

The Impact of the Second Poverty Decade on Child Labour Reduction and Poverty Eradication

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children

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Key messages:

Good news:

- Absolute child poverty has (most probably) declined
- Child labour has declined – strikingly even right after 2008
- Policies appear to have made a difference

Less good news:

- Poverty likely increasingly *concentrates on children*
- Labour-related *migration is exposing children to new risks*
- Reduction in *child deprivations* often lags behind progress in income

Looking ahead:

- ❑ Truly universal access to social protection and services
- ❑ Measuring and programming specifically on child poverty *are both essential and yet represent a major challenge for SDGs.*



I. CHILD POVERTY TRENDS

Extreme poverty is falling around the world

Due to lack of data we do not know how child poverty reduction compares to falling extreme poverty

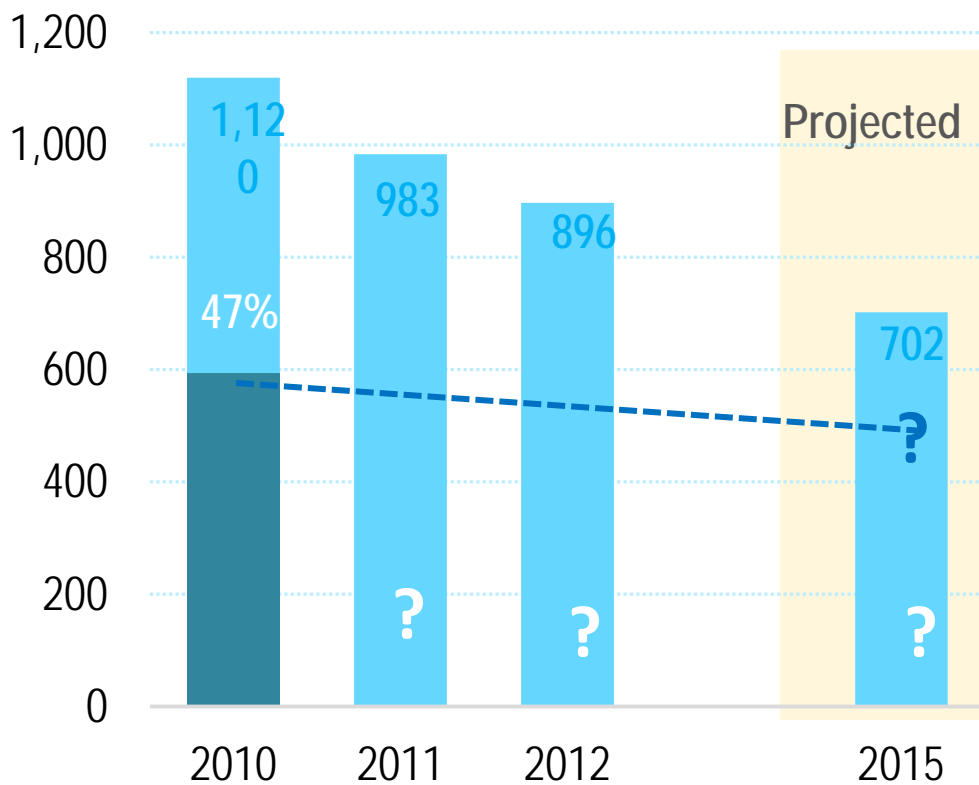


Figure 1. Total population living on less than \$1.90 per day (PPP), millions

- Total population in extreme poverty
- Children living in extreme poverty (0-18 years old)

Notes: Global data on the number of children living in extreme poverty is only available from 2010 based on Olinto et al (2013).

