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Violence against Children

Children with disabilities

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Violence Against Children (VAC): What is the situation?

1.6 billion children
(2 in 3) regularly endure violent punishment by caregivers at home.

650 million girls and women
(or 1 in 5) alive today have been subjected to sexual violence as children.

Between 410 and 530 million boys and men
(or around 1 in 7) experienced sexual violence in childhood.

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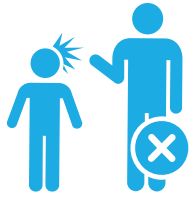
Violence Against Children (VAC) Adopted as an SDG under target 16.2 more than 10 years ago



Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children

- **Indicator 16.2.1:** Proportion of children aged 1–17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month
  See Metadata
- **Indicator 16.2.2:** Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation
  See Metadata
- **Indicator 16.2.3:** Proportion of young women and men aged 18–29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18
  See Metadata

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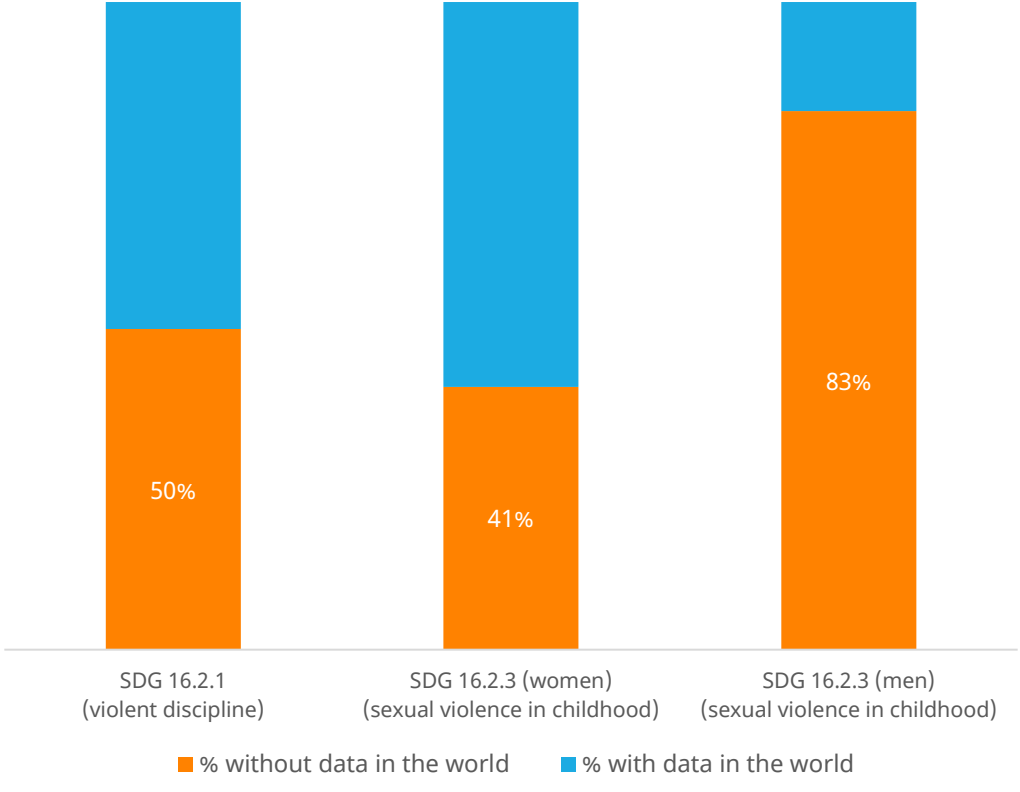
Where do countries stand on addressing their data gaps?

Over half of countries still lack comparable data to monitor VAC-related SDGs



Why is monitoring of VAC limited?

Overall lack of operational **definitions** and standardized **approaches** to measurement, low prioritization, limited **resources**

What is needed for monitoring?

