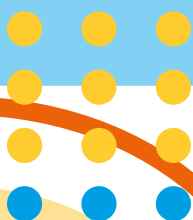


Evaluation Office
September 2022

unicef 
for every child



Disability-Inclusive

Evaluations in UNICEF

Guideline for Achieving UNDIS Standards

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Introduction

UNICEF's mandate is to uphold the rights of all children, focusing on those left furthest behind. This means working to ensure that the most marginalized and vulnerable children, including children with disabilities, are able to enjoy their rights and have a fair chance to realize their full potential.

UNICEF's portfolio on children with disabilities has four main goals:

1. Empower and recognize children with disabilities as their own best advocates;
2. Ensure children with disabilities receive the required support throughout the life cycle to live independently and be included in their communities;
3. Ensure children with disabilities grow up in enabling environments with access to resources and opportunities to realize their full potential;
4. Ensure children and persons with disabilities benefit from a full range of UNICEF programmes and organizational investments that embrace inclusivity and diversity.

Children with disabilities are a diverse group, having different types of disabilities, including physical, sensory, intellectual, and psychosocial, with some not obviously visible. This diversity requires a corresponding understanding of the diverse barriers they face (physical, social, cultural, legislative). It also calls for a deeper and sensible analysis of the support they require and any compounding forms of discrimination (based on their gender identity, cultural, or geographic residence) that will affect the design and implementation of tailored interventions to support them.

The UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022-2025 positions disability as one of the organization's cross-cutting priorities. This marks a change from the previous strategic plan, where disability had a less prominent role. Under this cross-cutting priority, UNICEF is committed to: (i) prevention of stigma, discrimination, neglect and violence against children with disabilities and promotion of diversity and inclusion; (ii) improvement of disability-inclusive infrastructure, services, programmes and coordination platforms; (iii) access to comprehensive 'community-4-care' and support services; (iv) access to assistive technology and relevant services; (v) disability-inclusive action in humanitarian, emergency and fragile contexts, including in programming and in UNICEF's role as a cluster lead agency; and (vi) full and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities. The organization is also rolling out the implementation of the new Disability Inclusion Policy and Strategy (DIPAS), designed to accelerate the progress towards greater disability inclusion.

This strategy follows a twin-track approach, using both disability-targeted and disability-inclusive actions, to ensure that UNICEF expands and fulfills its vision to work holistically and with a cross-sectoral approach. This twin-track (i.e., mainstreaming and targeted) approach requires (i) targeted actions and investments to advance the rights and well-being of children with disabilities, as well as the inclusion of staff with disabilities; and (ii) the integration of disability inclusion into sectoral and cross-sectoral programming and organizational systems and structures. These greater efforts are closely aligned to UNICEF's commitment to the 2019 United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS), to provide "the foundation for sustainable and transformative progress on disability inclusion through all pillars of the work of the United Nations".

Integrating disability-inclusive approaches to evaluations is key to fulfilling UNICEF's mandate and to achieving UNDIS standards, particularly Indicator 10 (Evaluation). This guidance note was developed for UNICEF staff as a tool to raise awareness and to facilitate the utilization of disability-inclusive approaches to evaluation – for all evaluations, across all phases of the evaluation process. The guidance references existing UNDIS technical notes and United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) guidance on "elements to address", complementing them with UNICEF-specific considerations.

Good practices with regard to disability inclusion continue to evolve across the organization. This guidance presents examples of good practices based on existing UNICEF evaluations. In addition, the organization is launching a [global disability research agenda and platform](#), led by UNICEF Innocenti, that will complement and provide further evidence for research and evaluation to understand and strengthen new areas of inclusive programming.

UNDIS Indicator 10: Disability-inclusive evaluations – Elements to address, UNICEF considerations and good practices



Preparatory Phase

Element 1

The terms of reference of evaluations should pay adequate attention to disability inclusion

Element 2

Evaluation teams have knowledge and/or experience of disability inclusion, where relevant

Element 3

Evaluation questions cover different aspects of disability inclusion



Data Collection: Stakeholders and Methods

Element 4

Evaluation stakeholder mapping and data-collection methods involve persons with disabilities and their representative organizations



Analysis and Reporting Phase

Element 5

Evaluation findings and analysis provide data and evidence on disability inclusion



Conclusion, Recommendation and Dissemination Phase

Element 6

The conclusions and/or recommendations of evaluations should reflect their findings on disability inclusion



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September 2022