

Submission in follow-up to HRC resolution 15/25 “The Right to Development”

UNICEF

I. Key Section’s Targets and Strategies

The key targets of the Policy Advocacy and Knowledge Management Section for 2010 were to provide leadership and guidance in the areas of social and economic policies, policy advocacy and knowledge management by (i) supporting UNICEF’s contributions in poverty and disparities, social budgeting and crisis recovery, social protection and migration; (ii) leveraging governments and donors for children’s rights; (iii) strengthening UNICEF’s policy advocacy publications portfolio, enhancing its external presence on the UNICEF website and promoting tools to guide policy advocacy across the organization; (iv) lead knowledge management by creating a framework, products and tools such as Communities of Practice.

II. Analysis of Strategies and Results Achieved

a. Social and Economic Policy Advocacy

Global Initiative on Child Poverty and Disparities

- The Global Initiative on Child Poverty and Disparities links together all major regions where UNICEF operates promoting a critical shift in international development thinking and practice towards the issue of equity for children and protection for the most vulnerable through nationally owned analyses, high profile policy partnerships and exchange of lessons learnt. In 2010 further 6 countries have joined this major UNICEF Initiative raising the total number of countries covered to 52. Out of a the 18 country reports produced and published so far under the Initiative, 13 were submitted in 2010 (Djibouti, Egypt, Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Niger, Philippines, Kosovo, Tanzania, Thailand, Ukraine, Nicaragua and Indian Ocean Islands). So far 27 draft country reports have been peer reviewed, 6 of them were reviewed in 2010. In 2010 a Child Poverty Portal was developed using the DevInfo software which includes a clickable map and child poverty country profiles for 36 countries and several “Child Poverty Insights” publications were produced.
- Impact of this Global Initiative is already evident in many countries. Findings created useful input into development plans and influenced policy priorities: in Cameroon, for example, the study findings were used in the diagnostics for the Growth and Employment Strategic Paper for 2010-2020. In Democratic Republic of Congo the recommendations of the study have been taken into account during the preparation of second generation PRSP and the 2010 Priority Action Plan. In Kosovo the Study has widened child-centered perspective and the Study data was used by policy makers to inform the drafting of the Resolution on the Millennium Declaration endorsed by the Kosovo Assembly, and a White Paper on Social Inclusion. The Senegal Study was used as input of the PRSP 3rd generation elaboration and has triggered a series of national and local debates around the issue of Planning and budgeting for children. In Ukraine the Study provided UNICEF Ukraine with a platform to actively participate in the development of the new Poverty Reduction and Prevention Programme for 2010-2015. In Tanzania the Study results highlighted the dire need to develop legislation on children’s rights and consequently the Law of the Child Act was adopted by the government at the end of 2009, which provides the legislative framework to address the recommendations and gaps identified. , The Study has also provided an impetus for measuring multidimensional child poverty through official statistics: Morocco’s Statistics

Office, UNICEF and the National Observatory for Children's Rights signed in April 2010 a MoU to cooperate in the collection, analysis and dissemination of data related to children.

- The Child Poverty Network is UNICEF's second largest knowledge network with over 1,000 members (when launched in late 2008 it had around 700 members). Network members hail from 150 countries and various organizations - UNICEF and other UN agencies, academia, national statistics offices, governments, research institutes, NGOs and other organizations and exchange lively discussions, technical and information updates on policies promoting equity. .

Social Budgeting and crisis response – a Recovery for All

- Policy and Practice developed and launched the 'Recovery for All' initiative to facilitate UNICEF offices and development partners in their efforts to assist governments in ensuring that economic recovery policies are pro-poor and socially inclusive. It also carried out a major review of macroeconomic policies 'Prioritizing Expenditures for a Recovery for All' through a meta-analysis of fiscal projection data published by the IMF and assessed the potential risks for children and poor households in 126 countries at a time when global economic recovery is fragile and uneven.

- Policy and Practice supports UNICEF's social budgeting engagement in 95 countries. In 2010 Policy and Practice co-hosted with the Fordham University a Policy Research Forum on Social Budgeting during the Crisis in February 2010 with participation by researchers from the World Bank, IMF, the International Budget Project, UNDP, UNESCO and academic partners. It also created an international database on innovations/innovators in child-friendly budgets in partnership with a consortium of social budgeting initiatives, and supported the "4th International Policy Conference on the African Child" focusing on "Budgeting for Children" in partnership with Regional and Country Offices. To support field colleagues with technical issues, a Social Policy Expert Roster with 300 experts' profiles (both individual and institutional) was developed in addition to regular technical support to UNICEF field offices.

