

*Inception report*

*"Evaluation of UNICEF's work in  
contributing to child poverty reduction,  
including in humanitarian and fragile  
settings"*

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## Abbreviations and acronyms

COARs	Country Office Annual Reports
COs	Country Offices
CPDs	Country Programme Documents
CSIs	Core Standard Indicators
EAP	East Asia and the Pacific
ESA	Eastern and Southern Africa
ECA	Europe and Central Asia
EO	Evaluation Office
KEQs	Key Evaluation Questions
KIIs	Key Informant Interviews
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
OECD-DAC	OECD Development Assistance Committee
QCA	Qualitative Comparative Analysis
PCAs	Programme Cooperation Agreements
RAM	Results Assessment Modules
ROs	Regional Offices
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SMQ	Strategic Monitoring Questionnaire
SA	South Asia
TOC	Theory of Change
UNEG	UN Evaluation Group
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNICEF CO	UNICEF Country Office
UNICEF HQ	UNICEF Headquarters
UNICEF RO	UNICEF Regional Office
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WCA	West and Central Africa

## 1. Introduction

Against the backdrop of COVID-19 and other external shocks, poverty rates have increased globally; currently, more than 700 million people live in extreme poverty,<sup>1</sup> including an estimated 356 million children.<sup>2</sup> It is crucial to recognise that children experience vulnerabilities distinctively from adults; poverty exacerbates children's multidimensional deprivations, amplifying challenges they face beyond just household income poverty. Children's experience of poverty in terms of lack of access to nutrition, health, water, education, and shelter has long-lasting, irreversible effects on their physical and emotional well-being. Growing up in poverty can hinder cognitive and physical development, leading to a lifetime of disadvantage and the perpetuation of poverty across generations.<sup>3</sup>

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established targets to reduce child poverty by 2030. Still, only a limited number of governments around the world have made the reduction and eventual elimination of child poverty a national priority.<sup>4</sup> Recent shocks, like the COVID-19 pandemic, have reversed years of progress countries have made in reducing child poverty. In a best-case scenario, it is estimated that countries will take at least seven to eight years to recover and return to pre-COVID child poverty levels.<sup>5</sup> UNICEF has been instrumental in supporting governments to measure, analyse and respond to child poverty by providing technical and functional support to strengthen social protection systems. UNICEF's Strategic Plan 2022-2025 emphasises the importance of this area of work under Goal Area 5: "Every child, including adolescents, has access to inclusive social protection and lives free of poverty".<sup>6</sup>

There is increasing recognition of the need for credible evidence based on the relevant activities and actions needed for UNICEF to undertake to better support the government and other relevant partners in addressing the issue of child poverty aligning with Goal Area 5 of the UNICEF Strategic Plan 2022-2025. The Evaluation Office (EO) in UNICEF (New York) provides global leadership and oversight for the evaluation function and is responsible for developing an agenda and work plan to evaluate UNICEF's programmes and processes. As part of the Plan for Global Evaluations, the

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<sup>1</sup> UNICEF. (u.d). Child Poverty. Retrieved from <https://www.unicef.org/social-policy/child-poverty>

<sup>2</sup> UNICEF. World Bank, (2020). Global Estimate of Children in Monetary Poverty: An Update. Retrieved from <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/966791603123453576/pdf/Global-Estimate-of-Children-in-Monetary-Poverty-An-Update.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> UNICEF. (2021). Goal Area 5 Global Annual Results Report 2021.

<sup>4</sup> UNICEF (u.d.). Child Poverty. Retrieved from <https://www.unicef.org/social-policy/child-poverty>

<sup>5</sup> UNICEF. (2021). Preventing a lost decade: Urgent action to reverse the devastating impact of COVID-19 on children and young people. Retrieved from <https://www.unicef.org/media/112891/file/UNICEF%2075%20report.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> UNICEF. (2021). UNICEF Strategic Plan 2022-2025. Retrieved from <https://www.unicef.org/media/107516/file/UNICEF%20Strategic%20Plan%202022-2025.pdf>

Evaluation Office (EO) has committed to assess UNICEF's work in child poverty reduction, with evaluation findings and recommendations to be submitted to the Executive Board in 2024.

In light of the prevailing need for evidence on what works and to provide organisational direction, the Economic Policy Research Institute, a global not-for-profit organisation based in Cape Town, South Africa, is working with the Evaluation Office to evaluate UNICEF's approaches and programming towards:

1. Building a national pathway to end child poverty
2. Measuring child poverty
3. Putting child poverty on the map: child poverty advocacy
4. Reducing child poverty through policy and programme change
5. Achieving the SDGs: ending extreme poverty and halving it by national definitions

The global evaluation will focus on UNICEF's work in low- and middle-income countries where it is currently working on child poverty reduction, with a focus on four countries: Rwanda, Bangladesh, Cambodia and Guatemala for in-depth evaluation and analysis. Section 5.2 discusses the criteria for country selection, including programme relevance and geographic balance, among other criteria and rationale for selection. This document serves as the project's inception report. After a brief introductory background on the growing importance and relevance of activities pertaining to child poverty reduction, the document will further outline the evaluation's purpose, objectives, subject and scope, along with the evaluation criteria and questions. Subsequently, the document presents the evaluation methodology, as well as potential limitations thereof and ethical considerations. Next, the report presents the forthcoming activities, deliverables, and an updated work plan.

## **2. Background**

Child poverty is a complex and multifaceted issue affecting millions of children worldwide, with an estimated 665 million children living in multidimensionally poor households. An estimated two-thirds of all poor children live in middle-income countries and are concentrated in Sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>7</sup> A growing consensus understands that children experience poverty in ways that are different from adults. Child poverty generates long-lasting effects on children's development and future opportunities, negatively affecting multiple dimensions of child well-being. Understanding child poverty in this spectrum of lived deprivations, UNICEF adopts a comprehensive approach to child poverty based on the statement made in a UN General Assembly resolution in 2007:

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<sup>7</sup> UNICEF. (2020). Overcoming Child Poverty: Progress and Challenges in Child Sensitive Social Protection. Retrieved from <https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2020/03/Yuster-presentation-March-2020.pdf>

"Children living in poverty are deprived of nutrition, water and sanitation facilities, access to basic health-care services, shelter, education, participation and protection, and that while a severe lack of goods and services hurts every human being, it is most threatening and harmful to children, leaving them unable to enjoy their rights, to reach their full potential and to participate as full members of the society."<sup>8 9</sup>

Child poverty cannot be defined singularly in monetary terms. Children also experience poverty by being deprived of nutrition, adequate education, health and WASH services, protection, and shelter.<sup>10</sup>

The definition stresses that poverty affects children more acutely than adults because of their vulnerability due to age and dependency. Child poverty differs not only in its causes but also in its detrimental and irreversible effects and impacts. Growing up in poverty can damage children's physical and emotional development, causing lifelong cognitive and physical impairment, leading to permanent disadvantage and perpetuating a cycle of poverty across generations. Child poverty threatens not only the individual child but is likely to be passed on to future generations, entrenching societal inequality. The issue of child poverty is complex and multidimensional in nature, which requires a coordinated response, including investments in child-sensitive social protection systems.<sup>11</sup>

With the increased prevalence of child poverty in many low- and middle-income countries,<sup>12 13</sup> there is an urgent need for governments and other relevant stakeholders to design and implement comprehensive approaches to tackle the various vulnerabilities children face. Efforts to reduce child poverty require a multifaceted approach that addresses the root causes of poverty and supports families and communities.

In the last decade, UNICEF has prioritised a broad set of activities to support policies and programmes to address child poverty in alignment with its Strategic Plan and Goals, particularly those of Goal Area 5. In this context, The Global Coalition to End Child Poverty, chaired by UNICEF and Save the Children, is a joint effort to increase awareness of child poverty and support global

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<sup>8</sup> United Nations General Assembly, The Rights of the Child (Resolution A /RES/61/146, 23 January 2007), para 46

<sup>9</sup> UNICEF and the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty. (2015). Towards the End of Child Poverty. A joint statement by partners united in the fight against child poverty.

<sup>10</sup> UNICEF and the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty. (2017). A World Free from Child Poverty: A Guide to the Tasks to Achieve the Vision.

<sup>11</sup> UNICEF. (2020). Overcoming Child Poverty: Progress and Challenges in Child Sensitive Social Protection. Retrieved from <https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2020/03/Yuster-presentation-March-2020.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> UNICEF. World Bank, (2020). Global Estimate of Children in Monetary Poverty: An Update. Retrieved from <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/966791603123453576/pdf/Global-Estimate-of-Children-in-Monetary-Poverty-An-Update.pdf>

and national efforts towards reducing it. This network of global and national organisations, NGOs, research institutions and other actors shares knowledge, generates evidence, advocates for change and supports data monitoring – all in an effort to realise the common goal of ending child poverty as part of making progress towards SDG 1.

Furthermore, to provide strategic guidance and harmonise poverty reduction efforts among partners at national and global levels, UNICEF and the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty identified a framework to guide these joint efforts, outlined in the report *A World Free from Child Poverty: A Guide to the Tasks to Achieve the Vision*.<sup>14</sup> The framework centres around five milestones that comprise particular action areas. It outlines the specific activities to support outcomes and provides a set of key indicators to assess progress. In this manner, the milestones clearly show the actionable steps to guide UNICEF and its partners in working towards reducing child poverty. Given the complexity of factors determining child poverty and its multidimensional nature, the framework comprises a broad set of activities cross-cutting to various UNICEF departments and sections, thus falling beyond a single programmatic area. The goals and actions proposed in the framework interrelate and reinforce each other, while the relevance and sequence of the milestones can vary according to national contexts. **Box 2** outlines the five milestones that constitute UNICEF's foundational work towards ending child poverty and their corresponding key indicators.

UNICEF's Strategic Plan 2022-2025 increased its focus on addressing intersecting vulnerabilities that exacerbate the deprivations faced by children. These vulnerabilities include gender inequality, discrimination and the effects of crises and fragility, critical drivers of child poverty. The Strategy highlights the implementation of operational activities related to social protection, gender, disability inclusion, youth participation and the humanitarian-development nexus to achieve SDG 1. Gender, Disability and Climate action, peace-building and resilience are considered cross-cutting programme areas of Goal Area 5.

#### *UNICEF's child poverty work in humanitarian settings*

The Strategic Plan recognises the importance of GA5 programming in areas affected by conflict, fragility and other humanitarian crises, including those worsened by climate change. The compounding effects of vulnerabilities are evident in fragile settings, where over 75% of the world's extremely poor live. The Strategic Plan identifies risk-informed humanitarian and development nexus programming as one of the change strategies of GA5. This programming includes *risk-informed social protection and financing, strengthening climate- and conflict-sensitive analyses, enhancing local governance and improving financing for emergency*

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<sup>14</sup> UNICEF and the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty. (2017). *A World Free from Child Poverty: A Guide to the Tasks to Achieve the Vision*

*preparedness*. Accordingly, the Strategy strongly focuses on strengthening social protection design and implementation to respond to climate- and conflict-related risk and vulnerability and contribute to peace-building processes.

While the five milestones framework outlined in the Global Coalition's Guide does not explicitly focus on humanitarian and fragile settings due to their unique needs and constraints, exploratory assessment of UNICEF's child poverty work in these contexts is possible thanks to the encompassing character of the framework. The relevance and feasibility of action areas included in the milestones framework will vary across humanitarian contexts depending on needs, governance structures and capacities. The Guide highlights cases where progress towards milestones, even if marginal, has been made despite severe capacity constraints. It showcases innovative approaches to collecting child poverty data, such as high-frequency questionnaires in Somalia, mobile-phone surveys during the Ebola crisis in Liberia, and the WFP's use of airtime credit as a proxy for food security and poverty. This evaluation will further identify how efforts towards the milestones have been or can be implemented in humanitarian and fragile contexts. Section 5.1 elaborates on EPRI's approach to the humanitarian component of the evaluation.

*Box 1. Goal Area 5's focus on humanitarian and fragile settings*

*Countries affected by humanitarian crises and fragility will be supported to design, establish and maintain social protection systems, including for the effective delivery of humanitarian cash transfers. Where the reach of central authorities is limited or non-existent, engagement with local governance structures will be sought as an effective way of enhancing social protection interventions and strengthening resilience.*

Source: UNICEF. (2021). Theory of Change, UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025 *Provision 426*

*Box 2. Five milestones and key indicators towards ending child poverty*

Milestone 1: Building a national pathway to end child poverty

### 3. Purpose, objectives, subject and scope

#### 3.1. Purpose

This evaluation aims to ensure that UNICEF's results on child poverty reduction are visible and/or traceable in the respective country offices (COs) to achieve Goal Area 5 of UNICEF's Strategic Plan 2022-2025. The evaluation will provide the organisation with clarity on what capacities should be improved to strengthen UNICEF's work in the area, as necessary. The evaluation will look to fill the existing knowledge gap in the organisation, given the limited evidence of UNICEF work in this area and the programmatic approaches that support the best results.

The main purpose of this evaluation is twofold:

- (i) Evaluate UNICEF's child poverty work in influencing national processes and interventions to bring about an impact in the lives of children living in poverty.
- (ii) Identify actionable steps informed by the findings and key lessons learned from UNICEF's experience to improve its work on child poverty reduction.

Thus, per the TOR, scoping exercise and consultations at HQ and Regional Offices (ROs) levels, the evaluation focus is a mix of summative and formative components. The **summative evaluation** component focuses on documenting the results achieved through UNICEF's actions and strategies to reduce child poverty, emphasising capacity-building and the process through which results came about. The focus of this evaluation is bounded by the strategies and activities that form the **five milestones** outlined in the Guidance for the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty, which informs UNICEF's strategic actions towards reducing child poverty.

The **formative evaluation components** are forward-looking. They identify key lessons that can be learned from UNICEF's work in child poverty, emphasising poverty measurement, advocacy and policy support and providing actionable and practical solutions on how UNICEF and its partners can strengthen this work area. By identifying pathways for achieving results across the four in-depth case studies, this evaluation will provide lessons to enhance knowledge-sharing for UNICEF at the three levels and with national actors and partners in the Global Coalition.

#### 3.2. Objectives

In addition to the overall purpose, the evaluation aims to achieve the following short-term objectives:

- To gauge the role, prioritisation, and relevance of UNICEF child poverty reduction work among all UNICEF levels and external stakeholders.

- To assess the achievement of results in child poverty reduction under Goal Area 5 and its linkages to social protection, identifying the specific interventions that led to those results.
- To assess UNICEF’s capacities to achieve child poverty objectives by building national government systems in a sustainable manner and to assess the status of UNICEF’s resources to deliver on its child poverty agenda.
- To identify lessons learned and good practices from UNICEF child poverty reduction work and pathways on incorporating these to ensure that future decisions and programming have maximum impact.

### 3.3. Subject

In response to the purpose and objectives of the evaluation, the subject of the evaluation can be classified into two levels, as illustrated below in **Figure 1**. The **primary level of analysis** focuses on UNICEF's supporting activities for a national child poverty reduction pathway -and interventions- defined by the Global Coalition’s milestones. This framework will guide the decision-making on which activities should be subject to evaluation.

The **secondary level of analysis** focuses on the role of the broader national context, such as the existing plans, policies and programmes, child poverty rates, fiscal space and political economy determinants within the focal countries, among other factors. The secondary level of analysis recognises the relevance of external factors and how they shape and influence the results of UNICEF's actions towards reducing child poverty. While the focus of the evaluation primarily lies on the first level of analysis, the analysis will draw specific factors of relevance in each focal country under evaluation from the secondary level, allowing for an adequate and comprehensive assessment of the role of context and UNICEF's work in this area.

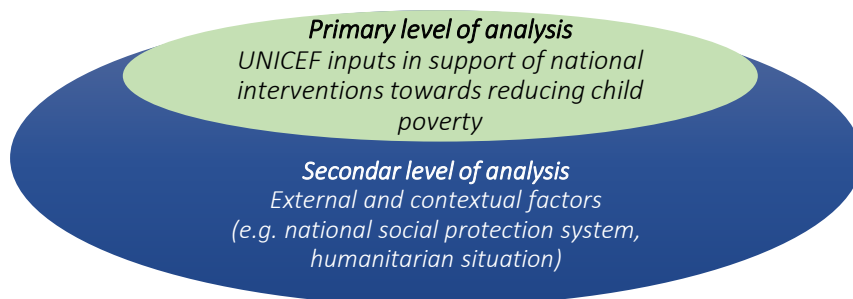


Figure 1. Two levels of analysis of the evaluation

### 3.4. Scope

**Temporal Scope:** The evaluation covers the period from 2018<sup>15</sup> to the present, using UNICEF's previous (2018-21) and current Strategic Plan (2022-2025). The proposed temporal scope is deemed sufficient to allow the assessment of results achieved, given the time trajectory of the underlying ToC (theory of change).

**Thematic Scope:** UNICEF's work on child poverty reduction, focusing on the five indicative milestones on the pathway to addressing child poverty made with the Global Coalition and UNICEF programmes in Goal Area 5 that support countries' efforts to address child poverty, promoting monetary and multidimensional child poverty measurement, and supporting government policies, programmes, and public budgets. Evaluation themes may be further developed in the inception phase. The evaluation will cover all three of UNICEF's organisational levels—HQ, RO and CO.

The evaluation will also explore the relevance of UNICEF's strategic work on child poverty (defined by the five milestones) in humanitarian and fragile settings. UNICEF's Strategic Plan for 2022-2025 highlights humanitarian and social protection as a key action area for poverty reduction in settings affected by climate- and conflict-related vulnerabilities. This includes designing and implementing programmes that address these vulnerabilities. However, the scope of the evaluation goes beyond humanitarian and social protection. It takes a comprehensive approach to assessing poverty reduction efforts, including the relevance and prioritisation of the five milestones and their associated activities in these contexts, if any. Although the evaluation focuses on the five milestones, some components might overlap with UNICEF's humanitarian programming, particularly given the Strategy's emphasis on humanitarian social protection instruments as policy tools for poverty reduction in these settings.

#### **Approach to evaluating UNICEF's work in reducing multidimensional poverty**

UNICEF's multidimensional approach to poverty<sup>16</sup> characterises its efforts towards the five milestones of poverty reduction, with a strong emphasis on child poverty measurement and support for comprehensive policy responses. As addressing the multiple facets of poverty necessitates responses across various sectors, UNICEF's efforts in multidimensional poverty reduction extend beyond Goal Area 5 and encompass all of UNICEF's Goal Areas. This section delves into the evaluation's approach and scope for evaluating UNICEF's initiatives to reduce multidimensional poverty, focusing on defining the components that will be analysed in this evaluation.

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<sup>15</sup> Global Coalition guidance *A world free from child poverty: A guide to the tasks to achieve the vision* shaping this work has been published in April 2017.

<sup>16</sup> UNICEF and the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty. (2015). *Towards the End of Child Poverty. A joint statement by partners united in the fight against child poverty.*

The evaluation centres on UNICEF's efforts to reduce child poverty, characterised by work towards the five milestones. Within Goal Area 5, the evaluation focuses on the activities conducted as part of the child poverty workstream. In this regard, the evaluation will only consider connections to other components of Goal Area 5, such as Public Finance, Social Protection, and Gender mainstreaming, when they are directly related to the Country Offices' child poverty initiatives (e.g., a significant overlap with social protection is anticipated when evaluating Milestone 4). The evaluation specifically focuses on UNICEF's work in reducing child poverty within Goal Area 5, represented by the blue shape on the left-hand side of **Figure 2**. It does not encompass the assessment of UNICEF's efforts in other sections, such as Education, WASH, Health, Nutrition, and Child Protection, even though work in these sectors contributes to the overall reduction of multidimensional child poverty. However, connections between these sections and the child poverty initiatives, particularly led by the Social Policy unit under the child poverty workstream, will be considered in cases of collaborative involvement. Additionally, the evaluation will gauge the prioritisation and connections between the child poverty workstream and other areas of work within Goal Area 5, specifically focusing on those that support child poverty reduction initiatives.

The evaluation's approach to multidimensional poverty focuses on milestones 2 (measurement) and 4 (policy and programme change). The right side of the figure maps components related to multidimensional poverty that will be assessed for each milestone.<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> Note these refer only to specific activities with the multidimensional approach. The comprehensive set of activities subject to evaluation (including monetary and multidimensional poverty) is outlined in the theory of change.

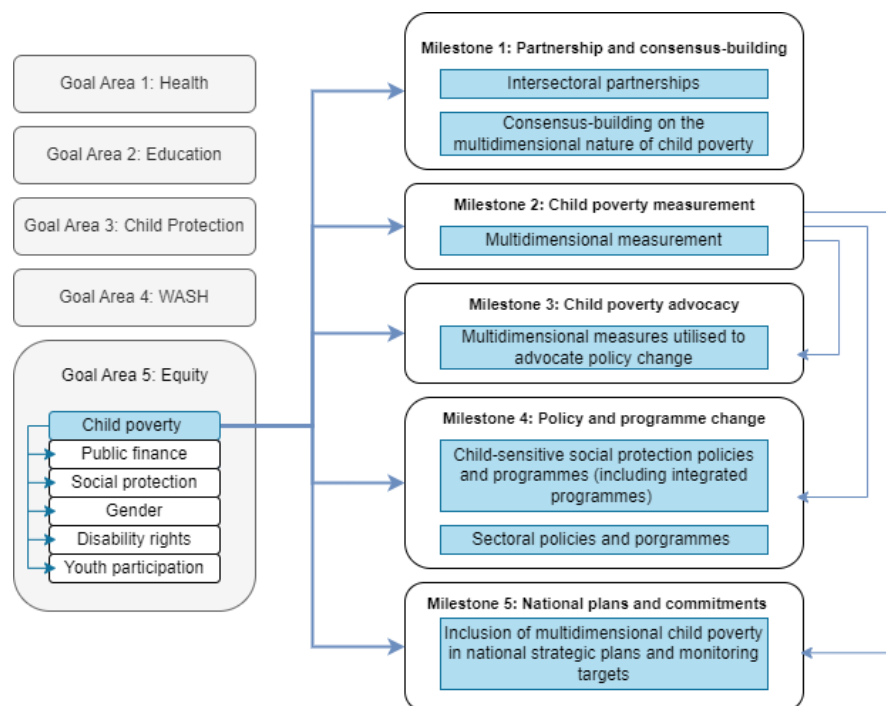


Figure 2. Approach to evaluating UNICEF's interventions to reduce multidimensional poverty

**Milestone 2 (Measurement):** Through sub-question 2(b), the evaluation will emphasise the uses of multidimensional measures for advocacy, policy and programme change and its inclusion in national strategies and monitoring, building on the impact pathways identified in the report “A review of the use of multidimensional poverty measures”.<sup>18</sup> Survey questions will broadly gauge the pathways, while key informant interviews (KIIs) in country-case studies will examine the pathways and lessons learned more deeply.

