Knowledge for Children in Africa
2019 Publications Catalogue
Foreword

Every year, UNICEF and partners generate a wealth of evidence on the situation of children in Africa. Knowledge and evidence are essential to informing the development, implementation, and monitoring of relevant policies and programmes for the realization of children’s rights. To this end, UNICEF Regional Directors in Africa are pleased to present the 2019 edition of the Knowledge for Children in Africa Publications Catalogue.

The 2019 edition of the catalogue features 107 reports and studies on the situation of children, young people, and women in Africa. These publications represent the collective knowledge generated by UNICEF Country and Regional Offices during the year, and capture the work of UNICEF and partners to support the rights and well-being of children across the continent.

The publications cover a wide range of topics. Publications are listed under the following categories:

- Child Poverty
- Child Protection
- Child-Sensitive Social Protection
- Education and Early Childhood Development
- Financing for Development: Public Finance for Children
- HIV and AIDS
- Humanitarian Action, Resilience and Peacebuilding
- Maternal, Newborn and Child Health
- Nutrition
- Situation Analysis and Socioeconomic Development
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Many of the publications are, or will be, available online. The entry for each study or report includes a short description, as well as information on the authors and contributors, planned publication date, and contact details for obtaining additional information.

Evidence plays a critical role in shaping successful initiatives in support of children and women. We sincerely hope that you will find the publications listed in this catalogue to be a helpful resource for evidence-based decision making and programming.
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PART 1: Publications by Thematic Area
Country: Mozambique

Multidimensional Child Poverty in Mozambique

This report presents the level of poverty and deprivation of Mozambican children (ages 0-17), based on a multidimensional poverty analysis, using a child-centred approach that identifies the level and severity of deprivations in key areas of child well-being and corresponding children’s rights. In Mozambique, these areas include Family; Nutrition; Education; Labour; Health; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene; Participation; and Housing. The multidimensional approach is complemented by considering monetary poverty based on the national definitions. The analysis applies a life-course perspective which highlights the needs and problems related to each particular stage of child development.

The report’s objectives are: (i) to provide comprehensive diagnostics on multidimensional child poverty and deprivation in Mozambique for the purpose of informing policy developments in the context of the next Five-Year Plan; and (ii) to stimulate discussions amongst the Government and its partners regarding the fiscal space and programmatic scope to reduce child poverty in accordance with the national commitment made concerning Agenda 2030 (the Sustainable Development Goals: SDGs).

The report provides evidence for UNICEF’s policy priorities for 2019-2020 and will be used by the Government and its partners to shape the children’s agenda for the next Five-Year Plan.

Country: Tanzania

Beyond the numbers: Perceptions and dynamics of child poverty in a rapidly urbanising Tanzania (Mainland).

Drawing on new qualitative research and a review of the broader evidence base, this research aims to provide a comprehensive picture of multidimensional child poverty in mainland Tanzania, focusing on children’s perceptions on poverty, its causes, and consequences. It also looks at how these vary in urban and rural areas to understand how rapid urbanization may impact on child poverty and discusses appropriate policy implications.

The richer understanding of child poverty in Tanzania generated by the research can help to target better government investments in children. These investments are a precondition to nourish a skilled and healthy future workforce that can lead the country’s economic transformation as envisaged in the 2025 Government’s vision, the realization of Target 1.2 of SDG 1, and of the principle of ‘leaving no one behind’.

The findings on rapid urbanization and its impact on urban child poverty have highlighted some of the challenges faced in urban areas and will be used to advocate for the development of more coherent policies to guide urban development in Tanzania, including in areas that are relevant for poor families and their children.
**Country: Togo**

**Analysis of multiple deprivations of children in Togo according to N MODA model (Analyse des privations multiples des enfants du Togo selon le modele N MODA)**

Despite the good performance of the Togolese economy in recent years, levels of monetary poverty has only slightly declined. Previous survey results do not go beyond the monetary / consumption aspects of poverty, and only touch on human rights issues faced by children and deprivations they may suffer from. To overcome this gap and draw a comprehensive understanding of poverty and vulnerability of children in Togo, an analysis of the multidimensional poverty of children was conducted in 2016, using the Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (N-Moda) approach. It is a child-centred approach to human rights and deprivation, which takes into account the child’s life cycle in the deprivation analysis, and focuses not only on individual deprivation by children, but also overlapping and cumulated deprivations.

In 2018, UNICEF and the Government of Togo have decided to update the analysis of the multiple deprivations faced by children in Togo, using the latest data made available by MICS 6.

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**Country: Uganda**

**Multidimensional Child Poverty and Deprivation in Uganda**

**Volume 1: The Extent and Nature of Multidimensional Child Poverty and Deprivation**

**Volume 2: Views of the Public**

In order to achieve the Government’s ambitious goals of eradicating extreme poverty and halving multidimensional poverty by 2030, valid and reliable poverty measures are needed that identify the extent and nature of poverty in Uganda. This report shows the extent and nature of child poverty in the country, using the latest and most reliable data available. The report looks at children living in households surviving on very low incomes as well as those suffering multidimensional poverty in order to provide a comprehensive picture of how poor children are living in Uganda today.

The report includes a state-of-the-art multidimensional poverty measure which could form the basis for monitoring progress towards halving poverty in all its dimensions between 2015 and 2030.

This qualitative work is intended to inform the interpretation and analysis of the 2016/17 Uganda National Household Survey data, and to assist in the further development of suitable survey indicators of deprivation in Uganda.

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What Works for Africa’s Poorest Children? From Measurement to Action

While there has been substantial progress in reducing global poverty in recent years, hundreds of millions of vulnerable children remain trapped in extreme poverty. This is especially the case on the African continent, where children account for the majority and growing proportion of the population.

This report aims to contribute to global efforts to end child poverty by generating key insight on practical actions, programmes and social policy interventions that are most effective in supporting Africa’s poorest and most vulnerable children and elaborates on the key features underpinning their documented success. It examines ‘why’ the poorest children often do not benefit from poverty reduction and growth policies, by presenting innovative analytical approaches, and articulating clear and actionable policy recommendations emerging from this new and important body of knowledge.

Overall the report can help: (i) to identify the social policies and programmes that are most effective in supporting Africa’s poorest and most vulnerable children and elaborate on the key features underpinning their documented success; and (ii) to raise awareness among all key stakeholders about the need to prioritize tackling child poverty and deprivation and join efforts to rally behind the actions required to respond to the social needs and status of deprivation of Africa’s poorest children as articulated in the SDG agenda.

Country: Uganda

Harnessing the Demographic Dividend in Uganda: an assessment of the impact of multi-sectoral approaches

Over the past three decades, Uganda has witnessed significant population growth. While child mortality has been on a steady decline, fertility rates have remained high over the past decades, resulting in rapid population growth and a youthful population with a high child-dependency ratio. This constitutes a major barrier to social transformation and development in Uganda. Consequently, the country must invest and implement appropriate policies to initiate a demographic transition in order to reap the benefits of the demographic dividend – accelerated economic growth.

A shift in Uganda’s population dynamics and reduction of fertility rates can be turned into a valuable demographic dividend, accelerating economic growth and fostering a socioeconomic transformation. However, such a dividend is not a given and for Uganda to reap the benefits the country needs to adopt appropriate policies and investments to ensure that over the long-term, its growing labour force is innovative, skilled, healthy, and productive.

In order to understand the conditions and analyse the magnitude of the potential demographic dividend in Uganda, this report aims to rely on the strength of the USAID-funded Health Policy Project DemDiv model, while modelling sectoral investment options that are of interest and relevance to the Government of Uganda.

The modified USAID DemDiv model is intended to be a tool that can inform policymakers of the potential benefits of the demographic dividend and thereby provide evidence that supports increased investment in multi-sectoral policies to achieve such benefits; as ultimately, the country’s ability to exploit the demographic dividend highly depends on the Government’s increased ability to design, implement and deliver interventions and programmes in a multi-sectoral manner. The empirical findings in this report demonstrate the powerful returns to comprehensive and integrated approaches.
Child Protection
Country: Angola

Child Protection Referral System and Guidelines for Case Management / “Fluxos e Parâmetros para o Atendimento de Crianças e Adolescentes Vítimas de Violência”

This report covers the policy and legal framework for the protection of child victims of violence and/or witnesses of crime in Angola, providing detailed analysis of the legal procedures foreseen for children and adolescents in four specific situations: child victims of sexual abuse and maltreatment, children in need of alternative care, children in conflict with the law and children who have abused psychoactive substances.

The report clarifies the procedures and division of responsibility between the different sectors in the child protection system (judicial, police, health and social welfare) and provides four simple graphic flowcharts of the referral pathways to be followed, according to the specific vulnerabilities. The document was developed through a highly participatory inter-sectoral consultation process that highlighted the general lack of capacity among frontline service providers. The document also tries to address this gap by providing basic guidelines on case management principles to be observed by each sector/institution.

The report provides practical guidance for child protection actors from the different sectors on the referral pathways and case management procedures to be followed to ensure integrated and specialized care for child victims and/or children in conflict with the law.

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Country: Eswatini

Mapping and assessment of toll-free child protection reporting services operating in Eswatini

Violence among children remains high in Eswatini with 33 per cent of girls experiencing sexual violence before the age of 18. Coordination needs to be strengthened at national and regional level to efficiently prevent and respond to violence against children.

UNICEF Eswatini in supporting the Deputy Prime Minister’s Office (DPMO), National Children Services Department (NCSD) to strengthen national systems and coordination for the protection of children. One of the key interventions areas is to develop an integrated and coordinated national toll-free child-line service to allow for a more effective, accessible and cost-free reporting mechanism of child abuse cases in the country. A mapping and assessment of existing services is needed to identify the current players, the type of services they offer, and eventually inform lessons that will influence the development of a national integrated toll-free child-line.

The assessment report will be used the Deputy Prime Minister’s office and other key actors to develop a National Child Helpline in the country. The helpline will benefit not only children but also parents, teachers, police, judges, lawyers, social workers, psychologists, doctors, and community leaders.

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Country: Eswatini

Assessment of the national violence surveillance system

Eswatini has limited capacity to report and provide an appropriate and quality response to violence against children. UNICEF is providing financial and technical support for the development and strengthening of national, regional and sub-regional data/information systems for surveillance of violence against children, to enable access to real-time information on reported cases of violence in the country.

This report is intended to comprehensively assess the status of the existing National Violence Surveillance System, with the objective of identifying key achievements, constraints/bottlenecks, lessons learned, opportunities and make concrete recommendations for its improvement.

The report will facilitate the development of a real-time national violence surveillance system which will be beneficial to police, social workers, government ministries that work in child protection; non-state service providers on violence against children and other governmental and non-governmental organizations that work in child rights advocacy.

Country: Ethiopia


School-Related Gender-Based Violence (SRGVB) encompasses physical, sexual and psychological acts of violence in and around schools, underpinned by unequal access to resources and power, and inequitable norms and stereotypes based on gender. A Code of Conduct on Prevention of SRGVB in Schools has been introduced and rolled out in all regions of Ethiopia. A Violence Reporting Tool has also been developed to gather data on incidents of violence in schools.

Few studies look in depth at how Codes of Conduct for school communities have been implemented in schools. In 2017, in partnership with researchers at UCL Institute of Education, the Ministry of Education (MoE) and UNICEF Ethiopia prioritized a study to look in depth at how the Code was understood and used at national, regional, district and school levels.

The publication draws on data from interviews and focus groups with students and school staff in six schools in Amhara and Addis Ababa. The findings from the study are expected help to inform the Ministry of Education’s review of the Code and the reporting tools, thus having the potential to make an important contribution to improving the safety of girls and boys in and around schools in Ethiopia. The study will also help to build knowledge globally about the challenges and the potential for Codes of Conduct, and related work to prevent and respond to violence in schools.
Country: Ethiopia

Systematic review and service mapping among most-at-risk adolescents and youth populations of Ethiopia

UNICEF and UNFPA have successfully worked on the first (2007-2013) and second (2014-2017) phases of a Joint Programme on ‘A Rights Based Approach to Adolescent and Youth Development in Ethiopia’ funded by the Royal Norwegian Government. At the core of Phase I and II of the JP were interventions on prevention of and response to HIV and AIDS and on Sexual and Reproductive Health, targeting adolescents and youth aged 10-24 years in the general population.

This assessment was designed to generate evidence using a systematic review of best available published and grey literature on most-at-risk adolescents and youth and issues including the situation and responses concerning HIV prevention, sexual and reproductive health, violence and harmful traditional practices. Responses includes life skills, informed decision making, help-seeking behaviour, self-protection and peer relationships. The assessment also maps all services in project intervention areas that may or may not be used by adolescents and youth and for what reasons, including services provided by government, NGOs, CSOs, FBOs, women and youth associations to understand the service opportunities and gaps.

The findings of the systematic review and mapping will inform the design of interventions in the third phase of the Joint Programme. They also help to identify existing services, facilities and platforms to help determine the level of readiness for programming related to HIV, sexual and reproductive health, violence and harmful traditional practices for most at-risk adolescents and youth.

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In Kenya, over two million children are orphans, one in three girls have experienced sexual violence in their childhood and 73 per cent of boys have experienced physical violence. In some communities, up to 94 per cent of girls have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, and 22.9 per cent of girls get married before the age of 18. An estimated 43,000 children are living in residential care facilities known as charitable children’s institutions. However, the child protection system remains too weak to reach the children needing protection. UNICEF and other partners have supported the Government to strengthen the child protection by establishing four Child Protection Centres (CPC), as well as a Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Wellness Centre and the national Child Help Line. Given the high interest of the Department of Children’s Services in scaling up the CPC model, it will be useful to take stock of the impact of the existing CPCs and gather lessons learned with a view to guiding and informing an expanded roll out of the model.

This formative evaluation of the child protection centre service model is intended to identify the strengths, weaknesses and gaps of the model, including its community outreach component for preventing and responding to violence against children. The specific objectives of the evaluation are to: (i) collect triangulated data on the effectiveness and relevance of the centres and the prevention and response strategies for meeting the different needs of girls and boys who have experienced violence, neglect and/or exploitation; (ii) assess the extent to which the CPCs are integrated into the wider child protection system and how the CPCs are contributing to strengthening child protection systems in Kenya; (iii) make recommendations on possible mechanisms that would make regular impact assessment of end-users possible; and (iv) assess the sustainability and cost effectiveness of the services provided through the CPCs.

The intended audience for this evaluation is the UNICEF Kenya Country Office and the Department of Children Services in the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, as well as other stakeholders and partners working on child protection in Kenya.
Traditional practices widely deemed as harmful continue to be practised in Malawi despite concerted efforts by various stakeholders to abate them. These cultural practices make especially women and girls occupy subordinate positions in society since much is done in the name of preserving culture, which erodes the physical and psychological health, dignity and integrity of vulnerable and marginalized members of society. The study targeted households with children aged 8-17 across the country. These households were selected using a two-stage stratified sampling frame of clusters and households. In total, 7,494 questionnaires were administered at household level.

