



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



**Annual Report on World Humanitarian  
Summit Commitments - United Nations Children's Fund  
(UNICEF)  
2016**



## 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

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

UNICEF supports a systematic approach towards conflict analysis, conflict-sensitivity and programming that make an explicit contribution to peacebuilding and strengthening of social cohesion. This will also support UNICEF staff to understand, situate and operationalize conflict analysis into UNICEF programme planning and implementation focusing mainly on emergency response and preparedness.

### Achievements at a glance

The development of UNICEF's Guide to Conflict Analysis and Guide to Peacebuilding Programming and the integration of conflict analysis into the Guide to Risk Informed Programming has resulted in the adoption of conflict analysis approach at the country level through 3 main components: risk analysis and monitoring; Minimum Preparedness Actions (MPAs); and Advanced Preparedness Actions (APAs) and contingency planning and is adapted to country's specific needs and context.

### How is your organization assessing progress

The progress is assessed through participation in quarterly and annual progress reviews linked with UNICEF internal monitoring and reporting processes. The approach gives country teams the opportunity to analyze and monitor risks and this analysis is included as part of the inter-agency Humanitarian Needs Overview and related response plans.

### Challenges faced in implementation

- There is a need for systematic integration of conflict analysis into regular situational analysis and other country office planning processes.
- There is limited funding for peacebuilding initiatives post-PBEA.
- Country teams with limited capacity may not be able to put in place all the required preparedness measures.

### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

UNICEF intends to provide technical support on conflict analysis, conflict sensitivity and peacebuilding to an estimated 15 UNICEF Country Offices.

UNICEF will support country teams to implement conflict analysis plans with their existing resources, and communicate gaps to regional and global levels for their follow-up and support.

### If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Act early , what would it be

To show a sign of commitment and will to improve conflict sensitive humanitarian programming, humanitarian agencies and Member States should include indicators related to conflict analysis and peacebuilding in routine annual reporting processes.



**Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

**Keywords**

- Disaster Risk Reduction

**Specific Initiatives**

- Risk and Vulnerability Data Platform

**Agenda for Humanity**

- 4B - Anticipate, do not wait, for crises



## 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

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

UNICEF recognised increased use of explosive weapons in populated areas with civilian infrastructure, including schools and hospitals, leading to increase in death and injury to children and their families thereby resulting into life-long implications. This commitment would contribute to strengthening the UN monitoring and reporting mechanism as a key instrument for addressing grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict because of its link to the Security Council. This evidence is critical to informing programmatic and advocacy interventions, as well as normative change, to end and prevent grave violations against children during armed conflict.

### Achievements at a glance

UNICEF contributed towards increasing safety, security and confidentiality for victims, survivors, monitors, sources and partners. Technical support was provided to Country Task Forces on Monitoring and Reporting including capacity building on Children and Armed Conflict policies and procedures. Supported interventions for children affected by armed conflict including release and reintegration programmes, services for victims and survivors of sexual violence, psycho-social services for children who have suffered distress, and victim assistance for children injured during conflict.

UNICEF strengthened evidence building on the impact - and advocacy against the use - of explosive weapons in populated areas through participation in the International Campaign to Ban Landmines fact-sheet on the impact of mines and explosive remnants of war on children and in characterization of explosive weapons global advisory board among others.

### How is your organization assessing progress

Progress is being assessed through regular reporting obligations through the Global Horizontal Notes, the UN Secretary-General's annual report on children and armed conflict, and country-specific reports on the situation of children affected by armed conflict. Activities include monitoring of implementation of Action Plans signed by parties to conflict with the UN to end and prevent grave violations; implementation of advocacy interventions for the release and reintegration of children associated with armed forces or groups; delivery of services for victims, survivors of sexual violence; and the provision of psycho-social services for children who



have witnessed and feared violence, and suffered immense distress.

### **Challenges faced in implementation**

Monitoring and reporting on grave violations is an inherently challenging activity because of the sensitivity of the subject and the insecure environment in which UNICEF and its partners operate. UNICEF must take a neutral approach, monitoring violations committed by all parties and advocating for steps to end and prevent these violations.