Source: Based on World Bank Data

Children are more likely to be poor

Age-disaggregated data show children remain most affected by extreme poverty

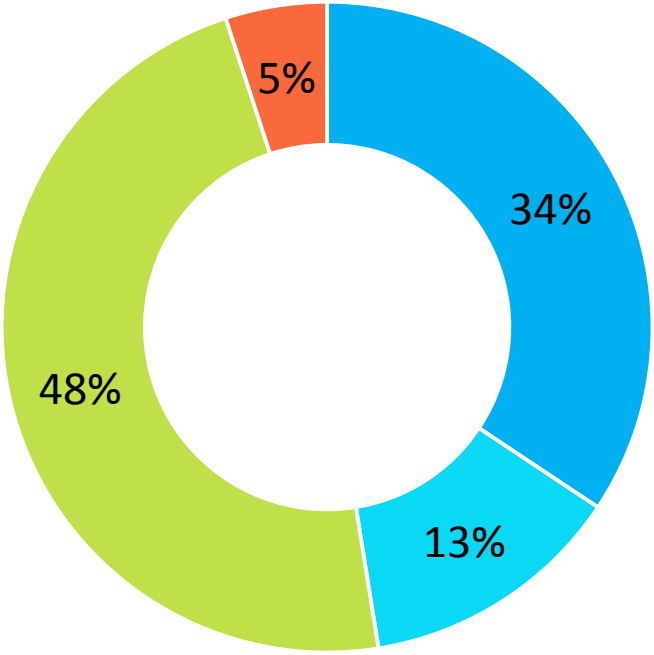


Figure 2. Children constitute nearly half of the world's extreme poor

Proportion of people living on less than \$1.25 a day by age, % of total

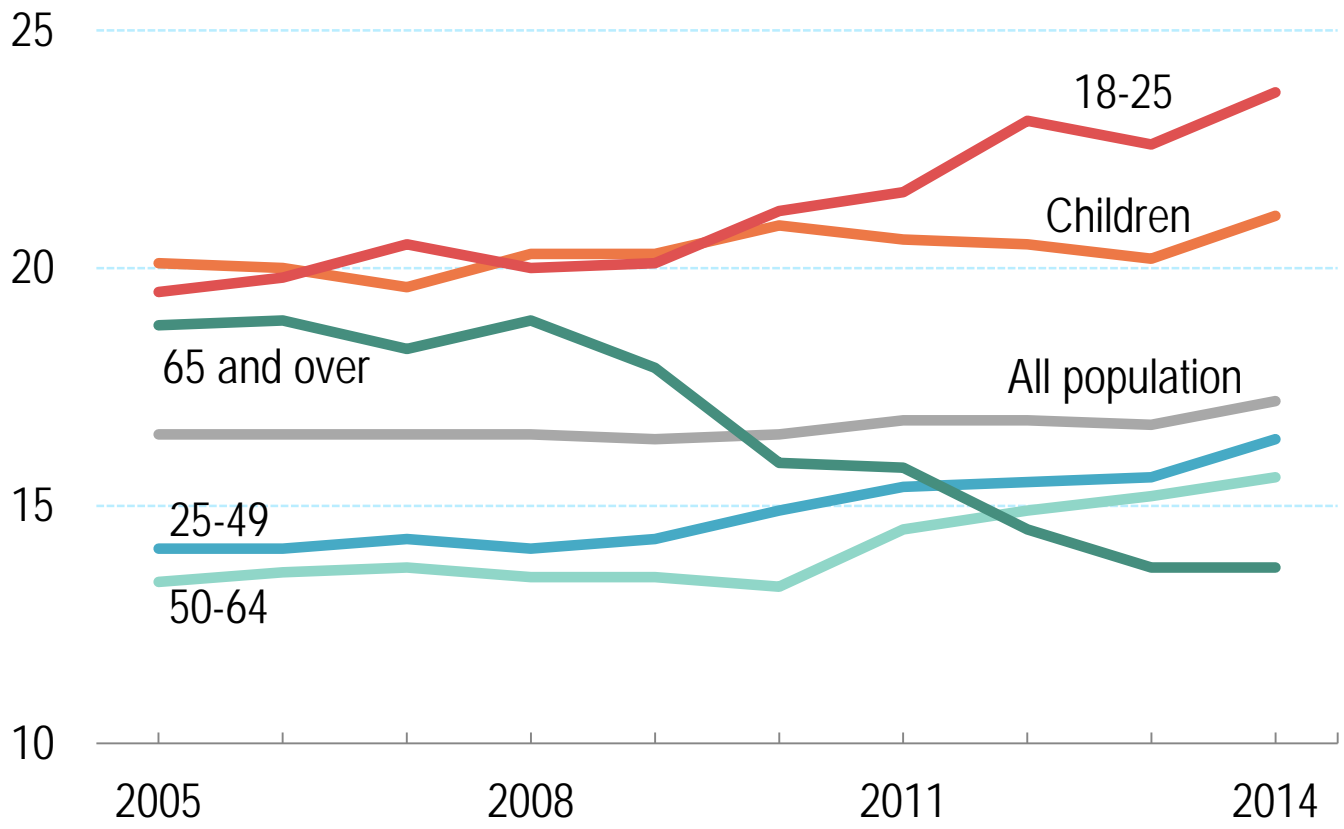
- Children 12 years old or younger
- Children 13 to 18 years old
- 19 to 60 years old
- 61 years old or older

Source: Olinto et al. (2013) The State of the Poor: Where Are The Poor, Where Is Extreme Poverty Harder to End, and What Is the Current Profile of the World's Poor?

