

UNICEF Presentation

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Towards the elimination of Child Labour in Lebanon



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Convention on the Rights of the Child as a Human Rights Instruments



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Human Rights Normative Instruments

✓ **International Bill of Rights**

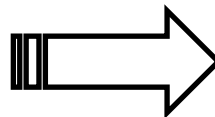
- ✦ Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- ✦ International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- ✦ International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

✓ **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)**

✓ **Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)**

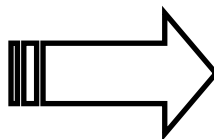
Convention on the Rights of the Child

Adopted by the United Nations
General Assembly



20 November 1989

Entry into force



2 September 1990

Adopted by 192 countries except 2 (USA, Somalia)

In Lebanon
Signed 26 Jan 1990
Adopted in 14 May 1991



Human Rights Normative Instruments

Optional Protocols to the CRC

- ❖ Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict
❖ **Signed 11 Feb. 2002 not ratified**
- ❖ Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
❖ **Ratified 8 Nov. 2004**

International Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime **(Ratified 5 Oct. 2005)**

Adopted into 2000, it includes three optional protocols: the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children **(5 Oct 2005);**

Other Normative Instruments

- ✓ **ILO Convention (Number 138) concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment – 26 June 1973 (10.06.2003)**
- ✓ **ILO Convention (Number 182) on the prohibition and immediate action for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour – 17 June 1999. (ratified 11.09.2001)**
- ✓ International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families – 18 December 1990 **(Not ratified)**
- ✓ Hague Convention of the Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Inter-country Adoption – 29 May 1993 **(Lebanon not party to Hague Conference on Private International Law)**
- ✓ Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities – **(signed 14 June 2007, not ratified)**

CRC's principles

4 main principles:

- ☐ **Best interest of the child**
- ☐ **Non-discrimination**
- ☐ **Life, survival and development**
- ☐ **Respect for the children views**

5 clusters:

- ☐ **Survival**
- ☐ **Development**
- ☐ **Protection**
- ☐ **Participation**
- ☐ **Promotion**

Reporting and monitoring

- The Committee on the Rights of the Child
 - ❖ Initial report 1994 (Concluding Observations 1996)
 - ❖ Second report 2000 (2002)
 - ❖ Third report 2005 (2006)
 - ❖ Fourth report due in 2011
- State's responsibility to implement the CRC



CRC and child labour in Lebanon



Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child

In the 2006, CRC report addressed child labour through

- **Education, including vocational training and guidance**
- **Street children**
- **Economic exploitation**
- **Sexual exploitation and trafficking**

Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child 2006

- **Education, including vocational training and guidance**
 - erase the gap between the school-leaving age and the minimum age for employment
 - amend the Labour Code to bring it into line with ILO Conventions Nos. 138 and 182
- **Street children**
 - a comprehensive national strategy to address the situation of street children
 - adequate assistance, including recovery and social reintegration services as well as vocational and life-skills training

Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child 2006

- **Economic exploitation**

- Effectively implement its domestic labour laws and the ILO/IPEC Time-Bound Programme for the eradication of the worst forms of child labour
- Improve the labour inspection system
- Provide former child workers with appropriate recovery and educational opportunities
- Continue to seek technical assistance from ILO/IPEC

- **Sexual exploitation and trafficking**

- Children victim of exploitation are not criminalized and provided with adequate recovery and social reintegration services



