination of interventions, including aligning policies and budgets with protective outcomes for children; building capacities of the justice sector, including law enforcement, child protection practitioners including social workers, teachers, health practitioners; expanding multisectoral service delivery to child victims; early detection and referrals for prevention of violence; and strengthening communities and children’s ability to identify key protection risks and how to report violations.

### Violence against children evaluation and management response

In 2015, UNICEF conducted the first comprehensive evaluation of its work to protect children from violence. The evaluation, which was presented to the UNICEF Executive Board in 2016, recommended making violence against children (VAC) an organization-wide, multisectoral priority, with an overarching theory of change and core indicators for measuring prevention and response actions (high priority). Other recommendations include:

- Launching a multisectoral road map to reduce VAC and translating it into regional road maps;
- Mobilizing evidence-based advocacy resources specific to each context;
- Accelerating roll-out of the systems strengthening approach for preventing and responding to VAC;
- Renewing the focus on preventing violence, including through addressing social norms, and improving the focus on gender and equity approaches; and
- Institutionalizing mapping of child protection systems and planning for follow-up research and data initiatives, including the developing of a web-based knowledge networking platform.

Lessons learned from the evaluation provided an opportunity to strengthen UNICEF’s global theory of change and develop a common framework to anchor the recommendations around global efforts to prevent and respond to violence. The launch of INSPIRE, in July 2016, contributes to advancing the VAC management response. Spearheaded by the World Health Organization and involving nine other key agencies, including UNICEF, the initiative aims to develop a set of evidence-based strategies to address violence and enhance sector synergy. Coordinated action to attain SDG targets is aided by the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children (see below), which will improve links between the health, education, social welfare and justice sectors and strengthen harmonized approaches within UNICEF and with partners.
Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children

“The Global Partnership to End Violence against Children is mobilizing the world… There could be no more meaningful way to help realize the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.”

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, New York, 12 July 2016

The Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children, and an associated fund, aims to facilitate collaboration among governments, United Nations agencies, civil society groups, philanthropic foundations, academics and children. A principal objective is for all countries to commit to using an evidence-based approach. There are 13 pathfinder countries at the forefront, demonstrating how to implement evidence-based strategies. As a founding member of the partnership, UNICEF has been an important contributor. UNICEF has established a secretariat to support the operation of the Global Partnership and is providing support to the operation of the fund and the Fund Steering Committee concerning allocation of funds, monitoring of programme implementation and managing of risk.

UNICEF has worked closely with the Global Partnership, the World Health Organization and other key partners to develop INSPIRE, which aims to harmonize global evidence and enhance synergies. In March 2016, UNICEF led a workshop to develop a common results framework among partners to improve tracking and monitoring of results. A set of handbooks on programme design will be developed at national level in 2017.

Other actions complement existing strategies. The Together for Girls partnership is supporting countries to carry out national Violence Against Children Surveys (VACS), with findings most recently released from the surveys in the Lao People’s Democratic Republic and Nigeria. Fieldwork in Botswana, Rwanda and Uganda was completed, and nine additional countries are implementing VAC surveys or planning to.

UNICEF has also partnered with Together for Girls in global advocacy, such as the Every Hour Matters campaign, to raise awareness of how violence harms children, with a focus on sexual violence. The Know Violence initiative continues to collect and disseminate evidence on what works to address violence in childhood. Regional efforts have included an expert meeting with the UNICEF Office of Research-Innocenti to map out pathways between violence prevention and social protection.

FIGURE 12
INSPIRE: Seven strategies for ending violence against children
Collaboration with the Office of the Special Representative for the Secretary-General on Violence against Children (SRSG-VAC)

UNICEF is working closely with the Office of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Violence against Children (SRSG-VAC) and other partners to advance progress on SDG target 16.2 and other relevant targets. In 2016, the SRSG-VAC released a report, Ending the Torment: Tackling bullying from the schoolyard to cyberspace. An expert consultation was organized in collaboration with UNICEF’s Office of Research-Innocenti to support development of the Special Representative’s report and other work on this topic. This work was informed by the views of young people, provided through the U-Report platform.

In addition, the Office of the SRSG-VAC conducted over 40 field missions to more than 30 countries in close cooperation with UNICEF. For example, in February 2016, the Special Representative supported UNICEF in launching the results of the national Violence Against Children Survey in Nigeria. Nigeria was the first country in West Africa to conduct a VAC survey. In conjunction with the launch of the Year of Action, National Priority Actions to prevent and respond to VACS were announced, including commitments from NGOs, religious and traditional leaders and organizations, the media, and government institutions.

In Nigeria, since the release of the VACS and the Year of Action, a number of results were noted. Lagos became the first state to launch its own campaign to end violence against children. Nine states have joined together to develop and trial a model child protection system that will trigger the operationalization of the Child’s Right Act across the country.

UNICEF also supported the launch and dissemination of Indonesia’s National Strategy for the Elimination of Violence against Children and the National Action Plan on Child Protection. The UNICEF country office also helped to promote the implementation of the recently adopted Child Law and relevant national programmes on child protection, which give special attention to protection from violence.

The #ENDviolence against children campaign

Since July 2013, UNICEF has been engaging in a multiphase initiative to end violence against children. In June 2016, UNICEF launched the #ENDviolence online campaign to raise awareness of risks to children. The campaign built on UNICEF’s work on digital citizenship and youth engagement and its global programme to build capacities to tackle online child sexual exploitation, implemented in 17 countries. The online campaign features three components: (1) a global study, Perils and Possibilities: Growing up online, based on an international opinion poll of more than 10,000 18-year-olds from 25 countries; (2) multimedia content and images showcasing online abuse and exploitation against children and digital safety; and (3) a digital youth engagement campaign – #ReplyForAll – designed to alert adolescents aged 13–17 to online risks, and empower them to protect themselves and their peers.

Results include:

• More than 70 articles were generated in the international and national press.
• #ReplyForAll videos received some 2.9 million views globally.
• More than 40 UNICEF countries adapted the campaign by localizing it and involving influencers to spread the message and engage youth.

In December 2016 – under the new theme ‘Ending Violence is Everybody’s Business’, the issue was propelled into the global spotlight through a bold and powerful 60-second video featuring UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador David Beckham. Using UNICEF’s U-Report platform, more than 190,000 people from 22 countries responded to the video, describing their experiences with violence. The use of an international role model, particularly well known by young males, enabled UNICEF to convey a message to a ‘must-reach’ sector of the population, in order to heighten awareness and enact behaviour change to end violence.

Results include:

• More than 18 million views of the video recorded on YouTube, Facebook and Instagram.
• About 47,000 posts – engaging 1.2 million people and potentially reaching 1.8 billion – were made during the year, including by global celebrities and key influencers.
• More than 100 UNICEF regional and country offices, and National Committees, posted the video or multilingual content related to the #ENDviolence campaign on local social media channels.
Violence in schools

In 2016, two thirds of the 100,000 young respondents in 18 countries reported through the UNICEF U-Report opinion poll that they had been the victim of bullying. Violence against children has significant social and economic costs since it harms children’s and adolescents’ physical, mental and emotional health and well-being, and impacts their learning outcomes.

Analyses of international learning assessments and other studies highlight the negative impacts of bullying and corporal punishment in schools on student achievement. UNICEF has continued to work with partners through the Global Working Group to End School Related Gender Based Violence led by the United Nations Girls’ Education Initiative and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. In 2016, the Working Group published guidance for ministries of education and stakeholders on school-related GBV, which builds on best practices.

In 2016, 71 country offices addressed school violence in its various forms. Violence prevention and response in education is approached from multiple entry points, which include strong engagement of multiple actors to address corporal punishment/physical violence, sexual violence, bullying and emotional violence; and online violence and abuse. For example:

- UNICEF’s support in Cambodia for a positive discipline initiative which was extended from 12 (in 2015) to 172 primary schools by the end of 2016.
- UNICEF’s support in El Salvador for the roll out of a strategy to prevent GBV to 28 schools. The roll out is supporting the mainstreaming of GBV-prevention strategies into schools and institutions.
- UNICEF’s long-term engagement in Jordan with the Ma’an campaign to promote non-violent discipline for teachers through community-based meetings and media campaigns, which is now implemented in 70 per cent of government schools. The campaign has registered a significant drop in reported incidents since 2009, from 44.8 per cent in 2009 to 10.9 per cent in 2016.
- UNICEF in Uganda built capacity through reporting, tracking, response and referral training, which reached more than 1,437 male and 1,084 female adolescents in the 24 priority districts.

On 29 March 2016, female police officers monitor calls from victims of child sexual abuse at a UNICEF-supported help centre for abused children in Antananarivo, the capital of Madagascar. The Malagasy Government, together with UNICEF and its partners, set up a help centre at the hospital, with counsellors, doctors and police on call, to help vulnerable children.
UNICEF is committed to ensuring that violence prevention initiatives in schools are informed by stronger evidence carried out at the global level – through collaboration between UNICEF, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and at the country level – through establishment of evidence-based whole school prevention initiatives. In Indonesia, baseline data found various methods were used to discipline students, including cleaning chores, negative expressions, and hitting with a ruler or stick. This evidence has informed the development of a positive discipline model rolled out in Papua province, with 2,288 students and 163 early-grade teachers and principals in 40 schools in two districts benefiting in 2016. Building on the success, Indonesia plans to expand the approach to other areas. Multiple countries are also making progress incorporating school violence in routine education data collection, sector analysis, and school-based monitoring and reporting mechanisms.

Preventing and responding to sexual abuse and exploitation

Approximately 120 million girls younger than 20 years old (1 in 10) have been subjected to forced sexual intercourse or other forced sexual acts at some time in their lives. A significant proportion of adolescent girls are first-time victims of sexual violence before age 15. The magnitude of sexual abuse and exploitation of boys is unknown, as data on boys is lacking from many countries.16

Across UNICEF’s work to address sexual abuse and exploitation of children, a focus is placed on implementation of a comprehensive national response, building political commitment to improve legislation, develop standard policies and guidelines, and build capacity for improved prevention and response services. Action is needed to shift social norms and attitudes harmful to children and create demand for services.

UNICEF is actively mobilizing multiple commitments at the global level. Steady progress is being made towards universal ratification and effective implementation of the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography as a result of the Secretary-General’s campaign. Samoa and the United Arab Emirates ratified the Optional Protocol, resulting in 173 ratifications to date (90 per cent of all United Nations Member States). Seventy countries have also pledged global commitment to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation online through the WePROTECT Global Alliance to End Child Sexual Exploitation Online.

At least 15 countries continued to advance legal reform to criminalize all forms of sexual abuse and exploitation, in accordance with international human rights standards, and at least 16 countries adopted national policies and plans to address sexual violence against children. For example:

- A landmark national plan to address sexual abuse and exploitation was adopted in Cape Verde.
- A 13-year-long review of the family code in the Democratic Republic of the Congo resulted in a new version aligned with the National Child Protection Law, which includes clearer definitions of sexual violence.
- In the Solomon Islands, approval was sought to amend the penal code by introducing offences related to child sexual exploitation and child sexual abuse material.

In at least 19 countries, institutional capacity to protect children from sexual violence was improved through development of protocols for handling of cases and training of professionals across social welfare, justice, health, education, tourism and ICT sectors:

- In the Pacific Islands and Zimbabwe, clinical guidelines for management of sexual violence in the health sector were improved.
- In Honduras, a manual for child-friendly interviewing of sexual violence victims was developed and used in training of more than 100 justice operators and prosecutors from five regional and 24 municipal offices, resulting in more than 500 victims interviewed without being re-victimized in the process.
In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (excluding areas affected by humanitarian crisis), 1,985 victims of sexual violence benefited from medical consultations, 2,927 from psychosocial support, 549 from socio-economic reintegration and 1,017 from legal aid – increasing fourfold from 2015. Five regions have the highest number of reported cases, resulting in the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo locating newly recruited child protection social work case managers in those regions.

In Myanmar, the caseload of physical and sexual violence almost doubled in a year (700 in 2015 to more than 1,200 in 2016).

Scaling up of access to quality services – including medical, psychosocial support, legal aid and child protective services – was also noted in countries including the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Malawi, Madagascar, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Rwanda, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Uganda.

In at least 20 countries, UNICEF has supported prevention and advocacy efforts resulting in increased awareness of key stakeholders:

- As part of Communication for Development (C4D) efforts to create awareness about sexual abuse of girls, two video animations in Cambodia were uploaded on social media platforms, reaching 143,000 adolescents.
- Sexual abuse prevention campaigns in Argentina reached 572 families in two provinces, resulting in the helpline receiving 125 calls during the first week.
- In Côte d’Ivoire, El Salvador, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Nicaragua and Thailand, campaigns were implemented with the education sector to address sexual violence in schools.
- In Nicaragua, a year-long advocacy effort included 120 digital campaigns and 79 media interviews with social communication media on prevention of sexual violence against children.
- A number of countries (including the Dominican Republic, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Maldives, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam) continued to mobilize the travel and tourism sector in the prevention of sexual exploitation of children, including through the signing of codes of conduct.

UNICEF continued to provide technical support to data collection efforts and commissioned research in relation to the scale, scope, nature and impact of sexual abuse and exploitation of children, and current policy and programmatic response in countries. Evidence building advanced in at least 19 countries, including the Plurinational State of Bolivia (drivers of sexual violence against children in Santa Cruz); Brazil (information management systems on online sexual violence); Cape Verde (profile of child sex offenders); China (occurrence of child sexual abuse in three provinces); and Peru (prevalence, determinants and impact of physical and sexual violence in homes and schools). Belarus, Bhutan, China, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic and the Philippines undertook or are in the process of undertaking national studies on violence against children, also focusing on sexual violence.

In partnership with a number of organizations, UNICEF has developed tools and guidance materials, and supported research and evidence building initiatives. These include with:

- Child Helpline International, to take stock of helplines’ capacity to address online protection issues.
- Marie Collins Foundation, to establish an international network of professionals providing support services to child victims.
- INHOPE, to develop an online guide for setting up Internet hotlines for reporting child sexual abuse, and for development of tools and guidance for the business sector.
- ECPAT International, to develop a repository of legal frameworks relating to online sexual exploitation of children and mapping of national policies on online protection.
- The Family Online Safety Institute, to upgrade the Global Resource and Information Directory, which provides information and resources on child online protection to governments, industry, law enforcement, educators and academics.
- Global Kids Online, to develop a set of tools for national research on risks, opportunities and protective factors of children’s Internet use, which were piloted in Argentina, the Philippines, Serbia and South Africa.
Tackling online child sexual exploitation

The global programme to build capacity to tackle online child sexual exploitation – supported by the Government of the United Kingdom, under the WePROTECT Global Alliance – entered its second year in 2016. UNICEF, in partnership with 17 countries (Albania, Algeria, Brazil, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, India, Jordan, Kenya, Madagascar, Montenegro, Namibia, Paraguay, the Philippines, Serbia, Uganda and Viet Nam), implemented the first concerted multinational, cross-regional effort to support government, civil society and private sector action to address this issue. In its first two years, the programme has laid a solid foundation for global and national action with significant results, including:

- An estimated 13 million people were reached in 17 countries through information campaigns at national and global level.
- More than 60,000 children, parents and teachers in 12 countries received information and mitigation strategies through face-to-face trainings and dedicated awareness sessions.
- More than 1,000 law enforcement officers, prosecutors and judges in 14 countries improved their capacity to investigate and prosecute crimes, and nine countries established specialized units within law enforcement or prosecutors’ offices to investigate such crimes.
- More than 2,000 service providers and child protection networks were trained in nine countries, resulting in professionals’ improved capacity on provision of quality services to victims, and nine countries, strengthened helplines or online platforms to which children can report violence, receive counselling and be referred to services.
- Some 1,000 industry representatives in 23 countries were reached through consultations on the roles and responsibilities of the ICT industry in relation to child online protection.
- Ten countries are reforming legislation to protect children from online sexual exploitation, and eight countries are developing and adopting national policies and action plans to address online protection issues, and 10 countries strengthened national level coordination on child online protection.
- Twelve countries and four regional offices undertook research on children’s use of ICTs and national policy and programme responses.
Armed violence prevention

Armed violence kills around 526,000 people every year, more than three quarters of whom die in non-conflict settings. More than 15 per cent of homicide victims globally are young males, aged 15–29, and the Northern Triangle countries of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador have the highest murder rates in the world. Use of firearms is also high, accounting for two thirds of homicides committed.\(^{18}\)

Given the increasing trend in homicide of adolescents in Latin America and the Caribbean, UNICEF’s support for armed violence prevention and reduction focuses, in particular, on nine countries within the region: Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama. UNICEF supports countries to ensure responses are driven by national priorities, building capacity and ownership of interventions at the national and local levels.

In 2016, UNICEF continued to work with countries to align national legal frameworks with international human rights standards. Examples include El Salvador’s National Policy on Protection of Children and Adolescents; Guatemala’s National Policy on Violence and Crime Prevention; and the Honduras Minimum Standards and Procedures for Adolescent Offenders.

During 2016, a number of key results were accomplished, including:

- UNICEF support to strengthen institutional capacity through the training of more than 2,850 social workers, health professionals, police and teachers on violence prevention and service management in Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica and Nicaragua.
- Support to community dialogue initiatives on armed violence prevention at the family, community and institutional levels in Belize, Costa Rica and Guatemala. These type of initiatives, for example, contributed to the number of gun-free schools in Costa Rica increasing to 12 in 2016. In Nicaragua, improved awareness has resulted in young males handing over home-made and industrial weapons, which in turn is revealing a decrease in the number of young males being recruited into gangs.
- To improve the early detection, identification and response for children and victims of armed violence in at-risk communities, school-based early warning systems were established in Belize, El Salvador, Guatemala and Jamaica.

UNICEF also supported the generation of evidence to inform policy and planning. For example, in Panama, increased capacity to conduct analysis on armed violence at the local level was increased in two districts, which is leading to improved data collection. In Guatemala, the health system can now collect information on victims of gun violence. In El Salvador, the juvenile system is able to analyse information on victims of crimes committed with firearms through two municipal committees. Finally, Mexico’s National Institute of Statistics and Geography information system now includes data on violence against children.

As part of UNICEF’s commitment to strengthen action to prevent armed violence at the global level, a review of the strategies and capacities of UNICEF’s Armed Violence Prevention and Reduction Multi-Country Programme in Latin America and the Caribbean was undertaken in 2016, and findings from the study will inform the development of a comprehensive regional theory of change and implementation guidance.

**Challenges:** Understanding and addressing violence against children through comprehensive strategies and programmes has progressed considerably. The increased visibility and attention generated by the SDGs provides a platform through which to build momentum. However, much work remains in understanding the complexities of the various forms of violence and their social and structural determinants, and in defining the most effective approaches. Greater investment is necessary for governments and partners to track and monitor progress and the impact of interventions under the new SDG framework.

All partners need to continue applying efforts to ensure that all forms of violence against children are tackled through robust and sustainable policy and programming based on research and analysis of the root causes and structural barriers. UNICEF will continue to pursue strategies that build multisectoral frameworks, and will support global and regional partnerships to overcome barriers.

Intersectoral interventions need to focus on addressing the systemic, sustained structural changes necessary to accelerate results for children. In parallel, C4D interventions and sensitization campaigns must occur to increase knowledge and information that encourages parents, families and societies to change behaviours and perceptions of what is socially acceptable. UNICEF will continue to invest in sustaining national, regional and global alliances with partners, including United Nations agencies, universities, civil society, media and research centres of excellence to strengthen knowledge, build stronger evidence, establish common understanding among practitioners and ensure harmonized, coordinated action.
Child road traffic injury prevention

Road traffic injuries account for a third of the world’s injuries, with 500 children killed every day. The burden is heaviest in low- and middle-income countries. Without action, road injuries will likely become the fifth leading cause of death globally by 2030.

Two SDG targets measure progress on road injury reduction: target 3.6, on halving the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents by 2020; and target 11.2, on providing access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all by 2030. Both emphasize the rights of people with vulnerabilities, including women, children and persons with disabilities.

In 2015, UNICEF commenced an effort with the FIA Foundation on preventing child road traffic injuries in China, South Africa and Viet Nam. The initiative called for a global policy response to protect vulnerable road users and ensure every child has a safe and healthy journey to and from school. Early indications showed the potential for reducing child traffic injuries. This led UNICEF to expand programming to three additional countries in East Asia and the Pacific (Mongolia, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines) and three in Latin America and the Caribbean (Cuba, Jamaica and Paraguay). By the end of 2016, all nine countries were advancing this work, developing national responses, mapping roles and responsibilities, and collating data for advocacy.

Country interventions stress the value of community engagement. Examples of action in 2016 include:

- In Viet Nam, where the Government is engaging with social media, police and schools. Practical support is also being provided through an initiative to distribute helmet vouchers for motorcycle users.

- To increase public awareness in China, UNICEF developed guidance materials, and in coordination with government institutions is advocating for the development of national child road safety policies. To complement the legislative reform advocacy efforts, a child-led campaign was undertaken in four key provinces to inform people about the risk of traffic accidents.

