Lebanon Country Office - Child Protection Strategy Note

1. Introduction
The overall aim of the Child Protection and GBV programme component is that by 2020, boys, girls and women at risk and survivors of violence, exploitation and abuse have access to an improved and equitable prevention and response.

The programme components are in line with the overall Country Programme of Lebanon and its vision which focuses on ensuring equity for all children in Lebanon through evidence-based advocacy, inclusive national systems’ and greater participation and engagement. Furthermore, the child protection and GBV key priorities are guided by the CRC and CEDAW. The child protection programme will contribute to the outcome of the National Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour (2013), the National Strategy for Child Protection and Prevention against All Forms of Violence, Abuse and Neglect (2012). It is further aligned with the UNSF (goal 2 on Governance and Stability and goal 3 on Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development) and with the SDG goals 5 (gender equality) and 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions). Finally it is also aligned with UNICEF strategic plan (2014-2017) and UNICEF Gender Action Plan (2014-2017). The Child Protection Programme of UNICEF Lebanon will contribute to the MENA Regional Leadership Area of Justice for Children.

In order to achieve the programme components, the overall programme strategy will prioritize work around building institutional capacities and supporting main government and non-government agencies and targeted communities to strengthen the national child protection systems that prevent and respond to the needs and ensure the rights of children and women exposed to violence. UNICEF will build on the successes gained, where partnerships modalities will include both government and non-government agencies in order to reach the most vulnerable and in the most underserved areas. The nature, gravity and scale of violence against women and children has grown exponentially following the Syrian crisis affecting mainly in displaced communities, as well as children and women in the most vulnerable Lebanese communities. Due to the protracted displacement and dire economic situation an increasing number of families are resorting to negative coping mechanisms, such as child labour and child marriage. Lebanon witnessed an increase of child labour to 6.7% among the Syrian refugees. The prevalence of child marriage among Syrian women aged 20-24 years old has grown to 31.6% in 2016 compared to only 17.7% average in Syria before the conflict. The same patterns were observed amongst the most disadvantaged Lebanese: child labour went up from 2% to 6%. The number of women aged 15-19 currently married or in union has doubled to 4% since 2009. While no national data exists on the situation of trafficking of children and women, increasingly reported through the media, the trafficking of Syrian women and girls for sexual exploitation is on the rise. The most recent incident (March 2016) reported that 45 Syrian women were released by the Internal Security Forces (ISF) from a sexual exploitation ring in Mount Lebanon. In the Secretary Generals’ Annual Report on Children and Armed Conflict on 2014, children as young as 14 years of age were reported to have joined armed factions in camps and armed parties operating in the Syrian Arab Republic, particularly in border areas. The United Nations also received verified reports of at least 25 boys arrested by the Lebanese armed forces during anti-terrorism raids, mostly conducted in Arsal and Tripoli between August and December in 2014.

1 SGBVTF, LCRP, October 2015.
3 MICS Lebanon (2009).
2015 Annual Report on Children and Armed Conflict is pending official release in May/June 2016. Hence, more recent data is not available at this moment. However, the collection of credible secondary source testimonies exponentially increased in 2015. It is expected that both gravity (lower ages, exposure to detention and exposure to killing as well as maiming) and the scale of this violation have increased between the last reporting period and now.

Physically violent discipline in the home is widespread with young children most at risk, with rates of 45% of Lebanese and 74% of Syrian refugee children aged under two years affected. For the Syrian refugees, the recent baseline survey indicated that the percentage of Syrian refugee children that experienced violent child discipline methods is 65%. Lebanon has a high incidence of detention of minors, which is brought about by an absence of legal provision for diversion and alternative methods of detention.

In terms of the target population, UNICEF will be strengthening its equity approach where children and women at risk, whom are underserved, hard to reach and invisible will be provided with specific attention. Adolescent boys and girls and young children aged 1-5 years are increasingly at higher risk of various forms of CP/GBV, hence CP/GBV programming will also be mindful with age group specific programming. For young children aged 0-5 years, the emphasis is placed on early childhood development (ECD) through the support of SDCs and other service points as platforms for an integrated ECD programme approach.

UNICEF will continue to cultivate and strengthen a key strategic partnership with Ministry of Social Affairs through its support to the National CP Strategy and Phase II of the National Plan to Safeguard Children and Women in Lebanon. Furthermore, given the multi-sectorial nature of CP/GBV programming, other relevant government ministries (Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Public Health and Ministry Education and Higher Education and Ministry of Labour) will be engaged to strengthen their institutional capacity to prevent and respond to CP/GBV, in line with national framework and plans. The engagement with Ministry of Public Health will be focused to strengthen the Ministry’s capacity to prevent and respond to CP/GBV through mainstreaming mental health/PSS and Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) in the PHCs. With the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, UNICEF will strengthen their CP and PSS capacity to better detect and refer CP/GBV issues as well as mainstream PSS interventions in and around schools. These two components are in line with the other programme priorities of Health and Nutrition and Education section respectively.

