

Case study
on data
flows for
indicator
4.2.1:
*Early
Childhood
Development*

unicef 
for every child

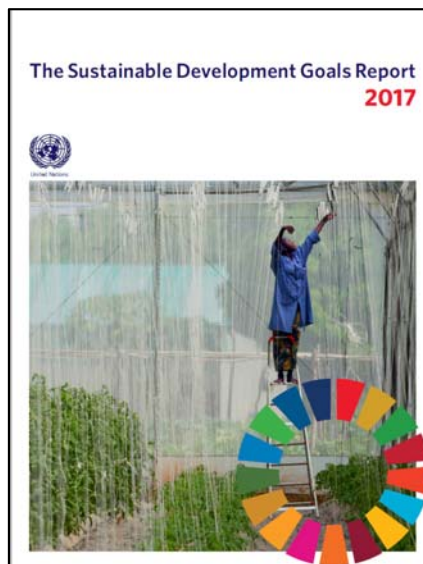
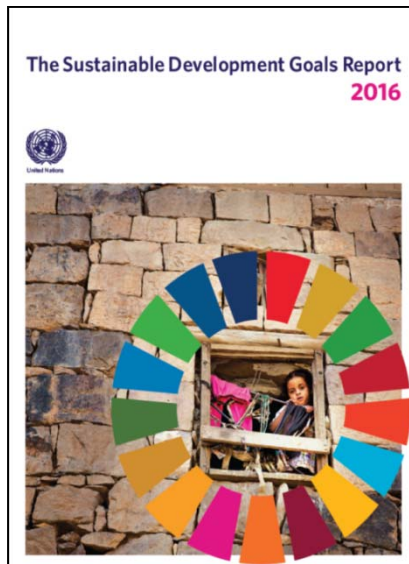


Early Childhood Development in the SDGs: Indicator 4.2.1



Percentage of children under 5 years of age who are developmentally on track in **health, learning and psychosocial well-being**

TIER 3 indicator



ECD Index developed by the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) programme used to report on the indicator in the interim

ECD Index: Children age 3-4 developmentally on track in literacy-numeracy, physical, social-emotional, learning domains

More than half of children aged 3 and 4 in selected countries are developmentally on track in physical, learning and psycho-social well-being

Early childhood development is multidimensional, encompassing several aspects of a child's well-being: physical, social, emotional and mental. Despite variations in the pace and rate at which children develop, all children have an inherent right to develop to their fullest potential. In 54 of 58 countries with available data for the period 2009-2015, at least half of children aged 3 and 4 were developmentally on track in at least three of the following domains: literacy-numeracy, physical devel-

Proportion of children aged 36-59 months who are developmentally on track in at least three of the following domains: literacy-numeracy, physical development, social-emotional development and learning, 2009-2015 (percentage)



Note: Data are available for 58 countries for the period 2009-2015 covering 18 per cent of the world's population. The number of countries in each region with available data is in parentheses.

Data Flows from National to Regional/Global Level

- Main sources of data
 - Household surveys, typically implemented by NSOs, with findings published in survey reports
 - Household surveys are the main data sources to generate the data necessary for all three domains covered by the indicator, especially psychosocial wellbeing
- Frequency of national data collection
 - Household surveys can be implemented annually; however every 3-5 years sufficient to capture changes

Data Flows from National to Regional/Global Level

Method for data compilation

Country Reporting on Indicators for the Goals (CRING): Annual process established in the early 1990s to update UNICEF global databases, through UNICEF country offices, early in the calendar year

Data Flows from National to Regional/Global Level

Country Reporting on Indicators for the Goals (CRING):

- UNICEF Country Offices **consult on and validate** new/updated data as part of their **ongoing cooperation with governments**
- UNICEF Country offices **submit new/updated data through an online platform** after which
 - **Review by sector specialists** at UNICEF HQ (for consistency with definitions, data quality etc.)
 - **Feedback** is provided on submitted data points
 - **New/updated data** included in UNICEF global databases, **posted online** at data.unicef.org and **provided to UNSD** for SDG reporting

Data Flows from National to Regional/Global Level

Process of converting national data to the SDG indicator

- Nationally produced data are already calculated in accordance with indicator 4.2.1 and no adjustments or recalculations are necessary
- Global aggregates are calculated as population-weighted averages of all the sub-regions that make up the world. Regional aggregates are population-weighted averages of all the countries within the region

Inter-agency advisory and coordination group (IAEG-ECD)

Goal: Serve as global advisory and coordination body whose overarching purpose is to support countries in the monitoring of SDG target 4.2, indicator 4.2.1.

Establishment of group announced at the 2017 UN Statistical Commission

Methodological work for the development of 4.2.1

Expert Panel and Observers

- **Expert Advisory Panel:** academics and experts from relevant research institutes/agencies. Members will have technical expertise in the measurement of ECD and former experience with tool development and/or tool/instrument testing and validation.
- **Observers:** Interested individuals and organizations that cannot commit to the same degree as core members or do not fulfill membership criteria.

Methodological work: Activities completed to date

- In-depth review of existing tools/items used in ECD measurements in the last 10 years - some 20 instruments and more than 500 items reviewed
- Technical consultations with experts to select extended list of items for testing
- Cognitive testing of selected items in India, Jamaica, USA, Mexico, Bulgaria and Uganda, in collaboration with national partners



For further information : www.data.unicef.org

THANK YOU!

Planned activities

- Preparation of papers on the three domains of health, learning and psychosocial wellbeing to build summary measure
- Dedicated field tests of the revised ECD measure to validate items
- Methodological work expected to be completed in the second half of 2018