

## **How COVID -19 Pandemic has Changed the World for Children**

*Thursday, 25 February 2020, 9.00 am – 10.30 am EST*

### **Zoom registration link:**

<https://unicef.zoom.us/j/9181157171>

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provide an overarching vision towards sustainable and prosperous future for all. Available data showed that an alarming number of countries needed to speed up progress to reach global targets even before COVID-19 struck. For millions of children, the extent to which the world delivers on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) promise, will determine the course of their lives – and their lives determine the future of this planet. But five years into implementation of the SDGs and with COVID-19 reversing much progress, are we on track to achieve the SDGs for children?

The present and future global development, and the achievement of SDGs has been adversely impacted by COVID-19 pandemic. This unprecedented crisis has led to social and economic impacts. Therefore, significant efforts are required to harness the power of evidence and drive transformational change for children.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development calls for a systematic follow-up and review of progress at national, regional and global levels. This means, comprehensive assessment and review of progress towards achievement of global SDG targets, requires us to build on data principles which seeks to enhance existing work, strengthening data administrative systems, scaling up innovations and new emerging ideas based on lessons learnt.

Data and statistics play a critical role to review progress against SDG targets, support immediate public health emergency response, deal with the social and economic impacts on children (directly and indirectly), and to shape the advocacy agenda. In this context, UNICEF will organize a side-event during the 52nd session of the UN Statistical Commission on how COVID-19 pandemic has changed the world for children.

### **Objectives**

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The side-event will focus on the impact of COVID-19 on children with the aim to support Statistical Committee agenda items 3 (a) Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as 3 (i) Management and modernization of statistical systems.

It will kick off the launch of a new SDG data portal and COVID-19 hub. Built on open data principles and designed to engage, the SDG data portal provides the latest child related SDG data, measurement

guidance and assessment on progress. The COVID-19 hub brings together the latest findings and projections on the impact of COVID-19 on children's lives.

The side-event will take place in the form of a short panel followed by a electronic marketplace in the form of break-out sessions among which participants can choose to join, to allow for questions and discussion with UNICEF staff working on child related indicators. It will bring together senior officials from the members states, international organizations, intergovernmental organizations and civil society.

## Agenda

Date and Time: Thursday, 25 February 2020, 9.00 am – 10.30 am EST  
 Venue: Zoom  
 Organized by: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

<p><b>Opening Session (20mins)</b></p> <p><b>9.00– 9.20</b></p>	<p><b><u>Opening Remarks and Keynote Speeches</u></b></p> <p>a) UNICEF team will provide remarks and highlight their efforts to demonstrate how COVID-19 has changed the world of children.        Speaker:        - Mr. Omar Abdi, Deputy Executive Director for Programmes at UNICEF.</p> <p>b) Measurement of SDG targets related to children: opportunities and challenges        - Tbc Chief Statistician</p> <p>c) Introduction of COVID-19 hub and SDG portal, importance for policy development and monitoring  <i>Mark Hereward, Associate Director - Data and Analytics, Division of Data, Analytics, Planning and Monitoring (DAPM)</i></p>
<p><b>Interactive Discussion (60mins)</b></p> <p><b>9.20-10.25</b></p>	<p><b><u>How has COVID-19 Pandemic changed the world for children?</u></b></p> <p>This interactive discussion will convene participants in groups who will discuss, engage and share their ideas in break-out rooms. In each of the break-out session a brief presentation of up to ten minutes on the global situation of children and socio-economic impact of COVID-19 pandemic and children and ten minutes for Q&amp;A per room. Topics to be discussed in each of the breakout rooms will be explained. There will be three rotations so each participant will have the opportunity to visit three breakout rooms.</p> <p>Below is a list of the breakout rooms topics and presentations:</p> <p>i. Impact of COVID-19 on poverty and gender</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>ii. Digital connectivity at home, linking to remote learning and school closure issues</li><li>iii. Impact of COVID-19 on violence against children</li><li>iv. Monitoring WASH in schools with a special focus on COVID-19</li><li>v. Innovative data monitoring of child nutrition in times of COVID-19</li><li>vi. Listening session: what do you need from UNICEF?</li></ul>
<b>Closing Remarks (5mins)</b>  <b>10.25-10.30</b>	<b><u>Closing Remarks</u></b>  This session will conclude the event with remarks from <i>Ms Vidhya Ganesh, Director, Division of Data, Analytics, Planning and Monitoring (DAPM), UNICEF</i>