



**AGENDA
FOR HUMANITY**
5 CORE RESPONSIBILITIES
24 TRANSFORMATIONS



Individual Self Reflection 2020 on World Humanitarian Summit Commitments and Initiatives - United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)



Stakeholder Information

Organisation Name

United Nations Children's Fund
(UNICEF)

Organisational Type

UN

City and Country where Headquartered

New York, United States of America

Focal Point Name

Philimon Majwa

Region

Global

Twitter ID

@unicef

Attachments

[UNICEF_commitments.pdf](#)



1B Act early

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
UNICEF commits to include conflict analysis, conflict sensitivity, and early warning, as an integral part of its operations, including in support of the Secretary General's Human Rights Upfront initiative.	Operational	Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to act early upon potential conflict situations based on early warning findings and shared conflict analysis, in accordance with international law.	Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts
Commit to make successful conflict prevention visible by capturing, consolidating and sharing good practices and lessons learnt.	Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

47 UNICEF country offices reported that their country programmes include explicit objectives to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, addressing violence, conflict and challenges to social cohesion.

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Preparedness
- Strengthening national/local systems

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

- i. Integration of conflict analysis into regular Situational analysis and other Country Office planning processes does not yet happen systematically.
- ii. Limited funding and technical capacity at global and regional level.
- iii. Country Teams with limited capacity may not be able to put in place all the required preparedness measures without outside support.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

- i. UN agencies and Member States should develop joint indicators related to conflict analysis and peace building.
- ii. UNICEF continues to need high-level management support to maintain this pace and keep strengthening the partnership.



1C Remain engaged and invest in stability

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to improve prevention and peaceful resolution capacities at the national, regional and international level improving the ability to work on multiple crises simultaneously.	Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts
Commit to sustain political leadership and engagement through all stages of a crisis to prevent the emergence or relapse into conflict.	Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts
Commit to address root causes of conflict and work to reduce fragility by investing in the development of inclusive, peaceful societies.	Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

47 UNICEF country offices reported that their country programmes include explicit objectives to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, addressing the violence, conflict and challenges to social cohesion.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

The Peace Promise

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Funding amounts
- Joined-up humanitarian-development analysis, planning, funding and/or response
- Preparedness

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

- i. Integration of conflict analysis into regular Situational analysis and other Country Office planning processes does not yet happen systematically.
- ii. Limited funding and technical capacity at global and regional level.
- iii. Country Teams with limited capacity may not be able to put in place all the required preparedness measures without outside support.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

- i. UN agencies and Member States should develop joint indicators related to conflict analysis and peacebuilding.
- ii. UNICEF continues to need high-level management support to maintain this pace and keep on strengthening the partnership.



2A Respect and protect civilians and civilian objects in the conduct of hostilities

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
UNICEF will seek to end grave violations against children through strengthening its monitoring and reporting on child rights violations in situations of armed conflict and other crises and by supporting systems and procedures to respond to the needs of affected children and their families.	Operational	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
UNICEF will strengthen its advocacy with Member States and parties to conflict to stop the use of wide-area explosive weapons in populated areas, as well as attacks on, and the military use of, civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, and water facilities.	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to promote and enhance the protection of civilians and civilian objects, especially in the conduct of hostilities, for instance by working to prevent civilian harm resulting from the use of wide-area explosive weapons in populated areas, and by sparing civilian infrastructure from military use in the conduct of military operations.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

- UNICEF continued fulfilling its responsibility to monitor and report on grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict as part of the UN Security Council-mandated Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM). A core part of this work is UNICEF's role as co-chair of MRM task forces in 14 countries and as lead on monitoring and reporting on grave violations against children in six situations of concern that do not have a formal MRM. This was done in collaboration with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG CAAC), the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations (DPPA-DPO), and other relevant partners.
- UNICEF advocated with Member States and parties to conflict to comply with their obligations to protect children and to end and prevent the six grave violations committed against children in situations of armed conflict.
- In the context of counter-terrorism activities undertaken by Member States, UNICEF advocated for compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law, including measures to protect children associated with armed groups such as treating them primarily as victims of violations of international law rather than treating them as security threats, and providing them with release and reintegration assistance rather than detaining and prosecuting them

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Field conditions, including insecurity and access
- Funding amounts
- IHL and IHRL compliance and accountability

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

Member States are increasingly addressing issues concerning children affected by armed conflict through a national security or counter-terrorism lens rather than a human rights and protection lens. This approach undermines the rights and protection of affected children and is rarely in their best interest.



3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

Security Council Resolution 2427, adopted in 2018, must be implemented by Member States. This includes treating children associated with armed groups primarily as victims of violations of international law rather than treating them as security threats and providing them with release and reintegration assistance rather than detaining and prosecuting them.