The study shows that girls in particular are subjected to initiation ceremonies including sexual initiation ceremonies. While some useful lessons are imparted to the initiates, the sexual aspects put girls at risk of contracting sexually transmitted infections and unwanted pregnancy. Forty-two per cent of the female respondents reported being married before the age of 18 years. It is evident that most people make decisions on their own on when they want to get married, but for a higher proportion of women than men families and others made decisions for them. About a third of the respondents do not consider these traditional practices as valuable. While some boys and girls voluntarily enrol for these initiation rituals, most are influenced by family members, village elders and village chiefs, claiming perpetuation of inherited traditions. Culture, of course, is a very important part of societal identity, but it should not serve as an obstacle to progress, development and prosperity.

The study was designed to contribute to systematic documentation of the prevalence and persistence of two traditional practices: early marriage and initiation ceremonies. In particular, it sought to provide regionally and nationally representative prevalence levels of these two traditional practices, in order to help establish if there are regional variations in incidence of these traditional practices and the principal decision makers. The ultimate objective is to establish the drivers of support for these traditional practices that make them resilient even in the face of concerted efforts to abolish them.

To address significant challenges to child well-being, the Government of Malawi with the support of UNICEF and other development partners developed a five-year National Child Protection Strategy (NCPS) 2012-2016 extended to 2018. The overall outcome level result of the NCPS is to “protect children from violence abuse, exploitation and neglect while mitigating the impact of HIV on them”. This evaluation follows a theory based and systems approach to evaluate the degree to which the strategy contributed to positive changes on child protection in Malawi.

The evaluation found that the NCPS is highly relevant to the national child protection context in Malawi. The NCPS has set out a robust agenda for strengthening the national child protection system, and has led to greater emphasis on a systems approach to child protection in Malawi and embedding of case management in the system. The approaches that implemented as part of the NCPS all have potential for scaling up and/or replication.

The evaluation provides the Government of Malawi, UNICEF and other key stakeholders with an independent assessment of the overall performance and results at outcome level. The evaluation thus struck a balance between retrospective aspects focused on accountability and legitimacy and forward-looking aspects. Specifically, the evaluation feeds into refining and strengthening Government, United Nations and UNICEF strategies. It also provides useful insights for the renewed political commitment to address violence against girls and boys with the other United Nations member states in view of the agreement to support the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Agenda.

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**Country: Sudan (To be done jointly with MENARO and other partners)**

**Understanding the situation of returned migrant children**

The research looks at the situation of Sudanese migrant children who have returned from Libya to Sudan. The study is intended to inform advocacy efforts, given the major political push towards ‘returns’ and to inform programming about what these children need and what a “reintegration support package” could look like to address those needs.

The research is intended to address the needs of Sudanese children who have returned from Libya to Sudan. It will help to improve the situation of returnee children by providing up-to-date data to inform the need and what reintegration support package appropriate to tackle their need.

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Country: Tanzania

Social Service Workforce Assessment

The child protection and the social protection system in the United Republic of Tanzania rely upon a similar cadre or workforce for the delivery of programmes, services, or benefits. This mainly comprises social welfare officers, community development officers, and Tanzania Social Action Fund officials – all at district and ward level, as well as the cadre of community-based volunteers in the social welfare, community development, and social assistance sectors. For the Government to be able to plan and budget for the scale up of the social welfare services and child protection system and for the scale-up and sustainable delivery of social protection interventions, it needs to understand the social services workforce currently in place and what is required to deliver on child and social protection policies and action plans.

Understanding the gap between the current situation and the requirements can facilitate the development and implementation of measures to increase numbers of cadre, streamline portfolios, set minimum standards, improve coordination, and strengthen capacity, among other things. The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, with support from UNICEF, decided to initiate a national Social Service Workforce Assessment to address the above-mentioned gap.

The overall purpose of the Assessment is to propose measures that improve the adequacy, coherence, effectiveness, and efficiency of the Social Services Workforce, to enable effective delivery of programmes and services in the fields of child protection and social protection. The findings and recommendations from the assessment will inform and increase coherence of several sectors within government that are responsible for the achievement of results and delivery of services under the National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children, and the upcoming National Social Protection Policy.

Country: Zambia

An assessment of case management systems for improved access to basic social services for vulnerable children and adolescents in Zambia

In order to develop an integrated case management system, existing systems at national and subnational level need to be examined, and a road map and monitoring plan established for integrating case management systems. More specifically, this will entail a review of existing case management mechanisms and processes related to child and family welfare services. This study focuses specifically on children who receive or should receive individual attention with their families. It also provides insight into what is missing and to opportunities for integration with technical sectors working on social cash transfers, poverty alleviation, maternal and child health, family nutrition and food security, basic and secondary education, early childhood development, persons with disabilities, psycho-social services, child justice and police protection.

The research assesses existing case management systems within, and in relation to, social service providers in Lusaka and Copper belt provinces. The assessment highlights: (i) what exists in terms of coordination among different technical sectors and how they ensure that identified children’s needs for care, protection, support and professional services are met; and (ii) how services can be strengthened to form a comprehensive GRZ integrated case management system for child and family well-being.

The findings of this study will inform the priorities and design of a national case management system and will contribute the improvement of response services to identified children at risk, or having been exposed to abuse, neglect and/or exploitation.
Child-Sensitive Social Protection
Country: Gabon

Cartography and Analysis of the social protection system for children in Gabon / Cartographie et Analyse du système de protection sociale de l’enfant au Gabon

Since the 1990s, the Government of Gabon has initiated reforms to reduce disparities and social exclusion through more equitable access to social protection schemes. These include health insurance, reassessing educational allowances, subsidizing certain services such as access to water and electricity, paying allowances and the funding of income-generating activities for low-income population citizens. In 2013, a report highlighted the inefficiency of the different social policies pursued by the successive governments and identified seven particularly vulnerable groups: large families, single mothers, elderly people, widows, people with disabilities, single students, orphans and street children. The state and development partners found it difficult to know how children really benefit from these social protection systems, directly or indirectly.

The purpose of this study is to provide the most comprehensive possible mapping of social benefits for vulnerable children across the country and a detailed analysis of the child protection actors.

This study helps to address the issue of targeting social safety net beneficiaries and developing a common understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of social protection systems currently in place in Gabon to propose the best possible options for effective care to vulnerable children.

Country: Ethiopia

Impact Evaluation of Improved Nutrition through Integrated Basic Social Services and Social Cash Transfer (IN SCT)

In 2015, UNICEF introduced the Social Cash Transfer (SCT) programme in Oromia and SNNP Regions of Ethiopia. The SCT programme aims to support and enhance the implementation of Phase 4 of the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP4). Within the SCT programme, UNICEF is piloting an integrated package of multisectoral nutrition services entitled the “Integrated Nutrition and Social Cash Transfer” (IN-SCT), in Halaba and Shashago woredas in SNNPR.

The impact evaluation formally evaluates the impact of the UNICEF-led four-year pilot on nutrition-sensitive social protection interventions in the scope of the rural productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP4) – 2014-2018. The evaluation will inform the design of programming after PSNP4, and inform future UNICEF programmes supporting the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) and Urban Productive Safety Net Programme (UPSNP).
Policy Options to Improve the Educational Impact of the Malawi Social Cash Transfer Programme (SCTP)

Studies have shown that conditional cash transfers have an impact on education. However, there have only been two studies on unconditional cash transfers (UCT) and education in sub-Saharan Africa, from Kenya and Ghana. Both report that UCTs can have a positive impact on education. They also highlight strongly differentiated results by gender, with a greater impact on boys’ schooling. Boys experienced increased enrolment, and increased attendance of those previously enrolled. Meanwhile, improvement could only be found for girls who were already enrolled: there were no new enrolments. The evidence suggests that UCT households have different preferences concerning enrolling their children in school depending on whether the child is a girl or a boy. A gendered and contextualized school barrier analysis is needed to identify the appropriate contextualized and gender-sensitive policy and programme options to address these barriers.

The overall goal of this study is to propose programme and policy options to increase the impact of the Malawi Social Cash Transfer Programme (SCTP) on primary and secondary education, and girls in particular. The secondary objectives are: i) to show how school enrolment, attendance and retention have evolved among SCTP beneficiaries since initiation of the school bonus as compared to national school enrolment, attendance and retention, and how SCTP children are covered, targeted and impacted by bursary schemes and other programmes to increase the number of years they attend school; ii) to define and analyse the barriers to attending or remaining in school, disaggregated by gender, age, primary/secondary level and region (where relevant); and iii) to analyse the reasons for particularly high drop-out rates.

The study proposes feasible policy and programme options for the SCTP, including a school attendance tracking option, to address these barriers and support children, girls in particular, attending school.

Cash Plus mid-line evaluation

Motivated by the largest ever adolescent population in the United Republic of Tanzania entering their economically productive years, along with the idea that cash can be leveraged with complementary programming, the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) is implementing a pilot targeted towards youth. The Cash Plus pilot, also known as “Ujana Salama” meaning “Safe Youth” in Swahili, is being implemented within the Government’s Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN), with technical assistance from UNICEF Tanzania and the Tanzania Commission for AIDS (TACAIDS). The pilot jointly addresses livelihoods skills and education on HIV, sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and gender equity and facilitates linkages to youth-friendly SRH services. This approach recognizes that youth need a combination of social, health and financial assets to safely transition to adulthood. The pilot design was informed by a consultative process in which the Government, development partners and researchers came together to identify salient needs and vulnerabilities among Tanzanian adolescents and best practices to support them.

The pilot and accompanying evaluation focus on the impacts of a unique, multi-sectoral, government-implemented intervention targeted to vulnerable adolescents in impoverished households. Outcomes examined include livelihoods; educational or occupational aspirations; schooling; attitudes, such as self-esteem and locus of control and gender norms; mental health; exposure to violence; partnerships; SRH and care seeking; and HIV knowledge, testing and treatment.

The findings of the impact assessment are expected to inform the further roll-out of Cash Plus under the TASAF-PSSN programme.
Country: Sierra Leone

Fiscal Space Analysis and Business Case for Social Protection in Sierra Leone

The main social protection initiative in Sierra Leone is the World Bank/UNICEF supported safety net programme targeted at the extremely monetary poor households, which since 2013 has reached about 30,000 households in 10 districts. Cumulatively, over 120,000 households benefited from the various social protection initiatives in the country. However, social protection initiatives in the country are fragmented with weak monitoring systems. Government budgetary commitments to social protection capacity are also limited. Existing social protection initiatives are ad hoc and fragmented. Registry, enrolment, and payment systems are limited with weak structures and inadequate human resources to expand social protection during emergencies. UNICEF Sierra Leone and the World Bank are also supporting the Government’s development and review of the social protection policy, and development of a strategy and cash transfer response for emergencies.

The general purpose of the study is to advise policy decisions regarding how to make available more financial resources in the national budget for investment in children without jeopardizing fiscal sustainability. Given Sierra Leone’s low-income country status, this study assesses the resources already available to the country’s Government. Since the Government’s social protection programme is limited and fragmented the study reviews the possible cost scenarios of specific interventions.

This publication is an advocacy tool to influence the Government’s fiscal discipline in managing the limited resources available for social protection. It is also a tool to raise funds from donors and open discussions about the systems that are needed to reduce targeting inefficiency and inclusion errors. The findings will also influence UNICEF’s programming focus for its next country programme on public finance for children.

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Education and Early Childhood Development
Country: ESARO

Education Think Pieces

UNICEF has commissioned a series of think pieces by leading researchers and practitioners to stimulate debate around significant educational challenges facing countries in eastern and southern Africa. These short technical education briefs cover a range of topics, including pre-primary education, teacher performance, curriculum reform, gender and equity, and the role of parents and caregivers.

While the briefs are rooted in evidence, they are not research papers, and nor do they represent official UNICEF policy. The Think Pieces, which will be published on the global UNICEF blog, aim to engage and inspire fresh thinking to improve learning outcomes for all children.

Countries: ESARO (Eswatini, Kenya, Namibia)

The role of social norms on the decision to provide schooling to children with disabilities

Disabilities create vulnerabilities that lead to children’s exclusion from the education system. Schools and communities must make decisions that affect children with these vulnerabilities. For example, schools may need to ensure basic services, such as availability of water, before deciding on the acquisition of accessible learning materials or building a ramp to facilitate access to classrooms. Families with limited resources may also need to decide which goods and services they can procure to assist their children and, in extreme cases, which children they can afford to send to school. In this context, research on school attendance has found that children with disabilities are on average 30 per cent less likely to go to school, almost 50 per cent of children with disabilities are out of school and, of these, 85 per cent have never been to school. While rates of enrolment and attendance are estimated to have increased in the last 10 years, new strategies to reduce the gaps that persist must become more refined and better targeted.

This report is the first step in a wider process to develop tools that can provide a better picture of the challenges faced by children with disabilities and how information on access and infrastructure conditions can be enhanced by improving EMIS and surveys. The study includes analysis of how the actors surrounding the child make decisions on schooling when there are limited resources and hindrances, taking into account the social norms influencing the decision-making process.

This study is intended to improve understanding of whether social norms affect the decision-making process on providing children with disabilities with access to education. Eventually, it is hoped that a set of valid tools can be developed to measure the weight of several behavioural drivers among various actors making these decisions.

They could potentially be used to prioritize activities to develop multi-year implementation plans targeting children with disabilities, identify the major obstacles to ensuring all children have access to education, prepare a monitoring baseline for children with disabilities and provide evidence to inform policies.
**Country: Angola**

**Evaluation of the Child-friendly Schools in Bie and Moxico Provinces (2019)**

The evaluation presents a critical assessment of the achievements of the Child-Friendly Schools Project and determines best practices on improving access, retention, and learning outcomes in the intervention schools in two provinces in central Angola.

The document examines the extent to which the Child-Friendly Schools Project complied with the criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability based on objective evidence. It also looks to the extent to which the child-friendly schools demonstrate sensitivity to issues related to gender, equity, and child rights, and which practices and approaches could be scalable at provincial and national level.

The evaluation is an up-to-date analysis of the impact the Child-Friendly Schools Project had on the beneficiaries (students, teachers, parents and so on) and how it will be maintained after its conclusion. It will provide stakeholders with concrete recommendations on what needs to be promoted and scaled up at the national and provincial levels and the minimum conditions that need to be established.

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**Country: Republic of Congo**

**Study of gender-based violence against children in schools, including online violence, in the Republic of Congo / Etude sur les violences de genre dans les établissements scolaires, y compris la violence en ligne, en République du Congo**

Gender-based violence in schools including online violence has become increasingly important phenomena in the Republic of Congo. Students are the main victims, but they experience differing types of violence depending on their sex. While girls and boys can be perpetrators and victims, but the extent and type of violence is usually different. Gender-based violence in schools has been identified as one of the factors behind children and adolescents dropping out of school. In this context, UNICEF and the Government have decided to conduct a study on all forms of gender-based violence in secondary schools, including online violence.

The overall objective of the study is to analyse the impact of gender violence on the public education system, especially on girls. It will specifically focus on all forms of violence that children and young people experience in Congo; physical, sexual, psychological and emotional, and online violence due to increased access to the Internet and use of mobile phone – and the extent of this violence.

