

**Progress towards Agenda for Humanity, Platform for Action,
Commitments and Transformation (PACT)**

2018 Annual Self Report

Name of Institution: UNICEF

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A. Introduction

The Agenda for Humanity is a framework for action, change and mutual accountability released by the UN Secretary General in advance of the WHS. This report documents progress towards The Agenda for Humanity and the commitments made by UNICEF at the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) on improving its humanitarian action to better serve people. On an annual basis, UNICEF reports progress through the Platform for Action, Commitments and Transformation (PACT, www.agendaforhumanity.org) with this being the third report. Progress captured in this report includes inputs from Office of Emergency Programmes (Global Cluster Coordination Unit, Humanitarian Policy Section), Programme Division (Child Protection, Education, Disability, HATIS), Field Results Group team, and Public Partnership Division.

B. Progress to date

Commitment 1: UNICEF commits to adopt the IASC statement on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) at the individual agency level.

Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

In 2018 UNICEF:

- i. Commissioned four independent reviews to examine issues relating to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, workplace abuse and gender equality in the workplace.
- ii. Commissioned the law firm Morgan Lewis to undertake a review of its internal sexual harassment and other sexual misconduct investigations covering the period 2013 – 2017.
- iii. Executive Director committed \$11 million to strengthen and accelerate Sexual Exploitation and Abuse work in 16 of our “high risk” humanitarian Country Offices in the three priority areas identified in the Inter Agency Standing Committee proposal for advancing Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse work at country level, namely i) safe and accessible reporting; ii) quality and accessible survivors assistance; and iii) accountability and investigations.
- iv. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse online training course completion rates by UNICEF staff is above 95% globally, and the training must now be renewed annually.
- v. Policy on “Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Abuse” was amended to allow for anonymous reporting of workplace misconduct and remove the 6-month deadline for reporting and the non-staff personnel restrictions on reporting.

How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments?

UNICEF is monitoring progress through regular assessment of compliance with the Minimum Operating Standards for Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, and progress towards Annual Work Plan targets.

How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

- Through an ongoing review of global progress, based on steps taken by high priority countries and as reflected in UNICEF’s Annual Results Report.
- Through technical support missions, audit reports and evaluations of UNICEF programming on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.

- i. Remoteness of humanitarian programme locations makes it logistically difficult to properly investigate and address some the PSEA cases reported.
- ii. Under-reporting, which creates limitations in the data available to measure and assess progress achieved.
- iii. Uneven prioritization given to inter-agency Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Networks at country level.

Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

In 2019 UNICEF will:

- i. As IASC Champion, UNICEF ED will convene a system-wide learning event with Member States, civil society and other key stakeholders, with a focus on culture change and accountability.
- ii. Develop and rolled out a comprehensive external and internal communication strategy on PSEA and workplace abuse.
- iii. Finalize and disseminate a UN Protocol on Assistance for Survivors of SEA
- iv. Support online dashboard for UNICEF Country Offices to track progress on the three priority outcomes: reporting, response services, and accountability.

What steps or actions are needed to make **collective progress** to achieve this transformation?

Under the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Sexual Exploitation and Abuse championship agenda, a Proposal for accelerating PSEA action at country level was developed and endorsed by IASC Principals in December 2018. The proposal focuses on achieving three key outcomes on PSEA in the areas of 1) safe and accessible reporting, 2) quality SEA survivor assistance and 3) enhanced accountability, including investigations. Gaps were identified in 25 countries in all areas and the coordination systems to deliver on the three priorities.

List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

UNICEF General Terms and Conditions (GTC) in Project Cooperation Agreements with implementing partners have been amended to ensure compliance with UNICEF SEA policy and systems and to secure full execution of the UN SEA Implementing Partner Protocol. The roll out of the new procedures and tools is ongoing at the country level, including training for implementing partners. Similarly, contractual/tender provisions and UNICEF policies relevant to vendors have been amended to adhere to the provisions of key UNICEF Policies, in addition to the UN Supplier Code of Conduct and the UN Global Compact.

Commitment 2: UNICEF endorses the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action.

Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

In 2018, UNICEF:

- i. Mainstreamed children with disabilities in humanitarian action focusing on inclusion and accessibility across policies, programmes, capacity and supplies. 20 countries reported their humanitarian programmes are systematically including children with disabilities.
- ii. Focused on rollout of the guidance on Inclusion of Children with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action to build capacity of UNICEF offices in the field. The MENA Regional Humanitarian Network Meeting, with more than 15 countries participating, included specific discussions on rollout of the guidance resulting in its subsequent inclusion in action plans emerging out of the network meeting.
- iii. Supported the development of the inter-agency guidelines on inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action together with Humanity & Inclusion (formerly Handicap International) and the International Disability Alliance, that is yet to be adopted by IASC.

How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments?

- i. The UNICEF Strategic Plan 2018-21 includes 4 disability specific indicators in Goal Area 2 and Goal Area 5 on education; assistive devices; data collection and humanitarian action.
- ii. A disability tag and specific codes on reporting expenditure have been instituted to enable UNICEF to better link resources and results, including on humanitarian action.

How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

Through analysis of Country Office Annual Reports and evaluations of humanitarian programmes.

Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.

- i. The unavailability of robust, reliable and comparable national data on children with disabilities, and especially in humanitarian contexts, continues to challenge delivery of inclusive programmes and services.
- ii. Stigma and discrimination against children with disabilities remain major drivers for social and economic exclusion of children with disabilities and their families.
- iii. Uneven capacity and knowledge on mainstreaming inclusion of children with disabilities in humanitarian programmes continue to present challenges to UNICEF and partners.

Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

In 2019 UNICEF will:

- i. Continue strengthening disability inclusive humanitarian action at the country level.
- ii. Co-lead the completion and rollout of IASC guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action through a participatory process.
- iii. Strengthen knowledge and capacity by rolling out UNICEF guidelines on Children with Disabilities in Humanitarian action.

- iv. Complete second phase of field trials of accessible latrine slabs and their inclusion in UNICEF's supply catalogue.
- v. Continue investments to strengthen data and monitoring through finalization and rollout of guidance on data collection on persons with disabilities in humanitarian action.

What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

Concerted action through partnerships at the global and national levels, pooling resources and expertise will help advance commitments on disability inclusive humanitarian action. Common approaches to collect data on persons with disabilities is also critical to systematically address inclusion within the humanitarian system.

