Field visits by the members of the UNICEF Executive Board

Stephanie Kunkel
Deputy Secretary of the Executive Board

Orientation for the 2023 Executive Board
12 January 2023
Types of field visits

Two field visits each year:

• Members of the Executive Board

• Joint visit of the members of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN Women, and WFP
Information on field visits

Field visits | UNICEF Executive Board
(https://www.unicef.org/executiveboard/field-visits)

Field visits
Field visits of the UNICEF Executive Board

Available in: English

Executive Board members have been taking part in organized field visits to UNICEF programme countries since 1993. The destination is selected by the Bureau – in consultation with OSEB and the regional groups and with the concurrence of the concerned Government – based on the options presented by the relevant UNICEF regional and country offices. The destination of the joint field visit of the Executive Boards is agreed by the four Bureaux (UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UN-Women, UNICEF and WFP), in consultation with the respective secretariats.

Past Executive Board visits were organized in accordance with the field visit guidelines...
Guidelines for field visits

Guidelines for the field visits of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women, and for the joint field visits of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP

First regular session 2020

I. Guidelines for the field visits of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women

A. Introduction

1. The present guidelines have been prepared in response to Executive Board decisions 2019/16 (UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board), 2019/13 (UNICEF Executive Board), and 2019/9 (UN-Women Executive Board), which stated that each respective Executive Board “requests the Bureau, assisted by the secretariat, to consult with the Bureau of the Executive Board of UNICEF, UN-Women and UNOPS for the purpose of field visits in the context of their mandates.”
Purpose and scope

✓ Observe UNICEF field operations and the work of the UN Country Team

✓ Understand the relationship of the UNICEF country programme to national development priorities, Strategic Development Cooperation Framework and SDGs

✓ Provide insight into the implementation of UNICEF policies and strategies at field level

✓ Discuss the impact and results of UNICEF programmes with government and non-government counterparts at national, local and community levels

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Selection of countries

Countries to be visited are selected by the Bureau, in consultation with regional groups, based on:

• Information provided by UNICEF Secretariat;
• Rotation between regions in terms of the countries to be visited each year.

For the Joint field visit, the destinations are agreed upon by the four Boards – UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP.
Issues covered

• Analysis (CCA), the country programme and reviews
• Major evaluations and results achieved against objectives;
• Effectiveness of communication between UNICEF and national and local counterparts, the United Nations country team and bilateral partners;
• Comparative advantages, impact, results and sustainability;
• Emergency preparedness and response capacity;
• Decentralization;
• Relevance and impact of Executive Board decisions;
• Linkages with the UNICEF Strategic Plan, SDGs, etc

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Participation

- Based on the principles of equitable regional participation and equitable access to the field visit

- Up to six members of the Executive Board: up to two from the Western European and Others Group of States, and one from each of the African, Asia-Pacific, Eastern European, and Latin American and the Caribbean groups of States

In selecting the nominee, the regional groups should bear the following criteria in mind:

- Not be a national of the countries to be visited;
- Be familiar with UNICEF work
- Be reasonably certain of his/her participation in subsequent meetings of the Executive Board.

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Logistics

Timing of the visits: as early as possible in the year

Length of the visits: on average five working days, and not more than two countries per visit.

Briefing, debriefing and trip report:
- Briefing at both HQ and country office level,
- Report on the field trip

Travel arrangements: UNICEF secretariat will make necessary travel arrangements, as required, in accordance with United Nations standards.
Thank you

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