- The Recovery for All e-discussion was launched in early 2010. This global network is the largest UNICEF-led knowledge network composed of 1,549 members including academics, UN and other multilateral organizations professionals, government members, etc. Contributors have included Paul Krugman, Princeton University; Sir Richard Jolly and Jose Antonio Ocampo, former UN Under-Secretary General, among many others.

- Policy and Practice has partnered up with UNICEF GMA and UN Pulse to sustain UNICEF's high profile in crisis monitoring. It has launched a major review of existing real-time monitoring efforts for the most vulnerable, including through field work in at least 8 countries.

Migration

- UNICEF works on international migration in 61 countries. UNICEF is a member and incoming chair of the Global Migration Group (GMG). Through 2010 UNICEF worked closely with UNDP and other partners and its inputs were reflected in high-level policy documents on migration and human rights, such as the Report of Secretary General for the UN General Assembly on the protection of migrants, and the outcome recommendations to Member States of the Practitioners Symposium.

- In 2010 UNICEF made substantial inputs in flagship publications on international migration. It contributed to the *Handbook on Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning*, which was launched at the 2010 Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) in Puerto Vallarta,

Mexico and provided 3 country case studies in the IOM flagship publication 2010 World Migration Report focusing on capacity development.

- Technical support and guidance was provided to UNICEF field offices working on migration policy issues, including human rights, legislative reform, social protection, migration statistics and survey methodology (including Afghanistan, Bolivia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Morocco, ROSA, TACRO, Tajikistan and Thailand). A draft policy and programme guidance handbook aimed at supporting UNICEF field offices in planning and developing initiatives on children and migration has also been produced.
- In early 2010, DPP launched MigrantInfo (www.MigrantInfo.org), an online database containing data on indicators related to global migration which allows users to generate tables, graphs and maps using the latest available estimates of the international migrant stock, disaggregated by age and gender.
- UNICEF, IOM and UNHCR have formed a Tripartite Working Group to strengthen coordination in relation to the protection of unaccompanied and separated children in mixed migratory flows. DPP is working with other divisions and offices (PD/Child Protection, PFP and Brussels) on this issue.

Social Protection

- UNICEF currently has 124 social protection programs in 76 countries making UNICEF . UNICEF played a key role in 2010 in supporting the expansion and strengthening of national social protection programmes which benefit children in a large number of countries in Africa. It made major contributions to the Social Protection Floor Initiative which seeks to provide comprehensive support to countries such as Burkina Faso, Haiti, Nepal or Thailand. Internationally, UNICEF raised visibility of the Initiative in international fora through presentations at the International Poverty Conference in Beijing, the China-ASEA Workshop on Social Assistance and developed a Social Protection Costing Tool for country programmes jointly with ILO.
- Policy and Practice carried out advocacy on increasing child-sensitivity of social protection through publications and presentations, reaching a wide range of government counterparts, UN and development partners, and civil society, for example, briefing on “Social Protection: Accelerating the MDGs with Equity” prepared for the MDG summit, Social ADB regional training, World Bank staff training, ILO-run trainings for national government staff.
- Through a joint project with the Save the Children UK and the University of North Carolina, UNICEF is supporting policy makers and researchers in Africa to better understand the impacts of cash transfers for children and how to improve programme design. UNICEF has played a leadership role in strengthening social protection as part of UNAIDS strategy; collaborated with the Institute for Development Studies to document good social protection practice in Kenya, Mongolia, and Zambia; supported the Inter-Parliamentarian Union to organize a workshop for African parliamentarians on social protection response for children in the context of HIV/AIDS.
- During 2010 a draft internal Social Protection Programme Guidance Note has been developed in close consultation with DPP, PD, country and regional offices. In addition, systematic support was provided on social protection to other divisions and sections – Education, Child Protection, HIV/AIDS, Nutrition, Health, EMOPS, and backstopping of regional advisors support to country offices.

