

2. Developing the 'right' partnerships

UNICEF benefits from many different types of partnerships (e.g. civil society, public institutions, other UN agencies and multilateral organizations, the private sector) and all present distinct opportunities to collaboratively and collectively strengthen WASH results for children in FCCs. There are various different ways to engage partners – for example through Small-Scale Funding Agreements (SSFAs) and Programme Cooperation Agreements (PCAs) with international and national NGOs, or through institutional or supply contracts through which WASH teams can tap into academia and the private sector. In all cases, the **process of selection and of partnership development must explicitly transmit the need to integrate relevant conflict sensitivity/ peacebuilding** as outlined in UNICEF's Strategic Plan and relevant organizational commitments. UNICEF's WASH for Peace approach and expectations must be adequately captured in relevant partnership supporting documents. Including clearly stated minimum requirements in partnership development frameworks and templates (e.g. ToRs for tenders, programme document reviews and submission forms), is a critical first step to ensure that the right capacity is identified and leveraged.



CASE STUDY

Ethiopia Country Office



Ethiopia Country Office introduced requirements to integrate minimum required conflict sensitivity and relevant social cohesion strengthening approaches in conflict-affected contexts for both development and humanitarian Partnership Cooperation Agreements (PCAs). This was part of a broader effort to better integrate cross-cutting issues, including AAP, gender and PSEA. The process included technical briefings with key partners and the development of technical resources (e.g. indicator guidance), as well as the development of capacity among PD managers through training and accompaniment. PCAs' Submission and Approval Forms now include criteria to support such integration, including:

The proposed programme meets minimum required conflict sensitivity, and includes:

- *A sector-relevant conflict analysis to inform the design and implementation of the intervention focusing on stakeholders, causes, dynamics, triggers, and local capacities for peace (if not included, it is planned/budgeted for)*
- *Conflict monitoring as part of M&E activities and relevant budget allocation to support it*
- *Relevant conflict-sensitive indicators capturing the two-way interaction between intervention and context*

If relevant and feasible, the programme integrates peacebuilding approaches that strengthen social cohesion, including:

- *Adequate attention paid to interactions between communities (e.g. host-IDP, host-refugee, inter-ethnic) and between the authorities and communities (e.g. local service providers/ institutions-communities). Collaboration in social services planning and delivery should be sought and supported*
- *That it identifies and supports local capacities for peace – including government and community-led peacebuilding initiatives that take account of initiatives led by adolescents and young people, women and girls; these initiatives must seek to prevent the occurrence or reoccurrence of conflict and/or support the recovery of conflict-affected communities*

A next step could be a collaborative review of existing programme documents and/or supply contracts with **selected and relevant partners to identify feasible and relevant entry points to strengthen contributions to resilience and peace** with the support of this Guidance.