

BOLIVIA CHILD PROTECTION



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Thematic Report January – December 2016

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACL	Adolescents in conflict with the law
CEPAT	Centro Especializado de Prevención y Atención Terapéutica (Specialized Prevention and Therapeutic Care Centres)
CPiE	Child Protection in Emergencies
CNNA	Código Niña, Niño y Adolescente – Ley 548 (Children and Adolescents Code – Law 548)
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DIGES	Dirección de Gestión Social (Social Services Office)
DNA	Defensoría Municipal de la Niñez y Adolescencia (Municipal Children’s and Adolescents Defence Office)
EGPP	Escuela de Gestión Pública Plurinacional (Plurinational School of Public Management)
FAUTAPO	Fundación Educación para el Desarrollo (Education for Development Foundation)
GAD	Gobierno Autónomo Departamental (Autonomous Departmental Government)
GAM	Gobierno Autónomo Municipal (Autonomous Municipal Government)
IBCE	Instituto Boliviano de Comercio Exterior (Bolivian Institute for Foreign Trade)
IBNORCA	Instituto Boliviano de Normas de Calidad (Bolivian Quality Standards Institute)
ILO	International Labour Organization
MTEPS	Ministerio de Trabajo, Empleo y Previsión Social (Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security)
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
ORC	Oficiales de Registro Civil (Civil Registry Officers)
REDNAGES	Red Nacional de Gestión Social (National Social Services Network)
SEDEGES	Servicio Departamental de Gestión Social (Departmental Social Services)
SEDEPOS	Servicio Departamental de Política Social (Departmental Social Policy Services)
SERECI	Servicio de Registro Cívico (Civil Registry Service)
SLIM	Servicios Legales Integrales Municipales (Integrated Municipal Legal Services)
SP	Samaritan’s Purse - INGO
TSE	Tribunal Supremo Electoral (Supreme Electoral Tribunal)
UDAPE	Unidad de Análisis de Políticas Económicas y Sociales (Economic and Social Policy Analysis Unit)
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UNIPOL	Universidad Policial (Police University)

VJDF	Viceministerio de Justicia y Derechos Fundamentales (Vice-Ministry of Justice and Fundamental Rights)
VJIOC	Viceministerio de Justicia Indígena Originaria y Campesina (Vice-Ministry of Indigenous Justice)
VIO	Viceministerio de Igualdad de Oportunidades (Vice-Ministry of Equal Opportunities)
VIS	Italian Salesian Volunteers
VSC	Viceministerio de Seguridad Ciudadana (Vice-Ministry of Citizen Security)

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2016, as part of the Cooperation Programme in 2016 with the Plurinational State of Bolivia, civil society organizations and private sector, UNICEF Bolivia has contributed to capacity strengthening, the design of public policies, the implementation of specialized programmes, and knowledge management, with the aim of consolidating the system to protect children and adolescents against all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation, neglect and abandonment.

UNICEF has helped to raise the awareness of families and communities about violence, its effects and the need to report it. In partnership with the Autonomous Departmental Government of La Paz, departmental-level trainings have been held with the Municipal Child and Adolescents Defence Office (DNA) to strengthen their capacities to carry out their work with the community.

In partnership with the Vice-Ministry of Citizen Security, UNICEF has developed a communications strategy to prevent violence against children and promote good treatment in the family and community. This is to be implemented with an alliance of different institutions in civil society, the media and the private sector.

UNICEF has engaged in advocacy work and encouraged policy dialogue to develop and implement public policies on child protection in Bolivia, in partnership with various state institutions including the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Government, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, the National Social Services Network (REDNAGES) and the departmental governments of La Paz and Santa Cruz.

Implementation of the national cross-sectoral prevention and support model for street children has been consolidated. As a result of the partnership with the Vice-Ministry of Citizen Security, the National Protocol on Prevention and Support for Street Children was drawn up and is now being implemented at the local level in an alliance with civil society organizations specializing in this field.

The linking up of departmental technical bodies has been strengthened at the national level through the National Social Services Network (REDNAGES), which brings together the nine Departmental Social Services (SEDEGES, SEDEPOS, DIGES). This space has fostered ongoing dialogue and led to agreements and improved relationships with the Ombudspersons Office, the Parliamentary Network for Children and Adolescents, the Ministry of Government and the Ministry of Autonomies, reinforcing the cohesiveness of the child protection system.

UNICEF has also engaged in advocacy work and provided technical assistance for the consolidation and functioning of the Specialized Prevention and Therapeutic Care Centres for victims of sexual violence (CEPAT). This service is now operating in seven of Bolivia's departmental capital cities (Beni, Pando, Santa Cruz, Chuquisaca, Tarija, Potosi, and Oruro) and three municipalities (Riberalta, El Alto and Bermejo), with the municipal-level facilities providing a specialized service that is closer to the community. By October 2016, the ten CEPATs had provided therapeutic care to 467 child and adolescent victims of sexual violence (91.64% of them girls) and their families.

UNICEF has contributed to and assisted with institutional strengthening and capacity building in Bolivia at both the national and the subnational level. More than 960 protection system operators have been trained, thanks to a partnership with public sector training institutes, universities, civil society organizations and the private sector.

The strategic partnership between the private company Telecel TIGO, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE) and the health sector – which is coming to an end after three years of work – has helped to reduce the gap in birth registration. A cross-sectoral policy to timely register births in hospitals has been

consolidated with the introduction of the birth registration booths in 111 hospitals. In addition, the Zero Undocumented strategy has been implemented in municipalities throughout the country.

In partnership with the Bolivian Institute for Foreign Trade (IBCE), UNICEF has used the media in Bolivia's main cities to broadcast a "call to action" to all companies and the general public that buy sugar, to encourage them to buy sugar with the "Triple Seal", which certifies it as free from child labour, forced labour and all forms of discrimination. The other organizations participating in this campaign were the Bolivian Quality Standards Institute (IBNORCA), which audits compliance with the standards accrediting a product for being awarded the Triple Seal, and the sugar refineries Guabirá and UNAGRO.

UNICEF also contributed to the design of public policies and programmes at the local level to be scaled up and replicated in other departments. An example of this is the programme on the right to live within a family, which is being carried out in partnership with Pastoral Social Caritas, SEDEGES, DNA and the Children and Adolescents' Court in Cochabamba. An integrated programme is being consolidated through a strategic alliance between civil society organizations and the public institutions responsible for this area (Children and Adolescents' Court judges, SEDEGES and DNA), as well as engaging with children's homes.

As one of UNICEF's key contributions to child protection in Bolivia, it helped to produce evidence by carrying out various studies and assessments in partnership with different organizations at the national and subnational level. Examples of these studies are the *"Systematization of the Crime Prevention Programme for Adolescents and the implementation of the Support Centre for Adolescents in Conflict with the Law"* in the Department of Santa Cruz, and the *"Comparative study of the effectiveness, efficiency and costs of detention and alternatives to the deprivation of liberty for adolescents in conflict with the law, in Bolivia"*, with the Vice-Ministry of Justice and Fundamental Rights.

Finally, bearing in mind that 2017 will be the transition to the new Country Programme 2018-2022 and that Bolivia is now highly urbanized (more than 70% of the population lives in cities), UNICEF has identified the need to design specific intervention strategies. The problems of violence, abandonment and exploitation are alarming, and they are aggravated by migration and the insufficient provision of specialized protection services. Consequently, UNICEF has developed new partnerships with the Departmental Government of La Paz and the Municipal Governments of La Paz and El Alto.

Despite the progress achieved, Bolivia is still facing a series of challenges – both structural and circumstantial – before it can guarantee that children and adolescents are protected against all forms of violence and exploitation. Some of the main challenges are the following:

- Society's justification of all forms of violence against children and adolescents means that violence continues to be perpetrated, and focus on children's rights is absent. It also impedes the early detection and reporting of violence, and in some cases this has even led to casualties. At the other extreme, people have been frightened by the incidence of street crime and there is a perception that most of the crimes are committed by adolescents, which exacerbates the problem.
- Budgeting and costing of actions aimed at protecting children and adolescents, in order to produce evidence to support an increase in the allocation of government budgets and ensure their sustainability, at both the national and the subnational level. The budget allocated to social issues has been cut back, as a negative effect of the fall in global oil prices.
- The shortage of specialized professionals and high staff turnover has an impact on the availability, accessibility and quality of the services that provide specialized care to child and adolescent victims of violence.
- Sustained capacity-building through training and specialization courses for public servants and the development of specialized job descriptions, working tools and instruments, pathways and protocols, together with an institutionalized, up-to-date information system.

- Advocacy for the design and implementation of public policies related to child protection interventions, such as the right to live within a family, timely birth registration, and the juvenile justice system, among other measures.
- Effective coordination between the different institutions involved in the integrated child protection system.
- Emergencies due to climate change are occurring ever more frequently in Bolivia and affect a large number of children and adolescents in many different municipalities and communities. Emergency preparedness with a focus on child protection should therefore continue to be included in the agenda of the Risk Management Units at the subnational level, the SEDEGES and DNA.

2. STRATEGIC CONTEXT IN 2016

The Child Protection component fits with *Sustainable Development Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels*. It works to reduce violence, exploitation and abandonment of children and adolescents and to strengthen the country's child protection system.

UNICEF's work is national in scope with regard to the design of guidelines and protocols to steer the implementation of public policies at the departmental and municipal level. It also promotes the design and implementation of innovative experiences at the subnational level, helping to scale them up by means of systematization, evidence gathering and advocacy work.

Although the country recently approved a law (CNNA, 2014) that incorporates both the guidelines set out in the Constitution of the Plurinational State of Bolivia and the latest advances in international standards, constant advocacy work is required to ensure that it is implemented and thus address the problems affecting children and adolescents. Delays and problems have led to moves to amend the law, particularly on the issue of adolescents in conflict with the law.

UNICEF implements its Country Programme through strategic alliances that assist the Plurinational State of Bolivia to comply with national and international standards on child protection.

Accordingly, UNICEF has established national-level partnerships that contribute to institutional strengthening, capacity development, evidence gathering, strategic alliances and advocacy for the consolidation of public policies. These include partnerships with the Ministry of Justice, through the Vice-Ministry of Fundamental Rights, the Ministry of Government, through the Vice-Ministry of Citizen Security and the National Police, the Ministry of Labour, the Public Prosecution Service, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, the Office of the Human Rights Defender and the Plurinational School of Public Management.

UNICEF also has partners at the subnational level, such as REDNAGES, who help to implement specialized programmes and contribute to the design of protocols and tools to strengthen institutional Child Protection services and improve access to them. Another partner is the Inter-Institutional Working Group on the Right to Live within a Family (whose members are SEDEGES, DNA, the Children and Adolescents' Court and NGOs in Cochabamba), which has developed the first critical paths related to the right to live within a family. Working as a group facilitates inter-institutional support and commitment, enabling good practices and experiences to be shared and replicated in other departments.

UNICEF has strengthened its partnerships and alliances with civil society organizations by identifying specific competencies and specialities that contribute to the achievement of results, the consolidation of public policies and the strengthening of state institutions. Some of the most important of these partners are: the NGO *Maya Paya Kimsa*, which is providing specialized technical assistance on working with street children; *Universidades Salesiana*, which is contributing to the training processes for public servants and justice system operators; *Caritas*, which facilitates the implementation of the right to live within a family programme in Cochabamba; the NGO *Samaritan's Purse*, which is strengthening the work on psycho-social support for emergency preparedness and the Bolivian Institute for Foreign Trade (*IBCE*), which is helping to implement and promote the Triple Seal campaign with the aim of eradicating child labour in the sugar cane harvest.