At the global level, UNICEF and partner advocacy contributed to commitments to promote and prioritize children’s safe and healthy journey to school as part of the New Urban Agenda adopted at Habitat III (Quito, 2016). At the High Level Political Forum on the SDGs in July, UNICEF provided technical inputs to the ‘safe journey to school’ initiative, along with partners including the World Health Organization and the Government of Brazil and Georgia. This advocacy was bolstered by the publication of two UNICEF-FIA Foundation reports on child road traffic injury: Safe to Learn, highlighting injury prevention strategies, and Rights of Way: Child poverty & road traffic injury in the SDGs, which provide a snapshot of global data on road injury deaths. The reports are being used to maintain global engagement and to trigger national advocacy and policy dialogue at the country level.
PROGRAMME AREA 4: JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN

UNICEF works with governments, civil society and international partners to ensure that all children coming into contact with the law as alleged offenders, victims, witnesses or as part of civil and administrative cases are better served and protected through the countries’ compliance with normative standards, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), and the Beijing Rules of Justice.

The SDGs include targets (16.3) for Member States related to rule of law and access to justice. UNICEF is working to ensure that the particular needs and rights of children in relation to these goals are taken into account when governments are designing responses and making decisions on the means of measurement and evaluation of their efforts in these areas.

In 2016, total global expenses for justice for children programming amounted to US$27.6 million, excluding cross-thematic funds and operational or other costs. This is a 5 per cent decrease from 2015 expenses. Seventy-six per cent of the expenditure is allocated to intervention to support a broad spectrum of interventions aimed at improving children’s access to quality and equitable justice systems. UNICEF is increasingly focusing on strengthening the cross-cutting aspects of justice systems, including targeted interventions in the welfare/social sector as part of preventive and rehabilitative systems strengthening efforts. Demonstrable efforts were noted in South Africa and Swaziland in 2016. A high proportion of UNICEF support is directed to boost countries’ attention to improving systems for children encountering the law as alleged offenders, while working to support governments as they improve and expand justice-sector responses for children as victims or witnesses, including survivors of sexual violence.

FIGURE 13
Results chain for programme area 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPENDING</th>
<th>OUTPUTS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to justice</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Procedures and service for children in contact with the law (P6.b.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversion programmes and alternatives to detention</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>Legislation on child protection consistent with or better than international standards (P6.c.1)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Legislation that recognizes children’s right to be heard (P6.c.2)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Functioning child protection systems offering preventive and response services (P6.b.1)</td>
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1 million US$
In response to the lack of a current and reliable estimate of the number of children in detention, a resolution was passed in the United Nations General Assembly in 2015, asking the Secretary-General to undertake a study on the scope and situation of children deprived of liberty. UNICEF, a key partner in the coalition of United Nations entities led by the SRSG-VAC and NGO partners, mobilized efforts throughout 2015 and 2016 to take this action forward.

UNICEF also contributed to the Global Study on Legal Aid, an initiative led by UNDP and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). A study publication in July 2016 featured a case study on children’s access to legal aid in Georgia, developed by UNICEF in partnership with the Ministry of Corrections and Legal Assistance, alongside data on children’s access to legal aid built into country-specific findings.

**FIGURE 14**
Countries with legislation in place that recognizes children’s right to be heard in civil and administrative proceedings, in line with article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

**FIGURE 15**
Countries in which procedures and services for children in contact with the law are applied and delivered in line with international norms

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**Key global results in justice for children**

Although UNICEF justice for children interventions are generally focused on overall systemic changes – including the improvement of norms, standards and operating procedures – country offices are beginning to report data for institutional capacity-building initiatives, supported by UNICEF. Around 112,712 children were identified as having directly benefited from the organization’s work in this area in 2016. In other aspects of this work:

- 92 countries report activities to improve justice systems, with many countries reporting ongoing work from previous years, highlighting the long-term commitment required by UNICEF and others to support juvenile justice reform processes.

- 82 per cent of countries report that their legislation and policy recognize children’s right to be heard in judicial and administrative proceedings, both criminal and non-criminal, either directly or through a representative or an appropriate body, which is in line with article 12 of the CRC.

- 48 per cent of countries report that their justice systems comply with the minimum standards set in the Beijing Rules of Justice, an increase of 8 per cent overall and a 20 per cent increase on the total of countries reporting in 2015. This increase reflects the greater emphasis placed on addressing the criminal justice system and protections for alleged offenders (covered by the Beijing Rules) as opposed to civil and administrative systems.
Since the United Nations adopted the justice for children approach in 2008, UNICEF has worked to mainstream juvenile justice into wider rule of law and security sector reform initiatives. In this work, UNICEF collaborates with mechanisms such as the Global Focal Point for Police, Justice and Corrections Areas in the Rule of Law in Post-Conflict and Other Crisis Situations, an arrangement that aims to provide a coordinated United Nations approach. In 2016, UNICEF continued engagement with the Global Focal Point, including through the review of strategic frameworks for rule of law that assists target countries to ensure that justice for children (J4C) considerations are reflected.

Forty country offices reported working with governments to improve the legislative and policy frameworks around justice for children and mainstream efforts in wider systems strengthening. Nine countries – Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Costa Rica, Namibia, Somalia, Thailand, Tunisia and Viet Nam – adapted and/or enhanced justice for children procedures and regulations as part of legislation or policy decrees focused on child rights. This approach supports UNICEF’s aim to embed J4C responses within the wider child protection/child rights framework and forge links between the justice sector and child protection system. In Belarus, Benin, Liberia, Pakistan and Uzbekistan, justice for children reforms were undertaken as part of wider United Nations system assistance to rule of law reforms and initiatives, reflecting continued work by UNICEF to ensure that justice for children is mainstreamed into responses.

Twenty-five countries reported work supporting expanded service provision, including cross-sector work to scale up the reach of services in several countries. UNICEF supported 64 countries to build capacity, with 40 countries specifically focused at the national level, and more than 4,000 social workers received training on J4C-related matters in at least 15 countries.19

The work in Maldives provides a useful example of cross-sectoral and cross-thematic cooperation to build capacity for related personnel. During the course of 2016, caseworkers received refresher training, which also included skills building to improve report writing and develop intervention plans and in interviewing techniques; officers were trained on improving investigations procedures; and community engagement officers were provided with support to establish crime prevention programmes. At the same time, the programme engaged with the judiciary to sensitize judges to issues of child abuse and violence against children.

UNICEF continued its partnership with UNODC on joint programmes in eight countries in 2016. In Colombia, the Minister of Justice-led coalition on implementation of the United Nations Model Strategies was expanded. This included planning activities with the justice sector that are within the framework of the Global Action against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants. This is a joint initiative of the European Union and UNODC, implemented in partnership with the International Organization for Migration and UNICEF.
In El Salvador, within the framework of the commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Peace Accords, and in partnership with UNDP, a proposal to ensure the inclusion of children at risk or in conflict with the law was submitted to key decision makers. The proposal recommends setting up a specialized commission, and promotes a process of social and educational reinsertion of adolescents and young people who are currently deprived of their liberty, within their family and community. The commission will also be tasked to address the situation of overcrowding in detention centres for adolescents and young people.

Challenges: Providing adequate resources for child protection has been hampered by economic contraction in several countries, especially affecting investment in policy development and programming. Despite encouraging progress in several areas, recent cuts in national resources have constrained the expansion of child protection services.

More efforts are needed to mainstream justice for children into programming on legal reform for child protection. Similarly, focus is required to address the barriers to implementation of justice system strengthening. This includes across the continuum from legal/policy reform to building capacity to improving service delivery. Interventions focused on alleged child offenders also hamper expansion of responses for children appearing as witnesses and victims of violence. Within child justice programming, greater attention is needed to develop links between sectors to improve services for victims of violence and abuse, while also formulating legislation to protect and support victims and witnesses in judicial processes.

Data remain limited on the number of child victims and witnesses. Data on the number of children coming before courts or administrative bodies outside the criminal justice system are even more limited. The United Nations Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses (2005) outline specific measures governments should take to ensure sensitive and appropriate treatment of child victims and witnesses. However, their implementation in criminal justice systems continues to be limited.

PROGRAMME AREA 5: BIRTH REGISTRATION

Global birth registration levels rose from 58 per cent to 65 per cent between 2000 and 2010, with significant gains in South Asia and Eastern and Southern Africa. However, inequalities in birth registration remain high.²⁰

Increasing the level of birth registration within civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems is a strategic priority for UNICEF. SDG target 16.9, regarding legal identities, represents the first time that documentation of identity has been stated as a global goal. Legal identity is a fundamental human right, and providing it to marginalized and hard-to-reach groups is instrumental in achieving many of the other SDGs, including Goals 3, 5, 10 and 12. Identity management is now an important global issue, and vital to ensure that excluded populations can participate in the formal economy, receive social assistance and access services.

UNICEF works with partners at the country level and through global and regional initiatives to strengthen CRVS systems. One important objective is to ensure that legal frameworks and policies are in place to ensure that registration services are free and that CRVS systems are continuous, permanent, accessible, universal in coverage, timely and accurate. UNICEF advocates removal of supply and demand barriers, ensuring that registration services reach the most vulnerable and marginalized children, such as stateless and migrant children. In 2016, UNICEF continued to concentrate particularly on two proven strategies to increase reach/coverage and quality: interoperability with the health system and use of ICTs to address logistics and supply bottlenecks.

FIGURE 16
Results chain for programme area 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPENDING</th>
<th>OUTPUTS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birth and civil registration</td>
<td>Availability of free and universal birth registration (P6.b.2)</td>
<td>Percentage of children under five whose birth is registered (6.b impact)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.2</td>
<td>Functioning child protection systems offering preventive and response services (P6.b.1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Total global expenses for birth registration programming amounted to US$19.2 million in 2016, excluding cross-thematic funds and operational and other costs. Global recognition of the importance of CRVS in new SDG targets has elevated the prominence of birth registration in recent years. It has also helped to increase global investments and recognition of the importance of investing in strengthening national and CRVS systems. Of note is increased funding to UNICEF from the European Union; and the Governments of Australia, Canada and the Netherlands. The growing acceptance of the importance of civil registration is demonstrated by increasing donor investment, including through the Global Finance Facility, and further allocations from United Nations and multilateral agencies. It is also reflected in deepening partnerships with the public and private sectors and civil society organizations, which have demonstrated efforts to support national CRVS priorities and plans and drive transformative improvements in CRVS.

**FIGURE 17**
Number of children’s births registered as a result of UNICEF-supported programmes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of children (millions)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>14,559,977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>9,653,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>12,279,543</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2016, UNICEF worked with governments to underscore the importance of civil registration through advocacy and technical support.

A number of countries used data to develop national action plans and strengthen policy reform, while others have focused on legal reform. New legislation was passed in 12 countries.

With UNICEF support, 131 countries, or 84 per cent, have a birth registration service within the civil registry that is free, accessible, continuous or permanent, universal in coverage, timely and accurate.

A total of 12.3 million children’s births were registered as a result of UNICEF-supported programmes in 54 countries.

**FIGURE 18**
UNICEF programme countries reporting availability of free and universal birth registration

In total, 53 countries report multisector integration to scale up and expand birth registration services. Of these, 34 countries are integrating actions into health system strategies, including 9 leveraging immunization services and 3 through nutrition interventions such as vitamin A campaigns. Among other actions:

- In Namibia, UNICEF supported the strengthening of birth and death registrations through a technical working group that mapped current birth registration rates. This led to the development of a revised birth and death notification system aimed at strengthening continuous service delivery by integrating birth registration in hospitals linked to community-based referral systems.
- In Sudan, to support the integration of birth registration within health centres, UNICEF facilitated a partnership between the Ministry of Health and the Civil Registration System of the Ministry of Interior at national and state levels. This resulted in the registration of more than 170,500 new-borns through the Expanded Programme on Immunization system in remote localities in Darfur.
• In Angola, a protocol drafted by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Justice allows the deployment of mobile birth registration units to primary schools during school enrolment campaigns.

• In Suva, Fiji, UNICEF supported the deployment of mobile kindergarten services to disadvantaged communities. These mobile units provide early childhood and birth registration services, and conducts hospital referrals for medical services and specialists.

• In Timor-Leste, the revision of a home-based health booklet ‘Livrinho Saude Inan ho Oan’ led to improved health records. It also includes messages for families and caregivers covering the entire continuum of care for mothers and children, including newborn care, birth registration, preventive health, nutrition, early childhood development and disability.

Innovative solutions continue to play a pivotal role in solving challenges and overcoming barriers to birth registration, such as technological innovations to overcome long distances to registration points. UNICEF supported innovative programming to increase birth registration in at least 11 countries:

• In East Java Province, Indonesia, birth certification has doubled following UNICEF’s support to address access bottlenecks in birth registration. One initiative facilitates access to free certification services for mothers of newborns and pregnant women in urban areas. In a number of pilot sites, a newly introduced data monitoring platform (RapidPro) is supporting a prototype for child protection case management. The pilot is also tracking immunization coverage for vulnerable families in slums.

• In Nigeria, only 30 per cent of the 5 million babies born annually – about 1.5 million – are registered at birth. UNICEF is addressing this constraint through support to the implementation of the country’s largest mobile health system to increase accessibility to registration services.

Multiple countries implemented a mix of strategies to overcome barriers to registration, including Algeria, Haiti, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, the Syrian Arab Republic and Uganda. Efforts were focused on reaching refugee, migrant and stateless children. In Uganda, where children receive child protection services at the national and subnational level, and in refugee settings, action focused on policy and legislative constraints and increasing the demand and supply of services. As a result, more than 620,223 births were registered in 2016.
Scaling up birth registration in Ghana through private-sector partnerships and innovation

In Ghana, more than a half-million infants under age 1 were registered during 2016, using the improved m-Birth electronic birth registration system developed through private sector collaboration. The Births and Deaths Registry, supported by the Government of Ghana, UNICEF and Tigo (a Millicom brand), have launched this automated registration system in 530 communities and more than 130 health facilities. The registry provides an efficient way to collect and transmit data, reducing transaction costs and offering a secure environment for storing vital statistics.

The birth registration system continues to be strengthened within the agenda for reforming the civil registration and vital statistics system as a result of the CRVS National Strategic Plan, 2016–2020. It includes an amendment to the Births and Deaths Act 1965 (301) aimed at improving the legal framework in support of a civil registry service that is better coordinated with the health sector.

UNICEF also worked with sector ministries and agencies to strengthen their monitoring and evaluation systems to generate data for programme decision making. Outreach was supported through mobile birth registration units, and the Talking Book – a low-cost audio device intended to engage and provide information on effective practices in malaria prevention, handwashing and birth registration. These actions reached approximately 40,000 people in 49 hard-to-reach communities of the Upper West Region.

Launch of the joint UNHCR-UNICEF Coalition on Every Child’s Right to a Nationality

In December 2016, UNICEF and UNHCR launched the Coalition on Every Child’s Right to a Nationality, which aims to raise awareness about and combat childhood statelessness.

Migration is intrinsically linked to many situations that cause statelessness, for example, when migrant children are born without a nationality, or children and their families lose their nationality, or when the impact of statelessness causes children and their families to leave their home country.

Within the coalition, UNICEF and UNHCR will work with civil society partners to promote universal birth registration to prevent and end childhood statelessness and to improve child protection for stateless children in key areas such as access to education and health care. Through advocacy and technical support, the coalition will encourage legislative reform to ensure that the prevention of statelessness among children is safeguarded in national laws.

At the global level, UNICEF participated in a working group to develop principles on identification for sustainable development, facilitated by the World Bank and the Center for Global Development. To build capacity of CRVS systems, UNICEF and the World Bank developed a birth registration module for the World Bank’s e-learning course. UNICEF also contributed to the creation of the UNHCR-World Bank module on refugees and internally displaced and stateless persons. A technical meeting on strengthening CRVS across the continuum of care brought together experts from several sectors (health, data and statistics, CRVS and child protection) to identify ways of strengthening links to ensure that all births and deaths captured in health systems are reported to civil registration authorities and officially registered.

Challenges: Civil registration and documentation are critical first steps for upholding children's rights. Coverage of civil registration is intended to be universal, though many vulnerable, hard-to-reach and marginalized groups continue to be excluded or missed. This increases their risk of statelessness. Additional barriers to registration include lack of appropriate policies and discriminatory laws that prevent women or ethnic minorities from registering their children.

Integrating the various components of CRVS systems is challenging and often requires coordination across many government departments, which may have different and conflicting policies and procedures. Databases and systems for managing information often vary across sectors, and these databases are often not interoperable, leading to fragmented and inefficient processes. The concept of
interoperability requires the development of protocols for sharing information and data across and between systems and related sectors such as migration, identification systems and population registers. This can only happen under a multisectoral, collaborative approach to avoid duplication and protect confidentiality, privacy and data security within a sound legal and governance framework.

PROGRAMME AREA 6: CHILD PROTECTION AND EMERGENCIES

Nearly 250 million children currently live in areas affected by armed conflict and violence and more than 30 million children are displaced by conflict. In the Central African Republic, Iraq, Mali, Nigeria, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen, children face life-threatening emergencies unprecedented in scale and scope.

During emergencies, there is an increased risk of violence, exploitation and abuse of children following the breakdown of family and social structures, the erosion of traditional values, and the dismantling of formal and informal protection mechanisms. With nearly 250 million children living in areas affected by conflict – and emerging trends such as new tactics of warfare, the deliberate targeting of schools and hospitals, the use of explosive weapons in populated areas and the rise in child abductions – there is an ever-growing need for UNICEF to provide both immediate life-saving protection services in response to humanitarian needs and longer-term development strengthening to build the resilience of children and their families to future crises and bolster the overall child protective environment.

In 2016, total global expenses for child protection and emergencies programming amounted to US$161.9 million, excluding cross-thematic funds and operational or other costs. This is a decrease of 14 per cent from 2015. In 2016, around 70 per cent of total programme area expense was allocated to 12 countries. In terms of programme interventions, the largest proportion of spending relates to interventions for children to access psychosocial services (48 per cent), followed by multisectoral support services for children and women at risk and victims of violence, exploitation and abuse (22 per cent).

In 2016, UNICEF responded to the protection needs of children affected by humanitarian situations in 78 countries, including five Level 3 and two Level 2 emergencies. Globally, UNICEF provided psychosocial support to nearly 3 million children in 65 complex and high-threat situations (71 per cent of the target). More than 4.6 million girls, women and boys in humanitarian situations across 54 countries received safety and protection assistance related to gender-based violence.

The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action

The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (Alliance) is a global network of operational agencies, academic institutions, donors and practitioners that work on the protection of children in humanitarian settings. UNICEF co-leads this network with Save the Children. The Alliance uses its convening power through its wide membership to facilitate inter-agency technical collaboration on child protection in all humanitarian contexts, including refugee settings. It sets standards and produces technical guidance for use by practitioners, coordinators, donors, policy makers, and others involved in protection of children in humanitarian settings.

From 2007–2015, the UNICEF-led Child Protection Working Group (CPWG) developed an important body of inter-agency technical work, including the Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action. A structural review of CPWG, contracted by UNICEF in 2014, recommended that CPWG’s work may be more effectively carried forward by two separate, but inter-connected, entities. This led to the transition from the CPWG to the Alliance and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR). The CP AoR remains critical to the cluster system and continues to support field-based coordination under UNICEF’s leadership. Through this role, UNICEF builds core child protection capacities and the availability of surge support in response to humanitarian crises.
### FIGURE 19
Results chain for programme area 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPENDING</th>
<th>OUTPUTS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child-friendly spaces and psychosocial support</td>
<td>Psychosocial support (P6.d.1)</td>
<td>Reduced rates of sexual violence (P6.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sub-cluster coordination mechanism (P6.d.2)</td>
<td>Reduced rates of children in detention (P6.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence, exploitation and abuse, inc. GBV</td>
<td>Gender based violence in humanitarian situations support (P6.d.3)</td>
<td>Reduced rates of child labour (P6.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency preparedness</td>
<td>Family reunification or appropriate alternative care services (P6.d.4)</td>
<td>Reduced rates of children in residential care (P6.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child recruitment in armed forces and combat groups</td>
<td>Release from armed forces and groups and reintegation with families or appropriate care and services (P6.d.5)</td>
<td>Increased rates of parties to conflict listed in the annex of the Secretary-General’s report on children and armed conflict that enter into action plans to end grave violations against children (P6.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-cluster coordination</td>
<td>Children benefiting from weapons-related risk education (P6.d.6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring and reporting in armed conflict</td>
<td>Mechanisms to monitor and report on grave violations against children (P6.d.7)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family tracing, reunification and care</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landmines and ERW</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Global coordination and leadership: In 2016, UNICEF led the Child Protection Area of Responsibility in 60 countries and co-led the GBV cluster Area of Responsibility in 12 countries. As co-leads of the Global GBV Area of Responsibility, UNICEF and UNFPA undertook a review in 2016, resulting in the decision to transfer full leadership of this area to UNFPA by early 2017.

