

CFCI

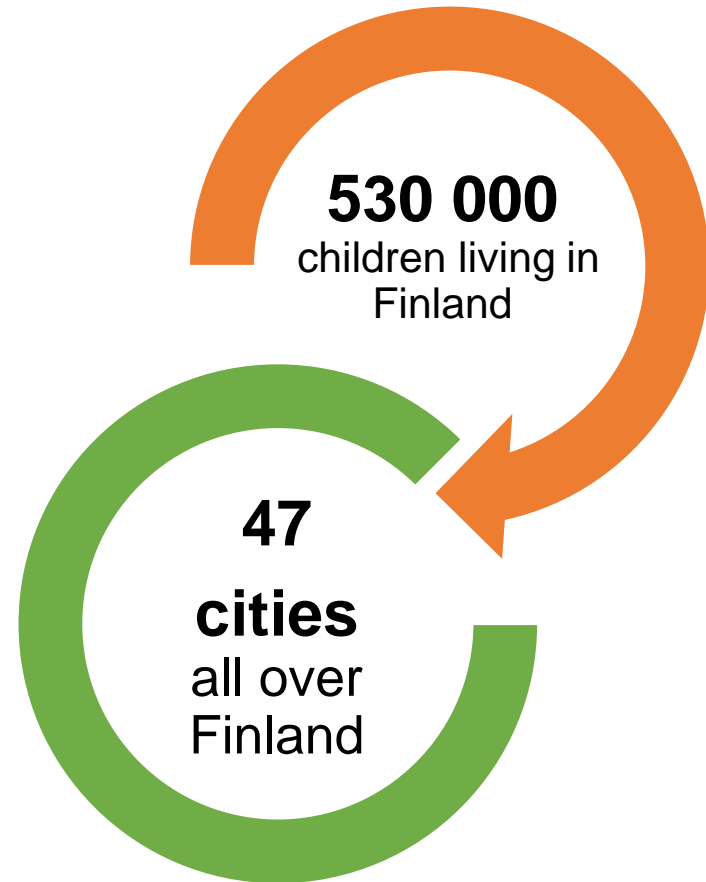
Digital platform, Finland

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Mirella Huttunen, director, public partnerships
Erika Turunen, senior advisor
Mikael Malkamäki, advisor

