

# SUDAN

## Child Protection

### Global Thematic Report



January – December 2016

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## Acronyms

AFC	Alternative Family Care
BR	Birth Registration
CBCPNs	Community Based Child Protection Networks
CERF	Consolidated Emergency Relief Fund
CHF	Common Humanitarian Fund
CPAP	Country Programme Action Plan
DFID	Department for International Cooperation – UK
FCPU	Family and Child Protection Unit
FGM/C	Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting
FTR	Family Tracing and Reunification
GBV	Gender Based Violence
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IOM	International Organization for Migration
JEM	Justice and Equality Movement
J4C	Justice for Children
MoGSD	Ministry of Guidance and Social Development
MoWSS	Ministry of Welfare and Social Security
NISS	National Intelligence and Security Service
NCCW	National Council for Child Welfare
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NM FCPU	National Mechanism for FCPU
MICS	Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey
PSS	Psychosocial Support Services

R&R	Rules and Regulations
SCCW	State Council for Child Welfare
SGBV	Sexual Gender Based Violence
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SSR	South Sudanese Refugees
UASC	Unaccompanied and Separated Children
UNAMID	United Nations Mission in Darfur
UNDOC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations' Children Fund

## Project Summary

<b>Country</b>	Sudan
<b>Project title</b>	Strengthening the Child Protection System in Sudan
<b>Donor</b>	Global Thematic Fund-Child Protection
<b>UNICEF Grant Reference</b>	SC149906
<b>Total contribution</b>	US\$ 2,946,109
<b>UNICEF global recovery cost</b>	US\$ 432,615
<b>Programmable amount</b>	US\$ 2,522,494
<b>Amount utilized</b>	US\$ 1,502,108
<b>Utilization level</b>	59.9%
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## I. Executive Summary

In 2016 children in Sudan continued to be severely affected by acute and protracted crises, with ongoing violence in Darfur, the Kordofan states, Blue Nile and Abyei which displaced some 3.2 million people internally, including some 1.9 million children, forcing them to flee their homes. In Darfur, fighting between government forces and armed movements continued and intensified in the Jebel Marra region in January 2016, resulting in mass displacement in the entire Darfur region. In addition, as a result of renewed conflict and high levels of food insecurity in South Sudan, Sudan has also received an influx of an additional 90,516 South Sudanese Refugees (SSRs), 60 per cent of them are children, seeking protection, stretching the already limited host community capacity and putting the total number SSR arrivals since 2013 to 263,245<sup>1</sup>.

UNICEF Sudan has been supporting the Government of Sudan in its efforts to build and strengthen child protection systems that prevent and respond to violence, exploitation and abuse against children. Developing a more integrated approach with other sectors, especially education, was a priority in 2016. With the support received from the pooled funding from partners such as the CERF, CHF, Joint Programme - DFID, Sweden, Norway and the UNICEF National Committees of The Netherlands and Luxembourg, important steps have been taken to strengthen basic components of the national child protection system to be operational in all states and the following key results had been so far achieved:

- Two Action Plans on Protection of Children in Armed Conflict were signed by UNICEF: one with the Government and one with the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N). Signing these action plans is a critical step for child protection, in line with the Security Council resolutions and International Humanitarian Law. As a result, 21 children detained for alleged association with the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) since 2015 were pardoned by the President. All children received psychosocial support before being reunified with their families.
- More than 303,702 children (150,123 girls; 153,579 boys) at risk and victims of violence, abuse and exploitation were reached and benefited from preventive and responsive child protection services.
- 94,282 (49,175 girls, 45,142 boys) children received psychosocial support through child friendly spaces and home-based visits by social workers. Also, more than 20,686 people were reached through mine risk education.
- A total of 4,474 (2,466 girls, 2,008 boys) separated and unaccompanied children reunified with their families and or were placed in long term alternative care arrangements.
- Child protection minimum standards were developed and adapted under the leadership of the National Council for Child Welfare and the support of UNICEF-led Child Protection sub-sector, UNICEF and Save the Children.

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<sup>1</sup> UNHCR, January 2017.

- In Darfur, UNICEF prepositioned critical supplies in twelve key locations to cover the needs of approximately 120,000 vulnerable people, allowing to provide rapid life-saving support to people affected by conflict.
- A total of 3,741 UASC (1,739 girls, 2,002 boys) in the five Darfur States, Blue Nile, White Nile, North and South Kordofan States have been reunified and placed with relatives or in family-based alternative care services, representing 170 per cent of the overall targeted 2,200 children in 2016.
- UNICEF scaled up community engagement and systematic community dialogue in 90 per cent of 400 selected communities through trained 720 facilitators in 9 targeted states reaching 70 per cent of 26 targeted localities. A total of 42 new communities (995 cumulative) declared keeping their girls Saleema/uncut in North Kordofan, South Kordofan, South Darfur, Northern States, River Nile and Blue Nile states. New analysis on FGM/C shows a 21 per cent decline between generations of women aged 30-35 years old and girls 0-14 years old.

Despite the significant achievement in 2016, turn-over of professionals within the Ministry of Interior and Judiciary, Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Social Welfare had an impact on the quality and availability of services. Limited capacities of professionals in other sectors, including health and education to deal with identifying, addressing and reporting of violence and abuse of children are major determinants of lack of quality of continuum of care and protection services. Ineffective coordination and staffing and lack of clear leadership and accountability amongst child protection institutions, lack data on violence and limited information flow and reporting mechanisms limit the efforts to create protective environment for children. Additionally, efforts to enhance knowledge and empower children to engage in social movements and social change are confined to FGM/C, and there are few attempts to build the resilience of communities and children through the provision of life skills and services tailored to enhance their demand for child protection services and overall protection.

