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UNICEF-NGO CONSULTATIONS: Partnering for Children in the Climate Crisis

Report from the 2024 UNICEF-NGO Consultations:
**Partnering for Children
in the Climate Crisis**

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I. INTRODUCTION

To deliver results for children, partnerships are crucial to UNICEF and civil society organizations (CSOs), including national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community-based organizations (CBOs) and academic institutions. Effective partnerships are critical in humanitarian settings, where addressing the challenges faced in delivering results for children is even more crucial.

Since 2019, UNICEF and the International Council for Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) have co-organized the UNICEF-NGO Consultations to discuss the situation of children in emergency contexts, to focus on specific themes of interest to both UNICEF and NGOs, and to work together to improve partnerships for the benefit of children.

The third edition of the UNICEF-NGO Consultations was co-organized by ICVA and UNICEF from 16–17 April 2024 in Geneva, Switzerland. Building on results from an NGO survey conducted by ICVA and discussions with UNICEF colleagues, the 2024 UNICEF-NGO Consultations were designed under the overarching theme of ‘Partnering for Children in the Climate Crisis’.

This report summarizes the main discussions and presents 32 recommendations put forward during the consultations, highlighting seven that have been prioritized as focus areas for UNICEF and NGO partners in the next 12–18 months.

II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2024 UNICEF-NGO Consultations, convened under the overarching theme of “Partnering for Children in the Climate Crisis”, provided an opportunity for meaningful dialogue among the 145 participants, which included representatives from 36 international NGOs, 21 national NGOs, 4 NGO networks, 4 United Nations agencies and UNICEF and ICVA colleagues (*see participant list in Annex 3 and watch our [video](#) introducing the essence of the UNICEF-NGO Consultations*).

A range of programmatic and policy issues related to climate change were discussed, including:

- Climate change and children: Setting the scene
- How to enhance UNICEF-NGO engagement on climate change, including supply chain, anticipatory action, preparedness and response
- Child-responsive and climate-informed Humanitarian, Development and Peace (HDP) nexus
- Accountability to climate-affected communities
- Promoting partnership with local actors, including marginalized groups, in responding to climate-affected children
- Quality funding and equitable partnerships

To voice different perspectives, the six panel discussions were composed of speakers and moderators from a mix of national and international NGOs and UNICEF colleagues. Each panel included an interactive element (e.g., breakout groups, small group exercises) to further stimulate discussion and agree on recommendations and ways forward. *(See detailed agenda in Annex 1 and a list of background documentation and resources in Annex 4).*

Throughout the discussions, participants expressed how climate change has further emphasized the need for a shift in the humanitarian sector that would make it more people centred. Working with children, their families and communities and genuinely supporting locally led action were highlighted as crucial. Participants indicated that UNICEF was overall a valuable partner, whilst simultaneously highlighting areas for improvement and their expectations of UNICEF as a partner *(see Annex 2 for participants' definitions of 'partnership')*.

The smaller group settings allowed participants to jointly identify best practices and opportunities, challenges, and ways forward to help enhance UNICEF-NGO partnerships.

KEY POINTS FROM THE CONSULTATIONS

Climate change integration

- Growing emphasis on integrating climate change adaptations into humanitarian and development programs
- [Sustainability and Climate Change Action Plan](#) (UNICEF) focuses on organizational response and partnerships

Evidence and data

- Importance of gathering evidence on climate change's impact on children

Joint advocacy

- Need for collective advocacy to address the climate crisis in fragile and conflict-affected settings
- Focus on system change and advocacy to and with governments

Key norms and standards

- [Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations](#)
- [Core Humanitarian Standard](#) (CHS)
- UNICEF Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) (upcoming)

Collaboration with partners and communities

- Emphasis on listening to and integrating voices of affected communities, especially children
- Need for locally driven, participatory and transparent approaches

- Importance of co-creation and co-design in partnerships

UNICEF-NGO partnerships

- Generally good quality partnership, but room for improvement
- Communication challenges and inconsistency in applying guidelines across UNICEF offices
- Need for clearer focal points and improved partner engagement

Funding and climate financing

- Call for more flexible funding
- Challenges with limited flexible funding and high administrative costs

Wider sectoral shifts

- Recognition of systemic change needed in the aid sector
- Importance of joint advocacy for multi-year funding and reduced bureaucracy

Understanding of partnership

- Varied definitions highlight the complexity of partnerships
- Desire for mutual respect, trust, equality and shared goals
- Some frustrations regarding power dynamics and treatment of NGOs

From the large number of suggestions and recommendations proposed during the consultations, UNICEF and ICVA jointly decided to prioritize certain recommendations leading to the below follow-up actions:

1. UNICEF and NGOs ensure that children and youth from fragile and conflict affected areas, as well as marginalized and vulnerable communities, are supported to participate in three distinct decision-making processes on climate policy and funding at the national, regional and global levels;
2. UNICEF and NGOs strengthen collaboration to address evidence gaps and strengthen the case for meaningful climate investments that support anticipatory action, capacity strengthening and localization for children, youth and vulnerable people;
3. UNICEF, supported by ICVA in the outreach to NGOs, facilitates at least one peer to peer exchange between international, national and local actors on disaster risk reduction, anticipatory action and the 'do no harm' or 'do more good' approach as per UNICEF ESS;
4. UNICEF and NGOs to document and jointly promote local- and community-led solutions and initiatives that build climate and conflict resilience;
5. UNICEF to coordinate internally to work towards the streamlining of accountability to affected populations (AAP) in partnership agreements;
6. UNICEF to conduct a consolidated analysis of existing assessments to understand barriers faced by local and national actors representing marginalized populations (e.g., women-led organizations, refugee-led organizations, organizations of persons with disabilities) in accessing partnerships with UNICEF;
7. UNICEF and NGOs, with the support from ICVA, to establish a working group to discuss main recommendations on quality funding and equitable partnership. A kick-off meeting of the working group will be organized by ICVA and UNICEF by late 2024.

Each session of the consultations consisted in a mix of plenary and smaller group interactions. All key themes addressed in the six sessions were first presented through speaker panels © UNICEF & Antoine Tardy.



Breakout groups and smaller group exercises encouraged discussion between participants and were moments to formulate key recommendations © UNICEF & Antoine Tardy.

Breakout groups and smaller group exercises encouraged discussion between participants and were moments to formulate key recommendations © UNICEF & Antoine Tardy.

A group photo of all participants attending the 2024 UNICEF-NGO Consultations in Geneva, Switzerland © UNICEF & Antoine Tardy.



III. SUMMARY OF SESSIONS

Welcoming and opening

The consultations were opened with introductory remarks by Ted Chaiban, Deputy Executive Director, Humanitarian Action and Supply Operations, UNICEF; Jamie Munn, Executive Director, ICVA; and Hazel De Wet, Deputy Director of the Office of Emergency Programmes, UNICEF.

With one billion children worldwide facing severe risks due to climate change and climate-related issues, the opening session speakers all highlighted the urgent need to enhance joint action. Participants were invited to contribute actively throughout the event by sharing existing child-responsive and climate-informed initiatives from across the HDP nexus, and suggesting further joint action, building on local capacities and solutions.

Session 1 Climate change and children: Setting the scene

The session started with a powerful [video message](#) from five girls describing the daily impact of climate change on their lives. They urged governments to engage with young people in actions being taken to protect the environment and mitigate the negative effects of climate change.

Their message was echoed by Sumnima Tuladhar, Executive Director, Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Centre (CWIN-Nepal). CWIN-Nepal is involved in the collective implementation of 'Green Chakra': a climate justice for children platform, which aims not only to raise awareness about the effects of climate change but to empower children and ensure their voices are heard.

Brigitte Rudram, Co-Lead of the Climate Hub and Climate Change and Resilience Specialist at Plan International discussed a joint intervention supporting girls and young women to autonomously research and document how climate change influences and impacts them. Plan International interventions on climate change are now responding to the findings of this research.

