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Childhood in Zambia

EARLY CHILDHOOD IS FRAGILE

**4 in 10**

Children (aged 0–17 years) are deprived in at least three areas of well-being (nutrition, health, education, child protection, housing, information, sanitation and water). This rises to 6 in 10 children in rural areas.

**60%**

Children (aged 0–17 years) live in income poverty

**35%**

35% of children under 5 are stunted

**54%**

54% of children aged 0–4 are deprived in at least three dimensions of deprivation

**58%**

58% of children under 5 suffer from anaemia

**2.7%**

Neonatal mortality rate has stagnated and remains high (2018) at 27/1,000 live births

**16.3%**

Only 16.3% of children under 5 have had their birth registered

**15%**

15% of Zambians practice open defecation, a highly unsanitary practice that endangers children’s health

**16%**

Only 16% of newborns receive postnatal care within 48 hours of birth

The latest Demographic and Health Survey data for Zambia was gathered in 2018 and initial data released the first half of 2019.

UNICEF ZAMBIA Annual Report 2018
**Children are still missing out on their education**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36%</td>
<td>Children aged 5–13 who are multidimensionally deprived</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64%</td>
<td>Out-of-school children in rural areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87.9%</td>
<td>Primary school age children enrolled in primary education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21%</td>
<td>Schools in Zambia that don’t have access to clean water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;740,000</td>
<td>Children of school-going age not in school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34%</td>
<td>Schools that don’t have access to adequate sanitation and 46% to hygiene services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The second decade of life is challenging for adolescents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Adolescents (14–17 years) who are multidimensionally deprived</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2%</td>
<td>15-year-olds who have reached minimum competency in maths (PISA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59%</td>
<td>Adolescent girls (15–19 years) pregnant or have become mothers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In secondary school, there are fewer girls than boys (the gender parity index is 0.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>Adolescent girls (15–19 years) living with HIV and AIDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Adolescents (15–19 years) with a comprehensive knowledge of HIV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>Adolescent boys (15–19 years) living with HIV and AIDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31.4%</td>
<td>Women (20–24 years) who were married as children (before the age of 18)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42.9%</td>
<td>School-aged adolescents enrolled in secondary school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 in 3</td>
<td>Women (18–24 years) who have experienced physical violence before the age of 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>15-year-olds who have reached minimum level of competencies for literacy (PISA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 in 5</td>
<td>Men (18–24 years) who have experienced physical violence before the age of 18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SOURCE**
- Zambia Demographic and Health Survey (ZDHS) 2018 Key Indicators; Zambia Demographic and Health Survey (ZDHS) 2014; Child Poverty Study 2018; 2017 WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP); PISA 2018. Findings from the 2018-2019 ZDHS are expected in June 2019.
Every Child Survives and Thrives
EVERY CHILD HAS THE RIGHT TO GROW UP HEALTHY AND STRONG.

In Zambia, the under 5 mortality rates have continued a downward trend over the past two decades, most recently falling from 75/1,000 in 2014 to 61/1,000 in 2018. But high levels of poverty and malnutrition, combined with inadequate access to quality healthcare services, prevent many children from surviving and thriving.

In 2018, UNICEF Zambia supported the Ministry of Health and other partners to keep children, women and adolescents healthy, nourished and free from HIV. This was done through policy support, health system strengthening, improved service delivery, engagement with communities to improve child care and feeding, and increased use of high impact health services among mothers, children and adolescents.
SNAPSHOT

Key UNICEF-supported results for children in 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assisted deliveries in 52 refurbished and constructed health facilities</th>
<th>91,000+</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>78,000</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>34,000+ children under the age of 1 vaccinated with Inactivated Polio Vaccine, reaching three-quarters of targeted children.</th>
<th>40,800 children treated for pneumonia in 28 districts in Central and Western provinces.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>75%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Policy support

The Ministry of Health, with support from UNICEF, was able to finalize and launch key policy documents and guidelines that focused on strengthening healthcare services for children and women. These included: the Community Health Strategy and operational guide for Neighbourhood Health Committees; the 2018-2021 Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn Child and Adolescent Health roadmap; the National Maternal and Neonatal Services Referral Guidelines; the Post Natal Care Home Visit Guidelines; and the National Procurement and Supply Chain Strategy. In addition, UNICEF supported the planning cycle for districts with the updated Medium-Term Expenditure Framework guidelines, reaching all of the 39 target districts.

Strengthening systems

All Ministry of Health staff in the 11 focus districts under the Millennium Development Goal Initiative (MDGi) and the two provincial offices in Lusaka and Copperbelt were trained in the District Health Information System (DHIS2) and data management. In total, 197 health centre staff, 11 district information officers and two provincial information officers learned to directly enter their service utilization data into the upgraded DHIS2, significantly improving reporting completeness, timeliness and quality. UNICEF also supported service quality assessments in the 11 MDGi districts, resulting in improved supportive supervision.

WHAT IS MDGI?

MDGi is a €49.6 million programme funded by the European Union and implemented by the Ministry of Health with technical support from UNICEF and UNFPA. It aims to increase the availability and use of quality health and nutrition services by vulnerable women, adolescents and children in Lusaka and Copperbelt provinces, covering approximately 30 per cent of the population of Zambia.

Improving service delivery

The inequitable distribution of health facilities and health workers is a key barrier to public health service delivery in Zambia. To overcome this challenge, UNICEF supported health infrastructure development and capacity building under MDGi and in under-served districts. This resulted in an increase in safe deliveries in health facilities – from just over 78,000 deliveries (45 per cent) in 2015 to over 91,000 (48 per cent) in 2018.
The treatment of children with pneumonia, one of the biggest child killers in Zambia, was strengthened through the training of 20 community health workers in Integrated Community Case Management (ICCM). A total of 1,167 community health workers have been trained in ICCM to date. In 2018, community health workers were able to reach more than 40,800 children out of an estimated 475,000 children in 28 districts in Central and Western provinces with treatment for pneumonia.

Progress was made to keep children safe from vaccine-preventable diseases. By September 2018, national coverage for measles was at 93 per cent and 89 per cent for the third dose of diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus vaccine (DTP3). In June 2018, the Inactivated Polio Vaccine was introduced and reached more than 34,300 children under the age of 1, covering 61 per cent of targeted children.

