EMR Tracker

Evaluation Management Response Document

Region: ESAR
Office: Uganda
Evaluation Year: 2019
Evaluation Title: Early Childhood Development Kit Humanitarian Evaluation
Evaluation Report Sequence Number: Uganda/63/2019/16032

Person In Charge For Follow Up to Management Response: Nabendra Dahal

Planned Use of the Evaluation
The evaluation results are intended to inform decision-making on UNICEF’s future programming for the ECD kit by providing recommendations to support and leverage play-based innovations in early childhood in humanitarian contexts. The evaluation also provides rich information on play-based early learning interventions for UNICEF ECD Programme Managers to advocate with government ministries for the provision of stimulating environments for children, where caregivers use play as a foundation for child learning and development.

Allowed Editor(s): Jonathan Gamusi, Lotte van't End, Divya Lata

Recommendations and Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Recommendations/Action</th>
<th>Responsible Section (Action)</th>
<th>Responsible Person Name (Action)</th>
<th>Expected Completion (Action)</th>
<th>Mgt Response/Implementation Stage</th>
<th>Reason/Action Taken</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Recommendation 1: With technical support from UNICEF, the Government of Uganda should update the guidelines for ECD centres in emergencies (as well as in development contexts) to clarify and ensure that the enrollment of children does not exceed an appropriate number for the size of the ECD classroom (i.e., the maximum occupancy of a classroom). Government inspection of ECD centres in emergencies should be strengthened, especially during surge conditions to ensure overcrowded conditions are not permitted, and that appropriate caregiver-to-child ratios are being followed. This might include government strategies through which caregiving can be expanded rapidly if there is heightened demand, and greater UNICEF engagement in mentoring and strengthening local ECD service providers’ technical capacities.</td>
<td>Basic Education &amp; Adolescent Development (BEAD)</td>
<td>Nabendra Dahal</td>
<td>12/30/2018</td>
<td>Completed</td>
<td>The guidelines and standards related to the recommendation exist. The reason that the guidelines and standards are not followed is the lack of resources to meet the demand. The follow up action is not revision of the guidelines but mobilisation of additional funds. The recommendation should be closed.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Recommendation 2: Drawing upon the lessons from the pilot and with technical support from UNICEF, the Ministry of Education and Sports should implement the toymaking sooner in the lifecycle of the ECD kit enhanced intervention in the event of another humanitarian crisis in the country. The ECD kits are most effective when used as a model for caregiver and parenting education on the local adaptation of toys and learning materials that incorporate more traditional forms of play and cultural experiences that take into consideration local play customs prevalent among children and caregivers, and that are endorsed by child developmental psychology experts as their relevance for cognitive, motor and psychological development.</td>
<td>Basic Education &amp; Adolescent Development (BEAD)</td>
<td>Nabendra Dahal</td>
<td>Underway</td>
<td>A meeting has been undertaken with Principals and their deputies to discuss scale-up strategies and develop plans towards the capacity building workshop.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Recommendation 3: Given the need for toys expressed by national ECD managers, the Ministry of Education and Sports should ensure that local toymaking is implemented at a national level, by more substantially including toymaking in the national framework for training of ECD caregivers and equipping trainers at the district level to deliver this training. The incorporation of parents’ own play experiences and traditional forms of play should be privileged in the local toymaking process to ensure their use and sustainability in ECD centres.</td>
<td>Basic Education &amp; Adolescent Development (BEAD)</td>
<td>Nabendra Dahal</td>
<td>Underway</td>
<td>A meeting has been undertaken with Principals and their deputies to discuss scale-up strategies and develop plans towards the capacity building workshop.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.1: Supported the review of the training manual to ensure incorporation of simple messages on brain development, play, and toymaking using local materials.