2. Prioritized issues and areas
Violence, exploitation and abuse against children and women (VACW), in the home, communities and schools is recognized as one of the main child protection and Gender Based Violence (GBV) concerns in Lebanon. As expected, the nature, gravity and scale has grown exponentially following

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8 Lebanese Penal Code Law 422/2002
9 In this regard, CP will focus to ensure a protective environment against violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect through parenting programming, linkages through Family Support Networks, and communication materials/tools on ECD, as well as support for MoSA to strengthen its quality care standards of day care facilities in SDCs. This will provide a platform for UNICEF broadly to engage with caregivers and service providers in ensuring the emotional, physical, cognitive and psychological health and wellbeing of young children as well as facilitating convergence of other health, education, WASH and other key services for young children.
the Syrian crisis affecting mainly displaced communities, as well as children and women in the most vulnerable Lebanese communities.

The lack of access to basic social services, social safety net and livelihood opportunities amongst the displaced population and vulnerable Lebanese has increased the vulnerability of already impoverished families and in turn resulted in a deterioration of the protection situation of children and women. Children including adolescents are increasingly exposed to risky behaviours including involvement in armed violence. Families are increasingly resorting to negative coping mechanism, relying on children as bread winners to make ends meet with a cost of them being engaged into worst forms of child labour. Women and girls are at heightened risk of sexual exploitation, including child marriage, in order to support their families. Increasing evidence about age specific trends and child protection issues are showing that early childhood age group (0-5 years) are considered as increasingly disadvantaged, underserved by available social services and reports revealed the severe impact of violence against children of this age group. Moreover, the youngest of children are the most dependent upon their parents/caregivers for care and support, and are more vulnerable to neglect, violence and abuse. Children and women with disabilities are at high risk of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect, both within the home and in the wider community.

Significant legislative and institutional progress has been made so far in Lebanon to advance and fulfil children and women’s rights in Lebanon. However, adequate measures are still missing to ensure full compliance of the national legislation and policies in line with international standards with limited capacity of the government, public institutions and civil society actors to enact and implement the required laws and policies.

The barriers and bottlenecks study completed in 2012 analysing the functioning of the child protection systems in Lebanon and confirmed by the latest state report on the implementation of the convention on the rights of the child (November 2015) showed a lack of timely and adequate equitable preventive and response measures for children and women at risk or victims/survivors of violence. Protective factors and services available are not sufficient to address these violations. The analysis of the child protection system and recent data confirmed the under investment in governance and policy reforms and the lack of capacities and quality services.

Further, dominant social norms supports male dominance, gender inequality and impunity, condoning Violence against Women and Children (VAWC). As such women and girls are at greater risk of domestic violence and social stigma and shame constitute barriers to access the scarce services available in Lebanon to survivors. Child labour is a socially accepted form of increasing family incomes; unjustified placement of children in residential care, in particular children with disability is an acceptable phenomenon for caregivers and in many cases professionals to address widespread poverty among vulnerable communities and a means through which to access education, health services and other basic services.

Justice for Children is recognized as Regional Leadership Area for 2017-2020 and a priority for Lebanon. Justice for Children will look at the laws, policies and mechanisms for handling cases of children in contact with the law (both above and below the minimum age of criminal responsibility), children in conflict with the law, child witnesses and survivors, and children in needed of special

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10 The adoption of law 293 in 2014 for the protection of women and other family members from domestic violence; the endorsement by the Council of Ministers of the National Strategy to Protect Children from Violence (2012) and the endorsement by the Presidency of the National Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour (2013).
protection; how they function, and how can they be enhanced to ensure they meet international standards. The Child Protection section will work closely with MoJ, MoSA and the contracted NGOs such as UPEL, to strengthen the overall social work capacity in the country with regard to the critical role social workers play in preventing and responding to the issue of children and the legal system. In particular, Justice for Children in Lebanon will seek to address high incidence of pre-trial detention of minors through the introduction of diversion a scale-up of alternative methods to detention. It will support both formal and informal mechanisms for handling child offenders, especially understanding traditional practices for dispute resolution, reconciliation and reparation that limit incidence of children coming into contact with the justice system. On this basis, the Justice pillar will not work in isolation but will compliment UNICEF’s other work on operationalizing laws (e.g. MoSA National SOPs) and thus strengthening the broader Child Protection System. It will seek to limit the institutionalization of children whenever possible; seeking family-based alternative care with proper case management and follow up. The treatment of children in contact/conflict with the justice system includes children who may be associated with armed forces and groups, and children involved in armed violence.

**Determinants Analysis**

Output 1. Strengthened political commitment, accountability and national capacity of social, justice and education and health sectors in Lebanon to legislate, plan, and budget for scaling up interventions that prevent and respond to violence, abuse, exploitation, and neglect

It has been noticed through the analysis of the enabling environment factors and through the practices that even if protection laws, operational procedures are available, the limitation of institutional capacities and the lack of accountability among relevant actors hindered the prevention and protection of children from violence. In addition, there is also the absence of implementation decrees of the law defining roles and responsibilities between mandated ministries and agencies, and a standardised approach in dealing with child protection issues and gender based violence at central and decentralized level. In particular at the decentralized level, efforts will be made using the Social Development Centres (SDCs) networks to reach most vulnerable and hard to reach localities with a holistic and multi-sectorial CP/GBV prevention and response package, including ECD, with case management at its core. For this, the distinct role of social workers and SDCs is important and a matter of priority. Furthermore, many references are showing that less than 5% of the children in residential institutions in Lebanon subsidized by the government are orphans and 85% of these children are there to access primary education and food subsidies. The government of Lebanon despite the numerous calls of the CRC committee has failed to promote and implement the UN Guidelines for the alternative care of children deprived of parental care or at risk. On the other hand, and despite the introduction since 2002 of alternative measures to detention for children in conflict with the law in the legal framework applied to juvenile justice in Lebanon, it has been underutilized by the public prosecutors and judges. The lack of investment by Government in the public social welfare and protection system and the allocation of the necessary financial and human resources to cover the cost of these specialised services has severely limited the country and sectors’ ability to respond to this growing protection need and its complexity.

