CREDITS

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We are confident we will continue to build on these achievements in our new country programme 2016-2020. UNICEF remains a committed partner to Zambia’s children and a committed advocate for children and women’s rights.
In 2015, we closed the doors on our current country programme and prepared for a new journey to begin in 2016. Reflecting back on the 2011-2015 country programme and in particular, its last year, I am proud to say that a great deal was achieved for children. And these results were made possible through strong partnerships with the Government of the Republic of Zambia and our many other partners. Among the many achievements that you will find in this annual report, I would like to highlight these results:

- Coverage of the Social Cash Transfer programme increased by 35 per cent in 2015, from 145,000 to 200,000 households—covering an estimated 1 million poor and vulnerable children. Cash transfers provide a lifeline to many Zambian children and families living on the edges of extreme poverty and social exclusion.

- 1.16 million Zambians gained access to improved sanitation in 2015. This brought the cumulative total to 3.13 million new sanitation users through UNICEF’s Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programme. In addition, 68 per cent of homes had a place to wash hands—a key step towards reducing child deaths from diarrohea and pneumonia.

- Zambia’s expansion of Option B+ within the national Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) of HIV programme is saving more Zambian babies from HIV infection and keeping their mothers alive. In 2015, 86 per cent of pregnant women attending PMTCT services were provided with antiretroviral (ARV) treatment, edging closer and closer to the 2016 coverage target of 95 per cent.

- Early childhood education (ECE) was strengthened through the creation of an ECE directorate in the Ministry of General Education, a new curriculum in seven local languages rolled out to 270 UNICEF-supported ECE centres and a national ECE policy submitted to Cabinet Office for government approval.

- UNICEF Zambia also strengthened its capacity in the field of public finance for children. Partnerships have been formed with local think-tanks, civil society organizations, the International Monetary Fund and the Ministry of Finance, helping UNICEF to advocate for budgetary increases for children and women’s programmes.

- UNICEF Zambia supported a groundbreaking qualitative study on child marriage. The government has come up with a consortium of 11 ministries on ending child marriage while civil society organizations have formed a network to end this child rights violation. A national strategy on ending child marriage has since been drafted.

With my sincere thanks,

Hamid El-Bashir Ibrahim, Ph.D.
Representative
LIFE OF A ZAMBIAN CHILD

It is tough being a child in Zambia. Living in an unequal society with high levels of child poverty means facing many risks — to HIV; common childhood diseases such as malaria, pneumonia and diarrohea; malnutrition; poor learning at school; and violence, abuse and exploitation. This is especially true for the most disadvantaged children living in rural areas and poor communities.

ZAMBIA is a young country

- 7.08 million are under 18
- 54% of the total population

Children are hardest hit by POVERTY

- 65% of children live in poverty compared to 60% of adults
- 48% live in extreme poverty compared to 42% of adults
- 80% of poor children live in rural areas

EARLY CHILDHOOD is a risky time

- 40% of children under 5 are stunted
- 1 in 13 children dies by the age of 5
- 68% of children between 1 and 2 years are fully immunized

- 1 in 13 children between 1 and 2 years are fully immunized
- 68%

- 15.4% of Grade 1 pupils attended preschool

- 80%

- 54%

- 65%

- 48%
ADOLESCENTS are vulnerable

17% of adolescent girls aged 15-19 are married compared to 1% of boys in the same age group.

4.4% of adolescents aged 15-19 are living with HIV compared to 13% of adults.

39% of adolescent girls and 42% of boys aged 15-19 have comprehensive knowledge of AIDS.

Children need SUPPORT AT SCHOOL

Less than 50% of children start primary school at the right age of 7 years.

The net enrolment rate at primary level is 94% but drops to less than 30% in upper secondary.

Less than 17% of children aged 7-18 have never been to school.

696,148 in total.

After Grade 7, the dropout rate for girls is almost double that of boys.

Children need PROTECTION

11% of Zambian children are orphans (lost one or both parents).

79% of double orphans attend school compared to 91% of children with both parents alive.