Young people are more sensitive to the impact of shocks

Young people have suffered the brunt of the economic recession in the developed world

Figure 3. Poverty rate in the EU-27 by age group, % of total



Note: Note: At risk poverty rate is the share of population (by age group) living below the poverty threshold: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers
Source: Eurostat



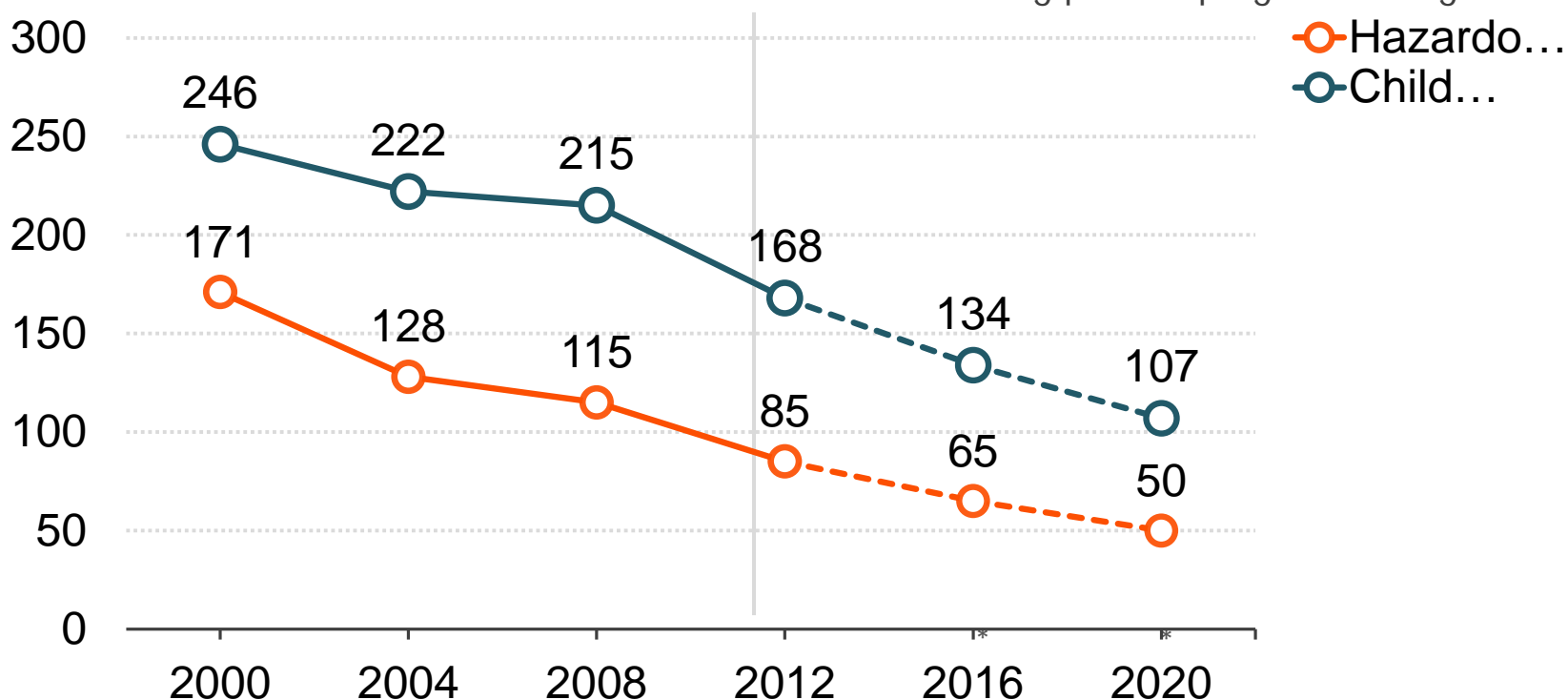
II. CHILD LABOUR TRENDS

Child labour is also falling but too slow

The current pace of progress is too slow to reach the 2016 target of eliminating worst forms of child labour

Figure 5. Number of children in child labour and hazardous work (millions), 2000-2020

Actual data for 2000-2012 and levels for 2016-2020 assuming pace of progress during 2008-2012



Note: Actual data for 2000-2012 and levels for 2016-2020 assuming pace of progress during 2008-2012

Source: ILO (2013), Marking progress against child labour: Global estimates and trends 2000-2012, Geneva: International Labour Office.