Regarding the specific needs for protection of women and girls, although a law on the protection of women and other family members from domestic violence was passed in April 2014, serious issues

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11 MoSA and UNICEF (2007), *Children Deprived of Family Care in Lebanon, present situation and available alternative.*
remain with its implementation. Key stakeholders such as lawyers, judges, and police officers are still unclear in applying the law, while many survivors of domestic violence, primarily women and girls are still unaware of its existence. Furthermore, personal status or family courts governed by religious authorities may undermined the civil courts, especially for issues related to child custody or alimony. Coordination between different government bodies on enforcing the law remains a major challenge to ensure full implementation of the law.

Output 2. Boys, girls and women at risk or survivors of violence have access to an integrated package of quality prevention and response services in most disadvantaged localities in Lebanon.

The analysis of the supply and quality component of the child protection and GBV systems shows: (1) a lack of available and accessible quality CP/GBV services at national and decentralized level with minimum standards adopted by the government. In order to address this, UNICEF and MOSA are planning a scaling up of the MOSA NP, extending it beyond the current 57 SDCs to the 220 SDCs networks with an aim to deliver a holistic and multi-sectorial CP/GBV prevention and response package with care management to ensure the provision of integrated package of specialised services (legal, medical, PHPS, temporary sheltering, family support); (2) weak cross sectorial referrals mechanisms despite the strong need of multi-sectorial programming and cross sectorial linkages to address CP/GBV violations in a sustainable manner. In order to address this, within the 220 SDCs networks, Family Support Networks, in and around the SDCs which will be piloted in 2016, will be standardized and rolled out. This will be done through a strong referral mechanism that will ensure cross sectorial linkages between CP/GBV formal and informal service providers and other front line statutory service providers such as the police and judiciary; and (3) a lack of qualified staff/services providers, from both government and civil society whom are provided with little or none capacity building efforts. Furthermore, the absence of implementation decrees within mandated ministries and agencies are negatively affecting government civil servants’ unclear status/mandate in the decentralized level. In order to address this, institutional strengthening of core government status service providers and civil society organisations will be prioritized.

Output 3. Children, families and communities have increased capacities in the most disadvantaged localities to promote practices that protect them

The lack of knowledge and realization of child rights’ and women’s rights, including the impact towards grave CP/GBV violations amongst rights holders (boys, girls and women) and duty bearers (parents/caregivers, service providers, including gatekeepers, i.e, informal leaders, community leaders and religious leaders) in the communities; limited capacity among stakeholders and partners including government on C4D and community engagement; the existence of dominant social norms and values that sustain traditional practices that are detrimental to children and women’s rights; sustained lack of available services including complaints mechanisms and alternative measures, which should enhance and facilitate service seeking behaviours and positive alternative practices to traditional harmful practices that are detrimental to children, especially the youngest and most disadvantaged, and women, including children and women with disabilities; existence of fragmented civil society organisations where there is a lack of organised network of organisations’ advocating for child rights; and the existence of ‘gatekeepers’, i.e, influential informal and formal members of the community including religious and community leaders, “shawishs” and employers that are in directly and directly promoting practices, including harmful practices that are detrimental towards children and women.
Output 4. Improved knowledge base/baseline that inform programming and advocacy initiatives to prevent and protect children and women from violence, abuse and exploitation

Advocacy efforts suffer from a lack of a routine and comprehensive (i.e., social, justice, security, education and health sectors) administrative data collection system to support accurate and evidence-based planning and budgeting decisions, as well as to monitor and report accurately on incidence of violence against children and women. When the information management system exists, it is lacking standardized indicators to allow for regular monitoring, real-time data and analysis of child protection trends. Regarding GBV, although the global interagency GBV Information Management System (GBVIMS) has been rolled out in Lebanon since 2013 amongst some GBV case management agencies (national and international NGOs), there is still no national information management system available to ensure standardization of GBV data collection and generation of trends. Baseline for many of the child protection and GBV issues such as violence against children in schools or at home, as well as several forms of GBV is missing. Protocols, mechanisms and systems for data sharing is not available between relevant service providers including between ministries of social affairs, justice and public health and interior and the partners from NGO’s. The Higher Council for Childhood mandated to monitor the implementation of the CRC in Lebanon is not equipped and staffed to develop and promote a harmonized and systemic monitoring system on the child rights indicators. Public access to data and information is limited when it comes to child protection and GBV issues. Linkages with academia is not enough strengthen to promote research and studies around CP/GBV issues.