List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

- i. UNICEF successfully supported children across the humanitarian-development nexus in Syria. The expansion of the cash transfer programme for families of children with disabilities from two to six governorates included the use of an "integrated programming approach" in a humanitarian context, whereby the cash transfer scheme was complemented by case management services in close coordination with child protection interventions to enhance the inclusion of the children with disabilities in the available services. The cash transfer programme was part of a comprehensive disability-inclusive humanitarian response undertaken in Syria, where consistent efforts were made to ensure all elements of the humanitarian response were inclusive.
- ii. In Afghanistan, all 66 schools built in the Central Highlands in 2018 include accessibility features like ramps and accessible toilets.

Commitment 3: UNICEF commits to collecting/supporting governments to collect quantitative and qualitative data on children with disabilities, disaggregated by age and sex that are comparable, reliable and ethically collected.

Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

In 2018, UNICEF:

- i. Supported six countries (Ghana, Iraq, Lao, Korea DPR, Sierra Leone and Vietnam) to release their national survey reports that included data collected through the UNICEF/Washington Group Module on Child Functioning.
- ii. Developed a guidance and recommendations on collecting data on persons with disabilities in humanitarian action, based on 2017 technical workshop organized by UNICEF, Humanity and Inclusion (formerly Handicap International), the International Disability Alliance, the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, and UNHCR.
- iii. In partnership with other UN agencies, strengthened disability in humanitarian needs assessments and response planning.

How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments?

The UNICEF Strategic Plan 2018-21 includes 4 disability specific indicators in Goal Area 2 and Goal Area 5 on education; assistive devices; data collection and humanitarian action.

A disability tag and specific codes on reporting expenditure have been instituted to enable UNICEF to better link resources and results, including on humanitarian action.

How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

Through the analysis of Country Office Annual Reports and evaluations of humanitarian programmes

Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.

- i. The unpredictability of a humanitarian situation and the complexity of the program cycle make it challenging to know when data on persons with disabilities can be collected, and the level of detail required.
- ii. The large number of humanitarian actors makes it challenging to reach consensus on the approach and best methods for collecting data on persons with disability in humanitarian contexts.
- iii. Limited capacity to accurately collect, analyze and use the disability data.

Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

In 2019 UNICEF will:

- i. Continue strengthening disability inclusive humanitarian action at the country level.
- ii. Co-lead the completion and rollout of IASC guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action through a participatory process.
- iii. Strengthen knowledge and capacity by rolling out UNICEF guidelines on Children with Disabilities in Humanitarian action.
- iv. Complete second phase of field trials of accessible latrine slabs and their inclusion in UNICEFs supply catalogue.
- v. Continue investments to strengthen data and monitoring through finalization and rollout of guidance on data collection on persons with disabilities in humanitarian action.

What steps or actions are needed to make **collective progress** to achieve this transformation?

- i. Strengthen the demand for data on persons with disabilities in humanitarian action through regular reporting requirements.
- ii. Emphasize the importance of incorporating the Washington Group data collection tools in surveys such as the Demographic Health Surveys, the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys as well as national censuses in high humanitarian risk countries, as well as identifying other entry points in humanitarian data collection processes where the use of these tools would be feasible and appropriate.
- iii. Develop guidance on strengthening data collection to enhance inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action.
- iv. Build the capacity of humanitarian stakeholders to collect data to strengthen inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action.

List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

In Vietnam, UNICEF supported the General Statistics Office to conduct a national survey on people with disabilities. One of the first national disability surveys in the world that fully incorporates the Washington Group extended set of disability questions for adults as well as the UNICEF/Washington Group Child Functioning Module, it provides, among other things, key data on access to basic services and social assistance, and on social attitudes toward disability in the country.

Commitment 4: UNICEF is committed to seeking new ways to expand the pool of available resources, including by establishing new partnerships and pursuing innovative financing modalities such as Islamic financing, micro-levies and insurance-based mechanisms.

Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

In 2018, UNICEF:

- i. Implemented its Resource Mobilization Strategy 2018 – 2021, to place children’s rights at the center of policy agendas at global and national levels and to mobilize resources for the implementation of UNICEF strategic plan 2018 – 2021, for realizing children’s rights.
- ii. Explored new opportunities through public-private partnerships, including the use of blended financing instruments—such as insurance and guarantees.
- iii. With the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), started to explore opportunities to mobilize and leverage Islamic finance, in accordance with the UNICEF/IsDB Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) signed in mid-2017. Building on respective synergies, UNICEF and IsDB are working on co-creating innovative funding modality to be used for humanitarian - development nexus programming, which is expected to be further concretized in 2019.

How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

Success will be measured through impact in generating new resources for UNICEF programmes. The achievements of the partnerships will be aligned with the results indicators of the Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021 so that the impact can be demonstrated, through robust key performance indicators, and through powerful case studies to share success stories that illustrate the impact in achieving results for children.

List 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.

Same as previous year

Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

- i. UNICEF is looking to create its own innovative financing instruments to strengthen preparedness and bridge humanitarian and development programming in complex humanitarian emergency contexts. These initiatives target win-win investments that yield improved results for children while optimizing cost-efficiency and reducing the organization’s carbon footprint. For example, UNICEF is exploring the creation of a revolving funding to counter escalating emergency risks to children with preparedness and prevention resources dispatched at the first early warning signals.
- ii. A nutrition pre-financing window and accompanying pre-positioning stockpile is also under discussion to eliminate breaks in the ready-to-use therapeutic food pipeline caused by short-term funding gaps and insufficient emergency stockpiles.
- iii. A global investment portfolio of cost- and carbon-efficient WASH investments in humanitarian contexts is being assembled to replace water-trucking and fossil fuel-powered WASH systems with sustainable infrastructure and renewable energy systems.

What steps or actions are needed to make **collective progress** to achieve this transformation?

Resource mobilization strategies for humanitarian and development programming in the coming years will have to meet the gaps in addressing humanitarian needs, as well as the ambitions of the Sustainable

Development Goals. They should also take into account the important role of host Governments and local partners to lead on interventions that can be scaled up to deliver the transformative results. Finally, these strategies should address the continuing imperative to respond to humanitarian needs in increasingly complex crises. The work should continue building and broadening the partnership base with emerging economies, the World Bank, other multilateral development banks such as the Islamic Bank and regional development banks, and the African Union.

List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

- i. UNICEF's private sector partnerships division has established a financial innovation lab, which brings together private sector partners and experts in exploring, co-creating and scaling up innovative financial models that generate additional, predictable and sustainable funding for UNICEF's programmes in benefit of children and their families.
- ii. In the context of the IASC Humanitarian Financing Task Team, UNICEF participated in a Learning Lab on Innovative Humanitarian Financing that was organized under the leadership of ICVA, as a Workshop on Islamic Social Financing, that took place in Kuala Lumpur on 28 and 29 November 2018 aimed at peer-to-peer learning about innovative financing mechanisms and to help explore collective approaches closing the humanitarian funding gap by deepening and broadening the resource base outside traditional giving.

