From Emergencies to Development Innovations

Submitted by: UNICEF
From Emergencies to Development Innovations

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Key Highlights

From International to Local, to National
• Social-psycho (Psycho-social) Support
• Rights-based Approach
• Capacity Building (government, volunteers)
• Partnership with Government
• Participation (Children and Community)

From Emergency to Development
• Emergency response to community development
• Pilots to Policy mandate
• Sustainable development initiative
“Child Friendly Space has helped us become more confident, and ease our fear for Earthquakes.
--said one child visiting a CFS in Lushan County, Sichuan
“Child Friendly Space has become a place for us to have fun, participate, learn and grow. I hope that it will be here forever, and I will come and volunteer when I grow up.

--said one child visiting a CFS in Lushan County, Sichuan
The Convention on the Rights of the Child
November 20, 1989
193 state parties ratified,
China a Flagship in Asia.

Children’s rights to:

- Services (delivery)
- Protection
- Participation
Children’s rights in Emergencies

• Children in emergencies are entitled to the same rights as those in regular contexts.
• Rights based approach demands the duty bearers to mobilize resources and act to fulfill the rights of the child, and to encourage children’s participation.
The inextricable link between needs and rights

Many of the interdependent and interrelated children’s human rights that the CRC codifies are based on needs, such as the right to the highest attainable standard of health, to education and to protection from abuse and neglect.

Although rights cannot be realized if needs are not met, simply meeting needs is not enough. The problems facing vulnerable women and children have immediate, underlying and structural causes and many have common roots.
The Wenchuan Earthquake

- 12 May 2008
- 8.0 on the Richter scale
- Sichuan Province, China
- 88,000 people dead or missing and nearly 400,000 injured
- millions of homes damaged or destroyed
- 5 million people made homeless and relocated
- extensive damage to basic infrastructure caused including schools, hospitals, roads, and water systems
2008
Beichuan, Sichuan
2010
Yushu, Qinghai

1. Child Friendly Space
Child Friendly Space – Psychosocial Support

In partnership with National Working Committee on Children and Women (NWCCW)

In Emergencies:

40 Child Friendly Spaces
8 Prefectures, 21 counties, 40 townships in Sichuan
4 Child Friendly Spaces in Yushu, Qinghai

Development Innovations:

21 Child Friendly Spaces in 9 provinces/autonomous regions including Anhui, Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Hebei, Shanxi, Jiangxi, Fujian, Sichuan, Guangxi.
Levels of Socio-Psycho Support

Level 1:
Basic services and security

Level 2:
Community & family supports

Level 3:
Focused non-specialised supports

Level 4:
Specialised supports
Child Friendly Space—Psychosocial Support
Community Based Children’s Services

Level 1: Legislative and Policy Support

Level 2: Community & family supports (Social Norms)

Level 3: Focused non-specialised supports (development and participation)

Level 4: Specialised Supports (Protection)
Psychological and Social factors

Difficult events and experiences can have both psychological and social impacts on children, as well as on the functioning of their family and communities.

Normal Reactions to Abnormal Circumstances
Principles of psychosocial programming

Children’s right to life, survival, and development
Do no harm
Nonviolence in all its forms
Participation
Working with families and communities
Access to available resources and capacities
Contextual approach
Multilayered, integrated psychosocial support
Child Friendly Space

- 40
- 21 Counties
- Community Children Service Center

Child Protection

- Early Childhood Development
- Non-formal Education
- Social Work support
- Life Skills
- Creational activities
- Psycho-social support

Children’s Participation In Decision-making (Children’s Committee)

Family Education

Basic Health Services – hygiene And sanitation

Community Construction
- Children’s Public Space

Community Children Service Center
Child Friendly Space:
From Emergencies to Development Innovation
The past four years have amply demonstrated that reconstruction is an opportunity to reduce pre-existing vulnerabilities and promote greater equity. It is an opportunity for transformation. Child Friendly Space is such a transformation. UNICEF and NWCCW have taken the unique opportunities offered by the emergency response to build capacities that did not exist before the earthquake, advancing development objectives alongside humanitarian objectives.
Building a Child Protection System

Child-focused

Spheres important for children

Social, economic, cultural and political contexts

Children

Families

Communities
Positioning of Child Friendly Space

Communities

Families
Family Upbringing

Child Friendly Space
Services, Child Protection, Child Participation

Schools
Formal education
180 days

Families
Family Upbringing
Child Friendly Space
Key Results – Service Delivery

Service Delivery

A comprehensive package of rights based services have been delivered by the 40 CFS to children and communities.

Community communication activities on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, child protection and child participation, family education for parents to better care and support the development of their children, community outreach services to reach vulnerable children, early childhood care and development support services for pre-school aged children, non-formal educational and creative artistic services for children’s development of life skills and competencies.

The CFS delivered a range of child friendly services to over 270,000 children and their parents in 40 earthquake-affected townships, 21 counties, and 8 prefectures in Sichuan Province from 2008 through to 2010.
Child Friendly Space

21 Counties

Community Children Service Center

- Early Childhood Development
- Non-formal Education
- Social Work support
- Life Skills
- Creational activities
- Psycho-social support
- Basic Health Services – hygiene and sanitation
- Community Construction
- Children’s Public Space
- Family Education
- Child Protection
- Children’s Participation in Decision-making (Children’s Committee)
Child Friendly Space
Community Children’s Resource Center

Support for Children without Caregivers

Anti-Violence

Care and Support for Children with Disabilities
Sustainability and Policy Impacts

The CFS have received positive recognition by both community people, in particular children, and the local and provincial government, and the long term sustainable development of the CFS have been endorsed by Sichuan Provincial and local governments.

The CFS model has been included in the National Plan of Actions for Child Development (2011-2020) as a community-based hub of children’s services in China.
Element of Success

1. **A strong partnership between UNICEF and NWCCW** ensures the development of a strong local ownership by provincial, prefecture, county, township level WCCW and CFS, which drives the project forward with local willingness and initiatives.

2. **Participation of communities, in particular children and their parents**, in the management of and delivery of services by CFS is another critical element of success.

3. **Utilization of local technical resources and support of local innovations.** Capacity building for emergency response and development innovations.
Child Friendly Space – Emergency response to Development Innovation

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Child Friendly Space: Participation, Development and Protection

Child Protection
- free from violence, exploitation and abuse
- Child Protection committee, parents committee, Child protection prevention and response mechanism

Child Participation
- in consultation, decision making and action

Non-formal Education
- (Sports for Development, life skills)

Psychosocial support
- Sports for Development, Peer support, family support, group work

Early Childhood Development
- Parent-child interaction, parenting support

Early Childhood Development
- Parent-child interaction, parenting support
Child Friendly Space has served as a catalyst for developing community-based child protection systems, helping to ensure that psychosocial support and community-based child protection services are an integral part of emergency responses and everyday contexts.
Meeting children’s rights is not only fundamental for their development and well-being, it is also pivotal to creating the world envisioned by the Millennium Declaration – a world of peace, equity, security, respect for the environment and shared responsibility – in short, a world fit for children.


One who would travel for 100 miles, reaches the half way point only after 90 miles—Quoted by Premier Wen Jia Bao from Vol. 5 Qin Strategy, Warring State Strategy, Liu Xiang, West Han
A World Fit for Children

Thank You