In 2017, the year of transition to the new country programme, UNICEF will work to ensure that the process of the development of the strategic note related to the new programme will address the above mentioned bottlenecks and challenges. UNICEF will refocus on strengthening child protection systems and mechanism in four thematic areas: alternative care system, scale up diversion and alternative to detention, close the gap between development and emergency nexus and promote integrated child protection services. UNICEF will intensify its work on promoting children including adolescent, families and communities' engagement on promotive positive social changes related to Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) and child marriage.

## II. Strategic Context of 2016

In 2015, with the results of the MICS and the implementation of the Mid -Term Review (MTR) of the Country programme recommendations commenced, an evidenced based 2 years plan was developed with focus on equity and the disadvantaged children in the most deprived 72 localities in 12 states, with some national programmes like FGM/C justice for children and birth registration. Child protection approaches were to strengthen evidence-based advocacy, monitoring and evaluation, and strengthen child protection systems as well as families and communities to create an enabling environment for children in Sudan.

Some of the important developments during 2015-2016 is the enforcement of the multi-sectoral and integrated approaches to achieve child protection results at the household level. UNICEF have been able to demonstrate tangible progress in the protection of children through integration of PSS into schools and child friendly learning spaces; increasing the rate of birth registration and prompting Saleema<sup>2</sup> Initiatives through the engagement of health personals as well as adolescents' empowerment.

The impact of the regional geopolitical situation, the conflict in Syria and Yemen, and the continuous influx of Eritrean and Ethiopian refugees into Sudan's eastern states, is an additional dimension that influenced the strategic and programmatic direction. UNICEF has worked in closed partnership with UNHCR, IOM, UNFPA and UNDOC in developing a joint strategy on migration; within this framework, UNICEF focused on generating evidence, ensuring the protection of migrant children and providing child friendly services for children on the move at border points and at the localities surrounding the main IDPs and refugees' camps in the Eastern part of Sudan.

Partnership with different actors is a key for UNICEF, accordingly a leading role was exerted by UNICEF in promoting the building of child protection systems. UNICEF brings together many actors who work in the social welfare, justice, security, education sectors, and subsequently succeeded in strengthening the justice system, promoting birth registration, alternative based care and psychosocial services for children. Within this effort, UNICEF succeeded also to bring other actors to enhance the protection of children including in humanitarian situations, such as the Federal and state governments, civil society organizations (national and international NGOs, academic institutions, and the media), other UN agencies, bilateral donors, communities and children and their families. In addition, UNICEF has built strong alliances at all level with government, NGOs, Parliament, religious leaders and academic institutions, and media to support the national efforts to abandon FGM in one generation and promote an innovative approach to social changes through the Saleema Initiative.

Although breakthrough in different areas have been made, challenges still remain. While there is a slight increase on the number of children registered at birth since 2010, more than 33 per cent of children under age five are not registered at birth in Sudan, with widespread disparities between states.<sup>3</sup> Many children in Sudan are deprived of a family environment, mainly due to armed conflict, displacement, and poverty. Abandonment of children born out of the wedlock represents a significant challenge, with 3 to 4 infants surrendered daily to the country's only residential care facility.<sup>4</sup> While 82 per cent of children age 0 – 17 are living in a family environment, 3.5 per cent live with neither parent, and figures do not include children living on the streets, those in armed groups, engaged in gold mining, or residing in institutions.<sup>5</sup>

With more than 2.4 million internally displaced people (IDPs) in the country and a high number of refugees from neighboring countries including Ethiopia, Eritrea, Chad, Central African Republic and South Sudan, as well as Syria and Yemen recently, children are on the move more and more due to migration, trafficking and forced displacement, frequently unaccompanied or separated from their families and without alternative care arrangements. These children remain invisible and are exposed to exploitation and violence and in the context of lack of progressive migration policy and dynamic model of migration management that can

<sup>2</sup> Saleema Initiative it is a strategic approaches to influence positively the social change to abandoned FGM/C.

<sup>3</sup> For example, only 31% of children in Central Darfur are registered at birth, compared to 98% in Northern State. (Promoting birth registration in Sudan, CRC4D, 2012)

<sup>4</sup> Records at Mygoma residential facility in Khartoum

<sup>5</sup> MICS 2014



focus on prevention, protection of victims and fight of trafficking networks and facilitate their access to child protection system.

Twenty-five percent of children in Sudan are engaged in child labor<sup>6</sup>, with higher rates for boys, poor children, rural children and wide disparities between States.<sup>7</sup> Child labour, linked to poverty, insufficient social protection/social services and school non-attendance, includes begging, street life, agricultural work, gold mining and labour associated with armed conflict.

Children in Sudan experience widespread violence. While the availability of accurate and comprehensive data continues to be a challenge, over 30,000 cases of violence, abuse and/or exploitation have been reported to the Family and Child Protection Unit FCPUs at the national level in 2016, with 60 per cent of those cases involving sexual violence. Grave violations against children<sup>8</sup> documented in the context of ongoing conflicts<sup>9</sup> shows that killing, maiming, and sexual violence against children continue to be a concern. Additionally, 64 per cent of children aged 1 to 14 are victims of violent discipline, equally divided between psychological and physical violence, according to MICS 2014.

