

EIDHR PRESENTATION : MAINSTREAMING CR AND COMBATING DISCRIMINATION

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- Asked to give recs on “improving” EIDHR & its role in mainstreaming
 - SC report on EC’s implementation of the UN CRC (Governance fit for children)
- But given the topic of the panel is “discrimination” – try to combine

- EIDHR = specialised instrument - not about mainstreaming.
 - Very fact of EIDHR ⇒ others try to get away with not mainstreaming rights
 - So while everyone puts rights in policies, **no follow-through** with sufficient funding &/or technical support
 - rights are not prioritised in geographic funding, where € is
 - time disconnect between policy-making and programming cycle
 - once rights in docs, box ticked
 - Problems EIDHR cannot solve
- Not saying do away with EIDHR. On contrary, valuable
- BUT: need MORE money for EIDHR, more HR in geographic instruments; and more links between the 2!!

- Focus on EIDHR:
 - Very nature of EIDHR = ad hoc.
 - **CfPs** around a theme – but Proposals received may be of variable quality
 - **Work is therefore fragmented**, like pieces of puzzle but not see the whole
 - **How to complete the puzzle?**
 - No way of knowing real impact of the money spent on issue – has discrimination – for example – been reduced? In what way? What remains to be done?

- **Coherence:** need much more policy coherence, programming coherence, and coherence between policy and programming.

What is discrimination?

- Discrim is caused by economic and social differences.
 - Hierarchical and segregated societies can create “them” and “us” mentalities
- Discrim can be caused by fear – something unfamiliar, which threatens one’s security or identity
 - norms, values and attitudes begin in childhood

- Children are discriminated against as a category (eg. no right to vote & v ltd representation),
- But in fact children are the **majority** of the population in many countries!!
- AND within that, some categories of children are partic disadvantaged
 - Eg. poor children, disabled children, rural children, minorities, girls

- We've discussed multiple discriminations - imagine if you are a disabled girl of ethnic minority living in poverty in a rural area!!! Does anyone think of you?
- Non-discrimination is one of 4 underlying principles of the UNCRC – should inform all EIDHR's work on children (and not only on children!)
- But principle of non-discrimination doesn't prevent *affirmative* action, in favour of disadvantaged groups. Provided in their best interest.

How to tackle Discrimination?

- Breaking the power structures of a society not easy
- Need **DISAGGREGATED DATA** : cannot plan, impl, monitor actions against discrimination w/o disaggr. data
 - Who is discrim against? / by whom?/ in what way?/ with what consequence???
 - Why?
 - Lack of data ⇒ invisibility and marginalisation of vuln gps
 - **Implies: Ad hoc approach can't work**
- **Situational analysis** – what is it we're trying to address
 - **Root causes** - more consistent, systematic CRB approach - not symptoms
- Need (context-appropriate) strategy
- CfPs support the strategy – strategy determines the Call(s)
- **Impact assessments** - -When determining projects (etc) to support, assess impact of project on *all* children – in best interest?
 - RE non discrim – not entrench current discrimination?
 - Not lead to any other discrim?
- M&E: Indicators and benchmarks determined largely by the EU, according to plan/strategy
 - EIDHR not have “own” indicators. Drawback eg. for reporting; comparing successful projects; consistency and follow-up
- Ensuring follow-up on its work (projects funded)

Suggestions

- **HOW? : Save the Children : 3 PILLARS OF CHANGE MODEL**
 - Action in each pillar essential, but emphasis may vary
 - Direct action on violations / gaps in provisions
 - Strengthen capacity of duty-bearers to meet obligation (policies, practice, legislation)
 - Crucial that legislation not reinforce (or create) discrim.
 - Legislation in favour of non-discrim must be implemented and enforced
 - Strengthen capacity to claim rights / hold others accountable
 - Helps to get balance and mix of activities
 - Work in each pillar should reinforce and be informed by work in the others
- If EIDHR were to use this kind of model – would help to move away from 'ad hoc'

Recommendations

- Analyse situation carefully and focus on root causes
- Have a strategy/plan re how to tackle discrimination & base CfPs on plan
 - Give a bit more detail in the CfPs so that all project proposals can feed into to achieve the plan rather than exist in splendid isolation (this does NOT mean make the CfP submission procedure more complex!)
- Include (/ judge proposals on whether they incl) impairment-specific and disaggregated data and indicators in all programming
- Need clear objectives
- Need mix of types of action in the same project
- Do impact assessments (on policies and on projects)
- Ensure/enable follow up on successful projects