Keywords

IHL compliance and accountability, Protection



2B Ensure full access to and protection of the humanitarian and medical missions

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
In its engagement with governments and non-state actors, UNICEF commits to actively promote the principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence in humanitarian action by continuing to base its actions on the rights and needs of children.	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
UNICEF will continue to advocate for Member States and parties to conflict to end all attacks on health facilities, personnel and transport and to allow the provision of health services.	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to ensure all populations in need receive rapid and unimpeded humanitarian assistance.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
Commit to promote and enhance efforts to respect and protect medical personnel, transports and facilities, as well as humanitarian relief personnel and assets against attacks, threats or other violent acts.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

- i. In 2018, UNICEF began developing a series of reports focused on issues related to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) in armed conflict, including attacks on WASH infrastructure. UNICEF also began advocacy with Member States to raise awareness of the impact of attacks against WASH infrastructure on children.
- ii. UNICEF, as co-chair of UN Security Council-mandated Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) task forces, continued the monitoring and reporting of attacks against schools or hospitals, as well as the military use of schools or hospitals. UNICEF also continued its advocacy with Member States and parties to conflict to end attacks on protected civilian infrastructure, including schools or hospitals.
- iii. UNICEF advocated with Member States to endorse the Safe Schools Declaration, which had been signed by 86 countries as 31 March 2019. UNICEF also continued to be an active participant in the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack, which released a comprehensive report in 2018 on attacks against education globally.

2. B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

- i. Increasing disrespect by parties to conflict of international humanitarian law, as evidenced by the destruction of civilian infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, and water supply systems.
- ii. Hesitation by Member States to endorse the Safe Schools Declaration because it imposes a higher standard than IHL requires.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

- i. More Member States should sign the Safe Schools Declaration and become champions on the protection of education facilities and protected personnel.
- ii. Parties to conflict should implement the Action Plans they have signed with the UN to end and prevent grave violations against children.
- iii. United Nations to develop and implement prevention plans with parties to conflict to stop grave violations from



occurring in the first place.

Keywords

Education, Protection



2C Speak out on violations

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to speak out and systematically condemn serious violations of international humanitarian law and serious violations and abuses of international human rights law and to take concrete steps to ensure accountability of perpetrators when these acts amount to crimes under international law.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

- i. UNICEF continued fulfilling its responsibility to monitor and report on grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict as part of the UN Security Council-mandated Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM). A core part of this work is UNICEF's role as co-chair of MRM task forces in 14 countries and as lead on monitoring and reporting on grave violations against children in six situations of concern that do not have a formal MRM. This was done in collaboration with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG CAAC), the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations (DPPA-DPO), and other relevant partners.
- ii. UNICEF advocated with Members States and parties to conflict to comply with their obligations to protect children and to end and prevent the six grave violations committed against children in situations of armed conflict.
- iii. In the context of counter-terrorism activities undertaken by Member States, UNICEF advocated for compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law, including measures to protect children associated with armed groups such as treating them primarily as victims of violations of international law rather than treating them as security threats, and providing them with release and reintegration assistance rather than detaining and prosecuting them.

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Field conditions, including insecurity and access
- Funding amounts
- IHL and IHRL compliance and accountability

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

Resources for child protection actors to address the widespread impact on children of these violations are not commensurate to actual needs.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

Security Council Resolution 2427, adopted in 2018, must be implemented by Member States. This includes treating children associated with armed groups primarily as victims of violations of international law rather than treating them as security threats and providing them with release and reintegration assistance rather than detaining and prosecuting them.

Keywords

IHL compliance and accountability, Protection



2D Take concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
UNICEF commits to using open source software platforms (e.g. RapidPro) to support real-time GBV risk mapping and analysis, as well as strengthening accountability mechanisms, from tracking quality of services to feedback loops, to improve GBV programming in emergencies.	Operational	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
UNICEF commits to adopt the IASC statement on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse at the individual agency level.	Policy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to promote and enhance respect for international humanitarian law, international human rights law, and refugee law, where applicable.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
Commit to speak out and systematically condemn serious violations of international humanitarian law and serious violations and abuses of international human rights law and to take concrete steps to ensure accountability of perpetrators when these acts amount to crimes under international law.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
Implement a coordinated global approach to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in crisis contexts, including through the Call to Action on Protection from Gender-based Violence in Emergencies.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
Fully comply with humanitarian policies, frameworks and legally binding documents related to gender equality, women's empowerment, and women's rights.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity Leave No One Behind

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA)