Anurita Bains, Deputy Director (a.i), Programme Group at UNICEF noted the crucial importance of

Session 1 recommendations

1. *Engage youth and children in climate policy and decision making. Children can influence climate policy and funding by linking their input and feedback to global, national and local decision-making bodies and creating safe mechanisms for youth engagement. A special focus should be given to strengthening the participation and voice of children and youth from fragile and conflict affected areas, and marginalized and vulnerable communities.**

**This recommendation has been prioritized by ICVA and UNICEF.*

2. *Integrate existing child and youth-focused climate initiatives into existing programs. This could be through an involvement in a youth alliance that would regularly convene on the topic of climate change. A suggestion of an existing platform to use is: YOUNGO: the official children and youth constituency of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).*

3. *Train knowledgeable mentors for youth.*

4. *Document and scale up good practices, such as the Youth Justice Fund and co-creation approaches and processes with children and youth.*

evidence in understanding the impact of climate change on children. In 2023, UNICEF published [‘The climate-changed child – A children’s climate risk index supplement’](#), which builds upon new evidence, research and findings.

Panellist presentations were followed by many reactions from the floor. NGO and UNICEF colleagues presented their work related to climate change in various contexts and how they are supporting children and communities.

Session 2 How to enhance UNICEF-NGO engagement on climate change, including supply chain, anticipatory action, preparedness and response

Building on Session 1, this session focused on more programmatic and child-focused aspects of the UNICEF-NGO partnership, looking at anticipatory action, preparedness and response. Mohammad Harun Rashid, Emergency Specialist, UNICEF elaborated on how addressing climate-induced shocks requires innovative solutions and proactive measures. Anticipatory action was explained in detail and presented as a possible innovative solution.

Emma Visman, Senior Advisor, Humanitarian Climate Crisis Initiative, Save the Children emphasized how children have done the least to cause the climate crisis but are the most affected by it. By 2024, Save the Children is working to directly reach over 1.5 million children and their families who are most at risk from the impacts of climate change. All programs are locally led, community-driven and rights-based. The need to increase child-centred climate services was highlighted, as too few of them exist.

Sebastien Truffaut, Programme Manager, Programme Effectiveness, Data, Analytics, Planning and Monitoring, at UNICEF explained how the organization’s climate efforts also reflect commitments made by the United Nations to minimize climate impact. UNICEF is also shifting from a ‘do no harm’ to a ‘do more good’ approach. To progress in this regard, UNICEF has developed eight Environmental and Social Standards (ESS).

Shiraz Akhtar, Senior Climate Change Advisor, Gora-khpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG) elaborat-

Session 2 recommendations

5. *Change the way we respond and take action in anticipation of a predicted hazard so that children and their communities can respond to disasters faster and more effectively. This involves using development and humanitarian resources and programs to build resilience, while also exploring new funding approaches, particularly for climate financing and anticipatory action.*
6. *Undertake further joint action to address evidence gaps and strengthen the case for meaningful climate investments that supports anticipatory action, capacity strengthening and localization.**
**This recommendation has been prioritized by ICVA and UNICEF.*
7. *Facilitate peer to peer exchanges between international, national and local actors on disaster risk reduction, anticipatory action, and the UNICEF ESS through the ‘do no harm’ and ‘do more good’ approach.**
**This recommendation has been prioritized by ICVA and UNICEF.*
8. *Prioritize participatory and inclusive risk mapping processes that include community groups’ and children’s perspectives and address specific risks that children and communities face (stakeholder engagement principle, soon to be part of the ESS framework by UNICEF).*
9. *Consider and promote nature and landscape based approaches for the conservation of natural ecosystems and enhancing resilience.*

ed on their work in Northern India. As a local NGO, GEAG makes a strong link between the natural ecosystems and the resilience and development of the community. For GEAG, risk assessment is comprehensive and participatory, and recognizes that communities are not uniform in terms of needs and situations. Thus, interventions need to respond to the specific needs of the diverse groups that make up larger communities.

Many participants emphasized how collaboration with numerous stakeholders – including between UNICEF and NGO partners – and advocacy for child-centred anticipatory action are key in terms of resource mobilization and mitigating the impact of operations on climate. Reference was made to [The Climate and Environmental Charter for Humanitarian Organizations](#), which puts forward several commitments made by humanitarian organizations, signed by 398 organizations at the time of the consultations.

Access the presentation from session two [here](#).

Session 3 Child-responsive and climate-informed Humanitarian, Development and Peace nexus

The need to place child sensitive climate interventions within the HDP nexus was underscored from the beginning of the consultations. The third session provided an opportunity to analyse current challenges, highlight good practices and identify ways forward to strengthen resilience through the nexus approach.

Ndeye Marie Diop from UNICEF referred to the HDP nexus as an approach that strengthens the links between humanitarian, development and peace programs with the aim of addressing needs, reducing risks and vulnerabilities in an equitable manner and preventing crisis and conflicts. Several case studies were presented from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burkina Faso, Madagascar and Mozambique, to illustrate what the HDP nexus means in practice, highlight what has and has not worked and share lessons learned.

An example of HDP nexus work in Burkina Faso was given by Elisabethe Zerbo, Department Director and Coordinator of Education in Emergency Situations at the Tin Tua Association. In collaboration with international NGOs and United Nations agencies, Tin Tua, is implementing an integrated and multi-sectoral approach covering protection;

Session 3 recommendations

10. *Strengthen joint action and investments in local initiatives to improve resilience to climate and conflict-related shocks and stresses.**

**This recommendation has been prioritized by ICVA and UNICEF.*

11. *Document, promote and scale up community-led solutions and initiatives that build climate resilience, recognize capacity of local NGOs and authorities, and focus on women and girls and marginalized groups. It can be useful to follow a systems thinking approach: i.e., by strengthening initiatives that are already achieving positive impact.*

12. *Advocate for multi-year funding to support sustainable humanitarian responses and climate adaptation efforts. This involves engaging with international financial institutions (notably the World Bank) and donors to refine financing mechanisms for the allocation of flexible funding to support resilience programming.*

13. *Develop a strategic stakeholder and policy mapping to facilitate access to climate finance and enhance resource mobilization for resilience building.*

14. *Integrate the HDP nexus in all planning phases and mainstream risk-informed programming.*

education; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); and social cohesion. Climate change adaptation has been an integral part of their approach, strengthening the organization's focus on environmental protection in both displaced and host communities, with particular attention to women and girls.

After a short quiz testing participants' knowledge of climate-informed interventions, Yukiko Yamada Morovic, Technical Director on Climate Action, World Vision, presented their 'regreening for child wellbeing' approach. The approach combines social cohesion activities; ecosystem restoration for climate change mitigation and adaptation; climate resilient livelihoods activities and skills training through improved natural resource management. Through community engagement, this approach is beneficial to the environment, children and their families, while also making communities more resilient.

The presentations were followed by group discussions, where participants emphasized the importance of a multi-faceted and integrated approach to address the impacts of climate change and conflict on children. Several concrete recommendations were discussed and agreed upon.

Access the presentation from session three [here](#).

Session 4 Accountability to climate-affected communities

To kick-off the second day of consultations, this session emphasized how affected communities – especially children and youth – can be involved in and engaged with programme design, including climate-related programmes. By examining areas of collaboration and partnership, the panellists and participants worked to identify barriers and suggested recommendations and action points that could enhance collective efforts to promote accountability to affected populations (AAP).

Tanya Wood, Executive Director of the Core Humanitarian Standard Alliance, spoke of AAP as being an active process through which humanitarian actors recognize the importance of using power responsibly and being accountable to the people they seek to assist, particularly members of the affected community (i.e., going beyond the already integrated accountability to donors and funding partners). [The Core Humanitarian Standard](#) (CHS) was presented, which has been recently updated following extensive global consultations, including with local communities. The new CHS has integrated a stronger emphasis on the environment and the impact of humanitarian work, both on people and their

Session 4 recommendations

15. Advocate AAP as a leadership issue, requiring commitment at all decision-making levels to listen to children and communities and shift decision-making power.
16. Integrate the CHS into project cycles, existing coordination mechanisms and structures. Their implementation should be monitored, particularly for climate-related efforts.
17. Draft comprehensive, simpler and accessible feedback mechanisms through collaborative efforts between UNICEF and partner organizations, aligned with CHS commitments to ensure evidence-based interventions. Ensure follow-up to these evidence-based practices.
18. Explicitly mention AAP in partnership agreements to integrate community voices and feedback throughout programme cycles, including in monitoring and analysis. *
*This recommendation has been prioritized by ICVA and UNICEF.



immediate environment, as well as an enhanced focus on organizational accountability regarding the sector's environmental impact.