The UNICEF-led global Child Protection Area of Responsibility provided remote or direct support to eight countries – the Central African Republic, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Fiji, Haiti, Iraq, Serbia and South Sudan. In addition, UNICEF was co-chair of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Reference Group on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings with the Reference Centre for Psychosocial Support (International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies).

Setting standards and strengthening accountability: UNICEF contributed to setting standards and strengthening accountability across a range of emergency related areas:

- The Inter-agency steering committee guidelines on GBV case management and care for survivors in humanitarian settings were completed. The resource will provide GBV service providers with guidance for quality services.
- New operational guidance on community-based mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), provides a framework for designing programmes and complements the IASC guidelines on MHPSS.
- UNICEF also provided support to the IASC Reference Group on MHPSS for the development of the Common Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for MHPSS Programmes in Emergency Settings, which is being field-tested in 2017.
- Under UNICEF leadership of the Inter-agency Working Group on Unaccompanied and Separated Children, the Field Handbook on Unaccompanied and Separated Children was completed by the working group and published by the Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action, with a launch in November 2016.

In addition, the Real-Time Accountability Partnership was set up between the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, UNICEF, UNFPA, the International Rescue Committee and the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance. The partnership aims to enhance the ability to collectively address GBV in humanitarian contexts. It promotes system-wide accountability and also supports better responses to GBViE in Iraq, Myanmar, Nigeria, South Sudan and Turkey.

Child release and reintegration from armed forces and armed groups

During the past 10 years, an estimated 65,000 children (boys and girls) globally have been released by armed forces and armed groups. In 2016, a total of 21,403 children were released – a twofold increase compared with 2015. About 11,300 children were reintegrated into their communities, and an additional 12,700 received child protection care services. The increase is attributable to strengthened advocacy and engagement with armed groups for the release of children, including through the signing of Action Plans to Prevent and End Violations against Children.
At the country and regional levels, UNICEF is strengthening technical and institutional capacities for addressing the needs of children associated with armed forces and armed groups, supporting their release and reintegration, and scaling up preparedness and response plans, inter-agency assessments and performance monitoring. UNICEF prioritises action in a number of countries, including in 2016:22

- In the Central African Republic, 3,982 children (including 31 per cent girls) associated with armed groups were released. Of these children, 88 per cent have benefited from a community reintegration programme that includes admission to school and professional and vocational training centres.
- In Myanmar, 101 children and youth formerly serving in the Myanmar armed forces were reintegrated, and received medical care and support for formal education, vocational training and/or income generation. During 2016, UNICEF supported a national awareness campaign on preventing underage recruitment.
- In the Philippines, with UNICEF support, strong commitment was demonstrated to end and prevent child recruitment and use, under the United Nations Moro Islamic Liberation Front action plan. Most of the benchmarks have been reached, and 178 children were formally disengaged from the New People’s Army.

Upon their release from armed groups, children are often detained either for criminal offences or purely for their association with parties to conflict. UNICEF advocates at all levels to ensure these children are treated as victims of recruitment and use. To this end, handover agreements have been signed in recent years by the Governments of Chad, Mali, Nigeria, Somalia and Uganda. In Nigeria, this resulted in the release of more than 8,100 children (47 per cent girls) and 12,600 women from Boko Haram in 2016. After months and sometimes years in captivity, these children and women need psychosocial support and family reunification, as well as community engagement to address the obstacles in their successful reintegration, including stigma related to sexual violence and reluctance to accept babies born out of this sexual violence. UNICEF and other United Nations entities continue to advocate for procedures to ensure that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in the administration of juvenile justice.

Work is in progress to expand an agreement involving the Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative, the security forces of 10 African Union member states (Central Africa Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda), and the Department of Peace and Security in the African Union Commission. The aim is to integrate child-sensitive approaches in peacekeeping operations and strengthen the capacity of military forces and security agencies to better protect children in all settings, including during the troop deployment to peacekeeping operations.

UNICEF, together with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, entered into a partnership with the Peace and Security Department of the African Union in 2013 to better protect children affected by armed conflict. The partnership includes strengthening the child protection capacity of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) through a Child Protection Adviser embedded within the African Union Mission. By the end of 2016, this partnership had enhanced the technical capacity of more than 700 personnel within AMISOM, in addition to the national army and police of the Federal Government of Somalia. It also has led to the establishment of Child Protection focal points within AMISOM to monitor and report grave violations against children.

As part of its collaboration with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), UNICEF reviewed NATO’s child protection policy and Joint Headquarters Standard Operating Procedure 307, which addresses monitoring of children and armed conflict (CAAC) and integration of child protection in its military training. UNICEF also facilitated training in child protection for 32,000 troops.

In collaboration with United Nations University, the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and the Governments of Luxembourg and Switzerland, UNICEF is engaged in the Children and Extreme Violence project, dedicated to preventing and responding to children’s recruitment by non-state armed groups and promoting their effective release and reintegration. This project aims to fill knowledge gaps about recruitment and use of children for extreme violence, and the factors that impede their release from armed groups. It will also contribute to programmatic guidance for preventing child recruitment and use, for example, by providing a risk management toolkit and training materials for use in the field.

**Challenges:** The effective utilization of economic measures to prevent child recruitment and to reintegrate children associated with armed forces and groups is largely dependent on how conflict affects the economy at the national and local levels. In most situations where reintegration programmes are conducted, the delivery of social services is inadequate, and markets and vibrant rural economies are not in place. In addition, child protection actors have insufficient technical capacities to identify and conduct age assessments. Identification mechanisms are often not systematic and, instead, build on ad hoc identification and referrals. The capacities of existing identification structures are limited and do not link with the respective communities. Immediate and predictable funding is needed to implement action plans signed by the United Nations and parties to armed conflict to end and prevent grave violations against children, to enable full compliance.
Monitoring and reporting grave violations

UNICEF provides leadership as co-chair of the monitoring and reporting mechanism (MRM) country task forces mandated by the United Nations Security Council. At the global level, policies and procedures were strengthened through its role as co-chair of the MRM Technical Reference Group. The finalization of an information management system for the MRM on grave violations against children in armed conflict, to be rolled out to 14 countries in 2017, represents a significant step towards increasing data security and confidentiality for victims.

UNICEF supported the drafting and submission of MRM global horizontal notes on CAAC from 16 countries. In addition to contributing significant input to the 2016 Annual Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, UNICEF supported the drafting of three country-specific reports on CAAC for the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic, Colombia and Somalia.

Four high-profile events attended by the Special Representative and UNICEF took place during 2016, in Afghanistan, Colombia, Somalia and the Sudan, to witness the signing of action plans to prevent and end violations against children. As a member of the Global Coalition to Prevent Education from Attack, UNICEF has supported ongoing development of tools and advocacy to prevent schools from attack and military use, including advocacy towards state endorsements of the Safe Schools Declaration.

UNICEF co-chaired the MRM country task force in 14 situations:

- In Iraq, the MRM verified 201 grave violations of child rights, affecting 478 children (22 per cent girls). Killing and injuring was the most commonly reported violation, with 227 children confirmed killed and 179 injured in 2016.
- In the Philippines, 82 per cent of the 73 reports of grave child rights violation were verified and addressed.
- In Somalia, 4,889 (15 per cent girls) grave violations against children were documented, with 39 per cent of the violations being the recruitment and use of children.
- In the Syrian Arab Republic, more than 2,300 grave violations reports were verified, of which killing and maiming of children and recruitment and use of children were the most prevalent violations. The actual numbers of grave violations, however, are likely to be much higher than those reported.

UNICEF continues to support the ongoing implementation of action plans to end grave violations against children, including through the Children, Not Soldiers campaign. UNICEF, as part of the campaign, has supported the development and implementation age assessment protocols and screening processes in the military and security sectors to prevent child recruitment. With the signing of an action plan by the Government of the Sudan in March 2016, all countries that are included in the campaign have signed action plans with the United Nations.
Joint advocacy resulted in five countries – Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia – passing legislation to prohibit and criminalize child recruitment in all its forms, and endorsing and implementing age-level assessment protocols that cover recruitment and screening processes in the military and security sectors.

Out of the 59 parties to conflict listed for grave violations in 2016 (51 armed groups), 10 parties to conflict have signed an action plan to prevent and end grave violations against children. Therefore, 17 per cent of parties to conflict listed in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General on CAAC entered into action plans with the United Nations as of year-end 2016. The seven State parties currently listed for recruitment and use of children have now signed action plans, though Yemen's action plan is not operational at this time.

UNICEF supports engagement with non-state armed groups. This included, in 2016, the signing of an action plan with the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army in Opposition to end the recruitment and use of children and to ensure their release to child protection actors. The action plan also covers the killing and maiming of children as well as other grave violations. In Mali, discussions on an action plan are beginning with non-state actors. In Nigeria, a formal dialogue has begun between UNICEF and the Civilian Joint Task Force in halting child recruitment and use, and separating children.

**Challenges:** UNICEF continues to prioritize engagement with parties to conflict to end and prevent grave violations against children. However, ongoing and protracted conflicts, complex environments, a multiplicity of actors involved in armed conflicts, high insecurity and lack of access to the most conflict-affected areas, make it increasingly challenging and highly resource-intensive to monitor and report grave violations, and to implement programmes for prevention and response, including for child release and reintegration.

**Unaccompanied and separated children**

Through its engagement with the Inter-agency Working Group on Unaccompanied and Separated Children, UNICEF aims to scale up initiatives to prevent family separation, provide targeted support to family tracing and reunification services for unaccompanied and separated children, and find appropriate alternative childcare. This involves cooperation with a range of partners, at both country and regional office levels, including government authorities and child protection partners.

UNICEF invested significant efforts to support unaccompanied and separated children during 2016, resulting in 32,905 children receiving appropriate alternative care arrangements and 21,994 reunified with families and caregivers.

**FIGURE 22**

Number of unaccompanied or separated children reunified with families or caregivers, 2014–2016

In 2016, UNICEF continued its work to prevent the separation of children from families and ensure the protection of unaccompanied and separated children in all emergencies in a range of countries. For example:

- In Afghanistan, 1,162 unaccompanied and separated children from the western and eastern regions have been referred for child protection and reintegration services, including provision of food, health services, accommodation, clothes, sanitation, family reunification and psychosocial support.
- Following Hurricane Matthew in Haiti, UNICEF reoriented part of its programme and resources to respond to the emergency and to prevent further family separation, child labour and institutionalization. Prevention measures included setting up systems to rapidly identify unaccompanied and missing children; providing emergency assistance to 3,785 children in residential care centres; and initiating processes to re-establish family links and support 1,000 families at risk of separation and psychosocial interventions through child-friendly spaces.

Out of the 59 parties to conflict listed for grave violations in 2016 (51 armed groups), 10 parties to conflict have signed an action plan to prevent and end grave violations against children. Therefore, 17 per cent of parties to conflict listed in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General on CAAC entered into action plans with the United Nations as of year-end 2016. The seven State parties currently listed for recruitment and use of children have now signed action plans, though Yemen’s action plan is not operational at this time.
• In Nigeria, UNICEF and its partners provided case management support to 5,905 unaccompanied and separated children (48 per cent girls) in the states of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe. The support included registration, assessment, referral for services, interim alternative care through trained foster caregivers and family reunification.

• UNICEF and partners in Somalia identified and documented 1,496 cases of unaccompanied and separated children and supported them with reunification, interim care services, access to basic services and psychosocial support.

• The number of unaccompanied and separated children in the Sudan has significantly increased due to continued influx of South Sudanese refugees and armed conflict. A total of 3,741 unaccompanied and separated children (46 per cent girls) in the five states have been reunified with relatives or placed in family-based alternative care services. However, the specific needs of unaccompanied and separated adolescents in foster care and the situation of abandoned babies placed in institutions remain issues of concern.

Challenges: At the country level, a significant number of case management systems are weak, making it difficult to identify and provide durable solutions for children who are unaccompanied and separated, or formerly associated with armed forces or armed groups. In addition, regional, transnational or, in some cases, national case management systems are not secure, and the lack of capacities to manage and interpret data can lead to a poor analysis of the child’s situation – resulting in undesired child well-being outcomes and negative impacts on the targeted provision of services.

Providing psychosocial support to children and their caregivers

The provision of psychosocial support is a vital aspect of emergency response, in both conflict and disaster contexts. UNICEF’s approach extends beyond a focus on child-friendly spaces to a community-based approach that is more inclusive, sustainable and participatory.

In response to the European migration and refugee crisis, UNICEF and its partners reached 86,569 children in Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia with emotional, stress management and psychosocial support, family reunification services, and recreational and basic education activities. Further, 12,624 children at risk, including those unaccompanied and separated, were identified and referred to specialized care and services. (For a full report of UNICEF’s work on migration, see programme area 7).

UNICEF continued to expand psychosocial support services and promote children’s access to a broad spectrum of services including health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and education and through improvements to case management systems. In situations where functional case management systems have been established, such as in Jordan and South Sudan, results indicate that case management systems have increased service efficiency and generated more reunifications. In Jordan, for example, UNICEF and partners deployed Primero, an open-source, web-based child protection information management system, which in 2016, supported case management for more than 1,000 vulnerable girls and boys.

At least 15 countries had a specific focus on scaling up MHPSS in 2016. Examples of results in this area include:

• In Afghanistan, an estimated 12,174 children were reached through mobile and community-based child-friendly spaces, and 840 unaccompanied and separated children were reunified with their families. National capacity was strengthened through various psychosocial training sessions for over 50 partners, 115 Child Protection Action Network members from 32 provinces and 12 counsellors from 9 juvenile rehabilitation centres.

• In Iraq, UNICEF reached 158,670 newly registered internally displaced and refugee

FIGURE 23
Number of children accessing psychosocial support services/programmes in humanitarian situations, 2014–2016

UNICEF strengthened responses to major child protection risks by establishing safe environments for the most vulnerable children and improving the availability of specialized services to 3 million children in 68 complex and high-threat situations.
children (48 per cent girls), with life-saving child protection support, despite the highly volatile and complex security environment. Programme response includes family tracing and reunification, psychosocial counselling, and learning and recreational activities that have helped children recover from their fear and trauma. The increased use of emergency mobile services was a vital element for improving outreach to children in conflict-affected areas where access is limited. Specialized protection assistance was provided to 17,734 children (42 per cent girls).

- The Makani (‘My Space’) integrated programming approach in Jordan scaled up from 151 centres to 234. This includes 165 centres set up as stationary locations in camps or in urban and rural areas, and 69 mobile units reaching children in informal tent settlements. In total 187,167 children (51 per cent girls) benefited from informal education services, psychosocial support and life skills training, as well as nutrition screening. The units also identify highly vulnerable children in need of special services.

- In response to the influx of Syrian refugees in Lebanon, there has been an increase in MHPSS coverage, from 8,000 children in 2012 to more than 436,800 children and caregivers in 2016. This includes 4,172 children assisted through strengthened case management systems.

- In the Niger, nearly 58,000 children benefited from psychosocial support through community-based activities that helped refugee, returnee, internally displaced or host community children regain a sense of normalcy and release their stress in a peaceful and protective environment.

- In South Sudan, 311,462 children (42 per cent girls) received psychosocial support. Sixty per cent of care was delivered using community-based strategies through teachers, schools, community and faith-based leaders, elders, social workers, women’s leaders, youth leaders and community-based child protection networks. In addition, 105,382 parents, foster caregivers, teachers and community members (57 per cent women) received psychosocial care and/or benefited from programming to support parents, including training on psychological first aid and other fundamentals of psychosocial support, positive childcare, how to identify children who are struggling to cope and safe referrals.

Challenges: To promote a community-based approach to psychosocial support it is necessary to identify appropriate community networks and structures, and build a programming framework and community referral mechanism that is informed by local actors and capacities. To address this gap, UNICEF and its partners finalized the MHPSS operational guidance on community-based psychosocial support in 2016, which will be rolled out through support missions, webinars, trainings and orientations organized at regional level and in priority countries, including in Afghanistan, Iraq, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen in 2017.

Providing psychosocial support to children and families who are forcibly displaced or on the move is a significant challenge. As part of the response in Europe, UNICEF and its partners cooperated to offer psychosocial support to children in ‘Blue Dot’ centres along key migration routes in the Balkans. In a number of countries, mobile teams have been established, with capacity to provide psychological first aid, mine risk education (MRE) and emergency case management of gender-based violence for populations fleeing armed conflict.

Another challenge is strengthening ways to measure impact on children’s psychological and social well-being. To address this challenge, UNICEF and partners developed an MHPSS monitoring and evaluation framework that defines core indicators to assess the outcomes of psychosocial support programmes. Finalized in 2016, the roll-out at country, regional and global levels will be initiated in 2017.
Preventing and addressing violence, exploitation and abuse of children and women, including gender-based violence

In 2016, nearly 4.6 million women, girls and boys in humanitarian situations across 54 countries received assistance to address a range of safety and protection issues related to gender-based violence.

Risk mitigation, prevention and response to various forms of gender-based violence in emergencies (GBViE) are recognized as a life-saving measure and an essential component of UNICEF’s humanitarian action. Findings from the Multi-Country GBViE Programme indicate that UNICEF plays a leading role in developing the GBViE sector at global and field levels.

Addressing GBViE is one of UNICEF’s institutional gender equality priorities, as set out in the Gender Action Plan, 2014–2017, and supports actions to scale up quality GBV prevention and response programming in emergency contexts. In 2016, UNICEF further improved procedures for reporting cases of sexual exploitation and abuse, and scaled up assistance to victims in eight priority countries. For example:

- In the Central African Republic, UNICEF supported 233 victims of sexual exploitation and abuse (64 per cent girls, 27 per cent women), including the provision of a range of psychosocial, medical, legal and economic support services. In some cases this also included support to the families of the victims. In addition, UNICEF reached over 9,000 survivors of different forms of GBV in the Central African Republic with assistance. Supporting the social and economic empowerment of women and girls is an important avenue in addressing the root causes of GBV.

- Through UNICEF in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 19,482 women became members of local saving and credits associations, with 2,653 women taking microcredit from financial institutions. UNICEF also uses mobile safe spaces, as in Iraq and Lebanon, where a training package was developed and rolled out to almost 100 mobile team members during 2016.

To date, nearly 1,200 humanitarian professionals have been trained on the Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action: Reducing risk, promoting resilience and aiding recovery. Support was provided to 11 countries in 2016. Child protection increasingly involves working with the education sector to create safer school environments for girls and improve their retention rates. Initiatives have been implemented across numerous emergency-affected countries. In total, more than 800,000 individuals were reached through GBV risk-mitigation activities in education. Initiatives to strengthen the capacities of systems, sectors and implementing partners to address GBV in emergency settings were supported in Iraq, Lebanon and South Sudan. As part of preventing, mitigating and responding to GBV during conflicts and disasters, UNICEF prioritizes community mobilization – and notable progress was made during 2016 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lebanon and the State of Palestine. To improve information management, UNICEF worked on strengthening GBV information management systems, with a focus on 12 countries.

As a result of collaboration between the child protection and WASH sectors, at least 3.2 million women and girls accessed improved hygiene and sanitation facilities in emergency settings in 2016.

In collaboration with the US Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and Columbia University, UNICEF is implementing the project Transforming Households: Reducing Incidence of Violence in Emergencies (THRIVE). This research and evidence project addresses the intersections of violence against children and violence against women and adolescent girls in the home during emergencies. In 2016, two systematic reviews were completed, informing future work, and an expert group was convened to review evidence on household violence and best practices, and to identify research strategies to strengthen the evidence on effective practices.

Challenges: The 2016 multi-country evaluation on GBViE found that the level of attention and resources for GBViE do not reflect the scale of the problem. It also indicated that personnel lack the expertise to address the levels of gender-based violence encountered. Despite constraints, UNICEF has had success in developing capacities among local partners. Innovative capacity-strengthening approaches developed at the country level are good examples of creative strategies that expand GBV services.
To date, however, UNICEF has not maximized the opportunities available to mitigate the risks of GBV through its health, nutrition, education and WASH programmes.

In most evaluation countries, there was heightened recognition of the importance of collecting high quality data on the context of GBV in the country, on the needs and help-seeking behaviour of survivors and those at risk, and on the extent and gaps of multisectoral programming. However, data collection and analysis to measure programming effectiveness needs to be strengthened. Lessons may be learned from programmes such as Communities Care: Transforming Lives and Preventing Violence, which is being tested in Somalia and South Sudan and is contributing to learning about how to address GBViE. A programme evaluation is underway, with results expected in 2017.

Strengthening child protection systems through innovation: The case of Primero

Across UNICEF’s child protection work in all humanitarian and development contexts, case management is an increasingly important – and successful – intervention, improving provision of social services and ensuring accountability. Since 2013, UNICEF and partners have been investing in Primero, a global digital tool for strengthening case management. Primero promotes coordination among service providers, enabling data about vulnerable children and survivors of violence to be securely and confidentially shared. The objective is to ensure that children and women at risk are referred to and connected with essential services.