Girls in Sudan are at particular risk of gender-based violence, including harmful traditional practices such as child marriage and FGM/C. FGM/C remains highly prevalent, with 87 per cent of women aged 15 – 49 having undergone some form of FGM/C, while the practice is reportedly 31.5 per cent among 0 – 14 year-olds according to mothers interviewed.<sup>10</sup> Child marriage remains widely accepted and common, with 38% of girls aged 20 – 24 married before age 18. Many married adolescents experience and accept physical and sexual violence, with 35.5 per cent of adolescent girls believing that a husband is justified to beat his wife. Sudanese women and girls in conflict zones have been the target of systematic rape and other forms of sexual violence, such as threat of rape, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, sex trafficking, forced marriages, forced prostitution and sexual slavery. Women and girls of nearly all ethnicities have been sexually assaulted by perpetrators from both within and outside their own ethnic groups.<sup>11</sup>

In 2016, more than 32,407 children across all 18 states (19,224 boys, 13,183 girls)<sup>12</sup> had been in contact with the law as victims, witnesses and alleged offenders. While diversion outside the judicial system increased in 2016, children remaining in contact with the law face lengthy judicial procedures and can be placed in pre-trial detention even for petty offences.

### III. Results in the Outcome Areas

#### OUTCOME (1):

At least 3.8 million of the most vulnerable children (girls and boys) including children affected by humanitarian crisis have access and use scaled-up proven sustainable, high impact, integrated quality services for life saving, learning, development and protection in the most deprived localities in Sudan.

<sup>6</sup> Child Labour being defined as working beyond specific thresholds of hours per week depending on age and whether economic or household work is involved.

<sup>7</sup> 28% of boys compared to 22% of girls; 40% among poorest children compared to 10% among richest; 30% for rural children compared to 13% for urban. In Khartoum, 8% of children are engaged in child labour compared to 49% in East Darfur. (MICS 2014)

<sup>8</sup> The six grave violations against children include: Recruitment and use of children, killing and maiming of children, rape and sexual violence against children, attacks on school and hospitals, abduction, and denial of humanitarian access.

<sup>9</sup> Conflict zones include: Darfur, Abyei, & Nuba Mountains in the State of South Kordofan and Blue Nile

<sup>10</sup> MICS 2014

<sup>11</sup> Survivors Speak Out – Sexual Violence in Sudan, Campaign to stop GBV in conflict, Nov 2013

<sup>12</sup> FCPUs and Judiciary Data base

**OUTPUT (1.5):**

At-risk boys and girls including adolescents have improved access and benefit from age specific integrated psycho-social support, and child friendly policy, legal, diversion and alternative measures to detention and alternative care.

**OUTCOME (2):**

Children, especially adolescents (both boys and girls), families and communities in the most deprived localities are resilient and adopt appropriate practices to reduce their vulnerability.

**OUTPUT (2.5):**

Communities, families and children including adolescent equipped with knowledge and life skills to protect them from separation, violence and traditional harmful practices.

**Outcome (3) :**

Evidence and coordination enables government, communities and partners to improve capacity and systems for equity-focused funding, advocacy , policies & legislation, strategies, planning & supply chain management to scale up results for children

**OUTPUT (3.5):**

Evidence and enabling environment for child protection is available and used to sharpen the child protection system and legislative framework.

**OUTCOME (1):**

At least 3.8 million of the most vulnerable children (girls and boys) including children affected by humanitarian crisis have access and use scaled-up proven sustainable, high impact, integrated quality services for life saving, learning, development and protection in the most deprived localities in Sudan

**Child Protection Output 1.5**

In 2016 progress was made with regard to equitable provision of basic social services for vulnerable populations in spite of complex operating environment. A strategic partnership with the Government, international and national NGOs helped ensure delivery of equitable high quality services in child protection for vulnerable children. More than 303,702 children (150,123 girls; 153,579 boys) at risk and victims of violence, abuse and exploitation were reached and benefited from preventive and responsive child protection services. Despite the significant constraints that are facing the justice and child welfare systems in Sudan substantial reduction in the number of children in detention by 40 per cent (238 per 100,000 child population) was achieved through the application of the diversion outside the justice system and changing the mind set to more child victim centred judicial decisions.

This also include 21 detained children associated with armed groups who were formally released and pardoned by the president and reunified with their families.

**1.5.1 Alternative Care Services**

The number of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) has significantly increased due to continued influx of South Sudanese refugees and armed conflict. A total of 4,474 children (2,466 girls, 2008 boys) UASC in the five Darfur, Blue Nile, White Nile, North and South Kordofan States have been reunified, placed with relatives or placed in family- based alternative care services. This doubled the overall target of 2,200 children in 2016. Special needs of adolescent UASC in foster care settings and the situation of abandoned babies who were born out of wedlock and placed in institutions remain issues of concerns.

As part of de-institutionalisation and promoting family based alternative care to children without parental care, a total 4,474 children (2,466 girls, 2008 boys) were reunified or placed in family- based alternative care services.

A social change programme to support de-institutionalization of children born out of the wedlock and promoting *Kafala* (foster families) was launched. The media campaign brought together more than 15 TV and 20 radio programmes as well as newspapers coverage in more than 10 newspapers for two weeks. As a direct result of the campaign and in 2 weeks, 30 children were adopted and living in family environment and efforts to reunify some of those children with their biological mothers. Activities related to social change will continue to tackle the stigma around those children and their mothers through community engagement to keep the abandoned children with their families. Over the past few years, abandonment and institutionalization of children born out of wedlock has been a significant challenge. Through adoption of the a national strategy for the protection of children without parental care, UNICEF and its partners including government and civil society organizations manage to create a comprehensive coordinated platform for the protection of these vulnerable children.

