

CRIA & GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

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

Vanessa Sedletzki International Consultant - Human Rights, Governance, Policy



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

CRIA and Good Governance for Children's Rights

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



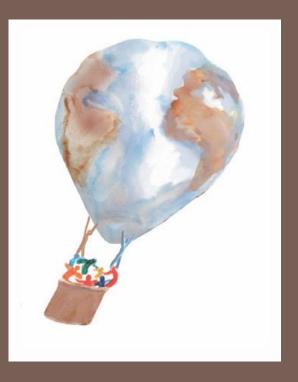
RIGHTS ON

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

Need for commitment, resources, and political leverage



THANK YOU!

Vanessa.sedletzki@gmail.com