To make meaningful assessments of how widespread an issue is across contexts and over time, monitoring requires the production of **official** data at **regular** intervals

ICVAC

International Classification of Violence against Children

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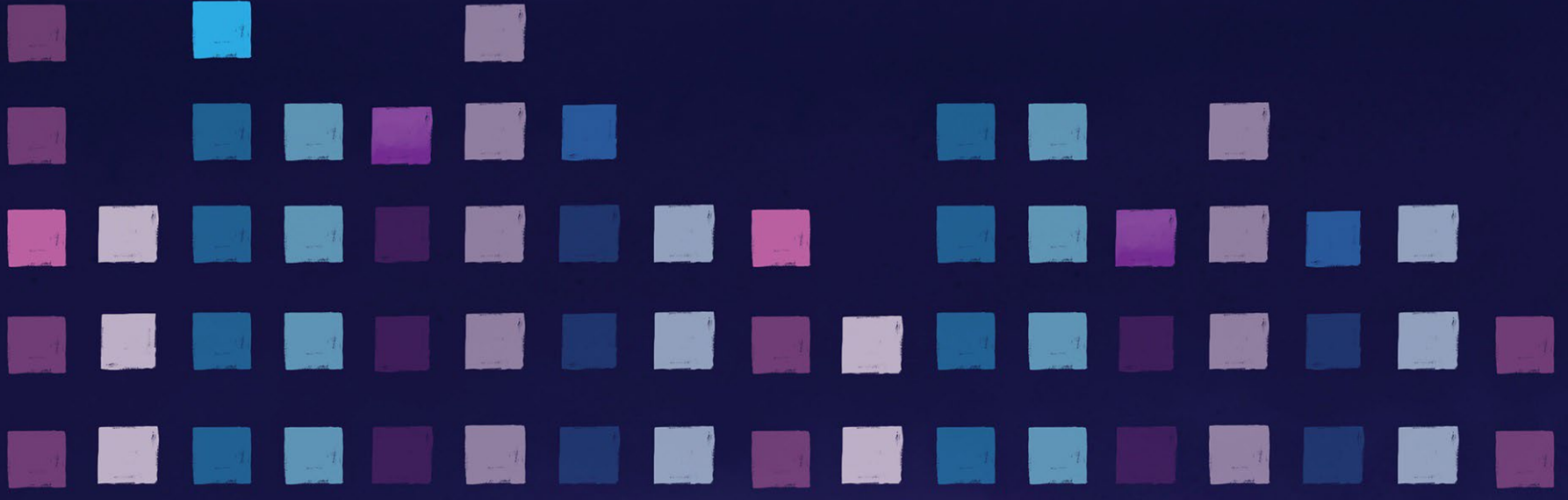

What is the ICVAC?

The ICVAC is the first international classification of violence against children and will have far-reaching implications for data collection at all levels

Developed in response to the need to have comprehensive operational definitions

It is a hierarchical classification, whose categories are mutually exclusive and comprehensive

ICVAC
International Classification of Violence against Children

Definition of violence

Any **deliberate**, **unwanted** and **nonessential act**, threatened or actual, against a child or multiple children that **results** in or has a **high likelihood** of resulting **in death, injury or other forms of physical and psychological suffering**.

Determining whether an act constitutes as violence

Acts:
Single or repeated acts, including acts of omission

Inter-personal and collective acts
Individual and group violence

Four concurrent characteristics
Deliberate, unwanted, non-essential and harmful

Level 1 and level 2 categories

Section 1: Violent killing of a child
101 Intentional homicide of a child
102 Attempted intentional homicide of a child
103 Non-intentional homicide of a child
109 Other acts leading to death of a child not elsewhere classified

Section 2: Physical violence against a child
201 Severe assault against a child
202 Minor assault against a child
203 Isolating a child
209 Other acts of physical violence against a child not elsewhere classified

Section 3: Sexual violence against a child
301 Rape of a child
302 Sexual assault of a child
303 Non-contact sexual violence against a child
309 Other acts of sexual violence against a child not elsewhere classified

Section 4: Psychological violence against a child
401 Terrorizing a child
402 Harassing, spurning and humiliating a child
403 Exposure of a child to domestic violence
404 Exposure of a child to other violent experiences
409 Other acts of psychological violence against a child not elsewhere classified

Section 5: Neglect of a child
501 Physical neglect of a child
502 Psychological neglect of a child
503 Neglect of a child's physical or mental health
504 Educational neglect of a child
505 Abandonment of a child
509 Other forms of neglect of a child not elsewhere classified