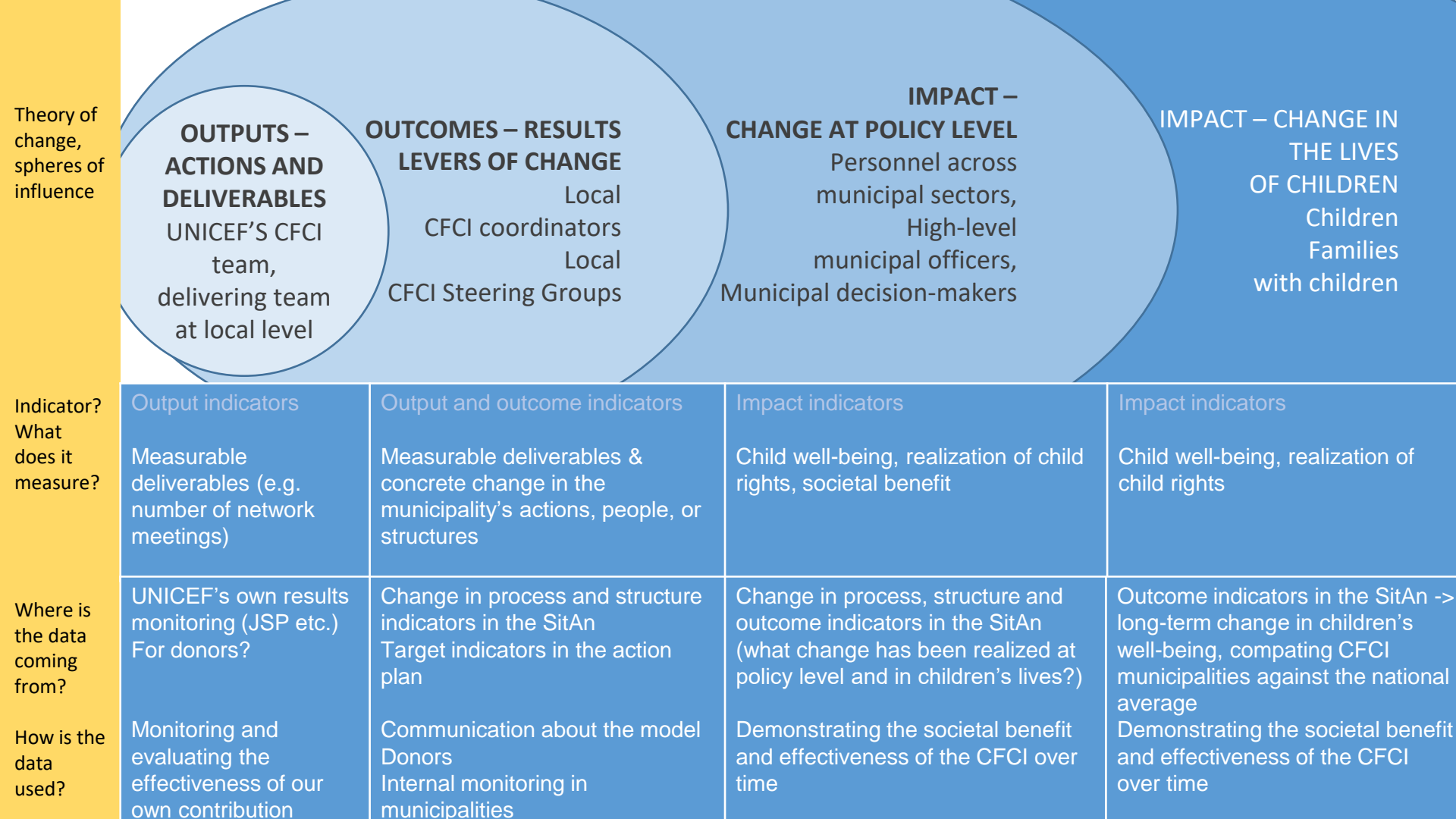
The Child Friendly Cities Initiative reaches over 50% of children living in Finland

- Started in 2012, local governance is the priority programming area
- A total of 47 municipalities, reaching 530 000 children
- Helsinki is the biggest (650,000 inhabitants), Puumala the smallest (2,200)
- 15 cities have received the CFCI Recognition



Examples of the problems in the municipalities

Examples of child rights and well being deprivations	Examples of problems in municipal services	Example of problems in the General measures of implementation level
The small minority of children to whom the problems accumulate: weak learning outcomes, obesity, mental health problems, substance abuse, placed in alternative care...	Fragmentation of services.	Coordination: Lack of overall coordination in matters concerning children. Co-operation between different municipal administrative branches is insufficient.
5.6 % of boys and 3.1 % of girls in the 8th and 9th grade of comprehensive school report using alcohol at least once a week.	Some important services are completely missing, such as substance abuse services for children and young people.	Data collection: municipal data collection does not adequately highlight the experiences of the most vulnerable children and their needs or circumstances.
12.4 % of pupils in the 8th and 9th year of comprehensive school feel that they have good influencing opportunities at school.	There is no attachment and trust to the service provider.	Participation: children and families have little experience of being heard in decisions concerning them.
In 2019, the total number of children and adolescents placed outside home was 18 928, of which 4 522 were emergency placements. The number of emergency placement was in 2019 the highest it has ever been.	Preventive services are insufficient or do not currently work well enough.	Best interest of the child and child impact assessments: the primary consideration of the best interests of the child is not yet taken into consideration as well as it should be in the services.
Mental health: 12.9 % of pupils in 8th and 9th year of comprehensive school have experienced moderate or severe anxiety (during the last two weeks)	Lack of resources to provide services.	Allocation of resources and child budgeting: Inadequate or non-existing child budgeting. Child rights in the municipal level strategies: the rights of the child are not included in the municipal strategy nor in the documents, programmes and plans that are important to children and which guide the whole municipality.



