Presentation outline

1. UNICEF focus in South Africa
2. Why?
3. What we do and how?
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1. UNICEF focus in South Africa
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All children in South Africa have their right to protection from violence, exploitation, neglect and discrimination recognized and fulfilled.

All babies and young children in South Africa access quality ECD that facilitates their healthy development, growth and early learning.

Equity

Results for adolescents

End violence against children

Early childhood development

Adolescents are healthy, educated, safe and able to participate productively and meaningfully in society.

All children in South Africa have their right to protection from violence, exploitation, neglect and discrimination recognized and fulfilled.
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Social Demographics of Children

• 19.7 million children under the age of 18 in South Africa (total population 55 million)

• Over 55 per cent of children live in cities and towns.

• Migration is an important demographic process in shaping the distribution of the population: nearly 1 in 10 children nationwide, and one in five in Gauteng, have migrated from another province.

• Only 1 in 3 children live with both their biological parents and one in six has lost a parent.
South Africa: significant progress

- Middle income country
- Strong national ownership of development priorities
- Well developed infrastructure and institutions
- Strong civil society, private sector, academia
- Progressive laws and policies on child rights
- Child support grant reaching 12.6 million children (63% of child population); foster care grant 470,000; children with disabilities – 130,000
- New HIV infections among children 0-14 declined rapidly from 88,400 in 2002 to 5,053 in 2015
- Almost universal primary school enrolment with gender parity
Significant investment in social services

2016-2017 Budget for Social Sectors = R562.4 billion
(38% of consolidated expenditure R1463 billion)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic Education</td>
<td>R228.8 bn</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>R168.4 bn</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social protection</td>
<td>R167.5 bn</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- High per capita expenditure in social sectors
  But
- GDP is growing at less than 1% per year – lower than both inflation (6%) and population growth (1.6%)
One of highest level of inequities in the world

7 out of 10 South African children live below poverty line (income)

A third of young children live in households whose main source of income is social grants

South Africa has the highest HIV burden in the world

- Weak protective environment
- Gap between policy and implementation
- Tenuous link between high investment in social sectors and social outcomes…e.g.:
  - Significant investment in education – 16% of consolidated budget,
  - High enrolment rate in primary schools, but poor learning outcomes: 58% of Grade 4 learners could not read for meaning and 29% could not read at all
Early childhood

Key problems and bottlenecks

1. Child mortality
   • Pneumonia, diarrhoea, HIV and TB
   • Infanticide, homicide, road traffic accidents
   • Health and child protection system failures

1 in almost 24 children dies before their fifth birthday. Disparities are high: Black African child is almost 5 times more likely to die before first birthday compared to White child.

74% of all children killed under the age of 5 are killed in the context of abuse and neglect.

2. Inadequate early nurture, care and development
   • Stunting, poor nutrition and hygiene
   • Poor early stimulation and learning
   • High exclusion of eligible infants and young children from social assistance

1 in 5 children under 5 is stunted. Poorest children 3 times as likely to be stunted as children in the richest households. Only 7.4% of babies under 6 months are exclusively breastfed.

1 in 3 children under 5 attend an ECD centre. 9 out of 10 participate in some form of pre-primary education Grader R before starting primary school

The CSG has a positive impact on the lives of young children, but 18% of eligible children do not receive CSG and children under 1 are less likely to receive the child support grant than older children.

11 % of the South African population is younger than 5 years of age
Adolescence

Key problems and bottlenecks

1. HIV and teenage pregnancy
   - Early and unsafe sex
   - Gender-based violence and socio-economic discrimination
   - Beyond cash or care: lack of integrated support package

2. Poor learning outcomes and secondary school retention
   - Access challenges for children with disabilities and children affected by drought
   - Poor quality education linked to inequity
   - Unsafe and unsupportive school environment

3. Poverty and unemployment
   - Low enrolment in post-school education
   - Barriers to employment of adolescent girls and young women
   - Inadequate social assistance for adolescents

Girls aged are between 3 and 8 times more likely to become infected with HIV than their male peers. HIV prevalence among 15-19 girls is 5.6% compared to 0.7% among boys same age, and 17.4% among 20-24 young women compared to 5.1% among young men.

Only 14% of adolescents living with HIV are on treatment.

30% of 15 to 19-year-old school girls report ever having been pregnant.

Serious leaning difficulties: 58% of Grade 4 learners could not read for meaning and 29% could not read at all.

The secondary school gross enrolment rate is 90% but only 40% of young people pass matric.

18% of eligible children are not receiving the CSG. Exclusion is high among 14 to 18-year-olds.

