Update on UNICEF humanitarian action with a focus on linking humanitarian and development programming

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28 January 2019
UNICEF’s approach to linking humanitarian and development programming

Purpose of the paper to the Executive Board

• To present the **main strategies** of UNICEF aiming at further strengthening the link between humanitarian and development programming;

• To promote **new ways of working** in light of **United Nations reform** and the Secretary-General’s **Prevention Agenda** (from delivering aid to ending need).

UNICEF Strategic Plan 2018–2021

• Focus on **strengthening the linkages** between UNICEF’s humanitarian and development mandates;

• Contributing to meeting the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, especially for the **furthest left behind** through strategic Goal Areas;

• Integrating systematically the **analysis of risk** related to disaster, conflict and other shocks in all Goal Areas.
1. Strengthening systems and localizing humanitarian and development programming

- Support to **existing systems** and for decentralizing services is prioritized;
- Aid is provided through **local organizations** and **local governments** and **Guidance** is being developed to scale up the approach;
- **Capacity building** of community-based service providers is promoted and supported.

→ **Example:** Lebanon – Reaching All Children with Education

2. Risk-informed programming

- Resilience to shocks and stresses is strengthened through **child-sensitive, multi-hazard risk analyses** incorporated in planning and programming;
- Guidance on Risk-Informed Programming (**GRIP**) is being rolled out at country level.

→ **Example:** India - Community-based disaster risk reduction
3. Strengthening participation of affected populations

- A new strategy and action plan on UNICEF’s **systematic approach to participation of affected populations** in humanitarian and development programming is being implemented;
- UNICEF is building on effective development programming interventions for accountabilities to affected populations and will **expand and adapt** it to crises-affected situations;
- **Communication for Development** (C4D) is used to support humanitarian preparedness and response.

→ **Example:** West Africa – Ebola virus outbreak (feedback mechanisms and C4D)
Key Programme and Operational Strategies

4. Strengthening social protection systems to scale up cash transfers in emergencies
   • UNICEF is strengthening national shock-responsive social protection systems in high risk and emergency contexts;
   • In line with new guidance, UNICEF is scaling up the use of humanitarian cash transfers in a systematic manner, assessing feasibility of supporting, mobilizing or complementing national social protection systems.
     → Example 1: Nepal – resilient social protection system
     → Example 2: Yemen – emergency cash transfers

5. Emergency Preparedness
   • The new Emergency Preparedness Platform (EPP) was launched in 2018 and incorporate risk analysis and capacity assessment to inform preparedness plans
   • Investments in preparedness measures will increase.
     → Example: Liberia – EPP and floods
Key Programme and Operational Strategies

6. Inter-agency, system-wide strategies

- At the global level, UNICEF engages in the United Nations Joint Steering Committee to advance Humanitarian and Development;
- **Joint analyses** with governments and partners are conducted to define collective outcomes and inform humanitarian and development plans;
- UNICEF is strengthening and leading joint planning and coordination processes at country level so that humanitarian and development action by UNICEF and partners support national planning and coordination;
- UNICEF is working towards improving United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) plans to be more risk-informed and focused on equity and inclusion (leaving no one behind) and aligned with national priorities.

→ **Example:** Kenya and Ethiopia – government coordination framework for nutrition
Key Programme and Operational Strategies

7. Galvanizing partnerships to mobilize quality resources

- UNICEF seeks to increase **Multi-year** and **thematic/flexible** funding and reduce the level of **earmarking**;
- UNICEF is consolidated innovative approaches on **public and private** financing mechanisms and is committed to further explore new opportunities

→ **Example 1**: Education Cannot Wait Fund
→ **Example 2**: World Bank (IDA) support to UNICEF and emergency cash transfer programme in Yemen
Next steps

UNICEF Procedure on linking humanitarian and development programming;

Quality review of the linkages of humanitarian and development programming in major emergencies;

Interagency engagement – Joint Steering Committee to advance humanitarian and development and IASC.
Thank You