Leveraging - Collaboration with IMF, the World Bank and the European Commission

- UNICEF Policy and Practice, together with UNICEF GMA, engaged the IMF in a closer collaboration to support mutual interests in ensuring that economic adjustment policies do not have adverse impacts on vulnerable children and their families. Eleven pilot countries were initially selected to participate in the

collaborative partnership, and a host of other UNICEF COs have since built on the global momentum to engage in closer collaboration with the IMF.

- Collaboration with the World Bank on Social Protection was deepened further in 2010 through consultative meetings and mutual sharing of draft organizational frameworks and guidance strategies on social protection. In several countries (e.g. Burkina Faso, Mali) UNICEF now acts as a de facto caretaker/focal point for World Bank social protection programmes.
- As part of the Child Rights Toolkit project and in partnership with Overseas Development Institute, European Commission, and selected UNICEF field offices, a toolkit for incorporating child rights in poverty reduction strategies, national development plans, and sector action plans was developed. Similarly a toolkit on Social Budgeting was developed. In addition six policy research initiatives/studies reviewing and building on the evidence base in social budget work and underpinning the EC Toolkit as well as UNICEF's country office policy work and technical assistance was completed and submitted to peer-reviewed professional economic journals.

UNICEF's social and economic working paper and working briefs series

Five key working papers in 2010. UNICEF staff members and consultants of PAKM wrote most of these reports. External contributions were also received, notably from Giovanni Andrea Cornia and Bruno Martorano, and Rodolfo de la Garza. Key topics covered included the issue of global economic crisis and its impact on children; migration, development and children; policies to reduce income inequality in Latin America; better public finance policies for women and children; and prioritizing expenditures for children and women to ensure an equitable recovery for all. A further six working papers, concentrating on economic crisis and children, are being readied for publication pending approval by end-December 2010. Most of these are related to a joint UNICEF-ODI conference and are written by ODI staff members.

In addition the working papers, four working briefs were also produced. These are shorter versions of the working papers that give a broad overview of key issues. The impact of food and financial crises were the key topics covered in working briefs. Other topics covered included the imperative of protecting the salaries of frontline teachers and health workers, and child-sensitive social protection as catalyst for achieving the MDGs with equity. Eight *Child Poverty Insights* were also published in 2010, and translated into French and Spanish. These pieces, presented the form of questions and answers, present the perspectives on key topics of prominent authors from leading institutions/academia, such as Jomo K. Sundaram (UN Assistant Secretary General), Armando Barrientos (Brooks World Poverty Institute), NailaKabeer (School of Oriental and African Studies), Paul Collier (Oxford University), and Deepa Narayan (World Bank). Full details of all the publications produced by the PAKM section can be found in the Annex.

Support a public website on social and economic policy and children:

Enhancing the section's output on the UNICEF website was a key focus of 2010 activities. To this end, the unit has regularly facilitating web updates on topics related to economic and social policy, together with an editorial calendar and monthly external newsletters; actively tracked monthly web traffic statistics and built a base of Twitter followers; and actively encouraged partners (and other UNICEF sub-sites/portals) to link to our site. The unit has also streamlined the process of getting to the social policy page from the home page, making it just a little easier to access the section's output. The functionality of the SPEA website remains limited, however, due to overall constraints on web development within DOC. In late 2010 PAU has begun to work with DOC on revising the site in 2011.

Strengthen UNICEF's approach to policy advocacy through the creation and dissemination of guidance and tool:

In conjunction with other UNICEF divisions, notably PFP, Furthermore, the unit was also instrumental in publishing a key new organizational product – the Advocacy Toolkit – that will have a strong impact on structuring UNICEF's advocacy by field offices, headquarters and National Committees in the coming years. This major undertaking provides tools and detailed assistance formulating and assessing successful advocacy strategies. The toolkit is currently in strong demand and is set to receive a broad dissemination, with an additional 800-1,000 copies due to be printed and disseminated in late 2010 and 2011, and training set for National Committees and the ESARO regional office in early 2011. In addition, the unit supported the development of first draft indicators/benchmarks for COs to evaluate advocacy performance. It also continued to facilitate the Advocacy Community of Practice, which membership has almost doubled in the first half of 2010 – from about 100 members in January 2010 to over 200 members by the end of 2010.