To keep the vaccine cold chain intact, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health to procure vaccines. Around US$11.5 million was leveraged from Gavi to support the Cold Chain Equipment Optimisation Platform, which helps the Ministry of Health to invest in new refrigerators and solar-powered cold chain equipment.

Working with communities

Different community structures were engaged to support healthcare delivery for children, adolescents and women. More than 200 traditional and 500 religious leaders were mobilised to improve health-seeking behaviour in their communities. To strengthen adolescent health, 499 peer educators were trained, bringing the total number of community-based volunteers trained since 2015 to 10,870. These volunteers were provided with the necessary supplies and job aids to facilitate the provision of community-based preventative, promotive and curative interventions in 11 districts.
SNAPSHOT

Key UNICEF-supported results for children in 2018

More than 40,000 mothers and caretakers reached with messages on infant and young child feeding.

More than 22,000 pregnant and lactating women counselled on maternal and child nutrition.

More than 3.1 million children between six months and 5 years of age reached with vitamin A supplementation.

Building an enabling environment

In 2018, UNICEF continued to support the Government in policy design, strategy development and advocacy to reduce the country’s high levels of stunting.

In April 2018, a high-level National Food and Nutrition Summit was instrumental in securing concrete support from different line ministries and stakeholders to improve child nutrition. This included the government’s commitment to a progressive increase in funding for nutrition across line ministries to a maximum of 400 Kwacha per child per year by 2022. Another key decision was for the Office of the Vice President to take leadership for coordinating the nutrition agenda in Zambia. UNICEF contributed towards mobilizing political action around nutrition by providing financial and technical support to the organization of the summit.

UNICEF’s role as interim manager of the Scaling Up Nutrition Fund helped to sustain the implementation of Most Critical Days Programme (MCDP). More than 40,000 mothers and caregivers were reached with messages on infant and young child feeding, more than 22,000 pregnant and lactating women were counselled on maternal and child nutrition, and more than 1,000 volunteers were oriented to disseminate key messages on MCDP.

Improving service delivery

To reduce micronutrient deficiencies, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health to conduct two rounds of Child Health Weeks in June and November 2018. More than 3.1 million children between six months and 5 years of age received vitamin A supplements during the two campaigns.

To strengthen micronutrient deficiency control, salt test kits and re-agents for an iodine-check machine were procured to support the monitoring of iodine content in salt at border points and within Zambia.

A UNICEF and the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) study on children’s diets and barriers to nutritious complementary foods was conducted to generate data and information for nutrition programme management.

Advocacy to include therapeutic foods on the national Essential Drugs List was launched to address the persistent challenge of inadequate supplies to manage acute malnutrition in Zambia. UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health with therapeutic feeding supplies and equipment, helped to train health workers and volunteers in refugee settlements, and supported the development of Nutrition In Emergency guidelines.
In 2018, UNICEF continued to support the Government in policy design, strategy development and advocacy to reduce the country’s high levels of stunting.
Policy support

The enabling environment for paediatric and adolescent HIV prevention, care and treatment grew in strength in 2018.

UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health to develop the National Plan for the Elimination of Mother-to-Child Transmission (eMTCT) of HIV and Syphilis 2018–2021. To help achieve the eMTCT goal, UNICEF worked with the Ministry, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Global Fund to train 20 provincial healthcare workers on the 2018 integrated prevention and treatment guidelines across all the 10 provincial health offices.

Leadership and governance structures within the National AIDS Council were also boosted, which helped to strengthen the implementation of various national plans and strategies. These included the transitional plan for PMTCT 2016/17, the Adolescent Health Strategy 2017–2021 and the National AIDS Strategic Framework 2017–2021.

Improving service delivery

Positive Linkages – an initiative that provides peer-led psychosocial support for adolescents living with HIV – is showing promise. With UNICEF support, 18 young people were trained to be peer mentors. Once trained, they established peer support groups in 12 health facilities, helping to guide other adolescents and youths on sexual reproductive health and rights, and HIV.

Adolescent-friendly spaces that promote HIV testing were set up in health facilities and community outreach clinics following the training of 133 health workers and 365 peer educators. UNICEF has actively supported the scale-up of adolescent-friendly spaces and social and behavioural change activities in 179 health facilities in 33 districts. These efforts contributed to achieving the 830,000 HIV tests that were conducted nationally for adolescents aged 10–19 years between January and September 2018. Initiation on antiretroviral therapy (ART) among adolescents diagnosed with HIV in 2018 has remained high, at 98 per cent in each of the three quarters – an achievement that can be attributed to adoption of the ‘Test and Start’ policy.

UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health to carry out a knowledge, attitude and practices study on integrated sexual and gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health. The study will provide relevant information to inform evidence-based programming for vulnerable adolescent girls and young women.

Adolescent HIV programming was also strengthened through the revision of the Health Management Information System, which now includes age and sex disaggregation for HIV data and helps to determine progress in various indicators among adolescents.

The use of U-Report increased by 10 per cent from 2017, helping young people enhance their knowledge of, and elicit demand for, sexual reproductive health and HIV. There are now more than 192,000 U-Reporters in Zambia. U-Report is a social platform created by UNICEF and available via SMS, Facebook and Twitter where young people express their opinions and become positive agents of change in their communities.
Fleeing the Democratic Republic of Congo with eight children and her husband was already a challenge for 34-year-old Maliselina Kambemba. But being five months pregnant only made it tougher. The youngest children sat on push bikes, while the older children walked as the family hiked through the forest on their journey away from the violence, to the Zambian border at Lake Mweru. There, they had little food, drank water from the lake and slept under trees for three days.

That was five months ago. Now, safely in Zambia, Maliselina is nursing her newborn, two-week old Stefan, in her family tent at the Kenani Refugee Transit Centre, in Nchelenge District. Despite the traumatic events of the pregnancy, baby Stefan has had a healthy start in life.

Dr. Jonathan Calbayan, the Public Health Coordinator for the UN refugee agency, UNHCR, says maternal, newborn and child healthcare services have been one of the main successes so far in the response to the recent influx of Congolese refugees. In the last 12 months, more than 15,000 refugees have come over the border at Nchelenge.

“Considering the conditions [in which] they had been living in, children are being brought to the health clinic with coughs, diarrhoea, malaria and malnutrition,” says Dr. Calbayan.

UNICEF supports the response to the refugee influx to Zambia, particularly in the areas of child protection, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), education, nutrition, and health, under the overall leadership of UNHCR and the Government of Zambia.

Dr. Calbayan says one of the main challenges is that mothers come late with their ill children, and also, pregnant women are turning up at the health tent only at the point when they are about to deliver.

Although there is an ambulance based at the health tent, it is too risky to make the 10-minute journey to hospital when a pregnant woman is fully dilated, so they end up giving birth in the tent which does not have basic delivery kits or adequate sanitary conditions – just a hospital bed.

Maliselina says all her family are well. She remembers how back in Congo they grew all the food they needed and were able to sell the surplus produce too. “I just want to be able to have money to provide for the family, and have my older children in school. Then our life can be good,” she says, tenderly wrapping Stefan up in a colourful cloth and laying him on the mat beside her.
Every Child Learns
EVERY CHILD HAS THE RIGHT TO AN EDUCATION AND QUALITY LEARNING.

Education is a driver of equity, poverty reduction, empowerment, economic growth, and peaceful and inclusive societies. Educating girls is particularly transformative: evidence shows that schooling for girls, especially at the secondary level, opens lifelong opportunities.

Zambia once achieved near universal primary school completion levels but primary level enrolment rates are in decline due to population growth and the challenging fiscal space affecting the country’s education budget.

Challenges remain in keeping girls in school, especially in upper primary and secondary grades where a large number of children drop out. For children in the early years, the coverage of early childhood care and education services remains persistently low. The quality of education is also poor.

The Programme for International Student Assessment for Development (PI-SA-D), which Zambia participated in in 2017–2018, indicated that only 5 per cent of the surveyed 15-year-old students reached the minimum proficiency in reading and only 2 per cent in mathematics.

In 2018, UNICEF Zambia continued to work with the Ministry of General Education and other partners to achieve equitable access to quality education for all Zambian children, from early childhood through adolescence. Reaching girls and the most disadvantaged children in remote parts of the country was a priority.
Key UNICEF-supported results for children in 2018

**SNAPSHOT**

**Education**

**Strengthening systems**

UNICEF continued to support the Ministry of General Education and the Ministry of Higher Education to finalise the Education and Skills Sector Plan, the Education Sector Strategic Priorities, and the process for the next Global Partnership for Education grant application. The development of the Out-of-School Children Strategy and the Ending School-related Gender-based Violence Action Plan progressed during the year.

Support was provided to the Ministry of General Education’s institutional leadership and evidence generation capacity to improve learning outcomes at primary level, particularly in the fields of early grade numeracy and literacy. Multi-sectoral coordination was strengthened to further enable an integrated early childhood development (ECD) programming approach and to strengthen government leadership.

**Improving service delivery**

**Early childhood development**

With nearly three quarters of children in Grade 1 having no prior early childhood education (ECE) experience, a priority in Zambia is to develop a robust ECE system and increase the reach of ECE to children in under-served areas.

In 2018, the Ministry of General Education, with support from UNICEF, drafted guidelines for the establishment of low-cost rural community-based ECE centres linked to nearby primary schools. Interactive ECE radio instruction programmes were also developed to reach children in locations without schools. The skills of community teachers and volunteers were enhanced through the Continuous Professional Development Programme, which also supports the production of low-cost ECE materials.

UNICEF intensified work on integrated ECD. More than 6,200 young children were enrolled in holistic ECD services in 20 community-based ECD hubs through a partnership with ChildFund. The piloting of integrated ECD services around low-cost infrastructure hubs, is planned for 2019 in Katete District.

The findings of a UNICEF-supported study on traditional parenting and child care practices, carried out in 2018, will be used to enhance ECD parenting education programmes. The study found that corporal punishment is widely used as a means of discipline, but that other common traditional practices have the potential to stimulate children’s curiosity and creativity.

**Quality education**

To address inequity in quality learning, UNICEF supported the Ministry of General Education to scale up the Catch-Up Programme to an additional 390 schools in Southern and Eastern provinces. This helped more than 71,000 Grade 3–5 learners acquire basic literacy and numeracy skills. The programme provides teaching at the right level for a learner’s aptitude.

UNICEF supported the development and adoption of the Zambia Education Management Toolkit (ZEMT) in 4,661 schools in Luapula, Northern, Western, Eastern and Southern provinces. ZEMT will help improve the quality of education and learner-centred school improvement planning. It also helps to enhance evidence-based school planning using school profiles generated by the Education Management Information system (EMIS). A total of 139 provincial and district staff from the Ministry of General Education were trained to support the implementation of the toolkit in 17 districts.

**Education for out-of-school children**

More than 740,000 school-aged children are not in school in Zambia, and only 30 per cent of adolescent girls complete Grade 12, compared to 32 per cent of boys (ESB 2017). Children with disabilities are also more likely
to be excluded from education.

UNICEF has been working with the Ministry of General Education to promote education for out-of-school children, especially vulnerable girls, children with disabilities and refugee children.

In 2018, more than 9,800 girls in Lusaka and Copperbelt provinces benefited from school clubs and camps that included career guidance and life skills on sexual reproductive health, financial literacy and other relevant topics. Teachers and head teachers from schools in communities with high levels of child marriage were trained in school guidance and counselling to support the psychosocial well-being of pupils.

Around 4,250 out-of-school children, of whom half were girls, were enrolled in transit classes and open learning centres. The majority (88 per cent) were mainstreamed into regular education. More than 4,800 refugee children were provided with access to education through 24 temporary learning spaces, the training of volunteer teachers and the provision of teaching and learning materials.

To improve educational access for children with disabilities, 130 master trainers and 240 teachers from all districts were trained to identify children with special needs, with screening due to start in early 2019.

To improve data and evidence on out-of-school children, a data collection tool was developed and rolled out to 1,450 primary and secondary schools in five provinces.

Working with communities

EMIS-generated school profiles and community data profiles supported by the Data Must Speak initiative were distributed to all 8,843 schools, resulting in increased community participation. School planning with a focus on ending child marriage was further strengthened in Katete and Senanga districts. Twenty-three community action groups were created and supported with funds to identify girls who had dropped out of education and bring them back to school.

As I climbed the stairs to the main meeting room, I could already sense the buzz and excitement. The floor shook as around a hundred girls in their mid-teens performed dances, stamped their feet and sang choruses. The shout went up: “You can make a difference.” All the girls at the evening debrief wore T-shirts proudly proclaiming ‘Girls 2030’.

Everyone I spoke with described being in the middle of a transformative two-week experience. Many were wide-eyed at new experiences during their internships. Many were already imagining the amazement back in the big city when they would recount their experiences to their families, schools, and communities.

At the end of each day, the girls come together to share experiences from the workplaces of Lusaka. They have travelled from schools across the country to take part in two-week internships at participating public and private companies including the National Assembly, a telecoms company, and the water utility company.

Zambian Girls 2030 is a project supported by UNICEF with generous funding from the London Stock Exchange Group. It aims to give teenage girls training in life skills and financial literacy, and a broader vision for their careers. More than 200 school clubs are up and running, complemented by an annual motivational camp, and two rounds of internship programmes in the spring and summer.

As one girl after another takes the microphone to speak to her peers, there’s a mix of experiences from the day and motivational advice, often gleaned from the professional mentors the students have each been assigned. One girl recounts discovering a computer for the first time and describes the different pieces of hardware that make a computer work. Others share advice on being confident, learning from failure, and “being careful with boyfriends”. There’s a big cheer for the slogan ‘school first, marriage later’. Zambia has some of the world’s highest rates of child marriage, something that almost always means an end to a girl’s education, and a curtailing of future opportunities.

Here are the voices of three of the Zambian Girls 2030 participants:

JOYCE MUZHIWO | 16
“I’ll go back home and teach others about what I’ve learned. I’ll tell others that for us to reach our goals, we’ll really have to study hard, and no-one can get in my way.”

CHILELEKO HABUKALE | 14
“The main thing that I’ve learned from my mentor is that I shouldn’t give up. I shouldn’t let anything be a barrier to my education – be it financial problems or other things. I want to impress my family by showing what I’ve learned here.”

BRIDGET LINDA | 16
“I just want to thank everyone involved for looking after us, and everyone that gave me this opportunity to come here because it has really changed my life. With this, I’ve learned that I really need to work hard and study hard in order to achieve something.”

By John James, Chief of Communication, UNICEF Zambia
Every Child is Protected From Violence and Exploitation
EVERY CHILD HAS THE RIGHT TO GROW UP IN A SAFE, SECURE AND LOVING FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT.

Recognizing the importance of child protection, Zambia has put in place a legislative framework and protection system that encompasses a range of prevention and response mechanisms. However, child protection services are fragmented and do not reach all children in need.

Zambia’s first Violence Against Children Study, released at the end of 2018 with support from UNICEF Zambia, shows that children are affected by high levels of physical, sexual and emotional violence, with adolescent girls aged 13–17 three times more likely to experience sexual abuse than boys.

In 2018, UNICEF Zambia continued to support the government and partners to build a comprehensive child protection system by strengthening its key components.
Advocacy efforts continued to address the minimum age of criminal responsibility (8 years) and high rates of detention of children. The government is also putting in place the building blocks for a strengthened child and family welfare system. The Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, with support from UNICEF, drafted the Social Workers’ Association of Zambia Bill that will, once approved by Parliament, result in a system for the licensing of social workers. The University of Zambia is developing seven child protection short courses that will include key competencies for social workers.

The Violence Against Children Survey was launched in November. The findings raised awareness of the high prevalence of physical, sexual and emotional violence in Zambia. The study will provide the basis for developing a comprehensive cross-sectoral framework on the issue, as well as for accelerating gender-based violence programming in 2019. Work also continued on addressing child rights violations, notably in the area of child marriage, where the government launched a new national communications and advocacy strategy.

System strengthening

Advocacy efforts continued to address the minimum age of criminal responsibility (8 years) and high rates of detention of children. The government is also putting in place the building blocks for a strengthened child and family welfare system. The Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, with support from UNICEF, drafted the Social Workers’ Association of Zambia Bill that will, once approved by Parliament, result in a system for the licensing of social workers. The University of Zambia is developing seven child protection short courses that will include key competencies for social workers.

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Improving service delivery

The government, with financial and technical support from UNICEF and USAID, has made important progress towards putting in place a community-level child welfare system where volunteers, who are part of a state structure, identify risk and vulnerability in a timely manner and provide information and referral to services. This system also includes alerting social welfare officers on cases of abuse, neglect, child marriage and other forms of violence, so that appropriate action is taken to protect the child. The piloting of this approach was started in 15 districts in Lusaka and Copperbelt provinces, with 930 practitioners trained and equipped with bicycles and other supplies in 2018.

New case files opened for 6,390 children in residential care, with the aim of placing them in a family-based environment.

District action plans to end child marriage launched in Senanga and Katete, two districts with some of the highest rates of teen pregnancy and child marriage.

202 birth registration desks set up in health facilities, bringing the total number in the country to 606.

UNICEF continued to advocate for de-institutionalisation; global evidence demonstrates that family-based care is more likely to provide children with the love and support they need to reach their full potential. UNICEF supported the introduction of case management for all the 6,390 children in residential care. This means that any child in residential care now has an appointed social worker from the district office who cares about his/her protection including the identification of family-based care arrangements.

In the area of justice for children, UNICEF supported the government to conduct comprehensive monitoring of detention facilities. The resulting report was used to highlight concerns that detention is used too frequently for children, for prolonged periods of time and often in settings that are inappropriate, such as adult prisons. The National Framework on Diversion was launched in 2018 and used to develop a training curriculum for diversion that is being used in four pilot districts.

Zambia’s high rate of child marriage is addressed through district-level systems strengthening. In 2018, district action plans to end child marriage were developed and launched in Senanga and Katete, two districts with some of the highest rates of teen pregnancy and child marriage.

The plans include an integrated package of services for adolescents including education, WASH in schools, menstrual hygiene management, adolescent sexual and reproductive health, community-level case management, and social and behaviour change interventions. The introduction of community-level case management will provide data on children identified, assisted and referred to services by age and gender from 2019.

The Ministry of Home Affairs, with support from UNICEF and the European Union, continued to decentralize birth certification services. Four out of 10 provinces now have birth certification printing centres. An additional 202 birth registration desks were set up in health facilities, bringing the total number to 606. UNICEF also supported the training of 19 journalists who reported on the importance of birth registration and provided the general public with more information on the process of decentralizing birth certification.
When Vester Mwale fell pregnant in Grade 8, she dropped out of school and got married. She was only 13 years old.

“My parents were against the idea but many people told me it was difficult to keep a pregnancy on your own and so I took their advice and got married,” she said. “I did not want to do it but I was scared of being alone while pregnant. My boyfriend at the time accepted responsibility and said we would keep the pregnancy and live together. He wanted marriage.”

Believing she would be better off, Vester went ahead and got married against her family’s wish, but soon realised her mistake.

“I was married for four years and it was very difficult. We could barely support ourselves and our child, and my husband used to drink and beat me,” she said. “I know now from experience that getting married as a child is a bad thing; you have to wait until you are an adult before getting pregnant or considering marriage.”

Now 19 years old, Vester is divorced and has returned to school. “When I decided to leave the marriage, my parents supported me, and they did the same when I later decided to go back to school. My father pays my school fees whenever he can, and my mother remains with my child while I go for my weekly boarding.”

Vester has to walk about 35km one-way to get to school. Common practice is to lodge closer to school and only return home on weekends, something Vester struggles to do consistently due to lack of funds.

According to the 2013/14 Zambia Demographic and Health Survey, 31.4 per cent of women aged 20–24 were married before the age of 18. This represents a reduction from 2007 when 42 per cent of women in the same category reported being married before the age of 18.

It was in this context that the government decided to launch a nationwide campaign to end child marriage and teen pregnancy in 2013. In addition, a national End Child Marriage Strategy was launched in 2016, followed by the development of a National Plan of Action on Ending Child Marriage in 2017 and a National Advocacy and Communications Strategy in 2018. UNICEF and UNFPA support the Ministry of Gender in the government-led campaign, which involves a consortium of 15 line ministries.

UNICEF is also piloting the implementation of a multi-sectoral approach in the district of Senanga and Katete with the aim of addressing the root causes of child marriage.

The work involves supporting schools to prevent children dropping out, promoting menstrual hygiene management, strengthening the role of health centres for sexual reproductive health, and collaborating with radio stations and theatre groups to create space for local dialogues on supporting youth.

It is also focused on developing a social work response to address cases of child marriage when they do take place, prioritizing the safety, well-being, empowerment and learning of the children involved.

The causes of child marriage in Zambia are deep rooted, and tied to issues like poverty and lack of opportunity. Keeping children at school and in learning, teaching teenagers about relationships, and making sure young people have information on sexual and reproductive health... are just some of the answers.

For Vester, despite missing several years of schooling, she is now glad to be in the classroom again, and has new hope for her life.

“I am happy to be back at school and although my classmates are younger, they are understanding and treat me as they do everyone else. I would like to be a teacher and I believe I now have another opportunity to reach that goal.”

VESTER MWALE
Every Child Lives in a Safe and Clean Environment
EVERY CHILD HAS A RIGHT TO LIVE IN A CLEAN AND UNPOLLUTED ENVIRONMENT.

In the face of growing demand, access to WASH services in Zambia has only increased marginally over nearly two decades. Efforts to improve both the coverage and quality of WASH services will need to be significantly accelerated if the country is to reach the Vision 2030 and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets of providing universal access by 2030. It is estimated that every year, Zambia needs to provide 660,000 people with basic water supply, 1.16 million people with sanitation and 1.46 million people with hygiene services.

In 2018, UNICEF Zambia worked with the Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection and other partners to improve the enabling environment for WASH, as well as improve access to WASH services in communities, school and health centres.
SNAPSHOT

Key UNICEF-supported results for children in 2018

More than **54,000** children and adults provided with access to a safe drinking water source in 12 rural districts.

More than **342,000** children and adults in 10 rural districts and in peri-urban communities in four districts provided with access to improved sanitation.

More than **55,000** children benefitted from improved WASH facilities in 93 schools in 14 districts.

**8.86 million** people were reached with messages on safe hygiene practices.

WASH

Strengthening the enabling environment

UNICEF continued to work with the Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection to strengthen the enabling environment for the WASH sector. The National Drinking Water and Sanitation Policy was finalised and is currently under review for submission to the Cabinet. The National Open Defecation Free Strategy was launched on World Toilet Day on 19 November. The Statutory Instruments for ground water and borehole regulation, which were developed with UNICEF support in 2017, were also approved and their implementation started in 2018. The National Water Quality Monitoring Protocol was developed and endorsed with UNICEF support, and an action plan for its at-scale implementation approved.

Zambia’s first Sanitation Summit was held in Lusaka on 19–21 November 2018, with support from UNICEF and its partners. The summit, which brought together over 300 delegates, helped to enhance the profile of sanitation and hygiene, including in the media and online. It also resulted in concrete commitments for improving sanitation and hygiene services in the country.

Improving service delivery

The year saw an ever-growing number of children, women and men provided with clean drinking water and adequate sanitation through UNICEF support in communities, schools and health facilities.

UNICEF also continued to support the scale-up of the mobile-to-web monitoring system for community monitoring and surveillance of sanitation and hygiene interventions. The system was scaled up to an additional 11 districts in 2018, with a cumulative reach of 72 districts since 2013.

To increase national capacity, more than 4,290 government staff, community members, masons and pump minders were trained in sustainable operation and maintenance of WASH infrastructure and promotion of hygiene practices.

UNICEF, as the WASH sector lead agency, coordinated the work of its partners in responding to the cholera outbreak in Lusaka and to the WASH needs of refugees in the north of the country.
BOREHOLE BRINGS RELIEF FOR THE CHILDREN OF KATYE COMMUNITY SCHOOL IN ZAMBIA

Katiye Community School in Chinsali District is situated 40km east of the district town in Zambia’s Muchinga Province in the north-east of the country. Until September 2018, the school’s 168 pupils (92 girls and 76 boys and five teachers) joined the rest of the community in fetching water from an open stream 2.5km away. But thanks to UNICEF support, a borehole was drilled and equipped with an India Mark hand pump.

“The new borehole has proved to be a great relief to the pupils and the community,” said Billy Mwansa, the school head teacher. “Before the borehole was drilled, getting water in the school was a big challenge. The school children had to fetch the water from the stream for use in the school. There was never enough water for drinking and washing hands after latrine use. Now we are very happy with the borehole as the clean is water available in sufficient quantity.”

Billy explains that “about 65 families living in the surrounding areas of the school are also using the borehole. They are lucky to be near the school because the other villagers still have to contend with walking to the stream.”

The borehole users are proud of their new resource. “The community and the school have established a WASH committee to oversee the operation and maintenance of the borehole,” says Billy. The committee called a meeting of all the users and people agreed to contribute a monthly user fee of two Zambian Kwacha per household. This will go a long way in ensuring adequate maintenance of the borehole.

According to the 2018 WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme report on WASH in schools, a fifth of schools don’t have access to safe drinking water, a third to adequate sanitation and close to a half don’t have access to hygiene services.

However, when schools have clean water and toilets and when good hygiene habits are practiced, children – and especially girls – are more likely to enrol in education, to stay in school and learn, and to remain healthy.

By Humble Sibooli, WASH Officer, UNICEF Zambia

Community members around the newly constructed borehole at Katiye Community School, Muchinga Province, Zambia

©Billy Mwansa/MoGE/2019
Every Child has an Equitable Chance in Life
EVERY CHILD HAS THE RIGHT TO REACH HER OR HIS FULL POTENTIAL.

This is difficult for many children in Zambia in the context of high poverty, multiple deprivations and chronic vulnerability to diseases and the impact of climate change. The government is committed to tackling these challenges and has prioritized actions to address poverty and inequality in the Seventh National Development Plan (7NDP). But more needs to be done to break the cycle of poverty in which millions of Zambian children are still trapped.

In 2018, UNICEF Zambia continued to support the government to strengthen its response to child poverty and vulnerability through policy advocacy, support to child-sensitive budgeting and programming, and improvements to social protection mechanisms.
Zambia’s flagship social assistance initiative, the Social Cash Transfer (SCT) programme, faced a challenging period in 2018 characterized by delayed and irregular beneficiary payments due to the government’s shrinking fiscal space. The programme further suffered from programme governance and management issues resulting in key donor partners withdrawing their direct budget support for social cash transfers.

Despite these challenges, the programme has 632,000 registered households with 1.2 million vulnerable children and 38 per cent of extremely poor households. The government has committed to increase its budgetary allocation to the SCT programme in the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework, though current releases from the Treasury to the SCT programme are less than 50% of the allocation in 2018.

UNICEF provided critical support to the SCT programme in 2018. Systems strengthening work was carried out to support the integration, automation, upgrading and decentralization of the management information system (MIS) for the SCT programme, including support towards the ongoing work on an integrated payment delivery and payment tracking system that is due to be piloted in 2019. A SCT grievance mechanism (GRM) was designed, which will help to promote transparency, accountability and encourage citizens to demand social protection services. The GRM is also being piloted on 2019.

In addition, UNICEF is supporting SCT linkages with HIV, nutrition, secondary school fee bursaries, shock-responsiveness and care services. The implementation of these ‘Cash Plus’ initiatives will have an even greater transformative effect on the lives of vulnerable households who are already benefiting from the monthly USS9 social cash grant.

To strengthen public finance for children, UNICEF, the Ministry of Finance, and Zambia Institute for Policy Analysis and Research (ZIPAR) conducted three quarterly budget analyses in 2018 that, for the first time, looked at ‘in-year’ budget performance (budget performance tracking) and facilitated public dialogues on fiscal space.

These dialogues have resulted in the spotlighting of the national debt situation and its impact on the government’s ability to fund the social sectors. They also sent a strong signal that without adjustments and fiscal consolidation, social sectors (and therefore children) are harmed by the rising debt and debt-service obligations.

UNICEF supported the fiscal decentralization process through a partnership with ZIPAR to do a vertical and horizontal analysis of the revenue distribution across and between different spheres of government. This study will be completed in the first quarter of 2019. For the 2019 budget, social sector spending is planned at 31 per cent of total expenditure. In addition, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Finance to improve transparency and accountability of the national budget process through the Open Budget Survey.

UNICEF worked with the Ministry of National Development Planning and the Central Statistical Office, and partner universities, to put in place the systems, skills and resources needed to generate evidence on the situation of women and children and to monitor and report on the key performance indicators of the 7NDP and the SDGs.

In particular, support was provided to partners to conduct the latest Zambia Demographic and Health Survey and include a child labour module in the Labour Force Quarterly Survey. UNICEF also provided technical assistance to preparations for the Census 2020, ensuring key data gaps on women and children are incorporated.

The 2015 National Disability Survey was finalised in 2018. Its findings, including the first child data collection module implemented in Zambia with the Washington Group-UNICEF methodology, will inform policy makers and stakeholders on gaps in disability inclusion and need for improved disability programming.

Other pieces of research were completed and launched including the Child Poverty in Zambia report, the Violence Against Children Study and the Study on Traditional Parenting and Child Care Practices in Zambia.
Sarah Tembo* was 15 years old when she had her baby and dropped out of school. Now she wishes she had known more about family planning at an earlier age.

“Although I knew about condoms, I never used them because my boyfriend did not like them,” she said. “When I discovered I was pregnant, I immediately went to the clinic to check my HIV status. We had been taught at school that a mother who is HIV positive can have a baby who is HIV negative if she goes to the clinic as soon as she knows she is pregnant.”

Sarah, now 17, lives in Chipapika village in Katete District, Eastern Zambia, with her baby, her grandmother, and an uncle who was left disabled in an accident.

Over the last few years, UNICEF has been working with the Government in Zambia to support those enrolled in the social cash transfer scheme with additional services under the HIV-SCT Linkages Initiative. As part of the initiative, Sarah was identified as a person who needed adolescent sexual and reproductive health services.

“A peer educator came to our home and demonstrated how to use condoms correctly. Community welfare assistant committee members also talked to me about preventing HIV. I have also learned about different contraceptive methods at the clinic and how I can change if one is making me feel unwell,” said Sarah.

Sarah was in Grade 9 when she dropped out of school due to the pregnancy. She believes that with the knowledge of – and access to – services she has now, and the SCT support her grandmother receives, she will be able to go back to school and eventually become a teacher.

“I miss school and I admire my friends who are now in Grade 10. I have always wanted to be a teacher. I want to be educated so that I can take care of myself and help my family. I also hope to get married after I become a teacher,” she said.

UNICEF, with funding from the Government of the Netherlands, is supporting the Zambian government to provide complementary support to adolescents in SCT households as is the case with Sarah.

Katete is one of the beneficiary districts for Cash Plus interventions that incorporate extra components to deliver more than just monetary support to vulnerable households. Apart from helping increase food security and resilience against economic shocks, the HIV-SCT Linkages Initiative also tries to tackle other issues such as high HIV prevalence, teen pregnancy and child marriage.

The programme has 8,163 beneficiary households in Katete District and over 574,000 nationwide.

* All names changed

SUPPORTING ZAMBIAS YOUNG VULNERABLE MOTHERS

Photo illustrative only
In Zambia, UNICEF works to generate evidence and monitor the situation of the country’s most vulnerable children. The following studies were published in 2018. All can be found on our website.

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<tr>
<td>This study investigated parenting practices and beliefs in 10 districts across five Zambian provinces. An understanding of the traditional cultural context in which children grow up is important to inform child-sensitive programmes and harness local resources for healthy child development.</td>
<td>A multi-dimensional analysis of deprivations faced by children (0–17 years) in Zambia shows high and severe levels of deprivation: 41 per cent of children suffer from at least three deprivations at a time, experiencing four deprivations on average.</td>
<td>This second component of the Zambia National Disability Survey carried out a qualitative and in-depth study of the barriers to, and facilitators of, lifelong learning and skills development for children and young persons with disabilities in Zambia.</td>
<td>The Violence Against Children Study is the first national survey of physical, sexual and emotional violence against children. Results show that child violence is rife in Zambia: half of all girls and boys experience at least one type of violence in their childhood.</td>
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The National Diversion Framework

The framework sets out the scope, criteria, process and options for the use of diversion in justice for children in Zambia. It assists stakeholders to divert an accused child away from formal court procedures and towards a more constructive and positive solution that respects a child’s rights.

Zambia National Disability Survey

This survey estimates the national prevalence of disability among adults and children, disaggregated by sex, severity of disability, province and the rural/urban division. It found that 10.9 per cent of adults and 4.4 per cent of children (2–17 years) live with a disability, with a higher prevalence in urban areas and among females.


This advocacy and communication strategy is designed to improve knowledge and facilitate positive change among parents, children, communities and other stakeholders toward reducing the incidence of child marriage.

Analytical Brief of the 2019 Social Sector Budget in Zambia

This budget brief, which helps to inform advocacy for public finance for children, examines spending and allocation trends in the 2019 social sector budget and how these affect the rights of children.
Promoting gender equality

Every child deserves to reach her or his full potential. But gender inequalities derived from the gender norms in the society around them impact on their opportunities and access to services. To address these barriers, UNICEF supports systematic application of gender analysis during programme design and delivery to ensure that services and opportunities are available for all children and that special mechanisms are put in place to help girls who are the most deprived of services. An example includes providing WASH facilities in schools for all children, alongside Menstrual Hygiene Management training and facilities to ensure girls stay in school. Our ending child marriage work has a strong gender focus: child marriage affects both boys and girls, though girls more so. Our work in support of the Government and in collaboration with UNFPA, works not only to address the root causes of child marriage but has a focus on ensuring girls go to (and stay in) school; that they can access adolescent sexual and reproductive health services, and that they are supported through life skills programmes. Through this approach we are working towards equality of access being the norm and thereby modelling the value of investing in all children equally.

Addressing disability

Children with disabilities are often the most marginalized members of society, experiencing discrimination, stigma and exclusion from essential services such as education and protection. To address their needs and that of other vulnerable children, UNICEF strengthens systems, methodologies and national and internal capacity to gather and manage disaggregated data by sex, disability, age, location and other measures. UNICEF also helps children with disabilities to access assistive devices and supports disability inclusive programmes and services.

Addressing gender-based violence

Experience from around the world confirms the value of integrated approaches that address the underlying causes of gender-based violence and violence against children. In protecting Zambian girls and boys from violence and harmful practices such as child marriage, UNICEF works in a multi-sectoral manner to link and strengthen child protection, social protection, education and health systems. We also work across UN agencies to ensure that the comparative advantage of various UN agencies is coordinated to prevent violence and provide support to gender-based violence survivors. Using the Violence Against Children Survey statistics, UNICEF is engaging with young people to review the data and reflect on the causes and consequences of violence.
**Internet of Good Things (IoGT)**

The Internet of Good Things (IoGT) is a set of free, mobile-ready web-pages that give you access to life-saving and life-enhancing information on a mobile phone or computer.

Topics and issues on Internet of Good Things include maternal health, hygiene, HIV and sexual health advice for adolescents, Internet safety, positive parenting techniques and more.

By connecting to Internet of Good Things, children, adolescents, mothers, fathers, other family members, health trainers, caregivers and communities can gain access to localized, updated, quality content for free on Airtel and MTN networks.

Visit: [https://zm.goodinternet.org/](https://zm.goodinternet.org/)

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**Communication, Advocacy, Partnership and Engagement (CAPE)**

The UNICEF Zambia Communication, Advocacy, Partnership and Engagement team worked in 2018 to amplify the voice of children and adolescents, and to advocate for their rights.

The office makes use of online platforms, including social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube), and offline opportunities (e.g. direct engagement with young people, and high-profile events) to publicly advocate for child rights to be upheld in Zambia. Audiences reached through social media channels continue to grow, with much higher levels of engagement, particularly by young people.

Key public advocacy priorities in the year included nutrition (especially stunting) and sanitation, and the office supported the Government to organise high-level summits in both areas.

- UNICEF reached nearly 1 million people through online engagement, coming close to doubling social media followers, social media reach and website traffic in 2018.
- A new country office website was launched, showcasing how UNICEF contributes to meaningful change for children. More than 456,000 users were reached through the website and Internet of Good Things website.

- World Children’s Day (20 November) and the Day of the African Child (16 June) were both marked with youth engagement work – the former with a four-day workshop involving adolescents and young people from provinces across Zambia. This helped to raise the profile of children’s and young people’s voices, and provided platforms for them to advocate with high-level government officials. On the anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, children from provinces across Zambia met with Members of Parliament at the National Assembly to “take over” the Parliamentary Caucus on Children and push for greater progress on child rights.
UNICEF’s partnership strategy is driven by the need to work with others to maximise gains for child rights. During the year, UNICEF continued to engage with partners to achieve catalytic results for children, focusing on demonstrable results, value for money, transparency, visibility, accountability and coherence.

As the key duty-bearer, the Government of the Republic of Zambia was the principal partner for UNICEF through work with a range of ministries and departments at national, provincial and district level. In addition to this, UNICEF worked with civil society organisations, including through nearly 20 partnership agreements.

In 2018, UNICEF Zambia worked with both the private and public sectors, including the European Union, Finland, Germany, Ireland, The Netherlands, Sweden, the UK and USAID, and also with the London Stock Exchange Group, GAVI the Vaccine Alliance, the Global Partnership for Education and others. These partnerships contributed to improvements in maternal and child health outcomes, nutrition service delivery, social protection programming, water and sanitation access, and access to education – especially for girls.

Zambia has adopted the UN Delivering as One approach. Notable examples from the year included work with UNFPA to end child marriage and deliver integrated programming for sexual and reproductive health, HIV, and gender-based violence; work with FAO, ILO, OIM and WFP to improve social protection programmes and systems; and with UNHCR to provide assistance to refugees from the DRC.
Zambia faces a number of humanitarian risks, including from instability in the neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo, and through drought and disease outbreaks within its borders.

More than 15,400 refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo were registered in Luapula Province by June 2018. These new arrivals add to the current caseload, and Zambia now hosts more than 43,000 Congolese asylum seekers and refugees.

Children and women make up 79 per cent of the refugee population, but many lack access to essential services in Luapula Province, one of the poorest and most deprived regions of Zambia.

Zambia is also prone to disease outbreaks. Cholera is endemic and outbreaks occur almost every year in Lusaka, and Southern, Northern and Luapula provinces. The capital, Lusaka, faced an outbreak of cholera in 2017–2018, with close to 6,000 people infected and 114 deaths. Inadequate access to clean drinking water was a key driver of the outbreak.

Food insecurity and malnutrition constitute real and present risks in Zambia. Approximately 60 per cent of people live below the poverty line, and 42 per cent are considered extremely poor. According to the World Food Programme, over 350,000 people are considered food insecure, and 40 per cent of children experience stunted growth. Climate change is expected to worsen these impacts.

UNICEF supports the government to strengthen its emergency preparedness and response capacity, and works with humanitarian partners to deliver life-saving services in refugee settlements and in communities affected by cholera and food insecurity.
Child protection
- As part of UNICEF-supported child protection interventions in Mantapala refugee settlement, 388 unaccompanied minors were identified, registered and cared for, while 88 were successfully reunified with their families.
- 69 volunteers were trained to identify and monitor unaccompanied children while 37 foster parents were trained on the Zambian alternative care guidelines and good parenting.
- 572 vulnerable children were identified and referred to specialized services such as psychosocial support and sexual and reproductive health services.

Education
- 24 classrooms for all levels of basic education were constructed in Mantapala refugee settlement, resulting in the enrolment of more than 4,800 learners. In addition, UNICEF supported the recruitment and training of 60 volunteer caregivers and teaching staff.

Nutrition
- 3,558 children were screened for severe acute malnutrition (SAM), and 291 children were treated for SAM. Moreover, 364 pregnant women received iron and folate supplements, and 3,558 children (aged 6 to 59 months) were reached with vitamin A supplementation.
- To enhance service delivery in nutrition in emergencies, 18 health workers and 34 community-based volunteers were trained to provide infant and young child feeding counselling services and care for children with SAM.
### Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AIDS</td>
<td>Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome</td>
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<tr>
<td>ART</td>
<td>Antiretroviral therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>DHIS</td>
<td>District Health Information System</td>
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<tr>
<td>DTP</td>
<td>Diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus vaccine</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECD</td>
<td>Early childhood development</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECE</td>
<td>Early childhood education</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMIS</td>
<td>Education Management Information System</td>
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<tr>
<td>EmONC</td>
<td>Emergency obstetric and newborn care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
<td>Human immunodeficiency virus</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICCM</td>
<td>Integrated Community Case Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDGi</td>
<td>Millennium Development Goal Initiative</td>
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<tr>
<td>MCDP</td>
<td>Most Critical Days Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>7NDP</td>
<td>Seventh National Development Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMTCT</td>
<td>prevention of mother-to-child transmission (of HIV)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCT</td>
<td>Social Cash Transfer (programme)</td>
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<td>SDG</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goal</td>
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<td>UNFPA</td>
<td>United Nations Population Fund</td>
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<td>UNHCR</td>
<td>United Nations Commissioner for Refugees</td>
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<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>Water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
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<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZEMT</td>
<td>Zambia Education Management Toolkit</td>
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<td>ZIPAR</td>
<td>Zambia Institute for Policy Analysis and Research</td>
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### Funding

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<td><strong>2,578,204</strong></td>
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