The findings will contribute to strengthening national capacity to legislate, plan and budget for scaling up interventions that prevent and respond to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect of children and adolescents, including online protection. They will also support implementation of a case management system, including developing tools, protocols and procedures to improve tracking and referral of cases of violence, exploitation and abuse.
Country: Rwanda

Baseline study of the Developing Human Capital Programme in Rwanda: Harnessing the power of integrated programming for nutrition and early childhood development

This baseline study of the integrated Developing Human Capital in Rwanda Programme provides an in-depth and comprehensive overview of key child development and household livelihood indicators in the seven districts of Rwanda with the highest poverty and stunting rates.

This quantitative study focuses on nutrition, early childhood development, sanitation, social protection and education outcomes for children aged 6-23 months and analyses these indicators against the socio-economic status of the households in which they live. It provides a unique insight into the areas where social services are most needed for children, particularly those living in the most vulnerable households. The results further highlight the existing dynamics between the various dimensions of poverty, particularly for children living in households categorized as living in extreme poverty.

The baseline study results will be used to enhance the delivery of the multi-sectoral and integrated programme implemented in partnership with the Government of Rwanda, in order to effectively address specific aspects of multidimensional poverty, including malnutrition and low early childhood development achievement, stunting and access and quality of the early childhood development services for the most vulnerable children in Rwanda.

Country: Mozambique

Evaluation of Mozambique Accelerated School Readiness Pilot Programme: Final Report

Despite a doubling in primary school enrolment in Mozambique over the past 15 years, educational outcomes remain largely disappointing. In 2014, the average primary school dropout rate in Mozambique reached almost 7 per cent, and only 6 per cent of students achieved basic reading competency by Grade 3. In Zambezia, both the quantity and quality of educational institutions are insufficient, especially for pre-primary students. In this context, UNICEF Mozambique and Save the Children are supporting the Ministry of Education and Human Resources (MINEDH) to implement an accelerated school readiness (ASR) pilot programme from 2016 to 2020 in Zambezia province with 11,040 children aged 5 to 6. This mixed-methods impact evaluation of the Programme (i) determines the extent to which the programme has improved children’s school readiness, on-time enrolment, and academic achievement in Grade 1; (ii) calculates the community- and child-level costs of providing the programme; and (iii) identifies which aspects of community context and implementation appeared to facilitate or inhibit programme success.

In the absence of universal public pre-primary education, ASR programmes could potentially increase on-time enrolment and early-grade achievement for children in sub-Saharan Africa. However, the limited implementation of such programmes to date necessitates further testing to validate their effectiveness. This evaluation contributes to the broader literature on the effectiveness of early childhood development programmes in sub-Saharan Africa, the long-term effects of such interventions, and the ability of children to acquire school readiness skills despite adverse early environments.

Overall, this project provides new evidence on how to implement ASR programming that is impactful, cost effective, and responsive. In addition, the results of this evaluation are currently being used by UNICEF and the MINEDH to assess programme scalability, and specifically the possibility of MINEDH continuing the Programme through national systems.
Country: Tunisia

Parents Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) survey for child caring / Etude sur les connaissances, attitudes et pratiques des parents pour prendre soins de leur enfants

Initial analysis for the development of an integrated national strategy for early childhood development (0-8 years) showed that sufficient conditions are not in place for the physical, cognitive and emotional development of young children in Tunisia. This to a significant extent depends directly on the knowledge, attitudes and practices of their parents. In developing the early childhood development strategy, regional and local stakeholder consultations identified parental education as a key component of improving the situation of young children in Tunisia. As a first step, this study on parents’ knowledge, attitudes and practices is intended to obtain the information needed to define future parental education interventions in Tunisia.

The purpose of this report is to assess knowledge, attitude and practices of parents for providing nurturing care to their children. The report focuses on the following dimensions of early childhood development (0-8 years): health, nutrition, education and child protection. The publication will be using to inform the national early childhood development strategy. It will also be used to conceptualize, elaborate and set the baseline for the national parental education programme as part of UNICEF’s contribution to improve nurturing care in Tunisia.

Country: Zambia

Study on School-Related Gender Based Violence (SRGBV) in and Around Boarding Schools in Zambia

It is estimated that at least 246 million boys and girls suffer from school-related gender-based violence (SRGBV) every year around the world. Boys, but particularly girls are vulnerable to sexual harassment, rape, coercion, exploitation, and discrimination. It is well known that girls who complete primary and secondary education are likely to earn higher incomes over their lifetimes, have fewer unwanted pregnancies, marry later, and break cycles of poverty within families and communities. SRGBV perpetrators are usually the children’s teachers, peers or other school personnel. In a regional study of six countries, including Zambia, about 40 per cent of school principals reported that sexual harassment of pupils by teachers had occurred in their schools, and harassment by peers taking place ‘sometimes’ or ‘often’.

There is a lack of quality research on SRGBV and related risks, given cultural sensitivities and its deep, personal impact. In Zambia, this is exacerbated by limited availability of secondary schools, and government-owned boarding arrangements. Adolescents wanting to attend secondary school are often forced to find accommodation at hostels or lodging in the school surroundings, where they are unsupervised and vulnerable to several forms of SRGBV. Risks for physically, emotionally or sexually violent behaviour by peers, school staff or community members seems substantial. Also, many educators or parents have limited understanding of these vulnerabilities or lack the ability to effectively address them. Therefore, educational spaces risk allowing violent behaviour to take place, rather than detecting, addressing and eliminating it.

To ensure that strategies to combat SRGBV are effective, evidence is needed to understand the prevalence and nature of the problem in schools as well as in formal and informal boarding schools. This study therefore explores the existing evidence, practices and experiences of adolescents who attend school far away from home. This is essential to achieve the government’s goal of quality education for all. This research is timely, as the produced evidence will feed into several policy initiatives such as: (i) the Girls’ Education Strategy; (ii) the school building plan to expand access to secondary educational and (iii) System efficiency and effectiveness for vulnerable children and adolescents (SEEVCA) for an improved child and family welfare system. In addition, the findings may be valuable to better understand and fight SRGBV in other countries in the region, the continent or around the world.
Country: Zambia

Participatory Research with Adolescents to Unpack How Decisions are Made Whether to Stay in School

While girls and boys enrol in primary education in Zambia in equal numbers, girls drop out at much higher rates than boys in upper grades, particularly from Grade 5 onward. Transition from primary to secondary education (at Grade 7) is low for both boys and girls, with fewer than 60 per cent of students continuing to junior secondary. In 2014, girls’ dropout at Grade 9 was 5.3 per cent compared to 2.3 per cent for boys. By Grade 12, the gender disparity is greater again, with only 28.6 per cent of girls and 34.8 per cent of boys completing the year. Barriers to transition and completion include school fees introduced in Grades 7 to 8, other costs such as books and transport, lack of space in senior secondary to accommodate learners, long distances to schools, and gender-specific factors including menstrual hygiene facilities in schools, low value placed on girls’ attainment of secondary education in some communities, teenage pregnancy and child marriage (recent data show that 31.4 per cent of women in Zambia aged 20-24 were married before the age of 18 and 7 per cent began bearing children by age 18).

Despite evidence that adolescents are likely to not be in school, having either never started or having dropped out, little information is available on exactly what contributes to these outcomes. This means there is a need to determine how the adolescents make these decisions. The study therefore aims to address the evidence gap on how decisions are reached and how choices are made by adolescents in Zambia not to continue with school or stay in school. This includes understanding key influencing factors and networks or people that drive them towards a particular way of making decisions.

The study findings will be used to inform policy briefs and advocacy for young people especially for school retention, second decade and ending child marriage programme interventions. In addition, the research is expected to generate up-to-date and relevant evidence for communication for development analysis and programming.
Country: Burundi

Investment case for adolescents

Fulfilling adolescent rights is critical, and even indispensable, for Burundi’s socioeconomic development. With 49 per cent of the population aged 18 years old or younger, and 23 per cent between 10 to 19 years old, Burundi has one of the world’s youngest, poorest (65 per cent of Burundians live below the national poverty line), and most rural-based populations. The Government has taken a number of steps to reaffirm its commitments to the youth agenda, including adoption of the National Youth Policy and Strategic Plan (2016-2026). Youth-based interventions can significantly improve the well-being of the population and are an investment in the economic and social future of societies. Given the opportunities caused by the demographic dividend, Burundi must devote substantial efforts to youth by addressing their specific needs, namely low absorption in the labour market and access to productive capacity. In this context, UNICEF, together with numerous partners and the Government, plans to focus greater investment in the second decade of life and support young people to secure more peaceful and prosperous futures while contributing to achievement of key Sustainable Development Goals in Burundi.

Several research studies around the world show the multiplier effects of investment on youth and adolescents and the contributions that can be made by an engaged and empowered youth for economic and social development. This research aims to make available to decision-makers and partners in Burundi a modelled investment framework based on different scenarios utilizing quantitative data. It will provide estimations of the impacts and opportunity costs of social sector investments for adolescents (aged 10-19 years).

The findings will help inform future investment gains (economic and social) through increased support for young people in the country. They will support efforts by the Government and its development partners to advocate for greater investments in adolescent development. The evidence will form the basis for continued advocacy to stimulate more interventions to benefit adolescents to maximize their positive potential for contributing to development and peace in the country.
Country: Chad

Increasing the fiscal space and financing options for public investment in the social sectors in Chad / Accroître l’espace budget et options de financement pour les secteurs sociaux au Tchad

Investment in child-sensitive social sectors (health, education, social protection, nutrition, water and sanitation) are generally low in Chad. According to the African Child Policy Forum, budget constraints are the main barriers to the realization of children’s rights in Africa. In Chad, the health budget makes up on average 6.5 per cent of total state expenditure, much less than the 15 per cent commitment of African Heads of State in Abuja in 2001. Of this, spending on basic education is 9.2 per cent, compared to a commitment of 25 per cent in Africa. With a poverty headcount of 46.7 per cent and an estimated increase in the number of poor children of around 630,000 in 2018 alone, due to the fall in oil prices and the drastic reduction in public spending, it is important to identify options to increase fiscal space for the social sectors and especially for programmes targeting children, in order to sustainably reduce poverty.

The main objective of this study is to analyse the fiscal space available in Chad to determine plausible financing options for increasing public investment in social sectors. The study analyses trends in public spending in the main social sectors over the last five years and estimates the relationship that may exist between social spending and indicators of child well-being. It then analyses all the components of fiscal space, and identifies which components are mostly likely to increase in the short, medium and long term, and in what proportions. The study is policy-relevant, as it presents analysis of the existing fiscal space and presents concrete options for increasing priority child-sensitive social spending in the social sectors (health, education, water and sanitation and social protection) taking into account the identified needs over the short and medium terms.
The Macroeconomic and Social Investment Outlook for Children in Eastern and Southern Africa

This report assesses the current and future state of macroeconomic volatility in Eastern and Southern Africa, focusing on the set of variables that have the most direct impact on children’s lives. It also identifies key actions for UNICEF and child rights advocates to ensure that children and vulnerable populations benefit during good times and are protected during bad times. It sets the stage by providing an overview of the ongoing population dynamics as well as the current state of poverty, social development and fragility across the region. The subsequent chapters then explore the recent performance and forecasted trends of specific macroeconomic variables, including economic growth, employment, inflation and the fiscal balance. Given the critical importance of how the national budget is transformed into goods and services that benefit children, the final chapter takes a detailed look at social sector spending trends, looking at the budget priority given to health, education, water and sanitation, and social protection, the overall levels of investments in these areas, and the design and performance of their budgets.

Ultimately, the report enhances UNICEF’s knowledge of the links between the macroeconomy and child well-being and further contributes to country programming priorities and advocacy strategies.

Budget Credibility in Eastern and Southern Africa: Trends, Challenges and Entry Points for UNICEF

This study draws on a variety of national data sources to better understand the performance of social sector budgets in 19 countries in the region. After introducing basic concepts, it examines the difference between approved budgets and the actual amounts spent at the end of the fiscal year in the education, health, water and sanitation, and social protection sectors, including by different types of expenditure items (capital and recurrent) where available. It then proposes a methodology and estimates annual social sector investment ‘losses’ due to poor budget credibility in a sub-set of countries. Next, the study discusses the underlying causes of low budget credibility, looking at both upstream causes (inaccurate revenue forecasting, poor cash management practices, disbursement delays and so on) as well as downstream causes (bad planning, insufficient human resources, weak financial management information systems, cumbersome procurement processes, limited competition and so on). The study concludes by discussing concrete entry points for UNICEF to work with and support government counterparts to improve budget credibility and execution performance across the social sectors.
Fiscal Space for Human Capital in Eastern and Southern Africa: Options and Strategic Entry Points to Address Investment Gaps in 16 Countries

This report summarizes the findings from fiscal space and political economy analyses that were conducted in 16 eastern and southern African countries in 2017 and 2018. The fiscal space analyses were based on the development of country-specific macro-fiscal models and concentrated on identifying 3-4 feasible options for governments to expand current government spending on social sector programmes. The political economy analyses, in contrast, identified concrete entry points and strategies for UNICEF to more effectively engage in and influence public financial processes to increase the size and impact of social sector budgets. After contextualizing the regional context, the report highlights the most common opportunities for governments to increase investments in their human capital base along with what UNICEF can do.


Demand for teachers has never been greater in eastern and southern Africa. Rapid population growth coupled with the need to re-engage millions of out-of-school children and lower extremely high pupil-teacher ratios have made the recruitment of teachers indispensable for ensuring quality education for all children (SDG 4). Building on previous models of teacher demand, this study uses information from global databases to estimate the number of teachers required to achieve different pupil-teacher ratios for each level of education in 20 countries by 2030. At the same time, it assesses the affordability of the different scenarios.

For the region as a whole, current investment trends indicate that there will be extraordinary teacher gaps by 2030 at pre-primary, secondary and tertiary education levels – to the magnitude of four million if current pupil-teacher ratios are maintained – along with a surplus at primary level. Of course, large variations are observed across countries. The results are also interplayed with international spending benchmarks for education and indicate that even if governments devote 20 per cent of their budgets to education and/or an amount equivalent to 6 per cent of GDP, most countries will still face severe teacher shortages in 2030. Progressive increases in allocations to the education sector must be a high priority for all governments in the region if serious progress toward SDG 4 is to be made, especially at the pre-primary and secondary levels, but greater attention also needs to be paid to ensuring that budgets are fully and efficiently delivered.
Country: Angola

**Budget Brief: Analysis of the state budget**

**Budget Brief: Visão Geral da Proposta do Orçamento Geral do Estado**

UNICEF has been involved in analysing the Angolan state budget and conducting dissemination and advocacy campaigns for increased and more efficient public expenditure in key social sectors for children (such as health, education, water and sanitation, justice and birth registration, and social protection). The advocacy conducted around the Social Protection Sector Budget Analysis is mainly focused on creating conditions for the institutional and financial sustainability of the Apoio a Protecção Social Programme, in particular the components of Municipalization of Social Assistance and social cash transfers.