- i. Commissioned four independent reviews to examine issues relating to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, workplace abuse and gender equality in the workplace.
- ii. Commissioned the law firm Morgan Lewis to undertake a review of UNICEF's internal sexual harassment and other sexual misconduct investigations covering the period 2013 – 2017.
- iii. Executive Director committed USD11 million in 2018 to strengthen and accelerate Sexual Exploitation and Abuse work in 16 of UNICEF's "high risk" humanitarian Country Offices in the three priority areas identified in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee proposal for advancing Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse work at country level, namely i) safe and accessible reporting; ii) quality and accessible survivors assistance; and iii) accountability and investigations.
- iv. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse online training course completion rates by UNICEF staff is above 95% globally, and the training must now be renewed annually.
- v. Policy on "Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Abuse" was amended in 2018 to allow for anonymous reporting of workplace misconduct and remove the 6-month deadline for reporting and the non-staff personnel restrictions on reporting.



Gender-based violence prevention and response

- i. UNICEF finalized its Operational Guide on Gender-based Violence in Emergencies (GBViE), which outlines commitment and approach to GBViE work based on a three-pillar theory of change: quality, multi-sectoral services for survivors; risk mitigation across all sectors of humanitarian programming; and prevention interventions that target the root causes of GBV.
- ii. Participated in designing mobile service delivery, as well as remote service delivery mechanisms to increase the reach of services even in the most difficult environments with a specific emphasis on adolescent girls, often invisible in emergency situations. In Lebanon, supported the Government to develop and roll out a mobile application to support clinical management of rape services.
- iii. UNICEF is currently implementing a project on the use of various “safe space” modalities – including virtual safe spaces – to improve adolescent girls’ access to health information and services.
- iv. UNICEF is also leading the field in terms of providing girls and women with appropriate menstrual hygiene items and making this part of its standard emergency response. This plays a significant role in reducing the risks women/girls face (infections, missing out on distributions or school) as well as increasing their mobility and dignity.

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Data and analysis
- Field conditions, including insecurity and access
- Joined-up humanitarian-development analysis, planning, funding and/or response

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

- i. Remoteness of humanitarian programme locations makes it logistically difficult to properly investigate and address some the PSEA cases reported.
- ii. Under-reporting, which creates limitations in the data available to measures and assess progress achieved.
- iii. Uneven prioritization given to inter-agency Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Networks at country level.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

Under the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Sexual Exploitation and Abuse championship agenda, a Proposal for accelerating PSEA action at country-level was developed and endorsed by IASC Principals in December 2018. The proposal focuses on achieving three key outcomes on PSEA in the areas of 1) safe and accessible reporting, 2) quality SEA survivor assistance and 3) enhanced accountability, including investigations. Gaps were identified in 25 countries in all areas and the coordination systems to deliver on the three priorities

Keywords

Gender, PSEA



3D Empower and protect women and girls

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Empower Women and Girls as change agents and leaders, including by increasing support for local women's groups to participate meaningfully in humanitarian action.	Leave No One Behind
Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the Outcome documents of their review conferences for all women and adolescent girls in crisis settings.	Leave No One Behind
Ensure that humanitarian programming is gender responsive.	Leave No One Behind
Fully comply with humanitarian policies, frameworks and legally binding documents related to gender equality, women's empowerment, and women's rights.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity Leave No One Behind

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

Gender equality programming

In 2018, UNICEF conducted multiple capacity-building activities for local partners on gender-based violence in emergencies (GBViE) prevention, risk mitigation and response in countries dealing with emergency situations, and also conducted prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) trainings with all national and local recipients of UNICEF funding. Gender was also routinely integrated into support and training of the cluster coordination role and UNICEF supported Government partners to conduct GBV safety audits, as an integrated part of the Humanitarian Response Plan, in several countries including Somalia and South Sudan. Relying on community-based communication for development strategies and platforms, UNICEF supported a range of high-impact evidence-based interventions including emphasizing empowerment of young women and men, and positive parenting to demonstrate equality in gender norms. In addition to UNICEF's regular resources, UNICEF was able to mobilize multi-year thematic funding for gender equality, an important catalyst in spurring innovative solutions and positive gender socialization programming, and raising the visibility of the importance of gender equality to achieve all programming results, including in emergencies