Commitment 5: UNICEF commits to using open source software platforms (e.g. RapidPro) to support real-time GBV risk mapping and analysis, as well as strengthening accountability mechanisms, from tracking quality of services to feedback loops, to improve GBV programming in emergencies.

Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

In 2018, UNICEF:

- i. Participated in designing mobile service delivery, as well as remote service delivery mechanisms to increase the reach of services even in the most difficult environments with a specific emphasis on adolescent girls, often invisible in emergency situations. In Lebanon supported the government to develop and roll out a mobile application to support clinical management of rape services.
- ii. UNICEF is currently implementing a project on the use of various "safe space" modalities – including virtual safe spaces – to improve adolescent girls' access to health information and services.
- iii. UNICEF is also leading the field in terms of providing girls and women with appropriate menstrual hygiene items and making this part of its standard emergency response. This plays a significant role in reducing the risks women/girls face (infections, missing out on distributions or school) as well as increasing their mobility and dignity.
- iv. An enhanced version of the interagency Gender-based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) is now available through UNICEF's Primero/GBVIMS+ platform. This online and offline application supports both GBV case management and trend analysis of reported incident data. It also has features that allow for measuring the quality of service provision (key performance indicators) and remote supervision of case workers, which is particularly important in difficult-to-access contexts.

How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments?

- UNICEF 2018- 2021 results framework have incorporated results on protection from all forms of violence of which GBV is included. Measurement of results and identification of lessons learned are critical

activities to drive continuous improvement of programme design and enhance accountability for delivering on commitments

- As part of the GBViE Operational Guide, UNICEF finalized a customized monitoring framework.

How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

- Routine monitoring and reporting requirements through Annual Results Report and Annual Work planning process.
- Evaluations, such as the 2018 evaluation of the flagship *Communities Care* programme on social norms and GBV prevention in Somalia and South Sudan, as well as the operational review of the IASC GBV Guidelines rollout (completed at global level and in Nigeria, Lebanon and Greece).
- Operation research such as the Transforming Lives and Preventing Violence Programme examining drivers of household violence.
- UNICEF has launched a research project with the Harvard Humanitarian Institute aimed at developing a methodology to measure the effectiveness of GBV risk mitigation.

List 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.

- i. Identifying what kind of technology that woman and girls use/have access to in emergency contexts.
- ii. Addressing the visible and invisible barriers that stand in the way of women's and girls' meaningful participation in programme design and decision-making.
- iii. The disconnect between women's movements and the humanitarian architecture.

Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

Existing programme and emergency operations architecture at the country, regional and headquarters levels provides the foundation for scale-up of UNICEF's GBViE programming as outlined in UNICEF Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021 and Gender Action Plan 2018 - 2021. A dedicated cross-sectoral team at headquarters will guide programming, facilitate global partnerships and global capacity-building initiatives, and lead GBViE research and innovation. To achieve success, there is need to strengthen (i) commitment to addressing GBViE, (ii) capacity to implement the strategies and programme actions at country and regional levels, and (iii) collaboration across all UNICEF programme sectors and emergency operations systems at each level.

What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

- i. Enhanced commitment at all levels of the humanitarian architecture, and within individual organizations, especially by senior management, to address GBViE as a life-saving aspect of humanitarian action and ensure its early prioritization as part of emergency response.
- ii. Enhanced human resource capacity on GBViE to provide technical support across humanitarian sectors and clusters and facilitate good quality programming at country and regional levels.
- iii. GBViE programming requires a coordinated cross-sectoral approach.

List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

- i. UNICEF has been a leader in developing, piloting and rolling out of the GBV Information Management System along with UNFPA, UNHCR, IRC and IMC, including as part the Information Management and Innovation to Protect Children ([Primero](#)) project, which harmonizes data on GBV in humanitarian settings.

- ii. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Communities Care: Transforming Lives and Preventing Violence programme is an effective prevention and response intervention against GBV. It has been designed to empower communities in conflict-affected and other humanitarian settings to create safer and healthier communities by addressing harmful norms that promote violence against women and girls, and fostering dignity, equality, and non-violence.
- iii. In Colombia and Haiti, UNICEF worked with Innocenti and Columbia University to develop a grounded theory of change for addressing the intersections of violence against children (VAC) and violence against women and girls (VAW/G) in the home and which is exacerbated in emergencies.

Commitment 6: UNICEF commits to strengthen community resilience including through support to risk informed programming, Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Mitigation/Adaptation.

Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

- i. UNICEF supported countries to undertake thorough child-centered, multi-hazard risk analyses, either as stand-alone analyses, as a part of general situation analyses (e.g. Syria and Panama) or linked to the work on UNICEF's Emergency Preparedness Platform (EPP) as done in Costa Rica. Others have conducted sub-national level risk analysis to inform planning and programming (e.g. Myanmar, Tunisia, Eswatini, India and Uganda).
- ii. A new UN Joint Programme in Bosnia and Herzegovina on DRR, involving UNICEF, UNDP, FAO, UNESCO, and UNFPA was finalized.
- iii. In Tajikistan, UNICEF supported the development of a national DRR strategy which has a strong focus on resilience and risk reduction rather than disaster management alone.
- iv. In India, UNICEF provided technical support (risk assessment, workshops etc.) in the revision of state and district disaster management plans in 72 districts of Telangana and Chhattisgarh States.
- v. UNICEF supported disaggregated risk data including at municipal government level in Honduras and investment in deep boreholes to reduce drought risk in Afghanistan and supporting school preparedness and retrofitting in Bangladesh and Indonesia.

How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments?

UNICEF strategic plan 2018 – 2021 includes risk informed programming as one of the change strategies and UNICEF Country Programmes will now systematically be developed and assessed against benchmarks for all risk and preparedness. 2018 is the first year reporting on number of countries with child sensitive national or local risk management plans addressing risks related to disasters, climate change, conflict, public health emergencies or other crises.

Also UNICEF is monitoring the progress in country offices on meeting organizational benchmarks on implementing on preparedness, risk informed programming and promoting peaceful and inclusive societies.

How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

The current UNICEF Strategic Plan (2018-2021) identifies specific outputs and indicators that will help to track the organization's progress on risk-informed programming and risk mitigation. This includes measuring the degree to which UNICEF country offices implement risk-informed programming and promote peaceful and inclusive societies (relevant to two key transformations as set out in the Agenda for Humanity).