The analysis is intended to contribute to the national dialogue among key stakeholders on the state budget and its preparation and implementation. It also aims to increase budgetary literacy and awareness among stakeholders and the broader public on the state budgeting process.

The brief provides in-depth technical analysis of the adequacy of the budget and spending, as well as the transparency in the process, to unfold the problems and support policymakers with efficient and effective budgeting. The budget brief is an instrument to guide the Government to allocate resources in favour of children.

Country: Botswana

**Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Botswana: 2019 Budget Briefs**

The thematic budget briefs summarize data from budget reports in easy-to-read analyses of spending trends in key social sectors of importance to children and families, including education, healthcare and social protection.

The budget briefs synthesize complex budget information and outline key message which stakeholders can use for advocacy to inform the Government’s financial decision-making processes. They analyse the size and composition of budgetary allocations for fiscal year 2019/2020 and explore the extent to which the national budget addresses the needs of children in Botswana. The briefs also examine the efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy of past spending.

The budget information presented in the budget briefs 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 also support advocacy for more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in the country.
Botswana’s social sector expenditures is generous and education expenditure relative to GDP is among the highest in the world, with significant increases in recent years. Spending on universities and bursaries is high relative to those on basic education and technical and vocational education, so allocative efficiency remains an important issue. Almost 90 per cent of the basic education budget is spent on salaries and other recurrent costs, which leaves very little funding for improving learning outcomes and for educating the most disadvantaged students, including early childhood development and efforts to support or provide access to out-of-school children. The quality of education and transition rates to junior and secondary education are still far from satisfactory, with high levels of repetition and dropping out. This suggests serious inefficiencies within the education sector. Moreover, there is still significant variation across the country in both access and performance, raising critical questions about equity of access to quality education.

The overall objective of the Botswana Education Sector Public Expenditure Review (PER) is to investigate public spending on basic education and whether it contributes in the most efficient way to the desired educational outcomes of providing quality education that meets the needs of the society and the labour market. Specifically, the PER is intended to: (i) assess the adequacy and sustainability of public spending in the education sector; (ii) assess the efficiency and effectiveness in the use of these resources; (iii) assess the equity of education expenditure and whether it protects disadvantaged and vulnerable populations; (iv) assess the key management and governance issues facing the education sector; and (v) provide policy recommendations.

In 1988, the Government of Botswana introduced the Vulnerable Groups Feeding Programme (VGFP) to (i) improve the nutritional status of children under the age of five and at-risk medically selected lactating and pregnant women through the provision of supplementary foods; and (ii) mitigate against intermittent food shortages during droughts. The VGFP package flagship product is a sorghum-soya fortified complementary food, calculated to provide 30 per cent of daily nutrient requirements for energy, protein and selected micronutrients of public health importance. In addition, cooking oil and beans are provided. Despite the universal coverage of the VGFP and substantial investment in feeding programmes, high prevalence of stunting seems to persist in the country. The VGFP has not been evaluated since its inception.

The evaluation has a twofold purpose. First, the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of the VGFP is assessed and explained. Second, given that the level of stunting among Botswana’s children remains unacceptable, a more effective approach is proposed, based on a comprehensive investment case that shows how stunting can be reduced – and preferably eliminated – in an economically feasible manner.

This evaluation of the utilization and effectiveness of the products, as well as a cost-effectiveness analysis to measure the relationship between allocated resources and achieved results, will inform policy and programme design for the best possible outcomes in terms of preventing stunting.
Country: Comoros

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Comoros: 2019 Budget Briefs

The thematic budget briefs summarize data from budget reports in easy-to-read analyses of spending trends in key social sectors of importance to children and families, including education, healthcare and social protection as well as the impact of the overall national budget on social sector spending.

The budget briefs synthesize complex budget information and outline key message which stakeholders can use for advocacy to inform the Government’s financial decision-making processes. They analyse the size and composition of budgetary allocations for fiscal year 2019 and explore the extent to which the national budget addresses the needs of children in Comoros. The briefs also examine the efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy of past spending. The budget information presented in the budget briefs 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 also support advocacy for more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in the country.

Country: Gabon

Prospective study of the investment framework in the basic education sector in Gabon / Etude prospective du cadre des investissements dans le secteur de l’éducation de base au Gabon

Despite having one of the highest GDPs per capita in Sub-Saharan Africa, at US$18,138 in 2016, Gabon faces significant development challenges related to the drop-in oil prices, which now account for only 20 per cent of GDP. Education spending in 2014 was 11.4 per cent of public expenditure. The share of education in GDP is close to 3 per cent, well below the level observed in upper middle-income countries. There are several reasons why additional funding is needed, particularly at lower levels of education. First, though the Gabonese education system has the best coverage indicators in the sub-region, with a gross enrolment rate above 130 per cent and a net enrolment rate close to 93 percent and a gender gap of less than 1.5 per cent, repetition (30 per cent) and drop-out are excessively high in primary school, classes are overcrowded in both primary and secondary schools (especially in peri-urban areas) and transitions are particularly difficult both to higher education and within it. In addition, a shortage of classrooms in both primary and pre-primary schools, and a lack of teaching aids and qualified teachers in rural areas also reduce the effectiveness of the system.

The education policy in Gabon has led to the adoption of the 2030 Education Agenda Framework for achieving Sustainable Development Goal 4: “Ensuring access for all to quality education, on the based-on equality and the promotion of lifelong learning opportunities”. Having failed to develop an education sector plan to integrate SDG 4 in to the 2030 Education Programme, the Government of Gabon has developed an investment strategy in basic education to provide a strategic response to the problem of quality and to improve the internal and external funding of this sub-sector of education. This study aims to: (i) develop tools to analyse education expenditure, financial planning and budget programming leading to the development of the Education Sector Plan; and (ii) serve as an advocacy reference document for better resource allocation and greater effectiveness of basic education in Gabon by 2030.
Country: Eswatini

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Eswatini: 2019 Budget Briefs

The thematic budget briefs summarize data from budget reports in easy-to-read analyses of spending trends in key social sectors of importance to children and families, including education, healthcare and social protection as well as the impact of the overall national budget on social sector spending. The budget briefs synthesize complex budget information and outline key messages which stakeholders can use for advocacy to inform the Government’s financial decision-making processes. They analyse the size and composition of budgetary allocations for fiscal year 2019/20 and explore the extent to which the national budget addresses the needs of children in Eswatini. The briefs also examine the efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy of past spending. The budget information presented in the budget briefs 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 also support advocacy for more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in the country.

Country: Ethiopia

Budget Allocation and Spending for Children in Ethiopia: 2018 Budget Briefs

Since 2017, UNICEF has been conducting annual analyses of the Government of Ethiopia’s national budgetary allocation and expenditure to highlight relevant investments for children and advocate for adequate allocations and financing as well as improved efficiency of spending. This analysis is conducted in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation.

On the basis of the latest Federal state budget proclamation 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 four main purposes: (i) to promote budget and public finance management literacy within civil society, the general public, social ministries and regional authorities; (ii) to analyse and monitor government budgets that affect children, including their efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; (iii) to inform advocacy, through key messages on changes in policy and financing; and (iv) to strengthen UNICEF Ethiopia’s technical support to social ministries for budget preparation and analysis.

Budget briefs are strong informational 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 and technical engagement for a more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in Ethiopia.
Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Lesotho: 2019 Budget Briefs

The thematic budget briefs summarize data from budget reports in easy-to-read analyses of spending trends in key social sectors of importance to children and families, including education, healthcare and social protection as well as the impact of the overall national budget on social sector spending.

The budget briefs synthesize complex budget information and outline key message which stakeholders can use for advocacy to inform the Government’s financial decision-making processes. They analyse the size and composition of budgetary allocations for fiscal year 2019/20 and explore the extent to which the national budget addresses the needs of children in Lesotho. The briefs also examine the efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy of past spending.

The budget information presented in the budget briefs 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 also support advocacy for more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in the country.

Public Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETS) | Survey on primary and secondary education sector

The main challenges for Madagascar’s Ministry of National Education (MEN) include, but are not limited to, increasing school enrollment, improving educational infrastructure and improving the quality of teachers. These issues must be addressed in a context marked by the population’s poverty, the state’s lack of fiscal space, and the difficulties of absorbing external aid (which accounts for about 73 per cent of MEN’s investment financing). It is crucial to ensure that resources are allocated in an efficient manner to improve learning for communities.

Public Expenditure Tracking Surveys (PETS) are quantitative exercises that trace the flow of resources from origin to destination and determine the location and scale of anomaly. They highlight not only the use and abuse of public money, but also give insights into the concepts of capture, cost efficiency, decentralization, and accountability.

The aim of this PETS is to support the Government to identify the actions to be taken to optimize the use of resources made available to the Ministry of National Education (MEN) and public primary schools (EPP). The study will be shared in the Education Sector Platform, which brings together representatives from various ministries and international and national NGOs. The analysis – led by UNICEF with complementary funding from the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), the EU and the World Bank – will be used as a capacity building tool for better governance through advocacy and will leverage increased technical assistance. This paper discusses how this technical assistance can be of use to all.
Country: Madagascar

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Madagascar: 2019 Budget Briefs

The thematic budget briefs summarize data from budget reports in easy-to-read analyses of spending trends in key social sectors of importance to children and families, including education, healthcare and social protection as well as the impact of the overall national budget on social sector spending.

The budget briefs synthesize complex budget information and outline key message which stakeholders can use for advocacy to inform the Government’s financial decision-making processes. They analyse the size and composition of budgetary allocations for fiscal year 2019 and explore the extent to which the national budget addresses the needs of children in Madagascar. The briefs also examine the efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy of past spending.

The budget information presented in the budget briefs 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 also support advocacy for more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in the country.

Country: Malawi

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Malawi: 2019 Budget Briefs

The thematic budget briefs summarize data from budget reports in easy-to-read analyses of spending trends in key social sectors of importance to children and families, including disability, early childhood development, education, health, immunization, nutrition, social welfare and WASH.

The budget briefs synthesize complex budget information and outline key message which stakeholders can use for advocacy to inform the Government’s financial decision-making processes. They analyse the size and composition of budgetary allocations for fiscal year 2019 and explore the extent to which the national budget addresses the needs of children in Malawi. The briefs also examine the efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy of past spending.

The budget information presented in the budget briefs 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 also support advocacy for more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in the country.
Country: Mozambique

Budget Briefs 2019

Since 2007, UNICEF has been producing Budget Briefs, short and reader-friendly analyses of the State Budget Law and other budgetary instruments. It has used the evidence to promote and advocate for more and better prioritization of resources to social sectors promoting social justice through equitable budget allocation. This will ultimately contribute to reduction in poverty and vulnerability among children and their families. The briefs include key UNICEF focus areas: Education, Health, Social Action, and Water and Sanitation.

The themes include linkages between planning and budgeting instruments; decentralization; equity; budget classifiers; and budget execution rates.

In 2019 UNICEF and partners have continued with the analyses and advocacy around planning and budgeting instruments in a challenging context of constrained fiscal space and emerging demands on public finances (including emergency response to natural disasters). For 2019 fiscal year, UNICEF Country Office Mozambique has produced three budget briefs (Education, Social Action, Health and Water & Sanitation). The set should be produced between February and April/May.

The 2019 State Budget Briefs aim: (i) to inform UNICEF, civil society, donors and state institutions about allocation and expenditure trends in specific social sectors in the national budget documents, and to provide analyses of the impact of government policies regarding budgetary allocations; and (ii) to inform the general public and serve as a tool for advocacy on budget allocation and better prioritization for the most vulnerable segments of the population, including children. They reveal patterns of increased allocations to social sectors in recent years and an equity-driven agenda from the Government to decrease poverty and promoting wellbeing of the population, and more specifically children. The briefs also uncover bottlenecks to service delivery related to the public finance management system and bring key recommendations.

These briefs will be shared with members of the Parliament, government representatives, bilateral and multilateral government partners, academia, civil society and others. In the past, they have sparked broad public interest and debate around the State Budget and how resources are distributed into the social sectors. UNICEF will convene meetings with key stakeholders to discuss the recommendations and the way forward.
Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Namibia: 2019 Budget Briefs

The thematic budget briefs summarize data from budget reports in easy-to-read analyses of spending trends in key social sectors of importance to children and families, including education, healthcare and social protection as well as the impact of the overall national budget on social sector spending.

The budget briefs synthesize complex budget information and outline key message which stakeholders can use for advocacy to inform the Government’s financial decision-making processes. They analyse the size and composition of budgetary allocations for fiscal year 2019/20 and explore the extent to which the national budget addresses the needs of children in Namibia. The briefs also examine the efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy of past spending.

The budget information presented in the budget briefs 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 also support advocacy for more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in the country.

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Rwanda: 2019 Budget Briefs

Every year, UNICEF analyses the Government of Rwanda’s national budget proposal to explore the extent to which the national budget addresses the needs of children in the country, as expressed in the Government’s National Strategy for Transformation. These budget briefs, based on the 2019/2020 state budget and other national budget documents, provide an overview of recent trends in allocation and expenditure in social sectors important for children: Health (including Nutrition), Education, Social Protection, and Water and Sanitation. The budget briefs aim to synthesize complex budget information to highlight relevant investments for children, offer recommendations to enhance budgeting for children, and advocate for increased allocations and improved efficiency of spending.

The briefs serve three main purposes: (i) promoting budget literacy within civil society and the general public; (ii) analysis and monitoring of government budgets that affect children, including a focus on expenditure efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy; and (iii) providing key messages on changes in policy and financing to inform advocacy for public budgeting which supports children’s rights and well-being. The budget briefs provided robust information and support advocacy for increased child-centred, transparent and participatory use of public resources in Rwanda.
Country: South Africa

Children and South Africa's Social Development Budget 2019; Children and South Africa's Education Budget 2019; Children and South Africa's Health Budget 2019; Children and the South African Budget 2019: The Macro Picture; Subnational Budget Brief on Service Delivery at the Provincial Level 2019

This annual series of budget briefs addresses the question of how the Government’s budget is likely to affect the overall well-being of children who directly and indirectly benefit from government services.

Substantial amounts of money are dedicated to children’s services and there is an overall feeling that government departments are not spending these resources in the most cost-effective and efficient way. There is also the issue of equity and the extent to which the new dispensation (provincial-based service delivery) addresses inherited inequalities among children. The Budget Briefs deal with all these key issues and offer a quantitative and qualitative judgement about the extent to which the Government has progressed in addressing inequality, poverty and equitable service delivery outcomes for all children.

Both the Government and civil society rely on accurate and timely analyses to do internal and external advocacy. The publication fulfils this niche and attempts to provide an up-to-date statement and analysis of government funding patterns and how these affect children. Policy questions around the adequacy, distribution, and equity (in inputs and outcomes) are addressed in the annual budget series.

Country: South Sudan

National Budget Brief

The National Budget Brief examines government spending trends in South Sudan in recent years, including the underlying macroeconomic context. The main objectives are to synthesize budgetary information so that it is easily understood by various stakeholders as well as to present key messages to inform public financial decision-making processes. The brief also looks at the size and composition of budget allocations to social sectors vital to children, in comparison to priority sectors such as security and public administration.

