

MALAWI
CHILD PROTECTION THEMATIC REPORT
January - December 2016



Prepared by:

UNICEF Malawi

March 2017

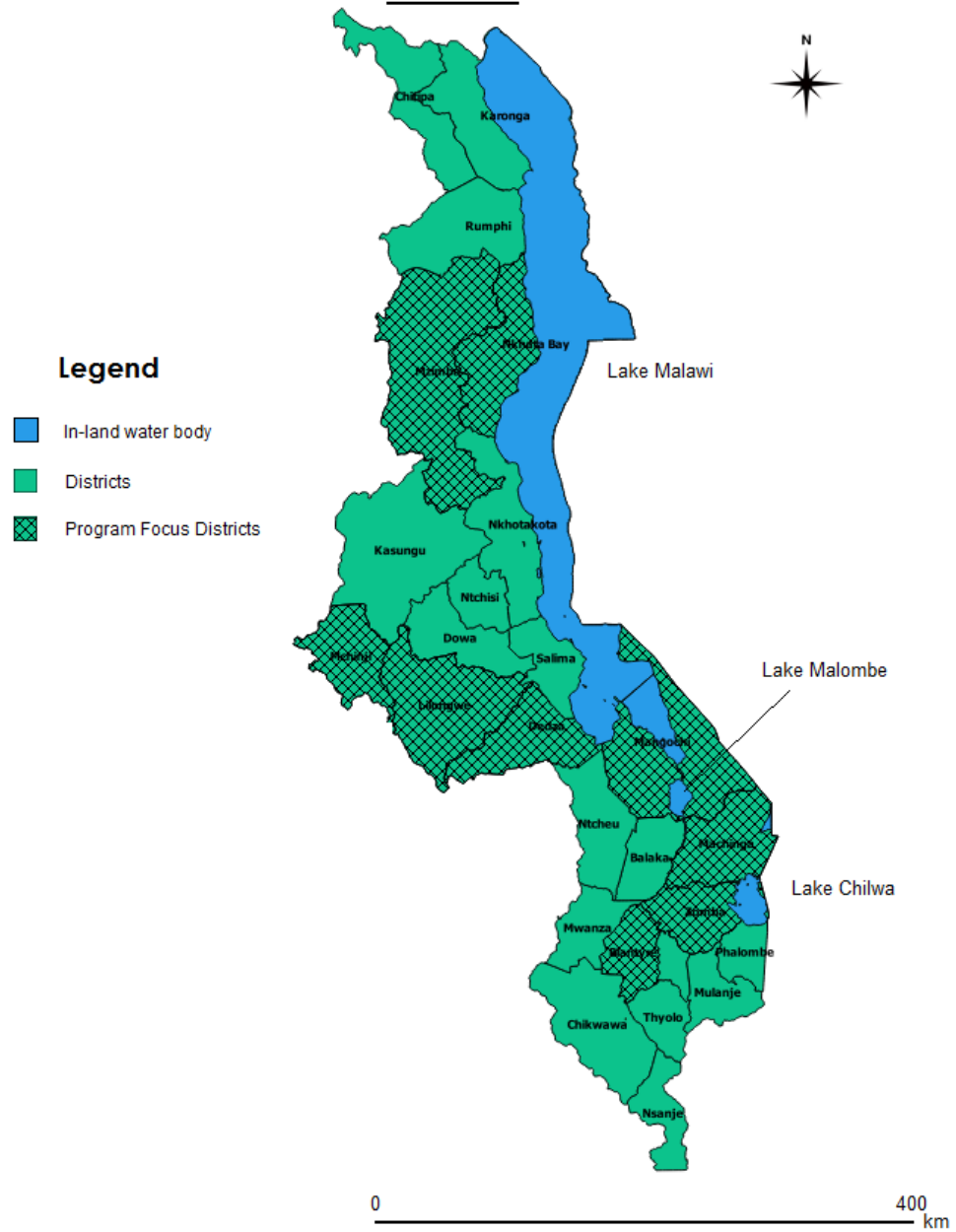
TABLE OF CONTENTS

MAP OF MALAWI	2
ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	3
1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
2.0 STRATEGIC CONTEXT (2012-2016)	6
2.1 Current Situation of Women and Children.....	6
2.2 Country Strategy.....	7
3.0 RESULTS ASSESMENT	8
4.0 Emergency Response	25
Table 4: Outcome Area 6: Child Protection (Malawi)-Planned budget by Outcome Area (US Dollars)	27
Table 5: Outcome Area 6: Child Protection Malawi-Country-level Child Protection thematic contributions to outcome area received in 2016 (US Dollars)	27
Table 7: Outcome Area 6: Child Protection (Malawi)-2016 Expenditures by Key-Results Areas (US Dollars)	28
Table 8: Outcome Area 6: Child Protection (Malawi)-2016 Expenses by programme area	28
Table 9: Outcome Area 6: Child Protection (Malawi)-2016 Expenses by specific intervention codes	28
5. FUTURE WORK PLANS	29
6. EXPRESSION OF THANKS	31
ANNEX A: HUMAN INTEREST STORY	32
ANNEX 2: DONOR FEEDBACK FORM	36

Cover Photo: Malawi Police Service rolling out Safe Schools Program

MAP OF MALAWI

Sustainable Safety and Justice for Vulnerable Women and Children District Mapping
2012 – 2016



ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CBCC	Community Based Childcare Centre
CC	Children's Corner
CBO	Community Based Organization
CCI	Child Care Institutions
CCLC	Coram Children's Legal Centre
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
CJC	Child Justice Courts
CP	Child Protection
CPIMS	Child Protection Information Management System
CPS	Child Protection System
CPW	Community Child Protection Workers
CRC	Convention on the Rights of Children
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
CSSC	Community Social Support Committee
CVSU	Community Victim Support Units
DAS	Development Assistance Strategy
DC	District Council
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
DIP	District Implementation Plans
ECD	Early Childhood Development
GBV	Gender based Violence
GCY&SSWG	Gender, Children, Youth & Sports Sector Working Group
GOM	Government of Malawi
HH	Household
JSSP	Joint Sector Strategic Plan
JVG	Justice for Vulnerable Groups
MIS	Management Information System
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MGDS	Malawi Growth Development Strategy
MHRC	Malawi Human Rights Commission
MOEST	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
MoGCDSW	Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
NCJF	National Child Justice Forum
NPA	National Plan of Action for Vulnerable Children
NRG	National Registration Bureau
OSC	One Stop Centre
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
PVSU	Police Victim Support Units
SGRS	Special Representative to the Secretary General
SWG	Sector Working Group
TOT	Training of Trainers
TWG	Technical Working Group
VAC	Violence Against Children

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

UNICEF Malawi's Child Protection program has been focussed on establishing a child protection system in the country that is capable of dealing with all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect of vulnerable groups. Key to establishing such a system has been to cultivate an enabling protective environment for the country. At the policy level, significant strides have been made on protecting children's rights since the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in 1991 and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) in 1999. In 2010, Malawi enacted the Child Care Protection and Justice Act, which makes provisions for child care and protection, child justice, social development and related matters. In the same year, the the National Registration Act was enacted. In 2015, the Marriage, Divorce and Family Act and the Trafficking in Persons Act were also passed. Several supportive frameworks and strategies based on these policies have been developed. Most notable are the Child Protection Strategy (2012-2016), the National Plan of Action for Vulnerable Children (2015-2019), the Violence Against Children (VAC) Response Plan (2015), the National Case Management Framework (2014), the Re-integration Framework (2015), and the Diversion Guidelines, among others.

Following the launch of the first costed National Plan of Action for Vulnerable Children in 2015, the program has supported the development of District Implementation Plans (DIPs) for 10 districts (Blantyre, Zomba, Machinga, Mangochi, Dedza, Lilongwe, Mchinji, Mzuzu, Mzimba and Nkhatabay). The DIPs operationalize the implementation of the NPA in the districts and further enforce the implementation of Case Management.

During the year, Government officials, parliamentarians, paramount chiefs, civil society and donors were engaged in high-level advocacy towards preventing and responding to harmful cultural practices, including child marriage. This was done by bringing in the Special Representative to the UN Secretary General on Violence against Children (SRGS), Ms Marta Santos Pais, to follow up on progress since the launch of the Violence against Children Survey and Response in March 2015, with a specific focus on harmful traditional practices. UNICEF facilitated the visit in collaboration with the UN Resident Coordinator. The SRGSs advocacy efforts have contributed to the recent amendment of the minimum age of marriage in the constitution from 15 to 18 years in line with the other national and international instruments. The Constitution amended Bill was passed by 131 out of the 133 members of Parliament in February 2017.

Child protection systems were strengthened to capably prevent, detect and respond to all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect of vulnerable groups in the country. A total of 37,230 children (17,213 M, 20,017 F) benefitted from case management services in 10 districts through front-line government social workers in 2016 as compared to 32,000 in 2015 (Case Management Administrative Data 2016). Thirty percent (30%) of children registered in the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) are known to be living with HIV and 94% of these HIV positive children accessed antiretro viral treatment (ART) services. 7,950 children (4075 M, 3875 F) were successfully referred to other support services through case management. Lilongwe reported the highest number of successful referrals during the year. UNICEF accomplished this through support of the development, adoption and funding of 10 District Implementation Plans (DIPs).

A total of 83,596 children received quality services. Out of these, 19,576 children accessed services through children's corners (CCs); 26,588 through community based child care centres (CBCCs); 37,230 through case management; and 202 through the reintegration programme.

The pilot implementation of the reintegration framework continued with lessons being drawn locally and through a learning visit to Rwanda. The lessons learnt are being used to improve the framework which is currently being piloted in 4 districts with an expected end date of June 2017.

Girls benefited from a 40% reduction in the incidence of forcible rape in 74 schools from 3 districts through a boys and girls empowerment program called IMpower. The programme which teaches girls empowerment, violence avoidance and self-defence at schools was evaluated by John Hopkins University. Pupils reported 567 grievances in 3 districts (Salima, Dedza and Mangochi) using confidential complaint boxes that were established through UNICEF partnerships with Plan Malawi, Action Aid and the Malawi Police. 39 of the cases were taken to the Police which included defilement and a teacher convicted and sentenced. The other complaints which included teasing, bullying, corporal punishment, and failure of teachers to turn up to class were handled at school level.