To shape programmes that can better prevent and respond to violations against children and women, incident monitoring systems must be integrated into responses. Primero allows these systems to be directly linked to service provision, while maintaining confidentiality. It is also building on the experience of RapidFTR (Rapid Family Tracing and Reunification) and leveraging mobile technologies to speed up the process of reuniting separated and unaccompanied girls and boys with their families and caregivers.

Originally designed for humanitarian contexts, Primero is increasingly demonstrating wider systems strengthening benefits:

- Initially launched in Sierra Leone in 2015, the CPIMS+ (Child Protection Information Management System) is being used by more than 130 case management users in the country.
- Primero recently went live in Jordan, enabling multi-agency coordination to successfully manage the cases of more than 1,800 vulnerable refugee children. Its use is being extended to strengthen the national family violence tracking system, improving interoperability among health, education, social welfare and legal services for children.
- Primero is being used in nine UNICEF countries, managing more than 15,000 children's records. Overall it is being used by more than 300 social workers and service providers to manage the caseloads of vulnerable children.
- Established as a globally endorsed, inter-agency child protection data management solution, Primero is also being used by more than 50 organizations globally.
- Plans are in place to scale up actions, with the aim of going live in a further 20 countries in 2017. This could potentially support the case management of over 50,000 vulnerable children.
- Scale-up includes integration into wider child protection needs, for example, in five provinces in Indonesia to support improvements to the case management system.

Primero’s governance structure includes the inter-agency Primero Coordination Committee and the Primero Project Board, chaired jointly by UNICEF and the ICTD. Primero is a digital public tool backed by global infrastructure, and supported by innovative terms of use, strong data security and privacy provisions, and multiple deployment options to ease adoption for implementing partners.
Preventing and addressing the use and impact of landmines and other explosive weapons by state and non-state actors

To contribute to the debate on the use of explosives in highly populated areas, UNICEF participated in global forums, including high-level events organized by the Government of Austria, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the International Network on Explosive Weapons. The issue was also discussed at the Security Council Open Debate on Children and Armed Conflict where the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict delivered a statement noting serious concern about the use of explosive weapons in populated areas by international coalitions or individual Member States. In 2016, over 60 countries urged the Secretary-General to call on States to develop and strengthen United Nations political commitment in this regard.

In 2016, UNICEF prioritized action in 26 conflict and post-conflict countries. The organization’s efforts contributed to around 4 million children receiving mine risk education in 20 countries, a significant increase from the 2.8 million children reached in 2015 in 15 countries. These increases are mainly due to the work undertaken in the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen, which accounted for 69 per cent of the children reached by mine risk education in 2016.

Globally, children account for nearly 38 per cent of all civilian casualties resulting from landmines and other explosive remnants of war, and there is growing concern about the use of explosive weapons in populated areas.

UNICEF provided timely technical support and programme guidance to at least 22 countries, including guidance around conducting needs assessments and the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of mine action programmes. Additionally, eight countries were supported to develop an interagency resource mobilization proposal, and 16 countries participated in the monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the Strategy of the United Nations on Mine Action 2013–2018. Sixteen country-specific concept papers were also disseminated through the Mine Action Support Group, and technical support for child-centred victim assistance provided to at least 11 countries.

UNICEF also supported child survivors of landmines in 8 countries – Cambodia, Mali, Myanmar, the State of Palestine, the Philippines, South Sudan, Sri Lanka and Yemen – and led or co-led the coordination of MRE in 11 countries, including Mali, Nigeria, the Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and Yemen. Examples include:

- In Mali, a formal National Injury Surveillance System was established, and an estimated 156,894 children benefited from emergency MRE activities in the regions of Gao, Kidal and Timbuktu.
- In Sri Lanka, more than 250,000 community members, including 68,712 children, were reached – resulting in a 15 per cent increase in the reporting of explosive devices by community members and contributing to a 20 per cent reduction in incidents involving mines/explosive remnants of war compared to statistics from 2015.
- The number of children reached by MRE projects in the Syrian Arab Republic more than doubled since 2015, increasing to 1,802,238 children in 2016. Efforts also focused on building the capacities of multiple service providers at the national level to scale up interventions to mitigate the increasing risk of exposure for children and families. About 1,080 teachers and 1,245 professionals in local communities received comprehensive training and tools on MRE. In addition, a social media campaign reached a potential audience of more than 1.6 million people on risks associated with explosive remnants.

FIGURE 24
Total number of children receiving UNICEF-supported mine risk education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2,208,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2,888,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>4,030,523</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
UNICEF continues to support the Yemen Executive Mine Action Centre, as well as local and international NGOs, to train an annual average of 350,000 conflict-affected children and caregivers to protect themselves from the risks of mines, unexploded ordnance and explosive remnants of war.

Public information campaigns and capacity-building initiatives, engaging a range of actors, including teachers and other educators, reached millions of additional beneficiaries in 15 countries. In Ukraine, more than 600,000 children and adults were reached through a multipronged approach that included learning sessions and capacity building for educators. An awareness-raising campaign reached at least 12 million people, via television, outdoor advertisements, public service announcements and online platforms.

In UNICEF’s work to develop global standards and guidelines, a pivotal achievement in 2016 was its contribution to the comprehensive revision of the 2003 United Nations sectoral policy and to the increased scope of mine action centres and organizations in victim assistance. UNICEF promoted the development guidance and toolkits on injury surveillance, MRE and victim assistance, which were widely disseminated through the United Nations Inter-agency Coordination Group for Mine Action and partners.

Challenges: In 2016, child protection actors faced the challenge of limited or lack of humanitarian access to some of the most emergency-affected and remote areas, including in Nigeria, South Sudan and the Syrian Arab Republic. Security constraints, attacks on health centres and schools, and numerous parties disregarding fundamental international humanitarian law provisions made it increasingly difficult for UNICEF and its partners to reach affected and vulnerable children. With the increasing number of emergencies, UNICEF is faced with a funding shortage to meet the current humanitarian needs. Programme implementation has in some contexts been constrained by the limited geographical coverage and capacities of partners. While significant efforts are being made to ensure the collection of disaggregated data, there is still a need to invest in information management in the humanitarian sector to better understand, prevent and respond to the impact of disasters on women, boys and girls. In Turkey, UNICEF programmes faced challenges, including uneven coverage and insufficient availability of child protection services such as for GBV prevention/response. The capacity of authorities and front-line institutions to address the specific protection needs of refugee and migrant children continued to be strained, and ongoing gaps in the regulatory framework continue to impede effective case management.

On 3 March 2016, Luz Dari Landazuri (adult seen in photo) is giving a workshop on mine awareness in El Diviso. Luz is herself a victim of landmine accident. She was in a car and holding her child in a breast-feeding position at the time of the explosion.
UNICEF’s commitment to empowering children as agents of change, and enabling families and communities to care for their children in ways that promote their well-being from early childhood through adolescence, is at the heart of meeting the SDGs, especially in terms of challenging social norms and behaviours. This commitment is driving social change in families, communities and countries to: end discrimination against the most vulnerable including girls and women faced with FGM/C or child marriage; eliminate forced child labour; and combat the negative consequences of children on the move, and children with disabilities. UNICEF supports multisectoral, at-scale programming to address harmful practices by supporting social protection mechanisms that aid families at risk. Interventions address the underlying root causes, gender norms and barriers children face that make them particularly vulnerable.

FIGURE 25
Results chain for programme area 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPENDING</th>
<th>OUTPUTS</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child-sensitive social protection</td>
<td>Child-rearing practices programmes (P6.a.2)</td>
<td>Reduced rates of sexual violence (P6.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female genital mutilation/cutting</td>
<td>National strategies or plans on child marriage with a budget (P6.b.4)</td>
<td>Reduced rates of violent disciplinary practices (P6.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child marriage</td>
<td>Comprehensive national approaches on ECD include budgets and functioning coordination mechanisms (P6.b.5)</td>
<td>Reduced rates of children in detention (P6.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parenting programmes</td>
<td>Legislation on child protection consistent with or better than international standards (P6.c.1)</td>
<td>Reduced rates of FGM/C (P6.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child labour</td>
<td>Functioning child protection systems offering preventive and response services (P6.c.1)</td>
<td>Reduced rates of child labour (P6.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care and support for children with disabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td>Reduced rates of children in residential care (P6.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safe migration</td>
<td></td>
<td>Decreased rates of child marriage (P6.7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 million US$
In 2016, total global expenses for programme area seven amounted to US$46.1 million, excluding cross-thematic funds and operational or other costs. This is an 11 per cent decrease from 2015 levels. In 2016, actions to support child sensitive social protection accounted for 56 per cent – the largest proportion of spending for PA 7. Global programme actions to support ending FGM/C and child marriage, though proportionately small compared to the resource intensive allocation for social protection actions, form part of a broader global partnership programming efforts in these areas. FGM/C spending represents 16 per cent of total spending, compared with 11 per cent in 2015, and child marriage spending represents 11 per cent of total spending in 2016, compared with 6 per cent in 2015.

Social protection

Given the importance of achieving SDG 1 on poverty reduction, ensuring access to integrated social protection systems that support vulnerable and at risk families is critical. UNICEF integrates social protection mechanisms into child protection programming through income, cash transfers or in-kind support designed to increase access to services such as health, education and nutrition. (See also the UNICEF Annual Results Report for Social Inclusion 2016).

UNICEF’s 2014 evaluation of its work on cash transfer programmes noted that ‘cash plus’ can have significant positive impacts on risk-seeking behaviours among adolescents, help social protection administrators identify other vulnerabilities faced by children and their families; and support social workers in assisting families to access services. To ensure solid connections between the relevant sectors, the existence of a strong and well-qualified social service workforce is essential.

In 2016, 44 countries supported social protection action as part of child protection work, including in Argentina, Burkina Faso, Equatorial Guinea, and Zimbabwe:

- UNICEF in Argentina was key in moving forward the agenda on social inclusion and poverty reduction. This contributed to the Government’s commitment, plans and resource allocation to establish child poverty monitoring systems, expand access to early childhood services, and increase child-focused social protection schemes to include the 1.5 million children who are eligible – but not covered – because of normative or procedural barriers.

- In Burkina Faso, capacity development support was provided to 13 regional units and the National Committee for Social Protection as part of the ongoing implementation of the country’s Social Protection Policy.

- In Equatorial Guinea, a road map was adopted for the creation of a social protection system, and 80 civil servants were supported in building their capacity to implement social protection mechanisms.

FIGURE 26

Systems strengthening and the role of social protection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRESS TO DATE</th>
<th>INTEGRATED APPROACH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National social protection impact assessments in 60 countries show positive impacts on child well-being.</td>
<td>Stronger systems and institutions (social welfare workforce, case management)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.9 billion people in 136 low- and middle-income countries reached with safety net programmes.</td>
<td>Greater social and economic stability for families and households (CASH+)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Children grow up in safe and caring families.
A significant proportion of spending is linked to UNICEF’s support of the Harmonized Social Cash Transfer Programme in Zimbabwe. Designed as a ‘cash plus’ intervention, in which social assistance also acts as an entry point to address child protection and welfare concerns, 64,274 labour-constrained and food-poor households benefited from the programme in 2016. The Government of Zimbabwe is increasingly contributing to this mechanism, which is improving the financial sustainability and donor confidence in the cash transfer programme.

UNICEF Swaziland, as part of the joint Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho, South Africa and Swaziland social protection workplan, supported the drafting of four budget briefs, which are being used to engage the government to expand the fiscal space to finance actions to respond to the rights of children.

Challenges: Integrated social protection systems remain a challenge in many countries, in part due to limited fiscal space in national budgets, lack of effective multisector collaboration, and weaknesses in effectively reaching the most vulnerable. Challenges are also due to limitations of the social welfare workforce in terms of supply, capacity and role. As part of UNICEF’s support to strengthening social protection systems, UNICEF emphasizes strengthening the role of social workers in linking programme participants to social protection programmes and social services and providing social support to families and children.

Female genital mutilation/cutting

Globally, it is estimated that 200 million girls and women alive today have undergone some form of FGM. Although FGM in declining in the majority of countries where it is prevalent, most of these are also experiencing a high rate of population growth, meaning that the number of girls who undergo FGM will continue to grow if efforts are not significantly accelerated.

Since 2008, UNICEF has been implementing the Joint Programme on FGM/C in partnership with UNFPA to support government and other partners in 17 targeted countries. Utilizing UNICEF’s programme strengths and proven experience to support governments and foster engagement with communities, the programme provides a vehicle to commit human and financial resources to maximize impact. Since launching Phase II in 2013, the Joint Programme has accomplished the following:

- 13 countries have legal and policy frameworks to address FGM/C;
- The number of countries with established budget lines to address FGM/C rose from 6 to 13;
- There have been a total of 685 instances of enforcement of FGM/C legislation;
- About 2.3 million girls and women have benefited from Joint Programme-supported FGM/C-related prevention, protection and care services;
- Almost 8.5 million individuals have been reached by community declarations in 2016; and
- Globally, 18,431,220 individuals have been involved in public declarations of abandonment of the procedures since the start of Phase II in 2013.

The promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are central to UNICEF’s mandate, as reflected in the Strategic Plan and the Gender Action Plan, through which it works towards accomplishing SDG 5, SDG 16, and the goals related to education and health. Across 25 high-prevalence countries, UNICEF works alongside governments to enact legal and policy frameworks and dedicated budget lines for ending FGM/C; builds cross-sector capacity (health, child protection, education, and judiciary and law enforcement); and promotes education and community dialogue to change social norms that contribute to harmful practices, culminating in public declarations of FGM/C abandonment.
Nationally representative data on the prevalence of FGM/C among girls and women aged 15–49 are available for 29 countries (27 in Africa, plus Iraq and Yemen). Of these countries, 15 show limited evidence of progress, though the practice appears to be declining in 14 of the countries with data. Two out of three women affected by FGM/C live in Egypt, Ethiopia, Nigeria or the Sudan.

To track progress in areas where the UNICEF-UNFPA Joint Programme on FGM/C is operational, UNFPA conducted an in-depth case study in four countries – Burkina Faso, Egypt, Kenya and Senegal – using data from Demographic and Health Surveys and Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys. Although the data show a decline in the practice of FGM/C, these declines are not always reflected at the national level.

Normative advancements were bolstered at the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly with the adoption of a resolution to intensify global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilation, calling on the international community to increase financial support and strongly endorse a third phase of the Joint Programme on FGM/C. The resolution acknowledges that intensified efforts are urgently needed for the elimination of this harmful practice and acknowledges the importance of giving the issue serious consideration to achieve the SDGs by 2030. UNICEF was instrumental in providing technical input for the preparation of the Secretary-General’s report on intensifying global efforts for the elimination of FGM/C, submitted during the 71st session of the United Nations General Assembly. UNICEF also produced the recent data analysis report, *Female Genital Mutilation and Cutting: A global concern* (February 2016).

In countries with no laws regarding FGM/C, UNICEF worked towards the criminalization of the practice, with advancements noted in Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, the Sudan and Uganda. For example, FGM/C and child marriage are being incorporated into a draft law on gender-based violence in Mali, and an article to ban FGM/C was endorsed in Sudan’s Criminal Act.

Access to prevention, protection and treatment services was provided for 732,928 girls and women across joint programme-supported countries, and service provision has risen by approximately 30 per cent over previous years. Results highlights include:

- Egypt is taking action to address the medicalization of female genital mutilation/cutting by integrating FGM/C in medical curriculum and trainings.
- Improved capacities in Mali enabled 2,245 FGM/C survivors to access psychosocial, socio-economic and/or medical care.
- 4,582 health workers in Nigeria used existing platforms within health facilities in three states to provide community outreach services to more than 73,000 people (more than half of them girls and women) and 151 child protection network members in five states acquired knowledge and skills to provide counselling, health referrals and other support services.

Increasingly, young people are shaping social and economic development and driving social change in their communities and countries. For example:

- In Egypt, the Y-PEER youth peer education network is using alternative methods of education such as theatre and role-playing games. Focused action resulted in 844 youth peer educators participating in training to take this work forward into communities.
- In Senegal, the involvement of youth as agents of change has been sustained through social networks and platforms such as U-Report, social media campaigning (**Touche Pas a Ma Soeur**), twitter (the **#KaayTwitte** campaign), and Facebook (**Words to Youth**).

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**FIGURE 27**

Number of communities participating in a public declaration of support for the abandonment of FGM/C

![Bar chart showing the number of communities participating in public declarations of support for the abandonment of FGM/C from 2014 to 2016.](chart)
• In the Sudan, the first national conference on FGM/C organized by youth brought together 100 Sudanese youth (aged 18–34) from 18 states to share experiences in community mobilization, advocacy, and awareness raising and sensitization.

• In Uganda, there has been increased involvement of young people in and out of school in various activities – including dialogue sessions, debates and sports – reaching approximately 10,529 girls and 6,253 boys.

Challenges: Political instability and insecurity in Africa and the Middle East created challenges during 2016. Through long-standing relationships with government, civil society and communities, and ongoing institutional and contextual analysis, UNICEF was able to remove and mitigate the barriers to programme implementation in 2016. Taking interventions to scale is challenging for FGM/C programming, as is taking action to measure the impact on children.

Measuring social norm change

Various approaches to measure change in social norms have been tested in some countries, but there is still no commonly endorsed and tested methodology that can be scaled up in all the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme countries. UNICEF has reflected on ways to measure shifts in attitudes and expectations, and is cooperating with Drexel University to develop a global monitoring and evaluation framework for social norm change resulting from C4D efforts, specifically for FGM/C. Moving forward, this learning may also serve as a reference for other areas of work, most notably child marriage and violence against children.
Collaborative efforts in Uganda yielding results for women and children

Child marriage remains a serious problem – almost half of Ugandan women aged 20–49, nearly 3 million, are married by age 18, and 15 per cent are married by age 15. While national prevalence of FGM/C is low, it is higher in certain sub regions, such as Karamoja, where 95 per cent of women from the Pokot ethnic group have been cut.

UNICEF is working with the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development to promote human rights, gender equality and empowerment of girls and women in the development process. Two important milestones took place in 2016:

- In April, the Children Act Amendment was passed into law, after many years of revisions, with a clause that protects children from violence, harmful practices, including FGM/C, and child marriage.
- In August the National Policy on Elimination of Gender-Based Violence, which addresses child marriage and FGM/C, was approved, along with the National Action Plan on Elimination of Gender-Based Violence, 2016–2021. In addition, 0.63 per cent of the national budget was allocated for FGM/C, with provisions for integration of related services in other areas. Advocacy with the Ministry and district governments led to inclusion of a target and an indicator on ending child marriage in the new draft Social Development Sector Strategic Plan. In addition, budgets were allocated in 7 of the 30 districts implementing the national strategy on ending child marriage and teenage pregnancy.

In strengthening the capacity of Ugandan service providers to deliver timely, appropriate and quality services, six districts were supported in establishing child helpline action centres. Their aim is to provide girls and women with a safe space to report cases of FGM/C or any other form of violence and abuse. District health offices integrate family planning, maternal health and reproductive rights. Comprehensive FGM/C and sexual and reproductive health services and information were provided to 2,831 people (888 males and 1,943 females) in 2016.

Recognizing the role of social norms in the prevalence of harmful practices, UNICEF supports families and communities in making public declarations of abandonment of child marriage and FGM/C. The aim is to induce a shift of norms by allowing people to create commonly accepted new expectations around harmful practices. A critical first step is educating communities and facilitating dialogue to end these practices, which affect a girl’s ability to complete her education, find decent work and make choices about her partner and childbearing. In 2016, 71,915 adolescent girls (aged 10–19) in 30 targeted districts were enrolled in empowerment and livelihood clubs. They acquired skills in financial literacy and received sexual and reproductive health information. Youth both in and out of school participated in debates and sports events, and messages about harmful practices reached 17,608 (10,529 girls and 6,253 boys).

The National Gender-Based Violence database and the national incident reporting tool were revised to include child marriage and FGM/C. They were rolled out in 24 targeted districts by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development with UNICEF support. Tracking these harmful practices enables the Government to assess its progress in dealing with the issues.
Child marriage

Child marriage has been slowly declining across the globe, with around one in four young women alive today married in childhood versus around one in three in 1990, and the fastest progress has been recorded in the Middle East and North Africa. Moreover, the marriage of girls under 15 years of age has declined, from 10 per cent in 1990 to 6 per cent today. If the current rate of progress is sustained, the proportion of young women married as children will continue to decrease. Due to population growth, however, the total number will remain around 750 million in 2030. If current trends continue, a third of child brides in 2030 will be African.32

UNICEF’s commitment to ending child marriage is a corporate priority, as reflected in the impact and outcome levels of the 2014-2017 Strategic Plan, and one of four targeted priorities in the 2014–2017 Gender Action Plan. These targets support accelerated action to achieve SDG target 5.3, and associated health and education SDGs. UNICEF’s expanded vision for ending child marriage recognizes that the sectors of education, health, HIV and social protection must be mobilized in order to address multiple deprivations that girls are likely to undergo during the second decade of life.