39% of adolescent girls aged 15-19 have experienced physical violence since age 15 and 8.2% sexual violence.

29% of adolescent girls aged 15-19 are living with HIV compared to 13% of adults.

11% of children age 0-4 have birth registration only.

4% have a birth certificate.

Over 80% of the perpetrators are current and former partners (Data from ZDHS 2013-14).
More mothers and babies are surviving

1 in 169 2007
1 in 251 2014

women died in pregnancy, childbirth or after delivery

1 in 29 2007
1 in 42 2014

babies died in their first month of life

A decrease in neonatal mortality of almost a third 29% between 2007 and 2014

Only 24% of pregnant women go for antenatal care in their first trimester

56% attend all 4 recommended antenatal care sessions

16% of newborns get their first check up within 2 days of being born
In Zambia, UNICEF works with its partners to improve the health and survival of children by increasing access to simple, cost-effective and high impact maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health services.

**MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOAL INITIATIVE**

The government, with support from UNICEF and other partners, began implementing the European Union-funded Millennium Development Goal Initiative (MDGi) in 2015. MDGi aims to improve maternal and child health and nutrition services in 11 districts in Lusaka and Copperbelt Provinces. In 2015, the 11 districts were provided with medical supplies, training and support to develop and strengthen health systems.

**BRINGING SERVICES CLOSER TO FAMILIES**

Community health workers play an important role in increasing public demand and access to mother and child health services. During the year, UNICEF helped train 309 community health workers and supported Safe Motherhood Action Groups (SMAGs). Training manuals on SMAGs, birth preparedness, home-based newborn care and other relevant topics were developed to upgrade the skills of community health workers. Mama Kits—containing a chitenge cloth, a baby blanket and cloth nappies—were also distributed in 16 districts to encourage women to deliver their babies at health facilities.
UNICEF helped Zambia develop a US$9 million proposal for the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) to strengthen delivery of immunization services. To reinforce the cold chain and reduce dependence on electricity, especially in rural areas, UNICEF Zambia procured 300 solar refrigerators. This will benefit 1.7 million children under 5 and 1.8 million women of child-bearing age with immunization services.

Before the fridge was installed, we used to run out of vaccines and you had to go to Manyana to collect and by the time you come back some women have left.”

Recent Hanyinde, a worker at Itebe Rural Health Centre that received solar fridges from UNICEF, funded by JICA.
After receiving training from MDGi, I am able to notice danger signs in pregnant women and encourage them to go to the clinic. What makes me happy is to see an improvement in the lives of children...I also encourage pregnant women to register early at the antenatal clinic so that they receive care and avoid complications with the pregnancy.”

Jessy Tembo, 60, one of 30 community volunteers who was trained by MDGi to promote health-seeking behaviour in Ndola district. A member of the Neighbourhood Health Committee (NHC), Jessy spends time with mothers in her community, gently nudging them to seek proper health care during pregnancy.
Zambian children continue to suffer from poor nutrition.

- 45% in 2007
- 40% in 2014

Of children under 5 stunted.

- 2.2% of children under 5 are severely malnourished and at great risk of death.

- 55% of children under 5 are anemic.

- 68% of children under 2 are anemic.

- 73% of babies are exclusively breastfed for the first 6 months of life.
There is no other time like between birth and the age of two to provide a child with a strong nutritional and immunological foundation. Intellectual and physical growth is the most rapid, with doubling of brain size and quadrupling of body weight. If a child is malnourished during these early years, much of the damage is irreversible. The answer, therefore, lies in prevention.

**IMPROVING THE POLICY ENVIRONMENT**

In 2015, UNICEF continued to build a solid national framework for nutrition in Zambia. This meant supporting the development of key national strategic documents to guide nutrition programming.

**NUTRITION SERVICES ON THE GROUND**

The Ministry of Health, with UNICEF’s support, began piloting a micronutrient powder (MNP) project in Mbala district. As a first step, operational research was commissioned to see how to integrate and scale up MNP distribution to children between six months of age and a year. The results were used to develop a scale up plan for home fortification with MNP in 22 districts.

