



United Nations Research Institute for
Social Development (UNRISD)



Commonwealth
Secretariat



LIMITED
LC/CAR/L.195
1 May 2009
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

**REPORT ON THE MEETING
OF
SOCIAL POLICIES FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
KNOWLEDGE BUILDING THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS IN SIDS
END YEAR FORUM 2008**

(UNICEF in collaboration with UNRISD, Commonwealth Secretariat and ECLAC)

*18-21 November 2008
Hilton Hotel, Barbados*

This has documented has been reproduced without formal editing.

Table of Contents

Acronyms and abbreviations	
Executive Summary	1
Opening Session.....	3
Overview of the Meeting Framework and Introduction to the Conference	6
Session 1. Looking beyond the MDGs and income poverty: Children and Families in the Eastern Caribbean	7
Session 2 The effects of migration on children.....	11
Session 3. Social Policies - Introductory Presentations	17
Session 4. Social Policy in the Caribbean - Country Studies.....	20
Session 5. Social Policies in the Caribbean - Country Studies	25
Session 6. Learning from social policies in other countries and SIDS	27
Session 7. Strategic priorities for Children’s Rights within a SIDS context.....	30
Session 8. Inclusion of young people into policy building: Listening to young people	34
Session 9. From Policies to Programming for Results – UNICEF in the Eastern Caribbean region	37
Sessions 10-11. 2008 Programme implementation - Partnerships results and cross-cutting themes	40
Closing session.....	44
Participant List.....	46

Acronyms and abbreviations

BPoA	Barbados Programme of Action
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CCT	Conditional Cash Transfer
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
EGLB	Emerging Global Leaders of Barbados
HFLE	Health and Family Life Education
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
MSI	Mauritius Strategy of Implementation
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
NGO	Non-governmental Organisations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNRISD	United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
UWI	University of the West Indies

Executive Summary

This report summarizes the main outcomes of the UNICEF's official deliberations on its Knowledge Building Through Partnerships End Year Forum at a four day Stakeholder Forum held at the Hilton Hotel, Barbados, from November 18th -21st 2008. This meeting was convened by UNICEF in partnership with the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), the Commonwealth Secretariat and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Participants were drawn from the development community, youth organisations and schools. These included government agencies, international organizations, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and the University of the West Indies (UWI).

The UNICEF Eastern Caribbean Office, based in Barbados, has started - in collaboration with the respective governments - its new 2008-2011 country programme 'Social Policy, Monitoring and Evaluation for Children's rights', which aims at contributing to the realization of children's rights by fostering an enabling and protective environment, reducing children's vulnerability to social risks and enhancing their participation. The programme contributes to several areas: (a) social policies and investment reflecting the rights and priorities of children regarding their development, protection and participation, (b) the protection of children against abuse and violence; (c) the reduction of HIV among children, (d) early childhood development.

Preparing the programming, various continued valuable partnerships at national and sub regional level have enabled UNICEF to initiate a discussion with its partners to take stock of its lessons learned and shape its new country programme.

In the light of the first year of implementation with the aim of the one-programme approach on social policy, two new strategic partnerships were explored, respectively with UNRISD and ECLAC. The project on Social Policies in Small States of the UNRISD (supported by the Commonwealth Secretariat) was tasked with unmasking the complexities in designing social policies within different socioeconomic, institutional and historical settings and often against a background of chronic social, economic and environmental vulnerability. The UN ECLAC Sub-regional Headquarters for the Caribbean will join this effort and contribute with research to develop knowledge on selected aspects of children and families in the Caribbean. The first two days of the forum dealt with common themes which UNICEF will capitalise and build on for future programming and policy building. The other two days focused on recommendations for programming, the review of UNICEF interventions in 2008 and the preparation of the 2009 work plans of UNICEF and its partners.

The main objective of the Forum was to promote children's rights in the Eastern Caribbean through evidence-based social policies and adequate programme planning.

The meeting enabled the participants to express the challenges for children and their families in transition in the Eastern Caribbean and take stock of the historical policy lessons which can be drawn from outcomes of social policies in a SIDS context. They were also capable to formulate recommendations for social policies prioritization, assess the main outcomes and challenges of the UNICEF programme implementation in 2008 and actively participate in the UNICEF 2009 programming

The main recommendations of the meeting were entirely integrated in the UNICEF 2009 programming. These were especially expressed during the last session dealing with the annual workplans.

Opening Session

Chair: Lisa McClean-Trotman, Programme Communications Specialist, UNICEF BECO

Session Chair and Programme Communications Specialist Ms. McClean-Trotman stated that the four day meeting was quite timely as it coincided with the 19th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) by the UN General Assembly. She stated that this meeting, held in collaboration with ECLAC and UNRISD, was expected to provide opportunities for reflection on the way forward and strategically examine issues facing children in the Caribbean.

Welcome: Karoline Schmid, Social Affairs Officer, ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

Ms. Schmid confirmed ECLAC's continued support for these types of activities (the process) and welcomed the opportunity to have jointly organized this meeting with UNICEF and conveyed ECLAC's continued interest to work closely with UNICEF to improve the lives of children in the Caribbean. She stated that at the United Nations global level, the *Action for Youth* work programme emphasized that every State should provide access for youth to participate fully in all aspects of society as a means of ensuring a successful transition into adulthood. This required that governments and stakeholders design and implement policies and programme to protect young people from negative social and environmental influences that can derail a healthy transition from youth to adulthood.

Ms. Schmid said that greater emphasis should be placed on highlighting positive examples of such programme in the region and identified a number of ongoing initiatives. These included various public education campaigns, strategic plans and programmes. She identified the importance of effective monitoring and evaluating to determine the efficiency and effectiveness of programmes. She also noted a number of areas which required special attention such as support for children and youth without families; legislation (law enforcement); out of school youth, young families and the involvement of young people in the development of polices and programmes.

In closing Ms. Schmid reminded participants that one of the forum's main objectives was to focus on challenges and to share knowledge and best practices concerning youth and children in the Caribbean with the aim to develop a coherent regional programme tailored to better address the needs of youth.

Remarks: Tom Olsen, UNICEF Representative for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean

Mr. Olsen welcomed all participants and underscored the importance of strategic partnerships in accomplishing the goals of the meeting. He identified ECLAC, UNRISD, and the Commonwealth Secretariat as critical partners in this process.

He stated that building a better future for present and future generations must be the major focus and this could only be achieved through active participation of young people in the formulation of policies and plans of action.

Mr. Olsen revealed that the forum would be followed by the annual end of year forum which would assess the main outcomes and challenges of the UNICEF Eastern Caribbean programme implementation of 2008. It would also seek to ensure the active participation of all stakeholders and partners in 2009 programming and beyond. He assured that the recommendations of the forum would be evaluated and analysed and would form the basis for shaping UNICEF's new multi-country programme.

He identified a number of major challenges facing the region including: *the provision of sufficient quality access to child centred social policies from an evidence based background, lack of monitoring and evaluation of programmes and access to updated data.* In response to data challenges he shared that Caribbean Community (CARICOM), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and national governments had all agreed that DEVINFO¹ would be the main platform to share major findings of the 2010 regional census exercise.

He indicated that UNICEF was currently working on a number of initiatives in the promotion of effective social policies for children and youth. These included collaborative arrangements with the University of the West Indies, national governments, CARICOM and Civil Society in creating guidelines, developing policies, regulations and standards in early childhood development services.

Mr. Olsen reiterated the need for a human rights based approach to programming and a 'bottom up' approach to policy development with young people involved in the process. He ended his remarks by stating that the vision of building a Caribbean fit for children could only be realized through active collaborations and strong and united partnerships of all stakeholders concerned.

Keynote Address: Senator Maxine McClean, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, Barbados

Senator McClean congratulated UNICEF and partners for organising the forum and commended the organizers for recognising the importance of partnerships when addressing critical challenges faced by the children of the region.

The Senator referred to the CRC adopted nineteen years ago which recognises the need to protect persons under the age of nineteen and articulates the obligations of governments, parents and significant others. Implicit in the Convention was the understanding that children were vulnerable and would need to be protected.

¹ DevInfo is a powerful database system that is used to compile and disseminate data on human development. The majority of Caribbean countries is presently in the process of adopting this platform. It is also expected that this platform will be central to the dissemination of 2010 census round data.

Within the context of Caribbean Small Island Developing States many challenges and vulnerabilities threatened to detract attention from the protection of children. In response, UNICEF had acknowledged and accepted its mandate to devise mechanisms for maintenance of children's rights as a regional priority. The four day forum would address many of the challenges which existed and explore various approaches to effectively and efficiently address the issues.

Senator McClean recognised the particular challenge of migration and stressed the need for Caribbean leaders to develop a 'regional response' to this issue to address the special needs of children affected by migration.

The Senator hoped that the forum would allow participants to leave with a renewed commitment to protecting the region's children and would constitute a framework to be adopted beyond the region. She indicated that the Government of Barbados looked forward to incorporating the outputs from the forum into policies and programmes aimed at children and families.

A number of current national initiatives were highlighted that included reactivating the national monitoring committee of the Rights of the Child and reviewing related legislation to enhance its compliancy with the CRC. As part of the Child Care Board programming activities for the next two years, it was planned to address the national reporting protocol for child protection and to develop a national children's policy.

In closing Senator McClean said the Government looked forward to a continued mutually beneficial relationship with UNICEF in advancing the rights of the region's children. She challenged participants to remember those whom they served – the region's children - and to be willing to form youthful partnerships to enhance the lives of the children of the region.

Overview of the Meeting Framework and Introduction to the Conference

K. Rossel-Cambier, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, UNICEF BECO

Mr. Rossel-Cambier provided an overview of the forum. He expressed the background of the initiative, the different partnerships which are part of the knowledge management partnership strategy of the new UNICEF programme and stated that the main objective was to contribute to children's rights in the Eastern Caribbean through evidence-based social policies and adequate programme planning. He concluded that the meeting would enable the participants to:

- Express the challenges faced by children and their families in transition in the Eastern Caribbean;
- Take stock of the historical policy lessons which can be drawn from outcomes of social policies in a SIDS context;
- Formulate recommendations for social policies prioritization;
- Assess the main outcomes and challenges of the UNICEF programme implementation in 2008;
- Actively participate in the UNICEF 2009 programming.

Session 1. Looking beyond the MDGs and income poverty: Children and Families in the Eastern Caribbean

Background

The Eastern Caribbean countries which are witnessing a paradoxical co-existence of high and middle income economies and rising levels of child poverty. There is increasing recognition of the pivotal role that children and families play in the sustainable development and advancement of the Caribbean and despite the great socio-economic achievements of the past decades, children's rights are at stake at the family level, often linked with parenting and protection issues. This session will provide an insight into various aspect of poverty that includes non-monetary dimensions of poverty and deprivation. The session further presents inter regional and intra regional partnership initiatives to learn from best practises elsewhere and join action in the Caribbean to enhance the lives of children and youth in this region.

Session Objectives

At the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- summarise the situation of children and their families in the Caribbean, and especially young parents and caretakers;
- express which are the challenges of public assistance programmes to reach these young persons;
- review child poverty from a broader perspective including non-monetary and protection dimensions, gaining insight from good practices in the Latin American and Caribbean region;
- formulate recommendations to look beyond MDGs to assess and monitor well-being of families in the Caribbean.

Chair: Christine Barrow, Professorial Fellow, Salises UWI, Cave Hill Campus Barbados

Living conditions of young people in the Caribbean and beyond: a three-country study, Karoline Schmid, Social Affairs Officer, ECLAC

Ms Schmid's presentation dealt with on a socio-demographic analysis of youth in three Caribbean Countries; Antigua and Barbuda, St. Lucia and Grenada. Utilizing national census data, the study focused on demographic transitions in relation to economic and social issues of young people. Specific areas of focus were the family, migration, education, health and well-being, and economic activity. Ms. Schmid revealed that these societies were characterised by demographics in transition, in particular aging populations and the potential impact of this scenario on educational, health and social care systems. The existing economic framework suggested a need to invest in human development and capacity building to enhance competitiveness.

Notable trends identified were a considerable number of households headed by youth and rising percentages of non-religious youth. Low levels of education and certification were reported despite high enrolment rates in primary education. Lower rates were encountered in secondary

education with a favourable bias towards girls and post secondary education was recorded at approximately 10 per cent. Less than one third of all youth between the ages of 15 -24 had any type of formal training for specific occupations and this was evident in more young men than young women.

The available data confirmed that in the Caribbean teenage pregnancy remained a challenge. In addition it was confirmed that the majority of youth were unemployed and received very limited support from their parents. Ms. Schmid indicated the need for further investigation into the area of youth income.