Only 6% of under-5 children in Malawi have birth records (MICS 2014). During the year, 40,395 under-5 children (20,293 boys, 20,102 girls) were registered by the National Registration Bureau (NRB), representing a registration rate of just over 2500 records per month (NRB IMS). Since the commencement of the National Registration Act in 2015, significant funding from various donors (including UNICEF) have been channelled into the operationalization of a National Civil Registration System. UNICEF has also been providing technical backstopping to the Ministry of Health and the NRB to ensure that birth registration remains a key component of this system. A National ID initiative was launched by the Government in October 2016 and it aims to issue identification to nearly half the population by the end of 2017. The initiative will serve as an opportunity for UNICEF and partners to continue lobbying for an integrated approach to civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS).

A total of 15,918 survivors of violence received care and support through Police Victim Support Units across the country (Police IMS); a 10% increase in the number of women and children accessing the service. Further to this, an estimated 22,164 women and children survivors of violence were assisted by Government Community Child Protection Workers through UNICEF support indicating a 26% caseload increase over the previous year (C-VSU admin data). Part of the strategy used to achieve this was the implementation of a VAC campaign led by UNICEF aimed at improving demand for child protection services and influencing positive social and cultural practices in the country. On the other hand, 25% fewer women and children survivors of sexual abuse accessed support services at One Stop Centres (OSC Admin Data). Women and children continue to struggle with long distances to access the services. UNICEF recognises the need to bring the services closer to the community through strengthened coordination and partnership with government, CSOs and other health service providers. In the area of child justice data received through October of 2016 showed 60% of the 3,000 children being diverted from the criminal justice system (Police IMS).

By 2013, over 10,000 children in Malawi were living in child care institutions (MHRC 2013). UNICEF believes that a child must grow and thrive within his/her community. In 2015, a re-integration framework was developed and established by the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare with UNICEF support. In 2016, 202 children (97 girls, 105 boys) were re-integrated into their respective communities (86 in Lilongwe, 53 in Blantyre, 58 in Mangochi and 5 in Dedza) against a target of 300 children compared to 68 recorded in 2015 over the same period. This represents a 297% increase. This was achieved after the identification and assessment of 18 residential care Institutions (3 in Mangochi, 1 in Dedza, 7 in Lilongwe and 7 in Blantyre).

In 2016, UNICEF continued to respond to the findings of the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) Report of 2016, which indicated that 6.5 million people were in need of humanitarian assistance. The major concern of UNICEF was to ensure that community based response mechanisms were effectively working. The Malawi Police has continued to raise awareness on sexual exploitation and abuse through Social Welfare Offices in the 10 worst affected districts and have embarked on mapping and strengthening of the community based complaints mechanisms at the community level.

In order to systematically document and monitor child protection issues on violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect – to inform critical decision making leading to effective prevention and protection policies for children - UNICEF supported the roll-out of an integrated Information Management System (IIMS – also referred to as the CPIMS) for the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare in 8 districts. 3,924 vulnerable children (1,877 girls, 2,047 boys) that registered into the system are receiving case management services through the social welfare offices. Reports can be generated from the system through: <http://www.childaffairs.gov.mw/reports/>.

2.0 STRATEGIC CONTEXT (2012-2016)

2.1 Current Situation of Women and Children

Over half of Malawi's 17 million population is under the age of 18, making it one of the youngest populations in Africa; 39 per cent of the Malawian population lives below the national poverty line of \$0.32 per person per day (Integrated Household Panel Survey 2010-2013). Malawi's GDP as of 2015 was estimated at 6.4 billion (World Bank 2015), a 2.8% annual decrease from 2014.

Approximately, 84 per cent of Malawians live in rural areas, and half of the rural households consist of subsistence farmers. Malawi continues to be impacted by disasters such as cholera, flooding and drought. Late rains and prolonged dry spells (El Nino) exacerbated the low crop production of 2015/2016, resulting in a 0.716 million metric ton maize deficit. On 12 April 2016, the President, Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika declared a State of National Disaster as a result of the hunger and drought situation. In October, the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) estimated 6.8 million people at risk of food insecurity in 24 of the 28 districts, representing 39 per cent of the national population.

.In addition to the socio-economic burdens, women and children face various forms of violence, abuse and exploitation. One out of five females and one out of seven males in Malawi have experienced at least one incident of sexual abuse prior to the age of 18. Almost half of all females and two-thirds of males experienced physical violence prior to age 18 (Violence Against Children and Young Women In Malawi Survey, 2014).

The number of orphans and other vulnerable children (OVC) continues to increase, many are vulnerable to neglect, abuse, and exploitation. Demographic and Health Survey data (2010) reported that the prevalence of 'double orphan hood' (i.e. the death of both parents) more than doubled in a decade, from 2.3 per cent in 2000 to 4.9 per cent in 2010. There was, however, a significant decrease from 4.9 percent in 2010 to 2.1 per cent in 2014 (Malawi MDG Endline Survey 2014). The reduction was a result of intensified efforts to mitigate the impact of HIV and AIDS on households, communities, and children by national programmes and global partners. UNICEF is a key partner in these efforts. The Malawi Population-Based HIV Impact Assessment (MPHIA) 2015/16 estimated the prevalence of HIV among adults ages 15 to 64 in the country at 10.6%.

Extremely high rates of child marriage persist in Malawi. 46% of girls are married before the age of 18 and 9% before the age of 15 (MICS 2014). Globally, this places Malawi among the countries with the highest rates of child marriage in the world, ranking 8th in 2012. At the SADC level, Malawi has one of the three highest rates of child marriage (behind only Mozambique and Zambia).

2.2 Country Strategy

The Malawi Government has responded to its developmental challenges through the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) II (2011-2016). The objective of MGDS II was to continue to reduce poverty through sustainable economic growth and infrastructure development. Of interest to protection are: Theme 2: Social Development, and Theme 6: Gender and Capacity Development. The MGDS II further prioritised Child Development, Youth Development and Empowerment.

In 2012, the Child Protection programme sought to implement a systems approach that enables the consolidation of efforts of various partners within an efficient, capacitated and coordinated structure. To support national efforts in systems strengthening, the United Nations in Malawi, which operates under the 'Delivering as One' principle, included the establishment of the National Child Protection System as a key action in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) (2012-2016). It has identified basic social and protection services as the second of four priorities and convened the Protection Services Technical Working Group. This brings together UNAIDS, WFP, FAO, UNFPA, UNDP, ILO, WHO, UNHCR, and UNICEF to design and implement the joint work plan on child protection and gender-based violence (GBV), and to harmonise and coordinate efforts in Malawi (Malawi Child Protection Strategy, 2012-2016).

3.0 RESULTS ASSESMENT

Result 3.1: National regulatory frameworks, standards, implementation guidelines, institutional coordination mechanisms, and capacity building plans, accountability and enforcement frameworks for child protection in place by 2016.

- i. Provide Technical Assistance to the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare (MoGCSDW) to disseminate and implement regulations for the Child Care Protection and Justice Act (2010), the National Plan of Action for Vulnerable Children, and to lobby for the enactment and adoption of the Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Bill.**

Following the launch of the first costed National Plan of Action for Vulnerable Children in the previous year, the program has supported the application of District Implementation Plans (DIPs) for 10 districts. The DIPs operationalize the implementation of the NPA and case management. In addition, Social Economic Profiles and District development Plans were reviewed to include a comprehensive Child Protection Module.

- ii. *Support the (MoGCSDW), the National Child Justice Forum and other stakeholders to disseminate child related laws, policies and regulations, and implement the National Child Justice Strategy focusing on diversion; and, increasing access to quality justice for children including targeted welfare and empowerment programmes for diverted children.***

Over 3000 children were in conflict with the law and arrested by the Malawi Police Service (Police IMS). 60% of these children were diverted at police level. A total of 719 diverted children participated in formal diversion programmes in the last year, covering 30% of diverted children. This was achieved through a UNICEF partnership with four NGOs (Byounique, CEYCA, YOWSO and Chisomo) to implement diversion programmes.

Over 30,000 copies of legal documents were developed or printed as part of capacity building of child justice stakeholders. These include:

- Case disposal guidelines
- Handbook for child justice practitioners
- Guidelines for Judicial Officers
- Practitioners' Manual; and Handbook for Courts and Prosecutors
- Diversion Training Manual
- Development of diversion programs for Malawi
- The Kashuga Case relating to age of child
- Guidelines for diversion
- Guidelines for handling cases for children in conflict with the law and children in need of care and protection
- Practice directions for handling cases for children in conflict with the law and in need of
- Criminal Procedure and Evidence Code
- Communications Act
- Bail Guidelines

- Child Care, Protection and Justice Act
- Penal Code
- Marriages, Divorce and Family Relations Act

iii. *Support the MoGCSDW to implement and disseminate the National Child Helpline Strategic Plan.*

Significant progress was made on expanding women and children's access to referral and counselling services through the national Child Helpline. A total of 15,484 beneficiaries called the child helpline in 2016 (Helpline IMS). This represents a 28% increase against 2015. The increase in calls from 2015 to 2016 is attributed to the 116 number being accessible from all telephone operators.

All 4 major telecommunication operators (Airtel, TNM, MTL, and Access) activated the 116 number for toll-free calling across Malawi. 24% of all completed calls were violence related. This is in line with the target of 15% by the end of the year.

An MOU was signed between the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare and civil society organizations for the operation of 3 regional call centres.

iv. *Support the Judiciary to institutionalise child justice coordination mechanisms at the district level.*

57% more children accessed child justice services compared to the same period in 2015. This constituted 3,408 cases registered in child justice courts. However, a 13% reduction in tried cases for both children in conflict with the law (criminal) and children in need of care and protection cases (child maintenance, child custody) was observed. This could be a result of increased caseloads against an unchanged capacity of magistrates.

v. *Support the (MoGCSDW) to strengthen district planning processes including orientation of counsellors on child rights planning and child protection issues; and support in the development and enforcement of by laws.*

Technical Working Group (TWG) members in target districts were oriented on district coordination guidelines. As a result, TWG meetings have been regularized resulting in improved coordination and leveraging of resources for child protection. Through these meetings issues requiring district management decisions have been isolated and escalated for timely management decisions. Districts have also been able to, through the TWGs, track the implementation of the NPA, identify bottlenecks leverage resources and develop mechanisms for addressing the bottlenecks in a timely manner.

vi. *Support the construction of two One Stop Centres (Lilongwe and Mulanje) one child justice court (Lilongwe), rehabilitate 40 Community Victim Support Units, four magistrate's courts (Mangochi, Chikwawa, Kasungu and Nkhosakota), and equip 14 magistrate's courts with child friendly facilities.*

In 2016 UNICEF continued with the construction of one stop centres (OSCs) in Lilongwe and Mulanje and furnish OSCs in Mzuzu, Lilongwe, Mulanje, Zomba, Nkhosatabay and Mangochi.