Child Health Weeks, implemented twice a year, continued to bring Vitamin A supplementation and deworming to all eligible children, and especially to those living in remote and difficult-to-reach areas.

Children with life-threatening severe acute malnutrition living in the 11 MDGI districts benefitted from ready-to-use therapeutic food, procured with the help of UNICEF.

- >3,000 children in 11 MDGI-supported districts provided with ready-to-use therapeutic food
- 2.7 million children under 5 reached with Vitamin A supplements and deworming during Child Health Weeks
HIV prevalence falling but not fast enough for young women and girls

**Young people**

- **8.5%** 2007
- **7.7%** 2014
- of females aged 15-24 were living with HIV and AIDS
- **9% reduction** between 2007-2014
  - National reduction rate target
  - **15%**

**Adolescent girls**

- **5.4%** 2007
- **4.8%** 2014
- of females aged 15-19 were living with HIV and AIDS
- **11% reduction** between 2007-2014
  - National reduction rate target
  - **15%**

**Paediatric HIV treatment lags behind**

- **75,000** 2016 target for HIV-positive children on treatment
- **47,000**
  - Number of children on treatment by mid-2015
Creating an HIV-free generation in Zambia is possible. Current prevention efforts need to be sustained and accelerated. This is why UNICEF Zambia is working alongside the government to increase access to HIV services for infants, adolescents and mothers and stop the transmission of HIV from mother-to-child.

**LIFELONG TREATMENT FOR WOMEN WITH HIV**

In 2015, UNICEF continued to support Zambia to expand Option B+ within the national PMTCT programme. In 2015, 86 per cent of pregnant women attending PMTCT were provided with lifelong ARV treatment, edging closer to the 2016 coverage target of 95 per cent. However, there has been an increase in the transmission rate of HIV from mother to child, from 3 to 13 per cent. Poor breastfeeding practices are thought to be behind this worrying trend. The Ministry of Health, with support from UNICEF and other partners, is planning a study to assess the drivers of this increased transmission rate.

**IMPROVING PAEDIATRIC HIV SERVICES**

Zambia has a strong policy environment for paediatric HIV treatment. UNICEF assisted the government this year to develop and implement a joint Elimination of Mother-to-Child Transmission and Paediatric ART National Strategy and Operational Plan 2011-2015. The plan was reviewed, updated and extended to 2017. Efforts were also made to get more children treated for HIV. Zambia hopes to put 75,000 HIV-positive children under the age of 15 on treatment by 2016 but by mid-2015, only 47,000 children were provided with ARVs. An estimated 6,000 children needed treatment in 2015 but only 1,800 received it.

To address this concern, UNICEF worked with the national paediatric task force to strengthen adherence support, defaulter tracing and linkages to care. The scale up of Programme Mwana—an SMS-driven platform for the rapid transmission of infant HIV results—should also help in identifying HIV-positive children and improving children’s access to treatment.
Access to Option B+ rapidly rising

73% Beginning of 2015
86% End of 2015
of women living with HIV had access to Option B+

95% 2016
Coverage target for Option B+

Option B+ now available in
89% of antenatal clinics or a total of
1,424 clinics

U-REPORT
an innovative social messaging tool developed by UNICEF and its partners—is also being used to provide adolescents with information on HIV and sexual reproductive health. The National AIDS Council used U-report polling data to develop a radio campaign on HIV testing and condom use.

Almost
73%
73% of women living with HIV had access to Option B+

Approximately
50%
50% of U-reporters use it to access confidential information on HIV and sexual reproductive health

88,000 young people to date

20%
20% of users respond regularly to U-report polls
814 out of 1,500 antenatal health facilities use SMS to transmit infant HIV results under Programme Mwana

67,000 infants received their HIV results in 2015 under Programme Mwana

“...The club has helped me learn a lot about sex education, HIV and AIDS and teenage pregnancies. I teach other youths in schools and my community so that they know how to handle themselves when faced with peer pressure.”