Sexual and reproductive health

- i. Finalized its Operational Guide on Gender-based Violence in Emergencies (GBViE), which outlines the commitment and approach to GBViE work based on a three-pillar theory of change: quality, multi-sectoral services for survivors; risk mitigation across all sectors of humanitarian programming; and prevention interventions that target the root causes of GBV.
- ii. Participated in designing mobile service delivery, as well as remote service delivery mechanisms to increase the reach of services even in the most difficult environments with a specific emphasis on adolescent girls, often invisible in emergency situations. In Lebanon, supported the Government to develop and roll out a mobile application to support clinical management of rape services.
- iii. UNICEF is currently implementing a project on the use of various "safe space" modalities – including virtual safe spaces – to improve adolescent girls' access to health information and services. UNICEF is also leading the field in terms of providing girls and women with appropriate menstrual hygiene items and making this part of its standard emergency response. This plays a significant role in reducing the risks women/girls face (infections, missing out on distributions or school) as well as increasing their mobility and dignity

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

Grand Bargain

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this



transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Strengthening national/local systems

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

- i. Identifying what kind of technology that woman and girls use/have access to in emergency contexts.
- ii. Addressing the visible and invisible barriers that stand in the way of women's and girls' meaningful participation in programme design and decision-making.
- iii. The disconnect between women's movements and the humanitarian architecture.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

- i. Enhanced commitment at all levels of the humanitarian architecture, and within individual organizations, especially by senior management, to address GBViE as a life-saving aspect of humanitarian action and ensure its early prioritization as part of emergency response.
- ii. Enhanced human resource capacity on GBViE to provide technical support across humanitarian sectors and clusters and facilitate good quality programming at country and regional levels.
- iii. GBViE programming requires a coordinated cross-sectoral approach.

Keywords

Gender, PSEA



3E Eliminate gaps in education for children, adolescents and young people

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
UNICEF commits to support the effective implementation of the Education Crisis Platform and to respond collaboratively, with a particular emphasis on enabling humanitarian and development actors to put in place quick, strategic and agile responses to support the education needs of children in crisis.	Operational	Leave No One Behind

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

UNICEF engages with Education Cannot Wait (ECW) as a partner at global and country levels. In 2018, in addition to continuing to serve on the High-Level Steering Group and Executive Committee, UNICEF education staff participated in multiple working groups and task teams. Importantly, UNICEF provided invaluable strategic and operational support on the ground, both through programs and coordination mechanisms. As the largest provider of education in emergencies, UNICEF plays a unique role in implementing ECW's mission. UNICEF received ECW grants in 11 countries in 2018, reaching more than 3.8 million children in contexts where crises were the most severe, needs were the largest, and funding and coping capacity were limited.

Initial Investments, launched in 2017, continued to provide immediate education support to children and youth affected by crises in Chad, Ethiopia, Syria, and Yemen as well as the Global Partners Group. First Emergency Response grants were allocated for programmes in sudden-onset or escalating crises for a period of up to 12 months in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, and Syria. Multi-Year Resilience Programmes were launched to address longer-term needs in protracted crises, providing a vehicle for joint investments and collaboration between humanitarian and development stakeholders. UNICEF is one of the grantees for two Multi-Year Resilience investments: Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

Education Cannot Wait

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

Multi-stakeholder coordination

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

Continuing donor engagement and adoption by all parties of the new way of working. Risk mitigation and capacity building need more action to advance localization goals.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

Progress is advancing on building capacity of local actors. For example, in DRC, UNICEF and partners, in coordination with the Education Cluster, are providing education and child protection as an approach to resilience and peacebuilding and have provided training to 20 Ministry of Education officials on crisis and emergency response to strengthen capacity of education responses in crisis contexts. However, more is needed to advance specific action plans for child safeguarding and accountability to affected populations.

Keywords

Community resilience, Education, Humanitarian-development nexus, Youth



3G Address other groups or minorities in crisis settings

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
UNICEF commits to collecting/supporting governments to collect quantitative and qualitative data on children with disabilities, disaggregated by age and sex that are comparable, reliable and ethically collected.	Operational	Leave No One Behind
UNICEF endorses the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action.	Policy	Leave No One Behind

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

- i. Mainstreamed children with disabilities in humanitarian action focusing on inclusion and accessibility across policies, programmes, capacity and supplies with 20 countries reporting humanitarian programmes that are systematically including children with disabilities.
- ii. Focused on rollout of the guidance on Inclusion of Children with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action to build capacity of UNICEF offices in the field. The Middle East and North Africa Regional Humanitarian Network Meeting, with more than 15 countries participating, included specific discussions on rollout of the guidance resulting in its subsequent inclusion in action plans emerging out of the network meeting.
- iii. Supported the development of the second draft of the inter-agency guidelines on inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action together with Humanity & Inclusion (formerly Handicap International) and the International Disability Alliance.
- iv. Supported six countries (Ghana, Iraq, Lao, Korea DPR, Sierra Leone and Vietnam) release their national survey reports that included data collected through the UNICEF/Washington Group Module on Child Functioning.
- v. Developed a paper on collecting data on persons with disabilities in humanitarian action to provide guidance and recommendations resulting from a 2017 technical workshop on the same topic, organized by UNICEF, Humanity and Inclusion (formerly Handicap International), the International Disability Alliance, the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, and UNHCR.
- vi. In partnership with other UN agencies, strengthened disability in humanitarian needs assessments and response planning.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

- Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Data and analysis
 Gender and/or vulnerable group inclusion
 Human resources/capacity

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

- i. The unavailability of robust, reliable and comparable national data on children with disabilities, and especially in humanitarian contexts, continues to challenge delivery of inclusive programmes and services.
- ii. Uneven capacity and knowledge on mainstreaming inclusion of children with disabilities in humanitarian programmes continues to present challenges to UNICEF and partners.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

Concerted action through partnerships at the global and national levels, pooling resources and expertise will help advance commitments on disability inclusive humanitarian action. Common approaches to collect data on persons with disabilities is also critical to systematically address inclusion within the humanitarian system.



Keywords

Disability



4A Reinforce, do not replace, national and local systems

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
UNICEF commits to support the capacity development of sub-national coordination mechanisms to allow for more effective leadership and coordination of the sectoral/ cluster response in the event of an emergency, and where relevant a more timely transition to national coordination structures, including transfer of skills and resources.	Capacity	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
UNICEF commits to systematically consider cash based programming in ways that build on and form the basis for sustainable social protection systems.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
UNICEF commits to establishing a common approach to providing information to affected people and collecting, aggregating and analysing feedback from communities to influence decision-making processes at strategic and operational levels.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
UNICEF commits to adopt the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) and International Aid Transparency Initiative Standard, with clear benchmarks for achieving these through the CHS Alliance self-assessment tool.	Policy	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to a new way of working that meets people's immediate humanitarian needs, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years through the achievement of collective outcomes. To achieve this, commit to the following: a) Anticipate, Do Not Wait: to invest in risk analysis and to incentivize early action in order to minimize the impact and frequency of known risks and hazards on people. b) Reinforce, Do Not Replace: to support and invest in local, national and regional leadership, capacity strengthening and response systems, avoiding duplicative international mechanisms wherever possible. c) Preserve and retain emergency capacity: to deliver predictable and flexible urgent and life-saving assistance and protection in accordance with humanitarian principles. d) Transcend Humanitarian-Development Divides: work together, toward collective outcomes that ensure humanitarian needs are met, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years and based on the comparative advantage of a diverse range of actors. The primacy of humanitarian principles will continue to underpin humanitarian action.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Commit to reinforce national and local leadership and capacities in managing disaster and climate-related risks through strengthened preparedness and predictable response and recovery arrangements.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need



Commit to increase investment in building community resilience as a critical first line of response, with the full and effective participation of women.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Commit to ensure regional and global humanitarian assistance for natural disasters complements national and local efforts.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Commit to increase substantially and diversify global support and share of resources for humanitarian assistance aimed to address the differentiated needs of populations affected by humanitarian crises in fragile situations and complex emergencies, including increasing cash-based programming in situations where relevant.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity
Commit to empower national and local humanitarian action by increasing the share of financing accessible to local and national humanitarian actors and supporting the enhancement of their national delivery systems, capacities and preparedness planning.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

Cash-based programming

- i. Launched programmatic guidance on humanitarian cash transfers with dissemination taking place in Eastern and Southern Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and South Asia to give regional and country colleagues tools to address region-specific challenges to improve the overall quality of humanitarian cash programmes.
- ii. UNICEF's new Emergency Preparedness Platform (EPP) now includes a specific standard for humanitarian cash transfers, which has helped to strengthen country office preparedness to implement cash programming in emergencies. Working closely with regional offices, 31 high-risk country offices were identified for more targeted support on implementing or creating emergency cash-based programmes.
- iii. UNICEF continued its efforts to further strengthen shock responsive social protection systems including carrying out a mapping of the readiness of national cash transfer systems in 52 countries, as well as piloting a social protection system assessment tool in Serbia, and Uzbekistan.
- iv. UNICEF established a dedicated surge capacity for cash and this enabled an increased support to countries implementing or establishing humanitarian cash-based programmes e.g in the Central African Republic.
- v. UNICEF supported the flagship cash programme in Yemen that reached approximately 9 million beneficiaries in 2018, allowing to maintain the existing national safety net programme under the current context.

