



Strengthening Administrative Data on Violence against Children:

Challenges and promising practices from
a review of country experiences

unicef 
for every child

© United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Division of Data, Analytics, Planning and Monitoring, December 2020

Permission is required to reproduce any part of this publication. Permission will be freely granted to educational or non-profit organizations.

To request permission or for any other information on this publication, please contact:

UNICEF Data and Analytics Section
Division of Data, Analytics, Planning and Monitoring
3 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017, USA
Email: data@unicef.org
Website: data.unicef.org

All reasonable precautions have been taken by UNICEF to verify the information contained in this publication. For any data updates subsequent to release, please visit data.unicef.org.

Suggested citation: United Nations Children’s Fund, *Strengthening Administrative Data on Violence against Children: Challenges and promising practices from a review of country experiences*, UNICEF, New York, 2020.

Cover photo: © UNICEF/UN076695

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The preparation of this study was led by Claudia Cappa and Nicole Petrowski (Data and Analytics Section, UNICEF Headquarters), who were responsible for strategic oversight and technical guidance. The review was undertaken by Robin Haarr (independent consultant).

Gratitude goes to UNICEF staff in regional and country offices for their invaluable assistance in providing documentation and feedback on the report. A special note of thanks goes to UNICEF staff in the five countries that participated in the in-depth assessment (Indonesia, Jamaica, Morocco, Nigeria and Uganda) for giving so generously of their time and expertise before, during and after the field missions.

The publication was edited by Joan Frankson, Gretchen Luchsinger and Lois Jensen. It was designed by Benussi & the Fish.

Strengthening Administrative Data on Violence against Children:

Challenges and promising practices from a review of country experiences



CONTENTS

Introduction	6
Advantages and limitations of administrative data	7
Purpose and scope of this review	8
Methodology	9
Findings	12
Data sources and data flows	12
Data registration practices	19
Data quality assurance, protection and sharing	22
Indicators	25
Data disaggregation	31
Data-sharing	34
Monitoring & evaluation and coordination mechanisms	36
Data use	39
Conclusions and recommendations	42
Key findings	43
Key recommendations	45
Annexes	49
Annex 1. Definitions	50
Annex 2. Data sources and flow in Indonesia	52
Annex 3. Data sources and flow in Jamaica	54
Annex 4. Data sources and flow in Morocco	58
Annex 5. Data sources and flow in Nigeria	61
Annex 6. Data sources and flow in Uganda	62
Annex 7. Data sources identified during the desk review	64
Endnotes	66

Introduction



In recent years, interest has grown among governments and international development partners to explore ways of better using administrative data to monitor and report on violence against children. Administrative data are an important source of information that can often be readily accessed and used to complement large-scale surveys.

Administrative data are derived from cases of violence against children that were identified, reported, registered and handled by authorities and service providers from different sectors (such as the police, prosecutors, courts, social welfare, social services, child protection, health and education).

Survey data provide insights into the prevalence and nature of violence against children, determinants and factors that contribute to it, and information on perpetrators, among other topics. Surveys that gather data from a representative sample of children (at the national or subnational level) produce results that can be generalized to the entire child population. Population-based surveys include dedicated surveys, specifically those focused on violence against children, or surveys on broader issues (such as health surveys or crime victimization surveys) that integrate specific modules or questions related to violence against children.

In many countries, administrative data are regularly and frequently collected and compiled at district, provincial and national levels, whereas survey data are collected periodically (every few years) or at only one point in time. Government agencies and institutions (such as social welfare, child protection, the police and judiciary), civil society service providers, and public and private health-care facilities are all

possible sources of administrative data. Typically, they gather a wealth of information on how child victims of violence are using services, as well as how agencies and providers serve child victims seeking protection, justice, medical care, psychosocial support/counselling, shelter and other support (Figure 1).

Figure 1
Sources of administrative data on violence against children across sectors



Advantages and limitations of administrative data

A main advantage of administrative data is that agencies/entities collect some of them automatically. A disadvantage is that these data are not representative of the entire population of children who experience violence, since a large number of children never report their experiences to official agencies, service providers or educators. In many cases, only the most severe cases are reported.

Administrative data reflect the number of incidents reported, identified and registered at points of entry, and the number of child victims who access services and the justice system.

These data should not be treated as prevalence data because higher rates of registered incidents in one district may reflect better registration and record-keeping practices or service availability, but not necessarily higher levels of violence.

Although administrative data cannot reveal the actual prevalence of violence against children, they can reveal the number of incidents identified and reported to authorities and service providers. This information can help define important points of entry and intervention, and access to protection and support services within a given time period, across communities, districts and provinces. Administrative data can also be used to explore historical patterns and trends in identification, reporting and response. They can provide information on service use and demand, and help in understanding whether services are

delivered, establishing case management within and across sectors. This information can inform general programme planning and resource allocation by demonstrating the use of services and systems. Such services and systems include those related to child protection, social welfare, health care, police and justice systems, along with community-based services.

Administrative data are collected for internal purposes. Their relevance and usefulness depend on the quality of the registration and record-keeping system, and the degree to which data can be used to understand how many children make use of agencies and their services, what kinds of help victims need, and what kinds of help agencies offer. Administrative data can also be useful when the quality of services is being evaluated and costs estimated.

Another potential advantage is that administrative sources can capture data on populations living both within and outside households, and on hard-to-reach populations that may not be accessible via traditional survey methods. However, this depends on the ability of children and families from these populations to access services and justice systems.

Despite their advantages, administrative data have considerable limitations. One challenge relates to inconsistencies among national, subnational and international definitions of violence against children, leading to a lack of comparability across administrative data sources. Inconsistencies in data collection methods (that is, how administrative data are recorded at subdistrict, district and provincial levels), and in their accuracy, completeness and coverage, are another challenge. Many countries have high levels of missing or incomplete data, inconsistent or limited data quality assurance processes, and inconsistencies in how data are collated and reported from the district, provincial and national levels. Since data collection is not the primary aim or function of service-providing or criminal justice agencies, the quality of data is often weak and inconsistent.

Another obstacle is that government agencies, service providers and private entities often do not have record-keeping systems that regularly collect administrative data, particularly as it relates to violence against children. If such systems are in place, they do not typically go beyond internal needs. Even when data are collected, they are rarely analysed or used for monitoring the effectiveness of existing programmes and/or policies to support child victims of violence, increasing access to essential services, or improving measures to identify, report, investigate and/or prosecute cases. Among other consequences, this makes it difficult to track cases and referrals across the many sectors involved.

Another challenge with administrative data is the possibility of 'double counting' incidents and affected children due to

parallel record-keeping systems for different data sources. Each agency and service provider that has contact with a child should record such contact for their own administrative data purposes. That said, evaluating or assessing the extent of double counting may not always be possible. Double counting is a concern if data are used to determine the overall number of cases or child victims.

Underreporting is particularly likely in police records, since often only the most severe cases of violence against children are reported to authorities. Cases may be reported to and addressed by informal actors (such as religious and local leaders and traditional healers, for example) who are not part of the formal system of services, nor involved in collecting and reporting data.

Purpose and scope of this review

Well-developed and functional administrative systems can be a reliable and useful source of data. This is the case in some, but not all, upper middle- and high-income countries. By working more systematically with administrative data, the limitations specific to each country can be identified. This information can then be used to inform efforts to strengthen data collection, collation and analysis, and to improve programmes, referral mechanisms and case management systems to respond to violence against children.

This publication describes sources of administrative data on violence against children from a selection of countries, and discusses their strengths and weaknesses. The assessment covers five components: data collection and reporting processes; quality assurance processes; data flow and feedback practices; monitoring and evaluation structures and coordination mechanisms; and data dissemination and use. The aim is to draw upon existing practices and resources to provide insights on how to use and improve administrative data related to violence against children.

The types of administrative data explored include those from the police, courts, health-care facilities and social service agencies; from the education, social welfare and child protection sectors; and from religious groups and leaders (particularly in countries where they are part of the administration in law and practice). Sources included both governmental and non-governmental entities, including civil society groups.

Findings from this review resulted in recommendations on how to strengthen administrative data collection on violence against children, and how administrative data can be integrated with other data sources to monitor and report on trends and patterns.

Methodology

This review covers 15 countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Indonesia, Jamaica, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia. They were selected to reflect geographic diversity, various contexts (such as low-capacity countries, middle-income/upper middle-income countries, and fragile contexts) and varying levels of data quality. A desk review of relevant documents and databases was completed for each country. These documents comprised legislation (including religious laws and practices in countries where they were relevant), action plans, policies, regulations, and programmes related to violence against children, gender-based violence and child protection more broadly that established the identification, reporting and recording of cases of violence, and multisectoral systems of response and service delivery. The desk review also identified existing indicators and administrative data sources on violence against children in each of the 15 countries.

Five countries were selected for in-depth, in-country assessments: Indonesia, Jamaica, Morocco, Nigeria and Uganda. Between April and July 2017, missions were conducted to each of the countries, and interviews were conducted with key stakeholders from international and government agencies and civil society organizations. In each country, an effort was made to interview key stakeholders from the police, justice system (prosecutors and courts), health-care services, child protection, social welfare and education, as well as from national statistical agencies, community-based service providers, and civil society organizations working on children's issues, including violence. In countries with helplines, an effort was made to interview those who manage them. Multisectoral interviews captured perspectives from different sources of administrative data on violence against children.

Interviews used an assessment tool with a series of open- and closed-ended questions, and probing questions designed to elicit qualitative and quantitative data related to each of the five assessment components. On average, interviews took one to two hours to complete. Although some were one-on-one, most were conducted in small groups of two to six persons. As part of the mission in Jamaica, a half-day consultation on data collection, accessibility and use took place. The consultation brought together about 30 key stakeholders from relevant government and non-governmental agencies and organizations. Participants presented information about how their agency/organization collects, compiles, analyses and uses data on children and violence. Discussions revolved around data registries related to child protection and violence, case management systems, and client confidentiality and data security. A one-day workshop in Nigeria with the federal technical working group and the state working group on child protection information management included representatives

from Lagos, Cross River and Plateau. These three states recently participated in a UNICEF-supported Child Protection Information Management Assessment. This workshop provided an opportunity for each state to present and discuss assessment findings and to develop recommendations on next steps.

In each country, most interviews with key stakeholders were conducted in the capital city. To ensure broader participation of key stakeholders, each country mission also included a visit to a district and/or province outside the capital. In Indonesia, one day was spent in Semarang in Central Java Province, where interviews were conducted with key stakeholders from district and provincial levels. In Jamaica, one day was spent in Mandeville in Manchester Parish, where interviews were conducted with key stakeholders at the parish and regional levels. In Uganda, one day was spent in Wakiso District where interviews were conducted with key district-level stakeholders. In Nigeria, two days were spent in Lagos, where interviews were conducted with key stakeholders mainly at the state level. Finally, in Morocco, half a day was spent in Casablanca, where a focus group discussion with representatives from the child protection and health sectors, courts, and non-governmental and civil society organizations explored the overall functioning of the referral and case management system, including indicators and definitions used, and the data collection process and use.

One of the main drawbacks in analysing information collected solely through a desk review is that pertinent background and contextual information is often missing. Most desk review materials did not include administrative data on violence against children or address administrative sources of this data. In some cases, where administrative data were referenced, there was no clear or thorough description or explanation of the administrative data source. Thus, only a minimal amount of information on each of the 15 countries could be obtained through the desk review. In the five countries where the in-depth review was conducted, the desk review was supplemented by a vast amount of information about administrative data sources on violence against children, which was collected during field visits and consultations with key stakeholders in various government sectors (such as the police, courts, child protection, social welfare, health and education) and from civil society organizations working on child protection. The information from these countries is therefore inherently more complete and more comprehensive than that from the 10 countries for which only a desk review was completed.

Another obvious challenge in conducting reviews of countries spanning many different regions was that, in some countries, most documents were only available in the national language (Spanish, French, Portuguese or Arabic). To a certain extent, this limited the information that could be extracted as part of the desk review, which should be kept in mind when reviewing the findings.

Finally, the study was undertaken in 2017 and reflects the situation at the time of the research, which may be different from the current state of administrative data systems. For instance, Nigeria has now launched a Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) at the federal level and in four states – Lagos, Cross River, Plateau and Gombe. This real-time computer-based information system has significantly addressed some gaps in routine administrative data management. It provides a reliable inter-agency platform to support effective case management through evidence-based data collection, including case identification,

assessment and follow-up of each individual case, while aiding analysis on trends in violence and service provision for better programming and policy advocacy. Information from the CPIMS has served as a basis for the launching of the costing model for the public financing of the child protection system. Currently, the development of the next-generation CPIMS+ is under way.

While countries may have introduced changes to their administrative data systems and processes, the key findings and recommendations of the study remain valid.



DES DROITS DE L'ENFANT



Findings



This section presents findings based on information and data gathered from the desk review for each of the 15 countries, and field visits to the five countries selected for in-depth assessments.

Data sources and data flows

What sources of data on violence against children are available? Are data on violence against children reported from the service delivery sites to the district, province and/or national levels? Are there challenges or limitations with the data flow processes? How is the data-gathering system set up?

Table 1 comprises a list of sources identified for the five countries selected for in-depth assessment. The information reveals the wide range of agencies and sectors that collect administrative data on violence against children. Most administrative data sources capture some of this data, but not all. In most cases, administrative data sources were not designed for the sole purpose of collecting data on violence against children. Annexes 2 through 6 provide additional details on data sources and flows in these countries.

Table 1.
Administrative data sources in the five countries selected for in-depth assessments

Indonesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indonesia National Police <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Women and Child Protection Units • Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Online Information System on Protection of Women and Children (SIMFONI PPA) - Integrated Service Centres for Protection of Women and Children • Ministry of Social Affairs • Ministry of Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Centre for Health Data and Information • Indonesian Commission on Child Protection • National Commission on Violence against Women • Supreme Court – very limited, if any • Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) (such as PUSKAPA UI, ECPAT Indonesia, LPAI)
Jamaica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamaica Constabulary Force • Statistics and Information Management Unit • Centre for the Investigation of Sexual Offences and Child Abuse • Community safety and security branches • E-station diaries • Child Development Agency • SOHEMA (case management software) • Child Protection Database • Office of the Children’s Registry • Office of the Children’s Advocate • Ministry of Health • Jamaica Injury Surveillance System • Ministry of Education, Youth and Information • Guidance and Counselling Unit • Safe Schools Project • Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sports • Women’s Centre of Jamaica Foundation • Ministry of National Security • Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine • Jamaica Crime Observatory-Integrated Crime and Violence Information System (JCO-ICVIS) • Statistical Institute of Jamaica • Planning Institute of Jamaica • JamStats (data repository) • Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions – very limited, if any • Courts, particularly parish courts – very limited, if any • Mona Geoinformatics Institute (data repository) • NGOs (such as Fight for Peace, Peace Management Initiative and Violence Prevention Alliance)

◀ (Table 1 continued)

Morocco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Security Moroccan Police • Statistics Department • Centralized Unit in Charge of Minors • Judiciary police • Brigade of minors • Police station registries • Royal Moroccan Gendarmerie • Ministry of Justice • Judiciary of Morocco • Court units for care and support to children and women • First instance courts • Appeals courts • Family affairs courts • Public prosecution • Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training • Observatory for Violence in Schools • Division of Student Life • Ministry of Health • Centres for women and child victims of violence • Forensic medical examiners • Ministry of Family, Solidarity, Gender Equality and Social Development • Child Protection Unit
Nigeria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nigeria Police Force • Department of Research and Planning • Criminal Investigations Divisions • Gender Unit • E-station diaries • Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development (national coordinator for processing all data from Nigeria through the CPIMS) • Family Support Services – limited • Ministry of Education – limited, if any • Ministry of Health – limited
Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uganda Police Force • Criminal Investigations Department • Child and Family Protection Department/Units • Police station diaries • Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development • National Gender-based Violence Database • Orphaned and Vulnerable Children Management Information System • Uganda Child Helpline • Ministry of Health • Justice, law and order institutions • NGOs

The in-depth assessment revealed several important findings regarding the definitions and scope of data collection.

A lack of clarity was found in some agencies on the different types of violence against children. For instance, in Nigeria, the Ministry of Women and Social Development (or Ministry of Youth and Social Development in the state of Lagos) recorded orphaned and vulnerable children as abandoned or abused. In Uganda, the Ministry of Health recorded data on only four areas related to gender-based violence: injuries, abortions, sexually transmitted infections and anxiety. In Uganda, where defilement of children is a serious problem, agencies did not always distinguish between simple and aggravated defilement, which are important distinctions according to the criminal code.

Data are not collected on all relevant types of violence against children or with enough specificity. For instance, in

Indonesia, there was a tendency across all agencies and sectors, including the police, to categorize violence against children as physical, sexual, emotional or economic. Information about different types of physical, sexual or emotional violence is lost in these general categories. For the police, these categories did not make sense because they are not necessarily aligned with criminal codes.