Charles Antoine Hofmann, Senior Advisor on AAP at UNICEF, indicated that UNICEF benchmarks itself against the CHS, which highlights the importance of organizations adhering to the same standards expected from their partners. Considerable progress on AAP has been achieved over the last years, but there is still a long way to go. The UNICEF account-

ability and climate change framework was developed to include the following three key aspects: feedback mechanisms; participation; and evidence-based advocacy. Participation – particularly that of children and youth – and feedback are critical in climate change mitigation and preparedness, to ensure that children and young people have a voice in climate change decision-making processes.

Tatenda Songore, Executive Director of Youth Advocates Zimbabwe spoke about how UNICEF-NGO partnerships can promote youth engagement and leadership. This is exemplified by the local NGO Youth Advocates Zimbabwe, which through a human-centred design and approach, implements Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) programmes. The programmes empower young people not only to report abuse, but to become agents of change in their communities by increasing awareness about sexual exploitation and abuse and available reporting mechanisms. Youth Advocates Zimbabwe effectively customises their programmes with an AAP approach by integrating feedback from youth – specifically by conducting youth-led research before carrying out interventions.

The lively discussions among participants during the ensuing world café exercise highlighted the importance of flexible, inclusive and integrated approaches to accountability, emphasizing youth empowerment, community involvement and environmental responsibility in addressing climate-affected communities.

Access the presentation from session four [here](#).

Session 5 Promoting partnership with local actors, including marginalized groups, in responding to climate-affected children

Session 5 focused on analysing and understanding how local actors, communities and marginalized groups, as well as the organizations representing them, can promote principled partnerships to address the impacts of climate change, with the support of UNICEF.

Jameel Abdo Ali Hodish, Chief Executive Officer of Tamdeen Youth Foundation (TYF), called attention

19. Simplify, translate and tailor AAP training packages for partners and communities, considering differences and accessibility (age, gender, disability, diversity of groups), while also ensuring funding and technical support post-training is available for partners.

20. Improve capacity building on climate change issues by incorporating local actors' priorities.

Session 5 recommendations

21. Enhance transparency in risk management. For example, mapping out risks to facilitate dialogue and understanding between partners and donors. Understand what risk means to different entities and strengthen engagement of local partners in risk management.



to the severe impact of climate change on the most vulnerable populations in Yemen. TYF works with these communities to ensure children, especially young girls, continue with their education instead of having to deal with the impacts of climate change (i.e., distant water collection). TYF counts on support from international partners, including UNICEF, international NGOs, and donors. Risk sharing was highlighted as a priority for them: when risk is solely transferred to local NGOs, projects can be suspended and funding stopped. This immediately increases the challenges experienced by local actors and affected communities.

Local actors and partners in different countries share similar experiences. Ana Karina Pérez Peñate from the local NGO SAHED Foundation spoke about how in Colombia, climate change impacts increase the country's already existing vulnerabilities relating to high levels of poverty, internal armed conflict, and displacement. SAHED Foundation focuses its work on developing community capacity for risk reduction, resilience, climate change adaptation, and the strengthening of community governance. Some of the challenges they face include lack of resources, funding instability, resistance to change, difficulties in monitoring and evaluation, and access restrictions.

Philimon Majwa, Humanitarian Policy Specialist at UNICEF talked about the strategic approach to localization at UNICEF. UNICEF transfers 43 per cent of its humanitarian funding to local actors, highlighting how funding is a critical aspect of the localization agenda at UNICEF. Nonetheless, investment in transformative partnerships that further empower local actors goes beyond funding. Complementing and increasing capacities of local actors is another priority for UNICEF as well as the participation and leadership of local actors in coordination structures, and joint risk sharing instead of risk transfer.

However, for some local actors, accessing partnerships with UNICEF remains challenging. According to Kirstin Lange, Programme Specialist at UNICEF, smaller organizations, women's rights or women-led organizations, refugee-led organizations, and organizations of people with disabilities, among others, are often underfunded and lack opportunities to participate in coordination and to take on leadership roles. Challenges are often exacerbated by language barriers. More efforts are needed to ensure these groups can fully benefit from localization and partnership. In general, participants agreed on the importance of trust, accountability, local priorities, long-term sustainability, effective coordination and inclusion of marginalized groups in partnerships.

Access the presentation from session five [here](#).

22. *Ensure that access to information and support (such as a dedicated information page, helpline, contact person, etc.) is available to everyone in their national or local languages and accessible formats.*

23. *Clarify the value added for local partners to participate in coordination mechanisms and identify how to incentivize this. The issue of holding meetings without clearly communicated outcomes needs to be addressed.*

24. *Invest in and develop institutional capacity and leadership training for local NGOs, making sure to include marginalized groups. It is useful to explore connections with NGO networks and linkages with refugee coordination platforms or other mechanisms.*

25. *Joint consolidation and analysis of assessments to understand barriers faced by marginalized populations (such as women-led organizations, refugee-led organisations, organisations of people with disabilities and youth-led networks) in accessing partnerships with UNICEF, international, national and local NGOs.**

**This recommendation has been prioritized by ICVA and UNICEF*

Session 6 Quality funding and equitable partnerships

To improve outcomes for climate-affected children and their communities, and to promote effective localization and AAP, quality funding and equitable partnerships are essential. Session 6 highlighted good partnership practices, areas for improvement, and ways forward.

Vania Gobbo, Policy Officer at ICVA discussed how, following a first study completed in 2019, ICVA and UNICEF conducted a second partnership study in 2023 to assess changes in NGO perceptions of their partnership with UNICEF. With 713 respondents, NGO participation was high, yielding positive feedback: 40 per cent of respondents found the partnership satisfying, and 37 per cent found it very satisfying.

Guillaume Sauval, Senior Adviser, Government Partnerships, UNICEF spoke about the commitment to cascade quality funding at UNICEF, as per the Grand Bargain. However, UNICEF also faces challenges in obtaining flexible and multi-year funding. Only 20 per cent of funding is flexible, with just 3.3 per cent being fully flexible. Climate financing holds additional challenges, with only 16 per cent of it destined for adaptation, and 2.4 per cent for child-responsive projects. UNICEF has begun to integrate climate funding into its programming, covering humanitarian, development, adaptation and resilience. [The Humanitarian Review](#) has brought about significant changes in programming, supply, accountability and management. Moving forward, the focus will also be on financial and supply flexibility.

Niklas Rieger, Crisis and Humanitarian Co-Lead, Development Initiatives (DI), also considered the UNICEF-NGO partnership from the perspective of Grand Bargain commitments. UNICEF has made several commitments on localization, notably on capacity strengthening and overheads. The 2022 research conducted by DI was referenced: it mapped policy and practice on the provision of overheads

Session 6 recommendations

26. Reinforce and communicate the referral pathways to NGOs to address partnership questions and serve as an escalation pathway to address partnership issues promptly. (For reference, the existing referral pathway is the following: If the CSO/ NGO has an issue, they should address it to the programme office or the implementing partnership specialist (IP) at the country office. If this request is not resolved, then they send the request to the regional office IP specialist, and finally it goes to headquarters (HQ) for final advice if it is not resolved at regional level).
27. Establish a working group and organize regular opportunities for engagement and discussion, such as workshops on partnerships and guidelines, including practical training, with NGO staff and UNICEF staff to ensure clear expectations, improve communication and understanding and ensure consistency of guideline implementation.
28. Promote early co-designing and co-programming with partners to build robust partnerships rooted in mutual understanding and cooperation, as per the Principles of Partnership.
29. Map decision-making points and identify bottlenecks in decision-making processes regarding partnerships to streamline approvals and improve system understanding. For example, review challenges caused by delays in contract signature while partner(s) have already started implementation. In declared humanitarian situations, explore how the start-up letter can potentially provide solutions.
30. Develop tools and guidance to facilitate the proactive engagement of partners and UNICEF in risk identification and risk management, ensuring a clear understanding of the risks they may be facing, including currency losses, before budget finalization and programme design.



to local and national NGOs and revealed an overall lack of adequate policies. These findings were addressed by the [Inter-Agency Standing Committee Guidance on the Provision of Overheads to Local and National NGOs](#), which was adopted by international NGOs and United Nations agencies, including UNICEF. Although UNICEF is implementing several good practices regarding overheads for local partners, there is still space for further improvement.