There is a huge knowledge gap/evidence on public finance for children in South Sudan. The brief thus synthesizes budget information that is easily understood by different stakeholders and presents key messages to inform public financial decision-making processes. The evidence generated will support public finance for children programming in the country.
The Education Budget Brief examines the Government of South Sudan’s spending trends on education in recent years, including the underlying policy context and the enabling environment for education provision. The brief looks at the size and composition of budgetary allocations to the education sector and trends in funding up to fiscal year 2018/19.

There has been no previous sectoral budget brief in the country. The purpose of the brief is to synthesize education budget information in a user-friendly format, and present key messages to inform public financial decision-making processes on education. The publication is in support of South Sudan’s efforts to meet its national and international commitments, particularly reaching Sustainable Development Goal 4 to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning. The brief generates evidence in support of the education sector and public finance for children programming in the country.
Country: Republic of Congo


Congo is a low middle-income country whose wealth depends almost exclusively upon the natural resources (essentially oil). The country has a weak taxation system. Social Indicators are poor in relation to GDP per capita and the existing fiscal space. For the past three years, budget laws have been adopted in a context characterized by the decline in public resources following the collapse of the price of a barrel of oil. The country currently has a high risk of debt distress that could jeopardize the country’s ability to finance its social development. Budget cuts may, on the one hand, reduce the quality of health services, education and learning and social protection if investments in the social sectors are not protected; on the other hand they may further increase the inequality and vulnerability of households and individuals.

In view to ensuring adequate resources allocation for children, UNICEF has been supporting the production of BUDGET analysis since 2018 in collaboration with the ministry in charge of planning and statistics, to support advocacy and policy dialogue around budget allocations and expenditures performance of the health and education sectors. This in turn enables high-level decision makers and institutions to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of budgetary allocations and spending for social sectors.

The findings of the analysis will help UNICEF to engage in the budgetary process by supporting line ministries during budget preparation and when making budgetary decisions that are more responsive to children’s needs. It is also expected that this will increase parliamentarians’ knowledge of social budgeting and then lead to a strategic partnership with the Parliament to secure the Government’s commitment to protect and increase budgetary allocations for children. Finally, making budget briefs available to the public should result in more transparent and accountable spending on social sectors.

Country: Tanzania – mainland

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Mainland Tanzania: 2019 Budget Briefs

The thematic budget briefs summarize data from budget reports in easy-to-read analyses of spending trends in key social sectors of importance to children and families, including education, healthcare, HIV/AIDS and WASH.

The budget briefs synthesize complex budget information and outline key message which stakeholders can use for advocacy to inform the Government’s financial decision-making processes. They analyse the size and composition of budgetary allocations for fiscal year 2019/20 and explore the extent to which the national budget addresses the needs of children in mainland Tanzania. The briefs also examine the efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy of past spending.

The budget information presented in the budget briefs 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 also support advocacy for more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in the country.
Country: Tanzania – Zanzibar

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Zanzibar: 2019 Budget Briefs

The thematic budget briefs summarize data from budget reports in easy-to-read analyses of spending trends in key social sectors of importance to children and families, including education and health as well as the impact of the overall national budget on social sector spending.

The budget briefs synthesize complex budget information and outline key message which stakeholders can use for advocacy to inform the Government’s financial decision-making processes. They analyse the size and composition of budgetary allocations for fiscal year 2019/20 and explore the extent to which the national budget addresses the needs of children in Zanzibar. The briefs also examine the efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy of past spending.

The budget information presented in the budget briefs 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 also support advocacy for more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in the country.

Country: Uganda

Budget Allocation and Spending on Children in Uganda: 2019 Budget Briefs

The thematic budget briefs summarize data from budget reports in easy-to-read analyses of spending trends in key social sectors of importance to children and families, including education, healthcare, human capital development, social development, WASH, and justice, law and order.

The budget briefs synthesize complex budget information and outline key message which stakeholders can use for advocacy to inform the Government’s financial decision-making processes. They analyse the size and composition of budgetary allocations for fiscal year 2019/20 and explore the extent to which the national budget addresses the needs of children in Uganda. The briefs also examine the efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy of past spending.

The budget information presented in the budget briefs 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 also support advocacy for more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in the country.
Allocations to the social sector remain crucial for addressing child poverty and inequality. In the last five years allocations to the social sector have been consistently been increasing but this trajectory has come under threat as debt servicing costs are crowding out other expenditure. The budget analysis will provide in-depth analysis of the level of resources allocated to key social sectors in the 2020 National Budget. The analysis will focus on budgetary performance and coherence between policy and the budget.

The main purpose of the Brief is to provide a strategic overview of the 2020 budget and information on trends and allocations and how these will affect service delivery in key Social Sectors. It will provide recommendations on how best the National Budget can improve the lives of children and their families.

The 2020 budget brief will inform national discussion among stakeholders (media, civil society and parliamentarians) about the 2020 National Budget for social sectors prior to the approval of the National Budget. This will allow for effective policy engagement with the Treasury and inform budget debates in the Parliament before approval, with the potential of influencing substantive changes in the budget. It will also result in improved budget and policy coherence in child-sensitive sectors in Zambia.

The thematic budget briefs summarize data from budget reports in easy-to-read analyses of spending trends in key social sectors of importance to children and families, including education, health, social protection and WASH as well as the impact of the overall national budget on social sectors.

The budget briefs synthesize complex budget information and outline key message which stakeholders can use for advocacy to inform the Government’s financial decision-making processes. They analyse the size and composition of budgetary allocations for fiscal year 2019 and explore the extent to which the national budget addresses the needs of children in Zimbabwe. The briefs also examine the efficiency, effectiveness, equity and adequacy of past spending.

The budget information presented in the budget briefs 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 also support advocacy for more child-centred, transparent and participatory use of domestic resources in the country.
HIV and AIDS
Evidence-based Practices for Retention in Care of Mother-Infant Pairs in the Context of Eliminating Mother-to-child Transmission of HIV in Eastern and Southern Africa

In 2011, global leaders agreed to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV by 2015. Incredible progress has been made, especially in high prevalence countries. However, no country in eastern and southern Africa (ESA) has yet been validated as having achieved a milestone along the path to elimination. A major bottleneck to this goal is the health care system's ability to retain mother-infant pairs in care over time. Strategies to improve retention at scale are urgently needed if ESA countries are to reach the path to elimination.

In order to reduce new HIV infections among children, mothers living with HIV and their infants must be retained in care through the cessation of breastfeeding and beyond. Currently, there is significant loss to follow up after childbirth. This review was undertaken to identify evidence-based practices to address this gap.

The publication will inform efforts of governments and their development partners in eastern and southern Africa to achieve validation on the path to elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

Screening and supporting through schools: educational experiences and needs of adolescents living with HIV in a South African cohort

Many adolescents living with HIV remain disconnected from care, especially in high-prevalence settings. Slow progressors (adolescents infected perinatally who survive without access to lifesaving treatment) remain unidentified and disconnected from treatment systems, especially in high-prevalence settings.

This study examines differences in educational outcomes for adolescents living with HIV in South Africa. It will be used to i) identify educational markers for targeting HIV testing, counselling and linkages to care; and ii) to identify essential components of educational support for these adolescents.

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The elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (MTCT) is a global public health priority. In 2014, the World Health Organization (WHO) developed global guidelines on the processes and criteria for validation of elimination of MTCT of HIV. South Africa has made significant progress towards preventing MTCT over the last decade that has contributed to improved health outcomes for mothers and babies. MTCT fell from 8 per cent at 6 weeks in 2008 to 11.4 per cent around 10 weeks in 2016. The number of new HIV infections in children aged 0-14 years declined from 38,000 in 2009 to 13,000 in 2017; and 58 per cent of children living with HIV were accessing antiretroviral treatment in 2017, an increase from 37 per cent in 2010. However, challenges still remain in some districts that hinder reaching targets for full elimination of MTCT and access to paediatric and adolescent HIV and tuberculosis services.

UNICEF is also working with the National Department of Health and relevant partners to develop a five-year national ‘last mile’ plan towards elimination of MTCT in South Africa, in line with the new five-year National Strategic Plan (NSP) for HIV, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted infections. Among other things the NSP aims to pay more attention to high-transmission districts while at the same time monitoring the other districts. Many countries in the region and globally could learn from South Africa’s experience and systematically access lessons learned and good practices, as well as technical assistance to solutions that could support their own efforts to eliminate MTCT.

The objective of this initiative is to document the experience of South Africa working towards elimination of MTCT of HIV for the purpose of regional/global learning and sharing of knowledge through South-South cooperation. The research identifies and understands the interconnected interventions, factors, investments and roles assumed by different entities, such as National, Provincial and District Departments of Health, different branches of government, implementing and collaborating partners, and civil society, which led to success and from which other countries can learn on their own paths to elimination of MTCT.
Humanitarian Action, Resilience and Peacebuilding
Country: Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Evaluation of the Rapid Response to Population Movement (RRMP) Mechanism based on Performance

In 2004, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and UNICEF created the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) to better respond to acute emergency needs in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). In 2010, the programme merged with another UNICEF project, addressing the needs of returned internally displaced persons, the Programme of Expanded Assistance for Returnees Plus (PEAR), becoming the Rapid Response to Movements of Populations (RRMP). The objective of RRMP has been to deliver large-scale, rapid, multi-sectoral assistance in water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH); health; child protection; education and non-food items (NFI) to recently displaced persons and returned populations, the host families and those the most vulnerable. The programme continues to face several challenges, including increased donor requirements; increased demand; the emergence of new crises; the need for greater involvement of the Congolese authorities in humanitarian response; the need for a greater link between humanitarian and development programming and the declining funding of the RRMP by donors.

The main objective of this evaluation is to explore the RRMP’s contribution to responding to the needs of the displaced and returnee populations and the host families in eastern and south-eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Kasai. It is also to assess (i) the relevance of the RRMP mechanism and its interventions to the needs of the displaced and/or returned populations; (ii) the effectiveness of the interventions; (iii) the efficiency of the national and local implementation mechanisms including coordination and partnerships; (iv) the impact of the programme on direct and indirect beneficiaries; and (v) the sustainability of outcomes and general lessons learned and recommendations for improvement for future humanitarian interventions in Democratic Republic of Congo and other volatile and fragile contexts.
Region: WCARO
Country: Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Effects of Humanitarian Assistance: Evidence from a Randomized Control Trial in the Democratic Republic of Congo

UNICEF and United Nations office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) had decided to conduct this study in the Kivu region in DRC because that is where displacements have been most common, and thus where Rapid Response to Movements of Populations (RRMP) was most likely to respond. Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) was created by UNICEF and OCHA with aim of having a pre-positioned needs assessment and response programme which could provide emergency assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

This study was focused on displaced persons or non-displaced households in host communities that were judged to be particularly vulnerable by those communities or according to data collected by the implementing NGO. Thus, our study population consists of households that are in particularly dire circumstances. The main question that this study focused on was: What is the effect of humanitarian assistance (specifically the provision of vouchers for essential household items) had to recently displaced or returned persons, and vulnerable host families, on health and well-being?

This study had shown strong effects of EHI (Essential household items) vouchers on adult mental health, and to a smaller degree on resilience and social cohesion. Specifically, we find a large increase in mental health, by about 0.33 standard deviations, and moderate increases in resilience (0.18 standard deviations) and social cohesion (0.15 standard deviations). This is the first study with a counterfactual to measure the causal effect of EHI. It will add to the small but growing evidence base for humanitarian assistance and will provide information that should help improve a flagship UN program with a strong record of learning and adaptation that has been expanded to South Sudan and Iraq.
Maternal, Newborn and Child Health
Country: South Africa

Child Gauge

Over the last decade South Africa has made significant progress in reducing under-five mortality from 81 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2003 to 34 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2016, driven primarily by the successful prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV and the introduction of the rotavirus and pneumococcal vaccines. Yet stark inequalities persist at provincial and district level. The neonatal mortality rate has remained constant at around 12 deaths per 1,000 live births, and other drivers of child morbidity and mortality such as malnutrition and violence have proved particularly stubborn and resistant to change. At the same time South Africa needs to engage with emerging challenges such as the impact of climate change, and the role of multinational corporations in fuelling the growing burden of non-communicable diseases.

Global frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals, Global Strategy for Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health, Nurturing Care Framework and the World Health Organization’s report on Health for the World’s Adolescents offer an opportunity to reimagine health care services for children – and call for a greater emphasis on supporting children’s development across the life course and intersectoral collaboration to address the social determinants of health. But what do these shifts in global strategy mean for children in South Africa, and how can we draw on these initiatives to strengthen the health care system and ensure that no child is left behind?

This issue of the Child Gauge focuses attention on closing the gap and identifying strategies to promote greater health equity. It aims to consolidate the latest research evidence, reflect on current and emerging challenges, showcase examples of promising practice, and help set the agenda for child and adolescent health. In the process, it: (i) reflects on recent progress and the drivers of child and adolescent morbidity and mortality, disaggregating data to make visible inequalities in children’s health, living conditions and access to services; (ii) advocates for a life-course approach and greater investment in early childhood and adolescence to disrupt the intergenerational cycles of violence, poverty and malnutrition; (iii) identifies opportunities to build a more resilient and responsive health care system through the National Health Insurance - including greater investment in community health services, the development of norms and standards, and innovative and accountable leadership for child and adolescent health; and (iv) advocates for intersectoral collaboration and social mobilization to improve children’s living conditions and tackle the inequitable distribution of power, money and resources that limit South African children’s health, development and life chances.
National Nutrition Surveys using SMART Methodology in Tanzania and Burkina Faso: From Advocacy to Implementation

Multi-sectoral, national surveys have historically been a primary source of nutrition information for countries. To provide policy makers with more frequent estimates of priority nutrition indicators, and ensure data collection occurs annually during the same season, several countries in East and West Africa have initiated National Nutrition Surveys (NNS). NNS are nationally representative, cross-sectional surveys that apply the Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) methodology to collect anthropometric measurements and data on priority nutrition indicators.

National and global initiatives to scale up multi-sectorial nutrition interventions aimed at reducing stunting, wasting and obesity have created demand for up-to-date nutrition data. In both Burkina Faso and Tanzania, consensus support for NNS required buy-in from Ministries of Health, Ministries of Statistics, United Nations agencies, and donors, and even the Prime Minister’s Office in the case of Tanzania. Implementation was led by the Nutrition Section of the Ministry of Health in both countries, supported by an inter-agency technical working group as well as a steering committee in Tanzania. The duration of the NNS, from planning through dissemination of results, lasted approximately six months, including two months of data collection. In 2014, NNS cost around US$22,600 and US$15,400 per stratum in Burkina Faso and Tanzania, respectively.

This report contains case studies from Burkina Faso and Tanzania which demonstrate the feasibility of conducting national, nutrition-specific surveys and provide insights into the financial, institutional, and technical support required to sustain such initiatives. In both countries, NNS involved greater participation from technical ministries and agencies, and a shorter implementation timeline relative to multi-sectoral national surveys. Budgets were understood to be reasonable given national investments in nutrition programmes as they allowed for monitoring of progress against national and global targets.