Monitoring and reporting of grave violations committed against children requires specialist monitoring expertise from trained protection and human rights personnel who are trained to act in the best interests of the child, and is also labor intensive.

### **Next step to advance implementation in 2017**

UNICEF will strengthen the country level strategies for addressing grave violations as well as overall global approach to the agenda so as to influence the policy and normative discourse. UNICEF will advocate that the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism should be used as a basis to foster compliance of parties to conflict with international child protection standards and norms; highlight evidence-base on the impact on children of explosive weapons in populated areas; advocate with government counterparts and non-state parties to discuss violations, prevention, response and accountability; promote a political declaration on the use of explosive weapons in populated areas.

### **If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Respect and protect civilians and civilian objects in the conduct of hostilities , what would it be**

Targeted strategies should be developed to engage parties to conflict, both State and non-State actors, to prevent and end grave violations, including the development and implementation of Action Plans. Evidence-based generated should be leveraged to bear witness, and inform advocacy and programmatic interventions to protect children affected by armed conflict.

### **Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

#### **Keywords**

People-centred approach

#### **Specific Initiatives**

A Global Undertaking on Health in Crisis Settings

#### **Agenda for Humanity**

2C - Speak out on violations



## 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

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

UNICEF recognized the need to reduce and stop the ever increasing attacks on healthcare facilities and personnel, as well as the denial of children's access to healthcare in conflict situations is a core element of the Children and Armed Conflict Agenda as part of the grave violations against children.

### Achievements at a glance

UNICEF engaged in high-level advocacy, including most recently at the 20th anniversary event of the Children and Armed Conflict agenda and the 10th anniversary of the Paris Principles demanding for the end of attacks on health facilities and denial of children access to healthcare. UNICEF has also contributed to the reporting by the Secretary General under Security Council Resolution 2286, which included actions that parties to conflict should take to end these violations.

### How is your organization assessing progress

UNICEF assesses progress through tracking the UN Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism on Grave Violations against Children in Situations of Armed Conflict, which documents these attacks as well as the denial of humanitarian access. Ongoing attacks will reveal where additional attention must be directed.

### Challenges faced in implementation

The primary challenge that UNICEF and others addressing grave violations have faced is an apparent disregard by parties in many contemporary armed conflicts for international human rights law and international humanitarian law. In some instances, it appears that health facilities have been intentionally targeted and/or medical supplies have been withheld.

### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

UNICEF will continue to advocate with Governments and non-State armed groups through the Children and Armed Conflict and Protection of Civilians agendas of the Security Council, as well as more concerted advocacy on broader protection of civilian objects in armed conflict (schools, water facilities, homes).

### If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Ensure full



**access to and protection of the humanitarian and medical missions , what would it be**

Governments and non-State armed groups through the Children and Armed Conflict and Protection of Civilians agendas of the Security Council should ensure broader protection of civilian objects in armed conflict mainly schools, water facilities and homes.

**Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

**Specific Initiatives**

A Global Undertaking on Health in  
Crisis Settings

**Agenda for Humanity**

2A - Respect and protect civilians and  
civilian objects in the conduct of hostilities  2C - Speak out on violations





## 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

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

UNICEF recognized the need for robust institutional and system wide programming to prevent and respond to gender-based violence (GBV). UNICEF is committed to applying innovative technologies to our programming efforts. We need open source technology platforms and other innovative solutions, including to support real-time GBV risk mapping, and strengthen feedback mechanisms to track the meaningful participation of girls and women in all humanitarian interventions.

### Achievements at a glance

UNICEF launched the Innovation Gender Challenge which is an opportunity for UNICEF Country Offices (COs) to secure additional financial and technical resources to move forward creative technological solutions that advance their gender programme results, including the prevention and response to GBV in emergency contexts. UNICEF supported the development of the Primero open source on Child Protection data management platform, which supports a module for Gender based Violence and extending Gender Based Violence Information Management System including case management functionality.

UNICEF's work in strengthening protection and response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse includes:

- Activating UNICEF Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Notification Alerts aligned with UN-wide real time reporting;
- Co-chairing development of the Uniform Protocol on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Victim Assistance;
- Strengthening cooperation with Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) investigations, including safeguarding children during investigatory interviews; and
- Contributing to the development of Standard Operating Procedures for community-based complaint mechanisms.