‘Young Parents and Caretakers in the Caribbean’, Dr. Lorraine Blank, Consultant

In introducing the study on *‘Young parents and caretakers in the Caribbean’* Dr. Blank explained that the objectives of the exercise were - from a rights based approach - to fill in knowledge gaps about some of the issues which affect young parents and caregivers . The lack of data on young caregivers prevented any meaningful analysis of their situation. She described this group as ‘flying below the radar’ and suggested a need for better understanding and identification of caregivers. Education and health care workers were critical to this process and needed to be vigilant in identifying, intervening and referring these young persons to social/legal service agencies.

Dr. Blank highlighted the transitions of children and their families in Caribbean societies. The differences and similarities in family structures were examined and it was reinforced that while families have been in transition for decades, there were still many features that determined families that were essentially unchanged. These included the concept of family, which incorporated different types of families, early initiation of sexual activity and early child bearing, teen mothers, high rates of non-residential fatherhood and migration. The emerging changes were identified as a reduced family size with declining fertility rates among women of all ages, increasing urbanization, increasing access to secondary education, increasing labour market participation among women, increased interest and awareness among young fathers in playing an active part in the lives of their children.

The presentation drew attention to the persistent levels of teenage pregnancies and the potential effect on the rights of both parents if they were minors. Other implications were identified at both the health and psycho-social levels, for mother, father and child. A number of policies and interventions were shared which sought to improve the situation of young mothers and their children.

Dr. Blank advanced a number of policy recommendations which included changing the age of medical consent to match the age of consent for sex, pro-active education policy to facilitate young mothers’ return to school, social protection and ensuring the right of young mothers and fathers to participate in decision making about themselves and their children. This particular argument was strengthened by the citing of successful interventions in some countries. Such examples are found in St. Kitts and Nevis’ policy decision on the return of teen mothers to school. In Barbados the Edna Nicholls School has a programme entitled *Your Baby and You*, a workshop for pregnant teens while the St. Lucia the National Skills Training Centre provides day

care for trainees with young children and Grenada has the Programme for Adolescent Mothers (PAM).

Are children and women being reached for poverty alleviation? – the experience of Conditional Cash Transfer Programme in Latin America and the Caribbean, Simone Cecchini, Social Affairs Officer, ECLAC Santiago

The presentation began with a comparative analysis between the structural adjustment models of the 1990s and the revised, more active social policy models which were based on a combination of poverty alleviation and human capital development measures (responses). This innovative approach contributed to poverty reduction measures including the implementation of Conditional Cash Transfer programmes (CCT).

These programmes, primarily employed in Latin America and Jamaica, were aimed at fostering human and social capital development. They provided short term poverty alleviation with longer term poverty reduction approaches based on strengthening the capacities and assets of poor persons, in particular women and children. The programme connects poor families to social safety nets through conditional monetary or in kind transfers.

The CCT interventions are directly linked to the realization of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGS) and evaluations have shown the positive impacts on the lives and well being of mothers and children especially in the areas of health and education. Mr. Cecchini highlighted the three necessary elements for the success of CCT as:

- Economics: growth and productivity, with employment generation
- Politics: sound institutional stability and national long term agreements (legal security) and;
- Social Policies: integrating results based management (impact orientation)

In addressing limitations and challenges of CCTs, he stressed that while resource requirements were a constant challenge, another area of grave concern remained that of political will. This was required to ensure the successful implementation of programmes.

In closing Mr. Cecchini shared the reflections of a 10 year old whose family had benefitted from a CCT programme. This young person noted the following:

"Before we went into the Puente programme my family was really on its own. Since we went into it we've learnt a lot, like the benefits a family should have and which you often don't know where to go for, where you can claim your rights. Before building the "bridge" my family were people who didn't know how to get or demand things that a poor family doesn't know how to get."

ECLAC/UNICEF initiative for Child Poverty, Inequality and Citizenship in Latin America and the Caribbean, Enrique Delamonica, UNICEF TACRO

Mr. Delamonica began by introducing the audience to a ‘new approach’ to measure child poverty, a multi-dimensional approach based on the principles of human rights. He examined the concept and measurement of poverty while indicating the need for a child centred approach to conceptualizing and measuring poverty. In the process he introduced the concept of deprivation of human basic rights. He proposed that in order to measure absolute poverty amongst children, it was necessary to define the threshold measures of severe deprivation of basic human need for:

- food
- safe drinking water
- sanitation facilities
- health
- shelter
- education
- information

Mr. Delamonica presented a number of holistic examples to demonstrate how this new concept could be translated into practical use. The presentation included a three dimensional mapping of poverty which underscored the overlapping and inter-relatedness of poverty.

Discussion

With reference to the final presentation a number of responses were submitted. A plea was made for ‘conceptual clarity’ in any discussion addressing income and deprivation poverty. Given the wide variation in definitions, it was suggested that the two concepts be kept separate and this should be taken into account in the development of any policies to address poverty. It was also suggested that the seven indicators highlighted were not exclusive to children but were also applicable to adults.

While Mr. Delamonica agreed that it was important to **state whether ‘income’ or ‘non-income’ concepts were being employed, he stated that income poverty was one dimension of poverty and other concepts which addressed the human rights perspective were often forgotten. He also clarified that a major difference existed between children’s and adult’s rights. While adults had a right to income through work a child had a right not to work. Therefore any examination of child poverty must examine all other dimensions of poverty. He argued that a clear distinction had to be made between child poverty and adult poverty.**

In response to a query on the inclusion of security as an eighth indicator, Mr. Delamonica explained that while it had been considered, a lack of data/information had resulted in its exclusion.

A youth participant questioned the lack of acceptance (denial of the concept) of teenage parenting in Caribbean societies. Dr. Blank critiqued the current approach and suggested a need

for a ‘change of thinking’ in our approach to young parents and the level of support which is provided. She stressed the need for supportive environments for both parents and the child.

Other comments addressed the lack of regional data and the need for sharing and accessing information. It was noted that a number of projects supported by development organisations and aimed at regional capacity building in the areas of census, surveys and analysis were ongoing. Participants were also informed the web-based version of JAMSTATS, Jamaica’s adaptation of DevInfo had recently been launched and this would provide access to a comprehensive database of statistics.

Session 2. The effects of migration on children

Background

Migration has great implications for the overall social advancement and development of the region. While children are entitled to develop to their full potential, to their own identity, to enjoy their own culture, to grow up in a family environment and to not be separated from their parents except in special circumstances, the reality in the Caribbean is that children can be victims of serial migration, involving long and sometimes indefinite periods of separation from their parent(s). The absence of parents as a result of migration comes with huge social implications for the development of the region. Various forms of migration-internal, seasonal, intra-regional or extra-regional have many potential negative consequences, which place children at increased vulnerability to becoming caregivers themselves in the event of inadequate kinship care. In addition, children who head households or whose elderly relatives take care of them may be more at risk for decreased health and nutritional care, as well as poor academic performance, interruption of schooling, as well as psycho-social issues such as feelings of abandonment, neglect, resentment, etc. It is important that necessary policies are developed to ensure that children’s rights in these conditions be respected.

Session Objectives:

At the end of this session participants will be able to:

- better understand the challenges of migration in the Caribbean;
- formulate how migration may affect children’s rights;
- become aware of the existence of trafficking of humans in the Caribbean;
- make recommendations for future actions.

Chair: Dr Halima-Sa'adia Kassim, Deputy Programme Manager, Culture and Community Development, CARICOM

Migration in the Caribbean - what do we know? Karoline Schmid, Social Affairs Officer, ECLAC Port of Spain

In stressing the importance of reliable and accessible data, Ms. Schmid highlighted the need for an improved statistical infrastructure in the Caribbean. She identified some challenges and constraints in accessing and collecting migration data. The lack of globally and regionally established data collection mechanisms was also underscored, as well as an absence of consensus on definitions; incompatibility of data on specific migrant groups and lack of knowledge on trafficking and irregular migration.

Migration data was classified as either administrative or census and survey data. Administrative data was accessed from a variety of sources including cross-border movements, arrivals and departures at national ports and statistics of visas and work permits. Census and survey data included sources from population censuses and household surveys and other studies.

Emanating from the presentation was a number of recommendations aimed at strengthening migration data capacities. The greater harmonization of data management was regarded as critical in any attempt at a comprehensive regional analysis of migration. Other areas for improvement included the enhancement of technical coordination and cooperation at the national, regional and international level with the supporting capacity building employed at both the national and regional level. It was also suggested that already existing institutional mechanisms be strengthened and that IT systems be further enhanced and developed.

Global initiatives to enhance data sharing on migration were presented including the Statistical Information System on Migration in Mesoamerica (SIEMMES) and a Data Sharing Mechanism (DSM) designed by IOM and other partners as examples for the use of electronic data bases to share information and data.

Effects of Migration on children in the Caribbean, Michele Reis, Consultant, Port of Spain

Stating that migration must be seen as a development issue, Ms. Reis presented a study which sought to contribute to policy awareness and provide a greater understanding of phenomena such as child migration, 'barrel children', child trafficking and the negative impact of parental migration on children. The methodology constituted a mapping exercise of information and research on the adverse effects and implications for children's development as a result of temporary, seasonal, domestic, intra-regional or extra-regional migration.

Despite some significant challenges in the area of data collection the major areas targeted for investigation were health, physical well-being and psycho-social issues, education, child labour and abuse. The particular case of 'barrel children' was pointed out with this group tending to suffer from psycho-social ailments that impacted on their education and ability to interact with others. It was revealed that children of migrant parents are more at risk to engage in early labour

practices, experience a number of challenges which hinder successful completion of school and were also at greater risk for various forms of child abuse and exploitation than children whose parents had not migrated.

The major finding of the study was that children's basic rights were infringed, when, in case of parental migration adequate support structures were not put in place. A number of recommendations were made at both the regional and national levels and governments were encouraged to adopt an integrated approach to dealing with migration related challenges. Further, the presenter called for sensitisation and awareness programmes on the adverse effects of migration of parents and/or caretakers on children without appropriate caretaking arrangements. In conclusion Ms. Reis drew attention to the need to conduct research to determine the potential linkages between migration, abuse and education.

Trafficking, migration and its impact on children, Chissey Mueller, Officer, The Counter-Trafficking Unit, IOM Washington, D.C.

Ms. Mueller identified human trafficking as a particular challenge of migration. It was defined as:

“the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation... .

This definition reinforced the many faces of trafficking and it also underscored the threat trafficking posed to the denial of human rights.

Child trafficking as defined by the UN protocol is:

‘ the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation ... At a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs’ .

According to the presenter, Caribbean migration is rather diverse with intra regional and extra regional flows, but also migrants ‘use’ the countries as a stepping stone to reach other, more desired destinations, such as the United States or European countries. Internal migration streams could be observed as movement from rural to urban areas and vice versa.

Ms. Mueller identified some of the causes of regional child trafficking as:

- Poverty (e.g. children work to sustain the family);
- Difficult circumstances in the family;

- Lack of educational or employment opportunities;
- Marginalized people;
- Cultural practices (e.g. entrusting others to raise one's children), low social and cultural status of females;
- Control mechanisms;
- For the purpose of sexual exploitation: 'Sweet hearting' or 'sugar daddy' syndrome, transactional sex, pornography, prostitution;
- For the purpose of labour exploitation: Begging, drug mules, construction, mining, agriculture;
- For the purpose of domestic servitude.

She also identified a number of specific challenges in Guyana, the Bahamas and Jamaica and spoke to the severe negative consequences of the phenomena. She underscored that child trafficking infringed on a child's rights to survival, protection and development. Participants were encouraged to work in building strong partnerships and to support regional information campaigns to educate the public on human trafficking.

UWI study on children of migrating parents, Michele Sogren, Lecturer in Social Work, UWI St. Augustine Campus, Port of Spain

Employing a research and clinical assessment tool referred to as the 'Children's Depression Inventory' (CDI) a study was conducted which sought to investigate the psycho-social status of children whose parents had migrated and to explore the surrogate care arrangements for these children. The study utilized a method that was easy for children to understand and encouraged meaningful participation. It acknowledged that children's insights were important in generating knowledge and recognised the importance of children's rights of expression (Article 12, UN Convention on the Rights of the Child).

The study reported mixed emotional responses to parents' migration. There was overt evidence of intense sadness and depression even in cases where parents maintained frequent contact with their children. It was clear that most children had the intellectual and conceptual tools to understand parental migration, to rationalise separation and even to envision reunification. They were, however, emotionally inured to separation and the study found a dissonance between intellectual acceptance and emotional adjustment.