Limited demographic data are captured on victims and/or perpetrators. In some agencies, such as police agencies that rely on paper-based registries, only the names of the victim and perpetrator are routinely recorded, whereas sex and age of the victim and perpetrator are not. Victim-perpetrator relationships are not regularly recorded in police registries or in other agencies' administrative data.



Table 2 provides a summary of findings on data flow practices and processes from both the in-depth assessments and desk reviews. (Annex 7 provides a list of data sources identified during the desk review for 10 countries.) Findings for countries with in-depth assessments are broken down by agency to demonstrate differences across sectors and agencies. Data flow practices and processes varied significantly across

agencies and countries. Nine of the 15 selected countries have practices and processes for reporting data on violence against children from the service delivery site at the subdistrict and/or district levels up to the provincial and national levels. In Jamaica, these are in place at the parish, regional and national levels, and in Nigeria, at the local government, state and federal levels.

Table 2.
Findings on data flow practices and processes for all 15 countries studied

Countries with an in-depth assessment	Are data related to violence against children reported from the service delivery site to the district, provincial and/or national levels?	How is the data-gathering system set up?
Indonesia	Indonesia National Police: Yes Indonesia Commission on Child Protection: Yes SIMFONI PPA: Yes Ministry of Social Affairs: Yes Ministry of Health: Yes Indonesia Commission on Child Protection: No National Commission on Violence against Women: Yes Supreme Court: No	Indonesia National Police: paper to computer Indonesia Commission on Child Protection: paper and computer SIMFONI PPA: computer Ministry of Social Affairs: paper to computer Ministry of Health: paper to computer Indonesia Commission on Child Protection: paper to computer National Commission on Violence against Women: computer Supreme Court: paper to computer
Jamaica	Jamaica Constabulary Force: Yes Child Development Agency: Yes Office of the Children's Registry: Yes Office of the Children's Advocate: No Ministry of Health: Partially Ministry of Education, Youth and Information: Partially Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sports: Yes JCO-ICVIS: From agencies Statistical Institute of Jamaica: from agencies JamStats: from agencies Mona Geoinformatics Institute: from agencies	Jamaica Constabulary Force: paper to computer Child Development Agency: paper and computer Office of the Children's Registry: computer Office of the Children's Advocate: computer Ministry of Health: paper and computer Ministry of Education, Youth and Information: paper Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sports: paper and computer JCO-ICVIS: computer Statistical Institute of Jamaica: computer JamStats: computer Mona Geoinformatics Institute: computer
Morocco	Moroccan Police: Yes Ministry of Justice: Yes Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training: Yes Ministry of Health: Yes Ministry of Family, Solidarity, Equality and Social Development: Yes	Moroccan Police: paper to computer Ministry of Justice: paper to computer Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training: paper to computer Ministry of Health: paper to computer Ministry of Family, Solidarity, Equality and Social Development: paper to computer

◀ (Table 2 continued)

Nigeria	Nigeria Police Force: Yes Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development: Yes Ministry of Education: No Ministry of Health: No	Nigeria Police Force: paper to computer Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development: paper to computer Ministry of Education: paper Ministry of Health: paper
Uganda	Uganda Police Force: Yes Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development: Yes National Gender-based Violence Database: Yes Orphaned and Vulnerable Children Management Information System: Yes Uganda Child Helpline: Yes Ministry of Health: Yes Justice, law and order sector: Unknown	Uganda Police Force: paper to computer Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development: paper and computer National Gender-based Violence Database: computer Orphaned and Vulnerable Children Management Information System: computer Uganda Child Helpline: computer Ministry of Health: paper to computer Justice, law and order sector: paper
Countries with a desk review		
Bosnia and Herzegovina	No	Paper and computer
Egypt	No	Paper and computer
Mexico	Partially, in some cases	Paper and computer
Mozambique	Yes	Paper and computer
Namibia	Yes	Paper and computer
Senegal	No	Paper and computer
Sri Lanka	Yes	Paper and computer
Sudan	Yes	Paper and computer
United Republic of Tanzania	Partially, in some cases	Paper and computer
Zambia	Partially, in some cases	Paper and computer

All 15 countries have some paper-based, handwritten data-gathering systems. Some also have computer-based systems (see Box 1 for information on different types of data management systems) for gathering, compiling, summing and analysing data at the district, provincial and/or national levels (see Box 2 for illustrative examples from in-depth assessment countries). Most countries have a combination of paper-based and computer-based data collection and

management systems. Some ministries/agencies have data collection systems that are paper-based at the district and/or provincial levels, and then are transferred into a computer-based system at either the provincial or national levels. Many police agencies have paper-based station diaries/registries, and collated and summated data from these are eventually put into a computer-based management system at the provincial or national levels.

In some countries, ministries/agencies were in the process of transitioning from paper to computer-based systems at points of entry and/or provincial and national levels. Among the five in-depth assessment countries, the transition to computer-based systems was slow and challenging, however. The major challenge was the need for infrastructure and equipment to support a computer-based system at the district and provincial levels. Many countries faced electricity and Internet connectivity problems. Significant disparities were found in computer skills and the willingness to use computer-based systems among staff and supervisors.

Box 1. **Types of data management systems**

Several types of data management systems are used to collect and analyse administrative data related to violence against children. These include:

Paper-based registration/record-keeping systems – Many ministries/agencies and NGOs rely upon paper-based, handwritten registration/record-keeping systems, such as registry books, case files and paper-based reporting forms. Paper-based systems are labour-intensive because they require someone to regularly review all files and registries, and tally the number of cases and other relevant information to generate reports. Such systems have a high risk of error.

Computer-based management systems – This is a programme or software application designed to manage a large set of structured data and run data analysis. A system can be online and connect users at every level of an organization.

Several important findings emerged regarding record-keeping and data collection, especially at points of data entry and during data flows.

Inconsistencies were found in the use of paper-based and computer-based systems at different levels in many ministries/agencies. Compiling data by hand is a resource-intensive process that increases the risk of error and causes significant delays in reporting. Some agencies with paper-based record-keeping also use those systems for case management, making it difficult to track cases that are open or closed, or changes in the status of a case and case outcomes.

Ministries/agencies with dual systems – paper- and computer-based – face challenges in regularly updating both systems to ensure information is aligned. Data tallied at the district and provincial levels, which are then entered into a national computer-based document management system, can have

Box 2. **Data-gathering methods**

Indonesia – Service centres for women and children keep paper-based client case files, and input data into a centre-based data management system or into the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection's SIMFONI PPA.

Jamaica – The Child Development Agency implemented SOHEMA, an online case management software programme, but not all social workers and supervisors were using it. In some parishes, social workers found that SOHEMA made it easier for them to track client progress, manage their caseloads and generate reports. Some team leaders also quickly saw the benefits, although they faced electricity and Internet connectivity problems. Some regional supervisors, however, were not skilled at using SOHEMA and were still requesting paper reports. Team leaders then found they were doubling their workload by having to generate paper-based reports. In other words, they had to maintain a dual system – paper-based and computer-based.

Morocco – Three key ministries – the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training and Ministry of Health – have developed online computer-based data management systems for violence against children. The Ministry of Justice system is a legal case management system. Each ministry is still transitioning to these systems, so they maintain dual systems – paper-based and computer-based – of record-keeping and reporting.

a high risk of error, particularly if there is no process for validating data at their point of origin. Putting compiled data from the subdistrict, district and provincial levels into a national computer-based system can limit analyses of relationships among variables. Another challenge involves limited skills to systematically manage data collection. Skills are even more limited in terms of data analysis and/or knowledge specific to violence against children and victimization.

Paper-based reporting forms and computer-based document management systems are not regularly updated to reflect changes in laws and criminal codes or categories of crimes. For instance, in Uganda, the Uganda Police Force had not updated its paper-based reporting forms in over a decade. With no lines on the forms specifying different categories of violence against children, officers at the district level typically recorded many types as 'other'.

Inconsistencies were found within agencies and among staff in recording and registering cases of violence against children. Registration was typically left to the individual

discretion of agency staff/officers, so not all incidents were equally registered and recorded. In some cases, there were significant delays in recording and registering cases of violence against children.

Incomplete data stems from incomplete forms and missing information in both paper-based and computer-based document and case management systems.

Staff lack training on how to input data and information on cases of violence against children into paper-based reporting forms and/or computer-based document and case management systems.

Attrition of trained staff was a constant challenge. For instance, in Jamaica, the Ministry of Health was continuously trying to train hospital staff to input data into the Jamaica Injury Surveillance System, but high turnover remained a problem.

Delays in the flows of data from subdistrict to district to provincial to national levels are common. This can be a challenge

particularly for more rural and remote areas, or in conflict zones. In some countries, districts are not always required to submit data to the provincial level of government.

Broken channels in data flow and record-keeping were common. For instance, in Jamaica, the Guidance and Counselling Unit in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information works with at-risk and vulnerable children, including child victims of violence. The ministry's Safe Schools Project is led by a police officer on loan from the Jamaica Constabulary Force. The officer has contact with the force's community safety and security branches and school resource officers, and gets information from them about incidents of violence in and around schools, and the number of weapons confiscated. However, there is no direct line of communication or data-sharing between the Guidance and Counselling Unit and the Safe Schools Project officer. Instead, the latter communicates directly with the chief education officer in the ministry. This lack of data-sharing and coordination hampers the ability of the Guidance and Counselling Unit to work in collaboration with the Safe Schools Project.

Data registration practices

Are standard registration or reporting forms used in violence against children cases? Are registers or reporting forms used across all sectors and partners? Do registers and reporting forms capture all data required according to national guidelines? How complete and accurate are the violence against children data recorded in the registers and reporting forms?

The quality of registers and reporting forms can vary significantly, from paper-based registries that capture general information about the crime, victim and perpetrator, to those that capture very detailed information, including a narrative of violence against children, categorization of the types of violence, and demographic information about the victim(s) and perpetrator(s). Some of the more detailed registries and reporting forms also include information about actions and interventions taken in the case, and case outcomes. In nearly all countries, data registries and reporting forms differ across sectors (for example, the police, child protection, social welfare and health), and differ between government and civil society service providers.

Responses summarized in Table 3, as well as in subsequent tables, were not always straightforward. For some countries, response categories such as 'some' or 'somewhat' are used to indicate cases for which there was partial compliance. A designation of 'no information' was applied if it was not possible to answer the questions based on available materials and documents or consultation with relevant focal points.



Table 3 shows that 11 of the 15 countries have standard registers and reporting forms that are generally used in violence against children cases. In only 7 of the 15 countries are registers and reporting forms used by all sectors and partners.

Table 3.
Violence against children administrative data registration and reporting practices

In-depth assessment countries	Are standard registers and reporting forms generally used?	Are registers and reporting forms used by all sectors and partners?	Do registers and reporting forms capture all information and data required according to national guidelines?
Indonesia	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jamaica	Yes	Yes	Yes
Morocco	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nigeria	Yes	Yes	Yes
Uganda	Yes	Some	No
Desk review countries			
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Yes	Yes	Yes
Egypt	No	No	No
Mexico	Being developed	Some	No
Mozambique	No	No	No
Namibia	Yes	Yes	Being developed
Senegal	Yes	No	No
Sri Lanka	Yes	Some	Some
Sudan	Yes	Yes	No
United Republic of Tanzania	Yes	Yes, for some sectors; for others, partially	Yes, for some sectors; for others, partially
Zambia	No	No	No information

For example, in Jamaica and Uganda, registration and reporting forms for incidents of violence against children vary significantly among the police, child protection and health sectors, and compared to those used by helplines. Jamaica's Office of the Children's Registry and the Uganda Child Helpline collect the most comprehensive administrative data for reported incidents of violence against children, including information and data related to incidents and types, and demographic information on victims and perpetrators. The Uganda Child Helpline shares this information with a caseworker who then assigns the case to a district focal point (often the district probation officer and/or social worker) through an online computer-based case management system, which is linked to 33 districts throughout the country. Caseworkers at the helpline in Kampala can track action (and inaction) and interventions taken. They can also flag urgent cases that require immediate responses. Similarly, in Jamaica, case managers and staff at the Office of the Children's Registry refer and share case information with the Child Development Agency, which is responsible for taking action and developing interventions recorded and tracked in SOHEMA, an online computer-based case management system.

In Indonesia, all sectors do not use the same registration system or reporting forms. Steps have been taken to standardize categories of types of violence against children (that is, physical, sexual, emotional and economic violence) used by the police, health and social protection sectors. These categories are reportedly linked to the Law on the Elimination of Domestic Violence. Similarly, in Bosnia and Herzegovina's Republika Srpska, a standardized reporting form on violence against children is used by the police, and in the education, health and social protection sectors.

Table 3 reveals that only 6 of the 15 countries had registers and reporting forms that captured all information and data required according to national guidelines (see Box 3 for case studies from countries with in-depth assessments). In one country, Nigeria, the in-depth assessment revealed that information and data on violence against children are rarely recorded or registered across sectors, and not often compiled and analysed. Moreover, when information and data are registered, they are very limited in scope and content. Efforts to identify

data sources at the federal, state and local government levels revealed a systematic lack of administrative data on violence against children across sectors.

In countries where incidents of violence against children are recorded in registers and reporting forms, the amount and type of information, and its completeness and accuracy, vary significantly. Without standards for data collection, there are many inconsistencies, and much individual discretion in terms of whether a service provider or justice official will register or record incidents/cases of violence against children. A lack of staff training is compounded by high staff turnover.

Several factors affect the completeness and accuracy of information and data:

- Paper-based registries, such as police station registries or diaries, are usually limited to one line of information that includes the date, description and location of the incident/crime, and names of the victim and perpetrator. More detailed paper-based and computer-based reporting forms typically collect more information, such as demographic details about victims and perpetrators, and the victim-perpetrator relationship.
- If frontline service providers (such as the police, health and social workers) are trained on violence against children and gender-based violence, and how to properly input information into registries and reporting forms, the completeness and accuracy of information and data are often better.
- Agencies with computer-based case management systems often have more accurate and complete data on cases of violence against children. Some sectors, such as child protection and social welfare, may have both a paper-based case file system and a computer-based case management system, which often enhances the completeness and accuracy of data collected and recorded, and allows for more accurate tracking of cases as well as the summation and analysis of case data.

Box 3.
Examples of registers and reporting forms

Indonesia – The Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection has a core duty to assist the President in formulating policies and promoting coordination on women’s empowerment, and child welfare and protection. The ministry also participates in joint programming with other ministries for coordinated delivery of services to women and children, and is instrumental in issuing policy guidelines for child protection to subnational counterparts. The main sources of data gathered by the ministry are cases registered and recorded by provincial and district women’s empowerment and child protection departments, and the Integrated Service Centres for Protection of Women and Children.

In 2016, the ministry established SIMFONI PPA, a computer-based online document management system that will enable staff to collect and collate data from all districts and provinces throughout Indonesia, and produce real-time analyses. Such analyses can be used to coordinate the delivery of services for women and children, formulate policies, promote coordination of social welfare and child protection services, and report on national indicators and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Jamaica – In 2006, the Office of the Children’s Advocate was established under the Child Care and Protection Act of 2004 to enforce and protect the rights and best interests of children. In addition, the Office of the Children’s Registry was established to receive reports of children who have been, are being, or are likely to be abandoned, neglected, physically or sexually abused, or in need of care and protection. The registry maintains a national computer-based registry of reported cases of violence against children. After receiving a report, the registry assesses and refers reported cases to the Child Development Agency and Office of the Children’s Advocate for investigation and action. The Child Development Agency also implements SOHEMA, an online system to improve record-keeping and case management. The Office of the Children’s Registry serves as a centralized repository where statistics on incidents of violence against children can be accessed via its website and/or annual reports, and used to inform operational and child-friendly policies and guidelines. In addition, the registry regularly monitors and reports on trends to define services needed.



Data quality assurance, protection and sharing

Are there formal quality assurance processes in place to ensure data are accurate, complete and reliable? Are there data protection policies and practices in place to ensure confidentiality of data? Is there a process for sharing data in a timely manner?

Table 4 shows that only Jamaica appeared to have some processes in place to ensure that data on violence against children are accurate, complete and reliable. This is not to say that all sectors have quality assurance in place, but some do. Only 2 of the 15 countries provide feedback at each level of reporting to validate data.