Child labour In Lebanon



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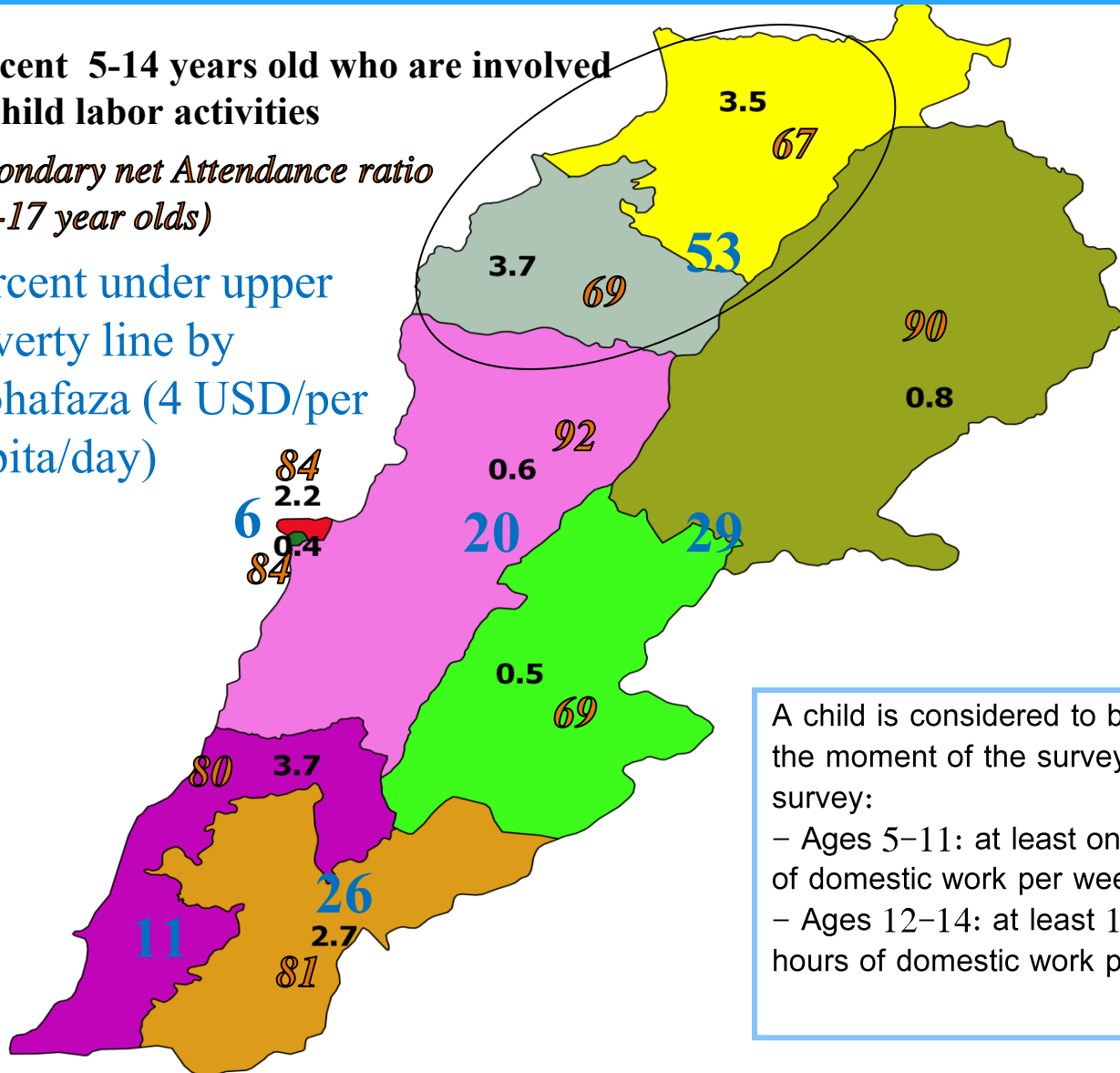
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Lebanon - Inequities

Percent 5-14 years old who are involved in child labor activities

Secondary net Attendance ratio (12-17 year olds)

Percent under upper poverty line by mohafaza (4 USD/per capita/day)