In addition, UNICEF has an important partnership with the telecommunications company Telecel TIGO, which is supporting strategies carried out by SERECI to guarantee universal and timely birth registration. And, of course, there is the coordination and complementary interaction among the United Nations agencies in Bolivia that takes place in the Technical Working Group on Justice, whose members are UNICEF, UNDP, OHCHR, UNFPA, UN Women and UNIDO. When the Plurinational State of Bolivia held the

“Justice Summit” – with the aim of reforming the justice system – in 2016, this technical working group provided special technical assistance, as well as analysing the various reviews of national legislation.

As far as the economic situation in Bolivia is concerned, the fall in the international oil price led to a reduction in the funds allocated this year, especially to departmental and municipal governments. This had negative repercussions on the operation of the services, which had to make staff and funding cuts. Although advocacy work was done to ensure that the programmes continued in 2016, there is still a risk that they will cease to operate because there is likely to be a further reduction in the funding available.

Likewise, the replacement of some authorities had repercussions on the signing and implementation of annual work plans. The Ombudspersons Office, for example, was replaced, together with other officials and staff in the institution’s departmental offices. This implies a different setting for the partnership and new opportunities for joint work.

Another institution affected by changes was the Vice-Ministry of Indigenous Justice (VJIOC), which had three vice-ministers in 2016. This made it difficult to implement the planned activities and affected the continuity of established strategies, such as the community promoter’s initiative.

Finally, it is important to mention that UNICEF arranged with its partners to get the work plans for 2016 registered with the Ministry of Development Planning and the Ministry of the Economy and Finance, as mandated by Bolivian law. Although the majority of these plans were approved, the registration process took at least three months. This had negative repercussions by delaying the implementation of planned activities that have financial support from UNICEF, and the corresponding achievement of results.

3. RESULTS IN THE OUTCOME AREA

Outcome 2.6: By 2017, children and adolescents, especially the most vulnerable, are protected by a judicial framework that is aligned with international standards and have access to protection programs and services (including timely birth registration), that prevent and protect them from violence, negligence, abuse and exploitation.

Capacity strengthening is one of the key areas in which the Child Protection component carries out its work and provides technical assistance. Accordingly, UNICEF has contributed to the training of more than 527 public servants in academic courses with a set number of hours and 1,668 in short training and awareness-raising courses and introductory sessions. This work was done in partnership with the Plurinational School of Public Management (EGPP), The Salesiana University, the Police University, SEDEGES and specialized civil society organizations.

TABLE 1
TRAINING PROVIDED IN 2016 TO CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEM STAFF

DIPLOMAS				
Partner	Diploma title	Nº of participants	Implementing partner	Location
Universidad Salesiana	Street Education: methods for working with street children and adolescents	55	SEDEGES National Street Children Network	National
EGPP	Preventing Child Labour and Protecting Adolescent Workers. (1st version)	92	Ministry of Labour and Social Security	National
EGPP	Criminal Justice for Adolescents, including Restorative Justice. (1st version, group A)	276	Ministry of Justice	National
EGPP	Criminal Justice for Adolescents, including Restorative Justice. (1st version, group B)	59	Ministry of Justice	National
EGPP	The Human Rights of Children and Adolescents. (4th version)	45	SEDEGES Oruro	National
SUBTOTAL		527		
TRAINING COURSES AND AWARENESS-RAISING SESSIONS				
Partner	Course name or topic	Nº of participants	Implementing partner	Location

EGPP	Strategic planning	42	SEDEPOS Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz
EGPP	Roles and functions of the Municipal Child and Adolescents Defence Offices (DNA)	63	SEDEPOS Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz
EGPP	Child protection law framework, regulations and procedures – Municipality of Caranavi	40	Social Policy Office GAD La Paz	La Paz
EGPP	Child protection law framework, regulations and procedures – Municipality of Patacamaya	41	Social Policy Office GAD La Paz	La Paz
EGPP	Community promoters to prevent violence against women, children, adolescents, people with disabilities and trafficking.	30	VJIOC	Cobija
EGPP	Sexual violence against children and adolescents, Municipality of Coroico	40	Social Policy Office GAD La Paz	La Paz
EGPP	Seminar on socio-educational measures and restorative justice for adolescents, Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo”	200	Ministry of Justice	La Paz
Caritas Cochabamba & EGPP	Training on “the right to live within a family” and “strengthening the justice system for adolescents”, Departmental Judges Conference	49	Departmental Court of Justice	Cochabamba
EGPP & GAD La Paz	Preventing sexual violence against children and adolescents, Municipality of Coroico	50	Social Policy Office GAD La Paz	La Paz
EGPP & GAD La Paz	Preventing sexual violence against children and adolescents, Municipality of Patacamaya	50	Social Policy Office GAD La Paz	La Paz
Maya Paya Kimsa	Departmental police workshop on the street children Model	35	GAM Cochabamba and Inter-Institutional Street Children Network	Cochabamba
Maya Paya Kimsa	“Juatucar “Workshop – play-based learning methods to work with street children”	38	GAM Cochabamba and Inter-Institutional Street Children Network	Cochabamba
Maya Paya Kimsa	Protocol to prevent and attend street children, training for municipalities, SEDEGES and NGOs on methods for working with street children	45	GAM Tarija and Inter- Institutional Street Children Network	Tarija
Maya Paya Kimsa	Training for the Municipal Government of El Alto and its street children programme on methods for working	10	GAM El Alto and Inter-Institutional	El Alto

	with street children and the Street Children Support Protocol		Street Children Network	
Maya Paya Kimsa	Training for educators of street children: “Juatucar Workshop – play-based learning methods for working with street children”	65	GAD La Paz and Inter- Institutional Street Children Network	La Paz
Maya Paya Kimsa	Training for educators of street children: “Juatucar Workshop – play-based learning methods for working with street children”	50	SEDEGES Oruro and Inter- Institutional Street Children Network	Oruro
Maya Paya Kimsa	Training for educators of street children: “Juatucar Workshop – play-based learning methods for working with street children”	55	SEDEPOS and Inter- Institutional Street Children Network	Santa Cruz
Caritas Cochabamba	Training for educators that work with children living in institutional care on the right to live within a family	35	SEDEGES	Cochabamba
Caritas Cochabamba	Training for technical teams that work with children living in institutional care on the right to live within a family	65	SEDEGES and Inter-Institutional Network on the right to live within a family	Cochabamba
Caritas Cochabamba	Training for DNA and SEDEGES staff on the use of critical paths for working with children and adolescents who are living in institutional care	93	SEDEGES GAM Cochabamba	Cochabamba
REDNAGES	1st National Seminar on the Protection Approach in the Juvenile Justice System	250	SEDEGES, SEDEPOS, DIGES	Tarija
REDNAGES	Workshop on the use of methods to prevent sexual violence against children and adolescents	22	CEPAT – REDNAGES Working Group	La Paz
GAD Santa Cruz	Workshops on addressing drug use and developing social skills with adolescents in conflict with the law	63	Santa Cruz Citizen Security Office	Santa Cruz
GAD Santa Cruz, Beni & Pando	Training workshops on the intervention approach and techniques in therapeutic care for child and adolescent victims of sexual violence	18	SEDEPOS Santa Cruz, SEDEGES Beni & GAD Pando	Cobija Trinidad Santa Cruz
SEDEPOS Santa Cruz	Training course on Prevention and Care Protocol for Street Children	32	Inter- Institutional Street Children Network	Santa Cruz
GAD Santa Cruz, Beni & Pando	Training workshop on psycho-emotional recovery methods for children and adolescents in emergency situations (3-6 age group and 6-12 age group)	134	Risk Management Offices and Units and DNA	Cobija Trinidad Santa Cruz
GAD Santa Cruz, Beni & Pando	Training workshop on the Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action, prepared by the Child Protection in Emergencies Cluster	53	Risk Management Offices and Units and DNA	Cobija Trinidad Santa Cruz

	SUBTOTAL:	1,668		
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Source: information compiled from partner reports

UNICEF also contributed to the design of protocols for implementing the criminal justice system for adolescents and the design of specialized programmes at the subnational level, as part of the implementation of the CNNA.

One of the most important challenges in child protection in Bolivia is the lack of information to show evidence of the situation affecting children and services and the need for public policies and specialized programmes. With its various partners, UNICEF has undertaken to produce evidence and information by supporting studies and publishing and disseminating their findings, as well as analysing these and including the main results in the plans and programmes that are being developed.

The [studies published in 2016](#) include research on adolescents in conflict with the law (ACL), rapid assessments of child labour (looking at domestic labour in other people's households, the sugar cane harvest, the Brazil nut trade, mining, and urban labour in the three most populous cities), systematization of the ACL Programme in Santa Cruz with an emphasis on alternatives to deprivation of liberty, systematization of the initiative to eradicate child labour in the sugar cane harvest, and a compilation of statistical information and analysis of the determinants of sexual violence in Santa Cruz.

These publications served the purpose of showing evidence of the reality of specific situations of violence and exploitation. They have also provided examples of interventions in a systematized format that can be used as a manual for replicating the experience elsewhere.

The development of care and reporting protocols and pathways is another key component of the work to strengthen the capacities of public employees. Protocols developed in 2015 – such as the street children support protocol – were implemented in 2016, and newly drafted ones were circulated. These include the “Support Protocol for Adolescents in Conflict with the Law (in Spanish “Protocolo de Atención y ruta de Intervención para Adolescentes con Responsabilidad Penal en Bolivia”),” which explains the steps within a range of possibilities (whether or not they have been caught in the act of committing the offence, for example) that all justice system operators are required to take following the changes set out in the CNNA.

Through a partnership with the Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE), UNICEF has contributed to institutional strengthening and inter-institutional coordination by carrying out studies and forging alliances with the private sector to reduce the number of children without identity documents, especially by introducing a civil registry service in hospitals. This intervention promotes and facilitates the timely registration of new-born babies in health facilities so that they can leave the hospital with their birth certificate, which is free.



A civil registry officer registers a newborn baby, Caja Nacional de Salud, Cochabamba, 14 July 2016

In partnership with the Bolivian Institute for Foreign Trade (IBCE), UNICEF has used the media in Bolivia's main cities to broadcast a “call to action” to all companies and the general public, to encourage them to buy sugar with the “Triple Seal”, which certifies it as free from child labour, forced labour and all forms of discrimination. The other organizations participating in this campaign were the Bolivian Quality Standards Institute (IBNORCA), which audits

compliance with the standards accrediting a product for being awarded the Triple Seal, and the sugar refineries Guabirá and UNAGRO.

Output 2.6.1: Families, communities and social organizations in priority areas promote good treatment, reject violence, and report all forms of violence against children and adolescents.

UNICEF has started to implement the programme on the right to live within a family in the Department of Cochabamba, in partnership with civil society organizations, the Children and Adolescents' Court, SEDEGES and DNA. The programme has a component to prevent the abandonment of children and adolescents, which aims to develop parenting skills in families and promote care and upbringing based on good treatment. Implementation of the parenting school for families with a risk of abandonment has therefore been intensified, and work on this issue in early childhood centres has been strengthened.

Furthermore, in partnership with the Autonomous Departmental Government of La Paz, 200 DNA staff from 35 municipalities have been given training so that they can take action to prevent violence in the family and community. This means that municipal government staff now have the skills and knowledge they need to fulfil their roles and responsibilities with regard to child protection, preventing of all forms of violence against children and adolescents and reporting cases of violence.

In partnership with the Vice-Ministry of Citizen Security, UNICEF is helping to strengthen capacities in the police by developing specific materials to enhance their work to prevent violence in the community. A toolkit of materials has been produced on the work of the police in response to violence in the family and community. This will start to be used next year in three of the country's departments.

