

SOCIAL POLICY, ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION

The programme consists of two cross-sectoral and mutually reinforcing components: (1) Social Policy, Planning, Information and Monitoring (SPPIM); and (2) Programme Communication. The programme indirectly contributes to all of the MDGs and supports the monitoring of the PARPA II implementation.

The objectives of the SPPIM component is to support advocacy and policy engagement and develop capacity to increase the availability and use of strategic information in planning and policy-making in all sectors key to the realisation of child rights. This component includes three sub-components: (1) Social Policy and Advocacy; (2) Strategic Information; and (3) Decentralised Capacity Building for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation.

The main implementing partners are the Ministry of Planning and Development (MPD), the National Institute of Statistics (INE), the Ministry of Women and Social Action (MMAS), the National AIDS Council, AWEPA, Sociedade Aberta, and Fundação para o Desenvolvimento da Comunidade.

The objectives of the Programme Communication component are to empower young people, families, communities and service providers with the information and knowledge that is required to reinforce positive behaviour, improve their well-being and help guarantee the rights of others. This component consists of three sub-components: (1) Advocacy and Partnerships for Child Rights; (2) Community Mobilisation and Awareness; and (3) Young People Participation.

The main implementing partners are the National AIDS Council, the National Youth Council, the Ministry of Education and Culture, the Ministry of Health, MMAS the Social Communication Institute, Radio Mozambique, Mozambican Television, Community Radio Forum, Manica Social Education Group, National Song and Dance Company, Community Theatre Network, PLHIV Association Network (RENSIDA), Hope for African Children Initiative, International HIV Alliance, Nweti/Soul City and MISA Mozambique.

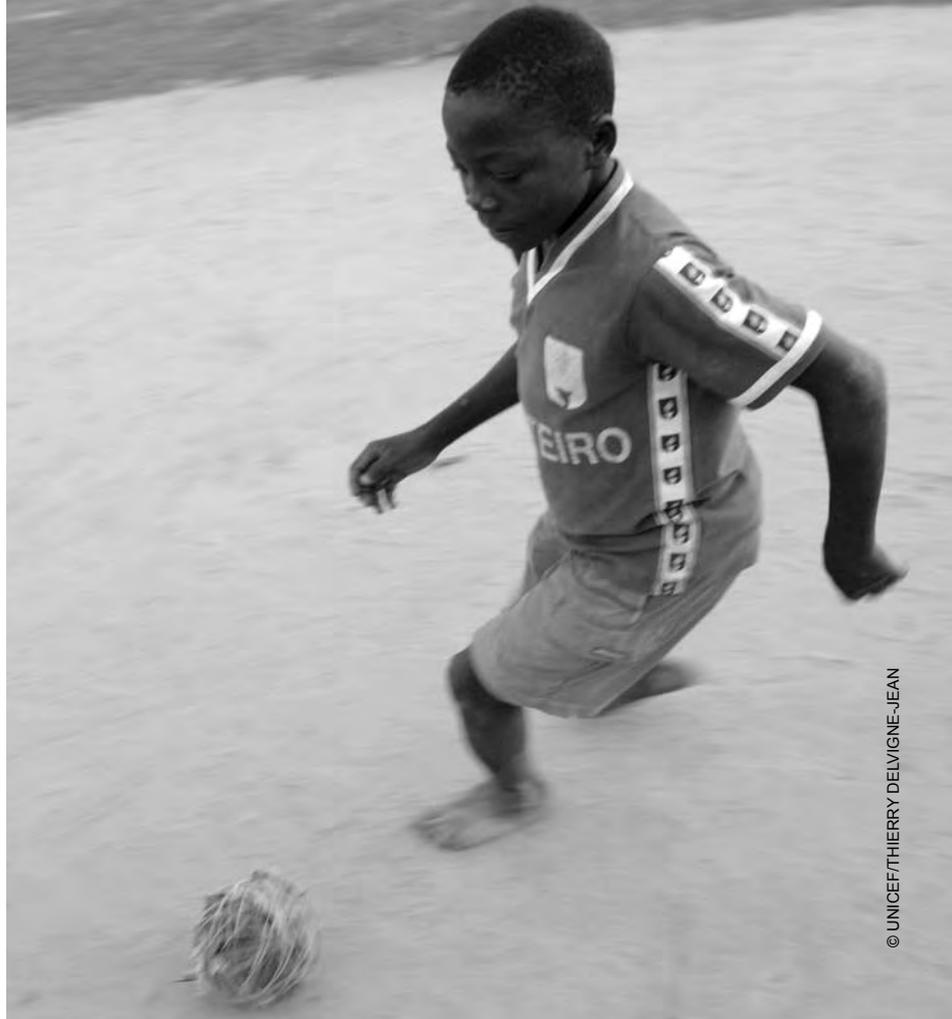
In addition, in the Social Policy, Advocacy and Communication programme, UNICEF works in close collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNFPA, WHO, UNAIDS and UNESCO.