At the global level, UNICEF supported normative policy reform and initiatives at the United Nations including the 2016 adoption of a second resolution on child, early and forced marriage at the 71st session at the United Nations General Assembly. The resolution set the stage for a mechanism to ensure global commitments are put into practice, expanding the language to recognize that gender inequality is a root cause of child, early and forced marriage, and that poverty, insecurity and lack of education exacerbate the issue. The United Nations now recognizes the incidence and risk of child marriage in armed conflict and humanitarian situations.

At the regional level, UNICEF supported implementation of the African Union Campaign to End Child Marriage and high-level advocacy with Member States. By the end of 2016, 18 countries had launched the campaign against child marriage across the continent. In West and Central Africa, UNICEF advocated for identifying child marriage

Shampa, age 16, was going to be married last year, but thanks to the intervention of a local “adolescent club,” who explained the risks of early marriage to her parents, and informed them it was against the law in Bangladesh to marry before 18, they decided against it.
and adolescent pregnancy as key strategic priorities on the agenda of regional institutions such as the Economic Community of West African States and the Economic Community of Central African States. UNICEF and UNFPA were also instrumental in the establishment of a sub-regional working group of United Nations agencies and NGOs working on child marriage in West and Central Africa to strengthen regional responses. This included developing a strategic plan on ending child marriage in Burkina Faso and development of policies in Ghana and Nigeria. All three countries also revised their laws to set the age of marriage at 18.

The scaling up of quality adolescent, girl-friendly health, protection, education and livelihood services was strengthened across a number of countries:

- In India, scaled-up actions reached more than 293,677 adolescent girls and 115,483 boys through increased referrals to services, including life skills and vocational training: 140,000 parents, community members and key influencers, including religious leaders, were also reached with sensitization programming.
- In Nepal, 7,566 adolescent girls actively participated in at least one targeted programme, including social and financial skills training, and 9,804 adolescent girls were supported to (re)enrol and remain in formal and non-formal education.
- In the Niger, interventions across 148 schools improved the quality of education for 68,000 pupils, including 27,800 girls.

UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage

The UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage aims to reach adolescent girls (aged 10–19) already married or at risk of child marriage in 12 countries.31 The programme has the potential to directly reach 2.5 million girls across the target countries by the end of 2019. The inception phase of the joint programme was completed in 2015 and led to a harmonized global vision captured in a common programmatic and results framework that allows for diversity and country-level adaptation. Central to the approach is the implicit need for multisectoral mobilization, including education C4D, health, HIV and social protection. The programme was formally launched in 2016.

All Global Programme countries prioritized work to align their legal frameworks with international standards, and to ensure that these efforts are reflected in national policies and guidelines and are properly resourced. For example, Ghana finalized the first cross-sectoral National Strategic Framework and Operational/Monitoring and Evaluation Plan to End Child Marriage (2017–2026); Nepal endorsed the National Strategy on Ending Child Marriage; the Niger agreed to develop a National Plan of Action to End Child Marriage and a multisector Child Marriage Coordination National Committee; and, in Sierra Leone, a parliamentarian committee on VAC has been established and addresses harmful practices against children and women.

Positive shifts were made towards advocating for budgetary allocations in several countries:

- Notable advancements took place in Burkina Faso, where the Government has earmarked a budget towards the full three years of the plan (2016–2018).
- In Mozambique, advocacy linking child marriage to the National Development Plan resulted in a budget allocation, with planned increases expected for 2017.
- In Uganda, ending child marriage is included as a target and indicator in the new draft Social Development Sector Strategic Plan, and financial resources in 2016 were allocated in 7 out of the 30 implementing districts.
The skills of service providers and communities were strengthened through development of tools and/or specialized trainings across multiple sectors:

- In Mozambique at the provincial, district and community level in target provinces, about 4,000 police, social workers, legal aid providers, judiciary staff, prosecutors and members of community child protection committees received specialized training.
- In Sierra Leone, a standardized life skills curriculum was used to reach adolescents both in and out of school.

Significant investment is being made in creating and sharing knowledge and information related to child marriage:

- In India, UNICEF operationalized a large-scale monitoring and learning framework in nine districts and four states. The findings will be used to advocate for future regional and global projects and programmes.
- In South Asia, UNICEF supported the mapping of child marriage initiatives, which showcased eight country actions to end child marriage.

Challenges: Challenges to address child marriage include the need to move beyond the traditional programming lens where numerous partners focused on multiple projects but reached limited target groups of girls. Although countries such as Ethiopia and India have started to address the issue of scale by linking the programme to large-scale national initiatives, many countries are still dominated by small-scale work through NGOs.

UNICEF will continue to support the integration of interventions for ending child marriage into wider national systems, using evidence of what works in direct service delivery to influence policy development and implementation at the national level. Interoperability with established systems within sectors and utilizing their existing platforms for scale in schools and within health systems is key, alongside mobilizing and sustaining political will among governments to plan, budget, finance and implement national programmes.

Building the evidence base on social norm change remains a priority, recognizing that behavioural and social change takes time beyond the timeframe of the joint programming period, particularly when linked to abandonment of harmful practices. Therefore, building sustainable tracking and monitoring into broader data collection is necessary. Sustaining donor interest in ongoing investments over the years that are required before there are demonstrable reductions in prevalence is also necessary.

Communication for Development: A key factor in stimulating dialogue and influencing decision makers

Across the 12 joint programming countries, a combination of actions reached 1,671,116 individuals through structured and regular community dialogues targeted to reach key influencers, ranging from mothers and fathers to religious and traditional leaders.

In Nepal, the Girl Summit – which featured the slogan ‘Girls are the future of Nepal’ – resulted in a grant to support interventions to end child marriage from the United States President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.

A model similar to the community dialogue approach used in preventive strategies on HIV and AIDS in Ethiopia is being employed in the Niger with high approval among influencers – contributing to an increase in the use of contraceptives by married adolescent girls from 16 per cent to 56 per cent.

A nine-month programme to mobilize religious and traditional leaders in Sierra Leone contributed to re-enrolling 5,072 girls in school.

Supporting families to address violence against children and improve child well-being: From evidence to scale

Every five minutes, a child dies as a result of violence. Millions of children live in fear of physical, emotional and sexual abuse. The effects can last a lifetime and extend beyond the initial instance of harm. Children who are exposed to violence are more likely to have trouble in school and become involved with child welfare and juvenile justice systems.
Building on increased evidence from neuroscience on the importance of protecting children from violence and neglect, especially during the early years, momentum was created through the inclusion of related targets in the SDGs (16.2 and 4.2).

In 2016, UNICEF worked in at least 36 countries to support parenting initiatives, with a focus on early childhood development through home visiting programmes to address violence against children and improve child well-being.

By the end of 2016, Mongolia, Paraguay and Slovenia had prohibited all corporal punishment of children, including in the family home, bringing the total to 51 countries.

**FIGURE 28**
UNICEF-supported countries with 75 per cent of targeted parents reached by programmes addressing child-rearing practices, 2014–2016

**FIGURE 29**
Countries with comprehensive national approaches on early childhood development that include budgets and functioning coordination mechanisms, 2014–2016

Marshall Mejia hugs his son Orin, age 4. Orin, whose parents are not together, stays at his mother’s home at night and with his father during the day. Mr. Mejia, who is a preschool teacher, understands the importance of exposing children to learning materials and a stimulating environment from a young age.
Between 2014 and 2016, the number of UNICEF reporting countries implementing parenting programmes that reach at least 75 per cent of targeted parents has risen exponentially. Similarly, the number of countries reporting the establishment of early childhood development approaches (with associated national budget and coordination mechanisms) has grown by 27 per cent since commencement of the Strategic Plan.

During 2016, a number of advancements are noted:

- In Cambodia, intersectoral collaboration between 13 ministries resulted in the finalization of an action plan to prevent violence (aligned with INSPIRE) and the Positive Parenting Strategic Plan.
- In Jordan, the Government launched its Human Resource Development Strategy (2016–2025) to advance child development, focusing on social, emotional and psychosocial factors. UNICEF’s Better Parenting programme enabled 32,000 Jordanian and Syrian families to improve child rearing, benefiting 50,000 children below the age of 8. Positive evaluations of the impact of this programme have resulted in plans for nationwide expansion.
- Further, Slovenia amended its Law on Prevention of Family Violence, and UNICEF’s work in collaboration with the United Republic of Tanzania resulted in the development of the National Parenting Framework.

Targeted early interventions and piloting programmes are being used to scale up promising practices at the early childhood development stage and through to the second decade of life:

- In Côte d’Ivoire, a UNICEF model of community-led early learning and parenting programmes offered through mothers’ clubs is now being integrated in the education sector plan.
- In South Africa, positive results through a randomized controlled trial led to the scaling up of the Sinovuyo Teen programme to reduce maltreatment of children (aged 10–17) in 14 sites in the Eastern Cape, and will inform the upcoming Social Development Act. This programme is particularly significant because it marks one of the first evidence-based parenting programmes from the South that aims to reach adolescents, and the lessons learned will help inform UNICEF’s work with and for children during the second decade of life.

Evidence suggests that economic insecurity, gender inequality and domestic violence in households are among the factors associated with a rising risk of violence against children. UNICEF is supporting action to address these factors that drive violence in a number of countries:

- Considering high rates of domestic violence in Argentina, UNICEF and partners rolled out an innovative family-based programme to strengthen parents’ skills, with a gender perspective and attention to partner violence, reaching 572 families.
- Positive parenting techniques in the United Republic of Tanzania were promoted through the ‘Internet of Good Things’, free mobile-ready resources and applications, reaching over 136,000 users.

During 2016, two region-wide workshops – one in Cuba, and one in the Philippines – were held to identify links between reducing violence against children and the positive effects of parenting programmes. Both workshops involved external experts, as well as representatives from multiple sectors within UNICEF. They shared evidence and mapped out a regional plan, currently under implementation.

A number of important data-driven documents were produced to support advocacy and increased investment in early childhood development programmes. The Lancet Series ‘Advancing Early Childhood Development: From science to scale’ underscores the long-term losses for families and communities when young children are deprived of stimulation and protection. The Know Violence in Childhood initiative worked with global experts to develop the evidence base on effective parenting programmes, with data collection completed in 2016 and a report due for a 2017 launch. Multiple rigorous evaluations of family strengthening programmes were undertaken in Côte d’Ivoire, Jordan and South Africa. In Jordan, the Department of Statistics incorporated modules in the 2017 Population and Family Health Survey on childhood development and child discipline.

UNICEF in South Africa, the University of Cape Town and the Children’s Institute partnered in a study of the structural determinants of violence against women and children. Findings confirmed the need to invest in family strengthening interventions, with a focus on home visitation and parenting, to prevent and mitigate factors that place children at risk of becoming victims and/or perpetrators of violence. Programmes to assist parents to reduce or eliminate violence against children are a core action in UNICEF’s new Strategic Plan and theory of change to address violence. These are a core component of the management response to the VAC evaluation. (See the section in programme area 3 for further details).

**Challenges:** Though the number and scope of parenting programmes grows each year, there is a need to systematize and standardize programme designs and extend support across the child life cycle. The Sinovuyo
programme in South Africa and similar regional efforts to build learning need to be fed into programme design. More investment is needed in multisector planning and coordination, monitoring and programme evaluation to build the evidence for what works. Steps are being taken to address this bottleneck with partners.

The Know Violence in Childhood initiative is building evidence for what works to support families. Greater attention has been given to providing support to parents from their children’s early years into adolescence. Two UNICEF regions, Latin America and the Caribbean and East Asia and the Pacific, hosted regional workshops in 2016 that brought together evidence and knowledge to support interventions to address violence across the life cycle. In early 2016, UNICEF hosted a ground-breaking Adolescent Neuroscience Symposium. It pointed to the importance of environmental influences on the neurological development of adolescents. Several initiatives are also under way to adopt programmes to improve parenting in adolescence. A strengthened focus on the second decade of life is planned for the next Strategic Plan across all goal areas to expand the evidence base and strengthen parenting of adolescents.

Parent and caregiver support is also one of the seven key INSPIRE strategies. This alignment will contribute to more coherent and comprehensive strategies and more robust and quantifiable results.

Migration and children on the move

New and accelerated flows of people leaving their communities of origin due to conflict, violence and poverty, or to seek better opportunities, have made migration and displacement an urgent and increasingly polarizing global priority. Though not a specific output indicator within UNICEF’s current Strategic Plan, it is reflected in SDG 5, 8 and 10, and cuts across UNICEF’s existing humanitarian and development programming for displaced and migrant populations.

UNICEF continues to advocate for the rights of children on the move, providing strategic input to normative and policy documents and participating in global advocacy. UNICEF played a role at a number of high-level events in 2016, including the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants and the Leaders’ Summit on Refugees, led by former United States President Barack Obama – which appealed to governments to pledge significant new commitments on refugees.
Recent data indicate that 50 million children are on the move and 1 in every 200 children is a refugee, an increase of 75 per cent in the past five years. Despite media focus on the flows between the Syrian Arab Republic, Libya and countries in the European Union, 60 per cent of international child migrants live in Africa or Asia. Thirty-seven million international migrants are between the ages of 10 and 24.36

At the high-level events, UNICEF advocated for addressing the vulnerabilities of refugees and migrants, their access to services and the principle of non-detention for immigration control purposes. The development of six core advocacy goals for migrants and refugee children was the basis of dialogue and advocacy with United Nations partners and Member States ahead of the twin summits at the General Assembly. UNICEF also facilitated input to the 2016 Secretary-General’s Report on the Status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which focused on migration.

In 2016, UNICEF developed a new programmatic framework on migration that incorporates both humanitarian and development aspects. During the year, at least 83 country offices worked to protect the rights of children on the move, including unaccompanied and separated children and those moving with families – in both emergency and non-emergency contexts. UNICEF aims to support all boys and girls, including internal and international migrants as well as internally displaced, asylum-seeking and refugee children.

The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants contains significant and specific language concerning children as a result of UNICEF and child-focused agencies lobbying and engagement. The Declaration reaffirms that States will comply with their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including towards migrant and refugee children, and affirms strong commitments to provide for the health, education and psychosocial development of migrant and refugee children in countries of origin, transit and destination. The Declaration makes repeated reference to the particular needs and vulnerabilities of children – and particularly unaccompanied migrant and refugee children – and outlines commitments to address those vulnerabilities, including through facilitating family reunification. The Declaration forecasts a negotiation process leading to adoption of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration and a global compact on refugees in 2018.

UNICEF works at multiple levels to support children on the move and to ensure respect of their rights and interests. As a member of the Global Migration Group, it contributes to the work of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, an initiative by Member States to address the interconnections between migration and development in practical ways. UNICEF coordinates with sister agencies through the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons. In 2016, it published a paper on monitoring, evaluation and learning to design counter-trafficking responses based on evidence. UNICEF is a steering board member of the group formed by the SRSG-VAC to advance the development of the Global Study on Children Deprived of their Liberty. UNICEF also supports the Joint General Comment from the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Migrant Workers Committee on Children in the Context of International Migration, which will contribute to the protection of the human rights of children. In addition to programme work in various countries, UNICEF collaborates with the European Union on the rights of children on the move. This includes engagement with UNICEF National Committees and at the European Union headquarters on key areas of concern, including family reunification, guardianship of unaccompanied and separated children, and border control.

UNICEF worked with a range of actors in 19 countries to strengthen legislation ensuring respect for the rights of children on the move and during reintegration to their country of origin. Among these initiatives, the 2014 Bolivian Code of Children and Adolescents was strengthened through development of protocols and referral instruments, including a police protocol on child trafficking; Guatemala’s new Migration Code incorporates most international standards for the protection of child migrants; and guidelines for readmission and reintegation of unaccompanied children were developed in Kosovo.

UNICEF supported 50 countries in addressing structural barriers to make service delivery more expansive, and inclusive of children with migration status. There was a particular focus on children forcibly displaced as refugees (28 countries) and those internally displaced (20 countries). In 10 countries, UNICEF provided support to children returned to their country of origin, in 15 countries to international migrants, and in 5 to internal migrants. For example:

• In partnership with the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee, UNICEF in Bulgaria successfully advocated for ending detention of unaccompanied
or separated children and provided legal aid and counselling to children.

- In Croatia, child-friendly spaces in two reception-transit centres provided psychosocial support to more than 16,600 children on the move. After the closure of the Western Balkan route, these activities continued in reception facilities for asylum seekers in Zagreb and Kutina.

- In the Dominican Republic, UNICEF placed observers in three border-crossing points, identifying 55 children during the deportation process and facilitating family reunification.

- Building on work undertaken with Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 2014, UNICEF has continued to support consular authorities to register and trace the families of unaccompanied and separated children through RapidFTR. Currently, 51 Mexican Consulate offices in the United States are using RapidFTR to trace and reunify families and to register the causes of migration among unaccompanied Mexican migrant children and adolescents. As of December 2016, 3,727 cases of unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents were registered in the platform.

- In Cambodia, training focused on safe migration for 35 government officials and NGO members, including border, tourist, and immigration police from Thailand.

- In Mexico, alternatives to child immigration detention are being reviewed in Tabasco State, including the design and implementation of a model open-door space for migrant children seeking asylum. A key piece of focus for UNICEF is the reinforcing of links between child protection and immigration authorities to ensure the rights and the protection needs of children on the move.

In at least 25 countries, UNICEF advocacy efforts focused on raising awareness of children on the move and facilitating their integration and acceptance into communities. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, UNICEF and
UNHCR jointly promoted the social inclusion of returnees and internally displaced persons, contributing to a 20 per cent decrease in discriminatory attitudes and a 10 per cent decrease in discriminatory behaviour towards internally displaced persons and returnees. Programme interventions in 2016 continued to give voice to adolescents and promote their participation, particularly within the social protection and inclusion, education, and child protection pillars. For example, more than 300 adolescents, including with disabilities, placed in detention centers, and internally displaced adolescents, living in about 20 municipalities, participated in various media and participatory research trainings, and produced videos, photos and action plans on their needs and ideas. The materials were used for advocacy with local authorities, service providers, the general public and media. In addition:

- In Argentina, about 1.5 million passengers on public transport received information about trafficking.
- In Cambodia, 7,530 vulnerable children (46.5 per cent female) benefited from safe migration information.
- In Nepal, the long-running radio programme ‘Saathi Sanga Mann Ka Kura’ (Chatting with My Best Friend) is aired weekly through national and local stations and features content on safe migration and avoiding the risk of trafficking. UNICEF-supported anti-trafficking initiatives reached 127,916 individuals – including 81,113 children – through such methods as door-to-door and camp visits, and the distribution of more than 80,000 information, educational and communication materials to affected communities.

UNICEF is working on the ground to address the root causes and drivers of child migration by strengthening child protection systems and investing in programmes to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against children in countries of origin. UNICEF in El Salvador and UNICEF in Honduras are focusing their programmes on the prevention of gang-related violence and gender-based violence – two major drivers of child migration in the northern triangle. For example, UNICEF in El Salvador is implementing an innovative approach in five municipalities characterized by high levels of violence and high percentages of child migration, with the purpose of addressing some of the factors that influence irregular migration of children. The approach builds on the role and responsibilities of local governments and focuses on interventions aimed at improving availability and accessibility of violence prevention programmes, increasing educational opportunities and improving the institutional capacity at the municipal level to prevent and respond to child protection violations.

Challenges: UNICEF continues to provide child protection assistance to displaced children and their families, but ongoing levels of new displacement continue to challenge stretched resources. Many countries in which UNICEF operates are faced with the return of children who are often challenged in integrating into communities and schools and in accessing services. Addressing re-integration
barriers will require increased and targeted action from UNICEF and partners. Safeguards must be put in place to protect children, especially in a time where borders are increasingly guarded, and safe and regular avenues to seek protection and better opportunities remain limited. This pushes children and their families to use unsafe migration routes, heightening risks of abuse, exploitation and trafficking. UNICEF needs to focus attention on addressing the ongoing detention of children for immigration control purposes, with its devastating effects on child development.

The lack of age-disaggregated flow data remains a serious challenge for programming and policymaking. A lack of commonly agreed definitions is an additional barrier to generating comparable evidence. UNICEF is supporting the attainment of SDG targets, including by contributing to the technical discussions regarding definitions for modern slavery as basis for data collection. Data disaggregated by migratory status will be particularly important for measuring progress for vulnerable children and families across the SDGs.

Child labour

Global advocacy and policy dialogue on child labour are increasingly centred on addressing child rights in supply chains and building private sector partnerships. The World Day Against Child Labour theme in 2016, for example, was ‘End child labour in supply chains – It’s everyone’s business!’ Moreover, UNICEF and the End Trafficking project at the United States Fund for UNICEF partnered with the International Labour Organization to host a panel discussion featuring leaders in government, business and non-profit sectors to highlight solutions and discuss challenges to ending child labour in supply chains. Building on the momentum created by the SDGs, UNICEF is engaging with the ILO-led Alliance 8.7 in achieving Target 8.7 of the SDGs.