Strengthening national/local leadership and systems

- i. UNICEF-led Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR), on behalf of the Global Protection Cluster, and in cooperation with the Education Cluster, developed a conceptual framework for localization in coordination and associated dashboard to track progress against key localization objectives.
- ii. Increased the representation of national actors in the Global Child Protection Area of Responsibility Strategic Advisory Group. Selected through country coordination groups, it is the only Cluster/AOR with national member representation on a global representative group.
- iii. Supported the establishment of an Advisory Group composed of UNICEF (as lead agency for CP AoR and co-lead for Education), UNHCR (as Protection Cluster Lead Agency), UNFPA (as GBV AoR Lead Agency), 4 NGOs (Save the Children, Street-Child UK, IRC, Plan International), and 2 country-level representatives to coordinate activities around localization in coordination mechanisms.
- iv. Supported establishment of decentralized helpdesks in English, French, Arabic and Spanish in order to address the language barriers. Each helpdesk is housed by local NGOs to ensure contextualized guidance is provided and foster discussions and exchanges of good practices between local actors.

People-centered approaches (feedback mechanisms, community engagement, etc)

- i. A framework and guide for inclusion of accountability to affected populations (AAP) within the Humanitarian Program Cycle has been developed outlining a set of quality criteria, minimum actions and a menu of indicators that clusters and agencies can choose to mainstream within their monitoring and performance systems.
- ii. Out of 157 country programmes, over 70 percent are implementing various elements of AAP with varying quality and depth, with the biggest score being on provision of life saving information. Systematic feedback and complaint mechanisms as well as approaches to support participation and community engagement across the programme cycle have been identified as



requiring strengthening.

iii. Organized two regional workshops in partnership with the IFRC, OCHA and Communicating with Disaster Affected Communities (CDAC) Network to share lessons and develop collective approaches in direct support of participating countries. Over 20 countries participated to the workshops in Nairobi (May 2018) and Panama (October 2018), which led to identification of solutions to common challenges of communication and community engagement and the adoption of country-specific plans of action for scaling up accountability to affected populations in humanitarian response.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

Grand Bargain

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Funding amounts
- Funding modalities (earmarking, priorities, yearly agreements, risk aversion measures)
- Strengthening national/local systems

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

i. To be able to deliver humanitarian cash transfers efficiently through an existing national system, these systems need to be made shock-responsive prior to a possible crisis. This requires funding of to provide long term technical support, as well as engage in policy advocacy with governments.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

- i. Strengthen inter-agency coordination efforts when delivering humanitarian cash transfers, specifically around targeting, setting transfer values, delivery mechanisms, and monitoring.
- ii. Collective commitments to provide un-earmarked, overhead funding to local partners, more collaborative and integrated approaches to institutional capacity strengthening and more robust efforts to meet and hold each other accountable to the Principles of Partnership.
- iii. Accountability to affected population should become a programming principle, which is central to our human rights-based approach across the humanitarian system.

Keywords

Cash, Local action, People-centred approach, Strengthening local systems

4B Anticipate, do not wait, for crises

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
UNICEF commits to strengthen community resilience including through support to risk-informed programming, Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change Adaptation and Low Carbon Development.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to a new way of working that meets people's immediate humanitarian needs, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years through the achievement of collective outcomes. To achieve this, commit to the following: a) Anticipate, Do Not Wait: to invest in risk analysis and to incentivize early action in order to minimize the impact and frequency of known risks and hazards on people. b) Reinforce, Do Not Replace: to support and invest in local, national and regional leadership, capacity strengthening and response systems, avoiding duplicative international mechanisms wherever possible. c) Preserve and retain emergency capacity: to deliver predictable and flexible urgent and life-saving assistance and protection in accordance with humanitarian principles. d) Transcend Humanitarian-Development Divides: work together, toward collective outcomes that ensure humanitarian needs are met, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years and based on the comparative advantage of a diverse range of actors. The primacy of humanitarian principles will continue to underpin humanitarian action.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Commit to accelerate the reduction of disaster and climate-related risks through the coherent implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, as well as other relevant strategies and programs of action, including the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity
Commit to improve the understanding, anticipation and preparedness for disaster and climate-related risks by investing in data, analysis and early warning, and developing evidence-based decision-making processes that result in early action.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

Disaster risk reduction and disaster risk management (including resilience)

- i. UNICEF supported countries to undertake thorough child-centered, multi-hazard risk analyses, either as stand-alone analyses, as a part of general situation analyses (e.g. Syria and Panama) or linked to the work on UNICEF's Emergency Preparedness Platform (EPP) as done in Costa Rica. Others have conducted sub-national level risk analysis to inform planning and programming (e.g. Myanmar, Tunisia, Eswatini, India and Uganda).
- ii. A new UN Joint Programme in Bosnia and Herzegovina on disaster risk reduction (DRR), involving UNICEF, UNDP, FAO, UNESCO, and UNFPA was finalized.
- iii. In Tajikistan, UNICEF supported the development of a national DRR strategy which has a strong focus on resilience and risk reduction rather than disaster management alone.