It was also revealed that children had a great amount of resilience when dealing with these situations. They had developed a variety of coping strategies and readily identifiable strengths and it was recognised that school, school life and positive elements of the home was central to resiliency. Academic achievement was singled out as being the most important source of resilience.

A number of recommendations derived from the study focused on policy reform and establishment of programmes to support children of migrating parents and caregivers. It was

also suggested that early monitoring systems be placed in schools to detect potential negative situations.

Discussion

It was suggested that further investigation was needed in the area of resiliency in children. The presentations on migration disclosed that some children had developed cases of ‘super vulnerability’ and ‘super resilience’ and that an investigation into what determines these types of responses might prove useful in the formation of policies and programmes aimed at building on a culture of resiliency.

It was queried whether summer jobs (engaging children) would be considered a form of child labour. Ms. Mueller informed that this type of activity would be considered child work as it consisted of light work that was not dangerous and did not interfere with a child’s development. Alternatively, child labour was considered to involve hazardous work that places a child’s rights to survival, protection or development at risk.

Socio-economic challenges affecting children and women in Latin America and the Caribbean, Simone Cecchini, ECLAC Santiago

In presenting an overview of the socio-economic challenges affecting children and women in Latin America and the Caribbean it was acknowledged that one of the major challenges was sustainable income. Glaring instances of unequal income distribution in Latin American countries were very evident, despite increased social investment during the last decade and a half. In the Caribbean levels of income distribution inequality were not as high as those of Latin America, and it was noted that the incidence of poverty varied greatly from country to country. In this context it was reiterated that women and children were the most affected by inequalities and poverty in the region. Specifically, children were seen to suffer most from poverty and were identified as the poorest of any cohort, with the incidence of extreme poverty being highest in children under 12 years of age. Women suffered great inequalities with respect to income from work and other social challenges and this was reflected in the infant mortality rates and education indicators.

A variety of pro-poor programmes were recommended including the establishment of an integral development programme to promote human rights and to identify the multi-dimensional causes of poverty. Additional recommendations included increasing investment in human capital (education, health, nutrition) among low-income families to tackle the inter-generational reproduction of poverty and inequality, and the promotion of broader participation of people in the knowledge society.

Mr. Cecchini proposed that with higher and less volatile levels of economic growth, it would be necessary to match productive development with expanding good-quality (“decent”) employment and that the improvement of income distribution would reduce social inequalities, preserve political stability and encourage economic development.

Summary findings and recommendations for ways ahead, Caroline Bakker, UNICEF Sub-regional Child Protection Advisor

Ms. Bakker observed that the presentations provided a wealth of data and information on the situation of children in the Eastern Caribbean. The audience was further presented with an overview of the many challenges confronting Caribbean children with regard their economic and social environments. She highlighted the different aspects of poverty and made particular reference to the deprivation versus income model. She hoped that the large body of data presented would be used in a meaningful way in future programming and looked forward to it been incorporated into future work plans.

Wednesday, 19 November 2008

Leading theme: Social policies for children's rights in SIDS

Session 3. Social Policies - Introductory Presentations

Background

Through focus area on policy advocacy and partnerships for children's rights, UNICEF will seek to strengthen the capacities of States and societies to design and implement social and economic policies, legislative measures and budgetary allocations that enable them to meet their obligations under the Conventions. The formation of partnerships capable of making the fulfillment of international and national commitments a reality is essential to this focus area. Knowledge generation and dissemination is central to this. The project on Social Policies in Small States of the UNRISD (supported by the Commonwealth Secretariat) is tasked with unmasking the complexities in designing social policies within different socioeconomic, institutional and historical settings and, often against a background of chronic vulnerability. UNRISD has undertaken various case-studies in SIDS to generate knowledge on enhancing social policies in a SIDS context.

Session Objectives:

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- summarise the global UNICEF strategy and work towards public policies;
- understand the experience of UNRISD on social policies, and especially in a SIDS context;
- express how UNICEF and UNRISD contribute towards social policies for children's rights

Introduction: Ms. Shelley-Ann Harper, ECD Specialist

In welcoming participants to the second day of the forum Ms. Harper re-emphasised the general theme of the forum; 'Knowledge Building through Partnerships'. She stressed the importance of developing children centred policies and acknowledged that the road from adoption to implementation was often fraught with many challenges. She identified a number of policies which were currently engaging the attention of UNICEF, focusing on a range of issues including child abuse, health and family life and early childhood care. She informed that the second day of the meeting would provide an opportunity for the participants to examine and share regional policy initiatives.

Chair: Koen Rossel-Cambier, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, UNICEF

UNICEF and its work on social policies for children's rights: a global perspective, Ian Thorpe, Senior Information and Knowledge Manager, UNICEF NY

UNICEF's involvement in the area of social policy could be traced to its Mission Statement which articulates a principle of placing children at the centre of development when designing

policies. Implicit to UNICEF's social policy objectives was 'the right to a family upbringing' realized by all children.

In concurrence with its guiding principles UNICEF identified the following five priority areas in its 2006 – 2009 strategic work plan.

1. Young child survival and development;
2. Basic education and gender equality;
3. HIV/AIDS and children;
4. Child protection from violence, exploitation and abuse;
5. Policy advocacy and partnerships for children's rights.

The strategic intent of the fifth policy area which focused on policy advocacy and partnerships was that governments, parliamentarians and other partners at national and international levels would work together to develop and implement social and economic policies, legislative measures and budgetary allocations that advanced the realization of children's and women's rights and gender equality.

Despite current initiatives, a range of challenges were identified which hinder the effective delivery of services in the area of social policy. Foremost was the difficulty in defining UNICEF's role in social policy issues and linkages between them. Additional challenges were identified at the operational level where additional work needed to be conducted in staff training and recruitment as well as in the areas of knowledge sharing, evaluation and financial resources.

Overview of Social Policy Work in SIDS and the Caribbean, Mr. Naren Prasad, Project Coordinator "Social Policies in Small States", ILO

Mr. Prasad's presentation investigated why some small economies had succeeded in formulating innovative social development policies and had managed to improve their social indicators, while other small countries, with similar or different policies had not been successful in their attempts. In doing so, aspects of democracy, welfare regime, power over jurisdictional resources and levels of social cohesion are important in explaining the different performances. The project involves comparative case studies from the Caribbean, the Pacific Islands, the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean.

He explained that social policy was a complex process, determined by the historical, political, economic and institutional context. Social policy objectives, he argued, should be regarded as equally important as economic objectives in any comprehensive social and economic planning activities.

Mr. Prasad advanced a conceptual framework which incorporated comparative analytical economic development, political and economic history and a combination of both qualitative and a quantitative analysis. He concluded that successful social policies:

- Tended to be universal;

- Had multiple roles such as nation building, promoting development; and production, protection, reproduction, distribution;
- Democratic and good governance; but democracy provides space for social articulation of interests;
- Governments associated with social justice, labour movements; especially originating from the plantation economy;
- Presence of State-led provision of social services; education, health; strong political leadership and will to improve welfare of citizens;

Discussion

Mr. Olsen stated that policy formulation should always be based on sound research and that this could only be achieved if the link between the two was established. He suggested that policy makers and researchers were equally important in this regard and he opined that it was necessary to bring a human face to issues that affected our societies.

The issue of the current food situation was addressed when one participant sought clarification on why the situation was being treated as an ‘emerging issue’ when it should be regarded as a ‘crisis’.

A need for linking research to practical applications was identified. One participant thought that the presentations did not reflect experiences and that a combination of perspectives would have been appreciated.

There was specific reference to loss of labour and skilled persons and the impact of migration on the delivery of social services in Small Island Developing States. It was suggested that most persons left because of limited opportunities.

The role of the church in social inclusion was raised as a discussion topic. A youth participant felt that the Church needed to be more inclusive and not perceived as rejecting persons who had made mistakes.

In response, Mr. Thorpe said that UNICEF worked in collaboration with governments and stakeholders on issues of a policy nature. The public was at the core and this contributed to capacity building in countries. He said there was a link between research and policy makers and that the challenge was making the information user friendly.

Mr. Thorpe stated that migration was a complex issue, and additional research would be required to provide adequate policy guidelines. He indicated that UNICEF’s would undertake such research with a particular focus on questions such as to how to best maximize the positive aspects of migration in the provision of a fulfilling life for migrants and the families that were left behind.

Session 4. Social Policy in the Caribbean - Country Studies

Session Objectives:

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- take stock of the historical policy lessons with can be drawn from outcomes of social policies in a SIDS context, based on the experience of Grenada, Jamaica and Guyana;
- identify innovations where social policies were adapted towards social redistribution and social protection
- define the linkages between labour markets conditions and its impact on social policies and young people;
- formulate recommendations for social policies prioritization;

Chair: Dr Pauline Knight, Director of the Social Policy Planning and Research Division

Case-studies on Jamaica and Grenada, Neville Duncan, Professor of Political Science, University of the West Indies, and Director, Salises Mona Campus, Jamaica

In this presentation, Neville Duncan examined the socio-economic development trends in Jamaica since 1968. Mr Duncan chronicled how Jamaica was impacted on and responded to the global and domestic changes, which resulted in a steep decline in the country's economic development gains. He provided an analysis of trends in social indicators and interventions in the social sector. The presentation highlighted how determined leadership can stay on a positive social development course despite the absence of mitigating circumstances.

Jamaica's trajectory during the 1960s suggested that it could have become a successful example of a developing economy manifesting advanced society standards in many social dimensions. Although this prediction did not transpire, there are many "bright spots" in Jamaica's socio-economic profile that shows the potential for maintaining positive social development.

The analysis of Jamaica's social policy was linked to the implications and constraints imposed by the global crises and the country's debt situation. The crisis currently affecting the Jamaican economy with respect to high debts, interest rates and escalating trade deficits was grounded in the severe economic setbacks of the 1990s. Partisan political violence, with ideological overtones, had transmogrified into a reinforcing combination of factors, including increasing poverty, intensification of drug and gun trafficking, and a political culture still uncomfortably steeped in political corruption and organized crime.

Economic underperformance since the mid-1970s arises interactively from the rising levels of violence and several inappropriate government policies. One outcome was the significant and persistent emigration of persons with needed skills and higher levels of education along with significant capital flight. Jamaica's relatively high rate of violent crime, homicide and extortion which significantly increased the cost of conducting business has played a role in restraining growth

There had been several important policy changes and increasing liberalization in recent years, but growth rates have remained sluggish, overall export performance had been weak, and export diversification had remained limited and insufficient for generating satisfactory growth rates or quality employment.

However, in terms of social indicators, Jamaica has performed very well, given the size of public debt, with positive trends in health and education. In particular, there have been improvements in literacy rates, infant mortality rates and life expectancy and the health system has been regarded as good by the WHO. There have also been positive trends in health and education expenditure, demonstrating continued commitment. Many challenges remain in terms of school enrolment, quality of education and the increasing trend of HIV prevalence, but improved fiscal balance and reform provides positive signs in terms of future social development.

Social Policy Challenges in a Small State: Grenada Case Study- By Dr. Patsy Lewis and Presented by Neville Duncan

The study presented an overview of the status, policy efforts and strategies adopted by successive Grenadian Governments to the problem of the need for equitable redistribution and social service provision in Grenada. In the presentation, Mr Duncan described favourable levels of growth in the post-colonial period, in spite of high vulnerability and dependence on the export of a narrow range of agricultural goods. However, this good growth performance has coexisted with high levels of unemployment and poverty. In this context, Mr Duncan examined the strategies implemented to support human capital formation and reproduction, to redistribute wealth, particularly among the most vulnerable sections of the society, and welfare initiatives, targeted both universally and at vulnerable sectors of the society. She provided an examination of the progress in education and health delivery as the main indicators of human capital formation and also reviewed redistribution in terms of access to land, improvements in the conditions of labour, and fiscal policy.

Grenada's social profile, similar to its Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) counterparts, was an example of positive achievements in human development, particularly in health and education. Mr Duncan linked current development challenges to the legacy of a post-colonial government which inherited low levels of investment in human development, particularly in education and health, and low levels of social spending and weak social protection. The study found increased enrolment and access in education as well as improvements in the health of the population but challenges remain in terms of quality of health and education, achieving universal access to secondary education and the limited availability of health services at high costs. Also, although social welfare measures have been introduced to address the problem of poverty, the shift in taxation to consumption taxes had a negative impact on the poor.

