Management Responses to Global Thematic Evaluations

Executive Board Informal Session on Global Thematic Evaluations

Dr. Nicholas Alipui
Director, Programme Division
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Content

1. General Observations

1. Global Thematic Evaluation of Community Management of Acute Malnutrition

2. Global Thematic Evaluation of Child Protection in Emergencies
1. General observations
General observations

• Evaluations are crucial for the quality of UNICEF’s programmes; key recommendations will inform global technical guidance from Programme Division

• Special context: new Strategic Plan 2014-2017 with a specific outcome on nutrition, a focus on violence against children and special efforts to strengthen humanitarian action and resilience

• The evaluations as well as the management responses will be widely shared with Country Offices, Regional Offices and HQ divisions
2. Global Thematic Evaluation of Community Management of Acute Malnutrition
Focus of the Management Response

The management response focusses on the following areas:

• **Ownership and Integration, Strategy and Policy, Guidelines** (refining approaches, integration into health systems, technical support)

• **Performance and Quality of Services** (outreach, information and monitoring)

• **Equity in Access, Assessment, Coverage, Planning** (assessments and joint planning)

• **Maintaining and Improving Efficiency** (improved supply pipeline)

• **Sustainability and Scaling Up (Expansion of CMAM)** (partnership, training, knowledge management)
Opportunities and challenges

On integration of CMAM into health systems: as SAM is a problem in emergency and non-emergency contexts, UNICEF will increase its efforts to integrate SAM treatment into routine health services as part of a package of proven nutrition interventions.

On mainstreaming resilience: in light of growing evidence on the impact of climate change and conflict on nutritional outcomes, it is of utmost important to mainstream resilience into nutrition programmes as well as into other sectors.

On interagency collaboration: results related to CMAM are a consequence of well coordinated intersectoral interventions; thus, UNICEF will continue its efforts to foster interagency collaboration regarding nutrition interventions to address acute malnutrition.

On RUTF: the evaluation has looked at the supply chain, with the aim of increasing availability and access to ready to use therapeutic foods. For further progress, UNICEF will engage with global experts to foster innovations in this field.

On capacity building: as treatment of SAM continues to scale up and the number of people involved in treatment increases, it will be critical to continue investment in national human resource capacity, from national to community based levels.
Examples of key responses and actions

On integration of CMAM into health systems: Review of current approaches, with an emphasis on integration of treatment of severe acute malnutrition into national health systems.

On mainstreaming resilience: Provision of programme guidance with a focus on strengthening systems for improved resilience.

On interagency collaboration: Strengthened mechanisms of interagency collaboration for prevention and care at the different stages of acute malnutrition.

On RUTF: Systematic scientific exploration of improved ready-to-use therapeutic foods and enhanced food quality assurance processes.

On capacity building: Improved capacity to utilize nutrition information systems to manage programme quality.
Other examples of key responses and actions

• **On nutrition information:** Promoting innovation in nutrition data methods, including identification of bottlenecks and equity issues.

• **On addressing moderate acute malnutrition:** Collaborating with the World Food Programme and the global nutrition community to define better approaches to address moderate acute malnutrition.

• **On moving ahead:** Continued support to multisectoral work to prevent acute malnutrition.
Focus of the Management Response

Further develop human-rights based advocacy and strengthen accountability for violations against children, linked to rule of law and security sector reform.

Strengthen prevention of sexual violence and other gender-based violence against girls, boys and women in emergencies using community alert/response and social change interventions.

Improve data management and evidence base to inform quality programming; and build capacity of UNICEF and partners in child protection in emergencies.
Opportunities and challenges

On advocacy, monitoring and reporting: advocacy and monitoring are important strategies to protect children in emergencies and need to be further strengthened, especially in interagency settings. Hence, UNICEF continues to collaborate closely with relevant Special Representatives of the SG, to strengthen the MRM-process and to support the Rights Upfront plan.

On the quality of psychosocial services: to improve the quality of psychosocial services, better standards need to be defined and long-term investments into relevant services must be ensured. UNICEF engages with IASC partners in global standard setting as well as with government counterparts in building-up relevant services to affected populations.

On systems-strengthening and long-term follow-up: to ensure long-term follow-up, UNICEF is strengthening the link between emergency responses with the ongoing efforts in many countries to build-up child protection systems that are able to provide effective responses in non-emergency situations.

On prevention of violence: In addition to the efforts to better protect boys and girls from the consequences of conflicts and disasters, UNICEF is expanding its work on social norms and behavior change as important strategies for prevention.

On equity: the evaluations commends CPiE for reaching marginalized population and suggests additional efforts for disabled children. UNICEF’s sections for child protection and disability will ensure adequate guidance on ensure that child protection emergency programmes respond adequately to the needs and rights of disabled children.
Examples of key responses and actions

**On advocacy**: Lead and contribute to global guidance, including SCR 1998, mine action, transitional justice, and Children, Not Soldiers campaign.

**On gender-based violence**: Expand model for community-based prevention and response strategies to address gender-based violence, and contribute to Gender Action Plan for UNICEF, including focus on GBV in emergencies.

**On evidence-generation**: Develop and strengthen monitoring and evaluation framework to inform evidence-based programming, and establish data and information system to improve child protection referral and case management.

**On capacity-building**: Build human resource capacity, including Post-Graduate Diploma in Child Protection in Emergencies.
Thank you