

Dirassat & Abhath
The Arabic Journal of Human
and Social Sciences



مجلة دراسات وأبحاث
المجلة العربية في العلوم الإنسانية
والاجتماعية

EISSN: 2253-0363
ISSN : 1112-9751

Integrating Child Protection Issues in the Framework of MDGs and SDGs

**إدراج قضايا حماية الطفل في إطار الأهداف الإنمائية للألفية وأهداف التنمية
المستدامة**

**Intégration des questions de protection de l'enfance dans le cadre des OMD
et des ODD**

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تاريخ القبول : 2019-05-30

تاريخ الاستلام : 2018-12-15

Abstract:

Children around the world are at an increased risk of lifelong developmental challenges, mainly malnutrition , HIV infection, and other physical, emotional and social problems, which affect negatively on the development of communities. Therefore, protecting children from harm has become the focus of the international conferences, especially the millennium summit, which ended with the adoption of the 8 MDGs and the sustainable development summit which concluded with 17 SDGs. Thus, the aim of this paper is to assess the progress achieved in targets related to child protection in the framework of these goals.

Résumé:

Keywords: Child Protection, Millennium Development Goals, Sustainable Development Goals.

Les enfants du monde entier courent un risque accru de problèmes de développement tout au long de leur vie, principalement de malnutrition, d'infection par le VIH et d'autres problèmes physiques, émotionnels et sociaux qui nuisent au développement des communautés. Par conséquent, la protection des enfants contre le mal est devenue l'objet des conférences internationales, en particulier du Sommet du millénaire, qui s'est terminé par l'adoption des 8 OMD et du Sommet sur le développement durable, qui s'est achevé avec 17 ODD. L'objectif de ce document est donc d'évaluer les progrès accomplis dans la réalisation des objectifs liés à la protection de l'enfant dans le cadre de ces objectifs.

Mots-clés: protection de l'enfance, objectifs du Millénaire pour le développement, objectifs du développement durable.

ملخص:

يتعرض الأطفال في جميع أنحاء العالم لخطر متزايد مدى الحياة يتمثل في التحديات التنموية ، لا سيما سوء التغذية وعدوى فيروس نقص المناعة البشرية وغيرها من المشاكل الجسدية والعاطفية والاجتماعية التي تؤثر سلبا على تنمية المجتمعات. وبناءا على ذلك، أصبحت حماية الأطفال من الأذى هي محور المؤتمرات الدولية، ولا سيما قمة الألفية التي انتهت باعتماد الأهداف الإنمائية للألفية الثمانية، وقمة التنمية المستدامة التي اختتمت بتبني الأهداف 17 للتنمية المستدامة. وعليه تهدف هذه الورقة إلى تقييم التقدم المحرز في الغايات المتعلقة بحماية الطفل في اطار هذه الأهداف.

الكلمات المفتاحية: حماية الطفل، الأهداف الإنمائية للألفية، أهداف التنمية المستدامة.

Introduction

Every child has the right to be safe from harm. However, every year the lives and physical, mental and emotional well-being of millions of children around the world are threatened by maltreatment such as abuse, neglect, violence and exploitation . Moreover, the effects of these issues compromise the economic and social development of societies. Thus, protecting children from harm has become a vital aspect of many development programs and international summits, particularly the United Nations programs and conferences.

In September 2000, World leaders gathered at the Millennium summit in order to find solutions to extreme poverty and hunger in the entire world. This dangerous problem has many effects on people's life areas; education, health, and environment..... and children who are considered as the most vulnerable ones and they are exposed to these effects. As it is increasing year after year, the international community must tackle this problem at all levels nationally, regionally and globally, and this requires an international cooperation to work on the global framework, took the form of eight goals drawn from the millennium declaration, with a deadline of 2015. As well as, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have followed recently by 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in which child protection targets are at the center of these goals.

Thus, to what extent did world countries, in general, succeed to achieve child protection targets through the adoption

of the Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals?

1- What is Child Protection:

A- Child Definition:

This term appears to have a generally agreed meaning and/or can be used without stigmatising and/or otherwise harming the child.

“Child” is not a contentious term as such, and is used in a large number of international legal instruments. While the precise textual legal definition of “child” can vary slightly depending on the instrument, it is clear that a quasi-universal understanding of the legal notion exists:¹

- 1989: Article 1 of the CRC sets that “ a child means every human being below the age of eighteen years unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier.”
- 1990: Article 2 of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) states that “a child means every human being below the age of 18 years.”
- 1999: Article 2 of International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL) (ILO C182) sets that the term “child” shall apply to “all persons under the age of 18”.