#### Box 1

##### **Children born out of wedlock in family environment**

*(S) is a woman aged 45 and a mother of a 16-year old son living near Almaygoma (an institution for abandoned children in Khartoum). She approached the Maygoma administration and applied to be emergency family that temporary takes care of children until they are adopted by another foster family. She took one child to take care of.*

*With the experience, she decided to provide a home to another 2 children, including one with disability. After some time she was became attached to the three children in addition to her biological son that they decided to change from emergency family to permanently adopting the 3 children.*

*This family stands as a sample in changing perception about abandoned babies.*

1. *Adopting 3 children at a time.*
2. *The 3 children are male.*
3. *One of the children is a child with disability.*

### **1.5.2 Supporting Birth Registration**

The dissemination of the Child Act 2010 to ensure its Implementation in all Child Cases continued through the year 2016, and 160 child judges and 40 child prosecutors were trained with special focus on diversion and alternative measures to detention at pre and post-trial stages. In addition to that, more than 400 FCPU staff in 14 states were also trained on the child Act and investigating GBV cases against children.

Using audio video tools to examine and cross examine children in courts is one of the priority focused areas in relation to justice for children and child friendly services. UNICEF in partnership with Sudan Judiciary piloted this activity in some of the child courts where the child did not appear in court and stayed in the PSS office together with the social worker who help him/her during the whole court processes.



***Child court in North Kordofan- El Obied***

Through its strategic partnership with the Councils of Child Welfare, Ministry of Social Welfare, Judiciary, Prosecution, Family and Child Protection Units (FCPU), and Civil society organizations UNICEF scaled up its quality support of child protection services. 32,407 (19,224 Boys, 13,183 Girls) children victims of violence including sexual violence and children in conflict with the law in 18 states benefited from child -friendly protection services and referral provided by FCPU. Application of diversion outside the judicial system measures increased with more 30 per cent of total number of child offenders (10,410) diverted outside the Judicial system, accounting to 2,784 (2,072 boys; 712 girls).

The Judicial and Legal Sciences Institute and UNICEF finalized the Training Manual that will be integrated into the curriculum of the Institute in 2017. The announcement of the Chief Justice of the non-transfer of child judges for at least two years and issuing of the Criminal Circular No. 2/2016 directing judges to use the Beijing's Rules and the procedures to be followed by all child courts paved the way for more sustainable child friendly due process in the child courts.

### **1.5.3 Psychosocial support in schools and Child Friendly spaces**

While UNICEF is committed to provide life- saving humanitarian responses to 139,430 children in 2016, fund received accounted only to 38 per cent of the total needs. Despite the human and financial limitation, UNICEF was able to timely reach inaccessible areas including Jabal Marra and Nuba mountain serving a total 94,282 (45,142 boys, 49,175 girls) newly affected children with quality and integrated psychosocial support in 51 localities out of 72 targeted localities in 12 states through the Child Friendly Spaces (CFSs), education settings and community -based services. This represented 68 per cent of 2016 target (139,430 children in Darfur, Kordofan and Blue Nile states.) In addition to that UNICEF reached more than 20,686 people including children with mine risk education in North Darfur.

In 2016, UNICEF focused on cascading the psychosocial capacity to the State level through a series of targeted trainings for PSS service providers working in emergency localities. In February 2016, 30 social workers selected from the 10 emergency states (North, South, East, West, and Central Darfur; West and South Kordofan; Blue and White Nile; Khartoum) from MOSW and FCPU, who were trained in an intensive training of master trainers on PSS and communication techniques in Khartoum over 14 days. When these master trainers returned to their respective states, UNICEF supported state level training of trainers in the new psychosocial manual in seven states: North Darfur, Central Darfur, South Darfur, East Darfur, Blue Nile, South Kordofan and West Kordofan. These state level trainings were supervised by Ahfad University for quality assurance. Through partnership with National Council for Child Welfare (NCCW), State Council for Child Welfare (SCCW), Ministry of Social Welfare (MOSW) and NGO partners, there are now 270 trained service providers in 7 states. Each of the 270 service providers selected to attend the training cover an emergency locality within their states.

In addition, each SCCW is now nominating PSS monitoring and evaluation officers to support the systematic monitoring of PSS in community level interventions. This improved capacity of provision of life saving psychosocial support impacted the lives of the 94,317 children (45,142 boys, 49,175 girls) in nine States (North, South, East, West, and Central Darfur; West and South Kordofan; Blue and White Nile), who received psychosocial support services through UNICEF and partners. However, there is still a gap between the provisions of training to the implementation of that training at the community level. Therefore, UNICEF's focus in 2017 will be in quality assurance, and monitoring of activities and results to ensure quality services are provided to the children in need.

#### 1.5.4 Supporting Birth Registration

To scale up birth registration of the group age 1-15 years, UNICEF in collaboration with NCCW and the civil registry launched a media campaign accompanying civil registry teams in Northern and river Nile state accompanied by media campaign to ensure more children are registered (see picture).

In partnership with NCCW, Civil Registry and the Ministry of Health and in order to cover the gap in birth registration at localities where there is no civil registry office, UNICEF supported the training for 45 midwives on the registration book and tasked with registering children in some localities in Kassala, West Kordofan, River Nile, Northern State and Khartoum.



In South Darfur in two localities namely Kass and Kim, the total number of newly registered children through the EPI was 13,586 (6,201 male and 7,385 female) while in East Darfur in 9 localities the total number registered was 1900 (1044 male and 856 female). In Blue Nile the number increased from 15,000 to 72,000 in 2016.

#### 1.5.5 GBV Prevention and Response

The GBV legal framework in Sudan is scattered in different laws and circulars which make it difficult for law enforcement official to handle the cases, hence UNICEF in collaboration with NCCW developed a fact sheet for GBV which includes all relevant provisions in the Criminal law, criminal Procedure law, and Evidence law. The fact sheet will be the main reference in the different trainings and capacity building activities.