**Milestone 4 (Policy and programme change):** The evaluation will assess Social Policy units’ (or those working in poverty reduction) support for social protection programmes and relevant sectoral policies to reduce multidimensional poverty. The criteria to define whether a sectoral policy will be considered as part of the assessment for Milestone 4 are the following:

- Sectoral policy, programme or intervention supported by UNICEF’s Social Policy section (or equivalent) and is supported as part of poverty reduction programming.
- Sectoral policy, programme or intervention influenced by child poverty advocacy efforts or multidimensional poverty measurement (for instance, increased sector budgets attributed to the dissemination of multidimensional poverty rates).

<sup>18</sup> UNICEF. (2021). A review of the use of multidimensional poverty measures Informing advocacy, policy and accountability to address child poverty. Retrieved from <https://www.unicef.org/reports/review-use-multidimensional-poverty-measures>

As the figure above illustrates, the evaluation will not examine sectoral policies backed by other UNICEF sections. Additionally, the evaluation's scope narrows down other programme divisions within Goal Area 5, including gender, youth participation, or public finance, to only include those with relevant linkages to the child poverty workstream. **Table 14** in **Annex 5** presents the constructs associated with multidimensional poverty that will be evaluated. These aspects will be examined through survey questions, secondary data, and KIIs. Detailed survey questions and methods of verification are available in the evaluation matrix (**Annex 1**).

**Intended Users and uses:** The primary users of the evaluation will be the UNICEF Social Policy section of the Programme Division at Headquarters, the UNICEF Division of Data, Analytics, Planning and Monitoring, ROs, COs, and UNICEF's Executive Board. The evaluation will provide insights to other development partners associated with the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty. The intended use of the UNICEF divisions and offices is to inform and update their technical guidance and oversight accountabilities as necessary across HQ, ROs and COs.

**Organisational Scope:** EPRI's approach will cover all three of UNICEF's organisational levels—HQ, RO and CO—taking into account inter alia the different accountabilities and roles of each level—with the in-depth case studies and quantitative data collection (via online surveys) focused on the country office level. In line with the guidance in the Terms of Reference, EPRI's approach will mainly concern Social Policy Units. However, EPRI might focus on other sections to assess inter-sectoral collaboration when relevant.

**Geographic scope:** The evaluation has a global outlook and is not limited to a specific region. However, primary qualitative data collection activities and an integrated analysis with secondary data are limited to four country case studies: **(1) Rwanda, (2) Guatemala, (3) Bangladesh, and (4) Cambodia**. An online survey with UNICEF country offices in at least 60 countries will complement the comparative case studies. All UNICEF regions are represented in a quantitative survey being conducted to complement the comparative case studies and inform the global perspective of the evaluation. The following sections provide the rationale and further details on the geographical scope for the evaluation outputs (global report and 4 case studies).

#### **4. Evaluation questions and theory of change**

In line with the above-outlined purpose, objective and scope, the evaluation is guided by key evaluation questions and an evaluation theory of change (TOC), which will serve as the analytical framework (AF). This section outlines the evaluation questions and sub-questions and presents the TOC.

#### 4.1. Evaluation questions

The evaluation is guided by four overarching evaluation questions to assess the relevance, effectiveness, sustainability and results of UNICEF's work towards reducing child poverty. These evaluation questions speak to the evaluation objectives. The guiding questions are as follows:

1. To what extent have UNICEF's poverty reduction interventions been relevant for advancing progress towards the strategic milestones? (Objective 1: Relevance)
2. Is UNICEF's work achieving its objectives on child poverty reduction? (Objective 2: Effectiveness)
3. To what extent does UNICEF have adequate capacities to work towards the five milestones of poverty reduction, and has built national government capacities to reduce child poverty? (Objective 3: Sustainability)
4. What are the lessons learned and good practices that can better enable UNICEF to achieve its objectives in child poverty reduction? (Objective 4: Learning)

To systematically structure and categorise these four overarching questions, the questions were further broken down into sub-questions and categorised according to the OECD-DAC criteria for evaluation – **relevance, effectiveness, and sustainability**. **Relevance** is concerned with the extent to which the activity to be evaluated is suited to the priorities of the target group and the institution; **effectiveness** measures the extent to which the activities attain results at the outcome level; **sustainability** is concerned with measuring whether the benefits of the programme are likely to continue and are financially stable.<sup>19</sup> Below, **Table 1** recommends specific evaluation questions per the OECD-DAC criteria. These questions were developed based on the questions outlined in the evaluation's TOR and further informed by the Theory of Change and documents reviewed during the inception phase. EPRI reviewed the comprehensive set of questions in the TOR and identified and refined pointed evaluation questions concretely aligned to the objectives and criteria. To streamline the initially proposed questions, the evaluation team associated each evaluation criterion to a specific level in the Theory of Change and formulated questions accordingly. For example, questions assessing relevance refer mainly to the appropriateness of UNICEF activities (inputs), while questions assessing effectiveness inquire about results at the longer-term outcome level. By identifying the cases in which COs have made significant progress, question 4 will identify the lessons learned and good practices for milestone achievement. Questions assessing sustainability pertain to UNICEF's organisational capacities and capacity-

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<sup>19</sup> OECD. (2019). *Evaluation Criteria*. Retrieved from Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development: <https://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation/daccriteriaforevaluatingdevelopmentassistance.html>

building capabilities. The milestone assessed by each question is indicated in parenthesis in **Table 1**. The evaluation matrix in **Annex 1** maps out the evaluation questions, corresponding indicators and constructs, means of verification, data sources and KII and survey questions.

*Table 1. Evaluation sub-questions according to evaluation objectives*

Objectives	Evaluation Question	Sub-Evaluation questions
<p><b>Objective 1:</b> To gauge the role, prioritisation, and relevance of UNICEF child poverty reduction work among all UNICEF levels and external stakeholders.</p>	<p><b>Relevance</b> 1.To what extent have UNICEF’s poverty reduction interventions been relevant for advancing progress towards the strategic milestones?</p>	1(a) To what extent is UNICEF's child poverty work prioritised and complementary at HQ, RO and CO levels? (Milestone 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
		1(b) To what extent has UNICEF's work in child poverty been relevant to address national needs (including the needs of the most vulnerable children)? (Milestones 2, 3, 4)
		1(c) What approaches or strategies would be relevant for UNICEF’s work to reduce child poverty in humanitarian and fragile settings? [to be addressed only in the synthesis report]? ** <sup>20</sup>
<p><b>Objective 2:</b> To assess the achievement of results in child poverty reduction under Goal Area 5 and its linkages to social protection, identifying the specific interventions that led to those results.</p>	<p><b>Effectiveness</b> 2. Is UNICEF's work achieving its intended results on child poverty reduction?</p>	<p><b>Milestone 1</b> 2(a) To what extent has UNICEF partnered with and supported relevant stakeholders to identify a national pathway to end child poverty?</p>
		<p><b>Milestone 2</b> 2(b) To what extent has UNICEF's work contributed to the routine and nationally owned measurement of monetary and multidimensional child poverty? (Milestone 2)</p>
		<p><b>Milestone 3</b> 2(c) To what extent have UNICEF's advocacy efforts contributed to increasing awareness of child poverty among relevant stakeholders or in the public agenda? (Milestone 3)</p>
		<p><b>Milestone 4</b> 2(d).1 To what extent has UNICEF’s child poverty work supported sectoral policies and programmes? 2(d).2 To what extent has UNICEF’s child poverty work supported social protection policies and programmes?</p>
		<p><b>Milestone 5</b> 2(e) To what extent have UNICEF activities supported the enshrinement of strategies to reduce child poverty in national plans?</p>

<sup>20</sup> Note: This question will be addressed only in the global synthesis report, and not in country case reports

Objectives	Evaluation Question	Sub-Evaluation questions
<b>Objective 3:</b> To assess UNICEF's capacities to achieve child poverty objectives by building national government systems in a sustainable manner and to assess the resources required for UNICEF to deliver on its child poverty agenda.	<b>Sustainability</b> 3.To what extent does UNICEF have adequate capacities to work towards the five milestones of poverty reduction, and has built national government capacities to reduce child poverty?	3 (a) Are UNICEF's organisational capacities and resources (at HQ, RO and CO levels) adequate and sufficient to achieve its child poverty reduction goals? (Milestones 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
		3(b) To what extent has UNICEF's work contributed to increasing its national partners' capacities to reduce child poverty? (Milestones 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
<b>Objective 4:</b> To identify lessons learned and good practices from UNICEF child poverty reduction work and pathways on incorporating these to ensure that future decisions and programming have maximum impact.	<b>Learning</b> 4. What are the lessons learned and good practices that can better enable UNICEF to achieve its objectives in child poverty reduction?	4 (a) What lessons can be learned from UNICEF's work on reducing child poverty?
		4 (b) What good practices have emerged from UNICEF's work on reducing child poverty?

#### 4.2. Evaluation theory of change

The TOC and proposed analytical framework define the specific pathways through which UNICEF's activities are expected to contribute to relevant outcomes and impacts. Based on the theory of change proposed in the Terms of Reference, UNICEF guiding documents and initial consultations, EPRI developed an overarching theory of change.

The evaluation TOC maps how UNICEF's inputs towards and across the five milestones are expected to achieve the intended results. The different trajectories that countries can follow across the milestones to achieve specific outcomes constitute the pathways of change. These pathways are influenced by UNICEF's actions (level of analysis 1) but also those of national actors and broader contextual factors (level of analysis 2). In addition to identifying success along the results chain, the TOC helps to define and test alternative causal pathways.

The components of the Theory of Change are described as follows:

**Approaches and activities:** UNICEF's work on child poverty is not limited to a single programmatic area or section and has a rather foundational character; therefore, UNICEF activities were grouped into five approaches based on activities outlined in strategic documents. In particular, activities draw from the broad set of strategies comprised in the Coalition's Guide,<sup>21</sup> the Change Strategies for Goal Area 5 in the Strategic Plan 2022-2025 and Action Areas from the Social Protection

<sup>21</sup> UNICEF and the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty. (2017). A World Free from Child Poverty: A Guide to the Tasks to Achieve the Vision.

Framework<sup>22</sup> and Public Finance for Children,<sup>23</sup> in addition to other documents on UNICEF's work on child poverty.<sup>24</sup> <sup>25</sup> Since activities are taken to be overarching and not limited to a single set of strategic areas, some activities can overlap across the approaches proposed in this TOC to respond to the specific milestones' goals. For instance, some components of policy analysis might also fall under the measurement and evidence-generation programmatic approach. This stage of the TOC mainly concerns evaluation level 1. Programmatic approaches and activities are as follows:

- **Measurement and evidence-generation:** Child poverty measurement, vulnerability assessments, poverty profiling and situation analyses
- **Advocacy and partnerships:** Advocacy targeted at government officials and engagement in policy discussions; Grassroots and media advocacy; Establishing partnerships with relevant stakeholders.
- **Policy and strategy development:** Technical support in designing child poverty reduction policies, programmes and strategies; Policy and programme analysis; Monitoring and evaluation.
- **Domestic resource mobilisation:** Budget analysis focusing on child poverty; Fiscal advocacy for increasing fiscal commitments; Budget monitoring to ensure child poverty expenditure
- **Capacity-building and implementation:** Budget analysis focusing on child poverty; Fiscal advocacy for increasing fiscal commitments; Budget monitoring to ensure child poverty expenditure

**Intermediate and longer-term outcomes:** Set of outcomes linking UNICEF's actions to the specific components of national milestones and which determine progress towards each milestone's key indicators (outlined in **Box 2**). Longer-term outcomes consist of the successful achievement of each milestone according to relevant indicators. Longer-term outcomes are as follows:

- **Milestone 1:** A dedicated group of stakeholders identify a national pathway to end child poverty.
- **Milestone 2:** Child poverty is adequately and consistently measured by the government
- **Milestone 3:** Increased awareness of child poverty among relevant stakeholders and in the public agenda
- **Milestone 4:** Policy and programme change that reduce child poverty and expand social protection

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<sup>22</sup> UNICEF. (2019). UNICEF's Global social protection programme framework

<sup>23</sup> UNICEF. (2017). UNICEF's Engagements in Influencing Domestic Public Finance for Children (PF4C)

<sup>24</sup> UNICEF. (2022). UNICEF's Commitment to Ending Child Poverty and Achieving the SDGs: Measurement, Advocacy and Evidence Based Policies.

<sup>25</sup> UNICEF. (2021). A review of the use of multidimensional poverty measures. Informing advocacy, policy and accountability to address child poverty

- **Milestone 5:** Commitment to national plans to end extreme poverty and halving it by national definitions.

**Impact:** Child poverty reduction as part of SDG 1 according to the specific targets to be met by 2030. Target 1.1: the eradication of extreme child poverty by 2030. Target 1.2: halving child poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions. Target 1.3: substantial social protection coverage for vulnerable children.

**Enabling determinants:** Comprise UNICEF's organisational and technical capacities, prioritisation of child poverty work, and financial resources dedicated to Goal Area 5 and the achievement of SDG 1.

**Cross-cutting issues:** Thematic issues highlighted in UNICEF's Strategic Plan as cross-cutting programme areas for Goal Area 5. These include gender, disability and humanitarian and fragile settings.

The TOC illustrated in **Figure 3** represents the mechanisms through which UNICEF activities relating to the five milestones can lead to longer-term outcomes in each domain that increasingly lead to higher-level impacts. The left part of the figure illustrates the various activities undertaken by UNICEF that aim to achieve the milestones (input level). These activities can be oriented towards the five milestones; for instance, advocacy can bring key stakeholders together to support poverty reduction efforts (milestone 1) or to influence the expansion of a social protection programme (milestone 4). However, some inputs are more related to specific milestones than others; for example, advocacy relates strongly to milestone 3, policy support relates to milestone 4 and poverty measurement exclusively to milestone 2.

When oriented towards the specific tasks in the five milestones, this set of UNICEF activities (input level) can achieve a degree of progress within each milestone (intermediate outcomes level). For instance, UNICEF can provide policy advisory support to design a programme that responds to country needs and capacities. Further, more significant progress within each milestone can lead to longer-term positive effects in each domain (long-term outcomes level). For example, when the design of a relevant programme leads to its successful implementation and government ownership, achieving programme change (milestone 4 long-term outcome).

The five milestones, as understood in the Guide and in this TOC, follow a progressive logic in which a given milestone reinforces the next, and linear progress across the milestones implies progress towards higher-level impacts, as depicted by the staircase shape of the TOC. In this generic pathway, the formation of a committed group and the identification of a plan to reduce child poverty are followed by the initiative to measure child poverty; subsequently, child poverty rates are utilised in advocacy efforts to raise awareness of the problem and gain support for interventions to reduce child poverty. Once awareness and support are built, an adequate policy

or programme is designed and implemented. As a final step, child poverty is integrated into national plans along with the national commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and halve child poverty by national definitions, and progress towards this goal is effectively monitored. In this sense, milestone 5 is taken to be closer to impact than milestone 2.

However, even if the TOC builds on this progressive logic, it also facilitates the identification of alternative pathways of change that do not necessarily follow the generic trajectory. For instance, in a given country, successful poverty measurement can occur without necessarily having the support from a consolidated group of stakeholders with a clear action plan; or a programme can be introduced without consistent advocacy efforts. In this sense, the framework is also inclusive of different trajectories across the milestones (**Box 3**). This is reflected in milestone 1, which concerns defining national pathways, thus encouraging the identification of context-relevant steps. Through overarching question 4, the evaluation will seek to identify these various ways of achieving outcomes that might -or might not- follow the progressive trajectory from milestones 1 to 5.

*Box 3. Pathways of change towards ending child poverty*

*Pathways of change towards ending child poverty:* different trajectories that countries can follow across and within the five milestones to achieve relevant outcomes towards poverty reduction. The trajectory followed can be influenced by UNICEF, the government or other stakeholders actions, as well as structural factors.

Based on: UNICEF and the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty. (2017). *A World Free from Child Poverty: A Guide to the Tasks to Achieve the Vision*.

Long-term outcomes are expected to approach impact by contributing to reducing child poverty by national definitions and subsequently reducing the rates of child poverty globally as a higher-level outcome or impact (impact level).

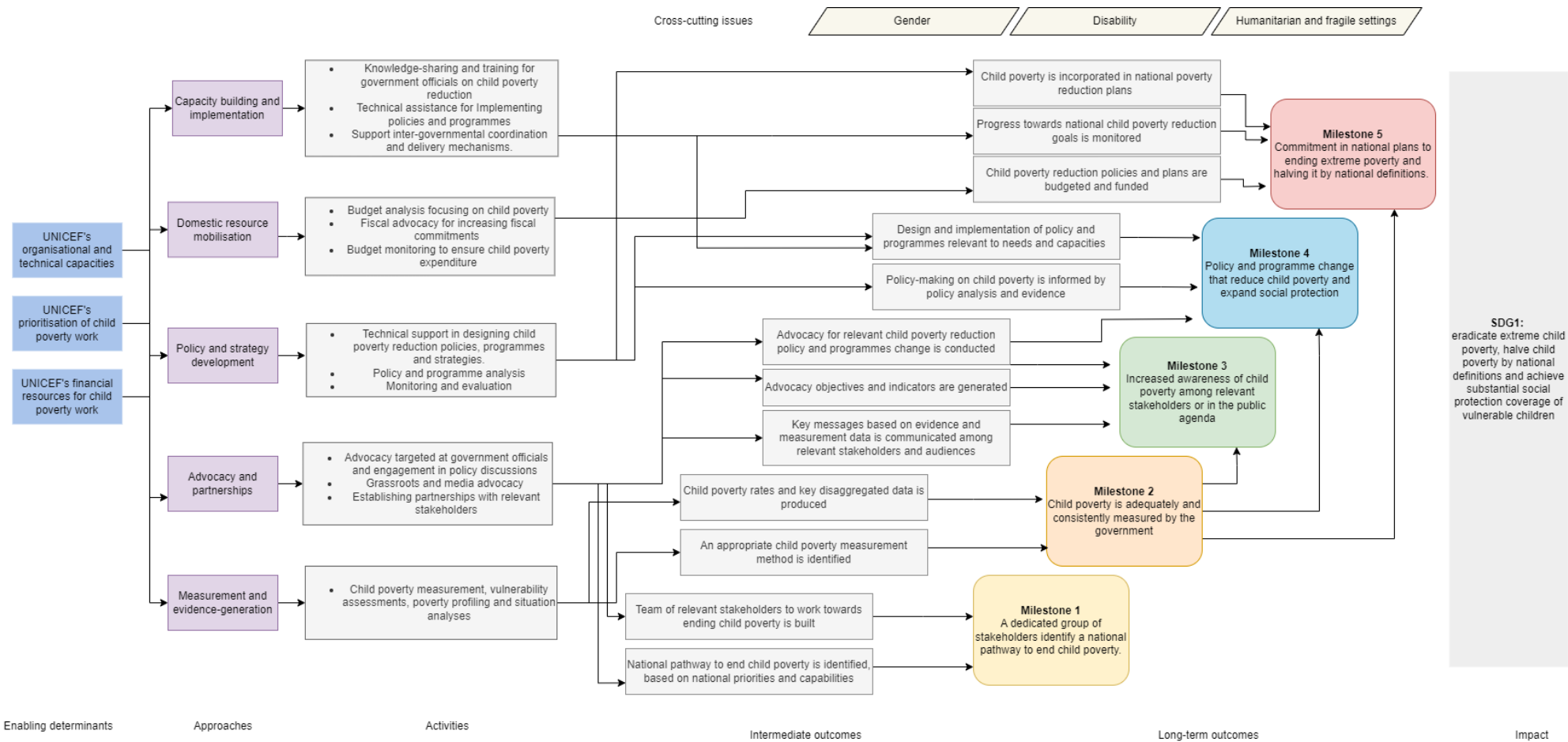


Figure 3. Evaluation Theory of Change

## 5. Evaluation design: comparative case studies

### 5.1 Evaluation methodology

As part of the evaluation, EPRI will employ a focused approach with a mixed methodology to collect quantitative and qualitative data. The evaluation team will apply their evaluative judgement to answer the evaluation questions in an evidence-based and analytical manner. EPRI proposes an integrated quantitative-qualitative evaluation that includes an online quantitative survey of key UNICEF stakeholders across 60 countries to provide a broadly representative picture of UNICEF's work in reducing child poverty globally, with the qualitative component comprising four in-depth country case studies and five good practice notes.

#### *Qualitative component: country case studies and good practice notes*

##### Country case studies

EPRI has chosen to focus the case studies on 4 UNICEF country offices as established in the Terms of Reference. The four countries selected for case studies will provide insights into the relevance of specific milestones for different contexts. In addition to assessing progress within and across milestones, the case studies will examine the interaction between UNICEF's actions and the bureaucratic, political and social contexts in which it operates. This will enable the evaluation team to identify the specific factors that accelerate or hinder progress towards achieving poverty reduction goals, strengthening the formative component of the evaluation. The selection of countries proposed in these groupings responds to their thematic and programmatic relevance, the potential for lessons learned and progress towards the five milestones according to an assessment based on Survey Monitoring Questions data, as expanded in section 5.2.a. The countries selected for case studies are: **(1) Rwanda, (2) Guatemala, (3) Bangladesh, and (4) Cambodia.** The first part of section 5.2 discusses the sampling process and the rationale for each country's choice.

##### Good practice notes

During the KIIs for the country case studies, EPRI will identify and document good practices emerging from the discussions with the relevant staff and external stakeholders of the selected country offices. These will further be complemented by incorporating best practice findings obtained through the online survey. Good practices are defined as innovative approaches, strategies or activities adopted by country offices that help enhance the results of UNICEF programmes and policy actions. EPRI will present the identified good practices to the evaluation reference group to discuss the most relevant top 5 practices and produce briefs (3-5 pages in length) that document each selected good practice. The aim of producing good practice notes is

to highlight innovative activities and approaches that have improved the ability of country offices to achieve their poverty reduction objectives. These ‘light’ documents can be easily consumed by UNICEF staff and development partners, and the key learnings can be incorporated into future actions. Each good practice note will contain the following sections: (1) context and summary of the approach, (2) key results achieved, and (3) lessons learned and replication. This template has been adopted from the 2021 UNICEF document: Compendium of good practices to support the achievement of sustainable development goals for children in Indonesia.<sup>26</sup>

### Quantitative Component: Online Survey

EPRI will administer an online survey targeted at CO staff in the Social Policy unit and other relevant UNICEF units. The online survey will be emailed to four key UNICEF staff per country office working in sections relevant to current or future programming on this issue. The survey will enable EPRI to reach a large sample size (n=50, with a 20% over-sampling rate to address risks of non-response) and collect data on the scale, breadth and perceived relevance, effectiveness, sustainability and results of the work being undertaken by country offices. CO staff in a subset of the country sample (humanitarian stratum) will receive a differentiated survey branch aiming to assess the relevance of UNICEF’s approach to child poverty work in humanitarian and fragile settings, as well as the needs, gaps and capacities in these contexts. This data will mainly inform the formative component of the evaluation. The second part of section 5.2 discusses the sampling strategy for the quantitative survey. A more detailed overview of the survey is also provided in the attached document entitled Survey Plan.