3. Theory of Change for Programme Components

Summary of Interventions at output level

Output 1. Strengthened political commitment, accountability and national capacity of social, justice and education and health sectors in Lebanon to legislate, plan, and budget for scaling up interventions that prevent and respond to violence, abuse, exploitation, and neglect

Capacity Development

- Support the development of training manuals, guidance, procedures, monitoring and budgeting mechanisms to strengthen proper application of the existing relevant laws and strategies;
- Provide technical and financial support for full operationalization and implementation of National strategies and plans (e.g. National Child Protection Strategy, National Child Labour Strategy);
- Strengthen decentralized administrative bodies and the revision of their roles and responsibilities towards a more consolidated and sustainable prevention and response to child protection and gender based violence issues;
- Strengthen the procedures and services for children in contact with the law that are applied and delivered in line with international standards.

Strategic Partnerships through continued support to key government ministries:

- Continue support to MoSA to promote, regulate and operationalize standards for care and protection at central and decentralized level, through implementation and roll out of national SOPs for children at risks and GBV SOPs, costing of standard CP and GBV services with the framework of the scale up of the MoSA National Plan. Further plans are in place to explore the development of implementation decrees that would clarify and distinguish the role and
responsibilities of SDCs and social workers to promote CP/GBV prevention and response packages at the decentralized level;

- Support Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to undertake a justice for children reform at the national level and subsequently ensure modelling the continuum of alternative measures for children in conflict with the law including diversion, alternatives to pre/post-trial detention, measures to minimize time spent in police custody/pre-trial detention;
- Continue technical support to Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) to ensure child protection policy, referral pathways and child protection/gender-based violence/child right curriculums are in place and contribute to a protective school environment.
- Continue technical and financial support to MoPH and the MHPSS TF to mainstream CP/PSS in the national mental health strategy and mainstreaming GBV through capacity building of staff on gender based violence detection and referral, sexual and reproductive health and rights as well as the institutionalisation of the clinical management of sexual assault protocol within the ministry.
- Continue technical and financial support to the Higher Council for Childhood to ensure the continued implementation of the multi-year “work-plan to prevent and respond to the association of children with armed violence in Lebanon” and continued advocacy and capacity building within the UNCT and civil society to sustain, upgrade and monitor the growing portfolio of actions undertaken to address this grave child rights violations.
- Continue leadership role in the child protection sector for the Syrian crisis response including strengthening the capacity of MoSA to strengthen their leadership role in preparedness and response on child protection in emergencies.
- Support the national coordination mechanisms including relevant ministries, sectoral actors, religious and influential individuals and the development of a national coordinated action plan to tackle violence against children. For child marriage, a specific strategy and action plan will be developed as this is an emerging issue and requires specific technical support on addressing social norms related to gender inequality.
- Support capacity building on C4D for MoSA to enable them take leadership on institutionalising C4D across the Ministry.

Integration and cross sectoral linkages

- Develop and implement a national inter-sectorial case management and referral mechanism, with clear roles and accountabilities of line ministries (Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Interior and Municipalities and National Poverty Targeting Programme)

Realizing the output:
The UNICEF theory of change states that if professionals and para-professionals in the child protection, health, education, security, and justice actors at national and decentralized level including customary and religious institutions are engaged, equipped with and capacitated to apply relevant laws, policies, tools, mechanisms and standards for the care and protection of boys, girls and women at risk and survivors of violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect; and if high level advocacy is conducted to enhance government accountability and responsibility and to leverage governmental resources to adequately fund and regulate protection services for children and women, then laws and policies protecting children and women from violence will be enforced to meet the scale of the needs and ensure standardized quality response.

Risks and assumptions for this output:
Effective implementation of this output assumes a political commitment towards a holistic children and women protection system and effective coordination among relevant Ministries guaranteeing
operationalisation of policies and procedures including implementation of standardized pre-service curriculum. Evidence based research and studies should be available to support advocacy messages.

In terms of risks, the political and religious lobbying defending the institutional care and its continuous increased budget within MoSA hinder the elaboration of holistic alternative care system to be applied by the juvenile judges and the different NGOs keeping the residential care the only available option for the Lebanese Children coming from poor families, and/or orphans. The role played by religious courts and the lack of coordination between the different line ministries also hinders the effective implementation of the law on the protection of women and other family members from domestic violence; Partners must be willing to work inter-sectoral and comply with the national procedures. Another risk is related to the high turnover of trained staff and insufficient number of qualified social workers with unclear status/mandate to provide quality protection and preventive services including weak monitoring of staff performance and achievements. The strategy of piloting initiatives on specific issues at the local level is currently underway and will continue to be supported for the family based care arrangement. It will also be important for UNICEF to invest in a broad capacity building strategy which can withstand the disruption of high staff turnover and enhance vertical and horizontal institutional coherence.

Output 2. Boys, girls and women at risk or survivors of violence have access to an integrated package of quality prevention and response services in most disadvantaged localities in Lebanon. Capacity development through:

- Institutional strengthening of core government statutory service providers of MoSA (social workers, SDC staff) MEHE (school counsellors), MoJ (juvenile justice actors), MoHP (health workers) and civil society organizations’ contracted by MoSA and their staff to ensure sustainability and a better provision of quality child protection/GBV services to children and women at risk and survivors of violence. Institutional strengthening will include promoting behaviour and attitudinal change amongst services providers of government and civil society organisations to ensure quality child protection/GBV services.