In South Darfur and in coordination with UNFPA, UNICEF conducted a GBV training that target 40 Police officers including 25 investigators from 7 localities which supported GBV victims when reporting to FCPU or regular Police station

#### 1.5.6 Coordination and Review meetings

Part of the Child Protection Section review strategy is to include the reflection from the child protection partners in states and at the national level. Two review meeting were held during 2016 to have some reflection on the different interventions with the of the Secretary Generals



from the 18 states in addition to 15 other partners representing government and civil society organizations. These review meetings inform the 2017 planning and the thinking around the new country programme document 2018-2022.

### **Country Programme Outcome 2:**

“Children, especially adolescents (both boys and girls), families and communities in the most deprived localities are resilient and adopt appropriate practices to reduce their vulnerability.”

To expand child protection knowledge and reduce children’s risk of being subject to harmful practices, UNICEF in partnerships with Government, Civil Society Organizations and donors scaled up community engagement programme, resulting in 995 communities declared abandonment of FGM/C. Furthermore, the secondary analysis of 2014 MICS shows a 21 per cent decline in the prevalence of the practice of FGM/C comparing the generation aged 15-29 years with the age group 0-14 years adjusted for risk of being cut, which typically takes place between the ages of 5-7 years in Sudan. Attitudes are consistently favourable to ending the practice, with just over half of Sudanese women aged 15-49 years in favour of abandoning FGM/C.

### **Child Protection Output 2.5:**

“Communities, families and children including adolescents are equipped with knowledge and life skills to protect them from separation, violence and traditional harmful practices.”

Violence and harmful practices remain high in Sudan, deeply rooted in gender-based discrimination and social norms that attribute a low status for children, especially girls. The MICS 2014 indicated that 68 per cent of children have experienced form of violence, 86.6 per cent of women 15-49 have experienced FGM/C, and 38 per cent of women aged 20-49 years were married by their 18th birthday. Accordingly sustained community dialogue, direct and active community engagement and enhanced social movement by children, adolescent, youth and women through knowledge sharing, life skills development and service provision led to better protection of children, active reporting of grave violations and social change toward the public declaration of abandonment of FGM/C.

#### **2.5.1 Prevent and Address FGM/C**

As part of the joint programme ‘Sudan Free of Female Genital Cutting FGC, UNICEF with UNFPA and WHO invested in equipping children, women, youth families and communities with the appropriate knowledge on Saleema through community dialogues to promote social change toward declaring abandonment of FGM/C and Child Marriage.

A total of 42 new communities (995 cumulative) declared keeping their girls Saleema/uncut in North Kordofan, South Kordofan, South Darfur, Northern States, River Nile and Blue Nile states. Targeting the household level, a total of 10,437 parents declared to leave their daughters uncut in Khartoum and Northern states and Blue Nile. Since 2008, community dialogues have already reached 2,357 communities in 18 states, some 4 million families and children.

Through multiple partnerships with the Councils of Child Welfare (S/NCCW), Ahfad University, GRACE research institute and NGOs, community engagement and systematic community dialogue scaled up in 90 per cent of 400 selected communities through trained 720 facilitators in 9 targeted states reaching 70 per cent of 26 targeted localities. Female catalysts account for 50 per cent of the community facilitators. A comprehensive baseline data on the community structure including tribes and ethnic groups, social services and organizations, FGM/C practices and knowledge on Saleema generated as part of the process in Sennar, Northern State, River Nile, Gedarf, Red Sea, Gezira states.

Under the leadership of NCCW and the financial and technical support of UNICEF and Al Alag Media Center, the social movement for FGM/C abandonment scaled up and feasibility of Saleema initiative enhanced through facilitation of 155 events in the 18 states. 63,340 participants contributed to the events including 21,802 men, 24,026 women; 8,161 boys and 9,351 girls.

### 2.5.1 Adolescent Development

Furthermore, UNICEF with SCCW, NCCW and the Ministry of Education contributed to adding programmatic emphasis on empowering adolescents and engaging them as agents for change. Through 18 adolescent and 14 youth medical students (50 per cent female) in Northern state were trained on undertaking quality data collection involving 144 adolescents in 8 communities in Northern State informing adolescent and communities perceptions on young people engagement in addressing harmful traditional practices with particular focus on FGM/C and Child Marriage.

Through the innovation laboratory organized with 28 adolescents, a real result was the creation of UNICEF's age and gender sensitive new recreation Kit, which will be used for psychosocial support in development and humanitarian contexts. A total of 28 adolescents from 8 states, 50 per cent were female, representing different contexts in Sudan, detailed their perspective of the root causes of child deprivations and suggested solutions and priorities for the National Childhood Strategy and UNICEF new programme 2018-2021.

An assessment of gaps on service provision for adolescent in refugee camps in White Nile completed with full engagement of the adolescent and guided the pilot in White Nile and North Darfur states.



*Pictures reflecting adolescent participation in different CP activities*

### 2.5.3 Strengthen the Community-Based Child Protection Networks (CBCPN)

UNICEF in partnership with NGOs, SCCW and the MoSW, ensured that 65 new community-based child protection networks (CBCPN) in the States of North, Central and South Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile are active and enabled to respond to emergency and humanitarian needs of children as well as engaging in preventing and responding to violence against children.

#### Country Programme Outcome 3:

“Evidence and coordination enables government, communities and partners to improve capacity and systems for equity-focused funding, advocacy, policies & legislation, strategies, planning & supply chain management to scale up results for children.”