Table 4.
Administrative reporting processes for data on violence against children

Countries with an in-depth assessment	Are there formal data quality assurance processes in place to ensure data are accurate, complete and reliable?	Is feedback provided at each level of reporting to validate data?	Are data protection policies and practices in place to ensure data confidentiality?	Is there a process for sharing data in a timely manner?
Indonesia	Somewhat	No	No	Yes ^a
Jamaica	Yes	Yes	Somewhat ^b	Yes
Morocco	No	No	Yes	No
Nigeria	No	No	No	No
Uganda	Somewhat	Somewhat	No	Yes
Countries with a desk review				
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Somewhat	No	Yes	Somewhat ^c
Egypt	No information	No	No	No information
Mexico	Somewhat ^d	Somewhat	Yes	Yes
Mozambique	No	No	No	No
Namibia	Somewhat	Somewhat	No	Yes
Senegal	No	No	No	No
Sri Lanka	No information	No information	No information	No information
Sudan	No	Yes	No	Yes
United Republic of Tanzania	In progress	In progress	Yes	Somewhat
Zambia	No information	No	No information	No

^a This is only applicable to SIMFONI PPA and the Ministry of Social Affairs.

^b General practice by the Jamaica Constabulary Force and other entities and the National Statistics Act ensure that caution is applied when sharing official data.

^c In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina used to share some of its service administrative data from the Commission on the Status of Women through to the national level on a quarterly, if not monthly, basis.

^d There are guidelines and formal data quality assurance processes for homicides reported by civil registration, injuries reported by the health system, and some crimes reported by the prosecutor's office.

In Jamaica, the Jamaica Constabulary Force's Statistics and Information Management Unit has a process for validating crime data reported from the parish and regional police stations. Validation reportedly occurs when inputting crime data into the system. The Office of the Children's Registry has a quality assurance process to ensure reported cases of violence against children are assessed and that there is no double counting. A coding scheme ensures that subsequent and/or duplicate reports are registered without duplication. The JCO-ICVIS also validates Jamaica Constabulary Force crime data, reporting data from the Office of the Children's Registry and the Jamaica Injury Surveillance System. The validation process is not without its challenges; the system is always striving for improvement.

Table 4 also shows that 5 of the 15 countries reviewed have some formal processes for ensuring that data on violence against children are accurate, complete and reliable. An in-depth assessment revealed that, in Uganda, only a few sectors/agencies have processes to ensure data are accurate, complete and reliable, and the processes are not necessarily formalized or practised systematically.

In terms of data protection, only 4 of the 15 countries appear to have policies and practices to ensure the confidentiality of data on violence against children: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mexico, Morocco and the United Republic of Tanzania. In Mexico, the General Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information (Article 23) maintains that all authorities dealing with the personal data of any citizen must protect the information. In addition, all managers of personal databases are obliged to dissociate personal data in order to avoid the identification of any person by the structure, index or degree of disaggregation of the published information (see Federal Protection Law Personal Data held by Individuals, Article 3, Section VII). All authorities are also obligated to submit information on the purpose and legality of every database, and the type of data collected, and to identify the civil servant(s) and area(s) responsible for database management (see Regulation of the Federal Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information, Article 48). In addition to the general legal framework on personal data protection, the 2014 General Law on the Rights of Children and Adolescents prohibits disclosure of personal data allowing the public identification of any children.

In-depth assessments in Indonesia and Jamaica revealed efforts to develop document management systems that would attach information and data from across sectors (including education, health, social welfare, social protection and police) to individuals based on a citizen ID number. This has stimulated discussion among relevant government agencies

and civil society groups about issues of confidentiality and data protection, particularly as they relate to violence against children. Neither country has formal data protection policies or legislation that protect citizens in the same manner as Mexico. There was little understanding among those advocating for a centralized document management system of the significant risk and danger for women and children who experience violence if their names and case data appear in a system attached to their citizen ID numbers. Service providers would need to inform victims of violence that their names and information related to their case could be accessed through the centralized system. The result would be that women and children who experience violence might be reluctant to seek help for violence and victimization, or to report incidents of violence to frontline service providers and victim advocates.

The Jamaica Constabulary Force's Statistics and Information Management Unit shares crime data with Mona Geoinformatics Institute through a memorandum of understanding. Shared data contains Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates to indicate where the crime(s) occurred and the victim's name, but does not name the perpetrator, ostensibly to protect their identities. This violates victim confidentiality, particularly as it relates to child victims and victims of domestic and/or sexual violence. In countries with laws on access to public information and personal data protections, such sharing of personal data that could identify a victim of a crime would be illegal.

Six of the 15 countries have a process or processes for sharing data on violence against children in a timely manner (see Box 4). For example, in Morocco, most ministries require a sharing of data on a quarterly and annual basis from the district to the province/region to the national levels for compilation and analyses. In Namibia, both the Namibia Police Force and Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare have rudimentary systems for sharing data on a monthly basis from the constituency to the regional levels for summation, and onto the national level for verification and reporting. In some countries, such as Bosnia and Herzegovina and Indonesia, sharing data from the district to the provincial levels, and then to the national level is more complicated due to the decentralization of authority and reporting responsibilities.

Box 4.**Processes for sharing violence against children data in a timely manner**

Indonesia – The Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection’s online SIMFONI PPA system is able to share information in real time, including data on the number of identified and reported cases of violence against children by district, province, sex and age. These data can be overlaid with national data on poverty and unemployment levels in districts and provinces. The Ministry of Social Affairs also generates real-time data for the helpline it operates, including on the number of calls, the sex and age of the caller, and types of calls, although with some limitations. The National Commission on Violence against Women collects administrative data from some 700 to 1,100 government agencies and service providers across Indonesia, and analyses and publishes that data in an annual report.

Jamaica – The Jamaica Constabulary Force and Office of the Children’s Registry have processes of their own for regularly sharing data. The Force’s Statistics and Information Management Unit compiles data from each parish and region on a daily basis, and generates weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual reports on crime data that are shared internally. The data on violence against children are often limited to homicides, but some other crime categories

are disaggregated for adults versus children, and by age group for children. The Office of the Children’s Registry has a process for compiling and sharing data related to hotline calls, and for reporting data on a timely basis, often quarterly and annually, that are made public. The Jamaica Constabulary Force and Office of the Children’s Registry also have processes for regularly sharing data with the JCO-ICVIS for compilation, validation and analyses for monitoring and reporting purposes.

Uganda – It is mainly the Uganda Child Helpline that shares data – regularly and in a timely manner. These data capture the number and types of calls and cases, as well as demographic details on callers, victims and perpetrators. The helpline also regularly analyses data to produce monthly, quarterly and annual reports shared with relevant partners.

Morocco – Most ministries have processes in place for sharing data in a timely manner, typically on a quarterly and annual basis. In all ministries, data are shared from the district to the provincial level and then up to the national level. In some agencies, such as the police, there is also a prefecture level between provincial and national levels.

Indicators

Are there violence against children indicators based on national legislation and/or policies on violence against children? Have there been discussions or steps taken to develop indicators aligned with national legislation and policies related to violence against children? Are existing national indicators aligned with global indicators on violence against children? Have there been discussions or steps taken to align national and global indicators?

Table 5 shows only 6 of the 15 countries had indicators on violence against children based on national legislation and/or policies. Twelve countries had discussed and/or had taken steps to develop indicators aligned with national legislation and policies related to violence against children; at the time of the study most countries were in the early stages of this process. Numerous countries were also in the early stages of developing a national action plan on violence against children. Some countries only had action plans for gender-based violence, which tend to focus on women and girls, and do not generally include violence against children (both boys and girls).

Countries with indicators based on national legislation and/or policies on violence against children are Egypt, Indonesia, Jamaica, Namibia, Sri Lanka and the United Republic of Tanzania (see Box 5). Countries having discussions and/or taking steps to develop indicators aligned with national legislation and policies are Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal and Uganda. These findings were based largely on desk review materials and recommendations reviewed in those documents; whether the recommendations are being implemented in each country is unknown.

Table 5.
Indicators on violence against children and national legislation and policies

Countries with in-depth assessments	Are indicators based on national legislation and/or policies on violence against children?	Have discussions/steps been taken to develop indicators aligned with national legislation and policies?
Indonesia	Yes	Yes
Jamaica	Yes	Yes
Morocco	No	Yes
Nigeria	No	Yes
Uganda	No	Yes
Countries with desk reviews		
Bosnia and Herzegovina	No	No
Egypt	Yes	Yes
Mexico	No	Yes
Mozambique	No	Yes
Namibia	Yes	Yes (in 2016, started on orphaned and vulnerable children)
Senegal	No	Yes
Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes
Sudan	No	No
United Republic of Tanzania	Yes	Yes
Zambia	No ^a	No information

^a The Zambia Violence against Children Survey was conducted in 2014. After the report was finalized, a draft response plan was developed.

The in-depth assessments also explored whether administrative data are available to calculate a variety of indicators related to violence against children. Table 6 presents an overview. The indicators were drawn from various results frameworks including INSPIRE: Seven strategies for ending violence

against children¹ as well as the UNICEF Strategic Plan for 2018-2021.² The list contains two types of indicators: those that already exist and are being captured/monitored by different sectors, and those viewed as 'ideal' indicators that would be helpful for programmatic and policy reasons.

The second type was considered a valuable addition to the in-depth assessment because it represents an entry point for countries to advocate for the collection of data on key indicators that are not yet being monitored. The wording of each indicator should not be interpreted literally, since the

way in which indicators are formulated and defined in each country varies. The idea is to gain an understanding of whether countries are monitoring the underlying concept captured by each indicator as opposed to whether they collect data on the indicator exactly as worded in Table 6.

Table 6.
Indicators on violence against children in countries selected for in-depth assessments

Child protection system indicators	Indonesia	Jamaica	Morocco	Nigeria ^a	Uganda
Number of children reported as victims of maltreatment/abuse/violence to child welfare services during a 12-month period	Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection, Indonesia Commission on Child Protection, Ministry of Social Affairs, Integrated Service Centres for Protection of Women and Children	Office of the Children's Registry, Child Development Agency	No information	Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development	Uganda Child Helpline, Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD)
Number of substantiated cases of violence against children during a 12-month period	Integrated Service Centres for Protection of Women and Children	Office of the Children's Registry, Child Development Agency	No information	Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development	Uganda Child Helpline, MGLSD
Number of child victims of maltreatment/abuse/violence accessing support services or referred to support services	Integrated Service Centres for Protection of Women and Children	Child Development Agency, Jamaica Constabulary Force's Centre for the Investigation of Sex Offences and Child Abuse, Office of the Children's Registry	No information	No	Uganda Child Helpline, MGLSD
Agency tracks internal and external referrals/use of services	Integrated Service Centres for Protection of Women and Children	Child Development Agency	No information	No	Uganda Child Helpline, MGLSD
Number of social workers with some responsibility for child protection/child welfare	Ministry of Social Affairs	Child Development Agency	No information	Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development	No

◀ (Table 6 continued)

Number of or percentage of social workers who received on-the-job or continuing education/specialized training on violence against children	Ministry of Social Affairs	Child Development Agency	No information	No	No
Number of or percentage of targeted parents or primary caregivers reached in the last five years by programmes addressing positive parenting and child-rearing	No	Child Development Agency	No information	No	No
Law enforcement/justice system indicators					
Number of children reported as victims of maltreatment/abuse/violence to police during a 12-month period	Indonesia National Police	Jamaica Constabulary Force	Police	Nigeria Police Force	Uganda Police Force, Uganda Child Helpline, MGLSD
Number of cases of violence against children reported to law enforcement during a 12-month period that were handled in accordance with national/institutional protocols	No	No	Police	No	No
Number of cases of violence against children reported to law enforcement during a 12-month period that were investigated	Indonesia National Police	Jamaica Constabulary Force	Police	No information	Uganda Police Force, Uganda Child Helpline
Number of cases of violence against children reported to law enforcement during a 12-month period that resulted in arrest	No information	Jamaica Constabulary Force	Police, Ministry of Justice	No information	Uganda Police Force, Uganda Child Helpline
Number of prosecuted cases of violence against children during a 12-month period that resulted in a conviction	No	No	Ministry of Justice	No information	Uganda Police Force

◀ (Table 6 continued)

Number of child victims of homicide during a 12-month period	No	Jamaica Constabulary Force	Police	Nigeria Police Force	Uganda Police Force
Number of perpetrators arrested for maltreatment/abuse/violence of a child(ren) during a 12-month period	No	Jamaica Constabulary Force	Police, Ministry of Justice	Nigeria Police Force	Uganda Child Helpline
Number of child victims who received support in criminal proceedings during a 12-month period	No	Ministry of Justice, Child Development Agency, Office of the Children's Registry	Ministry of Justice	No	No
Number of and/or percentage of police personnel/law enforcement officials who received training on violence against children	Indonesia National Police	Jamaica Constabulary Force	No information	No information	Uganda Police Force, Child and Family Protection Units
Health-care system indicators					
Number of children visiting hospitals/health facilities during a 12-month period identified as victims of maltreatment/abuse/violence	Ministry of Health	Ministry of Health	Ministry of Health	No	No
Number of and/or percentage of health workers trained on violence against children	Ministry of Health	No	Ministry of Health	No	No
Number of child victims who received post-rape care in the past 12 months/year	No information	No	Ministry of Health	No	No
Education/school system indicators					
Number of schools (or school districts) with reporting mechanisms/systems for identifying and responding to cases of violence against children	Ministry of Education ^b	Ministry of Education	Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training	No	No

◀ (Table 6 continued)

Number of schools (or school districts) that have policies/codes/procedures for reporting and responding to cases of violence against children	Ministry of Education ^b	Ministry of Education	Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training	No	Ministry of Health (somewhat)
Number of and/or percentage of schools (or school districts) that provide classroom-based discussions about online safety issues/risks with children during school	Unknown	No	Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training	No	Ministry of Health (somewhat)
Number of schools or school districts that have policies/codes/procedures for reporting and responding to cases of violence against children	Ministry of Education ^b	No	Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training	No	Ministry of Health

^aThe mission did not engage with the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Social Welfare, which coordinates the information management system on violence against children in Cross River, nor with the Ministry of Justice and Judiciary for information on referrals and prosecuted cases.

^bThe mission did not include meetings with representatives from the Ministry of Education. UNICEF reported that the ministry collects data on violence against children and has policies and procedures for reporting and responding to cases.

Box 5. Violence against children indicators

Namibia – The National Agenda for Children 2012–2016 was organized around five priority commitments and 15 key results. Commitment 5 stipulated that all children be safe from neglect, violence, abuse and exploitation. Results-related indicators for this commitment included:

- Child Care and Protection Bill enacted
- Child Justice Bill enacted
- Accession to the Hague Convention on the Protection of Children
- Number of duty-bearers trained, by age and sex
- Number and percentage of child-friendly courts
- Number of children in conflict with the law screened and diverted
- Number of cases of child abuse and neglect reported at various entry points
- Standard operating procedures developed
- Number of operational shelters and places of safety
- Number of memorandums of understanding signed with partners
- Number of calls to the 116 crises call line that resulted in a further service being provided.

Data disaggregation

Do data and indicators on violence against children allow for disaggregation? On which stratifiers can data be disaggregated? At what levels are data available?

Administrative data on violence against children should be disaggregated in ways that show important distinctions between children and adults. Age groupings should be in increments relevant to child development, or in the case of crime data, to criminal responsibility. Similarly, there is significant value in disaggregating data by sex as well as by sex and age (for example, girls 0–4 years, boys 0–4 years, girls 5–8 years, boys 5–8 years, girls 9–13 years, boys 9–13 years, girls 14–17 years, and boys 14–17 years). Girls' experiences of violence vary by age, as do boys'. Understanding those variations can help inform policies and programmes to end violence against children.

For this study, disaggregation was determined largely based on data presented in reports, particularly annual reports, reviewed as part of the desk review. The in-depth assessments specifically asked representatives from different ministries/agencies about the administrative data they collect and the levels of disaggregation (see Box 6). This revealed that disaggregation of administrative data on violence against children can vary significantly across ministries/agencies and sectors. For instance, some administrative data sources allow disaggregation based only upon sex, whereas others allow it by sex, age and region (that is, district, province and national levels).

Most ministries/agencies disaggregate data by sex (male and female) and age. However, there is no single approach to disaggregating by age. Sometimes disaggregation is for children aged 0–18 years versus adults aged 18 years and older. In other cases, child age was further disaggregated (for example, 0–4 years, 5–8 years, 9–13 years and 14–17 years). Sometimes age was disaggregated in a way that did not allow for important comparisons between children and adults. For instance, when an age grouping is 10–19 years, children aged 10–17 are grouped with adults aged 18–19, and comparisons between children and adults cannot be made. In analysis and reporting, most ministries/agencies compare males to females, and compare age groupings for all children. Data are not always analysed in a way that allows for an exploration of the intersections between sex and age. See Table 7 for a summary of findings.

Box 6. Disaggregation by age

Uganda – On an indicator for injuries related to gender-based violence, the Ministry of Health disaggregated data based on the age categories of 0–4 years and 5–19 years. Disaggregating age in this way does not allow for important comparisons between children, adolescents and adults. More importantly, it can actually hide the nature and extent of injuries experienced by children, including young children.