Fitsum Assefa, Chief, Programme Implementation Unit, Programme Effectiveness Team, UNICEF emphasized the importance given by UNICEF to its partnerships with CSOs. In 2023, UNICEF transferred nearly USD 3 billion to partners, of which 60 per cent went to CSOs, with significant portions going to local NGOs. The main programmes supported focus on education, protection, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), and the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH), and only about USD 100 million was allocated to climate-related projects. The United Nations Partner Portal was also referred to as an effective partnership tool currently used by 11 United Nations agencies, with 32,000 CSOs registered, many of which are local. However, it was recognized that national and local NGOs might lack the necessary resources and digital skills to adequately use the tool. The ongoing revisions in UNICEF partnership documents and consultations with NGOs around these changes were also discussed. One improvement is the guidance that, whenever feasible, multi-year programming should be prioritized. Additionally, in 2023, UNICEF introduced the 7 per cent overheads policy for CSOs, directing USD 6.7 million towards overheads. Still, more can be done, especially to enhance communication on existing policies and ensure their consistent application across country offices.

Assem Chreif, Head of Programs, The Lebanese Organisation for Studies and Training (LOST) spoke about the situation in Lebanon, where climate change impacts are expected to heighten population vulnerabilities and are projected to contribute

31. Clarify and enhance guidelines (on processes, cost classifications). This should include:
- i. UNICEF regional office, in collaboration with the HQ to provide support to UNICEF country office to address procedural issues and ensure consistent application of guidelines with partners, with specialist inputs from UNICEF and partners, ensuring smoother collaboration at the national level.
 - ii. Update the partner-facing handbook to clarify guidelines and ensure symmetry of expectations and consistency of guidelines implementation between UNICEF country office staff and NGO partners.
 - iii. Clarify principles to facilitate context specific application of partner cash contribution to Programme Cooperation Agreement (PCA); organize discussions on expectations at national level.
 - iv. Clarify 7 per cent support cost (overhead) allocation, including for local NGOs, and review exclusion criteria particularly regarding cash transfers, in-kind support, bulk procurement, and staff salaries to ensure they align with partner needs and operational realities; and continue to improve clarity on cost classifications for direct and indirect costs. Note: More clarity in the definition of support costs (7 per cent) and support management costs will be available in the upcoming versions of the UNICEF CSO facing handbook.
32. Enhance financial flexibility. This should include the following efforts:
- i. Increase the flexibility in UNICEF funding commitments by developing adequate tools and approaches to enable organizations to contribute to longer-lasting impact, e.g., strategic multi-year agreements between UNICEF and NGOs that promote a programmatic, flexible approach, that are co-designed and co-planned with partners. Note: Internally at UNICEF there is clear guidance on this but practice may vary. Hence there is a need for more consistency at UNICEF in the application of guidance on quality funding and longer-term programming. There is now a simplified humanitarian



to a 14 per cent fall in gross domestic product (GDP) by 2040. Focusing on the collaboration between LOST and UNICEF, the partnership's strengths were highlighted, including flexibility and strategic thinking in the use of earmarked funds for projects. Mutual trust was fostered thanks to UNICEF's support of LOST's internal governance reforms, financial systems, and improving proposal writing capacities. Self-sufficiency was encouraged rather than an over-reliance on external assistance.

The final speaker, Bethan Gilbert, United Nations Donor Compliance Manager, Save the Children shared the organization's partnership experience with UNICEF. While acknowledging efforts by UNICEF to improve the quality of partnership and refine partnership documents, she raised concerns about the inconsistent application of global guidelines across UNICEF country offices. This hinders the predictability of UNICEF as a partner and negatively impacts programme delivery and affected communities. Lengthy and burdensome bureaucratic partnership procedures and delays also impede programme implementation. Lastly, cost-sharing was highlighted as a challenge, with reference to inconsistencies in methodologies determining cost-sharing, high contributions often expected from CSOs, and the increase in categories of excluded costs. Positive aspects of the partnership were also noted, for example, the technical support provided by UNICEF to partners in-country.

Following the panel, participants continued to discuss partnership-related issues in smaller groups and reported back the agreed recommendations. As per the prioritised recommendations listed in the executive summary, UNICEF and ICVA will jointly address various session 6 recommendations through a working group.

Access the presentation from session six [here](#).

project document that can be designed with a longer-term perspective (24 months).

ii. Introduce flexibility in currency by allowing partners to choose the currency of funding, with the option to shift currencies as needed. Implement fast track processes for retroactive payments in cases of inflation and automatic currency switches based on contextual inflation rates.

iii. Explore a mechanism for transferring funds without itemised cost of expenditure in crisis contexts within a defined period (currently 3 months).

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS

Appreciated by both NGO and UNICEF colleagues, the two-day consultations highlighted the importance of collaboration, ongoing dialogue and leveraging existing resources and knowledge to address climate change and improve outcomes for children.

Beyond providing an opportunity to delve into the panel topics, reflect and suggest joint actions for the benefit of children affected by climate change, the consultations also fostered invaluable peer-to-peer exchange and learning. The consultations allowed for a dedicated space for dialogue, listening and exchange. Investing in dialogue and regular consultations was encouraged by participants as they allow the gathering of views of partners and experts and help to collectively understand shifts taking place in the sector.

Participants valued the opportunity to come together around a specific topic with many arriving eager to learn more about addressing the impact of climate change on children. The discussions on improving partnership policies, guidance and their applications were well-received, leading to the identification of concrete, measurable ways forward. In addition, the open and frank dialogue during sessions, the informal exchanges during breaks, and the joint preparatory work prior to and during the consultations facilitated meaningful connections among participants, strengthening partnerships among NGOs, and between NGOs and UNICEF.

As highlighted by both UNICEF and ICVA in their closing remarks, the consultations mark the beginning of an ongoing effort rather than an isolated event. Building on the valuable recommendations gathered, UNICEF and ICVA selected priority recommendations and suggested some follow-up actions. A series of webinars will be held to delve deeper into the prioritized recommendations.

Both ICVA and UNICEF are committed to further exploring how children's voices can guide joint action. Recognising children as experts in their own lives, their perspective will be integral in realising fully their rights, including the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

Opening session of the consultations with UNICEF and ICVA representatives
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Session 1 framed the overarching theme of the consultations: climate change and children © UNICEF & Antoine Tardy.



Session 2 presented how to enhance UNICEF-NGO engagement on climate change, including supply chain, anticipatory action, preparedness and response
© UNICEF & Antoine Tardy.

Session 3 on child-responsive and climate-informed HDP nexus explored several concrete examples from the African continent - including from Burkina Faso
© UNICEF & Antoine Tardy.

Session 4 on accountability to climate-affected communities presented the updated Core Humanitarian Standard
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Session 5 explored how to promote partnership with local actors, including marginalized groups, in responding to climate-affected children © UNICEF & Antoine Tardy.

Quality funding and equitable partnerships were explored in session 6. Participants discussed good practices, areas for improvement and ways forwards for better partnerships © UNICEF & Antoine Tardy.

Coffee and lunch breaks allowed for informal moments of exchange between participants © UNICEF & Antoine Tardy.

The consultations seek to foster a moment of positive and constructive exchange while also tackling serious topics © UNICEF & Antoine Tardy.