Grenada continued to face severe challenges in addressing the social ills of poverty, unemployment and exclusion especially among its most vulnerable groups which perforce have negative implications for the welfare of children. This suggested that Grenada faced challenges

in equity which, if not addressed, could lead to their reproduction and the exclusion of marginal groups. The country ranked 15th on the Commonwealth's composite vulnerability index and exhibited clear manifestations of some of the challenges of small size, compounded by vulnerability to natural hazards.

The report suggested that the government could respond to the variety of challenges by strengthening the role of the informal networks of NGOs, communities and the family in delivering social welfare, through the development of genuine partnerships based on their more active participation in formulating social policy, and increasing their contributions to their financial support.

Case-study on Guyana, Mark Kirton, Senior Lecturer – Institute of International Relations University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad

Mr. Kirton presented the history of social policy development in Guyana for the period 1966 – 2005. Setting the context, Mr. Kirton showed the fluctuations in the growth, as a result of political unrest and changes in government as well as economic collapses and recovery programme and environmental problems. Social policy development began in 1966 with the first development plan which provided coverage from 1966-72. This was followed by a series of other national development plans and culminated in the Poverty Reduction Strategy of 2005.

Health and education spending increased over the period, a trend that has been matched by improvements in social indicators. In addition, a number of social welfare programmes have been introduced. However, many challenges remain as a result of resource constraints, logistics costs, wages and brain drain leading to a skill loss.

The following observations were made:

- Social Sector performance was better under decisions that fostered elements of consensus and democracy.
- Partnerships with the international donor community were critical to garnering support for policy implementation, standardizing international best practice and technical assistance.

Social policies, labour markets and young people in SIDS – some reflections, Prof Andrew Downes, Director UWI Salises, Barbados

An important element in the development strategy for SIDS was addressing issues related to the labour market. Many countries in the region experienced a constraint in human resources and faced structural and institutional challenges in their labour market. These rather unique challenges faced by SIDS had to be taken into consideration when formulating adequate labor

market policies. Professor Downes shared observations on some common features derived from undertaking labour market analysis in Small Island Developing States:

- The existence of relatively high levels of unemployment especially among the youth and females (usually twice the national average);
- High levels of semi and un-skilled labour and the lack of skilled labour in key areas of production;
- Impact of HIV/AIDS on the human capital base particularly in Southern African small states;
- Migration of workers (and their families) to larger and more developed countries – brain drain of nurses, teachers and other professionals;
- Weak regulatory systems such as the use of minimum wages, regulation of trade unions, social protection schemes and unemployment insurance and reliance on informal social relations and networks;
- Significant size of the informal labour market – reliance on remittances from abroad and a ‘sharing mechanism’ within households/ communities—in some cases a high reservation wage and ‘*wait unemployment*’;
- High use of social networks and informal information systems to secure jobs in the formal sector;
- Rural to urban migration and migration to more developed small countries within the regions;
- High degree of labour market segmentation – by sector, geography, sex, age and educational credentials;
- Employment was largely linked to natural resources – agriculture/fishing (Pacific), mining (Southern Africa) and agriculture/tourism (Caribbean). One or two large firms dominate economic private sector activity and job creation. The Government was sometimes a large employer of labour.
- Link of high level of poverty to labour market which was linked to inadequacies in the education/training system (i.e. mismatch problem).

Dr. Downes recommended a number of policy areas which could be strengthened and enhanced to encourage stimulation and growth in the labour markets. These were listed as:

- Restructuring and refocusing the educational/training system especially with respect to youth unemployment-TVET system, use of ICT, flexible curricula, etc.;
- National production plan for employment creation – new areas of production and economic growth, use of trading agreements (Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs));
- Revision/strengthening regulatory systems – labour laws and social protection systems (e.g., balancing flexibility and security in the labour market – Danish flexicurity model);
- Better labour market information systems;
- Upgrading and modernization of labour market institutions – government departments labour practices, trade unions;
- Establishment of social partnerships – government, private sector and trade unions;
- Establishment of international protocols to manage the migration process.

Discussion

The participants welcomed the broad-based presentations. Many issues were raised and some key priority issues singled out for discussion. These included sustainable policy development, promotion of good governance and negative and positive aspects of the 11-plus examination. The importance of formulating policies for sustainable development was acknowledged and it was recognized that additional information on the key components would be necessary to achieve this objective. Clarification on the role of managers and practitioners in this process was also sought.

Dr. Downes reiterated the importance of managers and practitioners in sustaining policy. He stated that it was a collective effort with a number of actors being involved at all levels of the policy formulation spectrum.

Criticism was levelled at social policies which neglected the needs of children. Since generally social and economic concepts of resiliency and vulnerability neglected the needs of children a more holistic approach to also address the needs of children would be necessary.

Caribbean societies were described as rather reluctant to understand and apply concepts of children's rights which hindered the rolling out of the CRC in a holistic way.

It was also suggested that the social environment in relation to personal security, crime and violence and their impact on lives of children warranted further examination.

Other questions still to be answered are:

- Can informal networks be taken as a cure for job creation?
- Is the 11-plus effective in levelling the playing field – is it positive or negative?
- If indeed it is negative, then what can be done to level the playing field?
-

In responding Dr. Downes confirmed that informal networks were an important element to find employment in the region. Describing it as 'one way of jumping the queue to gain employment' he said this phenomenon was not limited to SIDS, but was also widely evident in developed economies.

The effectiveness of the 11-plus was challenged and increased flexibility in the system was recommended. It was felt that persons developed at different ages and that the system should be based on competencies and the ability to perform.

In response to a request to identify the lessons to be learnt from the Guyana experience, Mr. Kirton said that the current Westminster style of governance which was prominent throughout the Caribbean should be reviewed. He questioned the success of the system in Guyana given its peculiar circumstances of race and stressed that the same style of governance could not be applied across the region without taking into consideration the social constructs of the societies.

He called for the emergence of a new political culture built on the principle of consensus building.

Session 5. Social Policies in the Caribbean - Country Studies

Session Objectives:

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- take stock of the historical policy lessons which can be drawn from outcomes of social policies in a SIDS context, based on the experience of Barbados, St. Lucia, Dominica and Trinidad and Tobago;
- identify innovations where social policies were adapted towards social redistribution and social protection
- formulate recommendations for social policies prioritization

Chair: Ezra Jean Baptiste, Head, Social Policy, OECS Secretariat

Case-study on Barbados, Ralph Premdas, SALISES, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad.

Mr. Premdas identified the existence of plural societies in Barbados which were defined by socio economic characteristics. Quoting extensively from the Commission on Law and Order Report (2006) he described a country which despite its high ranking on the Human Development Index (HDI) and impressive economic and social developments, had evidence to suggest an alternative reality for some of its citizens. It was revealed that a significant number of youth suffered from nihilism, disillusionment and disenchantment, which led to a high degree of hostility and disappointment with the current social and economic structures.

Mr. Premdas posited the need to examine this ‘second Barbados’ to fully understand the social reality of the country. He referred to high levels of youth unemployment and rapid modernization which had resulted in high levels of youth alienation. Lack of community cohesion had resulted in rising levels of crime which was linked to high levels of illegal drug activity. In closing he stated that frank analysis and discussion was required in the description of social realities.

Evolution of Social Policy in Trinidad & Tobago, by Patrick Watson. Presented by Sandra Sookram, The University of the West Indies, St Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago

Dr. Sookram outlined the general development policies and strategies undertaken in Trinidad & Tobago in recent decades. She examined the role of social policies in the development process and explored how Trinidad and Tobago was able to deal with the present major economic crisis. Trinidad and Tobago, described as the most industrialized economy in the English-speaking Caribbean, had made serious attempts between the years 1950-2006 to develop the social sector.

However, the main constraint was the over-reliance on the energy sector to finance these efforts. The main efforts of government spending went towards enhancing infrastructure, including highways, secondary roads, water, electricity and telephones, social expenditure on primary and secondary education, and the construction of health centres.

The current social challenges being experienced in the country could be traced to the economic crisis of the 1980s which resulted in the depletion of foreign reserves, crippling of government debt, unemployment and declining real wages.

Although a number of development programmes were being implemented and the Government aimed to eradicate poverty by the year 2015, poverty levels continued to rise. From 1991 to 2007, the percentage of persons living under US\$2 a day more than doubled, from 15 per cent to 39 per cent.

Dr. Sookram concluded that while much had been done to enhance the social policy framework since the 1950s, there were deficiencies in certain areas. A number of policy recommendations were made in the areas of economic management, education, health, pensions and social assistance. It was suggested that the energy windfall be used to diversify the economy as well as restructuring and reform of the health and education sectors, in particular an overhaul of the health system was recommended. She suggested that given the amount of available resources, a number of remedies could be prescribed. She cautioned however that this could only be achieved if adequate resources were deployed to attain the objectives of the Government's Vision 20/20.

Discussion

A number of opinions were shared which focused on the social policy aspect of the presentations. It was felt that in some instances too much emphasis was placed on the identified problem and not on the implementation aspect of the policies. A more comprehensive analysis could have resulted in the replication/sharing of a number successful policies.

One participant acknowledged that while Barbados had a number of growing social challenges, it should not negate the resiliency it has displayed in responding to a number of past economic challenges. He suggested that it might be interesting to observe the country's response to the current global economic challenges. In response, Mr. Premdas noted that Barbados, like other Caribbean countries shared a common set of development challenges which was compounded by increasing pluralism and increasing numbers of migrants.

Session 6. Learning from social policies in other countries and SIDS

Session Objectives:

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- take stock of the historical policy lessons with can be drawn from outcomes of social policies in a SIDS context, based on the experience of SIDS in the Pacific region and beyond;
- identify innovations where social policies were adapted towards social redistribution and social protection
- formulate recommendations for social policies prioritization

Chair: Prof Paresh Kumar Narayan, Deakin University, Australia

Case-study on Pacific Island Countries, Biman Prasad, Professor of Economics and Dean, Faculty of Business and Economics, The University of the South Pacific, Fiji

Biman Prasad decribed the economic and social performance of small states in the South Pacific, with particular attention paid to Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Samoa. A number of challenges were identified related to geographical size, distance from the major markets and vulnerability to natural disasters. The presentation showed wide disparities between the islands in terms of recent growth performance, with Papua New Guinea, Palau, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu experiencing high growth in the 2007/2008 period. An examination of the social indicators showed some improvements, particularly in infant immunization, with less progress in matters concerning health infrastructure as the number if hospital beds per thousand has fallen in many countries. In education, many countries have literacy rates close to 100 per cent (Fiji, Samoa and Tonga to name some examples) but many countries fall far short of this level. Lastly, an assessment of progress to achieving the MDGs show that many countries are off track, especially in the goal to reduce child mortality; Papua New Guinea in particular is off track on many of the goals.

An overview of the social development strategies revealed a number of weaknesses which were influenced by a range of factors including the global economic recession resulting in modest economic growth, regional disunity, mismanagement and corruption and the loss of critical human resources. Fiji has been increased spending on health and education and has introduced a number of social protection policies. Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands have been characterized by high levels of political instability, Vanuatu has introduced economic reform which is beginning to be paying off. Samoa's social policies have focused on health and education, although spending on these concerns was maintained but has not increased over the period.

Focusing on thematic issues of democracy, the welfare state, jurisdiction resourcefulness and social cohesion, Prof. Prasad provided an examination of the Islands' development policies. He suggested that many Pacific countries had an 'overdose' of policy prescriptions and that the real issue was the level of economic growth.

Case-study on Malta/Mauritius/Seychelles, Naren Prasad and Nicola Hypher, UNRISD

The case studies of Malta, Mauritius and the Seychelles provided an overview of social and economic trajectories as well as social policy development in these countries. The presentation described the different economic and social performances and investigated social policies from a comparative perspective. The presentation highlighted the success of these states in formulating and implementing successful policies.

Malta benefits from strategic location in the Mediterranean and been characterized by fast growth, particularly in the 1990s. As a result, Malta has experienced a dramatic increase in GDP per capita since the 1960s and is now classified as a high income country, Social Security in Malta can be traced back to the 17th century and in the post-war period a number of social security programmes were introduced, including a national pensions, assistance and insurance schemes. By late 1970s, free and universal health coverage was provided and compulsory and free primary and secondary education was provided. Malta was now recognized as the 5th best performing health system from a total of 191 countries (WHO 2000).

Mauritius

Mauritius was described as a success story in terms of the transformation of its economy from a sugar colony to a country that has experienced fast growth, diversification in its economic structure and has achieved high levels of social development. It has been considered a model for managing ethnic diversity and promoting democracy. The current social policies were influenced by recommendations outlined in the Titmuss report of the 1960s.