B- Child Protection Definition:

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) outlines the fundamental rights of children, including the right to be protected from economic exploitation and harmful work, from all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse, and from physical or mental violence, as well as ensuring that children will not be separated from their family against their will. These rights are further refined by two Optional Protocols, one on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and the other on the involvement of children in armed conflict.²

Child protection (CP) is a broad term used for efforts to safeguard children from actions or situations that place their healthy development and well-being at risk. FHI 360 (formerly Family Health International) follows UNICEF's definition of CP, which is to "prevent and respond to violence, exploitation and abuse against children." The dimensions of CP are measures and structures that prevent and respond to physical, sexual, emotional or psychological abuse; commercial sexual exploitation; child trafficking; child labor; abuse in the home, school, and community; and harmful and abusive traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation (FGM; also known as cutting) and child marriage.³

C-The Importance of Child Protection:

Every child has the right to be safe from harm. Nevertheless, every year the lives and physical, mental and emotional well-being of millions of children around the world are threatened by maltreatment such as abuse, neglect, violence and exploitation. Studies from around the world show that approximately 20 percent of women and 5 to 10 percent of men report having been

sexually abused as children. Other studies show that between a quarter and a half of all children report severe and frequent physical abuse.¹ In addition, it is estimated that 215 million children are involved in child labor, which is a form of child exploitation; 115 million of them are involved in hazardous work.

These are only some of the staggering figures that show the magnitude of child protection violations around the world. They are underrecognized and under-reported and constitute barriers to the fulfillment of children's human rights. They also undermine children's healthy development and survival.

These violations occur in every country, culture and social and economic group. However, children whose parents or caregivers are absent owing to illness, death or abandonment are more vulnerable to maltreatment, because they have lost their first line of protection.⁴

D- Specific Child Protection Issues:

Children should be protected from many issues, mainly: abuse and neglect, child labour, and harmful practices.

- Child abuse, In the United States, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Department for Children and Families (DCF) define child maltreatment as any act or series of acts of commission or omission by a parent or other caregiver that results in harm, potential for harm, or threat of harm to a child. Child abuse can occur in a child's home, or in the

organizations, schools or communities the child interacts with. There are three major categories of child abuse: physical abuse, psychological or emotional abuse, and sexual abuse.⁵

- Child neglect, the most common form of child maltreatment, is generally characterized by omissions in care resulting in significant harm or risk of significant harm. Neglect is frequently defined in terms of a failure to provide for the child's basic needs: deprivation of adequate food, clothing, shelter, supervision, or medical care. Neglect laws often exclude circumstances in which a child's needs are not met because of poverty or an inability to provide. In addition, many States establish religious exemptions for parents who choose not to seek medical care for their children due to religious beliefs that may prohibit medical intervention.⁶ Child neglect is categorized as physical neglect, such as the parents or caregivers to fulfill the duty of providing food, accommodation, clothing, hygiene, play, education, safety and medical care for the child, or emotional neglect for instance; the lack of attention and love, and the child being exposed to violence.⁷
- Child Labour refers only to forms of employment or unpaid work that violate the rights of children and should be prohibited. There are two main types of child labour: under-age employment and hazardous employment. Both are widespread

throughout the world. An estimated 67 million children in the 5-14 age group are engaged in non-hazardous child labour. More than 180 million are estimated to be engaged in hazardous employment.⁸

- Harmful practices are often linked to child and early marriage but also include other practices that are seen as harmful to the child, such as corporal punishment and female genital mutilation/cutting. such practices are often referred to as religious, traditional, or cultural, it is of little importance where they come from and of greater importance how they affect the child. The term "harmful practices" may not always amount to sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, but there are a number of practices harmful to the child that do, or that contribute to increasing the vulnerability of the child to sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.⁹

E- Key Principles of Child Protection:

The key principles guiding child protection are largely based on three national goals:¹⁰

- Safety; all children have the right to live in an environment free from abuse and neglect. The safety of children is the paramount concern that must guide child protection efforts.
- Permanency; children need a family and a permanent place to call home. A sense of continuity and

connectedness is central to a child's healthy development.

- Child and family well-being; children deserve nurturing environments in which their physical, emotional, educational, and social needs are met. Child protection practices must take into account each child's needs and should promote healthy development.

In addition to the importance of accountability of service delivery systems in achieving positive outcomes for children related to each of these goals.