In addition, a communications campaign aimed at preventing violence has been developed, including print and audiovisual materials aimed at children, young people, families and the community. The campaign will be run by the Vice-Ministry of Citizen Security in partnership with civil society organizations and the private sector.



A police officer gives advice to a woman at the Integrated Police Station in the Department of La Paz ©UNICEF Bolivia/2016

vil society and other organizations helping to carry out the work in communities and with families. These include Caritas, VIS (Italian Salesian Volunteers), The Salesiana University, and private sector companies



A poster designed to be used in the violence prevention campaign – Vice-Ministry of Citizen Security and UNICEF/2016

Finally, a situation assessment of the child protection services (DNA and SLIM) was carried out in the Department of La Paz. UNICEF provided technical assistance for the analysis and publication of this important document, which was circulated to the different municipalities so that they can strengthen these social services for families and communities.

UNICEF has also consolidated partnerships with the private sector to work on child protection in Bolivia. One strategic partnership is with the telecommunications company TIGO to guarantee universal access to timely birth registration. Another is with the Triple Seal alliance to eliminate child labour in the sugar cane harvest in Santa Cruz.

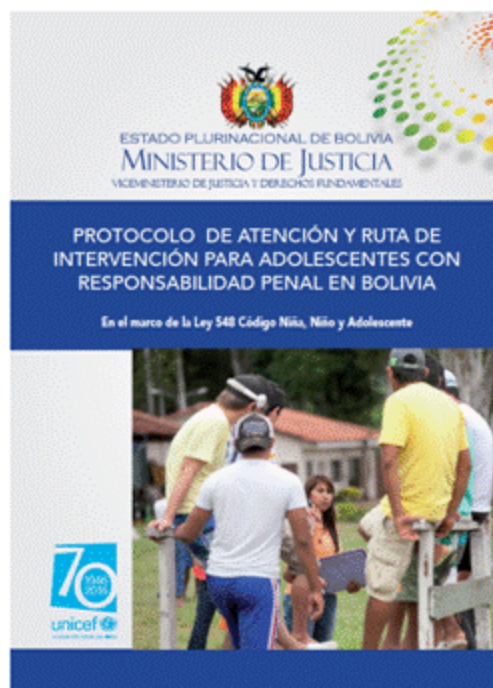
Challenges

Consolidating the partnerships developed, both with public institutions and with NGOs, the private sector and universities, is one of the main challenges to ensure the achievement of results. There are several difficulties, including the high turnover of public employees, differing views of child protection and children's responsibilities, and even geographical distance when we are talking about national and subnational levels.

This is why UNICEF has worked this year to consolidate its strategic alliances with ci in Cochabamba.

It is also important to mention that it was difficult to continue to implement the community child protection strategy involving community promoters this year, due to the replacement of authorities and technical staff in the Vice-Ministry of Indigenous Justice (VJIOC). The new authorities halted the process of implementing the strategy, arguing that there were administrative issues but without helping to resolve them. This meant that the 398 backpacks for community promoters that had been delivered to the Vice-Ministry were not given to the community promoters this year. Now, however, new authorities have been appointed and UNICEF is making the necessary arrangements with them to rectify this situation.

Output 2.6.2: Children and adolescent victims of all forms of violence, abuse and negligence in priority areas have access to institutional protection services, with a focus on gender and interculturality.



Since it was approved in 2014, implementation of the CNNA has meant that its guidelines need to be translated into specific working protocols to be used in the specialized support services. The Child Protection component has therefore been providing technical assistance for several of these protocols to be drawn up and agreed. The protocols are basic tools for the child protection system's operators.

The *Support Protocol for Adolescents in Conflict with the Law* was developed together with the VJDF. It is designed to be used by the special justice system for adolescents in conflict with the law, particularly the police, judges and prosecutors, among others.

In partnership with the Vice-Ministry of Citizen Security, UNICEF has helped to implement public policies related to the protection of street children. As part of the implementation of the national cross-sectoral prevention and support model for street children and following the development of a National Protocol on Prevention and Support for street children, specific programmes have been

carried out at the subnational level in La Paz, Santa Cruz, Cochabamba and Tarija, with funds and human resources allocated by municipal and departmental governments.

The Protocol on Prevention and Support for Street Children establishes specific pathways for the work of the institutions involved, assigns responsibilities to departmental and municipal governments in keeping with their legally-established powers, and identifies the different programmes required in specific phases of support for street children. The diagram on the next page shows the phases, programmes and institutions involved.

The National Protocol on Prevention and Support for Street Children has been circulated and the process of implementing it has begun at the subnational level in partnership with the CSO Maya Paya Kimsa, which has ample experience in the field. In 2016 technical assistance was provided for the design and implementation of street children programmes in 4 municipalities and 3 departments.

As part of this work, 55 staff from the municipal governments of El Alto, Cochabamba, Quillacollo and Tarija and SEDEGES Oruro have been given training on play-based techniques and methods for working with street children and adolescents. Technical assistance was provided for the development of three specialized programmes (one in La Paz, two in Cochabamba), the interventions in three municipalities were mapped, and three inter-institutional coordination networks were set up for the implementation of the national protocol.

In addition, technical assistance was provided for the systematization and analysis of the current situation of street children in the city of Oruro, in partnership with SEDEGES and the inter-institutional network coordinating the work on this issue.

Diagram showing the pathway of Adolescents in conflict with the Law¹

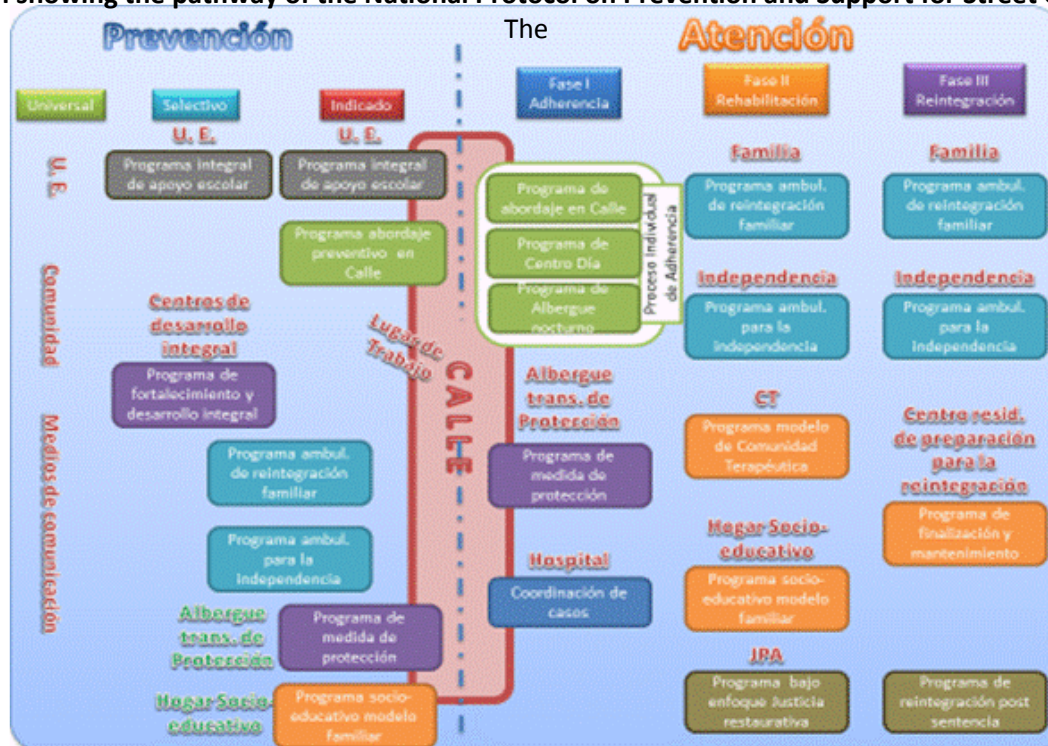
Ruta de Intervención - Fase Inicial

Procedimiento para delitos sin flagrancia

FASE	PASO	ACTIVIDAD	ACCIÓN	RESULTADO	INSTITUCIONES PARTICIPANTES
INICIAL	1. Conocer hecho delictivo	1.1. Toma de conocimiento del hecho y apersonamiento al lugar para la comprobación del delito	1.1.1. Constituirse en el lugar de los hechos para su comprobación.	Comprobación de la comisión del delito e identificación de la o el adolescente	Policía Boliviana
		1.2. Recibe la denuncia	1.2.1. Levanta acta de las verbales, así como declaraciones de los denunciantes		
		1.3. Identificación del adolescente.	1.3.1. Relevamiento de información del adolescente (nombre, edad, nacionalidad y otros de identidad).		
	2. Comprobación de la edad	2.1. Determinación del ámbito de aplicación de la ley penal para adolescentes	2.1.1. Menor de 14 años, no corresponde la aplicación de la ley penal de adolescentes	Remite e informa a la autoridad judicial, bajo reserva	Policía Boliviana
				Informa la intervención a la Defensoría de la Niñez y Adolescencia, bajo reserva	
				Informa al Fiscal, bajo reserva, evitando toda forma de violencia física y psicológica	
			2.1.2. Si es mayor a 14 años y menor a 18 años, corresponde la aplicación de la ley penal	Aplica la Ley especial para Adolescentes con Responsabilidad Penal del CNNA - Ley 548	
				Informa a la Fiscalía dentro de las 8 horas de su primera intervención	
				Informa en el acto, a la autoridad judicial competente, a la Defensoría de la Niñez y Adolescencia y a su madre, padre, tutor o guardador, sobre la situación de las personas menores de 18 años que pueden ser afectadas o involucradas	
				En caso de tratarse de un o una adolescente que pertenece a una comunidad indígena inicia la coordinación jurisdiccional	
	3. Verificación de la comisión del delito	3.1. Denuncia	3.1.1. Denuncia verbal o escrita ante fiscal	Aprehensión, en caso de denuncia, mediante requerimiento del fiscal, sólo cuando existe orden emanada de juez competente por caso de fuga, ausencia del lugar u obstaculización de la averiguación de la verdad.	Policía Boliviana
				Rechaza la denuncia cuando no existe, no está tipificado como delito o la persona adolescente no haya participado en él y/o falta elementos suficientes para fundar una imputación y/o existencia obstáculos legales	
	4. Imputación	4.1. Resolución fundamentada	4.1.1. Elaboración de resolución	Si existen indicios y elementos suficientes dispone la aplicación de medidas de desjudicialización: remisión (5 años en el CP y consentimiento del adolescente, padre, etc.), salidas alternativas a través de la conciliación y reparación integral del daño (delitos de contenido patrimonial o delitos culposos sin muerte), acompañada de mecanismos de justicia restaurativa(plazo máximo de 6 meses)	Ministerio Público Ministerio Público
				Si considera que existen indicios suficientes imputa a la o el adolescente por el delito cometido	
				Solicita a la Autoridad Judicial competente resuelva la situación procesal y la aplicación de una o varias medidas cautelares	
5. Audiencia cautelar	5.1. Celebración de audiencia	5.1.1. Programación y realización de la audiencia cautelar	Dispone la aplicación de una o varias medidas cautelares establecidas en el Art. 288 del CNNA	Jueza o Juez Público en Materia de Niñez y Adolescencia	

Fuente: Elaboración propia

Diagram showing the pathway of the National Protocol on Prevention and Support for Street Children



Source: National Protocol on Prevention and Support for Street Children, VSC – UNICEF 2016

¹ The following diagrams have been extracted from publications in the original language and demonstrate the processes of the protocols.