Each participant received a welcome package at the start of the consultations © UNICEF & Antoine Tardy.

Breakout rooms and group exercises were a key aspect of the consultations to encourage discussion between participants © UNICEF & Antoine Tardy.

A participant reporting back in plenary. For each session, moments were created to gather the different perspectives of participants and share outcomes from group discussions © UNICEF & Antoine Tardy.

Participants were invited to answer the question "What does partnership mean to you?". See Annex 2 for the outcomes of this participatory activity © UNICEF & Antoine Tardy.



ANNEX 1 DETAILED AGENDA

2024 UNICEF-NGO CONSULTATIONS:

PARTNERING FOR CHILDREN IN THE CLIMATE CRISIS

16-17 APRIL 2024 | GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

DAY 1: TUESDAY 16 APRIL 2024

<p>08:30 – 09:15</p>	<p>Registration (45 minutes): Registration desk opens with light coffee and tea served for participants.</p>
<p>09:15 – 09:45</p>	<p>Opening Remarks (30 minutes) Welcome and overview of the UNICEF-NGO Consultations by UNICEF and ICVA leads, objectives of the consultation, thematic focus on climate and children.</p> <p>Objective: A short opening session with two senior speakers from ICVA and UNICEF to welcome the participants and briefly introduce the background of the consultations and set the objectives of the thematic focus: climate change, Humanitarian-Development Nexus, accountability to affected persons, community engagement and localisation.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazel De Wet, Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Programmes, UNICEF • Jamie Munn, Executive Director, ICVA • & pre-recorded message from Ted Chaiban, Deputy Executive Director, Humanitarian Action and Supply Operations, UNICEF <p>Moderator: David Andrés Viñas, Humanitarian Advocacy Specialist, Division of Global Communication and Advocacy, UNICEF</p>
<p>09:45 – 11:00</p>	<p>Session 1: Climate change and children: Setting the scene (75 minutes) Objective: This session aims to frame the discussion by scanning the horizon of the needs of children affected by climate change and by presenting the climate change related humanitarian policies and programmes UNICEF and NGOs are currently implementing.</p> <p>Format: Moderated panel discussion, followed by Q&A. A panel discussion between UNICEF and NGO speakers to present the impacts of climate change on children, to update on what they are currently doing to address the current and projected impacts of climate change on children, to discuss challenges and opportunities and to consider where continued joint investment and advocacy is needed. Close session with 2-3 key takeaways/recommendations for UNICEF, NGOs, and the wider sector.</p> <p>Speakers:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brigitte Rudram, Co-Lead of the Climate Hub and Climate Change and Resilience Specialist, Plan International • Sumnima Tuladhar, Executive Director, Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Centre (CWIN-Nepal) • Anurita Bains, Deputy Director (a.i), Programme Group, UNICEF <p>Moderator: Mirela Shuteriqi, Director of Policy, ICVA</p>
11:00 – 11:20	Coffee break
11:20 – 13:00	<p>Session 2: How to enhance UNICEF-NGO engagement on climate change, including supply chain anticipatory action, preparedness, and response (100 minutes)</p> <p>Objective: Linked to session 1, this session will encourage participants to discuss, in breakout groups, how UNICEF and NGOs can work better together to develop and implement (including scaling) policies and programmes that support children and their communities in addressing climate change, including strengthening supply chain management, preparedness and anticipatory action, and response. Furthermore, the participants will review the current UNICEF-NGO partnership processes related to climate change and other interconnected issues, present concerns, discuss collaborative approaches and provide suggestions on how jointly climate change can be addressed. Finally, the participants will identify 2-3 key recommendations per group.</p> <p>Format: Introduction and ignite talks, breakout group discussion and reporting back in plenary. The session will consist of an introductory presentation and 1-2 ignite talks to frame the breakout groups, followed by breakout group discussions. Returning to plenary, the breakout groups will report back on the main points of their discussion and present 2-3 key takeaways/recommendations for UNICEF, NGOs, and the wider sector.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mohammad Harun Rashid, Emergency Specialist, Office of Emergency Programmes, UNICEF • Emma Visman, Senior Advisor, Humanitarian Climate Crisis Initiative, Save the Children • Sebastien Truffaut, Programme Manager on Environmental & Social Safeguards (ESS), Programme Effectiveness, Data, Analytics, Planning and Monitoring, UNICEF • Shiraz Akhtar, Senior Climate Change Advisor, Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG) <p>Moderator: Nishanie Jayamaha, Co-lead of the Climate and Environment Charter Secretariat</p>

13:00 – 14:30	LUNCH
14:30 – 16:00	<p>Session 3: Child-responsive and climate-informed Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus (90 minutes)</p> <p>Objective: This session aims to analyse the current challenges, highlight good practices, and identify ways forward and recommendations around how UNICEF and NGO partners can better collaborate across the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus, with a focus on Disaster Risk Reduction.</p> <p>Format: Moderated panel discussion, group work and reporting back in plenary. This session will open with presentations by UNICEF and NGO speakers on how they work across the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus, putting children and women at the centre, when responding to the climate crisis, before opening the floor to discussions on challenges and opportunities and possible ways forward in terms of joint investment and advocacy. Close session with 2-3 key takeaways/recommendations for UNICEF, NGOs and the wider sector.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yukiko Yamada Morovic, Technical Director on Climate Action, World Vision • Elisabethe Zerbo, Directrice de département et coordonnatrice de l'axe éducation en situation d'urgence, Association Tin Tua • Ndeye Marie Diop (Marie), Programme Specialist, Humanitarian Action, UNICEF <p>Moderators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yvonne Agengo, Senior Technical Advisor Child Protection, International Rescue Committee (IRC) • Samantha Cocco-Klein, Senior Climate Consultant, Humanitarian Programmes, UNICEF
16:00 – 16:20	Coffee break
16:20 – 16:50	<p>Closing of Day 1 (30 minutes)</p> <p>In this last session of Day 1, summarizes the key learning and action points of the day. The session will close with a few instructions for the next day.</p> <p>Speaker: Luc Chauvin Chief of Inter-Agency & Humanitarian Partnerships, Office of Emergency Programmes, UNICEF</p>
<i>Free time before reception</i>	
17:30 – 18:00	Networking and Reception

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY 17 APRIL 2024	
08:30 – 09:00	Welcome tea and refreshments
09:00 – 09:15	<p>Introduction to Day 2 (30 minutes)</p> <p>Quick housekeeping, wrap-up and takeaways from Day 1 & Introduction to Day 2</p> <p>Speaker: Mirela Shuteriqi, Director of Policy, ICVA</p>
09:15 – 10:45	<p>Session 4: Accountability to climate-affected communities (90 minutes)</p> <p>Objective: This session aims to facilitate a discussion between UNICEF and NGO partners on how affected communities, especially children and youth, are involved and engaged with in the design of programmes, including climate-related programmes. By examining areas of collaboration and partnership, the session aims to identify and address barriers and, through the provision of recommendations and ways forward, enhance collective efforts in promoting AAP.</p> <p>Format: Introduction in plenary, followed by group discussions, followed by reporting back in plenary. This session will open with short presentations by UNICEF and NGO speakers on how they engage with affected communities and vice versa how affected communities are involved. Participants will then move to breakout groups to discuss challenges and opportunities and possible ways forward in terms of joint investment and advocacy on AAP. A short reporting back in plenary is also foreseen.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tanya Wood, Executive Director, CHS Alliance • Tatenda Songore, Executive Director, Youth Advocates Zimbabwe • Charles Antoine Hofmann, Senior Advisor on Accountability to Affected Populations, Office of Emergency Programmes, UNICEF <p>Moderator: Nisar Syed, Chief, Global Cluster Coordination Unit, Office of Emergency Programmes, UNICEF</p>
10:45 – 11:05	Coffee break
11:05 – 12:30	<p>Session 5: Promoting partnership with local actors, including marginalised groups, in responding to climate-affected children (85 minutes)</p> <p>Objective: This session focuses on analysing and understanding how local actors, communities and marginalised groups as well as the local organisations representing them can promote principled partnership in addressing the impacts of climate change, and how UNICEF can support this. The aim is to agree on 2-3 key takeaways/recommendations for UNICEF, NGOs and the wider sector in strengthening partnership with local actors.</p>

