



CRIA & GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Enhancing the effectiveness of
the General Measures of
Implementation of the CRC

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Today's discussion

- Central question
- Review of concepts from a CRIA perspective
- CRIA and specific General Measures of Implementation
- Whose responsibility?



One central question

How does CRIA support good governance for children's rights ?



Back to the basics



Good governance for children's rights

- Good governance principles equally apply to children's rights
 - Responsiveness
 - Transparency
 - Responsibility
 - Accountability

- Good governance includes children
 - Effectiveness
 - Equity
 - Inclusion & participation



CRIA: Core characteristics

- Ex-ante
- Grounded in evidence and data
- Best interests of the child/children
- Strong advocacy tool



General Measures of Implementation

- Article 4 of the CRC
- General Comment No. 5 (2003) of CRC Committee
- Goal: Ensure that CRC is translated into concrete measures



General Measures of Implementation

- ❑ Law reform
- ❑ Allocation of resources
- ❑ Coordinating mechanism
- ❑ National Plan/Strategy
- ❑ Data collection and analysis
- ❑ Independent institution/Ombudsperson
- ❑ Participation of civil society, including children
- ❑ Awareness, education and training



Cross-Cutting Challenges

- Adults deciding for children
- Specialization vs. mainstreaming



CRIA and specific General Measures



CRIA of law reform

- At drafting stage
- Laws directly and indirectly affecting children
- Implications of legislation on:
 - Children as a group
 - Some children in particular
 - Children's environment
 - Extent of the impact
 - Political analysis: children's interests vs. other interests
 - Mitigating negative consequences



Example: Law on alcohol

- How are children impacted?
- Which groups of children?
- How do different elements of legislation impact children?



CRIA of budget

□ Types of decisions

- Allocation of resources
- Welfare benefits/social protection
- Fiscal policy/taxes
- Public financial management

□ Impact assessment

- Children
- Families
- Children in different situations
- Political analysis: Objective of proposed measure



Example: Child care benefits and tax rebate

- Child Care Benefit subject to income
- Child Care Tax Rebate
- Actual impact
- Alternative options
- Structural changes



Data collection and analysis and CRIA

- Data collection
- Data disaggregation
- Data analysis
- Danger: Drivers vs. factors



Example: Violence against children data

- Household surveys
- Disaggregation issues
- Determining causalities



Who should be responsible for CRIA?



Government and CRIA

□ Role

- Development of laws, budget, policies
- Staff and capacity
- General Comment No. 5: Self-monitoring

□ Challenges

- Political interests
- Competition among issues
- Balance of power within government



Parliaments and CRIA

□ Role

- Adopt laws, budget
- Government oversight

□ Challenges

- Existence of parliamentarians with competence/interest in child rights
- Existence of parliamentary committee specializing in children's issues
- Political interests
- Competing interests
- Margin for review of government proposed texts



Independent institutions/ombudspersons and CRIA

□ Role

- Independent monitoring
- Review of draft legislation and policy
- Children's best interests
- Children's voices
- Guidance tools

□ Challenges

- Resources
- Capacity on technical questions
- Being consulted
- Ability to influence



Civil society and CRIA

- Various actors, various roles, interrelated
- NGOs: Watchdogs
- Academia: Research, evidence
- Media: Research, publicity, political pressure
- Businesses: Good (or bad) practices
- Public opinion



Conclusions



Points to remember

1. CRIA as critical tool for good governance for children's rights
2. Potential to strengthen laws, budgets, policies in favour of children and their rights
3. Need for commitment, resources, and political leverage





THANK YOU!

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