Table 7.
Disaggregation of data on violence against children

Countries with in-depth assessments	Do data and indicators on violence against children allow for disaggregation?	On what stratifiers can data be disaggregated?	At what levels are data available?
Indonesia	Yes	Age and sex of victim, region, homicides, types of violence against children (by four types of violence)	Subdistrict, district, province, national
Jamaica	Yes	Age and sex of victim, victim-perpetrator relationship, region, types of violence against children, homicides, violence-related injuries	Parish, county, national
Morocco	Yes	Age and sex of victim, region, perpetrator, victim-perpetrator relationship, types of violence against children	District, province, prefecture/region, national
Nigeria	Limited to Nigeria Police Force	Age and sex of victim, region, type of violence against children	Local government, state, national
Uganda	Yes	Age and sex of victim, age and sex of perpetrator(s), district, region, gender-based violence-related injuries, types of violence against children	Subdistrict, district, region, national
Countries with desk reviews			
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Yes	Age and sex of victim, region, types of violence against children	Local/city
Egypt	No	n/a	No information
Mexico	Yes	Age and sex of victim, homicides, violence-related injuries, violence against children (by type of maltreatment), crimes against children	National, state
Mozambique	Yes	Age, sex, province, type of violence	District, province
Namibia	Yes	Age and sex of victim, region	Constituency, region, national

◀ (Table 7 continued)

Senegal	Yes	Age and sex of victim, region, types of violence against children	District, province, national
Sri Lanka	Yes	Types of violence against children	District, regional, national
Sudan	Yes	Age and sex of victim, region, types of violence against children	Local/city, district, province, national
United Republic of Tanzania	Yes	Age, sex and address of victim, types of violence against children, relationship of perpetrator to victim	District, regional and national for some sectors
Zambia	No	n/a	District, national

Note: The available levels of disaggregation outlined in this table are not necessarily exhaustive.

Disaggregation of data by region was often done at the lowest level at which data are collected, either the subdistrict or district levels, as well as the provincial level. In Jamaica, the parish is the lowest level. In Namibia, it is the constituency and regional levels, and in Nigeria, the local government authority or state. Although data are disaggregated at different levels, they are not always analysed or reported at these levels. Many ministries/agencies only report summary data at the provincial and national levels.

Significant variations were found across ministries/agencies in disaggregating data on types of violence against children (see Box 7). In particular, registries or reporting forms do not allow service providers to record multiple types of violence, even though victims often experience more than one type. For instance, a child who is the victim of sexual violence/abuse may also experience physical and emotional violence at the hands of his/her abuser. Service providers need reporting forms that allow them to record all types of violence experienced by the victim. If the service provider only records one type, this will result in lost data and inaccurate recording.

Administrative data sources do not always collect data related to perpetrators of violence against children, and any other persons accused or arrested related to incidents of violence against children. Nor do they always collect data on the victim-perpetrator relationship. Nevertheless, perpetrator data are very important, especially in the case of violence against children. Such data can be used to generate statistics on perpetrators, including age and sex, relationship to the victim and number of acts of violence committed, and on the perpetrator's abuse history.

Box 7. **Challenges in disaggregating data on violence against children**

Indonesia – Reporting forms across ministries/agencies and sectors record only four types of violence: physical, sexual, emotional and economic. This limits data on a broader array of forms of physical and sexual violence experienced by children. The four types are not clearly defined in the reporting forms.

Uganda – The Ministry of Health records data only on 'gender-based violence-related injuries', but does not allow for further disaggregation by the type of injuries (such as broken bones, eye injuries, head injuries, internal organ injuries). Defilement is a serious problem, but reporting forms do not always allow agencies to disaggregate simple defilement versus aggravated defilement, which are important distinctions according to the penal code. Although Uganda Police Force reporting forms do distinguish between simple and aggravated defilement, the reporting forms have not been updated in the past decade to include all types of violence against children covered by law. Officers have to categorize cases as 'other'. This results in lost data and limits the ability to monitor patterns and trends, including emerging forms of violence against children (such as online sexual exploitation).

Data-sharing

Are national data and indicators on violence against children available for use by all partners? Are there data-sharing protocols?

National data and indicators on violence against children are available for use by all partners in only 5 of the 15 countries (Table 8), with some variation in terms of how this is done (see Box 8). In Namibia, data and indicators are available for use by partners upon request. Only five countries have data-sharing protocols. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, protocols exist in some parts of the country, but without state-wide agreed protocols. Three protocols in Republika Srpska³ define information that can be shared among stakeholders/service providers and respective ministries: the Protocol on the Procedure in Cases of Violence, Abuse and Neglect of Children; the Protocol on the Procedure in Cases of Domestic Violence; and the Protocol on the Procedure in Cases of Peer Violence. The Federation of

Bosnia and Herzegovina has rules for the police and the social welfare sector on data to be collected on domestic violence. In Jamaica, the JCO-ICVIS has an information-sharing protocol that provides a basis for participating agencies to facilitate and govern the efficient, effective and secure sharing of good-quality information. The protocol sets out the purpose and principles of information-sharing, responsibilities and commitments of participating agencies, and arrangements for monitoring and review. The protocol was developed to ensure an effective governance structure for information-sharing. It clarifies that information-sharing must take place within the constraints of the law, relevant guidance and service-specific requirements, and based on informed consent and client confidentiality.⁴

Table 8.
Sharing data on violence against children

Countries with in-depth assessments	Are national level data and indicators on violence against children available for use by all partners?	Are there data-sharing protocols?
Indonesia	Yes	No
Jamaica	Yes	Yes
Morocco	No	No
Nigeria	No	No
Uganda	Yes	Yes
Countries with desk reviews		
Bosnia and Herzegovina	No	Yes
Egypt	No information	No
Mexico	Yes	Yes
Mozambique	No	No

◀ (Table 8 continued)

Namibia	Upon request	Yes (for the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare)
Senegal	No	No
Sri Lanka	No	No
Sudan	Yes	No
United Republic of Tanzania	Partially	Partially
Zambia	No	No

Box 8. **Sharing data on violence against children**

Indonesia – Launched in 2016, the Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection’s SIMFONI PPA system is the main data-sharing portal. It shares real-time data and indicators on violence against children for use by all partners. The information is limited, however, to four types of violence, the sex and age of the victim, and the province where the incident was reported. It is not clear if SIMFONI PPA has data-sharing protocols. The National Commission on Violence against Women also compiles and publishes an annual report with data on violence against women and girls. It is shared with partners and is available on the commission’s website.

Jamaica – The JCO-ICVIS, JamStats, the Statistical Institute of Jamaica, the Office of the Children’s Registry, the Jamaica Constabulary Force, the Child Development Agency and the Mona Geoinformatics Institute regularly share national data and indicators on violence against children with partners. All except the Mona Geoinformatics Institute make their reports available through their websites.

Mexico – Most survey data are produced by the National Institute of Statistics and Geography, which, in keeping with its mandate, makes data widely available to all partners. It also gathers administrative data produced by other entities such as the Ministry of Health. There is insufficient information on data available at the municipal level.

Namibia – National administrative data and indicators on violence against children from the Namibia Police Force and Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare are shared upon request with government and non-governmental partners. There are challenges, however, with sharing data in a timely manner.

Uganda – The Uganda Child Helpline regularly analyses national helpline data and produces monthly, quarterly and annual reports shared with partners. Annual reports are available on its website. It shares data with partners upon request and has data-sharing protocols.

Box 9.**Monitoring and evaluation of data on violence against children**

Jamaica – At the national level, the Jamaica Constabulary Force has a Statistics and Information Management Unit, which is responsible for monitoring and evaluating weekly, monthly and annual reports of crime data, including some statistics on crimes against children. There are also officers assigned to data collection and compilation at parish police stations and regional head stations. Data collected by the Centre for the Investigation of Sex Offences and Child Abuse are often compiled and analysed separately from crime data collected by the Statistics and Information Management Unit.

The Office of the Children’s Registry has a few staff members to carry out data management, compilation and report writing. The Child Development Agency has staff assigned to managing data, including from SOHEMA. Agency team leaders and supervisors are involved in data compilation and verification.

The mandate of the JCO-ICVIS is to monitor and evaluate administrative data collected by the Jamaica Constabulary

Force, Office of the Children’s Registry and Ministry of Health. Monitoring and evaluation activities have helped to improve the accuracy and completeness of data collected by the Jamaica Constabulary Force and the Office of the Children’s Registry.

Uganda – The Uganda Police Force has one to three officers in district police stations responsible for compiling and validating data for sharing with the provincial police, which, in turn, has officers assigned to compile and validate data from the district police stations for sharing with the national headquarters. The national headquarters has a Planning and Research Department responsible for compiling and validating crime data, and producing annual reports; however, data from the Criminal Investigation Division and Child and Family Protection Unit are often compiled and analysed separately. Data from both are included in the main police reporting system.

The Uganda Child Helpline has two or more staff assigned to data compilation, validation, analysis and report writing.

Monitoring & evaluation and coordination mechanisms

Is there a dedicated staff responsible for monitoring and evaluating administrative data on violence against children at the service delivery site? At the district/province/region level? At the national level? Is there an monitoring and evaluation (M&E) working group? Are there agreed-upon coordination and supervision structures in place with clearly defined roles and responsibilities, and standard operating procedures for M&E? Is there a dedicated budget for monitoring and evaluating administrative data on violence against children?

Neither the desk review nor the in-depth assessments revealed much information on monitoring and coordination mechanisms for administrative data on violence against children, either within ministries/agencies or at the district, provincial or national levels. To better understand these mechanisms would require spending much more time with ministries/agencies and persons responsible for monitoring and evaluating administrative data. Based on information that could be found, Table 9 shows that only 5 of the 15 countries had dedicated staff responsible for M&E of administrative data on violence against children at service delivery sites. At district and service delivery sites, staff members assigned responsibilities for M&E are often

expected to do such work in addition to other duties and thus are not necessarily dedicated staff. For example, a social worker may be assigned the task of managing administrative data, in addition to managing his or her caseload. When a staff person assigned to M&E is out of the office, the function is simply not carried out.

Five of the 15 countries had dedicated M&E staff at the district or province levels, and two countries did to some extent. Five of the 15 countries had dedicated staff at the national level, and four countries did to some extent. The number of dedicated staff at the provincial and national levels often depends upon the

ministry. In many ministries/agencies, staff assigned to M&E of administrative data do not necessarily specialize in violence against children. As a result, they typically disaggregate data on violence against children in simple ways – by sex, age, region and type of violence – rather than producing more complex analyses that would require in-depth knowledge of the issue.

Only four countries had an M&E working group responsible for that function or for validating administrative data on violence against children from different sectors. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, in Republika Srpska, there is a coordination group for monitoring and evaluating the protocols on the Procedure in Cases of Domestic Violence, and an additional group for monitoring and evaluating the protocols on the Procedure in Cases of Violence, Neglect and Abuse of Children. Both groups

consist of the same representatives of the health, education, social and police sectors. Representatives of the Ministry of Family, Youth and Sports in Republika Srpska coordinate the two groups, which meet at least three times a year. In the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, some cantons have adopted protocols on responding to violence against children. Each protocol envisages a working group for M&E, but implementation of the protocols is weak. Most stakeholders are not aware of any actions taken as part of implementation.

Only one country, Jamaica, appeared to have agreed on coordination and supervision structures with clearly defined roles, responsibilities and standard operating procedures for M&E of administrative data on violence against children (see Box 9). Two countries had dedicated budgets.

Table 9.
Monitoring and evaluation structures and coordination mechanisms for administrative data on violence against children

Countries with in-depth assessments	Are there dedicated staff responsible for monitoring and evaluating administrative data on violence against children at the service delivery site?	Are there dedicated staff responsible for monitoring and evaluating administrative data at the district or province level?	Are there dedicated staff responsible for monitoring and evaluating administrative data at the national level?	Is there a M&E working group?	Are there agreed coordination and supervision structures with clearly defined roles, responsibilities and standard operating procedures for monitoring and evaluating administrative data on violence against children?	Is there a dedicated budget for monitoring and evaluating administrative data on violence against children?
Indonesia	To some extent	No	To some extent	No	No	No
Jamaica	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Morocco	No	No	To some extent	No	No	No
Nigeria	No	No	No	No	No	No
Uganda	Yes	No	No	No	To some extent ^a	Yes, in the Uganda Child Helpline

◀ (Table 9 continued)

Countries with desk reviews						
Bosnia and Herzegovina	No information	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Egypt	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Mexico	No	Yes	Yes	No	To some extent	No
Mozambique	To some extent	To some extent	Yes	No	No	No
Namibia	Yes	Yes	No	Yes ^b	No ^c	No
Senegal	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Sri Lanka	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
Sudan^d	To some extent	To some extent	To some extent	No	No	No information
United Republic of Tanzania^e	To some extent	To some extent	To some extent	Yes	To some extent	No
Zambia	No information	No information	No information	No information	No information	No information

^a Uganda reportedly has coordination and supervision structures such as district and regional coordination committees, and the Justice, Law and Order Sector Secretariat. These are responsible for monitoring and evaluating data management activities. The in-depth assessment did not find such structures, however. Reportedly, the level of analysis and planning related to data on violence against children is minimal at the district, regional and national levels.

^b Recently established by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare.

^c The Ministry of Safety and Security is supposed to be coordinating the processes for all stakeholders.

^d Newly established systems have been set up at the National Council for Child Welfare, including the Family Tracing and Reunification database, and Family and Child Protection Units.

^e At the time of the review, dedicated staff members were at service delivery sites, but only in districts supported by partners since the Child Protection Information Management System was still under development. Once the system is finalized and rolled out, dedicated staff will be assigned at regional and national levels.

Data use

Are administrative data on violence against children analysed and used to inform policy and programming? Are data regularly collated from different sources and used in decision-making and strategic planning to prevent and respond to violence against children? When it comes to programmes to prevent and respond to violence, are regular programme reviews conducted that are evidence-based and informed by data? Are progress reports (including baselines, targets and outputs) periodically produced? Are there mechanisms/platforms for sharing data and best practices?

The desk review provided an important – but limited – opportunity to understand how different types of administrative data on violence against children are being analysed and used. In-depth assessments provided a better understanding, but a thorough assessment was still not possible given the short duration of each mission.

Table 10 shows that just 5 of the 15 countries used administrative data and analysis to inform policy and programming on violence against children; 5 additional countries did so to some degree. Only one country – the United Republic of Tanzania – regularly collated data from different sources and used them in decision-making and strategic planning to prevent and respond to violence against children; seven

countries did so to some degree. In Jamaica, the mandates of the Office of the Children’s Advocate and the Office of the Children’s Registry clearly state that administrative data on violence against children are to be used to inform programming. Documentation shows that data have been used to inform development of child protection and sexual abuse policies, prevention programmes, public education campaigns and legislative review processes. Jamaica also has the Child Protection Database, a data and information platform where partners can share data and best practices on addressing violence against children (see Box 10).

With respect to programmes to prevent and respond to violence against children, the United Republic of Tanzania was the one

Box 10.

Using administrative data on violence against children

Jamaica – Since 2012, the Child Development Agency has managed the Child Protection Database, a monitoring and reporting tool for indicators related to the National Framework of Action for Children. The database at first contained data related to 87 indicators, including some on child maltreatment and child protection, before being expanded to serve as a common avenue for disseminating summary child protection data to local and international stakeholders. As an easily accessible central repository for data on child protection, the database provides data on child-specific indicators that can be used to inform policy decisions, and highlight new or existing areas of concern. It acts as a monitoring tool for the various plans of action for children. In recent years, membership in the technical working group for the Child Development Agency decreased, and there have been few updates to the indicators. In fact, awareness of the agency among service providers is low.

Morocco – The Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training annually reports on school-related incidents of violence, and on that basis prepares an action plan to address the situation in coordination with other departments.

The ministry also draws on data to develop education policies, trainings for school directors and teachers, and practice communities to deal with important issues. Coordinators prepare regional and prevention programmes on ending violence against children.

Nigeria – During the launch of the Year of Action to End Violence against Children (2015–2016), the President called on all states to launch campaigns and priority actions. Four states heeded the call – Lagos, Cross River, Benue and Plateau. Drawing on findings from the 2014 Violence against Children Survey, they developed state policies and priority actions to end violence. Each state has a specific action plan.

- Ending Violence against Children in Lagos – State Priority Actions (2016)
- Ending Violence against Children in Cross River – Priority Actions (2016)
- Ending Violence against Children in Plateau – Priority Actions (2016)
- Ending Violence against Children in Benue – Priority Actions (2016).

country that conducts regular programme reviews that are evidence-based and informed by data. Morocco does so only in the education sector. The goal should be to ensure that decision-making on national action plans on violence against children is based on evidence.

