

Adolescent Development and Participation Unit

EMERGENCY
ADOLESCENT
DEVELOPMENT KIT

Part 1:

WHAT IS EMERGENCY KIT?

Intro

Emergencies, natural or human made, present huge threats to children's social, emotional, cognitive and psychosocial development, and often undermine their right to participate in their lives in a meaningful and safe way. UNICEF has a range of supplies and kits including: the Emergency Early Childhood Development Kit, the Recreation Kit, the School-in-a-Box Kit, Math-in-a-Box Kit and the Science Kit.



Child Development Emergency Kit

The latest kit we have been working on is called the Child Development Emergency Kit. The objective of this Kit is to empower marginalized children covering the age ranges from 7-12 in emergency and post-emergency situations in addition to helping them integrate into their society. The kit aims to increase the skill set, knowledge base and level of opportunities for meaningful participation.

The Child Development Emergency Kit components have been developed including: the Supply List, draft facilitators guide and the pilot test kit. Through arts, music, culture, sports and engagement activities this kit will strengthen the capacities and life skills of children and adolescents in emergency settings.

Teacher/ Organizational material

Play/ recreation material

(Pre)sports material

Art material

Fine art

Story telling

Music & dance

Child Engagement & Participation

Progress to Date

Onno Raadsen conducted testing of the test kit in Haiti, East Timor and Brazil. (Facilitators were trained on how to use the kit to engage children in structured or semi-structured recreational and educational activities)

Piloting in Haiti revealed that children enjoyed both semi-structured dance and singing activities as well as more structured quiz games and handicraft activities. In East Timor the musical instruments were very welcome and were used a lot. Brazil reported similar findings, noting the importance of the facilitator to the achievement of the goals of the kit.

The final Child Development Emergency kit will be tested in Haiti in November 2011.

Part 2:

WHAT IS THE CHALLENGE?

>> DESIGN A NEW

EMERGENCY

ADOLESCENT

DEVELOPMENT KIT

>>How do you develop an
emergency kit for 13-18
years old?

Provide the most meaningful, interesting, creative and cost
effective tools for use in emergency settings by adolescents

Adolescent Development Emergency Kit (13~18 years)

There has yet to be a resource created to support the needs of adolescents in emergency settings.

Adolescents in post conflict situations often lack access to school, information and opportunities. These knowledge gaps can hinder their development and empowerment. They find themselves supporting their families and holding significant household responsibilities.

In addition to needing avenues for recreation and fun, adolescents require proper information, psychosocial support, a means to obtain their livelihood, as well as opportunities for building self-esteem and positive relationships with their peers.

The proposal for 'an adolescent kit' emerged from conflict-ridden Liberia where adolescents and young people face a dearth of opportunities when it comes to their development and participation.

Notes:

>>The kit should promote the principle of inclusion, especially for disabled children and adolescents regardless of gender or ethnicity.

>>The kit should also provide activities and guidance on how to facilitate their equal participation.

>>It should incorporate activities which are specifically designed to develop skills including adolescent-led analyses of threats and vulnerabilities including climate change, health and violence prevention. Assessment of the level of skill acquisition should be an integral part of the kit.

>>It should integrate adolescents and young people both in the design phase (through focus group discussions) and in the pilot testing.

>>The kit should be primarily for non-formal educational settings and incorporates specific materials that will address psychosocial, protection and educational needs of adolescents.

Learning to be:
Contribute to personal well-being and protection

Learning to do:
Enable participation in activities of community/ emergency

Learning to live together:
Enable initiation of youth led activities

Learning to know:
Able to make good decisions and contribute positively to their society.