Please share no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.

- i. Risk analysis is increasingly understood and conducted across the organization. However, continued work is needed to effect institutional change and systematically apply the analysis' results across the programme cycle.
- ii. Risk-informed programming requires clear accountabilities at headquarter, regional and country level with different departments such as planning, programming and emergency operations establishing their accountabilities.

Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments to achieve this transformation.

- i. Improve internal capacity of the organization, including measurement of linking humanitarian and development elements in all humanitarian evaluations, developing evidence on disaster impact on children and young people (with UN Women).
- ii. Analyze data gap in humanitarian and fragile contexts to strengthen data systems and tools.

What steps or actions are needed to make **collective progress** to achieve this transformation?

In line with the UNDAF priority to promote 'risk-informed programming', greater coherence and coordination between UN agencies in terms of risk analysis and assessment is needed in support of UNCT's work in development and humanitarian contexts.

List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

- i. In Mali, UNICEF has worked together with UNFPA and IOM to accelerate the implementation of the agreement for national peace and reconciliation by engaging 2500 young people, of whom 900 are young women in the central part of the country which now faces high needs in terms of conflict prevention and conflict resolution.
- ii. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, UNICEF and partners have continued the expansion of the existing "Dialogue for the Future" to include other Member States in the region. Initially launched in 2014 in partnership with the Bosnia and Herzegovina Presidency, the project in Bosnia and Herzegovina established local dialogue platforms in 28 municipalities, while capacitating youth to lead and monitor them.

Commitment 7: UNICEF commits to include conflict analysis, conflict sensitivity, and early warning, as an integral part of its operations, including in support of the Secretary General's Human Rights Upfront initiative.

a) Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

- i. 47 UNICEF country offices reported that their country programmes include explicit objectives to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, addressing the violence, conflict and challenges to social cohesion.

b) How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments?

The progress is assessed through participation in Regional Quarterly Reviews; participation in IASC Reference Group on Early Warning and Preparedness; through UNICEF Annual reports; and UNICEF Country Development Plans.

c) **How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?**

UNICEF Strategic Plan (2018-2021) identifies specific outputs and indicators that will help to track the organization's progress on risk-informed programming and risk mitigation. This includes measuring the degree to which UNICEF country offices implement risk-informed programming and promote peaceful and inclusive societies (relevant to two key transformations as set out in the Agenda for Humanity).

d) **List no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.**

- i. Integration of conflict analysis into regular Situational analysis and other Country Office planning processes does not yet happen systematically.
- ii. Limited funding and technical capacity at global and regional level.
- iii. Country Teams with limited capacity may not be able to put in place all the required preparedness measures without outside support.

e) **Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.**

- i. Technical support to country offices on conflict analysis, conflict sensitivity and peacebuilding will prioritize countries affected by conflict, violence and fragility, who will undergo a country planning process.
- ii. UNICEF Peacebuilding Portfolio Review (mapping and needs assessment of UNICEF peace building on the field)
- iii. Analysis of data gap in humanitarian and fragile contexts and strengthening data systems and tools.

f) **What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?**

- i. UN agencies and Member States should develop joint indicators related to conflict analysis and peacebuilding.
- ii. UNICEF continues to need high-level management support to maintain this pace and keep on strengthening the partnership.

g) **List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.**

- i. In Mali UNICEF has worked together with UNFPA and OIM to accelerate the implementation of the agreement for national peace and reconciliation by engaging 2500 young people, of whom 900 are young women in the central part of the country which now faces high needs in terms of conflict prevention and conflict resolution.
- ii. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, UNICEF and partners have continued the expansion of the existing "Dialogue for the Future" to include other Member States in the region. Initially launched in 2014 in partnership with the Bosnia and Herzegovina Presidency, the project in Bosnia and Herzegovina established local dialogue platforms in 28 municipalities, while capacitating youth to lead and monitor them.

Commitment 8: UNICEF will seek to end grave violations against children through strengthening its monitoring and reporting on child rights violations in situations of armed conflict and other crises and by supporting systems and procedures to respond to the needs of affected children and their families

Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

- i. UNICEF continued fulfilling its responsibility to monitor and report on grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict as part of the UN Security Council-mandated Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM). A core part of this work is UNICEF's role as co-chair of MRM task forces in 14 countries and as lead on monitoring and reporting on grave violations against children in six situations of concern that do not have a formal MRM. This was done in collaboration with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG CAAC), the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations (DPPA-DPO), and other relevant partners.
- ii. UNICEF advocated with Member States and parties to conflict to comply with their obligations to protect children and to end and prevent the six grave violations committed against children in situations of armed conflict.
- iii. In the context of counterterrorism activities undertaken by Member States, UNICEF advocated for compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law, including measures to protect children associated with armed groups such as treating them primarily as victims of violations of international law rather than treating them as security threats, and providing them with release and reintegration assistance rather than detaining and prosecuting them.

How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments?

- Regular reports and briefings to the Security Council on the situation of children affected by armed conflict, including through the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict.
- Monitoring the implementation of Action Plans signed by parties to conflict with the UN to end and prevent grave violations against children.
- Monitoring and reporting on programmatic interventions such as release and reintegration packages for children associated with armed forces or groups, health and education services, and psychosocial support for child survivors of sexual violence.

How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

- Documenting trends on violations in reports on children and armed conflict submitted to the Security Council.
- Continuous dialogue with parties to conflict, key partners and stakeholders, and affected populations.

List 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.

- i. Lack of humanitarian access to children affected by armed conflict.
- ii. The increasing disrespect by parties to conflict of international humanitarian law, as evidenced by the deliberate targeting of civilians through the widespread use of explosive weapons in densely populated areas, the targeting of humanitarian workers, the destruction of civilian infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, and water supply systems, unprecedented large-scale forced displacement of civilians,

widespread rape and other forms of sexual violence, and the recruitment and use of children, among other violations.

- iii. Resources for child protection actors to address the widespread impact on children of these violations are not commensurate to actual needs.
- iv. Member states are increasingly addressing issues concerning children affected by armed conflict through a national security or counterterrorism lens rather than a human rights and protection lens. This approach undermines the rights and protection of affected children and is rarely in their best interest.

Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

- i. UNICEF will scale-up advocacy with parties to a conflict to comply with international humanitarian and human rights law to end and prevent grave violations against children, including the denial of humanitarian access affecting children.
- ii. UNICEF will continue to roll-out its public advocacy campaign “Children under Attack” to focus international attention on grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict.
- iii. UNICEF will continue to provide timely services to children affected by armed conflict.