Elias Mapenzi, 18, youth leader and peer educator of the Kasitu Youth Group, Copperbelt Province

HIV testing among teenagers aged 15-19 improved by 150 per cent between 2007 and 2014. UNICEF continued to support this impressive trend by promoting adolescent HIV testing through SMS and radio messages and various peer-to-peer methods.

Between 2007 and 2014, HIV testing among adolescents aged 15-19 increased by 150% (from 28% to 50%)

23% of HIV testing and counseling clients are adolescents

PROMOTING ADOLESCENT HIV SERVICES

Adolescent HIV and sexual reproductive health services were rolled out in 11 MGDi districts and 55 health facilities. Under the HIV-sensitive social protection learning initiative, social welfare community volunteers promoted HIV services in another four districts.

814 out of 1,500 antenatal health facilities use SMS to transmit infant HIV results under Programme Mwana
Unequal access to safe drinking water

- 24% of Zambian households access drinking water from an improved source in 2007.
- 65% of Zambian households access drinking water from an improved source in 2014.

90% of urban areas have access to improved toilets.

47% of rural areas have access to improved toilets.

66% of households do not treat their drinking water.

22% of households spend more than 30 minutes fetching water.

Access to sanitation lagging behind

- 1 in 4 households have an improved (not shared) toilet/latrine.
- 14% of Zambians practice open defecation.
- 27% of rural areas do not have a toilet.
- 2% of urban areas do not have a toilet.

55% have access to a non-improved latrine.
Access to water and sanitation is a basic human right. It is also a pre-condition for social and economic development. In Zambia, UNICEF strives to improve access to WASH for vulnerable children and women in rural communities, schools and health facilities.

**TRACKING WASH COVERAGE**
A real-time monitoring (RTM) surveillance system was expanded to 46 districts across the 10 provinces of Zambia. The surveillance system gathers monitoring data on different aspects of sanitation and hygiene including access to safe drinking water and school WASH standards. Three thousand community champions, health technicians and chiefs are now using the RTM system to report on sanitation and hygiene coverage.

**PROMOTING HANDWASHING WITH SOAP**
Around 6.3 million people were reached with key messages on hygiene and the proportion of households with functional hand washing stations increased from 8.3 per cent in 2013 to 67 per cent in 2015. This was achieved through a national hand washing campaign, which included road shows and community theatre in schools.

**ENDING OPEN DEFECATION**
Under the Community-led Total Sanitation (CTLS) programme, four districts (Chienge, Vubwi, Choma and Chitambo) and 10 chiefdoms were declared open defecation free in 2015 (a total of 31 since the inception of the project in 2012). This has helped to bring down the national rate of open defecation to 14 per cent.

To help create an enabling environment for sanitation, UNICEF supported the development of a national open defecation free strategy aimed at reaching zero per cent open defecation by 2020. It is anticipated that this strategy will not only reduce open defecation, but will ultimately lower stunting rates among children, as well.
1.16 million gained access to improved sanitation in 2015

4,800 villages were verified open defecation free in 2015

The total number of certified open defecation free villages since 2012 is 7,682

This has increased the national coverage of rural sanitation to 67%

While in UNICEF-supported districts, the coverage stands at 73% from a baseline of 43% in 2012

Sanitation coverage on the rise

The results of CLTS are clear to see. For example, in 2013, Chienge district recorded 284 cases of cholera with nine deaths. After vigorously implementing CLTS, the district, which was one of the 11 cholera-endemic areas, has not recorded any case of the disease since 2013.”

Leonard Mukosha, CLTS National Coordinator

New people gaining access to improved sanitation facilities
In Zambia, UNICEF promotes affordable school WASH standards that reduce the cost of building a toilet block in a government school from US$2,500 to US$1,000 and to less than US$500 at a community school.

COMMUNITY WASH
A total of 169,500 people in 22 target rural districts gained access to safe water supply during 2015. To increase access to safe drinking water in communities, UNICEF promotes low cost drilling by local companies as well as the use of Afridev pumps to prevent iron contamination of boreholes. Community members and district officials in 19 districts were also trained to plan, manage and supervise WASH services.