III. THE SECOND POVERTY DECADE

Migrant and left behind
children

The gradual implementation of the UN Second Poverty Decade may have affected children in mixed ways

UN Second Poverty Decade: Full employment and decent work

The ILO decent work agenda:

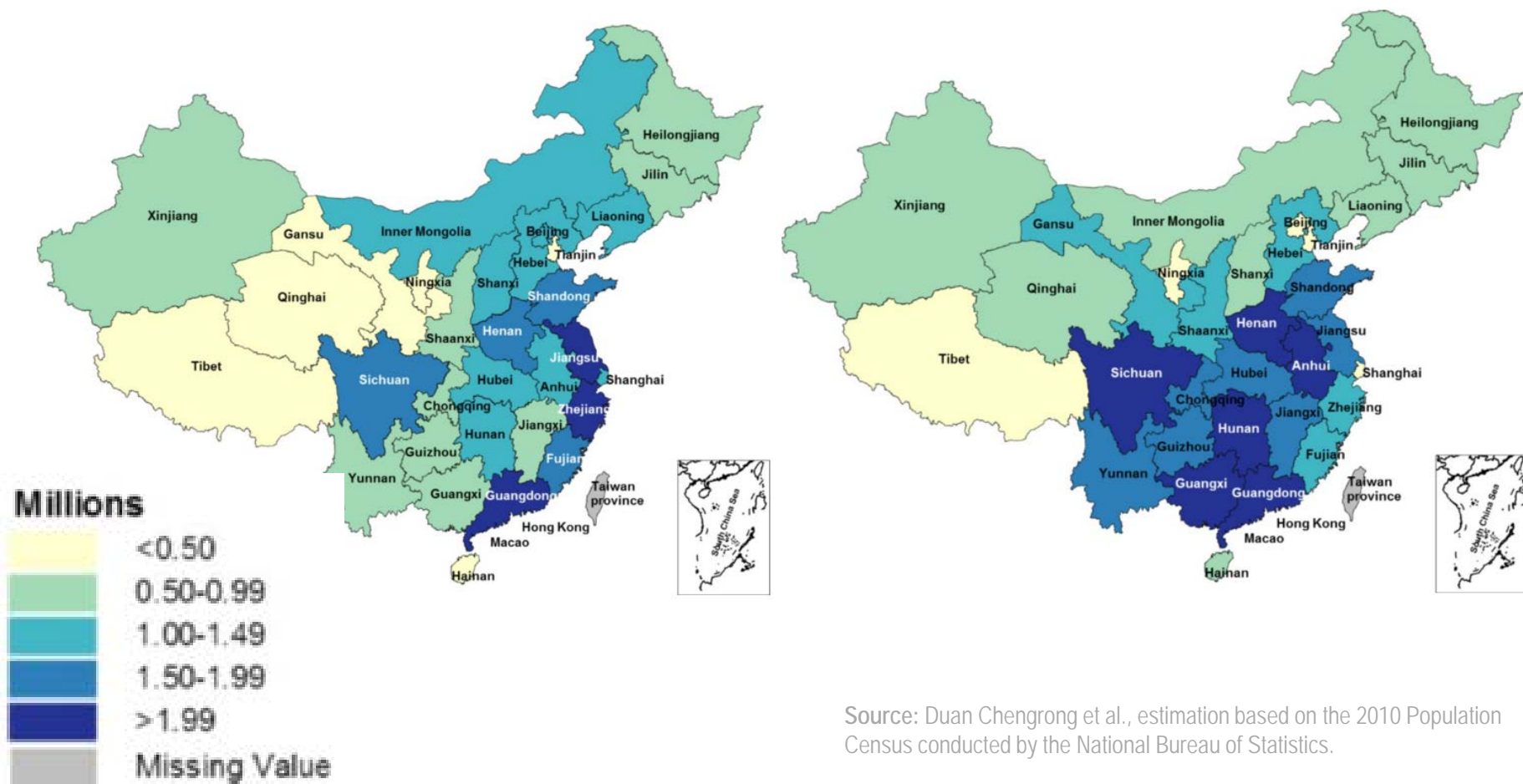
- (i) Employment opportunities
- (ii) Adequate earnings and productive work
- (iii) Decent working time
- (iv) Combining work and personal life
- (v) Work that should be abolished
- (vi) Stability and security of work
- (vii) Equal opportunity and treatment in employment
- (viii) Safe work environment
- (ix) Social dialogue, employers' and workers' representation