45% of boys and 55% of girls aged 15-24 are unemployed. About 2 million people aged 19-24 are neither employed or in school.

30% of the South African population is adolescent (10–19 years) and part of the youth group (20–24 years).
Violence against children

Key problems and bottlenecks

1. Violence at home, schools, communities and online:
   - Homicide
   - Physical abuse, emotional abuse, maltreatment and neglect;
   - Sexual violence;
   - Child labour, trafficking;
   - Online abuse

2. Direct and indirect determinants of violence
   - Individual characteristics, family and relationship dynamics
   - Peer related risk factors
   - Safety in communities and in schools
   - Societal factors and social norms
   - Drought and child protection risks

3. Child protection system failures
   - Little focus on prevention
   - Inadequate multi-disciplinary support
   - Poor coordination and funding

Child homicide rate (5.5 per 100,000 children under 18) is double WHO estimated global average (2.4 per 100,000 children under 18 years).

45% of child homicide cases are due to abuse and neglect. 57% of parents report smacking their children at some point and 33% report using a belt or object to beat their children.

More than 50% of the 40,689 contact crimes against children in 2015/2016 were sexual offences. 40% of all reported sexual abuse cases involve children.

Up to 84% of child rapes in South Africa are perpetrated by relatives or acquaintances of the child.

12% of learners have been threatened with violence at school, over 6 per cent of learners assaulted, almost 5 per cent sexually assaulted or raped.
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UNICEF supports Government of South Africa to achieve results for children

- Increase to access to quality health and nutrition interventions, including HIV prevention and treatment, for pregnant women, newborns and children under 5.
- Increase in access to quality ECD programmes and foundation phase achievement rates.
- Increase # of eligible young children aged 0-3 receiving social grants.

- Reduction in new HIV infections among adolescents.
- Increase in number of HIV+ adolescents on treatment.
- Improved school retention, completion and achievement rates.
- Increase participation and skills development.

- Reduction in violence against children.
Programme focus areas

Connecting the dots across sectors and geographical convergence with focus on equity

1. Health systems strengthening towards results for survive and thrive across the MNCWAH and N portfolio including HIV, TB and WASH (EMTCT, Double dividend)
2. Early stimulation and play-based learning (incl. positive parenting)
3. Quality inclusive Foundation Phase learning (Grade R-3), focus reading & math
4. Care giver support and home visitations for vulnerable children
5. Community, religious and traditional leaders mobilisation to promote child friendly communities

1. HIV prevention and treatment within the context of improving SRH services access and quality
2. Keep girls in schools and prepare them for employment through scale up of Child Friendly Schools (CSTL, incl. WASH, School Safety) and prepare for STEMs careers
3. Safe public spaces, Safe Parks and CFCs
4. Adolescent participation and skills development (Sports for Development, G/BEM, iSchool, Young Reporters)

FIRST DECADE: EARLY CHILDHOOD AND FOUNDATION PHASE DEVELOPMENT

1. Cash grants and monitoring of vulnerable children through digitized Child Status Index
2. Case management for most vulnerable children and referral, including access to justice
3. Child poverty and deprivation analysis; budget analysis; data & M&E

SECOND DECADE: RESULTS FOR ADOLESCENTS

ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN: CASH + CARE + PROTECTION
Strategies

Evidence generation linked to policy advocacy – to close gaps in implementation (for investment and scale up)

• New data and analysis
• Proof of concept (piloting service delivery)
• Modelling/good practice in implementation to deliver results

Investment cases (costing scale up plan and budget allocation for sustainable results)

Innovation for ‘leap frogging’

Public advocacy and communication

Participation and community engagement (for behaviour change at community level)

Partnerships

Connecting dots across sectors
Geographic convergence with focus on equity

Health and nutrition
Education and adolescent development
Social policy and child protection

Communication, and partnerships
Monitoring and evaluation
Operations, finance and procurement

Evidence: Modelling implementation
Investment cases (including costing)
Scalability
Partnerships

In close coordination with UN country team and other UN agencies:

Government
NGOs
Academia
Private sector
Media

Health and nutrition
DoH
Presidency
DWC

Education and adolescent development
DBE
DSD

Child protection and social assistance
DSD
SASSA
DPME
SAHRC

Communication and partnerships
Media, celebrities, corporates
M&E: DPME, Stats SA, Sectoral Depts
Thank you
Dankie
Ngiyathokoza
Ke a leboha
Ke a leboga
Ke a leboga
Siyabonga
Inkomu
Ro livhuwa
Enkosi
Ngiyabonga