Key Results in 2007

Partners in the programme helped achieve the following results:

- 90 per cent of UNICEF financial commitment was recorded on the 2008 State Budget, constituting a major step towards the alignment principles of the Paris Declaration.
- The report *Childhood Poverty in Mozambique: A Situation and Trends Analysis*, offering a broad range of strategic information on child development, was widely disseminated and used to influence budget allocation for children.
- Around 1 million people in 62 districts of eight provinces were reached with information on the importance of basic education, HIV, malaria and cholera prevention.
- 32,000 children and young people were involved in child-to-child live radio programmes in 30 districts (25 per cent of all districts in the country), discussing issues of girls' education, HIV prevention, cholera prevention, child rights, sports and culture.
- A child-friendly media network was established with the involvement of 89 journalists and communicators (nine per cent of journalists registered in the Journalists' Union) and were trained on child rights.





Achievements

Social Policy, Information and Monitoring

Strategic information relating to the survival, development and wellbeing of children was available for use in planning, programming and policy-making through the extensive dissemination of the report *Childhood Poverty in Mozambique: A Situation and Trends Analysis* at national and provincial levels. Support was provided to the National Directorate of Studies and Policy Analysis to conduct high quality research and to INE to develop and disseminate a new version of ESDEM, the national DevInfo database providing the most updated and comprehensive data on child development available in the country. As a result of active engagement of governmental lead focal points and partners, child development concerns were prominently highlighted in the Aide Memoires from the Joint Annual and Mid-Year Reviews between the Government and the Programme Aid Partnership. During the first half of the year, UNICEF continued its role as chair of the HIV/AIDS Partners Forum (or SWAp) prior to transitioning the responsibility to UNAIDS. During the year, UNICEF was also appointed as joint Pillar Lead of the Human Capital Pillar of the

PARPA, coordinating four Programme Aid Partnership Working Groups in areas critical to child development (Health, Education, Water and Social Action).

Programme Communication

In 2007, a Joint Programme entitled Civil Society and Child Rights was jointly developed by SIDA, the Save the Children Alliance, a range of national and international civil society partners, UNESCO and UNICEF. The purpose of this programme is to strengthen the capacity of civil society organisations advocating for, and working toward, the realisation of children's rights. The programme focuses on capacity building, advocacy and social mobilisation, and community participation. The programme is already showing results, as it is strengthening the capacity of civil society partners to "speak with one voice" in advocating for children's rights. The programme is also helping to create an expanded network of organisations working on child rights, strengthening overall coordination and sharing of best practices and lessons learned between the large group of partners.

Through funds from UNICEF National Committees, UNICEF supported the activities of multimedia mobile units to raise awareness on the importance of basic education, HIV, malaria and cholera prevention. 550,000 people in 62 districts in eight provinces were reached with life-saving messages. While the impact of activities conducted through mobile units is too early to assess in terms of behaviour change, an evaluation of the programme indicated that this type of activities was the only way to reach remote rural areas in the country. In addition, community theatre activities tackling various social issues, reached an additional 400,000 people in 60 districts. The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Justice were supported to implement the maternal and neonatal tetanus campaign and birth registration interventions with the production of key communication material as well as training of social communication activists.

The expansion of child-to-child media programmes, in partnership with Radio Mozambique, Television Mozambique, National Community Radio Forum, N'weti and PLHIV organisations empowered 561 children and adolescents as

FOCUS ON

Unite for Children

Unite against AIDS.

Unite for Children. Unite against AIDS is a five-year campaign aimed at putting children at the centre of the national response to AIDS. The campaign, which involves governmental, non-governmental and UN partners, is an urgent call for action to raise awareness about the devastating impact of the pandemic on children and to scale up all prevention, treatment, care and support programmes for children.