Stronger commitment to end grave violations against children including child recruitment by armed forces in Sudan was ensured through signing of the Action Plan on Protection of Children in Armed Conflict by the Government of Sudan (GoS) in March 2016. This was a major milestone after more than five years of negotiation and joint advocacy by UNICEF, UN Resident Coordinator (RC) and United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID). The signature of the action plan is a critical step in responding to grave violations against children, in line with the Security Council resolutions and the International Humanitarian Law. This further paved the way to expedite the negotiation with other parties to the conflict listed in the Secretary-General report on Children and Armed Conflict. Following the signing, the Government of Sudan and the UN have worked towards its implementation. The High Level Committee (HLC) and the Technical Committee (TC) - formed through a directive from the Presidency - have convened regularly to meet the benchmarks stipulated in the Action Plan. UNICEF supported a workshop in June 2016 for 40 Government actors from National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS), Sudanese Armed Forces, police, Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission, Ministry of Justice and MoSW, to sensitize all the members of the Technical Committee and develop a detailed work plan and benchmarks to implement and measure progress on the Action Plan.

On 23 November, 2016 similar Action Plan was signed with Sudan people Liberation Movement (SPLM)-North. UNICEF is leading the implementation of the Action Plan. Similar dialogue is ongoing with the armed groups in Darfur i.e. Justice and Equality Movements (JEM), SLA/ Abdul Wahid and SLA/ Minni Minawi to commit to the protection of children in the armed conflict and sign or implement action plans. Alliance of member states co-led by Canada and Sweden have formed a Group of Friends to support Children and Armed Conflict agenda. UNICEF was the catalyst in the formation of this Group of Friends (GoF) and plays a secretariat role for the GoF. 18 member states have committed to support this initiative and be part of the GoF.

To strengthen the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanisms in Sudan, more than 50 members from the UN, including UNAMID and International Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have been oriented on Monitoring and Reporting (MRM) of grave child violations.



*SPLM/North signing the Action Plan to End Child Recruitment*

### **Child Protection Output 3.5:**



“Evidence and comprehensive data on child protection is available and used to sharpen the child protection system and legislative framework”.

Tangible quality data and evidence generated are used to sharpen the child protection system and legislative framework through strengthened routine data on justice for children and other indicators related to FGM/C, child marriage and packed up the advocacy on legal reform resulted in favourable provision for children and women in the Criminal Act.

### **3.5.1 Strengthen Data Collection, Analysis and Evidence Based Advocacy**

UNICEF invested significant advocacy, financial and technical resources to generate evidence and ensure quality data and information on various child protection violations. The National child protection information management system established at the National Council of Child Welfare (NCCW) with trained focal points in 18 states. Data on 92 indicators were refined and compiled including FGM/C, child marriage and sexual violence with the aim to be integrated into the National Inter-sectoral Monitoring and Evaluation System. Routine data collection within the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Justice and Civil Registration integrated main justice for children indicators.

As part of Saleema Initiative monitoring and evaluation system the first and the second round of data collection in 18 states completed to measure social norm change and public declaration on FGM/C Abandonment. The National framework to improve the accuracy and efficiency of the existing child protection information management system (CPIMS) on family tracing and reunification of unaccompanied and separated children developed with the participation of S/NCCW, relevant government institutions and NGOs, however, further efforts need to be exerted to ensure mechanism on inter-states and inter countries FTR information system are enhanced. A participatory qualitative assessment of community engagement on promoting positive social change toward abandonment of FGM/C and completed with recommendations that informed the programme direction on promoting community engagement.

For the first time, the views of 250 (50 per cent female) adolescents affected by armed conflict and displacement from 8 refugee camps and three host communities in White Nile were documented within the participatory assessment, which used for effective programming and guided the emergency responses and ensured meaningful engagement of adolescents with appropriate life skills. Senior representatives of the Government security forces (Sudan Armed Forces (SAF), Police, National Intelligence), Ministry of social affair, Ministry of education, Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (DDR), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and National Council for Child Welfare become part of the Technical Committee and High Level Committee that were established to oversee the implementation of the Action Plan on child protection at armed conflict.

### **Strengthen Child Protection Systems (Legal and Policy Reform)**

Advocacy efforts on the National Law banning FGM/C, with the National Assembly different committees, prominent Child protection issues with the Parliament, Women Parliamentarian as well as the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Endowment, resulted of endorsement and positive signs for its ratification. More than 50 staff from the UN, including UNAMID and International Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in West and Central Darfur were actively involved in Monitoring and Reporting (MRM) of grave child rights violations as a result of two capacity building workshops. These workshops increased contributions and commitment to the MRM based on each agency's or NGO's mandate and enhanced the quality of the MRM reporting.

## Child Protection System Mapping for Children in Need of Care and Protection

The implementation of the “child protection system mapping for children in need of care and protection” which was finalized in 2015 is still awaiting the signature of the Minister of Social Welfare for its final adoption.

The long years of displacement in Darfur and the new emerging large camp settlements versus small scattered villages that were well known before the conflict and the unclear situation of camps versus return to the original villages have made it difficult for humanitarian actors to decide on the modality of support to be provided to the long years established IDPs camps in areas such as Zamzam and Kalma in north and south Darfur states. The humanitarian response during the time of on-set emergency in these areas have supported the resilience of many children and their families. However, since the displacement is continuing and funding for such protracted emergencies is no longer available; it has become difficult for humanitarian actors to adapt an exit strategy which will sustain the gains that have been achieved during the years of displacement.

UNICEF child protection was providing child protection services (PSS, FTR, and awareness raising to the community members on critical child protection issues) through CFSs and CBCPNs during the first years of emergency. These interventions were then stopped because of funding gaps. Around 15,750 children enrolled in the CFSs in Zamzam IDPs camp will be negatively impacted by such situation. Using the thematic funding, UNICEF is able to engage with the communities and concerned authorities in a consultative process through which those children will continue to receive the child protection services even if the no funds are received from donors. The strategy is mainly based on strengthening community and school based PSS services, strengthen the CBCPNs, ensure community understanding of the situation and improve the linkage between the formal and informal systems. This experience is also intended to be replicated in other similar situation.