UNICEF further contributed to an increase in access to child justice through the construction and launch of an additional state-of-the-art Child Justice Court in Lilongwe.

vii. Support the Health Sector to implement birth reporting and registration processes in accordance with National Registration Bureau guidelines.

During the year, 40,395 Under-5 children (20,293 boys, 20,102 girls) were registered by NRB, representing a registration rate of just over 2500 records per month (NRB IMS). Since the commencement of the National Registration Act in 2015, significant funding from various donors (including UNICEF) have been channelled into the operationalization of a National Civil Registration System. UNICEF has been providing technical backstopping to the Ministry of Health and the National Registration Bureau (NRB) to ensure that birth registration remains a key component of this system. The National ID initiative was launched in October 2016 and it aims to issue identification to nearly half the population by the end of 2017. The initiative will serve as an opportunity for UNICEF and partners to continue lobbying for an integrated approach to CRVS.

viii. Result 3.2: Ten of the most disadvantaged communities in each of 250 Traditional Authorities adopt protective child protection practices.

To bring about change in attitudes towards protective social norms in the country, the child protection section supported a number of initiatives ranging from capacity building of child protection stakeholders to awareness of community members.

ix. Build the capacity of the social welfare work force through enhancing the academic and operational capacity of Magomero College.

One of the key challenges faced by women and children in Malawi is the lack of knowledge on child protection. This is as a result of inadequate skilled social workers available to provide for their needs. There are currently 126 professional social service workers in the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare. The program aims to increase this by at least 50% in 5 years. To achieve this, 73 social workers were supported by UNICEF to continue pursuing a Bachelor of Social Work Degree program at Magomero Institute. Two cohorts are currently in college.

x. Support the MoGCSDW and Child Protection Stakeholders to develop the capacity of child protection workforce (CCPW, Probation Officers, Police officers and child justice officers, clinicians, nurses).

UNICEF has supported several trainings over the years to build the capacity of child protection stakeholders to implement child related laws, policies and guidelines. Table 2 below presents some of the stakeholders that were targeted.

Table 2: Summary of Trainings Conducted in 2016

Description	Male	Female	Total
Children's Corner facilitators	57	102	159
CBCC caregivers	24	66	90
CCI Caregivers	1	31	32
Child Protection Committees ¹	269	207	476
CBCC Parent Committees	15	24	39
Volunteer training in M & E	417	344	761
Orientation of Community leaders on their role in reintegration of children from CCI	35	13	48
Orientation of DSWO staff, CPWs, Case Managers on child related Laws	21	24	45
Parenting skills training for guardians of reintegrated children	19	71	90
Grand Totals	858	882	1740

The program is now focused on providing ongoing mentorship to these stakeholders with a focus on implementation and quality of services.

xi. ***Support Government and district councils to implement the National Plan of Action (NPA) for vulnerable children.***

UNICEF supported the development and funded the implementation of 10 district implementation plans. These plans operationalize the NPA. To ensure successful implementation of the NPA, UNICEF supported the MoGCDSW to implement a capacity building training for district child protection stakeholders in October 2016. The training was designed in an inclusive and participatory manner to allow for engagement for all the participants. The process included a series of presentations highlighting the main concepts and procedures in the field of financial management, budgeting and planning, which are areas where district personnel were facing challenges while implementing the NPA. In between the presentations, the participants were given opportunities to comment on the concepts and give practical examples as to how they would apply the knowledge and skills acquired. During the training, time was allocated for the participants to carry out some exercises, share experiences and discuss the concepts and procedures they learned in a more hands on approach.

Participation was limited to the District Social Welfare Officers (DSWO) and other district personnel who were identified as key to the implementation of the CP activities that are in the

¹ In total 48 child protection committees were trained with a total of 476 participants.

NPA. These included personnel in the District Council (DSWO, Social Welfare Officers, Social Welfare Assistants, Directors of Planning and Development, District M & E Officers, and accounts personnel), the Judiciary, and Community Development Departments of the district. A total of 9 out of the 10 child protection focus districts (Mangochi, Machinga, Blantyre, Zomba, Lilongwe, Dedza, Mchinji, Nkhatabay, Mzuzu and Mzimba) attended the training, all except Lilongwe District Council. In total 56 participants attended the training from 9 of the 10 CP focus districts with good representation from all the 9 districts. The training was one of the recommendations from the district capacity assessment, which was conducted in the 10 districts by Salephera Consulting in 2015. The training was jointly facilitated by Salephera Consulting and the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) team of UNICEF to specifically address the following objectives:

1. Orient the districts on better planning using key national and district level strategic documents such as the child protection District Implementation Plan (DIP), the National Plan of Action for vulnerable children, the District Social Economic Profiles (SEPs) and the District Development Plan (DDP).
2. Strengthen the capacity of the District Planning Team for improved child protection service delivery.
3. To improve district coordination for quality child protection service delivery.

The training approach included hands on practical exercises, group work, and plenary discussions. The topics covered included: planning, strategic planning documents, financial management, challenges and solutions related to financial management, budget preparation and management and assurance activities. The immediate output from this training was that participants had reviewed all the key child protection thematic areas including case management reports, planning and reporting mechanisms. In addition, the participants gained hands on experience on how to use the District implementation Plan (DIP) for Child Protection as a resource mobilization document through the development of proposals. Implementation challenges encountered by the districts in relation to funding and accessing of funds at the district level were also discussed.

In addition, the participants were reminded on the importance of mapping all the various stakeholders, partners, NGOs and CBOs which undertake CP activities within each district. As a result, two partner mapping templates were jointly revised to be able to capture all the vital details of the stakeholders in the districts. The final draft template was shared with all districts for use.

xii. *Support the MoGCSDW to pilot the reintegration model.*

Since inception of the piloting of the reintegration framework in 2015, the Government of Malawi (GoM) has reaffirmed its position on institutional care being the last resort for the care and support for children without parental care and that the family be the primary institution for the care and support for children, as highlighted in the policy on Orphans and Vulnerable Children (2003). The policy is aligned to national and international instruments. The United Nations for instance recognizes the family as the fundamental group of society and the natural environment for the growth, well-being and protection of children and that efforts should be directed at enabling the child to remain in or return to the care of his/her parents, or when

appropriate, other close family members. The UN further calls on States to ensure that families have access to forms of support in the caregiving role.

Malawi has over **168** Child Care Institutions² hosting over **10,000** children. Since 2015, the reintegration programme guided by the reintegration framework for children in institutional care is being implemented in 16 child care institutions (CCIs) (6 in Blantyre, 1 in Dedza, 3 in Mangochi and 6 in Lilongwe) that have a total of 1,290 children. This represents 13% of all children in CCIs. In 2016, UNICEF supported community awareness raising activities on the dangers of placing children in CCIs, family tracing, household capacity assessments, follow up on reintegrated children and general monitoring of the CCIs. In addition, the GoM through District Councils have been able to reinforce adherence of national policy guidelines by the CCIs with UNICEF support. The District Councils are regularly holding joint CCI network meetings, monitoring the well-being of children in CCIs and advocating for buy in of CCI owners to support the reintegration programme. These interventions have culminated into the following results:

- 202 children (97 girls, 105 boys) were returned to their communities (86 in Lilongwe, 53 in Blantyre, 58 in Mangochi and 5 in Dedza) through UNICEF support.
- A total of 3542 community members (including community leaders) are aware of the dangers of placing children in CCIs. This is because of the awareness raising campaigns conducted with UNICEF funding. Similarly, 258 volunteers have been able to provide follow ups on reintegrated children; provide guidance and counselling to both the children and their guardians; and advocate for reintegration as a result of the training they received through District Councils with UNICEF support. Over 65% of all children reintegrated were followed up. Reports from districts indicate that most of the children seem to be adjusting well with family and generally there is good attachment between the children and the guardians. However, some children have been placed in poor households (HH) or HHs with large family sizes and other chronic vulnerabilities which is affecting the wellbeing of children. Monitoring visits to some of the reintegrated children showed capacity challenges of Case Managers in conducting HH and child assessments. In 2017, UNICEF will continue to provide technical and financial support to the GoM to continue to build the capacity of the families of the reintegrated children.
- A key component of the reintegration framework is family tracing. A total of 132 families were traced resulting into 202 children being reintegrated with family.
- In addition, 188 guardians of reintegrated children are now able to support the reintegrated children to adjust and cope with life outside the CCI, provide counselling and deal with challenging behavior. This is all attributed to the parenting skills training provided by the GoM through the District Councils with funding from UNICEF.
- Further to this, a program visit was supported for UNICEF and government staff to draw lessons on the re-intergartion model implemented in Rwanda. Key lessons learnt that are currently being adapted in Malawi are:
 - Placement of graduate Social Workers in CCIs to manage the reintegration program.
 - Establishment of a vibrant foster care system to prevent pilferages of children into institutional care.

² Mapping of CCIs in Malawi, 2013

- An national advocacy campaign on raising children in families.
- Hiring a global competent institution to provide hands on technical assistance to the GoM.

In addition, the Rwanda learning visit revealed that the process of reintegration is not just a game of numbers but rather a slow and carefully executed process if the results are to be sustained. Furthermore, the delegation learnt that the GoM needs to decide whether prevention or response is what the country would want to reinforce and not both. Implementation of these recommendations requires significant financial investment for better outcomes for children. This entails revisiting the fund raising strategy to mobilize resources towards implementation of the lessons learnt and recommendations from the learning visit to achieve quality outcomes for the children.

xiii. Support the MoGCDSW to strengthen the case management system, and improve access to services for children affected by AIDS, survivors of violence, and children in contact with the law.

The Child protection system was strengthened to capably prevent, detect and respond to all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect of vulnerable groups in the country. 12% of the children (1343 boys and 737 girls) were effectively referred to other service providers such as police, hospitals and schools.

xiv. Support MOGCDSW to scale up implementation of case management (CM).

The Case Management framework was completed in 2015 as a key strategic document for the GoM to guide implementation of CM for child protection. The framework provides a step by step guide on how a case should be registered, assessed, a case plan developed and implemented; follow up actions required; and closure processes. The framework further provides a reporting data flow and feedback loops that have to be embraced by all child protection implementation partners.