Finally, in its outreach, the Policy and Advocacy Unit also led to creation of organizational messages on topical issues such as the economic crisis and climate. After a brief hiatus in mid-2010, the inter-divisional taskforce on corporate messages is being reformed, co-chaired by the Policy Advocacy unit and DOC.

b. Knowledge Management

Develop, promote and implement the UNICEF Knowledge Management (KM) Framework

An advanced draft of the KM Strategic Framework has been produced and recently distributed to members of the Global Management Team for their Review. A paper on the current status of KM has been drafted for presentation to the February 2011 Executive Board. A draft framework for measurement of knowledge management has been produced. Performance management standards for knowledge management in country offices have been developed and integrated into COARs and the organizations performance monitoring system.

Develop and manage effective networks for generation and sharing of knowledge to support UNICEF at all levels as well as development practitioners in advancing the rights of children and women

- More than 25 communities on a variety of topics now exist with a total of more 2,100 members. A global workshop on community leadership took place during February – March 2010. Over 3,300 UNICEF staff now have a “social profile”.
- The ‘In Practice’ database now contains over 900 examples of innovations, lessons learned and good practice. Three thematic newsletters have been (MDGs scaling up, C4D and Equity). A second *Field Notes* publication was produced on Education in post-crisis transition which included case studies from DRC, Nepal and South Sudan).
- An organizational taxonomy has been produced to ensure the consistent description of UNICEF knowledge and facilitate easy access and retrieval
- A series of global webinars (Conversations in KM) was inaugurated and 10 conducted on topics including use of research database subscriptions; social media; and lessons learned.

108 Selective Dissemination of Information Research Digests were produced in 2010 (nine digests, each sent monthly) which are sent to over 2500 UNICEF staff members. A UNICEF History site successfully redesigned, updated, and launched on [unicef.org \(http://www.unicef.org/about/history/index.html\)](http://www.unicef.org/about/history/index.html).

- The introduction of the use of webinars and other real time technologies has greatly improved our outreach to the field and our ability to share experience and provide remote training, and respond quickly to questions from the field. These can, and have, also been used in some circumstances to participate remotely in global and regional meetings helping reduce travel costs.

c. Overarching Shortfalls

Budgetary constraints have become a critical issue in 2010. The current climate of overall reductions in aid allocations accompanied by demand for proven impacts is unfavourable for UNICEF's policy and partnership engagement. Benefits from these typically come after several years of investment and attribution is less straightforward than for more direct interventions.

In addition, retaining high quality staff with strong analytical skills and economic policy backgrounds is difficult, due to staff mobility, competition from other agencies as well as uneven priority given to economic and social policy issues within the organization.

There is an increasing interest across the organization to develop communities of practice including externally focussed ones. Despite this interest there is insufficient senior management support or budgetary allocation to be able to adequately respond to this demand. Similarly, only one additional issue of the new Field Notes series was completed due to budgetary constraints, and despite a good reception and strong interest, we were unable to continue it beyond the pilot phase due to lack of funding. The fact that funding for SharePoint or an alternative enterprise content management and collaboration platform at the organizational level has not yet been allocated limits the development of standards and support for documents and records management.

In summary, funding for policy advocacy and knowledge management work remain uncertain and unpredictable. Resources available for 2010 were significantly reduced from earlier levels and the prospects for 2011 are highly uncertain. So a number of promising activities have been scaled back or stopped.

III. Innovations and Lessons Learned

PAKM has built up trust and interest among the network of social and economic advisors and other staff in UNICEF regions and will build on this, as well as with its external partners, to lead FA5 and knowledge management tasks in UNICEF's 2006-2013 MTSP. Lessons learnt include:

- Turning challenges such as the recent economic crisis into an opportunity for addressing child deprivations and gaps in policy responses. PAKM will continue to focus on promoting a "Recovery for All", supporting countries to protect social budgets, develop social protection systems and monitoring of vulnerabilities.
- The importance of stronger evidence-based advocacy for equity, taking advantage of issues which capture global attention, creating more frequent and compelling products on economic and social policy.

- The need to support governments costing social policies, such as cash transfers, as well as expenditures necessary to accelerate the MDGs.
- The importance of improving real-time monitoring systems to supplement statistics that take years to deliver evidence on the status of children.
- There is great demand and need in the organization for more guidance and expertise on policy advocacy.

Based on this, some innovations were created in 2010 to assist UNICEF's work. Among them, we highlight the UNICEF-ILO social protection costing tool, the Global Pulse real-time monitoring of the most vulnerable, and the role of communities of practice, presented in the attachments.