The Government ensured the provision of free health services and private clinics exist to cater for the needs of those who choose to pay for their treatment. Education is free up to the tertiary level whilst primary and secondary education is compulsory by law for all children up to the age of 16. Government social spending (education, health, social welfare) has increased and pension alone accounted for over three per cent of the national GDP.

Seychelles

A coup d'état in 1977 established a revolutionary government through a one party political system. Diversification in the economy from sugar and cotton to coconut farming (less labour intensive) was encouraged (oil, copra) and recently more attention had been given to tourism and fishery. Consistent emphasis had been placed on socio-economic development. For example during the mid 1970s, education became free and compulsory and primary health was available free of charge. The Government's present commitment to social development was reflected in the comprehensive social welfare system that also includes cash transfers and social relief programmes for the needy.

Concluding comments by Naren Prasad, Project Coordinator "Social Policies in Small States", ILO

Naren Prasad presented the key findings from the country studies and offered some policy recommendations. In doing so, Mr. Prasad asserted the importance of history, and in particular of colonial experience. These factors have, to a considerable extent, impacted contemporary policy

making and institutional process. In accounting for the generally better performance of Caribbean countries, Malta, Seychelles and Mauritius, when compared to Pacific countries, Mr. Prasad presses a great deal of importance on direct rule in the former, as compared to indirect rule in the later. However, Mr Prasad also cites the importance of numerous other factors, for example growth performance, social cohesion, extent of social rights as well as politics and institutions. In developing successful social policy, Mr. Prasad emphasised the role of universal social policies as well as a recognition of the multiple roles of social policy as instruments for more than relief of the negative effects of economic policy but for nation building, fostering production, reconciling the demands of production with reproduction and for redistribution, which can improve well-being directly, as well as indirectly through its positive impact on the growth performance.

Thursday, 20 November 2008

Session 7. Strategic priorities for Children's Rights within a SIDS context

Background

Many of the Caribbean economies have acceptable economic growth rates, but the countries are among the world's most vulnerable not only because of its risks for natural disasters, but also in economic and especially social terms. UNICEF has commissioned a capacity gap study to analyse what are the key vulnerability components of children in a changing climatic environment. The international conferences and reports tended to highlight issues related to the environmental fragility and sustainable development of small states, but also the social dimension should be underscored. For example, the Barbados conference in 1994, organized by the United Nations, produced the "Barbados Plan of Action", which remains the blueprint for sustainable development in Small Island Developing States (SIDS). A conference in Mauritius, ten years later, examined many aspects relevant to the development of small states, including environmental sustainability, investment, trade and social issues. Especially the human rights instruments, such as the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, can be key guiding tools for social policy enhancement. There is a lack of knowledge and lessons learned of past social policy efforts, in small states which can feed into future programming and policy making.

Session Objectives:

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- summarise the key environment challenges affecting children;
- appreciate how a rights-based approach can enhance effective policy building to deal with the vulnerabilities of small island development states
- explain how knowledge management can be a strategic tool to achieve children's rights in a SIDS context

Chair: Enrique Delamonica, Regional Social Policy Advisor, UNICEF TACRO

SIDS: issues, challenges and opportunities, Constance Vigilance, Commonwealth Secretariat

The presentation examined the issues, challenges and opportunities of SIDS within the context of their ability to implement policies and programmes to improve the lives of children and families. While the term SIDS was mainly used within the United Nations (UN) system in the debate and negotiations on sustainable development, global recognition of SIDS took only place with the adoption of the Mauritius Strategy of Implementation (MSI) and the Barbados Programme of Action (BPoA).

The 51 states, considered SIDS, faced special disadvantages associated with small size, insularity, remoteness and proneness to natural disasters. These factors had rendered their economies extremely vulnerable to forces outside their control posing a threat to their economic

viability. To address these challenges, the MSI identified a list of priority areas for SIDS including climate change, natural disasters, trade, health and land resources.

SIDS encountered a range of challenges which are exacerbated by being small states. Small States, as defined by the Commonwealth Secretariat-World Bank Joint Task Force Report, were a diverse group of sovereign developing states with populations of less than 1.5 million. Forty-five countries could be classified as small states and were considered special because of their vulnerability to external events.

The disadvantages related to the characteristics of small states were put forward and building economic resilience was recognized as critical to their survival. An array of development challenges including the migration of skilled professionals, high and rising external debt, changing international trade regimes, limited capacity, little economic diversification, declining development assistance, renewable energy and efficiency resources to comply with international agreements and HIV/AIDS were associated with many of these States.

But SIDS also disposed of numerous opportunities for development with prospects for achievable sustainable development. A number of such opportunities were currently reviewed to identify their possible contribution to sustainable national development. These included efforts to turn the brain drain into brain circulation and to channel remittances away from consumerism into mid- and long term investments. Further, regional alliances to address pressing issues and to share best practices among small states were currently being formed. Other opportunities were seen in enhancing diversification of national economics and in the reduction of energy costs by introducing 'green' economies.

Capacity Gaps Concerning Children and Environment, Sonia Johnson, Business Development Officer, UWI

The findings of a study on environmental issues impacting the health, well-being and development of children in the Eastern Caribbean were presented. This study, covering ten Caribbean countries, was being conducted by the University of the West Indies on behalf of UNEP and UNICEF. It is expected to identify possible interventions to be undertaken by UNEP and UNICEF to address and alleviate those environmental threats and concerns.

The five thematic areas being addressed were environmental health hazards, environmental health related diseases, education and awareness of environmental issues, child survival in natural disasters and emergencies and institutional framework for support.

In conclusion a number of anticipated outcomes aimed at providing an assessment of current arrangements and recommendations for the future were shared. The expected outcomes were the establishment of public health data collection and research systems, policies, strategies and plans for addressing children's special vulnerability to environmental health risks, human resources development of persons working in the relevant sectors, and allocation of funding to institutions and stakeholders in the relevant sectors .

Enhancing a rights-based approach to social policies, Caroline Bakker, UNICEF Sub-regional Child Protection Advisor

‘A human rights based approach is essential for effective social policy building’. This was the central theme of Ms. Bakker’s presentation. The major aim of this approach was to further realise the rights of children, utilising human rights and children’s rights as guiding principles.

The role of UNICEF in the process was to assist state parties to meet the obligations to the realization of human rights as guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child. This was achieved through strengthening and enhancing the capacities of governments and civil society to continuously assess and analyse the *situation of children and women* in relation to the human rights instruments of the UN system, especially the CRC and CEDAW.

UNICEF facilitated deeper analysis through sharing of global experience, evaluations and lessons learned and by supporting a research and providing assistance to countries to obtain or mobilize the necessary financial, human, material or information *resources* to ensure that policies and plans related to children’s and women’s rights were implemented and legislation was enforced. UNICEF assistance was primarily in strengthening national and local capacities for effective action for children’s and women’s rights, where programmes were requested by and jointly designed and monitored with national partners. UNICEF’s country assessments provided the basis for reform. They also indicated whether additional support was required for programming from UNICEF.

Human rights based approaches added value to social policies as this ensured mainstreaming of particular rights, such as the CRC and CEDAW into these policies and promoted their consideration in the policy implementation process. Such an approach paved the way to an inclusive approach and undermines negative social practices while promoting positive efforts.

Knowledge management as a strategic tool to achieve children’s rights, Ian Thorpe, Senior Information and Knowledge Manager, UNICEF NY

Article 13 of the CRC stated that “the child shall have the right to freedom of expression; this right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of the child’s choice”.

UNICEF had recognized that information and knowledge acquisition and exchange were critical in the advancement of children’s rights. This had been demonstrated in the commitment to providing an environment that valued and supported information and knowledge exchange and the pursuit thereof. This goal had been supported by facilitating access to state-of-the-art information, provision of a space for and cultivating an environment of sharing, learning and knowledge exchange, the facilitating of access to and use of innovations, good practice and

lessons learned, the preservation of work of the organization for future UNICEF staff and partners and supporting field offices in managing their information and knowledge better.

The knowledge management concept contributed to sharing and preserving of this knowledge. Acknowledged as important at both the individual and organizational level, the realized benefits contributed to changing the organizational culture: being more open, innovative and responsive and becoming a global knowledge leader on children.

Lessons learned from the process were varied and there was recognition of the importance of knowledge and understanding gained by experience. Knowledge could be negative or positive experiences, formative (what to do) or normative (how to do) verified by evidence – not necessarily through formal evaluations and potentially replicable in other situations.

UNICEF's potential contribution to knowledge sharing was determined to be in the areas of data collection and research, making knowledge accessible and usable, advocacy (getting political) with evidence, knowledge brokering and supporting knowledge networking through facilitating development solutions and potential South-South knowledge sharing.

Discussion

There was a call for regional Governments to facilitate access to micro-data in the region. In many OECS and CARICOM countries a custodial function was prescribed through legislation due to a range of issues including political sensitivity. It was felt that Governments should be encouraged to make data more accessible to potential users, such as their own research bodies within ministries, academia and the development partners.

Mr. Thorpe agreed that greater data access was required to provide evidence based guidance to contribute to more effective and efficient policies. UNICEF was in the process of uploading data (what type of data – mics) to make it more accessible to the public.

He also stressed that a significant amount of knowledge resulted from experience, this he said needed to be expanded and documented. He encouraged participants not to become afraid of the implications of gaining knowledge, whether experiences were positive or negative. He also underscored the importance of knowledge from a children's perspective.

Summary : Enrique Delamonica, Regional Social Policy Advisor, UNICEF TACRO

Mr. Delamonica summarized the discussions and offered a specific framework to explain that SIDS had challenges and a number of specific policies were identified to deal with these challenges. Knowledge management can be shared to improve policies and to engage in programmes that affect real people and could be utilized to assist in implementing the CRC.

Session 8. Inclusion of young people into policy building: Listening to young people

Background

Article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child states that children have the right to participate in decision-making processes that may be relevant in their lives and to influence decisions taken in their regard—within the family, the school or the community. A nation is democratic to the extent that its citizens are involved, particularly at the community level. The confidence and competence to be involved must be gradually acquired through practice. It is for this reason that there should be gradually increasing opportunities for children to participate in policy dialogue. Participation is only genuine if children have full understanding on the consequences and the impact of their opinion – this should be distinguished from manipulation of children, or tokenism. Participation refers to the process of sharing decisions which affect one’s life and the life of the community in which one lives. UNICEF aims, in collaboration with partners in social institutions and with professional practitioner groups at contributing to the empowerment of children and adolescents by encouraging their participation in evidence-based policy making.

Session Objectives:

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- better understand the importance of participation of young people in policy planning;
- take stock of the recommendations of young people towards child and youth-centered social policies;
- make suggestions how these recommendations can be integrated in effective programming.

Chair: Nicole Murray, Youth Adolescent Network

Youth participation in social policies- the experience of participating in J8, Je-Meila Maloney, Emerging Young Leaders Barbados

Ms. Maloney began by thanking UNICEF for the opportunity to attend the J8 summit in Tokoyo. She explained that decisions made by G8 Leaders impacted on children and young people around the world. In recognition of this she reported on the UNICEF Forum (Junior 8) for children and young people to voice their opinions and concerns and present their recommendations to the G8 Leaders. The Junior 8 process was part of UNICEF’s global advocacy programme to promote the meaningful participation of children and young people in decision-making.

The summit focused on the priority areas of poverty and development with a focus on Africa; global warming and climate change, global health, infectious diseases and HIV/AIDS. The Chitose Declaration was adopted by the participants to the Forum and addressed three areas of strategic concern:

Climate change: Global treaty, alternative energy, technology development and the involvement of children and young people.

Poverty and development with a focus on Africa: Basic Rights of Children, Economic Infrastructure, War and Conflict, Accountability of Aid and Funds and children and young people aiding the fight against poverty.

Global health and infectious diseases: Drug patents, healthcare grants, health education and the involvement of children and young people.

One important outcome of the meeting was the creation of a Youth Action Plan to complement the Chitose Declaration. Ms. Maloney called for the establishment of a UNICEF youth committee – where youth could correspond with various UNICEF agencies, engage youth volunteers and build sustainability.

Ms. Maloney shared her experiences of Japanese culture and shared photos on memorable experiences of her trip. In closing she recounted her experience in meeting with global leaders such as former US President George Bush, who advised that in the formulation and implementation of successful policies one needed to be realistically focused and approaches needed to be practical. He further recommended connecting activities on the ground to a wider forum to impact on a given society. She finally asked what footprints the participants of this meeting would leave behind and advised that youth needed guidance, and needed to be led by the footprints that were left behind by adults.

