ISSUE BRIEF

United Nations Development Programme

CRISIS PREVENTION AND RECOVERY

UNDP

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CONFLICT-RELATED DEVELOPMENT ANALYSIS

Conflict Analysis is relevant not only in conflict areas to mitigate violent conflict, but to also reinforce the foundations of societies through crucial development efforts to strengthen their resilience, enable them manage transitions and turbulence and reduce the likelihood of the (re-) emergence of violent conflict. Analysis is not only central to understanding the causes and drivers of conflict, the stakeholders involved in a conflict, the issues and dynamics in any conflict but also in developing strategic approaches by the UN system to support national stakeholders address the conflicts so as to sustain their development gains. The Conflict-related Development Analysis (CDA) provides a strong substantive understanding of the context to inform the development of clear and attainable peacebuilding programming, advocacy and policy objectives as well as indicators for measuring and monitoring results as well as for the development of UNCT strategies.
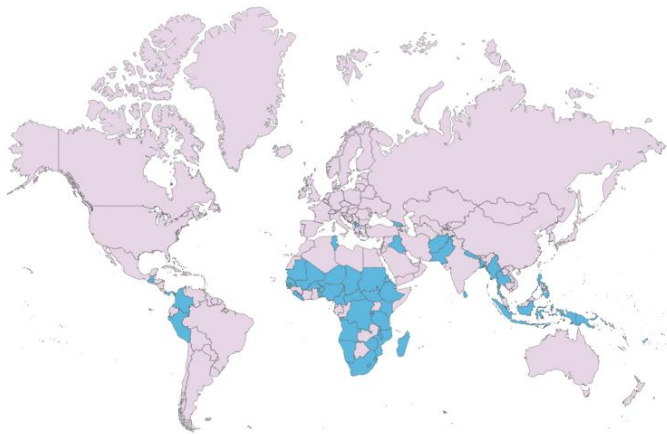

Figure 1: A map demonstrating countries involved to date in the CDA roll-out

Understanding the context in which the UN works, and reflecting on the role of the UN within that context, is critical to ensuring both effective programming and higher-level engagement. Such capacities are often cited by Resident Coordinators as a key area of required improvement within UN Country Teams. These anecdotal recommendations are reinforced by the findings of a series of evaluations of UNDP programming in conflict-affected countries, which emphasized the need to more systematically feed conflict analysis into programming planning processes. More broadly, a number of
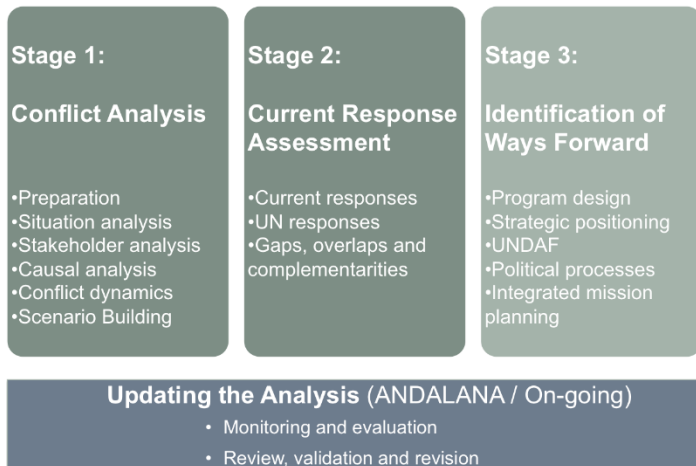
CDA Piloting Experiences To Date

- Guinea-Bissau: the CDA was framed during a four-day long strategic reflection workshop for the UN system, which resulted in a new UN strategy based on lessons learned from previous UN engagement, successes and failures. The UN used the CDA as a framework to strategically reposition itself by applying lessons learned from the workshop in subsequent work and planning.

- Iraq: The Iraqi experience demonstrated that depending on the country's needs, a CDA can be conducted across a country or in parts of it. In addition, the CDA in Iraq helped demonstrate that gender-specific participatory methods in the analysis and in interventions designed subsequently can be incorporated.