Since implementation of the CM Framework for Child Protection was rolled out, the GoM has continued to refine the system. Emphasis has been on strengthening the systems of care and protection for vulnerable children as well as referral mechanisms. The section below provides a summary of key achievements during the reporting period.

37,230 children (17,213 boys, 20,017 girls) were registered to receive case management services. CSO partners supported 8,199 children (3,881 boys and 4,318 girls) representing 22% of the children receiving case management services. Thirty percent (30%) of registered children are known to be living with HIV (4,934 boys, 6,280 girls). Out of the children living with HIV, 94% are accessing ART services.

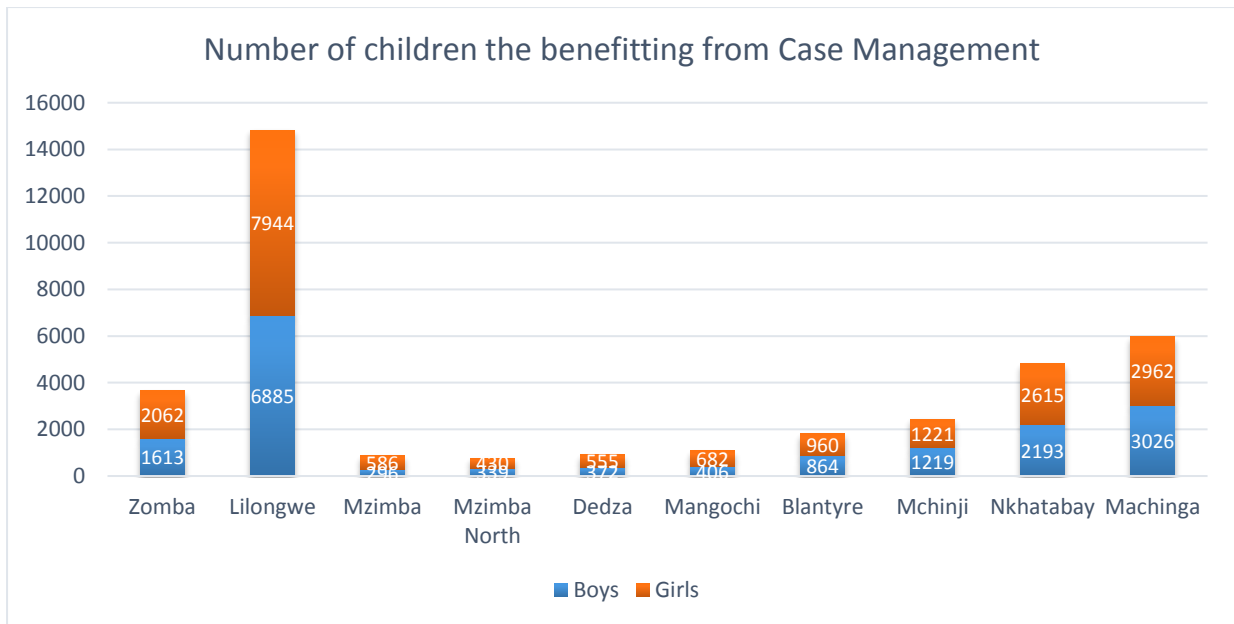


Figure 1: Number of children benefitting from Case Management

Twenty-five (25%) of all children with case plans that were assessed were closed. Mchinji district reported the highest percentage of case closures (49%), followed by Dedza (40%) and Mangochi (34%). The lowest percentage of cases closed was recorded in Mzimba (7%) and Zomba (9%).

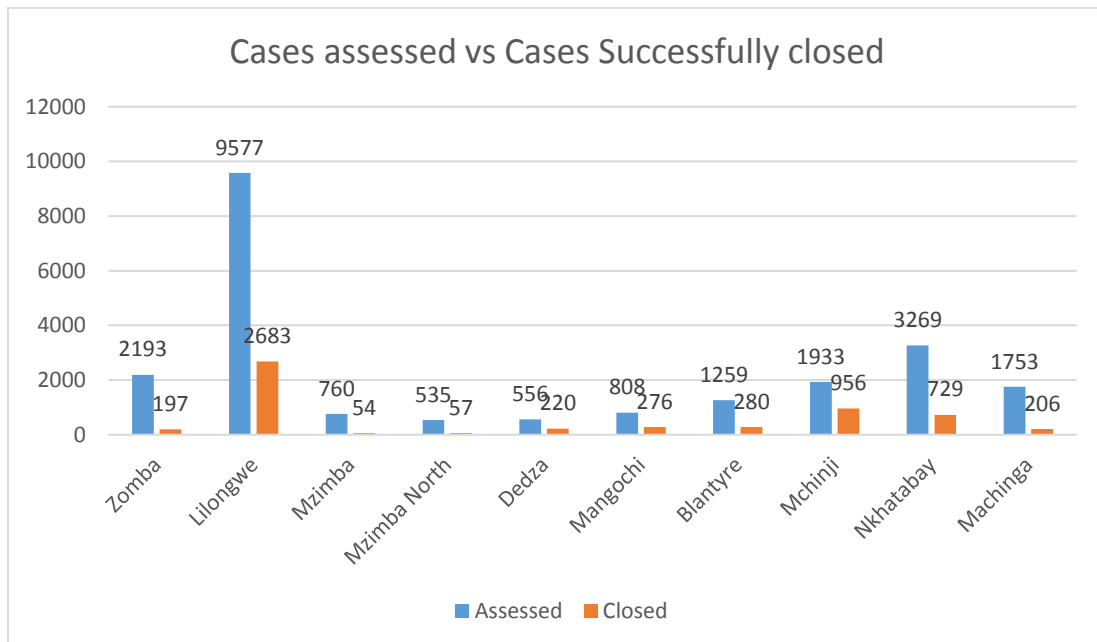


Figure 2: Cases assessed vs cases successfully closed

7,950 children (4075 boys, 3875 girls) were successfully referred to other support services through case management. Lilongwe reported the highest number of successful referrals during the year.

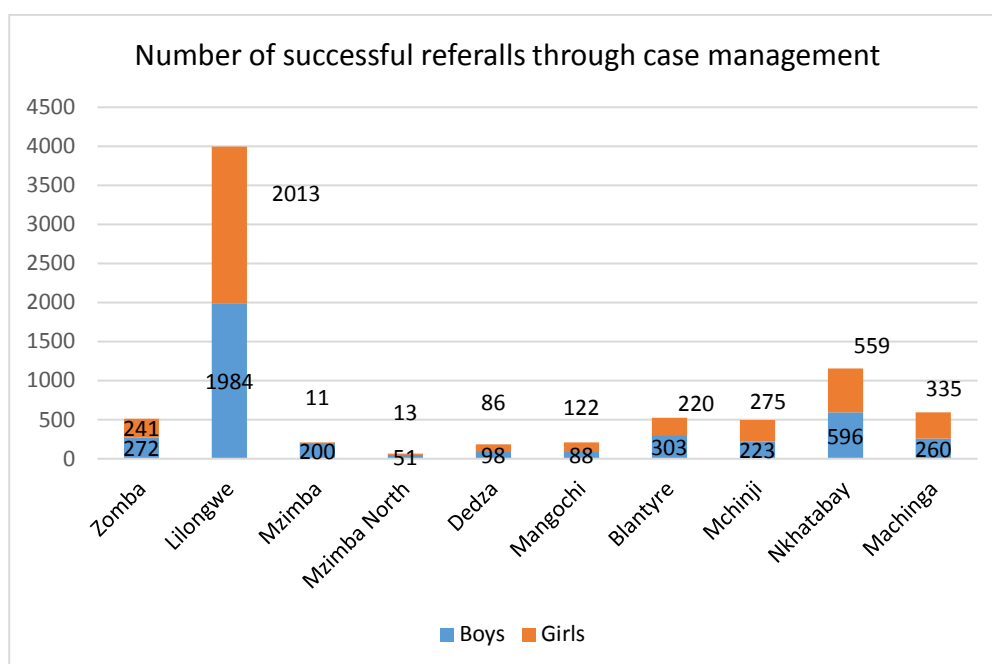


Figure 3: Number of successful referrals through case management

A total of 24,275 child victims (12,891 boys and 11,384 girls) of violence and abuse were identified and assisted through case management services. Lilongwe registered the highest number of child victims of violence supported (8,558), followed by Nkhatabay (3,797) and Machinga (2,854).

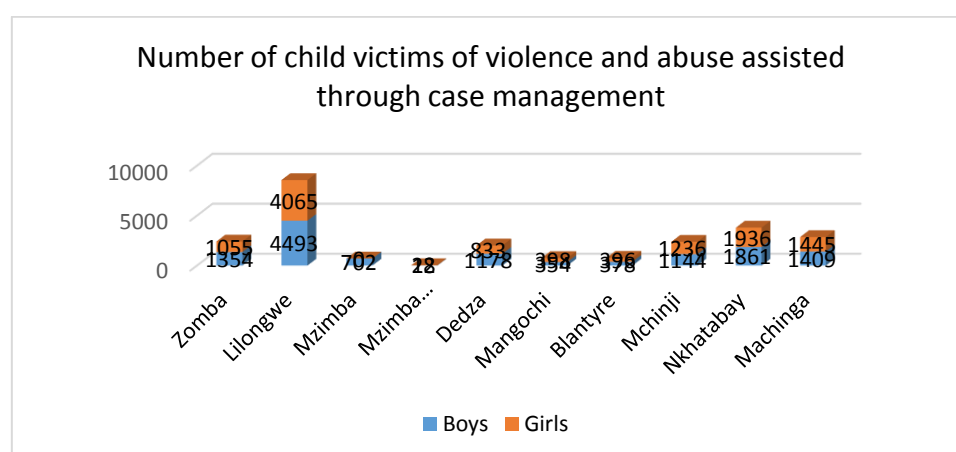


Figure 4: Number of child victims of abuse assisted through case management

The most common form of abuse experienced by children was neglect (27%) followed by emotional abuse (18%). The least form of abuse reported was sexual abuse and trafficking (8% and 9% respectively).

