RESOURCE BOX

When to undertake a conflict and peace analysis

- **Major planning processes:** Are there specific milestones in terms of the launch of new sector plans, programmes or initiatives that provide opportunities for advocacy and leveraging?
- **Sector management cycles:** What is the cycle for sector planning, budget allocation and fiscal reporting for WASH? Can the timing of conflict analysis converge with and influence important decision-making?
- **Seasonal calendar:** What is the seasonal calendar for WASH and conflict related hazards? Are there times of the year when conflict shocks or stresses make implementation difficult or WASH services more critical?

Adapted from: UNICEF's Guide to Risk Informed Programing (GRIP), 2018, Module 8, p. 6

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Step 2
When to do a WASH conflict and peace analysis?

CPA is a prerequisite to design risk-informed and conflict sensitive interventions in FFCs, and must therefore be undertaken at the start of strategic CO and sector programme development processes (e.g. country programme planning, WASH Annual Work Plans, WASH Cluster HNO assessments) or at the development stage of significant programs and partnerships. However, it should also be a periodic element of UNICEF planning processes in fragile and conflict-affected contexts, which should ideally be done as part of a risk-informed and conflict sensitive programme development cycle.

It is useful to revisit and update CPAs for specific programme cycle milestones (e.g. programme reviews) or when rapid changes in the conflict situation may require programme adaptation. The **requirement by UNICEF country offices to conduct cyclic risk-assessments can be leveraged**[13] to integrate timely CPA into established programme development cycles and milestones (i.e. work plans, programme reviews), ensuring it captures the distinct nature of WASH-relevant conflict risks and related mitigation and management strategies.

A key strategic moment to conduct a WASH-relevant CPA is during the implementation of a **Situation Analysis**[14] **or an Evidence Synthesis**[15] to inform a new Country Programme, as these analytical products influence not only UNICEF WASH advocacy and programming but also national priorities of key partners including government and the UN Country Team through its contribution to the **Common Country**

Analysis. UNICEF's Country Programme annual reviews provide another opportunity to update the analysis. **Annual or Multi-Annual WASH Workplans** developed with national and local authorities offer another strategic and timely opportunity to undertake a CPA, and this can be done collaboratively with government and communities through participatory planning processes if appropriate and feasible.

A good opportunity to undertake and/or update WASH-specific CPA is to **leverage established and cyclic emergency preparedness planning milestones**. For example, the yearly update of UNICEF's Emergency Preparedness Plans (EPP).[16] The data generated through the EPP process may not be suitable for an in-depth analysis of conflict root causes, but it can be valuable to support the development of a **Conflict and Peace Scan** (*see step 6.3 below and CPA Tool 3 'Age and Gender Sensitive WASH Conflict and Peace Scan*) or to regularly update an existing CPA. The yearly update of the Humanitarian Needs Overview to inform the Humanitarian Response Plan provides another opportunity to integrate a WASH-specific CPA to promote conflict sensitive and risk-informed humanitarian programmes. UNICEF role as WASH Cluster Lead Agency provides a distinct opportunity to leverage timely assessments to integrate age and gender sensitive conflict and peace analytics, and to use relevant data being collected by the WASH Cluster partners to develop and/or update analysis (e.g. access to WASH services in conflict-affected contexts).