Implementation of national and small-scale nutrition surveys following the SMART methodology in Sub-Saharan Africa

Abstract: The SMART methodology is now used for both national and small-scale surveys but the implications of applying these are not well understood. This study characterize the implications of implementing these surveys on logistics, coordination, human resources, costs and utilization to improve nutrition surveys. Seven Sub-Saharan African countries were selected based on the profile of their Nutrition Information Systems (NIS), implementation of nutrition surveys using the SMART methodology and use of the results to plan nutrition interventions. Data was collected from surveys conducted between 2013 and 2015 from the selected countries (Mali, Senegal, Kenya, DRC, Cameroon, Madagascar and South Sudan) to document the coordination mechanisms, partners’ involvement, capacity building and implementation process of nutrition surveys using the SMART methodology, including duration, timing and costs of the surveys.

This review shows that nutrition data collected using the SMART Methodology has helped to build consensus of the nutrition situation at country level among governments, development and humanitarian partners. The results of the nutrition surveys using SMART methods are used for advocacy purposes and to support program planning by providing data to calculate the burden of under-nutrition and defining response programme needs at scale.
Country: Tanzania


The Bringing Nutrition to Scale in Iringa, Mbeya and Njombe Regions (BNTS) project, launched in 2013, is funded by Irish Aid. The BNTS project has, for operational purposes, been merged with the Accelerated Stunting Reduction Project (ASRP), funded by the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) through the Addressing Stunting in Tanzania Early (ASTUTE) project. The project’s target beneficiaries are children aged under five; their mothers and caregivers; and pregnant women. Its nutrition strategy is focused on the first 1,000 days of life from conception, in line with Tanzania’s commitments as a member of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement. Target coverage in Iringa, Mbeya and Njombe regions is 75 per cent of communities.

The evaluation is intended to be formative, with a view to generating evidence and lessons to strengthen programme design and accelerate the achievement of results. Its three main objectives are: (i) to assess the progress of the first phase of the BNTS project; (ii) to assess the project design with a view to identifying ways of strengthening design for acceleration of results; and (iii) to identify lessons learned and formulate recommendations for improvement during the second phase of the project.

This evaluation has served as a mid-term evaluation of the Accelerated Stunting Reduction Project (ASRP), contributing to the improvement of project implementation and the end-line evaluation that will be conducted in 2020. The evaluation is being used to advocate for a strategy for full handover to on-going Government of the United Republic of Tanzania implementation in these regions from 2022.

Country: Rwanda

Nourishing a New Generation in Rwanda: Scaling-up the point-of-use fortification programme nationwide

‘Nourishing a new generation in Rwanda’ is part of the series ‘Lessons from improving nutrition to scale’. The report analyses the scaling up by UNICEF Rwanda in collaboration with the Government of Rwanda of a national programme to provide essential nutrients that children aged 6-23 months need for their development and growth through micronutrient powders. Despite steadily improvements in the nutrition status of children in Rwanda, anaemia still persists amongst 72 per cent of children aged 6-8 months and only one in five children aged 6-23 months receives the minimum acceptable diet. In just six years, Rwanda’s micronutrient powders programme was scaled up systematically to reach all 30 districts in the country.

The report describes the stages of scaling up this national nutrition programme, and provides insights into bottlenecks to ensuring quality and sustainability and useful lessons that can be taken from the process.

The report is a great learning tool for both stakeholders within Rwanda involved in the nutrition sector, and for stakeholders outside Rwanda to learn from the experiences in scaling up nutrition interventions.

The report highlights the crucial roles UNICEF has played in the scaling up process, and provides an example how close collaboration with government and civil society can improve the nutrition status of children.
Country: South Sudan

Scaling up Community Management of Acute Malnutrition for 6-59-Month-Old Children with Uncomplicated Severe Acute Malnutrition in a Complex and Protracted Emergency Setting.

The estimated number of children suffering from severe acute malnutrition in South Sudan rose from a pre-crisis estimate of 108,000 in 2013 to 269,000 in 2018 due to ongoing deteriorating food insecurity, displacement and the destruction of health, water and sanitation facilities, along with underlying causes of suboptimal infant and young child feeding practices. For three years, over 200,000 children with severe acute malnutrition have reached annually, in over 900 outpatients therapeutic programme facilities across the country. These achievements among others are encouraging in the context of a complex emergency.

The objective of the report is to document the scaling up of community management of acute malnutrition in complex emergency. The publication will contribute to the body of knowledge on nutrition and provide actual insight on the scaling up of community management of acute malnutrition in a complex emergency.
**Country:** South Sudan  

**Integrating socio-emotional stimulation, play and other early child development interventions with management of children with severe acute malnutrition in a fragile and conflict affected setting**

Emergency settings may have adverse effects on young children’s overall development exacerbated by trauma displacement, separation of families, interrupted schooling and so on. With a specific focus on the first 1000 days, this study covers the prenatal period to age 8 years when rapid brain development occurs. An emergency context may affect the quality of early experiences, thereby negatively influencing the development of foundational skills and competencies. The effects are especially pronounced for children who are already affected with severe acute malnutrition, and this may affect their ability to recover. For these children, nutrition and health inputs without the complement of care, responsiveness and stimulation are not adequate to overcome the toxic stress that they may experience. As a result, they fail to grow and develop their full cognitive potential. Often their parents or caregivers have limited capacity to support them due to the external context. This further hinders their recovery and later quality of life. South Sudan has initiated integrating social-emotional stimulation, play and other early child development interventions with management of children with severe acute malnutrition in a fragile and conflict-affected setting. This publication documents the lessons learned in early children interventions for the management of severe acute malnutrition.

The goal of the report is to document lessons learned in early childhood development interventions in the management of acute malnutrition in complex emergency. The publication will contribute to the body of knowledge in nutrition and provide actual insight on lessons learned from early childhood development interventions in an emergency context.

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**Country:** Egypt  

**Scaling-up Nutrition in Egypt (summary report)**

Egypt successfully met the health-related MDG goals. However, the country has not made the same level of progress on reducing malnutrition and was identified as one of 34 countries in which 90 per cent of the global burden of malnutrition falls. To date it is not on track to meet the majority of the six nutrition targets established by the World Health Assembly. The face of malnutrition in Egypt is changing, with a triple burden emerging: while stunting and wasting persist, levels of overweight and obesity – continue to grow. The report provides in-depth analysis of the situation and identifies 16 interventions that, if brought to scale, will effectively reduce stunting in Egypt. The paper also provides a cost-effectiveness analysis to bring all the interventions to scale, as well as analysis of fiscal space (that is: areas with good prospects of generating additional resources for nutrition to scale up the identified interventions).

The analysis is bringing new knowledge to the decision-makers and development partners on the cost-effectiveness of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions in Egypt, as well as providing analysis of the fiscal space to mobilize additional resources needed to reduce malnutrition.

“Scaling Up Nutrition in Egypt: Towards an Investment Case on Nutrition” provides an updated overview of Egypt’s nutrition landscape and identifies opportunities to further alleviate the burden of malnutrition and the cost of doing so, in order to inform the development of an updated Food and Nutrition Strategy and an Action Plan, and to guide nutrition investments over the next five years.
Implementation Research on Linking Management of Acute Malnutrition and ICCM

Malnutrition in children heightens risk of death, mainly from common communicable diseases such as diarrhoea, pneumonia, and malaria. Nevertheless; in low-income countries, many acutely malnourished children are either brought too late or never at all to seek treatment for reasons such as distance or lack of awareness. Integrated community case management (iCCM) is a new treatment approach addressing under-five illnesses at community level using community health volunteers. However, evidence of the integration of community-based management of acute malnutrition as part of an iCCM package is not well documented. To date, management of malnutrition in Kenya’s context remains confined to skilled health workers in health facilities who are guided by the national Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition protocol. Bringing free and effective treatment close to communities therefore, will likely improve access to and utilization of services for management of malnourished children that often takes weeks of follow up.

The implementation research being undertaken in Turkana and Isiolo counties where Ministry of Health, in collaboration with Save the Children in Turkana and Action against Hunger (ACF) will implement community management of acute malnutrition integrated and delivered through the iCCM platform. The research seeks to: (i) examine the feasibility and effectiveness of integrating management of moderate and severe acute malnutrition and iCCM including performance and coverage; (ii) determine the enabling factors for effective integration of management of acute malnutrition and iCCM; (iii) identify the challenges, constraints and potential pitfalls in integrating management of acute malnutrition and iCCM; (iv) document lessons and best practices in integrating management of acute malnutrition into iCCM; and (v) provide policy and programmatic recommendations emanating from the research.

The intended audience of this work are Ministry of Health policy makers, United Nations agencies, implementing partners and wider health practitioners. An integrated approach to addressing the twin problems of disease and malnutrition would facilitate breaking of the vicious cycle by addressing the presenting and underlying aspects of a child’s illness, thus contributing to reducing the burden of common childhood illnesses and maximizing child survival in vulnerable communities. The big wins of integration of management of acute malnutrition with iCCM is expected to be in sparsely populated arid and semi-arid Lands counties, where access to health facilities is relatively limited with long distances as well as harsh conditions to walk.
Global evidence continues to confirm the importance of investing in the early years of child development. Core components of early childhood development include good health, adequate nutrition, response caregiving, security and safety, opportunities for early learning. Indicators for these components in Zambia show varying degrees of success. Major strides have been made in child survival, with infant mortality declining from 107 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1992 to 45 in 2013-2014. Under-5 mortality has decreased from 191 to 75 deaths per 1,000 live births in the same period. However more must be done to ensure that children thrive the early years as 40 per cent of children below the age of 5 years are stunted, only 20 per cent of 3-6 year olds access childhood education, and 11 per cent of under 5s have birth registration cards, an essential element for child protection.

The main purpose of the knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) survey is to generate and document existing knowledge, attitudes and practices on early nurturing of children in Zambia. The study findings will help bridge the information gap on the level of knowledge, existing attitudes and current practices of parents related to optimal breastfeeding, complementary feeding, health-seeking behavior, stimulation, family support and opportunities for early learning in the home environment, and child protection practices including exposure to violence. This will inform the design of promotional interventions to improve nurturing care for early childhood development.

The findings of the KAP survey will inform the compilation and elaboration of a communication campaign strategy for improved nurturing care including key messages, target audiences, appropriate channels, timeframe and monitoring framework.
Situation Analysis and Socioeconomic Development
Country: Angola

Situation Analysis of Children and Women in Angola (2019 Update)

The study addresses the situation of children in Angola, providing detailed analysis of the extent to which their rights to survival, development and protection are respected. It provides an update on key indicators across the population.

The document examines the relevant policy and legal frameworks and assessing access to and the quality of existing programmes and services. It emphasizes the need for better action to empower and take care of the most vulnerable members of society, and thereby contribute to achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. It identifies the causes of socioeconomic, demography and gender disparities, and facilitates the identification of areas of action for disadvantaged groups.

The report provides guidance for key stakeholders and decision makers for programming and policy making. It focuses on understanding the immediate, underlying and structural causes that affect the situation of children in Angola. In this way, it is intended to explain the manifestations of deprivation by analysing multiple and interlinked levels of causation.

Country: Burundi

Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices related to Family Practices and Adolescent Development in the 18 Provinces of Burundi

Burundi is the second most densely populated country in Africa. Its population of 11 million is growing at 2.5 per cent a year, with a fertility rate of 5.5 births per woman. make up 55 per cent of the population, and adolescents (10-19 years) one-quarter. Nearly 91 per cent of the population lives in rural areas and earn their livelihood from agriculture. By 2030, Burundi is forecast to have about three million youth aged 15-24, and the 15-64 working age population will double from 4.2 million in 2008 to 8.3 million in 2030. In this context, UNICEF is focusing more on the second decade of life and supporting young people to contribute to achieving key Sustainable Development Goals in Burundi.

To orient strategies and interventions requires measuring knowledge levels, understanding if attitudes toward services are positive and investigating behaviours related to child and adolescent health, education, protection and development, and bottlenecks to their full adoption. This study provides baseline data on knowledge, attitudes and practices related to family practices and adolescent development in the 18 Provinces of Burundi to inform demand-side and behavioural change aspects of the UNICEF Country Office program. Specific attention is paid to resilience, social protection, and vulnerable groups.

The results will support efforts by the Government of Burundi and development partners to improve behavioural change interventions and increase the capacity of families to make informed choices about child care at household and community levels, community resilience and adolescent empowerment.
The oil shock that resulted in a drastic drop in oil prices of around 80 per cent between June 2014 and January 2016 heavily impeded growth and poverty alleviation efforts in Chad (which has been a producer and exporter of crude oil since 2003), leading to a decline in per capita GDP from 2015 and negative growth rates in real GDP in 2016 (6.26 per cent) and 2017 (2.95 per cent).

The purpose of this study is to assess the impacts of this crisis on monetary poverty in general and on child monetary poverty in particular. In fact, children, whose poverty headcount is already very high and above the national average, are among the most vulnerable populations in such situations. In addition, the study explores some options for policy responses that would specifically reduce monetary poverty among children.

The paper simulates five options for policy response, which provide much-needed evidence for tailoring child poverty-reducing programmes to the country’s evolving context. Among the policy options, the most effective and efficient way of alleviating child poverty is to extend the scope of cash transfers to poor households with children, with a focus on three poor provinces.

This research therefore recommends the implementation of such a programme, with an overall cash transfer budget amounting at least to 1 per cent of nominal GDP in the year preceding implementation of the programme. The paper will serve as reference document in discussions with the Government on extending social protection assistance to children in Chad.
Country: Chad

Assessment of Evaluation in Chad

The lack of a framework for the evaluation of development projects and programmes leads to practices that are often not in line with evaluation criteria, rules and procedures. As an illustration, some actors use the same agents who executed the projects and programmes for the evaluation exercises, raising serious questions about the validity of the results because of the lack of independence required in this type of exercise. In addition, the absence of a national reference framework for evaluation does not facilitate the overall coordination of the monitoring and evaluation systems with ministries. A comprehensive assessment of evaluation practice in Chad was perceived to be important to understand current practices and lay the foundation for a reference framework for national coordination of evaluation activities. The purpose of the assessment is to review evaluation practice in Chad with a view to capitalizing on existing experiences and improving the monitoring and evaluation system in the public sector. It also aims to highlight the contribution of the United Nations system and technical and financial partners to strengthening evaluation practice, and to document successes in evaluation but also to address challenges in order to contribute to organizational learning.

The assessment increases the evidence base by identifying good practices and lessons learned that could improve evaluation in Chad and guide future programmes. In this regard, it aims to improve the design and performance of evaluation practice in the public sector in Chad and therefore contribute to improving programme results in the sectors.