Table 10 shows that only four countries have prepared or published reports on violence against children that include

baselines, targets and outputs. It is possible that countries with national action plans on violence against children and/or gender-based violence produce progress reports against each of their indicators and targets; however, this was not revealed during the desk review. Finally, the same four countries that produced progress reports were also the only ones with mechanisms or platforms for sharing data and best practices on violence against children.

Table 10.
Dissemination and use of data on violence against children

Countries with in-depth assessments	Are administrative data on violence against children being analysed and used to inform policy and programming?	Are data regularly collated from different sources and used in decision-making and strategic planning to prevent and respond to violence against children?	For programmes to prevent and respond to violence against children, are regular reviews conducted based on evidence and data?	Are progress reports on violence against children periodically produced (including baselines, targets and outputs)?	Are there mechanisms or platforms for sharing data and best practices on violence against children?
Indonesia	Somewhat	Somewhat	No	No	No
Jamaica	Somewhat	Somewhat	No	Yes	Yes
Morocco	Somewhat	Somewhat	Only in education	No	No
Nigeria	Somewhat	Somewhat	No	No	No
Uganda	Somewhat	Somewhat	No	No	Somewhat
Countries with desk reviews					
Bosnia and Herzegovina	No	No	No	No	No
Egypt	No information	No	No	No	No

◀ (Table 10 continued)

Mexico	Yes	Somewhat (depending on the entity)	No	No	Somewhat
Mozambique	No	No	No	No	No
Namibia	Yes	Somewhat	No	Yes ^a	Yes
Senegal	Yes	No	No	No	No
Sri Lanka	No information	No information	No information	No	No
Sudan^d	Yes	No information	No information	Yes	Yes
United Republic of Tanzania^a	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Zambia	No information	No information	No information	No	No

^aThe Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare produces quarterly, semester and annual reports for internal use.





Conclusions and recommendations

The main objective of administrative data on violence against children is to gather information about incidents against children that are reported to and identified by authorities, agencies and service providers. Administrative data can reveal much about the types of violence experienced by children, where violence occurs, the characteristics of victims and perpetrators, and points of entry to a range of services, including child protection and social services, and access to justice.

This study assessed the types of administrative data that countries collect on violence against children, and how they are gathering, analysing and sharing the data. Ministries/agencies

can take important steps to improve data, even if data collection is a side product of other processes, such as providing health care, investigating crimes, and/or providing services to orphaned and vulnerable children. The study identified limitations and challenges around the collection, analysis, dissemination and use of such data, and offers recommendations on how on to strengthen their availability and quality, and enhance the efficiency of related data systems. While the reliability and quality of information gathered from the desk review was limited, details obtained during field visits in Indonesia, Jamaica, Morocco, Nigeria and Uganda revealed several important findings that were instrumental in identifying a core set of recommendations.

Key findings

- More comprehensive collection practices for administrative data on violence against children were often found in the police and child protection sectors.** Data collection was more limited in the health, education and judicial sectors, except in Morocco, where these sectors had fairly comprehensive data collection and compilation practices. Despite more comprehensive collection practices for administrative data in some sectors, however, numerous limitations and challenges must still be addressed.
 - Systems for administrative data collection were often still paper-based** (handwritten registry books and case files). This was especially true at points of entry. In some countries, data compilation was also paper-based since data flowed up from the subdistrict and district levels to the national level, where it was finally put into a computerized document management system, sometimes in Excel. Much of the data compilation is done by hand, which is labour-intensive and leads to a high risk of error. The Jamaica Constabulary Force's Statistics and Information Management Unit developed computer-based data management and analysis software that enabled the movement of crime data from police registry books to a computer-based document management system on a more systematic basis (daily in some cases). The system generates weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual crime reports. In Jamaica and Uganda, child helplines and the child protection sector adopted computer-based document and case management systems that significantly improved administrative data collection and case management practices in cases of violence against children.
 - In the health sectors of all countries studied, challenges were found in collection systems for administrative data on violence against children.** In some countries, health workers did not feel it was their responsibility to inquire into children's injuries and determine if children were victims of violence. Further, health workers do not always have the skills and tools needed to screen for and identify injuries related to violence against children, or to ask children, parents/caregivers and/or family members about a child's injuries. This is challenging, especially if health workers are not sure if a child is the victim of violence, if cultural and social norms dictate that a parent/caregiver has the right to use corporal punishment to discipline children, or if family violence is considered a private matter. In some countries, health workers fear retaliation from family members if they ask too many questions about a child's injuries or report suspected cases of violence to authorities. Health workers often believe it is their responsibility to treat children's injuries, not to find out what caused them.
- Another challenge in the health sector is poor record-keeping and data collection on violence against children and gender-based violence. Poor record-keeping is due in part to the lack of document management systems where incidents of violence can be recorded. Given the large number of patients who present themselves in hospitals and health clinics each day, health workers have to prioritize tasks. Registering violence-related injuries and identifying cases of violence against children and gender-based violence may not be considered among the most important tasks they need to perform on a daily basis. In Morocco, the Ministry of Health has centres for women and child victims of violence. They are responsible for registering and collecting data on children who come to hospitals and health-care centres with violence-related injuries or health problems. At the time of this review, the system was paper-based, but UNICEF was supporting the Ministry of Health to develop an online computer-based document management system that will enable it to more easily collect data on violence against children from across hospitals and health-care facilities. This system will also allow comprehensive analysis of a multitude of variables related to violence against children and violence-related injuries.
- Administrative data collection systems in the education sector also showed wide variations.** In many countries, schools do not systematically collect data on incidents of school violence (that is, incidents of violence against children that occur in and around schools, and on the way to and from school). In some schools, incidents may be registered, but details regarding the time and location, and data on child victims, witnesses and perpetrators, are not systematically recorded. Schools do not typically analyse or report data on school violence, since they are generally more focused on collecting data related to academic performance, retention and graduation. Even if schools do collect data on violence against children, there are often no clear and consistent reporting channels for this to flow from schools to the provincial and national levels of the education ministry. In Morocco, however, the Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training has established the Observatory for Violence in Schools, and schools are expected to regularly collect data on school violence and report them to the delegation/province, academy/region, and the ministry on a quarterly and annual basis. The ministry uses the data to produce an annual report on school violence. With UNICEF support, it also established MARSAD, an online computer-based document management system that has been piloted in nearly a dozen schools. MARSAD enables schools to report summary data on school violence on a daily basis.

- In the judicial sector across countries, public prosecutors and the courts do not typically extract data on violence against children from case files; nor do they have clear reporting practices for violence against children.** Cases are typically coded according to crimes as defined in criminal codes, but information about the age and sex of victims, age and sex of perpetrators, and victim-perpetrator relationships are not regularly compiled from court case files. Another challenge is that criminal law administrators do not typically have a document or legal case management system that allows them to easily extract data related to cases of violence against children, and related prosecutions and convictions. In Morocco, the Ministry of Justice established cells and court units for care and support to children and women. These are responsible for systematically collecting administrative data on prosecutions and court outcomes of cases of violence against children, and compiling and reporting that data on a quarterly and annual basis for national analysis. An annual report on violence against children is published.
- Four of the five countries with in-depth assessments revealed numerous examples of how ministries are transitioning from paper-based record-keeping systems to computer-based document or case management systems.** The transitions are not without challenges, including in terms of technology and human resources. Many ministries end up with dual record-keeping systems (paper-based and computer-based), which allow staff and supervisors who lack computer skills to continue relying on the paper-based system. This practice limits or delays the ability of all other employees to fully transition to the computer-based document or case management system. Some ministries also rely on Excel to manage and analyse data, though it has limited data analysis capabilities.
- Data are not collected on all relevant types of violence against children or with enough specificity to report on different forms.** For instance, in Indonesia, there was a tendency across all ministries/agencies and sectors, including the police, to categorize violence against children as physical, sexual, emotional or economic. In Nigeria, the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development recorded orphaned and vulnerable children as simply abandoned or abused. In Uganda, the Ministry of Health recorded data on only four areas related to gender-based violence: injuries, abortions, sexually transmitted infections and anxiety. In Uganda, where defilement of children is a serious problem, agencies did not always distinguish between simple and aggravated defilement, even though these are important distinctions in the criminal code. Some agencies lacked clarity on the different types of violence against children, which can lead to inconsistent identification and registration of cases within agencies, and across agencies and sectors.
- Registries and reporting forms do not always allow service providers to record multiple types of violence experienced by victims.** Victims may experience more than one type of violence. For instance, a victim of sexual violence may also experience physical and emotional violence. Therefore, service providers need reporting forms that allow them to record all types of violence experienced. If service providers can only record one type, data will be lost and inaccurate.
- Across countries, disaggregation of data was often limited to sex and age, and the way age was disaggregated varied significantly.** Limited demographic data are captured on victims and perpetrators. In some agencies that rely on paper-based registries, such as police stations, only the names of the victim and perpetrator were likely to be recorded, whereas the sex and age of the victim and perpetrator, and victim-perpetrator relationships, were not routinely recorded.
- Paper-based reporting forms and computer-based document management systems are not regularly updated to reflect changes in laws and criminal codes, including categories of crimes.** For instance, the Uganda Police Force had not updated their paper-based reporting forms in over a decade. Officers at the district level recorded many forms of violence against children as 'other' because there was no line on the reporting forms for the type of violence.
- Staff lack training on how to input data and information on violence against children** into paper-based reporting forms or computer-based document and case management systems. In addition to lack of training, attrition of trained staff was a challenge for many agencies.
- Very few countries had formal processes to ensure that data on violence against children are accurate, complete and reliable.** They also lacked data protection policies and practices to ensure data confidentiality. This was a particular concern in Indonesia and Jamaica, where efforts are under way to link data from many sectors (such as education, health, social welfare, social protection and police) to citizen ID numbers. This includes data on violence against women and children. Neither country has formal data protection policies or legislation that protects citizens. On the other hand, Mexico's General Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information legislates that all authorities dealing with the personal data of any citizen must protect the information collected.

Across countries, among those advocating for a centralized document management system, there was little recognition of the significant risk and danger for women and children who experience violence in having their names and case data input into a document management system attached to their citizen ID numbers.

- **Only a few countries had staff dedicated to monitoring and evaluating administrative data on violence against children** at service delivery sites, or at the district, provincial and national levels. Jamaica appeared to have coordination and supervision structures with clearly defined roles, responsibilities and standard operating procedures for monitoring and evaluating administrative data on violence against children. Mexico, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania did to some extent. Only Jamaica and Uganda (specifically the Uganda Child Helpline) had dedicated budgets for monitoring and evaluating administrative data on violence against children.
- **Few countries had indicators on violence against children** aligned with national legislation and policies,

although many countries had discussed such indicators or were taking steps to develop them.

- **Very few countries had data-sharing practices or protocols.**
- **Only a few countries used administrative data and analysis on violence against children to inform policy and programming.** Only a handful had prepared or published progress reports with baseline, target and output data. It is possible that countries with national action plans on violence against children and/or gender-based violence produce progress reports against plan indicators and targets, but there was no evidence of this in the desk review.
- Finally, the in-depth assessments revealed a **lack of understanding of the difference between administrative data and prevalence data.** Some people thought administrative data were prevalence data, and spoke about these two types of data as though they were the same.

Key recommendations

- **Investments in strengthening the capacity of staff working on administrative data on violence against children should be prioritized.** Ministries/agencies are more often staffed with programme and policy professionals and practitioners than staff with expertise in data collection. As a consequence, agencies, authorities and service providers may not have the know-how or interest to collect data on violence against children, leading to poor collection practices and unreliable data. Ministries/agencies often do have staff with skills in data collection, but they lack knowledge and understanding of violence against children, and do not know which data to collect or how to analyse them. For instance, in Jamaica, the JCO-ICVIS would benefit from having expert staff to analyse data from the Jamaica Constabulary Force, the Office of the Children's Registry, the Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine, and the Jamaica Injury Surveillance System to improve reporting on violence against children, and its causes and consequences. The Uganda Child Helpline collects a wealth of data but lacks skills and understanding of how to analyse them and more effectively present them in reports to improve understanding of violence against children. Both the observatory and helpline would benefit from technical support to build the capacities of existing staff and data analysts to understand theories of violence against children and how to analyse the data they have, as well as how to report and present the data to build

understanding among policymakers, government officials, practitioners and development partners.

- **Efforts to improve data collection on violence against children should be in place across sectors – child protection, social welfare, health, education, the police and the judiciary – and involve child helplines and NGO service providers.** Such efforts should focus on developing more comprehensive data collection and compilation practices, and transitioning to computer-based document management systems at points where data entry occurs.

Lessons can be learned from good practices found in this review. For instance, in Jamaica, the Jamaica Constabulary Force has developed a computer-based record-keeping system that allows it to collect and manage service and crime data, as well as victim and perpetrator data. The system enables data analysis and the generation of reports, including on a daily basis. The Child Development Agency and Office of the Children's Registry are also using an online computer-based case management system to collect data and manage child protection cases, and generate data reports. In Morocco, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training developed online computer-based document management systems that make it easier to collect data from hospitals and schools across the country. The court units for care and support for women and children are transitioning from a paper-based

record-keeping system to a computer-based legal case management system they developed, but one challenge is that data cannot be easily extracted. In Uganda, the Uganda Child Helpline has an online computer-based document management system that enables collection of real-time data for all calls made to the helpline.

Consideration should be given to how much information authorities and agencies can record on violence against children, given their resources, capacities, and areas of operation and responsibility. It is not always realistic to demand that ministries/agencies create or adopt new record-keeping systems to collect administrative data on violence against children. Steps can be taken to change and improve existing systems, however.

- **The disaggregation of administrative data on violence against children requires improvement.** Ministries/agencies, service providers and child helplines could benefit from technical support and expertise to improve both the collection of administrative data on violence against children and how they are disaggregated at points of entry. This includes ensuring administrative data on all relevant types of violence against children are collected, and with enough specificity to improve understanding of the issue. Multiple types of violence experienced by victims should be recorded so that poly-victimization can be identified and analysed. Data collection and disaggregation should move beyond the age and sex of victims to include the age and sex of perpetrators, and victim-perpetrator relationships.

Other data related to victims that can be collected include those at subdistrict/district levels as well as on school attendance, living arrangements with parents (for example, mother only, father only, both mother and father, other relatives, etc.), violence-related injuries, types of injuries, frequency of violence (such as single incident, repeated incidents) and more. Data related to service delivery and referrals should also be recorded. Incident registration or reporting forms, whether paper- or computer-based, need to be annually updated to reflect changes in laws and criminal codes, including categories of crimes. The Uganda Police Force needs to update its paper-based record-keeping forms to reflect changes in laws and criminal codes, and has an opportunity to do so as it transitions to an online system. Annual assessment helps ensure that data are being collected and disaggregated in meaningful ways.

- **Assessments should be conducted to better understand the efforts of ministries/agencies to transition from paper-based record-keeping systems to online computer-based document or case management**

systems so that transitions can be improved and sustained. One of the most interesting findings was how ministries/agencies across countries were attempting, and in some cases succeeding, to transition to online systems. Transition challenges remain, including limited understanding by those implementing the systems on how they are being used or not used at the subdistrict and district levels. In speaking with service providers at the district level, it became clear that they can articulate the challenges with data collection on violence against children and had ideas to improve the computer-based systems. They felt their voices were often not heard, however, and that challenges were not known at the national level, where online systems were managed. In some cases, online systems were not used or rarely used because they were not user-friendly.

In the five countries with in-depth assessments, several would benefit from an analysis of the transition from paper-based record-keeping system to online document or case management systems. For instance, in Indonesia, much could be learned from an assessment of the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection's development and implementation of SIMFONI PPA, including the challenges faced, lessons learned and successes, as well as how it is being used – or not – by representatives in each of the sectors at the district, provincial and national levels. Other insights might be gained from the Child Development Agency's efforts to shift to the SOHEMA system in Jamaica, and from online transitions in Morocco by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training, and the court units for care and support to women and children. In Uganda, lessons can be learned from the UNICEF-supported system used by the Uganda Child Helpline and rolled out to district action centres, and from the Uganda Police Force's efforts to roll out an online system to district police stations. In each case, much can be gained from seeing how personnel and practitioners interact with and use computer-based systems, and understanding why some personnel and practitioners may not be using them.

- **Ministries/agencies need to consider dedicating financial resources to improve the collection of administrative data on violence against children, and institute quality assurance processes.** Political and institutional commitment are essential, but not enough. In fact, actions to support administrative data collection are often included in national action plans on violence against children, but with no specific lines in the financial budget. This can halt efforts to improve data and establish processes for assuring quality, or limit progress to the 'voluntary' will of single ministries/

agencies. Ministries/agencies and service providers should have formal data quality assurance processes in place to ensure data are accurate, complete and reliable. This requires dedicated staff responsible for monitoring and evaluating administrative data at the service delivery sites, and the district, provincial and national levels. Agreed monitoring and evaluating of coordination and supervision structures are important, and require clearly defined roles, responsibilities and standard operating procedures.