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13 As part of UNICEF's efforts to develop child-centred risk-sensitive programmes, "all country offices irrespective of the country's risk rating should develop a child-centred risk analysis once per planning cycle". See UNICEF, 'Integrating Humanitarian Response and Development: Programme Framework for Fragile Contexts', 2018, https://www.unicef.org/media/96586/file/Programme-Framework-Fragile-Contexts.pdf, pp. 3-4.
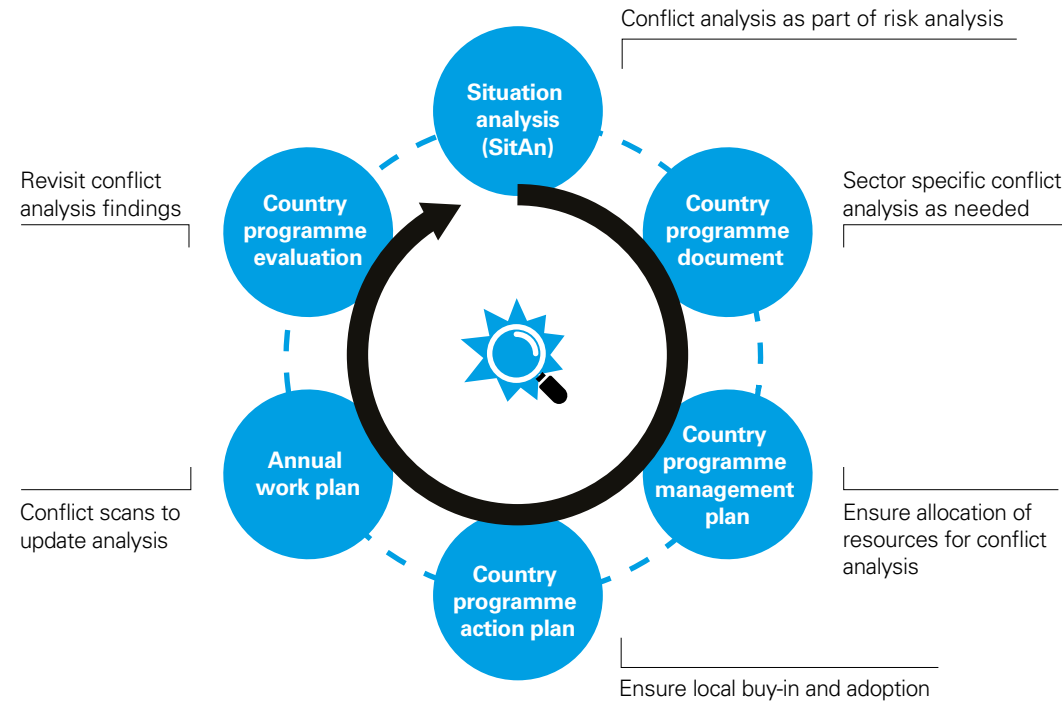
14 Situation Analysis (SitAn): A flagship analysis of the situation of children by UNICEF country offices, which can be used as a knowledge product for advocacy, including influencing policy development, adoption and implementation, public finance for children, communications, and shaping and planning country programmes. In fragile and conflict-affected contexts (FCCs), the SitAn should be informed by a conflict and peace analysis. See the New Generation Situation Analysis Guidance and Toolkit: https://www.unicef.org/chile/media/5201/file

15 The first step of good UNICEF Country Office programme planning is conducting an evidence synthesis. This starts with reflecting on existing evidence and data, and involves documenting the deprivations and bottlenecks that country offices will need to prioritize. The evidence synthesis is a comprehensive analysis of child rights. This includes reflecting on the multiple deprivations children and young people face, the prevailing social and behavioural drivers of these deprivations, and the barriers that must be surmounted to address them. In FCCs, the evidence synthesis should be informed by a conflict and peace analysis. See new UNICEF Country Programme Planning - Guidance to Achieve the SDGs; internal.

16 The EPP is an online tool for implementing UNICEF's Procedure on Preparedness for Emergency Response (issued in December 2017 and effective 30 March 2018). The EPP helps teams analyse risks, self-assess and monitor their operational preparedness and identify high-return actions to get ready for immediate response - before an emergency happens or a situation deteriorates; https://epp.unicef.org/#!/EPPHome

Figure 4 Conflict and peace analysis in the programming cycle

Conflict analysis in the programming cycle

Conflict analysis as part of risk analysis

Situation analysis (SitAn)

Sector specific conflict analysis as needed

Country programme document

Revisit conflict analysis findings

Country programme evaluation

Ensure allocation of resources for conflict analysis

Country programme management plan

Conflict scans to update analysis

Annual work plan

Ensure local buy-in and adoption

Country programme action plan

(Source: UNICEF (2016): Guide to Conflict Analysis) [17]

Decisions about when to conduct a CPA will depend on different factors. Some are **predictable**, such as key programming cycles outlined above, and adequate preparations can be made to ensure sufficient resources and capacity. Some are **unpredictable**, such as an opportunity to develop a strategic WASH intervention or partnership, a sudden onset of emergency in a conflict-affected context, or a potential risk of conflict being fuelled by a WASH intervention. In the case of unpredictable analysis needs, opportunities to leverage existing sources of conflict data may be the most practical solution – these may include WASH partners or field office reports, or conflict analyses undertaken by other stakeholders. If none are available, a rapid CP Scan could be conducted.

17   UNICEF, Guide to Conflict Analysis, November 2016, https://www.unicef.org/media/96581/file/Guide-to-Conflict-Analysis.pdf, p. 27