- Afghanistan: CDA was used in preparation of the CCA and will contribute to the UNDAF. Despite the many analyses conducted in the country, the CDA was extremely useful for integrating all analyses into one strategic analytical framework, and for informing preparation for the CCA and the UNDAF.

- Yemen: CDA analysis was used to secure eligibility and financing from the UN Peacebuilding Fund, demonstrating the CDA's flexibility to incorporate from other agencies and encourage a shared inter-agency analysis, effectively serve the UN Peacebuilding Support Office and other agencies' purposes.

- Myanmar: The CDA contributed to the UN Country Team's discussion on strategically positioning the UN within the current transition in Myanmar and contributed to a general understanding resulting in a UN system strategy, and guided in the application of conflict analysis within the work of the UN Country Team.

lessons learned can be gleaned from previous efforts where analysis has failed to inform programming, either due to the flawed nature of the analytical approach adopted, or in light of the lack of adherence to essential principles of project cycle management which take sound analysis as the starting point. Such lessons include:

- Analysis often lacks clarity of purpose;

- Timing and timeframes: if the window of influence is missed, assessment has no impact;

- Interests and incentives to do analysis vary: individual and institutional, challenge to link them more closely;

- People and competences for doing the analysis is critical, even more than the tool itself;

- Linkage between assessment and planning is rarely made and sustained;

- Generic responses for specific problems – due to lack of granular analysis – does lead anywhere.

It is in this context that UNDP set about revising the Conflict-related Development Analysis (CDA) tool. The tool is a conflict analysis framework with accompanying guidance on conducting and applying conflict analysis. It contributes to the development of clear and attainable peacebuilding programming and policy objectives as well as indicators for measuring and monitoring results, and is structured around three key stages.

Stage 1: Conflict Analysis	Stage 2: Current Response Assessment	Stage 3: Identification of Ways Forward
•Preparation •Situation analysis •Stakeholder analysis •Causal analysis •Conflict dynamics •Scenario Building	•Current responses •UN responses •Gaps, overlaps and complementarities	•Program design •Strategic positioning •UNDAF •Political processes •Integrated mission planning

Updating the Analysis (ANDALANA / On-going)
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Review, validation and revision

Stage 1: Conflict Analysis

- Stage 1 of the CDA focuses on an analysis of the context; it seeks to identify drivers of conflict, peace engines, and elucidate the dynamics of the conflict. Before undertaking the analysis, completing the preparation phase is critical to defining objectives, understanding the context in which the analysis is going to be conducted, effectively engaging with staff and stakeholders, and planning the analysis process itself.

Stage 2: Current Response Assessment

- Stage 2 focuses on the assessment of current responses in a given setting, in particular from the perspective of development interventions. The aim at this stage of the CDA is to build upon the conflict analysis in order to further assess the responses and impact of a wide range of actors - including development organizations - and to develop more effective/appropriate responses where necessary.

Stage 3: Identification of ways forward

- Stage 3 of the analysis involves the application of the previous two stages, how the conflict analysis and the assessment of current responses may be used to inform, among others, conflict-sensitive programming design, strategic positioning including the UNDAF process, political processes, integrated mission planning, and peacebuilding fund support.

ANDALANA

Andalana is an online Brief information Blogging (BiB) system designed to facilitate regular gathering of information to provide a basis upon which to either validate or update elements of the CDA analysis. The system, available to country offices, aims to support those engaged in a conflict analysis and or just have completed an analysis, to ensure that the analysis remains valid and up-to-date, and for additional guidance on analysis applications.

Updating the Analysis

- Underpinning the three stages of analysis is regular analysis validation and updates that inform ongoing and new programmes and broader engagement. A regularly updated CDA helps ensure that programming is conflict-sensitive and flexible enough to adapt to changing circumstances. Regularly updating the in-country analysis supports identifying and tracking trends and is particularly useful in conflict prevention planning.

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