The campaign focuses on four key result areas known as the 'Four Ps': Prevention of new infections among young people, Prevention of mother-to-child transmission, Paediatric treatment of AIDS and Protection of orphaned and vulnerable children.

The First Lady of Mozambique is the Patroness of the campaign and has been proactively engaged in leading a range of partners in the call for action in support of children affected by the AIDS pandemic.

In 2007, PLHIV associations continued to support prevention programmes for primary school children resulting in the participation of 469,367 children, over half of whom were girls, in debates, theatre groups and sports activities related to life skills, encouraging informed decisions to prevent HIV infection and delay the onset of sexual relationships.

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The Ministry of Health, in collaboration with non-governmental partners and UNICEF, supported the establishment of new PMTCT sites. The number of sites offering PMTCT services has increased to 384 as of September 2007, up from 222 by the end of 2006. All PMTCT services are integrated into existing antenatal care facilities. In terms of paediatric treatment, as of end September 2007, 6,068 children under 15 years were receiving treatment (18 per cent coverage), compared to 3,013 in 2006 (representing nine per cent coverage).

In the area of protection, joint efforts of MMAS and partners resulted in 160,000 children being reached with at least three out of six basic services - health, education, nutritional and food support, financial support, legal and psycho-social support. In addition, MMAS in coordination with non-governmental organisations and UNICEF supported the provision of a basic package of materials to 10,000 most vulnerable children, the majority living in child-headed households. At the end of 2007, collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, the Government of the Netherlands and UNICEF resulted in the birth registration of over 800,000 children. Birth registration, a fundamental right and the first legal acknowledgement of a child's existence, is especially important for orphaned and vulnerable children as it facilitates their access to free basic services and social protection and is crucial in guaranteeing their right to inheritance, providing proof of their identity.

producers and presenters in media programmes. A total of 32,000 children and young people were involved in child-to-child live radio programmes in 30 districts (25 per cent of all districts in the country), which included discussions on issues related to girls' education, HIV prevention, cholera prevention, child rights, sports and culture. The National and Provincial Youth Councils increased youth participation in key decision-making fora, with 52 selected representatives taking part in school councils, consultative committees and provincial Development Observatories in six provinces, and involving over 500 young people in trainings related to PARPA monitoring processes.

During the 2007 emergencies, at least 21,507 families – 107,534 people – in accommodation centres and host communities were reached through hygiene promotion activities carried out by health officials, community activists and NGO partners supported by UNICEF through the provision of hygiene education flip charts and cholera leaflets. Mobile units and theatre groups were also supported to convey messages related to hygiene and HIV.

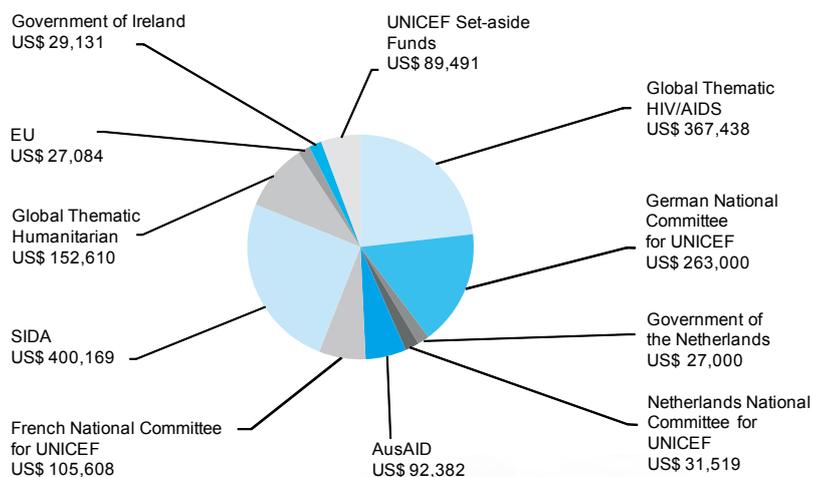


Funding in 2007

Breakdown of funds by source, 2007

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|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Regular Resources | US\$ 2,094,005 |
| Other Resources | US\$ 1,438,616 |
| Other Resources - Emergency | US\$ 220,439 |
| Total Amount Utilised | US\$ 3,753,060 |