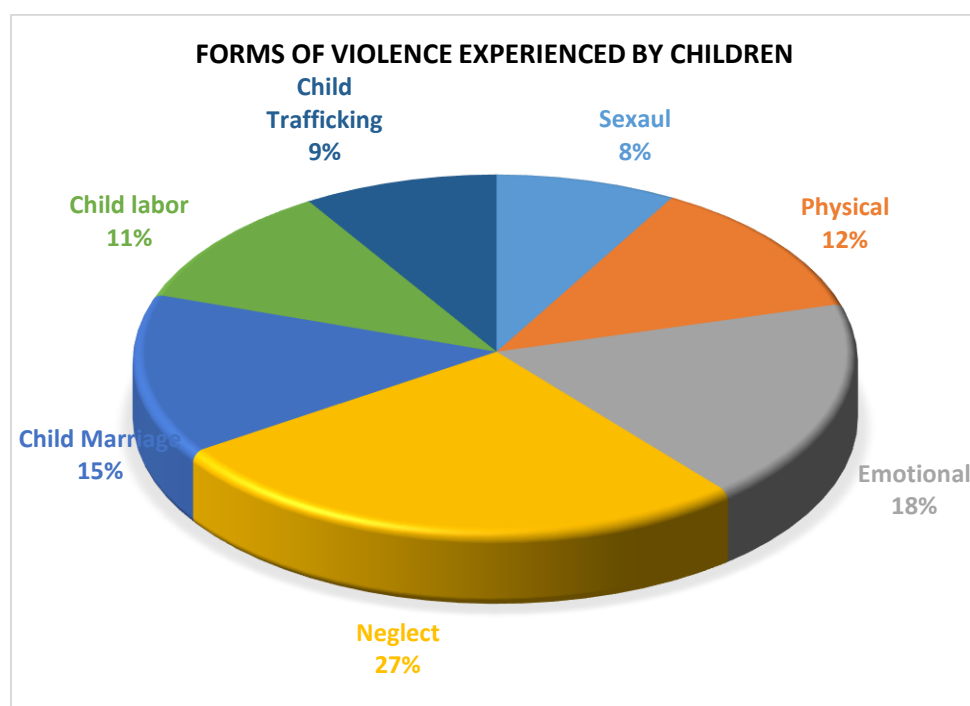


Figure 5: Forms of violence experienced by children

xv. Establish One Stop Centres in 14 districts.

During the year UNICEF facilitated the construction of OSCs in Lilongwe and Mulanje and furnished centres in Mzuzu, Lilongwe, Mulanje, Nkhatabay and Mangochi.

UNICEF continues to support the development of the capacity of multidisciplinary teams to manage the OSC programme at the national level but also to provide services at the facility level. UNICEF brought on board an international OSC expert to provide technical assistance towards development of a national guideline and tools for management of sexual abuse cases and mentorship to 7 OSC teams (Lilongwe, Blantyre, Zomba, Mulanje, Machinga, Mzuzu, and Nkhatabay). This expert also helped to facilitate a national OSC conference and identify bottlenecks in the national OSC programme.

A National Guideline for Provision of Comprehensive Services in One Stop Centres in Malawi was developed and launched during the opening of the Mzuzu OSC, by the honourable Minister of Health in March 2016. These guidelines formalize protocols for service provision at Malawi's OSCs.

UNICEF continues to lobby the MoH to ensure its commitment to the OSC programme, through overall coordination, allocation of relevant staff members to OSCs at the district level and provision of necessary supplies and medications. This included support to the MoH in the development of a specific OSC National Action Plan.

Client numbers seen at OSCs in Malawi have trebled from 299 in 2012 to 980 in 2015 (a 230% increase). Due to reporting challenges, 528 cases have been recorded in 2016 from four OSCs of Blantyre, Lilongwe, Zomba and Mzuzu. Blantyre remains the leading OSC in terms of comprehensive services and number of clients. OSC teams at Mzuzu, Zomba and Lilongwe have experienced challenges in reporting caseload. UNICEF is now rolling out mobile reporting for one stop centres to overcome this challenge.

xvi. Support district assemblies and civil society organisations to train 300 new communities in the Journey of Life series and enhance the capacity of 500 communities already trained.

During the reporting period, an impact evaluation of the journey of life (JoL) program was conducted. JoL is a community awareness mobilization tool that UNICEF was supporting the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare to implement as a way of mobilizing communities to adopt child protection practices for children in need of care and support including those facing violence.

Key findings from the evaluation are:

- Communities overwhelmingly showed that the JoL approach raised community awareness on the rights of children, some of which they did not know before the JoL community meetings. This has led to reduced corporal punishment, early marriages, absenteeism of girls from school and cases of child labour;
- Change of attitude towards children was possible in that children's views were being taken into account when handling their issues;
- Communities realized the importance of working together to assist the children. They no longer think that if violence happens to a child that is not theirs, then it does not concern them. They assist each other to report to higher authorities or agencies.
- Communities were able to formulate by-laws that were being enforced by Traditional Leaders;
- Communities were able to mobilize themselves and established child friendly structures such as Community Based Childcare Centres (CBCC), Children's corners (CC), Community Child Protection Committees, Mother Groups and other community support groups to address children's needs;
- Communities were able to identify children in difficult circumstances using knowledge gained from the JoL community meetings leading to development of community action plans; and
- The evaluation also revealed that JoL is a scalable approach. This presents the GoM with a tool for prevention and responding to violence at the community level.

xvii. Support the MoGCDSW and stakeholders to implement the VAC Response Plan, including a large scale violence prevention campaign promoting core child protection messages.

The violence against women and children (VAWC) 10 point plan was developed on the occasion of the launch of the Violence against Children and Young Women Survey in March in 2015. The 10 commitments focused initial efforts in implementing the VACs response on achievable priorities. They illustrate tangibly the efforts being made by the GoM to achieve a

significant reduction in violence and improved access to quality services for survivors of abuse. Summary results on the implementation of the VACs 10 point plan are presented in the table below:

Table 3: Violence against Women and Children 10-point Response Plan and Results

GOAL	PROGRESS
Empower and mobilize children to prevent violence against women and children (VAWC)	17,600 girls and 7,800 boys in seven districts have been trained in innovative empowerment and self-defence strategies developed by Ujamaa Pamodzi in partnership with the Plan International and the Ministry of Education. A randomized control trial, validated by Johns Hopkins University showed a 40% reduction in the incidence of forcible rape for girls in the intervention as opposed to those who receive only standard Ministry of Education life skills curriculum.
Strengthen political will to address VAWC through increased budgetary allocations for services	Financial and technical resources have been increased to the Ministry of Health (MoH) National One Stop Centre programme for rape survivors, and the Malawi Police Service (MPS) for violence prevention and response. These two departments have seen Government investment especially in the area of human resource, including further allocation of staff to the OSCs. Clinical officers and nurses have been assigned to one stop centres and within the Malawi Police service Child Protection Officers have been designated with specific responsibilities relating to children.
Strengthen the protective environment by issuing Malawi's first free birth certificates in accordance with the National Registration Act of 2011, protecting future generations from child marriage, trafficking, labor and enhancing access to education	In 2016, a total of 20,293 boys and 20,102 girls have had their births registered, a nearly 500% increase in births being registered from 2015.
Enact the Trafficking in Persons Bill and the Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Bill into law and enforce the procedures in place	Both bills were enacted, and the laws are being disseminated to the district level through civil society, police, and social welfare and justice mechanisms. By-laws are being enacted by traditional leaders to support the adherence to and understanding of the laws at the local level. Important precedents have included the annulling of over 1000 child marriages by traditional leaders such as Chief Kachindamoto and T/A Mwanza.
Expand public awareness of available services by launching a unified national marketing campaign to	The Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare through the Justice for Vulnerable Girls (JVG) programme has completed a rebranding of all Child Protection service points to increase access to and

increase awareness of available VAWC service points at the community and district levels	awareness of key services. Service points for child protection and Gender Based Violence (GBV) such as police victim support units, community victim support units, one stop centres, child helpline and child justice courts have been renamed with local Malawian names and are currently being marketed on a national scale.
Expand the Child Helpline's free 116 number by making it available on all major Malawian telecommunication operators and generate a 50 percent increase in child abuse-related calls	Negotiations between MACRA and Malawian telecommunication providers, supported by the justice for vulnerable groups program, have resulted in an agreement for servicing of the 116 free call number. The number is now available on all major providers in Malawi. There has been a 10% increase in calls received in 2016 by the Child Helpline, a number that is expected to increase as the 116 number is now available on all carriers.
Strengthen multi-sectoral response services by increasing the number of clients seen at one stop centres from 40 per month to 60 per month by December 2015	Close to 528 survivors of physical and sexual violence have received services in 2016, indicating 50 cases per month. The Ministry of Health in partnership with UNICEF and UNFPA is developing more OSCs with the ultimate goal of having a centre in each district. The case numbers will also increase in response to the national marketing campaign. Moreover, psychosocial service provision has been improved at OSCs in four districts through partnership with the NGO Fountain of Life.
Increase access to police and community response services	There has been a 10% increase in the number of victims accessing services at PVSUs in 2016, partly due to expansion to rural formations and further sensitisation. Additionally, an innovative, mobile-based data system has been implemented at all PVSUs, allowing for real-time collection and analysis of data.
Strengthen response to sexual offences in schools by signing the commitment from the Teachers Services Commission and the Ministry of Education stating that all allegations against a teacher of rape, defilement or sexual activity with a student will result in an immediate suspension of the teacher from teaching duties and a referral of the matter to the police for criminal investigations	The Malawi Police Service has initiated a Safe Schools Programme, which includes installation of police monitored complaints boxes at 71 schools in 3 districts, referral support and prevention programming. The programme is implemented in conjunction with the Ministry of Education's National Education Standards whereby Education Advisers assess each school on a range of issues including school safety. The National Education Standards have also been adopted which clearly outline the responsibility of teachers to refrain from and report violence. This programme has potential for scaling up to cover all schools.
Increase access to justice for survivors, including successful rape convictions of perpetrators	The number of civil and criminal cases registered at child justice courts in Malawi has increased by 57% in 2016. This has been a result of capacity enhancing efforts targeting child justice magistrates such as training and dissemination

	of relevant laws. The launch of the Lilongwe Child Justice Court provides yet another access point for those seeking justice.
--	---

xviii. Support the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology to develop and implement a Safe Schools programme.