iv. In India, UNICEF provided technical support (risk assessment, workshops etc.) in the revision of state and district disaster management plans in 72 districts of Telangana and Chhattisgarh States.

v. UNICEF supported disaggregated risk data including at municipal government level in Honduras and investment in deep boreholes to reduce drought risk in Afghanistan and supporting school preparedness and retrofitting in Bangladesh and Indonesia.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

Risk and Vulnerability Data Platform

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Institutional/Internal constraints
- Joined-up humanitarian-development analysis, planning, funding and/or response
- Strengthening national/local systems

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

i. Risk analysis is increasingly understood and conducted across the organization. However, continued work is needed to effect institutional change and systematically apply the analysis' results across the programme cycle.

ii. Risk-informed programming requires clear accountabilities at headquarter, regional and country level with different departments such as planning, programming and emergency operations establishing their accountabilities.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

In line with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) priority to promote 'risk-informed programming', greater coherence and coordination between UN agencies in terms of risk analysis and assessment is needed in support of UN country teams' work in development and humanitarian contexts.

Keywords

Climate Change, Disaster Risk Reduction, Education



5A Invest in local capacities

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Globally, UNICEF will increase the proportion of funds to local and national actors to at least 30% by 2018.	Financial	Invest in Humanity

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to empower national and local humanitarian action by increasing the share of financing accessible to local and national humanitarian actors and supporting the enhancement of their national delivery systems, capacities and preparedness planning.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

Direct funding to national/local actors

UNICEF confirmed its commitment to localization by including a specific target in its Strategic Plan 2018-2021. UNICEF is building on its long-standing role in supporting policy, capacity development and national and sub-national systems strengthening to improve the delivery of essential services to the most disadvantaged children.

The proportion of UNICEF humanitarian funding going to local and national responders has steadily increased, from 20% in 2014, to 31% in 2017, and to 36% in 2018. It should be noted that the further increase from 2017 to 2018 can be attributed, in part, to the nature of the humanitarian programme response in a few countries where a large portion of UNICEF's global humanitarian funding is directed.

UNICEF, along with UNHCR and WFP, launched the UN Partner Portal (www.unpartnerportal.org), an online platform to facilitate partnership between UN agencies and civil society organizations. The UN Partner Portal is open to all members of the civil society community, including national and international NGOs, community-based organizations and academic institutions.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

- Global Alliance for Urban Crises
- Grand Bargain

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Institutional/Internal constraints
- Strengthening national/local systems

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

Partnership decisions are necessarily decentralized. While it is easy at headquarters level to passively monitor the proportion of funds to local and national actors, it is less easy to actively shape or influence country offices in their decision-making on a case-by-case basis.

Keywords

Local action, Strengthening local systems



5B Invest according to risk

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to accelerate the reduction of disaster and climate-related risks through the coherent implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, as well as other relevant strategies and programs of action, including the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity
Commit to invest in risk management, preparedness and crisis prevention capacity to build the resilience of vulnerable and affected people.	Invest in Humanity

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

- i. UNICEF supported countries to undertake thorough child-centered, multi-hazard risk analyses, either as stand-alone analyses, as a part of general situation analyses (e.g. Syria and Panama) or linked to the work on UNICEF's Emergency Preparedness Platform (EPP) as done in Costa Rica. Others have conducted sub-national level risk analysis to inform planning and programming (e.g. Myanmar, Tunisia, Eswatini, India and Uganda).
- ii. A new UN Joint Programme in Bosnia and Herzegovina on disaster risk reduction (DRR), involving UNICEF, UNDP, FAO, UNESCO, and UNFPA was finalized.
- iii. In Tajikistan, UNICEF supported the development of a national DRR strategy which has a strong focus on resilience and risk reduction rather than disaster management alone.
- iv. In India, UNICEF provided technical support (risk assessment, workshops etc.) in the revision of state and district disaster management plans in 72 districts of Telangana and Chhattisgarh States.
- v. UNICEF supported disaggregated risk data including at municipal government level in Honduras and investment in deep boreholes to reduce drought risk in Afghanistan and supporting school preparedness and retrofitting in Bangladesh and Indonesia.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

- Risk and Vulnerability Data Platform

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Institutional/Internal constraints
 Joined-up humanitarian-development analysis, planning, funding and/or response
 Strengthening national/local systems

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

- i. Risk analysis is increasingly understood and conducted across the organization. However, continued work is needed to effect institutional change and systematically apply the analysis' results across the programme cycle.
- ii. Risk-informed programming requires clear accountabilities at headquarter, regional and country level with different departments such as planning, programming and emergency operations establishing their accountabilities.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

In line with the UNDAF priority to promote 'risk-informed programming', greater coherence and coordination between UN agencies in terms of risk analysis and assessment is needed in support of UN country teams' work in development and humanitarian contexts.