Section 9: Other acts of violence against a child not elsewhere classified
909 Other acts of violence against a child not elsewhere classified

Developing survey questions on sexual violence in childhood

- Cover all forms of sexual violence, both contact and non-contact, aligned with ICVAC
- Define a ‘core’ minimum set of questions to collect data on prevalence + circumstances
- Administered to male and female respondents aged 15 and above

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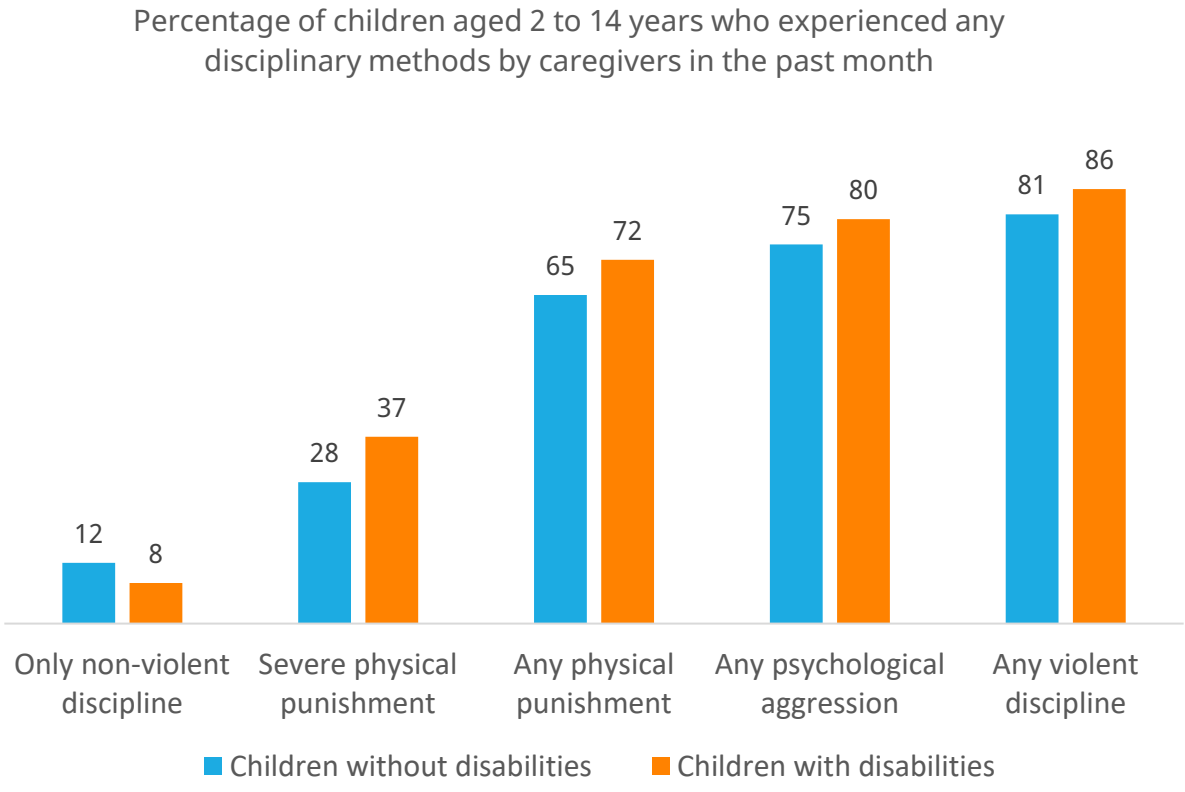
Inequity in VAC

Children with **disabilities** are **more** likely to experience **violent discipline** than their peers without disabilities.



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Children with disabilities

Nearly **240 million children (1 in 10)** in the world today have some form of disability.

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How do we assess children's disability in a household survey?

- "Children with disabilities include those who have **long-term** physical, mental, intellectual or sensory **impairments** which in interaction with various **barriers** may hinder their full and effective **participation** in society on an equal basis" (CRPD)

- The **child functioning module** is the **recommended** module for SDG data disaggregation by children's disability.