A photograph of a play area for children. The background is a blue wall with white silhouettes of buildings and various traffic signs. A young girl in a dark blue dress with a purple flower is standing in the center, smiling. To her right, several other children are sitting on yellow and blue toy tricycles. The floor is light-colored with a yellow path. The overall scene is bright and colorful.

Guiding Principles of the Finnish CFCI

- Non-discrimination (art. 2)
- Best interests of the child (art. 3.1)
- Right to life, survival and development (art. 6)
- Respect for the views of the child (art. 12)

70 Indicators



Examples of action plan indicators

Indicator 24: Children as a group: The municipality has clear guidance to support and systematize the use of child impact assessments. A group of competent professionals is appointed to conduct these assessments. *Selected as a target in 20 municipalities.*

Tampere: a child impact assessment is implemented on selected decisions together with the child impact assessment experts and children and making use of appropriate sources of information.

Indicator 1: Number of child impact assessments implemented, Indicator 2: Children's views collected as part of the child impact assessment (yes/no)

Kirkkonummi: Organise training for key personnel (so-called responsible personnel)

Indicator: Number of participants (responsible personnel).

Target: 90% of responsible personnel have participated in a training by June 2023 (webinar/seminar; number of participants/recording; number of views). Responsible entity: CFCI Working Group

Lapinjärvi: Organize an induction training (online course/training) on child impact assessment for municipal personnel responsible for policy drafting.

Target: 100% of responsible personnel participate.

Indicator: Number of online induction training organized and percentage of personnel who have participated

Examples of action plan indicators

Indicator 30: Child-focused services prevent bullying and promote a sense of community. *Selected as a target in 9 municipalities.*

Kauhajoki: *Indicators: 1. A program to prevent bullying has been drafted, yes/no 2. Experiencing bullying / % of age group, tracking progress.*

Leppävirta: *Enhance emotional and social skills. Aim to include in school curricula from fall 2022. Explore for example the use of the K12 methodology. A methodological package prepared for educational personnel to promote the emotional, social, body awareness and safety skills of pre-school aged children. This will be rolled out in late 2021. Indicator 1: Subject included in curricula. Indicator 2: Changes in bullying and sense of community (done by observing and monitoring with questionnaires before the roll-out of the activity and again sometime after roll-out).*

Monitoring progress (change at the level of process and outcome indicators)

The screenshot shows a web interface for monitoring progress. On the left is a blue sidebar with the logos of 'Lapsi- ja nuorisovälillinen kunta' and 'unicef'. The sidebar contains a navigation menu with the following items: ETUSIVU, ESITTELY, TYÖVAIHEET (1 Ohjelmaan hakeminen, 2 Lapsen oikeuksiin tutustuminen, 3 Nykytilan kartoitus), Lasten näkemykset, Indikaattorit (highlighted), Yhteenveto, Tulosten käsittely, 4 Tavoitteet ja toimintasuunnitelma, 5 Seuranta ja arviointi, TEEMAT, and MATERIAALIPANKKI.

The main content area is titled 'Kysymys 2' and includes a dropdown menu for 'Osoita' (set to 'Not started') and a progress indicator. The progress indicator is a horizontal line with four points labeled 'TASO 1', 'TASO 2', 'TASO 3', and 'TASO 4'. The current status is 'Ei mikään tasolta' (None of the levels), indicated by a small square icon.