- **The analysis, reporting and dissemination of administrative data on violence against children need to improve.** Ministries/agencies and service providers should understand that data should not be collected for internal use only. Data should be analysed for dissemination to a wider audience, including decision makers and policymakers, inter-agency task forces, working groups, and ministry and government officials. Administrative data should be used to inform legislation and policies, strengthen child protection systems, improve prevention and intervention initiatives or programmes, and prosecute perpetrators of violence.

Ministries/agencies should adopt a clear set of indicators on violence against children based on national legislation and policies aligned with global indicators on the issue. This will encourage the collection and analysis of data on violence against children, and facilitate agreement on categorizations and classifications. Indicators can also allow countries to see progress, or the lack thereof, in preventing and responding to violence against children; enable governments to learn more about what works and what does not among prevention and response initiatives; and increase opportunities for data-sharing across sectors and ministries/agencies.

- **Ensuring some degree of comparability of administrative data on violence against children across ministries/agencies within a country is essential.**⁵ Different ministries/agencies can use administrative data to assess changes in reporting and identifying violence against children over time and in their own sectors, as well as to reveal patterns and trends. But such analysis is rarely found in reports prepared by ministries/agencies. In most instances, only one year of data is presented in annual reports, with little if any comparison to previous years. This makes it very difficult to identify patterns and trends, such as increases or decreases in identified and reported incidents of violence against children; newly emerging forms of violence against children; or the number of child victims, children protected, and perpetrators arrested and prosecuted, to name just a few.

For instance, the police can record data on violence against children for years, and then compare data across years and across districts and provinces, and draw conclusions accordingly. If there is some degree of comparability across administrative data, police data can be compared to child protection data to monitor and assess performance between sectors in registering and responding to violence against children.

Each of the five countries assessed in depth offered numerous examples of how organizations collecting administrative data could significantly improve their use to reveal patterns and trends in violence against children over time. In many cases, this requires technical support. For instance, in Uganda, the Uganda Child Helpline has a large volume of helpline data that could be analysed for patterns and trends. In Jamaica, the Office of the Children's Registry and JCO-ICVIS could improve analysis of patterns and trends, and comparisons across ministries/agencies. In Indonesia, the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection could increase its capacity to reveal patterns and trends from data collected from different national sectors and agencies, and to overlay that data with population-based data. Indonesia's National Commission on Violence against Women could bolster the collection of data on violence against girls and analyse them alongside data on violence against women, particularly since it is mandated to monitor violence and engage in policy development.

- **Governments, ministries/agencies and service providers need to ensure that data protection policies and practices are in place when it comes to data on violence against children.** The lack of data protection policies and practices is of particular concern. Governments, ministries/agencies and service providers need policies related to protection and data-sharing particularly for data related to children, violence against children and gender-based violence. They also need to train all personnel/staff responsible for working with children and collecting data, whether in paper-based or computer-based systems, to ensure data protection practices are followed. Victim identifiers (such as names, addresses or GPS coordinates of victims' homes) should not be released when data are shared.

Advocacy should persuade policymakers to adopt data protection policies, particularly in countries where groups are calling for data on violence against children and gender-based violence to be linked to citizen ID numbers. Women and children who experience violence may be at significant risk if their names and case data in an online system are attached to their citizen ID numbers. Moreover, if victims understand that their data can be identified and viewed by others, they may not report

violence and abuse. This is a particular issue in Indonesia, where the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection is inputting data into SIMFONI PPA, and in Jamaica, where plans exist to set up a national document management system attached to citizen ID numbers. In the latter, however, discussion and debate are taking place among those working on violence against children as to the risks this poses to children. Where a national document management system is being set up, it is important to have a working group with experts on violence against children and/or violence against women to ensure that database developers and data managers take into consideration the unique privacy and data security needs of women and children who experience violence.

- **Targeted investments are needed to build capacity in using administrative data on violence against children to inform legislative reform and policy and programme development.** A major finding is a lack of capacity among policy- and decision makers in ministries/agencies on how to use administrative data on violence against children to inform policy and programme development. One issue is a lack of clarity on how to interpret data. For instance, administrative data are sometimes perceived as prevalence

data, and thus, incorrect conclusions and assumptions are made. Another problem is that data on violence against children are sometimes analysed, presented and reported in a manner or format that is not meaningful or easily digestible for policy- or decision makers. Data analyses and dissemination need to improve so that policy- and decision makers can use data to develop and support evidence-based policies and programmes. Capacity-building can support better monitoring of trends and patterns, and the comparison of data over time to understand the impact of legislation, policies and programmes on violence against children.

- **Awareness-raising should sharpen understanding of differences between administrative and prevalence data on violence against children.** When administrative data are treated or interpreted as prevalence data, incorrect assumptions, conclusions and decisions can result. Steps to raise awareness, particularly among policy- and decision makers in ministries/agencies, should improve understanding of the differences and foster knowledge of how administrative data can complement prevalence data and inform costing studies on violence against children and child protection.

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a bundle of dried, curled paper strips. The strips are light brown and have a wavy, organic shape. The background is blurred, showing people in a room with warm lighting. A purple rectangular box with the word 'Annexes' in white text is positioned in the upper right quadrant.

Annexes

Annex 1.

Definitions

Administrative data	Administrative data are primary or raw data that government agencies or departments and civil society groups can use to monitor and report on trends and patterns. Administrative data are produced through the administrative processes of organizations. This information is primarily collected for administrative purposes, such as registration, record-keeping or transactions (usually the delivery of a service), but not for research or statistical purposes.
Administrative data sources	<p>Administrative data sources refer to the administrative organizations that collect administrative data, or the databases or collection systems used by such organizations to record administrative data. In some cases, the same administrative unit is responsible for more than one administrative data source. The source of administrative data can be broken down into distinct administrative systems or sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health (such as medical centres and emergency services) • Justice (such as the courts, prosecution offices, legal aid, criminal and civil justice, juvenile detention centres, prisons) • Police (municipal, regional and national) • Education • Social services, including support and assistance (such as victim support services, shelters, legal and psychological counselling and helplines), and social welfare (such as child protection and social welfare benefits) • Others, including civil society organizations and privately owned organizations (such as shelters) • Government organizations that do not fall under the categories above (such as offices of civil registries).
Violence against children	All forms of physical or mental harm, injury and abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse.
Physical violence	All corporal punishment and all other forms of torture; cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; as well as physical bullying and hazing by adults or by other children. Corporal (physical) punishment is defined as any punishment in which physical force is used and intended to cause some degree of pain or discomfort, however light. Most involves hitting (smacking, slapping, spanking) children with the hand or with an implement (such as a whip, stick, belt, shoe or wooden spoon). But it can also involve, for example, kicking, shaking or throwing children; scratching, pinching, biting, pulling hair or boxing ears; caning; forcing children to stay in uncomfortable positions; burning; scalding or forced ingestion.

◀ (Definitions continued)

Sexual violence

Comprises any sexual activity imposed by an adult on a child against which the child is entitled to protection by criminal law. This includes: (a) the inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful or psychologically harmful sexual activity, (b) the use of children in commercial sexual exploitation, (c) the use of children in audio or visual images of child sexual abuse, and (d) child prostitution, sexual slavery, sexual exploitation in travel and tourism, trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation (within and between countries), or sale of children for sexual purposes and forced marriage. Sexual activities are also considered as abuse when committed against a child by another child if the offender is significantly older than the victim or uses power, threat or other means of pressure. Consensual sexual activities between children are not considered sexual abuse if the children are older than the age limit as defined by the State Party.

Mental violence

Often described as psychological maltreatment, mental abuse, verbal abuse and emotional abuse or neglect. This can include: (a) all forms of persistent harmful interactions with a child, (b) scaring, terrorizing and threatening; exploiting and corrupting; spurning and rejecting; isolating, ignoring and favouritism, (c) denying emotional responsiveness; neglecting mental health, medical and educational needs, (d) insults, name-calling, humiliation, belittling, ridiculing and hurting a child's feelings, (e) exposure to domestic violence, (f) placement in solitary confinement, isolation or humiliating or degrading conditions of detention, and (g) psychological bullying and hazing by adults or other children, including via information and communication technologies such as mobile phones and the Internet (known as 'cyberbullying').

Neglect

The failure to meet children's physical and psychological needs, protect them from danger or obtain medical, birth registration or other services when those responsible for their care have the means, knowledge and access to services to do so. It includes (a) physical neglect (that is, the failure to protect a child from harm, including through lack of supervision and/or to provide a child with basic necessities, including adequate food, shelter, clothing and medical care, (b) psychological or emotional neglect that involves lack of emotional support and love, chronic inattention, 'psychologically unavailable' caregivers who overlook young children's cues and signals, and exposure to intimate partner violence or drug or alcohol abuse, (c) neglect of a child's physical or mental health (that is, withholding essential medical care), (d) educational neglect (as in the failure to comply with laws requiring caregivers to secure their children's education through attendance at school or otherwise, and (e) abandonment.

Notes: These are definitions used in this report; they do not necessarily align with national definitions for countries included in the review. Definitions for administrative data are from: European Institute for Gender Equality, *Administrative Data Sources on Gender-based Violence against Women in the EU: Current status and potential for the collection of comparable data*, Vilnius, 2014. Definitions for violence are from: United Nations Children's Fund, *Hidden in Plain Sight: A statistical analysis of violence against children*, UNICEF, New York, 2014. These definitions have been adapted from the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, General Comment No. 13 (2011): The right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence, CRC/C/GC/13, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva, 18 April 2011.

Annex 2.

Data sources and flow in Indonesia

In Indonesia, the main sources of administrative data on violence against children are:

- Indonesia National Police** – The Indonesia National Police collects data on crimes reported to it, including crimes against children. Women and Child Protection Units are mainly responsible for gathering administrative data on violence against children at the district, provincial and national levels. At the subdistrict and district levels, police data are manually recorded and collated. On a monthly basis, district units collect, compile and manually collate data from each of the subdistrict and district police stations. On a monthly basis, district units send a report that includes limited information, such as laws violated according to criminal codes, name and age of victims, and name and sex of perpetrators. District units have to request data on cases involving women and children from the Operations Division, since they do not automatically receive all cases involving women and children. In part, this is because subdistrict police stations do not have Women and Child Protection Units, so not all cases involving women and children are referred from subdistrict stations to district units.⁶ At the district level, data are transmitted by email or hard copy to the provincial Women and Child Protection Unit and/or Operations Division. At the province level, Women and Child Protection Units and Operations Divisions manually compile and collate data collected from each of the district police stations and send data to the national Women and Child Protection Unit and/or Operations Division via email. The challenge is when someone asks, for example, how many cases of physical violence involved girls and boys. This requires the Women and Child Protection Unit to go back to the case reports and calculate the data manually, which is a time-consuming process. At the national level, data from all 34 provinces are compiled and collated manually, and input into tables in a Word document. As of 2016, the national Women and Child Protection Unit had started to request that police data on violence against children be broken down into the categories of physical, sexual, psychological and economic violence against children.
- Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection** – The ministry's core duty is to assist the President in formulating policies and promoting coordination to support women's empowerment and ensure child welfare and protection. It participates in joint programming with other ministries for coordinated delivery of services to children, and is instrumental in issuing policy guidelines for child protection to subnational counterparts.⁷ The main sources of data gathered by the ministry are cases registered and recorded by provincial and district-level departments for women's empowerment and child protection, and the Integrated Service Centres for Protection of Women and Children. Not all of the centres register and record information related to clients, cases, services and referrals in the same way. Some centres rely on paper-based case files, and have to compile and collate data manually, whereas others input case file data into a computer-based management system, which enables them to compile, collate and analyse client and case data using computer-based software. Some centres have started to input case and client data into the online SIMFONI PPA⁸ management system developed by the ministry. It is worth noting that not all centres are willing to input case and client data into the system given concerns with client confidentiality, and data protection and security. The ministry invested significant financial and human resources into establishing SIMFONI PPA and rolling it out nationally. At the time of the field visit, some Integrated Service Centres and Women and Child Protection Units were putting data into the system, although this varied across districts. Based on data inputs, the ministry can generate real-time data compilation and analyses. The data management and analysis capabilities of SIMFONI PPA are significant, in terms of the types of data that can be input and the ability to overlay data on violence against children with province and district population and community data (for example, population data, poverty rate data, unemployment data).
- Ministry of Social Affairs** – The ministry provides social welfare services to vulnerable children and is responsible for management of cases of violence against children. It is also mandated to operate shelters and oversee the institutional care of vulnerable children (such as orphanages). It operates a helpline with a computer-based document management system that records the number and types of incoming calls. General helpline data – for example, the number of calls, sex and age of the caller, and type of call – are collated and analysed in real time. The process for transferring calls from the helpline to social workers in provinces and districts is usually done electronically, in most cases using WhatsApp. The ministry has a hard time generating data and information on cases of violence against children handled by social workers because case files are paper-based, and difficult to compile and collate.

- **Ministry of Health** – Since 2014, the ministry has had guidelines for collecting data related to violence against women and children. It has been challenging to collect these data from village clinics and district hospitals, however, since health workers have a difficult time identifying victims and/or see their job as one of providing health care, not screening for violence. Standard data-reporting forms have been developed for use by community health centres and district hospitals, in an effort to improve data collection on cases and victims who present themselves at the health clinics and hospitals. Both biannually and annually, district hospitals are expected to send data on identified and treated cases of violence against women and children, and demographic data on victims, to the Ministry of Health. Reporting forms are often not completed or shared with the ministry, however, which has yet to analyse data on violence against women and children, since it is still in the process of collecting data.
- **Supreme Court** – The Supreme Court has a computer-based document management system for court cases. However, these data are limited as an administrative data source on violence against children. Court case data can be incomplete, and are not regularly collated or analysed.
- **Indonesian Commission on Child Protection** – The commission is an independent human rights institution that is mandated to monitor and evaluate progress in implementing the Law on Child Protection. The commission

is also mandated to receive and review complaints from community members on child rights violations, although this mandate has generally been misunderstood by commissioners and staff as well as the general public to mean that the commission handles cases of violence against children. The commission takes complaints related to violence against children and child protection in written and oral form (walk-ins), and through an online application launched in 2017. It has investigated cases of violence against children and child protection even though this is outside its mandate. The commission reports data in the following categories: children in emergency, family and alternative care; education; civil rights and freedom; health; pornography and cybercrime; children in conflict with the law; trafficking and sexual exploitation; and religion and culture.

- **National Commission on Violence against Women**
The commission is an independent human rights institution established by presidential decree to monitor women's human rights and violence against women. Each year it sends out a standard survey to some 700 to 1,000 government agencies and civil society groups nationwide that provide essential services to women and survivors of violence. The commission collects summary administrative data from at least 30 per cent of these agencies and groups. It compiles and analyses data from the surveys and generates an annual report on violence against women.

Annex 3.

Data sources and flow in Jamaica

Jamaica has numerous sources of administrative data on violence against children, including the following:

- **Jamaica Constabulary Force** – The force receives reports, collates, analyses and disseminates data on crimes, including crimes against children. The Centre for the Investigation of Sex Offences and Child Abuse and other units record the majority of crimes involving violence against children, depending on the type of crime. Community safety and security branches record data on incidents of violence in and around schools, and register and record weapons confiscated in schools. The data collected come directly from school resource officers, who are assigned to schools. At out-stations and parish police stations, crimes of violence against children are typically recorded in station diaries. Sex offenses against children are referred to the Centre for the Investigation of Sex Offences and Child Abuse for investigation. Other cases of violence against children are investigated by officers at out-stations or parish police stations.

Police station diaries in out-stations and parish police stations are reviewed on a weekly basis. Data are compiled and collated manually, then transmitted to 19 police division headquarters by phone. At the division level, data are usually input into a computer-based system. Although out-stations and parish police stations reportedly send data on a weekly basis to division headquarters, the national Statistics and Information Management Unit also collects data from morning crime incident reports submitted by out-stations and parish police stations on a daily basis. The reports are in the form of an Excel template. As Figure 2 shows, data from police divisional headquarters can be sent via phone or email to the Statistics and Information Management Unit, which is responsible for compiling, validating and analysing crime data, and generating weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual crime data reports.

Data collected by the Centre for the Investigation of Sex Offences and Child Abuse and from community safety and security branches are sent directly to national headquarters through their own internal channels. They are not sent to the Statistics and Information Management Unit.

