UNDP

EARLY WARNING AND EARLY ACTION IN 2016

Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

The outbreak of a crisis may come with tremendous human cost and undermine development gains with the impact lasting for many years. Crises usually do not erupt without any previous signs. They are the result of an enabling environment and the product of several underlying factors. Tracking and analyzing the root causes over time, and using this knowledge as an evidence base, can support decision-making to improve preparedness, mitigate crisis risks, and take early action. UNDP's Crisis Response Unit provides early warning support to UNDP and to the broader UN system–through UNCTs and inter-agency processes–to increase the organizations responsiveness to crisis:

1. SITUATION MONITORING

Every week, CRU shares open-source information and analysis on crisis-related situations with 500+ staff to keep them informed and aware of persisting or emerging crisis risks globally.

2. CRISIS RISK TRACKING TOOLS

CRU finalized the prototype of Crisis Risk Dashboard: an Intranet-based platform consolidating and visualizing information to support risk and trends analysis and, ultimately, evidence-based decision-making by UNDP and UNCTs.

3. CRISIS RISK SCANNING

CRU launched the Executive Team for Early Warning: a senior decision-making process for regular crisis risk scanning and corporate crisis preparedness that allows UNDP to proactively act to mitigate and to prepare for potential crises. The first edition focused on Armenia-Azerbaijan and resulted in additional preparedness measures.

4. SUPPORT TO COUNTRY OFFICES

- CAMEROON: design of a country-specific Crisis Risk Dashboard to track trends and incidents, in particular to facilitate analysis of risks to development in fragile areas of the Far North and East of the country.
- TANZANIA: design of a country-specific Crisis Risk Dashboard to support continuous context analysis, particularly of potential and emerging risks to development to allow UNDP to proactively address these risks.
- VENEZUELA: deployment of an early warning expert to conduct regular socio-economic analysis and scenario building to inform and advise the Resident Coordinator in a highly complex context.

United Nations Development Programme
One United Nations Plaza
New York, NY, 10017 USA

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WWW.UNDP.ORG