It is critical to build private sector partnerships and corporate initiatives to break the supply chains for child labour. In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, two sugar mill companies ratified their commitment to end child labour on plantations. As part of an ongoing agreement with the Walt Disney Company to implement a two-year project to address child labour in Viet Nam, UNICEF supported a 2016 study on the impact of the apparel and footwear sector. This led to a customized supply chain toolkit for the industry to help protect children, build suppliers’ capacities and implement factory programmes to prevent child labour.

UNICEF directly supported 13 countries to strengthen national policies and legislation to create an enabling environment aimed at accelerating the reduction in child labour. Results include the following examples:

- Lebanon – an updated action plan including raising the minimum employment age from 14 to 15 years, and an annex to address specific concerns related to Syrian refugees.
- Morocco – a law banning the exploitation of girls under age 18 in domestic work.
- Paraguay – a draft law incorporating the specific definition of child domestic labour (criadazgo) to the existing legal framework penalizing human trafficking.
- Viet Nam – the National Plan of Action on Child Labour (2016–2020) developed, alongside decentralized plans in 15 provinces.

In 2016, 48 country offices directly supported a combination of interventions to eliminate child labour, reaching around 75 million children, including children working in informal mining, sugar cane, tea and cocoa harvesting, apparel and footwear manufacturing, and domestic work.

FIGURE 30

Number of children aged 5–17 involved in child labour reached by (one or more) UNICEF-supported education, social protection or child protection interventions

Thirty-one country offices directly supported service delivery initiatives, including a focus on social assistance programming, improving access to informal and formal education, and strengthening better detection mechanisms. For example:

- In Bangladesh, collaborative multisector efforts reached 28,630 children with a package of social protection services, including early identification, registration, interim services, and rehabilitation and referral services in selected locations in the most deprived districts.
Through collaborative programming in the areas of child protection, education, social services, women’s empowerment and supporting positive social norms (C4D), a number of targeted districts in India are now seeing sharp reductions in child labour, with prevalence reducing from double digits to less than 1 per cent in some instances.

In Nepal, improved case management systems across 10 municipalities contributed to the removal of 1,903 children (50 per cent girls), with 25 per cent receiving family reintegration and other services, and 71 per cent provided with educational support.

In three provinces of Pakistan, an integrated education package and conditional cash transfers in cotton farming areas prone to child labour reached 190,000 people.

Ten country offices supported specific advocacy and awareness-raising activities to change social norms that perpetuate and reinforce child labour. For example:

- In Rwanda, UNICEF, the International Labour Organization and civil society organizations collaborated with the Kigali Conference Centre to address the issue of child domestic workers in the capital, resulting in an action plan to prevent and respond to domestic child labour in urban areas.

- In Turkey, UNICEF and the Turkish National Committee for UNICEF developed a joint communication campaign on child labour, child marriage and girls’ education.

- In Syrian Arab Republic, awareness messages for parents, employers and children were promoted through national counterparts, NGO partners and the media. To date, more than 24,700 Facebook users have engaged in an online debate about child labour, and more than 13,000 children and 4,000 caregivers were reached with information on child labour risks.

UNICEF works with a range of partners in at least 13 countries to undertake a variety of surveys, assessments and research initiatives to improve data on the scale and scope of child labour, including the following examples:

- India – an evaluation of IKEA-supported programmes to combat child labour programmes in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

- Indonesia – a sector-specific study on the impact of the cultivation and production of palm oil on children in Sumatra and Kalimantan.

- Pakistan – a rapid assessment of worst forms of child labour in five governorates, and the first child labour surveys undertaken in Punjab and Sindh since 1996.

- South Africa – a rapid assessment of child protection in emergencies.

**Challenges:** In certain cultures, the exploitation of children is socially acceptable, especially when seen as a form of economic survival for families. This leads to low levels of reporting and referral with the phenomenon remaining ‘hidden in plain sight.’ An effective response to child labour can be provided through a combination of social protection and strong social dialogue; universal compulsory, formal, quality education at least up to the minimum age for work; decent work for caregivers and youth of working age; and effective legislation.

Initiatives to address social norms and behaviours conducive to preventing exploitation and violence will be crucial to making such behaviours visible, documented and sustainable. The corporate sector is often unaware or unresponsive to the exploitative and hazardous work practices taking place in the smaller business partnerships within their supply chain. Corporations and government authorities need to establish mutually reinforcing systems of accountability and good practice.

**Children with disabilities**

It is estimated that between 93 million and 150 million children globally live with a disability. Without explicit references to persons with disabilities in the Millennium Development Goals, this group was left behind. Following the advent of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, there is renewed vigour to ensure a framework that is inclusive of all through SDG 8 and SDG 16, target 16.2, which are particularly relevant to children with disabilities.

Children with disabilities are almost four times more likely to experience physical violence than non-disabled children and almost three times more likely to be victims of sexual violence. Children with mental or intellectual impairments appear to be among the most vulnerable, being almost five times more vulnerable to the risk of sexual violence than their peers who do not have disabilities. Additionally, children with disabilities are disproportionately over represented in institutional care. To be most effective, interventions relating to children with disabilities need to be mainstreamed within the broader actions to address the systemic improvements to child protection infrastructure.
In 2016, UNICEF supported at least 20 countries on aspects relating to protection for children with disabilities, increasingly prioritizing actions that strengthen compliance to the normative framework, and translating this to improvements in national laws, policies and action plans. For example, in Tajikistan, UNICEF is supporting the Government as it prepared to sign and ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and in Uganda, UNICEF supported the development of a National Action Plan for Children with Disabilities launched in 2016.

UNICEF is also working to strengthen the quality and reach of social services through support for capacity-building of the social welfare workforce and improvements to accessible infrastructure. For example:

- In Argentina, actions to increase registration of children with disabilities resulted in more than 2,300 professionals in eight provinces receiving targeted training.
- In Eritrea, advocacy to promote community empowerment resulted in increased access to social services.
- While in Maldives, a review of the social protection framework was undertaken and improvements to the targeting mechanism were strengthened to improve coverage of services for vulnerable children, including those with disabilities.

Within humanitarian action, UNICEF also supports capacity-building efforts to improve inclusive programming:

- Cambodia – A focus on strengthening the provision of community-based rehabilitation assistance resulted in targeted support to 453 child survivors.
- Jordan – A toolkit to strengthen disability inclusion in emergency preparedness was tested (to be finalized in early 2017). The toolkit includes tips and practical actions for preparedness, response and recovery. Also in Jordan, the Makani (community centre) approach is illustrative of integrated programming to ensure inclusive services. Standard operating procedures incorporate criteria for selection of Makani spaces that includes accessibility for persons with disabilities. 2016 has seen an increase to over 236 Makani centres providing services to vulnerable children, including 2,024 children with disabilities. Increasingly children are victims of landmines and other explosive remnants of war and weapons during conflict.
- Myanmar – Collaborative support by UNICEF, Handicap International and the Myanmar Physical Disability Association in Kayin State resulted in the launch of a Victim Assistance Centre.
- Yemen – The monitoring and reporting mechanism has enabled the identification of child survivors of conflict-related injuries who have been able to access social protection support in the form of cash assistance.

Challenges: In addition to improving service accessibility, there is a demand for disaggregated data to better reflect the challenges faced by specific groups of children. The lack of data on children with disabilities remains a key challenge that directly impacts UNICEF’s ability to address the specific needs of children with disabilities within wider child protection system strengthening strategies. In many countries children with disabilities, including those affected by albinism, continue to be stigmatized. This not only results in these children suffering from violence, but also places them at risk of being hidden and excluded from birth certificates and vital social service support.
The Strategic Plan highlights the importance of integrating cross-cutting interventions in all contexts as a strategy to promote child well-being, including mainstreaming gender equality and actions to support the second decade of life and children with disabilities. Mainstreaming key priority areas of work is paramount to ensure there is cross-sectoral engagement to maximize results for children – all underscored by the principles of equity, gender equality and empowerment.

Cross-cutting areas of focus are generally integrated into child protection programming. However, examples of work on gender equality, adolescent development and C4D are highlighted in this section to illustrate UNICEF’s child protection action to advance the mainstreaming of these critical issues in programming.

Gender equality

FIGURE 31
Countries that have revised or improved child-protection policies on the basis of a gender review supported by UNICEF

UNICEF provided strong support for the inclusion of gender-equitable targets and indicators in the SDGs, notably Goal 5, including targets on ending violence against women and girls and ending harmful practices. These global commitments are mirrored in UNICEF’s Strategic Plan 2014–2017 for child protection, which integrates targets to address structural disadvantages and discrimination against girls and women, and the Gender Action Plan that maps an agenda for advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

With its practical and results-oriented focus, the Gender Action Plan aims to focus on the areas where UNICEF is best placed to make the most meaningful and substantial contribution. Two of its four targeted pillars of programming specifically impact child protection results: ending child marriage and gender-based violence in emergencies through promotion of adolescent girls’ empowerment. The Gender Action Plan also aims to more effectively mainstream gender issues faced by women and children across all programme areas of work for child protection.

With the successful inclusion in SDG 5 of target 5.3 on ending harmful practices such as child marriage, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN Women and a range of other partners, are working collaboratively at the global level to translate the commitment in the SDGs into action producing real change for children and families. (See programme area 6 for results on gender-based violence in emergencies and programme area 7 for results for ending child marriage and harmful practices such as FGM/C).

Programming to mainstream gender is a broad, institution-wide process to address how gender impacts programme architecture, functions and outcomes. UNICEF emphasizes quality over quantity in gender mainstreaming. The focus is on addressing strategically selected sector priorities, rather than on seeking to push gender equality across the board in each and every aspect of programming, which can dilute the achievement of meaningful and sustainable results.

In 2016, UNICEF supported the revision of child protection-related policies based on gender analyses in 42 countries. Gender mainstreaming activities in child protection focused on several key areas, including: addressing harmful behaviours such as child marriage and FGM/C, gender-based violence among children and women in all contexts; achieving gender parity in birth registration and improving overall rates of registration; and combating the gender dimensions of child labour, including domestic servitude. (For action on gender mainstreaming, refer to all programme area results sections).
Adolescent development

In recent years, UNICEF has expanded its capacity to reach, support and collaborate with adolescents as agents of positive change within their communities, with actions mainstreamed across programme areas. Key approaches include empowering adolescents with the information, skills and opportunities that enable them to realize their rights and protect themselves from abuse, exploitation and harmful practices such as child marriage. Working across sectors is another key approach for addressing adolescents’ priorities. To protect adolescents’ rights and provide age-appropriate responses for any violations that adolescents maybe subjected to, child protection works closely with education, WASH, health and social inclusion.

FIGURE 32

Global action for child protection: Adolescent programming, 2016

Empowering adolescents through participation and giving them a voice is critical. UNICEF child protection supports work in multiple countries across regions to implement cross-sectoral programmes on issues around the second decade of life to foster engagement and empower adolescents.

UNICEF undertook 24 consultations using U-Report, where 19,347 adolescents exercised their right to participate and expressed their opinions on a number of core issues, including bullying and violence. Results generated up to 38,000 impressions on Twitter in a month and reached more than 7,500 people through Facebook.

The U-Report is used as a social audit tool by adolescents and youth focusing on issues that directly affect them, such as child marriage and adolescent pregnancy. As of December, there are 2,040 U-Reporters, of whom 53% are adolescents (aged 13-19).

UNICEF engaged with around 31,688 adolescent girls and boys (57 per cent girls) in youth clubs to promote gender-equitable relationships, the prevention of sexual violence and other forms of GBV, and systems to help those who have experienced such violence to access support.

In 2016 a major initiative was launched engaging internally displaced adolescents in conflict affected areas, integrating safe migration messages into life-skills programming.

Under the Child Friendly Schools Framework around 20,000 adolescent boys and girls benefited from life skills and citizenship education programmes in both formal and non-formal education systems.

Ministerial budget was secured to conduct annual consultations with children and adolescents across 67 District Development Committees, 297 Village Development Committees and 198 Municipalities. 26,071 adolescents were equipped with social and financial knowledge and skills to influence and participate in decisions that affect their lives through a social and financial skills training called “Rupantarán”.

Several youth-led innovative approaches have been piloted, including empowering marginalized and disadvantaged youth to identify and take action on social issues and working with young people to look at issues related to violence against children. A Youth Speak - Violence Against Children Innovation Challenge was also implemented where teams could present their ideas and solutions to senior government officials from the Asia Pacific region during the high-level meeting.

UNICEF supported a minimum package of child protection services, including birth registration based on the National HIV Risk Reduction Strategy for Most-At-Risk Adolescents – resulting in 249 adolescents registering their births in 2016.

Ministerial budget was secured to conduct annual consultations with children and adolescents across 67 District Development Committees, 297 Village Development Committees and 198 Municipalities. 26,071 adolescents were equipped with social and financial knowledge and skills to influence and participate in decisions that affect their lives through a social and financial skills training called “Rupantarán”.

Several youth-led innovative approaches have been piloted, including empowering marginalized and disadvantaged youth to identify and take action on social issues and working with young people to look at issues related to violence against children. A Youth Speak - Violence Against Children Innovation Challenge was also implemented where teams could present their ideas and solutions to senior government officials from the Asia Pacific region during the high-level meeting.

991 adolescents in vulnerable conditions from different areas of the country (emphasizing the North and South Caribbean Coast) were equipped with life skills to overcome extreme poverty and violence, including in designing solutions to problems in their communities.

In collaboration with partners, UNICEF translated the National Youth Policy into regional youth strategic plans in all eight regions, and supported community based approaches to encourage adolescent girls access to education, child protection, birth registration, health and nutrition services.

In 2016 a major initiative was launched engaging internally displaced adolescents in conflict affected areas, integrating safe migration messages into life-skills programming.

Under the Child Friendly Schools Framework around 20,000 adolescent boys and girls benefited from life skills and citizenship education programmes in both formal and non-formal education systems.
Communication for Development (C4D)

Addressing individual behaviours shaped by social, cultural, economic and political contexts requires interactive approaches and a mix of communication channels to encourage and sustain positive and appropriate behaviours. With well-defined strategies and participatory practices, behaviour change communication can provide individuals with relevant information and motivation. It is critical to enhance support and increase the capacities of children and families to protect themselves while also eliminating harmful practices and behaviours. These strategies are at the heart of child protection, and target the structural inequalities and entrenched norms and practices that lead to violence, abuse and exploitation.

Indicative of UNICEF’s child protection C4D approach is the work around the #Endviolence campaign, which entered its third phase in 2016. This initiative applies a multipronged communication strategy for moving forward, utilizing a variety of ideas and tools that can be employed to engage local audiences. Social media engagement, for example, is prompted and refreshed over time through traditional outlets such as television, print and radio as well as online digital media. (See programme area 3 results).

FIGURE 33
Global actions for child protection: Communication for Development (C4D), 2016
The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development envisions a world that invests in its children, recognizing the need to mobilize financial resources and commitment from partners for the achievement of its goals.

For UNICEF specifically, the SDG agenda has highlighted the increasing importance and volatility of its flexible funding models. Regular resources, which are un-earmarked and unrestricted funds allocated to deliver programmes on the basis of formulas and appeals prescribed by the Executive Board, play a vital role in maintaining programme continuity in inequitable and fragile contexts, as well as in building preparedness and resilience to future shocks. Of the close to US$4.9 billion UNICEF received in 2016, US$1.3 billion (27 per cent) were regular resources. This 12 per cent increase in regular resources from 2015 was due mainly to growth in contributions from the individual giving (US$629 million compared with US$530 million in 2015), as well as a sizeable one-time increase from the Government of Sweden, which contributed US$117 million, 87 per cent more than the previous year. This was second only to the United States, which contributed US$132.5 million.

FIGURE 34
Regular resources share by resource partner category, 2007–2016*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Regular Resources</th>
<th>Other Resources</th>
<th>Other Resources (Regular)</th>
<th>Other Resources (Emergency)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>3,013</td>
<td>3,390</td>
<td>2,190</td>
<td>1,694</td>
<td>1,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>3,390</td>
<td>3,256</td>
<td>1,570</td>
<td>1,670</td>
<td>965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>3,256</td>
<td>2,717</td>
<td>1,527</td>
<td>1,066</td>
<td>1,078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>3,682</td>
<td>2,633</td>
<td>1,694</td>
<td>1,085</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>3,711</td>
<td>2,578</td>
<td>1,767</td>
<td>1,106</td>
<td>1,174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>3,945</td>
<td>3,588</td>
<td>2,264</td>
<td>1,780</td>
<td>1,579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>4,853</td>
<td>3,836</td>
<td>2,056</td>
<td>1,780</td>
<td>1,326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>5,169</td>
<td>3,836</td>
<td>1,933</td>
<td>1,312</td>
<td>1,174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>5,010</td>
<td>3,571</td>
<td>1,933</td>
<td>1,312</td>
<td>1,174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>4,884</td>
<td>3,571</td>
<td>1,933</td>
<td>1,312</td>
<td>1,174</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Total regular resources include other revenue from interest, procurement services and other sources.

Regular resources: Un-earmarked funds that are foundational to deliver results across the Strategic Plan.

Other resources: Earmarked contributions for programmes; supplementary to the regular resources and made for a specific purpose, such as an emergency response or a specific programme in a country/region.

Other resources – regular: Funds for specific, non-emergency programme purposes and strategic priorities.

Other resources – emergency: Earmarked funds for specific humanitarian action and post-crisis recovery activities.

All revenue data as of 3 April 2017.
Contributions made by donors earmarked to a specific programme or thematic area, including multi-year funding, decreased by 7 per cent, from US$3.8 billion in 2015 to US$3.6 billion in 2016. Contributions to the nine thematic funding pools were US$326 million, representing a 16 per cent decrease from the previous year. Of the thematic funding pools, funds softly earmarked for humanitarian action against appeals were US$145.4 million, a 29 per cent decrease from 2015, despite growing humanitarian needs. This specific funding mechanism is a vital complement to regular resources, often used to address inequities that regular resources are not able to address. Thematic funding is also used to build capacities of countries, partners and UNICEF to mitigate the impact of, and respond to, current and future emergencies, bridging development and humanitarian work.

In 2016, UNICEF received US$183 million in other resources for child protection, a 21 per cent increase from the previous year (see Figure 36). However, despite this increase, child protection remains critically underfunded. Other resources allocated to child protection decreased by 25 per cent between 2014 (the start of the Strategic Plan) and 2016 – a loss of US$60.7 million to programming commitments since the commencement of the Strategic Plan period.

FIGURE 35
Other resources revenue, 2009–2016: Thematic versus non-thematic (US$)
FIGURE 36
Child protection other resources funding trend, 2007–2016

FIGURE 37
Thematic revenue share by outcome area and humanitarian action, 2016: US$326.3 million
In 2016, UNICEF received US$18.7 million in thematic contributions for child protection (see Figure 37), a 3 per cent increase compared with 2015. Thematic contributions were 10 per cent of total resources earmarked for child protection in 2016. Of thematic contributions to child protection, 53 per cent (US$10 million) was given most flexibly as country thematic funding (see Figure 38).

**FIGURE 38**
Other resources by funding modality and partner group, child protection, 2016: US$183 million*

* Figures include financial adjustments.

The top five resource partners to UNICEF child protection included the Government of Germany, the European Commission, and the Governments of Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States of America (see Table 1). The largest contribution was received from the Government of Germany specifically for building resilience for conflict-affected children in Iraq (see programme area 6 for further details), followed by the Government of the United Kingdom’s support to the Child Protection Fund in Zimbabwe (see programme area 7 for further details), the European Commission’s support to the programme in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (see programme area 3 and programme area 6 for further details), and the Government of the Netherlands’s support to accelerate action on ending child marriage (see programme area 7 for further details).
### TABLE 1
Top 20 resource partners to child protection, 2016*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Resource Partners</th>
<th>Total (US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>33,671,748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>European Commission</td>
<td>22,949,051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>18,414,448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>12,099,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td>10,428,608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs</td>
<td>8,618,435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>8,293,624</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>5,597,756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>United Nations Population Fund</td>
<td>5,208,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>5,116,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>5,105,509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF</td>
<td>4,046,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Netherlands Committee for UNICEF</td>
<td>3,378,329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>3,238,933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Swiss Committee for UNICEF</td>
<td>2,923,527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Swedish Committee for UNICEF</td>
<td>2,631,121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>United Nations Joint Programme</td>
<td>2,579,903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>French Committee for UNICEF</td>
<td>2,288,890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Spanish Committee for UNICEF</td>
<td>2,254,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>2,159,106</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Figures include financial adjustments.
Eighty-six per cent of thematic contributions received for child protection came from government partners (see Table 3). The Government of Sweden was the largest thematic resource partner, providing 68 per cent of all thematic contributions received; its largest contribution was at the global level, and it also contributed at the country level for activities in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Mali, the Sudan and Zimbabwe. The Government of Norway provided its entire contribution most flexibly at the global level, and the Government of Flanders (Belgium) provided its thematic contribution earmarked for Malawi and Mozambique.

