The UNICEF/WG Module on Child Functioning (CFM)

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Objectives

• Primary purpose: to identify children with *functional difficulties*

• Rationale: In an *unaccommodating environment*, children with functional difficulties are at risk of experiencing *limited social participation*

• Aim
  – To provide cross-nationally comparable data
  – To be used as part of national population surveys or in addition to specific surveys (e.g., health, education, etc.)
The CFM in the ICF Model

- **Health Condition (disorder/disease)**
- **Body Function & Structure (Impairment)**
- **Activities (Limitation)**
- **Participation (Restriction)**
- **Personal Factors**
- **Environmental Factors**

UNICEF/WG Module on Child Functioning
Development of the module

• WG Workgroup on Child Functioning and Disability was established fall 2009 under the leadership of ISTAT (Italy) - UNICEF joined the Workgroup in 2011

• In-depth review of different instruments used to collect data on disability (2010-2011)

• Technical consultations with NSOs, DPOs, academics, doctors, representatives of governments (2011-2015)

• September 2012-2016: validation process

• Released in October 2016
Guiding principles

• Questions ask mothers (or primary caregivers) about difficulties the child may have in doing certain activities

• Used, when appropriate, questions already tested and adopted by the WG

• Included the reference “Compared with children of the same age...”

• Considered age specificity (children aged 2-4 and 5-17)
Format of the module

• Response options reflected disability continuum

• Unless noted otherwise, all response categories are:
  1. No difficulty
  2. Some difficulty
  3. A lot of difficulty
  4. Cannot do at all

• Questions on vision/hearing and mobility include questions on the use of glasses/hearing aids/assistance with walking
Functional domains

1. Seeing
2. Hearing
3. Mobility
4. Self-care
5. Fine motor
6. Communication/comprehension
7. Learning
8. Remembering
9. Emotions: anxiety and depression
10. Controlling behaviour
11. Concentrating
12. Coping with change
13. Relationships
14. Playing
Where to find the CFM and related documentation: data.unicef.org/disability