Keywords

Disaster Risk Reduction, Preparedness





5D Finance outcomes, not fragmentation: shift from funding to financing

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to enable coherent financing that avoids fragmentation by supporting collective outcomes over multiple years, supporting those with demonstrated comparative advantage to deliver in context.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity
Commit to promote and increase predictable, multi-year, unearmarked, collaborative and flexible humanitarian funding toward greater efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability of humanitarian action for affected people.	Invest in Humanity
Commit to broaden and adapt the global instruments and approaches to meet urgent needs, reduce risk and vulnerability and increase resilience, without adverse impact on humanitarian principles and overall action (as also proposed in Round Table on "Changing Lives").	Invest in Humanity

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

- i. Implemented its Resource Mobilization Strategy 2018 – 2021, to place children's rights at the center of policy agendas at global and national levels and to mobilize resources for the implementation of UNICEF strategic plan 2018 – 2021, for realizing children's rights.
- ii. Explored new opportunities through public-private partnerships, including the use of blended financing instruments—such as insurance and guarantees.
- iii. Delivered effective support to country and regional offices in emergencies in the development of fundraising and advocacy plans/strategies for emergency response, in identifying funding opportunities and in coordination of fundraising activities across the organization.
- iv. With, the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), started to explore opportunities to mobilize and leverage Islamic finance, in accordance with the UNICEF/IsDB Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) signed in mid-2017. Building on respective synergies, UNICEF and IsDB are working on co-creating innovative funding modality to be used for humanitarian resilience development nexus programmes, which is expected to be further concretized in 2019.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

- Grand Bargain

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

Resource mobilization strategies for humanitarian and development programming in the coming years will have to meet the gaps in addressing humanitarian needs, as well as the ambitions of the Sustainable Development Goals. They should also take into account the important role of host Governments and local partners to lead on interventions that can be scaled up to deliver the transformative results. These strategies should address the continuing imperative to respond to humanitarian needs in increasingly complex crises.

Keywords

Private sector



5E Diversify the resource base and increase cost-efficiency

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
UNICEF commits to seeking new ways to expand the pool of available resources, including by establishing new partnerships and pursuing innovative financing modalities such as Islamic financing, micro-leivies and insurance-based mechanisms.	Financial	Invest in Humanity
UNICEF commits to adopt the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) and International Aid Transparency Initiative Standard, with clear benchmarks for achieving these through the CHS Alliance self-assessment tool.	Policy	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to increase substantially and diversify global support and share of resources for humanitarian assistance aimed to address the differentiated needs of populations affected by humanitarian crises in fragile situations and complex emergencies, including increasing cash-based programming in situations where relevant.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity
Commit to promote and increase predictable, multi-year, unearmarked, collaborative and flexible humanitarian funding toward greater efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability of humanitarian action for affected people.	Invest in Humanity

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

- i. Implemented its Resource Mobilization Strategy 2018 – 2021, to place children's rights at the center of policy agendas at global and national levels and to mobilize resources for the implementation of UNICEF strategic plan 2018 – 2021, for realizing children's rights.
- ii. Explored new opportunities through public-private partnerships, including the use of blended financing instruments—such as insurance and guarantees.
- iii. Delivered effective support to country and regional offices in emergencies in the development of fundraising and advocacy plans/strategies for emergency response, in identifying funding opportunities and in coordination of fundraising activities across the organization.
- iv. With, the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), started to explore opportunities to mobilize and leverage Islamic finance, in accordance with the UNICEF/IsDB Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) signed in mid-2017. Building on respective synergies, UNICEF and IsDB are working on co-creating innovative funding modality to be used for humanitarian resilience development nexus programmes, which is expected to be further concretized in 2019.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

Grand Bargain

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

Resource mobilization strategies for humanitarian and development programming in the coming years will have to meet the gaps in addressing humanitarian needs, as well as the ambitions of the Sustainable Development Goals. They should also take into account the important role of host Governments and local partners to lead on interventions that can be scaled up to deliver the transformative results. These strategies should address the continuing imperative to respond to humanitarian needs in



increasingly complex crises

Keywords

Private sector



Additional Reports

Attachment
UNICEF_WHS 2018 Report.pdf