	<p>Format: Ignite Talks (4x), followed by Q&A, followed by thematic breakout group discussions, followed by reporting back in plenary. After presentations/ignite talks given by UNICEF and NGO colleagues, in particular from local actors and organizations representing marginalised groups, including persons with disabilities and indigenous persons, the participants will split into breakout groups to discuss best practices and how jointly they can enhance each other's capacities toward realizing localisation objectives. In the breakout groups participants will explore: capacity-sharing, working with marginalised groups, the cascading of funding, issues on risk transfer/risk sharing and the participation of local actors in coordination mechanisms.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jameel Abdo Ali Hodish, CEO, Tamdeen Youth Foundation (TYF) • Ana Karina Pérez Peñate, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Professional, Fundación Para el Saneamiento, Ambiente, Higiene, Emprendimiento y Desarrollo Sostenible (SAHED) • Philimon Majwa, Humanitarian Policy Specialist, Office of Emergency Programmes, UNICEF • Kirstin Lange, Programme Specialist part of the Disability Inclusive Humanitarian Action team, Children with Disability section, UNICEF <p>Moderator: Smruti Patel, Co-Director, Global Mentoring Initiative (GMI) and International coordinator for Alliance for Empowering Partnership (A4EP)</p>
<p>12:30 – 13:30</p>	<p>LUNCH</p>
<p>13:30 – 15:00</p>	<p>Session 6: Quality funding & equitable partnerships (180 mins)</p> <p>Objective: In order to improve outcomes for climate-affected children and beyond, quality funding and equitable partnership are essential. They also serve effective localisation and accountability to affected people. A scoping study carried by ICVA received over 700 responses from UNICEF partners and showed that NGO partners are enthusiastic to collaborate with UNICEF on topics such as bridging the funding gap, advocating to donors for more quality funding, and aligning funding across the nexus. The study also showed that areas to strengthen in partnerships between NGOs and UNICEF include overheads, multi-year flexible funding, communication and transparency, and consistency in implementation of guidelines. The participants will jointly highlight good practices, identify barriers and challenges and ways how to address these and formulate recommendations on how quality funding and equitable partnerships can be taken forward and jointly strengthened.</p> <p>Format: Moderated panel discussion, followed by Q&A, followed by thematic breakout group discussions, followed by reporting back in plenary. This session will open with short presentations by UNICEF and NGO speakers on their subject of focus, before opening the floor to questions and comments and breaking out</p>

	<p>to groups focused on identified challenges, opportunities and possible ways forward in terms of quality funding and equitable partnerships.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bethan Gilbert, UN Donor Compliance Manager, Save the Children • Niklas Rieger, Crisis & Humanitarian Co-Lead, Development Initiatives • Assem Chreif, Head of Programs, The Lebanese Organisation for Studies and Training (LOST) • Guillaume Sauval, Senior Adviser, Government Partnerships, UNICEF • Fitsum Assefa, Chief, Programme Implementation Unit, Programme Effectiveness Team, UNICEF <p>Moderators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elise Belcher, Senior Policy & Engagement Advisor (Humanitarian & Crisis), Development Initiatives • Vania Gobbo, Policy Officer, ICVA
14:50 – 15:10	Coffee break
15:20 – 16:30	Session 6: Quality funding & equitable partnerships cont'd
16:30 – 17:00	<p>Closing Remarks (30min)</p> <p>Next steps and closing of the conference.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazel De Wet, Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Programmes, UNICEF • Jamie Munn, Executive Director, ICVA <p>Moderator: Luc Chauvin Chief of Inter-Agency & Humanitarian Partnerships, Office of Emergency Programmes, UNICEF</p>

ANNEX 2 PARTICIPATORY ACTIVITY AT THE UNICEF-NGO CONSULTATIONS

“What does Partnership mean to you?” activity

Understanding the concept of “partnership”

During the consultations, participants were invited to share their personal definition of “partnership”. Cards with the question “What does partnership mean to you?” were placed on all seats. The variety in the definitions of respondents highlights the very complexity of partnership: we all have different understandings of what it means and how this translates into practice.

The responses highlight a strong desire for partnerships built on mutual respect, trust and equality. Participants emphasize the importance of working together towards shared goals, leveraging each other’s strengths and maintaining open and effective communication. Touching upon the issue of power dynamics, there is a recurring theme of ensuring partnerships are mutually beneficial and not hierarchical, with many calling for equal decision making and shared responsibility. Some responses also indicated a wish for more efforts to learn from each other, the importance of being agile and the need for more effective communication (with a focus on listening and understanding).

Participatory exercise at the 2024 UNICEF-NGO Consultations. Participants were presented with a card where they could share their personal definition of partnership

Name	Definition
Anonymous	Partnerships are built on long-term trustful relationships
Anonymous	Partnership means: -Common understanding of climate change impact (assessment) -Common definition of strategies and action plans -Common resource mobilization -Common/complementary implementation including delivery model -Common monitoring, evaluation and lessons learned -Common accountability to beneficiaries and donors
Anonymous	Working together to leverage each others strengths
Anonymous	Working together equally, regardless of who has the funds; working together by listening, meaningfully. In order to facilitate actual change for children.
Anonymous	-Working for a shared goal -Exchanging knowledge and information and expertise and understanding -A win-win approach -A platform for learning, experimenting
Anonymous	Partnership = bringing together technical and financial resources, expertise and comparative advantage, to achieve quality results
Anonymous	Cooperation at eye-level
Anonymous	Honestly speaking, many UN agencies treat NNGOs and INGOs like subcontractors. There is no respect for our expertise or our own financial needs.



Name	Definition
Anonymous	A partnership is a relationship based on: a- Shared values and principles, and b- Complimentary strengths, capabilities and comparative advantages c- Trust
Anonymous	Synergies of resources and skills for a better (more efficient, timely, tailored) assistance to affected population
Anonymous	EQUALITY = ensuring that the partnership is mutually beneficial for both or more parties
Anonymous	Collaboration among equals toward a common goal, not a contractual relation
Anonymous	Partnership means recognising each other's capacities and power, and deploying them effectively in service to affected people
Anonymous	Partnership is: working together towards a shared goal, with mutual respect and equal standing, leveraging each other's differences, skills and strengths to amplify the benefits for all involved (partners and other stakeholders)
Anonymous	Equality in influence and decisions making (one partner can bring finances, but other experience - both need to decide together)
Anonymous	FAIR and EQUAL Relationship. Not compete and respect different roles, capacities and responsibilities. Recognizing the added value of partners, their duties but also the cost of their structure: partners cannot implement without running and structure costs.
Anonymous	Amplifying working together to extend reach
Anonymous	-Not duplicating the efforts provided by stakeholders, but instead, aligning everyone's interests and goals to reach common purposes -Listening and understanding, expressing opinions, exercising joint activities, effectively managing resources together, not one-man show -Common destination -> collaborative means of achievements
Anonymous	Partnership is about trust, accepting to learn from each other to improve and adapt strategies and interventions. Partnership is also about acknowledging what does not work.
Anonymous	Working together to extend reach and amplify each other's impact, with creativity, ambition, honesty, and trust.
Anonymous	If we have equal role in making decisions, implementing decisions, and reviewing decisions, we are truly working in partnership
Anonymous	A group of people working together to achieve a common goal
Anonymous	Trust!
Anonymous	Partnership to me is not transactional but a mutual relationship based on trust and risk-sharing to find solutions to challenges in a participatory sustainable way