In the Department of Santa Cruz, 38 staff from SEDEPOS Santa Cruz and NGOs working with street children and adolescents have been trained to apply the care and prevention protocol and use the referral and counter-referral mechanisms to improve inter-institutional services. They also received training on the psycho-emotional recovery methodology called “*Nuevo Sol* Community Wellbeing” and were given the backpack of play-based teaching materials to carry out prevention work at different levels.

With the aim of strengthening institutional capacities in the police force, protocols on the juvenile justice system, people trafficking and sexual violence are being developed in partnership with the Vice-Ministry of Citizen Security for the National Police to use in their work. These protocols will be validated and implemented in 2017.

UNICEF provides technical assistance for the design of specialized child protection programmes and services. In partnership with the Departmental Government of La Paz, this led to the development of specialized programmes for adolescents in conflict with the law and CEPAT for victims of sexual violence, as well as a programme to strengthen the DNA. These programmes will be included in the Departmental Government’s workplan for next year.

The linking up of departmental technical bodies has been strengthened at the national level through the National Social Services Network (REDNAGES), which brings together the nine Departmental Social Services (SEDEGES, SEDEPOS and DIGES). This space has fostered ongoing dialogue and led to agreements to improve conditions being reached with the Ombudspersons Office, the Parliamentary Network for Children and Adolescents, the Ministry of Government and the Ministry of Autonomies, reinforcing the cohesiveness of the child protection system.



Directors of SEDEGES/SEDEPOS and DIGES participating in the National REDNAGES Meeting ©UNICEF Bolivia/2016/Arellano

UNICEF supported the 6th National REDNAGES Meeting, which promoted the exchange of good practices and the sharing of policies on violence reduction, the eradication of child labour, the right to live within a family, and the use of the prevention and support model for street children and adolescents by SEDEGES from all over the country. At this meeting, participants also analysed the allocation of resources from the central and departmental government level and developed a joint strategy to ensure that child protection services continue to operate.

UNICEF also engaged in advocacy work and provided technical assistance for the consolidation and functioning of the Specialized Prevention and Therapeutic Care Centres for victims of sexual violence. This service is now operating in seven of Bolivia’s departments (Santa Cruz, Oruro, Pando, Beni, Chuquisaca, Tarija, and Potosí) and three municipalities (Riberalta, El Alto and Bermejo), providing a specialized service that is closer to the community. By October 2016, the ten CEPATs had provided therapeutic care to 467 child and adolescent victims of sexual violence (91.64% of them girls) and their families.

With technical assistance from UNICEF, the CEPATs carried out a total of 11,820 actions to prevent sexual violence in 2016. They also organized mass awareness-raising and mobilization activities in seven departments on

Number of attended cases by CEPAT's in 2016 - Bolivia			
Departament	Boys	Girls	Total
Santa Cruz	17	88	105
Oruro	2	23	25
Pando	6	6	12
Beni	1	6	7
Chuquisaca	1	45	46
Tarija	4	76	80
Potosí	4	28	32
La Paz (SEPAMOS)	4	156	160
Total	39	428	467
<i>Systematization of National Data for the CEPAT (October 2016)</i>			

the “National day of action against sexual violence and solidarity with child and adolescent victims of sexual attacks,” which falls on the 9th of August.



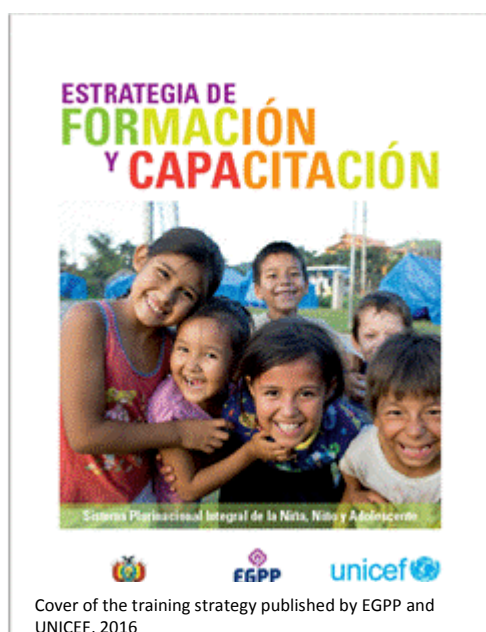
Community mobilization activities on the national day of action against sexual violence and solidarity with child and adolescent victims of sexual attacks © 2016/CEPAT Potosí, Beni and Pando (from left to right)

At the subnational level, the Departmental Government of Santa Cruz, with technical assistance from UNICEF, consolidated the work of the Guidance Centre on Alternatives measures to the Deprivation of Liberty, which has provided social, educational, and school and family reintegration services to 117 adolescents, 89.74% of whom are boys. The centre also provides legal assistance so that adolescents held on remand can either be acquitted or sentenced, thus helping to speed up court cases and promote due process. Of the 117 adolescents, 66.66% (78) have now been sentenced. This means that individual plans can be designed for their needs and they can be provided with a personalized social reintegration service.

With regard to work to prevent adolescents from committing crimes, the Departmental Government of Santa Cruz published the “Manual on crime prevention through social skills for children and adolescents.” This is a practical guide that has been circulated to schools and local organizations with the aim of reducing the number of crimes committed by adolescents. The manual has also been shared with SEDEGES throughout the country, for use as a guide and reference material.



© UNICEF Bolivia/ 2016/ Toranzos



Cover of the training strategy published by EGPP and UNICEF, 2016

UNICEF has helped to strengthen the capacities of child protection system operators, including those in the justice system. This was done by implementing the national training strategy for public servants in the child protection system, in a strategic partnership with the Plurinational School of Public Management, universities and civil society organizations. UNICEF also provided support so that international experts could participate in the training events.

The training processes have focused mainly on the implementation of the CNNA. So far, more than 1,000 public servants at subnational levels have been given training.

An integrated competency-based training strategy comprising 23 modules was designed in partnership with EGPP. Its purpose is to train public employees on the different topics involved in child protection. This year, three specialized online diploma courses were run on the juvenile justice system, child labour, and the rights of children

and adolescents. More than 200 students from all over the country took these courses, most of them public servants. The EGPP also ran seven short specialized courses on human trafficking, the roles and functions of the DNA, sexual violence and strategic planning and management, in partnership with the departmental governments of La Paz and Santa Cruz. More than 320 public employees attended these courses.

In addition, the diploma on prevention and support for street children was run in partnership with The Salesiana University and the national network of institutions that work with street children. The diploma course was taken by 53 educators and staff working in this field in both public institutions and civil society



organizations. Furthermore, 160 street educators were given training on street work methods to provide specialized support to street children.

As part of the implementation of the programme on the right to live within a family, training was provided in partnership with Caritas Cochabamba and SEDEGES to 34 educators who work in children's homes on how to provide care to abandoned children and adolescents. In partnership with the Departmental Court of Justice, 40 judges were also trained on the right to live within a family and the juvenile criminal justice. Two international experts participated in this training process and shared their experiences, especially regarding the importance of consolidating alternatives to institutional care and raising the awareness of justice system operators about its consequences.

To complement this work, the specialized training module on protecting children and adolescents against violence was published in partnership with the Vice-Ministry of Citizen Security and the Police University, with the aim of strengthening police capacities in this area. In addition, a specialized course on children's right to be protected against violence was designed. This is aimed at police officers who work in the prison system, who will take the course in 2017.



With the aim of encouraging reflection on the frequency and magnitude of violence against children and adolescents in Bolivia, UNICEF organized a discussion forum entitled “The violent face of childhood.” This was attended by more than 300 representatives of public institutions at different levels, civil society and community organizations, and the media. Guest speakers at the event included the distinguished international specialists Paulo Sergio Pinheiro, Cecilia Anicama, Rosana Vega and Gabriela Schreiner, as well as Bolivian experts working on violence prevention and support for victims of sexual violence.²

² For further information, please see: <http://www.paginasiete.bo/ideas/2016/8/14/violencia-contra-ninez-historia-silencio-105940.html>



Interview with Sunah Kim Suh, UNICEF Representative in Bolivia, and Cecilia Anicama, from the Office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children, about the discussion forum on violence. La Paz, 9 August, Anoticiando, ATB

Furthermore, with UNICEF support, REDNAGES organized the 1st National Seminar on the Protection Approach in the Juvenile Justice System, with the participation of 250 representatives from SEDEGES, DNA, Children and Adolescents' Courts, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Government, the Ombudspersons Office, the Parliamentary Network for Children and Adolescents, universities, and civil society and community organizations. The aim of the seminar was to analyse the national and international legal framework, Bolivian public policies and the current situation of adolescents in conflict with the law, and hear about three experiences of implementing custodial measures and alternatives measures to the deprivation of liberty.

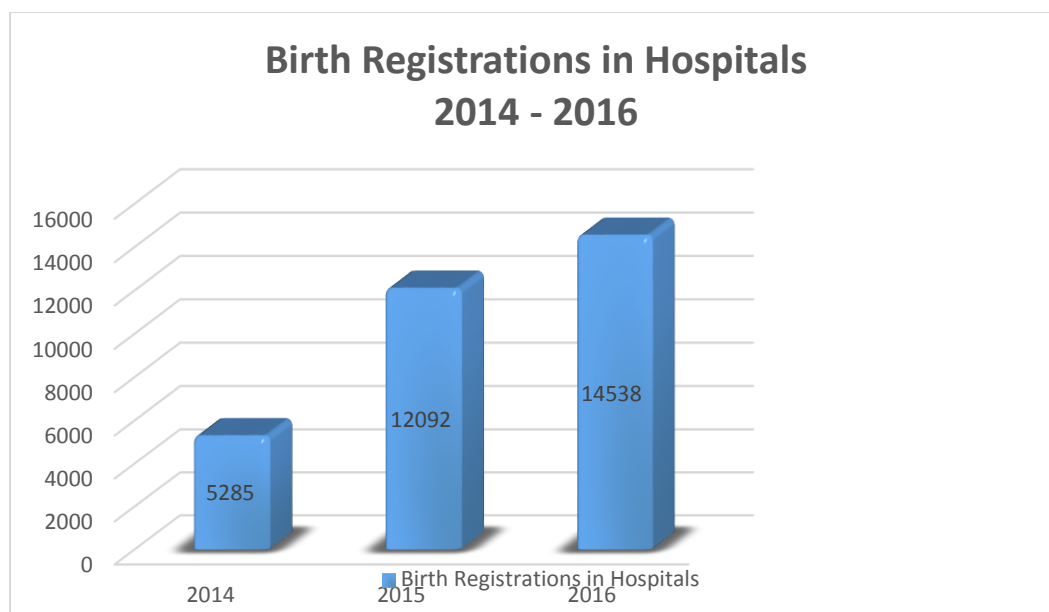


At the inauguration ceremony for the birth registration booth at the Quillacollo Hospital in Cochabamba, the Vice-President of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal hands over the first birth certificate issued in the Hospital © UNICEF Bolivia/2016/Vargas

The "*birth certification for newborns*" initiative was implemented as part of the cross-sectoral strategy to reduce the gap in universal and timely access to birth registration, led by the National Civil Registry Service (SERECI) and in partnership with the private company TIGO. This involved introducing a civil registry service in 111 hospitals, enabling more than 14,000 new-born babies to be registered.

As the table below shows, since the strategy began to be implemented in 2014 there has been a significant increase in birth registrations in hospitals in the last two years. This is contributing to a reduction in the number of children without identity documents, as well as making universal and timely birth registration sustainable.

Table Nº 1. Birth registrations in hospitals



Source: prepared by UNICEF Bolivia based on SERECI data

UNICEF also contributed to the implementation of the “*Zero Undocumented*” strategy, whereby SERECI is promoting partnerships with autonomous municipal governments and civil society organizations to achieve the goal of providing all citizens with birth registration. As part of this strategy, about 12,000 children in the most isolated and difficult-to-access areas of the country were registered in 2016.

