

Good practices in the operationalisation of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus

A compilation of good practices and recommendations on the operationalisation of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus with the aim to providing guidance for nexus implementation in the EUs external action in a Team Europe Approach.

Outcome of WP CODEV-PI and WP COHAFA discussions during CZPRES on the background of the OECD/DAC Recommendation on the Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus and its Interim Progress Review 2022 and based on field experience from the six EU pilot countries for nexus implementation (Chad, Iraq, Myanmar, Nigeria, Sudan and Uganda) as well as from other fragile countries and regions.

Coordination: Strengthen coordination to ensure effective nexus collaboration internally (in Member States as well as among EU institutions) and externally (with partner countries' stakeholders, UN, other donors and implementing partners), both at Headquarters and field level.

Use coordination structures such as Nexus Task Forces bringing together the main donors and International Financial Institutions (including Multilateral Development Banks) present at country-level.

Where possible, use existing structures, such as those established by the UN agencies. Make sure the coordination structures are light and flexible and do not represent additional burden.

Issue internal guidelines (i.e. Standard Operating Procedures) for nexus operationalisation across relevant interventions, including Team Europe Initiatives.

Ensure coordination to provide joint positions and messaging towards local and national administration and international partners; essential is to work closely between the EU Delegations/ECHO offices and EU Member States at country level, as well as with likeminded donors and other actors (including peace actors).

Use coordination groups/task forces for individual areas/crises to regularly exchange information with peace actors on human rights, IHL and humanitarian access, and improved awareness and visibility of the crises and their drivers.

Joint analysis: Identify analysis already available including from UN, OECD and other specialized entities and scope potential for joint analysis.

Carry out and share with relevant stakeholders a joint Country Assessment (involving the Member States, EEAS, DG INTPA and DG ECHO at HQ and Delegation/field office level), contributing to a joint and shared understanding of root causes and structural risk factors and key areas of engagement, benefit from various analytical tools, including gender- and conflict-sensitive analysis as well as Political Framework for a Crisis Approach or other relevant documents, whenever available.

Where possible and appropriate, conduct analysis focused on specific sectors, including from a regional perspective.

Include local actors and affected populations, civil society, NGOs, government structures (at national and decentralised levels, insofar as they exist) in the joint analysis to identify conflict drivers. Involve regional and international actors, including sub-regional organisations and the UN and create innovative partnerships with the private sector.

Consider all relevant factors related to the political, security, development, environment and humanitarian situation and their impact. Use joint assessment to ensure conflict-sensitive

programming, but also to inform the planning for Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) engagements, mediation, election security planning, peacebuilding and other concrete opportunities for conflict prevention and stabilisation efforts.

Use available fragility frameworks and data to assess the cascading and compound risks related to human security.

Use humanitarian analysis tools that ensure adherence with humanitarian principles, e.g. EU's Humanitarian Implementation Plans and/or UN OCHA's Humanitarian or Regional Response Plans.

Joined-up programming: Develop joint programs/action plans aligning collective outcomes by areas of intervention based on consultations between humanitarian, development and peace actors, and scope the potential to develop Team Europe responses. Important to frame a road map of joint action having a transformative impact on EU and Member State engagement and with a view to pull together a planned and dynamic framework for multiple instruments (programmable/non programmable) to enhance resilience, coping capacities and mitigate crisis.

Ensure sufficient funding of anticipatory and risk reducing activities across humanitarian and development sources. Develop the concept of humanitarian diplomacy to build on the experience of humanitarian actors and address underlying drivers of crises with targeted development interventions.

Support peace-building efforts: Mainstream support to peace-building efforts in conflict and post-conflict environment by integrating them in the country programs.

Without compromising the humanitarian principles, work through peace tools such as political dialogue/diplomacy and mediation. Prevent and manage local conflicts, including natural resources and land-based conflicts; include the prevention of radicalisation and the promotion of inter-religious and inter-community dialogue; and fight against gender-based violence.

Enhance local capacities for prevention, stabilisation and resilience. Operationalise nexus through funding mechanisms enabling locally-led initiatives and bottom-up peace-building efforts as well as accountability and protection work.

Focus on “soft” security aspects by addressing underlying drivers of instability, supporting partner countries’ capacities to deal with shocks and stresses and prepare, prevent, adapt and respond adequately to complex crisis triggered by state fragility and disasters, pandemics and consequences of climate change.

Ensure the mandate of military missions includes modules on the protection of civilians, and compliance with international humanitarian law and human rights law.

In situations of forced displacement, focus on the needs of displaced populations and host communities; improvement of social cohesion and the restoration of trust between the population and the public services (where relevant).

Work in partnership with local organisations to take advantage of their specificities and how they interrelate to transform communities and build long-term resilience.

Financing: Humanitarian, development and peace actions may not be linear or sequential and may often take place in parallel and vary depending to the context and circumstances on the ground. Specific financing mechanisms or approaches should be used where this can reinforce the nexus approach.

Include funding mechanisms that can finance actions of a *hybrid nature* (neither purely humanitarian nor traditional development), or actions that are meant to be implemented across

different HDP pillars and roll out where possible joint Team Europe response with Member States.

Provide incentives to development financing institutions to increase their risk appetite and conduct investments in more fragile environments.

Joint monitoring and evaluation: Ensure joint monitoring of the impact (intended or unintended) of interventions to identify gaps, evolving needs on the ground and key elements to operationalize responses and to draw lessons from previous and ongoing relevant interventions.

Conduct joint evaluations to increase joint learning and enhance joint programming.

Reflect and share lessons, information and data collection from nexus implementation in particular countries and thematic programmes.

Evaluate the impact of the nexus approach in programming.

Contribute to further development of UN Nexus Academy and its knowledge management and sharing.