Less child poverty,
Less children in employment
but
more migrant and children left behind

Migrant and left behind children

The case of China

Figure 7. Migrant (left) and left-behind children (right), millions, by province, 2010

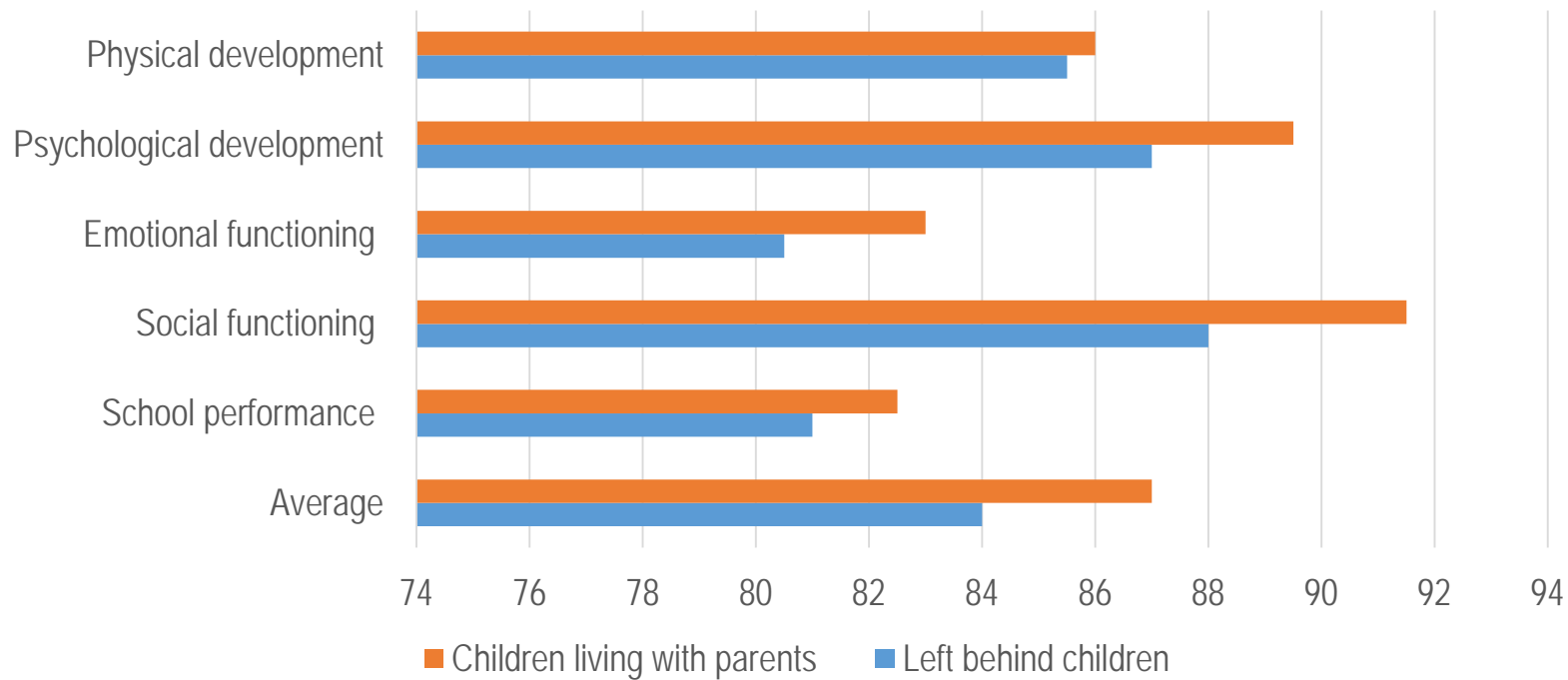


Source: Duan Chengrong et al., estimation based on the 2010 Population Census conducted by the National Bureau of Statistics.