Country: Eswatini

2019 Eswatini Fiscal Space Analysis

As the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini continues to face fiscal challenges, UNICEF Eswatini and the Ministry of Finance are conducting their second round of analysis of the fiscal space available for the Government. The 2018 Fiscal Space report analysed the country’s financial capacity to carry out expenditure on priorities. Children are regarded as a priority, and expenditure categories regarded as beneficial to children are defined as three ‘institutional’ expenditure categories: (i) education; (ii) health; and (iii) social welfare. The report recommended several scenarios to estimate the fiscal capacity available to increase priority expenditure. With a new Cabinet in place and several fiscal related changes effected in government, the 2019 Fiscal Space analysis is critical for determining changes in the fiscal space.

The report analyses the Government’s recent and future financial capacity to carry out expenditure on which children depend for their human development and general welfare. The financial capacity is understood to be the ‘fiscal space’ underlying such expenditure and will determine if scenarios proposed in the 2018 FSA have been taken into consideration.

The report supports evidence-based budget allocation and spending for priority areas, especially for children. The report will be used by various priority stakeholders including the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and the Deputy Prime Minister’s Office. The report is critical for policy makers such as Members of Parliament and Cabinet responsible for approval of the national budget.
Country: Ethiopia

Situation of destitute households and households with people with disability and access to social services and safety nets programmes in urban areas in Ethiopia

No adequate data is currently available on people living with disabilities and destitute groups in urban areas of Ethiopia. However, these vulnerable groups should be core targets of UNICEF. This report presents evidence from a mixed-method study on the living conditions and needs of persons with disabilities and homeless families in the sub-cities of Addis Ketema and Arada in Addis Ababa. As UNICEF Ethiopia is currently expanding its social protection programming to urban areas, this is crucial evidence for future programming.

The purpose of the study is twofold. First the study explores the extent to which persons with disabilities and households with persons living with disabilities have access to productive safety net programmes, and to inform future UNICEF programming on disability mainstreaming in urban areas of Ethiopia. Second, the study aims to inform the design of a pilot programme to deliver integrated social services in the two sub-cities, as well as informing the design of the destitution component of the Urban Productive Safety Net Programme (UPSNP).

Country: Ethiopia

National Equity Situation Analysis of Women and Children in Ethiopia, 2019

The Situation Analysis of Women and Children in Ethiopia describes the progress Ethiopia has been making to accelerate investments in girls and boys, examines the current situation and looks at the prospects for acceleration of the rights of children and women. The analysis updates the situation of children and women considering the right of girls, boys and women as agreed by the Government of Ethiopia in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, and relevant national policies and strategies. The situation analysis is undertaken every four years to inform new country programmes and is updated whenever new data is available. The last situation analysis report was published in 2015 and the summary report updated in 2017. Ethiopia’s new country programme will be commencing in 2020. This analysis provides recommendations that will be considered in the new Country Program Document preparation.

The objectives of the 2019 updated Situation Analysis include assessing and updating the current state of children’s rights in Ethiopia using the most recent evidence available to make necessary modifications to the strategy of UNICEF to better address bottlenecks in the realization of child rights, improve equity and outcomes for children and advance gender equality. The Situation Analysis also includes analysis of risks and the programmatic interventions for preparedness, response and risk reduction. It identifies the biggest risks for children, the reasons for the vulnerability, who has the duty to reduce the risks and what capacities are needed.

The Situation Analysis will be the basis for designing UNICEF-supported programs and other relevant United Nations programmes. The recommendations will be used as inputs to develop sector strategies and action plans which will become the foundation for formulating annual work plans for the country programme.
Country: Togo

Situation Analysis of Children in Togo in 2017 / Analyse de la situation des enfants au Togo en 2017

UNICEF in collaboration with the Government of Togo has produced this Situation Analysis of Children and Women (SitAn) in 2017 to show the progress made for children in Togo and also to identify key challenges that require further examination and specific action plans. This SitAn is a basis for discussion and a voice for Togolese children as it focuses on the well-being of children and the importance of investing for children to ensure a national sustainable development.

The Situation Analysis of Children in Togo (SitAn 2017) aims at providing to all actors a set of relevant and credible evidence on the major deprivations of children’s rights in Togo. Its main purpose is to facilitate the inclusion of children’s issues in budgets’ and policies’ development as well as in the country’s sectoral and social protection policies and programmes. Specifically, the SITAN: (i) provides a status update on the level of realization of children’s rights children and women; (ii) identifies strategic knowledge gaps with suggestions to fill them; (iii) identifies and analyses disparities and deprivation of rights with disaggregated data where possible; their immediate, underlying and structural causes; and the main bottlenecks that prevent their achievement; (iv) analyses the extent to which interventions are included in national policies, laws, strategies, plans and budgets, and (v) analyses the vulnerability of children and women in situations of risk.

The analysis aims at supporting actors concerned with children’s issues in the planning of programmes and projects, the development of macroeconomic or sectoral socio-economic policies and strategies, the advocacy for the rights of children, the resource mobilization efforts, the research on children’s rights, and the development of communication strategies to change behavior of families and communities. The SitAn will be a source of analysis for guiding, implementing and measuring the impact of national policies and programmes as well as a powerful tool for strengthening advocacy and partnerships and to mobilize resources for the realization of girls, boys and women’s rights.
Country: Togo

Togo Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey Sixth Edition (MICS 6) / Togo MICS6, Enquête par grappes à indicateurs multiples 2017

The Global MICS Survey Programme is an international household survey programme that aims at supporting countries to collect internationally comparable data on a wide range of indicators related to the situation of children and women. MICS surveys measure key indicators that enable countries to produce child-centered data that are key for policy and program work, and tracks progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other internationally agreed commitments. MICS 6, whose indicators focus on the SDGs, was conducted in 2017 by the Togolese National Institute Of Statistics, Economics and Demographic Studies (INSEED) with technical support from UNICEF.

The study provides data and indicators to assess progress made by Togo on the MDGs and establishes the baseline situation for the SDGs. It produces reliable indicators to support advocacy taking into account the human rights of children and women as stipulated in international commitments, the National Development Plan (NDP) 2018-2022 and Togo’s other strategic development documents. It contributes to the development of national statistical system, data and monitoring systems and capacity. It provides baseline data on at least 45 per cent of the SDG indicators, for the 2017 Situation Analysis of Children and Women, Vision 2030, NDP 2018-2022, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework Togo 2019-2023 and the Togo - UNICEF Country Programme Document 2019 - 2023.

The MICS 6 results will be used to: (i) monitor progress towards relevant international goals and targets, including key SDG indicators on children; (ii) advocate for evidence-based policy interventions; (iii) perform in-depth analysis of issues that affect children; (iv) inform programmes; and (v) support policy dialogues on children.

Country: Madagascar

Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS 6 - 2018)

The adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the development of the Madagascar Emergence Plan (EMP), and local sectoral plans and policies require the establishment of a baseline study to analyse how Madagascar’s situation has developed. This period also coincides with the end of the UNICEF Madagascar programme cycle and the start of the World Bank-funded Nutritional Outcomes Improvement Program (NRAP), both of which require up-to-date data.

The purpose of the MICS is to provide up-to-date indicators on the situation of children and women in Madagascar. This data will serve as a baseline for the SDGs, the EMP, the various sectoral plans, the NRAP, and UNICEF Madagascar’s new country programme, among other uses.

The MICS results will be used to track the achievement of the SDGs and national objectives as defined in the sectoral plans. The survey results will also be used in the situation analysis, a preparatory step for the UNICEF Madagascar’s next country programme cycle.
Country: The Republic of Mozambique

Child Friendly Cities in Mozambique: Public Spaces for Children in Maputo and Quelimane

Between 2000 and 2016, Mozambique’s population increased from 18.4 million to nearly 28.75 million. Currently, more than half the population are children. Population growth is much faster in urban areas; at 3.3 per cent compared to rural growth of 2.1 per cent. The World Urbanization Prospects 2014 projected that by 2050, nearly 50 per cent of Mozambique’s population will be living in urban areas, compared to 32 per cent today. Mozambican cities are low density and spread out as urbanization is occurring at a fast pace, often without planning and management. Overall, public spaces are limited, and streets are not designed to accommodate children’s daily trips and activities. The ‘Public Spaces for Children’ project developed by UN-Habitat was intended to understand the situation and vulnerabilities of children in urban areas in terms of mobility and access to services. It was directly linked to the UNICEF’s Child Friendly Cities Initiative and implemented in Maputo and Quelimane cities, looking at children’s everyday routes from home to school and back. This was used as an entry point for discussing children’s use of public spaces in urban areas. The approach also facilitated the engagement of children in improving the public spaces.

This study explores how the quality of public spaces can be improved for children’s use, based on existing local networks, activities and solutions, by testing innovative, inclusive and participative approaches to provide equal opportunities for girls and boys to be heard about their perceptions on the public spaces they use on a daily basis.

The research questions were: (i) What are the perceptions of children on the safety and quality of the public spaces they use on a daily basis? and (ii) What are the characteristics of the public spaces used by children and how can these public spaces be improved to meet children’s needs building on existing local networks and solutions?

The research findings informed the development of the ‘core package’ of interventions as part of the Child Friendly Cities Phase II initiative to be launched in 2019.

Country: Morocco

SitAn- Situation Analysis of Children in Morocco / Analyse de la situation des enfants au Maroc

The SitAn is an analytical review of children’s rights to identify the major issues and challenges that affect their achievement. It is a human rights and equity-based review that evaluates the situation of children’s rights through the investigation of rights gaps and categorial and spatial inequalities, their immediate, underlying and structural causes, and disparities in access to these rights. It also includes an assessment of the status of public and private policies and actions that affect the rights and well-being of children.

This report updates last SitAn released in 2015, taking into account new national data available from the 2014 General Population Census, the 2015 and 2017 waves of the Household Panel Survey conducted by the National Observatory of Human Development (ONDH), and the study on child poverty in Morocco by the ONDH and the Ministry of Family Solidarity, Equality and Social Development with UNICEF support. In addition, the Ministry of Health is preparing to release the results of the National Survey on Population and Family Health (ENPSF), and to finalize evaluations of some important social programmes, such as the Medical Assistance Plan for Population Economically more deprived - RAMED. The SitAn is used to, on the one hand, to fill the main gaps in the knowledge on the situation of the children and to understand the causes and the links between children deprivations, and on the other hand, to inform and to orient government and national partners in developing national strategies, public policies and programs to accelerate the equitable realization of children’s rights in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals. It is also a key advocacy and policy dialogue tool informing the joint strategies and actions of UNICEF and national partners and supports national on periodical reporting on the country’s international commitments.
Country: Kenya

Cholera Social Behavioral Economics Assessment

Since 2014, Kenya has seen an upsurge in cholera incidents, with over 30 counties reporting repeated cholera outbreaks. Despite a high level of awareness of cholera prevention, importance of hygiene and water safety among these populations, compliance with principles of good hygiene (e.g. food safety practices, latrine usage and avoidance of open defecation) is systematically low. By the end of 2018, 5,470 cholera cases (78 deaths and case fatality rate of 1.4 per cent) were reported across 19 counties. The most publicly cited areas of cholera activity have been catering events, such as weddings and conferences, as well as trusted eatery establishments. For instance, almost 150 were impacted by cholera at a 22 June conference held in Nairobi, while 136 were affected on 10-12 July at the Chinese Trade Fair. Kenya’s cholera outbreaks not only pose high risks to the region, but also moderate risks globally, given that Kenya is an international hub for business, trade, and conferences. It is clear from these numbers that cholera constitutes a serious epidemic crisis for the country. To contain cholera, preparedness and prevention must become top priorities for organizations in the health and sanitation sector.

This research was conducted in collaboration with Ministry of Health and seeks to understand the gaps faced by individuals and collective hygiene behavior using behavioral science and economics to map out the psychological, social, cognitive and emotional factors affecting hygiene-related decision-making. Specifically, the research aimed to (i) profile high-risk populations and identify behavioural root causes for the spread of cholera; (ii) map communication triggers that will promote cholera prevention behaviors; and (iii) test what messaging is most effective in enabling preventative hygiene and sanitation behaviors in high-risk settings.

The findings will inform the development of a scalable and cost-effective cholera prevention strategy, that goes beyond traditional information dissemination and aims to change perceptions and attitudes among high-risk populations to prevent cholera outbreaks.
Country: Tunisia


The Multiple Indicators Clusters Survey is intended to update indicators related to the situation of children in Tunisia across multiple sectors including health, nutrition, early childhood development (ECD), education and child protection. In 2012, Tunisia conducted a MICS survey that was used to inform national planning processes and policies between 2015 and 2018. The current five-year national development plan will end in 2020 and preparatory works for a new one have begun. In addition, Tunisia needs baseline indicators, including on the children rights situation, to mainstream the SDGs into national policies and nurture its Voluntary National Report on SDG that will be submitted in 2019.

The purpose of this report is to update the situation of children in the country to fill gaps in knowledge on child rights deprivations that the country should address. The report will make available the most recent and accurate indicators on the situation of children and their households in the country. MICS 2018 covered maternal and new-born health, health, ECD, education, water, sanitation and hygiene, social protection, violence and children and victimization. This survey includes data on fundamental learning for children and the quality of drinking water in household.

The publication will inform the preparation of the new national development plan (2021 – 2025) as well as strategies, policies to improve the situation of children in the country. It also feed into Tunisia’s Voluntary National Report on SDG. Preparation of the next cycle of UNICEF’s country support programme will benefit from the publication as it identifies the key areas in which UNICEF’s contribution can significantly improve the situation of children in the country.

MICS results highlighted regional disparities, social inequities and the main challenges facing children in Tunisia, which will enable the UNICEF office to strengthen its informed advocacy aiming the realization of children rights and the acknowledgement of their needs notably during this crucial period of the country’s history (transition, social reforms, elections, ...).

Country: South Africa

South Africa in Focus: An Analysis of Poverty, Inequality and the Beneficiaries of Government Spending

As UNICEF South Africa approaches a new phase in its development, there is a need for a short and concise publication setting out the key social policy issues in the country. This publication acts as a reference document on the key facts on poverty, inequality, employment, and the general state of South Africa’s economy and the country’s public finances. Specific emphasis is placed on public finances and what this means for poor and vulnerable children.

South Africa has multiple publications at different levels and scope, but no short and concise publication that reference the social and economic situation for children (showing changes over time). This is not a themed publication, but focuses on headline findings over a longer period of time on poverty, inequality, the beneficiaries of official government spending, and whether government budgets are adequate to cope with the rising challenges in the country. It provides snapshot analysis of the key social policy issues in South Africa, namely the fiscal incidence of spending in social sectors, fiscal space for services and programmes that benefit children directly, and budget allocation and execution rates for the key social sector line departments. It is an up-to-date statement of progress and challenges concerning key social policy issues in South Africa.