With the aim of making the public more aware of the importance of registering their child’s birth and publicizing the strategies being taken forward by SERECI, a video was produced showing the main challenges impeding access to registration, as well as the different strategies being implemented in response so that the country can achieve the goal of universal access to timely birth registration.

As part of its technical assistance and institutional capacity-building work, UNICEF provided the TSE with support to ensure that it could participate in the *3rd Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Conference on the right to identity and universal birth registration*. This revealed that despite the significant progress Bolivia has made, it is still one of the countries with the largest number of unregistered children. The main challenges are to guarantee that the most isolated and vulnerable communities can access birth registration, as well as consolidating links with the health sector to ensure that newborn babies are registered. The region’s countries made a commitment to achieve the target of zero undocumented children by 2030.

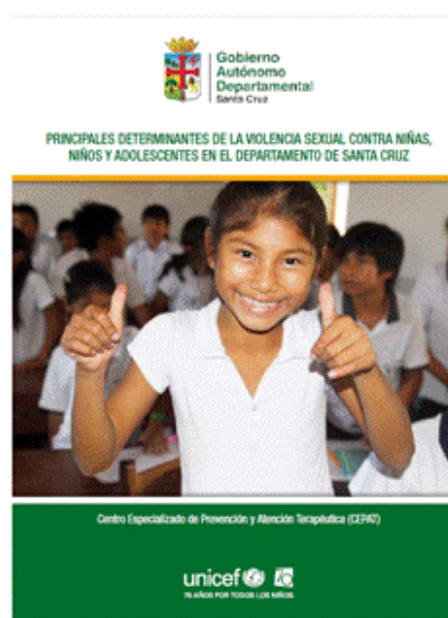
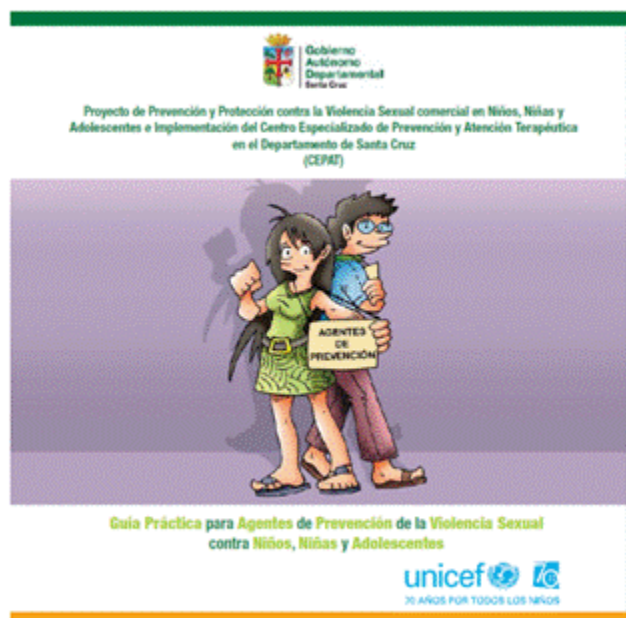
In addition, SERECI held the annual meeting of its nine departmental directors, which was also attended by officials from the Ministry of Health at the national and subnational level. The meeting analysed the main bottlenecks and established joint guidelines for including birth registration targets in the various health programmes, as well as agreeing on joint actions to promote and guarantee timely birth registration.



Presentation by the Vice-President of the TSE, representing Bolivia at the 3rd Regional Conference on Birth Registration.
© UNICEF Bolivia/2016/Vargas

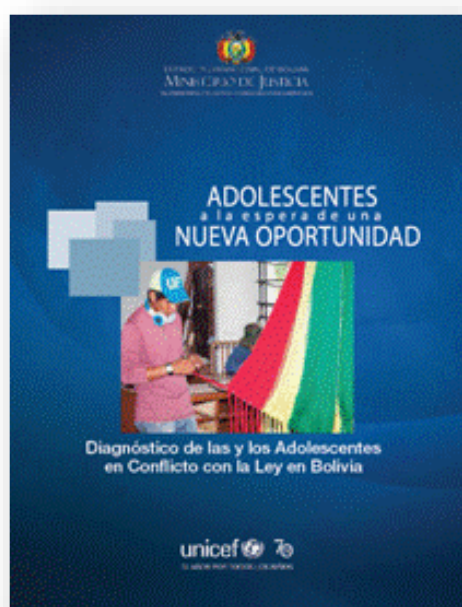
UNICEF's contribution to evidence-gathering and knowledge management

In the area of knowledge management, UNICEF supported the CEPATs in Santa Cruz, Beni and Pando to carry out a situation assessment of sexual violence against children and adolescents and identify the determinants. A large number of local institutions and organizations participated in the analysis of the data and bottlenecks, and contributed to the inter-institutional plan.



Together with the Departmental Government of Santa Cruz, UNICEF has produced a toolkit for the prevention of sexual violence. This includes a practical guide for carrying out information, advice and awareness-raising activities with children and adolescents, teachers and parents, and building their capacities to address violence. The toolkit has also been sent to the CEPATs in other departments to support their violence prevention work.

UNICEF provided support to the Vice-Ministry of Justice and Fundamental Rights, part of the Ministry of Justice, to publish a situation assessment of adolescents in conflict with the law. This found evidence of lengthy delays in the justice system, with custodial sentencing as the measure most frequently used by the courts. It also published a “Comparative Study of the effectiveness, efficiency and costs of detention and alternatives to the deprivation of liberty for adolescents in conflict with the law in Bolivia.” This demonstrated the effectiveness of alternatives to the deprivation of liberty, as well as showing that they are cost-effective (https://www.unicef.org/bolivia/resources_34522.html).



Presentation of the juvenile justice system documents with the Minister of Justice, UNICEF Country Representative and Vice-Minister of Fundamental Rights

In this same line of work, UNICEF and the Ministry of Justice published the “Support Protocol and Intervention Pathway for Adolescents in Conflict with the Law.” In keeping with the CNNA and following international guidelines, it includes an analysis of the legal doctrine or framework for adolescents in conflict with the law and those convicted of a criminal offence, and establishes the inter-institutional procedures to be followed in the juvenile justice system, with intervention pathways for each procedure. The Minister of Justice and the UNICEF Country Representative held a press conference to present these documents to the relevant institutions and the general public.

The Support Protocol and Intervention Pathway for Adolescents in conflict with the law is being used to train juvenile justice system operators (DNAs, the police, judges and prosecutors). It is designed to be used by them in their day-to-day work, in a pocket-size, user-friendly format.



Together with the Departmental Government of Santa Cruz, UNICEF published the report entitled “Systematization of the Crime Prevention Programme for Adolescents and the implementation of the Support Centre for Adolescents in Conflict with the Law (2009-2015).” This documents the process of implementing the first centre offering alternatives to the deprivation of liberty in the country. The report was presented to the public on December 9th at the Citizen Security Office in the Departmental Government of Santa Cruz.

In partnership with the Vice-Ministry of Citizen Security, UNICEF developed the National Protocol on Prevention and Support for Street Children, which is now in the process of being implemented at the national level. It establishes the necessary specialized support pathways and programmes, as well as defining the roles and responsibilities of the different institutions involved, as mandated by the law.

UNICEF also provided technical assistance for processing and analysing information from the situation assessment of DNA and SLIM in the Department of La Paz. The report reveals the institutional weakness of these services, due to the small budget and insufficient resources allocated to them, their lack of specialized staff and the high staff turnover.

Output 2.6.3: Capacity of public institutions (national and subnational), within the framework of protection, have an improved legal framework and strengthened its capacity to plan, coordinate, implement, and monitor cost-effective interventions, with a rights- based and equity-based approach.

The Right to live within a Family Programme is being implemented in the Department of Cochabamba in partnership with Caritas, SEDEGES, municipal DNAs and the Children and Adolescents’ Court. Its main achievement so far is the consolidation of alliances between the main institutions responsible, so that they can start working to restore the right to live within a family to more than 2,000 children and adolescents currently living in children’s homes.

The CNNA states that “*sending the child or adolescent to a public or private children’s home constitutes an exceptional, temporary protection measure that can only be ordered by a judge in a reasoned decision when none of the other protection measures provided for herein can be applied.*” Nevertheless, there are currently more than 8,000 children and adolescents living in institutions in Bolivia. Four out of ten of these children have both parents still living, three out of ten have their mother and one out of ten has their father; in other words, 80% of the children and adolescents living in institutions in Bolivia have one or more members of their original family still alive.³

In addition, as the table below shows, there is no significant difference between the number of boys and the number of girls in institutional care. However, it is important to take into account the percentages by age group in order to adapt the specialized programmes and restore the right to live within a family by means of family reintegration, adoption, alternatives to institutional care, and support for living independently, among other options.

³ Study of children and adolescents in institutional care, Ministry of Justice and ABI, 2014, with technical assistance from UNICEF Bolivia.

Table 2. Children and adolescents in institutional care, by sex and age

Age group	Nº of children in institutional care, 2013-2014				Total	
	Boys	%	Girls	%	All	%
0-6	873	22%	857	20%	1730	21%
7-12	1441	36%	1559	36%	3000	36%
13-18	1579	39%	1714	40%	3293	39%
Over 18	148	4%	198	5%	346	4%
TOTAL	4041	100%	4328	100%	8369	100%

Source: Situation assessment of children and adolescents living in children's homes, 2014

In response to this situation, UNICEF provides technical assistance for the design of programmes that help to restore the right to live within a family. A pilot experience is being taken forward in the Department of Cochabamba in partnership with various public institutions and CSOs. It is built around the components of family reintegration, institutional strengthening and preventing abandonment.

Some of the most important results achieved over the last year are the following:

- Advocacy work was done to get the critical paths for working with children and adolescents on the right to live within a family (http://www.unicef.org/bolivia/Rutas_criticas_en_procesos_de_ninez_y_adolescencia.pdf) included and used as official reference materials in all procedures at the departmental level. More than 120 staff from the department's DNAs and children's homes, court and SEDEGES officials and civil society organizations have been trained to use these tools.
- Under SEDEGES leadership, 33 educators were trained on specialized care for children and adolescents living in institutional care, in a 40-hour taught course with guest lecturers from the University Mayor de San Simón.
- Monitoring tools have been developed and are being used in five institutions, helping to improve the quality of the service provided to more than 300 children and adolescents living in children's homes. As a result of this process, files on the children have been organized and completed and their families were contacted in those cases where it was possible.
- One of the bottlenecks impeding family reintegration is that families who have a son or daughter living in a children's home have to hire their own lawyer and initiate a court case so that the child can return to live with them. Therefore, with specific technical assistance from the programme, a legal advice



service has been set up to provide support to families and accompany them until the family reintegration is achieved. As a result, the family reintegration process has been initiated with 26 families for the return of 45 children and adolescents. The family reintegration procedures take between 8 months and a year, which is why many of them are still ongoing.

- In addition, arrangements were made with the Municipal Government of Cochabamba to reopen the parenting school as an essential component of the family reintegration and monitoring work.

Challenges

The main challenge in the development of this innovative model with an integrated approach to guarantee the right to live within a family is to produce evidence based on the work done so far and analyse any bottlenecks that may be identified before it can be replicated in other departments.

It has also been found that many families still see institutional care as the answer when they find it difficult to look after their children, due to situations of poverty and violence that leave children unprotected. This is why it is important to start working to raise awareness and inform people of the consequences of institutional care.

