How to make UNICEF more data savvy?





Data use unit

PROBLEM

Being comfortable dealing with data is essential in UNICEF drive's drive to deliver results for children. It involves the inclination to use data, awareness of how using data can help and enough skill to use data comfortably. This is what we refer to as **Data Savvy**. Not all roles within UNICEF require awareness of all aspects of data work. Equally, all roles within UNICEF require some degree of data savvy.

A number of important gaps in data savvy knowledge and data skills have been found across country and regional offices at each stage of the data cycle. The Data for Children framework aims at making the best, most practical use of data to drive results for the world's most vulnerable children. When the right data are in the right hands at the right time, decisions can be better informed, more equitable, and more likely to protect children's rights.

To translate this strategy into reality, UNICEF must approach its data work more systematically.

Key dimensions of a national data landscape



SOLUTION

The **Do-It-Yourself Toolkit** provides a guide for country offices to map the data landscape in their contexts spanning 4 key dimensions: legal framework, statistical system, human capacities and administrative data. This information may then be used to help UNICEF and partners determine how and where to make the most impactful investments in the demand, supply, and use of data for children, and create practical action plans to strengthen national data ecosystems.

UNICEF has piloted data for children landscape analysis & action plans in 20+ countries including: Djibouti, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Lebanon, Lesotho, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, State of Palestine, Uganda, Vietnam, Zimbabwe and Thailand among others. These plans have helped identify some of the most common and significant challenges that countries face in data for children work.



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