Sizeable thematic contributions were received from the Dutch Committee for UNICEF for child protection activities in Côte d’Ivoire, Indonesia and Viet Nam, while the United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF provided thematic support to activities in Brazil, Cambodia, Kenya, Mexico and Senegal.

UNICEF is seeking to broaden and diversify its funding base (including thematic contributions). The number of partners contributing thematic funding to child protection remained at 22 in 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Resource Partners</th>
<th>Grant Description</th>
<th>Total (US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Building Resilience for conflict affected children, Iraq</td>
<td>32,537,961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The United Kingdom</td>
<td>Child Protection Fund II for NAP III, Zimbabwe</td>
<td>7,663,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>European Commission</td>
<td>Child Protection, Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
<td>5,889,614</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>Child Protection: accelerating the action to end child marriage</td>
<td>5,854,884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Child Protection, Global Thematic Funding</td>
<td>5,717,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>European Commission</td>
<td>Child Protection programme, Angola</td>
<td>4,187,897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Child Protection programme, Ghana</td>
<td>3,376,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Child Protection, Country Thematic Funding, Sudan</td>
<td>2,946,109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Child Protection, Global Thematic Funding</td>
<td>2,676,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Support to Child Protection, Honduras</td>
<td>2,329,477</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Figures include financial adjustments.
**TABLE 3**
Thematic revenue to child protection by resource partner, 2016*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource Partner Type</th>
<th>Resource Partner</th>
<th>Total (US$)</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Governments 86%</strong></td>
<td>Sweden (SC1499060014, SC1499060054, SC1499060091, SC1499060094, SC1499060111)</td>
<td>12,775,985</td>
<td>68.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Norway (SC1499060082)</td>
<td>2,676,463</td>
<td>14.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Flanders International Cooperation (Belgium) (SC1499060075, SC1499060076)</td>
<td>471,964</td>
<td>2.53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hungary (SC1499060097, SC1499060102)</td>
<td>160,519</td>
<td>0.86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National Committees 12%</strong></td>
<td>Netherlands Committee for UNICEF (SC1499060092, SC1499060101, SC1499060107)</td>
<td>835,257</td>
<td>4.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF (SC1499060089, SC1499060108, SC1499060110, SC1499060120, SC1499060121)</td>
<td>307,434</td>
<td>1.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Norwegian Committee for UNICEF (SC1499060069, SC1499060070, SC1499060071, SC1499060112)</td>
<td>293,179</td>
<td>21.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>United States Fund for UNICEF (SC1499060056, SC1499060096, SC1499060104, SC1499060122)</td>
<td>168,679</td>
<td>0.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Andorran Committee for UNICEF (SC1499060061, SC1499060095)</td>
<td>159,236</td>
<td>0.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Iceland Committee for UNICEF (SC1499060098)</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>0.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>German Committee for UNICEF (SC1499060103)</td>
<td>57,698</td>
<td>0.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Swedish Committee for UNICEF (SC1499060105)</td>
<td>50,351</td>
<td>0.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Australian Committee for UNICEF (SC1499060118)</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>0.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Canadian Committee for UNICEF (SC1499060100)</td>
<td>33,923</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Danish Committee for UNICEF (SC1499060085)</td>
<td>30,892</td>
<td>0.17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Belgian Committee for UNICEF (SC1499060109)</td>
<td>29,097</td>
<td>0.16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Slovenian Committee for UNICEF (SC1499060099)</td>
<td>23,907</td>
<td>0.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Slovak Committee for UNICEF (SC1499060106)</td>
<td>16,911</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spanish Committee for UNICEF (SC1499060079)</td>
<td>11,148</td>
<td>0.06%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Field Offices PSFR 2%</strong></td>
<td>UNICEF Thailand (SC1499060117, SC1499060119)</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>1.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>UNICEF Malaysia (SC1499060113, SC1499060114)</td>
<td>134,475</td>
<td>0.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>UNICEF Georgia (SC1499060116)</td>
<td>2,678</td>
<td>0.017%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>18,689,795</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Figures do not include financial adjustments.
Grant numbers are provided for IATI compliance.
The value of thematic funding

While regular resources remain the most flexible contributions for UNICEF, thematic resources are the second-most efficient and effective contributions to the organization and act as ideal complementary funding. Thematic funding is allocated on a needs basis, and allows for longer-term planning and sustainability of programmes. A funding pool has been established for each of the Strategic Plan 2014–2017 outcome areas as well as for humanitarian action and gender. Resource partners can contribute thematic funding at the country, regional and global level.

Contributions from all resource partners to the same outcome area are combined into one pooled-fund account with the same duration, which simplifies financial management and reporting for UNICEF. A single annual consolidated narrative and financial report is provided that is the same for all resource partners. Due to reduced administrative costs, thematic contributions are subject to a lower cost recovery rate, to the benefit of UNICEF and resource partners alike. For more information on thematic funding, and how it works, please visit: www.unicef.org/publicpartnerships/66662_66851.html.

PARTNER TESTIMONIAL

Violence, exploitation and abuse of children affect the emotional, social, cognitive and physical development of children, thus violating children’s fundamental human rights. Children living in conflict-affected areas and within fragile contexts are particularly vulnerable. The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) has, as a main priority, an increased respect for Human Rights, including the Rights of the Child. As the United Nations agency with an operational mandate to implement the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, UNICEF is uniquely positioned to use the resources of Sweden not only in long-term development cooperation, but also for its engagement in humanitarian action for children. Sida’s strategic partnership with UNICEF under the thematic area of child protection strives to provide children with the right to live and develop in a world free from violence, abuse and exploitation.

Thematic funding enhances effectiveness as it enables UNICEF to reach the most excluded and most vulnerable children, as well as strengthens the ability to support long-term strategic activities. Through its flexibility, thematic funding also promotes innovation, sustainability and better coordination, and reduces transaction costs. Over the years, Sida’s support to UNICEF has increasingly been channelled as thematic funding, reflecting Sida’s confidence in UNICEF as an effective actor and strong advocate for the implementation of children’s rights.

– Lennart Båge,
Assistant Director General of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
Global thematic funds remain the most flexible source of funding to UNICEF after regular resources. The allocation and spending of thematic contributions can be monitored on UNICEF’s transparency portal, open.unicef.org, and the results achieved with these funds against Executive Board-approved targets and indicators at the country, regional and global levels are consolidated and reported on across the suite of Annual Results Reports. Specific reporting for country and regional thematic contributions are provided separately for partners providing flexible multi-year thematic funding at those levels.

Note: Expenses are higher than the income received because expenses comprise total allotments from regular resources and other resources (including balances carried over from prior years) to the outcome areas, while income reflects only earmarked contributions from 2016 to the same.

Follow the ‘flow’ of funds from contribution to programming by visiting http://open.unicef.org

UNICEF spending for child protection was US$605.7 million in 2016, representing 12 per cent of the organization's total programme expense. Expenses for child protection in 2016 were 6 per cent lower than in 2015.

Of total 2016 child protection expenses, 32 per cent were for funds to support child protection in emergencies – with the highest proportion spent (in order) in Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen. The second-largest spending (18 per cent of total) was for cross-cutting child protection interventions across all programme countries to support systems strengthening and the prevention of violence against children and harmful behaviours and norms.
FIGURE 39
Expense by outcome area, 2016: US$5,094 million

HEALTH $1,388.3 MILLION 27%
SOCIAL INCLUSION $330.6 MILLION 6%
CHILD PROTECTION $605.7 MILLION 12%
EDUCATION $1,095.2 MILLION 22%
NUTRITION $623.8 MILLION 12%

FIGURE 40
Expenses for child protection by programme area, 2016: US$605.7 million

PA1: Data and child protection 1%
PA2: Child protection systems 15%
PA3: Violence, exploitation and abuse 13%
PA4: Justice for children 6%
PA5: Birth registration 4%
PA6: Child protection and emergencies 32%
PA7: Strengthen families and communities 11%
Child protection general 18%
FIGURE 41
Expense trends for child protection by funding type, 2014–2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Other Resources - Emergency</th>
<th>Other Resources - Regular</th>
<th>Regular Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>150,462,660</td>
<td>218,019,161</td>
<td>145,870,856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>264,753,532</td>
<td>222,439,310</td>
<td>156,420,873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>213,141,380</td>
<td>237,591,874</td>
<td>154,985,647</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In 2016, the largest expense for child protection was centred on programmes in the Middle East and North Africa region (US$157 million), which reflects the growth in emergency programming in countries such as Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic. Of note is the scaling up of psychosocial support in Jordan and Lebanon and mine action interventions in the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen during the past year. Cumulatively, three countries – Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq – comprise 16 per cent of total spending for child protection in 2016 (see Table 5). Almost 79 per cent of spending in these three countries was for emergency programming.

As in previous years, programming in the Eastern and Southern Africa region (US$134 million) and the West and Central Africa region (US$124 million) also represented a significant proportion of spending in 2016. The four largest programme countries in these regions include, by order, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zimbabwe, South Sudan and Ethiopia.
Together these three regions (Middle East and North Africa, Eastern and Southern Africa and West and Central Africa) accounted for 69 per cent of total expense for child protection and 83 per cent of other resources in emergency. Expenses at headquarters for global and regional initiatives, advocacy, monitoring and strategic support to regions and countries accounted for 4 per cent of total expenses, an increase of 2 per cent compared with 2015.

### TABLE 5
Top 20 countries by expenses for child protection, 2016 (US$)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Other resources - emergency</th>
<th>Other resources - regular</th>
<th>Regular resources</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>31,832,375</td>
<td>14,936,787</td>
<td>925,148</td>
<td>47,694,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>23,589,842</td>
<td>3,868,124</td>
<td>761,244</td>
<td>28,219,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
<td>7,518,480</td>
<td>11,489,608</td>
<td>6,423,228</td>
<td>25,431,317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>21,859,795</td>
<td>94,748</td>
<td>194,276</td>
<td>22,148,819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>698,982</td>
<td>176,777,09</td>
<td>1,433,100</td>
<td>19,809,790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>15,063,273</td>
<td>3,141,900</td>
<td>1,316,605</td>
<td>19,521,778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>2,440,229</td>
<td>5,904,277</td>
<td>8,325,788</td>
<td>16,670,294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>6,798,878</td>
<td>8,389,846</td>
<td>15,189,301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>7,856,608</td>
<td>3,541,543</td>
<td>3,259,874</td>
<td>14,658,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>2,357,953</td>
<td>4,425,693</td>
<td>6,721,281</td>
<td>13,504,927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>6,798,065</td>
<td>4,156,423</td>
<td>747,616</td>
<td>11,702,104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>1,606,033</td>
<td>814,332</td>
<td>8,881,365</td>
<td>11,301,729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemen</td>
<td>8,304,495</td>
<td>967,253</td>
<td>1,730,847</td>
<td>11,002,594</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>3,047,441</td>
<td>3,185,173</td>
<td>4,674,734</td>
<td>10,907,347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>2,594,531</td>
<td>5,958,235</td>
<td>1,699,581</td>
<td>10,252,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>107,529</td>
<td>8,700,109</td>
<td>1,100,904</td>
<td>9,908,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central African Republic</td>
<td>5,718,876</td>
<td>2,130,350</td>
<td>1,697,039</td>
<td>9,546,266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>8,651,700</td>
<td>5,670</td>
<td>278,029</td>
<td>8,935,399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Rep. of Tanzania</td>
<td>445,809</td>
<td>4,502,748</td>
<td>3,288,260</td>
<td>8,236,817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>901,494</td>
<td>2,245,111</td>
<td>4,594,114</td>
<td>7,810,719</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Top 20</strong></td>
<td><strong>151,464,087</strong></td>
<td><strong>104,544,670</strong></td>
<td><strong>66,442,878</strong></td>
<td><strong>322,451,635</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2016, ‘transfers and grants to counterparts’ is the greatest category of expense of the programme (US$295 million). In 2016, civil society organizations were the biggest recipients of transfers and grants. This cost category is consistently the highest because UNICEF emphasizes building capacity among counterparts. The second-highest cost category is ‘staff and other personnel costs’ (US$129 million). Due to the need for significant technical input, staff costs in child protection are consistently a high-cost category. In 2016, the ‘staff and other personnel costs’ remained unchanged from 2015. The ‘equipment, vehicles and furniture’ category represented the lowest expense in 2016 (US$3 million) (see Table 6).
## TABLE 6
Expense for child protection by cost category and by year, 2014–2016 (US$)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost Category</th>
<th>Other resources - emergency</th>
<th>Other resources - regular</th>
<th>Regular resources</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contractual services</td>
<td>28,569,299</td>
<td>87,692,866</td>
<td>43,149,594</td>
<td>159,411,759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>5,771,586</td>
<td>24,424,546</td>
<td>14,302,986</td>
<td>44,499,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>11,991,846</td>
<td>29,562,891</td>
<td>13,491,662</td>
<td>55,046,399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>10,806,867</td>
<td>33,705,429</td>
<td>15,354,947</td>
<td>59,866,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment, vehicles and furniture</td>
<td>2,654,977</td>
<td>1,487,364</td>
<td>4,591,563</td>
<td>8,733,904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>864,002</td>
<td>212,010</td>
<td>1,120,168</td>
<td>2,196,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1,197,226</td>
<td>477,527</td>
<td>1,875,879</td>
<td>3,550,631</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>593,749</td>
<td>797,827</td>
<td>1,595,516</td>
<td>2,987,093</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General operating and other direct costs</td>
<td>24,637,682</td>
<td>30,472,854</td>
<td>51,591,545</td>
<td>106,702,082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>7,171,774</td>
<td>13,045,244</td>
<td>15,979,684</td>
<td>36,196,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>9,869,790</td>
<td>9,409,348</td>
<td>17,492,001</td>
<td>36,771,139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>7,596,119</td>
<td>8,018,262</td>
<td>18,119,860</td>
<td>33,734,241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incremental indirect costs</td>
<td>44,751,662</td>
<td>44,382,088</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>89,133,749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>11,426,260</td>
<td>13,803,318</td>
<td></td>
<td>25,229,578</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>18,250,022</td>
<td>14,492,923</td>
<td></td>
<td>32,742,945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>15,075,380</td>
<td>16,085,847</td>
<td></td>
<td>31,161,227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff and other personnel costs</td>
<td>85,692,012</td>
<td>117,085,908</td>
<td>167,441,178</td>
<td>370,219,798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>20,414,730</td>
<td>37,104,989</td>
<td>54,180,111</td>
<td>111,699,831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>34,492,676</td>
<td>37,582,438</td>
<td>57,573,708</td>
<td>129,648,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>30,784,607</td>
<td>42,398,481</td>
<td>55,688,059</td>
<td>128,871,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies and commodities</td>
<td>76,614,684</td>
<td>40,444,385</td>
<td>20,484,140</td>
<td>137,543,208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>19,931,698</td>
<td>13,088,014</td>
<td>6,654,160</td>
<td>39,673,873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>38,738,679</td>
<td>16,912,600</td>
<td>7,275,007</td>
<td>62,926,287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>17,944,307</td>
<td>10,443,770</td>
<td>6,554,972</td>
<td>34,943,049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers and grants to counterparts</td>
<td>351,147,601</td>
<td>334,871,935</td>
<td>143,959,579</td>
<td>829,979,114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>80,991,704</td>
<td>108,683,052</td>
<td>44,969,477</td>
<td>234,644,233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>143,871,924</td>
<td>106,965,064</td>
<td>49,361,558</td>
<td>300,198,546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>126,283,972</td>
<td>119,223,819</td>
<td>49,628,545</td>
<td>295,136,336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>14,289,655</td>
<td>21,612,946</td>
<td>26,059,077</td>
<td>61,961,678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>3,890,906</td>
<td>7,657,987</td>
<td>8,664,270</td>
<td>20,213,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>6,341,369</td>
<td>7,036,520</td>
<td>9,351,059</td>
<td>22,728,948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>4,057,380</td>
<td>6,918,439</td>
<td>8,043,749</td>
<td>19,019,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>628,357,572</td>
<td>678,050,345</td>
<td>457,277,376</td>
<td>1,763,685,293</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FUTURE WORKPLAN

With the inclusion of child protection targets in the SDGs, the sector is primed for long term-support in achieving those targets. UNICEF’s contribution will be to support the implementation of multisectoral, scalable and evidence-based interventions to reduce violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect of children – in both humanitarian and development contexts – regardless of wealth, location, disability, and language or minority status.

UNICEF’s child protection work will maintain contemporary relevance and advance UNICEF’s equity, rights-based mandate, commitment to promoting gender equality, and Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action. Building on the 2015 mid-term review of the Strategic Plan, and applying the lessons learned from recent and ongoing evaluations, UNICEF child protection is aligning its programme strategies towards implementation of the SDGs. Future plans across the seven programme areas include:

Programme area 1 – Data and child protection:
Recognizing that evidence generation, policy dialogue and advocacy, along with results-based management, are pivotal to achieving results for children, UNICEF will continue to provide input to the preparation of numerical targets on the SDG indicators. For example, as custodian agency for global reporting on SDG indicators 16.2.1 and 16.2.3, UNICEF plans to establish a global inter-agency expert advisory group on VAC measurement. The overarching purpose of the inter-agency group will be to oversee the development, testing and validation of new data collection tools on VAC for use by all countries (including high-income countries) to produce internationally comparable and statistically sound data. The work will be done to support country-level monitoring, and to ensure that United Nations Member States have access to reliable and valid tools to measure progress towards achieving the target.

Additionally, with support from the expert group, UNICEF will work to develop methodological and ethical guidelines for the production of statistics on VAC. The purpose of the guidelines is to outline the necessary steps for designing, planning and implementing data collection efforts, as well as for building a monitoring infrastructure on VAC. In undertaking these tasks, UNICEF will work closely with representatives of National Statistical Offices and other official entities responsible for producing data on VAC, and with the support of an advisory panel composed of technical experts in the measurement of VAC. Further, UNICEF will conduct a global review of administrative data on child protection, and disseminate statistical updates and snapshots, for example on birth registration and alternative care. To better measure the effectiveness of interventions, support will be provided to the development, for example, of a new survey module on sexual violence, and strengthen data collection and analysis of related social norms and behaviours. In addition, monitoring frameworks for migrant and refugee children will be strengthened.

Programme area 2 – Child protection systems: As UNICEF gears up for the next Strategic Plan cycle, child protection will support country programme efforts to link systems strengthening and social change strategies to achieve sustained change over time. Approaches to child protection system strengthening will be informed by the findings and recommendations of the 2017 UNICEF evaluation. UNICEF will support actions along each stage of the systems strengthening continuum to support national governments to scale up the quality and reach of social care and support services, including investment in the numbers and capacities of social service providers. Renewed attention will be placed on creating fiscal space within national budgets to allow for greater allocations targeted at strengthening the quality and reach of the social service workforce. Also necessary are effective referral pathways between the child protection system – including the social welfare and justice systems – and the social protection, education and health systems. UNICEF will continue to invest in scaling up case management, including the expansion of the Primero software platform. Continued support will be provided to countries to achieve results at scale and transformational change, particularly with respect to community dialogue and behaviour change.

Programme area 3 – Violence against children: With the growing momentum from partners and stakeholders, UNICEF is well positioned to further build on critical VAC work and provide ongoing support to scale up comprehensive national programmes. To advance global learning, UNICEF will support the implementation of evidence-based strategies in line with INSPIRE, and facilitate development of a results framework for INSPIRE. UNICEF will work towards the finalization of a common VAC programme package and its roll-out to countries through regional networks and a core group of leading country programmes. Further, investment will be placed in developing robust, coordinated national surveillance systems, building on available administrative data.

In programming for the reduction of armed violence, UNICEF will focus on developing guidance and tools, and generating evidence among partner countries to scale up evidence-informed programming, communication networks and collaborative monitoring. At the country level, accountability for aligning programme implementation to
national development plans is a priority. UNICEF will further invest in multisectoral coordination, legal reforms, social media engagement, community ownership.

Programme area 4 – Justice for children: UNICEF will continue to work with partners in the United Nations system – for example, the alliances focused on SDGs 8 and 16. This collaboration will help to ensure that child-specific targets and data are considered by States in developing national indicators and monitoring plans for achievement of the SDGs. Work will continue with United Nations partners to mainstream justice for children efforts into wider rule of law reform. In parallel, concerted focus will aim to increase links between results in justice for children and in the response to victims of violence, exploitation and abuse – in particular, to assist country offices in cross-sectoral programming.

UNICEF will continue to invest in support for the United Nations Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty, to be presented in 2018. The in-depth study will shed light on a child rights issue that is under researched, yet has devastating and enduring impacts on a child’s physical and psychological development.