The CNNA stipulates that children may be taken into care as an exceptional, provisional measure. Sending a child or adolescent to a children's home constitutes an exceptional, temporary protection measure that can only be used when no other protection measure can be applied (articles 53 & 55). This stipulation is not properly enforced, and taking children into care is often used as the first resort, in most cases as a permanent measure. In response to this situation, there needs to be a national policy to promote the family reintegration model, provide alternatives to take children out of institutional care and prevent abandonment.

In the process of implementing the pilot experience, it has become clear how important it is to work with the children and adolescents' courts more directly and provide them with specialized technical assistance. It is particularly important to work with the social work teams responsible for psycho-social reports on children and adolescents in children's homes.

UNICEF also provided support to MTEPS to draw up the Registration and Authorization Protocol for Child and Adolescent Workers. This will enable DNAs to be aware of a child's social and family situation. Having verified that the child's work does not affect his or her integrated development or schooling and does not expose him or her to any risk, they may authorize the child to work as an exceptional measure and carry out the relevant family monitoring. The protocol was drawn up based on the indicators in the policy proposal entitled "Bolivia, a country free from forced and hazardous child labour and exploitation." It is still being reviewed by the Ministry of Labour so that it can be approved by means of a Ministerial Resolution.

The first Diploma on Child Labour is being offered in a partnership between MTEPS and EGPP, with technical assistance from UNICEF.

With UNICEF's support, MTEPS has published three rapid assessments on child labour, describing the work done by children and adolescents who are self-employed, working in mining and working in the sugar



A participant receiving her certificate for having completed the course for educators in children's homes, Cochabamba @ UNICEF Bolivia/2016/Vargas

cane harvest. These reports also include findings identifying the determinants and bottlenecks involved in child labour, and will be used as inputs for formulating departmental and/or municipal plans. The main findings of the assessment of self-employed working children have been shared with the municipal governments of La Paz and El Alto.

The Departmental Government of Santa Cruz and UNICEF carried out an assessment of self-employed children and adolescents working in the Abasto Market in Santa Cruz and the Central Market in Montero, with the support of the Observatory for Children and Adolescents and the Child Protection Network. The findings were used to design the “Child-Friendly Markets Model”, a proposal to prevent and eradicate child labour in the informal trade sector.

UNICEF provided technical assistance to support the Departmental Government of Santa Cruz to develop the Child-Friendly Markets Model, which is a proposal to certify shops and market stalls (selling food and other household goods) that have appropriate spaces for the integrated development of children and adolescents accompanying their parents at work. It also establishes regulations to prevent child labour before the age of 14 and eradicate hazardous types of work altogether. The model is currently being validated in three markets in the city of Santa Cruz.

In the process of implementing this model, partnerships have been developed with three universities (Universidad Evangélica Boliviana, Universidad Gabriel René Moreno and Universidad Tecnológica Privada Santa Cruz) to involve 60 university and teacher training college students, and with three organizations of market traders. These partnerships have made it possible to work with more than 110 children and their families in spaces provided and equipped by the market traders themselves. UNICEF contributed educational and teaching materials, and trained the university students to carry out practical work in the community.

As part of its support for the Departmental Government of Santa Cruz, UNICEF provided technical assistance to document the experience of the Child-Friendly Markets Model. The report includes a brief background section on the legal and departmental policy framework, the concept and objectives of having markets free from child labour and safeguarding the rights of children and adolescents, and the requirements and mechanisms for obtaining various levels of certification, thus enabling the desired changes to be achieved progressively.

As a result of implementing the Triple Seal in the sugar industry, which certifies the product as free from child labour, forced labour and all forms of discrimination, in partnership with IBCE and the Departmental Government of Santa Cruz, the UNAGRO sugar refinery made a commitment to certify its sugar production and undergo the audit carried out by IBNORCA. The audit found that 29% of the sugar produced by UNAGRO is free from child labour.

In partnership with IBCE and the Departmental Government of Santa Cruz, UNICEF launched the information and awareness-raising campaign called the “Call to action on buying sugar and other products with the Triple Seal”. This is aimed at private companies that buy sugar as an ingredient for making various food and drink products, and the general public, to make them aware that there is a quality seal on this product and encourage them to buy sugar with the Triple Seal to show their commitment to human rights. As a result of three press conferences held in La Paz, Cochabamba and Santa Cruz, the message was broadcast in 45 news media, with 135 shares on social networking sites.

A discussion forum on “Progress and Challenges in the Criminal Justice System for Adolescents” was organized in coordination with the Vice-Ministry of Justice and Fundamental Rights and the Vice-President’s Office, and held on 4 April, with a keynote address by the expert Dr. Emilio García Méndez. The event was attended by justice system operators, who analysed the progress made in terms of legislation but also identified the many challenges involved in implementing specific actions, together with the increasing calls for a “crackdown” on street gangs and crime.

To complement this, a special session on the same topic was held with the Parliamentary Network for Children and Adolescents in the Legislative Assembly of the Plurinational State of Bolivia. During this

session, members of parliament conducted an in-depth analysis of the legal aspects and discussed the moves afoot to amend Book III of the CNNA in order to stiffen punishments for adolescents in conflict with the law and typify new crimes.



Emilio García Mendez with the Chair of the Parliamentary Network for Children and Adolescents, Senator Apaza, in the Legislative Assembly, La Paz, 4 April 2016 ©UNICEF Bolivia/2016/Vega

Challenges

The policy proposal entitled “Bolivia, a country free from forced and hazardous child labour and exploitation” was approved initially by MTEPS and sent to UDAPE to be reviewed by other ministries and subsequently approved by means of a Supreme Decree. However, with the approval of Law 777 creating the Cross-Sectoral State Planning System, inter-ministerial planning is now obligatory and supersedes policy development by a single ministry.

In response to this, MTEPS sought the tri-ministerial approval of a document called “Planning guidelines: Bolivia, a country free from forced and hazardous child labour and exploitation” by MTEPS, the Ministry of Development Planning and the Ministry of Justice. However, the negotiations failed to arrive at a consensus and the Ministry of Labour decided to review the document and approve it by means of a Ministerial Resolution. This has not yet taken effect, due to the multiple reviews taking place inside the ministry.

This bottleneck is impeding progress in joint work with MTEPS as the head of the sector, and has also had a negative impact on the work on this issue at the subnational level. Although the CNNA is on the statute books, what is lacking is an integrated, cross-sectoral approach and operational guidelines to make enforcement of the law part of the mandate of each government institution at every level.

Although UNICEF is continuing its advocacy work at the national level, based on the assessments of child labour that have been carried out, it is shifting the focus to the subnational level, and municipal governments in particular, in order to implement concrete strategies to prevent child labour. This will enable sectoral and cross-sectoral policies to be developed on the issue, as these are also provided for in the country’s autonomies framework.

With regard to the legal framework, progress has been made on the special justice system for adolescents in conflict with the law, as reflected in Book III of the CNNA. Despite these advances, however, there is a lack of knowledge of the issues involved and a tendency to view it from a law and order perspective. This has led to a proposal being put before parliament to change the law and make it harsher on adolescents associated with urban gangs.

Output 2.6.4: Children and adolescents in emergency situations that have access to services protecting them from violence and providing psycho-affective recovery therapy.

UNICEF has concentrated its efforts on ensuring that child protection services are ready to respond to an emergency swiftly and effectively, establishing partnerships with the Departmental Governments of Pando, Beni and Santa Cruz.

Due to the recurrence of natural disasters involving flooding in the eastern region of the country, three training workshops were organized for 53 staff from the Risk Management Units, SEDEGES and DNA on the Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action, prepared by the Child Protection in Emergencies (CPiE) Cluster. These focus the work of the child protection services on care, security and protection for children and adolescents and the prevention of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect.

UNICEF has also trained 72 staff from the child protection services, education services and schools, early childhood development centres, universities and civil society organizations on the psycho-emotional and social recovery methodology called “*Nuevo Sol* Community Wellbeing”. They were given a toolkit of play-based materials designed to be used with groups of children aged 3-5. Similarly, 62 staff were given training to use this methodology with groups of children aged 6-12 and were provided with the backpack of therapeutic materials.

In keeping with a recent national law, each sector is allowed to prepare a contingency plan. UNICEF is supporting SEDEGES in Beni, the Human and Social Development Secretariat in Pando and the Citizen Security Secretariat in Santa Cruz to draw up contingency plans for child protection. As well as setting out the immediate actions to be taken, these plans also include the possibility of allocating a budget when an emergency is declared, thus ensuring care and security for children and adolescents.

The presence of the Zika virus in Bolivia brought with it the threat that 10% of pregnant women could give birth to babies with microcephaly, who would be unable to walk and talk and have difficulties with their psychomotor development, which could even result in the risk of newborn babies being abandoned. In response, UNICEF formed a partnership with the organization Samaritan’s Purse to prepare information and guidance materials on care and support for children, adolescents and pregnant women affected by the Zika virus, with the aim of preventing neglect and abandonment of newborn babies with microcephaly.

Challenges

Climate change is a constant threat in different regions of the country, but few voices are arguing for child protection to be considered as an important part of the humanitarian response. Although UNICEF has made progress in consolidating technical capacities, the institutional weakness of the protection system means that this support is still required, together with the participation of organizations and institutions to back it up. A priority for next year is therefore to establish alliances to take this work forward.

As a result of the training on the Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action, trained human resources are now in place at the local level and they could act as facilitators in the future. To achieve this, it is important to include specialization courses on the agenda of the Plurinational School of Public Management so that training can be provided throughout the country.

Results Assessment Framework

The following tables outline a review of the indicators for all Outputs in the Outcome Area, showing the results achieved in 2016 compared to the baseline and targets as outlined in the UNICEF 2013-2017 Country Programme Document.

Indicators for Outcome 2.6:

By 2017, children and adolescents, especially the most vulnerable, are protected by a judicial framework that is aligned with international standards and have access to protection programs and services (including timely birth registration), that prevent and protect them from violence, negligence, abuse and exploitation.

Context-Specific Indicators	Baseline		Target		As of Date	Status	Primary Source
	Year	Value	Year	Value			
Protocols in use established for child and gender-sensitive responses to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect for all sectors in contact with children victims	2014	2	2017	5	28.11.2016	4 protocols: 1) Sexual victims – Prosecutors office 2) Street children 3) Adolescents in conflict with the law. 4) Children in abandonment situation	

Indicators for Output 2.6.1:

Families, communities and social organizations in priority areas promote good treatment, reject violence, and report all forms of violence against children and adolescents.

Context-Specific Indicators	Baseline		Target		As of Date	Status	Primary Source
	Year	Value	Year	Value			
Number of studies conducted on child-rearing practices among families and communities to generate evidence and to design strategies aimed to behavioral changes regarding violent practices towards children and adolescents	2014	0	2017	3	31-Dec-16	2 – one of Chaco Chuquisaqueno and one SITAN on DNAs in La Paz Department	UNICEF, Departmental Government of La Paz

Indicators for Output 2.6.2:

Children and adolescent victims of all forms of violence, abuse and negligence in priority areas have access to institutional protection services, with a focus on gender and interculturality.