Recommendations for child and youth-friendly social policies, Christaneisha Soleyn, Youth Adolescent Journalists Network Barbados

Ms. Soleyn began with an overview of the formation of Emerging Global Leaders of Barbados (EGLB). The organization was born out of a concern over the lack of responses to various challenges affecting young people, including issues of HIV/AIDS, abuse and poverty. The organization was currently working with the Ministry of Education and UNICEF on a number of programmes including most recently conducted research on a range of challenges youth face, such as sexual and reproductive health; HIV/AIDS, Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs), substance abuse, abuse (Sexual and verbal), teen pregnancy and abortion. Other challenges faced by young people that were researched were domestic violence, absent fathers, poor parenting, dysfunctional families and teenagers raising children.

Ms. Soleyn also shared a number of recommendations on ‘better use of the media’ which emanated from the Youth Adolescent Journalist Network Forum held in El Salvador in September 2008 on domestic violence.

The presenter suggested the creation of a youth network or show, designed by young people, for young people to share real experiences. Cartoons and puppets should be used to promote these issues and professional counselors could be retained on a permanent basis. The ideas and

experiences could be shared through an internet Blog, call in programmes and youth hotlines. Rehabilitation programmes and competitions and sports could be used to promote awareness.

Other pertinent topics would include equality in the age of consent and the age to obtain healthcare independently, “SPEAK OUT” campaigns for victims of rape and abuse and public awareness programme on television and radio to promote the need for fathers and good parent - child interaction.

Teenage parenting was of particular concern and more emotional and financial support for teenaged parents would be needed.

In closing, Ms. Soleyn drew attention to poverty among young people, suggesting that all schools should have programmes to assist needy students for example by providing free school meals and school supplies.

Recommendations for child and youth-friendly social policies, Danny Babb, Youth group’s representative and Interim Director of Team ACTION Project Implementation Unit (TAPIU)

Mr. Babb commended UNICEF for their commitment to the advancement of youth participation at all levels. Addressing a range of issues concerning youth, he lamented the absence of a national youth policy and stated that much debate had taken place on the subject of the age of consent and independent health care.

Quoting his Grandmother ‘if you want to do something, speak out’ and referring to Article 13 of the CRC, Mr. Babb called for greater national participation of young people and emphasised that the decision making process should not only be influenced by adults. In supporting youth involvement he shared that the Team ACTION Project Implementation Unit had been involved in discussions on the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME) and that this had led to the development of a policy paper. He also referred to the recent general elections held in Barbados where a youth manifesto had been prepared by youth. He also lauded the work of the EGLB in providing opportunities for youth to speak out.

He identified a number of areas that needed to be addressed, including the special needs of those not academically inclined, teenage parenting and poverty among youth.

Discussion

The views of the youth participants were described as a ‘breath of fresh air’ with a dose of frankness and honesty. The presentation signalled the need for government officials and other stakeholders to agitate and advocate to ‘leave footprints in the sand’. There was recognition that children often neglected the advice of adults and it was queried how this could be addressed. A youth panellist agreed that young persons sometimes refused to listen to adults, and stressed the need for improved youth/parent relationships.

It was suggested that youth organisations direct some attention to advertisements which portrayed young women as sex symbols.

One youth participant shared his views on the absence of positive role models in society. He argued that youth were often criticised for their behaviours and choices but this was often a direct result of lack of good role models in society. He added that many times adults lacked empathy and understanding towards young persons.

The OECS representative informed participants that the 2nd Human Development Report was currently being prepared and youth participation was one area of focus. He enquired about youth participation in the political process. Youth views towards politics remained negative because of the lack of trust in both the politicians and the process. Youth indicated to be tired ‘of empty promises’ and possible ‘victimisation’ and suggested that youth views be encouraged, respected and included in the political process.

It was suggested that young persons be employed in government departments to increase youth participation.

There was some concern on the lack of focus on abstinence in the presentations made by youths. It was agreed that abstinence should be promoted, while acknowledging the reality that young people were having sex and would continue to have sex. It was suggested that both messages of condom usage and abstinence be promoted.

Emotional support for children and their families was identified as an area of great concern. The discussion revealed that support structures should be placed at both the school and the community level to assist both children and parents in coping with family challenges. One youth participant introduced the concept of H.O.P.E. (Healthy Opportunities are Possible for Everyone) where one youth organisation had responded to the issue of poverty by providing remedial support to students.

Session 9. From Policies to Programming for Results – UNICEF in the Eastern Caribbean region

Background

In order to ensure that the programmes match with policies and effective results, UNICEF endorses results based programme planning, a methodology which demonstrates the causal relationship between the intended results at different levels (outputs, outcomes and impacts). It requires that the sum of planned interventions is sufficient to achieve the planned results, and helps to map UNICEF’s contribution within the programme of cooperation. Results based programme management rests on well defined accountability for results, and requires self-assessment and ongoing performance monitoring. The UNICEF Eastern Caribbean Office, based in Barbados, has started –in collaboration with the respective governments- its 2008-2011 country programme ‘Social Policy, Monitoring and Evaluation for Children’s rights’, which aims

at contributing to the realization of children's rights by fostering an enabling and protective environment, reducing children's vulnerability to social risks and enhancing their participation.

Session Objectives:

At the end of the session, the participants will be able to:

- Appreciate how a rights-based framework can link programming with broader policy objectives;
- Formulate the key results of the UNICEF 2008-2011 Multi-country Programme
- Identify the key programmed outputs for the 2008 UNICEF Annual Work Plan
- Appreciate the key outputs and activities realized by UNICEF and its partners in 2008;
- Identify highlights, cross-cutting themes and lessons learned of the 2008 implementation.

Chair: Tom Olsen, UNICEF Representative for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean

Enhancing the Results Programming Framework, Ian Thorpe, Senior Information and Knowledge Manager, UNICEF NY

Describing a result as 'a describable or measurable change resulting from a cause and effect relationship' Mr. Thorpe introduced a management approach aimed at ensuring that all available financial and human resources continued to support the planned results.

Performance monitoring, a critical element, determined how successfully results were being achieved and what measures were required to improve the process.

Firstly, interventions were not only necessary, but also sufficient to achieve the expected result. Critical planning ensured identification of the problem and conditions and resulted in the necessary commitment. The situation analysis (or causal analysis for this problem) was important, as it informed which key "causal factors" or "conditions" needed to be addressed.

Causality analysis began the process in making programmatic choices and addressed the underlying or basic causes. Strategic choices were then made in consultation with the programme partners.

Programme terminology determined by the UN system consists of: **Outcomes** primarily referred to United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAF) outcomes (results) and country programme outcomes (results): **Outputs** primarily referred to products and services, whose attainment depended on, and was mainly attributable to the implementing agency. **Impact** referred to human change.

The process utilized 'change language' which described changes in the conditions of people and/or institutions, to set precise criteria for success and to be focused on results, leaving options on how to achieve them.

The log frame and results framework were introduced as useful for any planning exercise. The results framework was particularly concerned with the ‘vertical’ logic, and illustrated how lower level results conspired to attain the higher level results. The ‘log frame’ view brought out the indicators and measurements for each result and provided room for describing the planning assumptions or risks.

To conclude the presentation a check list was shared to guide the preparation of the results planning framework. Those involved in the development of planning frameworks were encouraged to ensure that the expected strategic results and impact also addressed challenges in the lives of children. It was further recommended to consider if the results were specific and achievable and to ensure that all results were formulated in “Change Language” rather than in “Action Language”.

Overview of the UNICEF BECO Programme 2008-2011 and expected outputs for 2008, Koen Rossel-Cambier, UNICEF Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist

The session began with an exercise to define possible impact, outcome and outputs characterized by the use of change language. The exercise provided a clearer understanding of key outputs and their relationship to successful programming.

The key outputs were defined as: *Impact*: Sustained changes in the lives of people; changes in the fulfilment and protection of rights; *Outcomes* represent changes in development conditions which occur between the completion of outputs and the achievement of impact; *Outputs*: The products and services which result from the completion of activities within a development intervention; *Inputs*: financial, human, material, technological and information resources used for the development intervention.

The 2003-2007 multi-programme cycle consisted of three programmes: Integrated Early Childhood Development, Social Investment for Child Protection and, HFLE and HIV/AIDS. The 2006 Mid-Term Review provided assessments of the collective achievements and lessons learned. These were used for programming in 2007 and in the design and development of the multi-country programme for 2008-2011. Evaluations had revealed a need to work more strategically and to contribute more comprehensively to the broader framework at the national, sub-regional and regional level for the realization of children’s rights.

The new multi-country programme consists of one overarching programme, social policy and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) for child rights, with four sub-areas, namely, social policy, partnerships and advocacy for children’s rights, child protection, early childhood development (ECD) and adolescent development.

The main objective of the new multi-country programme was to contribute to the realization of children’s rights by fostering an enabling and protective environment, reducing children’s vulnerability to social risks and enhancing their participation.

The programme would specifically contribute to the following areas:

- Social policies and investment reflecting the rights and priorities of children regarding their development, protection and participation;
- Protection of children against abuse and violence;
- Reduction of HIV amongst children, and
- Early childhood development

The programme tools identified for the process were the country programme action plan, annual work plans, monitoring tools, mid-year-, end-year-, mid-cycle and end cycle reviews and specific initiatives namely, M & E support for NGOs with a focus on Grenada and document template and guidelines.

Discussion

There was a request for greater ownership of programmes by governments. It was stressed that becoming a signatory of a programme or a convention would not always translate into political will and this had hindered the successful delivery of programmes in many countries. More was required in the areas of commitment and political will to effect necessary change. It was felt that there was room for civil society to play a more prominent role and that the region needed to take the lead in the development of policies and programmes. Regional development should not be restricted to governments and development agencies but should be participatory, involving a broad network of stakeholders and citizens in the process.

Sessions 10-11. 2008 Programme implementation - Partnerships results and cross-cutting themes

Background

An assessment of the first year of implementation of the 2008-2011 programme shows a more focused approach towards evidence-based social policies for children's rights. Various activities have been undertaken, building on lessons learned from the past, but also through new partnerships. Some of the promising initiatives of 2008 include the work on positive behavioral management, monitoring and evaluation for NGOs, advocacy for early childhood development, integrating behavioral change communication in programming and responding to emergencies.

Session Objectives:

At the end of the session, the participants will be able to:

- Appreciate the key outputs and activities realized by UNICEF and its partners in 2008;
- Identify highlights, cross-cutting themes and lessons learned of the 2008 implementation.
-

Chair: K. Rossel-Cambier, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, UNICEF

Early Childhood Policy Development, Earla Esdaille, ECD Coordinator Antigua and Barbuda

The presenter share the Vision Statement of the early childhood development policy that states: “All children are provided with opportunities to develop to their fullest potential”.

The report on the status of early childhood programming in the Eastern Caribbean region underscored the need for national policy frameworks to guide the sector’s development. The major recommendation of the report was for the establishment of an early childhood policy and regulatory framework. It was anticipated that the framework would result in better harmonization with the expectations for primary education, clarity in the direction in which the sector was expected to develop and the establishment of boundaries within which all stakeholders would be expected to operate.

Ms. Esdaille emphasized the importance of stakeholder involvement in the process and stated that it generated ownership of the final product, created trust in a common agenda, facilitated a policy response that was realistic, provided opportunities to resolve difficult issues in advance, built awareness and created a network of partners.

A number of countries had completed their draft EC policy and implementation plans. The policy had been approved and ratified by cabinet in Antigua and Barbuda, and was being prepared for submission to cabinet in Dominica. In St. Kitts and Nevis the policy had been submitted to cabinet for approval and adoption.

Life skills and HIV/AIDS, Maureen Lewis, HFLE Coordinator Antigua and Barbuda

The presentation focused on the findings of a Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) study which was conducted in twenty-four schools in four CARICOM countries, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada and St. Lucia.

Ms. Lewis identified that the new HFLE framework moved the curriculum from topic based to a thematic approach with an emphasis on life skills. The new curriculum distinguished four major themes in the HFLE Framework:

- Sexuality and sexual health (includes HIV);
- Self and interpersonal relationships (includes violence);
- Eating and fitness;
- Managing the environment;
- Underscored teaching of life skills.

The process applied Action Research methodology providing for a process and impact evaluation. The process evaluation documented curriculum implementation and generated information to guide refinement of the curriculum and teacher training materials. The impact evaluation assessed student outcomes resulting from curriculum implementation.

The findings of the study revealed insufficient evidence to conclude implementation of the Common Curriculum in the four countries had resulted in a measurable impact on student health indicators. This did not mean that HFLE was not working or that it was unimportant for students' health and well-being, since similar topics were taught in intervention and comparison schools and the study placed emphasis on discerning differences in pedagogy.