The quantitative and qualitative data (as responses to open-ended questions) from the survey will mainly inform the findings of the global synthesis report. In addition, country-level data will be used to supplement the findings of the case studies. A preliminary set of survey questions for each evaluation question is outlined in the evaluation matrix (**Annex 1**).

### Approach to assess child poverty work in humanitarian and fragile settings

This evaluation seeks to provide insights into the relevance of UNICEF’s work in humanitarian and fragile settings. In particular, EPRI will explore the poverty reduction activities that UNICEF has undertaken in these settings. Moreover, the evaluation will investigate what approaches and strategies would prove more relevant and effective in reducing child poverty in these contexts.

Given that UNICEF’s work in humanitarian and fragile settings can be mostly oriented to humanitarian programming, it is expected that child poverty work will comprise different activities and goals than in contexts without humanitarian components. For this reason, EPRI’s approach to this component of the evaluation consists of dedicating a standalone evaluation question to assess work in humanitarian settings: 1(c) *What approaches or strategies would be relevant for UNICEF’s*

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<sup>26</sup> <https://www.unicef.org/indonesia/media/10481/file/Compendium%20of%20Good%20Practices.pdf>

*work to reduce child poverty in humanitarian and fragile settings?* This question will only be answered in the Global Synthesis Report and excluded from the Country Case Studies. Ten countries with humanitarian and fragility components have been included in the survey sample. A survey branch with items to examine UNICEF’s work in humanitarian settings will be administered to this sample subset. Additionally, EPRI will conduct 10 KIIs with UNICEF CO staff working in fragile countries or with a relevant humanitarian component. Section 5.2.b explains how the countries in the ‘humanitarian and fragile settings’ sample stratum were selected. KIIs will be conducted with COs from the surveyed countries or other countries identified as relevant during RO consultations and desk research.

## 5.2 Sample design

### a. Country case studies sample

EPRI selected a set of countries to inform the country case studies based on an initial shortlist developed during the scoping phase. This country selection builds on the country options proposed in the Terms of Reference for this evaluation, and the scoping report analysis, which were shortlisted according to the following criteria during the scoping phase: i) region, ii) income status, iii) general population and percentage of child population; iv) the reporting of child poverty measurements; v) percentage of GDP dedicated by the government to social assistance programmes; vi) other relevant sources; vii) insights from RO consultations during scoping phase; viii) a score of key ‘quantifiable’ questions from the Strategic Monitoring Questions 2020 selected for each of the milestones constructed for the scoping report.<sup>27</sup> Based on these criteria, the results of the scoping study and Terms of Reference recommended a set of nine countries, out of which EPRI initially identified seven options and subsequently shortlisted four countries for in-depth case studies. The initial set of options and the considerations for their selection are discussed in **Annex 2**. The countries proposed by EPRI for in-depth case studies are **(1) Rwanda, (2) Guatemala, (3) Bangladesh, and (4) Cambodia**. This country selection will be validated in consultation with UNICEF HQ prior to the acceptance of the inception report. Notably, Cambodia was not part of the suggested countries in the Terms of Reference, yet it was included in the initial scoping shortlist. After additional consultations with UNICEF HQ and insights from desk research, EPRI considered it a relevant option for an in-depth case study, given the CO’s work in cross-cutting areas and its representation for the EAP region.

Since the initial set of country options provided in the Terms of Reference was already shortlisted according to the criteria mentioned above, including extensive desk analysis and consultations,

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<sup>27</sup> UNICEF. (2022). Scoping report in preparation for the Global Evaluation of UNICEF work in contributing to poverty reduction, including in humanitarian and fragile settings. Available at the Evidence Information Systems Integration Database #18603

EPRI's selection of these options follows an enhanced purposive logic. Countries were selected for their relevance in terms of thematic and programmatic interest, progress towards the five milestones according to CSI data and geographic balance. The selection also aims to provide a degree of balance in income groups, particularly low and middle-income countries, and relevance in child poverty rates.

Table 2. Comparison of recommended countries for case studies sample

	Bangladesh	Cambodia	Guatemala	Rwanda
<b>Region</b>	South Asia	East Asia and The Pacific	Latin America and Caribbean	Eastern and Southern Africa
<b>Income</b>	Lower Middle Income	Lower Middle Income	Upper middle Income	Low Income
<b>Population</b>				
Total Population	164,689,383	16,718,971	16,858,333	12,952,209
% child population	26.8	30.9	33.3	39.5
% monetary child poverty	46% (2019. Not reported by government)	16% (2018. Reported by government)	68.2% (2014. Reported by government)	44.5% (2018. Reported by government)
Country reports Monetary Child Poverty in SDG VNR	No	No	Yes. 2019	Yes. 2019
% Multidimensional child poverty	57% (2020. Reported by government)	49% (2018. Reported by government)	Multidimensional child poverty rate not reported	25.3% MODA (2018. Reported by government)
Country reports Multidimensional Child Poverty in SDG VNR	Yes. 2020	No	No	Yes. 2019
<b>% of GDP dedicated by government to social assistance programmes</b>	Between 0.25% to 1.0%.	Between 0.25% to 1.0%.	Between 1.0% to 1.75%	Greater than 1.75%
<b>GA5 programme components<sup>28</sup></b>	Social inclusion and increased awareness on child rights	Policy and public financing for children	Social inclusion	Social Policy
<b>Main RO basis for recommendation</b>	Good practice in measurement and reporting in SDG's VNR.	-	UNICEF has good practice of evidence use for policy decision	Good practice in measurement and reporting in SDG's VNR. Low income and high fragility and dynamic country office.
<b>Work on child poverty<sup>29</sup></b>	Multidimensional measurement, child marriage	Social protection, budget engagement, monetary and multi-dimensional measurement	Multidimensional measurement, advocacy, social protection	Multidimensional measurement, social protection
<b>SMQ scorecard<sup>30,31</sup></b>				
Milestone 1) Building a national path	0	0	10	10
Milestone 2) Measurement	6.5	8.5	1	10
Milestone 3) Advocacy	0	0	10	10
Milestone 4) Policy Making	6	4.5	2.25	9.5
Milestone 5) National action plans	7	5.5	5.5	8.5

<sup>28</sup> As identified in CPDs

<sup>29</sup> As identified in COARs, CPDs and CO websites

<sup>30</sup> Scorecard developed during the scoping phase based on selected SMQ questions. UNICEF. (2022). Scoping report in preparation for the Global Evaluation of UNICEF work in contributing to poverty reduction, including in humanitarian and fragile settings. Available at the Evidence Information Systems Integration Database #18603

<sup>31</sup> The scorecard is based on 2021 SMQ data which was later renamed to CSI for following years. For reference to the above scorecard the original naming of SMQ will be maintained.

**Table 2** outlines key features of the proposed country cases that informed the selection and provided insights for choosing an option within a group, particularly the qualitative assessments regarding ROs basis for recommendation, work on child poverty and progress towards milestones in the SMQ scorecard of the scoping report. **Table 9** in **Annex 2** provides an expanded version of this table, including the country options proposed in the scoping phase. Ros' basis for recommendation outlines elements highlighted as reasons for inclusion in the study in consultations with ROs during the scoping phase. The row regarding work on child poverty outlines the main areas of child poverty work identified in COARs, CPDs and COs website. A more detailed discussion of work areas is provided in **Table 3**. The final rows showing progress towards milestones according to the SMQ scorecard for the scoping report provide an estimate of the progress achieved towards the five milestones. The scorecard used for this country selection was built during the scoping phase of the evaluation using SMQs that were, to some extent, linked to the milestones' key indicators. The scorecard accuracy is limited by the objectives of the SMQs, which do not consider progress towards the five milestones.

**Table 3** discusses the rationale for selecting each country for in-depth case studies. **Table 8** in **Annex 2** provides an expanded version of this table, including the discussion of country options proposed in the scoping phase and outlines considerations for deciding a country option within the initially proposed groups. Considerations for selecting an option can include relevant programme aspects or areas of work in COs, implications for geographical balance, the potential for lessons learned (positive or negative), progress according to the SMQ scorecard and cross-cutting issues.

Table 3. Basis for selection of the in-depth case study country sample

Country option	Basis for recommendation
(I) Rwanda	ESAR includes countries with some of the highest child poverty rates in the world. <sup>32</sup> Rwanda is a low-income country representing a critical constituency for child poverty work. Additionally, Rwanda faces shock vulnerability, presenting a vulnerability index of 0.586. <sup>33</sup> Rwanda represents a country where UNICEF’s extensive work has been largely successful. This is reflected in the SMQ scorecard. Rwanda can provide insights into how UNICEF is supporting various integrated social protection programmes <sup>34</sup> and undertaking initiatives to tackle stigma among children with disabilities. Selecting Rwanda as a case study will enable the evaluation team to identify positive lessons from the COs’ successful work towards the five milestones amongst low-income and fragile contexts.
(II) Guatemala	Guatemala is the recommended country from the scoping study for LACR. It was highlighted by KIIIs during the scoping phase for its potential for lesson learning on evidence use for policymaking. Guatemala supports the configuration of programme components required for the evaluation. It represents best practice for the use of evidence to influence policy decisions. Guatemala also provides a relevant case to examine UNICEF’s work towards system strengthening and public spending at local levels. <sup>35</sup> It also provides insights into child poverty advocacy <sup>36</sup> , an area in which it achieved significant progress according to the SMQ scorecard. A change of country in another region would require a reconsideration of the necessary balance.
(III) Bangladesh	Including Bangladesh in the sample would ensure geographic balance by representing SA. Bangladesh was highlighted for its good practices in reporting SDG progress in VNRs. This case will provide insights into the humanitarian component, <sup>37</sup> advocacy efforts, policy analysis and implementation activities. <sup>38</sup> Bangladesh CO’s challenges for achieving outcomes related to

<sup>32</sup> Silwal, A.R., Engilbertsdottir, S., Cuesta Leiva, J.A., Newhouse, D.L. and Stewart, D. (2020). Global Estimate of Children in Monetary Poverty : An Update. World Bank. Retrieved from:

<https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/966791603123453576/global-estimate-of-children-in-monetary-poverty-an-update>

<sup>33</sup> Uganda and Rwanda rank in places 170 and 172 out of 182 respectively. Source: ND-GAIN. (2020). Vulnerability Country Rankings. <https://gain-new.crc.nd.edu/ranking/vulnerability>

<sup>34</sup> For example, the initiatives Modelling Nutrition-Sensitive Social Protection Interventions (MNSSPI), Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) and Vision Umurenge Programme (VUP).

UNICEF. (2021). Country Office Annual Report Rwanda; UNICEF. (2022). Country Office Annual Report Rwanda; UNICEF. (2022). Accelerating Integrated Policy Interventions to Promote Social Protection: Final Evaluation Brief. UNICEF Rwanda. <https://www.unicef.org/rwanda/reports/accelerating-integrated-policy-interventions-promote-social-protection-final-evaluation>

<sup>35</sup> UNICEF. (2022). Country Office Annual Report Guatemala; UNICEF. (2022). UNICEF llama a colocar a la infancia en un lugar prioritario de la agenda política y social. UNICEF Guatemala. <https://www.unicef.org/guatemala/comunicados-prensa/unicef-llama-colocar-la-infancia-en-un-lugar-prioritario-de-la-agenda-pol%C3%ADtica-y>

<sup>36</sup> Ibid.

<sup>37</sup> Humanitarian component related to Rohingya refugee crises and floods; UNICEF. (2022). Bangladesh Humanitarian Report 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/media/133961/file/Bangladesh-Humanitarian-SitRep-No.62-31-December-2022.pdf>

<sup>38</sup> UNICEF. (2021). Country Office Annual Report Bangladesh; UNICEF. (2022). Country Office Annual Report Bangladesh

Country option	Basis for recommendation
	milestones 1,2,3 and 4, according to the SMQ scorecard, can serve as a basis for lessons learned. This would also improve the sample’s balance in terms of successful or less successful progress towards the milestones. Headcount poverty rates in Bangladesh and SA are 12.5 and 10.2, respectively.
<b>(IV) Cambodia</b>	Cambodia would improve regional balance by providing representativity of EAPR. Cambodia’s case is particular in that its GA5 programme component focuses on public financing for children, which is reflected in its significant involvement in the budget process to expand social sector funds. UNICEF’s support for advocacy and social protection for women and children with disabilities would provide valuable insights into these cross-cutting components. <sup>39</sup> Selecting Cambodia would improve the sample’s relevance in terms of income status, as it would expand the number of LMICs to two—the overwhelming majority of the multidimensionally poor children in the world live in LMICs and LICs. According to the SMQ scorecard, Cambodia only presents significant progress in poverty measurement, which makes it another potential case for lessons learned.

The country sample framework mapped in the Terms of Reference requires balancing multiple criteria and managing a number of trade-offs. The excluded option (Montenegro) represents a region with relatively low child poverty rates on average compared to the included regions. While rising child poverty rates in some countries in ECAR make this region a possible priority for evaluation, this phenomenon is mainly in regions more directly and concretely affected by conflict, making Montenegro less relevant for selection. Recent political changes have also disrupted the momentum of UNICEF’s work in Montenegro. The scoping study identified “good practices in advocacy” as the main insight resulting from including Montenegro in the sample, but this is well covered by the recommended sample of countries (Guatemala and Cambodia). When considering not including Montenegro in the suggested country sample for in-depth case studies, EPRI determined that it would be better to prioritise relevance over regional balance. However, ECA is well represented in the survey sample, including Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Armenia, in addition to Montenegro. The options in the Terms of Reference skewed towards middle-income countries, particularly towards UMICs. Thus, if Montenegro were included, two UMIC countries would be part of the sample, limiting the representation of LIC and LMIC countries, where child poverty work is likely to be more intensive and relatively more critical. On a similar note, Montenegro’s child poverty headcount rate is lower than the ECAR average (1.9% and 5.9%, respectively, using the 1.90 poverty line);<sup>40</sup> this reduces its likelihood of being a representative case of this region in terms of child poverty.

<sup>39</sup> UNICEF. (2022). Country Office Annual Report Cambodia; UNICEF. (2018). Country Programme Document Cambodia 2019-2023.

<sup>40</sup> Silwal, A.R., Engilbertsdottir, S., Cuesta Leiva, J.A., Newhouse, D.L. and Stewart, D. (2020). Global Estimate of Children in Monetary Poverty : An Update. World Bank. Retrieved from:

Even though the Terms of Reference included Egypt within the option group of Nigeria and Bangladesh, EPRI decided not to recommend it as a case study due to lower relevance regarding regional child poverty rates. By prioritising Bangladesh over Egypt, the proposed sample considers the higher levels of child poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia according to World Bank and UNICEF estimates –18% of all extremely poor children live in the latter region. These regions are also the most affected in terms of non-extreme poverty, concentrating 25.2 and 31.2% of poor children, respectively.<sup>41</sup> Accordingly, the proposed in-depth case studies will not represent the MENA region. However, this could be balanced to an extent by the broad representation of MENA countries in the survey sample group informing the evaluation's humanitarian dimension. Additionally, insights into the relevant programme activities that Egypt could offer in terms of multidimensional child poverty measurement and social protection policy support can be gathered by examining UNICEF's work in other countries suggested for case studies. Egypt's SMQ assessment of outcomes related to the five milestones reveals potential for drawing good lessons; however, examining cases with similar positive results from other countries, such as Rwanda, could aid in compensating for any exclusion of a relevant case.

Depending on the validation of the country selection mapped in the table above, MENA and WCA will not be included in the sample of in-depth case study countries. These regions, however, are well included in the humanitarian dimension of the evaluation, and this aspect of UNICEF's work is particularly relevant in these regions.

### Online survey sample

A purposively stratified sampling approach with five distinct groups was employed to select the countries for the online survey. This sampling strategy yielded a 60-country sample from the population of 153 countries in which UNICEF has programmatic operations.<sup>42</sup> The groups for the sampling were carefully chosen to ensure the inclusion of key countries selected on a qualitative basis, representation of countries in humanitarian contexts, countries in which UNICEF invests the most in GA5 and countries with particular programmatic relevance selected during the scoping phase. A detailed overview of the five distinct groups and their criteria is presented below.

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<https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/966791603123453576/global-estimate-of-children-in-monetary-poverty-an-update>

<sup>41</sup> Silwal, A.R., Engilbertsdottir, S., Cuesta Leiva, J.A., Newhouse, D.L. and Stewart, D. (2020). Global Estimate of Children in Monetary Poverty : An Update. World Bank. Retrieved from:

<https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/966791603123453576/global-estimate-of-children-in-monetary-poverty-an-update>

<sup>42</sup> Note: It should be noted that due to the nature of certain countries, they may fall into multiple groups based on the stratification criteria. To avoid double sampling, a hierarchical approach was used, where countries were prioritised in an ascending order of groups, and once included in one group, they were automatically excluded from the subsequent groups to prevent duplication in the sample.

The first group, purposively identified as high-priority countries, included ten countries that were qualitatively selected based on criteria such as selection for in-depth case studies based on RO consultations and programme relevance and other countries identified by the team as particularly relevant for the analysis, including for purposes of geographic representation. All twelve countries falling under this category were included in the sample.

The second group consisted of countries with humanitarian or fragile settings. These countries were identified based on the *UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children 2022* publication. The group included the top 20 countries identified by the report with the highest funding required for humanitarian action for children in 2022, from which a random sample of ten countries was drawn. This group was included to capture the unique characteristics of countries facing humanitarian crises, and the random sampling ensured an unbiased representation of this group.

The third group was based on UNICEF's financial contributions to Goal Area 5, including the top 20 countries where funding has been the highest. From this group, a random sample of ten countries was selected to ensure that their impact on UNICEF's goals was adequately represented.

The fourth group consisted of countries short-listed in the scoping report, which were selected by an expert group based on key informants in UNICEF's Regional Offices and HQ, as well as a desk review. A total of 41 countries were identified in the scoping report, of which 26 were not included in the previous strata and therefore included in this stratum. From this group, a random sample of 20 countries was drawn to ensure a diverse range of countries were represented in the evaluation.

The remaining 85 countries were put into the fifth group, and a random sample of eight countries was drawn from this group. The use of purposive (stratified) sampling in the sampling strategy allowed for a systematic approach to selecting a representative sample from the population of countries. The inclusion of countries from different groups, along with appropriate weighting, aimed to mitigate potential biases and enhance the generalisability of the evaluation findings while ensuring that countries with unique characteristics, such as humanitarian settings and contribution to UNICEF goals, were adequately represented in the sample. The sample selection process was conducted rigorously to ensure transparency and reliability of the results obtained from the sample. A complete list of all countries in which UNICEF has programmatic operations is provided in **Annex 3, Table 10**, and **Table 4** below provides a detailed overview of the countries randomly sampled in each group selected for the online survey, as well as their criteria sources.

In order to address any potential issues with sample bias, EPRI constructed analytical weights for each country in the sample based on the probability that the country was selected for the sample. (The analytical weight is calculated as the inverse of the probability of being selected into the sample, based on the groups identified above). Each of the five groups yields a distinct analytical

weight based on the associated probabilities. The calculations are detailed in **Annex 3, Table 11 and 12**. Given the purposive nature of the sample, it is not expected that the sample will be representative in a formal sense. However, the research team will construct both weighted and unweighted indicators in order to benchmark the potential for sample bias. As an illustrative example, the unweighted mean population of the sample is 60% greater than the mean population of all countries in our reference set. The weighted mean population of the sample is within 10% of the mean population of all countries in our reference set. While using analytical weights cannot ensure representativity or eliminate the risk of bias, it provides one tool in a triangulation strategy for better understanding the validity of the estimated indicators.

*Table 4. Sampled countries per stratum and criteria for selection*

Sampling groups		Countries	Criteria source
<b>Group 1: Qualitatively selected high-priority countries</b>	<b>Case-study countries:</b>	Bangladesh, Cambodia, Guatemala, Malaysia, Nigeria, Rwanda, and Uganda	Please refer to section 5.2 a. above for the sampling strategy for case-study countries.
	<b>High priority:</b>	Brazil, China, India, South Africa	Too big to miss countries include members of BRICS due to their economic and demographic importance.
	<b>Geographic representation:</b>	Papua New Guinea	Included to ensure representation of the Pacific, a relevant region given its child poverty rates.
<b>Group 2: Countries in humanitarian context</b>		Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo (Democratic republic of), Mozambique, Myanmar, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Venezuela	Top 20 countries with the highest funding required in 2022 according to the UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children 2022 Overview. <sup>43</sup>
<b>Group 3: Countries with top GA5 expenses</b>		Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, State of Palestine, Sudan, Tunisia, Türkiye, Zambia, and Zimbabwe	Top 10 countries with the highest investments in Goal Area 5 in 2021, according to UNICEF Goal Area 5 Global Annual Report 2021. <sup>44</sup>
<b>Group 4: Countries identified in scoping report</b>		Argentina, Armenia, Bhutan, Burundi, Chad, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ghana, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro, Morocco, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan, and Thailand	These countries were selected by an expert group in the scoping analysis. Their selection was determined based on desk review (especially from the Goal Area 5 Annual Report and the Review of the use of multidimensional poverty measures) and confirmed through interviews with key informants in UNICEF’s Regional Offices and HQ. The selection considered countries’ potential to provide different lessons learned related to different milestones.
<b>Group 5: All other countries</b>		Grenada, Honduras, Oman, Palau, Togo, Turkmenistan, United Republic of Tanzania, and Vietnam	All other countries not previously selected in which UNICEF has programmatic operations. The complete list is available in <b>Annex 3</b> .