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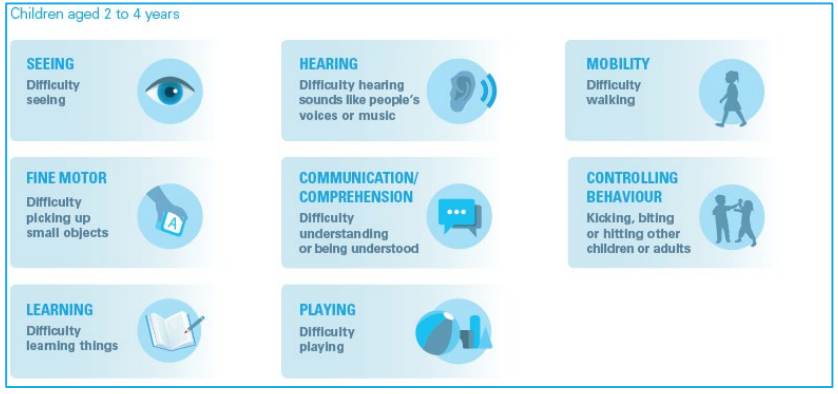
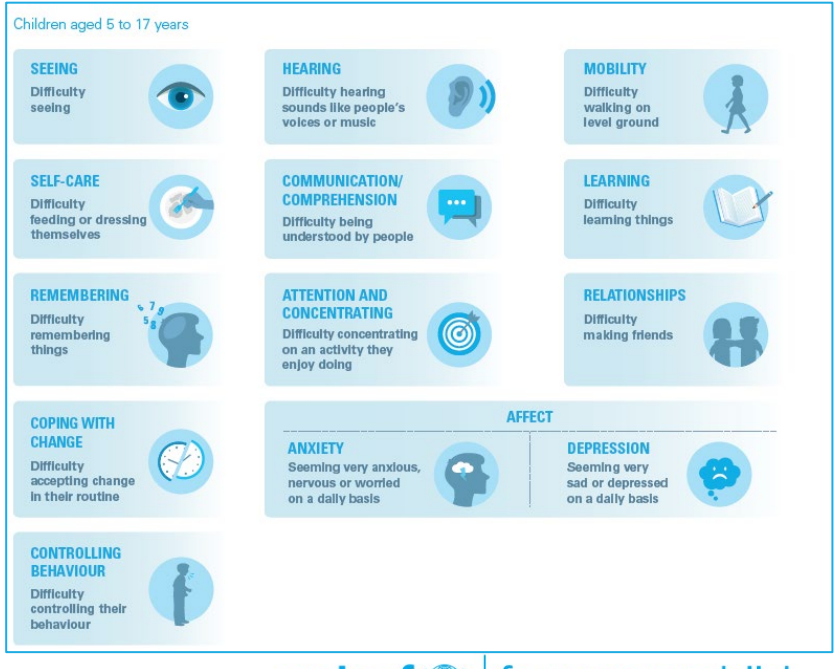
The Child Functioning Module

- Developed by UNICEF and the Washington Group on Disability Statistics
- Two questionnaires
  - one with 16 questions for children aged 2 to 4 years
  - and another with 24 questions for children aged 5 to 17 years.
- Questions are meant to be addressed to the **child's mother** (or primary caregiver in cases where the mother is not alive or is not living in the household), no alternative respondent





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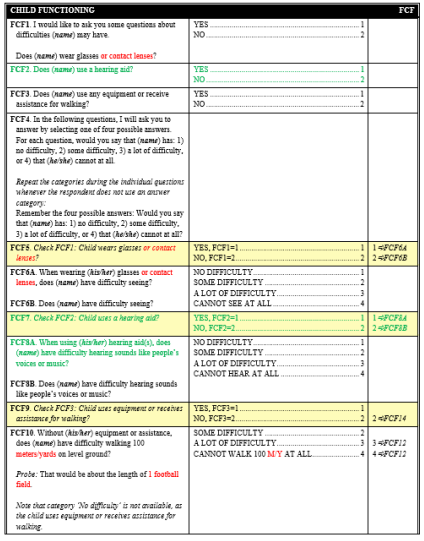
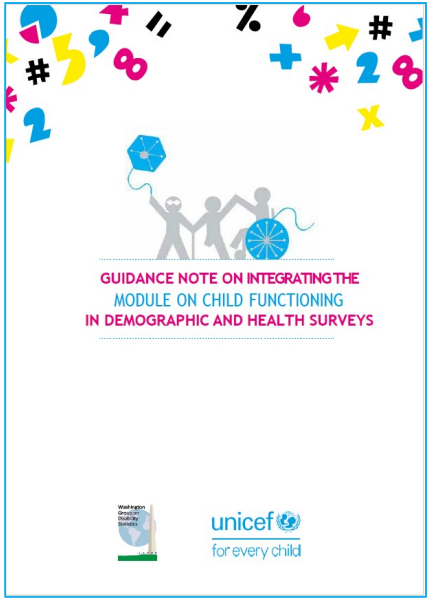
The Child Functioning Module