SCHOOL WASH
More than 70 per cent of districts benefitted from a UNICEF-supported school WASH programme. In 2015, 307,000 school children in more than 700 schools in 40 districts gained access to safe drinking water and girls/boys toilets. National menstrual hygiene management guidelines were developed which will help to make schools gender-sensitive learning spaces for teenage girls. A framework to measure adolescent girls’ attendance in school was also developed and will be implemented in 50 schools in 2016.

WASH capacity building in 19 UNICEF-supported districts

- 280 area pump mendes and 12 district rural water supply and sanitation focal points trained in operation and maintenance
- 37 district officers trained in the management and supervision of water supply services
- 460 new village WASH committee members, 200 existing WASH committees and 920 water caretakers (50% are female) trained to ensure routine maintenance of water points
- 2% dropout rates in Grades 1-9 in schools with toilets
- 7.4% dropout rates in Grades 1-9 in schools with no toilets
School dropout for teenage girls is still a problem.

National dropout rates:
- 2.4% in 2012
- 1.8% in 2014

Grade 8 dropout rates:
- 1.1% between 2010 and 2014

Girls dropped out of school because of pregnancy:
- 14,849 in 2012
- 16,378 in 2014
When all children have access to a quality education rooted in human rights and gender equality, it creates a ripple effect of opportunity that influences generations to come. For this reason, UNICEF Zambia supports the government to provide equitable access to quality, inclusive and gender-sensitive education.

EDUCATION

GIRLS’ EDUCATION

To encourage girls to stay in school, UNICEF Zambia supported advocacy for the Re-entry Policy for school girls who had given birth and also helped launch the national campaign to end child marriage.

EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING

Early childhood education (ECE) grew from strength-to-strength. An ECE directorate in the Ministry of General Education was created; the new curriculum, delivered in seven local languages, rolled out to 270 UNICEF-supported ECE centres; ECE standard guidelines developed and printed; and a national ECE policy was submitted to the Cabinet Office for approval. One hundred community health workers in three districts were trained to implement the national parenting programme, which teaches parents how to properly stimulate and care for young children.

Slight rise in ECE enrollment

Government target 25%

14.7% 2014
15.4% 2015

of students starting primary school had pre-school experience

ECE budget increases

0.1% 2014
1% 2015

of the education budget accounted for ECE
EDUCATION IN EMERGENCIES

All provinces had disaster preparedness and response measures in place to prevent flooding, epidemics and damage to school buildings and other infrastructure. During the year, the Malabo “flood-resistant” primary school in Western Province was built on a raised embankment so that children can attend school during the annual flood season. Malabo is just one of 11 other schools in flood-prone areas around the country.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Inclusive education got a boost during the year. Inclusive education guidelines for children with special needs were finalized and printed, and trainers’ trained in five provinces. School improvement plans were implemented with UNICEF support in 424 schools.

SUPPORTING TEACHERS

UNICEF Zambia supported the roll-out of the revised curriculum, teacher training in school-level monitoring, strengthening of school management, and the development of teaching and learning materials and standards and guidelines. Teachers were also trained to deliver life skills-based comprehensive sexuality education and financial literacy.

“As a community, we are very pleased about having a new school. We will encourage our children to keep the school clean, to take care of the doors and windows. As parents, we will participate in our children’s learning by contributing when required. We will support the teachers who are making sacrifices for our children and we thank the donors who supported our school.”

Christine Maluza, a parent at Malabo primary school.
ZAMBIA

It’s a challenging job. One must really have the heart to work with very young children. They have so many needs. Some are orphans because their parents are dead from HIV and AIDS. Many are sickly with asthma, anemia, and are HIV positive. They are hungry. Sometimes this is the only place where they get a full meal all day.”

Ruth, head coordinator of Amundame ECE centre in Kapiri Mposhi, located north of Zambia’s capital, Lusaka.