F- Child Protection Actors :

Children's well-being depends on their relationships with others and the social, political, spiritual, physical and environmental contexts in which they live. The ecology of the child shows us the different levels and types of influence on a child's development and protection, from the closest (e.g. families and peers) to the farthest (e.g. political and cultural systems and structures). The main five types of actors in the child protection are as follows:

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- Children have a role to play in their own protection. Life skills and spiritual development can build children's capacity to make good decisions, influence their environment positively and build resilience to difficult situations. Their innate skills of self-protection, plus their growing capacities to manage themselves and influence their environment, mean that they are

able not only to protect themselves but other children as well. It also means that they are equally able to do harm to other children.

- The family often plays the most influential role in the quality of care and protection that each child receives. The role of the family is determined through the knowledge, attitudes, capacity and beliefs of each family related to the care and protection of children. However, families rarely operate outside community boundaries and are critically influenced by local culture, including traditional attitudes, behaviours and practices.

- In communities, both formal and informal elements are at work, and their combination will depend on the particular context. In places where the government system is decentralised, the presence of formal system elements such as special police forces or services may be greater. In other contexts, the informal elements may be dominant. For instance youth clubs or other structures that perform prevention and protection functions. Individual community members also have important roles to play in the protection of children, whether as neighbours, mentors, friends or other positive figures.

- The state is a critical actor, given its role and responsibility in the implementation of children's rights to protection, which are articulated in the UN Convention on the Rights of

the Child. The majority of formal components of the child protection system are put in place and implemented by the government authorities at different levels; however, the state is strongly affected by informal elements of the child protection system. This level includes people hired by the state who have roles to play in the protection of children, including teachers, health workers, police and others.

- International structures and actors play a significant role by supporting the implementation of child rights to protection and holding states accountable as duty-bearers pursuant to the CRC (Convention on the Rights of the Child) and other international rights instruments. They often do this through establishing mechanisms for reporting, review, monitoring and evaluation, complaints, and limited redress. The international entities also contribute to the development of research, data analysis, information and database management, and advocacy campaigns. Some entities, such as UN entities, act as lead agencies to coordinate efficient and effective responses in emergencies.
- International child-focused NGOs (Non Governmental Organizations) are also actors in the child protection system. They often are an actor in the informal elements of the system, as they advocate and build capacity of children, family members, partners and government to fulfil

their responsibility in protecting children.

2- Child Protection and Millennium Development Goals

A- Millennium Summit

On 17 December 1998, the general assembly of the United Nations appealed the world countries to participate in the millennium summit, under its resolution 53/207. The millennium summit was held from 6-8 September 2000; at the United Nations headquarters in New York. In which Algeria and 148 heads of states and government attended, in addition to high-ranking officials from over 40 other countries. This summit ended with the adoption of the common document called "the millennium declaration", as well as the attendees agreed on eight global goals entitled "The Millennium Development Goals"¹²

Through adoption of the Millennium Declaration, the world's countries resolved to strive for the full protection and promotion of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights for all, to combat all forms of violence against women and implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. And to Encourage the ratification and full implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography.¹³

B- Link between Child protection and MDGs

The millennium development goals are eight goals to be achieved by 2015. The goals have become an international framework for development and a platform for developing countries and their partners to work together. UNICEF has called attention to the fact that meeting the MDGs requires paying serious attention to the rights of children. Its position is that “six of the eight millennium development goals can best be met as the rights of children to health, education, protection and equality” and that “they will only be sustained as the rights of every child are realized”¹⁴

Child protection issues intersect with every one of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) from poverty reduction to getting children into school, from eliminating gender inequality to reducing child mortality. Most of the MDGs simply cannot be achieved if failures to protect children are not addressed. Child labour squanders a nation's human capital and conflicts with eradicating extreme poverty (MDG 1); armed conflict disrupts efforts to achieve universal primary education (MDG 2); child marriage leads to the removal of girls from school and thus prevents gender equality (MDG 3); children separated from their mothers, particularly if they remain in institutional settings, are at greater risk of early death, which hinders efforts to reduce child mortality (MDG 4); female genital mutilation/ cutting undermines efforts to maternal health (MDG 5); and sexual exploitation and abuse hamper efforts to combat HIV infection (MDG 6). In addition, environmental disasters make children vulnerable to exploitation and abuse, hence the need for environmental sustainability (MDG 7). Overall, protecting children requires close cooperation between

different partners, which consolidates the need for a global partnership for development (MDG 8).¹⁵

C- Child Protection Targets in MDGs

According to (Appendix 1), Child protection occurs in the social the targets of the millennium development goals. The third target of MDG 1 is to halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, especially children, in which More than 90 million children under age five are still undernourished and underweight. The MDG 2 is addressed mainly for children, it aims to ensure that children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling by 2015, this due to the high proportion of children out school ‘57million’ particularly in poor countries, and countries affected by conflicts. The MDG 3 deals with promoting gender equality through eliminating gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015.