Legend

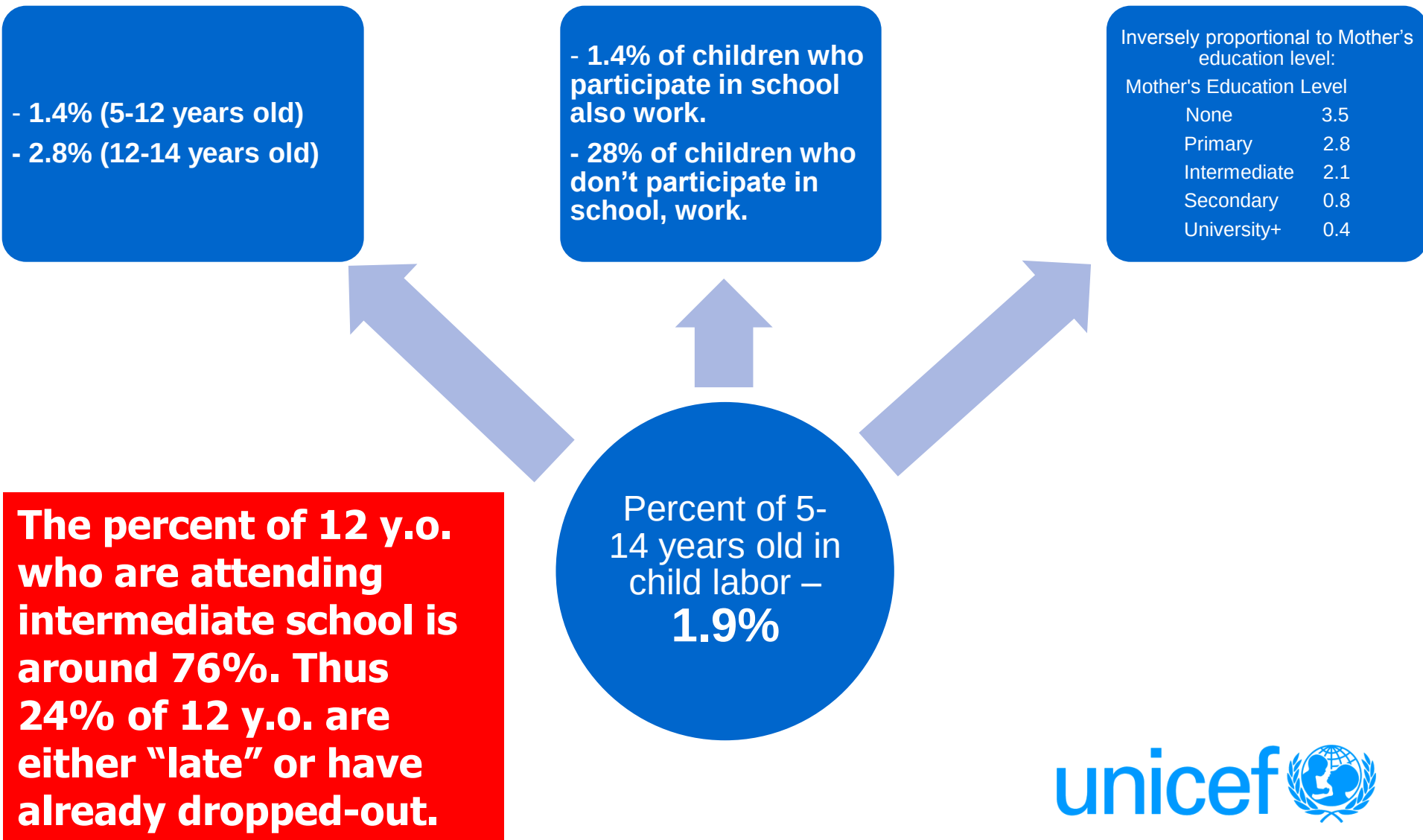
Lebanon

- Aakar and Minieh Danieh
- Baalbak and Hermel district
- Beirut
- Beirut Suburbs
- Nabatiye Governorate
- Remaining Bekaa districts
- Remaining Mount Lebanon
- Remaining North Lebanon
- South Governorate

A child is considered to be involved in child labour activities at the moment of the survey if during the week preceding the survey:

- Ages 5–11: at least one hour of economic work or 28 hours of domestic work per week.
- Ages 12–14: at least 14 hours of economic work or 28 hours of domestic work per week.

Child Labor - Determinants



Common areas of work for child laborers mentioned in the CRC report 2006

- Agriculture
- metalwork and crafts
- fishing
- rock-cutting
- tobacco cultivation
- Automobile workshop (car repair, painting, repair of tire, etc.)
- Begging

The main causes of children work in Lebanon

- Poverty and difficult socio-economic conditions of households
- Poor quality in the education system and lack of accessibility to public schools or/and semi- private schools specially in the remote areas
- Social values and attitudes in some communities towards education and work
- Lack of enforcement of the existing laws (labour, education and protection, etc.)

Child labor remains an unaddressed problem in Lebanon



Who's Accountable ?