### **How is your organization assessing progress**

UNICEF assesses progress against targets/milestones established in programme design documents and through UNICEF institutional Gender Key performance indicators. For Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, UNICEF assesses progress against the indicators as outlined in the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Minimum Operating Standards, and organizational accountabilities as determined in consultation with the Secretary-General's Protection of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Special Coordinator.

### **Challenges faced in implementation**

- Weak processes to support timely technical deployment in resource constrained areas; capacity of implementing partners to provide technical support; and need for new accountability models as a result of digitizing sensitive data.
- Weak coordination of Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse strategies; however, efforts are being made by the UN Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Task Force and through the IASC Accountability to Affected Population/Protection from Sexual Exploitation Abuse Working Group. Strengthening accountability measures should also include the accountability of Member States/TTCs.

### **Next step to advance implementation in 2017**

- UNICEF will strengthen its capacity-building for global deployment teams, expanded partnerships for governance and scaling, securing consistent funding.
- UNICEF will conduct a field testing of the Victim Assistance Protocol which will be followed by operationalizing the community-based complaint mechanisms.
- UNICEF will continue its participation in UN-wide vetting of recruitment of UN personnel and roll out of the mandatory Sexual Exploitation and Abuse training for staff.
- UNICEF will put systems in place to ensure implementation of the Secretary-General's PSEA "game-changing" strategy.

### **If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Take concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability , what would it be**

There should be coordinated implementation of the Secretary-General's new Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse strategy, in particular scaling up assistance for all victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, including medical care, psychosocial support, a safety plan to address risks, basic material assistance and legal assistance.

### **Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

#### **Keywords**

- Accountability to affected people       Gender       Innovation

#### **Agenda for Humanity**

- 3D - Empower and protect women and girls



## 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

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

UNICEF signed to this commitment due to its linkage with the UNICEF Education Cannot Wait initiative which was established to transform the delivery of education in emergencies, to join up governments, humanitarian and development efforts to deliver a more collaborative and rapid response to the educational needs of children and youth affected by crises. UNICEF recognized that education is a priority for crisis affected families, especially children.

### Achievements at a glance

- The Education Cannot Wait initiative has raised USD 113.4 million and received USD 100 million in commitments from the private sector as financial and in-kind pledges. Initial investments are already in progress in 4 complex and protracted crises in Chad, Ethiopia, Syria and Yemen.
- UNICEF operational/governance models and rigorous results framework has been developed through broad consultation and participation of expert working groups.
- UNICEF has a partnership with the Global Business Coalition for Education which has resulted in development of the Rapid Education Action (REACT) Database with the main objective of recording private sector contributions and assets that can be deployed for Education in Emergencies.
- UNICEF developed a website and knowledge products and included Education Cannot Wait in the 2017 Education Financing Campaign led by global civil society organizations.

### How is your organization assessing progress

UNICEF assesses progress through the benchmarks established during the Initial Investments and operationalization of Education Cannot Wait initiative. The established Secretariat follows up on progress and the adoption of open financing facilities and grant making will ensure public participation in the monitoring of progress. The fundraising and advocacy plans are also used to monitoring progress through documentation of funds raised, new partners and non-traditional partners who are prioritizing education in emergencies.

### Challenges faced in implementation

The challenges are the risk of fundraising shortfalls to support the initiative and the weak / poor constituency consultation and southern participation. There is poor/weak clarity on the added value of Education Cannot Wait within the current education and humanitarian aid architectures. This is being mitigated by having a robust advocacy strategy; however the delayed staffing and small size of the secretariat is still a hindrance.

### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

- Reach more than 4 million children & youth and strengthen existing architecture by launching the First Response and Acceleration Facility.
- Raise over USD 400 million in year 1 and 2.
- Finalize and expand staffing for the secretariat.
- Develop the selection and prioritization strategy for the next round of investments.

### If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Eliminate gaps in education for children, adolescents and young people , what would it be

There is a need to increase the political and financial support to Education Cannot Wait (aim to reach USD 3.85 billion by 2020 to deliver education to all crisis-affected children and youth by 2030).

### Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives



## Keywords

People-centred approach

Private sector

Refugees

## Specific Initiatives

Education Cannot Wait



## 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

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

UNICEF recognizes that children with disabilities represent one of the most excluded and marginalized groups in situations of armed conflict and disasters. Despite facing greater risk and vulnerability, children with disabilities are often not included in humanitarian interventions. UNICEF recognized the disparities faced by children with disabilities and calls for improvements in their access to services, and in their participation in all aspects of life. The current lack of accurate data impedes the development, implementation and evaluation of policies and programmes that would improve the lives of children with disabilities.

### Achievements at a glance

UNICEF is working to systematically mainstream issues of children with disabilities in humanitarian action. In addition to including children with disabilities in regular programmes and putting in place targeted interventions to address the specific needs of children with disabilities, UNICEF is also addressing issues of inclusion through policies, guidance, capacity building and supplies. In 2016, UNICEF launched the 1st and 2nd round of cash transfers to families of children with disabilities in Aleppo (USD 40 per month per child distributed bi-monthly). More than 49,000 Education in Emergency kits with disability guidance were delivered to 50 countries.

### How is your organization assessing progress

UNICEF Country Offices through the Country Office Annual reports are required to report on the work they undertake to address issues related to children with disabilities. UNICEF's RAM indicators have also been revised and now include several indicators on children with disabilities. For inclusive supplies the UNICEF Supply Division tracks the number of disability inclusive emergency kits that are being sent to the field and the countries that they are being sent.

### Challenges faced in implementation

- Lack of prioritization by country governments of the need to collect child disability data.
- Lack of system-wide policies, guidelines, and tools that strengthen effectiveness and accountability.
- Lack of local capacity and resources for the effective planning and implementation of child disability data collection.

### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

- Integrate disability targets and indicators in UNICEF Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021.
- Support the modification of education in emergencies kits (School in the Box, ECD Kit and Recreation Kit) to meet the needs of children with disabilities.
- Support UNICEF staff and partners with a set of practical resources through finalization of a set of guidance booklets on including children and adolescents with disabilities in humanitarian action: Preparedness, Response and Early Recovery.

### If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Address other groups or minorities in crisis settings , what would it be

Humanitarian action need to ensure that the needs of children with disabilities, to education, healthcare, safe environment, clean drinking water etc, is adequately considered. Simple modification of interventions and services often enables mainstream programmes for children to be accessible to children with disabilities.

### Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives

#### Keywords



Accountability to affected people

Disability

### **Specific Initiatives**

Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action



## 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

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

UNICEF is expanding its cash-based programming as a pivotal component of its emergency response. UNICEF recognized that the importance of coordination capacities of those working closest to humanitarian needs at the sub-national level. The importance and value of coordinated approaches to engagement with affected people in terms of increased efficiencies, reduced burden on affected people, and better quality data to inform and shape decision-making are some of the positives which led to the signing to this commitment.

### Achievements at a glance

UNICEF supported countries through a combination of advocacy, technical guidance, and effective assistance on the ground to scale up implementation of cash based programming in 49 country offices. UNICEF has provided technical assistance and support on quality and accountability to UNICEF-led and co-led global clusters and Areas of Responsibility (AoRs) and to national clusters (WASH, Nutrition, and Education clusters and Child Protection AoR) in Jordan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). UNICEF has engaged with multiple partners (OCHA, IFRC, CDAC network, etc.) to formally establish the Communications and Community Engagement Initiative (CCEI). The initiative aims to build on experiences of collective services and common approaches for communication and community engagement. UNICEF supported direct cluster support to sub-national coordination personnel through participation in coordination training including and development of the Global Cluster Coordination Unit learning strategy which includes sub-national personnel as a target group.

### How is your organization assessing progress

UNICEF assesses progress in this area in two ways: (i) utilizing existing country reporting mechanisms to track expansion of coverage of cash transfer programmes, as well as country office efforts to link social protection and humanitarian action; and (ii) carrying out impact evaluations of specific country responses, which will allow the identification of positive outcomes for children and their families. Progress is assessed through annual reports, strategies, work plans and through tracking of training events. However, global UNICEF targets and indicators have not yet been set and this will be key to directing and assessing progress going forward.