Breakdown of funds by donor: Other Resources (including Emergency)



FOCUS ON

Recording UNICEF financial support on-budget

Knowing the totality of available public resources – both domestic and development assistance – is a key precondition for equitable policy-driven, rational allocations of public funds for children. Funds that are fully or partially outside the budget process are termed 'off-budget.' In Mozambique, such funds are comprised mainly of aid flows, although sector-own revenues (often lacking a legal basis) are also problematic. Off-budget funds undermine the Government's efforts to prioritise, plan, budget, monitor and evaluate effectively, damaging the credibility and importance of the budget process, creating costly duplication of reporting mechanisms and weakening the executive's accountability to Parliament.

Typically, development assistance provided through the UN family in Mozambique has been largely off-budget. One reason underlying this situation is the limited alignment of the annual UN planning and budgeting cycle with the Government's cycle. As a result, the UN was lagging behind in meeting target three of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness – halving the proportion of off-budget aid flows to the Government. The United Nations Country Team in Mozambique decided to address this situation by adapting its 2008 planning milestones to those of the Government.

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The Way Forward

In 2007, in the area of social policy, planning, information and monitoring, UNICEF will continue to support MPD research agenda in the production and dissemination of high quality research of relevance to child development. In conjunction with UNDP and other development partners, technical assistance to MPD will also be provided for the establishment of a specific Aid Coordination Unit to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry to coordinate the Joint Review processes.

The capacity of INE to generate and disseminate strategic information relevant to child development will also be supported through: (i) development and dissemination of provincial and district socio-economic profiles for the southern region of the country using the 2007 Population Census results; (ii) establishment of a web-version of ESDEM; (iii) updating of the ESDEM database and establishment of ESDEM provincial databases; (iv) finalisation and dissemination of the Child Labour report and Gender Statistical Profile; and (v) implementation of household surveys for PARPA monitoring, ensuring the inclusion of indicators for measurement of childhood poverty. Support will be provided to the development of standard guidelines for the harmonisation of planning instruments across provinces.



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Lastly, support will also be provided to the planning committees in focus districts so as to strengthen the capacity of these districts in planning and budgeting.

In Programme Communication, support will be given to the implementation of the Window of Hope communication initiative led by the National AIDS Council, including mass media and community-based social mobilisation activities nation-wide, in order to accelerate national efforts for HIV prevention among children. Relevant ministries will also receive support to the design and implementation of campaigns on breastfeeding, sanitation and immunisation in order to ensure scale-up of interventions in these areas. The Child-Friendly Media Network will be further strengthened to promote social demand for the realisation of child rights.

Furthermore, the capacity of multimedia mobile units to effectively deliver key behaviour and social change communication activities will be enhanced through trainings and the production of materials for staff and theatre groups. Children and young people will receive ongoing support to participate in decision-making fora and community-based activities through the empowerment of at least 800 children and young people producing and presenting child-to-child media programmes and through the involvement of 150 children and young people in local, provincial and national decision-making fora in eight provinces.

This initiative was also critical within the framework of the UN coherence agenda and the Delivering as One UN initiative to reflect efforts being made by the UN family to honour the principles of the Paris Declaration.

The UN family conducted a system-wide planning exercise in partnership with concerned ministries to develop the 2008 Annual Work Plan at the same time as the Government's 2008 national planning and budgeting exercise, which took place in May and June 2007. A specific format was developed for use by all UN agencies. This format was similar to the Annual Work Plan format of the United Nations Development Group, although it did not include details of activities and only focused on expected results and budgets. All key results and budgets were consolidated for all sectors and communicated to the Government by the UN in July 2007, in time for inclusion into the Government 2008 plans and budget.

In addition to this initiative, UNICEF actively engaged in the Budget Working Group of the Programme Aid Partners, which consists of the 19 donors that provide budget support to the Government, and followed-up directly with the Ministry of Finance to ensure that the financial figures communicated to the sectors through the UN-wide planning exercise were correctly registered by the Ministry of Finance.

As a result of these efforts, 90 per cent of UNICEF's financial commitment to the Government for 2008 has been recorded on-budget in comparison to 30 per cent in 2007. As such, UNICEF Mozambique has met the alignment target of the Paris Declaration related to halving the proportion of aid flows to government sector not reported on government's budget (with at least 85 per cent reported on budget).