## Challenges and Lessons Learned

Despite these achievements, some bottlenecks continued to hinder the overall achievement of the programme, which include:

- Delay in adoption of rules and regulations.
- Lack of timely procurement of supply due to custom delay, has severely limited UNICEF capacity to pre-position child protection supplies for emergency which in turn affected effective delivery of psychosocial support to children. As part of the lessons learned, UNICEF embarked on local procurement of supplies, and while the delivery times of other emergency supplies (i.e. tarpaulin, plastic mats, etc.) has shortened, the timely delivery of recreational kits is still an issue. Co-operation sharing of supplies between education and Child Protection was instrumental in addressing shortage in supplies during critical emergency situations.
- Protracted displacement continue to impact child protection development programmes. UNICEF is exploring possibility of re-designing emergency and development responses with appropriate exit strategy from the onset. UNICEF also broaden its partnership to strengthening community mechanisms.
- High turnover of justice professionals continued to be a significant bottlenecks to achieve planned targets. UNICEF supported the Judicial & Legal Science Institute to integrate child rights and justice for children in the Training Curricula for judges, prosecutors which will be prioritised within 2017 work plan.

- Government contribution to child protection programming remains very weak and sometimes non- existing. UNICEF in collaboration with Save the Children are working together to support NCCW initiatives in increasing the local component and activities with the National Assembly on child rights budgeting. Expenditure Review for education and child protection will be prioritised for 2017.

Lessons learnt could be summarized in the following:

- Child Protection trainings should be integrated in the existing institutional training system as well as existing training curricula of the different law enforcement officials;
- Using existing community based structures to support the implementation of child laws and regulations is a key success factor;
- Regular monitoring of the programme and joint visits with partners to states to supports overcoming different bottlenecks and creates more opportunities.
- There is a need of a systematic evaluation of the FCPU to improve the quality of services provisions of children in contact with the law
- Scaling up the use of Zakat funds by social workers helped to compensate for weak budget of social welfare services.

## IV. Visibility

In terms of visibility, UNICEF consistently highlighted the role and the contribution of SIDA Sweden, Luxembourg National Committee for UNICEF and Netherlands National Committee for UNICEF with all stakeholders. These contributions were acknowledged in various reports and updates to Ministries, NGOs and UN partners.

## V. Financial Analysis

The following tables illustrate the expenditures as per the planned activities and results.

**Table 1: Planned Budget by Outcome Area**

Intermediate Results	Funding Type	Planned Budget
06-01 Data and Child Protection	RR	6,235
	ORE	1,661
	ORR	274,769
06-02 Child Protection systems	RR	4,533
	ORE	59
	ORR	39,949
06-03 Violence, exploitation and abuse	RR	72
	ORE	23
	ORR	15,874
06-04 Justice for children	RR	50,112
	ORE	5,986
	ORR	548,430
06-05 Birth registration	RR	7,796
	ORE	37,842
	ORR	172,424
06-06 Child Protection and emergencies	RR	498,607
	ORE	2,023,118
	ORR	794,303
06-07 Child Protection # strengthen families and communities	RR	59,759
	ORE	268,512
	ORR	1,995,245
06-08 Child Protection # General	RR	1,073,540
	ORE	257,689
	ORR	2,091,602
<b>Total Budget</b>		<b>10,228,128</b>

**Table 2: Country-level Thematic contributions to Outcome area received in 2016**

Donors	Grant Number	Contribution Amount	Programmable Amount
SIDA- Sweden	SC149906	2,946,109	2,522,494
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,946,109</b>	<b>2,522,494</b>

**Table 3: Expenditures by Key-Results Areas (in USD), Child Protection, Sudan**

Organizational Targets	Expenditure Amount			
	Other Resources-Emergency	Other Resources-Regular	Regular Resources	All Programme Amounts
06-01 Data and Child Protection	1,661	275,730	6,235	283,626

06-02 Child Protection systems	59	40,094	4,533	446,686
06-03 Violence, exploitation and abuse	23	15,931	72	16,026
06-04 Justice for children	5,986	550,430	50,112	606,528
06-05 Birth registration	37,832	173,138	7,796	218,766
06-06 Child Protection and emergencies	2,023,118	804,599	498,607	3,326,324
06-07 Child Protection # strengthen families and communities	268,512	2,003,191	59,759	2,331,462
06-08 Child Protection # General	257,689	2,101,457	1,073,540	3,432,686
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>594,879</b>	<b>5,964,569</b>	<b>1,700,654</b>	<b>10,260,103</b>

**Table 4: Thematic expenses by Programme Area**

Intermediate Results	Funding Type	Expense
06-01 Data and Child Protection	RR	16,949
	ORE	-
06-02 Child Protection systems	RR	54,911
	ORE	-
06-04 Justice for children	RR	108,738
	ORE	110,875
06-05 Birth registration	RR	17,610
	ORE	46,481
06-06 Child Protection and emergencies	RR	246,328
	ORE	458,909
06-07 Child Protection # strengthen families and communities	RR	39,490
	ORE	2,624
06-08 Child Protection # General	RR	394,082
	ORE	5,111
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>1,502,108</b>

**Table 5: Expenses by Specific Intervention Codes, Child Protection, Sudan, 2016**

Intervention	Expenses
06-01-01 Child Protection and violations # periodic data collection and analysis	270,472
06-02-01 Child Protection systems strengthening	37,131
06-03-05 Adolescent development # protection from violence	12,603
06-04-01 Access to justice (for all children)	563,000