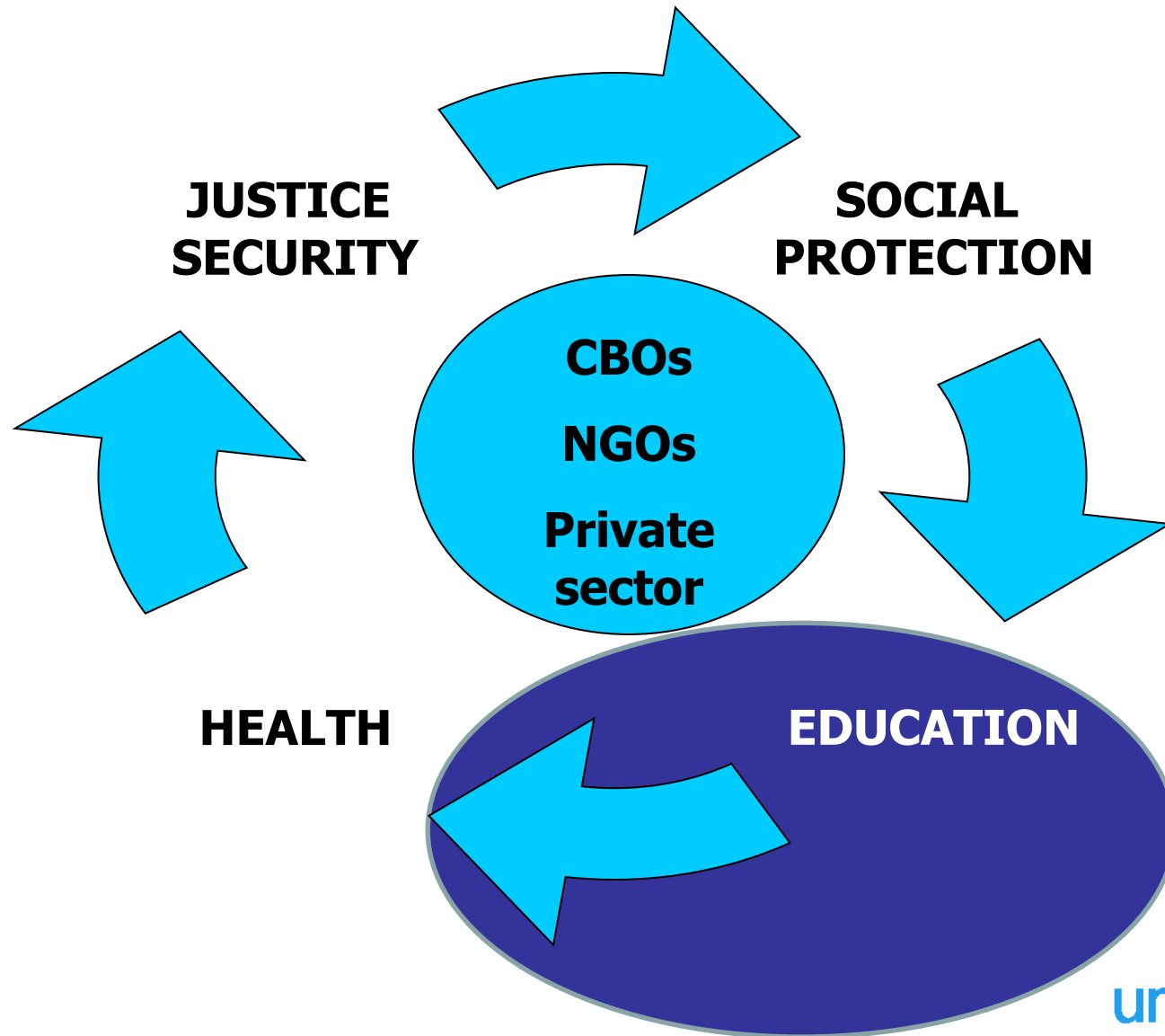
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Sectors of State Responsibility



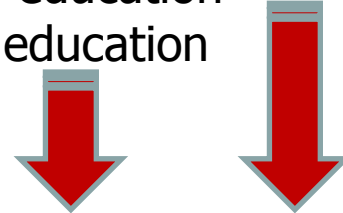
Sectors of State Responsibility



Role of Education in addressing child labour

Main strategies

- ❑ **Prevention of drop out** through quality education
- ❑ **Parents awareness** for early childhood education