Children are also at the central of health care goals MDG 4, 5 and 6. MDG4 aims to reduce by two-thirds, the under-five child mortality rate between 1990 and 2015 mainly in non-developed countries. MDG5 is to improve maternal health **by reducing three-quarters of the maternal mortality ratio and providing universal access to reproductive health for children and their mothers.** MDG 6 aims to combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases that may infect children through their parents, this can be achieved through reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS and stopping the incidence of malaria and other major diseases by providing a universal access to

treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it by 2015.

D- MDGs' Child Protection Targets Achievements

According to the United Nations Millenium Development goals 2015 report, Many world countries succeeded to achieve children targets of the first six MDGs.

- Eradicating Hungry Children; the proportion of children under age five who are underweight has been cut almost in half between 1990 and 2015, according to global projections, and it is possible that the target has been achieved. Yet over 90 million children under age five - one in seven children worldwide-remain underweight. Being underweight puts children at greater risk of dying from common infections, increases the frequency and severity of such infections and contributes to delayed recovery. Poor nutrition in the first 1,000 days of life is also associated with impaired cognitive ability and reduced school and work performance. Two regions account for nearly 90 % of all underweight children in 2015 half live in Southern Asia and one-third in sub-Saharan Africa. However, due to the region's growing population, the number of underweight children has actually risen.¹⁶
- Achieving Universal Primary Education; education goal has experienced considerable achievements. Globally, The number of out-of-school children of primary school age worldwide has fallen by

almost half, to an estimated 57 million in 2015, down from 100 million in 2000. However, The literacy rate among youth aged 15 to 24 has increased globally from 83 % to 91 % between 1990 and 2015.

- Gender Parity; gender disparity has narrowed substantially at all levels of education since 2000. The developing regions as a whole have achieved the target to eliminate gender disparity at all levels of education. In Southern Asia, only 74 girls were enrolled in primary school for every 100 boys in 1990. In 2015, 103 girls are enrolled for every 100 boys.. However, significant differences remain across regions and countries, as disparities favoring either sex can cancel each other out when aggregated. The greatest improvements have been made in primary education.¹⁷
- Reducing Child Mortality; globally, the under-five mortality rate has declined by more than half, dropping from 90 to 43 deaths per 1,000 live births between 1990 and 2015. Despite population growth in the developing regions, the number of deaths of children under five has declined from 12.7 million in 1990 to almost 6 million in 2015. Whereas in sub-Saharan Africa, the annual rate of reduction of under-five mortality was over five times faster during 2005–2013 than it was during 1990–1995. This improvement was due to Measles vaccination which helped to prevent

nearly 15.6 million deaths between 2000 and 2013.

- Improving Maternal Health; the maternal mortality ratio dropped by 45 % worldwide between 1990 and 2013, from 380 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births to 210. Many developing regions have made steady progress in improving maternal health, including the regions with the highest maternal mortality ratios. For example, in Southern Asia, the maternal mortality ratio declined by 64 % between 1990 and 2013, and in sub-Saharan Africa, it fell by 49%. Despite this progress, every day hundreds of women die during pregnancy or from childbirth-related Complications; hemorrhage was the cause of the greatest number of maternal deaths. Other major complications include infections, high blood pressure during pregnancy, complications from delivery and unsafe abortion.
- Combating HIV and other disease; in 2013, approximately 17.7 million children worldwide under age 18 had lost one or both parents due to AIDS-related causes. The number rose from 10.5 million in 2000 to a peak of 18.5 million in 2009 and has been falling gradually in recent years. Investment in economic support and social protection will be needed for years to come to mitigate the impact of HIV on these children. An encouraging sign is that almost equal numbers of orphaned and non-orphaned children aged 10 to 14 are attending school, which can be an

important source of protection and stability for vulnerable children. The school attendance ratio between orphaned and nonorphaned children increased from 0.80 around 2000 to 0.96 around 2014.¹⁸