- Decentralized service delivery which reinforces national CP/GBV systems and accountability structures with clearly defined roles and responsibilities through:
  - Scale up of the MoSA NP to the existing 220 SDC networks in the most disadvantaged and hard to reach localities with a holistic and multi-sectorial CP/GBV prevention and response service package with case management in the core that ensure the provision of integrated packages of specialized services (legal, medical, MHPSS, temporary sheltering, family support) for children who are at risk or survivors;
  - Roll out of a standardized and contextualized Family Support Networks, which will be strengthened as a multi-sectorial prevention and response services, linked with a referral mechanism that would ensure cross sectorial linkages between CP/GBV formal and informal service providers and other front line statutory service providers (i.e, MoPH PHCs and schools);
  - Ensure increased access to quality safe spaces, including mobile services, for women and girls, including married girls and those at risk of child marriage. Sustainable service delivery would also be sought where UNICEF will support government statutory bodies such as MoSA and its contracted service delivery partners.

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12 A comprehensive set of services for women and girls ranging from life skills, information sessions, emotional support groups, socio-economic empowerment activities as well as case management and specialized services (psychosocial, legal, medical, security/shelter)
Cross sectorial linkages and advocacy

- Together with Education and Social Inclusion, a pilot project is started to have social protection programmes that are seeking to address child marriage and child labour.
- Engage in UNICEF cross-sectoral programming to realise integrated ECD through Family Support Networks, including SDCs for young children and their caregivers.
- Ensure linkages to Child Survival and Development interventions that UNICEF is developing contribute to integrated ECD programming for disadvantaged young children.

Realizing the output

The UNICEF theory of change states that if protection services are available at national level and at decentralized level in SDC’s, and through other local community structures, and if these services are linked to cross-sectorial referral mechanisms, if services operate under established minimum standards, adopted by MOSA, if capacity of staff/service providers is enhanced, including improved attitudes towards violence against children and women, then boys, girls, women and families at-risk and survivors of violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect, including GBV, will have access to quality and accessible prevention and response services that adhere to International frameworks.

Risks and assumptions

Assumptions this process is based on the assumption that: MOSA National Plan will be scaled up and continue to be the framework for the implementation of the child protection and gender based violence priorities; and mechanisms, tools, procedures are developed and endorsed in a timely manner to ensure that services are implemented in a decentralized manner; and additional funding exists to build capacity of local actors in child protection and GBV and sustain the required minimum package of services, especially for specialized services; and child protection and GBV actors and line ministries continue to be committed to a decentralized approach to service provision. It is also assumed that there are adequate staffing within the child protection and GBV agencies, particularly at the district and Caza levels, and that safety and access in areas where violence often occurs, including ‘red zone’ areas.

Risks associated with this output is that mandated government statutory service providers will have a lack of commitment and willingness to continue implementing the MoSA NP and support towards the decentralized service delivery including the FSNs and CP/GBV prevention and response services. To mitigate these risk therefore, capacity development will be prioritizing core statutory service providers. Risks of decreased funding will be mitigated where support to service delivery will be transitioned focusing on ensuring targeted support to sustainable service delivery. Finally to mitigate security risks of CP/GBV agencies and its staff, regular risks assessments will be conducted by agencies operating in high risks areas as well as institutional strengthening of these key agencies to accelerate decentralized service delivery in a sustainable manner.

Output 3. Children, families and communities have increased capacities in the most disadvantaged localities to promote practices that protect them

Capacity development:

- Enhance knowledge and skills of rights holders (boys, girls and women themselves) through a tailored and participatory process, such as national and community level dialogues and communication/information campaigns, including local level advocacy efforts, targeting the various rights holders, boys, girls and women, and key community actors and leaders (‘gatekeepers’), including the hard to reach and the marginalized and excluded population;
• Build and strengthen capacity key community actors who will be fostering and strengthening the voices of duty bearers and rights holders to promote changes in certain behaviours and social norms, which are underlying root causes to certain CP/GBV violations.

FSNs consolidating informal and formal stakeholders/partnerships at the de-centralized level:

• Through Family Support Networks (FSNs), that consist of existing community-based structures and networks (e.g. Child Protection committees and other community groups) UNICEF will work towards collective engagement and the abandonment of traditional harmful practices such as violent discipline, child labour, child marriage and domestic violence, using a social norms approach;

• Enhance service seeking behaviour of rights holders and duty bearers through the SDCs and FSNs whom will enhance interaction with rights holders and duty bearers and change their perception of services provided and by facilitating access to cross sectorial statutory child protection and GBV services;

• Through awareness raising, increase the knowledgeability of women, girls and their communities to increase the demand for and support them with risk mitigation activities to reduce the risk of exposure to GBV of women and girls, as part of the GBV programme and through mainstreaming within the other UNICEF sections as per the Interagency Guidelines.

Cross sectorial linkages and advocacy

• Develop standard, strategic C4D and community engagement approaches to address CP/GBV issues especially among the most disadvantaged, hard to reach and marginalised communities and children and women.

Realizing the output
The UNICEF theory of change states that if women, boys and girls at the decentralized level (Caza and district level) are sensitized and empowered and made aware of their rights, impact of violence against children and women and if services including complaints mechanisms and alternatives are available and used by the communities and if influential formal and informal gatekeepers such as religious leaders and community leaders are mobilized and engaged to promote practices that protection women and children then selected communities and its members will be collectively and progressively abandoning certain harmful practices such as violent discipline, child labour, child marriage and domestic violence through public community level pledges.