It was found that attribution of outcomes to the new curriculum was complicated by significant implementation challenges. Delivery of all lessons and teaching time was problematic due to persistent problems with teacher selection, turnover and training. Further, students in the intervention schools may not have received the intended three year exposure.

Changing the Classroom Culture across the Eastern Caribbean: Positive Behavioural Management- Heather Stewart

Ms. Stewart shared the findings of a study conducted on changing the classroom culture across the Eastern Caribbean applying a positive behavioural management approach. The study was conceived on the basis of the main findings of the world report on violence against children. These findings revealed that corporal punishment and sexual abuse were the two types of violence found in five settings studied: Home and family, schools, institutions, work and community. It found that only a small proportion of acts of violence against children were reported and investigated.

The regional study gathered data from regional consultations, questionnaires and queries. The overarching recommendations were:

- Enhance the capacity of all who work with and for children;
- Ensure participation of children;
- Prohibit all violence against children;
- Prioritize prevention;
- Promote non-violent values and awareness-raising;
- Ensure accountability;
- Address the gender dimension of violence against children.

Monitoring and Evaluation for NGOs, Benita Thompson, Fellow, Education Evaluation Centre, UWI

Ms. Thompson provided an overview of the process of the provision of technical support to three Grenadian NGOs to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation component of the Adolescent Development Programme in Grenada.

The provision of technical support resulted from a paradigm shift requiring NGOs to engage in capacity building and strengthening in the promotion of evidence-based advocacy. This required NGOs to improve their monitoring and evaluation capacities to prove the success (outcomes) of their projects.

Assistance was provided in the areas of preparation of funding proposals, development of survey instruments and on-line technical assistance.

The process benefited these NGOs to the extent that they now recognize the importance of monitoring and evaluation. Some challenges encountered during the process related to difficulties in adjusting the organizational culture to accommodate the new process. Issues of time management including scheduling, and individual differences of NGOs were also cited. In summation, Ms. Thompson recommended the creation of resource materials to provide guidance on the preparation of funding proposals, more frequent follow-up visits and increased utilization of on-line assistance.

DevInfo in the CARICOM region, Dr Philomen Harrison, Director Statistics Department, CARICOM Secretariat

The presenter reported that DevInfo 5.0, a system developed under UN partnership, operated both as a desktop application and on the web and delivered significant enhancements for easy access to information on human development. The system was available royalty-free to all end users, such as national statistics offices, UN agencies, donors, NGOs and civil society.

The system had been endorsed by the UN Development Group (UNDG) and used in many countries to help track the Millennium Development Goals (MDGS) and other national priorities. The system organized data by indicators, time periods and geographic areas with extensive metadata based on international standards.

Trinidad and Tobago had received funding support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and was able to launch a customized desktop version, CTTinfo with 366 indicators in October 2008. DevInfo was currently being used to monitor the implementation of Vision 20/20 and was also being made available to schools.

Barbados had created a pilot version of their customized version of DevInfo, BimInfo, with 230 indicators. In-house web adaptations of DevInfo such as for Dominica (NatureisleInfo) and Saint Lucia (HelenInfo) were being created. Jamaica (JAMSTATS) had been in existence since 2002 and was recently launched on the web.

DevInfo would also be utilized as the main dissemination platform for the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Census in all CARICOM countries, such as Census Info in Suriname. Numerous requests from other CARICOM member States and/or associate members to commence work on DevInfo had also been received.

It was the intention to spread DevInfo to other countries and a number of initiatives were ongoing including the implementation of DevInfo in the OECS Secretariat and making operational the spreading of DevInfo in Schools. Proposal for funding to countries were currently being considered by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB).

Integrating Behaviour change Communication in Programming, Dr Lisa McClean-Trotman, UNICEF Programme Communications Specialist

Dr. McClean illustrated the importance and benefits of integrating behaviour change communication into programming. Demonstrated areas of support in programming were in Support to Poverty Assessment and Reduction in the Caribbean (SPAPC), child protection, HIV and life skills. Support from communications resulted in a child focused emergency campaign, campaign versus child labour, child abuse, advocacy and research. She also suggested developing infomercials and research.

Research was identified as the pillar of the process. It influenced the development of communications materials for particular target groups and the external and internal PR, capacity building and community and social mobilization.

In closing participants were encouraged to consider the implications for work planning. The following points were considered critical:

- Research would be needed to identify current behaviors, barriers to adopting good behaviors and to find out how young people can be reached, etc.;
- Ensure that products focused on the specific behaviors to be adopted;
- Behaviors that can be easily adopted by your target group ;
- Ensuring that materials were pre-tested at every stage of development;
- Importance of including a monitoring and evaluation component to determine challenges and success of a project.

Closing session

Karoline Schmid, Social Affairs Officer, ECLAC

Ms. Schmid thanked all contributors for the diverse range of information presented on a variety of topics, and was particularly glad to have heard feedback from young persons. ECLAC was happy to collaborate with UNICEF in producing outcomes and highlighted that this conference showcased as a major success the inter-institutional collaboration. She emphasized that ECLAC was committed to continued close cooperation with UNICEF and other partners to contribute to the enhancement of the lives of children, youth and their families of the Caribbean.

Closing Comment, Nicola Hypher, Research Analyst, UNRISD

Nicola Hypher, on behalf of Naren Prasad and herself, expressed her gratitude to the various people and organizations that helped in making the conference such an excellent forum for knowledge building and sharing. Ms Hypher thanked Tom Olsen, Koen Rossel-Cambier and their colleagues at UNICEF for arranging such a successful conference and for giving UNRISD the opportunity to present findings from the project on social policy in small states. Ms Hypher also thanked the Constance Vigilance and colleagues at the Commonwealth Secretariat for

ongoing funding and support and policy-makers for sharing their comments and experiences. Ms Hypher detailed the lessons that she would take away from the conference in terms of:

- the linkages that exist between the projects and programmes of the various organization and the potential that this provides for further collaborative work,
- a better knowledge of the challenges that remain in the Caribbean in spite of successes in social performance
- the benefit from incorporating the opinion of policy-makers in the research process.

Tom Olsen, UNICEF Representative for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean

The UNICEF Representative expressed his sincere gratitude to all his staff for their contribution to the success of the forum. He underscored the importance of partnerships and commended all of his colleagues, saying that the forum was possible only through efforts of partnerships with other UN agencies and other regional institutions. He assured the audience that all recommendations would be taken into consideration in the planning of the 2009 work plan. He shared that the European Union (EU) intended be working more closely with UNICEF in the future. He closed by stating that the meeting had provided opportunities for exchanging ideas in pursuit of the realization of making the Caribbean a place fit for children.

Paula Mohammed, Programme Manager, UNDP

Ms. Mohammed was glad to see the inclusion of the challenges SIDS faced regarding issues of climate change, and that environmental sustainability was included as a major focus in the discussions on children's rights and child welfare. She commended all organisers of the forum and looked forward to recommendations emanating from the meeting.

Participant List

Country	Participant	Contact
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	Ms Maureen Lewis Education Officer Ministry of Education New Government Office Complex Queen Elizabeth Highway St John's	Tel: 268-462-4959 Fax: 268-462-4970 Email: lenorelew@hotmail.com
	Mr Rolston Nickeo Principal TN Kirnon School/Antigua and Barbuda Union of Teachers Old Parham Road St John's	Tel: 268-782-8202 Fax: 268-462-3750 Email: rnickeo@yahoo.com / rnickeo@hotmail.com
	Ms Earla Esdaille ECD Coordinator Ministry of Education New Government Office Complex Queen Elizabeth Highway St John's	Tel : 268-462-4959 / 268-784-2311 Fax : 268-462-4970 Email : barney@candw.ag
	Ms Jacintha Pringle Chief Education Officer Ministry of Education New Government Office Complex Queen Elizabeth Highway St John's	Tel : 268-462-4959 Fax : 268-462-4970 Email : jacintha.pringle@gmail.com
	Ms Faustina Jarvis Ministry of Housing & Social Transformation St John's	Tel : 268-462-6368 Fax : 268-462-6368 Email : fjarvis251@hotmail.com
BARBADOS	Ms Patricia Warner HFLE Coordinator Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs & Sports Elsie Payne Complex, Constitution Road St Michael	Tel: 246-430-2836 Fax: 246-436-2411 Email: everil2002@yahoo.com
	Ms Catherine Blackman Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs & Sports Elsie Payne Complex, Constitution Road	Tel: 246-430-2700 Fax: 246-436-2411 Email: cblackman@mes.gov.bb

Country	Participant	Contact
	St Michael	
BARBADOS Cont'd	Rev Gerald A Seale General Secretary & CEO Evangelical Association of the Caribbean 41 Excel Road, Elizabeth Park Christ Church BB15092	Tel: 246-427-9746 Email: gaseale@caribsurf.com
	Ms Joan Crawford Director Child Care Board Fred Edghill Building, Cheapside St Michael	Tel: 246-429-3961 Fax: 246-435-3172 Email: childcareboard@sunbeach.net jbdc1505@hotmail.com
	Ms Ena Trotman-Jemmott NCH Legal Reform Project 27 Wanstead Gardens St Michael	Tel: 246-425-4492 Fax: 246-425-3813 Email: nchlegalreform@caribsurf.com
	Ms Susan Branker-Lashley Programme Director - CCSI Caribbean Child Support Initiative CARICAD Roebuck Street, Bridgetown St Michael	Tel: 246-427-8535/36 Fax: 246-436-1709 Email: sbrancker@csinews.org
	Dr. Benita Thompson Research Assistant University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus, Cave Hill St Michel	Tel: 246-429-1234 Fax: 246-417-0288 Email: bthompson@uwichill.edu.bb
	Ms Phyllis Roett Senior Development Officer CIDA Bishops Court Hill St Michael	Tel: 246-429-3550 Fax: 246-429-3876 Email: phyllis.roett@international.gc.ca
	Mr Kirk Humphrey Director Bureau of Social Policy Research & Planning Ministry of Social Transformation 4th Floor Warrens St Michael	Tel: 246-310-1600/1601 Fax: 246-1627 Email: khumphrey@barbados.gov.bb
	Mr Paul A Forte Chairman	Tel: 246-429-6474 Email: paul_teamaction@hotmail.com

Country	Participant	Contact
	Team ACTION Barbados Mayers Road My Lord's Hill St Michael	
	Mr Danny Babb Interim Director of Team ACTION Project Implementation Unit(TAPIU) Bridgetown	Tel: 246-439-7574 / 232-3313 Email: dsab88@hotmail.com
BARBADOS Cont'd	Ms Je Meila Maloney Global Youth Leader Combermere School Waterford St Michael	Tel: 246-428-2822 Email: ramona_bear@hotmail.com
	Mr Malchijah Harding Student The Lodge School St John	Tel: 246-4233807 Fax: 246-423-0179
	Ms Victoria Bristol Student The Lodge School St John	Tel: 246-4233807 Fax: 246-423-0179
	Student Springer Memorial School Government Hill St Michael	Tel: 246-426-5301
	Student Springer Memorial School Government Hill St Michael	Tel: 246-426-5301
	Student Grantley Adams Memorial Secondary School Blackmans St Joseph	Tel: 246-4331324
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	Ms Anne Malone-Frett Ministry of Health and Social Development Social Development Department Road Town Tortola	Tel : 284-494-3431 Fax : 284-494-6803 Email : almf325@yahoo.com
	Ms Ritzia Turnbull-Smith Deputy Permanent Secretary	Tel : 284-494-3701 Fax : 284-494-5018

Country	Participant	Contact
	Ministry of Health and Social Development Road Town Tortola	Email : riturnbullsmith@gov.vg
CANADA	Mr Andrew Schrumm Research Officer The Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) Waterloo, CANADA	Tel: +1 519 885 2444 Email: ASchrumm@cigionline.org
COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA	Ms Veda George Early Childhood Education Officer Ministry of Education, Human Resource Development, Sports and Youth Government Complex Roseau	Tel : 767-4482401 / 266-5560 Fax : 767-448-0644 Email : minedu@cwdom.dm
	Mr Alvin Bernard UNICEF Focal Point Ministry of Finance and Social Security Government Buildings Roseau	Tel : 767-448-2401 / 266-3777/245-6901 Fax : 767-448-0054 Email : alvinbernard@hotmail.com / bernarda@dominica.gov.dm
	Ms Norma Cyrille Coordinator 14 Turkey Lane Roseau	Tel : 767-448-2741 Fax : 767-448-4118 Email : social_centre@cwdom.dm
COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA Cont'd	Ms Janessa Coipel Dominica Youth Environment Organisation Inc P O Box 780 Roseau	Tel : 767-265-4344 Fax : 767-448-7686 Email : babyco_nessa@hotmail.com
	Mr Cordelle Lazare Dominica Youth Environnent Organisation Inc	Tel : 767-614-7502 Fax : 767-448-7686 Email : lazare_c91@hotmail.com
	Ms Carolyn Peters Executive Director Grenada Save the Children Development Agency GRENSAVE House St John's Street	Tel : 473-440-2448 Fax : 473-440-5120 Email : grensave.director@spiceisle.com