<sup>43</sup> UNICEF. (2022). UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children 2022 Overview. Available at:

<https://www.unicef.org/media/112536/file/HAC-2022-Overview.pdf>

<sup>44</sup> UNICEF. (2021). Goal Area 5 Global Annual Report 2021. Available at:

<https://www.unicef.org/media/122786/file/Global-annual-results-report-2021-goal-area-5.pdf>

## Potential limitations to the survey sample and mitigation strategies

The purposively stratified sampling approach used in this study had several potential limitations that need to be addressed. Firstly, despite efforts to minimise bias, the selection of countries for the sample relied on specific criteria used for stratification. Consequently, there is a possibility that certain countries or groups of countries may have been excluded or underrepresented in the sample, potentially affecting the degree of generalisability of the findings. To mitigate this limitation, transparency in the selection process and clear documentation of the criteria used for stratification were ensured, allowing for greater understanding and interpretation of the sample composition.

Secondly, while random sampling was employed within some strata, purposive sampling was utilised to select countries based on qualitative criteria, such as programmatic relevance. EPRI acknowledges that this qualitative approach to selection introduces the potential for bias. To address this limitation, multiple strategies are implemented to minimise the bias. First, for any generalisations about the population as a whole, countries will be weighted according to the weight of their respective strata to minimise bias and provide appropriate representation for different groups of countries. The significance of the differences in means between the total population and the sample population was tested to validate the weighting approach, ensuring its validity and reliability (see **Annex 3, Table 12**). Additionally, the use of multiple strata ensured that a diverse range of countries was included in the sample, which enhanced the generalisability of the findings.

The inferential statistical analysis applied to the quantitative survey data will acknowledge the limits of the purposive sampling methodology employed in this study. The generalisability of findings will be stronger for certain groups of countries within the sample. The statistical analysis will account for these limits by comparing results for the weighted and unweighted samples when assessing each of the questions. To mitigate these limitations, this inception report provides clear and transparent reporting of the sampling methodology, its limitations, and the assumptions made. By being aware of these limitations and adopting rigorous methodologies, the study aims to enhance the validity, reliability, and usefulness of the evaluation findings.

### 5.3 Evaluation approach

This evaluation will employ comparative country case studies as the analytical approach. This evaluation design was deemed relevant and appropriate given the multiplicity of contextual factors influencing UNICEF's work on child poverty reduction. While a single case study approach is oftentimes characterised by an in-depth examination of a single case over time – such as a policy, programme, intervention site, implementation process or participant - the four country cases are

in need of more generalisable knowledge about the enablers and determinants that support or hinder UNICEF's abilities to work on child poverty reduction. Moreover, comparative case studies are a relevant design option when 'how' and 'why' questions are being posed about the processes or outcomes of a given initiative and/or when one or more strategic actions are being undertaken across multiple contexts, and there is little or no opportunity to manipulate or control the way in which the interventions are being implemented. Comparative case studies are an appropriate choice when it is important to consider the context in which interventions occur to understand how effective UNICEF's efforts are in influencing processes and strategies that aim to reduce child poverty.

The chosen framework requires extensive conceptual, analytic, and synthesising work. The synthesis across cases extends beyond the comparison of similarities and differences to using these similarities and differences to support or refute propositions as to why an intervention succeeds or fails, thereby allowing for the examination of causality. This attribute allows a comparative case study approach to be selected when it is not feasible to undertake a comprehensive experimental or quasi-experimental research design – as is the case of the subject of this evaluation. Thereby, the comparative case studies emphasise comparison within and across contexts, describing similarities and differences, assessing the implications, using the findings from this analysis to subsequently derive conclusions, explain heterogeneous results and inform the answers to the evaluation questions. In addition to this, data gathered through an online survey across 60 COs will complement the insights from country case studies and provide a global perspective to supplement the comparative approach.

In light of the given approach, the steps of a comparative case study approach are mapped out in **Figure 4** below.

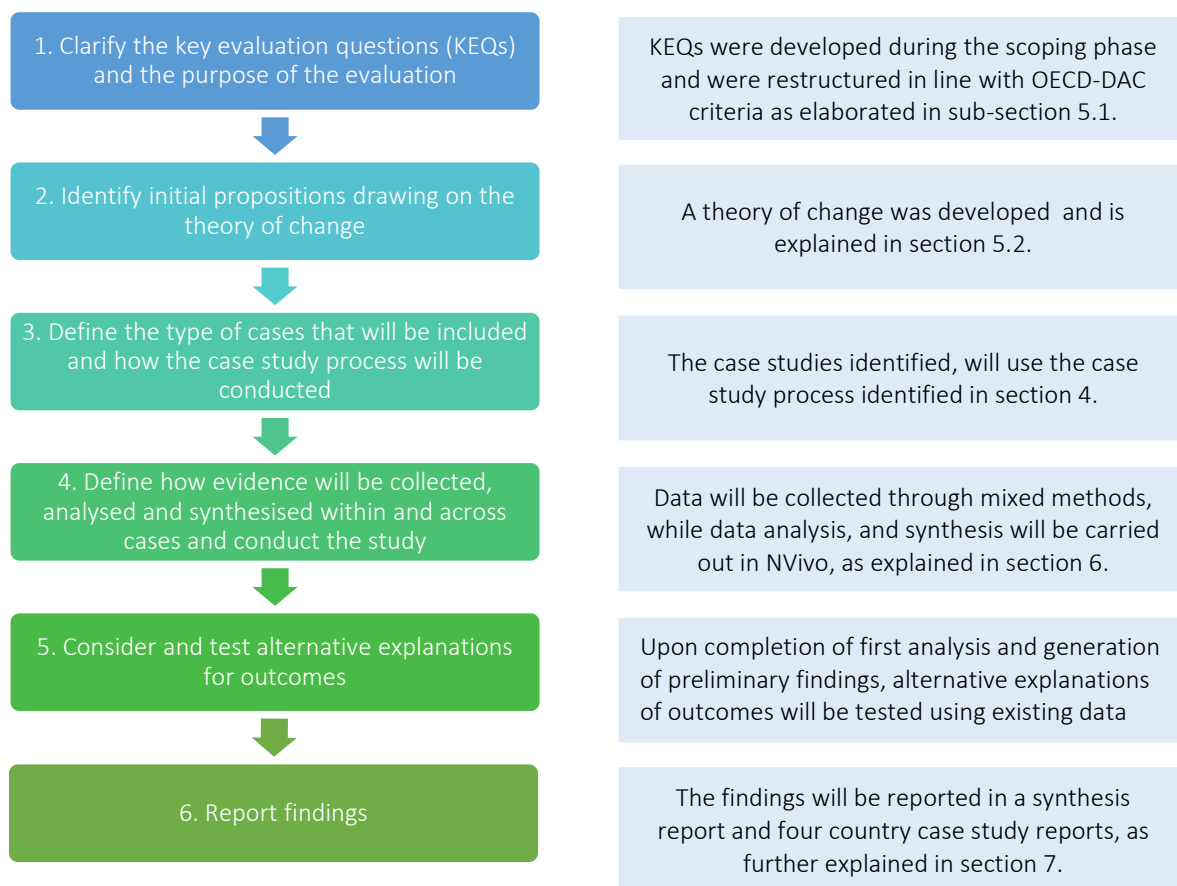


Figure 4. The logic of the comparative case study approach

## 6. Data collection and analysis methods

The evaluation methodology for assessing UNICEF’s work in child poverty reduction takes a comprehensive approach. It involves primary qualitative data collection, surveys, and secondary data analysis. The methodology includes structured desk research, utilising UNICEF documents, reports, and surveys as secondary data sources. A global survey will be conducted to gather quantifiable data across all 60 countries, and KIIs will be conducted in selected countries for in-depth insights. The collected data will be analysed using qualitative comparative analysis, pattern matching, and statistical analysis techniques. NVivo software will be used for integrated data analysis. This methodology aims to thoroughly evaluate UNICEF’s efforts in reducing child poverty, combining qualitative and quantitative approaches and providing key evaluation findings for drafting the country case studies, global synthesis report, and best practice notes. **Figure 5** provides an overview of the Data collection and analysis methodology adopted in this evaluation.

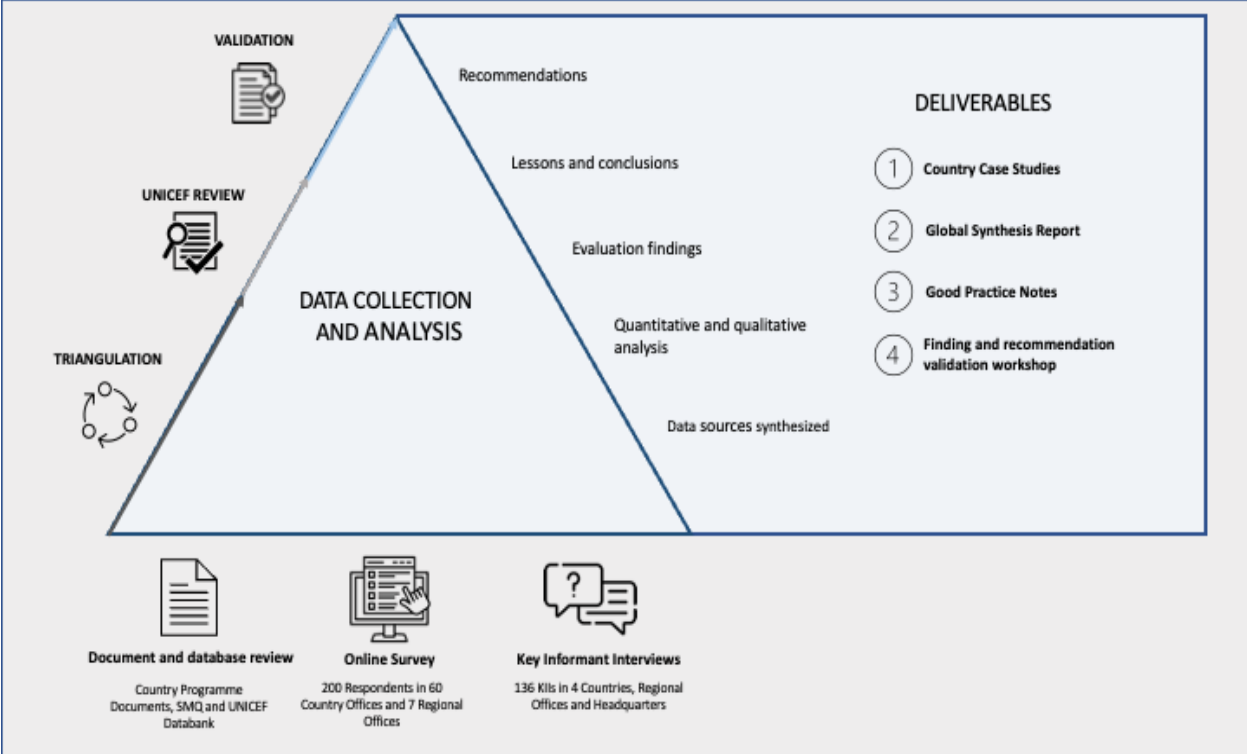


Figure 5. Data collection and analysis methodology

## 6.1. Data collection

### 6.1.1. Structured desk research

To gain an initial understanding of UNICEF's efforts in addressing child poverty and to complement the primary data collected during the evaluation process, a thorough review of secondary data will be conducted. The evaluation team will collect data from various key UNICEF strategic documents, including Country Office Annual Reports (COARs), Country Programme Documents (CPDs), Programme Cooperation Agreements (PCAs), Results Assessment Modules (RAMs), Core Standard Indicators (CSI) and other internal monitoring, financial, and strategy documents. Additionally, the desk review will analyse reports, policy briefs, evaluations, research and other materials produced by UNICEF related to poverty reduction efforts, as well as documents providing insights into national child poverty profiles, such as Voluntary National Review (VNR) reports and strategic plans. This comprehensive data collection will serve as the foundation for constructing a scorecard for the evaluation questions, enabling an indicative secondary assessment of UNICEF's contributions to progress in each milestone within the sampled countries. These findings will be used in conjunction with the analysis of primary data to triangulate the evaluation results. For more details on the indicators proposed for each evaluation question for constructing the scorecard, please refer to **Annex 4**.

### *6.1.2. Global survey*

The primary objective of the online survey is to gather data on UNICEF COs' efforts in reducing child poverty and provide a global dataset for the evaluation. The survey aims to generate valuable and quantifiable insights to inform the evaluative assessment, complementing insights from KIIs, secondary data analysis, and country case studies. The survey primarily focuses on obtaining insights from a representative group of UNICEF country offices, aiming to bridge existing information gaps regarding the relevance, effectiveness, sustainability, and lessons of UNICEF's work on child poverty. In addition, the survey seeks to capture some insights into the regional and headquarters-level work on child poverty. By strategically targeting a sample of country offices, the survey aims to capture a comprehensive understanding of the diverse initiatives, challenges, and achievements in addressing child poverty across various contexts.

Furthermore, the global survey will serve two methodological purposes: i) to provide insights that inform and contextualise the qualitative data collection, particularly it will serve to better conduct KIIs in country case studies, and ii) to address gaps and complement secondary data sources, especially CSIs and UNICEF's monitoring databases. The survey questionnaire will serve to collect accurate data on relevant constructs of the evaluation questions, as outlined in the evaluation matrix (**Annex 1**). A **survey plan** attached to this Inception Report develops the survey design, implementation and analysis plan, providing supplementary details complementing the information in this report.

### *6.1.3. Key informant interviews*

KIIs will be conducted in countries selected for in-depth case studies to collect comprehensive and detailed information on UNICEF's progress and challenges in their work on child poverty. KIIs are qualitative, in-depth interviews with individuals selected for their first-hand knowledge about the topic of interest. The interviews are typically loosely structured, relying on a list of issues to be discussed. However, they can also be thoroughly planned to test assumptions, as will be the case in this evaluation. Interview guides will be used to guide the conversation to some extent while maintaining enough flexibility for a free discussion to evolve and allowing the interviewer to frame questions spontaneously, probe for information, and take notes.

EPRI will initiate each case study with a meeting with each country's chief of social policy in each country. Each country analysis will cover relevant evaluation questions and require between 20 to 25 KIIs. Five sets of KIIs are planned:

- (i) KIIs with UNICEF staff at headquarters, regional and country levels;
- (ii) KIIs with government ministries, departments and agencies involved in poverty reduction at the national and sub-national level, when relevant;

- (iii) KIIs with members of civil society, including CSOs, academics, the media or private organisations involved in poverty reduction efforts;
- (iv) KIIs with development partners, including UN agencies, donor agencies, international financial institutions and other multilateral organisations; and,
- (v) Remote KIIs with UNICEF COs' staff working in humanitarian and fragile settings. These interviews will provide insights into the unique challenges and approaches to addressing child poverty in these contexts.

EPRI aims to conduct a total of 130 KIIs with a variety of in-person interviews as part of field visits for the country case studies and remote interviews.

Field visits will take place during the field research phase in July 2023. These visits will include four in-depth missions (of 3 to 5 days) in the selected countries for detailed case studies: **(1) Rwanda, (2) Guatemala, (3) Bangladesh, and (4) Cambodia**. Please refer to section 5.2 for the selection methodology. Interviews with government stakeholders and agencies, civil society organisations and development partners will be the primary focus of the field visits.

Potential challenges may arise during the conduct of in-person KIIs during field visits, primarily due to stakeholders' unavailability to meet the evaluation team during the planned visit. In such cases, EPRI will proactively address this challenge by conducting remote interviews to complement the in-person data collection. EPRI foresees no significant obstacles in connecting remotely with different sets of key informants at the national level, as recent experiences from previous evaluations indicate that informants are generally accessible and available. However, when conducting KIIs with government offices at the sub-national level, EPRI anticipates challenges in setting up stable internet connections for interviews. In such instances, EPRI will resort to conducting interviews via phone if feasible. As a last resort option, EPRI will share the questionnaire with the intended interviewees, allowing them to provide written responses.

To ensure a comprehensive and targeted sample, EPRI will employ an expert sampling technique, which involves purposively selecting individuals with specific expertise on the subject matter. For KIIs with staff at UNICEF Headquarters, UNICEF ROs, and COs, EPRI will select personnel involved in social policy and engaged in poverty reduction activities for interviews. The same technique will be applied to KIIs with stakeholders in government and non-governmental organisations at the national level. In each case study country, the sample of experts and key informants involved in poverty reduction efforts will be chosen in consultation with UNICEF COs. Additionally, EPRI will adopt a chain referral approach, encouraging identified stakeholders to refer other individuals who should also be consulted, further enhancing the diversity and depth of the sample.

**Table 5** provides an initial overview of the planned research activities across different levels, delineating the number of remote and in-person activities. At the headquarters and regional

levels, 20 to 24 remote research activities are planned, along with 10 to 12 remote activities involving development partners and members of the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty. For the case study countries, 10 to 12 remote and at least 10 in-person research activities are scheduled. Furthermore, 10 to 12 remote research activities will be conducted with UNICEF staff working in humanitarian and fragile settings. The evaluation encompasses 50-90 remote and 40-80 in-person research activities, ensuring a comprehensive approach to gathering qualitative data as part of this evaluation.

These remote and in-person KIIs constitute the primary qualitative source of information on UNICEF's actions towards child poverty reduction. KIIs will help to shed light on perceptions of the relevance, effectiveness, sustainability, and results of UNICEF's inputs both internally and externally to the organisation.

Table 5. Proposed number of key informant interviews across different levels

Location		# of KIIs
UNICEF Headquarters	Evaluation Office, Social Policy Programme Division,	10-12
UNICEF Regional Offices	Social Policy units in regions covered by the evaluation	10-12
	Development partners, NGOs, Global Coalition to End Child Poverty	10-12
	UNICEF Country office staff in humanitarian settings	10-12
<b>Sub-total of activities at headquarter/regional level</b>		
In-country national level	<b>i) Rwanda, ii) Guatemala, iii) Bangladesh, iv) Cambodia</b>	20-22 per country
	KIIs (UNICEF, Government, development partners and civil society)	
	<b>UNICEF country office</b> Social Policy Specialist Social Policy Officer Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist Communications and Advocacy Officer Officers of relevant sections (Gender, Health, Education) <b>Ministry of Social Development</b> <b>Ministry of Finance</b> <b>Parliament representatives</b> <b>Donors and International organisations</b> <b>Social protection administrative agency</b> <b>National statistics unit</b> <b>Civil society members</b> Civil society organisations Media Academia and think tanks Private sector stakeholders <b>Development partners</b> UN Agencies Donor agencies Multilateral organisations International financial institutions (IFIs)	
<b>Total of activities</b>		<b>136</b>

## 6.2. Data analysis

The data analysis phase of this evaluation will involve the comprehensive analysis of the data collected, integrating both qualitative and quantitative information gathered through various methods. A mixed-methods approach will ensure a thorough and nuanced understanding of the cases under study, enabling the examination and testing of causal propositions and addressing the key evaluation questions.

To facilitate the analysis of the data and enable causal attribution, a range of data analysis methods will be utilised. The approach for this mixed methods evaluation is an integrated one, where qualitative and quantitative data will be integrated within an overall research design. This integration will allow for a more comprehensive and holistic analysis, capturing the complexity and nuances of the evaluated interventions and their impact on child poverty.

Throughout the data analysis process, careful attention will be given to ensuring data quality, reliability, and validity. Triangulation of findings from different sources and methods will be utilised to strengthen the credibility and robustness of the analysis. This comprehensive and integrated data analysis approach will provide valuable insights into the effectiveness and results of UNICEF's work on child poverty reduction.

### 6.2.1. *Methods of data analysis*

#### 6.2.1.1. **Qualitative research methods**

##### ***Qualitative comparative analysis***

Qualitative comparative analysis (QCA) is an analytical approach that supports causal attribution. This approach offers strategies that enable rigorous examination of the categorical attributes (such as the capacity of an organisation and national actors, existing delivery systems, extent of linkages, coordination, etc.) that may be associated with particular programme outcomes, defining success and failure, as ascribed by the theory of change. To analyse the causal contribution of different categorical attributes to an outcome of interest, QCA starts with documenting the different configurations of categorical attributes associated with each case of an observed outcome. These are then subject to a minimisation procedure that identifies the simplest set of attributes that can account for all the observed outcomes, as well as their absence.

QCA is a theory-driven approach in that the choice of attributes being examined needs to be driven by a prior theory about what matters. It requires an in-depth understanding of the cases, strong theory and critical thinking, and testing of propositions. The list of conditions for testing may also

be revised in light of the results of the QCA analysis if some combinations of attributes are still shown as being associated with a mixture of outcomes.<sup>45</sup>

While qualitative comparative analysis can draw on both qualitative and quantitative data, the analytical approach focuses on the relationships among combinations of potential causal conditions within and across cases (i.e., case-based knowledge). Thereby, the qualitative comparative analysis provides a formal and clear procedure for qualitative analysis.

Comparative analysis in this evaluation will mainly focus on the four country case studies since these will provide more detailed information into the country context and identify the main factors contributing to the achievement of UNICEF objectives. Thematic analysis and pattern matching will be the main means of analysing KIIs. The key themes related to each of the evaluation questions and each of the milestones will be identified, guided by the evaluation analytical framework. The first level of analysis will map the contextual factors that enable or hinder UNICEF activities in reducing child poverty in each country (these factors can include government commitment, bureaucratic capacity and civil society support, among others). In a second level of analysis, the degree of UNICEF's contribution to the achievements of outcomes will be gauged, particularly from KIIs with external stakeholders. KIIs will also enable the evaluation team to request more details on the activities mapped during desk research and patterns emerging from secondary data analysis. The initial propositions included in the analytical framework will serve to guide the thematic analysis of KIIs.

### ***Pattern matching***

Pattern matching is a valuable method that will be employed in this evaluation to analyse the data obtained through desk review, the global survey, and KIIs.

In the context of this evaluation, pattern matching will help identify and confirm patterns contributing to outcomes across countries and enable the comparison of mutually exclusive rival patterns with the observed pattern in each country.<sup>46 47</sup> It will also be used as a method of triangulating the findings to increase their validity.

Through pattern matching, key conclusions can be drawn regarding UNICEF's work on child poverty and its replicability in different countries and settings. It will stimulate the exploration of various questions, including:

- What are the key patterns that occur over time in each country case?

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<sup>45</sup> Better Evaluation. (2016). Qualitative comparative analysis. Retrieved from:

<https://www.betterevaluation.org/methods-approaches/methods/qualitative-comparative-analysis>

<sup>46</sup> Kaarbo, J., & Beasley, R. K. (1999). A Practical Guide to the Comparative Case Study Method in Political Psychology. *Political Psychology*, 20(2), 369–391.