Risks and assumptions
It is assumed that service seeking behaviours can only improve as long as adequate, accessible (i.e. decentralized and affordable) services are made available to children and women. It is also assumed that alternatives to violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect against children and women (such as violence discipline, domestic violence, child marriage, involvement of children into worst forms of child labour including association of children with armed violence) can be valued and lead to behavioural and social norms change among communities if key CP/GBV messages are proactively supported by influential leaders within religious groups, political parties, Governmental authorities and tribes.

Risks includes sustained and dominant support in the communities towards rights and practices detrimental to children and women. To mitigate such risks, especially for CP/GBV prevention,
capacity development of key stakeholders (both rights holders and duty bearers) is essential in a strategic manner, bearing in mind key communication for development strategies, which includes bearing in mind the underlying root causes, understanding the social and community dynamics, from a socio-ecological manner, including through the mapping of ‘gatekeepers’, and the process of behaviour and social norms changes. Furthermore, the risk of having unavailable and inadequate services including complaint mechanisms and positive and alternative practices should be avoided where improvement of and enhancement of certain child protection and GBV prevention and response services should be ensured and done hand in hand with efforts towards creating positive demand and capacity development amongst key rights holders and duty bearers. Given that changes in knowledge, behaviour and social norms/value will only be sustained with increased trust towards services that are functional and reliable and alternative practices that could be promoted widely.

Output 4. Improved knowledge base/baseline that inform programming and advocacy initiatives to prevent and protect children and women from violence, abuse and exploitation

Capacity development

- Continue supporting the Higher Council for Childhood, Ministry of Social Affairs and the Ministry of Justice as well as with other UN agencies to build government and CBO’s capacities to establish, use and maintain routine administrative and comprehensive (social, education, health and police and justice sectors) information management systems that will facilitate management of CP and GBV cases as well as the generation and analysis of CP and GBV data. This should facilitate to enhancing firmer commitment amongst all key stakeholders to produce accurate information on CP/GBV violations in a regular and sustainable manner.

- Support MOSA to establish the CPIMS and progressively strengthen linkages between MOSA and the GBVIMS for the eventual institutionalization of the GBVIMS under the responsibility of MOSA.

Evidence Generation, Policy Dialogue and Advocacy

- Develop a national comprehensive monitoring and reporting framework on violence against children and women and support inter-ministerial efforts to monitor the situation, collect and analyse the data and generate policy briefs, advocacy papers and fact sheets.

- Continue monitoring of grave child rights violations (focusing on armed violence-related violations in Lebanon and conflict-related violations captured by the MRM on Syria), to inform advocacy and programming and fulfil UN’s reporting accountabilities under the UN Secretary-General’s Annual Report on Children and Armed Conflict.

Realizing the output

The UNICEF theory of change states that if knowledge on violence against children and women is generated systematically and if systems are in place to improve data collection related to child protection violations and gender based violence and if analyses of trends are made available then evidence based, effective and efficient programming, awareness raising and advocacy initiatives will be implemented.

Risks and assumptions

For this output to be achieved, it is assumed that national system for data collection and analysis is established at decentralized level and data is regularly collected by community based actors. Evidence and knowledge are only possible through the commitment of the government and its partners to adequately feed into the IMS and accept for qualitative and quantitative data to be collected, analysed and published.
Risks are in place to ensure that government agencies and partners agree to work on a common child protection and GBV information management system and provide the dedicated human and technical resources. UNICEF and partners will therefore continue to advocate on the integration across different agencies the information management systems and ensure that resources is secured within domestic budget for sustainability. Phase approach for the roll out of the CPIMS with champion model is privileged. UNICEF will sensitize main counterparts on the importance of strengthening data on violence against children and women and the establishment of a systematic monitoring mechanism.

Outcome
The four outputs are inter-connected to contribute to the outcome that boys, girls and women at risk and survivors of violence exploitation and abuse have access to improved equitable prevention and response, by focusing on the ability of the system to provide adequate and high standard services and sustain it through adequate government resource allocation. Rather than enacting new legal text, UNICEF and partners will support interventions that address barriers related to social norms on violence against children and women including corporal punishment, domestic violence, family based alternative to parental care and promote standards applied to justice for children such as diversion and restorative justice can lead to improve the quality and effectiveness of the system. Strengthening the monitoring mechanism and capacities will support generating evidence to show the progress and gaps when it’s related to the protection situation of children and women and inform the policy and advocacy efforts. The assumption to contribute to the outcome is that if there is greater political commitment and increased national capacity to legislate, plan and budget for quality child protection and GBV systems; and if child protection/GBV services are strengthened and promoted, including in humanitarian situations and communities are aware and engaged in the protection of their children; then the government of Lebanon will commit further resources to underfunded Ministries and Departments, particularly in the area of the judiciary and social work and engage in policy and legislative changes to support quality child protection systems and services, including in humanitarian situations; and, in turn, communities will seek out and utilize these services, hold service providers accountable and adopt behaviours and practices that reduce violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect, including GBV, against children and women

The risks are related to the deterioration in the security and the socio-economic situation increasing vulnerabilities, distress and harmful practices against children and women and limiting the access to areas of high concentration of vulnerable households.