The document will serve as a handy reference with the most up-to-date analysis and description of key social issues affecting children in South Africa. It deals with distributional effects of government spending (by race, region and socio-economic class), highlights emerging equity issues and brings these together in one publication.
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
Documentation of Evidence on WASH Financing Issues in Eastern and Southern Africa

WASH financing has been identified as a major bottleneck to WASH service delivery in Eastern and Southern Africa Region (ESAR). To enhance programming, UNICEF seeks better understanding of the financing landscape for the WASH sector in the region. The study aims to fill a critical void of evidence in the region by being the first-ever publication that covers the broad scope of WASH financing issues in a single document. The study looks at all aspects of WASH financing, including the overarching sector context, government financing, donor financing, household financing, the quality and equity of financing, the financial gap and financing options. It includes both primary and secondary data collection efforts, including country visits, to ensure the most comprehensive picture possible.

The objectives of this study are to: (i) develop four detailed country level assessments of WASH financing; and (ii) produce a report on the state of current and future WASH financing in ESAR.

The findings will bolster planned advocacy activities at country level with budget and finance departments in government ministries that are responsible for delivering WASH services so that all children have access to quality WASH services.

Cholera prevention, preparedness and response in Eastern and Southern Africa

Cholera remains a major public health issue in Africa, where 16 countries reported 42 per cent of the 172,454 cases, and 72 per cent of the 1,304 cholera-related deaths reported globally in 2015. Nine of these were countries in eastern and southern Africa. Because of the increased mobility of populations across borders, cholera outbreaks now spread easily across countries. In recent years, UNICEF has taken a prominent role in the global fight against cholera. UNICEF’s Eastern and Southern African Regional Office has developed a strategic framework for cholera mitigation in the 21 countries in the region, with a special focus on those experiencing recurrent outbreaks. The development of an epidemiological evidence base is critical for implementation of the framework in the region. Therefore, this study identifies geographical areas and populations prone to cholera (hotspot(s)) with the objective of using this information to inform priority cholera mitigation actions in health, communication for development and WASH.

The objective of the study is to gain a thorough understanding of the epidemiology of cholera in the Great Lakes region (Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda) and to develop tailored cholera prevention investment plans in identified hotspots (Tanzania, South Sudan and Uganda). The findings will enhance understanding on cholera epidemiology and hence prevention in the region.
Scoping Study of WASH in Schools Programming in Eastern and Southern Africa: A review of evidence, bottlenecks and opportunities to meet the Sustainable Development Goal Targets

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) call for universal access to safe water, dignified sanitation and hygiene (WASH) for all by 2030. With children spending several hours a day and over a decade of their growing years at school, basic access to sustainable WASH in schools (WinS) is not only crucial for their health and well-being, but also a fundamental human right. As an organization, UNICEF remains committed to safeguarding the well-being, growth and development of the world’s children and ensuring that girls and boys have equal access to basic water, sanitation and hygiene at home, school and play. The study expands on the scope of two past regional assessments and highlights issues relating to the five sector-strengthening building blocks of sector policy and strategy, institutional arrangements, sector financing, planning, monitoring and review, and capacity development. It uses a mixed method approach, comprising primary and secondary data collection through administered regional surveys and literature review, country-specific descriptive case studies, and includes strategic recommendations and next steps for advancing sustainable WinS programming in the region.

The objectives of this study are to: (i) provide an up-to-date snapshot of the enabling environment for WinS in the region; (ii) assess UNICEF’s strategic position in supporting governments to meet the SDG targets for WinS; and (iii) compile game-changing approaches, and best practices for further learning, knowledge-sharing and cross fertilization in the region.

The findings provide the most up-to-date synopsis of the enabling environment for sustainable WASH in schools programming in the 21 countries in ESAR, facilitate sharing of lessons learned and best practices in the region; and help raise the profile of WinS through evidence generation for enhanced advocacy and informed programming for children.

Fuzzy Logic Analysis of the Build, Capacity Build and Transfer (B-CB-T) Modality for Urban Water Supply Service Delivery in Ethiopia

Rapid urbanization in Ethiopia is resulting in the need for alternative sustainable service models for urban water supply. Contractual arrangements to improve the functionality of urban water services in Ethiopia have included build, operate and transfer (BOT), design, build and operate (DBO), performance-based contracts (PBC) and utility development. UNICEF undertook a review of these modalities and concluded that a modified version of the BOT modality was required to both incentivize private sector engagement in urban water supply and to enhance public sector utilities.

This paper describes the contractual modality developed to achieve this aim, namely an Ethiopian build, capacity build and transfer (B-CB-T) modality. It tests the applicability of the B-CB-T model using fuzzy logic statistical analysis and concludes that of the four tested variables (internal accountability, external accountability, operation and maintenance and financial management), the most statistically significant was the clear mandate to address complaints and maintain a positive relationship with the clients (users).

The paper concludes that the B-CB-T is an effective contracting modality that should be accompanied by appropriate behaviour change and social mobilization outreach to maximize tariffs, billing, extension and performance of the infrastructure administered within the B-CB-T arrangement.
Countries: ESARO

WASH in Health Care Facilities: A review of evidence, bottlenecks and opportunities to at-scale programming in Eastern and Southern Africa

The need for expanding WASH interventions and monitoring beyond the household to include non-household settings, including health care facilities, is widely recognized and captured in the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Targets. To this end, UNICEF seeks to better understand the bottlenecks and opportunities to at-scale WASH in Health programming in Eastern and Southern Africa. The study includes a qualitative scoping analysis and deep dive in WASH service delivery in the region, a literature review of relevant global and country-level findings on WASH in health, analysis of coverage data, survey questionnaires, multi-stakeholder consultation and descriptive case studies of select health facilities in the region.

The objectives of this study are: (i) to assess the enabling environment for WASH in health care facilities in the region; (ii) evaluate UNICEF’s strategic position in supporting governments to meet the SDG targets; and (iii) capture game-changing process indicators, lessons learned and best practices from selected countries for further learning, and knowledge-sharing in the region.

The findings will bolster global and regional advocacy efforts for enhanced WASH service delivery in health care facilities and provide evidence to support country offices to develop enhanced models and partnerships for strategic action to further integrate sustainable WASH and menstrual health and hygiene into national health policies, budgets, strategies and plans.

Country: Eswatini

WASH Emergency Response in Swaziland (WASHERS) Project Evaluation

The WASHERS project, implemented by World Vision Swaziland, is a UNICEF-funded project, to address both the short and long-term WASH needs in drought-affected communities of Shiselweni and Lubombo regions in response to the El Nino drought phenomenon which affected water levels in the country. The lack of access to clean water negatively impacted sanitation and hygiene practices because the little available water is only reserved for cooking and drinking. Shiselweni and Lubombo regions have suffered chronic drought and have the highest poverty rates. UNICEF funded the WASHERS project, implemented from December 2017 to December 2018, to ensure safe and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services to 65,500 people located in the two regions.

The overall objective of the evaluation was to determine the project impact, emphasising the effectiveness of the WASH committees established, to ascertain whether the intended goal of empowering communities by increasing water accessibility and improving hygiene and sanitation practices in drought-affected areas were achieved. The specific objectives were to: (i) ascertain the project’s impact in the targeted communities in improving the well-being of the child and that of the community; (ii) ascertain the impact and effectiveness of women’s leadership in the WASH Committees and WASH Clubs, and as artisans; (iii) ascertain the effectiveness of the Community-Led Total Sanitation model in improving sanitation and hygiene practices; (iv) establish how locally trained artisans contributed to consistent access to water from boreholes; (v) increase World Vision Swaziland’s accountability communities, partners, donors, supporters and the Government; and (vi) use the information generated to advocate for change as evidence to lobby for change of policy for improved child well-being.

The results of the evaluation will be used further programming and planning of WASH interventions in communities. The document will be used by the health sector, UNICEF Eswatini Country Office and World Vision Eswatini.
The study was conducted to better understand prerequisites, perceptions and practices on menstrual hygiene management (MHM) in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Catholic Relief Services (CRS) funded an initial phase to better understand MHM practices and barriers and their impacts on girls’ school attendance in Mbandaka, Equateur Province. This second phase, co-funded by UNICEF and Catholic Relief Services, is to obtain quantitative and qualitative data on the state of knowledge, perceptions and practices in the management of menstrual hygiene in some peri-urban or rural areas of intervention of the national school and village sanitation programme, as well as in an area affected by recurrent humanitarian crises, in order to see if there were significant differences between the contexts.

The overall objective of this project was to understand the determinants of menstrual hygiene and to verify its impact on school absenteeism in order to suggest how the national School and Village Sanitation Programme and the emergency programme can better integrate menstrual hygiene management in schools and intervention areas.

This study was important because it identified the current knowledge, attitudes and practices of girls, boys, parents, and social framers around menstrual periods and hygiene and thus enabled measurement of the scale of absenteeism of girls due to their menstrual cycles. This study has added value for education and WASH programmes and specifically helped the School and Village Sanitation Programme to integrate certain aspects related to menstrual hygiene.
Country: Madagascar

Sustainability Check 2019

Globally, Madagascar has the fourth highest rate of chronic malnutrition and the third poorest access to safe water, while 44 per cent of the population practice open defecation. UNICEF is supporting the Government of Madagascar’s national water supply, sanitation and hygiene programme, aiming to achieve SDG targets on access to water and sanitation. With several actors and partners, The programme particularly emphasizes the post-programme sustainability of interventions and UNICEF conducted WASH sector Sustainability Checks in 2014 and 2016.

The 2019 Sustainability Check focuses on UNICEF WASH activities implemented between 2013 and 2017 in seven regions of Madagascar to generate evidence and to provide critical inputs to understand the general sustainability of the WASH programme performance. Specifically, the study: (i) assesses and analyses the current degree of sustainability of water and sanitation facilities and services in programme areas and the sustainability of behavioural change and new social norms (for example the absence of open defecation, and hand washing with soap); (ii) assesses underlying factors influencing the likelihood and level of future sustainability; and (iii) provides information on key sustainability challenges and provides recommendations to the Government, sector partners and UNICEF on how sustainability can be improved to deliver more resilient programme and sector outcomes.

In recent years, UNICEF Sustainability Checks have helped put the sustainability of WASH services on global and national agendas and helped deliver more sustainable outcomes in WASH. This Sustainability Check not only provides information on the functionality of water facilities and adherence to behavioural change to stop open defecation and construct toilets; but also highlights underlying factors critical to the future sustainability of WASH services, with a focus on community and decentralized service delivery. This document aims to help deliver UNICEF’s ambition to strengthen national capacity to deliver lasting services, while leaving no one behind. One of the main aims of this Sustainability Check is to trigger action based on its findings and feed into national sector strategies and roadmaps under development.
Country: Malawi

Evaluation of the Community Led Total Sanitation and Hygiene Programme

Malawi adopted a Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach in 2008 to make the country Open Defecation Free (ODF) by promoting sanitation in communities. The Government has made some positive strides by triggering 67.3 per cent of all villages in Malawi of which 33.6 per cent have attained open defaecation free status. In 2012, Malawi launched the National Handwashing Campaign to strengthen hygiene promotion efforts. However, the country continues to register low coverage of handwashing practice. According to the 2014 MGD Endline Survey, only 4.2% of Malawians wash their hands with soap.

The evaluation examines, as systematically and objectively as possible, the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact of the CLTS and hygiene promotion efforts supported by UNICEF. This evaluation is summative as it takes stock of the implementation of the CLTSH programme over the last five years. It is also forward looking, providing evidence to inform the redesign of the next generation of the CLTSH intervention. Its specific purposes are to:

(i) enable evidence-based decision-making, identify strengths and weaknesses of the CLTS programme and therefore determine any programmatic adjustments needed to make the programme more effective; (ii) guide refinement of the Country Programme 2019-2023; (iii) contribute to national/global learning, to make available to the national/global communities the sanitation and hygiene lessons and recommendations for programme improvements; and (iv) provide accountability to stakeholders, including donors.

The evaluation will enable UNICEF to judge if the overall programme is on the right track and achieving planned results; and to identify operational improvements to improve efficiency and effectiveness, reduce risks and improve positive outcomes. NGO partners who are implementing CLTS and hygiene programmes will be able to determine if their investments are effective. It will provide government partners including the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development (MoAIWD) and the Ministry of Local Government with policy guidance and will act as a measure of programme accountability for programme donors.
Country: Namibia

Comprehensive Assessment of Menstrual Health and Hygiene (MHH) Knowledge and Practices in Namibia

A number of socio-economic and cultural factors impact the menstrual health management (MHM) in adolescent girls and women in Namibia, including limited access to improved sanitation facilities at home and in schools, especially in rural areas, and the fact in many Namibian cultures menstruation remains a taboo topic, which continues to be associated with uncleanliness and shame. School health policy is challenged by shortages in staff and equipment and long distances to travel. Lack of suitable products and facilities for MHM forces women and girls living in poverty to make use of unsanitary and ineffective materials and limit female participation in education and employment. Finally, late introduction of MHM in the life skills curriculum compared to the average age of menarche means many girls start their menstruation without accurate or ample information.

This study took place in six regions across the country and focuses on girls of school going age. The study identifies: (i) access to menstrual hygiene products; (ii) access to, and types of facilities used during menstruation and home and in schools; (iii) types of products used, and product preferences; (iv) participation (educational and otherwise), or lack thereof, during menstruation; (v) attitudes and knowledge to, and beliefs about menstruation; and (vi) understanding of, and access to, information about menstruation. Data is gathered through interviews, focus groups and surveys with male and female participants, and disaggregated by age groups, school years, language, and geographical location to be cross-referenced with national census and EMIS data. Perception data is also disaggregated by sex, including data from boys and men.

The publication assesses knowledge and practices in relation to MHM, identifies potential barriers to education and participation created for girls and helps to identify interventions for schools and communities to mitigate these barriers to ensure menstruation does not contribute to cyclical inequality.
In the United Republic of Tanzania, more children are attending school thanks to better awareness among parents and several successful policy initiatives, such as abolition of school fees and improving the quality of education. However, this has come with challenges including overcrowding of existing infrastructure, such as classrooms and school WASH facilities. There is growing evidence that inadequate WASH facilities limit school enrolment, attendance, lead to early drop out, and affect performance and completion of education. However, there is a dearth of up-to-date data and information on school WASH: the last meaningful assessment was made in 2009/10. Available information through routine monitoring by the education sector provides very basic information, usually limited to the number of toilet stances per school, with little information on quality and adequacy of services as measured against the School WASH Guidelines.

The assessment is intended to generate national coverage estimates for WASH services in schools to help establish baselines for reporting, monitoring and tracking progress on SDG 6 on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene and SDG 4 on Education. The findings also inform sector programme planning, inform strategies to scale up school WASH services, and policy advocacy in efforts to fulfil children’s right to better education, and fill data gaps and inform programmes and strategies for sustainable planning and implementation of school WASH services.

The assessment is an important input into a school WASH bottleneck analysis that will inform evaluation of the 2012-2017 school WASH Strategic Plan planned by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, as well as development of the new (2018-2025) strategic plan. The assessment will also inform equity/policy advocacy, resource mobilization and allocation, and used to create awareness of scale of the problem and how it affects education outcomes for schoolchildren, especially girls. The assessment will also establish a national datum for data definitions, and appropriate data sets for management and monitoring school WASH in the country hence providing a rationale for involvement of the National Statistics Office in ensuring the quality and an official stamp of approval to the study results.
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