<sup>47</sup> Goodrick, D. (2014). Comparative Case Studies. Methodological Briefs Impact Evaluation No. 9. UNICEF

- What factors may be responsible for these patterns?
- Which actors and actions drive or inhibit these patterns?
- What surprising aspects emerge from these patterns?
- How can these similar or different patterns be explained?
- How are different attributes of UNICEF's work to reduce child poverty and national efforts related to these patterns?

By addressing these questions and conducting pattern-matching analysis, the evaluation will gain a deeper understanding of the nature and dynamics of the similarities and differences observed among countries, contributing to comprehensive insights into UNICEF's efforts to reduce child poverty.

#### **6.2.1.2. Quantitative analysis methods**

The quantitative data collected, including CSIs and other data sources and survey responses, will be subject to a range of statistical analysis techniques. These methods will include descriptive analysis, cross-tabulation, univariate and bivariate analysis, and the use of relevant graphics and charts to effectively present the findings.

Descriptive quantitative analysis will be employed to describe and summarise UNICEF's work in each milestone across countries, regional groupings, income status, and other key characteristics. This analysis will involve calculating measures of frequencies, means, and standard deviation, providing a comprehensive overview of the state of UNICEF's work and highlighting specific similarities and differences across countries. Data visualisations will also be utilised to effectively communicate key findings.

Cross-tabulation and bivariate analysis will serve as vital tools to identify relationships between different milestones. These analyses will enable us to understand the connections and dependencies between performance in the different milestones. This form of analysis can also help us better understand the relationship between evaluand level one: UNICEF actions and Evaluand level 2: external and contextual factors. Through this analysis, we will gain insights into how success and progress in one milestone contribute to improvement in other milestones.

Throughout the quantitative analysis process, rigorous data quality checks will be conducted to ensure the accuracy, completeness, and consistency of the data. Ethical considerations will be strictly followed, and data confidentiality will be maintained to protect the privacy of respondents.

By utilising these quantitative analysis methods, the evaluation team aims to extract meaningful insights from the scorecard and survey data. This approach will provide a foundation for drawing

conclusions and addressing the evaluation objectives in a comprehensive and evidence-based manner.

### *6.2.2. Analysis tools: utilising NVivo*

EPRI will utilise NVivo to facilitate integrated data analysis. NVivo is a software that supports qualitative and mixed-methods research by enabling the user to store, organise, categorise, and classify qualitative research data, subsequently supporting a structured analysis of the latter. In NVivo, single cases, observations and attributes for participants can be created. For the comparative case studies approach, NVivo will be especially helpful, as it facilitates integrated analysis of different sources and synthesis across cases.

As the first step, all primary qualitative data collected through KIIs will be transcribed and coded in NVivo (see **Figure 6**). In NVivo, cases can be replicated with a node structure (or hierarchy), whereby the material can be coded in a way to get a complete picture of the case. The nodes will be organised according to key attributes related to the initial evaluation questions, with sub-nodes for each attribute. That way, NVivo facilitates analysis of each case, especially a cross-case synthesis and analysis of variables. Next to the primary data, secondary data sources, including relevant reports and documents, will also be imported to NVivo and coded according to the same node structure.

After coding each case and data source into nodes and sub-nodes according to the attributes for testing, the data analysis commences. Based on the ex-post evaluation theory of change and the initial propositions for testing, a range of attributes were isolated, which will be tested as explanations for the success of the interventions. The information on cases will be coded according to these attributes (in the form of nodes and sub-nodes in NVivo) in order to facilitate the comparison and testing of these attributes in NVivo. An initial list of nodes will include the five milestones of the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty guide and sub-nodes corresponding to the specific activities comprised by each milestone; however, the organisation of nodes can change as the evaluation develops.

Finally, any results from the query and analysis can be noted in memos within NVivo. These memos are a type of document that allows for the recording of ideas, insights, or interpretations of the material and can be created with links to nodes or without a link to any node. They provide a way to keep the analysis separate from (but linked to) the material analysed. As indicated by the arrows, writing up initial interpretations and findings into memos might lead to new ideas and alternative explanations and propositions for testing.

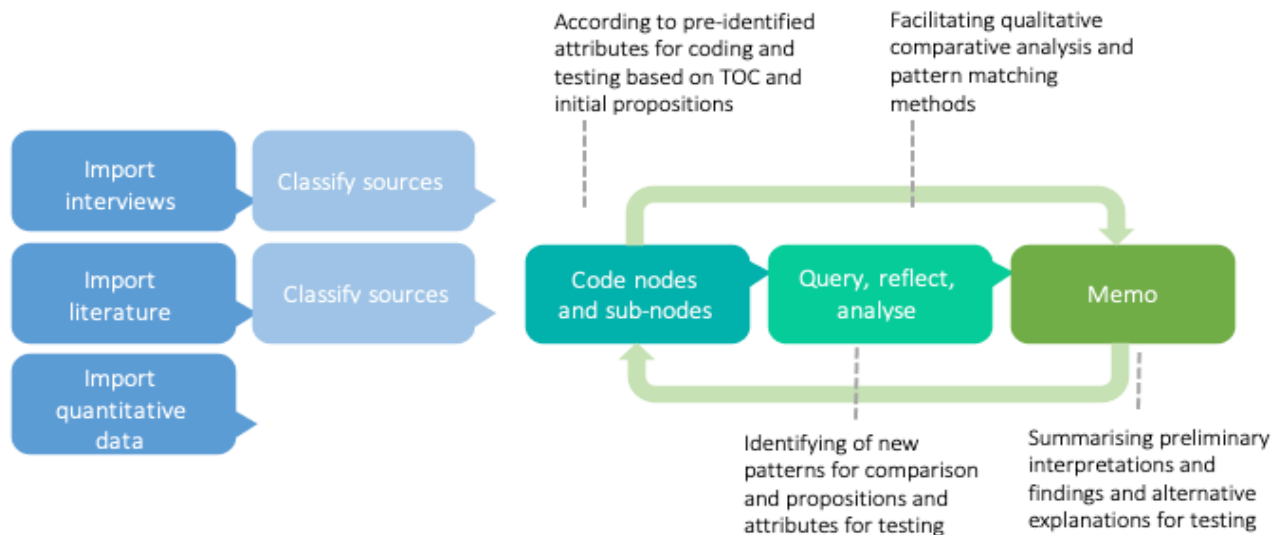


Figure 6. Data analysis steps in NVivo

### 6.2.3. Triangulating information and findings

The following triangulation techniques will be employed to ensure the validity of the evaluation:

- **Consistency Checking:** The findings from different data sources will be cross-referenced and compared for consistency. If multiple sources converge on similar findings, it will enhance confidence in those findings.
- **Cross-Validation:** Data collected through different methods, such as interviews, surveys, and desk review, will be compared to validate and corroborate the findings. This cross-validation will provide a more robust understanding of the evaluated intervention.
- **Pattern Matching:** Patterns observed within and across cases will be analysed to identify similarities, differences, and trends. This process will involve comparing patterns in the data to determine if they align or diverge, providing insights into the effectiveness and replicability of UNICEF's work.
- **Process Tracing:** A systematic examination of diagnostic evidence will be conducted to trace the causal pathways and linkages between hypothesised causes and observed outcomes. This process will explore the trajectories of change and help identify the key factors driving the observed patterns.

### 6.2.3.1. Confidence scoring

A confidence scoring system will be applied to assess the robustness of the findings, considering the quality, validation, and triangulation of the evidence. The following scoring scale will be utilised:

- **Level 4: Very high confidence** - The findings are supported by multiple lines and levels of evidence that demonstrate strong triangulation, providing robust support and confidence in the conclusions.
- **Level 3: High confidence** - The findings are backed by multiple lines and levels of evidence, most of which align and complement each other, indicating a consistent and reliable picture.
- **Level 2: Moderate confidence** - The findings are based on limited lines and levels of evidence, with some triangulation. While the evidence may be somewhat limited, it still contributes to the understanding of the topic.
- **Level 1: Low confidence** - The findings rely on a single line of evidence and weak triangulation. There is a lack of diverse sources and limited corroboration, which reduces confidence in the conclusions.

The application of this confidence scoring system will help identify areas that require additional data collection or further evaluative work to strengthen the reliability and validity of the findings.

By employing these triangulation techniques and the confidence scoring, the evaluation aims to ensure the credibility and robustness of the conclusions drawn, providing valuable insights into UNICEF's work on child poverty reduction and its replicability in different contexts.

### 6.3. Potential limitations, bottlenecks, and main risks

Potential limitations can be found in both the qualitative and quantitative approaches to evaluating UNICEF's work in reducing child poverty. This is particularly the case in the four countries outlined in the proposal, as possible bottlenecks, security/health concerns, or other unsurpassable challenges may force the research team to explore alternative avenues to their proposed methodology.

Regarding the **qualitative component**, the analysis to be carried out by the evaluation team is conducted within a geographical scope of four countries, which implies that external validity and generalisability of findings are inherently limited. The research approach offsets this to some extent by embedding the four in-depth studies with insights from the online survey that will provide a broader perspective from 60 countries.

Furthermore, the evaluation team may face challenges in verifying the information provided by questioned key informants objectively if there is a lack of relevant secondary data sources. As such, it may be difficult to prove for robustness and rigidity of the information that it is possible to collect through primary qualitative research. A further consideration is that research subjects may give biased answers to questions (for example, excessively positive or negative responses). The evaluation is limited in the extent to which such claims can be verified. Nevertheless, triangulation within and between multiple data sources will serve to control for some of these constraints.

Regarding the **quantitative component**, the evaluation faces the risk of low response and completion rate of the survey. To mitigate this potential shortcoming, EPRI will consider average uptake rates based on experience with similar tools when administering the survey so the expected number of responses is achieved.

Further limitations arise from the selection of countries. In countries with political instability and humanitarian crises, there would be challenges to both primary and secondary data collection, which might be a more relevant factor for countries in the humanitarian sample. An additional consideration is that given the small number of case studies, the sample does not ensure optimal geographical and income status representativeness, as well as other relevant characteristics such as the prevalence of child poverty. However, since UNICEF's work in child poverty has been most productive in the selected countries, this geographic focus maximises the evaluability and relevance.

The limited representativeness of country case studies will be offset to some extent by the online survey data, which employs a more representative sampling strategy to select 60 countries. The ability to verify propositions for countries outside the sample is more limited, though EPRI will seek to collect as much information as possible through consultations with stakeholders at the regional and headquarter level to answer these questions. Finally, a key risk can be found in the timeframe of the study. To meet the submission deadlines, activities must be executed according to schedule. Any delay due to circumstances and processes out of the control of the evaluation team, the feedback time taken by UNICEF, the ethical approval process or the speed and availability of country stakeholders for the remote data collection in the timeframe indicated for it may delay the submission date of the deliverables.

#### 6.4. Ethical considerations

EPRI will conduct high-quality work guided by professional standards and ethical and moral principles in line with the *Norms and Standards for Evaluation* (2016), developed by the UN Evaluation Group (UNEG), as well as the UNICEF *Procedures for Ethical Standards in Research*,

*Evaluation, Data Collection and Analysis.*<sup>48</sup> All data collection tools, together with this inception report, are subject to ethical approval before the start of the data collection. This ethical clearance will be provided by an ethical review committee prior to data collection activities, none of which will commence before ethical clearance is obtained.

Prior to conducting KIIs, EPRI will gather the informed consent of all interviewees and thoroughly explain to them the purpose of the evaluation, their role within the evaluation, and what information will be asked from them. Informed consent will be obtained verbally from all research participants. A consent script will be read out prior to the commencement of research, and potential participants will be asked to provide their consent to join in the research. In gathering informed consent, EPRI will assure all interviewees of the confidentiality and voluntariness of their answers; if at any point a participant feels uncomfortable, he or she is not obliged to provide requested information and may state his or her reasons for doing so. While the objective of the study is to evaluate UNICEF's work towards reducing child poverty in each country, EPRI will clearly communicate to interviewees what they can reasonably anticipate from the evaluation as part of efforts to manage expectations. By providing participants with elaborate and transparent information prior to the interview, their engagement and preparedness can be optimised.

At the outset of data collection, all participants will be informed that their answers will be kept confidential. Responses and comments will be summarised in the research report, but on no occasion will respondents be identified by name or any other identifying characteristics aside from approximate age and gender. All information collected during the study will be recorded in audio on one device only and be kept strictly confidential, and will not be shared except through the verbal or written dissemination of the findings of the study.

## **7. Evaluation activities, deliverables and work plan**

### **7.1. Activities and deliverables**

The above-described methodology and approach will be employed to develop the different project activities and deliverables, as outlined in **Table 6** and further described subsequently. The table also lists the activities associated with the completion of each deliverable.

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<sup>48</sup> UNEG. (2016). *Norms and Standards for Evaluation*. New York: UNEG.

UNICEF. (2015). *Procedures for Ethical Standards in Research, Evaluation, Data Collection and Analysis*. Washington, D.C.: UNICEF.

Table 6. Schedule of activities and deliverables

Activities	Deliverables	Timeline
Inception meetings with UNICEF focal points; desk review of existing documents and programme reports; initial review and assessment of secondary data sources; development of theories of change; finalisation of evaluation work plan and methodology	<b>Draft inception report</b> including background, theory of change, evaluation questions, evaluation matrix, work plan and methodology.	<b>16 May 2023</b>
Incorporation of comments on inception report	<b>Final inception report</b> , which will also include the final qualitative tools and survey instrument	<b>7 July 2023*</b> (or 1 week after receipt of final comments, assuming 2 weeks for comments)
<b>Field visits</b> Visits to selected countries for in-depth interviews and in-country research	<b>Programme, agenda and field notes</b>	<b>01 – 31 August</b>
Qualitative data collection activities (KIs); online survey administration, statistical analysis of quantitative survey data; integrated analysis of qualitative, survey data and secondary data sources; drafting of country cases and synthesis report.	<b>First draft</b> of 2 country case studies (max. 45 pages each)	<b>12 September 2023</b> (or 10 weeks after approval of inception report)
	<b>First draft</b> of 2 country case studies (max. 45 pages each)	<b>19 September 2023</b> (or 11 weeks after approval of inception report)
	<b>First draft</b> of global synthesis report (max. 60 pages)	<b>03 October 2023</b> (or 13 weeks after approval of inception report)
Receipt and incorporation of written feedback on draft synthesis report and country case studies	<b>Second draft of evaluation reports</b> (4 country reports and global synthesis report)	<b>24 October 2023</b> (one week after receipt of final comments, assuming two weeks for comments)
5 Good practice notes	<b>First draft</b> good practice notes (4-5 pages)	<b>14 November 2023</b> (or 2 weeks after acceptance of second draft report)
Preparing initial results for validation workshop with the evaluation reference group.	Findings and recommendations <b>validation workshop</b>	<b>21 November 2023</b> (or 3 weeks after acceptance of second draft report)
	<b>All datasets and notes</b> from primary qualitative analysis and online survey data	<b>28 November 2023</b> (or 1 week after the validation workshop)
Incorporation of verbal and written stakeholder feedback and finalisation of synthesis report	<b>Final draft</b> of synthesis report, country reports and good practice notes	<b>26 December 2023</b> (or 4 weeks after the validation workshop)

Timeframes will be adjusted based on UNICEF's changes to assumptions, including adjustments to dates based on UNICEF's acceptance of the final inception report and provision of feedback to draft reports. The final timeframe will be calculated after UNICEF formally approves the final inception report based on the above-indicated time windows. For this purpose, **the weeks highlighted in parenthesis serve as the main reference for how timelines will be adjusted.**

### 7.1.1. Inception report

This inception report is the project's first deliverable, and several key activities supported its formation. Most relevantly, consultation with UNICEF HQ staff involved in poverty reduction work and a document review and analysis of existing secondary data sources on UNICEF's strategic approach to reducing child poverty. These activities helped the finetuning of the methods for data collection and analysis, the finalisation of the evaluation matrix (**Annex 1**), and the sketching of a detailed evaluation workplan. Once ethical clearance has been obtained for this report and the attached data collection instruments, the evaluation team will commence data collection activities.

### 7.1.2. Main synthesis report

The synthesis report is the project's main deliverable and will build on the qualitative research and descriptive quantitative insights from the online survey, as well as secondary sources. The report will centre around presenting the evaluation findings, establishing analytic comparisons across country cases, and providing broader findings from the online survey. The findings will be structured around the evaluation questions outlined in sub-section 5.1.

Next to the findings, the report also presents conclusions across evaluated countries and components of UNICEF's work to reduce child poverty. Moreover, the report will contain an executive summary of a maximum of 5 pages, a short description of the framework of UNICEF's work towards reducing child poverty, and the evaluation's objectives and methodology. The report will be written in English and will be in line with UNICEF-adapted UNEG Evaluation Report Standards. Excluding annexes and the executive summary, the report will be no longer than 60 pages. A draft report, including the first stage of the analysis, will be shared with the evaluation reference group for written comments and feedback. After incorporation of the feedback, the evaluation team will resubmit a revised version of the document.

### 7.1.3. Country case study reports

In-depth country case studies will be developed for each of the four countries and will thus inform and complement the synthesis report. Whereas the focus of the global synthesis evaluation report lies on findings from a cross-country analysis, the country case studies will speak in more detail about the evaluation findings from each of the four countries selected for evaluation in support of the synthesis report. The reports will provide a concise overview of the respective UNICEF inputs carried out in the country and subsequently centre around the findings for the country. The reports will provide conclusions and recommendations. The case studies will be developed in English and, excluding annexes, be no longer than 45 pages. They may or may not have recommendations.

#### 7.1.4. Good practice notes

Five good practice notes will provide concise lessons drawn from the research and evaluation findings. Each good practice note will focus on one to three countries and distil key lessons in identified thematic areas potentially related to each of the milestones or specific programmatic approaches or activities within each milestone. The good practice notes will be developed in English and, excluding annexes, be no longer than four pages each.

#### 7.1.5. Validation workshop

Prior to the finalisation of the synthesis report, the evaluation team will present the evaluation's findings and corresponding recommendations to the evaluation reference group during a validation workshop. The workshop will serve to collect the group's views on the findings and comments on the recommendations. The workshop will be organised after the submission of the first draft synthesis report and be composed of one session targeted at the evaluation reference group. Upon completion of the workshop, minutes on proceedings will be drafted for the session, of length no longer than two pages. These validation meetings will be carried out remotely.

#### 7.1.6. Datasets

Upon completion of the project, the evaluation team will submit all datasets and notes from qualitative and quantitative analysis, including (but not limited to) notes from KIIs, survey and secondary data sets, and output sheets from statistical analysis. Thus, all data and information required to reproduce the study will be submitted.

### 7.2. Timelines

The above activities and deliverables will be carried out and completed over the course of three project phases, each of which will differ in duration:

- Inception phase
- Evaluation phase
- Consolidation & validation phase

The project commenced with the **inception phase**, which was dedicated to the development of this inception report. As part of the inception phase, initial discussions with the relevant UNICEF HQ staff involved in child poverty work took place, and initial desk research on UNICEF foundational work on child poverty was conducted. The **evaluation phase** follows the inception phase and is dedicated to i) remote primary data collection activities and field visits in the four countries, ii) administration of the online survey, and iii) analysis of secondary data sources. The timely commencement and completion of the evaluation phase highly depend on the acceptance

of the inception report and receipt of ethical approval. A delay in receiving approval might reflect in a delay in data collection activities and hence lengthen the evaluation's timeline.

As part of the **consolidation and validation phase**, an integrated analysis of the different qualitative and quantitative data sources will be carried out and will result in the first draft of the synthesis report and country cases. The priority lies in finalising the country case study reports, with the development of the synthesis report and good practice notes to follow afterwards. The findings outlined in these first drafts will be presented during the validation workshop. After the workshop and after receiving feedback, the final deliverables will be completed and submitted, accompanied by all cleaned datasets and notes relevant to reproduce the study. The end of the project timeline is envisioned to be on the 26 December 2023 based on the original timeframe but will be adjusted based on the approval of the inception report.

## Annex 1. Evaluation matrix

Table 7. Evaluation Matrix

Construct/ sub-evaluation question	Sub construct	Indicator	Data source	Survey questions	Analysis <sup>49</sup>
<b>Relevance</b>					
1. To what extent have UNICEF's poverty reduction interventions been relevant for advancing progress towards the strategic milestones?					
<b>Prioritisation</b> 1(a) To what extent is UNICEF's child poverty work prioritised at HQ, RO and CO levels?	Financial	Presence of a long-term funding plan for work on child poverty	Survey	Does the country office have a long-term (3-5 years) funding plan in place for their work on child poverty?	Descriptive statistics  Bivariant analysis with proportion of budget allocated and with financial capacity
		Proportion of total country office, RO and HQ budget allocated to child poverty reduction work in the past year and five years ago	Insight	N/A	Descriptive statistics  Bivariant analysis with proportion of budget allocated and with financial capacity
		Continuity of funding for child poverty compared to other social policy strands.	Insight (based on availability)		Descriptive statistics  Bivariant analysis with proportion of budget allocated and with financial capacity
	Strategic	Perception on the prioritisation of child poverty work within country office and regional office's initiatives.	Survey	To what extent do you perceive child poverty as a priority within the initiatives undertaken by UNICEF Country, Regional Office and headquarter?	Descriptive Statistics  Bivariant analysis with capacity indicators

<sup>49</sup> These are tentative analysis methods and are subject to change depending on the data obtained

Construct/ sub-evaluation question	Sub construct	Indicator	Data source	Survey questions	Analysis <sup>49</sup>
		Proportion of country office programmes with a well-defined (distinct from other sections and work areas) and comprehensive child poverty reduction work plan and implementing team.	Survey	Does the country office have a specific work plan dedicated to child poverty included in a single programme? [Independent of the answer] Under which programme(s) is child poverty work undertaken?	Descriptive Statistics
		Explicit or implicit mention of child poverty reduction as a programme priority in Country specific strategies and documents	Country programme document	In the latest Country Programme Document (CPD), the explicit or implicit inclusion of child poverty reduction as one of the priorities and/or the alignment of the Results and Resources Framework's outcomes with child poverty reduction	Descriptive Statistics
		Number of specific targets and goals related to child poverty reduction set in UNICEF strategic documents (regional and global)	UNICEF strategic documents	N/A	
<b>Programmatic appropriateness</b> 1(b) To what extent has UNICEF's work in child poverty been relevant to address national needs (including the needs of the most vulnerable children)? (Milestone 2,3, 4)	Alignment to national needs	Engagement with stakeholders	Survey	Has the country office consulted government partners to identify national needs and capacities in child poverty reduction?	Descriptive statistics Bivariate analysis with partnership capacity
		Assessment of needs and policy priorities of the government and stakeholders	Survey	What activities has the CO undertaken to assess the needs and policy priorities of the government and other stakeholders in child poverty reduction work?	Descriptive statistics Bivariate analysis with milestone indicator
		Level of integration of local knowledge and cultural sensitivity in the design and delivery of child poverty programmes	CSI	<b>SP Indicator 5.1.3: DP0000016 Establishment and functioning of participatory mechanism at the local level</b>	Descriptive statistics
			Survey	Which one(s) of the following activities does your country office follow to ensure the integration of local knowledge and cultural sensitivity in the design and delivery of their child poverty programmes? (Please select all that apply)	Descriptive statistics
	Targeting of vulnerable population	Survey	Extent of activities undertaken by country office to ensure that poverty reduction	Survey	To the best of your knowledge, has the country office undertaken activities to ensure that poverty reduction efforts address the needs of the most vulnerable children (incl. girls and children with disabilities)?