China's left behind children's development

Physical differences are minor, but differences in school performance and emotional status are substantial

Figure 8. Mean scores on health-related quality of life indicators*, 2010
8-14 year old left-behind children in Shanting, Shangdong Province



Note: Sample of 640 8-14 year olds in 12 villages in Shanting, Shangdong Province.
Source: School of Sociology and Population studies, Remnin University of China.



IV. Moving towards the SDGs era



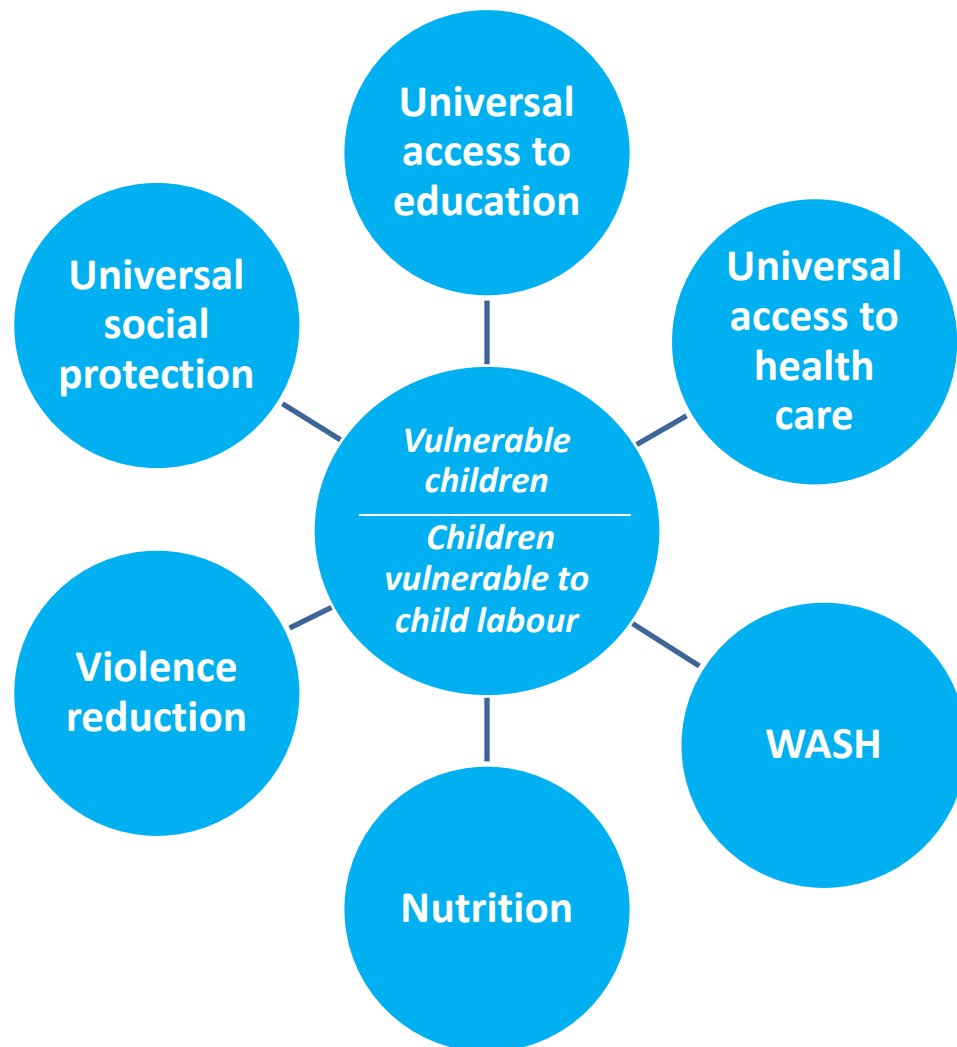
Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere	
Final list of proposed Sustainable Development Goal indicators	
Targets	Indicators
1.1 By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day	1.1.1 Proportion of population below the international poverty line, by sex, age , employment status and geographical location (urban/rural)
1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age 1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions
1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all , including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable	1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children , unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable



Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	
Final list of proposed Sustainable Development Goal indicators	
Targets	Indicators
8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to [...] [eliminate] the worst forms of child labour , including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms	8.7.1 Percentage and number of children aged 5-17 engaged in child labour, by sex and age group

UNICEF's strategy to reduce child poverty and labour

Systems approach – Partnership approach



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