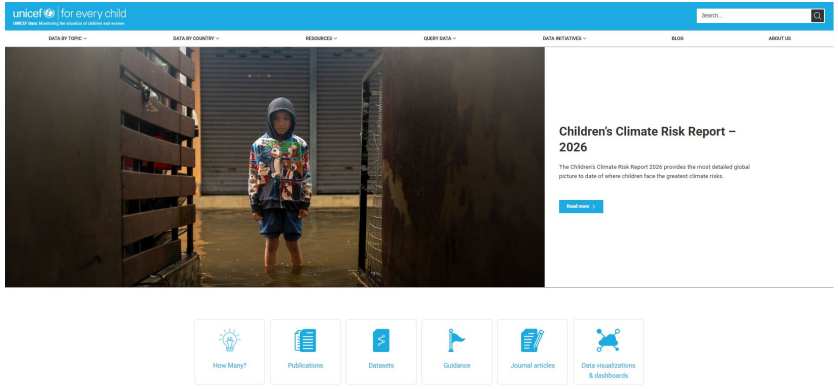
- Included in the MICS standard questionnaires
- Guidance note on integrating the module in other surveys available
- Teacher Version (CFM-TV) can be used in national Education Management Information Systems as well as other data collection efforts, such as school-based surveys, with teachers as respondents
- A humanitarian contexts version (CFM-HV) that takes into account the data needs and data collection constraints of humanitarian settings.



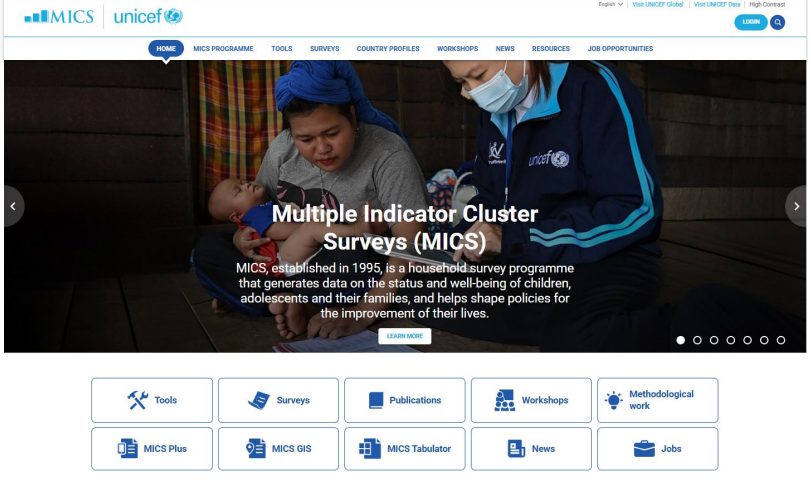
CHILD FUNCTIONING		FCF
FCF1. I would like to ask you some questions about difficulties (*name*) may have. Does (*name*) wear glasses or contact lenses?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
FCF2. Does (*name*) use a hearing aid?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
FCF3. Does (*name*) use any equipment or receive assistance for walking?	YES ..... 1 NO 2	
FCF4. In the following questions, I will ask you to answer by selecting one of four possible answers. For each question, would you say that (*name*) has: 1) no difficulty, 2) some difficulty, 3) a lot of difficulty, or 4) that (*he/she*) cannot at all. *Repeat the categories during the individual questions whenever the respondent does not use an answer category:* Remember the four possible answers: Would you say that (*name*) has: 1) no difficulty, 2) some difficulty, 3) a lot of difficulty, or 4) that (*he/she*) cannot at all?		
FCF5. *Check FCF1: Child wears glasses or contact lenses?*	YES, FCF1=1 ..... 1 NO, FCF1=2 2	1 =*FCF6A* 2 =*FCF6B*
FCF6A. When wearing (*his/her*) glasses or contact lenses, does (*name*) have difficulty seeing? **FCF6B**. Does (*name*) have difficulty seeing?	NO DIFFICULTY ..... 1 SOME DIFFICULTY ..... 2 A LOT OF DIFFICULTY ..... 3 CANNOT SEE AT ALL 4	
FCF7. *Check FCF2: Child uses a hearing aid?*	YES, FCF2=1 ..... 1 NO, FCF2=2 2	1 =*FCF8A* 2 =*FCF8B*
FCF8A. When using (*his/her*) hearing aid(s), does (*name*) have difficulty hearing sounds like people's voices or music? **FCF8B**. Does (*name*) have difficulty hearing sounds like people's voices or music?	NO DIFFICULTY ..... 1 SOME DIFFICULTY ..... 2 A LOT OF DIFFICULTY ..... 3 CANNOT HEAR AT ALL 4	
FCF9. *Check FCF3: Child uses equipment or receives assistance for walking?*	YES, FCF3=1 ..... 1 NO, FCF3=2 2	2 =*FCF14*
FCF10. Without (*his/her*) equipment or assistance, does (*name*) have difficulty walking 100 meters/yards on level ground? *Probe:* That would be about the length of 1 football field. *Note that category 'No difficulty' is not available, as the child uses equipment or receives assistance for walking.*	SOME DIFFICULTY ..... 2 A LOT OF DIFFICULTY ..... 3 CANNOT WALK 100 M/Y AT ALL 4	3 =*FCF12* 4 =*FCF12*