What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

Security Council Resolution 2427, adopted in 2018, must be implemented by Member States. This includes treating children associated with armed groups primarily as victims of violations of international law rather than treating them as security threats and providing them with release and reintegration assistance rather than detaining and prosecuting them.

List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

UNICEF’s approach to strengthening systems at the national level focuses on building the capacities of governments, civil society and local actors for coordination and rapid scale-up of life-saving and protection services in humanitarian crises. This includes improving delivery systems for health, nutrition, and water, sanitation and hygiene, as well as for education programming. It also includes reform of child protection laws and institutions, to ensure, for example, the care and protection of children without parental care, and to end and prevent grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict.

Commitment 9: UNICEF will strengthen its advocacy with Member States and parties to conflict to stop the use of wide-area explosive weapons in populated areas, as well as attacks on, and the military use of, civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, and water facilities.

Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

- i. In 2018, UNICEF began developing a series of reports focused on issues related to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) in armed conflict, including attacks on WASH infrastructure. UNICEF also began advocacy with Member States to raise awareness of the impact of attacks against WASH infrastructure on children.
- ii. UNICEF, as co-chair of MRM task forces, continued the monitoring and reporting of attacks against schools or hospitals, as well as the military use of schools or hospitals. UNICEF also continued its advocacy with Member States and parties to conflict to end attacks on protected civilian infrastructure, including schools or hospitals.

- iii. UNICEF advocated with Member States to endorse the Safe Schools Declaration, which has been signed by 86 countries as 31 March 2019. UNICEF also continued to be an active participant in the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack, which released a comprehensive report in 2018 on attacks against education globally.

How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments?

- Monitoring and reporting on programmatic interventions to maintain and rehabilitate civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, and water facilities.
- Regular reports and briefings to the Security Council on the situation of children affected by armed conflict, including the killing and maiming of children by explosive weapons in densely populated areas.
- The number of Member States endorsing the Safe Schools Declaration.
- The explicit inclusion of attacks against WASH infrastructure in discussions related to the protection of civilian infrastructure in situations of armed conflict.

How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

- Documenting trends on violations in reports on children and armed conflict submitted to the Security Council.
- Continuous dialogue with parties to conflict, key partners and stakeholders, and affected populations.

List no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.

- i. Increasing disrespect by parties to conflict of international humanitarian law, as evidenced by the destruction of civilian infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, and water supply systems.
- ii. Lack of accountability for perpetrators of grave violations against children.
- iii. Hesitation by Member States to endorse the Safe Schools Declaration because it imposes a higher standard than IHL requires.

Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

In 2019 UNICEF will:

- i. Continue to advocate with parties to conflict to comply with international humanitarian and human rights law to end and prevent grave violations against children.
- ii. Continue to roll-out its public advocacy campaign “Children under Attack” to focus international attention on grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict.
- iii. Continue to call for Member States to sign the Safe Schools Declaration (SSD) and will advocate – with the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack (GCPEA) – for the endorsement by 100 countries by the end of 2019.

What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

- i. Parties to conflict should implement the Action Plans they have signed with the UN to end and prevent grave violations against children.
- ii. More Member States should sign the Safe Schools Declaration and become champions on the protection of education facilities and protected personnel.

List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

Given the continued disrespect for international humanitarian and human rights law in conflicts around the world, UNICEF continued to put children's rights at the centre of the global policy agenda. This included feeding into global policy discussions related to children and armed conflict (CAAC), protection of civilians, counterterrorism, and the United Nations Human Rights Up Front initiative to ensure that Member States maintained focus on protecting the most vulnerable. This included supporting field engagement with parties to conflict to foster their compliance with international humanitarian law and child rights. For example, in South Sudan, UNICEF contributed to the development of a revitalized Action Plan with the Armed Forces of South Sudan, which will address all six grave violations being committed against children.

Commitment 10: UNICEF will continue to advocate for Member States and parties to conflict to end all attacks on health facilities, personnel and transport and to allow the provision of health services.

Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

- i. UNICEF, as co-chair of MRM task forces, continued the monitoring and reporting of attacks against hospitals, as well as the military use of hospitals.
- ii. UNICEF continued its advocacy with Member States and parties to conflict to end attacks on protected civilian infrastructure and personnel, including hospitals.

How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments?

- The explicit inclusion of language on the protection of health facilities, personnel and transport in statements by Member States in deliberations on the protection of civilians and humanitarian access.
- Regular reports and briefings to the Security Council on the situation of children affected by armed conflict, including the impact on children of attacks on health care.
- Monitoring and reporting on programmatic and advocacy interventions to protect health facilities, personnel and transport.

How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

- Documenting trends on violations in reports on children and armed conflict submitted to the Security Council.
- Continuous dialogue with parties to conflict, key partners and stakeholders, and affected populations.

List no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.

- i. Lack of accountability for perpetrators of attacks against health facilities, personnel and transport.
- ii. Ongoing targeting of health facilities, personnel and transport by parties to conflict.
- iii. Ongoing denial of humanitarian access by parties to conflict, which negatively impacts children in need of medical services.

Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

In 2019 UNICEF will:

- i. Remain vigilant, agile and vocal on attacks against health facilities, personnel and transport and advocate with parties to a conflict to allow and facilitate safe, reliable and quality access to people in need of medical assistance.

What steps or actions are needed to make **collective progress** to achieve this transformation?

Security Council Resolution 2286, adopted in 2016, must be implemented by Member States. This includes developing effective measures to prevent and address acts of violence, attacks and threats against medical personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, as well as against hospitals and other medical facilities. Examples of such measures include the domestication of international legal obligations, the collection of data on obstruction, threats and physical attacks against medical personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, and against medical facilities, and the sharing of challenges and good practices in this regard.

List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

UNICEF and the World Health Organization have worked closely to strengthen the monitoring and reporting of attacks against schools or hospitals and protected personnel.

Commitment 11: UNICEF commits to support the effective implementation of the Education in Crisis Platform and to respond collaboratively, with emphasis on enabling humanitarian and development actors to put in place quick, strategic and agile responses to support the education needs of children in crisis.

Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

UNICEF engages with Education Cannot Wait (ECW) as a partner at global and country levels. In 2018, in addition to continuing to serve on the High-Level Steering Group and Executive Committee, UNICEF education staff participated in multiple working groups and task teams. Importantly, UNICEF provided invaluable strategic and operational support on the ground, both through programs and coordination mechanisms. As the largest provider of education in emergencies, UNICEF plays a unique role in implementing ECW's mission. UNICEF received ECW grants in 11 countries in 2018, reaching more than 3.8 million children in contexts where crises were the most severe, needs were the largest, and funding and coping capacity were limited.