Name	Definition
Anonymous	To me, partnership means working together on some level of equal standing - even if that is quite difficult to achieve. Ultimately there has to be a desire on both sides to be together, work together, etc.
Anonymous	Partnership = mutual accountability on how we reduce CO2 emissions to save children's lives (75% of CO2 emissions are caused by Fossil fuel industry)
Anonymous	-Confidence -Dialogue -Coordination -Working together
Anonymous	-Partnership means shared responsibility and accountability -Leveraging strengths -Mutual understanding -> Respect
Anonymous	Listening, Trust, Leveraging each other's comparative advantage.
Anonymous	"True" (diverse, multi-sector/multi-sectoral) partnership means being open and vulnerable but safe to share, explore and co-create from challenges to solutions, to test/to fail "fast", learn and adapt, building on relative/specific strengths or partners. It is a long investment for growth, also open to new partners.
Hawkar Ali Abdulhaq (<i>founder of Hasar Partners</i>)	Unifying our effort with different groups to particular solution that brings positive value to the context that accommodated the problem: this is what I see or how I see partnership and not to forget that we learn from working with UNICEF
Sileshi Temesgen (<i>Federation of Ethiopian Associations of Persons with Disabilities (FEAPD)</i>)	Partnership: - Working together collaboratively for the common goal and interest with mutual respect for the goods of the organizations
Andrej Vrsansky (<i>League for Mental Health in Slovakia</i>)	Partners are partners if they are equal. Partners do not exercise power over each other even though they can. Co-production concept in mental health is a great framework for partnership. It involves service providers and users as equal partners. This culture results in different results than meetings of partners without users.
Ethiopia	Partnership is working together for common objective by contributing efforts, finance, materials and sharing skills
Shiraz Wajih (<i>Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG)</i>)	Partnership is equal opportunity to each other - recognizing equal level and respect
Md Iqbal Uddin (<i>COAST Foundation</i>)	Partnership for institutional capacity building of partners, breezing partnership, not to breach, if any flaw/gap identified during assessment or audit, and mutual risk sharing + accountability
Nitin Bagla (<i>Oxfam GB</i>)	Working together - sharing power - sharing resources. Having mutual trust and accountability. Listen to each other. Learn from each other. Be more than sum of parts. Achieve greater impact. Together.
Clovis (<i>Luif</i>)	Genuine and accountable, intentional collaboration where parties equally contribute in diverse and different ways to achieve common goals



Name	Definition
Sumnima Tuladhar (<i>Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Centre (CWIN-Nepal)</i>)	Partnership is solidarity, acting together for change, and standing together. Respecting each other's diversity and sovereignty. Equal stake in success and failure, to be resilient and empathetic.
Attila Lenart-Muszka (<i>Dorcas Ministries</i>)	The only way to succeed
Ladi Clark Musa (<i>Life at Best Development Initiative</i>)	Partnership to me means agreements to share responsibilities and working together to achieve a common goal, between two persons or organizations
Mohamed Ali Khiari (<i>Chairman the Tunisian Saints Association</i>)	Focus on: 1- Empowering youth 2- Training on advocacy 3- Training locals on developing visions, strategies and specific programs
<i>Name not legible</i>	Co-creating Programmes (Donors + NGOs) to address climate vulnerabilities - it's more than merely a funder-implementer relationship!

ANNEX 3 LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Note: the below list reflects participants that consented to having their name published on a public list.

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Abayneh	Gujo	Federation of Ethiopian Associations of Persons with Disabilities (FEAPD)
Abel	Kiss	Dorcas Ministries
Alon	Plato	ICVA
Amanda	Rives	World Vision International (WVI)
Ana Karina	Perez Peñate	Fundación Para el Saneamiento, Ambiente, Higiene, Emprendimiento y Desarrollo Sostenible (SAHED)
Andrea	Koller	Terre des hommes Foundation (Tdh)
Andrea	Berther	UNICEF
Andrej	Vransky	League for Mental Health in Slovakia
Anna	Crescenti	WeWorld
Annemarie	Swai	UNICEF
Anurita	Bains	UNICEF
Asif Ali	Sherazi	Islamic Relief Worldwide
Assem	Chreif	The Lebanese Organisation for Studies and Training (LOST)
Attila	Lénárt-Muszka	Dorcas Ministries
Audrey	Oettli	International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
Barbara	Bergamini	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Ben	Lewis	Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)
Benjamin	Schreiber	UNICEF
Bethan	Gilbert	Save the Children UK (SCUK)
Brigitte	Rudram	Plan International
Camilla	Lodi	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
Camille	Beckford Palmer	UNICEF
Charles-Antoine	Hofmann	UNICEF
Chris	Cormency	UNICEF
Claude	Dunn	UNICEF
Clovis Mwambutsa	Ntabala	The Lutheran World Federation (LWF)
Cosmas Obuya	Agiso	Swedish Committee for Afghanistan (SCA)
Daljeet	Kaur	Save the Children UK (SCUK)
Dana	Benešová	Society for All, z.s. (SOFA)
Dara	Johnston	UNICEF
David	Andres Vinas	UNICEF
De-Joseph	Kakisingi	Conseil national des fora des ONG humanitaires et de développement RDC (CONAFOHD RDC)
Diane	Dubois	UNICEF
Edwin	Horca	Save the Children Philippines
Eilish	Hurley	UNICEF
Elena	Wallraff	International Rescue Committee (IRC)
Elisabethe	Zerbo Sanfo	Association Tin Tua
Elise	Belcher	Development Initiatives (DI)
Elise	Baudot	ICVA
Ella	Dalgliesh	ICVA
Elodie	Pouget	Solidarités International
Emma	Visman	Save the Children International (SCI)
Enkhlin	Davaajav	Mongolian Sustainable Finance Development Association (MSFA)
Enzo	Tabet Cruz	Plan International
Eugenio	Lemos	Permakultura Timor-Lorosa'e (Permatil)
Fitsum	Assefa Mekuria	UNICEF
Flavia	Caronna	Acted
Frederique	Seidel	World Council of Churches (WCC)
Friedrich	Affolter	UNICEF
Gareth	Price-Jones	Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR)
Geovanna	Reinoso	UNICEF
Giacomo	Giovannini	Junior Achievement Italy - ETS

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Gisela	Schmidt-Martin	CARE International
Giulia	Boni	INTERSOS
Guido	Calvi	AVSI Foundation
Guillaume	Sauval	UNICEF
Hamidou Abdoulaye	Maiga	UNICEF
Hawkar	Abdulhaq	Hasar Partners Organization
Hazel	De Wet	UNICEF
Henrik	Herber	Swedish Committee for Afghanistan (SCA)
Hussein	Moursel	UNICEF
Irfan	Khan	Muslim Hands
Isabelle	McKay-Smith	UNICEF
Ismail	Nufie	UNICEF
Iulia	Duca	IOM
Ivana	Petkovic	International Medical Corps (IMC)
Jameel	Abdo Ali Hodish	Tamdeen Youth Foundation (TYF)
Jamie	Munn	ICVA
Jean-Luc	Perrin	Rotary International
Jiyeun	Kars	OHCHR
Johanna	Dorenburg	IOM
Jörn-Jakob	Luhn	UNICEF
Karja	Carr	Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
Kirstin	Lange	UNICEF
Ladi Clark	Musa	Life At Best Development Initiative
Laura	Le Floch	Secours Islamique France (SIF)
Laure-Anne	Galludec	Secours Islamique France (SIF)
Lianne	Gutcher	UNICEF
Lorenzo	Bianchi Carnevale	Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI)
Louis	Mauler	Terre des hommes Foundation (Tdh)
Louise	Graymore	UNICEF
Luc	Chauvin	UNICEF
Manon	Glaser	ICVA
Marika	Hofmeister	UNICEF
Martin	Anderson	RefugePoint
Maryjo	Cartier	UNICEF
Mathilde	Garcia-Lopez	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
Mauricio	Rosso	Fundación Para el Saneamiento, Ambiente, Higiene, Emprendimiento y Desarrollo Sostenible (SAHED)
Md Iqbal	Uddin	COAST Foundation