Impact
The current country programme is addressing several of the key bottlenecks identified above, most notably through working at the national and local level in partnership with government ministries and agencies, UN agencies and national and international non-government organizations. As capacity development is pivotal to reinforce the child protection system, UNICEF will work closely with academic institutions and training centres including the judge and the police training institutes.

To ensure impact on the lives of children and women, UNICEF will ensure a balance between 4 outputs. UNICEF is keen to ensure that efforts to stimulate demand of communities for child protection/GBV services do not result in demand overwhelming social welfare systems in Lebanon that have not adequately addressed constraints related to the quality and availability of specialized and continued services. UNICEF has invested and continues to invest heavily in child
protection/GBV tools and systems that support the government and main child protection/GBV actors in providing adequate enabling environment to children and women victim and at risk of violence and harmful practices.

UNICEF will continue to refer to the 2012 analysis of barriers and bottlenecks of the child protection system in Lebanon to prioritize, and to identify which types of interventions are most likely to succeed. The “MoSA national plan to safeguard children and women in Lebanon 2015” endorsed by the government in October 2014 reflects the system approach to the integration of the response to the impact of the Syria crisis into national policy serving a reference for shaping child protection services and its costing. Taking the holistic and evidence based approach in child protection and protection of women, focus will be dedicated to upgrade the standards of child protection/GBV services at national and local level. These standards aim to reduce inequities to meet the needs equally of families who experienced greater degree of vulnerability for optimal protection of the children and women. The security situation (in Lebanon and neighbouring Syria, as far as influx of refugees is concerned) will also have to remain stable, or improve, for the effective implementation of a CPD which marks a clear transition from an emergency-driven programming phase towards a strongly developmental strategy capable to cater for the needs of hosting and refugee communities on the longer term.

4. Results Structure (Outputs and Outcomes, and the Associated Indicators)

The Results Structure can be found in Annex 1.

5. Monitoring Outputs and Demonstrating UNICEF’s Contribution to Outcomes

The Results and Resources Framework will form the basis for monitoring and evaluation. The implementation strategies of the Country Programme for 2017-2020 will be informed by the ongoing evaluation of UNICEF country programme and humanitarian response during 2011-2016. During 2017-2020, UNICEF Lebanon will aim to strengthen national and sub-national capacities and systems for monitoring and reporting on the rights of children and women.

UNICEF Lebanon employs a variety of monitoring tools at the macro and micro levels to ensure quality results of programming for children. At the micro level, monitoring is conducted through field monitoring, partner reports and Third Party Monitoring (TPM). These mechanisms track outputs and activities and also ensure programme quality of our implementation based on global standards. At the macro level, the outcomes of UNICEF’s contribution are monitored through surveys and evaluations. Direct feedback from beneficiaries is taken into account to inform programme decisions through regular Focus Group Discussions and text messaging services.

UNICEF Lebanon has deployed a number of innovative tools to manage the humanitarian response, monitor its performance, and improve results for children. In the second half of 2018, an in-depth Mid-Term Review will be used to make necessary programme and strategy adjustments. On a biannual basis, UNICEF’s mid-year and annual reviews with counterparts will be used to consolidate inputs into the UNSF and Country Programme monitoring and reporting. In cooperation with line ministries, other UN agencies and civil society, UNICEF will monitor progress toward child rights realization with a focus on measuring the reduction of bottlenecks and barriers to ensure an enabling environment, access to and demand for quality social services, and support for strengthening of existing national and subnational evidence.
In 2017, UNICEF will conduct a baseline assessment on ECD indicators nationwide. A nationwide KAP survey will be conducted in 2016-2017 to inform the C4D programming. This KAP survey will be conducted again in 2020, to assess the progress in this area. A MICS will be conducted in 2018, to inform the MTR process. In 2020 another MICS will be conducted, to inform the new CPD.

6. Resource Requirements
The programme funding (RR and OR/ORE) required to apply the identified programme strategies to achieve the Output results (and contribute to the Outcome results and LCO’s impact) consists of all resources (technical, financial, time) needed to achieve Output results. During the formulation of the resource requirements LCO took into account past experience and made an estimation at output level, or used the per unit costs to calculate the overall costs of the output. The costs of inputs include staff time, cash assistance, supplies and equipment, technical assistance from individuals and institutions, and partnership agreements, necessary to support achievement of Outputs and Outcomes. These also include salaries and costs of programme managers and technical assistance staff and consultancies, contributions to travel expenses and vehicles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget in US$ millions</th>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Output 1 - Enabling Environment</td>
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<td>Output 2 - Supply</td>
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<td>Output 3 - Demand</td>
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<td>Output 4 - Knowledge generation</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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The resource requirement for the CP/GBV programme component includes technical and financial support during the 4 years. Given the limited capacity on the ground amongst government and non-governmental partners, as articulated in this document, capacity development is pivotal. Hence the human resources of the programme required is significant and as such it is reflected in the proposed organogram of the CP/GBV section.

Output 1 requires approximately 15% of the programme budget. This output focuses on capacity development and institutional strengthening of key government ministries and civil society organizations as well as continued strategic engagement with key government ministries. This requires significant technical support by consultants and institutions, as well as staff time of UNICEF rather than through contractual arrangements.