UNICEF started rolling out the Safe Schools Program based on two studies that confirmed wide spread violence in schools – The assessment of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology's (MoEST) capacity to respond to violence and the VACs study. The purpose of the Safe Schools Programme is to ensure the school, on the way to school and the home are safe for children and that students remain in school for them to achieve education results. The specific interventions under safe schools are;

- **Impower-** a 6 week girls' empowerment self-defence training which teaches girls empowerment (much of the MoEST regular life skills program), violence avoidance and self-defence, targeting 60 to 100 girls per school.
- **Sexual Assault Survivors Anonymous (SASA)** – this is a 12 week voluntary trauma counselling program offered to girls who reveal they have been raped. Participants are identified during the Impower program. This enables the girls to look at life normally and to gain strength to move on in life.
- **Boys transformation program** - this is a program that trains boys to change their mind set, adopt new norms and intervene when girls are being abused or are under threat of being abused.
- **Training teachers' in alternative forms of discipline** to replace corporal punishment. This enables teachers to ensure discipline benefits the learners' education by utilizing the alternatives they learn through this training. Trained teachers orient fellow teachers when back at their respective schools.
- **Child Participation in school governance** through learners' councils that facilitate learners' meaningful participation in development of School Improvement Plans (SIP) and responsive codes of conduct developed with the participation of learners.
- **School and Community Reflection Action Circles** have school (learners and teachers) and community facilitators that engage learners and communities to assess school and community support to education, propose actions, act or monitor actions taken and demand accountability from school administrators on issues affecting them including girls' education issues. This is a continuous process.
- **Establishing and Strengthening reporting mechanisms and referral pathways.** Malawi Police Services as a lead utilizes human rights related school clubs to interact and educate learners on their rights and responsibilities that they report when violated/abused or see somebody being abused. **Complaints or reporting boxes** are placed in schools for learners to drop tips and reports of abuse and are opened by the police at agreed intervals with the school. Cases reported are classified and those that can be resolved by the school and its committees are handed over to them while those criminal in nature are taken up by the Police for their action. **Referral pathways** are painted on school walls at visible places bearing numbers of Police, Social Welfare and Health personnel and toll free helpline number 116 to increase opportunities for reporting especially cases that need rapid response.

- **Revamping Community Child Protection Structures through** awareness campaigns by a team comprising the Police, Civil Society Partners (CSOs) that are participating in the program and the Judiciary to ensure communities prevent and respond to violence in the communities and ensure children go to school. Communities are enlightened on the harms of violence and encouraged to report sexual and physical abuse through community protection structures that the program has also revamped. These include Child Protection Committees, Police and Community Victim Support Units, Policing Forums and the toll free line.

Some of the key results from the safe schools programme included: Girls benefited from a 40% reduction in the incidence of forcible rape in 74 schools from 3 districts through a partnership with Plan International/Ujaama Pamodzi (CSO) through IMpower. Pupils reported 567 grievances in 3 districts (Salima, Dedza and Mangochi) using confidential complaints boxes that were established through UNICEF partnerships with Plan Malawi, Action Aid and the Malawi Police. 39 of the cases were taken to the Police which included defilement and a teacher was convicted and sentenced. The other complaints which included teasing, bullying, corporal punishment, and failure of teachers to turn up to class were handled at school level.

xix. Supporting the MoGCDSW in the branding and marketing of child protection services.

UNICEF in collaboration with the MOGCDSW, Ministry of Information and other relevant Ministries continued to roll out the Child Protection Brands marketing strategy. The five Community and two National Radios engaged continued to air radio jingles, train Radio Listening Clubs, and conduct and air panel discussions to increase awareness of CP core services. Two press statements were also placed in papers by the Ministries to make the public aware of the vernacular names of the services.

UNICEF printed over 125,000 leaflets, 10,000 brands books, 420 banners, and 6510 posters to support the marketing efforts and these were distributed across the country to increase awareness and utilisation of the services. A further increase in reporting is expected in the coming year as a result of these efforts.

xx. Support faith based organisations (FBOs) to scale up violence prevention interventions within the faith community.

UNICEF through its partners worked with FBOs to scale up violence protection interventions. Through these interventions:

- A total of 658 congregations are now able to understand child protection principles and apply them in day to day living and work.
- 275 child marriages were dissolved and 198 of the girls were enrolled back in school.
- 505 Religious Leaders have become aware of child protection issues and are able to mainstream child protection within their church/mosque activities.
- 92,489 faith community members in 3 targeted districts have become aware and have access to protection services through faith organizations.
- A 74.4% reduction has been attained in marriages officiated in Churches/Mosques for girls below the age 18 years.

- 38.6 % of programs being aired and covered on community radios in 3 targeted districts feature children and women related issues.
- Through the training of 30 Sunday school teachers and Madras in spiritual counselling in child protection, 587 cases of child abuses were identified and the children were provided with psychosocial support.
- 11,050 children were reached with child protection orientations messages.
- 533 children have enrolled into Sunday school and Madras classes where child protection has been mainstreamed.
- Through the training of 25 media personnel from various community radios, a total of 2,162,000 community members in the 3 target districts were reached with child protection messages by community radios.
- The faith community in the 3 targeted districts registered an increase of 219% of reported cases of abuse through the Churches and Mosques by children and parents seeking support.
- Churches and Mosques have now experienced an increase in recorded referrals to other child protection service providers from an initial 11% to 90%.
- 88 GBV cases were reported to religious leaders for appropriate counselling and 52 of these were referred to Victim Support Units (VSUs).
- 186 men were reached with messages on how to prevent GBV and their respective responsibilities.
- 150 women were trained on how to prevent GBV and have in turn reached out to 3700 fellow women on the same.
- Through 18 open air campaigns conducted on child protection 35,789 people were reached with messages on child protection, prevention of child marriages and GBV.
- Following the launch of the Child Protection Program within the faith community and the signing of the Declaration of Commitment by High Level Religious Leaders, a total of 478 Churches/Mosques from the 3 target districts have adopted the Day of Prayer for Child Protection as an advocacy initiative within their congregations.
- 56,700 men and women were reached through congregation organized Day of Prayers.
- A total of 1200 Pastoral letters on Child Protection have so far been distributed in the 3 target districts.

Result 3.3: Testing and implementation of the comprehensive child protection model in 7 districts by 2016

UNICEF in collaboration with the MoGCSDW is working on developing an effective child protection system model that brings together all child protection service providers, while integrating systematic guidelines and procedures of operation. The aim is to improve the quality of child protection services delivered at national and district level. A Child Protection Pilot Model Framework was developed and rollout began in late 2016.

A capacity assessment report funded through UNICEF in 2015 indicated capacity gaps in ten districts to effectively and efficiently implement child protection interventions. The assessment focussed on seven domains namely Governance /Leadership, Monitoring and Evaluation, Human Resource Management, Information Management, Financial Management ,Service delivery and Community Involvement . The results of the assessment were used to develop a capacity development framework for effective child protection programming in ten targeted districts.

Result 3.4: A functional National Child Protection Information Management System in place and capacity of the Department of Social Welfare developed to operate it by 2014

i. *Support the MoGCSDW and district councils to implement a phased roll out Child Protection Information Management System starting with three districts.*

As the protection situation of women and children in Malawi is complex and multi-sectoral, programs need to be driven by efficient and reliable data as well as a coordinated approach to data collection processes among stakeholders, both government and non-governmental. It is based on these needs that UNICEF has supported the MoGCDSW to develop the National Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS).

The CPIMS design draws lessons from the Education Management Information Management System (EMIS) and the District Health Information Systems (DHIS). The EMIS and DHIS have significantly contributed to improved data in the Education and Health sectors, which has resulted in more routine and quality data collection. This has been possible due to the commitment of the line Ministries, donors and other stakeholders towards developing and sustaining these systems.

The Malawi CPIMS is still in its' infant stage of development with more investment still required as the system evolves. To date, the CPIMS has been rolled out in the 8 districts of Blantyre, Mangochi, Dedza, Nkhatabay, Mzimba, Mchinji, Salima and Zomba. A total of 3,924 vulnerable children (1,877 girls, 2,047 boys) are registered into the system and are receiving case management services through the social welfare offices. Reports can be generated from the system through: <http://www.childaffairs.gov.mw/reports/>.

The program plans to test and document the system in this pilot phase in order to assess its usability and effectiveness and to further identify key areas of improvement before a nation-wide scale-up. It is therefore necessary that all programs supporting government efforts towards protecting children continue to contribute towards the establishment and roll-out of the CPIMS. By establishing a national child protection information management system, the Ministry will have the necessary and comprehensive information to develop evidence-based programs that prevent and respond to the protective needs of children in the country.

As the CPIMS is being tested, the MoGCDSW, through UNICEF support, has established a parallel data collection system to track cases in districts. The current tools capture gender disaggregated data on caseloads, nature of cases, HIV and access to ART services. There is need to continue providing ongoing technical support to districts on data collection, reporting and management.

In 2016, UNICEF also supported districts to assess and verify the quality of the data being generated by the CPIMS.

ii. *Support the MoGCDSW to utilize mobile technology for data collection and monitoring case management.*

UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare to roll-out a web-based SMS data collection system in Community Victim Support Units. Currently

the system is rolled out in 8 districts. By the end of 2017 it is expected that 12 districts will be using this system.

4.0 Emergency Response

UNICEF is currently supporting the protection cluster in the implementation of the 2016/17 Protection Cluster Implementation Plan which was aimed at reducing protection threats for the affected population including vulnerable groups from violence, sexual violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect during disasters and ensuring that human rights are respected.



Figure 6: Malawi Police Service awareness session in emergency affected areas

Due to financial limitations, the cluster selected 10 drought affected districts³ to carry out various interventions aimed at preventing and reducing violence. These interventions include; awareness on violence, strengthening the child protection structures and workforce to respond to violence, strengthening coordination and information management, empowering children to protect themselves from violence and empowering communities to demand accountability during humanitarian response. In Machinga, Zomba and Mangochi, Community Victim Support Unit (CVSU) committees were revamped to provide counselling and referral of victims to appropriate services. In addition, CVSU offices in Machinga and Mangochi have been improved for provision of quality services.

³ Nsanje, Chikwawa, Balaka, Blantyre, Machinga, Chiradzulu, Zomba, Mangochi, Phalombe and Mulanje

A Violence against Children Campaign focusing on radio and community outreach is currently being implemented through UNICEF partnership with two civil society organisations. This significantly improved demand for child protection services and is influencing positive social and cultural practices in the country.

UNICEF also provided technical support to the Protection Cluster to establish a humanitarian accountability framework through partnership with civil society organisations (Link for Citizen Empowerment and Mhub) to generate evidence aimed at creating a nationwide coherent Accountability to Affected Populations and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (AAP-PSEA) mechanism that will among others support affected communities. UNICEF is currently supporting efforts aimed at establishing national accountability frameworks for prevention of sexual abuse and exploitation.