Country	Participant	Contact
GRENADA	St George's	
	Ms Hermione Baptise Ministry of Education St George's	Tel : 473-440-2737 / 418-2523 Fax : 473-440-7701 Email : hervinb@hotmail.com
	Ms Cynthia Isaac Ministry of Education St George's	Tel : 473-442-8317 Fax : 473-440-7701 Email : cynthiagda@hotmail.com
	Ms Sandra Jones UNICEF Focal Point Ministry of Finance Financial Complex The Carenage St George's	Tel : 473-404-8562 Fax : 473-440-0775 Email : sanz_jones@hotmail.com
	Ms Judy Williams General Secretary GRENCODA Gouyave Central Depradine Street St George's	Tel : 473-444-8430 Fax : 473-444-8777 Email : grenco@spiceisle.com
	Mr Leon Charles Charles & Associates Inc P O Box 10 St George's	Tel : 473-407-3054 Fax : 473-442-4681 Email : caa@spiceisle.com
GUYANA	Dr Halima Sa'adia Kassim Deputy Programmeme Manager Culture and Community Development Gender Affairs CARICOM Secretariat Turkeyen Georgetown	Tel : 592 222-0001-75 Ext 2710 Fax : 592-222-0171 or 222 0168 Email : hkassim@caricom.org
	Mr Cairan O'Toole Consultant - Monitoring and Evaluation & Mid-Term Review UNICEF Guyana 72 Brickdam Georgetown	Tel: 592-225-9993 / 592-682-1310 Fax : 592-226-5894 Email: cotoole@unicef.org
	Dr Philomen Harrison CARICOM Secretariat Turkeyen, Georgetown	Tel : 592 222-0001-75 Fax : 592-222-0098 Email : harrison@caricom.org / pharrison2004@yahoo.com

Country	Participant	Contact
MONTSEERRAT	Ms Kathleen Greenaway Director of Education Ministry of Education and Labour Brades	Tel : 664-491-2541 Fax : 664-491-6941 Email : greenawayk@gov.ms
	Ms Aldean Moore Development Unit Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Trade Government Headquarters Brades	Tel : 664-491-2066 Fax : 664-491-4632 Email : moorea@gov.ms
	Ms Sheron Burns Ministry of Education and Labour Brades	Tel : 664-491-2541 Fax : 664-491-6941 Email : burnss@gov.ms
ST KITTS AND NEVIS	Mr Maurice Williams Chief Probation Officer Community Affairs Department Ministry of Community Affairs Basseterre	Tel : 869-467-1379 Fax : 869-466-8244 Email : anwills12@msn.com
	Ms Jacquelyn Morris Education Officer – Early Childhood Ministry of Education, Youth, Information & Technology Labour and Social Security Basseterre	Tel : 869-465-2369 Fax : 869-466-2801 Email : jacqris@hotmail.com
	Mr Wentford Rogers Deputy Permanent Secretary Ministry of Education, Youth, Information & Technology Labour and Social Security Basseterre	Tel : 869-467-1105 Fax : 869-466-8974 Email : wentford@gmail.com
	Ms Florence Mooving Department of Education Ministry of Education – Nevis Basseterre	Tel : 869-663-5367 Fax : 869-469-1440 Email : flomov@hotmail.com
	Ms Norma Cherry-Fevrier UNICEF Focal Point Ministry of Economic Affairs, Economic Planning and National Development Castries	Tel : 758-468-3820 Fax : 758-451-9706 Email : necherry@gmail.com
	Ms Francillia Solomon	Tel: 758-485-0511 / 468-3968

Country	Participant	Contact
ST LUCIA	Ministry of Economic Affairs, Economic Planning and National Development Castries	Fax: 758-451-9706 Email: fsolomon@gosl.gov.lc
	Mr Ezra JnBaptiste OECS Secretariat Morne Fortune Castries	Tel: 758-455-6397 Fax: 758-453-1628 Email: ejnbaptiste@oecs.org
	Ms Clementia Eugene Director Human Services Family Affairs and Women Chaussee Road Castries	Tel: 758-468-5300 Fax: 758-452-5655 Email: huserVICES@yahoo.com
ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES	Ms Judith Hull-Ballah Project Coordinator Roving Caregivers Project Kingstown	Tel: 784-451-2147 Fax: 784-451-2147 Email: judithballah@hotmail.com
	Ms Rosita Alexander-Snagg Permanent Secretary Ministry of National Mobilisation, Social Development, Youth & Sports Kingstown	Tel: 784-450-0395 Fax: 784-457-2476 Email: rsnagg@hotmail.com / housingsvg@vincysurf.com
	Ms Patsy Wyllie Ministry of Health and the Environment Kingstown	Tel: 784-450-0468 Fax: 784-457-2684 Email: patsyvw@yahoo.com
	Ms Janice Fraser Ministry of Education Kingstown	Tel: 784-457-2697 Fax: 784-457-2697 Email: vinsave@vincysurf.com
	Ms Omesha Spence Intractive Media Ltd Searchlight Newspaper Kingstown	Tel: 784-492-6129 Fax: 784-456-1558 Email: pre-pinkslip16@hotmail.com
TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS	Mr Heidy Williams Education Officer Ministry of Education Grand Turk	Tel: 649-244-8189 Fax: 649-946-2722 Email: heidyb68@hotmail.com

RESOURCE PERSONS	
Professor Paresh Kumar Narayan School of Accounting, Economics and Finance\Faculty of Business and Law Deakin University, 221 Burwood Highway Burwood Victoria 3125 AUSTRALIA	Tel: 613-924-46180 Fax: 613-924-46034 Email: narayan@deakin.edu.au
Professor Christine Barrow Professorial Fellow Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus, Cave Hill St Michael BARBADOS	Tel: 246-417-4478 Fax: 246-424-4425 Email: cbarrow@uwichill.edu.bb
Professor Andrew Downes Head Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus Cave Hill St Michael BARBADOS	Tel: 246-417-4000 Fax: 246- Email:
Ms Sonia Johnson Business Development Officer University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus Cave Hill St Michael BARBADOS	Tel: 246-417-4541 Fax: 246-417-4542 Email: sjohnson@uwichill.edu.bb
Mr Simone Cecchini Social Development Division	Tel: 562-210-2549 Fax: 562-210-2523

RESOURCE PERSONS	
ECLAC Casilla 179-D Santiago de Chile CHILE	Email: simone.cecchini@cepal.org
Professor Biman Chand Prasad Professor of Economics and Dean Faculty of Business and Economics University of the South Pacific Private Mail Bag, Laucala Campus Suva FIJI ISLANDS	Tel: 679-323-2460 Fax: 679-323-1506 Email: prasad_bc@usp.ac.fj
Prof Neville Duncan Professor of Political Science Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies University of the West Indies Mona Campus Kingston JAMAICA	Tel: 876-927-1020 Fax: 876-927-2409 Email: neville.duncan@uwimona.edu.jm
Dr Pauline Knight Director of Social Policy, Planning and Research Planning Institute of Jamaica Kingston 5 JAMAICA	Tel: 876-960-9339 Ext. 5157 Fax: 876-906-5031
Ms Naren Prasad Development Economist International Institute for Labour Studies International Labour Office (ILO) 4 Tout des Morrillons CH-1211 Genere 22 SWITZERLAND	Email: prasadn@ilo.org
Ms Nicola Hypher Research Analyst UNRISD Palais de Nations 1211 Geneva 10 SWITZERLAND	Email: hypher@unrisd.org
Mr Mark Kirton Senior Lecturer Institute of International Relations University of the West Indies St Augustine Campus St Augustine	Tel: 868-707-2231 Fax: 868-663-9685 Email: mkirton2004@hotmail.com

RESOURCE PERSONS	
Port of Spain TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	
Ms Michele Sogren Lecturer, Coordinator Social Work Unit Department of Behavioural Sciences University of the West Indies St Augustine Campus St Augustine TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	Tel: 868-662-2002 Ext 2539 Fax: 868-663-4948 Email:
Ms Michele Reis Port of Spain TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	Tel: Fax: Email: diaspora.issues@gmail.com
Professor Ralph Premdas Professor of Public Policy Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social & Economic Studies University of the West Indies St Augustine Campus St Augustine TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	Email: ralphpremdas@hotmail.com
Ms Karoline Schmid Social Affairs Officer ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean 1 Chancery Lane Port of Spain TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	Tel: 868-623-5559 Ext 2223 Fax: 868-623-8485 Email: karoline.schmid@eclac.org
Mr Neil Pierre ECLAC Sub-regional Headquarters for the Caribbean 1 Chancery Lane Port of Spain TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	Tel: 868-623-5595 Fax: 868-623-8485 Email: registry@eclacpos.org
Ms Sandra Sookram Fellow Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social & Economic Studies University of the West Indies St Augustine Campus St Augustine TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	Tel: 868-662-2002 Fax: 868-625-63-29 Email: sandra.sookram@sta.uwi.edu

RESOURCE PERSONS	
<p>Mr Enrique Delamonica Regional Social Policy Advisor UNICEF Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean Ave Morse, Ciudad del Saber Clayton, Building #102 Panama City PANAMA</p>	<p>Tel: 507-317-0257 Fax: 507-317-0258 Email: edelomonica@spc.edu</p>
<p>Ms Constance Vigilance Economic Adviser Economic Affairs Division Commonwealth Secretariat Marlborough House Pall Mall London SW1Y 5HX UNITED KINGDOM</p>	<p>Email: vigilance@commonwealth.int</p>
<p>Dr Lorraine Blank Consultant 7914 Hope Valley Ct Adamstown MD 21710 USA</p>	<p>Tel: 301-758-7773 Email: lorraineblank@comcast.net</p>
<p>Chissey Mueller The Counter-Trafficking Unit IOM Washington USA</p>	<p>Tel: 202 862 1826 ext. 236 Fax: 202 862 1879 Email: cmueller@iom.int</p>
<p>Mr Ian Thorpe Senior Information and Knowledge Manager Policy, Advocacy and Knowledge Management, Policy and Practices UNICEF 3 United Nations Plaza New York New York 10017 USA</p>	<p>Tel: 212-326-7465 Fax: 212-735-4410 Email: ithorpe@unicef.org</p>

UNICEF/BECO	
Mr Tom Olsen Representative UNICEF UN House, Marine Gardens Christ Church BARBADOS	Tel: 246-467-6151 Fax: 246-436-2812 Email: tolsen@unicef.org
Ms Caroline Bakker Sub-regional Adviser, Child Protection UNICEF UN House, Marine Gardens Christ Church BARBADOS	Tel: 246-467-6153 Fax: 246-436-2812 Email: cbakker@unicef.org
Ms Heather Stewart Child Protection Specialist UNICEF UN House, Marine Gardens Christ Church BARBADOS	Tel: 246-467-6155 Fax: 246-436-2812 Email: hstewart@unicef.org
Ms Elaine King Health Education Specialist UNICEF UN House, Marine Gardens Christ Church BARBADOS	Tel: 246-467-6165 Fax: 246-467-6165 Email: eking@unicef.org
Ms Lisa McClean-Trotman Programmeme Communication Specialist UNICEF UN House, Marine Gardens Christ Church BARBADOS	Tel: 246-467-6157 Fax: 246-436-2812 Email: lmccleantrotman@unicef.org
Ms June Foster Operations Manager UNICEF UN House, Marine Gardens Christ Church BARBADOS	Tel: 246-467-6156 Fax: 246-436-2812 Email: jfoster@unicef.org
Ms Shelly-Ann Harper Early Child Education Specialist UNICEF UN House, Marine Gardens Christ Church BARBADOS	Tel: 246-467-6171 Fax: 246-436-2812 Email: sharper@unicef.org
Mr Patrick Knight	Tel: 246-467-6162

<p>Communication Specialist UNICEF UN House, Marine Gardens Christ Church BARBADOS</p>	<p>Fax: 246-436-2812 Email: pknight@unicef.org</p>
<p>Mr Koen Rossel-Cambier Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist UNICEF UN House, Marine Gardens Christ Church BARBADOS</p>	<p>Tel: 246-467-6172 Fax: 246-436-2812 Email: krosselcambier@unicef.org</p>