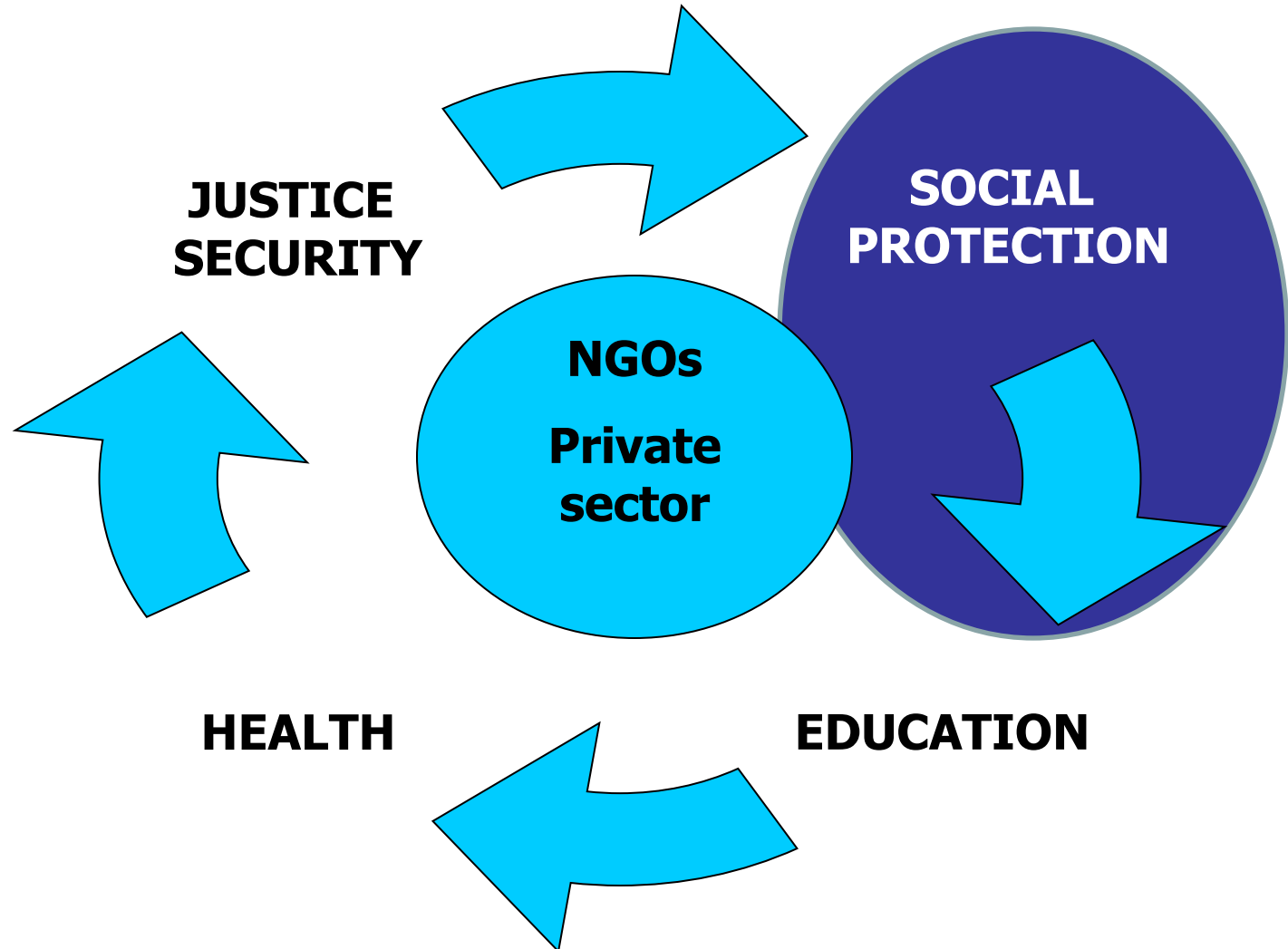


Education Sector Development Plan (2010-2015) as a framework

- 1. Education Available on the Basis of Equal Opportunity**
 - ✓ **Early Childhood Education**
 - ✓ **Improving Retention and Achievement**
- 2. Quality Education that Contributes to Building a Knowledge Society**
- 3. Education that Contributes to Social Integration**
- 4. Education that Contributes to Economic Development**
- 5. Governance of Education**