LIFE SKILLS EDUCATION

Guidance and counseling school services were improved through the development and distribution of guidelines, the revised HIV and AIDS policy for the education sector (2016-2020), as well as a strategic framework and implementation guidelines for the policy. School managers, teachers and other education role players were trained to implement these resources and help learners acquire the knowledge and skills to make healthy life choices. NGO partners worked with communities and peer educators to reach children and young people with counseling and life skills messages.
Access to birth registration expands

22 birth registration desks were opened in 2015 in health facilities in Copperbelt and Lusaka Provinces.

The government is running similar desks in 154 health facilities in Luapula, Southern and Eastern Provinces bringing the total to 176.

As a result more than 80,026 births were registered in 2015.
UNICEF Zambia continues to fight injustices experienced by children and women. Helping build a comprehensive child protection system—one that protects all children, unites all actors behind a common set of goals, and creates a long-term response that is robust, properly coordinated, and adaptable to new problems—is a key priority.

**Birth Registration Grows**

In 2015, UNICEF support to birth registration saw significant results. The Statutory Instrument to Amend the Births and Deaths Act was finalized and is awaiting the minister’s signature. It will allow all district registrars to issue certificates and simplify the birth registration application process by reducing the number of forms that applicants will need to fill in. At service delivery level, UNICEF has been working with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Health since 2012 to decentralize birth registration services through the public health care system.

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**Birth registration increasing in Zambia**

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Age distribution
LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR CHILD PROTECTION

UNICEF helped to review and develop laws, policies and regulations to form the legal basis for a comprehensive child protection system. This included a review of the Education Act Cap 234 of the Laws of Zambia to ensure violence against children, including child marriage, is addressed in schools. The review of the 2006 National Child Policy, which started in 2012, was finalized in 2015 and a Gender Policy, launched in 2014, was put into practice in 2015. In addition, UNICEF supported the legislative audit of the Anti-Human Trafficking Act and the Immigration and Deportation Act to identify provisions that need strengthening in relation to the protection of migrant children.

JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN

To improve justice for children, UNICEF helped train 27 magistrates and 40 police officers from the Child Protection Unit of the Zambia Police on child-friendly practices. A training curriculum on child rights, child justice, and child protection was developed for the country’s three police training colleges. Awareness of human trafficking and the rights of migrant children was raised through an information campaign and training of journalists and district officials.

Two more one-stop centres for child and female survivors of rape and other forms of gender-based violence were set up in 2015. Frontline workers were trained to prevent and respond to violence against children. Community networks surrounding the one-stop centres helped to raise public awareness of gender-based violence and refer victims to the centres.
Child marriage is a violation of human rights, and comes at a cost society simply cannot afford. It slows down development and hampers efforts to improve maternal and infant health, combat malnutrition and keep children in school.”
Fatoumata Ndiaye, UNICEF Deputy Executive Director during her official visit to Zambia in December, 2015

TACKING CHILD MARRIAGE
Major research reports on violence against children and on child marriage were completed, shedding light on the nature and extent of serious child rights violations in Zambia. A key finding of the research is that child marriage in Zambia is not so much a social norm but rather a manifestation of poverty and inequality. This means that the government and its partners need to make sure that children and their families have access to quality basic services so that they are able to make different choices. A draft national strategy to end child marriage was developed in 2015.
Breaking the poverty cycle requires innovative, integrated and multi-sectoral responses, something that UNICEF is supporting in Zambia through social protection initiatives and child-friendly budgeting and policy development.
SOCIAL CASH TRANSFERS REACH MORE ZAMBIANS
Social cash transfers—a flagship programme under the new Social Protection Policy—have been expanded rapidly in the past five years, from 60,000 households in 2013 to 200,000 in 2015. The programme, which is supported technically by UNICEF, now reaches an estimated 1 million poor and vulnerable children with monthly cash grants that allow them to eat more nutritiously, go to school and keep away from child labour and other forms of child exploitation. Government has allocated more funding to the programme for the 2016-2018 period, which will allow it to reach national scale and 10 to 15 per cent of the population.

ADDRESSING CHILD POVERTY
Another opportunity to influence the child poverty agenda was through the process of developing the Seventh National Development Plan. UNICEF was able to advocate and will provide technical support to integrate specific measures and targets for the reduction of multi-dimensional child poverty as well as for the domestication of child-relevant Sustainable Development Goals.