Mobile reporting for child protection workers was also introduced in 8 districts of the country to enhance reporting on the provision of services to victims of violence. From this service, real time information on the provision of services in children's corners and community victim support units can be obtained.

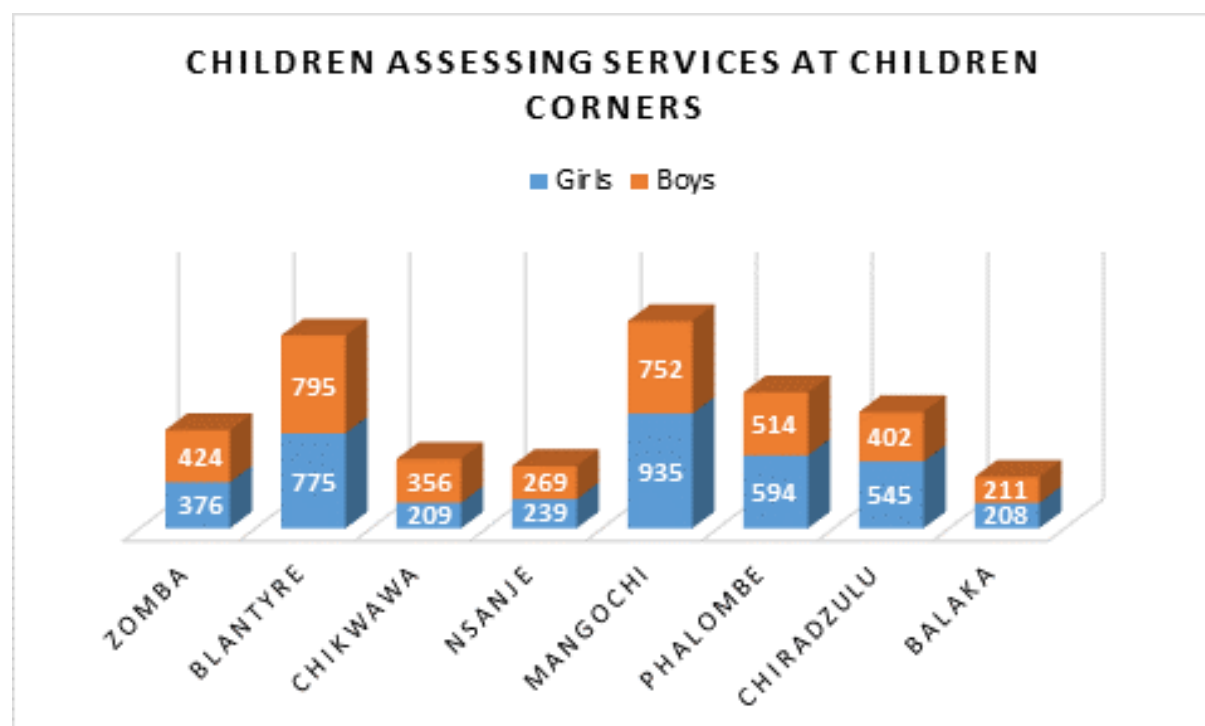


Figure 7: Access to Psychosocial Services by Children in emergency Affected Districts in 2016

4. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Resource requirements were greater in 2016 due to the progress of various result areas where UNICEF was moving to scale up implementation of the NPA, the VAC and the DIPs, which required large investments. In addition, the effect of the floods and drought and the implementation of the emergency recovery plans placed further a strain on the already dwindling Child Protection resources. The Protection Cluster during the emergency was one of the least funded. Infrastructure support for core child protection services and the

reintegration of children in CCIs remained a challenge and this will continue to be in 2017. Large scale grants came to a close in 2016 which was in line with the end date of the Country Programme. However, the Country Programme has been extended till December 2018 due to delays in the National Planning process. This will require the Child Protection Programme to continue to sustain previous investments with no major funding, while at the same time, scale up or expansion will be delayed. 8. Specifically additional funds will be needed to assist the UNICEF MCO Child Protection to:

1. Document lessons learned from the 5 year country program.
2. Contribute to Regional priorities covering violence against children with a focus on supporting the implementation of the 2015 VAC evaluation management response.
3. Strengthening mechanisms for reporting and referrals in humanitarian response.
4. Maintain investment in Child Protection Systems and expand to new areas

In 2016, the Child Protection programme had a total planned budget of 1,456,875 USD. The table below shows planned budget per outcome area.

Table 4: Outcome Area 6: Child Protection (Malawi)-Planned budget by Outcome Area (US Dollars)

Outcome Area 6: Child Protection⁴	
06-01 Data and Child Protection	
06-02 Child Protection systems	1,456,875
06-03 Violence, exploitation and abuse	
06-05 Birth registration	
06-06 Child Protection and emergencies	
06-08 Child Protection # General	
Total	1,456,875

In total, 1 national committee supported the Child Protection programme through thematic funds. Table 5 shows the country-level thematic contribution to the Child Protection programme in 2016.

Table 5: Outcome Area 6: Child Protection Malawi-Country-level Child Protection thematic contributions to outcome area received in 2016 (US Dollars)

Donor	Grant Number	Contribution Amount	Programmable Amount
Flanders International Cooperation Agency	SC1499060075	235,982	224,744
Total		235,982	224,744

The Child Protection programme has six key results areas including Child Protection and emergencies. The table below outlines the expenditure during 2016 per results area, regular resources, other resources - regular, and other resources-emergency. While the largest

⁴ Planned budget for ORR does not include estimated recovery cost.

amount was spent on general Child Protection a considerable amount was spent on Child Protection systems.

Table 7: Outcome Area 6: Child Protection (Malawi)-2016 Expenditures by Key-Results Areas (US Dollars)

Organisational Targets	Planned	Expense		
		Other Resources - Emergency	Other Resources - Regular	Regular Resources
06-01 Data and Child Protection			10	
06-02 Child Protection systems	1,456,875		1,487,106	392,912
06-03 Violence, exploitation and abuse			69,400	
06-05 Birth registration			89	
06-06 Child Protection and emergencies		135,954	326,476	
06-08 Child Protection # General			2,601,625	1,058,154
Total	1,456,875	135,954	4,484,706	1,451,066

Thematic expenses per programme area are outlined in table 8 below.

Table 8: Outcome Area 6: Child Protection (Malawi)-2016 Expenses by programme area

CHILD PROTECTION	
Other Resources - Regular	
06-02 Child Protection systems	138,131
06-08 Child Protection # General	404,302
CHILD PROTECTION Total	542,434

Table 9 outlines the expense by intervention areas.

Table 9: Outcome Area 6: Child Protection (Malawi)-2016 Expenses by specific intervention codes

Child Protection	
	Expense
06-01-01 Child Protection and violations # periodic data collection and analysis	10
06-02-01 Child Protection systems strengthening	1,707,605
06-05-01 Birth and civil registration	8
06-06-01 Prevent and address violence, exploitation and abuse of children in humanitarian action	4,737
06-06-04 Prevent family separation and support to family tracing, reunification and care	32,212

06-06-05 Child Protection # sub-cluster coordination in humanitarian action [for GBV, MHPSS and mine/ERW Risk Education (MRE)]	437,309
06-08-01 Child Protection # general	3,237,801
08-01-01 Country programme process	71,731
08-01-06 Planning # General	4,098
08-02-05 Other multi-sectoral household surveys and data collection activities	45,948
08-02-08 Monitoring # General	8,069
08-03-01 Cross-sectoral Communication for Development	18,660
08-04-02 Community based child care	5,645
08-09-06 Other # non-classifiable cross-sectoral activities	384,129
08-09-07 Public Advocacy	5,207
08-09-08 Engagement through media and campaigns	1,913
08-09-10 Brand building and visibility	8,166
08-09-11 Emergency preparedness and response (General)	6,120
10-07-12 Management and Operations support at CO	147,936
10-07-13 ICT capacity in CO	34,165
4012 Support to strengthen laws, policies, standards, regulations and budget analysis of child protection systems	22,696
4093 Child Protection policies, plans and budgets	3
4113 Systems and programmes in support to prevent and respond to violence against children including at home	71,939
4903 Support to C4D interventions for multiple OTs within FA4	1,850
6901 Staff costs (includes specialists, managers, TAs and consultancies) for multiple Focus Areas of the MTSP	19,209
7921 Operations # financial and administration	-205,439 ⁵
7971 Communication (DOC)	1
Total	6,071,726

5. FUTURE WORK PLANS

Key programme priorities for the period January to December 2017, are as follows:

1. Support the GoM to scale up awareness raising on the dangers of placing children in CClIs.
2. Advocate with government to raise the profile of children's corners and allocation of funding to raise the profile of CCs as a prevention strategy for ending child marriages (the focus will be on 6-14year olds).
3. Increased UNICEF engagement in programmes aimed at ending child marriages through partnerships with GoM and the faith community.
4. Scaling up Violence Against Children campaign and safe schools programmes.
5. Document lessons learned from the 5 year country program.

⁵ A negative number indicates a refund was received under this intervention.

6. Contribute to Regional priorities covering violence against children with a focus on supporting the implementation of the 2015 VAC evaluation management response.
7. Strengthening mechanisms for reporting and referrals in humanitarian response.
8. Support the GoM to implement the recommendations from the UN General Assembly concluding observations and recommendations.
9. Support the Health Sector to implement birth reporting and registration process in accordance with National Registration Bureau guidelines.
10. Support the National Registration Bureau to implement the National Strategy for Civil Registration.
11. Provide Technical Assistance to the MoGCDSW to implement child related laws and policies including finalizing regulations for the Child Care Protection and Justice Act.
12. Support the MOGCDSW, National Child Justice Forum and other stakeholders to develop and implement the extended 2017-2018 National Child Justice Strategy focusing on diversion; and, increasing access to quality justice for children including targeted welfare and empowerment programs for diverted children.
13. Support the development and implementation of a comprehensive policy for children.
14. Support the MOGCDSW to implement the Joint Sector Strategic Plan (JSSP) and monitor quality standards for core child protection services.
15. Support strengthening of One Stop Centres and their roll out to health facilities in seven districts (Lilongwe, Mulanje, Blantyre, Zomba, Mangochi, Mzuzu and Nkhatabay).
16. Support MoGCDSW and district councils to implement Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) activities and produce reports.
17. Design and undertake an evaluation to measure the impact of the child protection strategy.
18. Support MoGCDSW and stakeholders to implement the National Child Helpline strategic Plan.
19. Build capacity of MoGCDSW, District Councils and key stakeholders to implement the district Child Protection Model.
20. Build the capacity of the social welfare work force through enhancing the academic and operational capacity of Magomero College.
21. Support the Ministry and Child Protection Stakeholders to develop the capacity of child protection workforce (CCPW, Probation Officers, Police officers and child justice officers, clinicians, nurses).
22. Support Government and district councils to implement the District Implementation Plans (DIPs) and NPA for vulnerable children.
23. Support the Ministry to develop the Reintegration Model for Malawi.
24. Support the MoGCDSW to strengthen case management system and improve access to services for children affected by AIDS, survivors of violence and children in contact with the law
25. Support the MoGCDSW to utilize mobile technology for data collection and monitoring case management.
26. Support MoGCDSW and stakeholders to implement the violence against children response plan including a large scale violence prevention campaign promoting core child protection messages.
27. Support the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology to develop and implement a Safe Schools programme.
28. Support the MoGCDSW in the branding and marketing of child protection services.