### Challenges faced in implementation

- There is no systematic consolidation of good practice experience or guidance for sub-national coordination due to limited resources for development of good practice guidance and for the provision of direct support for sub-national partners. The lack of agreed priorities and processes for assessing capacity gaps at sub-national level also impedes coordination at this level.
- There is poor focus on greater coordination between humanitarian and development actors across agencies though there are attempts which has taken place to coordinate actions at country level.

### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

- UNICEF will finalize its Cash-based Programming in Humanitarian Contexts Framework, and develop technical guidance and tools that will enhance work at country level to strengthen its institutional capacity to respond to cash programming needs from the field and HQ level.
- UNICEF will strengthen and increase its global/regional technical capacities to support UNICEF Country Offices including to backstop the Communications and Community Engagement Platform.
- UNICEF will put in place procedures and guidance around Civil Society Organization (CSO) partnerships to clarify what is expected in relation to supporting Participation and Accountability dimensions in partnerships.





**If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Reinforce, do not replace, national and local systems , what would it be**

- There is a need to systematically empower coordination partners to respond to humanitarian needs closest to the response with a focus on the sub-national level.
- On cash based programming, link social protection and humanitarian action to ensure a comprehensive approach and to promote humanitarian and development programmes.

**Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

**Keywords**

- Accountability to affected people       Cash       Social protection

**Specific Initiatives**

- Grand Bargain       The Inclusion Charter

**Agenda for Humanity**

- 4C - Deliver collective outcomes: transcend humanitarian-development divides       5A - Invest in local capacities



## 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

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

UNICEF recognizes the need for response and recovery programmes to contribute to a reduction of risk and systematic integration of risk analysis into programme design to increase preparedness and contribute to timely and efficient humanitarian action. The need for UNICEF to strengthen its capacity for designing risk-informed programmes and better planning for the impact of shocks and stresses to avoid possible disruptions to service delivery are reflected in UNICEF's support of the IFRC-convened "One Billion Coalition for Resilience".

### Achievements at a glance

- In the context of the One Billion coalition for Resilience, UNICEF and the IFRC jointly held a webinar and two workshops to bring together UNICEF country offices and National Red Cross/Crescent Societies and to develop joint activities towards strengthening community resilience.
- The Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI) Partnership has provided support to 23 countries and supported the development of 13 national strategies / plans (one of the 7 global Sendai targets).



- UNICEF has also supported development of guidance on risk-informed programming (e.g. global modular guidance / partner with SAARC on a DRR framework around risk assessment & school safety).
- UNICEF has supported Country Offices to include risk and resilience in the programme cycle (e.g. work with UNDP on risk assessment in Cape Verde; partner with IFRC on their '1 Billion Coalition for Resilience' using U-Report; support India State of Bihar to implement its Sendai DRR roadmap).

### **How is your organization assessing progress**

The progress is assessed through UNICEF annual work plans; Country Programme development process (CPDs); UNICEF Annual Reports, etc. though progress differs by country depending on the context and country dynamics.

### **Challenges faced in implementation**

- There are limited financial resources to support capacity development of national systems for risk analysis.
- There is weak alignment and coordination between multiple partners supporting national processes.
- There are varying capacities among the partners for the “1 Billion Coalition for Resilience” thus different levels of achievement towards the resilience results.

### **Next step to advance implementation in 2017**

- UNICEF and the IFRC will jointly follow up on joint resilience building activities that started in 2016 and will document good practices and lessons learnt.
- UNICEF will focus on expanding / activating the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative in the regions in order to better align the initiative's support to United Nations Country Teams with regional priorities and promote wide dissemination of findings.
- UNICEF will pilot the Guidance for Risk-informed programming in 3-4 countries and rollout in additional ones and advocate for inclusion of risk informed programming and resilience in 50% of new Country Programme Development Plans.

### **If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Anticipate, do not wait, for crises , what would it be**

In line with the Grand Bargain commitments, joint multi-hazard risk and vulnerability analysis need further advancement including capacity-building and systems strengthening. Additionally, existing funding mechanisms should allow for adequate and appropriate solutions to address the underlying drivers of crises.