UNICEF-ILO Social Protection Costing Tool: This tool fills an important technical gap. It allows costing of different cash transfers (child benefits, birth grants, education stipend, disability benefits and others) and helps examining the affordability and sustainability of extending social protection coverage by providing concrete quantitative figures over a 20 year period, to allow a policy dialogue with governments.

Real-Time Monitoring of the Most Vulnerable is an UN initiative aimed at assessing, supporting and scaling up of existing innovations - including community-based monitoring initiatives, sentinel site surveys and other quantitative or qualitative data collection efforts - around administrative systems, national or local programmes to produce high frequency data on social vulnerability.

Communities of Practice: The CoP concept has now been introduced in UNICEF as a key element in UNICEF's Knowledge Management approach. A new collaborative platform has been developed combining Web 2.0 (blogs, wikis, discussion fora etc.) and social networking (e.g. social profiles) capabilities to support CoPs. Twenty-five CoPs, in various stages of development, are now using this platform. PAKM has worked closely with various offices to support them in setting up communities including with defining scope, planning, engagement of members and facilitation.

IV. Studies, Surveys, Evaluations and Publications completed in 2010

5 working papers:

- Ronald Mendoza 2010, 'Inclusive Crises, Exclusive Recoveries, and Policies to Prevent a Double Whammy for the Poor'
- Rodolfo de la Garza 2010, 'Migration, Development and Children Left Behind'
- Giovanni Andrea Cornia and Bruno Martorano 2010, 'Policies for Reducing Income Inequality: Latin America During the Last Decade'
- Isabel Ortiz, Jingqing Chai, Matthew Cummins and Gabriel Vergara 2010, 'Prioritizing Expenditures for a Recovery for All'
- Social Policy and Economic Analysis Unit UNICEF 2010, 'Advancing the Rights of Children, Women and Poor Families through Better Public Finance Policies'

6 working papers pending:

- Victor Abramovich, Pablo CerianiCernadas, Alejandro Morlachetti, 2010 'Migration, Children and Human Rights: Challenges and Opportunities'
- Nicola Jones, Hannah Marsden ODI 2010 'Assessing the Impacts of and Responses to the 1997-1998 Asian Financial Crisis through a Child Rights Lens'
- Paola Pereznieta, ODI 2010 'The Impacts of the Economic Shocks on Children in Latin America'
- Rachel Marcus ODI 2010 'Transition to a Market Economy and Children's Rights'
- Caroline Harper, Nicola Jones, Andy McKay ODI 2010, 'Including Children In Policy Responses To Economic Crises: Lessons From The Past And Policies For A Sustainable Future'
- Rachel Marcus ODI 2010 'Kyrgyzstan in a Regional Perspective'

4 Working Briefs

- Mendoza, R. 2010, 'Two Years into the Crisis: Signs of Severe Coping Strategies that are Impacting on Children'
- Chai, J., Ortiz, I., Sire, X. 2010, 'Protecting Salaries of Frontline Teachers and Health Workers'
- Mendoza, R., Torres, M. 2010, 'Aftershocks from the Global Food Crisis'
- Isabel Ortiz, Gaspar Fajth, Jennifer Yablonski and Amjad Rabi, 'Social Protection: Accelerating the MDGs with Equity'

Field Notes

- DPP/IKM, Evaluation Office, PD/Education Section "Field Notes: Education in Conflict and Transition Contexts"

7 Child Poverty Insights

- Hugh Waddington and Birte Sniltveit, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), "Measuring policy effectiveness through impact evaluation" Child Poverty Insights
- Deepa Narayan, "The Dynamics of Poverty" Child Poverty Insights
- Paul Collier, Oxford University "The Plundered Planet and The Bottom Billion: Why the mismanagement of nature matters for the world's most vulnerable" Child Poverty Insights
- Bill Kerry, Kate E. Pickett and Richard Wilkinson "The Spirit Level: Why Greater Equality makes Societies Stronger" Child Poverty Insights
- Jomo Kwame Sundaram, UN Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development (UNDESA) "Rethinking Poverty: Report on the World Social Situation 2010" Child Poverty Insights
- Naila Kabeer, School of Oriental and African Studies "Can the MDGs provide a pathway to social justice? The challenge of intersecting inequalities" Child Poverty Insights
- Armando Barrientos (University of Manchester) "Just Give Money to the Poor - and Children Will Benefit" Child Poverty Insights