29. Support MGCDSW to scale up community response to CP and access to services (child panels, community victim support units, community policing, and police victim support units)
30. Support MoGCDSW and stakeholders to lead in implementation of emergency response plan.
31. Support 500 Children's Corners for children aged 6 to 18 to provide psychosocial support.
32. Provide support to Malawi Police Service and MoH to provide child friendly services.

6. EXPRESSION OF THANKS

UNICEF Malawi sincerely thanks all its donors for the valuable support provided to UNICEF which has enables the organisation to provide services to women and children vulnerable to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect and those children affected by the impact of HIV and AIDs. UNICEF is also grateful to the Government of Malawi for the close collaboration it has with the UN in Malawi evidenced by the development of the UN and Government of Malawi Joint Annual Work Plan.

Annex A: Human Interest Story

Hunger forces parents to marry off young girls

By Joseph Scott, UNICEF Malawi



Eliza was offered for marriage at the age of 14. © UNICEF Malawi/2017/Eldson Chagara

Mangochi a lakeshore district, situated in the eastern part of Malawi, is one of the country's top tourist hot spots. The vast expanse of mountain ranges, interjected by flat grasslands and the imposing Lake Malawi, makes for a breath taking view. However, beneath this seeming beauty lies a tradition that has, for years, deprived girls a chance to pursue their dreams as they are married off at a tender age to men with a little more money than their parents.

"In the past two years, we have seen an increase in cases where parents are offering their young girls for marriage," says Malla Mabona, Child Protection Specialist for UNICEF Malawi. "Mostly, the decision is driven by hunger. Families are struggling to get food due to the drought that hit the country for the past two farming seasons.

"The only way out they see from this predicament is to offer their girls to richer men in their communities for marriage. This is a gross abuse of the girl's right to education," she says.

Eliza (16) from the district was caught in this early marriage snare some two years ago.

"It all started when my father approached his friend offering to marry me to his son who was working in South Africa," recalls Eliza who is the second oldest child in a family of seven. "The friend agreed and my father was given MK20, 000 (\$28 USD) and two mobile phones."

She adds: “I was so angry when my father told me to stop school and prepare for marriage. I had never thought of getting married before. My dream was to continue with my education and become self-reliant,” she says.

Like many farming families in the area, Eliza's parents had a poor harvest because of drought and erratic rains, caused by El Nino. They managed to harvest only three bags of the staple maize. Being such a big family, this only lasted for three months.

As the hunger started to bite, Eliza's father saw a way out of the crisis by offering his daughter for marriage. However, her mother was opposed to the idea – she wanted Eliza to continue with her education.

Forced out of school by poverty



Eliza pulled out of school to work odd jobs to help her family survive © UNICEF Malawi/2017/Eldson Chagara

The ensuing marital conflict between Eliza's parents affected the children's education.

“My father saw my mother's refusal to have me married as defiance,” Eliza says. “To punish her, he decided not to support us in any way. Life became tougher because, in addition to the food shortages we were experiencing, we also didn't have soap to wash clothes or to bath.

Eliza started going without things such as notebooks and pens. “It became so difficult for me to attend classes. I pulled out of school in Standard 6 to look for odd jobs around the village to help the family with some income,” she says.

Every day in the morning, she would join her mother to look for work in the surrounding villages. But it was not easy getting a job as almost all the people in the village had been affected by the drought.

When the differences between Eliza's parents deepened, his father decided to leave the family. Since he had no money to refund his friend's family, Eliza's father decided to relocate to neighbouring Mozambique. The family have not heard from him since.

"It pains me though that I have not seen my father for the past three years," says Eliza. "I don't know whether he is alive or dead. Despite what he wanted to do to me, I still love him and want him back," she says.

UNICEF's support

Eliza's chance to go back to school came when UNICEF in collaboration with PLAN International and Ujamaa Pamodzi introduced some reflect action circles in her village targeting girls who had dropped out of school for various reasons.

Reflect action circles is an approach where community members and learners meet to discuss issues of violence and abuse affecting children. Through the discussions, they reflect on the causes of the problem and likely results and come up with a plan on how to overcome and deal with such issues.

"Following the introduction of reflection action circles, community members have taken keen interest in the welfare of children especially girls," says Cassim Saiti, a government social welfare officer working with PLAN and Ujamaa in the project.

In Katuli where Eliza lives, community groups have been formed that conduct door to door visits to households to alert them on child rights.

"When they come across a family where girls are not going to school or there are plans to offer them for marriage, they first advise the parents that it is a violation of their rights before they bring the issue to us for further action," he says.

According to Cassim, the project has been a success as 28 girls have been re-admitted back to school through the reflection action circles.

Back in school

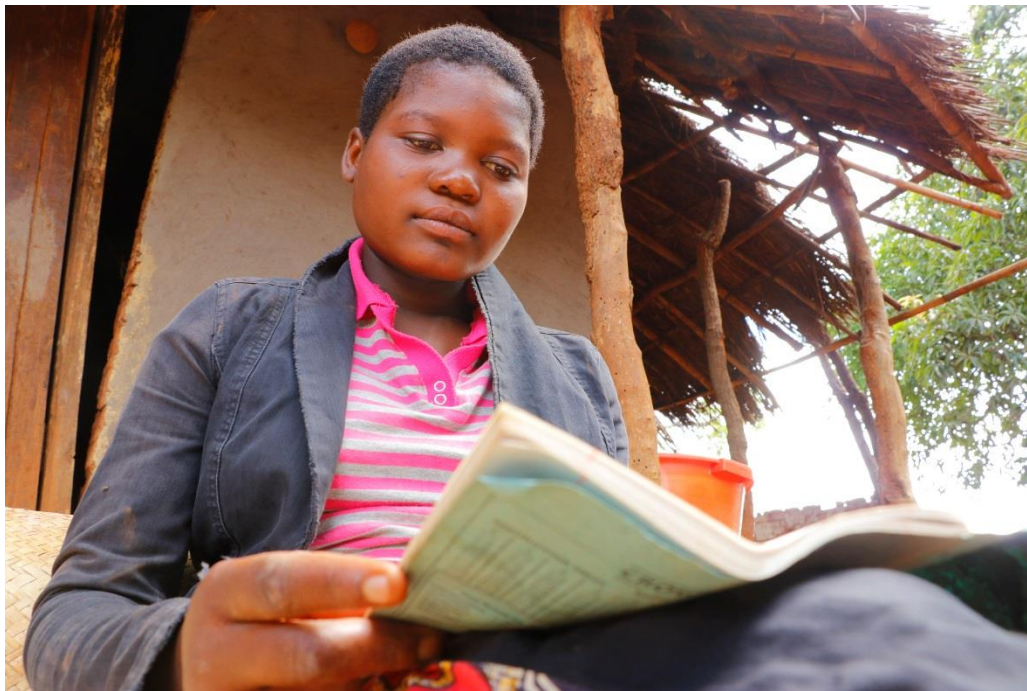
And Eliza is one of them: "I was excited when I was chosen to attend the reflect circles with other girls in our village who had also dropped out of school," she says. "This opportunity made me to reflect on my future and I made the decision to go back to school.

"I want to become a doctor," she continues. "I feel this job will not only help me support my mother and siblings financially, but also help the sick," says Eliza who is now back in school and in Standard 7.

“I have so many friends who come to me saying that I should get married. They tell me that they will go and live in South Africa since their husbands are there. But I am not taken by such things,” says Eliza and adds, “If I continue with my education and realize my dream of becoming a doctor, I can travel there on my own accord.”

Eliza says that during the time she was staying home from school, three men came to her home asking for her hand in marriage.

“Most of these man just impregnate the girls and lie that they will give them all the nice things in life. But the girls end up caring for children whose fathers never come back home. I don’t want to be that girl,” Eliza declares emphatically.



Eliza is now back in school and looking to the future with hope. © UNICEF Malawi/2017/Eldson Chagara

Annex 2: Donor Feedback Form

Title of Report/Project: Child Protection Thematic Report

UNICEF Office: UNICEF Malawi

Donor Partner:

Date:

Report Feedback Form

UNICEF is working to improve the quality of our reports and would highly appreciate your feedback. Kindly answer the questions below for the above-mentioned report. Thank you!

Please return the completed form back to UNICEF by email to:

Name: Roisin De Burca

Email: rdeburca@unicef.org

SCORING: 5 indicates “highest level of satisfaction” while
0 indicates “complete dissatisfaction”

1. To what extent did the narrative content of the report conform to your reporting expectations? (For example, the overall analysis and identification of challenges and solutions)

5	4	3	2	1	0

If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what we missed or what we could do better next time?

2. To what extent did the fund utilization part of the report meet your reporting expectations?

5	4	3	2	1	0

If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what we missed or what we could do better next time?

3. To what extent does the report meet your expectations in regard to the analysis provided, including identification of difficulties and shortcomings as well as remedies to these?

5	4	3	2	1	0

If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what we could do better next time?

4. To what extent does the report meet your expectations with regard to reporting on results?

5	4	3	2	1	0

If you have not been fully satisfied, could you please tell us what we missed or what we could do better next time?

5. Please provide us with your suggestions on how this report could be improved to meet your expectations.

6. Are there any other comments that you would like to share with us?

Thank you for filling this form!