Initial Investments, launched in 2017 continued to provide immediate education support to children and youth affected by crises in Chad, Ethiopia, Syria, and Yemen as well as the Global Partners Group. First Emergency Response grants were allocated for programmes in sudden-onset or escalating crises for a period of up to 12 months in DRC, Indonesia, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, and Syria. Multi-Year Resilience Programmes were launched to address longer-term needs in protracted crises, providing a vehicle for joint investments and collaboration between humanitarian and development stakeholders. UNICEF is one of the grantees for two Multi-Year Resilience investments: Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments?

Progress is being assessed through the rigorous results framework and new Strategic Plan for Education Cannot Wait. UNICEF continues to participate in joint field missions and ensure feedback from partners influences ECW's evolution. UNICEF has increased targeting of local civil society partners in capacity building efforts, particularly in West and Central Africa.

How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

- Fundraising and advocacy goals are measuring funds raised and tracking the new and/or non-traditional partners who are prioritizing education in emergencies.
- Case studies are being conducted to look at the impact and lessons learned from initial investments through a grant to the IASC Education Cluster, UNHCR and INEE.

Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.

Continuing donor engagement and adoption by all parties of the new ways of working. Risk mitigation and capacity building need more action to advance localization goals.

Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

UNICEF strategic plan 2018 – 2021 recognizes Education Cannot Wait partners as one of the key partners to contribute to its goal of ensuring that girls and boys are provided with inclusive and equitable education and learning opportunities.

UNICEF will continue active governance and technical engagement to ensure ECW aligns with on-going humanitarian reform efforts.

What steps or actions are needed to make **collective progress** to achieve this transformation?

Progress is advancing on building capacity of local actors. For example, in DRC, UNICEF and partners, in coordination with the Education Cluster, are providing education and child protection as an approach to resilience and peacebuilding and have provided training to 20 Ministry of Education officials on crisis and emergency response to strengthen capacity of education responses in crisis contexts. However, more is needed to advance specific action plans for child safeguarding and accountability to affected populations.

List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

In Nigeria, UNICEF, in partnership with both national and international NGOs is providing basic formal and non-formal education services and supplies in hard-to-reach communities in the northeast. The program works closely with WASH and Child Protection to provide students with multi-sectoral services, contributing to increased access to school, particularly for girls who benefitted from gender-segregated WASH facilities. Provision of water at school benefitted a total of 29,746 (16,653 female) individuals living in the Teachers Village IDP Camp located in Bolori I Ward, Maiduguri Local Government Authority in Borno state and has increased attendance in the school because majority of the parents' in the camp have allowed their children to go to school instead of making them go to the community in search of water. Community level stakeholders have been involved leading to sustainable provision of conducive teaching and learning environments and safe zones in education, working with SBMCs to strengthen school governance and community involvement to protect schools.

In Syria, UNICEF is providing emergency education in response to the IDP crisis in the northwest and northeast of the country. Through the Gaziantep Hub, UNICEF developed partnerships with three consortia of international and local frontline responders to deliver improved access to and quality of education for 20,000 vulnerable children in Northern Syria.

Commitment 12: UNICEF commits to systematically consider cash-based programming in ways that build on and form the basis for sustainable social protection systems.

1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.
 - i. Launched UNICEF programmatic guidance on humanitarian cash transfers, with dissemination in Eastern and Southern Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and South Asia to give regional and country colleagues tools to address region-specific challenges to improve the overall quality of humanitarian cash programmes.
 - ii. UNICEF's new Emergency Preparedness Platform (EPP) now includes a specific standard for humanitarian cash transfers, which has helped to strengthen country office preparedness to implement cash programming in emergencies. Working closely with regional offices, 31 high-risk country offices were identified for more targeted support on implementing or creating emergency cash-based programmes.
 - iii. UNICEF continued its efforts to further strengthen shock responsive social protection systems including carrying out a mapping of the readiness of national cash transfer systems in 52 countries, as well as piloting a social protection system assessment tool in Serbia, and Uzbekistan.
 - iv. UNICEF established a dedicated surge capacity for cash and this enabled an increased support to countries implementing or establishing humanitarian cash-based programmes e.g. in the Central African Republic.
 - v. UNICEF supported the flagship cash programme in Yemen that reached approximately 9 million beneficiaries in 2018, allowing to maintain the existing national safety net programme under the current context.

2. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments?

Specific data on humanitarian cash transfers has been integrated within the mechanism that measures progress against UNICEF's Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021.

3. How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

Through UNICEF's internal tracking mechanisms for humanitarian cash transfers and impact evaluations. For example, final impact evaluation in Lebanon, initiated in 2017, has shown that children receiving the UNICEF cash grants, benefited from an additional month of school attendance annually.

4. List no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.

- i. To be able to deliver humanitarian cash transfers efficiently through an existing national system, these systems need to be made shock responsive prior to a possible crisis. This requires funding of to provide long term technical support, as well as engage in policy advocacy with governments.

- ii. As the inter-agency coordination on humanitarian cash transfers is improving, efforts to set up inter-operable systems across agencies, particularly on data management, remains challenging. The legal considerations, specific for establishing data sharing agreements, to be addressed require significant effort to overcome.
- iii. Availability of financial resources remains challenging to take humanitarian cash transfer programming to scale, especially in protracted crises and complex humanitarian emergencies.

5. Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

- i. Additional staff will be dedicated to the function of surge deployment for cash. This will strengthen the technical support provided to country offices to implement humanitarian cash transfer programmes.
- ii. Strengthening country-level preparedness for humanitarian cash transfers will continue in 2019, ensuring prioritized support to high-risk country offices, across all regions, including more systematic analysis of national system's ability to be used for the delivery of humanitarian cash transfers.
- iii. The development of an internal Management Information System (MIS) for humanitarian cash transfers will be finalized.
- iv. UNICEF's capacity training strategy for humanitarian cash transfers, and associated training package, will be developed and key guidance on the use of cash for achieving sector specific outcomes.
- v. Strengthening UNICEF's knowledge base, including a Community of Practice, capturing lessons learnt and good practices, will continue throughout 2019.
- vi. At interagency level, UNICEF will coordinate its programmatic approach with WFP, UNHCR and others in six pilot countries: Niger, Bangladesh, Ecuador, Afghanistan, Central African Republic, and Yemen; establish a trilateral data sharing agreement between WFP, UNHCR and UNICEF; and continue to co-lead, together with DFID and IFRC, the Grand Bargain sub group on linking humanitarian cash transfers with social protection.

6. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

- i. Strengthen inter-agency coordination efforts when delivering humanitarian cash transfers, specifically around targeting, setting transfer values, delivery mechanisms, and monitoring.
- ii. Strengthened inter-agency coordination in the procedures of procurement of financial service providers, at country level.
- iii. Strengthened inter-agency coordination in data management and data protection, to inform a greater inter-operability of systems.
- iv. Strengthen Grand Bargain sub group on 'linking HCT with social protection' to generate evidence and share good practice on delivering humanitarian cash transfers in ways that build on and strengthen social protection systems.

7. List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

- i. The integration of a cash component as part of UNICEF's Rapid Response Mechanism in Yemen, Democratic Republic of Congo and Central African Republic where a quick cash feasibility assessment is integrated within the needs assessment tools. This results in tailoring the cash component of the humanitarian response to the beneficiary's needs.
- ii. Inclusion of the UNHCR Common Cash Framework (CCF) clause is added to UNICEF contracts with financial service providers. This CCF clause allows other agencies to piggy back off existing contracts, at country level. Consequently, benefiting from already established rates and ensuring more timely humanitarian response.

- iii. In Latin America and the Caribbean region, UNICEF signed a regional MoU with WFP to strengthen the preparedness and response of humanitarian cash transfer programmes through existing national social protection systems. The MoU outlines five key core programmatic areas of collaboration between the two agencies, when supporting the government to deliver humanitarian cash transfers.

Commitment 13: Globally, UNICEF will increase the proportion of funds to local and national actors to at least 30% by 2018.

Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

- UNICEF confirmed its commitment to localization by including a specific target in its Strategic Plan, 2018-2021. UNICEF is building on its long-standing role in supporting policy, capacity development and national and subnational systems strengthening to improve the delivery of essential services to the most disadvantaged children.
- UNICEF, along with UNHCR and WFP, launched the UN Partner Portal (www.unpartnerportal.org), an online platform to facilitate partnership between UN agencies and civil society organizations. The UN Partner Portal is open to all members of the civil society community, including national and international NGOs, community-based organizations and academic institutions. However, it is expected to provide opportunities for partnership and engagement to CSOs that do not have a prior history of partnership with the UN. It is expected that the UN Partner Portal will provide an accessible platform for local and national CSOs to introduce themselves to and interact with the UN. Since the UN Partner Portal was globally launched in November 2018, local actors have comprised the majority of CSOs registering on the Portal, as would be expected, given the centrality of local actors to the civil society landscape as a whole.

How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments?

UNICEF is measuring progress toward achieving the commitment by regularly monitoring total expenditure on humanitarian programmes and the proportion of that funding transferred to national and local actors.

How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

In recent years, the proportion of UNICEF humanitarian funding going to local and national responders has steadily increased, from 20% in 2014, to 31% in 2017, and to 36% in 2018. It should be noted that the further increase from 2017 to 2018 can be attributed, in part, to the nature of the humanitarian programme response in a few countries where a large portion of UNICEF's global humanitarian funding is directed.

List no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.

One of the challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to localization is the fact that partnership decisions are necessarily decentralized. While it is easy at HQ level to passively monitor the proportion of funds to local and national actors, it is less easy to actively shape or influence country offices in their decision-making on a case by case basis.

Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

In 2019 UNICEF, will:

- Develop an external-facing manual on UNICEF's policies and processes for civil society partnership in light of further simplifications introduced as part of the 2019 revision to UNICEF's Procedure for partnering with civil society organizations.
- Collaborate with UNHCR and WFP to support the adoption of the UN Partner Portal.

What steps or actions are needed to make **collective progress** to achieve this transformation?

Nothing new to report.

List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

- UNICEF's joint efforts with UNHCR and WFP on the UN Partner Portal is an example of innovation that allows for the three UN agencies to better understand each other's partnership portfolios and better communicate with a more diverse pool of civil society organizations, including local and national civil society organizations.
- UNICEF, UNHCR and WFP welcome other UN agencies that enter into implementing partnerships with civil society organizations to join the UN Partner Portal initiative.

Commitment 14: UNICEF commits to support capacity development of sub-national coordination mechanisms to allow for more effective leadership and coordination of the sectoral / cluster response in the event of an emergency; and where relevant a more timely transition to national coordination structures, including transfer of skills and resources.

Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

- UNICEF-led Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR), on behalf of the Global Protection Cluster, and in cooperation with the Education Cluster, developed a conceptual framework for localization in coordination and associated dashboard to track progress against key localization objectives.
- Increased the representation of national actors in the Global Child Protection Area of Responsibility Strategic Advisory Group. Selected through country coordination groups, it is the only Cluster/AOR with national member representation on a global representative group.
- Supported the establishment of Advisory Group composed of UNICEF (as lead agency for CP AoR and co-lead for Education), UNHCR (as Protection Cluster Lead Agency), UNFPA (as GBV AoR Lead Agency), 4 NGOs (Save the Children, Street-Child UK, IRC, Plan International), and 2 country-level representatives to coordinate activities around localization in coordination mechanisms.
- Supported establishment of decentralized helpdesks in English, French, Arabic and Spanish in order to address the language barriers. Each helpdesk is housed by local NGOs to ensure contextualized guidance is provided and foster discussions and exchanges of good practices between local actors.

How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments?

The progress is assessed through annual reports, strategies, work plans and through tracking of training events.

How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

The progress is assessed through annual reports, strategies, work plans and through tracking of training events.

Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.

- i. No systematic consolidation of good practice experience or guidance for sub-national coordination and limited resourcing to action this.
- ii. Many major international partners remain risk averse, leading to limited progress in trialing more creative, collaborative approaches to partnership (sub-granting and sub-contracting models remain the norm).
- iii. Investments in institutional capacity strengthening of local actors remain largely limited to assessment and monitoring of compliance, rather than measurable, transparent and resourced commitments to strengthening capacity as a core component of partnership agreements.

Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

- i. Roll out decentralized child protection Helpdesks and document initial learning. Support child-sensitive national and local risk management planning addressing risks related to disasters, climate change, conflict, public health emergencies or other crises, as a key input to informing systems strengthening.

What steps or actions are needed to make **collective progress** to achieve this transformation?

Collective commitments to provide unearmarked, overheads funding to local partners, more collaborative and integrated approaches to institutional capacity strengthening and more robust efforts to meet and hold each other accountable to the Principles of Partnership.

