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2021

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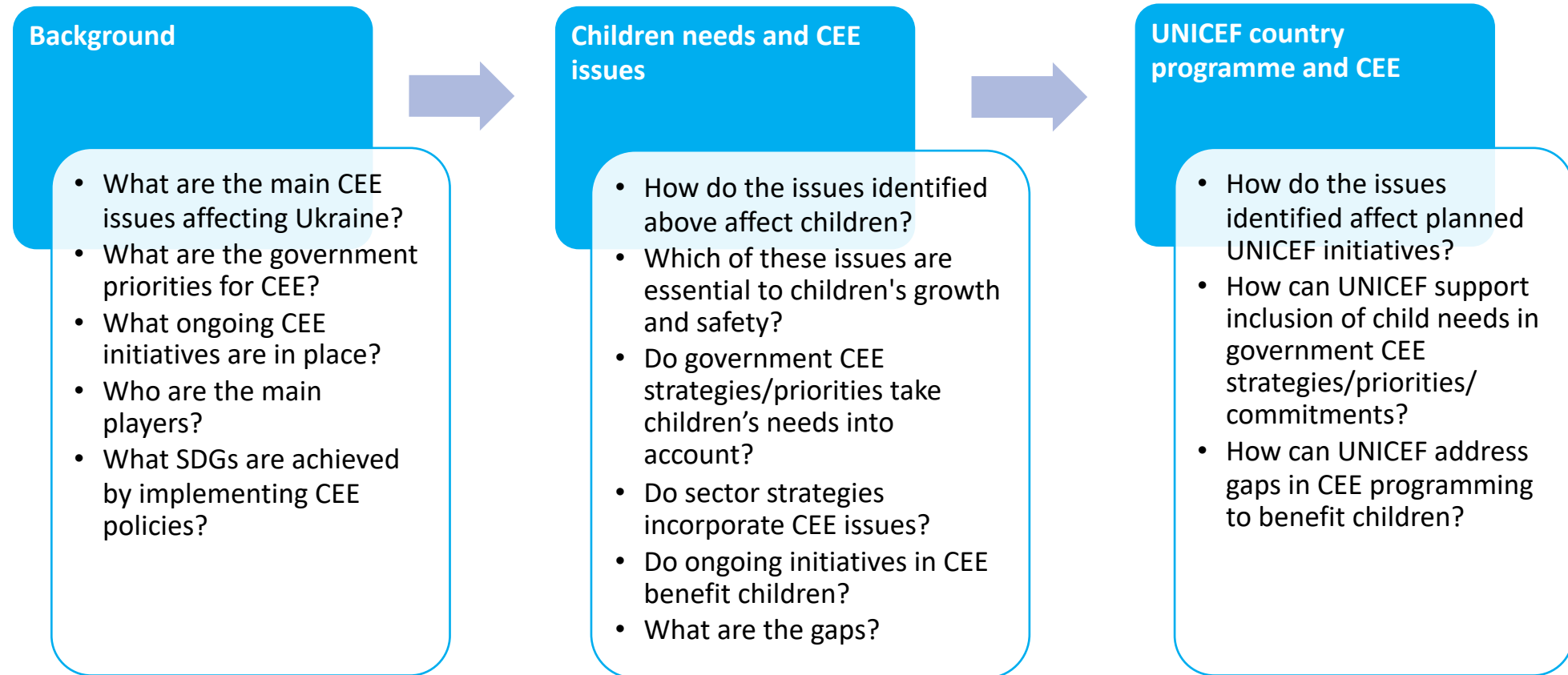
UNICEF actions in the area of climate change in Ukraine

March 2022

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Climate Landscape Analysis for Children

Climate landscape analysis was aimed to: i) understanding the overall climate, environment and energy (CEE) landscape in Ukraine, ii) how CEE issues potentially affect children, iii) possible priority areas for UNICEF work.



Main hazards related to climate change

Hazards	Potential risks/effects	Location
Overall changes in climatic conditions	Increase in T°C, heat waves, increase in number of hot and cold days, increase in extreme events	All territory
Floods	165,000 km ² area is at potential risk	West and Centre of Ukraine
Droughts	around 100,000 km ² areas is at risk	Mainly South of Ukraine
Water quality and quantity	Heat contamination & eutrophication, changes in evaporation, the range of water born disease may increase, change in seasonal and spatial distribution of already uneven water resources	All territory
Heat waves	May increase the prevalence of vector-borne diseases, effects on the live beings, other related changes to ecosystems	All territory
Fires	up to 200 km ² were affected in 2020, impacts on ecosystems, health and economic activities	Polissya (Zhytomyr, Chernihiv, Kyiv, Kharkiv oblasts mainly) and steppe (Dnipropetrovsk, Luhansk, Kherson Odesa oblasts)

Main stressors related to climate change

Hazards	Potential risks/effects	Location
Desertification and salination	Will increase, changes in ecosystems	Mainly Kherson area (South Ukraine)
Sea level rise	Black and Azov seas: 1995-2015 – increase of 2-3 mm per year, by 2100 – 115 cm increase	Black and Azov seas Coast lines, deltas of the Dnieper, Danube, Dniester
Energy sector and GHG emissions	Current Business as Usual scenario envisages an increase in GHG emissions over the next 30 years (from 310.5 million tons of CO eq. in 2015 to 523.7 million tons of CO eq. in 2050, especially in energy and industrial processes), up to 60% of 1990 level. Energy sector – largest emitter of GHG. Contribution to CC	All territory
Changes in land use	Changes in natural ecosystems, agriculture	All territory

CEE and children health

- Children's ill health is related to poverty, poor housing, smoking in surrounding, poor basic services for WASH, life in disaster-affected areas and/or informal settlements;
- Several oblasts have **poor health indicators** contributing to the environmental burden of diseases for children under five years;
- **Air pollution:**
 - increased risk of Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), preterm birth/perinatal diseases, low birth weight and respiratory infections in children
- **Pollution from industry:** chemicals from pesticides, plastics, and other manufactured goods, environmental contamination, eventually find their way into the food chain with potential health impacts.



CEE and Education

- Some elements of environmental education are integrated into Ukrainian primary and secondary school curricula;
- Potential threats :
 - **Disruptions in access to education** due to damage of the educational infrastructure by natural disasters;
 - Reduction in educational attainment, and **higher absenteeism** due to the impacts of CC;
 - Interconnection between supportive education environment and the overall well-being and mental health of children / caregivers during climate and environment shocks.



CEE and youth participation

- Child and youth participation in CEE in Ukraine is promoted using both bottom-top and top-bottom approaches;
- Overall child and youth participation in climate action remains fragmented rather than interconnected;
- Need to better understand children's and youth role in climate action, propose mechanisms for child and youth participation at all levels.



Recommendations

Social Policy

Children should be seen as a target group during development and implementation of CEE-related policies. Coordination mechanism to mainstream children's interests and needs should be established.

Humanitarian Response & DRR

DRR should be child-sensitive and child-centered.

Education

Strengthen climate and environment education, awareness rising, child and your participation and empowerment.

Climate and WASH

A system of child-sensitive indicators across the climate and environment areas should be elaborated.

Child Protection

Child, family and community resilience should be improved to ensure children are better protected from CEE-related shocks.



Thank you

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