"With government aiming to tackle the intergenerational transmission of poverty, the cash grants have allowed families to invest in the well-being of their children and lay a foundation for improved health, nutrition, education, and protection outcomes."
Professor Elwyn Chomba, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Community Development and Social Welfare

The fragile economic outlook for Zambia remains worrying for child-centred budget allocations. It is expected that government spending on social sectors will continue to decrease. In 2016, social sector funding dropped to 29.6 per cent of the national budget from 35.3 per cent in 2015. UNICEF prepared a series of social sector policy briefs, which will be used in 2016 to advocate for government to increase support to social sectors.

NATIONAL CHILD POLICY
In 2015, the government adopted the revised National Child Policy of Zambia. Based on a comprehensive analysis of child rights deprivation, the policy outlines strategic objectives in the fields of child survival, development, and participation.
Together with UNFPA and supported by the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development (DFID) and the Government of Canada, UNICEF Zambia supported the Ministry of Gender and Child Development to host the first African Union Girls Summit on Ending Child Marriage in December. The summit helped to secure commitments from different governments to invest more in ending child marriage in their respective countries.
**ZAMBIA**

I am excited to be an ambassador. I used to experience the effects of climate change but I did not know what caused those things. I now know and will do something in my school. I will work with my friends and plant 1,000 trees at school and at home.”

Mubita Sitali, 16, a pupil at Mayukwayukwa Secondary School, who was newly trained to be a climate ambassador in 2015

UNICEF Zambia made presentations to the pre-sessional working group on the Committee on the Rights of Children and provided an assessment on the progress Zambia is making in protecting the rights of children. UNICEF also supported the preparation of the Government of the Republic of Zambia’s report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the alternative civil society report on the CRC. This engagement, together with presentations made to the Parliament, galvanized efforts for the enactment of the Children’s Bill.

Building on the robust climate ambassadors’ programme, UNICEF Zambia partnered with Zambia Wildlife Society to support more than 200 school-based environmental clubs. The clubs promote children’s participation in environmental sustainability, with one of the child ambassadors selected to be part of the Zambian government delegation to the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris.

**LESSONS LEARNED**

UNICEF Zambia gained four key insights during the implementation of the 2011-2015 country programme. These will be used to guide future programming.

1. Cash transfers can be an entry point for multi-sector programming. Because cash transfers tend to build stronger social welfare systems, they can be used to link different programmes and to refer children and families to other services.

2. Programme management benefits from two-way communication between national and sub-national levels in areas such as technical oversight and data management.

3. The most vulnerable children and communities in rural areas are best reached through joint collaborations between several sectors such as education, WASH, health and traditional affairs.

4. Global campaigns on child marriage and violence against children can be used to support work and collaboration in local settings. An example of this is the global partnership between the Canadian and Zambian governments. In 2014, they co-sponsored a resolution at the United Nations to end early, forced and child marriages, which has now been brought to Zambia.
### FUNDING PER DONOR, 2015

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<td><strong>Inter-organizational arrangements</strong></td>
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<td>UNFPA - USA</td>
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<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Sub-total</strong></td>
<td><strong>Grand total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>11,705,169</strong></td>
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### DONOR

- French Committee for UNICEF: 4,928
- German Committee for UNICEF: 661,385
- Italian National Committee: 42,724
- Luxembourg Committee for UNICEF: 42,132
- Netherlands Committee for UNICEF: 11,621
- Slovenia Committee for UNICEF: 32,647
- Spanish Committee for UNICEF: 326,655
- Swedish Committee for UNICEF: 315
- United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF: 688,494
- United States Fund for UNICEF: 493,924

**Sub-total**: 2,357,748

### Thematic

- Global - Nutrition: 166
- Global - Water, sanitation and hygiene: 355

**Sub-total**: 521
## PROGRAMME BUDGET, 2015

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<th>OTHER RESOURCES (OR)</th>
<th>REGULAR RESOURCES (RR)</th>
<th>TOTAL (OR &amp; RR)</th>
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