06-05-01 Birth and civil registration	200,920
06-06-02 Prevent and address gender based violence of girls and women in humanitarian action	84,301
06-06-03 Psychosocial support and child-friendly spaces	2,657,312
06-06-05 Child Protection # sub-cluster coordination in humanitarian action [for GBV, MHPSS and mine/ERW Risk Education (MRE)]	46,801
06-06-08 Child Protection monitoring and reporting in armed conflict(SCR 1612 1882, 1888 and 1960)	107,552
06-07-02 Child Protection -Alternative Care	727,532
06-07-03 Child Protection focused on care and support for children with disabilities	65,691
06-07-05 Prevent and address Female Genital Mutilation-Cutting	1,438,862
06-08-01 Child Protection # general	24,363
06-08-02 Child Protection -technical assistance to regional and country offices	2,749,447
08-01-01 Country programme process	414
08-01-02 Annual review	4,984
08-01-03 Mid-term review	160
08-01-06 Planning # General	117,651
08-02-03 MICS # General	13,232
08-02-04 DevInfo	7,288
08-02-05 Other multi-sectoral household surveys and data collection activities	8,202
08-02-06 Secondary analysis of data	389
08-02-07 Data dissemination	1,302
08-02-08 Monitoring # General	7,854
08-02-10 Humanitarian performance monitoring	12,880
08-03-01 Cross-sectoral Communication for Development	27,817
08-07-01 Adolescent development # General	41,462
08-07-02 Adolescent development # emergency preparedness and response	7,861
08-08-03 UNICEF support to programming and capacity development on gender	25,693
08-09-01 Innovation activities	16,445
08-09-06 Other # non-classifiable cross-sectoral activities	571,750
08-09-07 Public Advocacy	20,783
08-09-08 Engagement through media and campaigns	11,458
08-09-10 Brand building and visibility	7,777
09-01-08 RO technical support to Cross-sectoral areas	8,468
09-01-18 HQ technical support to Cross-sectoral areas	3,567
09-02-05 CO Programme coordination	171,528
10-07-02 Management and Operations support from RO	36,311
10-07-12 Management and Operations support at CO	10,978
4012 Support to strengthen laws, policies, standards, regulations and budget analysis of child protection systems	3,710
4051 Prevent and respond to FGM/C and other harmful traditional practices	4,419
4072 Psycho-social support to children and families including family based care in humanitarian action	-
4081 Prevent and address child recruitment, use and illegal or arbitrary detention	3,334
4082 Prevent and address impact of use of landmines and other indiscriminate or illicit weapons	
7911 Representative and governance	27
7921 Operations # financial and administration	-3,770
7931 Human resources and learning	
Unknown	125,961

<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>10,255,921</b>
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**Table 6: Planned Budget for 2017****Outcome Area 6: Child Protection from Violence, Exploitation and Abuse Sudan**

<b>Intermediate Results</b>	<b>Funding Type</b>	<b>Planned Budget</b>	<b>Funded Budget</b>	<b>Shortfall</b>
06-03 Violence, exploitation and abuse	RR	200,000	200,000	0
	ORR	2,150,127	2,000,000	150,127
06-04 Justice for children	RR	200,000	200,000	0
	ORR	4,691,787	3,735,128	860,684
06-06 Child Protection and emergencies	RR	250,000	250,000	0
	ORR	1,023,562	264,000	764,709
06-07 Child Protection - strengthen families and communities	RR	153,131	153,131	0
	ORR	3,517,858	3,191,950	325,908
<b>Sub-total RR</b>		<b>803,131</b>	<b>803,131</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Sub-Total ORR</b>		<b>11,383,334</b>	<b>9,191,078</b>	<b>2,192,256</b>
<b>Total for 2017</b>		<b>12,186,465</b>	<b>9,994,209</b>	<b>2,192,256</b>

## VI. Future Work Plan

In 2017, UNICEF will prioritise the following Thematic and priority intervention areas as in the below table:

<b>Thematic Priority Area</b>	<b>Priority Intervention</b>
Alternative Care	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prevention of family separation</li> <li>2. Increase number of foster families</li> <li>3. Support family tracing and reunification</li> </ol>
Social Norm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Community and Adolescent engagement.</li> <li>2. Adoption of the national plan to end child marriage</li> </ol>
Violence and armed conflict	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Implementation of the Action Plan on the Protection of Children in Armed Conflict.</li> <li>2. Ending child recruitment campaign</li> </ol>
Justice for children	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Diversion and alternative measures to detention.</li> <li>2. Case management</li> </ol>
Data and Evidence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. FCPU Evaluation</li> <li>2. Children on the move Mapping</li> <li>3. CP Information Management System</li> </ol>

## VII. Expression of Thanks

UNICEF Sudan would like to thank the the SIDA Sweden, Luxembourg National Committee for UNICEF and Netherlands National Committee for UNICEF on behalf of all the children, women and vulnerable communities throughout the country, who have benefited greatly from this generous support. The results summarized above could not have been possible without the crucial support and commitments of SIDA Sweden, Luxembourg National Committee for UNICEF, and Netherlands National Committee for UNICEF to the programme.

UNICEF Sudan appreciates the flexibility of the funding received that enabled supporting the Child Protection Programme in non-emergency situations. This allows UNICEF Sudan to continue its support in relation to strengthening national systems that provide a protective environment to children.



## Donor 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 and return to Irene Alunni ([ialunni@unicef.org](mailto:ialunni@unicef.org)).

You can also fill in the form online at his link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BGJZFXG>

Thank you!

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**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 did we miss or what could we do better next time?

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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 did we miss or what could we do better next time?

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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 could we do better next time?

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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 did we miss or what could we do better next time?

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

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

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