Construct/ sub-evaluation question	Sub construct	Indicator	Data source	Survey questions	Analysis <sup>49</sup>
		efforts address the needs of the most vulnerable children	CSI	SP Indicator 5.2.2: DP0000032 attributes of social protection programmes supported by UNICEF SP indicator 5.2.3: DP0000036 kind of support UNICEF provided for disability inclusion	Descriptive statistics Triangulation with survey responses
		How many key actions (identified in SMQ) are being implemented to ensure disability-inclusive social protection programmes with UNICEF support*	Survey	In your perception, what proportion of the beneficiaries of UNICEF's Child poverty work do you believe belong to vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, women, and other vulnerable groups (such as OVC, migrants, HIV-positive, indigenous children, among others)?	Descriptive Statistics
		Existence of guidelines or frameworks on how to best include vulnerable populations in child poverty work	Survey	Does your UNICEF country office or Regional Office have set guidelines or frameworks that provide guidance on how to effectively include vulnerable populations in their child poverty work?	Descriptive statistics
			CSI	SP Indicator 5.2.2: DP0000031 Existence of gender-related objectives in social protection programme or system supported by UNICEF	Descriptive statistics
			Document Review	Number of gender and disability frameworks and guidelines that have specific mention or guidance on work on child poverty work (UNICEF global and regional level)	Descriptive statistics Triangulation with survey responses
		Inclusion of child poverty programmes/activities specifically designed to address the needs of vulnerable populations (people with disability and gender equality)	CSI	SP indicator 5.2.2: DP0000035 on type of social protection programmes supported by UNICEF (Disability) and SP indicator 5.2.3: DP0000033 Areas targeted by social protection programmes supported by UNICEF (Gender)	Descriptive statistics
<b>Humanitarian settings</b> 1(c) What approaches or strategies would be relevant for UNICEF's work to reduce child poverty in	Potentially relevant approaches and strategies for UNICEF's child poverty work in humanitarian settings.	Humanitarian situation severity level	Survey	Which of the following best encompasses the humanitarian situation of the country of your UNICEF office?	Descriptive Statistics
			Survey	Please select the type of humanitarian situation that best describes your country:	Descriptive Statistics
		Presence of Child Poverty Focus within Humanitarian Efforts	Survey	Does your country office have specific efforts dedicated to the child poverty work stream within the humanitarian context?	Descriptive Statistics

Construct/ sub-evaluation question	Sub construct	Indicator	Data source	Survey questions	Analysis <sup>49</sup>
humanitarian and fragile settings? [to be addressed only in synthesis report]		Relevance of child poverty work stream in humanitarian settings	Survey	How do you perceive the relevance of having a dedicated workstream focused on poverty reduction within the Social Policy programme in humanitarian settings?	Descriptive Statistics
		Obstacles to working on child poverty in humanitarian situations	Survey	Does the CO experience any of the following obstacles to working towards child poverty reduction?	Descriptive Statistics
		Effectiveness of social protection systems to respond to humanitarian situations	CSI	SP indicator 5.2.4: Ability of the social protection system, including cash transfer capacities, to effectively respond to humanitarian crises	Descriptive Statistics
<b>Effectiveness</b>					
2. Is UNICEF's work achieving its objectives on child poverty reduction?					
<b>Partnerships and consensus-building</b> 2(a) To what extent has UNICEF partnered with relevant stakeholders to identify a national pathway to end child poverty? (Milestone 1)	Engagement with partners	Diversity of partnerships established by country offices to address child poverty.	Survey	Which of the following types of stakeholders does the UNICEF Country Office actively engage with?	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
			Survey	Has your country office engaged with government stakeholders across different sectors (Health, Education, Infrastructure, etc.) to support a multi-sectoral approach to reducing child poverty? If the answer is yes, please indicate which sectors	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
		Proportion of country offices that developed a strong relationship among key stakeholders for reducing child poverty	Survey	Please indicate whether Strong relationships among key stakeholders for reducing child poverty have been built as a result of the UNICEF country office's work	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
		Proportion of country offices with citizen networks engaging in people-led, bottom-up and demand-driven accountability initiatives	Insight Standard indicators	<b>IND0001578:</b> Number of citizen networks engaging in people-led, bottom-up and demand-driven accountability initiatives (i.e. social accountability mechanisms) related to budgets, public expenditures, service delivery and other issues relevant to the realisation of children	Descriptive statistics

Construct/ sub-evaluation question	Sub construct	Indicator	Data source	Survey questions	Analysis <sup>49</sup>
	Joint understanding of the current situation	Proportion of country offices that have a joint understanding of the role of child poverty measurement and analysis in national decision making	Survey	Please indicate whether there is a clear understanding of the role of poverty measurement and analysis in national decision-making as a result of the UNICEF country office's work	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
			Survey	Please indicate whether there is a clear understanding of the situation of child poverty measurement and analysis in national decision-making as a result of the UNICEF country office's work	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
	Collaborated agreement on a pathway	Proportion of country offices that have reached consensus on national pathways of progress and key milestones in collaboration with key stakeholders.	Survey	Please indicate whether Key stakeholders have reached an agreement on key milestones and activities to measure and address child poverty.	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
		Proportion of country offices which have supported the establishment of coordination mechanisms to strengthen the delivery of child services	Insight Standard indicators	<b>IND0001562:</b> Local governments (incl. municipalities) with functioning coordination mechanisms to strengthen the delivery of child-focused services	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report Descriptive statistics
	UNICEF's leadership in supporting the child poverty reduction agenda	Perception of UNICEF headquarters and regional offices' leadership in driving global and regional efforts in child poverty reduction.	Survey	To what extent do you perceive UNICEF headquarters and your regional office as effectively leading the child poverty reduction agenda?	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
<b>Measurement</b> 2(b) To what extent has UNICEF's work contributed to the adequate and consistent measurement of child poverty? (Milestone 2)	Calculation of poverty rates	Proportion of country offices with monetary child poverty rate calculated	Survey	Has the country office supported the calculation of monetary/multidimensional child poverty measurement?	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
		Proportion of country offices with multidimensional child poverty rates calculated			Bivariate analysis with countries with rates reported by government
	Publication and accessibility of data	Proportion of country offices which have collaborated with relevant stakeholders (development partners, government) to ensure consistency in published child poverty data	Survey	Has your country office collaborated with relevant stakeholders, such as development partners and the government, to ensure consistency in published child poverty data?	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report

Construct/ sub-evaluation question	Sub construct	Indicator	Data source	Survey questions	Analysis <sup>49</sup>
		Existence of one or more publicly accessible databases with (Monetary and multidimensional) child poverty rates	CSI	SP Indicator <b>5.1.1 DP0000002</b> and <b>DP0000005</b> Most recent monetary and multidimensional child poverty rate reported	Triangulation from different sources
			Secondary data review (SDG reporting, VNR, Other)	N/A	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report Triangulation from different sources
		Proportion of country offices that have supported the measurement and publication of key disaggregates (age range, geographical region, urban-rural, gender, disability, ethnicity)	Survey	If yes, has your country office supported the calculation of key desegregations of Child poverty?	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
			Secondary data review (UNICEF data bank, SDG, VNR)	N/A	Triangulation from different sources
	National ownership of measurement	Proportion of countries that have contributed to government ownership of poverty measurement	CSI	SP Indicator <b>5.1.1 DP0000003</b> and <b>DP0000006</b> Monetary poverty and multidimensional poverty rate is reported by the Government	Triangulation from different sources Descriptive statistics
			Insight Standard indicators	<b>IND0000999</b> and <b>IND0001568</b> : National government measurement of child poverty using monetary and Multidimensional	Triangulation from different sources
			Survey	Has the UNICEF country office contributed to government ownership of poverty measurement	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
	Routinisation of measurement	Proportion of country offices that have supported the routinisation of child poverty measurement	Insight Standard indicators	<b>IND0001579</b> and <b>IND0001580</b> Monetary/Multidimensional child poverty is routinely measured and reported by the government	Triangulation from different sources Bivariate analysis with UNICEF contribution to measurement

Construct/ sub-evaluation question	Sub construct	Indicator	Data source	Survey questions	Analysis <sup>49</sup>
		Average frequency of child poverty measurement (multidimensional/Monetary)	Survey	Has your UNICEF country office contributed to the establishment of an agreement to routinise measurements?	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
			Survey	How frequently is child poverty measurement supported by the country office? (Either multidimensional or monetary)	Descriptive statistics
			Secondary data review (UNICEF data bank, SDG, VNR)	N/A	Triangulation of Survey results
	Use of multidimensional child poverty rates in supporting advocacy, policy and accountability	Proportion of country offices that have utilised multidimensional poverty measures for milestones 3,4,5	CSI/ SMQ-25-01-5.a.3-9	SP indicator 5.1.1 Use of child poverty measures	<b>Descriptive statistics</b>
			Survey	Has your country office utilised multidimensional poverty measures to support any of the following activities?	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report Descriptive statistics
	Barriers to measurement	Key factors that hindered the utilisation of child poverty measures among country offices	Survey	Please select the option that best reflects the most common factors, if any, that impeded the use of child poverty measures in your country.	Descriptive statistics Bivariate analysis with capacities
<b>Advocacy</b> 2(c) To what extent have UNICEF's	Advocacy planning	Proportion of country offices with clear indicators for child poverty advocacy	Survey	Has your country office implemented any of the following activities as part of its advocacy planning efforts?	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
		Proportion of country offices with a comprehensive advocacy engagement plan targeting diverse stakeholders	Survey		Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report

Construct/ sub-evaluation question	Sub construct	Indicator	Data source	Survey questions	Analysis <sup>49</sup>
advocacy efforts contributed to increasing awareness of child poverty among relevant stakeholders or in the public agenda? (Milestone 3)	Clear Advocacy Messages	Proportion of country offices with a clear national child poverty profile	Insight Standard indicators	IND0001569 Advocacy is shaped by child poverty analysis	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
			Survey		Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
		Proportion of countries with available and reported structured information on the impacts of child poverty	Survey	Does your country office incorporate the following elements to develop clear advocacy messages in its efforts to reduce child poverty? Please select all that apply.	Bivariate analysis with results in putting child poverty on the map Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
		Proportion of country offices that clearly articulate policy and programmatic changes needed to reduce child poverty in advocacy material	Survey		Bivariate analysis with results in putting child poverty on the map Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
	Engagement in Policy Discussions	Proportion of country offices actively engaging in policy discussions with relevant actors on child poverty measures	Survey	Which primary stakeholders have UNICEF actively engaged with as part of its child poverty advocacy efforts? Please select all that apply.	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report Descriptive statistics
			Survey	On average, how frequently does your country office engage with key actors such as Ministries of Finance, world bank etc., on the topic of child poverty?	Descriptive statistics
	Results in putting child poverty on the map	Proportion of country offices that have used social media and supported the media coverage of child poverty	Survey	Has your country office employed the following communication strategies to raise public awareness of child poverty?	Descriptive statistics
		Proportion of country offices that have successfully influenced child poverty reduction policy and programmes and budgets through advocacy efforts.	Insight Standard indicators	IND0001570 Policies and programmes are influenced by analysis and advocacy to reduce child poverty	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report Descriptive statistics

Construct/ sub-evaluation question	Sub construct	Indicator	Data source	Survey questions	Analysis <sup>49</sup>
			CSI	SP Indicator 5.1.3 <b>DP0000013</b> advocacy and engagement has led to Child-responsive national policies (and local <b>DP0000014</b> ), programmes and plans	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report  Descriptive statistics
			Survey /KII / RAM, COARs	Have advocacy efforts undertaken by the country office been successful in influencing child poverty reduction policies and programmes?	Descriptive statistics  Bivariant analysis with clear advocacy messages and advocacy planning
<b>Policy and programme change</b> 2(d).1 To what extent has UNICEF's child poverty work supported sectoral policies and programmes?  2(d).2 To what extent has UNICEF's child poverty work supported social protection policies and programmes? (Milestone 4)	Overarching approaches to address both	Proportion of UNICEF country offices supporting initiatives to address social stigma and discrimination related to child poverty	Survey	Which of the following activities has your country office actively supported to address both multidimensional and monetary poverty? Select all that apply.	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report  Bivariant analysis with capacity
		Proportion of UNICEF country offices supporting child-sensitive social protection and social welfare services	Survey		Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report  Bivariant analysis with capacity
		Proportion of UNICEF country offices actively engaging in budgetary processes for child poverty reduction.	CSI	SP Indicator 5.1.2 Proportion of countries where UNICEF helped strengthen social sector budgets (health, education, and/or social protection) for greater and better investments in children	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report  Bivariant analysis with analysis
			Survey	Which of the following activities has your country office actively supported to address both multidimensional and monetary poverty? Select all that apply.	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report  Bivariant analysis with capacity and financial prioritisation

Construct/ sub-evaluation question	Sub construct	Indicator	Data source	Survey questions	Analysis <sup>49</sup>
		Proportion of UNICEF country offices supporting the explicit inclusion of child poverty in national policies.	Survey		Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
		Proportion of UNICEF country offices supporting policies promoting pro-poor economic growth	Survey		Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
		Support for policies or programmes targeting girls, children with disabilities, or other vulnerable groups	Survey		Has UNICEF supported policies or programmes targeting (or with specific components for) girls, children with disabilities, or other vulnerable groups? Descriptive statistics
	Sectoral policies and programmes (to address multidimensional poverty)	Proportion of country offices that have identified key areas of focus to support multidimensional poverty programme and policy change	Survey	Has your UNICEF country office supported any of the following activities to support the analysis of multidimensional child poverty	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
		Proportion of country offices that have actively supported the implementation of sectoral or intersectoral programmes and policies to address multidimensional poverty	Survey / KII	Does your UNICEF country office actively support the implementation of sectoral or intersectoral programmes and policies to address multidimensional poverty?	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report Bivariate analysis with calculation of multidimensional child poverty rates and engagement with sectoral partners
		Proportion of country offices that actively support social protection policies and programmes	CSI	SP Indicator 5.2.1 DP0000033 areas that the social protection system that UNICEF supports targets:	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report Bivariate analysis with monetary child poverty rates
	Social Protection policies and programmes (to address monetary poverty)	Proportion of country office's that actively support livelihood and employment programmes	Survey	Which of the following activities has your country office actively supported to specifically address monetary child poverty reduction policy and programme change?	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report

Construct/ sub-evaluation question	Sub construct	Indicator	Data source	Survey questions	Analysis <sup>49</sup>
					Bivariate analysis with monetary child poverty rates
		Proportion of UNICEF country offices actively involved in providing direct or indirect financial support to families with children.	Survey		Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report  Bivariate analysis with monetary child poverty rates
			Insight Standard indicators	<b>IND0000506</b> Share of public spending on health, education and/or social protection benefiting children living in the poorest regions and/or the poorest quintile	Bivariate analysis with work done by UNICEF to support social protection policies and programmes
		Proportion of UNICEF country offices actively engaged in initiatives to address the affordability of important goods and services, aiming to reduce the economic burden on household budgets.	Survey	Which of the following activities has your country office actively supported to specifically address monetary child poverty reduction policy and programme change?	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report  Bivariate analysis with monetary child poverty rates
		Proportion of countries with moderately strong or strong social protection systems	CSI	SP indicator 5.2.1 Level of strength of the social protection system	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report  Bivariate analysis with indicators on UNICEF contributions
<b>National plans and commitment</b> 2(e) To what extent have UNICEF activities supported the	Establishment of national commitment	Proportion of country offices that have supported the development of a national plan for child poverty or the inclusion of indicators for child poverty in existing plans	Survey	Has your UNICEF country office actively supported the development of a national plan for child poverty or the inclusion of indicators specifically related to child poverty in national plans (National Development Plan, National Poverty Reduction Plan, Social protection policies, etc.)?	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
		Proportion of country offices that have involved children and youth in their efforts to help establish a national plan	Insight Standard indicators	<b>IND0001571</b> Citizens (including children) empowered to participate in (sub)national budget process to improve budget transparency and accountability	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report

Construct/ sub-evaluation question	Sub construct	Indicator	Data source	Survey questions	Analysis <sup>49</sup>
enshrinement of strategies to reduce child poverty in national plans? (milestone 5)			Survey	If yes, has your UNICEF country office involved children and youth in its efforts to help establish a national plan for addressing child poverty?	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
	Implementation of interventions	Proportion of country offices that helped build a comprehensive policy package to address child poverty	Survey	Please select all the activities to which your country office has contributed as part of its efforts to implement interventions aimed at reducing child poverty.	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
		Proportion of country offices that have worked to increase attention and resource allocation to address child poverty			Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report Bivariant analysis with capacity questions
			CSI	5.1.4 Extent to which international and private sector resources for children have been mobilised with UNICEF support	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report Bivariant analysis with capacity questions
	Monitoring and evaluation	Proportion of country offices which have engaged in national monitoring and evaluation frameworks	Insight Standard indicators	<b>IND2001122</b> National budget and social sector investments are routinely monitored	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report Bivariant analysis with capacity questions
			Survey		Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
		Proportion of country offices that have created and/or supported autonomous bodies to oversee progress	Survey	Please select all the activities to which your country office has contributed as part of its efforts to monitor and evaluate the work on child poverty reduction.	Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
		Proportion of country offices that have built public advocacy to maintain political focus on achieving the goals	Survey		Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report

Construct/ sub-evaluation question	Sub construct	Indicator	Data source	Survey questions	Analysis <sup>49</sup>
		Proportion of country offices that have supported the integration of multidimensional poverty targets in the monitoring framework of national strategic plans	Survey		Scorecards refer to Annex 4 of Inception report
<b>Sustainability</b>					
3. To what extent does UNICEF have adequate capacities to work towards the five milestones of poverty reduction, and has built national government capacities to reduce child poverty?					
<b>Adequacy of organisational capacity and resources</b> 3(a) Are UNICEF's organisational capacities (at HQ, RO and CO levels) adequate and sufficient to achieve its child poverty reduction goals? (Milestones 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)	Collaborative capacity	Perception of the effectiveness of partnerships and relationships in working towards the five poverty reduction milestones	Survey	How do you perceive your UNICEF country office organisation capacity in the following areas?	Descriptive statistics
		Perception of the inter-sectional collaboration within UNICEF in working towards the five poverty reduction milestones	Survey		Bivariate analysis with milestone 1 indicators and engagement with stakeholder indicators in Eval question 1
	Financial capacity	Perception of the adequacy of UNICEF's financial capacity for achieving child poverty reduction milestones	Survey		Descriptive statistics
		Perception of the adequacy of technical knowledge of staff to achieve child poverty reduction milestones	Survey		Bivariate analysis with milestone 1 indicators and engagement with stakeholder indicators in Eval question 1
Technical capacity			Descriptive statistics	Bivariate analysis with financial prioritisation indicators and implementation of intervention indicators	

Construct/ sub-evaluation question	Sub construct	Indicator	Data source	Survey questions	Analysis <sup>49</sup>
	Time management	Perception of the adequacy of time allocated to child poverty reduction milestones	Survey		Descriptive statistics Bivariate analysis with strategic prioritisation indicators
	Capacity and resource constraints	Perception of the main capacity, resource and external constraints to the country offices' work in reducing child poverty	Survey	In your opinion, what are the biggest challenges the country office faces in achieving its child poverty reduction goals?	Descriptive Statistics
<b>Capacity building of national partners</b> 3(b) To what extent has UNICEF contributed to increasing its national partners' capacities to reduce child poverty?	Strategies	Strategies employed by the country office to support the development of national capacities in poverty reduction	Survey	What are the key strategies undertaken by the country office to build national capacities and ensure government ownership of child poverty reduction initiatives?	Descriptive Statistics
	Areas of built capacities	Areas of government capacity development	CSI	5.1.3 Proportion of countries, including in humanitarian and fragile contexts, in which UNICEF has enhanced national and local governance capacities for poverty reduction at the local level	Descriptive statistics Bivariate analysis with milestone indicators
			Insight Standard indicators	<b>IND0001573</b> Strengthened capacity of stakeholders in budgeting at all levels of government to improve spending outcomes for children	Descriptive statistics Bivariate analysis with milestone indicators
			Survey	In which areas has the country office contributed to developing national partners' capacities to address child poverty?	Descriptive Statistics
<b>Learning</b>					
4. What are the lessons learned and good practices that can better enable UNICEF to achieve its objectives in child poverty reduction?					
<b>Lessons Learnt</b> 4(a) Based on the country office's experience, which lesson learned from	Barriers	N/A	Survey	Based on the country office's experience, which lesson learned from past child poverty reduction initiatives do you believe could significantly benefit UNICEF's efforts going forward?	Descriptive statistics For qualitative analysis, please refer to section 6.2.1.1 of the inception report

Construct/ sub-evaluation question	Sub construct	Indicator	Data source	Survey questions	Analysis <sup>49</sup>
past child poverty reduction initiatives do you believe could significantly benefit UNICEF's efforts going forward?	Areas of work	N/A	Survey	Please provide one key lesson learnt for each of the five milestones in which your country office has worked.	Descriptive statistics  For qualitative analysis, please refer to section 6.2.1.1 of the inception report
<b>Good Practices</b> 4(b) Building on the country office's experience, which specific good practices or successful approaches should UNICEF consider adopting to enhance its effectiveness in reducing child poverty	Good practices	N/A	Survey	Building on the country office's experience, which specific good practices or successful approaches should UNICEF consider adopting to enhance its effectiveness in reducing child poverty?	Descriptive statistics  For qualitative analysis, please refer to section 6.2.1.1 of the inception report
	Areas of work	N/A	Survey	Please provide one good practice for each of the five milestones in which your country office has worked, if your country office has any.	Descriptive statistics  For qualitative analysis, please refer to section 6.2.1.1 of the inception report