- **Child Development Agency** – This primary government child protection agency promotes child-friendly policies and programmes to strengthen families. Established in 2004, the agency is now under the purview of the Ministry of

Education, Youth and Information, and performs several functions:⁹

- Supports children in need of care and protection (those who have been abused, abandoned, neglected or are vulnerable due to disability)
- Carries out advocacy/public education programmes to prevent child abuse
- Investigates reports of child abuse, abandonment and neglect to determine the best interest of the child, which supports the courts and the police
- Provides quality care for children in state care (in children's homes and places of safety)
- Advises the government on policy and legal issues relating to children.

Child Development Agency staff, spread across the corporate office in Kingston, four regional offices and 13 parish offices, have direct responsibility for operating and managing childcare facilities and residential childcare services, including eight government children's homes, and monitoring and licensing more than 40 private-sector homes. Initiatives such as the children and family support units established in agency regional offices, and the multi-agency partnership with agencies such as the Centre for the Investigation of Sex Offences and Child Abuse, Office of the Children's Registry, Office of the Children's Advocate and the Ministry of Justice's Victim Support Unit help keep children out of state care, through counselling and other forms of intervention for families and victims of abuse. The Child Development Agency is governed by the Child Care and Protection Act, among other laws and policies.¹⁰

In 2017, the Child Development Agency began a phased roll out of SOHEMA, a computer-based case management system. SOHEMA has been embraced to varying degrees by parish social workers and team leaders, and regional supervisors. The former recognize it as an effective and efficient tool for case management and monthly reporting. Given inconsistent electricity service and Internet connectivity problems, however, social workers are still required to keep paper-based case files. Where parish team leaders or regional supervisors have yet to fully embrace SOHEMA, they still request monthly reports on paper. This doubles the workload for social workers and team leaders. When parish team leaders and/or regional supervisors request monthly reports on

paper, social workers must manually compile and collate the data. At the national level, the Child Development Agency is committed to the use of SOHEMA.

Since 2012, the Child Development Agency has also managed the Child Protection Database, which was conceptualized as a monitoring and reporting tool for indicators related to the National Framework of Action for Children. The Child Protection Database was supported in part by UNICEF and contains data related to 87 indicators in areas such as child maltreatment, juvenile justice, child protection, health, student support services and children in care. The database's scope was expanded to serve as a central repository for data on child protection, and provides a common avenue for disseminating summary data to all local and international stakeholders. Data on child-specific indicators can be used to inform policy decisions, highlight new or existing areas of concern, and monitor various action plans, including the National Plan of Action for Children. In recent years, however, after the initial memorandum of understanding expired, membership in the technical working group for the database decreased, and there have been few updates to the indicators. Awareness of the database among service providers is low.

- **Office of the Children's Registry** – The office has a central office in Kingston, from which it operates a national hotline, and four parish offices across the island. Parish offices were determined based on the number of reports from particular areas. The office can receive reports of violence against children and missing children by various means, including telephone, email, fax and walk-ins. When a report of violence comes into the office, an officer enters the information into a reporting form on the computer. The office also keeps a paper-based log book, referred to as the 'children's registry', where information on each report is recorded. Data collected typically include the child's age, sex, name (if known) and address, as well as the sex of the perpetrator and the reporter's information. Once the office receives a report, a case identification number is assigned to each child in the report, and the case is referred to a local service provider, typically the Child Development Agency or Office of the Children's Advocate, for investigation and intervention. Referrals are usually sent via email. All reports go through the central office in Kingston. When reports are made by walk-ins at the four parish offices, officials must enter the report in the computer-based case management system and send it to the central office for processing. The Office of the Children's Registry has established practices for checking to see if a report involving the same child has been made more than once. A record-keeping scheme documents the initial report, follow-up reports on the
- same case, and/or more than one report involving the same child. This has helped to reduce the risk of double counting reports involving the same child. Discussions on merging the Office of the Children's Registry and the Child Development Agency make sense since the two agencies already work closely (in some parishes they work out of the same office), and they complement and support each other. A merger would help to improve referrals and case management in cases of violence against children and missing children.
- **Office of the Children's Advocate** – The office collects data on the number of reports made to the Children's Advocate. It represents child victims of physical, sexual and emotional violence, neglect, trafficking and child labour in the court system. The office also works with children with behavioural problems or in need of care and protection.
- **Ministry of Health** – In 2009, the ministry established the Jamaica Injury Surveillance System in hospitals to collect data on injuries, including among children who experience violence. But given staff turnover and a lack of human resources to manage the system, the ministry has struggled to ensure it is used. Efforts are under way to restore the system in eight hospitals, excluding the Kingston Public Hospital.¹¹ Staff members assigned to registration in the hospitals are supposed to enter information in the system when a patient arrives with an injury, but hospitals are still using paper-based record-keeping and transmitting paper-based data to one central area of the ministry. Based on patient statements, injuries are categorized as motor vehicle-related, violence-related, suicide and/or unintentional. When a child arrives with injuries, the parent or caregiver is questioned as to the reason for them. In the case of violence-related injuries, the person doing the registration should attempt to gather information about the victim-perpetrator relationship and where the violence occurred. The registration forms are then printed and provided to the doctors who are expected to ask follow-up screening questions and manually record the information in each patient's medical records. Fear of retaliation from perpetrators and his/her family members, however, means that registration staff members do not regularly complete all questions in the Jamaica Injury Surveillance System, and doctors do not regularly ask follow-up screening questions. It is not clear how often hospitals share system data with the ministry, how data are collated and analysed, or how often reports are generated based on the system data. While some hospitals have proper documentation in the system, others do not.
- **Ministry of Education, Youth and Information** – The Ministry of Education, Youth and Information does not

regularly or systematically collect data on violence against children in and around schools, and on the way to and from school, or on how violence impacts school-age children. The ministry's Guidance and Counselling Unit does work with at-risk and vulnerable children, including victims of violence. Information related to children and cases of violence against children is in paper-based case files. The Safe Schools Project is led by a police officer from the Jamaica Constabulary Force who has contact with the force's community safety and security branches and school resource officers. The officer is able to get information and data from the branches about the number and types of incidents of violence in and around schools, and the number of weapons confiscated in schools. There is no such direct line of reporting or data-sharing between the officer and school resource officers, however. School resource officers complete incident reports that they send to the Jamaica Constabulary Force's community safety and security branches, and the branches compile monthly reports for the police division headquarters. Moreover, there is no direct line of communication or data-sharing between the Guidance and Counselling Unit and the Safe Schools Project officer. The latter communicates directly with the chief education officer, who has oversight of the Education Services Division. This limits the ability of the Guidance and Counselling Unit and the safe schools project officer to effectively work together to address and prevent violence against children in and around schools, and to work with child victims and perpetrators.

- **Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sports**
The Women's Centre of Jamaica Foundation, working under the ministry, offers academic and reintegration programmes for pregnant girls. The Women's Centre has both paper- and computer-based document management systems, and typically collects information on girls who experience violence and their perpetrators. This information may be recorded in girls' case files, but there is no systematic practice for collecting or collating data on sexual violence or domestic violence, or relationships to perpetrators. The Women's Centre has been working to develop an instrument for use at the intake interview that would include whether or not girls are victims of domestic violence.
- **Ministry of National Security** – The Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine, which falls under the ministry, records forensic data related to cases of violence against children, including sexual violence.
- **Jamaica Crime Observatory-Integrated Crime and Violence Information System** – The Research and Evaluation Unit of the Ministry of National Security houses

the system, which brings together primary data sources to improve the quality of crime and violence statistics. The system is mandated to provide evidence-based research support for the ministry's national policies, programmes and activities. But the system is limited to surveillance, and the data are not used in planning and policy work.

The JCO-ICVIS collects and cross-validates administrative data on crimes and violence from primary data sources including the Jamaica Constabulary Force, Office of the Children's Registry, Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine, and Jamaica Injury Surveillance System (in 2015, data from the last source were not available). With support from UNICEF, the system has been collecting data on crimes of violence against children, including murder, homicide, shooting, sexual assault of all kinds, robbery, fatal shootings, suicides and traffic fatalities. It captures data on violence against children from reports from 10 parishes. Typically, the system receives data from the Jamaica Constabulary Force on a monthly basis (although force submissions are often two months behind). The system validates data from various sectors and agencies, with a focus on victims as the unit of analysis. Although the system is institutionalized in and funded by the Ministry of National Security, funding is inadequate given that the work of the system is labour-intensive. Data challenges arise from questions around how primary data sources can meet system criteria, delays in data-sharing, incomplete data from primary data sources, compliance issues for standardized reporting, and difficulties validating and merging data.

- **Statistical Institute of Jamaica** – The institute is an agency of the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation that collects, compiles, analyses and publishes statistical information on the commercial, industrial, social, economic, and general activities and condition of the population. The institute collaborates with public agencies in the collection, compilation and publication of statistical information derived from their activities, and coordinates programmes for the integration of statistics, in accordance with the Statistics Act of 1984. While the institute does not collect data on violence against children directly, it does have memorandums of understanding with various departments and ministries, including the Jamaica Constabulary Force and Office of the Children's Registry, to collect data on children who are victims of violence and trafficking.
- **JamStats** – The Planning Institute of Jamaica manages JamStats. Its first database was created in 2003 as a national adaptation of the UNICEF ChildInfo software, and has since been updated using DevInfo, the successor to ChildInfo. JamStats hosts the Child Protection Database,

and has become an indispensable source of data on some 371 indicators.

- **Mona Geoinformatics Institute** – The institute serves as the geographic information system (GIS) hub for the University of the West Indies Mona campus. It provides GIS services to both the public and private sectors. The institute has a memorandum of understanding with the Jamaica Constabulary Force to receive crime data, including geographic coordinates. It both sells and uses GIS crime data sets, which allow for mapping and spatial analyses of a wide range of crimes, including those involving children as victims and perpetrators, and violence-related injuries and patient locations. The institute also conducts mapping and spatial analysis
- **Non-governmental organizations** – Several NGOs are focused on violence and crime, and collect administrative data related to their programme activities. The Peace Management Initiative attempts to collect data on homicides and shootings in specific communities and areas where it has projects. Other examples include Fight for Peace, a network of community-based organizations and multisectoral stakeholders collaborating on reducing youth violence in hotspot communities, and the Violence Prevention Alliance, which is working with the Kingston Public Hospital to restore the use of the Jamaica Injury Surveillance System.

Annex 4.

Data sources and flow in Morocco

Morocco has numerous sources of administrative data on violence against children:

- **National Security Moroccan Police** – The police force collects data on reported crimes including those against children. Crimes are manually recorded at subdistrict and/or district police stations in paper-based police station registries. Information is then transferred to the Judiciary Police at the provincial level, which is responsible for investigating, determining the violation of laws and making arrests. The Judiciary Police force is also responsible for issuing reports on cases to the judiciary. It is unclear whether the Judiciary Police works with a paper- or computer-based case management system. Nevertheless, data are sent from the Judiciary Police to police prefectures for compilation. There are 20 prefectures, which are responsible for submitting data to the national level on a quarterly and annual basis for compilation and analysis by the National Statistical Division. There are reportedly statistical divisions at the provincial and prefecture levels responsible for compiling the data and sending it to the national statistical division. Data are reportedly transferred via computer in data-reporting forms.

At the national level, a unit is in charge of minors. Lower levels have brigades of minors, but it does not appear that data flow from the brigades to the unit. The head of the unit does get data related to crimes against children from the police prefectures, but the National Statistical Division is responsible for compiling and analysing the data.

- **Royal Moroccan Gendarmerie** – Although meetings were not held with representatives from the Royal Moroccan Gendarmerie, it is assumed that administrative data on violence against children are collected in a manner similar to that of the National Security Moroccan Police.
- **Ministry of Justice** – The ministry has a cell on women and children that deals with children in vulnerable situations, children in conflict with the law (juvenile delinquents) and child trafficking. The head of the cell oversees cells in each of the 88 Moroccan courts. The cells receive women and children who have justice-related problems, listen to them and follow up on their cases. The cells ensure coordination among agencies involved in cases, including police, prosecutors, the Ministry of Health and civil society groups.

On a quarterly and annual basis, the central cell requests data from each of the court cells through court units for care

and support to children and women, which are responsible for registering and coordinating cases of crimes against women and children. The ministry has a computer-based document management system (most likely Excel-based) and a person assigned to collect, compile and analyse data from each court. Data are sent to the ministry in standard tables in Word documents, then put into Excel for analysis. Each year, the ministry produces a report on violence against children. The challenge for the ministry is being able to validate the data. Currently, there is no regular process for validating data with each of the different cells because they rely on a paper-based record-keeping system.

- **Court units for care and support to children and women** – Each of the 88 Moroccan courts has a unit for care and support to children and women. These include First Instance Courts, which handle lesser offences (punishable by less than five years), while the Courts of Appeal handle criminal offences (punishable by more than five years). Criminal offences involving minors would be offences such as rape by an adult, rape with violence involving a minor, homicide, assault leading to a disability, kidnapping, holding someone prisoner and human trafficking. Cases of violence against children may also be heard in the Family Affairs Courts, some of which also have court units for care and support to children and women, typically those in major cities such as Casablanca, Fez, Marrakech and Rabat.

Court units for care and support to children and women have a paper-based record-keeping system that includes two registry books – the Registry Book for Complaints and the Police Report Book. The Registry Book for Complaints records complaints brought to the units by the police, judiciary or victim. Information includes the child's details (for example, name, age, sex, nationality, schooled/non-schooled), type of abuse/violence experienced, perpetrator's details and victim-abuser relationship. When the case is registered, it is sent to the Judiciary Police for investigation. From that point, the Police Report Book is used to document developments in the case. This could include, for example, when it is transferred to the Judiciary Police, or to document findings of the Judiciary Police investigation, or when Judiciary Police reports are received and their reference numbers.

The court units for care and support to children and women are in the process of transitioning to an online computer-based legal case management system. All cases are

being put into the new system, but at the same time, paper-based record-keeping is being maintained because the new system is not yet connected to a server where data can be securely stored.

On a quarterly and annual basis, the units are required to compile data from their registries and complete a standard form summarizing data on the number and status of cases they are handling. Data are then sent to the central cell at the Ministry of Justice for compilation and analysis. Since the computer-based system is not yet able to generate statistics on cases in the system, social assistants from the court units still rely on paper-based registries, and manually compile and tally data to complete the reporting forms and to generate quarterly and annual data. They go through the registry books, read the details of each case, and tally the data. Data include the number of offences; people prosecuted (male/female, adult/minor); the number convicted (male/female); the number of victims of violence (female/male); the number of persons prosecuted who are relatives (such as father, mother, husband, brother) versus non-relatives (employer, teacher, foreigner, etc.); and the types of offences (such as providing a bad example to a child, exposing a child to danger, recklessness, rape, homosexuality, kidnapping of a minor, failure to report the birth of a child, exploitation of children in begging, using children in drug deals, facilitating prosecution for minors, approaching minors to migrate illegally, sexual abuse to gain money/trafficking of minors, engaging in organized crime, sexual tourism in favour of foreigners, and helping children to migrate.

- **Ministry of Health** – The ministry collects data on cases of violence against children mainly through cases registered at cells for women and child victims of violence. The cells are located inside, or on the grounds of, hospitals across the country.

They have paper-based systems for registering cases of violence against children. Registry books record cases of violence against women and children, while case files are maintained for each woman and child receiving medical services. The registry book includes information such as: case number, name of the child, date of reporting, birth date, address and phone number, date of violence, abuser, type of violence, whether the abuser is an addict or not, observations, referrals and follow-up. The case files include information about the medical situation of the child, type of violence experienced, violence-related injuries, actions taken and referrals made.

The Ministry of Health has an online case management system for violence against women established with support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

It is managed by the Ministry of Family, Solidarity, Gender Equality and Social Development, with the engagement of the Ministry of Justice and the Gendarmerie Royale (police). The system, however, is solely for cases of violence against women and does not include girls. Incidents of violence against girls are recorded in the paper-based registry and case files.

With technical support from UNICEF, the Ministry of Health is developing an online document management system that will record, compile and analyse data on violence against children in near real time. This is not a case management system but one that captures information about types of violence, the victim (age and sex), region, date of violence, services provided, and more. The challenge will be to roll out the system to all hospitals and cells for women and child victims of violence, particularly given the fact that some cells have computer and Internet connectivity problems. Another challenge is that not all hospitals have medical specialists for children, so sometimes child victims are referred to specialists at other hospitals and/or health-care facilities. If there is no health worker responsible for registering and recording such cases at the hospital or health-care facility to which the child is referred, the incident and child will not be registered, and the data will not be recorded.

Cells for women and child victims of violence register and record each incident they handle as a separate case, regardless of whether the same child is involved. If a child goes to the cell several times in one year to report an incident of violence, each visit would be recorded as a new case and a new process would be initiated. Thus, the cells may not recognize repeat or recurring incidents of violence experienced by the same child. This also means that Ministry of Health data merely reflect the number of incidents of violence against children treated, not the number of child victims who accessed medical care at hospitals and cells. There is no system for knowing if the same child presents at one hospital and cell one week, and another hospital and cell the next week.

