COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MINIMUM QUALITY STANDARDS AND INDICATORS

Progress and Opportunities

27 May 2020

Presentation for
The Hunger Project: Movement for Community-Led Development monthly global call

Rania Elessawi

C4D (Social and Behavior Change) Specialist
UNICEF NYHQ

© UNICEF/UN043567/Lister

2030 Agenda is "**of the people, by the people and for the people**"[1] and is expected to be implemented with the participation of "**all countries, all stakeholders and all people**".[2]

This common ownership of the vision of the SDGs is now powering its implementation. The success of our collective journey to 2030 will greatly depend on how effectively Governments, which lead the implementation of this **transformative** and universal agenda, engage parliaments, local authorities, indigenous peoples, civil society, the scientific and academic communities and the private sector, and **bridge the gap between people and national policy setting**.

Success will also be measured in how well we live up to the commitment **to leave no one behind**. We need to ensure that we provide a **voice and platforms for the meaningful participation and engagement of the most marginalized, vulnerable and excluded communities and individuals**.

Participation, Consultation and Engagement: Critical Elements for an Effective Implementation of the 2030 Agenda, Deputy UNSG, Amina J. Mohammed, High-level SDG Action Event on Innovation, 17 May 2017 General Assemble Meeting

CE Minimum Standards and Indicators: global principles and framework

Quality

Accountability

Harmonization

Optimization of Interventions

Create an <u>enabling environment</u> for high quality, evidence-based community engagement

Ethical Foundations

Alignment with:

UNICEF Human-rights based approach
The Agenda for Protection (Goal 3, Objective 4)
Interagency Standing Committee (IASC) Guidelines
The HAP Humanitarian Accountability and Quality
Management Standards.
The Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and
Accountability
The Convention on the Rights of the Child (Article 3)
UNHCR Age, Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming
Strategy
CDAC Accountability, Inclusion, Transparency, and
Participation
International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's
Code of Conduct in Disaster Relief
The Principles and Rules for Red Cross and Red
Crescent Humanitarian Assistance
Do No Harm
ISO 26000 Social Responsibility Standard
Grand Bargain

Human Rights

Community-based approach

Quality and accountability

Do No Harm

Gender Mainstreaming

Introduction and Methodology

- **Desk review of 436 documents:**
  - Emphasis on practitioner documents: manuals, toolkits, guidelines
  - International agreements and standards
  - Development principles & participatory approaches
  - Best practices
  - Evidence-based review

- **Consultations with Stakeholders**
  - Sector-specific working groups (WASH, Community Health and Nutrition, Emergency Health, gender advisory)
  - Country consultations (Romania and Senegal)
  - Community-level practitioners (Consultations at CORE group and Wellcome Trust meetings)
  - M&E and methodological experts

unite for
children

unicef

Minimum Standards Framework

PART A: Core Community Engagement Standards

PART B: Standards Supporting Implementation

PART C: Standards Supporting Coordination and Integration

PART D: Standards Supporting Resource Mobilization

Indicators: National & Local Governments; NGOs, CSOs, and implementing agencies

Checklists: Project Cycle ; Funding Institutions

unite for
children

unicef

Community Engagement Minimum Quality Standards and Indicators

PART A: Core Community Engagement Standards

1. Participation
2. Empowerment and Ownership
3. Inclusion
4. Two-way Communication
5. Adaptability and Localization
6. Building on Local Capacity

PART B: Standards Supporting Implementation

7. Informed Design
8. Planning and Preparation
9. Managing Activities
10. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning

PART C: Standards Supporting Coordination and Integration

11. Government Leadership
12. Partner Coordination
13. Integration

PART D: Standards Supporting Resource Mobilization

14. Human Resources and Organizational Structures
15. Data Management
16. Resource Mobilization and Budgeting

Introduction to CE Indicators

- **Need for government and non-government indicators.**
- **Need for qualitative and quantitative indicators.**
- **Need for qualitative accounts.**
- **Communities should help develop indicators.**
- **Need for process and outcomes indicators.**
- **Indicators should be acceptable and aligned with wider goals.**
- **Need to differentiate by level (community, organizational, national, etc.)**
- **Collection of information for indicators must not be burdensome.**

unite for
children

unicef

National and Local Government: Core Standards

Standard	Sample Indicator
Participation	Proportion of local administrative units with established and operational policies and procedures for participation of local communities.
Empowerment & Ownership	Governments have established reporting mechanisms for identifying if work with existing community groups and institutions is locally supported, and for receiving complaints.
Inclusion	Proportion of government ministries with community engagement department/team/working groups that have mechanisms to reach out to affected or at-risk populations at national, provincial, district and/or local levels.
Two-way communication	Community leaders had direct access to government and NGO/CSO leaders in prioritizing community engagement goals.
Adaptability and Localization	A.4.1. All subnational and local government offices have indicated support and approval for a national community engagement strategy. A.4.2. All subnational and local government offices have implemented national community engagement strategies.
Building on local capacity	A.5.1 Data is collected and analyzed to identify the existing skills and resources of communities and local groups.

NGOs and CSOs: Part A: Core Standards

Standard	Sample Indicator
Participation	Community members were given an opportunity to identify barriers to participation.
Empowerment & Ownership	Issues identified as in the top 10 priorities of communities are prioritized for community engagement action.
Two-way Communication	Community leaders had direct access to government and NGO/CSO leaders in prioritizing community engagement goals.
Adaptability and Localization	Did the contextual analysis involve "experience-near" research and evaluation contributions (e.g. the use of qualitative data or case studies).
Building on local capacity	The resources and capacities of local populations were identified and maximized in designing and implementing activities.
Inclusion	A full range of stakeholders, including women, children, linguistic, religious, and ethnic minorities, and vulnerable populations are identified during the informed design and participatory planning processes.

Tool 1 for Locally Developed Measurement

To support open structure for application to diverse contexts

		Part A: Core Standards for Community Engagement					
		Participation	Empowerment and Ownership	Inclusion	Communication	Adaptability and Localization	Building on local capacity
Part B: Implementation	Informed design						
	Participatory planning and preparation						
	Managing activities						
	Monitoring and evaluation						
Part C: Coordination & Integration	Government engagement						
	Partner coordination						
	Integration						
Part D: Resource Mobilization & Budgeting	Human resources and organizational structures						
	Data management						
	Resource mobilization and budgeting						

Dissemination Roadmap

Objectives for dissemination and integration of the CE standards focusing on:

- *Access and Awareness*
- *Advocacy and Understanding*
- *Action and Implementation*
- *Evidence and Knowledge*

Audiences : Multilateral Institutions and Processes; Governments; Global Networks and Communities of Practice; Implementing Agencies; Funding Agencies; Academic and Research Institutions; UNICEF HQ, Regional and Country Offices

Way forward

- *Positioning of CE standards and indicators that would enable 'institutionalization'* , e.g. interagency working group; resource mobilization and investments

- How do we *strengthen collaboration* in countries where we have on-going programmes of support

- Additional thoughts, comments?

unite for
children

unicef

Thank You!!!!

Rania Elessawi, C4D Specialist
relessawi@unicef.org

© UNICEF/Lister