

Annual progress update 2018

Business Area: **Myanmar - 0600** Outcome/Output: **CHILD PROTECTION**

Output: CAAC & MRM

Status: Finalized

Assessment Date: 28.12.2018

Rating: On-track

Headline Statement:

UNICEF effectively led the Country Taskforce on MRM to execute hi-level advocacy with Government, donors and key international actors to advance the CAAC agenda. With the additional two listing against the Tatmadaw, UNICEF demonstrated strategic and technical leadership in engagement with listed parties and adopting a new MRM strategy.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

The year 2018 had witnessed a significant progress in the Children and armed conflict (CAAC) agenda, in particular for the implementation of the joint action plan to end under-age recruitment. Capitalizing on the visit of the SRSR-CAAC to Myanmar in May, UNICEF as a co-chair of CTFMR led series of high-level engagement with Government, setting the common CAAC advocacy agenda, revitalizing Heads of Agency-level CTFMR meetings, introducing the UNSC Working Group (UNSCWG) member states briefing, and organizing regular conference calls with OSRSG-CAAC. UNICEF then coordinated with various international human rights monitoring platforms covering Myanmar to pitch the common CAAC agenda and key messages throughout the year.

UNICEF as technical lead of CTFMR demonstrated its strong leadership in securing agreements to clear the backlog of suspected minor cases, streamline indicators and methodology to measure the implementation of the JAP and guidelines for a joint monitoring mission. These issues have been pending bottlenecks where CTFMR and Government Prevention Committee had different views which led eventual stalemate of the JAP implementation over two years.

In December, UNICEF, UNRC with technical support of OSRSG-CAAC took an important step in the unprecedented capacity building of the Tatmadaw and Prevention Committee on six grave violations. Subsequent ToT is being discussed for 2019.

With the Tatmadaw listed for two additional grave violations against children (killing and maiming; rape and other forms of sexual violence), UNICEF have been forefront with the Government to move forward the CAAC agenda, in particular by seeking to expand interventions to end and prevent all six grave violations. In end October, the OSRSG-CAAC invited CTFMR Co-Chairs to New York to update and brief the UNSCWG in prior to the launch of the supplementary report on Myanmar covering July 2017 to August 2018.

The evidence of emerging patterns of violations triggered necessary changes in the MRM strategy. UNICEF adopted a more evidence-based and risk-informed programming for MRM through regular ‘hotspot’ analysis of the MRM data, mapping of actors, expanding coverage with the introduction of trained ‘eyes and ears’ in remote conflict-affected areas, systematic tracking of trained monitors and their performance, and regular update of structured risk registry in key conflict-affected areas.

UNICEF supported to roll out the MRE mobile Application and common MRE tool kits and reached more than 63,649 children. In a context where reported cases of killing and maiming by landmines/ERW was on rise, UNICEF continued to strengthen MRE activities and support for child survivors through applying ‘localization’ approach to reach the hard-to-reach areas such as non-government controlled areas.

UNICEF supported and strengthened union and four state level Mine Risk Working Groups involving more than 10 ministries/departments, over 40 national and international organizations and ethnic armed groups. This has allowed better coordination among mine action actors and increased MRE and victim assistance coverage.