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Michael	Boampong	ChildFund International
Mihaela	Darii Sposato	Danish Refugee Council (DRC)
Mirela	Shuteriqi	ICVA
Mohamed Ali	Khiari	Les Scouts Tunisiens
Mohammad Harun or	Rashid	UNICEF
Mohd Hafiz	Mohd Amirrol	Malaysian Medical Relief Society (MERCY Malaysia)
Monica	Ramos	UNICEF
Nada	Perovic	AVSI Foundation
Ndeye Marie	Diop	UNICEF
Neelam	Fida	Islamic Relief Worldwide
Nicoline	Lavanchy	UNICEF
Niklas	Rieger	Development Initiatives (DI)
Nisar	Syed	UNICEF
Nishanie	Jayamaha	Climate and Environment Charter Secretariat
Nitin	Bagla	Oxfam GB
Nivedita	Mani	Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG)
Paul	Cleary	Trocaire
Paula	Bulancea	UNICEF
Peter	Prove	World Council of Churches (WCC)
Philimon	Majwa	UNICEF
Pilar	Alvarez	World Vision International (WVI)
Rahnuma	Sultana	UNDRR
Remo	Fambri	UNHCR
Rodolphe	Ghossoub	UNICEF
Ron	Pouwels	UNICEF
Rosaline	Cardarelli	Rotary International
Rosewiter	Mazivofa	UNICEF
Samantha	Cocco-Klein	UNICEF
Sandra	Franova	Slovak Humanitarian Council (SHC)
Sarah	Wade-Apicella	UNDRR
Sawsan	Masri	Taawon (Welfare Association)
Sebastien	Truffaut	UNICEF
Shiraz	Wajih	Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG)
Sian	Bagshaw	World Organisation of the Scout Movement (WOSM)
Sibel	Karapolat	Save the Children UK (SCUK)
Silene	Martino Almeras	UNICEF

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Sileshi	Temesgen	Federation of Ethiopian Associations of Persons with Disabilities (FEAPD)
Siti Maisarah	Ahmad	Malaysian Medical Relief Society (MERCY Malaysia)
Smruti	Patel	Global Mentoring Initiative (GMI)/A4EP
Souksaveuy	Keotiamchanh	Zero Waste Laos (ZWL)
Stefania	Piccinelli	WeWorld
Stella	Ogunlade	UNHCR
Stephan	Maurer	Danish Refugee Council (DRC)
Sumnima	Tuladhar	Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Centre (CWIN-Nepal)
Tanya	Wood	CHS Alliance
Tatenda	Songore	Youth Advocates Zimbabwe (YAZ)
Thorsten	Göbel	ACT Alliance
Tigran	Tovmasyan	UNICEF
Tom	White	UNICEF
Vania	Gobbo	ICVA
Viola	Gnocchi	Action Contre la Faim International (ACF)
Yukiko	Yamada Morovic	World Vision International (WVI)
Yvonne	Agengo	International Rescue Committee (IRC)

ANNEX 4 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES

2024 UNICEF-NGO Consultations

General

UNICEF (2020) The Humanitarian Review

Abstract: The Humanitarian Review examines UNICEF humanitarian operations in the context of the global challenges of the 21st century: rapid rises in the number, scale, duration and complexity of humanitarian crises; climate breakdown and the impact of extreme weather events; large-scale migration and displacement of populations; significant public health emergencies, including the global pandemic of COVID-19; and constraints and greater demands on funding from a widening community of humanitarian actors.

On climate change and its impact on children

UNICEF (2023): Sustainability and Climate Change Action Plan 2023-2030

Abstract: The Sustainability and Climate Change Action Plan is designed to galvanize efforts to fill global gaps to protect the most vulnerable children. It also reflects an ongoing commitment to fulfill the promise of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

UNICEF (2023): The climate-changed child – A children’s climate risk index supplement

Abstract: This report builds on 2021’s Children’s Climate Risk Index and examines water scarcity and water vulnerability along with the critical actions the international community must take at The 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) to protect children against climate change.

**Secretariat for the Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations:
Climate and Environmental Charter for Humanitarian Organisations**

Abstract: The Charter, which aims to foster a strong commitment to climate action across the humanitarian community, is designed for all humanitarian organizations – large and small. It was developed by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), with the support of an advisory committee and in consultation with the humanitarian sector. It intends to guide both the humanitarian sector’s approach to the increasing risks resulting from climate change and to address its own carbon and environmental footprint.

ChildFund (2024): ChildFund Youth Speak Out on Climate Action

Abstract: In advance of the 2024 UNICEF-NGO Consultations: Partnering for Children in the Climate Crisis, ChildFund invited young climate advocates across our operating countries to participate by sharing their ideas on four thematic areas: climate-resilient education and green skills; youth-led initiatives and accountability; community empowerment and local partnerships; and child protection in climate resilience.

Plan International (2021): Adolescent Girls in the Climate Crisis: Voices From Zambia and Zimbabwe

Abstract: This report details the key findings from the feminist participatory action research (FPAR) on how climate change impacts on adolescent girls’ and young women’s access to education in Zambia and Zimbabwe. The research is centred on and carried out by young women researchers. Their individual experiences and analysis of the research process are as important as the research findings.

On financing climate change and children in need**Save the Children (2023): Falling Short: Addressing the climate finance gap for children | Save the Children’s Resource Centre**

Abstract: This report provides the first-ever child-focused review of international climate finance, focusing on key multilateral climate funds. The report assessed 591 projects to analyse their child-responsiveness and the findings are stark. Only 2.4 per cent of climate finance from key multilateral climate funds was found to support projects incorporating child-responsive activities. The findings suggest that efforts to respond to the distinct and heightened needs and perspectives of children in international climate finance flows remain nascent. The report also recommends actions that must be taken by multilateral climate funds, governments, multilateral development banks and other key actors to ensure an increase and acceleration in climate finance that is child-responsive.

The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action, the Child Protection Area of Responsibility, Save the Children, UNHCR (2022): The Unprotected: Annual spotlight on child protection funding in humanitarian action - 2021

Abstract: Children make up 50 per cent of those affected in humanitarian crises and are disproportionately impacted by conflict and crisis. Throughout 2020 and 2021, COVID-19, conflict and climate change have been impacting children at unprecedented scale, putting them at risk and driving displacement, poverty and violence. Whilst funding for child protection is increasing, child protection consistently remains one of the most underfunded sectors in humanitarian action and funds do not meet increasing needs. Closing this gap will require collective action to change the way we think about children's protection and its centrality to crisis response. Building on the findings and research methodology of *Unprotected: Crisis in humanitarian funding for child protection (2019)* and *Still Unprotected (2020)*, this report highlights key areas associated with funding for child protection in humanitarian crises, including both cluster and refugee responses in 2020. A snapshot is also given for 2021 with data available as of October 2021.

On quality funding and equitable partnerships

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (2022): IASC Guidance on Provision of Overheads to Local and National NGOs

Abstract: This document provides guidance for international humanitarian organizations (United Nations agencies and NGOs) which partner with local and national organizations on the issue of overheads, by providing recommendations for how to improve current policy and practice to ensure that local and national partners can access overhead funding.

On accountability to affected populations

CHS Alliance: Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS)

Abstract: The CHS, a globally recognized, measurable standard, sets out nine commitments to ensure that organizations support people and communities affected by crisis and vulnerability in ways that respect their rights and dignity and promote their primary role in finding solutions to the crises they face. The CHS promotes equitable and collaborative relations between people and communities and those working to support them and aims to address power imbalances.

On localization

UNICEF (2023): Localization in Humanitarian Action for Children²

Abstract: The purpose of this technical note is to inform the implementation of localization commitments in UNICEF humanitarian action as outlined in the Core Commitments for Children (CCC). It provides clarity on the policy framework and related measures and actions, which will enhance results for children by strengthening the capacity of UNICEF to work with local actors (national and sub-national) and its capacities and systems for local-level (national and sub-national) service provision to children in crisis. This technical note acknowledges the importance of localization in UNICEF humanitarian and development

2 To access this document, please write to Maguette Ndiaye: mndiaye@unicef.org

programming to reduce risks and address children's needs and vulnerabilities before, during and after a crisis.

From past UNICEF-NGO Consultations:

- **2019 UNICEF-NGO Scoping Study**
- **2019 UNICEF-NGO Consultations Report**
- **2020 UNICEF-NGO Consultations Report and supporting docs**



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