Output 2 requires approximately 60% of the total programme budget. Whilst UNICEF will be leveraging its resources through Output 1 in developing training manuals, guidance and procedures as well as mainstreaming CP/GBV into other sectors such as education and health, ensuring decentralized prevention and response services will continue with more emphasis on an integrated package of specialized services. Given this, contractual arrangement with specialized non-governmental partners will continue which tends to be more costly, given the required standards of care and limited availability of services. For example, case management and provision of specialized services (standard unit cost per child in HRRP 2016 is 1,200 USD/child) compared to community

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based PSS services (standard unit cost per child in HRRP 2016 is 745 USD/child) attributing to the higher proportion amongst the programme components.

Output 3 requires approximately 20% of the total programme budget. As mentioned above, this output relies on capacity building of rights holders and duty bearers in the community and consolidating informal and formal partnerships in the decentralized level which requires significant engagement with civil society organizations and local authorities through contractual arrangement. This output will rely heavily also on technical support in coordination with the C4D section.

Output 4 requires 5% of the programme budget. This output will rely significantly on the work done by Output 1 in ensuring mechanisms/structures are set up with qualified human resources. Further technical support will be heavily relied upon in developing information management systems and conducting studies.

7. External Risks and Planned Responses

The lack of political will by the government will significantly hinder governments’ investment into child protection and disregard the benefits and advantages of a holistic child protection and justice for children system. The inter-ministerial and multi-sectorial nature of CP/GBV programming will also be deterred with the lack of political will amongst the key government ministries to work in collaboration in a cross sectorial manner.

The institutional dysfunction of government and non-government organisations have been identified as one of the key bottlenecks, affecting key statutory service providers and institutions with limited capacity and human resources to effectively prevent and respond to various forms of violence, abuse and exploitation against women and children at the local and national level. Addressing these critical and fundamental risks, the key strategy of the CP/GBV programme component is inter-ministerial and multi-sectorial in nature, as well as a combination of different partnerships at national and local level and with government ministries and agencies, UN agencies and national and international non-government organizations and other representatives of the civil society. Hence capacity development is also pivotal to address institutional dysfunction and in turn reinforce the child protection and justice for children system, equipped with minimum level of capacity amongst professional and informal CP/GBV staffing including core service providers. Extra efforts will be made to institutionalize and sustain capacity development efforts, working closely with academic institutions and training centres including the judge and the police training institutes.

For the effective implementation of the CPD, the overall assumption is that the security situation (in Lebanon and neighbouring Syria, as far as influx of refugees is concerned) will remain stable or improve and not deteriorate. Based on this, the CPD is planned with a clear transition from an emergency-driven programming phase towards a strongly developmental strategy capable to cater for the needs of hosting and refugee communities on the longer term. However, if against the assumption that the security situation significantly deteriorates, the CP programme component with its diverse set of governmental and nongovernment partners with the track record of ‘build back better’ for the past years with an emergency driven programming coupled with key building blocks towards a holistic child protection system, could continue working on a two track programming approach of emergency and development programming.
8. Integration with other Programmes

Integration with C4D: bearing in mind the need to promote changes in certain behaviours and social norms, which are underlying root causes to certain CP/GBV violations as well as bottlenecks towards a functional national CP system, C4D will be an integrated programme strategy, promoting community mobilization and dialogues, to facilitate sustainable changes in societal values and norms. Therefore heavy reliance of technical support, quality assurance and oversight for the demand component by C4D section is envisioned. C4D will also support evidence generation through conducting Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) studies that will inform the development of evidence based strategies.

Integration with Child Survival and Development: child protection will contribute to the health component through the continuous support to the national mental health programme, the MHPSS Task Force within MoPH. Child protection programme will continue supporting MoPH in addressing sexual violence by building the capacities of the health sector to provide adequate treatment for the clinical management of sexual assault. The child protection programme will continue mainstreaming CP and GBV (key concepts, detection and referral) through the hygiene promotion component of the WASH programme, targeting disadvantaged communities.

Integration with Education: child protection will focus to ensure a protective environment against violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect through parenting programming and support MoSA to strengthen its quality care standards of day care facilities in SDCs. The CP programme will mainstream CP and GBV through the deployment of a CP officer to MEHE. The role of the CP officer will be to strengthen institutional capacity of MEHE to foster a protective environment in schools ensuring school retention and preventing drop out. The CP programme will also support the quality education outcome by the development of a PSS curriculum for teachers and school counsellors and the establishment of a referral mechanism to address violence in schools in close coordination with MEHE, MOSA and other relevant actors.

Integration with Social Inclusion: child protection programme will contribute to the outcome of the social inclusion by reviewing the national budget expenditure on child protection services.

Integration with Youth: Collaboration with youth programme component will be ensured where child protection will focus on detection and referral of highly at risk adolescents who will be referred to skills training linked to employment provided by the youth programme. Collaboration with youth programme component will be ensured where child protection will focus on detection and referral of highly at risk adolescents who will be referred to skills building training linked to employment provided by the youth programme. The CP programme will mainstream CP into the youth programme through continued targeted interventions for disadvantaged women and girls empowerment as part of the GBV sub-component (focusing on women and girls increased participation in decision making process that concern them and life skills). In addition, the CP programme will continue targeting highly disadvantaged adolescent girls and boys (CAFAAC). Adolescent girls and boys’ participation will be used as means of the CP/GBV community based approach in order to address CP and GBV risks and harmful practices.