### **Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

#### **Keywords**

- Disaster Risk Reduction

#### **Specific Initiatives**

- Global Partnership for Preparedness       Risk and Vulnerability Data Platform

#### **Agenda for Humanity**

- 5B - Invest according to risk



## 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

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

The commitment is an opportunity to accelerate the already strong track record which UNICEF had in working with national actors in both development and humanitarian programming.

### Achievements at a glance

- UNICEF has put in place simplified agreements to reduce barriers to partnering with community based and local actors.
- UNICEF/UNHCR/WFP are actively engaged on simplification and harmonization of business processes to partner with UN agencies that are complementary to increasing national actor involvement (ongoing).
- UNICEF is investing in a large technology project, eTools, which aims to increase collaboration and reduce administrative burden when working with partners, especially national actors. A component of this project is to build a multi-agency portal to support increased engagement and access of national actors (ongoing).
- In 2016, on a global basis, 76% of total funding transferred to partners went to national partners with only one country programme globally that did not transfer at least 30% of all funds transferred to national actors.

### How is your organization assessing progress

The progress is assessed by monitoring the percentage of funding being provided to national actors in all programming contexts.

### Challenges faced in implementation

Identifying the right balance between monitoring disaggregated data and ensuring data quality. A highly disaggregated typology categorization of national civil society organizations increases the risk of data quality issues given differences in local terminologies across countries.

### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

UNICEF views that a longer term approach to measuring results is required in addition to monitoring the proportion of funding provided to national actors. A system-wide assessment more akin to evaluation should be planned so to measure whether commitments (such as increase in funding) resulted in a sustainable nationally owned approach to quality humanitarian response.

### If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Invest in local capacities , what would it be

Building capacity of national actors is critical to ensure a sustainable, high quality and national owned approach to respond to the needs of children.

### Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives

#### Keywords

- Accountability to affected people



## Specific Initiatives

- Grand Bargain

## Agenda for Humanity

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



## 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-levies 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

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

UNICEF is aware that there is a need for diversification of funding sources as the reliance on traditional funding sources alone would not fulfill the huge humanitarian funding gaps. UNICEF recognizes that new partnerships and innovative financing modalities are intended to catalyze and leverage additional financing for humanitarian action. Some partnership and financing modalities, such as for preparedness response, can save time and cost of humanitarian action.

### Achievements at a glance

- UNICEF strengthened its partnership on fragility with the World Bank Group and other International Financial Institutions (IFIs).
- Contributed to the wider UN-World Bank partnership on fragility and peacebuilding, with focus on resilience and longer term development. This has increased collaboration between UNICEF and World Bank/other IFIs at country level, including joint programming and investments in crises and other protracted emergencies.
- UNICEF developed initial investment plans on preparedness, disaster insurance mechanisms, etc.

### How is your organization assessing progress

The progress is assessed regularly through standard UNICEF monitoring and review processes. The progress would be measured against two criteria: 1) partnerships and financing mechanisms supported by UNICEF, including as part of the wider UN system's response; and 2) additional resources mobilized for humanitarian action, including the humanitarian-development nexus, by UNICEF.

### Challenges faced in implementation

- Need to establish a common understanding that financial instruments needed to provide value-add and efficiency for humanitarian action compared with grants to justify the transaction costs. To keep emergency response financing concessional, there are significant challenges with attracting private finance beyond philanthropic giving.
- The need to further link the nexus between humanitarian and development. Innovative financing mechanisms, particularly those



that intend to attract large-scale private investments, are more likely to be useful for post-conflict peacebuilding and development activities.

- The UN Development System should develop more flexible and risk-informed policies and procedures regarding innovative financing modalities.

### **Next step to advance implementation in 2017**

UNICEF is further engaging with public and private sector partners in a more holistic way to further develop and improve partnership and innovative financing modalities, and to operationalize priority actions in 2017 and beyond.

### **If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Diversify the resource base and increase cost-efficiency , what would it be**

Concessional, cost-effective, and risk-informed financing modalities need to be developed and operationalized for financial instruments that can add value and efficiency to the current modality of humanitarian response.

### **Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

#### **Keywords**

Innovation

Private sector

#### **Agenda for Humanity**

5B - Invest according to risk

5C - Invest in stability

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



## Additional Reports

Attachment
<a href="#">WHS Progress Report 2016 ( Final).pdf</a>