Programme area 5 – Birth registration: UNICEF will expand efforts to reach vulnerable children, prioritizing action to deepen partnerships and strengthen multisector collaboration, data sharing and capacity building at all levels. This will include the Global CRVS forum, African Union and key regional initiatives and partnerships, such as the Accelerated Improvement of CRVS programme in Africa and the Regional Action Plan for the Improvement of CRVS in Asia and the Pacific. Through the Every Child’s Right to a Nationality coalition, UNICEF and UNHCR will continue to promote universal birth registration to prevent and end child statelessness.

UNICEF will maintain support for countries to scale up evidence-proven interventions – with a focus on strengthening interoperability with the health sector, applying innovative/ICT approaches to increase coverage; and scaling up action to reach marginalized populations. Focus will be placed on advocating for subnational data collection and disaggregation of registration data by age and gender.

Programme area 6 – Child protection and emergencies: Strengthening humanitarian response and linking it with development programming remains a strategic priority. So, too, does achieving results more effectively in fragile contexts where vulnerabilities include lack of support for mental health, lack of access to services for children on the move; and increased risk of gender-based violence. To strengthen programming and respond to emerging needs, more emphasis will also be placed on migration issues. UNICEF will continue to provide life-saving surge support for Level 2 and Level 3 emergencies, working closely across sectors and supported by the roll-out of the Emergency Preparedness Platform.

UNICEF will co-lead the newly launched inter-agency Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action. This will include updating the minimum standards and supporting child protection in emergencies actors to generate and use evidence in humanitarian settings. Global products will continue to be developed and rolled out to support humanitarian action, including on risk-informed programming and community-based psychosocial support, the Paris Principles Field Handbook for Child Recruitment, Release and Reintegration; and programming tools to prevent and respond to child recruitment and use by armed groups that are using children for extreme violence. UNICEF will support implementation of recommendations from the 2016 GBVIE programme evaluation.

Work will continue on expanding emergency case management and information management, which will serve as a foundation for improving service delivery and measuring responses for children in armed conflict and natural disasters, strengthening child protection systems, and improving the sustainability of emergency interventions. UNICEF will continue to support the scale-up of assistance for victims of sexual exploitation and abuse. This will include field-testing the United Nations Victim Assistance Protocol and assisting with the roll-out of community-based complaint mechanisms in key affected countries.

UNICEF will continue to act as co-chair of the MRM CAAC Technical Reference Group. To further strengthen the monitoring and reporting mechanism, minimum standards for the verification of grave violations will be finalized, alongside guidance on monitoring and reporting of the grave violations of abduction (newly established as a ‘trigger’ violation in 2015) and of denial of humanitarian access. The standardized MRM CAAC information management system will be rolled out across all 14 MRM countries to inform programmatic and advocacy interventions.

UNICEF will continue to provide technical, capacity-building and programme guidance in developing and implementing mine action interventions. UNICEF will advocate for relevant treaties and advocate in global forums on weapons-related issues.

Programme area 7 – Strengthening families and communities: UNICEF’s 2018-2021 Strategic Plan will include a stand-alone and specific result statement on harmful practices in line with target 5.3 of the SDGs. Building on good practices and lessons learned from Phase II of the Joint Programme on FGM/C, UNICEF – in
collaboration with UNFPA – will work on developing a strategy for Phase III aligned to global targets. This will include improving methods for measuring results based on the number of girls and women protected from undergoing FGM/C. The Joint Programme will work towards a stronger engagement with African Union and other regional and sub-regional structures in order to increase accountability from Member States and prioritize the elimination of FGM/C in their respective countries.

Under the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage, focus will be placed on continuing to broaden partnerships at the country, regional and global levels, with various constituencies for scale-up of interventions and policy influence. At the country level, UNICEF will expand technical support to mobilize and sustain political will among governments to plan, budget, finance and implement national programmes. Technical support will also address how to identify scalable models at the subnational or national levels for replicability, and how to support systems strengthening efforts.

Following the adoption of the New York Declaration, UNICEF will work with partners to set specific, measurable actions to protect children on the move. UNICEF will press for action on the underlying causes of large-scale movements of refugees and migrants, and work to ensure child-friendly procedures are applied within the framework of a strengthened child protection system – including by supporting access to services for all children through civil registration.

UNICEF will continue to promote public engagement and advocate for an increase in options for safe channels of movement, and to provide technical support to offer alternatives to child immigration detention – advocating at the national, regional and global levels to immediately cease all child immigration detention. UNICEF also plans to assist States to apply child-friendly budget analysis to include non-national population groups and internal migrants; and will expand on partnerships with the IOM and others on age-disaggregated data to support migration-specific SDGs.
UNICEF expresses its sincere appreciation to all resource partners who contributed to the work on child protection in 2016. It reflects the trust resource partners have in the capacity and ability of UNICEF to deliver quality support under all circumstances, and contributed towards making possible the results described in this report.

Special thanks go to the Governments of Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, and the European Commission for providing consistent and generous contributions for the protection of children, and in particular in this report to the Government of Sweden, for its commitment to supporting these programmes with global thematic funding. Acknowledgement is also noted of UNICEF’s strong partnership with UNICEF National Committees, and those who contribute to them; in particular the generosity in 2016 of the National Committees of the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Sweden, France and Spain.

On 21 December 2016 at the Al-Nour IDP camp in rural Idlib, Syrian Arab Republic, Faisal (right of the snowman with striped sweater), 8, made a snowman with friends. “I wish the snow to stop because our tent collapsed yesterday during the snow. All my stuff are wet now and we had to move to another tent. But I still love the snow because the shelling stops when it snows,” Faisal said.
## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMISOM</td>
<td>African Union Mission in Somalia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C4D</td>
<td>Communication for Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAAC</td>
<td>children and armed conflict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEE/CIS</td>
<td>Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRC</td>
<td>Convention on the Rights of the Child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRVS</td>
<td>civil registration and vital statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAP</td>
<td>East Asia and the Pacific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESA</td>
<td>Eastern and Southern Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FGM/C</td>
<td>female genital mutilation/cutting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBV</td>
<td>gender-based violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBVIE</td>
<td>gender-based violence in emergencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IASC</td>
<td>Inter-Agency Standing Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>information and communication technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J4C</td>
<td>justice for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MENA</td>
<td>Middle East and North Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPHSS</td>
<td>mental health and psychosocial support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRE</td>
<td>mine risk education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRM</td>
<td>monitoring and reporting mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATO</td>
<td>North Atlantic Treaty Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>non-governmental organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA</td>
<td>programme area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA</td>
<td>South Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDGs</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRSG-VAC</td>
<td>Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Violence against Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNFPA</td>
<td>United Nations Population Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNHCR</td>
<td>Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNODC</td>
<td>United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAC</td>
<td>violence against children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCA</td>
<td>West and Central Africa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ENDNOTES


3. The relevant SDG targets are: 10.7 (facilitate orderly, safe and responsible migration); 8.7 (eradicate forced labour and human trafficking); 8.8 (protect labour rights and promote safe working environments for all workers, including migrant workers); and 5.2 (eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls, including trafficking).


9. UNICEF child protection supports the achievement of multiple SDGs, particularly Goal 16 (ending violence against children and promoting access to justice), Goal 8 (ending all forms of child labour) and Goal 5 (ending all harmful practices/violence against girls and women), but also Goal 4 (quality education) and Goal 3 (good health and well-being).

10. For some results note there may be a slight variation on a number of data points compared with the 2016 ‘Data Companion and Scorecard’ and the ‘Annual report of the Executive Director, 2016’. This is as a result of supplementary country level analysis not included in the SMQ process.


12. All references to Kosovo in this report should be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).


17. These countries included Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Guyana, Honduras, Liberia, Namibia, Papua New Guinea, Serbia, Thailand, Uruguay and Zimbabwe.


19. Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Central African Republic, China, Ethiopia, Georgia, Guatemala, Liberia, Mexico, Morocco, Togo, Tunisia and Uruguay.


21. Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Myanmar, Nepal, the State of Palestine, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Turkey.
22. Central African Republic, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lebanon, Myanmar, the Niger, Nigeria, the Philippines, Somalia, South Sudan, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen.

23. Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Mali, Myanmar, Nigeria, the Philippines, Somalia, South Sudan, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen.


25. Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, the Niger, Nigeria, the State of Palestine, South Sudan, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and Yemen.

26. The Central African Republic, Colombia, Iraq, Jordan, Mali, Myanmar, Nigeria, the Philippines, South Sudan, Turkey (cross-border for the Syrian Arab Republic) and Ukraine.

27. Afghanistan, Burundi, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Iraq, Lebanon, Malawi, Nepal, Somalia, South Sudan, the State of Palestine, the Syrian Arab Republic and Turkey.

28. The Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Iraq, Kenya, Mali, Nepal, the Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, the United Republic of Tanzania and Thailand.

29. Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Cameroon, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Lebanon, Myanmar, the Niger, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, the State of Palestine, the Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and Yemen.

30. Particularly Goal 5, gender equality, which calls for: an end to discrimination (target 5.1); eliminating all forms of violence against women, including trafficking (target 5.2); and eliminating harmful practices, including child marriage and female genital mutilation (target 5.3). Target 8.7 of Goal 8 includes eradicating forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour. Enhancing support and increasing capacities of children and families to protect themselves and eliminate practices and behaviour harmful to children are also implicit in reaching other targets. For example, UNICEF’s work on social protection and children with disabilities directly supports achievement of SDG 1 (poverty); SDG 4 (equal and accessible education) and SDG 10 (reduce inequality within and among countries).


32. Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Mozambique, Nepal, the Niger, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Yemen and Zambia.


35. UNICEF’s work on migration and children on the move takes place in 72 programme countries, and in 11 countries with either a National Committee or a Delivering as One presence, namely: Australia, Austria, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Slovenia, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States.


37. As of 30 September 2016.


40. For more details on regular resources revenue, please refer to the 2016 Regular Resources Report.
Visualizing achievements

Each achievement is expressed as a percentage and visualized through colour coding:

**Green**

**Indicator level**
Achievement of the indicator is at or above 100% of the milestone

**Outputs and outcome area level**
Average achievement of indicators in the output or outcome area is at or above 100%

**Amber**

**Indicator level**
Achievement of the indicator is between 60% and 99% of the milestone

**Outputs and outcome area level**
Average achievement of indicators in the output or outcome area is between 60% and 99%

**Red**

**Indicator level**
Achievement of the indicator is less than 60% of the milestone

**Outputs and outcome area level**
Average achievement of indicators in the output or outcome area is less than 60%

---

**Child Protection**

Average achievement rate:

102%
### Impact Indicator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Baseline*</th>
<th>2017 Target</th>
<th>2016 Update**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6a. Percentage of women 20-24 who were married or in a union by age 18</td>
<td>27% (2005-2012) for the world</td>
<td>24% for the world</td>
<td>27% (2005-2016) value for the world</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6b. Percentage of children under five whose birth is registered</td>
<td>65% (2005-2012)</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>71% (2010-2015)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Outcome Indicator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Baseline*</th>
<th>2017 Target</th>
<th>2016 Update**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P6.1 Countries with a 10% reduction in the proportion of girls aged 15-17 years who have ever experienced sexual violence (forced to have sexual intercourse or perform any other sexual act against one’s will), in countries with a prevalence of at least 5%</td>
<td>Out of 24 countries with data and prevalence of &gt;5%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Prevalence of at least 5%: 27 out of 45 UNICEF programme countries with data (2005-2016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P6.2 Countries with a 10% reduction in the proportion of children aged 2-14 years (definition will change by 2017 to ages 1-14 years) who experience violent disciplinary practices by an adult member of the household</td>
<td>Out of 53 countries with data</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Data not available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P6.3 Countries with a 20% reduction in the number of children in detention per 100,000 children</td>
<td>Out of 80 countries with data</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Data not available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P6.4 Countries with a 10% or more reduction in the proportion of girls aged 0-14 years undergoing female genital mutilation/cutting</td>
<td>Out of 17 countries with UNICEF/UNFPA joint programme (2000-2012)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Data not available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P6.5 Countries with less than 10% of children aged 5-17 years involved in child labour</td>
<td>44 (2005-2014)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>43 (2005-2015)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P6.6 Countries with a 10% reduction in the proportion of children in residential care (out of all children in both residential and foster care)</td>
<td>Out of 80 countries with data</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P6.7 Countries with a 5% reduction in the proportion of women aged 20-24 years married by age 18 years, in countries with a prevalence of at least 25%</td>
<td>50 (2010-2012)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Prevalence of at least 25%: 46 out of 96 UNICEF programme countries with data (2010-2016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P6.8 Parties to conflict listed in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict that enter into action plans to end grave violations against children</td>
<td>Governments: 75%</td>
<td>State parties: 100%</td>
<td>State parties: 88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Armed groups: 12.5%</td>
<td>Non-State parties: 10%</td>
<td>Non-State parties: 8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*2013 unless otherwise indicated. **or data from the most recent year available.
Output a

Enhanced support and increased capacity of children and families to protect themselves and to eliminate practices and behaviours harmful to children

Average output achievement

154%

P6.a.1

Countries in which UNICEF-supported programmes aimed at increasing children’s capacity to identify, prevent and/or report violence reach at least 75% of the target population at risk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>(i)</th>
<th>(ii)</th>
<th>(iii)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 Baseline</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Result</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Result</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Milestone</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Target</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Achievement (i) 136%
Achievement (ii) 186%
Achievement (iii) 233%

P6.a.2

Countries with 75% of targeted parents reached by programmes addressing child-rearing practices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Lees than 75%</th>
<th>75% or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antigua and Barbuda</td>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>Albania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>Botswana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>Dominica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Virgin Islands</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>Gabon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Paraguay</td>
<td>Moldova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>Mozambique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Salvador</td>
<td>Saint Kitts and Nevis</td>
<td>Niger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</td>
<td>Rwanda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guyana</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Swaziland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>State of Palestine</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kazakhstan</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Achievement 61%
Output b

Increased national capacity to provide access to child protection systems that prevent and respond to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect

Achievement 94%

P6.b.1
Countries with functioning child protection systems offering preventive and response services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEE/CIS</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAPR</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESAR</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LACR</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MENA</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCAR</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDCs</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Achievement 94%

P6.b.2
Countries with availability of free and universal birth registration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014 Baseline</th>
<th>2015 Result</th>
<th>2016 Result</th>
<th>2016 Milestone</th>
<th>2017 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEE/CIS</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAPR</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESAR</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LACR</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MENA</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCAR</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDCs</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Achievement 102%
**P6.b.3**

Countries in which procedures and services for children in contact with the law are applied and delivered in line with international norms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 Baseline</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Result</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Result</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Milestone</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Target</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Achievement 79%

**P6.b.4**

Countries (of those in which child marriage prevalence is 25% or higher) with national strategies or plans on child marriage with a budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013 Baseline</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 Result</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Result</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Result</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Milestone</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Target</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Achievement 183%
P6.b.5

Countries with comprehensive national approaches on early childhood development that include budgets and functioning coordination mechanisms

- 2014 Baseline: 56
- 2015 Result: 68
- 2016 Result: 71
- 2016 Milestone: 65
- 2017 Target: 70

Achievement 109%
Output c

Strengthened political commitment, accountability and national capacity to legislate, plan and budget for the scaling-up of interventions that prevent and respond to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect

Average output achievement

102%

P6.c.1

Countries with legislation on child protection consistent with or better than international standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 Baseline</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Result</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Result</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Milestone</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Target</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Achievement 100%

P6.c.2

Countries with legislation in place that recognizes children’s right to be heard in civil and administrative proceedings that affect them (in line with article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 Baseline</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Result</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Result</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Milestone</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Target</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Achievement 104%
Output d

Increased country capacity and delivery of services to ensure that children’s right to protection from violence, abuse and exploitation is sustained and promoted in humanitarian situations

Average output achievement 77%

P6.d.1

UNICEF-targeted children in humanitarian situations benefitting from psychosocial support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 Baseline</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Result</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Result</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Milestone</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Target</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Achievement 71%

P6.d.2

Countries in humanitarian action in which the country subcluster coordination mechanism for (a) child protection and (b) gender-based violence meets CCC standards for coordination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>(a)</th>
<th>(b)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 Baseline</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Result</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Result</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Milestone</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Target</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Achievement 93%

Note: 2016 result for gender-based violence is not yet available.
P6.d.3

UNICEF-targeted children and women in humanitarian situations who experience or are at risk of experiencing sexual violence and receive at least one kind of multisectoral support service (e.g., health, psychosocial (can include access to a dignity kit or safe space), livelihood/economic strengthening or justice service or activity)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Targeted</th>
<th>Reached</th>
<th>% reached</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEE/CIS</td>
<td>70,400</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAPR</td>
<td>22,000</td>
<td>103,555</td>
<td>471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESAR</td>
<td>350,000</td>
<td>351,462</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LACR</td>
<td>15,200</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MENA</td>
<td>3,667,547</td>
<td>2,896,946</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA</td>
<td>67,135</td>
<td>85,847</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCAR</td>
<td>330,144</td>
<td>239,686</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 2014 Baseline | 79% |
| 2015 Result   | -%  |
| 2016 Result   | -%  |
| 2016 Milestone| 100%|
| 2017 Target   | 100%|

Note: 2016 result in percentage is not available. To be reported in 2018.

P6.d.4

UNICEF-targeted children in humanitarian situations who were registered as unaccompanied or separated and reunified with families or caregivers, or received appropriate alternative care services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Targeted</th>
<th>Reached</th>
<th>% reached</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEE/CIS</td>
<td>56,012</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAPR</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESAR</td>
<td>53,310</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LACR</td>
<td>5,689</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MENA</td>
<td>7,230</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA</td>
<td>840</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCAR</td>
<td>12,062</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 2014 Baseline | 53% |
| 2015 Result   | 52% |
| 2016 Result   | 41% |
| 2016 Milestone| 70% |
| 2017 Target   | 80% |

Achievement 58%
**P6.d.5**

UNICEF-targeted children released from armed forces and groups who were reintegrated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Targeted</th>
<th>Reached</th>
<th>% Reached</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 Baseline</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Result</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Result</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Milestone</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Target</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Achievement 53%

**P6.d.6**

UNICEF-targeted children who benefit from weapons-related risk education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Targeted</th>
<th>Reached</th>
<th>% Reached</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 Baseline</td>
<td>-%</td>
<td>-%</td>
<td>-%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Result</td>
<td>-%</td>
<td>-%</td>
<td>-%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Result</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Milestone</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Target</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Achievement 86%
P6.d.7

Country situations with UNICEF-supported mechanisms to monitor and report on grave violations against children

- 2013 Baseline: 100%
- 2014 Result: 100%
- 2015 Result: 100%
- 2016 Result: 100%
- 2016 Milestone: 100%
- 2017 Target: 100%

Achievement 100%
Output e
Increased capacity of Governments and communities to identify and respond to human-rights and gender-equality dimensions of child protection

Average output achievement
81%

P6.e.1
Countries that collect and publish routine administrative data on violence, exploitation and abuse of children, including violent deaths and injuries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2014 Baseline</th>
<th>2015 Result</th>
<th>2016 Result</th>
<th>2016 Milestone</th>
<th>2017 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Achievement</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P6.e.2
Countries that have revised or improved child-protection policies on the basis of a gender review supported by UNICEF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2013 Baseline</th>
<th>2014 Result</th>
<th>2015 Result</th>
<th>2016 Result</th>
<th>2016 Milestone</th>
<th>2017 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Achievement</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Output f**

Enhanced global and regional capacity to accelerate progress in child protection

Average output achievement

65%

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**P6.f.1**

Peer-reviewed journal or research publications by UNICEF on child protection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014 Baseline</th>
<th>2015 Result</th>
<th>2016 Result</th>
<th>2016 Milestone</th>
<th>2017 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 Baseline</td>
<td>49</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Result</td>
<td>27</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Result</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Milestone</td>
<td>57</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Target</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Achievement 30%**
Global partnerships and initiatives

- Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action
- Call to Action on Protection from Gender-based Violence in Emergencies
- Donors Working Group on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting
- Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack
- Global Partnership to End Violence against Children
- Global Social Service Workforce Alliance
- Inter-Agency Working Group on Violence Against Children, with the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)-UNICEF Coalition on Every Child’s Right to a Nationality
- Paris Principles Steering Group
- United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict
- United Nations Coordinating Action on Small Arms
- United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)-UNICEF Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting
- UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage
- UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage Partners Advisory Group
- Together for Girls

Regional partnerships and initiatives

- African Union Commission-United Nations partnership to protect children in armed conflict (a partnership that includes the African Union Commission Peace and Security Department, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and UNICEF)
- East Asia and Pacific Inter-Agency Child Protection Working Group
- European Expert Group on the Transition from Institutional to Community-based Care
- Global Movement for Children – Latin America and the Caribbean chapter (El Movimiento Mundial por la infancia de Latinoamérica y el Caribe) (LACRO)
- Inter-Agency Group on Child Protection Systems (sub-Saharan Africa; and in Latin America and the Caribbean, together with Save the Children, Plan International and World Vision)
- Regional Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Core Group (ESAR)
- Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific, 2015-2019
- South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children
- South Asia Initiative to End Violence against Children (an Apex body of the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation)