

Knowledge for Children in Africa

2017 Publications Catalogue



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Foreword

Every year UNICEF and its partners in Africa generate a wealth of evidence on the situation of children. Knowledge and evidence are essential to informing the development, monitoring and implementation of policies and programmes for the realization of children's rights. To this end, UNICEF Regional Directors in Africa are pleased to present the 2017 edition of the UNICEF Africa Publications Catalogue.

The 2017 catalogue features 287 reports and studies that UNICEF and its partners are generating on the situation of children and young people on the continent. These reports and studies represent the collective knowledge produced by UNICEF Country and Regional Offices in Africa. They capture the work that UNICEF and its partners undertake throughout the continent to support efforts by children and young people to realize their rights to survival, development and protection.

The publications cover a wide range of topics, which are organized in the catalogue under the following categories:

Part 1: Highlights of Regional Publications

Part 2: Publications by Thematic Area

- Child Poverty and Socio-Economic Development
- Child Protection
- Children and Social Protection
- Climate Change and Energy Access
- Communication for Development
- Education and Early Childhood Development
- Financing for Development: Public Finance for Children
- HIV/AIDS
- Humanitarian Action, Resilience and Peace Building
- Maternal, New-born and Child Health
- Nutrition
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- Youth and Adolescents

Part 3: Publications Indexed by Country and by Addis Ababa Action Agenda/Sustainable Development Goals

Most publications are, or will be, available online. For each publication, the catalogue includes authors/contributors, web-links, dates of (planned) publication and contact details for obtaining additional information.

The most successful initiatives in support of women and children are based on evidence. UNICEF sincerely hopes that you will find the publications listed in this catalogue to be a useful resource for evidence-based decision making and programming.

Geert Cappelaere

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West and Central Africa



PART 1

Highlights of Regional Publications

Adaptation and Response for Children Affected by Droughts and Disasters - How National Social Protection Systems are Responding to El Niño in Eastern and Southern Africa

Weather-related stresses associated with El Niño in 2015–2016 have severely impacted 60 million people. Governments across the globe are dealing with the consequences for food security, livelihoods and the well-being of their populations. Social protection systems have proven to be an efficient and cost-effective means of reaching the most vulnerable households – a functionality that may be used both as a means to support those living in chronic poverty as well as during times of crisis.

This review provides an overview of how national governments and partners in countries in Eastern and Southern Africa are adapting existing social protection systems to respond to shocks. Social protection systems that reach populations quickly during shocks can play a crucial role; but current systems in Eastern and Southern African countries are limited in size and scope – and often underfunded. This review provides practical recommendations for all stakeholders to improve the effectiveness and impact of shock-responsive social protection programming in Eastern and Southern Africa.



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Generation 2030 Africa 2.0

High-fertility rates and rising numbers of women of reproductive age mean that given current trends, over the next 35 years nearly 2 billion babies will be born in Africa, the continent's population will double in size, and its under-18 population will increase by two thirds, to almost a billion children. Generation 2030 takes a deep analysis of the ongoing demographic shift and what that means for current and future generations across Africa. The recommended actions are ambitious but also practical and achievable, and are designed to contribute to the achievement of both 2030 Agenda for Development and Agenda 2063.



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Financing Development for Children in Africa: The State of Budget Transparency and Accountability in the Continent

This study builds on the findings of the 2015 Open Budget Survey, which captured information on 31 African countries, to better understand the environment for budget transparency and accountability and what this means for investing in children.

The study: summarizes the general strengths and weaknesses in government budget systems in African countries and identifies key recommendations for increasing investments in children through government budget systems. The report will serve as an entry point for dialogue about the need to invest in children, as well as provide advocacy opportunities to promote effective mobilization and use of domestic resources for children, particularly in the context of follow-up to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and financing achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.



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Nutrition Budget Tracking: Consensual Approach from West Africa

Tracking financial resources is an important way to promote transparency and the findings can be used for advocacy purposes. However, tracking nutrition expenditures is not straightforward, especially due to its cross-sectoral nature.

This initiative aims to bringing together all those who have worked or have been involved in attempts to find solutions to the limitations identified in the three-step SUN approach, and suggest different ways to track nutrition financing. At the end of the consultation, concerns such as cross-sectoriality, scope of the analysis, budget line categorization, weighting, double counting, etc. will be addressed, and the groundwork will be laid for a common, consensual and user-friendly methodology across all countries in the West Africa region.

The findings will serve as an advocacy tool for tracking nutrition financing and prompting a worldwide accepted methodology.



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The State of Education Budgets in Eastern and Southern Africa

This study aims to fill a critical void of evidence on education budgets in the Eastern and Southern Africa region. It will do so by producing the first-ever publication covering the entire spectrum of education budget issues in a single document. In addition to looking at all levels of education – from early learning to tertiary – the study also includes the overarching sector context, government spending, donor spending, private spending, the quality and equity of spending, spending and results, the financial gap and financing options.

The regional focus on Eastern and Southern Africa will also be the first of its kind, and aims to inspire similar exercises in other regions. The report will be accompanied by country profiles on education to support the monitoring of progress and challenges facing individual education systems, beyond financing issues.



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What Works for Girls' Education in Eastern and Southern Africa Briefs

Girls are more likely to be educationally disadvantaged; for example, more than half of the global number of out-of-school children (primary and lower secondary) are girls.

UNICEF aims to compile briefs on what works in advancing girls' education in Eastern and Southern Africa. Despite the fact that there is a wealth of information on girls' exclusion from education and the consequent impact on societies and economies, policy makers and planners continue to grapple with how to best tackle this challenge and get millions of the world's poorest girls into school and learning.

The briefs will identify key barriers and proven mitigation strategies on: (i) elimination of economic barriers; (ii) gender sensitive pedagogy; (iii) cross-sectoral efforts to improve girls' retention in education; (iv) alternative education pathways; (v) creating positive learning environments for girls; and (vi) addressing school related gender-based violence and provision of education in emergencies.

The "What Works for Girls Education?" briefs will provide guidance for effective programming and advocacy for Eastern and Southern Africa countries to improve enrolment and attendance, retention and progression through education.



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PART 2: Publications by Theme

Child Poverty and Socio-Economic Development

Child Poverty in Angola: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis

The multiple overlapping deprivation analysis will provide comprehensive estimates of non-monetary child poverty in Angola, based on data from the 2015 Demographic and Health Survey and Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey data.

Addressing child poverty in all its dimensions is part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Countries will be required to define multidimensional child poverty and to track its evolution over the next 15 years.

The results of this child poverty study will be used to: (i) provide a national baseline to measure future progress in achieving the SDG related to reducing child poverty, and (ii) inform national and decentralized advocacy to achieve more equity-focused and child-centred policies and programmes.



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Vulnerability Analysis and Assessment of Informal Social Assistance Practices in Rural Areas in Angola

This study analyses the situation of community-based organizations working in the socio-economic field in rural areas of three Angolan provinces (Malanje, Huila and Huambo), in order to better understand their capacity to provide social services to the local population. The study will also provide an analysis of the situation of vulnerable people in these three rural areas and a mapping of informal social assistance practices in the study areas.

This study is expected to provide key findings to support decentralization of social action carried out as part of the Ministry of Social Affairs' project to decentralize social action in Angola.



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Child Poverty in Botswana: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis

In 2015/2016 UNICEF Botswana assisted the Office of the President to complete a child poverty report using the multiple overlapping deprivation analysis (MODA) methodology. Multidimensional child poverty is now incorporated in key national plans and strategies. However, the data being used is not up-to-date. As the country plans to complete a multi-topic household survey, new data will become available, facilitating a repeat MODA study in June 2017.

Given the interest in child poverty and its importance to policy discussions and decision making affecting the rights and wellbeing of children – as well as the need to provide up-to-date reporting on poverty for the Sustainable Development Goals – UNICEF will support the Government to conduct a second round of child poverty analysis using MODA.

The analysis will track progress toward reducing child poverty in Botswana, identify lessons learned and contribute to the development of key policies and plans that affect children. Unlike the first MODA, this MODA will also profile existing social protection beneficiaries in terms of child poverty, to improve targeting. The profiling exercise will contribute to the development of Botswana's national social protection strategy.



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Poverty Profiling and Vulnerability Analysis of Children in Boucle du Mouhoun in Burkina Faso

A 2014 study on "Children's Perceptions of Poverty" conducted in the regions of East, North and Sahel in Burkina Faso revealed some of the key weaknesses of existing poverty alleviation schemes in the country – such as poor understanding of child poverty and failure to incorporate key issues in the design of solutions aimed at defining child poverty and social exclusion.

The main purpose of this new study is to capture multidimensional child poverty and vulnerabilities in one of the poorest region in the country, Boucle du Mouhoun, providing a better understanding of the underlying causes of child poverty and vulnerability, in order to develop an integrated approach to addressing child poverty. The report will serve as a technical working tool for UNICEF, the Government of Burkina Faso and other partners.



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Situation Analysis of Women and Children in Burkina Faso 2016

(Analyse de la Situation des Enfants et des Femmes au Burkina Faso 2016)

The equity-oriented, risk-informed Situation Analysis of children and women in Burkina Faso will shed significant light on deprivations, capacities, gaps and potential of children and women, and provide a comprehensive socio-economic analysis of their situation in the country. This analysis will support Government efforts to update the national situation analysis in line with Burkina Faso's 2025 Vision and five-year national social and economic development programme (PNDES 2016-2020). It will also inform UNICEF programming, including development of the new Country Programme Document for 2018-2020.

The main objective of the Situation Analysis is to improve knowledge on progress and challenges for realizing the rights of children and women in the country. The report will guide the formulation of policies and programmes and will help to shape advocacy strategies and strategic partnerships for the promotion of children's and women's rights.



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Burundi National Decentralization Policy Evaluation

In 2009 Burundi adopted a national decentralization policy that sought to put in place an appropriate legal framework and create the institutional conditions required for the effective realization of sustainable, holistic economic, social and cultural development for the Burundian population.

The national decentralization policy is expected to end in 2017. Before engaging in the development of a new policy, UNICEF will support the Government of Burundi to evaluate the implementation of the current policy.

The evaluation will assess and document the results achieved through this policy and explore potential means to better take into account the needs of children and vulnerable communities. The report will guide the development of a new decentralization policy in Burundi.



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Child Poverty in Burundi: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis

The Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) provides a comprehensive estimate of child poverty in Burundi, based on analyses of the 2013/2014 Burundi Household Budget Survey.

Addressing child poverty in all its dimensions is an integral part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). All countries will be required to define multidimensional child poverty and track its evolution over the next 15 years. This multidimensional child poverty index can be used as the national measure to track child poverty over time.

The analysis shows the magnitude of deprivation prior to the current crisis and provides a baseline for monitoring future progress toward achieving the SDG related to reducing child poverty. The results will help to update the country's poverty and deprivation map, as well as to inform UNICEF-supported interventions in the country.



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Situation Analysis of Women and Children in Burundi

Burundi has an estimated population of 10.5 million people. It is one of the poorest countries in the world; six out of 10 people live below the national poverty line, and eight out of 10 live below the international poverty line of US\$1.25/day. The country has both one of the world's highest fertility rates and greatest population densities in Africa.

UNICEF will conduct a Situation Analysis of children and women in Burundi, applying a life-cycle framework to capture all development stages of the child (early childhood, primary school years and adolescence). This analysis will inform the UNICEF country programme, and is also expected to make an important contribution to informing the development of national poverty reduction and development strategies, beyond the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.



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Child Poverty in Cameroon: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis

Using a strictly monetary approach to gauge national poverty hides many disparities within households and across regions. Multiple overlapping deprivation analysis provides a more comprehensive estimate of multidimensional child poverty in Cameroon. In particular, the analysis: (i) estimates nonmonetary child poverty rates for different age categories; (ii) explores the profile of poor children, including geographical location and social status; and (iii) examines how different deprivations overlap.

Addressing child poverty in all its dimensions is an integral part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Countries will be required to define multidimensional child poverty and track its evolution over the next 15 years.

The results of this child poverty study will be used to: (i) provide a national baseline to measure future progress in achieving the SDG related to reducing child poverty; (ii) inform Government and United Nations agencies planning processes; and (iii) guide policy dialogue, advocacy and decision making for more equity-focused and child-centred policies and programmes.



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Cameroon Scenario Planning

To plan for its next Country Programme, UNICEF's Cameroon Country Office sought to gain a comprehensive overview of key trends and emerging issues that shape the lives of children and the dynamic middle-income context in which UNICEF operates.

This study will inform the next country programme by offering a better understanding of key trends and emerging issues shaping the lives of children in Cameroon. This study reviews, validates and applies UNICEF's preliminary priorities based on a "scenarios" exercise, and identifies areas where UNICEF can achieve change, providing a platform to drive new initiatives and greater cooperation.



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Situation Analysis of Women and Children in Cameroon

The analysis provides a comprehensive analysis of the socio-economic situation of children and women in the country, to inform the upcoming United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the Cameroon-UNICEF Country Programme of Cooperation (2018-2020).

The findings: (i) present an updated overview of the extent of realization of children's rights in the country, (ii) measure the main disparities and inequalities between population groups and (iii) identify major issues to be addressed in coming years. Results will be useful for the planning processes of both Government and United Nations agencies, and will guide policy dialogue, advocacy and decision making.



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A Retrospective Policy Review in Central African Republic

The last decade in Central African Republic was marked by unprecedented crises. During this period, public authorities continued to develop social and development policy documents. Some have been implemented but most have not, for reasons spanning from security constraints to lack of resources. As the country gradually emerges from this period of crisis, the social sector policy agenda is once again in the spotlight.

This review aims to evaluate the policy development and implementation process in order to inform future social and economic policy planning and implementation processes. Its purpose is to understand: (i) how evidence has informed policy making, (ii) the extent of participation and coherence of the diagnosis of priorities and budgetary framework and (iii) how clearly stated were the interactions between economic and social policies.

This analysis will be useful for the Government and partners involved in the implementation of social and economic policies and strategies.



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Central African Republic Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey

In 2010 Central African Republic ceased to conduct multiple indicator cluster surveys (MICS) due to security conditions. The need for data is therefore crucial, even in relation to accurate reporting on the Millennium Development Goals. It has been similarly difficult to report on the progress and outcomes of UNICEF's current country programme.

This survey offers an opportunity to provide the national community and partners with reliable data, and will serve as an important source of baseline data with respect to the Sustainable Development Goals, the new country programme and the national recovery plan.

As one of the Government's main areas of focus, the decentralization agenda will also benefit from the MICS results, which will also be used to carry out studies on multidimensional poverty and to promote and inform dialogue on social protection, particularly in relation to targeting the country's most vulnerable groups.



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Situation Analysis of Women and Children in Comoros

(Analyse de la Situation des Femmes et des Enfants en Union des Comores)

This situation analysis of children and women relies on data from the 2012 Demographic and Health Survey/Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey and the 2015 Afristat/Inseed Living Standards Survey, providing an updated picture of the status of children and child rights in Comoros.

The analysis identifies critical barriers and bottlenecks that prevent children and families from enjoying their rights. It makes recommendations for reducing or eliminating bottlenecks, as well as on the most relevant policies and systems and how to sustain such efforts. It also serves as a resource for advocacy on policies and strategies geared to improve children's and women's rights in Comoros.



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Child Poverty in Congo: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis

(Pauvreté des Enfants au Congo: Une Analyse du Chevauchement des Privations Multiples)

The latest study on child poverty in Congo dates back to 2008. With the availability of the 2014-2015 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey data, UNICEF, in partnership with the Congolese Government, carried out a multidimensional deprivation analysis exploring trends in child poverty in Congo.

The analysis improves knowledge on the extent of deprivations affecting children and their families and trends in children's and women's multidimensional poverty in recent years. Findings show that 61 per cent of the country's 1.3 million children experience multidimensional poverty, and that the incidence of simple and cumulative deprivation is greater in rural than in urban areas.

Addressing child poverty in all its dimensions is an integral part of the Sustainable Development Goals. Countries will be required to define multidimensional child poverty and track its evolution over the next 15 years. This multidimensional child poverty Index can be used as the national measurement to track child poverty over time. Data will be useful for advocacy and will feed into the development of national strategies and policies, including the national development plan for 2017-2021.



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Côte d'Ivoire 2016 Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys – Report on Key Findings

The multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS) is an international household survey programme developed by UNICEF to measure socio-economic development and the well-being of children and women. The MICS carried out in 2016 is expected to help Côte d'Ivoire to capture rapid changes in key indicators and to expand the evidence base for policies and programmes.

MICS Côte d'Ivoire will assist in monitoring progress on the national development plan and global commitments aimed at promoting the welfare of children, including the Sustainable Development Goals. The 2016 MICS will update key SDG indicators used to assess the situation of children and women in the areas of health, education, child protection and HIV/AIDS. Indicators on water quality and social cohesion will also be made available for the first time in the country.



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The Impact of Population Growth on Youth Employment and School Education in Egypt: An Analytical Paper

Population estimates by Egypt's Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics show a large increase in population growth that could potentially have serious negative social and economic effects. This report amalgamates existing data sources on key indicators, such as population growth, education and employment, with a special focus on children and youth. The highest population growth rates are in Upper Egypt, thus the report devotes a specific section to key indicators, disaggregated by governorate, for this region.

The report presents available data as a starting point for further exploration and to provide evidence for Government policy and decision makers, civil society organizations, donors and other concerned stakeholders, including the general public, to begin to address the potential impacts of the growing number of children.



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Child Poverty in Ethiopia: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis

Child poverty in Ethiopia will be analysed using the multiple overlapping deprivation analysis (MODA) method, on the basis of data from the demographic and health survey, household income consumption and expenditure survey and the welfare monitoring survey.

The purpose of the analysis is to generate evidence on multidimensional child poverty in Ethiopia. The study is expected to find that although overall monetary poverty has declined over the years, there has been very little change in multidimensional poverty. It is also expected to conclude that more than 80 per cent of children in Ethiopia face deprivation in three or more areas (such as nutrition, education, health or housing). Spatial differences across regions and different socio-economic characteristics of children are also among the expected findings.

The analysis will be useful to provide the Government of Ethiopia and other stakeholders with a new perspective on child poverty, as well as a baseline and target for national strategic development goal indicators. The analysis will also contribute to the design of integrated policies, action plans and programmes for addressing monetary and non-monetary child poverty in Ethiopia.



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Further Analysis of the 2014 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey

The 2014 demographic and health survey provided key data to monitor and evaluate the status of children and women in Kenya. The survey provided new information on indicators such as fistula and men's experience of domestic violence, and was expanded to provide estimates for selected demographic and health indicators by county. The survey data can be further analysed to address observed data gaps, especially at the county level.

This secondary analysis aims to provide detailed thematic information to increase insight into unexplored data and explain trends or relationships where data allow. Survey data are expected to show differentials in childhood mortality, fertility, family planning, child health and non-communicable diseases and their interrelationships with household characteristics at the national and county levels.

Data will be used to monitor progress toward the achievement of Kenya's national goals and global commitments to promote the welfare of children, including the Sustainable Development Goals.



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Update of the Situation Analysis of Children and Women in Kenya

The overall objective of the Situation Analysis is to provide a detailed overview of Kenyan children in relation to factors that contribute to, or hinder, realization of their rights. Using a rights-based, equity-focused, life-cycle approach, the analysis will identify the most disadvantaged children in Kenya in terms of access to health, education and water and sanitation. It will further identify emerging challenges affecting children since the last analysis, conducted in 2014.

Findings will serve as a resource to develop strategic interventions benefiting Kenyan children and to inform the development of the next Kenya-UNICEF Country Programme (2018-2023).



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Child Poverty in Lesotho: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis

Lesotho is one of the poorest countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, and children are at high risk for poverty. The 2011 child poverty study showed that about 52 per cent of children under 18 were living in poverty.

The 2017 multiple overlapping deprivation analysis will provide comprehensive estimates of child poverty in Lesotho, based on analyses of data from Lesotho's 2014 Demographic and Health Survey, continuous multipurpose survey and household budget survey. By examining the relationship between monetary wellbeing and childhood deprivation, the analysis will establish that a child's experience of deprivation is multifaceted and interrelated, and that such multiple overlapping deprivation is more likely to occur in more socially disadvantaged groups.

Addressing child poverty in all its dimensions is an integral part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Countries will be required to define multidimensional child poverty and to track its evolution over the next 15 years. The results of the analysis will serve as a baseline for the SDGs, and as a national measure to track child poverty over time. The report will present evidence to inform national strategies and plans to improve the country's socio-economic development. Findings will also be used to design and implement the upcoming Lesotho-UNICEF Country Programme.



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Lesotho 2017 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey

The multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS) is an international household survey programme developed by UNICEF to assist countries to fill data gaps on children's and women's wellbeing and to track progress toward international and national commitments.

The last MICS in Lesotho was conducted in 2002. This new MICS will provide disaggregated data on the situation of children and women, which will be critical to monitor progress for children and women in the country. In addition, findings will inform policy decisions intended to reduce poverty and disparities faced by children and women in the country.



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Situation Analysis on Women and Children in Liberia

The Situation Analysis (SitAn) will explore and describe conditions faced by Liberian children and women, investigating their wellbeing in terms of realization of their rights to survival, development, protection and participation, with a specific focus on trends in the post-Ebola context.

The analysis aims to: (i) identify disparities, gaps and barriers to accessing health care, nutrition, water and sanitation, education, protection and participation; and (ii) identify the root causes of inequities and shortfalls in positive outcomes for women and children. This will provide an opportunity to collect valuable feedback both from rights-holders and duty-bearers, through key informant interviews and focus group discussions with stakeholders, including children.

The SitAn will contribute to supporting national capacity-building and policy-making processes and guide the development of an evidence-based national plan, a new UNICEF programme cycle and United Nations programming in Liberia, ensuring that the rights of children are respected, protected and fulfilled.



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Tackling Multidimensional Child Poverty in Malawi – A Policy Brief

Over the past decade, the Government of Malawi (GoM) has made significant progress toward improving child wellbeing in areas such as health, nutrition and primary education. Yet a large number of children in Malawi continue to face multiple deprivations. In 2016 UNICEF conducted a child poverty study, based on multiple overlapping deprivation analysis, from which this policy brief was developed.

The brief makes a case for the GoM to design poverty eradication and social protection strategies that are age-specific, taking into consideration the multi-dimensionality of poverty, as highlighted in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The analysis will inform policy advocacy and capacity building actions on child poverty issues targeted toward Government decision makers, especially the Ministry of Finance, social sector ministries, Parliament and National Statistical Office.



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Mali 2015 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (Mali Enquête par Grappes à Indicateurs Multiples 2015)

The 2015 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) in Mali represents a nationally representative sample survey that provides critical, up-to-date socio-economic information on the situation of children and women.

The findings show that: (i) mortality rate for children under five years declined only slightly, (ii) exclusive breastfeeding remains low and varies by region, (iii) Mali's average immunization coverage has improved, (iv) the birth registration rate increased between 2010 and 2015, (v) early marriage rates declined significantly between 2010 and 2015 but remain high and (vi) rates of female genital mutilations/excision among girls aged 0-14 years have not declined and remain high.

The MICS findings will support advocacy and inform decision-making processes for public policies aimed at improving the well-being of children and women, as well as monitoring their progress.



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Child Poverty in Mali: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis

(Pauvreté des Enfants au Mali: Une Analyse du Chevauchement des Privations Multiples)

Using data from a 2010 multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS), the national child deprivation rate was assessed at 50 per cent. Following the political crisis in 2012, it is expected that child deprivation has worsened, hence the need for an updated child poverty and deprivation analysis. UNICEF Mali will conduct a Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) based on data from the 2015 MICS.

The analysis will provide a national measure of the multi-dimensional child poverty rate and deprivation rates per region, as well as highlighting areas where deprivations are overlapping.

Addressing child poverty in all its dimensions is an integral part of the Sustainable Development Goals. Countries will be required to define multidimensional child poverty and track its evolution over the next 15 years. This multidimensional child poverty index can be used as the national measure for tracking child poverty over time. The MODA results will be used by UNICEF for a mid-term assessment of the current Mali Country Programme (2015-2019) to refocus the priorities for the remaining two years.



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Child poverty in Morocco: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis

In recent decades, Morocco witnessed important improvements in economic growth and development, and progress was registered in various indicators of child wellbeing. However, not all children benefited from these advances; many were left behind, especially those living in rural and remote areas and poor urban areas.

This study presents data and analysis on child poverty, derived by combining the results of the multiple overlapping deprivation analysis (MODA) and monetary poverty measures, based on the 2015 panel survey of Moroccan households. The MODA methodology was adapted to the Moroccan context through a consultation with national stakeholders, which contributed to the definition of deprivation indicators and poverty thresholds.

Addressing child poverty in all its dimensions is an integral part of the Sustainable Development Goals. Countries will be required to define multidimensional child poverty and to track its evolution over the next 15 years. This multidimensional child poverty index can be used as the national measure to track child poverty over time. The results of this study will be used to inform the national debate on poverty and current reforms in social protection policies, based on evidence of disadvantage and vulnerability among Moroccan children.

Multidimensional Child Poverty in Mozambique

The multidimensional child poverty study uses the data from the latest household budget survey (2014/15) and combines multiple methods of analysis to shed light on the situation of children in Mozambique living in poverty, defined both in monetary and non-monetary terms. Adopting a holistic definition of child wellbeing and combining quantitative and qualitative data, the study provides key insights on children's access to various goods and services crucial to child survival and development.

The study will enhance knowledge of impact of simultaneous experience of child deprivations and assist in the identification of particularly vulnerable groups of children in Mozambique. It will provide both national and provincial estimates of child poverty and deprivations, as well as examine how different deprivations overlap, and which deprivations may need to be addressed simultaneously.

The study will be used to influence the development of stronger and more equitable national and subnational plans and budgets and child-sensitive social protection programmes to more effectively assess the impact of social exclusion. Findings from the multidimensional child poverty index will be used to monitor progress towards achieving national development goals, as well as for monitoring national Sustainable Development Goal targets on child poverty.



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Situation Analysis of Children and Adolescents in Namibia

The last Situation Analysis (SitAn) was conducted in 2014; since then, important developments have taken place in the country: new data have become available, and changes have occurred in the public discourse and relevant political commitments. These factors signal a need for up-to-date knowledge to inform Namibia's fifth national development plan and national agenda for children.

The 2017 Namibia SitAn will identify and analyse critical barriers and bottlenecks that prevent children and families from enjoying their rights. It aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the rights of Namibian children, measuring the main disparities and inequalities between population groups and identifying major issues to be addressed in coming years. It will also serve as a marker to monitor developments, using human rights and equity lenses. The SitAn will make targeted recommendations on how to reduce or eliminate bottlenecks, and on the most relevant policies and systems required to sustain such efforts. The SitAn results will stimulate further policy dialogue and advocacy to develop or strengthen relevant policies and strategies targeting children and women.



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Nigeria 2016 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey

Four rounds of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) have been held in Nigeria (1995, 1999, 2007 and 2011). The MICS 2016 was designed to update the data and information required to assess the situation of children and women in Nigeria and provide data for monitoring the socio-economic activities of the Nigerian population.

The survey seeks to: (i) provide up-to-date information on the situation of children and women in Nigeria, (ii) strengthen national statistical capacity and contribute to the improvement of data and monitoring systems and (iii) strengthen technical expertise in the design, implementation and analysis of such systems.

The findings will serve as baseline for measuring progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals agenda, and will provide statistics to complement and assess the quality of data from recent national surveys (such as the Nigerian general household panel survey and national demographic and health survey conducted by the National Population Commission).



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Continuous Demographic and Health Survey Report – Senegal

At the end of 2011 Senegal carried out a series of national demographic and health surveys in which data collection and analysis was conducted annually. The first phase was carried out in 2012-2013, the second in 2014, the third in 2015 and the fourth in 2016.

A report with regionally disaggregated data will be produced to inform national and decentralized policy and programmes for women and children and contribute to ensuring better geographic equity in resource allocation.



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Series of Secondary In-Depth Analyses Based on the Urban Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey Data in the Dakar Region of Senegal

Senegal is experiencing rapid urbanization, although most of the population continues to live in rural areas. According to the 2013 census, the urban population in Senegal was over 5.8 million inhabitants, corresponding to 45 per cent of the total population.

The urban multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS) collected data on a wide range of indicators in the areas of health, education, child protection, early childhood development, subjective happiness and private and public transfers.

After publication of the MICS results in 2016, secondary in-depth analyses on the themes of neonatal mortality, early childhood development, immunization, out-of-school children and the situation of children living without their parents were also conducted, resulting in a series of publications.

The objective of this series is to outline the factors influencing the indicators and outcomes explored by the MICS, to improve the targeting of policies and programmes for children in urban areas.



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Statistical Book: More than 100 Statistical Tables on Children in Senegal (Second Edition)

UNICEF Senegal produces a comprehensive compilation of key statistics on children to help track progress toward the realization of children's rights. The books serve as a tool for decision-makers during policy discussions and when tracking progress across key social programmes targeting children.

This will be the second edition, updating key indicators based on recent surveys and official Government reports. For the second edition, an interactive online version will also be made available on the UNICEF website.



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South Africa Child Gauge 2017

While significant progress toward realizing the rights of children has been made in several sectors in South Africa, many challenges continue to prevent children from reaching their full potential. Internationally, recent debates have shifted to look holistically at the right to survival and development, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide an important framework and call for action to transform environments to enable optimal development and build resilience.

The 2017 "Child Gauge" will seek to unpack what the concept 'survive, thrive and transform' means in the South African context and document progress, lessons learned and opportunities for the future. It will also engage critically regarding interpretations and implications of the SDGs as they relate to child wellbeing in South Africa.

The publication will provide an opportunity to reflect on South Africa's progress in creating enabling environments for child survival and development, to deepen understanding of the many challenges that continue to prevent children from reaching their full potential and to critically consider appropriate recommendations for meeting the SDGs for children in the South African context.



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South Sudan Child Poverty and Vulnerability Assessment

This publication aims to give a voice to children, mothers and youth in analysing their situations and expressing their vision for a better future. It not only seeks out their views of the deprivations they face, but also explores the current coping mechanisms they employ to confront and overcome the challenges they face at the individual, household and community levels.

The assessment will help to identify positive coping mechanisms to build upon; its results can be transformed into guidance for action, which can feed into the new national development plan for South Sudan and UNICEF's programming for the post-2018 country programme.



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Child Poverty in Sudan: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis

The Sudanese Government is developing its first poverty reduction strategic plan (PRSP) 2018-2021, while United Nations agencies are developing the new United Nations development assistance framework (UNDAF) 2018-2021. UNICEF is also developing its new country programme document for 2018-2021. These efforts require sound, updated evidence on the situation of children to adequately inform policy and strategy formulation.

The multiple overlapping deprivation analysis will provide comprehensive estimates of child poverty in Sudan. Child poverty in all its dimensions is part of the Sustainable Development Goals, and countries will be required to define multidimensional child poverty and to track its evolution over the next 15 years. The multidimensional child poverty index can be used as the national measure to track child poverty over time.

The results of this study will be used to inform national and decentralized-level advocacy favouring more equity-focused and child-centred policies and programmes. Results will also serve as sound evidence to inform Sudan's PRSP, the new UNDAF and UNICEF's next country programme.



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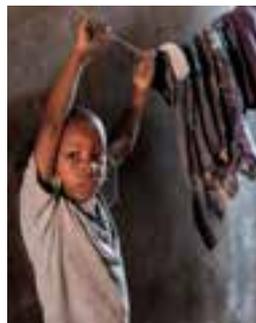
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Child Poverty in Swaziland: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis

This multiple overlapping deprivation analysis will provide comprehensive estimates of child poverty in Swaziland, based on analyses of data from demographic and health surveys and multiple indicator cluster surveys.

Addressing child poverty in all its dimensions is an integral part of the Sustainable Development Goals. Countries will be required to define multidimensional child poverty and to track its evolution over the next 15 years. This multidimensional child poverty index can be used as the national measure to track child poverty over time.

The results of this child poverty study will be used to inform national and decentralized-level advocacy towards more equity-focused and child-centred policies and programmes. Results will also serve to inform UNICEF's country programme in Swaziland.



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Situation Analysis of Women and Children in Swaziland

This Situation Analysis aims to: (i) identify prevalence, trends, and patterns of major indicators for children and women, including causes of key deprivations; (ii) identify and analyse barriers and bottlenecks that prevent disadvantaged children and families from accessing key services; (iii) analyse gender inequalities and their impact on the realization of the rights of children and women; (iv) analyse national laws, policies, strategies and plans to assess the extent to which they address deprivations and enable realization of child rights.

The report will be used by UNICEF to inform the 2018 mid-term review of the current Country Programme and will also inform the review of the United Nations development assistance framework.



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Child Poverty in Tanzania: Qualitative Research with Children

In Tanzania 74 per cent of children are affected by multidimensional poverty, while three out of 10 children live in households with income below the national monetary poverty line. Poverty has traditionally been regarded as mainly a rural phenomenon. However, the country is experiencing increased migration to urban areas. The specific vulnerabilities of children living in poor urban areas are not well understood.

Employing qualitative, participatory methods involving children, the research will generate strategic evidence on urban child poverty, which will inform multi-sectoral strategies to reduce child poverty in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal 1. The research will highlight the role of social sector services and programmes in mitigating and addressing child poverty, the risks and opportunities that urbanization brings to children and children's perceptions and experiences of poverty. Findings will inform sector programme planning, particularly in the area of integrated social sector services, as well as policy advocacy for poverty reduction. The research will furthermore fill strategic knowledge gaps about the effect of rapid urbanization on child poverty, and will inform programmes and strategies for sustainable urban planning for children.



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Uganda Children's Census Report

The last Uganda population and housing census was conducted in 2014; the results were released in 2016. Uganda Bureau of Statistics surveys are always conducted at the regional level. Therefore, when information is required for programme management at the district or sub-district levels, it can only be sourced from surveys that cover a few of the country's 116 districts, leaving development planners ignorant about the situation in the rest of the country.

The report's aim is to fill the sub-national level information gap by presenting all information on the wellbeing of Uganda's children that was collected during the census at the national, regional, district and sub-district levels. The main objective is to strengthen development programming. The publication will also provide disaggregated information from the population census on the usually data-sparse programme area of child protection.



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Child Poverty in Zambia: A Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis

There is consensus that the specific nature of poverty among children, as well as the nature of deprivations across the spectrum of child rights, requires the development and application of a multidimensional measure of child poverty.

This study will measure monetary and multidimensional child poverty using the living conditions monitoring survey datasets for 2010 and 2015. Addressing child poverty in all its dimensions is an integral part of the Sustainable Development Goals. Countries will be required to define multidimensional child poverty and to track its evolution over the next 15 years. This multidimensional child poverty index can be used as the national measure for tracking child poverty over time.

The study will reveal the actual levels of poverty among Zambian children and will make recommendations for actions and policy measures to address child poverty. The information generated through the study will also inform the integration of child poverty indicators in relevant monitoring and evaluation frameworks, such as for the national child policy, the national social protection policy and the seventh national development plan for 2017–2021.



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Sustainable Development Goals for Children in Zimbabwe: Making Sure No One is Left Behind

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the new compact for international development for the coming 15 years. Inequalities are manifested in Zimbabwe by significant variations in achievement of development goals between urban and rural dwellers, between wealth quintiles and between cultural traditions and customs. This is why emphasis on equity and 'leaving no one behind' is paramount for the country to achieve the SDG targets.

This paper provides information on the implementation status of the SDGs that the Government of Zimbabwe has prioritized, with a major focus on those that affect children. Results will show the progress achieved under the Millennium Development Goals in Zimbabwe, as a baseline, and highlight gaps that need to be addressed to achieve progress toward the SDG targets for children.

This will inform policy reforms, provide a basis for progress monitoring, performance evaluation, resources mobilization and prioritization, and identifying investment opportunities and measuring its effectiveness.



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Zimbabwe Demographic and Health Survey Secondary Data Analysis

The 2015 Zimbabwe Demographic and Health Survey (2015 ZDHS) report presents the major findings of a nationally representative survey.

This secondary analysis aims to examine more closely the data and present results that complement the main report. Such an analysis is critical for understanding equity patterns, thereby enriching policy dialogue.

The equity-focused analysis will include examination of adolescent contraceptive use and prevalence and predictors of anaemia among women (15-to-49 years) and children under five, which will be used to inform national nutrition programming. It will thus serve to inform and guide policy and programming initiatives by the Government and development partners.



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Generation 2030 Africa 2.0

High-fertility rates and rising numbers of women of reproductive age mean that given current trends, over the next 35 years nearly 2 billion babies will be born in Africa, the continent's population will double in size, and its under-18 population will increase by two thirds, to almost a billion children. Generation 2030 takes a deep analysis of the ongoing demographic shift and what that means for current and future generations across Africa. The recommended actions are ambitious but also practical and achievable, and are designed to contribute to the achievement of both 2030 Agenda for Development and Agenda 2063.



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Child Protection

Determinants of Child Marriage in Burundi

Child marriage is a violation of the rights of girls and boys to live their lives freely during adolescence. The consequences of child marriage include school dropout, early pregnancy and risks associated with early motherhood. Although the prevalence of child marriage is relatively low in Burundi, it remains a denial of the fundamental rights of adolescents that needs to be addressed.

This study aims to better understand the socio-economic determinants of child marriage in Burundi in order to develop adequate responses. Results will include a desk review, a socio-economic profile of the “survivors”, a socio-anthropological analysis of the communities where children are most at risk, as well as an exploration of the socio-cultural determinants of child marriage. The results of the study will enable better understanding of the issue of child marriage and its determinants. It will also contribute to the development of strategies and interventions at the provincial and national levels, in partnership with relevant actors.



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Study on Social Norms around Child Marriage in Cameroon

In Cameroon, one out of five girls aged 15-to-19 is currently married. Child marriage in general is associated with a consistent set of demographic characteristics, such as poverty and low education levels, but it may also be the result of other contextual factors.

The objective of the study is to provide evidence on the social normative factors that contribute to child marriage in Cameroon. Findings will: (i) determine which indicators are most strongly associated with child marriage, (ii) create regional maps of most-affected regions, (iii) investigate the social norms that drive child marriage and (iv) develop a list of relevant indicators that UNICEF and partners can use to measure change in social norms around child marriage. The study will provide a list of programmatic recommendations for UNICEF and partners, which will inform the advocacy strategy with the Government.



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National Assessment of the Situation of Justice for Children in Ethiopia

The goal of justice for children is to ensure that children are better served and protected by justice systems, ensuring application of international standards for all children who come into contact with these systems. Meeting this goal requires development of a comprehensive approach to assess/strengthen the system of justice for children across Ethiopia.

This report aims to analyse justice procedures and practices in regard to treatment of children in contact with the law, as well as identifying promising practices, challenges and gaps.

Findings will include concrete recommendations to address issues at the policy, strategic, legislative, and programmatic levels aimed at strengthening the ability of the Ethiopian Government to better protect children in contact with the law.



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State of the Fight against Early Pregnancy at School in Gabon

(Etat Des Lieux de la Lutte Contre les Grossesses Précoces à L'école in Gabon)

In Gabon, early pregnancy has become an alarming issue, with a considerable number of mothers being under the age of 18. Therefore, it is important to understand the determinants of this phenomenon and its consequences on schooling and health for the affected girls. The purpose of this study is to generate data on early pregnancies in Gabon's schools to support the development of a national strategy to fight early pregnancies.

The findings contribute to a better understanding of the family and school environment of affected girls. The causes of early pregnancy were analysed based on data collected from group discussions with schoolgirls, teachers and other school authorities. The report will inform ministries in charge of national education, social affairs, family and social protection, as well as United Nations agencies.



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The Situation of Children and Women Living in and around Mining Sites in Madagascar

Madagascar has rich and varied mineral resources. With the recent discovery of large gemstone deposits for the artisanal sector and the launch of the production phase of two large industrial projects, the mining sector is experiencing remarkable dynamism.

The primary purpose of this report is to describe the situation of children and women living in and around artisanal and industrial mining sites in Madagascar. The report contains detailed observations on children and women in these situations, and measures them against the stipulations of two key human rights frameworks: the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Maputo Protocol.

This report shows that at artisanal mining sites many children and women are living in a chaotic social environment, in conditions of severe economic vulnerability, deprived of basic rights such as medical care, education and food security. Currently, little is being done to protect them. At industrial mining sites, the rights and resources of local populations – in particular of children and women – are severely compromised by the inadequacies of current social policy and practices employed in industrial mining. This analysis forms the basis of the report's recommendations for interventions and policy reform.



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Violence against Children in Madagascar

One of the main objectives of the child protection component of the programme of cooperation between the Government of Madagascar and UNICEF is to strengthen the child protection system through the development of a national policy and legal framework to better protect the children of Madagascar from all forms of violence and exploitation. The National Survey on the Millennium Development Goals (2012–2013) provides noteworthy data on just a few child protection indicators, and needs to be complemented with a study that will give a more comprehensive picture of violence against children (VAC) for informed advocacy and programming.

This study will analyse the determinants of VAC, the circumstances of its occurrence, the knowledge or perception of communities, parents and children about VAC and the utilization of existing protection mechanisms and structures by victims. The results of the study will be compiled and disseminated in 2017, and its findings and recommendations will inform the national child protection policy, child protection programmes and legal reforms.



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Study on Administrative and Legal Procedures Applicable to Kafala in Morocco

In 2002 Morocco adopted legislation on kafala for abandoned children. While the 2013 Charter of Justice Reform adopted various measures to reinforce the protection of children in contact with the law, legal protection and access of children to justice were not fully achieved.

The present study addresses the need to undertake an evaluation of the current administrative and legal processes applicable in Morocco to better protect children involved in kafala processes. The study will provide a picture of the current situation of kafala processes in Morocco and formulate recommendations to serve as a basis for improving access to justice for children.

Findings will include: (i) quantitative and qualitative data on the profile and number of children and families involved in kafala processes, (ii) a legal analysis of current administrative procedures and laws applicable to kafala, (iii) an analysis of the role of key actors in terms of coordination needs and (iv) the identification of gaps and improvements needed in the current kafala system. This study will contribute to increasing the knowledge of justice professionals involved in decision making processes on kafala regarding best practices and the best interests of the child. It will be used by UNICEF for advocacy purposes to inform the legislative reform process and develop better responses related to alternative care options for children in contact with the law, to ensure a child-friendly justice system.



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Barriers, Social Norms and Taboos behind Child Marriage in Mozambique

Mozambique has one of the highest rates of child marriage in the world, affecting almost one of every two girls. This constitutes an affront to human rights on a massive scale. It also undermines efforts to reduce poverty and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals – in particular by halting girls' education prematurely and leading directly to teenage pregnancy, with heightened risks of maternal and child mortality

This study aims to identify cultural barriers, social norms and taboos that can affect the implementation of a successful Communication for Development (C4D) programme to eliminate child marriage. Results will highlight meaningful examples of positive deviance models based in rural communities of selected provinces that could potentially be applied, adapted or replicated in other provinces of the country to delay or reduce child marriage. The study is a crucial part of a C4D strategy in support of the national strategy to prevent and eliminate child marriage developed by the Government of Mozambique for the period 2015-2019.



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Formative Research on Alternative Care in Mozambique

In Mozambique, many vulnerable children or victims of violence and abuse and neglect have been institutionalized in residential care (public and private) as a protective alternative care measure, due to the lack of formalized community foster care and guardianship. Two key strategic interventions are being implemented to address this issue: (i) prevention - consistent and effective investment in guaranteeing that children do not become vulnerable to being separated or abandoned by parents and preventive measures against violence, abuse and neglect; and (ii) alternative care arrangements - in cases where children face one of these situations, they may be provided with alternative care and protection by the state, through adoption, guardianship, foster care, or as a last resort, residential care.

UNICEF will conduct a formative research on barriers, taboos and social norms affecting cultural acceptability and formalization of alternative care by potential foster families. Results will inform the elaboration of a national social mobilization strategy on alternative and family care in Mozambique.



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Formative Research on Civil Registration in Mozambique

Mozambique has seen some progress in birth registration rates; the percentage of registered children under the age of five increased from 31 in 2008 to 48 in 2011. However, the majority of children under five still lack birth certificates and the registration rates at maternity wards and health units is very low. Most unregistered children come from the poorest households, and are the same children who are most at risk of abuse and exploitation, including child labour and child marriage, and of coming into conflict with the law.

This formative research aims to identify and understand the barriers, taboos and social norms hindering civil registration in the country, particularly in communities. The publication will be used in the design of a concise mobilization strategy in communities to increase the rates of civil registration of children.



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Qualitative Study on Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices related to Interactions between Caregivers and Children 0-2 Years in Mozambique

Strong and supportive caregiver-child relationships help children to develop and make them more resilient to the negative effects of poverty and other challenges. Few studies have been conducted on the caregiver-child relationship in Mozambique. This study aims to examine the interaction between primary caregivers and children during their first 1,000 days of life in selected districts of three provinces (Nampula, Tete and Zambezia), focusing on the knowledge and attitudes of primary caregivers and key caregiving practices.

The report will present information on primary caregivers' knowledge, attitudes and practices – including myths and taboos – concerning pregnancy, early childhood, chronic and acute malnutrition, roles and responsibilities of caregivers and birth registration, as well as information on actual caregiving practices. Findings and recommendations will help to better understand caregiving strengths and risk factors in Mozambique in order to design Communication for Development and early childhood development programming, particularly for parenting education.



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A Review of the Institutional Framework for Child Online Safety in Namibia

This review maps the current institutional framework on child online safety and identifies the gaps and opportunities for strengthening institutional responses to child online safety. It also documents the role and responses of various stakeholders in addressing online abuse and violence against children, highlighting the need for a coordinated approach to the formulation of holistic policies, strategies and mechanisms to tackle online child sexual exploitation and abuse. The report spells out the challenges that the country is still facing with regard to availability and access to reliable disaggregated data, compounded by under-reporting of violence against children and persistent harmful societal norms that condone violence against children.



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Outcome Assessment of the Isibindi-Childline Residential Care Programme for Sexually Abused Children in South Africa

Child sexual abuse is a pervasive problem affecting the health, social and psychological wellbeing of large numbers of children in South Africa. Little is known about current residential therapeutic programmes in the country or their efficacy in facilitating healing and psychological recovery of child survivors.

This study is one of the first evaluations to explore the impact of the provision of therapeutic services for sexually abused children in South Africa through a short-term, intensive residential programme. Findings suggest that the residential programme, in its current format, may be better suited for younger children, who are more dependent on family support, than for adolescents. While children showed some behavioural improvement, no significant change in post-traumatic and depressive symptoms was found that can be attributed to the intervention. The publication provides recommendations for strengthening the current service delivery model, with a view to improving its effectiveness for child survivors of sexual violence.



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Formative Research on Birth Registration in South Sudan

Within the overall and fluid context of South Sudan, UNICEF aims to support the Government to undertake formative research about people's awareness, knowledge and perceived needs for birth registration and about their attitudes towards birth registration, once introduced to the concept.

The research is intended to inform the development of a communication strategy for the uptake of civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) services as part of the overall support provided by UNICEF and other organizations to the Government of South Sudan to establish a CRVS system. The result will contribute to the development of a communication strategy, including a creative strategy for employing the communication channels and materials determined to be most appropriate, which will strengthen system-building efforts in South Sudan.



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Protocol for Pilot Testing the Communities Care Programme: An Integrated Prevention and Response Program to End Violence against Women and Girls in Conflict-Affected Communities in South Sudan and Somalia

To create safer communities for women and girls, UNICEF South Sudan and UNICEF Somalia are piloting 'Communities Care' (CC), a programme designed to strengthen support for survivors of sexual violence and transform harmful social norms that contribute to gender-based violence (GBV) and gender inequality. The programme, which began in 2013, is being implemented in partnership with non-governmental organizations. The CC program focuses on altering individual behaviours, collective practices and widely held beliefs that contribute to GBV. The process of shifting social norms used in the CC approach involves the collaboration of key decision makers and community members of both genders and emphasizes that the entire community will benefit from the creation of healthier and safer communities in which all members enjoy their right to live free from violence.

The study will assess whether: (i) GBV services have been strengthened; and (ii) social norms have shifted to more gender-positive social norms. The findings will inform the potential for replicability in other communities throughout South Sudan and Somalia and, if found to be successful, the programme will serve as a global model for promoting positive social norms and significantly reducing the incidence of GBV.



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National Study on the Drivers of Violence Affecting Children in Swaziland

Violence against children is a major child rights, social justice and public health concern globally. As the evidence base on the prevalence and incidence of violence grows, governments and their civil society partners worldwide are confronted with how to best prevent and respond to violence affecting children. The 2007 Violence against Children Study in Swaziland revealed that one in three children experience sexual violence before the age of 18 years. Most violence occurs at home and is perpetrated by persons known to the victim. This evidence suggested a need to determine factors influencing violence against children.

'Drivers of Violence Affecting Children in Swaziland' is a qualitative study exploring the determinants of interpersonal violence affecting children in Swaziland, with the aim of identifying causal pathways. Results will inform national strategies and interventions for violence prevention.



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Action Research on Drivers of Violence against Children and Positive Change in Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar

Recent studies highlight the extent of high levels of violence against children (VAC) in Tanzania and Zanzibar. High levels of emotional violence were recorded among almost 80 per cent of Tanzanian girls. Among boys, 65 per cent reported a relative as primary abuser. This research aims to develop a better understanding of the underlying socio-cultural norms, attitudes and practices that give rise to VAC in Tanzania.

Children are potentially not safe anywhere. In the home, they may experience all forms of violence. In schools, children report they are regularly beaten, humiliated and sometimes also victims of sexual advances from teachers. In the community, children are also vulnerable to sexual violence. There is a complex series of socio-cultural drivers at play in the values and practices of adults whereby behaviours, socially sanctioned by 'community law', carry more influence than laws.

This publication will help change the narrative of VAC to a focus on protective environments for children and develop a coherent strategy and action plan for addressing VAC.



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Cost of Inaction on Ending Violence against Children in Tanzania

Public financing for child protection is very limited in Tanzania. Moreover, resources for child protection tend to reflect discrete, time-bound, donor-funded activities. For example, foreign funding constituted more than 70 per cent of the allocation by ministries, departments, agencies or child protection. Efforts to roll out a national child protection system stalled, which is attributed to the lack of understanding and visibility for child protection in the budgeting system.

The purpose of the study is to enumerate and quantify the social and economic costs of the failure to end violence against children in Tanzania, to make a case for adequate, efficient and effective public financing for child protection. The report will analyse current investments in response to violence against children by Government and development partners, the national cost of violence against children, and the cost of inaction.

Results will support efforts by the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children to influence prioritization of child protection in the national budgeting guidelines.



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Uganda Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting Survey

Female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) refers to all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or any other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. Beyond the immediate health consequences, long-term health and psychosocial consequences are associated with the practice, as well as socio-economic costs for society at large. According to the 2011 Uganda Demographic and Health Survey, the estimated prevalence of FGM/C among girls and women aged 15–49 years is 1.4 per cent. However, FGM prevalence is associated with only a few ethnic groups in Uganda.

While a number of interventions have sought to address the problem of FGM/C in Uganda, there are no robust research data on current trends in FGM/C that can inform future strategies. This survey aims to fill the data gaps at the district and sub-county levels.

The specific objectives of the survey are to: (i) determine FGM/C prevalence rates in the practising districts and communities; (ii) identify the age group most at risk of FGM/C and prevalence rates for different age groups; (iii) determine the impact of the practice on the health and wellbeing of girls and women; and (iv) determine community perceptions and attitudes towards the practice. At the national level, line ministries will use the findings to inform the development of new strategies and appropriate geographical focus for interventions. At the district level, the data will be used to inform Government planning and budgeting processes. UNICEF and other UN agencies will use the data for advocacy and to guide programme development.



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Understanding Determinants of Violence in Childhood: A Secondary Analysis of the National Baseline Survey of the Life Experiences of Adolescents in Zimbabwe

All forms of violence against children (VAC) place a significant burden on children. For example, sexual violence is associated with reported lifetime experiences of suicidal ideation and unwanted pregnancy.

This publication is part of the “Understanding Violence Against Children in Zimbabwe” series, which aims to better understand why VAC occurs and what drives it, but digging deep into and analysing available data and information.

The study estimates the prevalence and predictors of different types of violence in childhood and the associated health burden in Zimbabwe, using a nationally representative sample. Provision of a deeper understanding of the causes and drivers of VAC addresses a significant gap in the evidence base and is expected to stimulate discussions among policy makers, practitioners and donors, thus informing policies and programmes.



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Tourism Industry Impact Assessment on Children and Communities in Zanzibar

Tourism is one of the most important industries in Zanzibar, representing 27 per cent of GDP and over 80 per cent of GNP. It employs nearly 45,000 people, representing more than 10 per cent of Zanzibar's total currently employed population. Tourism in Zanzibar is likely to have both positive and negative effects on local communities and their children, which have not yet been assessed.

This study aims to identify the impact of the tourism industry on children and communities and provide a set of recommendations on how the Government and UNICEF should engage to leverage opportunities and mediate risks. The study will not only assess the different impacts of tourism on local communities and their children, but also identify business practices that exemplify how the tourism industry can help strengthen local development, including the protection of children, and identify possible issues that Government should be aware of.

The main projected use of the research will be to formulate concrete actions for collaboration between communities and tourism businesses for local development that directly benefits children and their communities.



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Violence against Children Survey: A Retrospective Household Survey of 13-24-year-old Females and Males in Uganda

Studies and research on violence against children (VAC) undertaken in Uganda are fragmented and focused mainly on specific areas and sectors (e.g., VAC in schools). The lack of national estimates for the prevalence of VAC is a major barrier to the development of effective violence prevention and response strategies.

This study will yield nationally representative prevalence estimates of physical, emotional and sexual violence for girls and young women aged 13–24 years, and physical and emotional violence for boys and young men aged 13–24 years. In addition, the survey will yield: (i) prevalence estimates for girls and females in three clusters of high-HIV-burden districts; and (ii) regional estimates for males in each of the four sub-national regions of Uganda. The survey also aims to assess the knowledge and utilization of services available to children who have experienced sexual, emotional and physical violence. Finally, the survey will include recommendations for relevant ministries in Uganda, United Nations agencies and international and national non-governmental organizations on developing, improving and enhancing prevention and response strategies to address violence against children.



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Assessment of Child Care Facilities in Zambia

Article 20 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child provides that a child temporarily or permanently deprived of his or her family environment, or who cannot – in his or her own best interests – be allowed to remain in that environment, is entitled to special protection and assistance provided by the state. To ensure this child right, the Government of Zambia has embarked on a process of reforming and strengthening its alternative care system.

The Ministry of Community Development and Social Welfare commissioned a nationwide assessment of child care facilities to understand the situation of children in need of care. Results from the assessment indicated that there are 6,413 children in 179 facilities across the country. The results further revealed that case management is poor; only 13 per cent of all child care facilities have complete case files on each child. Most children are placed into care by their parents or guardian: findings show that 68 per cent of children had family with proof of admission by a parent or guardian and 50 per cent of children have contact with their family. The report will provide up-to-date statistical information on children in need of care that will help improve the provision of family tracing, foster care and adoption services.



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Zambia Health and Wellbeing of Children Survey

The Zambia health and wellbeing survey (H-Well), also known as the violence against children (VAC) survey, is the first of its kind in Zambia. The survey, undertaken in 2015, systematically measures the prevalence, nature and consequences of sexual, physical and emotional violence against children. It aims to: (i) generate evidence on the national prevalence of violence perpetrated against boys and girls, (ii) identify risk and protective factors, (iii) identify health and social consequences associated with violence against children and (iv) assess the knowledge and utilization of services available for children who have experienced violence.

In addition to providing a solid set of findings on the scope of VAC in the country, results show that services that respond to cases of violence are poor and insufficient. The survey presents important recommendations on developing, improving and enhancing prevention and response strategies to address VAC as part of a larger, comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach to child protection.



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Zambia National Disability Survey

For planning purposes, Zambia currently uses the World Health Organization estimate of 1.3 million disabled persons (equivalent to approximately 10 per cent of the population). According to the 2010 Census, 2.1 per cent of Zambians are disabled (including 0.4 per cent of children aged 0-14 years), corresponding to 274,944 persons. Apart from these prevalence estimates, little information is available on the socio-demographic characteristics of persons with disabilities or on their quality of life, notably in terms of social participation and use of services.

This study is expected to shed light on: (i) disability prevalence and severity among adults and children, disaggregated by sex; province and area of living; (ii) demographic and socio-economic characteristics of people with disabilities, including children; and (iii) critical issues and barriers faced by persons with disabilities that restrict their participation in activities and access to services.

The data and knowledge generated through this survey will inform the mainstreaming of the response to disability through relevant Government policies and programmes, and will contribute to the effective implementation of the Persons with Disabilities Bill enacted by Parliament in July 2012.



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Zimbabwe Crime and Judicial Statistics Report

Data collected on crime statistics in Zimbabwe comes mainly from the country's police and the prison and correctional services, and therefore does not provide an overall picture of crime statistics. Thus there is need to include court statistics as part of national crime statistics for Zimbabwe, generating data related to court proceedings, whose use could be extended to operational areas such as access, fairness and internal administrative responsiveness, especially for women and children.

This report aims to incorporate court statistics into national crime statistics reporting to provide an overall picture of crime statistics in Zimbabwe. The national crime statistics report would then be used to contribute to justice system policy development and decision making.



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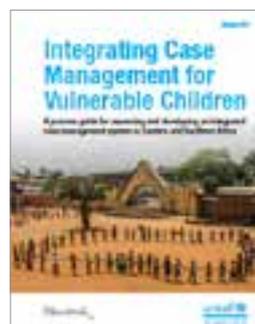
Integrating Case Management for Vulnerable Children: A Process Guide for Assessing and Developing an Integrated Case Management System in Eastern and Southern Africa

Vulnerable children and families are entitled to efficient, comprehensive and respectful assistance on multiple fronts, as set out in national and global policies. But instead they often face piecemeal, inadequate and intrusive services, or are neglected altogether. Services designed to protect children's rights often function independently, separated from other services that may also be needed if these rights are to be protected and children's needs met holistically. The result is often overlaps and/or gaps in services, negatively impacting those in need.

This guide explores how an integrated case management system can be planned, constructed and implemented to ensure accountability from the level of the individual case to the overall system. The guide sets out the integrated case management response in a business process model.

This guide is aimed at policy makers and programme managers working across Eastern and Southern Africa whose role is to support and protect the rights of vulnerable children and their families. It was developed in line with the growing recognition that the rights and needs of vulnerable children and families are complex, multifaceted, interrelated and interdependent.

Although all case management systems seek to link different sectors, in practice it has proven difficult to implement the linkages consistently. This guide intentionally focuses on what is needed for integration to work.



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Gender Dynamics Structuring Youth Engagement in New Forms of Violence in Cote d'Ivoire and Mali

In 2016 UNICEF's West and Central Africa Regional Office and Interpeace conducted a participatory research project to understand how societies and dynamics surrounding young people in Mali and Côte d'Ivoire appear to drive some of them towards violence. It found that a key role is played by youth's need to find their place in their society. Thus it seems critical to explore this issue in more depth, and highlight the specific gender dynamics surrounding youth involvement in new forms of violence.

This brief will shed new light on the findings of the 2016 report, and will inform policy dialogue and programming related to children and youth and to addressing extreme violence in West and Central Africa. The findings will highlight the specific trajectories of adolescent girls and young women toward new forms of violence, with particular attention to the role of education and gender-related determinants.



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Children and Social Protection

Diagnostic Study of Communal Social Services within the Framework of the Yako Initiative for the Operationalizing the Consensual Methodology for Targeting Vulnerable People in Burkina Faso

(Etude Diagnostique des Services Sociaux Communaux dans le cadre de L'initiative de Yako pour L'opérationnalisation de la Méthodologie Consensuelle de Ciblage des Personnes Vulnérables au Burkina Faso)

Burkina Faso's Permanent Secretariat of the National Council for Social Protection (SP-CNPS), with UNICEF support, is carrying out an institutional and organizational diagnostic of Burkina Faso's Communal Social Services. This study will facilitate the update of reliable social protection statistics, with a view toward setting up a unique single registry of vulnerable people in the country.

The study aims to assess the Communal Social Services' effectiveness as an element of the implementation strategy for a harmonized methodology and targeting process to assist vulnerable people in Burkina Faso. Results will include a comprehensive diagnosis of Community Social Services and updated data to facilitate the establishment of a unique registry of vulnerable people in the country. This document will serve as a technical tool for actors in the social protection field, as part of the implementation of the single registry of vulnerable people in Burkina Faso.



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Cash Transfers and Public Works in Chad: Building Blocks of a National Social Protection System

Chad's national Social Protection Strategy, adopted in July 2015, is a central pillar in the country's efforts to fight poverty and vulnerability. As part of its support to the Government of Chad in implementing this strategy, UNICEF commissioned a review of experiences with two popular social protection instruments – cash transfers and public works programmes. This review provides relevant contributions to the state of knowledge about social protection in Chad.

Findings indicate that most cash transfers programmes are implemented by non-governmental organizations and funded by external donors, with a limited Government role. Over time, Government engagement, financing and ownership should increase. Labour-intensive public works could be a more effective social protection mechanism if it is capable of generating enough work opportunities to meet needs. This study made substantial contributions to the design of a safety-net project funded by the World Bank, and will also be used for advocacy with the Government to increase investment in social protection.



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Effects of Unconditional Cash Transfers on the Outcome of Treatment for Severe Acute Malnutrition in the Democratic Republic of Congo

One aim of cash transfer programmes (CTP) is to strengthen financial security for vulnerable households. CTPs enable improvements in diet, hygiene, health service access and investment in food production or income generation. However, the effect of CTPs on the outcomes of children who are already severely malnourished is not well understood.

This study aims to test whether CTPs will improve the outcomes of children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in the Democratic Republic of Congo over a period of six months. UNICEF conducted a cluster-randomized control trial on children with uncomplicated SAM who received treatment according to national protocols and counselling, with or without a cash supplement of US\$40 monthly for six months. Analyses were by intention-to-treat. The findings will be published in the BMC Medicine and then shared within humanitarian and nutrition networks and publications.



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Equity and Inclusion: Complementarity between the Productive Safety Net and the Community Based Health Insurance in Ethiopia

Ethiopia launched its National Social Protection Policy in 2014. In that context, UNICEF Ethiopia commissioned a study of global practices that promote access to basic services by safety-net clients, and which could be applicable to Ethiopia. The review was meant to inform national social protection stakeholders about which practices could be potential pathways for Ethiopia. One of the potential pathways noted was increased enrolment in existing health fee waivers and subsidized access to community-based health insurance (CBHI), but more work was needed to assess how CBHI, health fee waivers and the productive safety-net programme (PSNP) could be better aligned.

UNICEF Ethiopia commissioned a follow-up study to further explore existing and potential linkages, including identification of targeting approaches, possible overlaps and barriers for PSNP clients to access these schemes.

The findings will help to identify effective ways to align the PSNP and targeted subsidies for the CBHI/health fee waiver scheme to benefit the poor. Results will be used to review regional social protection action plans to improve linkages between social protection programmes and existing basic services.



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How Do Linkages Between Social Protection and Nutrition Work in Practice in Ethiopia?

This operational research contributes to a wider portfolio of research and evaluation activities linked to the three-year evaluation of the social cash transfer programme piloted under the national Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) in four selected woredas (districts) in two regions in Ethiopia: Oromia and the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region (SNNPR).

The purpose is to analyse: (i) the integration of cash transfers with nutrition activities; (ii) the relationship between the social protection programme and communication activities designed to bring about behavioural change; and (iii) the nutritional status of members of beneficiary households involved in the programme.

The findings are expected to identify what works well and what does not work, in relation to the impact of a safety net programme on the nutritional status of household members. The findings will be useful in revising the design of the pilot programme and the PSNP, and will inform the elaboration of federal and regional social protection programme action plans, with the aim of improving linkages between social protection interventions and basic social services.



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Study on Policy and Legal Framework for National Social Protection Systems in Ghana

Social protection is a human right enshrined in the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other major United Nations human rights instruments. Many countries have therefore developed social protection strategies or policies, as well as legal frameworks to put social protection in a wider development perspective.

This publication examines the role of policies and legal frameworks in the evolution of national social protection systems. The research aims to assess the extent to which social protection systems are influenced by policy or legal frameworks in various regions (e.g., Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia), and includes an in-depth analysis of the Ghanaian context. The findings will draw the attention of stakeholders in Ghana and elsewhere to the importance of developing and implementing social protection-specific policies and legal frameworks.



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Impact Evaluation of Sustainable Poverty Reduction through Income Generation, Nutrition and Access to Public Services Project in Lesotho

Since 2009 UNICEF and the European Union (EU) have supported the Government of Lesotho to implement a child grants programme targeting poor households with children under the age of 18. The 2014 programme impact evaluation highlighted its positive impacts on households' food security, school attendance, access to health services and the local economy. However, the evaluation found that the project had only a limited impact on asset accumulation and poverty reduction. To address this gap, UNICEF and the EU, jointly with FAO, supported Lesotho's Ministry of Social Development to implement the 'sustainable poverty reduction through income generation, nutrition and access to public services' (SPRING) project to facilitate asset accumulation and combat poverty.

The main purpose of the evaluation is to assess the impact of SPRING on asset accumulation and poverty reduction. The results will be used to inform scaling-up decisions and to raise funds for the programme.



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Social Safety Net Investment Programmes the Case of Ondo State in Nigeria

This publication outlines UNICEF's strategic engagement with the Ondo state government to strengthen social protection and build a dynamic framework for social policy, using existing structures. It describes stakeholder interactions during the six-month process of engaging ministries, departments, agencies and the judiciary.

This study developed an innovative, inclusive, evidence-based and fiscally sustainable social protection framework and policy at the sub-national level by documenting existing and replicable models that can reduce inequities. The publication analyses 21 fragmented programmes captured as an overview of the state social protection landscape, including case studies of innovative programmes in maternal health, school bus shuttle, disability, microcredit, volunteerism and single registry. This will result in an increased understanding of social protection and possible synergies to reduce duplication.

The publication provides an evaluation of existing programmes with scale-up potential, and serves as a resource for technical assistance in the design, targeting, implementation and monitoring of social protection schemes.



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Impact Evaluation of UNICEF Nigeria Girls' Education Project Phase 3 Cash Transfer Programme in Niger and Sokoto States

Phase 3 of the girls' education project cash transfer programme was designed as a social protection programme to mitigate the impact of poverty on girl-child enrolment and school attendance in Niger and Sokoto states. UNICEF commissioned Capra International to assess the programme against five criteria, to better understand how it was implemented and what impacts were achieved, as well as to identify the lessons that can inform further implementation of the cash transfer programme.

This impact evaluation report will support better understanding of this type of cash transfer programme, which will be useful for the Government, donors, UNICEF and other national and international partners.



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Impact Evaluation of the Productive Social Safety Net Conditional Cash Transfer on Youth Wellbeing and the Transition to Adulthood in Tanzania

The productive social safety net (PSSN) is the flagship social protection programme of the Government of Tanzania. Its objectives include increasing consumption and food security of the extremely poor, investing in human capital, strengthening income generation activities and increasing access by households to improved social services. As of February 2016, the programme had reached 1.1 million households (6.5 million people) country-wide.

This report conveys findings from the end-line of an 18-month, mixed methods impact evaluation examining programme impacts on youth wellbeing and transition to adulthood. Quantitative and qualitative surveys were multi-topical and included outcomes such as school attendance, productive activities, pregnancy, marriage, sexual debut and risky sexual behaviour, aspirations, mental health, social support, and violence.

Insights from this evaluation will enable the Government of Tanzania, the Tanzania Social Action Fund and other stakeholders such as UNICEF Tanzania and the Tanzania Commission for AIDS to assess what other measures or interventions are necessary to improve adolescent and youth wellbeing, and how these can complement and provide synergies with the Government's institutionalized social protection strategy.



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Tanzania Youth Study of the Productive Social Safety Net Impact Evaluation: Baseline Report

Large-scale government social cash transfers have the potential to facilitate youth's safe transitions to adulthood.

This report provides the baseline results of the impact evaluation of the Government of the Republic of Tanzania's productive social safety net (PSSN) on Tanzanian youth.

The evaluation utilizes a cluster randomized control trial design among a total of 102 villages divided into three arms: conditional cash transfer (CCT), CCT plus public works programme, and control condition (delayed entry after 18 months). The youth study sample consists of 1,357 youth in 801 households from this evaluation sample on the mainland only. Additionally, the qualitative study sample consists of 16 youth who underwent in-depth interviews.

Results of this evaluation will inform design of future iterations of the Government's social protection and other complementary programming to support the safe transition of Tanzanian youth.



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Adaptation and Response for Children Affected by Droughts and Disasters - How National Social Protection Systems are Responding to El Niño in Eastern and Southern Africa

Weather-related stresses associated with El Niño in 2015–2016 have severely impacted 60 million people. Governments across the globe are dealing with the consequences for food security, livelihoods and the well-being of their populations. Social protection systems have proven to be an efficient and cost-effective means of reaching the most vulnerable households – a functionality that may be used both as a means to support those living in chronic poverty as well as during times of crisis.

This review provides an overview of how national governments and partners in countries in Eastern and Southern Africa are adapting existing social protection systems to respond to shocks. Social protection systems that reach populations quickly during shocks can play a crucial role; but current systems in Eastern and Southern African countries are limited in size and scope – and often underfunded. This review provides practical recommendations for all stakeholders to improve the effectiveness and impact of shock-responsive social protection programming in Eastern and Southern Africa.



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Social Protection and HIV in Eastern and Southern Africa - Research Implications for Policy 1 of 6: How Can Social Protection Reduce Adolescent HIV-Risk?

This brief outlines key findings from a 2016 prospective observational study with more than 3,000 adolescents aged 10-17 years in two South African provinces (Mpumalanga and the Western Cape) who responded to questions about: which form of social protection (i.e., cash, care or combinations) reduces HIV risk behaviour? How does cash reduce HIV risk behaviours compared to care social protection interventions? Is social protection effective for those adolescents who are most at risk?

The brief highlights key messages from the research published in 2016, whose main findings were: (i) structural deprivation puts adolescents aged 10–17 in South Africa at higher risk for HIV-infection due to increased psychosocial problems; (ii) cash and care social protection reduces the risk for HIV-risk behaviour and psychosocial problems for children in highly deprived areas; and (iii) provision of unconditional social protection to adolescents can reduce a range of psychosocial problems and HIV risk behaviours and reaches those who are in most need of HIV prevention.

The brief is being used by UNICEF and its partners, including the Coalition for Children affected by AIDS and the Eastern and Southern African Inter-Agency Task Team on Children and AIDS, to advocate for unconditional cash plus care interventions for vulnerable children.



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Social Protection and HIV in Eastern and Southern Africa - Research Implications for Policy 2 of 6: Combination Social Protection Improves Adolescent Antiretroviral Adherence

Low adolescent adherence to antiretroviral therapy (ART) is highly associated with morbidity, mortality and HIV transmission. Some types of social protection programmes may be more effective than others for adolescents living with HIV. This brief outlines key associations of 10 types of social protection with adherence, using the largest known community-traced sample of HIV-positive adolescents, asking: Can social protection programmes improve adolescent ART-adherence in South Africa? If so, do combinations of social protection programmes increase adherence rates?

The brief highlights key messages from research published in 2016. The main findings were: (i) HIV-positive adolescents are at high risk of ART non-adherence and related poor health outcomes; (ii) social protection provision is associated with significantly reduced non-adherence in adolescents; and (iii) combinations of social protection models are associated with greater reductions in non-adherence than single interventions alone.

The brief is being used by UNICEF and its partners, including the Coalition for Children Affected by AIDS and the Eastern and Southern African Inter-Agency Task Team on Children and AIDS, to advocate for combinations of social protection modalities for adolescents living with HIV to increase adherence to antiretroviral therapy.



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Social Protection and HIV in Eastern and Southern Africa - Research Implications for Policy 3 of 6: Combination Social Protection Reduces HIV-Risk in Adolescents

Social protection programmes that aim to reduce HIV risk behaviours often focus on unconditional cash transfer programmes. However, recent research suggests that providing a combination of financial/in-kind “cash”, psychosocial “care”, and school-based “classroom” social protection might be more effective for preventing HIV among adolescents. The brief outlines key findings from a prospective observational study with more than 3000 adolescents aged 10-to-18 years receiving 14 social protection interventions, examining: Which specific types of social protection interventions are effective in adolescent HIV-risk reduction? Are there cumulative prevention benefits from accessing combination social protection?

The brief highlights key messages from research published in 2016. The main findings were: (i) reducing HIV risk behaviours is key to reducing new HIV infections among adolescents; (ii) specific social protection provisions (cash, care, and classroom) could reduce new HIV infections among adolescents; and (iii) combinations of social protection interventions may have a cumulative effect in reducing new adolescent HIV infections.

The brief is being used by UNICEF and its partners, including the Coalition for Children affected by AIDS and the Eastern and Southern African Inter-Agency Task Team on Children and AIDS, to advocate for cash, care and classroom interventions to reduce HIV risk behaviours among adolescents.



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Social Protection and HIV in Eastern and Southern Africa - Research Implications for Policy 4 of 6: Social Protection Potential for Improving HIV Outcomes among Adolescents

High rates of HIV infection, morbidity and mortality persist, particularly in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA). Social protection is one potential way to improve HIV prevention and treatment outcomes in adolescents, by ameliorating the socio-economic deprivations that increase risk. This brief addresses the questions: What is the evidence that social protection reduces HIV prevalence rates and facilitates treatment adherence among adolescents in ESA? Are social protection programmes affordable in ESA?

The brief highlights key messages from research published in 2016. The main findings were: (i) social protection interventions play an important role in counteracting the barriers experienced by most vulnerable adolescents that stop them from accessing and adhering to HIV prevention and treatment programmes; (ii) evidence shows that combinations of different social protection measures are more effective in reducing new HIV infections in adolescents than any single measure; and (iii) the expansion of social protection programmes is financially feasible and scalable in a real-world African context.

The brief is being used by UNICEF and its partners, including the Coalition for Children Affected by AIDS and the Eastern and Southern African Inter-Agency Task Team on Children and AIDS, to advocate for the expansion of social protection programmes in Africa and the provision of combinations of different types of social protection measures to reduce HIV risk and increase adherence to treatment.



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Social Protection and HIV in Eastern and Southern Africa - Research Implications for Policy 5 of 6: Social Protection and the Sustainable Development Goals

Social protection programmes aiming to reduce HIV risk behaviours often focus on unconditional cash transfer programmes. However, recent research suggests that the provision of a combination of financial/in-kind “cash”, psychosocial “care”, and school-based “classroom” social protection might be more effective for HIV prevention among adolescents. The brief outlines key findings from a prospective observational study with >3000 adolescents aged 10-18 years in two urban and two rural health districts randomly selected in two South African provinces. Research questions included: is social protection (cash-only or care-only) associated with health-relevant targets of five Sustainable Development Goals among adolescent girls and boys living in low-resource settings? Do these associations differ by socio-demographic factors? Is cash-plus-care social protection associated with better SDG-related outcomes than cash-only or care-only?

The brief highlights key messages from research published in 2016. The main findings were: (i) social protection seems to positively impact multiple domains of adolescent health and wellbeing; and (ii) combination social protection may be an effective way to maximize health and wellbeing benefits for at-risk adolescents.

The brief is being used by UNICEF and its partners, including the Coalition for Children Affected by AIDs and the Eastern and Southern African Inter-Agency Task Team on Children and AIDS, to advocate for combination social protection as an effective way to maximize health and wellbeing benefits for at-risk adolescents.



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Social Protection Snapshots: Domestic Financing of Anti-Retroviral Drugs in Eastern and Southern Africa

Eastern and Southern African countries have some of the highest rates of HIV infection in the world, Swaziland, Botswana and Lesotho each have HIV prevalence of over 20 per cent. With 5.6 million people, South Africa is home to the most people living with HIV in the world. Anti-retroviral (ARV) drugs are at the forefront of efforts to assist HIV-affected individuals, but reliance on donor financing carries risks.

This review will examine the extent to which ARVs are funded by domestic resources, and the cost of ARV coverage as a proportion of national budgets. Findings will focus on trends in domestic financing for ARVs. This short reference document will provide a rapid review of evidence and an advocacy case for strengthening domestic financing of ARVs.



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Social Protection and HIV in Eastern and Southern Africa - Research Implications for Policy 6 of 6: Combination Social Protection Lowers Unprotected Sex in HIV-Positive Adolescents

The brief outlines key findings from the largest known community-traced sample of HIV-positive adolescents, which measured rates of unprotected sex at last sexual intercourse, socio-demographic characteristics, HIV-related factors and social protection measures. Research questions included: Which 'cash/cash-in-kind' and 'care' social protection interventions are associated with reduced unprotected sex among HIV-positive adolescents? Does combination social protection have cumulative effects on reduced unprotected sex?

The brief highlights key messages from research published in 2016. The main findings indicate that combination social protection has strong additive effects on reducing unprotected sex. Three social protection provisions were associated with less unprotected sex: (i) access to school (cash-in-kind); (ii) good parental supervision (care); and (iii) adolescent-sensitive clinic services (care). Adolescents receiving three types of social protection were likely to report the lowest rates of unprotected sex; these effects were even stronger for HIV-positive adolescent girls.

The brief is being used by UNICEF and its partners, including the Coalition for Children affected by AIDs and the Eastern and Southern African Inter-Agency Task Team on Children and AIDS, to advocate for combination social protection as a means to reduce unprotected sex among adolescents.

Social Protection Snapshots: Nutrition Linkages in Social Protection Programmes in Eastern and Southern Africa

Cash transfers, while an essential component of a comprehensive social assistance portfolio, may lead to better outcomes for children when linked with complementary services. In Eastern and Southern Africa, programming and research is testing new models and building evidence around improved nutritional outcomes for children through models that pair cash transfer programming with interventions to address the complex drivers of malnutrition.

This operational review will contribute to the evidence around nutrition-linked cash transfers by summarizing ongoing, UNICEF-supported interventions in five countries. It will focus on design features, cost and replicability, and include a discussion of available impact evidence. Findings will touch on design, impact and replicability of nutrition-linked social protection programmes. This short reference document, including one-page country case studies and a brief summary, will be used as a 'teaser' to review what is known and encourage interested governments and development partners to take a deeper look.



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Social Protection Snapshots: The Impact of Inflation on the Real Value of Cash Transfers in Eastern and Southern Africa

In recent years, countries in Eastern and Southern Africa have made substantial strides toward increasing the coverage of cash transfer programmes aimed at addressing poverty and vulnerability. However, inflationary pressures in many countries may undercut the real value, and hence impact, of these transfers.

This review will examine how inflation has impacted the value of transfers in the region, to provide evidence to policy makers and development partners and discuss the role of inflation indexation in addressing adequacy and benefit devaluation. Findings will focus on declining real values of transfers and potential policy options.

This short reference document, including one-page country case studies and a brief summary, will be used to provide a rapid review of evidence and advocacy case on addressing the impacts of inflation.



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Social Protection Systems in Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe and their HIV-inclusive Features Supporting Poor Children, Adolescents and Families

Structural factors such as poverty, gender inequality and lack of education increase HIV risk directly and indirectly. A growing evidence base suggests that social protection, particularly cash transfers, can help address the social and economic drivers of the AIDS epidemic, reduce HIV risk behaviour and break down barriers to accessing services.

This study documents the role of social protection systems in providing comprehensive support to children and adolescents affected by HIV in Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe, particularly highlighting lessons and innovations in how to strengthen HIV-sensitivity.

Findings include examples of how social protection can play a role in prevention and mitigation of HIV, how social protection can become more HIV-sensitive and how to efficiently link cash transfer beneficiaries to HIV-related services.

The publication provides concrete country examples of how to improve linkages between cash transfer programmes and access to HIV-services, and what lessons were learned in Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe.



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How to Make 'Cash-Plus' Work in Social Protection: Linking Services and Sectors

It is now widely recognized that cash transfers can have strong and positive impact; however the expanding evidence base also highlights that the provision of cash alone often fails to achieve long-term, secondary impacts in areas such as nutrition, learning outcomes and morbidity.

This study aims to: i) review the emerging evidence base assessing the impact of 'cash-plus' versus cash alone; ii) examine case studies in three countries – Ghana, Chile and Ethiopia; and iii) provide recommendations based on successful strategies and lessons learned.

The paper contributes to increased understanding of how social protection interventions can enhance inclusion by steering basic services towards the most excluded in a society. Improved understanding of successful strategies and lessons learned can help policymakers and implementers improve linkages and take steps towards integrated systems.



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Myth busting? Confronting Six Common Perceptions about Unconditional Cash Transfers as a Poverty Reduction Strategy in Africa

Despite the rise in cash transfer programmes in Africa, misinformation may play a role in influencing policy debates and the political environment enabling or restricting the adoption of such programmes.

Using eight rigorous evaluations conducted on large-scale government unconditional cash transfers in sub-Saharan Africa under the Transfer Project, the publication summarizes evidence on six perceptions associated with cash transfer programming. Specifically, UNICEF investigates if transfers: i) induce higher spending on alcohol or tobacco; ii) are fully consumed (rather than invested); iii) create dependency (reduce participation in productive activities); iv) increase fertility; v) lead to community-level price distortion and inflation; and vi) are fiscally unsustainable. Results present evidence refuting each of these claims.

These myths undercut potential improvements in wellbeing and livelihood strengthening among the poor brought about by cash transfers. The publication concludes by highlighting research gaps and policy implications.



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Climate Change and Energy Access

Burundi Project Lumière End-line Survey

In Burundi only 3 per cent of the population has access to the central electricity grid. As a result, a large majority of people are reliant on biomass fuels, such as wood, coal and kerosene, to meet their cooking and lighting needs. These dirty energy sources negatively impact several aspects of children's lives. In response, UNICEF Burundi has made energy a key focus of its innovation portfolio, with Project Lumière being the lead initiative. The project worked through local credit and savings associations to purchase a pedal-powered generator and LED lights to sell and recharge within the community as a source of revenue. Project Lumière was launched in September 2013 with 14 community groups in three provinces – Gitega, Bururi, and Makamba – and has since been scaled up to an additional 40 groups.

An end-line survey was conducted to document the use of pedal-powered generators and LED lights, assess the marginal gains of this project and establish its economic and social impact based on the baseline survey held in 2014. The survey will provide information on energy affordability for rural households and address the issue of energy access. It will also serve as a baseline for scaling up the project.



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Identifying the Risks, Understanding the Impacts, Defining the Response: Analysis of the Effects of Environmental Change on Children in Madagascar

Madagascar is at extremely high risk of humanitarian crises and disasters, but is ranked among the countries with the lowest coping capacity. Moreover, Madagascar has already lost 80 per cent of its natural areas - about 2 million acres since 2001 – to deforestation. The environmental impact has contributed to an increase in diseases, migration due to loss of livelihoods and lack of water and behavioural changes.

This study analyses existing reports and legal frameworks and how they affect the health and wellbeing of children in Madagascar. Based on a desk review, key interviews and case studies covering urban areas, the coastal region and the central highland region, the study identifies, categorizes and pinpoints the risks children face due to climate and anthropic environmental change in Madagascar. The study will propose clear recommendations that can be taken into account by UNICEF Madagascar in its programming and advocacy efforts.



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Emerging Global Challenges: Evidence from Uganda

Despite significant progress on children's rights, emerging global challenges such as climate-related hazards and unplanned urban growth threaten to undermine potential, destroy hope and trap millions of children in poverty.

This publication provides deepened understanding of the effects of climate change and urbanization on child welfare, as well as the interconnection between the two. Given that Uganda is at high risk of climate change and variability, it is important to quantify the potential impact of climate-related hazards on its children. In addition, the country is rapidly urbanizing, and little is known about the effects this has on child welfare. This analysis provides new evidence and clear, actionable policy recommendations to improve the wellbeing of children, particularly the most vulnerable and their families, while identifying opportunities to improve targeting efforts and invest in socially inclusive national programmes.



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Zimbabwe Child-friendly Climate Policy Booklet

Zimbabwe has developed a national climate policy to address the adverse impacts of climate change in the country. Children are among the groups most vulnerable to climate change; therefore the policy process consulted children and youth to capture their views and concerns.

To ensure that all children understand the policy, UNICEF developed a child-friendly version that uses simple English and illustrations to suit and attract children to read and become familiar with it. This booklet aims to make all children aware of climate change and start to think about ways to become resilient to its impacts. Climate change education is a key component of improving adaptive capacity; that is, the knowledge and skills needed to adapt lives and livelihoods to the ecological, social and economic realities of a changing climate.

The book will be used in schools as a resource or students and teachers, as it explains the climate policy landscape nationally and globally. Its simple language and illustrations will help improve the learning experience and foster better understanding among learners. Improved awareness and action on climate change by children will help to ensure that children are heard and that child-sensitive climate-related policies are considered by policy makers.



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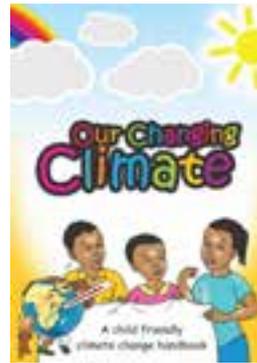
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Our Changing Climate: A Child-friendly Climate Change Handbook for Zimbabwe

The country undertook a review of the primary school curriculum, which presented an opportunity to introduce the topic of climate change, while addressing the knowledge gaps revealed by the UNICEF supported study on Children and Climate Change in Zimbabwe.

This handbook introduces children to the subject of climate change in an easy to understand manner, using simple language contextualized to local conditions, making learning relevant to children and concepts easy to understand and apply. The publication will be used by primary schools as a resource for environmental studies, and will also be distributed outside the formal education system to enhance knowledge of climate change among laypersons.



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Communication for Development

Baseline Survey and Impact Survey of Radio Messaging in Liberia

Since 2014, UNICEF Liberia has been broadcasting key messages on priority focus areas through community and national radio. While monitoring has taken place to ensure that the spots and programming are being broadcast, no qualitative or quantitative study of the impact of these materials has been undertaken.

This survey explores whether or not communities hear the UNICEF messaging and take action on the key messages. The findings also highlight what information people across Liberia require in relation to UNICEF's priority focus areas, assisting UNICEF to assess the effectiveness and impact of radio messaging and providing insight into required changes.



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Operational Research on Communication for Development for Girls' Education in Malawi

Malawi's national girls' education strategy, launched in 2014, outlines activities to be undertaken during a five-year period, in which the Ministry of Education is to provide technical guidance to stakeholders to promote girls' education. It defines five priority areas for primary and secondary education, two of which could be addressed through communication for development (C4D) interventions to contribute to programme results.

Malawi successfully implemented C4D activities to encourage girls' enrolment and retention in school. To further improve results from these activities, UNICEF Malawi will conduct operational research in three districts to produce results that will be useful to strengthening C4D programming on girls' education, defining remaining gaps and identifying best practices to share and scale up in Malawi.



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Study on Media and Children in Morocco

Reporting on children and youth presents particular challenges. Sometimes just writing about them can jeopardize their safety. UNICEF has developed principles to assist journalists in investigating children's issues. These principles should help the media to report on children while taking into account the sensitivity of the subject.

This study will analyse treatment of child rights in Morocco by different types of media with the aim of taking stock of the importance of each media channel in protecting and promoting children's rights. Findings will allow to: (i) clearly describe the situation of "children in media"; (ii) better understand the extent of penetration/influence of each category of media, both in general and with regard to particular categories of audience (families, rural, urban, children, adolescents, young people); and (iii) provide a specific analysis of media consumption by millennials (aged between 15 and 34) and middle class.

The results will guide UNICEF's interventions with the media during the new programme cycle (2017-2021), as part of efforts to achieve results through communication and public advocacy strategies (be the child's voice, reach more people and inspire and engage audiences).



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Evaluation of the Entertainment-Education Radio Intervention 'Ouro Negro' in Mozambique

UNICEF considers "entertainment-education" (E-E) as a key communication for development (C4D) strategy to move beyond a model that seeks mainly to raise awareness by aiming to change perceptions and social norms. In 2014 UNICEF partnered with Radio Mozambique, PCI Media Impact and the World Food Programme to produce and broadcast the first national long-running E-E drama, Ouro Negro (Black Gold), launched in July 2015. With 168 episodes to be aired on national television and 54 community radios, Ouro Negro aims to reach over 1.5 million people with compelling stories about nutrition, hygiene and sanitation; HIV prevention; maternal and child health; violence prevention and child marriage.

Drexel University and Intercampus-GFK were contracted to conduct an in-depth baseline study and impact evaluation of this large-scale E-E programme. The overarching questions addressed by the evaluation are: "Was the programme effective and what behavioural and social change can be attributed to "Ouro Negro?"



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Evaluation Report on UNICEF Communication for Development Program in São Tomé and Príncipe, 2012-2016

The objective of this communication for development (C4D) programme was to change behaviours by communicating knowledge about the use of basic social services to the most vulnerable people. The programme covered several different issues, such as exclusive breastfeeding, parental practices, hand-washing and sanitation at schools and the use of oral rehydration salts.

The evaluation assessed the effectiveness and efficiency of the C4D programme during the period 2012-2016. The findings show that the overall achievement of the C4D programs in São Tomé and Príncipe was satisfactory, reaching around 90 per cent effectiveness. The hand-washing sub-component was particularly effective, reaching 100 per cent, while the other five subprograms averaged above 92 per cent.

The evaluation will be useful to partners working in the communication sector or in other countries with similar characteristics.



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A Comparative Study of Effective Communication for Development Approaches for Promotion of Water Sanitation and Hygiene-Related Behaviours in Four Countries in Eastern and Southern Africa

Communication for development (C4D) is at the core of improving sanitation and hygiene, and certain C4D approaches can be linked to improvement in specific water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)-related behaviours. UNICEF and partners have continued to invest substantially in improved hygiene practices, especially hand-washing with soap (HWWS). Several campaigns promoting HWWS have been shown to significantly reduce the incidence of diarrhoea and acute lower respiratory infections, especially among children.

This study will review and compare data from four countries to determine which C4D approaches work best to promote handwashing. It will review the various C4D approaches used for WASH, especially HWWS, in Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Eritrea.

The findings are expected to reveal promising approaches with potential for replication elsewhere in Eastern and Southern Africa.



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Education and Early Childhood Development

Study on School Feeding Programme in Angola

School feeding programmes are effective instruments to support families in terms of food security and, when planned and implemented well, they can help to alleviate hunger and malnutrition, promote equitable access to quality education, limit school drop-out and failure and contribute to local development through increased income-generating activities.

Angola institutionalized a school feeding programme in 2006, which has been implemented in all Angolan provinces ever since. However, the economic crisis starting in 2015 seriously affected investment in the education sector and, in particular, the budget allocated to the school feeding programme, which was disrupted largely due to supply shortages.

This study aims to assess the effectiveness of the national school feeding programme, which is among the main social protection interventions led by the Government. The study is expected to provide recommendations for relaunching the programme in a more effective way.

Feasibility Study on Introduction of Information and Communication Technologies in Education in Benin

Like many developing countries, Benin is facing a constantly growing school-aged population. This study was initiated to explore the potential contribution of information and communication technologies (ICTs) to improving access to quality educational services, in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals related to education.

The study was designed to inform and guide the Government on use of ICTs in primary and secondary education by showing what has worked and what has not worked, including challenges and opportunities. The study will: (i) review and analyse different ongoing (or completed) pilot initiatives using ICT in education at the national and regional levels; (ii) propose different scenarios for the use of standard technology packages; and (iii) develop a costed plan with various scenarios of integration and use of ICTs in education, with recommendations to the Government

The results of this study will inform Benin's education sector analysis and financial simulation model, currently underway.



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Vulnerability Analysis of the Education System in Burundi

Burundi has experienced cyclical political violence for decades. Since April 2015 the country has plunged into a socio-economic crisis that threatens to void previously achieved results for children and women in the country, especially concerning education. This crisis affects the education sector and has a negative impact on students and teachers, infrastructure development and administrative capacity. As result, access to school, education quality and equity could be seriously affected.

This study aims to identify and analyse the different risks to which the education sector is exposed as a result of the multi-decade political crisis, as well as crises caused by floods, epidemics and food insecurity. The results will include a mapping of different risks and vulnerabilities, with related mitigation actions, and will inform the new Education Sector Plan and UNICEF's response to emergency situations.



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Study on Out-of-School Children in Central African Republic

Access to education in Central African Republic is undermined by structural problems, such as those linked to supply. For example, the number of schools is insufficient, with disparities in the distribution of schools across the country, and there are not enough qualified teachers, leading to demand for large numbers of community teachers. As a result, the educational system's performance is low and repetition rates are high. Many children are excluded from the system and others have never been to school.

In an environment where the enrolment of children in armed groups is a common practice and mining activities compete with school attendance, it is important to know the situation of children outside the school system. The results will help to design strategies for socioeconomic reintegration or school "catch-up" for those who are still eligible, and the national policy for vocational training of youth.



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Study on Out-of-School Children in Congo

(Etude sur les Enfants et les Adolescents en Dehors de L'école en République du Congo)

According to the multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS) carried out in Congo in 2014-2015, 3.4 per cent of children of primary school age and 13.6 per cent of adolescents of secondary school age are not in school. This situation needs to be further analysed, focusing on causes of exclusion of children and adolescents.

This study aims to provide the data necessary to overcome inequality in education by addressing issues of access, quality, efficiency and effectiveness of the education system. Findings will include strategic information on out-of-school children and identification of bottlenecks preventing children and adolescents to access school. The study will present options for addressing the situation and provide recommendations. It will be used in efforts to re-educate out-of-school children and to organize vocational training for out-of-school adolescents, with a view toward their socio-economic integration.



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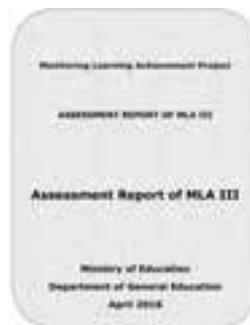
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Monitoring Learning Achievement: Eritrea Country Assessment Report

Despite progress toward expanding educational opportunities to ensure access to basic education for all, improvements in the nature and quality of education, especially for basic education, is a public concern in Eritrea.

The study sought to develop a viable and sustainable monitoring system to provide policy makers and front-line implementers with the necessary conceptual and analytical tools and indicators to monitor the quality of basic and secondary education programmes, in general, and learning achievement in particular.

The study tested achievements in three learning areas: mother tongue, English and mathematics. Results revealed a decline in performance at Grade 5, where only 25.4 per cent of students attained the minimum mastery level. As part of the commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 4, the findings of the study will serve as a resource for scrutinizing factors that promote or hinder learning, design realistic interventions and develop and implement tested practices to improve the quality of education in Eritrea.



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Study on Out-of-School Children in Eritrea

Despite the progress made in rehabilitating and expanding the education system in Eritrea, ongoing critical issues and concerns remain, such as: low pre-primary enrolment, regional disparities in enrolment, wide gender disparities, limited access for children with disabilities, nomadic communities and children living in hard-to-reach areas.

The study supports the Government's objective of reducing the number of out-of-school children nationwide by identifying their current distribution and the critical barriers to their inclusion.

The main findings were that: (i) nationally, an estimated 73 per cent and 19 per cent of pre-primary and primary school age children, respectively, are out of school; (ii) there are more out-of-school children at lower secondary level (91,000) than at primary level (65,000), suggesting supply-side constraints. This report will serve as a resource for policy makers and education planners by providing specific data on profiles of out-of-school children.



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Evaluation of the Alternative Basic Education Programme in Ethiopia

In the study "Alternative Routes to Basic Education" published in 2000, Ethiopia's Ministry of Education acknowledged that universal education cannot be reached only through formal education and concluded that alternative basic education (ABE) strategies need to be explored to extend access to quality education to all children for further learning and development.

This evaluation will assess the impact, effectiveness, efficiency, relevance and sustainability of UNICEF's support to the ABE system in the Afar, Somali and Oromia Regions. The findings will indicate whether or not the ABE programme is a cost-effective approach and modality for delivering education services to hard-to-reach and disadvantaged children, and will assess ABE's capacity to promote inclusion in Ethiopia. This will help to inform decision making and support the Ministry of Education and Regional Education Bureaus to consider universalization of basic education services through the ABE modality.



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End-line Evaluation: UNICEF Kenya's Implementation of Integrated Interventions under the Child-Friendly Schools Framework in Arid and Semi-Arid Counties

In 2013 UNICEF Kenya partnered the Ministry of Education and Science to launch a series of programme interventions to improve the quality of education and enrolment for out-of-school children in the country's arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL). The programme, which benefited about 66,000 children, consisted of four discrete school-based interventions: (i) water and sanitation (WASH) package, (ii) solar installation, (iii) training and capacity development and (iv) communication for development (C4D).

The evaluation was designed to determine programme impact, implementation challenges and beneficiaries perceptions of programme effectiveness.

The findings showed that enrolment increased by about 20 per cent at schools that implemented WASH the longest, compared to similar schools that never received the WASH intervention. Schools that received solar power and C4D exhibited 10.5 per cent higher enrolment than the control group. The Government will incorporate these findings into the ongoing education sector reform to improve the quality of education of children in arid regions.



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Review of Alternative Basic Education in Kenya

In 2009, the Government of Kenya developed a policy on alternative provision of basic education to address the educational needs of disadvantaged children and youth who, due to special circumstances, were unable to attend formal school. Kenya implemented the alternative education programme in Dadaab refugee camps and communities hosting pastoralists.

The purpose of this review was to: (i) assess the results of the intervention against the objectives and (ii) identify factors supporting or hindering the realization of results.

Results showed that alternative basic education is a relevant approach for meeting the education needs of marginalized and out-of-school children. The findings provide evidence for future programming in alternative education, especially among refugees and nomadic communities to improve learning outcomes.



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Study on Out-of-School Children in Liberia

This study was undertaken to update the situation of children in Liberia since the 2011 study of out-of-school children (OoSC).

The study: (i) identified the estimated number of out-of-school children aged 8-15 and where they are concentrated; (ii) identified factors reinforcing exclusion from education; (iii) assessed the extent to which previous recommendations from the 2011 study have been implemented; (iv) identified needs of OoSC regarding the type of programmes/curriculum they would like to follow.

The study also made recommendations for effective alternative education (AE) curricula and how AE programmes can be sustained by the Ministry of Education when European Union support comes to an end. This study will aid the Government of Liberia to formulate strategies and interventions to address the situation of out-of-school children, as well as helping donors to develop targeted interventions in the present context (including the post-Ebola situation), in order to formulate policies and strategies for a comprehensive alternative education framework for Liberia.



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Study on Observing Classroom Practices in Mauritania

(Etude sur L'observation des Pratiques de Classe en Mauritanie)

This study contributes to improving student achievement by strengthening the quality of teaching and dynamic classroom practices, especially for the most vulnerable groups.

Findings will include: (i) a diagnosis and concrete proposals for more effective pedagogical supervision, based on the reality of practices in the country; (ii) recommendations for practical and contextualized reinforcement of the capacities of the actors in charge of pedagogical and professional supervision of teachers (directors, inspectors) and initial and in-service training of teachers, with a view to improving quality; and (iii) a roadmap describing the next steps for implementation of the various recommendations.

The results of the study will form part of the II National Plan for Economic and Social Development - Axis 1, aimed at improving education in Mauritania, and will address weaknesses in education quality and their impact on access by and success of pupils.



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Community Mapping of Integrated Early Childhood Development Systems and Services in Namibia

Considering that children's overall wellbeing is dependent not only on their cognitive development, but also on their physical, social, and emotional wellbeing, UNICEF supports integrated early childhood development (IECD) service delivery, especially for the most vulnerable children, and aims to improve the standards of care and learning in existing early childhood development (ECD) centres throughout Namibia.

This community mapping study: (i) identifies existing Government and informal structures, referral and coordination mechanisms at the constituency level for effective and efficient service delivery of IECD; e.g. maternal and child health, infant and young child feeding, early stimulation and ECD, child protection and social welfare; (ii) identifies gaps and bottlenecks in access to services; and (iii) recommends key components for the package, service delivery mechanism and integration of IECD model in selected regions. This study supports UNICEF Namibia's advocacy in favour of expanding IECD services that meet the protection, health and nutrition and early stimulation needs of young children.



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Namibia Situation Analysis and Strategic Plan for the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture 2017-2021

Namibia has a long history of monitoring schools and the school system. By the early 1990s Namibia already had an advanced educational management information system (EMIS) in place. At present, the system provides nearly 100 per cent of information on primary and secondary schools in Namibia, including attendance, teacher and headmaster background, subjects and languages taught, among others.

To gain an in-depth understanding of the current challenges and successes in basic education attainment, data from the EMIS have to be analysed against other important datasets and the findings of other relevant studies. This will provide a better understanding of: (i) the social, humanitarian and demographic context in which education is taking place; (ii) the evolution of enrolment; (iii) school coverage including schooling profiles, school life expectancy and education pyramids; (iv) supply and demand issues related to access and retention; (v) internal efficiencies in basic education and out-of-school children; (vi) learning outcomes and performance; (vii) management of teachers and other resources, such as teaching and learning materials; and (viii) equity in enrolment and learning achievements.

The situation analysis will lead to the development of a comprehensive sector plan for the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture.



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Needs Assessment for Special Needs Students in Namibia

Efforts are being made in Namibia to strengthen inclusive education, but many children are still being excluded from school, including children with disabilities, children of secondary-school age (especially those in remote rural areas) and children from minority communities. Work is underway to collect and publish data on children with disabilities and those who are out of school, and identify the barriers that exclude children from accessing quality education.

The main purpose of this study is to conduct an extensive analysis of the needs and barriers that impede the full participation of children with disabilities in education and implementation of the sector policy on inclusive education in Namibia. Based on the findings and recommendations, the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture will implement the recommendations, to ensure that education becomes fully inclusive.



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Situation Analysis of Current Technology for Development in Education in Namibia

Namibia's Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (MoEAC), with technical and financial support from UNICEF Namibia, plans to develop, design and implement a pilot digital learning component of the social accountability and school governance (SASG) programme, as part of the Government's broader efforts to provide inclusive, quality education for all. Prior to embarking on the technical dimensions of the pilot programme, the MoEAC and UNICEF conducted a mapping and scoping exercise to inform and guide the work.

The exercise: (i) mapped all existing e-Learning and mobile learning initiatives, addressing the educational needs of Namibian learners in primary and secondary phases; (ii) mapped all information and communication technology (ICT)-related policies, infrastructure and usage issues and existing coordinating mechanisms deployed by the Government of Namibia pertaining to the integration of ICT in education in Namibia; (iii) distilled, analysed and defined substantive issues pertaining to meaningful deployment of a digital learning component; and (iv) recommended a set of evidence-based options for the design and development of the planned e-Learning/mobile application platforms against the backdrop of the strategic objectives of the SASG programme to ensure that they address potential gaps and pitfalls identified in the analysis.



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Telling the Story of Social Accountability and School Governance in Namibia

In an effort to assess and demonstrate the impact of the social accountability and school governance (SASG) programme, this report captures the voices of stakeholders at some participating schools. The stories illustrate how improved school accountability can stimulate parental involvement and citizen demand for school performance and education reform, focusing on the use of information as an instrument of change.

The theory of change of school management is that localizing decision-making will improve the financing and delivery of education services, as well as their quality. By giving a voice and decision-making power to local stakeholders who know more about the local education systems than central policy makers, school-based management can improve education outcomes and increase client satisfaction.

This study is not a formal evaluation of the pilot programme, but aims to provide a narrative of the day-to-day experiences of all those involved in the pilot programme. From these voices, it becomes clear that the optimal situation is to have a strengthened school board, including well-informed parents and community members, and a channel for communication with learners, either directly, in secondary schools, or indirectly, through a teacher, for primary schools.

Telling the Story: The Impact of Implementing Integrated Approaches to Early Childhood Development in Selected Centres in Namibia

To demonstrate and strengthen integrated service delivery through early childhood development (ECD) centres, UNICEF Namibia has been supporting six 'model' ECD centres across the country, providing them with the tools and skills required to offer community-based services for young children and their parents. These centres differed greatly in their location, infrastructure and resources. Throughout the modelling phase, centres were provided with specialists to address a wide range of issues; e.g., assessing and assisting learners with physical barriers to education, establishing nutrition programmes and accessing social grants. UNICEF also supported the provision of training to 'educarers' in speech and language development, development play, creative activities, perception and music. Further support was given to facilitate community sensitization workshops on the importance of ECD.

Outcomes from the supported centres have been very encouraging, and some of their stories are told in this booklet, which also highlights ongoing areas of need.



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Early Childhood Development and Family Programme: Impact Evaluation in 20 sites in Rwanda

Early childhood development (ECD) services are a key priority area for development in Rwanda. In 2014 UNICEF Rwanda commissioned a baseline evaluation of the ECD and Family programme implemented in 10 locations in Rwanda, and which models an integrated approach to ECD. The baseline evaluation provided pre-intervention indicators of child health and development outcomes to inform programming at selected ECD sites and to allow for future impact evaluations of programme effectiveness.

In 2016 an evaluation was conducted to evaluate the impact of the ECD programme, providing quantitative and qualitative evidence of impacts across a number of indicators, including children's health and development; access to water, sanitation and hygiene; nutrition; and protection.



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Study of School Drop-out and Repetition in Rwanda

Over the past two decades Rwanda has invested significant resources in improving the quality and coverage of primary and secondary education and implementing policies that aim to achieve universal and equitable access to 12 years of basic education for all Rwandan children. However, in 2013 and 2014 aggregate enrolment numbers for primary education stagnated for the first time, although they had been expected to increase. Drop-out rates also increased from 2013 to 2014, before declining again in 2015. Repetition rates rose rapidly and, finally, the rate of transition between primary and secondary school also declined in 2015. These changes signal that Rwanda's primary and secondary education systems might be at an inflection point.

The Ministry of Education, with support from UNICEF Rwanda, commissioned a study to generate evidence and improve understanding of the situation of dropout and repetition in Rwanda's national education system. The final study will support the Ministry and other stakeholders in the education sector by generating new insights into the causes of repetition and drop-out and proposing evidence-based policy options to increase retention and completion rates over time.



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Study on Out-of-School Children in São Tomé and Príncipe

Almost one third of the population of São Tomé and Príncipe is comprised of adolescents and youth aged 10 – 24 years (31.2 per cent). With a 2015 literacy rate of 83 per cent for the 15 – 24 age group and 21 per cent of secondary-age children out of school in 2009 (36 per cent from the lowest wealth quintile), it is important to better understand this phenomenon, to ensure the availability of educational opportunities for out-of-school children and young people.

The purpose of the study is to analyse the constraints that keep large numbers of children out of school in São Tomé and Príncipe. Survey data will be useful to partners working with and for out-of-school children, researchers and Government stakeholders.



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A National Assessment of the Situation of Out-of-School Children in Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone is emerging from an unprecedented outbreak of the devastating Ebola viral disease, which began in May 2014, claiming over 3,500 lives, increasing the number of orphans and compounding economic hardships. Recovery calls for measures to redress the situation of out-of-school children and gather up-to-date information required for the formulation of evidence-based strategies and response.

The study sought to determine the nature and magnitude of the problem of out-of-school children in Sierra Leone, as well as to examine factors contributing to the problem. The study found that an estimated 392,137 primary-aged and 172,932 secondary school-aged children are out of school, and singled out barriers to inclusion, such as cultural practices, inadequate school infrastructure and inadequately trained teachers. The findings will be critical for developing a national strategy and effective interventions for better targeting and addressing the issue of out-of-school children in Sierra Leone.



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Long-term Impacts and Cost of Ebola on Sierra Leone's Education Sector

The Ebola crisis disrupted the socio-economic environment of Sierra Leone at many different levels. The disease had detrimental effects at the micro-level (households and communities) and the macro-level alike. Children were not able to attend classes, due to the temporary closure of schools across the country. It is also estimated that about 14,000 teenagers became pregnant during this period, increasing stigmatization for girls.

This study quantifies the past and future cost of Ebola on children's education in Sierra Leone based on three different scenarios: high drop-out, medium drop-out and low drop-out. The high drop-out scenario had the strongest impact on the education sector, while the cost of the low drop-out scenario was the lowest, at 8.8 per cent of GDP, compared to 9.3 for the medium scenario and 9.8 per cent of the GDP for the high drop-out scenario.

The findings will be used to make an investment case and advocate for increased budgetary allocations for education and health for children in Sierra Leone.



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South Africa Early Grade Reading Study

The acquisition of reading skills is foundational to all subsequent learning, yet South African schools are seriously underperforming in this regard. The Progress in International Literacy and Reading Study of 2006 showed that a striking 80 per cent of South African children were not yet reading with comprehension after five years of schooling. The problem is particularly severe amongst poor children. While early interventions can be expected to have a stronger effect than interventions taken later in the school cycle, there is a dearth of evidence about which policies and programmes have proven to be effective in improving reading acquisition in the context of South African schools.

The primary purpose of this study is to test the impact of three different, and potentially scalable, interventions on reading outcomes in the early grades through a randomized control trial. The interventions are: (i) a teacher training course focused specifically on teaching reading, accompanied by lesson plans and graded readers; (ii) an ongoing support programme for teachers consisting of reading coaches, lesson plans and graded readers; and (iii) a package designed to improve parent involvement in – and monitoring of – learning to read. These alternative strategies to improve early grade reading are being evaluated in 50 schools each, while 80 schools were selected as a control (total of 230 schools) in North-West Province.

The publication will document the results of the study and draw policy recommendations for potential national roll-out. It will also offer useful lessons for the region and other middle-income country contexts.



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South Sudan 2016 Education Cluster Assessment

This education cluster assessment was undertaken to inform strategic level decision making on education programming.

The assessment: (i) provides key findings for in-country and external stakeholders to understand the situation, in order to inform proposals and advocacy documents to increase financing for the sector; (ii) prioritizes geographic areas according to needs and risks, and the most effective response for each area; (iii) provides recommendations on the most effective activities to resume education in a safe and sustained way, taking into account the possibility of linking humanitarian and development responses.

The findings included information on school functionality, school characteristics, enrolment, attendance and drop-out rates and teacher presence. This assessment represents a consolidated effort by the Ministry of General Education and Instruction, UNICEF, UN education cluster members and the Assessment Capacities Project to determine the impact of the most recent conflict, displacement and economic crises on children's education in South Sudan to help education programming.



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South Sudan 2016 Education Management Information System National Statistical Booklet

South Sudan's education management information system (EMIS) is managed by South Sudan's Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, which in turn is managed by the Data and Statistics Unit of the Directorate of Planning and Budgeting, and supported by UNICEF and development partners.

The booklet provides a detailed compilation of statistical information covering key indicators of South Sudan's education sector, from pre-primary to higher education. Findings show that: (i) only about 43 per cent of children old enough to go to primary school actually enrol; (ii) only 3 per cent of the children old enough to attend secondary school actually do so; (iii) promotion rates throughout primary and secondary schools are usually in the range of 65-75 per cent, with almost no variation between male and female students.

By providing systematic and quality knowledge to education stakeholders about the status of the education system as a whole and learning outcomes in the country, EMIS assists the Government of South Sudan to identify education needs and priorities and design appropriate interventions. EMIS also provides critical information to monitor performance against key indicators of the Education for All campaign and the Sustainable Development Goals.



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Rapid Assessment of Informal Early Childhood Development Centres in Manzini Region in Swaziland

Early childhood development (ECD) is of particular concern in Swaziland due to the high prevalence of HIV. Children faced with both poverty and the impact of HIV have a higher chance of being continuously disadvantaged in their lifetimes. Although the country has invested in free primary education, increased investment in children's first 1,000 days is required if Swaziland is to achieve Vision 2022.

This publication will assess the situation at informal day care centres supported in Manzini to determine the appropriateness of services being provided. Specifically, the assessment will: (i) examine which services are being provided; (ii) establish a baseline representing children's current developmental milestones, (iii) review cleanliness and child care practices at the centres, (iv) conduct parent interviews to assess their knowledge of good parenting and (v) prepare a database of child care centres in the area. The publication will be used as a baseline for programming on ECD in Matsapha, Swaziland and for resource mobilization, particularly among private companies that employ women, with the aim of engaging the private sector in promoting maternal and child care, especially breastfeeding and positive parenting.



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Study on Out-of-School Children in Swaziland

Swaziland's primary school net enrolment rate is 96 per cent, while net enrolment in secondary school is estimated at just 27 per cent. This disparity is a cause for concern and points to a need to determine where these children are and their reasons for not attending school.

This study aims to determine the magnitude of Swaziland's out-of-school children problem, to serve as a baseline for improving secondary school enrolment within the five-year Swaziland-UNICEF Country Programme.

The results will quantify the prevalence of out-of-school children in Swaziland, as well as exploring the factors hindering children from enrolling and attending secondary school. This will inform programming for improving transition rates from primary to secondary education, as well as to enhance adolescent learning.



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Measuring Early Learning Quality and Outcomes in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar

Very few countries have the tools or capacity to fully undertake a measurement of early childhood learning or programme quality at scale. Tanzania has been proposed as the first country to implement a national Measuring Early Learning and Quality Outcomes study. The project aims to improve early childhood education through better, more reliable measurement of children's development and learning and the quality of learning environments.

The study will provide a national snapshot of pre-primary quality and learning outcomes prior to entry to Standard I, for both Mainland and Zanzibar. It explores the question: how is the quality of pre-primary education associated with child school readiness outcomes at the end of the pre-primary year? Part of a global initiative, the study's results will inform policy makers on child development and learning and early learning environments in Tanzania, but will also provide findings that are globally comparable.



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Uganda Education Sector Policy Brief (1/17)

Examining the proficiency of primary school pupils in English literacy compared to total education spending per capita, it is evident that the Acholi sub-region performs quite poorly. However, the sub-region registered the most improvement over the past two financial years. Pader district in the Acholi sub-region is the best performer in this context, especially in comparison to the poor performance of Agago district – despite their geographical and socio-economic proximity.

This policy brief investigates the leadership in Pader and Agago districts, in order to reveal the factors driving their respective performance on the English literacy proficiency indicator. It reveals the district, sub-county and community level issues that affect literacy proficiency in primary schools, as well as the bottlenecks that need to be overcome to register improvement in literacy and numeracy proficiency. The brief's policy recommendations will be used by the Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development to realign national planning and budgeting efforts in support of the Government's quest for economic growth with equity.



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Equity in the Education System in Zambia – A Diagnostic Study

Despite strong advances in access to education in Zambia, almost 800,000 children are still out of school. Certain groups are at great risk of never entering school or dropping out, including children with special educational needs, children living in rural areas, the poorest children and girls, especially adolescent girls.

This diagnostic study explored the disparities with the strongest impact on children and their ability to effectively participate in the education system. The findings revealed that most disparities continue to be gender-based, with girls more disadvantaged than their male peers.

A trend analysis is expected to show little or no improvement in the situation. The study identifies areas where equity issues are predominant, and offers further information on the situation of gender-based inequities. A trend analysis will identify areas of good practice and on-going challenges, to support decision-making.

The study will inform development of the education sector strategic plan, as well as supporting a more equity-driven approach to sector plan strategies and budgetary allocations.



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Evaluation of the 'Learning at the Right Level' Pilot in Zambia

Despite an improvement in enrolment levels, learning outcomes at all stages of education in Zambia continue to be low. In an effort to address poor literacy and numeracy skills, the Ministry of General Education piloted a 'Teaching at The Right Level' programme for children from grades from three to five from November 2016 through August 2017. The programme groups children by their ability, regardless of their age or grade, and offers activities and instruction that supports their exact level.

This process evaluation will investigate the suitability and applicability of the 'Teaching at the Right Level' model to the Zambian context, including by investigating two different modalities of implementing the programme being used in schools. Results will highlight whether children that have been taught according to their needs and ability show an improvement in their literacy and numeracy skills as a result of the targeted teaching. Lessons learned from the evaluation will inform advocacy for the adoption of effective models of learning in schools.



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Teacher Management and Educational Performance in Zambia – A Diagnostic Study

Teacher availability and utilization poses a significant challenge within the Zambian education system. Staffing instability exists in rural areas, especially for subjects such as mathematics and science. This has an impact on learning outcomes, which have stagnated in Zambia in recent years. Regionally, Zambia ranks lowest in math achievement (SACMEQ). Studies suggest that proper management responses in schools and policies at the sub-national level could influence and contribute to optimising teacher availability and utilization. Currently, limited guidance on teacher management is available.

This diagnostic study augmented the information and evidence base regarding teacher management and utilization in Zambia, identified strategies currently in place in schools that lead to effective teacher management and made recommendations based on an analysis of policies in different schools. Results will be used to inform the development of the education sector strategic plan.



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Zambia Out-of-School Children – A Diagnostic Study

Zambia has made significant progress in terms of access to education. However, up to 800,000 children remain out of school. The Ministry of General Education wants to re-include these children in the education system and is seeking strategies to enhance the provision of alternative modes of education. However, up-to-date research on this topic is limited.

This diagnostic study contributes to the information and evidence base on out-of-school children in Zambia, updating estimates of the number of out-of-school children, investigating their profiles and examining different existing and draft policies and programmes for out-of-school children. The findings informed the development of the country's education sector strategic plan for 2017-2021.



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Briefs on Learning Assessments in Eastern and Southern Africa

Sustainable Development Goal 4 contributed to shifting the global education conversation from access to quality. In this context, countries are looking to improve their learning assessments to provide high quality data on learning outcomes, to improve the quality of education systems.

These learning assessment briefs will provide ideas for supporting countries to develop their learning assessments and ensuring that the data are used to improve teaching and learning. The briefs will provide: (i) information on defining learning assessments, (ii) guidance on how to develop learning assessments that can inform decisions to improve learning and (iii) ideas about how national governments can build capacity to improve their learning assessment systems.

The publication will be useful for global, regional and national advocacy and planning to advance learning assessments and improve the quality of education.



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Briefs on Out-of-School-Children in Eastern and Southern Africa

Worldwide, approximately 58 million children of primary school age and 63 million adolescents of lower secondary age are not in school. Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for 57 per cent of the primary school children who are out of school (UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2015).

The Global Out-of-School Children Initiative was launched in 2010 to reduce significantly the proportion of out-of-school children, including those of pre-primary, primary and lower secondary age not in school or at risk of dropping out.

The briefs on out-of-school children in Eastern and Southern Africa will use the most recent available data that meet minimum standards for reliability and robustness to report on indicators for the region's countries to assist in programming and interventions.

This publication will be useful for global, regional and national advocacy and programming to target resources to improve access and retention of out-of-school children to quality education.



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Situation of Early Childhood Development in Eastern and Southern Africa: An Initial Examination of Outcomes for Young Children

This analysis will review the status of early childhood development outcomes in Eastern and Southern Africa (both regionally and by country) using recent, comparable household survey data from multiple indicator cluster surveys and demographic and health surveys. Socio-economic and other background characteristics (household wealth, mother's education and age at birth, child living arrangements, etc.), as well as family care behaviours (responsive parenting activities, learning environment at home, inappropriate care and disciplinary practices, attendance in early childhood education) may be associated with the various domains (physical, cognitive, social-emotional) of early childhood development.

The research will explore those associations to identify which factors are more strongly and systematically associated with the performance of the different domains of early childhood development. The final report will discuss the findings' programmatic implications and recommend potential areas for further analysis.



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What Works for Girls' Education in Eastern and Southern Africa Briefs

Girls are more likely to be educationally disadvantaged; for example, more than half of the global number of out-of-school children (primary and lower secondary) are girls.

UNICEF aims to compile briefs on what works in advancing girls' education in Eastern and Southern Africa. Despite the fact that there is a wealth of information on girls' exclusion from education and the consequent impact on societies and economies, policy makers and planners continue to grapple with how to best tackle this challenge and get millions of the world's poorest girls into school and learning.

The briefs will identify key barriers and proven mitigation strategies on: (i) elimination of economic barriers; (ii) gender sensitive pedagogy; (iii) cross-sectoral efforts to improve girls' retention in education; (iv) alternative education pathways; (v) creating positive learning environments for girls; and (vi) addressing school related gender-based violence and provision of education in emergencies.

The "What Works for Girls Education?" briefs will provide guidance for effective programming and advocacy for Eastern and Southern Africa countries to improve enrolment and attendance, retention and progression through education.



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Early Learning Assessments of Children Entering Primary Education in Cameroon, Côte D'Ivoire and Niger

Since 2013 UNICEF WCARO has supported up to 10 countries to carry out early learning assessments for children entering primary education. Expanding access to early learning and school readiness opportunities remains critical in West and Central Africa. Evidence on the key determinants of quality, affordable and sustainable early learning services, for both the supply and demand sides, is needed to inform policy dialogue and education sector strategies.

The main purpose of this study is to provide evidence on the key factors impacting child outcomes at the time of entry in primary education. The findings will provide evidence on a variety of preschool modalities and their impact on school readiness, and assess the influence of several key factors (length of preschool, physical environment, teachers training, children and family characteristics) on children's early learning outcomes.

This publication is intended for use by policy makers, practitioners, international organizations and civil society groups involved in developing education policy and strategies.



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Integrating Information and Communication Technologies in Education in West and Central Africa

Information and communication technology (ICT) is revolutionizing all areas of life, including approaches to education. It has the potential to contribute substantially to improving the quality of education, which still poses a challenge in many countries in West and Central Africa.

The publication will improve knowledge management related to the use of ICTs in education in West and Central Africa and highlight best practices and major challenges.

Expected findings include the presence of many small-scale projects for using ICT in governance and teacher professional development across the region, but that sustainability is often an issue. The work will facilitate advocacy and inform programming. It can build towards targeted interventions in the use of ICT in education, and more specifically in continuous professional development for teachers, curriculum delivery and governance.



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Mapping of Life Skills Education in West and Central Africa

Across the globe more and more emphasis is being put on life skills as critical for empowering people to live a fulfilling and prosperous life and supporting resilient, peaceful societies. Life skills education can be seen as an indispensable part of quality education and child-friendly schooling, and needs to be incorporated into the entire education system.

This publication will improve knowledge management of life skills education in West and Central Africa and highlight best practices. Expected findings will reveal a wide variety of types of interventions, focus areas and resources allocated, as well as approaches used in life skills education across countries in the region. This work will facilitate advocacy and better inform programming. It can also lead to targeted interventions in curriculum development and professional development for teachers.



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Protective Learning Environment Study in Conflict Affected Countries in West and Central Africa

During 2017 UNICEF WCARO will conduct a regional study that will allow UNICEF and partners to view a baseline on the perception of safety in selected schools, against which it will be possible to measure changes following programmatic interventions.

Although preliminary data are available on the application of International Network for Education in Emergency Minimum Standard 2: 'Access to learning environment' and 'Protection and Wellbeing', community-based evidence is missing. The voices of children, parents and teachers on the reality of education in emergency operations should be part of the knowledge generated on protective environments.

This study aims to establish baseline analysis/findings from a sample of target groups attending schools and to explore and understand the risks, perceptions, safety issues in Lake Chad Basin, from the perspective of students, parents and teachers. The publication will inform UNICEF and partners on the use of ethical community-based research in education in emergencies.



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West and Central Africa Out-of-School Children Country Profiles

The West and Central Africa region still accounts for one-third of all out-of-school children (OOSC) enumerated worldwide. As part of the Out-of-School Children Initiative (OOSCI), in 2014 the regional office produced OOSC country profiles, based on former household surveys data, using innovative methodologies and indicators to produce country-specific information on school exclusion. The availability of more recent household surveys permits an update of these country profiles.

The profiles will provide updated estimates on the number of OOSC for each dimension proposed by the OOSCI methodology, and will propose characteristics of OOSC according to gender, location and household income for each country, and compare the OOSC situation in each country over time. These profiles will serve to inform policy dialogue and programming in relation to out-of-school children.



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Financing for Development: Public Finance for Children

Budget Allocation and Spending for Children in Angola: 2017 Budget Briefs

On the basis of the 2017 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation to and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promote budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analyse and monitor government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) inform advocacy, through key messages for policy and financing changes.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Angola.



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Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Botswana: 2017 Budget Briefs

On the basis of the 2017 state budget and other national budget documents, the budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors that are important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promote budget literacy within civil society and the public in general; (ii) analyse and monitor Government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) inform advocacy, through key messages for policy and financing changes.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Botswana.



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Analysis of Budget Allocations to Social Sectors for the Realization of the Rights of Children and Women in Burkina Faso from 2012 to 2016

(Analyse des Allocations Budgétaires aux Secteurs Sociaux Destinées à la Réalisation des Droits de L'enfant et de la Femme au Burkina Faso de 2012 à 2016)

UNICEF, in support to the Government of Burkina Faso and in partnership with other development actors, launched a public expenditure review to identify opportunities for efficient allocation of resources for the realization of children's and women's rights. This budget analysis is part of the process of assessing how the most vulnerable populations (especially women and children) can gain access to basic social services.

The purpose of this study is to strengthen the effectiveness of poverty reduction programmes by monitoring and evaluating the resource allocation and budget expenditure process for basic social sectors.

The results will contribute to better understanding of resources and expenditures in the social sectors and identifying advocacy options to improve fiscal space for social sectors.



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Political Economy and Fiscal Space Analyses in Botswana

Analysis of the political economy uncovers political and economic incentives underlying policy and decision-making throughout the budget cycle. This research will identify the main stakeholders and the incentives that drive them as they prepare the budget and prioritize allocations to key social sectors. Ultimately, this study will point to concrete entry points and strategies that will enable UNICEF to more effectively influence public financial processes for children.

Fiscal space analysis reviews the recent evolution of government spending on priority sectors for children and tests different ways to scale up current investment levels. Through a fiscal space accounting framework, it explores a wide menu of options to increase spending on priority sectors over the medium term, and then provides in-depth assessment of the most feasible approaches. The report will be accompanied by an Excel-based model, intended for use by UNICEF and the Ministry of Finance, which can be updated as new data become available and contribute to a review of additional financing options going forward.



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Analysis of Public Budgetary Revenues and Fiscal Potential for Children and Women in Burkina Faso

(Analyse des Recettes Budgétaires Publiques et du Potentiel Fiscal en Faveur de L'enfant et de la Femme au Burkina Faso)

Burkina Faso's fiscal performance is generally low compared to other Commonwealth countries. However, recent progress on domestic revenue collection indicates a potential to dramatically increase fiscal space.

This analysis assesses the profile of public revenues in Burkina Faso and explores opportunities for increasing fiscal space to increase spending on the most vulnerable populations. It will serve as a working tool for the Ministry of Economy and Finance for Development and its partners, to improve the level of government revenues in support of the education and health sectors.

This costing exercise helped to adjust domestic taxation policy and align the tax rate, currently at 14 per cent, with the 20 per cent benchmark of the ECOWAS economic community. The report was also used to develop the macroeconomic framework for the 2016 – 2020 National Development Plan.



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Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Burundi: 2017 Budget Briefs

On the basis of the 2017 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation to and expenditure on social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promote budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analyse and monitor government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) inform advocacy, through key messages for changes in policy and financing.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Burundi.



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Political Economy and Fiscal Space Analyses in Burundi

The political economy analysis uncovers political and economic incentives underlying policy and decision-making throughout the budget cycle. The research identifies the main stakeholders and the incentives that drive them as they prepare the budget and prioritize allocations to key social sectors. Ultimately, this study points to concrete entry points and strategies that will enable UNICEF to more effectively influence public financial processes for children.

The fiscal space analysis reviews the recent evolution of government spending on priority sectors for children and tests different ways to scale up current investment levels. Through a fiscal space accounting framework, it looks at a wide menu of options to increase spending on priority sectors over the medium term, and then provides an in-depth assessment of the most feasible approaches. The report is accompanied by an Excel-based model to enable UNICEF and the Ministry of Finance to update the analysis as new data become available and review additional financing options going forward.



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Public Expenditure Review in the Health Sector in Burundi

Burundi is experiencing macroeconomic and fiscal constraints related to the ongoing insecurity and political instability. Following a period of sustained economic growth between 2005 and 2014, there was a sharp downturn in 2015, which also affected government revenue. These contractions underscore the importance of assessing the extent to which the current crisis is impacting resource flows, fiscal management institutions and public service delivery in the health sector.

This public expenditure review will give an overview of recent fiscal policy developments and public finance trends with a special focus on revenue shocks. The review aims to identify potential mitigating strategies that could be employed by government and development partners to mitigate the impacts of the crisis and sustain services. It also seeks to identify possible pathways toward improved functionality of the public sector in preparation for the recovery phase. Finally, the results will support evidence-based advocacy toward donors who have withdrawn their financial support in the health sector.



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The Open Budget Survey in Burundi

The International Budget Partnership's (IBP) 'Open Budget Survey' is the world's only independent, comparable measure of budget transparency, participation and oversight. The latest survey was carried out in 2015 in 102 countries, and UNICEF is supporting its expansion during 2017. The survey is being led by IBP and looks at: (i) budget transparency, including the amount, level of detail and timeliness of budget information that the Government makes publicly available; (ii) budget participation, including the opportunities the Government provides to civil society and the general public to engage in decisions about how public resources are raised and spent; and (iii) budget oversight, addressing the capacity and authority of the Parliament and the Supreme Audit Institution to understand and influence how public resources are being raised and spent.

After the survey is carried out, validated by the Government and finalized by IBP, a report will summarize the main findings and also rank the Government according to the Open Budget Index to allow for comparisons with different countries and track progress over time. The findings are expected to create opportunities for UNICEF to support the Government in implementing key recommendations to improve the openness of its budget, including the generation of more detailed information on social sector spending. The report will also serve as a key resource for the Government and its development partners to adopt necessary public finance reforms and make the overall budget more transparent and responsive to key development challenges.



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Natural Resources and Inclusive Development in Central African Republic: Policy Advice for Creating Fiscal Space to Address Inequities Affecting Children

The Central African Republic is known to have rich subsoil, yet the contribution of this sector to the economy is very limited. The share of the mining sector in economic activity in 2010 was 1.9 per cent of the gross domestic product; 38 per cent of exports and in 2009 contributed an average of 2.4 per cent to Government revenues. This situation is linked to the fact that repetitive crises have permitted a large part of mineral production to escape state control due to joint action by armed groups and small-scale miners (the mining sector is more than 95 per cent artisanal).

The progressive restoration of state authority creates an opportunity to help the Government leverage its potential fiscal space to raise resources for social sectors and reduce inequalities and disparities, especially those affecting children.



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Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Comoros: 2017 Budget Briefs

On the basis of the 2017 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation to and expenditure for social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promote budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analyse and monitor Government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) inform advocacy, through key messages for changes in policy and financing. The budget briefs will also support the "Citizens' Initiative for Budget Transparency," a national movement started in 2016, during debates around public spending for children.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Comoros.



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Political Economy and Fiscal Space Analyses in Comoros

The political economy analysis uncovers political and economic incentives in policy and decision-making throughout the budget cycle. The research identifies the main stakeholders and the incentives that drive them as they prepare the budget and prioritize allocations to key social sectors. Ultimately, this study points to concrete entry points and strategies that will allow UNICEF to more effectively influence public financial processes for children.

The fiscal space analysis reviews the recent evolution of Government spending on priority sectors for children and tests different ways to scale up current investment levels. Through a fiscal space accounting framework, it looks at a wide menu of options to increase spending on priority sectors over the medium term, and then provides an in-depth assessment of the most feasible approaches. The report will be accompanied by an Excel-based model for use by UNICEF and the Ministry of Finance to update, as new data become available, and to review additional financing options going forward.



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The Open Budget Survey in Comoros

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After the survey is carried out, validated by Government and finalized by IBP, a report will summarize the main findings and rank the Government according to the Open Budget Index, to allow for comparisons with other countries and track progress over time. The findings are expected to create opportunities for UNICEF to support the Government to implement key recommendations to improve the openness of its budget, including generating better information on social sector spending. The report will also serve as a key resource for the Government and its development partners to adopt necessary public finance reforms and make the overall budget more transparent and responsive to key development challenges.



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Financing the Child-Centred Sustainable Development Goals in Ethiopia

Ethiopia made strong progress towards the achievement of child-centred Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). As Ethiopia embarks on the implementation of the Growth and Transformation Plan II and Agenda 2030, the important lessons learnt through the MDGs must be taken into account during the process of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This study aims to strengthen the capacity of the Government of Ethiopia to use domestic financing to achieve child-centred SDGs and improve its analytical capacity to produce public finance analysis on child-centred SDGs.

The findings will include an assessment of foreign assistance, the public finance landscape and fiscal space to finance the SDGs. The study will include recommendations on how public policies and domestic financing could effectively support the achievement of the SDGs with equity.



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Budget Allocation and Spending for Children in Kenya at National and County Levels: 2017 Budget Briefs

On the basis of the 2017 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation to and expenditure in social sectors important for children. In addition to the national analysis, briefs will also be prepared for 10 of the 47 high-priority counties in the country.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promote budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analyse and monitor Government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) inform advocacy, through key messages for changes in policy and financing.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Kenya.



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Political Economy and Fiscal Space Analyses in Kenya

The political economy analysis reveals political and economic incentives present in policy and decision-making throughout the budget cycle. The research identifies the main stakeholders and the incentives that drive them as they prepare the budget and prioritize allocations to key social sectors. Ultimately, this study points to concrete entry points and strategies that will permit UNICEF to more effectively influence public financial processes for children.

The fiscal space analysis reviews the recent evolution of Government spending on priority sectors for children and tests different ways to scale up current investment levels. Through a fiscal space accounting framework, it looks at a wide menu of options to increase spending on priority sectors over the medium term, and provides an in-depth assessment of the most feasible approaches. The report is accompanied by an Excel-based model, for use by UNICEF and the Ministry of Finance, to be updated as new data become available and to review additional financing options going forward.



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Public Expenditure Review for Health and WASH Sectors in Kenya

The public expenditure review assesses public spending trends, identifies challenges and opportunities and makes recommendations for improving public financial and expenditure management to maximise the achievement of health and WASH sector outputs and outcomes. The study focuses on the health and WASH sectors in 10 selected counties, providing insight into how funds are invested and the effectiveness of budget planning and distribution. It also reveals how expenditure has been allocated and delivered since devolution, along with a comprehensive analysis of the systems and frameworks that determine how public resources are managed, from start to finish. The recommendations are aimed at ensuring that health and WASH sector spending are better aligned with county and national priorities and more efficient and effective, in line with devolution, as well as at strengthening the broader public financial management system.



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Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Lesotho: 2017 Budget Briefs

On the basis of the 2017 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation to and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promote budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analyse and monitor Government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) inform advocacy, through key messages for changes in policy and financing.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Lesotho.



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Political Economy and Fiscal Space Analyses in Lesotho

The Government of Lesotho spends a significant part of the national budget on social sectors such as education, health and social protection. However, deprivation, disparities and inequalities are still grave concerns due to fiscal constraints resulting from the small size of the national economy. This has raised the question of whether the Government can create fiscal space for further expanding investments in social sectors programmes that contribute to long-term economic growth.

UNICEF has initiated an analysis to examine and evaluate the availability of financial resources within the Government budget to increase investment in social sectors and the overall fiscal space available in the economy. The analysis will provide policy makers with alternative sources of reliable information on financing opportunities to facilitate discussion on scaling up national investments in child-friendly sectors. The findings will be used for budget advocacy with the Ministry of Finance, line ministries and parliamentarians.



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The Open Budget Survey in Lesotho

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Scoping Study on Innovative Financing Approaches in WASH in Liberia

Despite gains in drinking water coverage, 31 per cent of the West and Central Africa region's population of 146 million still lack access to an improved drinking water source, and 346 million people have no access to improved sanitation; 120 million people continue to practice open defecation. A recent World Bank report on the costs of meeting the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) estimates the need for a capital investment of US\$11.3 billion, in addition to \$35.5 billion annually, to enable Sub-Saharan Africa to meet the basic and safely managed target. But at the country level, substantial gaps in understanding of the financing situation for WASH sector make it difficult to make sound, evidence-based planning and budgeting decisions.

This study will enable the development of a WASH sector financing profile for Liberia that will form the basis for creating awareness, building consensus, formulating policies and identifying and scoping opportunities for additional domestic resource mobilization for the WASH sector and achievement of relevant SDG goals.



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Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Madagascar: 2017 Budget Briefs

On the basis of the 2017 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promote budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analyse and monitor government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) inform advocacy, through key messages for changes to policy and financing.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Madagascar.



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Education Sector Investment Framework in Madagascar

(Madagascar: Cadre D'investissement dans le Secteur de L'éducation)

Despite making significant investments in education before 2009, Madagascar did not achieve Millennium Development Goal 2 on universal primary education. Despite the country's continuing weak education indicators, it is not a priority country for donor funding.

The purpose of this study is to produce an investment case to advocate for increased funding in the education sector, particularly among donors. Specifically, it will estimate the human and economic cost of underinvestment in education, to provide a set of educational interventions with two coverage scenarios, and estimate the social and economic return on investment for each scenario.

The results are expected to show that the economic cost of non-enrolment or incomplete schooling represent 6.5 and 33.3 per cent of GDP, respectively. Universalization of basic education would require an annual mobilization of US\$47 million, beyond current investments; while the cost for universal primary education would amount to US\$127 million.



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Political Economy and Fiscal Space Analyses in Madagascar

Analysis of the political economy uncovers political and economic incentives in policy and decision-making steps throughout the budget cycle. This research will identify the main stakeholders and the incentives that drive them as they prepare the budget and prioritize allocations to key social sectors. Ultimately, this study will point to concrete entry points and strategies that will enable UNICEF to more effectively influence public financial processes for children.

Fiscal space analysis reviews the recent evolution of government spending on priority sectors for children and tests different ways to scale up current investment levels. Through a fiscal space accounting framework, it explores a wide menu of options to increase spending on priority sectors over the medium term, and then provides in-depth assessment of the most feasible approaches. The report will be accompanied by an Excel-based model, intended for use by UNICEF and the Ministry of Finance, which can be updated as new data become available and contribute to a review of additional financing options going forward.



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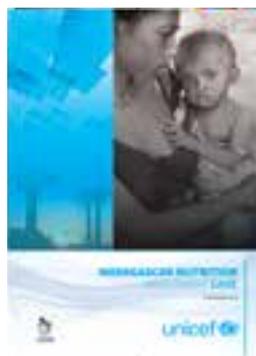
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Madagascar Nutrition Investment Case

Malnutrition poses a major barrier to the development of Madagascar's human capital, and consequently to its economic growth.

This study provides a concrete, specific framework for profitability analysis of investment in public nutrition services. Results show that malnutrition causes more than US\$740 million in losses to the national economy. In response, an essential nutrition portfolio could reduce this burden by more than one-third over the next five years, with implementation costs of US\$397 million. In terms of impact, the estimated benefit approaches US\$2 billion over a 10-year-period.

The findings provide the Government of Madagascar and donors with new incentives for investing in a national programme to improve the nutrition of the Malagasy population.



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Studies on the Integration of Madagascar in the International Classification According to the Open Budget Index

An 'open budget index' situation analysis raises the possibility of classifying Madagascar among 119 countries in the world with respect to budget transparency, accountability and oversight. The analysis includes verifying: the availability of budgetary information, the completeness of the draft budget, the comprehensiveness of other budget documents and the effectiveness of oversight institutions in the budget process. This is accomplished through surveys among the various budgetary actors, in particular those responsible for planning, budgeting, execution and monitoring.

This study, led by the International Budget Partnership, receives support from UNICEF and was developed with the collaboration of a Malagasy civil society organization: the Multi-Sector Information Service, a Support for the network of Citizens (MSIS). Budget transparency is key to allowing citizens to see the translation of state promises to ensure their wellbeing and overall national development, especially concerning social sector allocations. The result of the study will be an international ranking document that will be shared with Madagascar's technical and financial partners and other development organizations.



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Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Malawi: 2017 Budget Briefs

On the basis of the 2017 state budget and other national budget documents, the budget briefs provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promote budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analyse and monitor government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) inform advocacy, through key messages for changes in policy and financing.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Malawi.



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Political Economy and Fiscal Space Analyses in Malawi

Until recently, both the theory and practice of public finance for children (PF4C) have tended to be technocratic, issue-based and sectionalized, ignoring variables related to the political economy. Very peripheral attention has been given to the revenue side and to understanding the political economy of public finance and budgeting. The relevance of a political economy approach to PF4C lies in understanding that the process of mobilizing and allocating national resources is not merely technical and administrative, it is also intrinsically political. Public revenue mobilization and public spending on a given issue is influenced by complex and intertwined political and economic forces and interests, which interact within the often messy sphere of public finance management.

This publication seeks to critically examine how a range of political economy variables have affected public revenue mobilization – and consequently the fiscal space available for increasing public spending on social sectors – by the Government of Malawi. The evidence generated will inform budget advocacy by UNICEF and its partners' for increased and improved spending on children. It will also be used by the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development as a basis for engagement with donors and the Parliament. The report will generate findings that will help UNICEF to assess and craft its advocacy strategies.



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Public Expenditure Review: Analysis of Social Protection Programmes in Mali

In 2016 Mali adopted a national social protection policy document that provides a framework for social protection programmes. Public expenditure reviews (PERs) for the education and health sectors were carried out recently, but a similar analysis for the social protection sector is missing.

The purpose of the PER of social protection programmes is to identify opportunities to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of social safety-net spending. This review is important because social protection is critical to increasing resilience, hence the need for increased allocations to social protection. The study will identify efficiency savings opportunities in the social protection sector and will be used by the Government of Mali and its partners to identify and correct inefficiencies and inequities in spending.



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Budget Allocation and Spending for Children in Mozambique: 2017 Budget Briefs

Since 2007 UNICEF Mozambique has been producing budget briefs (short, reader-friendly analyses of the State Budget Law), which have been used as an important information and advocacy tool. For the 2017 fiscal year, UNICEF produced a set of five budget briefs, covering health, education, water and sanitation, social action and justice for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promote budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analyse and monitor Government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) inform advocacy, through key messages on changes to policy and financing.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Mozambique.



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Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Namibia: 2017 Budget Briefs

On the basis of the 2017 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promote budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analyse and monitor government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) inform advocacy, through key messages on changes in policy and financing.

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Political Economy and Fiscal Space Analyses in Namibia

Political economy analysis reveals the political and economic incentives involved in policy and decision-making throughout the budget cycle. The research identifies the main stakeholders and the incentives that drive them as they prepare the budget and prioritize allocations to key social sectors. Ultimately, this study will point to concrete entry points and strategies to enable UNICEF to more effectively influence public financial processes for children.

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Public Expenditure Review in the Education Sector in Namibia

The purpose of this public expenditure review (PER) is to assess the efficiency of public spending and resource allocation in the education sector. Trends and issues analysed include: education financing, education costs, efficiency of allocation, productive efficiency, internal and external efficiency, equity, quality and effectiveness.

The PER also compares the sector strategy to past and current education expenditure and further unpacks major changes since the previous PER was carried out in 2011. Ultimately, the review will serve to inform and advise policy decisions on making better use of financial resources to invest in "Education for All", without jeopardizing fiscal sustainability.



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Investment Case for Nutrition in Senegal

This investment case is based on a synthesis of eight analytical documents that explore various aspects of nutrition in Senegal, including the evolution and political economy of nutrition policy, nutrition financing and the cost of scaling up nutrition interventions, capacity and gap assessment of the nutrition sector, the nutrition situation in Senegal, risks for scaling up nutrition, and an independent review of a decade of World Bank support for improved nutrition.

Based on this series of analytical studies, the objective of this investment case is to outline future directions for Senegal, in alignment with the country's new multi-sectoral nutrition strategy (plan stratégique multisectoriel de la nutrition) and national nutrition policy (document de politique nationale de développement de la nutrition), while stimulating the mobilization of resources for scaled-up implementation of cost-effective interventions across sectors in Senegal.



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Analysis of Public Spending in Social Sectors in Senegal in 2014-2015

The report analyses public expenditure in social sectors during 2014-2015. It will include chapters on the macroeconomic and social context, budgetary frameworks and public expenditure planning and the traceability of spending in health and education. The analysis distinguishes between different economic categories of spending and assesses the overall management of public expenditures, from planning to allocation and execution.

The analysis will help to improve the formulation of public budgets and a more rational and transparent allocation of public expenditure. The review is also expected to better inform monitoring of the execution of public finance laws.



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Political Economy and Fiscal Space Analyses in Somalia

Analysis of the political economy uncovers political and economic incentives in policy and decision-making steps throughout the budget cycle. This research will identify the main stakeholders and the incentives that drive them as they prepare the budget and prioritize allocations to key social sectors. Ultimately, this study will point to concrete entry points and strategies that will enable UNICEF to more effectively influence public financial processes for children.

Fiscal space analysis reviews the recent evolution of government spending on priority sectors for children and tests different ways to scale up current investment levels. Through a fiscal space accounting framework, it explores a wide menu of options to increase spending on priority sectors over the medium term, and then provides in-depth assessment of the most feasible approaches. The report will be accompanied by an Excel-based model, intended for use by UNICEF and the Ministry of Finance, which can be updated as new data become available and contribute to a review of additional financing options going forward.



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The Open Budget Survey in Somalia

The International Budget Partnership's (IBP) 'Open Budget Survey' is the world's only independent, comparable measure of budget transparency, participation and oversight. The latest survey was carried out in 2015 in 102 countries, and UNICEF is supporting its expansion during 2017. The survey is being led by IBP and looks at: (i) budget transparency, including the amount, level of detail and timeliness of budget information that the Government makes publicly available; (ii) budget participation, including the opportunities the Government provides to civil society and the general public to engage in decisions about how public resources are raised and spent; and (iii) budget oversight, addressing the capacity and authority of the Parliament and the Supreme Audit Institution to understand and influence how public resources are being raised and spent.

After the survey is carried out, validated by Government and finalized by IBP, a report will summarize the main findings and rank the Government according to the Open Budget Index, to allow for comparisons with other countries and track progress over time. The findings are expected to create opportunities for UNICEF to support the Government to implement key recommendations to improve the openness of its budget, including generating better information on social sector spending. The report will also serve as a key resource for the Government and its development partners to adopt necessary public finance reforms and make the overall budget more transparent and responsive to key development challenges.



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Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in South Africa: 2017 Budget Briefs

On the basis of the 2017 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promote budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analyse and monitor Government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) inform advocacy, through key messages on changes in policy and financing.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in South Africa.



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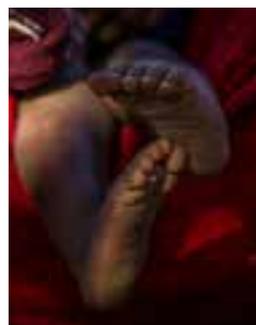
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Political Economy and Fiscal Space Analyses in South Africa

The political economy analysis uncovers political and economic incentives underlying policy and decision-making throughout the budget cycle. The research identifies the main stakeholders and the incentives that drive them as they prepare the budget and prioritize allocations to key social sectors. Ultimately, this study points to concrete entry points and strategies that will enable UNICEF to more effectively influence public financial processes for children.

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The Open Budget Survey in South Sudan

The International Budget Partnership's (IBP) 'Open Budget Survey' is the world's only independent, comparable measure of budget transparency, participation and oversight. The latest survey was carried out in 2015 in 102 countries, and UNICEF is supporting its expansion during 2017. The survey is being led by IBP and looks at: (i) budget transparency, including the amount, level of detail and timeliness of budget information that the Government makes publicly available; (ii) budget participation, including the opportunities the Government provides to civil society and the general public to engage in decisions about how public resources are raised and spent; and (iii) budget oversight, addressing the capacity and authority of the Parliament and the Supreme Audit Institution to understand and influence how public resources are being raised and spent.

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Understanding Public Financing for Children in South Sudan

Building on notes prepared on allocation of public finance for children for the last two national budgets, in 2017 UNICEF South Sudan will produce more profound analyses of resource allocation by the Government, aid agencies and communities themselves that aim to benefit children. In addition to an assessment of the national budget's support for the realization of children's rights, a holistic review of the budget process will be conducted. It will first look at how needs are assessed and prioritised (and the extent to which this is done in a decentralised or participatory manner), how these priorities are transformed into action plans, how they are costed and how the budget is then formulated and approved, taking into account competing priorities. The study will then investigate how funds are secured to finance the budget. Lastly, it will look at the mechanisms by which planned actions actually receive (or do not receive) funds for implementation.



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Cost and Financing of General Education in Sudan 2012-2015

The education sector in Sudan suffers from several structural impediments, including low enrolment rates, geographical and gender disparities, high numbers of dropouts, high out-of-pocket expenses for families, inadequate school facilities and poor quality of services.

This study will serve to enhance evidence-based policy advocacy on public financing of Sudan's education sector. It provides sound evidence for better understanding of the financial challenges faced by the education system to develop adequate strategies and leverage partnerships and resources to support the education sector. The Ministry of General Education, with support from UNICEF and the World Bank, has started the planning process for the development of the education sector strategic plan 2017-2021 to address these constraints. The strategic plan aims to strengthen the Sudanese education system, secure access to free basic education and achieve the Education for All targets. This study represents a major contribution to the strategy, since it will include a costing of the five-year education sector strategic plan.



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Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Swaziland: 2017 Budget Briefs

On the basis of the 2017 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promote budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analyse and monitor Government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) inform advocacy, through key messages on changes to policy and financing.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Swaziland.



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The Open Budget Survey in Swaziland

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Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Tanzania: 2017 Budget Briefs

On the basis of the 2017 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promote budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analyse and monitor Government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) inform advocacy, through key messages on changes in policy and financing.

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Political Economy and Fiscal Space Analyses in Tanzania

The political economy analysis uncovers political and economic incentives underlying policy and decision-making steps throughout the budget cycle. The research identifies the main stakeholders and the incentives that drive them as they prepare the budget and prioritize allocations to key social sectors. Ultimately, this study points to concrete entry points and strategies to enable UNICEF to more effectively influence public financial processes for children.

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Public Expenditure Review of the Nutrition Sector in Tanzania

Tanzania has achieved significant milestones in public financial management reform since the mid-1990s, as well as achievements in improved nutrition. The prevalence of stunting declined from 42 percent in 2010 to 34 percent in 2015. However, nutrition activities are poorly funded at a decentralized level. Key challenges remain, contributing to inefficiencies reflected in weak budget control and low mobilization of resources.

The public expenditure review for nutrition is expected to support advocacy efforts in Tanzania to mobilize resources for implementation of the 2016-2021 national multi-sectoral nutrition action plan. The study will assess public expenditure on nutrition, both development and recurrent, for the fiscal years 2013/14 through to 2015/16, in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. The publication is expected to highlight the extent to which public spending achieved the targets set forth in the recently completed national nutrition strategy (2011-2016). Findings will inform decisions about future spending, to enable successful implementation of the 2016-2021 national multi-sectoral nutrition action plan.



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Budget Allocation and Spending for Children in Uganda: 2017 Budget Briefs

On the basis of the 2017 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promote budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analyse and monitor government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) inform advocacy, through key messages on changes in policy and financing

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Uganda.



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National Social Service Delivery Equity Atlas 2015/2016 in Uganda

Uganda's National Service Delivery Equity Atlas represents a bold effort to improve expenditure efficiency and effectiveness by systematically linking public resources to outcomes, service delivery and results. In this respect, the Atlas provides a significant contribution to reshaping the future of equity-based financing in Uganda.

Results will assess the correlation between local government releases and sector outcomes for the education, water and sanitation and health sectors. The publication will offer strategic insight into realigning national planning and budgeting efforts, in support of Government's quest to achieve economic growth with equity, and the removal of barriers and bottlenecks hampering the effective delivery of national programmes affecting children and the population as a whole.



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Political Economy and Fiscal Space Analyses in Uganda

Analysis of the political economy uncovers political and economic incentives underlying policy and decision-making throughout the budget cycle. This research will identify the main stakeholders and the incentives that drive them as they prepare the budget and prioritize allocations to key social sectors. Ultimately, this study will point to concrete entry points and strategies that will enable UNICEF to more effectively influence public financial processes for children.

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Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Zambia: 2018 Budget Briefs

On the basis of the 2017 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs will provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promote budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analyse and monitor government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) inform advocacy, through key messages for changes in policy and financing.

Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Zambia.



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Political Economy and Fiscal Space Analyses in Zambia

Analysis of the political economy uncovers political and economic incentives underlying policy and decision-making throughout the budget cycle. This research identifies the main stakeholders and the incentives that drive them as they prepare the budget and prioritize allocations to key social sectors. Ultimately, the study points to concrete entry points and strategies that will enable UNICEF to more effectively influence public financial processes for children.

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Assessment of Official Development Assistance Flows for Investments in Children in Zimbabwe

Official development assistance is an important source of financing for poverty reduction and investment in child wellbeing, particularly in resource-constrained countries such as Zimbabwe. However, global aid flows have been declining due to economic challenges in donor countries, resulting in resources being increasingly directed towards the poorest countries. Thus it is important to keep track of recent trends, sources and sectors benefiting from current aid flows.

This paper seeks to provide evidence to inform the design of effective resource mobilization strategies aimed at sustaining investments for improved socio-economic outcomes that benefit children. Aid flows to Zimbabwe are expected to decline, in line with global trends, thereby affecting the availability of resources for child-related sectors, which depend heavily on donor support. This scenario imposes significant risk to outcomes for children. The study will inform resource mobilization efforts by UNICEF and the Government and suggest strategies for expanding fiscal space beyond aid flows.



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Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Zimbabwe: 2017 Budget Briefs

On the basis of the 2017 state budget and other national budget documents, these budget briefs provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children.

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Budget briefs are strong information and advocacy products that can be used by civil society, line ministries, parliamentarians, the donor community and all who work for more equitable development in the country. The briefs will support advocacy for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Zimbabwe.



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Financing Development for Children in Africa: The State of Budget Transparency and Accountability in the Continent

This study builds on the findings of the 2015 Open Budget Survey, which captured information on 31 African countries, to better understand the environment for budget transparency and accountability and what this means for investing in children.

The study: summarizes the general strengths and weaknesses in government budget systems in African countries and identifies key recommendations for increasing investments in children through government budget systems. The report will serve as an entry point for dialogue about the need to invest in children, as well as provide advocacy opportunities to promote effective mobilization and use of domestic resources for children, particularly in the context of follow-up to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and financing achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.



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Nutrition Budget Tracking: Consensual Approach from West Africa

Tracking financial resources is an important way to promote transparency and the findings can be used for advocacy purposes. However, tracking nutrition expenditures is not straightforward, especially due to its cross-sectoral nature.

This initiative aims to bringing together all those who have worked or have been involved in attempts to find solutions to the limitations identified in the three-step SUN approach, and suggest different ways to track nutrition financing. At the end of the consultation, concerns such as cross-sectoriality, scope of the analysis, budget line categorization, weighting, double counting, etc. will be addressed, and the groundwork will be laid for a common, consensual and user-friendly methodology across all countries in the West Africa region.

The findings will serve as an advocacy tool for tracking nutrition financing and prompting a worldwide accepted methodology.



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The Macroeconomic Outlook for Eastern and Southern Africa: What it Means for Children and UNICEF Programming

This report will provide a macroeconomic overview of Eastern and Southern Africa with a child lens, paying specific attention to recent trends and projections (where available) of the population structure, economic growth, government expenditure (total, education, health and military), government income (revenue, financing and official development assistance), debt stocks, inflation and the labour market (adult and youth employment).

The report has three objectives: (i) present recent trends/projections for major indicators, including social spending trends and their relationship to key performance indicators; (ii) highlight potential risks for poor families and children; and (iii) identify future UNICEF actions.

Results will serve as a baseline resource for all UNICEF country offices in the region and as a template for more comprehensive country level analysis and reporting. The study will also enhance awareness of key macroeconomic issues that many staff may not be aware of and encourage concrete actions.



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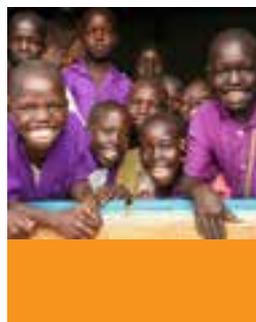
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The State of Education Budgets in Eastern and Southern Africa

This study aims to fill a critical void of evidence on education budgets in the Eastern and Southern Africa region. It will do so by producing the first-ever publication covering the entire spectrum of education budget issues in a single document. In addition to looking at all levels of education – from early learning to tertiary – the study also includes the overarching sector context, government spending, donor spending, private spending, the quality and equity of spending, spending and results, the financial gap and financing options.

The regional focus on Eastern and Southern Africa will also be the first of its kind, and aims to inspire similar exercises in other regions. The report will be accompanied by country profiles on education to support the monitoring of progress and challenges facing individual education systems, beyond financing issues.



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HIV/AIDS

Rapid Assessment for Adolescent HIV Programming to Strengthen the National HIV Programs in Liberia

Young people aged 15-to-24 in Liberia make up more than one-third of the country's population. This group, which will determine the nation's future, faces many challenges — including poor sexual and reproductive health outcomes, such as HIV infections, unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections. The Liberian government has prioritized helping young Liberians stay HIV-free through the National HIV and AIDS Strategic Plan. To invest those resources most effectively, understanding the behaviours that put adolescents and young people at risk has become a priority.

This study identifies gaps in the current national HIV response in relation to adolescents and HIV through a desk review, key informant interviews and data collation, to provide recommendations for programming on adolescents and HIV.

The findings cover: (i) gaps and barriers for effective coverage of priority programme interventions in priority locations; (ii) barriers and disparities limiting the provision and utilization of quality care by adolescents infected or affected by HIV; and (iii) interventions to inform and empower girls, in combination with interventions to influence family and community norms, to delay the age of marriage among girls.

The results will support the development of a roadmap for accelerating and improving the quality of the national response to HIV among adolescents.



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'ALL IN' to End Adolescent AIDS in Mozambique – Phase 2: In-depth Analysis at Subnational Level

In Mozambique, adolescents and young people are the population group with the highest rates of HIV infection in the country. Mozambique is one of 18 countries in sub-Saharan Africa to adopt the ALL IN platform to accelerate results for adolescents. Following ALL IN Phase 1 (a rapid country assessment), the second phase of ALL IN involves an in-depth analysis of programmatic bottlenecks and gaps that limit the impact of priority interventions for adolescents. The study will also look at existing social norms as potential determinants of risk of HIV infection among adolescents. The results of this research are intended to further orient policy and programming at both the national and sub-national levels to accelerate results for adolescents.



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Supporting the Understanding of Tools to Improve Social Mobilization, Access and Coverage of Adolescents for HIV Prevention including Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis in South Africa

South Africa has a high HIV burden among adolescent and youth, estimated at 7.1 per cent among 15-to-24-year-olds, with approximately 350,000 adolescents aged 15–19 years living with HIV. Adolescent services must be integrated within existing programmes, leveraging HIV, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted infections services provided at health facilities. Scaling up available technology to build avenues of communication and social mobilization to reach all adolescents with a package of core services should be a priority.

UNICEF South Africa supported a Ministry of Health mapping exercise to understand existing digital platforms that provide HIV and sexual and reproductive health-related information to young people. An adolescent HIV data repository was developed to ensure that data is accessible, in a usable format, for use by implementing partners and the Department of Health. The capacity of Government partners and service providers was strengthened in the areas of utilizing programme tools and data to drive evidence-based programme decision making and improving the quality of services for youth, adolescents and children.

This publication will provide information on the importance of ensuring that data collection and reporting tools for adolescents and youth are correctly disaggregated by age and sex, so that targeted programme quality improvements can be implemented and monitored over time.



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Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission Impact Study and Assessing HIV-free Survival post-18 Months of Age in South Africa: Understanding Coverage, Adherence and Long-term Outcomes

Over the last decade South Africa made significant progress toward reducing the number of babies infected with HIV through mother-to-child transmission (MTCT). Infection rates for babies six weeks old declined from 8 per cent in 2008 to 2.6 per cent in 2012-2013. The country is now working towards reaching the 'last mile' in elimination of new HIV infections in children. The Medical Research Council-led 'Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission' (PMTCT) impact study provided critical information on the challenges and gaps in the PMTCT cascade during 2010, 2011 and 2012. Analysis of the data raised concerns by highlighting that MTCT transmission by adolescent mothers (women under the age of 20 years) contributed significantly more to new infant HIV infections than any other age group.

This study will describe the characteristics of HIV-positive adolescents and measure survival outcomes among HIV-exposed and unexposed children enrolled in the 2012 PMTCT evaluation at the age of 2.5-3 years. The publication will contribute to expanding the evidence base of national and international PMTCT programmes. Further analysis of adolescent pregnancies amongst HIV-positive women will provide critical information for the last mile plan to eliminate MTCT.



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Namibia Adolescents Living with HIV Teen Clubs Evaluation

While teen clubs for adolescents living with HIV have been established in 10 regions of Namibia, the programme has not yet been institutionalised. Funding currently depends on development partners and non-governmental organizations, which makes sustaining of results a challenge. With external HIV resources declining in Namibia, there is a need to justify the significant investments in Adolescents Living with HIV Teen Clubs, and to institutionalise its implementation in alignment with the country's 2012 National Guidelines on Adolescents Living with HIV and the 2016 Antiretroviral Guidelines. The findings and recommendations of the evaluation will be used to develop new technical guidance and to institutionalise the Teen Clubs. This is a formative evaluation: the specific recommendations will be used to design, plan and enhance implementation of Adolescents Living with HIV Teen Clubs in Namibia.



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South Africa National Population-Based HIV/AIDS Behavioural Risks, Sero-Status and Media Impact Survey

Four national HIV household surveys were conducted in South Africa by the Human Sciences Research Council (in 2002, 2005, 2008 and 2012). These surveys are widely recognized as an authoritative source on the country's HIV epidemic, and continue to have a significant impact nationally, in the sub-region and internationally. Data from these surveys provide crucial information on HIV prevalence, incidence and behavioural risks, which guides the development of policies and strategies and improves practices in the area of HIV/AIDS.

The 2016 South Africa Behavioural Survey is currently being analysed. Data from the 2016 survey will serve as a basis for evaluating the current national strategic plan for HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted infections 2012-2016.

The publication will provide information on the status of South Africa's HIV epidemic, and will influence policy revisions and development, national HIV programme planning and financing, as well as improve the targeting of programme interventions to at-risk/vulnerable groups, such as adolescents and youth.



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Getting to A! Educational Aspirations, Access, Achievement and Attainment among Hyper-Vulnerable HIV-Positive Orphans in South Africa

Education is strongly linked to future employment, income, health and HIV-infection outcomes for children. There is clear evidence that school attendance and achievement are protective factors against HIV-related outcomes.

This research will examine educational outcomes among HIV-positive orphans in South Africa. Drawing on data from more than 1,000 HIV-positive adolescents and nearly 500 non-infected adolescents, educational aspirations, access, achievement and attainment were examined to understand the specific educational outcome realities of HIV-infected orphans.

The main findings indicate that these children have high aspirations to enrol in and complete high school. The Government provision of educational services is consistent across vulnerable groups in South Africa. However, HIV-positive adolescents are less likely to be enrolled in school, and when they are, they are more likely to have poor achievement and skills. Dual-affected adolescents (orphaned and HIV-positive) are the most likely to have poor achievement and the worst cognitive ability. This research will be used to inform programming and advocacy for UNICEF and its partners on specific educational needs of HIV-infected and orphaned adolescents.



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Regional Trends and Lessons Learned from ALL IN Country Data Assessments in Eastern and Southern Africa 2015-2017

Since early 2014 UNICEF and UNAIDS have brought together global partners to respond to the emerging evidence that care for adolescents has lagged behind in the global response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. In February 2015, the Kenyan President launched the ALL IN global call for action to end the AIDS epidemic among adolescents. UNICEF led the design of tools and guidance to support countries in conducting data and programmatic assessments aimed at strengthening national responses to adolescents; 10 Eastern and Southern African countries adopted the ALL IN methodology from 2015 to 2017.

The purpose of this report is to document and disseminate the outcomes of ALL IN country data assessments through analysis of regional trends and progress on HIV and adolescents, in order to inform HIV and adolescent programming. Assessments revealed a changing dynamic in HIV epidemiology among adolescents and huge gaps in knowledge, access to HIV testing, condoms and antiretroviral treatment. The report will serve as an important advocacy tool for governments, development partners and programme implementers on the importance of data to inform HIV and adolescent programming, as well as a tool for developing good programming practices.



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Humanitarian Action, Resilience and Peacebuilding

Humanitarian Cash Transfers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo: Evidence from UNICEF's Alternative Responses for Communities in Crisis II Programme

From March 2013 through September 2015 UNICEF and three partner organizations collaborated to deliver an unconditional cash transfer programme as part of the humanitarian response in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). UNICEF's alternative responses for communities in crisis programme reached 23,480 displaced families, host families and returning displaced families in eastern DRC.

This paper contributes to better understanding of the impact of unconditional cash transfers on conflict-affected households. The results show that cash was used by recipients in line with the project objectives. In addition, the project contributed significantly to improvements in wellbeing, reduction in vulnerabilities and negative coping mechanisms, and to increased resiliency at the household level. The publication will be used to broaden the knowledge of humanitarian practitioners on the overall and marginal effects of this humanitarian assistance modality.



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Evaluation of Humanitarian Action Related to Child Survival in North Darfur in Sudan 2010-2015

Sudan faces a protracted emergency due to the Darfur conflicts; many young people have been living in camps for internally displaced people for more than 10 years.

This evaluation seeks to deepen knowledge of strengths, good practices and determinants of shortfalls against expected results, contributing to adjustments in humanitarian action and to doing business differently.

The evaluation's findings, conclusions and recommendations will be used by Government, donors, United Nations agencies, civil society organisations, state authorities and communities as key elements for enhancing the impact of humanitarian strategies and investment in Sudan.



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Analysis of Disparities between Refugee and Host Communities in Uganda

Vulnerabilities of refugees as well as host communities requires evidence in order to determine issues influencing self-sufficient social service provision by duty-bearers as well as self-reliance of refugees with respect to the same services.

This study provides an equity analysis of social services in refugee and host communities to better inform interventions in support of sustainable basic service provision. The publication also provides evidence on the wellbeing of both refugee children and those in host communities, along with recommendations on how to equitably reach affected refugees and host communities.



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Case Studies on UNICEF's Programming to Strengthening Resilience in Eastern and Southern Africa

In the emergency and development sectors, there is an increased emphasis on developing programmes that can build resilience among households and communities, as part of efforts to reduce the risks associated with acute and chronic shocks and stresses.

These case studies provide examples of resilience programming within UNICEF, using four different sector entry points: nutrition, education, water and sanitation and social protection. The case studies describe how community resilience was strengthened: (i) through drought-resilient water systems in Ethiopia; (ii) through Cash Plus programme in Kenya; (iii) through disaster risk reduction in the education system in Madagascar; and (iv) through the use of a nutrition lens in Somalia. The information will be of interest to a broad audience of practitioners interested in learning about good examples and UNICEF's approaches to resilience development. It will contribute to regional and global efforts to better understand how programmes can strengthen households' resilience and deliver equitable and sustained results for children, and how humanitarian and development interventions can improve communities' capacity to cope, withstand and recover from shocks and stresses.



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Maternal, Newborn and Child Health

“Mother and Child Health Week” post-event Coverage Survey for Vitamin A and Deworming in Burundi

Since 2012 the number of health districts reaching the national coverage standard for vitamin A supplementation and deworming through Burundi’s bi-annual “Mother and Child Health Week” (MCHW) campaign has been steadily decreasing.

To document estimated coverage and understand the reasons behind this systematic decline in coverage, a MCHW post-event coverage survey and bottleneck analysis were undertaken.

The results will include key stakeholders’ perceptions of the MCHW, which will be used by the Ministry of Health, UNICEF and other partners to address quality and bottleneck issues and increase attendance at the MCHW bi-annual mass-campaign event.



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Addressing New-born Health Problems through a Continuum of Care of Services Approach: The Ethiopian Experience

Despite remarkable progress in reducing under-five mortality, more than 175,000 Ethiopian children under the age of five die every year. New-born deaths account for 43 per cent of overall under-five mortality in Ethiopia. The country has made huge investments in making new-born care services available at all health facilities, as a comprehensive service package. However, the availability of quality new-born care services at all levels of the primary health care system remains low.

This study aims to assess the convergence of integrated maternal and new-born health services across different levels of the primary health care system in Ethiopia. The findings are expected to provide details on service readiness of key new-born health services in Ethiopia, and will be used to consider scaling-up community-based new-born care in the country.



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The Effect of Community-Based New-born Care Interventions in Utilization of Maternal, New-born and Child Health Services at Primary Health Care Units in Ethiopia

Provision of services through the health extension worker programme platform is a key strategy for increasing the utilization of new-born care services. In March 2013, the Ethiopian Government launched the community-based new-born care (CBNC) programme, through which community health workers were trained, supplied with essential commodities and supervised on provision of CBNC, including management of new-born infections.

This study aims to assess the effect of CBNC interventions in improving key maternal, new-born and child health services by looking at percentage changes in coverage of antenatal care services and health care seeking. This will provide key insights for future programming in the area of scaling-up CBNC in the country.



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Formative Research to Identify Social Norms Governing Six Key Behaviours Critical to UNICEF's Work in Ghana

In recent years Ghana has experienced significant progress on a number of indicators that measure access to and use of maternal and child health services and related positive practices. However, large inequalities persist between different socio-economic groups and geographic areas. The reasons behind this are manifold and complex, and the roots may be social, economic and structural.

The objectives of this research are to: (i) generate knowledge on the social norms that facilitate or inhibit mothers' adoption of positive behaviours; and (ii) to understand how these norms are constructed, maintained and who are their main custodians. The findings will identify social norms that govern the behaviours of mothers from pregnancy through child birth and up to five years after birth. By addressing social norms, this research will serve as an entry point for identifying programmes that enhance the health and wellbeing of children under five.



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Knowledge, Attitude, and Behaviour Study on Barriers to Uptake of Immunization in Liberia

Challenges related to parents' and guardians' knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding immunization have been noted in several studies. Despite a nearly 85 per cent childhood vaccination rate in Liberia, parents often fail to follow the schedule in a timely manner and to fully understand the value of immunization. Assessing parental knowledge, attitude and practice toward vaccination of mothers and their children is key to determining factors impeding immunization coverage, as well as to developing a comprehensive communication strategy for routine immunization and introducing the Ebola virus disease vaccine in Liberia.

Findings will: (i) determine mothers and fathers' attitudes, awareness and knowledge levels around immunization, including vaccine safety, efficacy and importance; (ii) determine mothers and guardians' barriers and motivators with respect to immunization of their children and themselves; and (iii) identify credible sources of messaging and information on immunization, as well as the preferred communication medium, for immunization programme implementation.

The results will help the ministry and partners to develop culturally specific messages for dissemination through identified, efficient channels to improve immunization uptake in Liberia.



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UNICEF's Monitoring Results for Equity System to Address Inequities in Essential Health Service for Children in Vulnerable Communities in Liberia

UNICEF's Monitoring Results for Equity System (MoRES) was developed as an approach to operationalize the equity agenda and accelerate progress in reaching the most deprived children. MoRES is defined by UNICEF as 'a conceptual framework for effective planning, programming, implementation, monitoring and managing for results to achieve desired outcomes for the most disadvantaged children'. After a 2015 workshop, UNICEF supported Liberia's Grand Gedeh County to implement MoRES as a cross-sectoral initiative. The evaluation explores the relevance of MoRES to this equity refocus in Grand Gedeh County, to analyse its application and the potential for scale-up to other counties in Liberia.

The study identifies bottlenecks to the delivery of essential health services, with a view to addressing them through a systematic analysis of services using the 10 determinants methodology. The findings: (i) provide an analysis of entry points and engagement with partners; (ii) provide an analysis of tracer interventions; (iii) present bottleneck reduction and progress tracking; and (iv) identify lessons learned and recommendations for scale-up. The study contributes to improving the equity-focused and programme monitoring approach.



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Evaluation of the Health Extension Programme in Namibia

Namibia's health extension programme was piloted in Opuwo district of Kunene region, with 34 health extension workers (HEWs) and technical and financial support from UNICEF and other Health Ministry (MOHSS) partners. By the end of 2015 the programme had been scaled up to 11 out of 14 regions, and 1,366 HEWs had been trained and deployed nationally. These cadres are now full time employees of the MoHSS, and on the civil service payroll. Over the years of implementation, an increase in uptake of services has been observed, but reviews have identified supervision and the monitoring and evaluation components of the programme as a challenge.

In a context of Government budget cuts, there is a need to evaluate the health extension programme in order to document its achievements, lessons learned and best practices. The results will be used to strengthen areas in need of improvement and the findings used to inform decision making and address gaps, if any, in current programming.



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Secondary Analysis of the 2013 Namibia Demographic and Health Survey

UNICEF places high priority on the availability of recent, reliable information with which to monitor the situation of children and women. Statistically sound and internationally comparable data are essential for the development of evidence-based policies and programmes as well as for monitoring of Namibia's progress towards national goals and global commitments.

This secondary analysis of the Namibia demographic and health survey (NDHS) was designed to assist UNICEF, the Government and partners by furnishing critical information on maternal, neonatal and child mortality and morbidity in order to shape strategies and priority areas. Meanwhile, the addition of child survival and mortality modelling in the secondary analysis supports strategic planning for expanded access to maternal, neonatal and child health services by providing counterparts with current, focused and timely data to ensure the implementation of policies.



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Evaluation of the Maternal, New-born and Child Health Week in Nigeria

Nigeria successfully reduced its maternal mortality ratio from 1,200 per 100,000 live births in 1995 to 576 per 100,000 live births in 2013. However, progress has been slow with respect to Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5. As a result, maternal, new-born and child health weeks (MNCHW) were introduced as a strategic priority for accelerating the reduction of child mortality and improved maternal health.

This publication provides recommendations on how to further strengthen the MNCHW initiative. The findings: (i) provide insight into the extent to which MNCHW was adapted to meet the needs of the targeted audience; (ii) identify lessons learned and make recommendations; and (iii) explore what has worked well and what has not. The publication will be useful for the Government and partners involved in MNCHW activities.



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Long-term Impacts and Cost of Ebola on Sierra Leone's Health Sector

The Ebola crisis disrupted Sierra Leone's socio-economic environment at several different levels. The disease had detrimental effects at the micro level, affecting households and communities, and at the macro level alike. Children were the most vulnerable and were confronted with the death of their parents. The effects of the disease on women and children were both short term and long term in nature.

This study quantifies the past and future cost of Ebola on Sierra Leone's system of health care for women and children. Results show that short-term investments in health will reduce the future cost of Ebola to the sector from 19.4 per cent to 5.1 per cent of GDP over the next 15 years, highlighting the need to address the impacts of Ebola on the health sector in a timely manner.

The findings will be used to make an investment case and promote advocacy for increased budgetary allocations for education and health for children in Sierra Leone.



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South African Demographic Health Survey

South Africa conducted demographic and health surveys (DHS) in 1998 and 2003, providing valuable information about maternal, neonatal, children's and women's health conditions and utilization of health services. However, these DHS are outdated and more up-to-date national information is required to monitor coverage of Government programmes and evaluate outcomes for the population's health.

The third South Africa DHS, carried out in 2016, sought to provide a better understanding of the health status of the population in South Africa. Key topics included child health, reproductive health, adult health and nutrition. It also provided an opportunity for household members to understand their individual health status. Data was collected from households and included administration of a household questionnaire, anthropometric measurements, blood pressure checks and blood collection for HIV, hepatitis and hemoglobin testing. The information collected through this survey will assist the National Department of Health and other key stakeholders in the health sector to plan and prioritize health programmes and improve service delivery.



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Uganda Health Sector Policy brief (2/17)

An examination of latrine coverage in relation to resource allocations for primary health care showed that the Ankole sub-region outperformed other sub-regions in Uganda in terms of latrine coverage, despite receiving one of the lowest primary health care releases per capita.

This brief focuses on a case study of the Ankole sub-region, specifically on Buhweju and Ibanda districts, seeking to uncover how these districts achieved their high performance for latrine coverage. This policy brief reveals district, sub-county and community-level issues that affect latrine coverage, as well as the bottlenecks that need to be overcome to register improvement in latrine coverage in the sub-region. Policy recommendations will be used by the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to realign national planning and budgeting efforts in support of Government's quest to achieve economic growth with equity.



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Mid-term Evaluation of the Millennium Development Goal Initiative Programme in Zambia

The Millennium Development Goal Initiative (MDGi): Accelerating progress towards maternal, neonatal and child morbidity and mortality reduction in Zambia is a joint programme of the Government of the Republic of Zambia, European Union (EU) and UNICEF, in collaboration with UNFPA. The EU-funded MDGi programme is being implemented over a period of five years (May 2013 - May 2018) in 11 districts in Copperbelt and Lusaka provinces of Zambia.

An external mid-term evaluation of the programme commenced in October 2016, with the purpose of improving the performance and impact of the MDGi programme in the medium term. The mid-term evaluation identifies areas of improvement, identifies strategies that should continue to be implemented and those that should be dropped in order to meet programme objectives. The findings will enable evidence-based programmatic improvements to facilitate improved outcomes.



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Strengthening the Delivery of Integrated Community Case Management in Two Districts of Eastern Province in Zambia – A Cluster Randomized Trial

In low-resource countries, access to quality healthcare services is limited by shortages of essential medicines and inadequate supervision due to human resource shortages. Equity-based strategies to improve access for the poorest and underserved children – such as integrated community case management (iCCM) of malaria, diarrhoea and pneumonia – are not immune from such challenges.

This study addresses challenges faced by successful iCCM implementation and evaluates strategies to improve: (i) supervision and quality of care using mobile telephony technology, (ii) costs of supervising community health workers and (iii) integration of iCCM logistics (diagnostics and drug supply) at health facility and district levels to the supply chain system at the community level. Main results of data analysis on 3,690 children under five years with malaria, diarrhoea or pneumonia, showed that supervision prevalence was 61.3 per cent in the intervention area and 52 per cent in the control and medical supplies reports. The requisition submission rate using mobile phones was 28 per cent in the intervention area. The results will inform the implementation of similar programmes across the region.



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Inactivated Polio Vaccine and Switch from Trivalent to Bivalent Oral Polio Vaccine – Lessons from Eastern and Southern Africa

Following significant progress in the global polio eradication effort, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative developed a five-year polio endgame strategic plan (2013–2017). This plan outlines strategic directions for ending polio transmission globally and certifying the world free of polio by 2018. One of the plan's strategic objectives is to introduce the inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) and switch from trivalent (tOPV) to bivalent oral polio vaccines (bOPV) in all countries globally. The introduction of IPV in the Eastern and Southern African Region commenced in January 2016, while the switch from tOPV to bOPV took place in all countries of the region in April 2016.

This write-up aims to document the lessons learned in ESAR from the implementation of these two global events, and how this has helped to improve routine immunization coverage and address equity. Some of the findings show that: (i) strengthened coordination between global, regional and country level partners facilitated information on the supply of IPV; (ii) countries that designated focal persons to plan the switch experienced better organization and coordination of activities during the switch process; (iii) lack of funds was a major constraint. This documentation could serve as source of information for the organization and coordination of future activities of global or regional scale.

Multi-country Study in Eastern and Southern Africa to Identify the Determinants of Child Mortality Reduction and Understand Linkages between Rapid Mortality Decline and Successful Strategies

In sub-Saharan Africa, rates of childhood deaths have been decreasing; however, the majority of countries in Eastern and Southern Africa were unable to reach the Millennium Development Goals target of a two-thirds reduction. This paper draws on data from demographic and health surveys between the years 1999 and 2015 for 10 African countries, and analyses trends in childhood mortality rates. In line with the existing literature, determinants of childhood mortality will be analysed, combined with in-country qualitative studies to draw lessons learned for effective policies and strategies. Childhood mortality rates have been falling in each of the 10 countries examined. However, the current pace of decline is not sufficient to allow these countries to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

Recommendations, by country typology, for designing more effective health and nutrition programmes will be developed in the paper. The study is expected to find that policy makers need to adjust strategies, including direct funding and efforts in new priority areas such as women's education, given that it is a predictor of childhood mortality.



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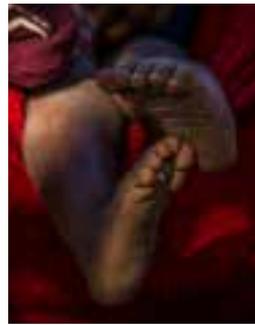
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Progress on Measles Elimination in Eastern and Southern Africa

African countries have committed to eliminating measles as a public health problem by 2020. Measles elimination can be achieved through five recommended strategies: (i) ensuring high population immunity against measles through strong routine immunization coverage or high-quality supplementary immunization activities; (ii) effective measles disease surveillance, monitoring and evaluation; (iii) adequate outbreak preparedness and response; (iv) appropriate case management and (v) research and development.

This publication will provide an update on progress towards achieving the 2020 measles elimination goal in countries of Eastern and Southern Africa. The analysis will review the implementation of recommended measles elimination strategies and highlight challenges and best practices, identifying specific country gaps. This publication will contribute to the body of knowledge on measles elimination activities focused on this region and will help to share the region's experience with implementing measles elimination activities, progress achieved, challenges encountered and best practices.



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Nutrition

End-Line Impact Survey of a Joint Government of Burundi – United Nations Project to Combat Chronic Malnutrition

A joint Government of Burundi – United Nations (FAO, UNICEF, WFP, WHO) project to fight chronic malnutrition was carried out in Ngozi Province from 2013-2016. The project included multi-sectoral interventions implemented by the Government with technical support from the UN agencies. A baseline survey was completed in early 2014, and an end-line survey is under way to document the impact of the project on nutrition, food security, food fortification and childhood disease.

The end-line survey will describe the overall nutrition situation, including chronic malnutrition, and highlight multi-sectoral interventions that have facilitated positive behaviour change, contributing to prevention of chronic malnutrition. The survey will document the impact of the project and inform project follow-up, which is being planned with the Government and donors.



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Inventory of Local Complementary Foods in the Four Most Vulnerable Regions of Cameroon (Far North, North, Adamaoua and East)

Chronic malnutrition is a major problem in the four most vulnerable regions of Cameroon (Far North, North, Adamaoua and East). A nutritional survey conducted in 2016, using the standardized monitoring and assessment of relief and transitions (SMART) methodology, showed high rates of chronic malnutrition – close to the emergency threshold of 40 per cent. This is due to the combined effects of adverse climate events (drought, floods), high incidence of infections (cholera, malaria, etc.) and inappropriate infant and young child feeding practices.

The objective of this study is to identify complementary foods that can be promoted at scale to contribute to preventing malnutrition. The findings will be used to: (i) create an inventory of local complementary foods that are consumed sufficiently in the four regions, (ii) determine the nutritional value of local complementary foods and (iii) identify complementary local foods that can be promoted at scale.



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Central African Republic Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions surveys

Recent standardized monitoring and assessment of relief and transitions surveys in Central African Republic have shown that the level of stunting has exceeded emergency thresholds in more than half of the country's prefectures. Evidence also suggests that the severe acute malnutrition rate is nearing the emergency threshold of 2 per cent, while mortality rates are also near or above emergency thresholds in most parts of the country.

This situation needs to be tackled through a multi-sectoral approach. Interventions, mainly at the camp for internally displaced persons', were carried out in 2016, and it is important to assess the current state of malnutrition and whether the strategy implemented as a response to the results of previous surveys is working for children. The findings will support advocacy aimed at mobilizing the community of donors to support the response to malnutrition.



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Ethiopia Community-based Nutrition Programme End-line Evaluation

Community-based management of nutrition to fight malnutrition was implemented in Ethiopia through the country programme action plan from 2007 to 2011, including monthly growth monitoring and promotion of children under the age of two. In 2012/2013, the delivery modality of this component was modified and responsibility was given to health extension workers.

The end-line evaluation report will measure the programme's potential impact on children's nutritional status and infant and young child feeding practices. The findings will provide evidence on changes in key nutrition indicators and inform decision makers about possible modifications or expansion of the current nutrition programme.



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Child Malnutrition, Consumption Growth, Maternal Care and Price Shocks: New Evidence from Northern Ghana

Childhood malnutrition remains a significant global health concern. In order to implement effective policies to address the issue, it is crucial to first understand the factors underlying malnutrition.

This paper uses a unique dataset from Northern Ghana to explain the underlying causes of childhood malnutrition. It adopts an empirical framework to model inputs in the production of health and nutrition, as a function of child, household and community characteristics.

Findings suggest that child characteristics such as age, sex and number of siblings are important in explaining inputs and nutritional outcomes, and that maternal agency and health contribute to improved health status. Household resources – in the form of consumption – are positively associated with food intake and nutritional outcomes. Results will inform policy making to address underlying determinants, while simultaneously targeting the youngest population of children, in order to have the greatest effect on reducing malnutrition within this population.



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Determinants of Stunting, Wasting, and Anaemia in Guinean Preschool-Age Children: An Analysis of Demographic and Health Survey Data from 1999, 2005 and 2012

Wasting, stunting, and anaemia are persistent and important forms of malnutrition among pre-school age children in the less-developed world, including in the Republic of Guinea.

This study analyses data from three demographic and health surveys undertaken in Guinea (in 1999, 2005 and 2012) to identify possible determinants of wasting, stunting and anaemia.

The findings indicate that relatively few variables seem to be associated with nutrition outcomes in children less than six months of age, while more variables were associated with nutrition outcomes in children aged six-to-23 months. Few of the standard infant and young child feeding indicators were associated with any nutrition outcome. These results highlight that improvements in the nutritional status of young children in Guinea will require a broad range of nutrition and health interventions.



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Nutrition Lessons from the Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak in Guinea: Qualitative Findings to Make Future Responses More Effective

Due to the close relationship between Ebola virus disease (EVD) and nutrition, the humanitarian community implemented various nutrition interventions during efforts to stem the 2014-2015 EVD outbreak in West Africa. However, little is known about stakeholder and community members' perspectives toward this response in Guinea.

This study aims to understand how the EVD outbreak may have impacted infant and young child nutrition, and to assess the perceived acceptability and effectiveness of the nutrition response. Findings to date show that: (i) at a basic level, the complex social dimensions of health, lack of response preparedness and market disruptions were perceived to be major determinants affecting infant/child nutrition; (ii) at an underlying level, household food security was negatively impacted and care-seeking practices were weakened as were infant/child feeding practices and coping strategies. This report will be useful for the Government and all partners involved in Ebola prevention and response.



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Nutrition Trends in the Past Fifteen Years in Guinea: Secondary Analysis of Cross-Sectional Data on Children, Adolescent Girls and Women

Malnutrition is a major public health problem among children and women in Guinea. This study aims to examine trends in nutrition indicators in Guinean children under five years of age, adolescent girls aged 15-to-19 and women of reproductive age.

The analysis found that stunting prevalence in children declined consistently, from 39 per cent in 2005 to 25 per cent in 2015, with the most rapid decline between 2012 and 2015. Among adolescent girls, the national prevalence of underweight increased from 12 per cent in 1999 to 19 per cent in 2012, with the largest increases found in those with no education and residing in rural areas. For all non-pregnant women (15-49 years of age), there was a steady increase in the combined prevalence of overweight and obesity, from 12 per cent in 1999 to 19 per cent in 2012. Findings from this analysis will be useful for the Government and all partners involved in the nutrition sector.



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Impact of the Nutritional Improvements through Cash and Health Education Programme on the First 1,000 Days of Life in Kitui County, Kenya

Evidence available from Latin America shows the positive effects of cash transfers on nutrition outcomes for children, especially among households receiving nutritional counselling on dietary diversity and healthy diets. Although the social safety net programme design in Kenya is based on Latin American models, recent evaluations have not shown any impact on nutrition outcomes. Kitui County has one of the highest levels of stunting (46 per cent) compared to the national figure of 26 per cent. County residents currently benefit from cash transfer programmes, including maternal and child health and water, sanitation and hygiene activities.

This evaluation aims to assess the effectiveness of cash transfers and nutritional counselling in improving nutritional outcomes in children during the first 1,000 days of life. Findings are expected to show that combining nutrition counselling with cash improves nutrition outcomes. Results will be used to influence policy and scale up social protection programmes benefiting nutrition outcomes for children.



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Kenya Real-Time Learning Process - Nutrition

The real-time learning process in Kenya is a project designed to strengthen the Kenyan Government's efforts in the nutrition and wider health sector. The programme has two components: (i) a real-time consultative process to identify 'what works', and (ii) support to county health and nutrition stakeholders to develop a real-time approach that will lead to a more effective nutrition sector.

The study generated evidence on how nutrition-focused interventions have contributed to, or hindered, each of the seven building blocks required for an effective health system. It noted the presence of: (i) routine use of health information system data, despite the challenges with quality; (ii) weak collaboration between implementing partners and the Ministry of Health; and (iii) lack of clarity on the strategic roles and responsibilities between county and sub-county staff. The findings will be used to draw lessons for strengthening nutrition and health systems programmes.



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Kenya National Micronutrient Survey

Micronutrient surveys reveal the prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies in a population. In Kenya, such surveys are necessary to understand changes in the nutrition situation and to accommodate new information on dietary intake and the population's micronutrient status.

This survey was conducted to generate data on the magnitude and distribution of micronutrient malnutrition, nutritional status and related diseases among children aged six-to-59 months.

The findings show that, nationally, the prevalence of stunting, underweight and wasting was 26.3 per cent, 12.7 per cent and 6.3 per cent, respectively. Prevalence of overall marginal Vitamin A deficiency was 24.4 per cent, and affected urban children more than rural children. The national iodine deficiency prevalence was 22.1 per cent among school-age children and 25.6 per cent among non-pregnant women.

Results from the survey will be used to scale up high-impact nutrition interventions, with a focus on micronutrient deficiencies.



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Study on Readiness of the Public Health and Other Sectors to Mainstream Direct Nutrition Interventions in Liberia

UNICEF is supporting the Government of Liberia to mainstream direct nutrition interventions into the public health sector. This requires the routine provision of nutrition services at health facilities. In the past, nutrition services have been implemented largely in parallel to the Government system. Considering that including nutrition services will require health facilities to assume new responsibilities, it is important to assess the readiness of the health care system (in terms of human resources, technical capacity, supplies and equipment etc.) to take on this additional responsibility.

To gauge the preparedness of the health sector to mainstream nutrition, the study will identify possible barriers, opportunities or areas that need improvement to support mainstreaming. The assessment will yield essential information that will inform strategies for integrating direct nutrition interventions into the public health sector. It will also provide a reference for other countries that may want to work towards similar mainstreaming efforts.



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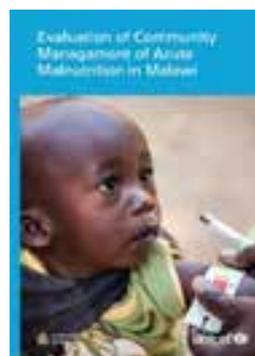
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Evaluation of the Community Management of Acute Malnutrition in Malawi

Acute malnutrition is a leading cause of infant and child mortality in Malawi. In 2015, an estimated 79,301 children under-five years of age were suffering from acute malnutrition. Management of malnutrition was one of the six priorities of Malawi's national growth and development strategy for 2011 – 2016.

This evaluation assesses overall progress and achievements in implementing community management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) in Malawi. Its specific objectives were to: (i) assess CMAM's relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability; (ii) assess the extent to which CMAM implementation contributed to systems-strengthening; and (iii) document best practices and generate evidence-based lessons and recommendations to strengthen efforts to improve the quality and coverage of CMAM.

Results show that system-strengthening efforts were appropriate to the national context, as they aimed to achieve full integration of CMAM into the health system. However, frequent shortages of supplies, high turnover of skilled health care providers, irregular mentoring and delay in activity reporting were recurrent challenges experienced by health workers. Programme performance was within recommended standards, except for default rates, which were high due to frequent shortage of supplies. This publication contributes to the sharing of lessons learned and success factors with countries in a similar situation.



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Mozambique Nutrition Baseline Assessment

This nutrition cross-sectional survey will generate baseline information on the nutritional status of children under the age of five in targeted districts and in the provinces of Nampula and Zambézia in the first year of implementation of a multi-year European Union programme. The assessment will provide baseline information against which progress will be evaluated after three (mid-term) and five years (final evaluation) of implementation.

The survey covers nutrition-related indicators on knowledge, attitudes, behaviours and practices. It will generate findings on breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices, improved water access, hand-washing, hygiene, and sanitation practices. The survey results will be used to develop policy briefs and district and provincial nutrition profiles, to be used for advocacy aimed at generating awareness among provincial and district stakeholders and triggering investment into reducing the prevalence of stunting.



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Namibia: San Health and Nutrition Survey

The San are the oldest inhabitants of Southern Africa, where they have lived for at least 20,000 years. They are categorized as one of the marginalized communities in Namibia, and represent 0.8 per cent of the total population. The San people are traditionally nomad hunter-gatherers, although some have transitioned to a more settled lifestyle. Reports suggest high levels of malnutrition and poor health indicators within this community.

This survey will determine the health and nutrition status of the San people and inform Government action to improve the situation of the San people.



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Integration of Mid-Upper Arm Circumference Screening with Immunization and Health Campaigns: The Nigerian Experience

The prevalence of global acute malnutrition in Nigeria's Borno and Yobe states is widespread. The effects of Boko Haram insurgence contributed to mass population displacement, disrupting livelihoods, markets and food security. In 2016 alone, the estimated caseload of children under the age of five who were suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in Borno reached 244,000. A large-scale mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) screening was organized to identify and treat children with SAM across 11 districts in the state from September 17 to October 24, 2016.

This screening identified children with SAM in their communities and refer them for treatment, in order to save lives by increasing programme coverage.

Screening for children suffering from SAM with MUAC tape was integrated with immunization campaigns; 0.65 million children six-to-59 months were screened. Prevalence of proxy GAM and SAM were reported at 12.1 per cent and 3.5 per cent, respectively.



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Trends in Global Acute Malnutrition in the Nutrition and Food Security Surveys in Nigeria

Insurgency and political violence caused mass population displacement in the North-Eastern states of Nigeria. Conflict and mass displacement often result in increased prevalence of acute malnutrition and mortality. However, only limited information on the current nutritional situation in North East Nigeria is available to inform the ongoing response. As a result, a nutrition and food security surveillance system has been established to assess the situation and track progress and changes over time, using a cross sectional household survey.

This survey will provide a high-quality, population-based and representative estimate of the nutrition, food security and health situation in accessible areas of North East Nigeria.



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Sierra Leone Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition Verification Exercise

Ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) is a product used for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). A recent review of the RUTF stock revealed high consumption compared to the norm for Sierra Leone. To gain better understanding of existing SAM cases and RUTF consumption patterns, the Ministry of Health and partners agreed to carry out an integrated management of acute malnutrition programme verification exercise.

The study aims to investigate and verify the factors that contributed to the increase in the number of SAM cases, and whether the increased consumption is a programme performance issue. Findings will help to: (i) ensure SAM treatment procedures are adhered to, as per national protocol; (ii) confirm the number of SAM cases identified in targeted structures; and (iii) identify RUTF consumption per treatment and per facility. This will permit improving the quality of SAM treatment and ensuring that those most in need receive the treatment required to reach full recovery.



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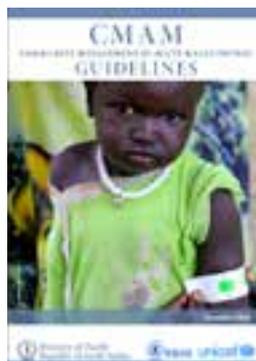
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Guidelines for Community Management of Acute Malnutrition in South Sudan

Management of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) was previously guided by “Interim Guidelines for Integrated Management of SAM” (2009) and draft guidelines for management of MAM (2011). However, the existence of two separate guideline documents was contrary to the Ministry of Health (MoH) Policy Framework (2013-2016), which calls for implementing and ensuring a continuum of care, where nutrition services are offered holistically. Therefore, the MoH developed comprehensive, standardised guidelines for management of acute malnutrition in line with its basic package of health and nutrition services. The new guidelines were developed in collaboration with partners, through a consultative process involving international and national technical experts.

The purpose of the guidelines is to: (i) provide a standardized model as an operational reference for integrated management of acute malnutrition across all levels of the health care system; (ii) build capacity of the MoH, partner staff and other professionals to treat and prevent acute malnutrition; and (iii) promote a multi-sectoral approach to prevention of malnutrition by strengthening linkages with other sectors.



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South Sudan Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition Guidelines

The Republic of South Sudan recently instituted important health policies to guide improvements to the health system and contribute to reducing maternal and child mortality. The newly issued “Health Policy 2016-2025” calls for a responsive, inter-sectoral collaboration that targets individuals, families and communities to take responsibility for the determinants of health. Among its objectives, the policy envisions that all efforts and programmes work to strengthen health services organization and infrastructure development for effective and equitable delivery of a basic package of health and nutrition services. In line with this, the Ministry of Health, with the support of other stakeholders, has initiated a process to establish a policy and legal environment that will help improve the country’s nutrition situation.

This publication is a technical document that provides guidance on health, nutrition and social service providers, including Government partners, organizations and donors involved in the protection, promotion and support of maternal, infant and young child nutrition. It serves to guide the implementation of a set of activities by all stakeholders, and as the basis for national and sub-national programming and implementation.



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South Sudan Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition Strategy 2017-2025

In December 2013, a major crisis hit South Sudan, and the country faced a worsening nutrition crisis on top of existing critical levels of malnutrition. The conflict in South Sudan exacerbated the rates of acute malnutrition due to such factors as population displacement and increased morbidity rates caused by disease outbreaks, and lack of access to clean water, sanitation facilities and basic health services. To address the situation effectively, the Ministry of Health identified a need for developing a common set of strategies, interventions and actions to guide the implementation of activities by all stakeholders.

The maternal, infant and young child nutrition (MIYCN) strategy consolidates global and national recommendations, guidelines and good practices that will serve as a guide for the Government and all other stakeholders. Key components of the strategy are: (i) identification of the different delivery platforms where services and interventions need to be rendered and implemented; (ii) a set of 10 strategic actions that will help enable an environment supportive to nutrition, to the protection of optimal maternal, infant and young child nutrition and the improvement of micronutrient supplementation; (iii) attention to the need for stepping-up advocacy efforts and developing appropriate behaviour-change communication strategies, based on the South Sudan context.

The MIYCN strategy 2017-2025 provides the Government and its partners with a broad menu of strategic actions and interventions that will contribute to the prevention of malnutrition and the reduction of maternal and child mortality and morbidity in the country.

Study on Drivers of Change in Nutrition Status in Tanzania

Despite significant progress, the nutrition status of children and women in Tanzania remains a concern. In 2015 more than 2.7 million children were estimated to be stunted, and more than 600,000 children suffered from acute malnutrition.

This study aims to assess drivers of change in child stunting, women's overweight/obesity, and women's anaemia. The findings are expected to highlight the relative contributions of potential drivers of change such as household socioeconomic status, parental education and access to health services across nutrition outcome indicators and across Tanzania's main regions. Understanding the drivers of change in maternal and child nutrition status can make a significant contribution to the design and implementation of policies and plans that address malnutrition. The study will fill strategic knowledge gaps about what may be driving recent trends in malnutrition. The findings are expected to indicate relevant sectors to involve in subsequent policy and programme responses that reflect the identified drivers of change.



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Programme Recommendations for Iodine Excess in East Africa

Significant progress toward eliminating iodine deficiency as a public health problem has taken place in Eastern and Southern Africa over the past decade. However, an excess of iodine intake has been documented in several countries in East Africa.

This study aims to assess the determinants of iodine excess in Kenya and Tanzania. The study outcomes will answer the key programme question of whether long-term exposure to excess iodine has adverse health consequences on thyroid function, and provide recommendations for addressing iodine excess. Preliminary results suggested that although the origin of the high iodine intake at study sites is uncertain, excessive iodine intakes may come from ground water. Despite the finding of excessive iodine intake, there is no evidence of an elevated prevalence of thyroid disorders in either country. Results also suggest that the salt iodization programmes are functioning well. The findings will provide guidance on iodine excess and recommendations for national salt iodization programmes.



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Characterization and Adequacy of Locally Processed Cereal-Based Blends for Infant and Young Children Marketed in Some West African Countries

One of the best ways to prevent stunting in children under five is to introduce adequate complementary feeding at the age of six months, while breastfeeding until the age of 24 months.

The main objective of this study is to identify and characterize processed cereal-based blends produced and distributed locally in nine West African countries. Research has identified several types of processed cereal-based blends. The market is dominated by imported products or products produced under a multinational enterprise license. Very few of the products are adequate in relation to recommendations proposed for complementary food designed for infants and young children aged six-to-24 months. The study shows that the blends could be improved by facilitating producers' access to a vitamin and mineral premix. Furthermore, it reveals the need for specific regulations in these countries to ensure that marketed complementary foods meet the nutritional needs of children aged six-to-24 months.



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Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Community-Led Environmental Assessment in Angola

Community-led total sanitation (CLTS) programmes around the world and in Angola represent good examples of community projects with an emphasis on local impact. CLTS programs are not just about the construction of latrines, but also about social habits and behaviour change. Greater attention to socio-cultural and political factors is key to a better understanding of the complexity within communities as they move toward improved sanitation and health.

Community-driven assessments offer a systematic means to identify synergistic and diverging local values and perspectives on future development in the face of complexity and uncertainty. This study intends to analyse and document diverse knowledge, values, political relationships and historical institutions in relation to CLTS, as they evolved in Angola. This assessment will follow a protocol similar to that of a standard environmental assessment.



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Research on the Household Determinants of Severe Acute Malnutrition among Children Under Five Years in Chad

Many studies have emphasized the direct relationship between childhood illnesses and severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Chad's health sector presents alarming indicators: maternal mortality is among the highest in the world (1,084 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2009) and the infant mortality rate was estimated at 109 per 1,000 live births (MICS 2010). In the Kanem Region, the epidemiological profile of childhood illnesses is characterized by endemic and seasonal diseases such as acute respiratory infections, malaria, diarrhoea and SAM.

The study's objective is to identify and quantify household risk factors for SAM among children aged six-to-59 months, in order to provide operational, evidence-based guidance for future water, sanitation and hygiene interventions, as part of multi-sectoral approach to fighting undernutrition in the community. The year-long study, starting in January 2017, is taking place in the Mao health district of Kanem Region.



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ATLAS 2016. Access to Drinking Water, Hygiene and Sanitation for Rural and Peri-Urban Communities of the Democratic Republic of Congo

(ATLAS 2016. Accès à L'eau Potable, L'hygiène et L'assainissement pour les Communautés Rurales et Péri-Urbaines de la République Démocratique du Congo)

The Atlas is an annual publication that serves multiple purposes: (i) monitoring the evolution of access to drinking water, sanitation and hygiene in the Democratic Republic of Congo; (ii) demonstrating the results of the country's healthy schools and villages programme; and (iii) providing an overview of the innovations of the national programme.

The results will indicate where policy interventions can produce the most improvements by presenting WASH indicators through graphs and charts. The Atlas will provide information to both donors and partners and will be used as an advocacy tool for the water and sanitation sector in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



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Menstrual Hygiene Management and Girls' Education in Eritrea

The partnership framework between UNICEF and the Government of the State of Eritrea prioritizes scale-up of the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in Schools programme, as well as the design of evidence-based interventions for menstrual hygiene management (MHM). The purpose of the project is to strengthen evidenced-based advocacy and action on MHM through the WASH in Schools programme, leading to a more supportive school environment for girls.

This formative research will support understanding of current MHM practices and barriers (physical, cultural and behavioural) faced by girls in schools. The publication will contribute toward increasing the capacity of global WASH in Schools network members to develop MHM policy and programming and support evidence-based advocacy.



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Assessment of the Cultural Taboos and Practices on Menstrual Hygiene among School Girls in Ethiopia

This survey aims to establish baseline data on current knowledge, attitudes and practice around the issue of menstrual hygiene among school girls in Ethiopia, and to understand the status of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities in relation to menstrual hygiene management in 39 schools in four regions.

The results will identify key menstruation-related cultural taboos, myths and restrictions that hinder adolescent girls' school attendance, performance and retention. The results will also inform WASH programme design in general, and WASH programming in schools in particular.



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Progress on Community-Led Total Sanitation and Hygiene: Findings from a National Review of Rural Sanitation in Ethiopia

Ethiopia was praised in the 2015 global WHO/UNICEF report by the Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation for its improvements in sanitation coverage (from 8 per cent coverage in 1990 to 71 per cent in 2015). This achievement was possible due to the Government's implementation of a community-led total sanitation and hygiene approach (CLTSH).

This review evaluates the effectiveness of CLTSH and suggests improvements in the approach that may help to accelerate sanitation coverage and achieve the goal stated by the Government: reaching 82 per cent coverage of open-defecation-free Kebeles by 2020. The evaluation assessed sanitation coverage in Ethiopia, including regional disparities; the extent of follow up needed once the Open Defecation Free target will be reached; and hand washing rates. The results provide key recommendations and guidelines to strengthen CLTSH and its monitoring.



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Ghana Water and Sanitation Sector Equity Analyses

Ghana met the Millennium Development Goal for access to improved water supply. However, there are still significant disparities related to access to water facilities among different groups. Moreover, access to improved sanitation in Ghana is among the lowest in the world (13 per cent), and even this low level of access includes significant differences between geographical areas and socio-economic groups.

This publication assesses the current status of inequalities in Ghana's water and sanitation (WASH) sector, and develops a framework to ensure that equity concerns are incorporated in future planning. The publication is expected to provide the basis for targeting and monitoring equity in WASH programming in Ghana.



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Handwashing with Ananse: Evaluation of an Innovative Intervention to Promote Handwashing with Soap in Ghana

Each year some 12,000 children in Ghana die from pneumonia and diarrhoeal diseases. Handwashing with water and soap has proven to be the most cost-effective health intervention to reduce the incidence of both diarrhoea and pneumonia for children under the age of five years. UNICEF Ghana, in collaboration with national and international partners, has developed an innovative, game-based intervention to teach children why, when and how to wash their hands with soap correctly.

This evaluation assesses the effectiveness of the intervention in terms of knowledge retention and behaviour change. It is expected to determine whether the game is effective or not in promoting handwashing with soap among children. The evaluation results will inform decisions about game roll-out in schools in Ghana.



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Final Evaluation of Kenya Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Programme 2008-2013

During the past seven years the Government of Kenya, UNICEF and development partners have been providing access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) to the most disadvantaged communities, and selected schools and health facilities in Kenya.

This evaluation: (i) assesses the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability of the interventions among participating communities and institutions; (ii) analyses factors contributing to the programme's successes and weaknesses; and (iii) documents lessons learnt and best practices.

The findings demonstrate variations in the overall performance of different programme components. Water supply projects were relatively well-delivered, compared to the majority of facilities in other programme components, which experienced quality issues. The proportion of households fetching water from more than 1km away from their home declined from 51 per cent to 9 per cent. Findings will be used to recommend actions for improved design, implementation, management and monitoring and evaluation of future WASH programmes in Kenya.



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Water Point Mapping in Six Directorate-General for International Cooperation of the Netherlands-funded Counties in Liberia

In 2011 a comprehensive water point mapping exercise was carried out in the counties of Grand Cape Mount, Grand Gedeh, Gbarpolu, Grand Kru, River Gee and Maryland with support from key Government partners working in the water, sanitation and hygiene sector. Since 2011, thousands of additional water points were constructed, but no exercise was ever carried out to update or follow up on their status. Based on the frequency and high rate of water point breakdown, it is estimated that at least 50 per cent of water points in the country are now non-functional. Therefore, updating the water point data collected in 2011 and obtaining first-hand information on issues affecting the sustainability of water points is now a priority.

This study will provide information on key water point indicators, which will serve as a baseline for all stakeholders and a comprehensive mapping of all water points, including information on operations, sustainability and management structures of water point systems (at schools, health facilities, districts, counties, and nationally). Findings will contribute towards ensuring the sustainability of Liberia's water points.



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Sustainability Check on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Facilities and Community Structures in Liberia 2013-2016

UNICEF Liberia is currently implementing a water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programme in Liberia under the “Accelerating Sanitation and Water for All: Achieving Water Supply and Sanitation Millennium Development Goals Targets in Liberia” Programme. The programme, which runs from 2013 to 2019, will contribute to child survival and development by increasing sustainable access to safe and improved WASH services in communities and primary schools. The programme targets rural districts in the counties of Grand Cape Mount, Gbarpolu, Grand Gedeh, River Gee, Grand Kru and Maryland; as well as urban areas around Monrovia.

This study aims to assess the sustainability of Netherlands-funded WASH facilities in Liberia. The results will include an evaluation of: (i) the functionality of the completed WASH component at the time of assessment; (ii) the extent of continued use of a facility or an improved behaviour; (iii) accessibility of WASH facilities; and (iv) the key factors that influence sustainability.

Findings will inform modifications in programme implementation methodologies and practices to improve sustainability of the programme.



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National Road Map for Making Nigeria Open Defecation Free by 2025

This road map captures the justification for an open-defecation-free Nigeria, assesses the adequacy of steps taken in the past and suggests key shifts and strategic actions needed to achieve the goal. In order to achieve the targets, the road map includes a bottleneck analysis to identify key factors hindering the attainment of an open-defecation-free Nigeria and identify priority actions for eliminating these bottlenecks and creating an enabling environment.

The publication contributes to the realization of the Government of Nigeria’s commitment to end open defecation by 2025. It captures an exhaustive list of activities under each of the strategies, keeping in mind the timeline proposed for road-map implementation. Ministries, departments and agencies to be responsible for these activities are also identified. The publication will be a useful reference document for driving the national commitment to eliminate open defecation in Nigeria by 2025.



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Evaluation of the Water and Sanitation Programme in Malawi

The joint Government of Malawi-UNICEF Water and Sanitation programme is aimed at improving child health, survival rates and wellbeing through improved sanitation, safe drinking water and effective hygiene education.

This evaluation assesses the degree to which the programme achieved its objectives, and (i) pinpoints strengths and weaknesses and identifies programme risks and opportunities; (ii) assesses the extent to which the programme focused on the deprived and vulnerable, and on systems and capacity development in the sector; and (iii) assesses the programme's contribution to risk management and internal UNICEF capacity, especially in relation to upstream engagement.

Results show that the programme was quite effective, since the majority of beneficiaries now have water of better quality and closer to their homes. The programme had a positive impact on women and girls in that it decreased their workload and improved sanitation facilities at schools. However, the efficiency of the programme leaves much to be desired. Short-cuts were made in supervision and contracting, which compromised the quality of construction. Other serious shortfalls included poor data management by UNICEF and lack of monitoring and evaluation in the districts.

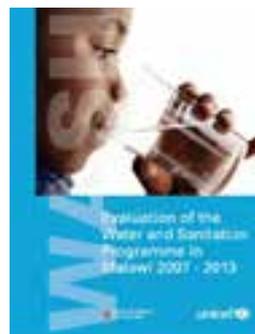
This publication will contribute to the sharing of lessons learned and success factors with countries in a similar situation.

Promising Practices in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene – Case Studies from Nigeria

The "Promising Practices" document is a compendium of case studies highlighting best practices under the Federal Government of Nigeria-UNICEF Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) program in Nigeria. It is a collection of innovations and practices encompassing a broad range of WASH interventions, including digitization of the rural water sub-sector, harmonization of procurement guidelines for WASH infrastructure, sanitation and hygiene promotion through schools and promoting birth registration through water and sanitation committees.

The publication highlights Nigeria's experience in improving the sustainability of open-defecation-free certified communities and fostering value-for-money approaches in WASH interventions.

It contributes to the body of knowledge on WASH by highlighting practices that can be replicated and scaled-up. This will be useful for WASH interventions in light of the Sustainable Development Goals, and is expected to be a valuable reference document for WASH in Nigeria and beyond.



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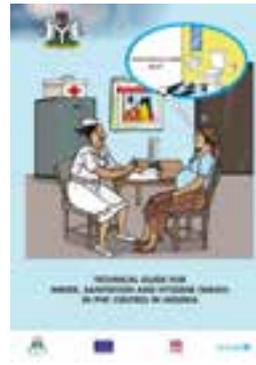
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Technical Guide for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Primary Health Care Centres in Nigeria

This technical guide was prepared to address the lack of harmonized standards for water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities' design and construction at Nigeria's primary health care centres (PHCs). The process of developing this technical guide included wide consultations with officials of the National Primary Health Care Development Agency and members of National Sanitation Task Group on Sanitation, as well as the National Working Group on WASH in PHCs, on appropriate designs and deployment of WASH facilities in PHCs.

The technical guide details the minimum standards for WASH facilities in health centres and provides guidance on site selection and design of WASH and waste management facilities. This publication will support current efforts by the Government of Nigeria to standardize WASH facilities and scaling-up the quality of WASH services at health centres across the country.



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South Sudan Knowledge, Attitude and Practices Mid-Point and End-Line Survey on Gender-Based Violence - Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

UNICEF's gender-based violence/water/sanitation and hygiene (GBV-WASH) programme aims to ensure provision of water, sanitation, and improved hygiene conditions that allow people to live with good health, dignity and security. To evaluate programme outcomes, a mid-point and end-line knowledge, attitude and practices survey on GBV-WASH will be undertaken.

Expected findings include information and data on:

(i) personal security indicators related to WASH, (ii) percentage of targeted people who safely use improved sanitation facilities and improved water supply, (iii) number of targeted people who have knowledge of public health risks and (iv) percentage of women and girls who feel that safety and security related to WASH facilities has improved.

This publication will provide solid evidence on whether the GBV-WASH programme has been successful in meeting its goals and objectives, as well as assisting in future GBV-WASH programming.



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Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Situation in Health Care Facilities in Tanzania Mainland and Way Forward

The absence of safe water and acceptable sanitation and hygiene conditions at the majority of health care facilities in Tanzania continues to be associated with the perpetuation of infections that increase morbidity, hospitalization and mortality among both adults and young children.

The assessment fills a data gap around coverage of water supply, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) at health care facilities in mainland Tanzania, and will inform measures to address this gap.

This report reveals an alarming WASH situation at health care facilities that provide maternal and child health services.

The publication contributes to the generation of evidence-based policy options for actions geared towards improving maternal, new-born and child health conditions by effectively preventing and controlling WASH infections.



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Uganda Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Sector Policy brief (3/17)

Examining equity in water access vs. total water and environment release per capita, it is evident that Uganda's Busoga sub-region outperforms other sub-region in their quest for equitable water access. Mayuge District showed gradual improvement over the past four financial years, which is attributed to deliberate leadership interventions in the district.

This policy brief investigates leadership in the Busoga sub-region, specifically Mayuge District, in order to reveal the district, sub-county and community-level issues that affect water access equity in Busoga, as well as bottlenecks at all levels that need to be overcome in order to register improvement in equitable access to water.

The brief includes policy recommendations for use by the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to realign national planning and budgeting efforts in support of Government's quest for economic growth with equity.



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Advancing Girls Education through Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Schools Programme: A Formative Research Study on Menstrual Hygiene Management in Mumbwa and Rufunsa Districts in Zambia

For school girls, menstruation poses a number of challenges that can impact on education outcomes if not adequately managed. Adequate menstrual hygiene management (MHM) in the context of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in School programmes involves the provision of adequate sanitation facilities to ensure that girls can manage their menstruation with dignity and privacy. MHM also entails addressing societal and cultural norms that are restrictive for girls.

This formative study was undertaken to investigate the determinants and barriers girls face in managing their menstruation at school. Findings show that girls are subjected to discriminatory practices and beliefs with regard to disposal of menstrual waste and practices and at menarche (first menstruation), leading to social seclusion. Girls reported missing class particularly on account of limited access to sanitary materials, poor and unhygienic sanitation facilities that lacked water and means of disposal for used sanitary materials. The publication provides evidence for use in the effective implementation of MHM interventions at schools across Zambia.



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Impact Evaluation of the Zambian Hygiene and Sanitation Programme

The Zambia Hygiene and Sanitation Programme is being implemented by the Ministry of Local Government. The programme takes place in 68 rural districts and seeks to promote hand washing and latrine use in households and schools. A baseline study was conducted in 2013, and the end-line is expected to be completed in 2017.

The evaluation measures and sheds light on the impact of Zambia's hygiene and sanitation project on diarrhoeal-related health outcomes. Publication of the survey results will enhance the global knowledge base on the health impact of sanitation interventions at scale. The study also provides evidence of the effectiveness of some of the innovative approaches used in the project.



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Basic Hygiene in Eastern and Southern Africa: An Examination of Handwashing Practices among Households

The objective of this analysis is to review the status of basic hygiene, as measured by the practice of handwashing with soap (HWWS), in Eastern and Southern Africa. The review will summarize recent comparable household survey data from multiple indicator cluster surveys and demographic and health surveys through a combination of techniques including: tabulated descriptions, measuring patterns of correlation among variables, data visualization and statistical interpretations and discussion of results. The analysis will include an overview of the status of HWWS practices across countries in the region, and across regions within countries, as well as an exploration of statistical associations between HWWS and factors potentially influencing the adoption of hygiene practices by households (ranging from socio-economic and background characteristics to structural constraints, such as lack of reliable water supply and sanitation). The final report will discuss potential programmatic implications of the findings and recommend potential areas for further analysis.



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Cholera Factsheet Update and Consolidation in West and Central Africa

Cholera epidemics regularly affect 16 countries in West and Central Africa and are often associated with other humanitarian crises such as floods, other epidemics, population displacement or armed conflict. In 2012 the West and Central Africa Cholera Platform was established to: facilitate cross-border alerts and enhance collaboration between countries, provide a space for cholera data-sharing and capacity building for cholera control and prevention; and support the regional “shield and sword” strategy, a proactive multidisciplinary approach linking emergency and development interventions.

In 2014, in the framework of a project funded by ECHO to support the regional cholera platform, 12 cholera factsheets were produced (Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad, Mali, Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo and Benin), which included a mapping of hotspots, their seasonality and the vulnerable groups at-risk.

In 2017, the factsheet will be updated and new countries will be covered (Sierra Leone, Liberia) and mapped by epidemiological basins in West and Central Africa.



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Knowledge, Attitudes and Practice Surveys and Qualitative Studies Related to Water and Sanitation, Cholera Prevention and Control Response Interventions in the Joint Cholera Initiative for Southern Africa Priority Countries A Desk Review

In several southern African countries, there have been cyclical, seasonal, and annual cholera epidemics since 2000. Against this background WHO, UNICEF, UN OCHA and Oxfam established a regional mechanism to support and ensure a coordinated response for future cholera prevention and control efforts (Joint Cholera Initiative for Southern Africa), in five priority countries: Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

A desk review was undertaken to compile available information on knowledge, attitudes and practices, behaviours and social norms related to water, sanitation and hygiene and cholera prevention and control interventions in these Southern African countries.

The main findings are that: (i) cholera outbreaks are largely a function of lack of access to safe water and improved sanitation facilities; (ii) the failure of urban water and sanitation systems, and cross-contamination of water sources and sewage effluents play a large part in spreading the risks of cholera; (iii) certain socio-cultural practices serve as barriers to cholera prevention, especially during cholera outbreaks; and (iv) the relatively high knowledge about cholera and optimal WASH behaviours does not necessarily translate into sustainable WASH practices that prevent cholera transmission.

The publication will serve to inform/adjust cholera response strategies in the five countries.



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Youth and Adolescents

Formative Study on Adolescents' Sexual and Reproductive Health in the Province of Huila in Angola

Adolescent health in Angola is a key challenge for the Government and its partners, as 60 per cent of the total population are youth with potential exposure to early pregnancy, early marriage, HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

The publication is a qualitative and quantitative cross-sectional descriptive study that will assess the knowledge, attitudes, behaviours and practices of adolescents and young people with respect to sexual and reproductive health (including prevention of early pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections/HIV). This study will inform the government of Huila Province, other provinces and the national Government about designing comprehensive, inter-sectoral, adolescent-friendly strategies with context-specific actions across various sectors to prevent teenage pregnancy and early marriage and promote the wellbeing of adolescents and youth.



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Time Use of Adolescents and Youth in Egypt: Secondary Analysis

In 2015 the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics conducted field research to explore the ways in which Egyptian people in the 10-to-64 age group spend their time. The analysis was conducted over a 24-hours period at specified intervals during the week.

This report presents a secondary analysis from which to extract information about how adolescents (10-19 years) and youth (20-24 years) spend their time, with data disaggregated by different background characteristics (i.e. sex, educational status, place of residence). In addition, the study aims to estimate the value of unpaid work by adolescents and youth.



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Survey on Youth and Adolescents in São Tomé and Príncipe

UNICEF São Tomé and Príncipe is developing a Country Programme Document 2017-2021 that needed to be informed by updated data and evidence. This report provides data related to the youth and adolescents component of the programme document.

The survey provides a picture of the socio-demographic characteristics of adolescents and youth in São Tomé and Príncipe, as well as their attitudes and practices around reproductive health, alcohol and drugs, leisure and sports.

The survey data will be useful to partners, researchers and Government agencies working with and for adolescents and youth, and can also serve as baseline for youth and adolescents programming in the country.



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Strengthening UNICEF Programming for Key Adolescent Populations in Eastern and Southern Africa: A Technical Guidance Note

UNICEF's "Vision and Direction for HIV Action 2014-2017" includes a component addressing adolescents, with an emphasis on those at high risk of HIV exposure, including key adolescent populations. While specific information about this population group in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) is very limited, increasing attention is being focused on these groups by UNICEF and others as part of efforts to ensure that all adolescents benefit from programmes aimed at preventing new HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths.

To accelerate the pace of this work, the UNICEF ESA Regional Office collaborated with country offices and regional partners to better understand the country-specific context of these high-risk adolescent populations and to document and share what country teams are doing to reach these groups.

This guidance note will support country offices to strengthen their capacity to reach and respond to the HIV, health, and protection needs of adolescent key populations.

It includes: (i) a brief summary of UNICEF's commitments to addressing adolescent key populations within the context of its work, (ii) an overview of information about adolescent key populations in ESA and (iii) technical guidance suggestions and resources for country offices. The Guidance Note is relevant for all UNICEF country office staff, to improve knowledge and awareness regarding adolescent key populations and their HIV, health and protection needs.



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