Context-Specific Indicators	Baseline		Target		As of Date	Status
	Year	Value	Year	Value		
Number of children and adolescent victims of sexual violence that received specialized attention provided by Centres for the Attention and Care of Victims of Sexual Violence (CEPAT) in 7 departments.	2012	261	2017	700	27-Nov-16	1283
% Of children less than 0 to 1 year with birth certificate (disaggregated by sex)	2012	80	2017	95	27-Nov-16	88%
# of adolescents in conflict with the law, benefited from alternative programs to deprivation of liberty, and restorative justice in Santa Cruz and Potosí	2013	157	2017	800	27-Nov-16	419 (only Santa Cruz)
# children and adolescents, victims of violence, disaggregated by sex, interviewed in the Gesell Chamber to avoid re-victimization	2013	339	2017	1500	27-Nov-16	602

# of justice operators, public servants and trained community promoters	2013	1260	2017	3500	27-Nov-16	<p>910 public servants trained at national level, within the Training Strategy with the EGPP.</p> <p>250 public servants participate in specialized diplomas in the Rights of children and adolescents, Juvenile Justice, Child Labor and Children and Adolescents in Street Situation.</p> <p>160 technical teams and educators of NNASC</p> <p>40 Judges trained in the Right to Live in the Family and Juvenile Justice</p>
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Indicators for Output 2.6.3:

Capacity of public institutions (national and subnational), within the framework of protection, have an improved legal framework and strengthened its capacity to plan, coordinate, implement, and monitor cost-effective interventions, with a rights- based and equity-based approach.

Context-Specific Indicators	Baseline		Target		As of Date	Status
	Year	Value	Year	Value		
Number of models and innovations aimed at protecting children and adolescents	2014	1	2017	4	28.11.16	<p>Model without undocumented municipalities (birth registration).</p> <p>Integral Model of Prevention and Care for Children in Street Situation.</p> <p>Model of intervention to guarantee the right to live in family.</p> <p>Model Child friendly market.</p> <p>Triple Seal (certification of sugar without child labor, discriminatory or forced).</p>

Number of approved laws and regulations on the prevention and protection of children and adolescents against all forms of violence	2014	3	2017	6	28.11.16	Departamental Law (046) on prevention of child labor and protection of working adolescents (Santa Cruz) Children's Code (Low 538) approved Children's Code Regulation (CNNA) approved.
Number of policies and plans developed, that use a gender and intercultural approach, to protect children and adolescents	2014	2	2017	10	28.11.16	National Policy "Bolivia a country free from forced, hazardous and labor exploitation of children and adolescents" includes guidelines of "Plan to eradicate the determinants of child and dangerous work and protection of working adolescents." (Document under review by the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Welfare).

Indicators for Output 2.6.4:

Children and adolescents in emergency situations that have access to services protecting them from violence and providing psycho-affective recovery therapy.

Context-Specific Indicators	Baseline		Target		As of Date	Status
	Year	Value	Year	Value		
Number of municipalities at-risk of disasters that have programs in place to prevent sexual violence, protect children and adolescents, monitor violence, and provide psycho-affective and social recovery therapy in Beni, Santa Cruz and Chuquisaca.	2013	5	2017	15	28.11.16	7 municipalities with greater capacities to protect children and adolescents in emergencies (Rurrenabaque, San Ignacio, Trinidad, Riberalta, Guayaramerín, Cobija and Porvenir) and managed to attend with psycho-affective recovery actions to 5,582 children and adolescents.

BOLIVIA: THE RIGHT TO LIVE WITHIN A FAMILY: an innovative intervention in Cochabamba

Background

There are currently more than 8,000 children and adolescents living in institutions in Bolivia, deprived of parental care. Most have been orphaned or are victims of abandonment or violence. According to the *Study of Children and Adolescents in Institutional Care* published in 2014, the vast majority of these children – more than 80% – have direct or extended family members still living. Despite the efforts made, most of them still do not have the right papers, and the rigorous investigations that allow family reintegration processes to take place have not been carried out.

Justification

Analysis of the information in the study revealed that specialized programmes have not been developed at the subnational level to promote family reintegration, provide alternatives to take children out of institutional care and prevent abandonment. Furthermore, some of the institutions are weak, the Municipal Children and Adolescents Defence Office (DNA) do not have enough staff to carry out investigations and monitoring, and the Departmental Social Services (SEDEGES) has not developed programmes and protocols to enable and facilitate alternatives to institutional care. Obstacles were identified on both the supply side and the demand side, as many families still see institutional care as the answer when they find it difficult to look after their children, due to situations of poverty and violence that leave children unprotected.

Cochabamba is the area of the country with the most children and adolescents living in institutions, as a percentage of the department's population. The different institutions there have now demonstrated their willingness to engage in policy dialogue to analyse the situation and identify the best possible strategies to safeguard the right to live within a family.



A 13-year-old girl who lives in a children's home in Cochabamba
©UNICEF Bolivia/2016/Pérez Andrade

So, in 2015 UNICEF Bolivia began to implement a model based on inter-institutional linkages and coordination at the subnational level to develop strategies and consolidate public policies to guarantee children their right to live within a family.

One of the first lines of action was to consolidate partnerships between the main institutions responsible, such as SEDEGES, DNA, the Children and Adolescents' Court, children's homes (institutionalized care) and CSOs, in order to start working to restore this right to more than 2,000 children and adolescents living in institutions.

Strategy and implementation

In partnership with Pastoral Social Caritas Cochabamba, UNICEF developed and implemented the "Right to live within a Family" model in order to address the situation in the Department of Cochabamba. The model has three key components:

- *Family reintegration*
- *Institutional strengthening*
- *Preventing abandonment*

To implement the activities, UNICEF formed strategic alliances with various public institutions (SEDEGES, DNA and Children and Adolescents' Court- judges), as well as making direct links with the children's homes and securing their commitment. UNICEF provides technical assistance and engages in advocacy to identify bottlenecks and produce evidence that will help to raise awareness and analyse the situation.

UNICEF also helps to strengthen institutional capacities by providing training to children's home staff and public servants, as well as developing protocols and support pathways. So far, 34 educators in the different children's homes, 40 judges from the children and adolescents' courts and mixed courts, and more than 96 staff from the Offices for the DNA and SEDEGES have been given training.

With support from Caritas, the work is now going ahead with 16 children's homes that have expressed their willingness to be part of the process and help to develop the model. A legal advice service has been set up to provide support to families and facilitate the family reintegration process for children and adolescents living in institutions, with 62 family reintegration procedures now under way.

The 2014 study serves as the baseline for the pilot implementation of the model. The number of children and adolescents receiving support is being monitored, as is the quality of the services provided by the institutions. In addition, follow-up work is being done with the children who have already been reintegrated with their families and those whose legal situation has been defined.

Progress and results

In the first two years of implementing the model, there is evidence of significant progress. Overall, there is now more awareness of the issues involved and the need to consolidate alternatives to institutional care.

Although there are still some officials who believe that children's homes are the best option for children and adolescents in a vulnerable situation, progress has evidently been made in raising awareness and securing the commitment of different organizations to work towards alternatives to institutional care.

Resources required

To implement the first phase of the model, UNICEF used the following resources:

- *Human resources:*
30-40% of the time of the Child Protection Officer (technical assistance)
- *Funding:*
Year 1 (August 2015-16): US\$56,000
Year 2 (August 2016-17): US\$56,000

Some of the most important results are:

- The Inter-Institutional Working Group on the Right to live within a Family – the first in the country – was set up and strengthened as a space for critical analysis and strategy development. The group developed and published the [*Special Routes for Working with Children and Adolescents*](#) document, which sets out ways to improve the quality of care and services. To date, more than 90 DNA, SEDEGES and children's home staff have been trained to use the Routes.
- Under SEDEGES leadership, 33 educators were trained on care for children and adolescents living in children's homes, in a 40-hour taught course with guest lecturers from the University Mayor de San Simón.
- Monitoring tools have been developed and are being used in five institutions, reaching more than 300 children and adolescents living in children's homes. As a result of this process, files on the children have been organized and completed and their families were contacted in those cases where it was possible.
- A legal advice service has been set up to provide support to families and accompany them until the family reintegration is achieved. So far, the service has provided advice to 26 families for the return of about 45 children and adolescents. The family reintegration procedures take between 8 months and a year, which is why they are still ongoing, with 62 procedures currently under way.
- Arrangements were made with the Municipal Government of Cochabamba to reopen the parenting school as an essential component of the family reintegration and monitoring work.



Lessons learned

- One of the difficulties in this work is getting access to the children's homes and obtaining up-to-date information. However, through awareness raising, analysing evidence on the consequences of institutional care and demonstrating the results of the programme, children's home directors may become more open and willing to coordinate. This is why it is important to give continuity to the awareness-raising and evidence-gathering work so that the programme can be expanded to all the children's homes in the department, as well as public and private institutions.
- Although much progress has been made in making links with children and adolescents' court judges and providing them with technical assistance, there is still a need to work on procedures, guides and formats for the psycho-social reports that the different institutions (SEDEGES and DNA) present to the courts. This is why cross-sectoral and inter-institutional linking and coordination is so important, especially to guarantee that the child's best interest is being served. It is therefore important to ensure that the critical paths are implemented and establish specific criteria and protocols for each institution, in coordination with their staff teams.
- Working on two lines of action at once – lobbying and advocacy on one side and the implementation of pilot programmes with specific services to guarantee the right to live within a family on the other – is one of the cornerstones underpinning the model's success.

- Staff changes in the different institutions (DNA, SEDEGES, the Courts) can delay progress in the design and implementation of the model. However, the Inter-Institutional Working Group on the Right to live within a Family can mitigate the impact of staff turnover, by providing support and technical assistance to new staff and introducing them to the programme.

Looking to the future

Given the progress made, it is very important to give continuity to the work that has been started in order to consolidate the model and implement the programme as a public policy at the departmental level, guaranteeing the right to live within a family to more than 2,000 children and adolescents living in institutions in Cochabamba. There are also plans to replicate the model in the Department of La Paz in 2017. Because working to safeguard the right to live within a family for children and adolescents in institutional care is not part of a public policy in Bolivia, and considering the progress and opportunities offered by the model developed in Cochabamba, the right to live within a family will be a priority in the next country programme, with plans to continue implementing the model throughout the country.

Impact: *technical assistance for a children's home*

A year ago, when UNICEF began providing technical assistance to a children's home, it came up against resistance on the part of the care givers, who doubted that the children could have a better standard of living with their families. Now this children's home is in the process of developing a holistic model for immediate family reintegration. As an example we can mention a specific case where four brothers and sisters came to the home a few months ago due to serious neglect by their father. As an alternative measure focused on the right to live in a family, the home immediately set up a cross-disciplinary team including a social worker, a psychologist and a support teacher. They worked intensively to find another family member and then provided direct support to the children and their mother, preparing them to live together as a family. UNICEF's constant support has brought about a change in the attitudes of the staff and the home's way of working. As a result, the four children will again be able to count on their mother's love.

4. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

4.1. RESOURCES

Table 1. Planned Budget for the Outcome Area

Outcome Area 6: Child Protection
Bolivia
Planned and Funded for the Country Programme 2016 (In US Dollar)

Outcome	Funding Type ¹	Planned Budget ²
06-02 Child Protection systems	RR	180,000
	ORR	234,000
06-03 Violence, exploitation and abuse	RR	-
	ORR	276,000
06-06 Child Protection and emergencies	RR	-
	ORR	207,000
Unknow	RR	-
	ORR	483,000
Total Budget		1,380,000

¹ RR: Regular Resources, ORR: Other Resources-Regular

² Planned Budget for ORR does not include estimated recovery cost

Table 2. Thematic contributions received by the Country Office for the Outcome Area in 2016

Outcome Area 6: Child Protection
Thematic contributions received for Outcome 6 by UNICEF Bolivia in 2016
(in US Dollars)

Donors	Grant Number	Contribution Amount	Programmable Amount
Sweden	SC1499060014	502,387	467,220
Total		502,387	467,220

4.2. EXPENDITURE

Table 3. Expenditure on the Outcome Area

Outcome Area 6: Child Protection Bolivia 2016 Provisional Expenditures by key results areas (In US Dollars)				
Organizational targets	Expenditure Amount			
	Other resources - Emergency	Other Resources- Regular	Regular Resources	All Programme Accounts
06-02 Child Protection systems	0	408,403	307,448	715,850
06-03 Violence, exploitation and abuse	0	82,652	30,721	113,374
06-05 Birth registration	0	186,592	2,569	189,162
06-06 Child Protection and emergencies	5,871	4,135	331	10,337
06-07 Child Protection # strengthen families and communities	0	-1,510	0	-1,510
Total	5,871	680,273	341,070	1,027,213
Percentage	0.57%	66.23%	33.20%	

Table 4. Expenditure by programme area

Outcome Area 6: Child Protection Bolivia Thematic provisional expenses by programme area (In US Dollar)	
Organizational targets	Other Resources- Regular
06-02 Child Protection systems	278,934
06-03 Violence, exploitation and abuse	87,013
06-05 Birth registration	102,656
06-06 Child Protection and emergencies	126
06-07 Child Protection # strengthen families and communities	-1,509
Grand Total	467,220

Table 5. Expenditure by specific intervention category

Fund Category	All Programme Accounts
Year	2016
Business Area	Bolivia - 0510
Prorated Outcome Area	06 Child Protection

Row Labels	Expense
06-02-01 Child Protection systems strengthening	594,846
06-02-03 Child Protection # budget analysis and tracking	1,167
06-03-01 Violence against children (general)	112,817
06-03-06 Prevent and address child labour	778
06-05-01 Birth and civil registration	187,826
06-06-01 Prevent and address violence, exploitation and abuse of children in humanitarian action	5,871
06-06-03 Psychosocial support and child-friendly spaces	2,534
06-06-09 Child Protection # Emergency preparedness	1,696
08-02-04 DevInfo	
08-09-06 Other # non-classifiable cross-sectoral activities	74,620
08-09-07 Public Advocacy	1,833
10-07-11 Country office leadership and direction	-21
4012 Support to strengthen laws, policies, standards, regulations and budget analysis of child protection systems	8,097
4051 Prevent and respond to FGM/C and other harmful traditional practices	-1,507
4061 Child labour # general	-8,770
4075 Monitoring system to prevent and respond to violence, abuse and exploitation in humanitarian situations	126
7921 Operations # financial and administration	45,042
Unknown	256
Grand Total	1,027,213

5. FUTURE WORKPLAN

2017 is the last year of the current Country Programme. It is therefore a year for achieving results as well as laying the foundations for the start of the new Country Programme 2018-2022. As part of this strategy, the Child Protection component will focus on these tasks. In the area of capacity strengthening, it will continue working through the strategic partnerships already developed with EGPP and UNIPOL, and seek to forge new partnerships with other academic institutions.

In view of the importance of working in urban areas, the component will work with the municipal governments of El Alto and La Paz, together with the Departmental Government of La Paz, to gather information about the situation of children and adolescents who are currently unprotected.

Inter-institutional coordination is both key and a challenge for consolidating the integrated child protection system. As an example of the component's work in this area, it will focus on coordinating with the health sector to reduce the number of children and adolescents without identity documents. It will also consolidate the innovative model on the right to live within the family launched in 2015 in Cochabamba, intensifying the work in that department and replicating it in La Paz.

Table 6. Estimated Budget for 2017

Outcome Area 6: Child Protection
Bolivia
Planned Budget and Available Resources for 2017

Outcome	Funding Type	Planned Budget Budget ¹	Funded Budget ¹	Shortfall
Child Protection	RR	180,000	80,000	100,000
	ORR	1,200,000	101,867	1,098,133
Total for 2016		1,380,000	181,867	1,198,133

¹ Other Resources shortfall represents ORR funding required for the achievements of results in 2016.

6. EXPRESSION OF THANKS

In 2016, the government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia demonstrated its commitment to implement the CNNA, especially with regard to the Plurinational Integrated Protection System for Children and Adolescents and the Criminal Justice System for Adolescents, within the SDG framework. At both the national and the subnational level, it has been supported in this work by UNICEF Bolivia and, in particular, the sustained commitment of the Government of Sweden, which has continued to provide funding to protect Bolivian children and adolescents.

Despite this commitment, there are still many challenges to be addressed to ensure a protective environment that is free from violence against children and adolescents, both with regard to perceptions and understanding of the issue and the need to design more public policies and provide them with sufficient budgets.

The work done in 2016 has managed to consolidate the progress made, together with advances in new areas, thanks to the sustained commitment and support provided for many years by the Government of Sweden, which shares our mandate to protect children and adolescents against violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect, and ensure that the conditions are in place for their full development. We therefore wish to express our deep gratitude for the funding received from the Government of Sweden and the Government of Bolivia. We reaffirm our determination to continue working for the wellbeing of children, helping to achieve the results of both the UNICEF Country Programme 2013-2017 and the new Country Programme 2018-2022, where violence and the need to protect children and adolescents from all its forms will continue to be a key issue that cuts across all the work UNICEF does in Bolivia.

The donations made by the Kantar Group through the UNICEF National Committee in the United Kingdom, and the financial support provided by the telecommunications company TIGO, have likewise contributed to the achievement of the objectives and results outlined in this report. UNICEF Bolivia extends its thanks to them also for their commitment to children and adolescents in the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

ANNEX 1: HUMAN INTEREST STORY

Alternatives to the deprivation of liberty: the opportunity to change a life



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Julia acknowledges the importance of having had a psychologist by her side at all times since she was convicted. That is why she values the profession so highly: “To be a psychologist, you can’t just be interested in the salary. You need to have a good heart, the ability to listen, to understand and feel your patients’ emotions. You even need to be able to cry with them if that’s what’s needed.”

Do you remember the first time you fell in love? That febrile moment in adolescence when you can’t think about anything other than that special person; that dreamlike state of fantasy and delirium that takes you to extremes without heed of the consequences: to leave everything behind and escape from home, lie to your parents, suffer if you have to endure just a few minutes’ wait or silence, and even think about dying for that new and terrifying emotion...

Julia’s story could be yours or mine, your son’s or your daughter’s – the story of anyone who has ever in their life fallen in love with the wrong person.

Julia* is Bolivian, from the tropical city of Santa Cruz de la Sierra. She is now 18. When she was 14 she fell in love for the first time, with someone 15 years older. They met on a social networking site. Soon after they started going out together, Julia left her father and sister and went to live with him.

Julia’s mother had moved to Spain when she was 7 years old and had built a new life there. Her father, who was more than 70 years old, was the one who had to take care of the two girls and see to their upbringing. “He was far too protective: he treated us like precious jewels who had to be hidden away at home, isolated from the world. But he was also very harsh and words can hurt you more than blows.” Julia first ran away from home when she was 13. They found her five days later, following a search involving the police and even the media.

It was the first of a series of transgressions. Shortly afterwards, the 14-year-old Julia was targeted by a paedophile who seduced her and made her fall in love with him, eventually managing to get her to go and

live with him. But life with her 'partner' was very different to what Julia had dreamed. The intimacy of her new home was in fact isolation: a mixture of affection, violence and abuse that wore her down, consumed her, mortified and undermined her. Until the day when Julia said "enough". "There are days when I wake up and think what would have happened to me if I hadn't done what I did. I'd most likely be dead."

She was given four years. The first week awaiting trial she was held on remand in Palmasola prison, the 'prison village' or 'maximum insecurity prison', as this adult prison is popularly known. A girl on her own, surrounded by 3,000 detainees. "You looked around and you were scared of what could happen to you. That's not a place where you can recover, it's a place where everyone goes to ruin."

After the trial, she was moved to the detention centre for adolescents run by the Departmental Government of Santa Cruz, abiding by Article 277 of the Children and Adolescents Code.

Bolivia's Constitution provides for adolescents in detention to be given "preferential treatment by judicial, administrative and police authorities," stipulating that "they must not be detained in prisons assigned to adults, and the particular needs of their age group should be taken into account."⁴

Bolivia's Ombudspersons Office reports that implementation of the juvenile justice system in the country "has been slow and inefficient, and the situation of adolescents deprived of liberty has not improved."⁵ In the case of Santa Cruz, however, significant progress has been made with the implementation of the first Guidance Centre on Alternatives to the Deprivation of Liberty, which provides an opportunity to adolescents like Julia.

Julia recalls her time in detention with a degree of nostalgia: "The lack of privacy brings you down – sharing a dormitory, being surrounded by people talking and shouting all the time. It didn't take long before I unlearned all the manners I'd ever been taught: I ate badly, I spoke badly – I turned into a savage. But during that time I also made a lot of friends, I heard about people's really hard lives and I realised how privileged my family situation had been, protected by my father."

The judge assigned to her case ruled that during the last year of her sentence, Julia should attend the 'Centro Nueva Vida Santa Cruz' (Cenvicruz) guidance centre regularly, so that she could learn occupational skills to make it easier for her to reintegrate into society. She was given individual support by a psychologist and a social worker during this process.

UNICEF has been supporting the Departmental Government of Santa Cruz since 2009 to develop strategies to prevent crime and support adolescents in conflict with the law, especially by setting up the guidance centre that Julia attends. This centre is the first in Bolivia and it is producing very good results that should now be scaled up.

At Cenvicruz, Julia decided to train to be a beautician, and she is now working at a beauty salon as a manicurist. She will finish her sentence in a month's time. She is saving up to take professional training courses, with the aim of starting her own business in the future.

There are many risk factors that may lead an adolescent to commit a crime, including their family, community and socio-economic situation. It might be the lack of positive role models in the family, dysfunctional family relationships, peer pressure from friends, joining a gang, the school system that tolerates violence and discrimination, or social services that fail to reach them with prevention and guidance strategies.

Whatever the reason, if they do commit a crime, adolescents have the right to receive special treatment that is appropriate for their age. They also deserve a new opportunity. Alternatives to the deprivation of liberty for adolescents and guidance centres with multidisciplinary teams of support workers are options

⁴ Article 23 of the Constitution of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

⁵ Defensoría del Pueblo del Estado Plurinacional de Bolivia: "Informe de verificación defensorial a centros de detención para adolescentes en conflicto con la ley", April 2016. To access the report: [link](#)

that can be used by the judges who are responsible for sentencing, and they have been shown to work. Julia's story is proof of that.



Depending on the severity of the crime, the judge decides what kind of work and training the adolescent has to do in the 'Centro Nueva Vida Santa Cruz' (Cenvicruz) guidance centre in order to achieve their reintegration into society. ©UNICEF Bolivia/2016/Simcic

(*) Names have been changed to protect the young people's identity

ANNEX 2: DONOR COMMENTS FORM

UNICEF is working to improve the quality of its reports, so we welcome your comments. Please answer the following questions about this report and send the completed form to:

Name: Katarina Johansson Mekoulou, Deputy Representative

Email: kjohansson@unicef.org

SCORING: 5 means "entirely satisfied"

0 means "not at all satisfied"

1. To what extent did the narrative content of the report meet your expectations? (for example, general analysis and identification of challenges and solutions)

5

4

3

2

1

0

2. To what extent did the reporting on the use of funds meet your expectations?

5

4

3

2

1

0

If you are not satisfied, please tell us what information is lacking and how we can improve the report next time.

3. To what extent did the report meet your expectations regarding the identification of difficulties and constraints, and how these were addressed?

5

4

3

2

1

0

If you are not satisfied, please tell us what information is lacking and how we can improve the report next time.

4. To what extent did the report meet your expectations regarding the results achieved?

5

4

3

2

1

0

If you are not satisfied, please tell us what information is lacking and how we can improve the report next time.

5. Please suggest how we can improve this report to meet your expectations.

6. Do you have any other comments you would like to share with us?

Many thanks for your response!