List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation

- i. Global Child Protection AoR is the only cluster with national actors on its Strategic Advisory Group and to invest dedicated resources in progressing localization at both global and country level – learning from this is relevant for other Clusters.
- ii. Global Helpdesk decentralization offers new opportunities for local actors to access information, connect with regional peers and engage in global policy discussions.

Commitment 15: UNICEF commits to establishing a common approach to providing information to affected people and collecting, aggregating and analyzing feedback from communities to influence decision-making processes at strategic and operational levels.

Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

- i. A framework and guide for inclusion of AAP within the Humanitarian Program Cycle has been developed outlining a set of quality criteria, minimum actions and a menu of indicators that clusters and agencies can choose to mainstream within their monitoring and performance systems.
- ii. 157 country programmes, over 70 percent are implementing various elements of AAP with varying quality and depth with the biggest score being on provision of life saving information. Systematic feedback and complaint mechanisms as well as approaches to support participation and community engagement across the programme cycle have been identified as requiring strengthening.
- iii. Organized two regional workshops in partnership with the IFRC, OCHA and CDAC Network to share lessons and develop collective approaches in direct support of participating countries. Over 20 countries participated to the workshops in Nairobi (May 2018) and Panama (October 2018) which led to identification of solutions to common challenges of communication and community engagement and the

adoption of country specific plans of action for scaling up accountability to affected populations in humanitarian response.

How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments?

Through systematic field monitoring, within which key informant interviews and focus group discussions with affected people are standard methodology. UNICEF is now in the process of finalizing updated “Guidance on a Systematic Approach to UNICEF Field Monitoring” spanning both humanitarian and development programming which includes as one of the primary purposes of field monitoring “to support accountability to our primary stakeholders.

How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

- UNICEF 2018-2021 strategic plan results framework has specific indicators which will enhance measuring progress on the commitment reflected in UNICEF monitoring progress which are tracked during the annual reporting process.
- UNICEF situation report, which requires country offices to report on how the response promoting community engagement and accountability to affected population.
- Evaluations which document the extent to which affected population were involved.

Please share no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.

- i. There are gaps in humanitarian action on ensuring that the design and redesign of humanitarian action is based on feedback received from the affected population and timely feedback on the same provided to communities.
- ii. Lack of clarity on how to address potential challenges in terms of data protection at inter-agency level in terms of systematically analysis of data and use in designing humanitarian responses.

Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

- i. Ensure UNICEF Country Offices’ mandatory preparedness plans include adequate activities to ensure timely and predictable participation approaches in situations of humanitarian crisis by ensuring that systems for promoting participation of affected population is adequately reflected in UNICEF preparedness plans.
- ii. Develop a handbook on Accountability to affected population to support programming at the country level.
- iii. Conduct a benchmarking exercise against the Core Humanitarian Standards on Quality and Accountability.
- iv. Support UNICEF – led sectors/clusters/Area of Responsibility and partners to ensure that multi-sector needs assessment include questions to ascertain how communities wish to receive and provide feedback on the quality of the response and on issues which affect them personally such as corruption and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA).
- v. In coordination with other humanitarian actors, put in place strategies for effective participation of people affected by crises in Humanitarian Needs Overviews (HNO), Humanitarian Response Plans (HRP) or other Humanitarian Plans and complement UNICEF-specific activities such as the Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) and Situational Analysis process.

What steps or actions are needed to make **collective progress** to achieve this transformation?

Accountability to affected population should become a programming principle, which is central to our human rights-based approach across the humanitarian system.

List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

UNICEF used its U-report platform to reach a total of 25,000 affected people after the Tsunami in Sulawesi. U-Report was used by Health cluster team to assess knowledge levels on Malaria prevention and treatment, and to share malaria prevention messaging including use of bed nets. U-Report was utilized by WASH cluster to also provide critical hygiene messaging and receive community feedback on the WASH kits.

Commitment 16: UNICEF commits to adopt the Core Humanitarian Standard and International Aid Transparency Initiative Standard, with clear benchmarks for achieving these standards through CHS Alliance self-assessment tool.

Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2018 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

- Consolidated the technical infrastructure for transparency and external reach including through IATI Governing Board, where UNICEF represents multilateral agencies.
- Improved data quality assurance mechanisms internally and increase the depth of programme level and financial data reach of UNICEF's programme level data (as published in the IATI registry and UNICEF's Transparency Portal - open.unicef.org).
- Addressed emergent donor conditionalities that tie funding to IATI compliance.
- Supported external partners and governments on how to simplify the process and introduce efficiencies in the IATI-AIMS linkage.

How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments?

- UNICEF is guided by commitments outlined in its IATI Implementation Schedule and scores on IATI's online Dashboard.

How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

Scores on the IATI Dashboard enable UNICEF to assess its progress on the extent to which the organization is publishing comprehensive, forward-looking and timely IATI data.

Please share no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation.

The main challenge is on how to encourage increased use of UNICEF's open data to track and report on progress towards results, monitor its contribution to the SDGs.

Highlight actions planned for 2019 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

- i. Develop a corporate open data strategy, update UNICEF's information disclosure policy, develop guidance, and workflows for Country Offices to address donor conditionality in contracts that require IATI compliance and to undertake a data audit to gauge the reliability of UNICEF's open data.

- ii. Ensure that IATI publications extended to include additional data elements including humanitarian aid data and automated OCHA-FTS reporting, open data portal enhanced, RAM headline statements, standard indicators, revenue, sub-national geo-coding, SDG mapping and PCA details.

What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

UNICEF is now firmly positioned as one of a handful of global standard-setters in transparency. UNICEF is actively engaged in UN inter-agency efforts to advocate for increased transparency across the UN system and it contributing to global discourse through its representation of multilateral agencies on the International Aid Transparency Initiative's Governing Board. In addition, transparency is now one of the Enablers in UNICEF's Strategic Plan 2018-2021, which presents UNICEF with an opportunity to reflect on the policies and practices required for more transparency and accountability in the delivery of programmes at all levels and improve our capacity to adequately meet the organization's Grand Bargain and reporting obligations.

List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

New initiative to strengthen country-level use of IATI data - Governments in many of the countries UNICEF works in, have Aid Information Systems (AIMS – also referred to as Aid Management Platforms, AMPs). AIMS are meant to improve aid coordination by providing governments with information on the activities of various development partners in the country. Development partners (including UNICEF) are usually requested to periodically either upload the data to an AIMS website or provide a spreadsheet with the required data. However, in the last two-to-three years, this same data has become available in public domain through transparency initiatives such as IATI, to which most donors and some governments have signed up to – making the AIMS data collection process inefficient.