- ❑  Consistent and **quality vocational training**

Sectors of State Responsibility

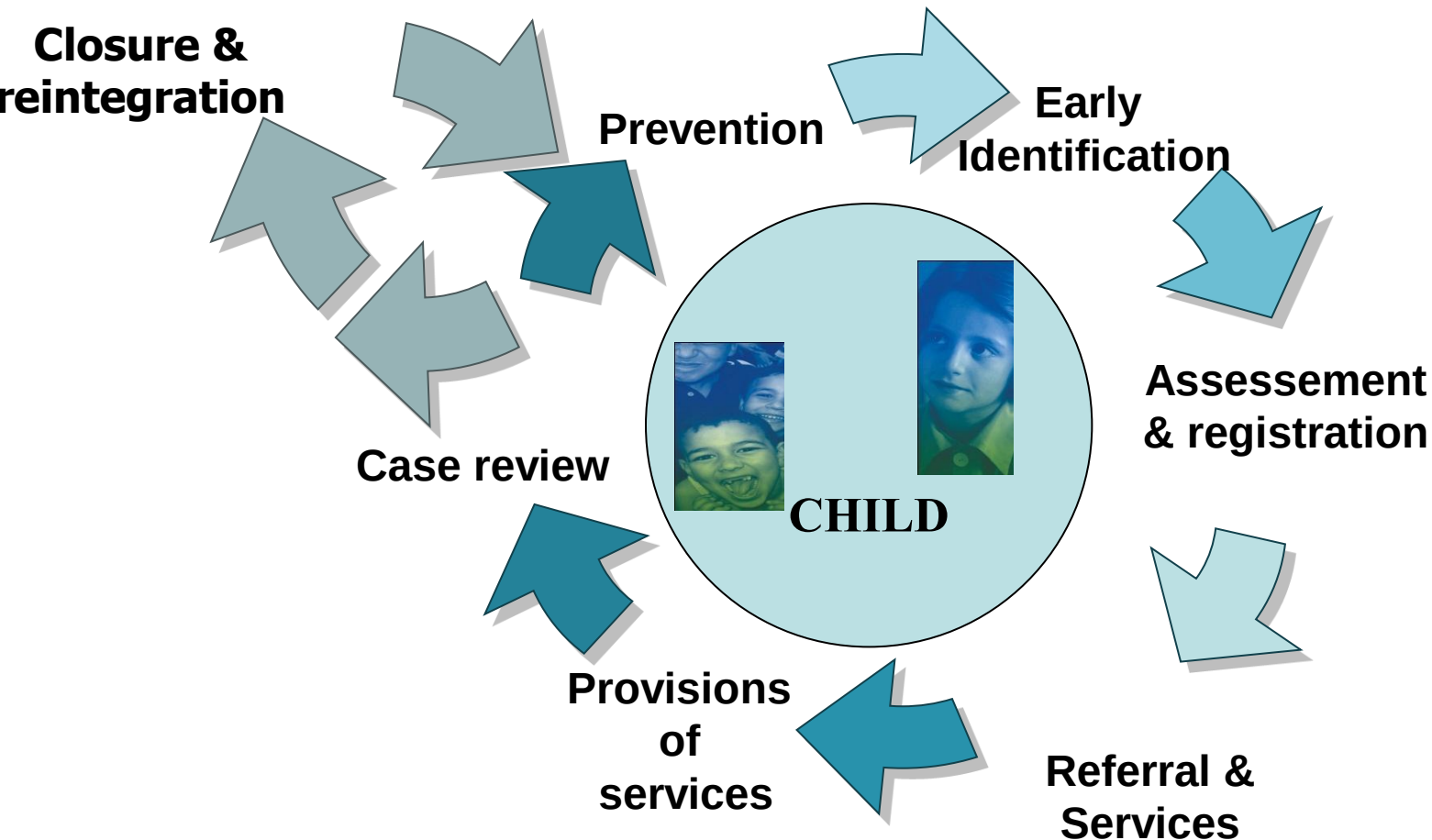


Role of Social Protection in addressing child labour

Main strategies

- ❑ Poverty alleviation programmes targeting families**
- ❑ Child protection offering a Continuum of care**

The continuum of care





Way Forward



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Main strategies

- ☐ **Following up on the 2012 report to the Committee on the Rights of Child to monitor the situation on child labour**
- ☐ **Support the implementation of Education Sector Development Plan in addressing child labour**
 - ☐ **Enforcement of the amended law for compulsory education at 15**
- ☐ **Linkages between the Poverty alleviation programme and other social protection strategies**
- ☐ **Reinforcement of the protective environment around working children**

References/Sources

- www.unicef.org

- www.ohchr.org

- www.ilo.org

- Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2009 – Central administration of statistics\ UNICEF

- Poverty, growth and income inequality in Lebanon (UNDP\2008)



Thank you