Construct / evaluation sub question	Sub construct	KII Questions
<b>Relevance</b>		
1. To what extent have UNICEF's poverty reduction interventions been relevant for advancing progress towards the strategic milestones?		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Prioritisation</b></p> <p>1(a) To what extent is UNICEF's child poverty work prioritised at HQ, RO and CO levels?</p>	Financial	Is there a specific budget for child poverty work separate from other areas of Social Policy? (COs)
		Is child poverty work receiving a similar amount of funding as work in other UNICEF sections and other work strands of Social Policy? (COs, ROs, HQ)
		Would you say that UNICEF HQ and RO prioritise child poverty work in their programming and resource allocation? (COs)
	Strategic	What are HQs', ROs' and COs' strategic priorities related to child poverty reduction? (COs, ROs, HQ)
		Is the five milestones framework to reduce child poverty a relevant strategic approach in your country/region? (COs, ROs)
		What are the key challenges and barriers that have prevented child poverty measurement (monetary and multidimensional); advocacy; and policy and programme support from being priorities at HQ, RO and CO levels? (HQ, ROs, COs)
		How do you see UNICEF's child poverty work informing other areas of the social policy programme, such as social protection, PF4C and Gender? (COs, ROs, HQ)
		How can UNICEF's child poverty analysis and advocacy be better linked with social protection and public finance priorities? (COs)
		What type of support from HQ and RO is useful to advance the child poverty agenda at the national level? (COs)
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Programmatic appropriateness</b></p> <p>1(b) To what extent has UNICEF's work in child poverty been relevant to address national needs</p>	Alignment to national needs	What are the country's needs and priorities in child poverty reduction? (COs, govt., dev. partners)
		What activities has the CO undertaken to understand the needs of the government and other stakeholders in child poverty reduction work? (COs, govt., dev. partners)
		Has the country office consulted government partners to identify national needs and capacities in child poverty reduction? (COs, govt., dev. partners)

Construct / evaluation sub question	Sub construct	KII Questions
(including the needs of the most vulnerable children)? (Milestone 2,3, 4)	Targeting of vulnerable population	What activities has the CO undertaken to understand the context-specific vulnerabilities of children? (COs)
		Have the needs of the most vulnerable children (incl. girls and children with disabilities) been considered in UNICEF measurement and advocacy efforts? (COs, govt., dev. partners)
		What was done to ensure that poverty reduction policies/programmes address the needs of the most vulnerable children (incl. girls and children with disabilities)? (COs)
<b>Humanitarian settings</b> 1(c) What approaches or strategies would be relevant for UNICEF's work to reduce child poverty in humanitarian and fragile settings? [to be addressed only in synthesis report]	Status of child poverty work in humanitarian settings	How has the CO adapted its child poverty work in the context of humanitarian needs and priorities? (COs)
		How are children living in poverty factored in during humanitarian emergencies? (COs)
	Potentially relevant approaches and strategies for UNICEF's child poverty work in humanitarian settings	Does child poverty reduction as a UNICEF standalone work area make sense in humanitarian settings? (ROs, COs)
		How do you think we can make UNICEF's child poverty focus, including analysis, more relevant to humanitarian settings? (ROs, COs)
		What approaches to advocacy would be relevant for humanitarian settings? (ROs, COs)
		What are the main challenges for undertaking child poverty reduction work in humanitarian and fragile settings? (ROs, COs)
		How did COVID expand UNICEF's child poverty toolbox? (COs, ROs)
Capacity	Would you say that UNICEF has sufficient technical and financial capacities to work both towards reducing child poverty and responding to humanitarian needs? (COs, ROs, HQ)	
<b>Effectiveness</b> 2. Is UNICEF's work achieving its objectives on child poverty reduction?		
		What is the role of UNICEF as a convener? (govt, dev. Partners, CSO)

Construct / evaluation sub question	Sub construct	KII Questions
<p><b>Partnerships and consensus-building</b></p> <p>2(a) To what extent has UNICEF partnered with relevant stakeholders to identify a national pathway to end child poverty? (Milestone 1)</p>	Engagement with partners	Which are the CO's main partners in reducing child poverty? (specify per activity: advocacy, monetary and multidimensional measurement, policy and programme support) (COs)
		<p>What are the main challenges and opportunities when engaging with each of the partners? (COs)</p> <p>What are the main challenges and opportunities when engaging with UNICEF? (govt., dev. partners, CSO)</p>
	Joint understanding of the current situation	Would you say there is consensus among stakeholders over the priorities in child poverty reduction in [Country X]? (CO, govt., dev. partners)
		Has UNICEF contributed to identifying the priority steps to reduce child poverty? (CO, Gov, Dev, CSO)
	UNICEF's leadership in supporting the child poverty reduction agenda	Would you say that UNICEF leads efforts in supporting the government to reduce child poverty? (Gov, Dev, CSO)
		Without UNICEF, would the main stakeholders be convening around the topic of child poverty? (govt, dev. Partners, CSO)
<p><b>Measurement</b></p> <p>2(b) To what extent has UNICEF's work contributed to the adequate and consistent measurement of child poverty? (Milestone 2)</p>	Calculation of poverty rates	How has UNICEF supported poverty measurement exercises? (financial resources, technical expertise)? (COs, govt, dev. partners)
		How is COs poverty measurement strategy appropriate for national capacities and needs? (COs, govt, dev. partners)
		What are the advantages of the current measurement methods vis-à-vis other methods? (consider MODA, MPI, Bristol, etc). (COs)
	National ownership of measurement	Would you say UNICEF has contributed to the government's ownership of multidimensional and monetary child poverty measurement? If yes, which strategies were employed? (COs, govt)
		In what capacity, if at all, has the country office contributed to the establishment of an agreement to routinise measurements? (COs, govt.)
	Use of multidimensional child poverty rates in supporting advocacy, policy and accountability	<p>Have poverty analyses been utilised to inform UNICEF's (or other stakeholders') advocacy initiatives? (COs, dev. partners, CSO)</p> <p>Has UNICEF's child poverty analysis influenced policies and programmes to reduce child poverty? (COs, govt, dev. partners)</p>

Construct / evaluation sub question	Sub construct	KII Questions
		How can UNICEF better link child poverty analysis with the main poverty reduction efforts, including social protection policies and programming? (HQ, ROs, COs)
		How can UNICEF better link multidimensional child poverty analysis to sector work, including public finance sectoral work? (HQ, ROs, COs)
		Has UNICEF supported the inclusion of multidimensional child poverty rates into the targets of key national plans? (COs, govt, dev. partners)
	Partnerships	Who are the main partners in advancing multidimensional / child poverty measurement? (HQ, ROs, COs)
		What have been the main challenges for collaborating with each of the relevant partners in poverty measurement? (gauge WB; UNDP; OPH)
		What are the opportunities to further strengthen partnerships in poverty measurement? (HQ, ROs, COs, dev. partners)
<b>Advocacy</b> 2(c) To what extent have UNICEF's advocacy efforts contributed to increasing awareness of child poverty among relevant stakeholders or in the public agenda? (Milestone 3)	Advocacy role	What was UNICEF's role in child poverty advocacy? (ROs, COs, govt., dev. partners, CSO)
	Clear Advocacy Messages	What are UNICEF's advocacy objectives and key messages? (COs)
	Stakeholders engaged	Who are the main stakeholders or target audiences for advocacy efforts, and what strategies have been in place to reach them? (COs)
	Results in putting child poverty on the map	What have been the main outcomes of UNICEF's child poverty advocacy? (ROs, COs, govt., dev. partners, CSO)
		What were the challenges for child poverty advocacy? (COs)
		How can UNICEF strengthen its child poverty advocacy efforts? (govt., dev. partners, CSO)
<b>Policy and programme change</b>	Overarching approaches to address both	How has UNICEF supported child poverty reduction policies or programmes? (What programme/policy, type of support) (COs)
		What child poverty reduction policies and programmes - if any- have the CO supported that target girls, children with disabilities and other vulnerable groups? (COs)

Construct / evaluation sub question	Sub construct	KII Questions
<p>2(d) To what extent has UNICEF's child poverty work supported sectoral policies and programmes?</p> <p>2(d).2 To what extent has UNICEF's child poverty work supported social protection policies and programmes? (Milestone 4)</p>	Addressing multidimensional child poverty	<p>Has the CO supported sectoral policies or programmes with the objective of reducing multidimensional poverty?</p> <p>Has the CO supported the introduction of specific poverty indicators in sector interventions? (COs)</p> <p>How can UNICEF coordinate across sections and Goal Areas to deliver a comprehensive strategy to reduce multidimensional child poverty? (HQ, ROs, COs)</p>
	Addressing monetary child poverty	What support has the CO provided to strengthen social protection programmes or other interventions to reduce monetary poverty? (COs)
	Linkages to social protection workstream	How is the child poverty work plan integrated with the social protection result area? Is further integration required? (COs, ROs, HQ)
	Barriers	What are some of the challenges CO faces in supporting the government in designing and implementing child poverty reduction policies or programmes? (COs)
	<p><b>National plans and commitment</b></p> <p>2(e) To what extent have UNICEF activities supported the enshrinement of strategies to reduce child poverty in national plans? (Milestone 5)</p>	Establishment of national commitment
		Has UNICEF supported the comprehensiveness of the strategy to achieve SDG1, for example, by setting goals and specific interventions? (COs, govt, dev. partners)
Implementation of interventions		How has UNICEF contributed to mobilising resources for implementing a national poverty reduction strategy? (COs, govt, dev. partners)
Monitoring and evaluation		Has UNICEF supported the monitoring of progress towards national poverty reduction goals? (COs, govt)
<b>Sustainability</b>		
<p>3. To what extent does UNICEF have adequate capacities to work towards the five milestones of poverty reduction, and has built national government capacities to reduce child poverty?</p>		
	Collaborative capacity	<p>Do you consider UNICEF has the sufficient abilities to establish partnerships to leverage its child poverty work in many areas (advocacy, measurement, policy/programme support)? What are the gaps? (HQ, ROs, COs)</p> <p>How is UNICEF's Social Policy collaborating with other sections in reducing multidimensional poverty?</p>

Construct / evaluation sub question	Sub construct	KII Questions
<b>Adequacy of organisational capacity and resources</b> 3(a) Are UNICEF's organisational capacities (at HQ, RO and CO levels) adequate and sufficient to achieve its child poverty reduction goals? (Milestones 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)	Financial capacity	Are financial resources allocated to child poverty work sufficiently for the CO to achieve its objectives? (COs)
		Is there an area of child poverty work that has not been developed due to insufficient funding? (advocacy, measurement, policy/programme support) (COs)
		Has the CO undertaken any strategy to increase the funding for child poverty work? (COs)
	Technical capacity	Do you consider UNICEF has sufficient technical capacities and human resources to effectively achieve the goals of its child poverty work? What are the main technical and resource gaps? (HQ, ROs, COs)
	Time management	In your view, is the CO dedicating enough time to child poverty work? How much additional time should it be dedicated? (HQ, ROs, COs)
	Capacity and resource constraints	What resources should be prioritised for building UNICEF's capacities to achieve its child poverty objectives? (HQ, ROs, COs)
How can HQ and ROs better support the CO in strengthening its capacities to work on child poverty? (ROs, COs)		
<b>Capacity building of national partners</b> 3(b) To what extent has UNICEF's work contributed to increasing its national partners' capacities to reduce child poverty?	Strategies	Do you consider that UNICEF has contributed to building national capacities to ensure the continuity of initiatives to reduce child poverty (measurement, advocacy, policy development)? (Govt., dev. partners, CSOs)
		What strategies did UNICEF undertake to build national measurement, advocacy and policy development capacities or strengthen systems? (COs)
		Do you think UNICEF relies on national external research partners to support the child poverty analysis? (govt., dev. partners, CSOs)
		Has UNICEF proactively provided the government with poverty measurement tools and any other analysis tools or systems it developed as part of its child poverty reduction efforts? (CO, govt)
<b>Learning</b> 4. What are the lessons learned and good practices that can better enable UNICEF to achieve its objectives in child poverty reduction?		

Construct / evaluation sub question	Sub construct	KII Questions
<b>Lessons Learned</b> 4(a) Based on the country office's experience, which lesson learned from past child poverty reduction initiatives do you believe could significantly benefit UNICEF's efforts going forward?	Lessons learned	Based on HQs'/ROs'/CO's experience, what are the main lessons learned in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establishing partnerships and building consensus on child poverty priorities</li> <li>- Child poverty advocacy</li> <li>- Monetary and multidimensional child poverty measurement</li> <li>- Supporting national commitments and accountability to reduce child poverty</li> </ul> (HQ, ROs, COs)
	Ways forward	Based on the lessons learned, how can UNICEF move forward to meet its objectives in child poverty reduction? (HQ, ROs, COs)
<b>Good Practices</b> 4(b) Building on the country office's experience, which specific good practices or successful approaches should UNICEF consider adopting to enhance its effectiveness in reducing child poverty	Good practices	Based on the COs' experience, can you identify good practices in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establishing partnerships and building consensus on child poverty priorities</li> <li>- Child poverty advocacy</li> <li>- Monetary and multidimensional child poverty measurement</li> <li>- Supporting national commitments and accountability to reduce child poverty</li> </ul> (HQ, ROs, COs, govt, dev. partners, CSO)

## Annex 2. Country case study sample option analysis

Table 8. Option analysis for in-depth case study country sample

Country option	Basis for recommendation	Further decision required
(I) Rwanda or Uganda	ESAR includes countries with some of the highest child poverty rates in the world. <sup>50</sup> Both Rwanda and Uganda are low-income countries representing a critical constituency for child poverty work. Additionally, Uganda and Rwanda face more shock vulnerability, presenting a vulnerability index of 0.580 and 0.586, respectively. <sup>51</sup>	Rwanda represents a country where UNICEF’s extensive work has been largely successful, whereas Uganda illustrates many of the political challenges to success. This is reflected in the SMQ scorecard. In both countries, Social Policy is the identified GA5 programmatic area for evaluation and the CO has worked on multidimensional measurement and social protection. Rwanda can provide insights into how UNICEF is supporting various integrated social protection programmes <sup>52</sup> and undertaking initiatives to tackle stigma among children with disabilities. Selecting Rwanda as a case study will enable the evaluation team to identify positive lessons from the COs successful work towards the five milestones amongst low-income and fragile contexts. Uganda can provide insights into urban and decentralised social protection with a gender perspective. <sup>53</sup>
(II) Guatemala	Guatemala is the recommended country from the scoping study for LACR. It was highlighted by KIIs during the scoping phase for its potential for lesson learning on evidence use for policymaking.	Guatemala supports the configuration of programme components required for the evaluation. It represents best practice for the use of evidence to influence policy decisions. Guatemala also provides a relevant case to examine UNICEF’s work towards system strengthening and public spending at local levels. <sup>54</sup> It also provides insights into child poverty advocacy <sup>55</sup> , an area in which it achieved significant progress according to the SMQ scorecard. A change of country in another region would require a reconsideration of the necessary balance.

<sup>50</sup> Silwal, A.R., Engilbertsdottir, S., Cuesta Leiva, J.A., Newhouse, D.L. and Stewart, D. (2020). Global Estimate of Children in Monetary Poverty : An Update. World Bank. Retrieved from:

<https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/966791603123453576/global-estimate-of-children-in-monetary-poverty-an-update>

<sup>51</sup> Uganda and Rwanda rank in places 170 and 172 out of 182 respectively. Source: ND-GAIN. (2020). Vulnerability Country Rankings. <https://gain-new.crc.nd.edu/ranking/vulnerability>

<sup>52</sup> For example, the initiatives Modelling Nutrition-Sensitive Social Protection Interventions (MNSSPI), Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) and Vision Umurenge Programme (VUP).

UNICEF. (2021). Country Office Annual Report Rwanda; UNICEF. (2022). Country Office Annual Report Rwanda; UNICEF. (2022). Accelerating Integrated Policy Interventions to Promote Social Protection: Final Evaluation Brief. UNICEF Rwanda. <https://www.unicef.org/rwanda/reports/accelerating-integrated-policy-interventions-promote-social-protection-final-evaluation>

<sup>53</sup> Girls Empowering Girls Programme implemented in Kampala city. UNICEF. (2019). Country Office Annual Report Uganda

<sup>54</sup> UNICEF. (2022). Country Office Annual Report Guatemala; UNICEF. (2022). UNICEF llama a colocar a la infancia en un lugar prioritario de la agenda política y social. UNICEF Guatemala.

<https://www.unicef.org/guatemala/comunicados-prensa/unicef-llama-colocar-la-infancia-en-un-lugar-prioritario-de-la-agenda-pol%C3%ADtica-y>

<sup>55</sup> Ibid.

Country option	Basis for recommendation	Further decision required
<b>(III) Bangladesh or Nigeria</b>	Both Nigeria and Bangladesh represent important lower middle-income cases in critical regions for child poverty work, as Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia are home to the majority of poor and extremely poor children.	Including Bangladesh in the sample would ensure geographic balance by representing SA. Bangladesh was highlighted for its good practices in reporting SDG progress in VNRs. This case will provide insights into the humanitarian component, <sup>56</sup> advocacy efforts, policy analysis and implementation activities. <sup>57</sup> Bangladesh CO's challenges for achieving outcomes related to milestones 1,2,3 and 4, according to the SMQ scorecard, can serve as a basis for lessons learned. This would also improve the sample's balance in terms of successful or less successful progress towards milestones. The scoping study recommended Nigeria as the foremost case in WCAR due to its potential as a good practice in the use of evidence for informing policy decisions. Nigeria will highlight a different mix of programme components and greater heterogeneity due to the more decentralised mode of policy and programme actions. Headcount poverty rates in Bangladesh and SA are 12.5 and 10.2, respectively, while in Nigeria and WCA, rates are 45.9 and 45.6, respectively. Deciding between these two countries will involve an important trade-off in terms of regional balance in light of the concerning child poverty rates in SA and WCA.
<b>(IV) Malaysia or Cambodia</b>	With the existing set of recommendations, either Malaysia or Cambodia would be necessary for regional balance. The scoping study recommended Malaysia in EAPR, but the policy division consultation identified Cambodia.	UNICEF's work in Malaysia has evolved due to various changes. UNDP has taken on an increasingly important leadership role in social protection in the country. Malaysia would provide insights into child poverty advocacy, particularly linkages to journalism, <sup>58</sup> and an emphasis on urban child poverty. Cambodia's case is particular in that its GA5 programme component focuses on public financing for children, which is reflected in its significant involvement in the budget process to expand social sector funds. UNICEF's support for advocacy and social protection for women and children with disabilities would provide valuable insights into these cross-cutting components. <sup>59</sup> Selecting Cambodia would improve the sample's relevance in terms of income status, as it would expand the number of LMICs to two—the overwhelming majority of the multidimensionally poor children in the world live in LMICs and LICs. According to the SMQ scorecard, Cambodia only presents significant progress in poverty measurement, which makes it another potential case for lessons learned.

<sup>56</sup> Humanitarian component related to Rohingya refugee crises and floods; UNICEF. (2022). Bangladesh Humanitarian Report 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/media/133961/file/Bangladesh-Humanitarian-SitRep-No.62-31-December-2022.pdf>

<sup>57</sup> UNICEF. (2021). Country Office Annual Report Bangladesh; UNICEF. (2022). Country Office Annual Report Bangladesh

<sup>58</sup> See, for instance: UNICEF Malaysia. (2019). The role of journalism in eradicating urban child poverty. <https://www.unicef.org/malaysia/stories/role-journalism-eradicating-urban-child-poverty>; UNICEF Malaysia. (2019). The role of journalism in eradicating poverty. <https://www.unicef.org/malaysia/stories/role-journalism-eradicating-poverty>

<sup>59</sup> UNICEF. (2022). Country Office Annual Report Cambodia; UNICEF. (2018). Country Programme Document Cambodia 2019-2023.

Table 9. Comparison of options for in-depth case studies

	<b>Bangladesh</b>	<b>Cambodia</b>	<b>Guatemala</b>	<b>Malaysia</b>	<b>Nigeria</b>	<b>Rwanda</b>	<b>Uganda</b>
<b>Region</b>	South Asia	East Asia and The Pacific	Latin America and Caribbean	East Asia and The Pacific	West Central Africa	Eastern and Southern Africa	Eastern and Southern Africa
<b>Income</b>	Lower Middle Income	Lower Middle Income	Upper middle Income	Upper middle Income	Lower Middle Income	Low Income	Low Income
<b>Population</b>							
Total Population	164,689,383	16,718,971	16,858,333	32,365,998	206,139,587	12,952,209	45,741,000
% child population	26.8	30.9	33.3	23.4	43.5	39.5	46.0
<b>Report of child poverty measures</b>							
% monetary child poverty	46% (2019. Not reported by government)	16% (2018. Reported by government)	68.2% (2014. Reported by government)	Monetary child poverty rate not reported	47.4% (2020. Reported by government)	44.5% (2018. Reported by government)	23.1% (2017. Reported by government)
Country reports Monetary Child Poverty in SDG VNR	No	No	Yes. 2019	No	No	Yes. 2019	No
% Multidimensional child poverty	57% (2020. Reported by government)	49% (2018. Reported by government)	Multidimensional child poverty rate not reported	Multidimensional child poverty rate not reported	53.9% MODA (2020. Reported by government)	25.3% MODA (2018. Reported by government)	56% (2017. Reported by government)
Country reports Multidimensional Child Poverty in SDG VNR	Yes. 2020	No	No	No	No	Yes. 2019	No
<b>% of GDP dedicated by government to social assistance programmes</b>	Between 0.25% to 1.0%.	Between 0.25% to 1.0%.	Between 1.0% to 1.75%	Between 1.0% to 1.75%	Less than 0.25%	Greater than 1.75%	Weak: Between 0.25% to 1.0%.
<b>GA5 programme components <sup>60</sup></b>	Social inclusion and increased awareness on child rights	Policy and public financing for children	Social inclusion	Social inclusion and disparity reduction	Social policy and gender equality	Social Policy	Social Policy
<b>Main RO basis for recommendation</b>	Good practice in measurement and reporting in SDG's VNR.	-	UNICEF has good practice of evidence use for policy decision	UNICEF country office is mentioned as a good practice example of strategy for child poverty measurement in COVID context	Good practice of evidence use for policy decision.	Good practice in measurement and reporting in SDG's VNR. Low income and high fragility and dynamic country office.	Good practice in measurement. Innovation by adopting consensual approach.

