Innovations in Advancing Policy Dialogue on Child Rights

Gaining Policy Traction in Mitigating the Impact of the Global Economic Crisis on Children in Burkina Faso

> Webinar November 3rd 2010 Sarah Hague, UNICEF Burkina Faso

Structure

- Context
- The approach to the study
- Social protection positioning
- The impact so far
- What's next

Context

- Policy context: rapid expansion in social service access; 3rd PRSP in development; move toward growth focus + equity and social protection?
- Economic context and crisis: expansion of deficit target; opening for social protection;
- Upstream role of UNICEF: developing policy dialogue; substantial progress in social protection; need more budget capacity;

The study:

- Technical and policy objectives;
- Evidence base on child poverty and vulnerability impacts and policy impact analysis;
- Multisectoral under guidance of MEF and intersectoral within CO;
- Drafted alongside Action Plan for Tackling the Economic Crisis;
- Innovative partnership for research; PEP network; International/national team;

Social Protection positioning

- UNICEF positioned as focal point partner;
- Hold bi-monthly meetings with all partners in area;
- National dialogue: National Workshop > roadmap for new policy > committee;
- Support Interministerial Committee on Social Protection;
- National capacity: training workshop
- National evidence: social safety net inventory

The impact (so far)

- Provided an evidence base; macro and micro;
- Provided concrete entry point through its formulation and discussion of results;
- Clear link between impact and policy;
- Informed government policy: moving away from solely macroeconomic response; first govt policy to include social protection; central cross-cutting policy objective; integrated into new PRSP;
- Integration into global evidence base; presentations and WB/IMF Annual Meetings;
- Supported UNDP dialogue; joint workshop

What next?

- Consolidating results so far; feeding wider policy debate;
- To be replicated; studying fiscal space and investments for children - partnering with the IMF;
- Repositioning the poverty debate; emphasising extreme poverty; national coalition on poverty;
- Stronger equity focus;

Thank you!