E- MDGs' Child protection Targets Challenges

To some extent, the problems that hinder the fulfillment of all the MDGs particularly child protection ones are rooted in inequality and injustice , a failure to extend the rights and protections already enjoyed by some children to all children. This is mainly due to :

- Inequalities between children living in rural areas compared to those living in urban areas. In many low income countries, child labor is a rural phenomenon . Children who have to work and go to school often have lower academic scores due to exhaustion. Furthermore, gender inequality is still present, especially regarding school attendance in low income countries. The probability of participating in child labor is higher for girls than for boys. In addition, more boys are enrolled in school and thus have the possibility to benefit from more years of education .¹⁹
- The emergence of HIV and AIDS was a sudden reminder of human vulnerability in an increasingly globalized world. Further health threats inevitably lie in wait demanding constant vigilance and stronger and more extensive forms

- of international cooperation that can generate swift and effective responses.
- Another major hazard for the years ahead is climate change. The scale of future global warming may be uncertain but the process is already underway, threatening the prospects of millions of children. Climate change will affect everyone, but it will impinge most directly on the poorest communities, who tend to occupy marginal land and are the most exposed to the elements. Rising sea levels and more frequent or severe droughts and floods or other extreme weather events may cause serious economic damage in richer societies. But in poorer ones, these hazards represent an immediate threat to child health and survival.
 - Globalization is also associated with rapid technological change. As with climate change, this can sometimes lead us in unforeseen and dangerous directions, but it still holds the promise of new forms of progress and protection. For children, the potential benefits lie, for example, in information communication technologies that are unlocking vast stores of previously inaccessible human knowledge. Children should also benefit directly from the development of new vaccines and cheaper and more readily available treatment for many childhood illnesses.²⁰
- Recently another challenge has occurred and spread around the world; conflicts significantly threaten children, human and sustainable development. By the end of 2014, conflicts have forced almost 60 million people to abandon their homes, and this is the highest level recorded since the Second World War. Every day 42.000 of people on average are forcibly displaced and compelled to seek protection due to conflicts.²¹
 - In addition to the previous challenges, Countries could not monitor children goals and the other MDGs indicators due to the lack of basic data that hinders policy making. Basic data for development are missing important data on development such as the number of deaths, the number of quality of jobs, and data on agricultural productivity. Data gap for monitoring MDGs remains low, especially in small and fragile countries. These countries suffer from political, institutional and financial obstacles that hamper collecting, analyzing data and accessing them to the public, for instance, most of the Sub-Saharan African countries.²²

Thus, there is an urgent need to improve the data sources or sustainable data used for sustainable development, which reflects the demand for better, faster, more accessible, more disaggregated data monitoring child goals and all MDGs progress . As well as, there is a urgent need to expand MDGs by setting 'MDG Plus'

goals in order to cope with the previous challenges and make child protection at the center of the development.

3- Towards Child Protection by 2030

A- Sustainable Development Agenda

In September 2015, the 70th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, set the post 2015 development agenda in the form of 17 SDGs and 169 associated targets. These newly adopted goals are successors to the MDGs. The aim was to overcome the compartmentalization of technical and policy work by promoting integrated approaches to the interconnected economic, social, and environmental challenges confronting the world.

This universal set of 17 goals, 169 targets, and 304 indicators was approved by all UN member states in the UN General Assembly on September 25, 2015. It is meant to be implemented for the next 15 years starting January 2016.

The SDGs go further than the MDGs, which aside from having an increased set of agenda to work upon, have more demanding targets (such as the elimination of poverty, instead of reducing its occurrence), as well as closely related and interdependent goals.²³

B- Child Protection at the center of some SDGs

Child protection issues were not really explicit in all of the Millennium Development Goals. Although countries have made progress towards many of the Goals, such as reducing child and infant mortality, addressing nutrition and

increasing access to quality education, these same countries still struggle to protect children from violence, exploitation, and abuse. In addition to poverty, hunger and healthcare wellbeing, which were discussed in the MDGs, these goals extended to other children's issues, and they obviously occur in the new 17 sustainable development goals by 2030 (Appendix 2), particularly the following goals:²⁴

- Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all, through building and upgrading education facilities that are a child, disability, and gender-sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.
- Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. By ending all forms of violence against women and girls in public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation, eliminate all harmful practices, such as a child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilations.
- Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, with providing full and productive employment and decent work for all take immediate and effective measures to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labor, eradicate forced labor, and by 2025 end child labor

in all its forms including recruitment and use of child soldiers.

- Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable: by 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, particularly for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities.
- Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels significantly reduce all forms of violence and related deaths everywhere end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children by 2030 provide legal identity for all including birth registration.

C- Link between Child Protection and other SDGs

The other Sustainable development goals are also linked to children, this occurs through:

- For Goal 7 Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all. Many children across the world have little or no access to modern energy services, which can have a host of negative consequences on their well-being, education, safety, and health, and it is also linked to preventable child deaths and

illnesses. As well as Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all In 2012, around 1,600 children under 5 years of age died every day from diarrhoeal diseases. Eighty-eight percent of these deaths – more than 1,400 every day – were due to a lack of safe drinking water, sanitation, and basic hygiene.¹⁸ Investing specifically in children's access to water, sanitation, and hygiene has cumulative benefits for the rest of society.²⁵

- Although Goals 9, 12, 14, 15, and 17 contain no specific references to children and youth, the goals are clearly central to their upbringing and well-being. Goal 9, Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation, is valuable too, and reliant on, children. We must involve the dynamism of youth researchers and inventors to solve some of the world's most pressing issues. In addition, children are current and future consumers and producers, therefore, proposed Goal 12, Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns, will rely on involving children in related issues such as the efficient use of natural resources, recycling, and other sustainable practices.
- Goal 14, Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and Goal 15, Protect, restore and promote sustainable use

of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss, will directly benefit the environment that children will inherit and inhabit. In turn, future generations will become the future guardians of the earth.

- Goal 17, Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development, is central to the success of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and children and youth are essential stakeholders for partnership. The voices of children and youth have been invaluable for the process of developing the new agenda and will be equally important to monitoring and accountability. Enhanced international support for effective and targeted capacity building will be critical for achieving all SDGs including those specifically related to children. Furthermore, the disaggregation of data will ensure that their unique and important experiences are being measured and can, therefore, be improved.²⁶

Conclusion

As a conclusion, achieving children's well-being is considered as the main objective of countries' development programs. Nevertheless, children around the world are posed to different types of risks, and in order to protect them from different kinds of harm, child protection issues have integrated into two main global programs:

MDGs and SDGs. In 2000, World leaders had entered into a global commitment towards the world and the most vulnerable groups, mainly children, to stop poverty before 2015 by achieving all the MDGs. As it is mentioned in this paper, the first six goals turn around the main children's issues; hunger, education, and healthcare. By 2015, the countries of the world have experienced a significant progress in these goals, however, this doesn't mean to stop at 2015, but further global work is needed to bridge the gaps between poor and reach children and find solutions to children's issues. This is the first step towards working on the post-2015 development agenda, it includes a set of sustainable development goals which are making the children at the center of the development.

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Appendix 1: Millennium Development Goals and Targets

Millennium Development Goals	Targets
Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger	Target 1: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day. Target 2: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.
Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education	Target 3: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.
Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower	Target4: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005and to all levels of education no later

women	than 2015.
Goal 4: Reduce child mortality	Target 5: Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate.
Goal 5: Improve maternal health	Target 6: Reduce by three-quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio.
Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases	Target 7: Have halted by 2015, and begun to reverse, the spread of HIV/AIDS. Target 8: Have halted by 2015, and begun to reverse, the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.
Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability	Target 9: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources. Target 10: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water. Target 11: By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers.
Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development	Target 12: Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system includes a commitment to good governance, development, and poverty reduction – both nationally and internationally. Target 13: Address the Special Needs of the Least Developed Countries. Includes: tariff and quota free access for LDC exports; enhanced programme of debt relief for HIPC and cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction. Target 14: Address the Special Needs of landlocked countries and small island developing states (through Barbados Programme and 22 nd General Assembly provisions). Target 15: Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term. Target 16: In cooperation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth. Target 17: In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable, essential drugs in developing countries. Target 18: In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications.

Source : Adopted from UN Statistics Division Millennium Development Goals website : <http://mdgs.un.org>. last access: 15/10/2016.

Appendix 2: The new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

<i>Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</i>	
Goal 1	End poverty in all its forms everywhere
Goal 2	End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
Goal 3	Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
Goal 4	

	Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
Goal 5	Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
Goal 6	Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
Goal 7	Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
Goal 8	Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
Goal 9	Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
Goal 10	Reduce inequality within and among countries
Goal 11	Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
Goal 12	Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
Goal 13	Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
Goal 14	Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
Goal 15	Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
Goal 16	Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
Goal 17	Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Source: United Nation, Economic and Social Council “Report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators”, E/CN.3/2016/2/Rev. 1, 19 February 2016.