<sup>60</sup> As identified in CPDs

	<b>Bangladesh</b>	<b>Cambodia</b>	<b>Guatemala</b>	<b>Malaysia</b>	<b>Nigeria</b>	<b>Rwanda</b>	<b>Uganda</b>
<b>Work on child poverty<sup>61</sup></b>	Multidimensional measurement, child marriage	Social protection, budget engagement, monetary and multidimensional measurement	Multidimensional measurement, advocacy, social protection	Multidimensional measurement, advocacy	Multidimensional measurement, advocacy, social protection	Multidimensional measurement, social protection	Multidimensional measurement, social protection
<b>SMQ scorecard<sup>62</sup></b>							
Milestone 1) Building a national path	0	0	10	10	10	10	10
Milestone 2) Measurement	6.5	8.5	1	1.5	10	10	6.5
Milestone 3) Advocacy	0	0	10	10	10	10	10
Milestone 4) Policy Making	6	4.5	2.25	4	7.75	9.5	2.5
Milestone 5) National action plans	7	5.5	5.5	3	4	8.5	5

<sup>61</sup> As identified in COARs, CPDs and CO websites

<sup>62</sup> Scorecard developed during the scoping phase based on selected SMQ questions. Annex 4 provides details on how the scorecard was built

### Annex 3. Country sample selection and relevant sampling indicators

Table 10. Country sample for quantitative survey and relevant sampling indicators

Countries	Monetary poverty rate <sup>63</sup> (<US\$2.15)	Monetary child poverty rate <sup>64</sup> (<US\$1.9)	Multidimensional child poverty rate <sup>65</sup>	Income level	Region	Included in Sample or not
Afghanistan			56.4	LIC	MENA	Sampled
Argentina	1	1.8	42.5	UMIC	LAC	Sampled
Armenia	0.5	3.2	19.3	UMIC	ECA	Sampled
Bangladesh	13.5	12.5	42.1	LMIC	SA	Sampled
Bhutan	0.9	1.9	33.9	LMIC	SA	Sampled
Brazil	5.8	8.1	14.8	UMIC	LAC	Sampled
Burkina Faso	30.5	42.1	72.4	LIC	WCA	Sampled
Burundi		81.2	64	LIC	ESA	Sampled
Cambodia			49	LMIC	EAP	Sampled
Cameroon		27.2	47.5	LMIC	WCA	Sampled
Central African Republic		76.7		LIC	WCA	Sampled
Chad	30.9	43.3	94.22	LIC	WCA	Sampled
China (The people's republic of)	0.1	5.9		UMIC	EAP	Sampled
Colombia	6.6	6.7	22.1	UMIC	LAC	Sampled
Congo, Democratic Republic of the		76.6	74.6	LIC	WCA	Sampled
Dominican Republic	0.9	1	24.2	UMIC	LAC	Sampled
Egypt	1.5	5.8	29.5	LMIC	MENA	Sampled
Ghana	25.2	15.4	73.4	LMIC	WCA	Sampled
Grenada				UMIC	LAC	Sampled
Guatemala		9.2		UMIC	LAC	Sampled
Honduras	12.7	21.6	79.4	LMIC	LAC	Sampled
India	10	11.7		LMIC	SA	Sampled
Iraq		2.2	46.9	UMIC	MENA	Sampled
Jordan		0.4	16.08	UMIC	MENA	Sampled
Kenya	29.4	41.5	52.5	LMIC	ESA	Sampled
Kyrgyzstan	1.3	1.4	58.2	LMIC	ECA	Sampled

<sup>63</sup> World Bank Indicators (2023). Available at : <https://databank.worldbank.org/reports.aspx?source=2&Topic=11#>

<sup>64</sup> World Bank and UNICEF's Global Estimate of Children in Monetary Poverty : An Update (2020)

<sup>65</sup> SMQ 2021

Lebanon		0		LMIC	MENA	Sampled
Lesotho	32.4	31.8	45.5	LMIC	ESA	Sampled
Malaysia	0	0		UMIC	EAP	Sampled
Montenegro	2.8	1.9		UMIC	ECA	Sampled
Morocco		1	23.4	LMIC	MENA	Sampled
Mozambique		66	46	LIC	ESA	Sampled
Myanmar	2	6.4		LMIC	EAP	Sampled
Nigeria	30.9	45.9	63.7	LMIC	WCA	Sampled
Oman				HIC	MENA	Sampled
Palau				UMIC	EAP	Sampled
Panama	1.1		32.8	HIC	LAC	Sampled
Papua New Guinea		28.2		LMIC	EAP	Sampled
Peru	2.9	4.5		UMIC	LAC	Sampled
Philippines	3	7.3		LMIC	EAP	Sampled
Rwanda	52	59.9	65.8	LIC	ESA	Sampled
Senegal	9.3	34.1	50.7	LMIC	WCA	Sampled
Sierra Leone	26.1	46.1	66	LIC	WCA	Sampled
Somalia			82.2	LIC	ESA	Sampled
South Africa		26.2	62.1	UMIC	ESA	Sampled
Sri Lanka	1	1.1	42.2	LMIC	SA	Sampled
State of Palestine		1.4	32.1		MENA	Sampled
Sudan		9.9	87	LIC	MENA	Sampled
Tajikistan	6.1	3.7		LMIC	ECA	Sampled
Thailand	0	0.1	21.6	UMIC	EAP	Sampled
Togo	28.1	52.4	51	LIC	WCA	Sampled
Tunisia	0.1	0.5	50	LMIC	MENA	Sampled
Türkiye	0.4	0.2		UMIC	ECA	Sampled
Turkmenistan				UMIC	ECA	Sampled
Uganda	42.2	47.6	44	LIC	ESA	Sampled
United Republic of Tanzania	44.9	57.5	88	LMIC	ESA	Sampled
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)		11.7	58.6		LAC	Sampled
Vietnam	0.7	2.8	14.5	LMIC	EAP	Sampled
Zambia	61.4	62.3	40.9	LIC	ESA	Sampled
Zimbabwe	39.8		60.7	LMIC	ESA	Sampled
Albania	0	3.1			ECA	Not Sampled

Algeria		N/A	18.6	LMIC	MENA	Not Sampled
Angola	31.1	50.2	64	LMIC	ESA	Not Sampled
Anguilla					LAC	Not Sampled
Antigua and Barbuda				HIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Azerbaijan		0		UMIC	ECA	Not Sampled
Bahrain				HIC	MENA	Not Sampled
Belarus	0	0		UMIC	ECA	Not Sampled
Belize		16.6		UMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Benin	19.9	52.1	58.7	LMIC	WCA	Not Sampled
Bolivia, Plurinational State of	2	7	43	LMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Bosnia and Herzegovina		0.1	33	UMIC	ECA	Not Sampled
Botswana	15.4	19.9	49	UMIC	ESA	Not Sampled
British Virgin Islands				HIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Bulgaria	0.2	3.3	33	UMIC	ECA	Not Sampled
Cabo Verde	4.6	4.1		LMIC	WCA	Not Sampled
Chile	0.7		22.9	HIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Comoros		22.1		LMIC	ESA	Not Sampled
Congo, Republic of the		45.8	61	LIC	WCA	Not Sampled
Cook islands						Not Sampled
Costa Rica	2.3	3	27	UMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Côte d'Ivoire	11.4	29.8	64	LMIC	WCA	Not Sampled

Croatia	0.3		17.1	HIC	ECA	Not Sampled
Cuba				UMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Djibouti	19.1	21.9		LMIC	MENA	Not Sampled
Dominica				UMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Ecuador	3.6	4.9		UMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
El Salvador	3.6	2.3	34.7	LMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Equatorial Guinea			0	UMIC	SA	Not Sampled
Eritrea				LIC	SA	Not Sampled
Eswatini	36.1	34.5	56.5	LMIC	ESA	Not Sampled
Ethiopia	27	26.1	89	LIC	ESA	Not Sampled
Fiji	1.3	0.9	32		EAP	Not Sampled
Gabon	2.5	4.6	37	UMIC	WCA	Not Sampled
Gambia, The	17.2		90	LIC	WCA	Not Sampled
Georgia	5.5			UMIC	ECA	Not Sampled
Greece	0.8		32.3	HIC	ECA	Not Sampled
Guinea	13.8	26.6	71.8	LIC	WCA	Not Sampled
Guinea-Bissau	21.7	11.8	61	LIC	WCA	Not Sampled
Guyana				UMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Haiti		30.7	90.4	LMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Indonesia	2.5	6.7	64.95	LMIC	SA	Not Sampled
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1	0.6	53	LMIC	MENA	Not Sampled

Jamaica				UMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Kazakhstan	0	0.1		UMIC	ECA	Not Sampled
Kiribati	1.7	12.5	79.8	LMIC	EAP	Not Sampled
Korea (Democratic People's Republic of)				LIC	EAP	Not Sampled
Kuwait				HIC	MENA	Not Sampled
Lao People's Democratic Republic	7.1	12.7	50.4	LMIC	EAP	Not Sampled
Liberia	27.6	45.5	86	LIC	WCA	Not Sampled
Libya			36.4	UMIC	MENA	Not Sampled
Madagascar		82.9	67.6	LIC	ESA	Not Sampled
Malawi	70.1	74.9	60.5	LIC	ESA	Not Sampled
Maldives	0	0	28	UMIC	SA	Not Sampled
Mali	14.8	45.3	55.8	LMIC	WCA	Not Sampled
Marshall Islands	0.9			UMIC	EAP	Not Sampled
Mauritania		7.5	56.9	LMIC	WCA	Not Sampled
Mexico	3.1	2.7	52.6	UMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Micronesia (Federated States of)		16.8		LMIC	EAP	Not Sampled
Moldova (Republic of)	0	0		UMIC	ECA	Not Sampled
Mongolia	0.7	0.7	68	LMIC	EAP	Not Sampled
Namibia	15.6	18.7	51.3	UMIC	ESA	Not Sampled
Nauru				HIC	EAP	Not Sampled
Nepal		8.7	21.8	LMIC	SA	Not Sampled

Nicaragua		2.2		LMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Niger	50.6	47.5		LIC	WCA	Not Sampled
Niue						Not Sampled
North Macedonia	2.7	7.2	31.8	UMIC	ECA	Not Sampled
Pakistan	4.9	2.4		LMIC	SA	Not Sampled
Paraguay	0.7	2.7	56	UMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Qatar				HIC	MENA	Not Sampled
Romania	1.4			HIC	ECA	Not Sampled
Saint Kitts and Nevis				HIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Saint Lucia	5.1			UMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines				UMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Samoa		0.8		LMIC	EAP	Not Sampled
São Tomé and Príncipe	15.6	37.8	63	LMIC	WCA	Not Sampled
Serbia	1.6	0.1	30.6	UMIC	ECA	Not Sampled
Solomon Islands		28.7		LMIC	EAP	Not Sampled
South Sudan	67.3	86.3		LIC	ESA	Not Sampled
Suriname (Urban)				UMIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Syrian Arab Republic		1.6		LIC	MENA	Not Sampled
Timor-Leste		28	54	LMIC	EAP	Not Sampled
Tonga	1.8	1	33	UMIC	EAP	Not Sampled
Trinidad and Tobago				HIC	LAC	Not Sampled

Turks and Caicos Islands				HIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Tuvalu	0.5			UMIC	EAP	Not Sampled
Ukraine	0			LMIC	ECA	Not Sampled
United Arab Emirates	0			HIC	MENA	Not Sampled
Uruguay	0.1			HIC	LAC	Not Sampled
Uzbekistan	68.6			LMIC	ECA	Not Sampled
Vanuatu	10	17.3	25.2	LMIC	EAP	Not Sampled
Yemen	56.6			LIC	MENA	Not Sampled

Table 11. Disparity in mean test scores for population across sample and population

<i>Population and sample total population</i>					
Variable	Obs.	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
<b>Sample</b>	60	4.86E+07	1.637e+08	18024	1.412e+09
<b>Population</b>	150	4.39E+07	1.655e+08	11204	1.412e+09
<b>One-sample t test</b>	Mean 4.86E+07	Standard Error 1.34E+07	t value .351	p value .727	

Table 12. Regional and income class distribution across sample and population

<i>Population and sample regional distribution</i>							
	EAP	ECA	ESA	LAC	MENA	SA	WCA
<b>Weighted sample</b>	18.03%	10.31%	14.43%	18.96%	18.03%	3.70%	16.54%
<b>Population</b>	15.23%	13.91%	13.25%	22.52%	13.25%	6.62%	15.23%

<i>Population and sample income class distribution</i>				
	HIC	LIC	LMIC	UMIC
<b>Weighted sample</b>	13.67%	20.18%	36.25%	29.89%
<b>Population</b>	11.64%	19.18%	36.30%	32.88%

Table 13. Population of stratum 2: Countries where UNICEF has conducted recent humanitarian work

Country	Type of humanitarian events as highlighted in OCHA Humanitarian needs overview reports	Source report
<b>Afghanistan</b>	Drought, climate change, protection threats, particularly for women and girls, and the economic crisis	Afghanistan Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023 (OCHA, 2023)
<b>Bangladesh</b>	Rohingya refugee crisis	UNICEF Bangladesh Humanitarian Situation Report No. 63: 31 March 2023 (UNICEF, 2023)
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	Insecurity, demographic pressures, climate change, political fragility and economic and health crisis	Humanitarian Action for Children 2023 – Mozambique (UNICEF, 2023)
<b>Cameroon</b>	Violence in Lake Chad basin and in the North-West and South-West regions and refugee influx from CAR	Cameroon Humanitarian Needs Overview 2022 (OCHA, 2022)
<b>Central African Republic (CAR)</b>	Violence against civilians, insecurity in rural areas, internal displacement and food insecurity	République Centrafricaine : Aperçu des Besoins Humanitaires 2023 (OCHA, 2022)
<b>Congo, Democratic republic of</b>	Armed and inter-communal conflicts	République démocratique du Congo : Aperçu des Besoins Humanitaires 2023 (OCHA, 2023)
<b>Congo, republic of the</b>	The recurrent annual floods, refugees, asylum seekers influxes from the Central African Republic (CAR) and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and various epidemics	Republic of Congo Humanitarian Situation Report 2022 (UNICEF, 2022)
<b>Ethiopia</b>	Drought and conflict	Humanitarian Action for Children 2023 – Ethiopia (UNICEF, 2023)
<b>Haiti</b>	Violence and political unrest, soaring inflation, economic recession and 2021 earthquake	Haïti Aperçu des Besoins Humanitaires 2023 (OCHA, 2023)
<b>India</b>	Extreme hydro-meteorological hazards as floods, drought, heatwaves and cyclones	Humanitarian Action for Children 2023 – India (UNICEF, 2023)
<b>Mali</b>	Conflict, multifaceted insecurity, floods and drought, internal displacement and lack of access to basic social services	Mali : Aperçu des Besoins Humanitaires 2023 (OCHA, 2023)
<b>Mozambique</b>	Armed conflict and recurring natural hazards	Humanitarian Action for Children 2023 – Mozambique (UNICEF, 2023)
<b>Niger</b>	Conflict, floods and food insecurity	Niger : Aperçu des Besoins Humanitaires 2023 (OCHA, 2023)
<b>Myanmar</b>	Political instability, armed conflict and targeted violence	Myanmar Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023 (OCHA, 2023)

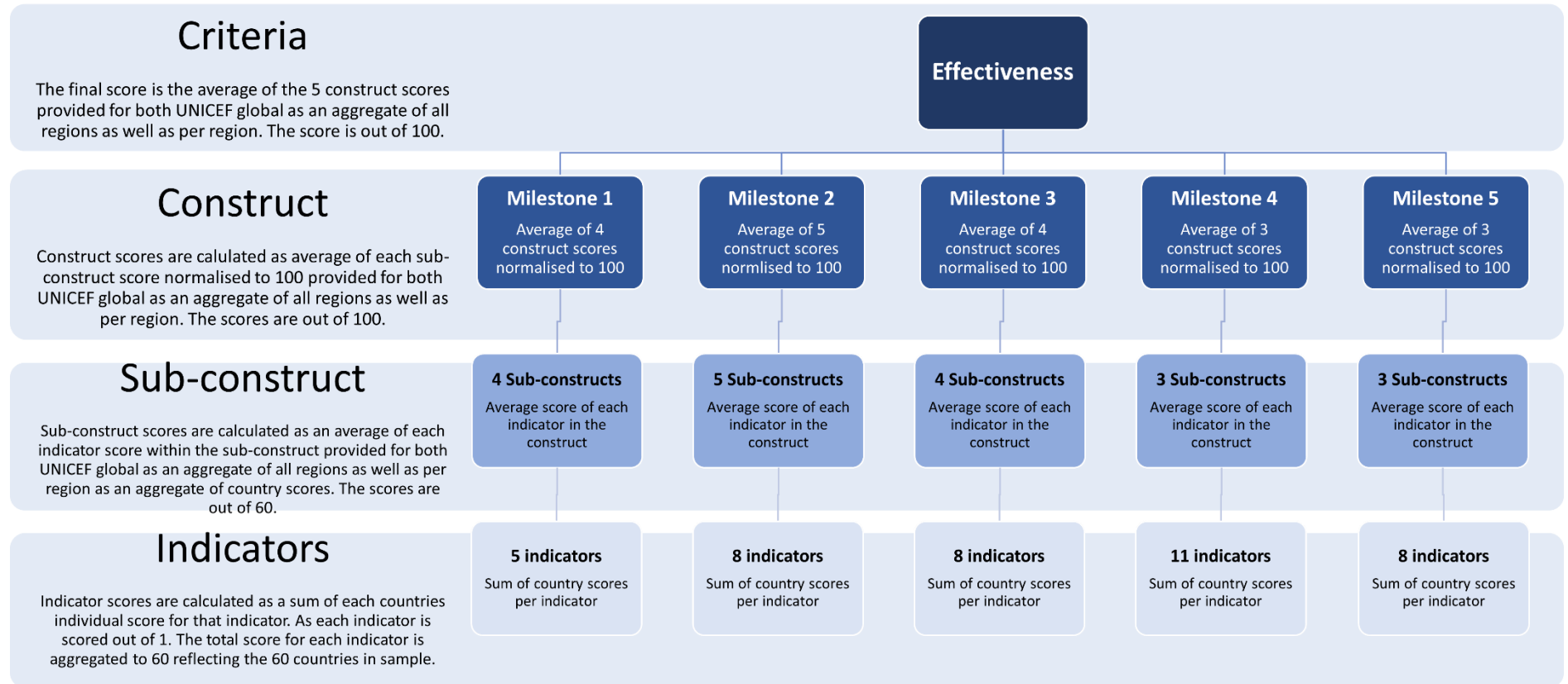
<b>South Sudan</b>	Endemic violence, conflict, access constraints and operational interference, public health challenges and extraordinary flooding and localised drought	South Sudan Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023 (OCHA, 2023)
<b>Somalia</b>	Severe drought, hunger, disease, violence and extreme food insecurity, leading to a quasi-famine situation	Somalia Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023 (OCHA, 2023)
<b>Sri Lanka</b>	Political unrest, economic crisis, and food insecurity	Humanitarian Action for Children 2023 –Sri Lanka (UNICEF, 2023)
<b>Syrian Arab Republic</b>	Worsening economic crisis, continued localised hostilities, mass displacement, devastated public infrastructure and earthquake	Humanitarian Action for Children 2023 – Mozambique (UNICEF, 2023)
<b>Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)</b>	Mass displacement, hyperinflation, political tensions, sanctions and increasing violence	Humanitarian Action for Children 2023 –Syrian Arab Republic (UNICEF, 2023)
<b>Yemen</b>	Armed violence, ongoing economic crisis and disrupted public services	Yemen Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023 (OCHA, 2023)

## Annex 4. Evaluation scorecard

The purpose of the scorecard is to consolidate, in an indicative and non-exhaustive manner, the results obtained from the survey and secondary data review into a scoreboard. This scoreboard aims to provide an overview of the progress made by UNICEF, as well as its regional offices, towards achieving the five milestones for reducing child poverty. The scorecard will serve as an additional analytical tool that complements the main qualitative and quantitative methods.

To construct the scorecard, country-level data from survey responses and the secondary review are assigned scores for a predefined set of subconstructs and related indicators presented in the evaluation matrix. These scores are then aggregated by averaging them to the regional and global level, resulting in scores for each indicator, subconstruct, and milestone. This process helps assess the progress made towards each milestone. The Scores will be presented for UNICEF as a whole (Global) as well as its seven regions. **Figure 7** provides a detailed overview of the scorecard methodology, while the Evaluation Matrix in **Annex 1** specifies the included indicators.

Figure 7. Scorecard methodology



## Annex 5. Approach to evaluate UNICEF's efforts to reduce multidimensional poverty

Table 14. Constructs related to multidimensional poverty

<b>Evaluation sub-question</b>	<b>Construct related to multidimensional poverty</b>
2(a) To what extent has UNICEF partnered with relevant stakeholders to identify a national pathway to end child poverty? (Milestone 1)	Engagement in sectoral government partnerships to support multisectoral approaches to poverty reduction
2(b) To what extent has UNICEF's work contributed to the routine and nationally owned measurement of monetary and multidimensional child poverty? (Milestone 2)	Proportion of country offices with multidimensional child poverty rate calculated
	Existence of one or more publicly accessible database with (Monetary and multidimensional) child poverty rates
	Utilisation of multidimensional poverty measures for advocacy initiatives
	Utilisation of multidimensional poverty measures for supporting poverty reduction policies and programmes
	Utilisation of multidimensional poverty measures to support the inclusion of multidimensional poverty in national poverty reduction plans and monitoring targets
Key factors that hindered the utilisation of child poverty measures among country offices	
2(d).1 To what extent has UNICEF's child poverty work supported sectoral policies and programmes?  2(d).2 To what extent has UNICEF's child poverty work supported social protection policies and programmes? (Milestone 4)	Proportion of UNICEF country offices supporting initiatives to address social stigma and discrimination related to child poverty
	Proportion of country offices that have identified key areas of focus to support multidimensional poverty programme and policy change
	Proportion of country offices that have actively supported the implementation of sectoral or intersectoral programmes and policies to address multidimensional poverty
	Proportion of countries where multidimensional child poverty measures have informed policy and programme change
2(e) To what extent have UNICEF activities supported the enshrinement of strategies to reduce child poverty in national plans? (Milestone 5)	Proportion of country offices that have supported the integration of multidimensional poverty targets in the monitoring framework of national strategic plans
3(a) Are UNICEF's organisational capacities (at HQ, RO and CO levels) adequate and sufficient to achieve its child poverty reduction goals? (Milestones 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)	Perception of the inter-sectional collaboration within UNICEF in working towards the five poverty reduction milestones
	Areas of government capacity development: inter-sectoral coordination

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