Below the progress indicator is a detailed description of the levels:

Tasokuvaukset SULJE TASOKUVAUKSET

- ▼ **Taso 1: Toteutuu vähän tai ei lainkaan**
Ei kohdennettua tukea.
- ▼ **Taso 2: Toteutuu jossain määrin**
Kunnassa on käytössä muutamia positiivisen erityiskohtelun muotoja, ei kohdennettuja resursseja.
- ▼ **Taso 3: Toteutuu hyvin**
Kunta kerää tietoa kohdentamisen mahdollistamiseksi ja kunnassa on useampia positiivisen erityiskohtelun muotoja ja kohdennettua resurssia.
- ▼ **Taso 4: Toteutuu erinomaisesti**
Kunnassa kerätään kattavasti tietoa esim. sosioekonomisesti heikommassa asemassa olevien alueiden ja koulujen tunnistamiseksi ja käytössä on useita positiivisen erityiskohtelun muotoja ja rahoitusmalleja resurssien ja tuen kohdentamiseen haavoittuvassa asemassa oleville. Kaavoitusratkaisulla ehkäistään alueellista eriarvoistumista.

At the bottom, there is a text input field with the placeholder 'Kirjoita kommenttisi kysymyksestä tähän.'

Why a new digital platform?

- **For UNICEF:** Tracking progress on the CFCI was difficult, each municipality had their own way of reporting (Word, Excel, PPT). No overview of progress over time. Difficult to see the results and impact of the work.
- **For municipalities:** UNICEF's materials were insufficient and scattered. No clear, uniform guidance to support the different milestones of the CFCI process. Difficult to manage coordination with the steering group at local level. Communicating about the work relied on local materials.

How does it work?

- **Open access website:**
 - Focus on information about the different aspects of the CFCI to different audiences, testimonials from municipalities, etc.
 - Materials on child rights (with a focus on the role of municipalities) available for everyone.
 - An overview of the CFCI process, information for interested municipalities, and an application form.
- **Closed access digital platform:**
 - **Presenting the digital platform through the different milestones of the CFCI process:** User account, a dashboard view for the municipality, introduction to child rights, situation analysis, action plan, progress monitoring, evaluation & recognition.
 - **Salesforce:** Customer Relationship Management (CRM) platform for UNICEF. Used to store data from municipalities' SitAns and actions plans. Our aim is to be able to improve the monitoring and evaluation and overall effectiveness of the municipalities' work by collecting more varied data more systematically. Potential for example for assessing what kind of actions contribute to achieving agreed targets or improve the municipalities' position against indicators in the SitAn.

Feedback from municipalities

- Local CFCI coordinators have been involved in the development of the digital platform from the beginning and adopting a customer-oriented approach has been the overarching principle. Feedback and suggestions for improvement have been collected consistently throughout the further development of the platform.
- Feedback has been mainly positive (the platform supports the local steering groups in their work; it guides municipalities through the CFCI process; using the platform is intuitive and easy). On the other hand, also multiple suggestions for improvement (fixing small bugs at best, but also suggestions for new development projects). The importance and value of the customers' opinions has become clearer for us, too, along the way.
- The UNICEF Team constantly available to provide feedback on what works and what needs improvement.

Our experiences of the development process

- How much did it cost, what worked and what didn't, what did we learn, what would we suggest to colleagues?
 - Entire cost around 500K €
 - An agile way of working and project management framework Scrum were new for the team, which meant a steep learning curve. A new role, Product Owner, was hired externally, and their responsibilities subsequently delegated to a member of the team when moving on to further development work (Mikael uses 20-50% of his time on the digital platform).
 - The platform was developed almost from scratch. As a lesson learned and recommendation, an iterative approach, constant learning and evaluation, dealing with imperfection, and recognizing and defining what is valuable are key. Prioritization is mandatory. Throughout the process, remember to constantly ask 'why?'

Contact us:



Sanna Koskinen
senior advisor
sanna.koskinen@unicef.fi
050 576 2293



Mikael Malkamäki,
advisor
mikael.malkamaki@unicef.fi
050 442 5242



Erika Turunen
senior advisor
erika.turunen@unicef.fi
050 321 8625



Elina Sirén
advisor
elina.siren@unicef.fi
040 588 4391



Oona Kareinen
advisor
oonakareinen@unicef.fi
050 543 5032



jokaiselle lapselle

KIITOS!
Thank
you!



Kuvat (ellei toisin mainittu)
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