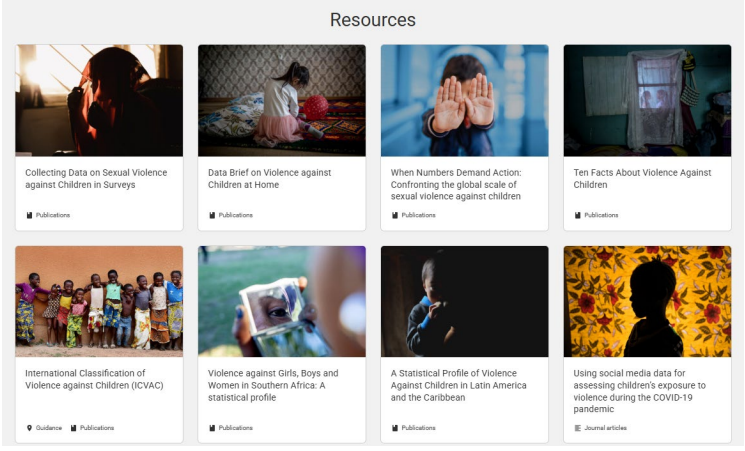
UNICEF’s data website



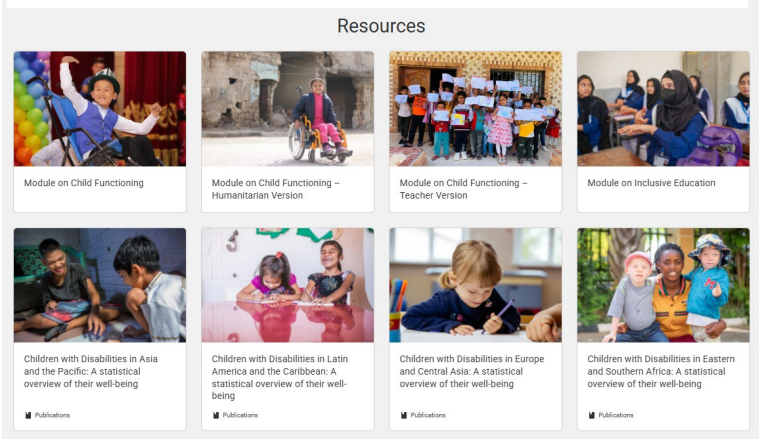
MICS



Violence against children



Child functioning



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