

The Policy Development and Evaluation Service (PDES)

Briefing to the
UNHCR Executive Committee

Palais des Nations, Geneva
3 February 2009

PDES briefing note

- History of PDES
- Human and financial resources
- Key responsibilities
- Methodology
- Policy and procedures
- Mission statement

PDES: key facts

- Established September 2006
- Reports to High Commissioner
- Works closely with two AHCs
- Four core international staff members
- One administrative staff member
- Currently two JPOs
- \$300,000 consultancy budget

The PDES method

- Evaluation Policy and UNEG standards
- Thematic work programme
- Integrated approach: policy, evaluation, research, publications
- Learning and accountability
- Stakeholder participation
- Maximum transparency
- Innovation

Provisional PDES work programme

- Return and reintegration
- Refugee protection and solutions
- Urban displacement
- Migration and asylum
- IDPs and humanitarian reform
- Accountability to beneficiaries
- Supply chain management
- Climate and environment

1. Return and reintegration

- Reintegration policy
- Southern Sudan evaluation
- Angola evaluation
- Cash grants workshop
- Burundi evaluation
- Return after ethnic cleansing

2. Refugee protection and solutions

- SGBV evaluation
- SGBV special projects
- AGDM evaluation
- Protracted refugee situations
- Public health equity
- Refugee education evaluation

3. Urban displacement

- 2009 High Commissioner's Dialogue
- Iraqi refugee evaluation
- IDPs in urban areas
- Cities Alliance
- Inter-agency research project
- Urban refugee policy (Protection Division)

4. Migration and asylum

- 2007 High Commissioner's Dialogue
- Trafficking evaluation
- Mixed migration evaluations
- Stranded and vulnerable migrants
- GMG and GFMD
- IOM

5. IDPs and humanitarian reform

- Inter-agency Cluster evaluation
- Humanitarian reform and UNHCR mandate
- Integrated UN missions
- Humanitarian space
- Protracted IDP situations
- Inter-agency DRC evaluation

6. Accountability to beneficiaries

- SCHR Peer Review
- HQ baseline report
- Country visits
- Headquarters visits
- Outputs and utilization of findings

7. Supply chain management

- High Commissioner's request
- Fritz Institute evaluation
- High Commissioner's response
- Task Force
- Restructuring process

8. Climate and environment

- Policy paper
- Web page
- Climate Change Task Force
- IASC and UNFCCC
- Poznan
- Oxford conference

Other PDES activities

- Excom papers
- Executive Office statements
- 'New Issues in Refugee Research'
- Evaluation training and standards
- UNEG and ALNAP
- External evaluations of UNHCR

Some challenges

- Broad range of activities
- Definition of 'policy development'
- Evaluation, inspection, audit, RBM
- Oversight fatigue in the field
- Human resource management
- Consultancy management
- Inter-agency initiatives

How Excom members can help

- Provide project proposals
- Join Steering Committees
- Encourage effective use of findings and recommendations
- Uphold UNEG standards
- Engage in policy dialogue
- Support evaluation capacity-building

Thank you for listening



Comments
and
questions
welcome!