- **Ministry of Health Forensic Medical Examiners** – Forensic medical examiners receive cases of violence against children. They record the case in their registry and open a case file, both of which are paper-based. When they refer cases to other services, that information goes into the case file, along with the medical examiner's notes, documentation and certificates. Once a month and annually, forensic examiners have to compile and tally by hand data on men, women and children from their paper-based registries (including type of violence, and age and sex of the victim). The Ministry of Health at one point provided forensic medical examiners with

computer-based software for data management and a two- to three-day training on how to use the software. The software reportedly did not work, however, since medical examiners were not provided with an activation key or code to access the system. Whether this was true for all forensic examiners or only those interviewed is unclear.

- **Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training**

The ministry has channels at different levels for collecting data on violence against children. At the school level there are listening cells; at the regional level (academy and delegation) there are observatories for addressing violence in schools; and at the national level the director of school life centralizes data from different regions. Incidents of school-related violence against children are supposed to be recorded by school directors in paper-based registries, but not all cases are captured there. Since 2014, with technical support from UNICEF, the ministry has been piloting an online computer-based portal called MARSAD, an integrated management system under the director of school life. School directors from pilot schools can use MARSAD to record data on the number of incidents of school-related violence against children per day, the types of violence, location, information on victims and perpetrators, and whether the incident was resolved or not. MARSAD is anonymous, as it does not contain any names, only summary numbers of incidents. Details related to the incidents are still recorded in the registries in each school. MARSAD allows members of the regional observatories to analyse data on incidents of school-related violence against children. But since it is being piloted in only some schools, it is not a reliable source of data on school-related violence against children for the ministry.

On a quarterly and annual basis, delegation-level representatives from the observatories send out paper-based questionnaires to all schools in their delegation. These collect data on school-related incidents of violence against children, including the number and types of incidents, where they took place, types of action taken and outcomes. The delegations input the data into Excel,

and then analyse the data and prepare a summary report sent to the relevant academy along with the Excel database. There are 12 academies in the country. At the academy level, the observatory representative compiles data from all of the delegations into Excel and prepares a summary report sent to the national director of school life, along with the data in Excel. The data typically cover the academic year (1 September to 31 June). At the national level, the ministry analyses all data on school-related violence against children and generates an annual report shared with representatives from the observatories at the academy and delegation levels.

- **Ministry of Family, Solidarity, Gender Equality and Social Development**

– The ministry was developed with support from UNICEF to function as a public policy institution for child protection, with a strategic objective related to regular monitoring, including through the collection of data. The ministry is mandated to develop and implement government policies and programmes. It contributes to developing and updating laws and regulations related to children, conducts studies and research on their situation, seeks to strengthen the capacity of supportive actors, including in civil society, improves the quality of care for children in difficult situations and bolsters measures to end violence against children.

- **Child protection units** – Only a few child protection units remain in Morocco. These provide coordinated social and child protection services to vulnerable, abused and neglected children. Children who come to the centres are registered in a paper-based registry book and assigned to a social worker who works with them and their caregivers to develop an action plan. Social workers complete an information sheet and prepare a listening report on each child. They input this information into an Excel database and Word documents, and keep paper-based case files on each child. On a biannual and annual basis, the centres use Excel to compile their statistics and generate a report of summary data that they send to the Ministry of Family, Solidarity, Gender Equality and Social Development.

Annex 5.

Data sources and flow in Nigeria

Nigeria has only a few sources of administrative data on violence against children:

- Nigeria Police Force** – The force collects data on crimes reported to it, including crimes against children. Crimes are manually recorded in station diaries at subdistrict police posts and at state police headquarters. Those recorded at police posts are most likely transferred to the state police headquarters for investigation, with crime data manually collated and sent to state police headquarters for compilation and analysis. Criminal cases go to the state Criminal Investigation Division where they are manually registered and recorded in a diary, particularly if they are investigated. Crimes that involve women and children may be sent to the Gender Unit, where they are manually registered in a unit diary. Not all crimes involving women and children are sent to the Gender Unit, particularly if they are capital offences. Thus, the Gender Unit has to go to the Criminal Investigation Division to compile data on cases involving women and children. The state police headquarters offices compile data from the Criminal Investigation Division and the Gender Unit separately and send them to the Department of Research and Planning, which is responsible for putting paper-based data into a computer-based document management system. Data from the department are then sent to the national police headquarters where they are compiled and analysed.
- Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development** (in Lagos State, this is called the Ministry of Youth and Social Development) – The ministry collects very limited, if any, data on violence against children. Collected data are most often recorded by the state Department of Women and Children. State child protection units are responsible for handling all child protection cases, including placement of orphaned and vulnerable children in residential institutions for children, and court cases involving orphaned and vulnerable children. Data are recorded manually in paper-based registries, including a registry book for placements in residential institutions (orphanages) and a registry book of court cases involving children. The latter helps track children's cases as they are processed through the court system, but there are no codes or registration numbers that link information and data from the registry for orphaned and vulnerable children and the court registry, so the ability to track cases is limited. The Child Protection Unit also keeps child file reports that are transferred along with children to residential institutions in which they are placed. On a monthly basis, the unit reports the number of orphaned and vulnerable children handled and placed in residential institutions for children.
- Family support services** – Local government authorities have family support services staffed by social welfare officers. The services must complete weekly and monthly reports, including the names and tallies of cases handled by all social welfare officers. They keep handwritten record books and individual case files that enable them to complete weekly and monthly reports. Both reports are hand tallied and sent to the state level. One can only assume state data are forwarded to the ministerial level; this could not be confirmed since no interviews were conducted with state child protection units.
- Ministry of Education** – At the federal level, the ministry does not systematically collect data on cases of school-related violence against children. Whether state authorities, local government authorities and/or schools collect these data is unknown.
- Ministry of Health** – The in-depth assessment indicated that the Ministry of Health collects data on violence against children and gender-based violence at the local, state and/or national levels.

Annex 6.

Data sources and flow in Uganda

Uganda has several sources of administrative data on violence against children:

- Uganda Police Force** – The force collects data on crimes reported to the police, including crimes against children. Crimes are first manually recorded in a station registry at local police posts and/or district police stations. Crimes reported and registered at the former are often transferred to the latter, particularly capital offences. At the district police station, capital offences, including capital offences against children, are referred to the Criminal Investigation Department, whereas others (for example, child abuse, some forms of defilement, domestic violence, child trafficking and more) are referred to Child and Family Protection Units. District Criminal Investigation Divisions and Child and Family Protection Units have their own paper-based registries where they record the crimes they are handling. District police stations have a records management section staffed with one or more officers who compile crime statistics and generate monthly, quarterly and annual reports based on information and data that come from the main station diaries, and the Criminal Investigation Division and Child and Family Protection Unit diaries. District data management sections collate and compute all data by hand and record the numbers manually in paper-based reporting forms. These data are sent on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis to the regional level, which comprises 27 regional stations, with regional Criminal Investigation Divisions and Child and Family Protection Departments. At the regional level, data are paper-based and compiled manually and are sent to the national headquarters.

The national Criminal Investigation Division compiles data from the 27 regional stations. The division has tried to develop a computer-based document management system using Excel. The national Child and Family Protection Department compiles data from each Child and Family Protection Unit using a template designed with support from UNICEF to help consolidate all statistics on children. The Child and Family Protection Department then submits the data to the national Criminal Investigation Division, where it is compiled and analysed. National data compilation and analysis is very tedious because it is done manually. A Planning, Research and Development Unit uses crime data to inform decision-making and resource allocation, such as district-level deployment of human resources.

- Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development** – The ministry's main mandate is to empower communities,

protect vulnerable persons and create an enabling environment that ensures access to services and social security for all, especially the poor and vulnerable. At the district level, there are relatively few social workers and probation officers working with vulnerable children, including child victims of violence and children in conflict with the law. District action centres connect district probation officers and social workers to the Uganda Child Helpline, enabling them to receive referrals from the helpline and access the online computer-based case management system. The centres were established in 33 districts as of June 2017. District probation officers and social workers are responsible for referring child victims of violence and their families to needed services in the community, as well as working with orphans and vulnerable children. They often record information on orphaned and vulnerable children and other vulnerable children in registry books, as well as in the Orphaned and Vulnerable Children Management Information System.

- National Gender-based Violence Database** – The database, which is under the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, is a government initiative that enables actors in Uganda who are responding to gender-based violence to safely collect, store and generate reports in real time. The database covers 83 of 117 districts in Uganda. The database provides summary data on incidents of gender-based violence by district and region, including types of violence, perpetrator data (such as age, sex, marital status and relationship to victim) and victim data. The database was developed to support a collaborative, multifunctional, inter-agency and community-based approach to gender-based violence. It is not a case management system, however, but more of a database that allows the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development to monitor reported incidents, which can facilitate evidence-based decision-making. One challenge is that the Uganda Police Force does not input incidents into the National Gender-based Violence Database, although officers have been trained to do so.
- Orphaned and Vulnerable Children Management Information System** – Managed by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, the system measures progress towards achieving the National Strategic Programme Plan of Interventions for Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children. Over 4,000 non-governmental, civil society, faith-based and community organizations support the system by contributing data on needs and services provided to orphaned and vulnerable children.

The system has four modules: Local Government Capacity for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) Programme Module; OVC Service Provision and Utilization Module; OVC Household Need Modules; and Children/Babies Home Module. Each module includes a data collection tool and detailed data elements collected using the tool. The accuracy of data has been an issue because the system is not for case management, and service providers are not able to determine which services their clients are accessing or when. The system does not provide information or data on the quality of services.

- **Uganda Child Helpline** – The helpline is an important service and medium through which children’s voices can be heard and relevant responses given to child protection issues. Adults often call on behalf of children, but children call the helpline as well. Calls can come from any location in the country. Some callers are reporting cases of violence against children, which may be critical and need immediate intervention by service providers (for example, in the case of child defilement, child marriage and physical violence), while others are less critical. With support from UNICEF, the helpline is able to operate 24 hours a day, every day. Helpline staff also accept walk-in cases, review the Uganda Police Force reports for cases of violence against children, monitor media (including social media) for reports of cases, and organize community awareness-raising campaigns and school visits. An officer from the Uganda Police Force’s Child and Family Protection Department has been assigned to the helpline. This assignment has significantly improved the ability of staff to collaborate more effectively with both the police and Child and Family Protection Units across the country to ensure they are taking the steps and actions needed in cases handled and supported by the helpline and district probation and social workers.

The helpline operates an online computer-based document management system, which records all calls that come into the helpline through the toll-free number 116, and a computer-based case management system. The systems are linked. The document management system records not only the number of calls made to the helpline, but also a wealth of information about cases being reported, including (but not limited to) types of violence against children, victim data, perpetrator data and district. The document management system also serves as a case management system, so reports of known or suspected cases of violence against children are assigned to caseworkers. In turn, the caseworker activates the referral system, including by assigning cases to district action centre focal points in districts where helpline action centres exist. In districts where there are no action centres, the cases are referred to relevant local authorities and service

providers. Helpline case workers may also respond to cases and follow up with action centre focal points and/or local authorities. District probation officers and social workers are expected to update actions taken on each case in the online case management system, and caseworkers in Kampala monitor progress made with cases. The helpline’s case management system is the most comprehensive national administrative data source on violence against children. A few challenges relate to limited staff capacity to analyse and report on the wealth of data being collected by the system, and on how to use the data for advocacy and programming. Uganda could benefit from a more accurate and systematic analysis of helpline data (including, for example, comparisons across years, analysis of relationships among variables/data, presentation of data as proportions, summation of subcategories and more).

- **Ministry of Health** – The Ministry of Health does not collect data on violence against children per se, but it has attempted to collect some data related to gender-based violence in at least 40 districts. Data are very limited in scope, however. They relate mainly to four areas, all related to gender-based violence: injuries, abortions, sexually transmitted infections and anxiety. There are no distinctions by age (age is disaggregated as 0–4 years and 5–59 years) or types of violence. Data collected in district health clinics/hospitals are typically manually recorded in a paper-based registry, then manually tallied and input into paper-based monthly summary sheets. Once a month at the district level, summary data sheets are input into the online computer-based health management information system, which can then be accessed by the Ministry of Health.
- **Justice, law and order institutions** – These institutions (the police, prosecution, courts and probation) maintain and collect data on cases of crimes against children that are reported to them. Although it was not clear where that administrative data would be located, most likely it would be in the national headquarters of each institution. It is highly likely that data are paper-based in court registries and case files, and not compiled or analysed.

Annex 7.

Data sources identified during the desk review

Table 11.

Administrative data sources on violence against children identified in countries with a desk review

Country	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender Centre Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina • Ministry of Family, Youth and Sports, Republika Srpska • Centres for social welfare in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republika Srpska and District of Brcko • Police in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republika Srpska and District of Brcko • Prosecutor's offices • Courts • High judicial and prosecutorial council schools in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republika Srpska and District of Brcko • Shelters • Hotline
Egypt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Helpline
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child protection authorities • National System of Integral Family Development • National Health Information System • Office of the Special Prosecutor for Violence against Women and Trafficking in Persons • Executive Secretariat of the National Public Security System • Amber Alert and National Registry of Missing and Disappeared People
Mozambique	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Helpline • Police • Health • Office of the Prosecutor General • Supreme Court
Namibia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare • Ministry of Safety and Security • Namibia Police Force • Lifeline/Childline
Senegal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department Child Protection Committees • Information Management System for Children (IMS-DEV Enfance)

◀ (Table 11 continued)

Sri Lanka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Probation and Child Care Services • Divisional Secretariat • Sri Lanka Police, Bureau for the Prevention of Abuse of Children, Young Persons and Women • National Child Protection Authority, Ministry of Women and Child Affairs • Women and Children Support Unit of the Divisional Secretariat • Social Service Unit of the Divisional Secretariat • Ministry of Health (hospitals) • Medical Health Officer's Office • Libraries • Zonal/divisional education offices
Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family and Child Protection Unit • Family Tracing and Reunification • National Council for Child Welfare • Sawa121 Helpline • Child Helpline 9696 • Alternative Family Care Database • Mine Action Database
United Republic of Tanzania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Database Management System • Police Gender and Children's Desk • Child Helpline (Child Protection Management Information System)
Zambia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police Victim Support Unit (Form SW4) • Ministry of Community Development and Social Services • Health Management Information System

Endnotes

1. World Health Organization, *INSPIRE: Seven strategies for ending violence against children*, WHO, Geneva, 2016.
2. United Nations Economic and Social Council, Final results framework of the UNICEF Strategic Plan 2018-2021, E/ICEF/2017/18, New York, 17 July 2017.
3. Republika Srpska is one of two constitutional and legal entities of Bosnia and Herzegovina; the other is the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
4. Jamaica Crime Observatory-Integrated Crime and Violence Information System Information Sharing Protocol, July 2014.
5. Administrative data can be compared across countries, but this requires agencies working in the same sectors in different countries to record data relevant to certain agreed-upon indicators on violence against children. Types of violence would be categorized in similar ways (to the degree they can be), sex and age of victims and perpetrators disaggregated in the same way, and victim-perpetrator relationships categorized in similar ways. Most countries use different terminology, definitions and criminal codes to categorize violence against children. In some countries, significant variation in terminology and definitions may be found within and across sectors. Creating unified definitions of violence against children across countries can be challenging. Relying on established and globally and regionally agreed-upon indicators and guidelines for administrative data collection would facilitate harmonization.
6. Cases of violence against children reported at the subdistrict level will be handled at that level if they can be, or referred to the district Women and Child Protection Unit. The units were newly established at the district, provincial and national levels only.
7. Global Affairs Canada and United Nations Children's Fund, *Championing Child Rights and Child Protection in Indonesia*, 2015.
8. In 2015, the district office in Semarang established E-Violence, a computer-based information management system that enabled network members, such as the district hospital, the district Women and Child Protection Unit, and the district Integrated Service Centre for Protection of Women and Children to input case, victim and perpetrator data directly into the system, along with referral data. In 2016, E-Violence was scaled up and rolled out nationally as SIMFONI, a national data management system.
9. Retrieved from: <www.cda.gov.jm/about>.
10. Retrieved from: <www.cda.gov.jm/about>.
11. The person who originally worked on the Jamaica Injury Surveillance System under the Ministry of Health formed the Violence Prevention Initiative, which has received funding from the United Kingdom's Department for International Development to implement the system in the Kingston Public Hospital.



United Nations Children's Fund

Data and Analytics Section

Division of Data, Analytics, Planning and Monitoring

3 United Nations Plaza

New York, NY 10017, USA

Email: data@unicef.org

Website: data.unicef.org

