Second Annual Summit on Science Enablement for the Sustainable Development Goals: The Workshops

Session A: People in Crisis

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People In Crisis
Scope and Opportunity

• Definition: People who are subject to or at risk, including at risk of persistent displacement, due to economic crisis, armed conflict, violence, violations of human rights, or natural or human-made disasters and as a result are made more vulnerable.

• Definition of Vulnerable:
  – Including by being disconnected from their original environment and networks.
  – Loss of livelihoods
  – Physical and mental health shocks
  – Disruptions in education and impacts on opportunity

• Key Principles:
  – Empowering people and their social resources
    • Maintaining and strengthening social/human/economic capital
    • Active participants in the decision process; Organized identity that refugees can bring with them;
    • Access to information
    • This means a change in paradigm where we want to put people in a stronger position than where they were coming from and active contributors to where they are going;
    • Understanding the connections between crisis and SDGs
  – Focusing on the long-term impacts of crisis situations on populations
Key Principles Cont’d.

• Achieving an integrated planning approach to the SDGs
  – Highlighting linkages between different SDGs and specific problems to facilitate coordination of limited resources to achieve multiple SDGs and reduce crisis.
  – Recognize that peace is a baseline precondition to achieving the SDGs;
  – Connecting crisis response/management to achieving the SDGs;
Key Principles Cont’d.

• Focusing on the long term impacts of crisis situations on populations.
  – Moving beyond emergency relief and integrating that with long term recovery and risk reduction; education; livelihood; opportunity
People In Crisis

Topic 1  Demographic info and securing rights

Key Points:
• Data elements – language, education level, social media, religion, culture, skills, aspirations, demographic data
• Examples of digital data collection: Electoral systems, clinical trials
• Digital Identity – questions of privacy
• Long term crisis planning vs. Emergency relief/response.
• Different systems for long term individual needs vs. the needs during the aftermath of a crisis.
People In Crisis
Steps and Key Components For Innovation in Research and Advocacy

• Evidence based policy making (drawing from examples in Pharma)
• Multi-stakeholder research initiatives specific to a topic that can be addressed (including funders)
  – Example- Gates Foundation TB initiative
• Communication of results to policy makers
• Collaborative design of research between end-users and scientists
• Identify specific topics to be addressed
• Lead organization (i.e. champion) that convenes all stakeholders (i.e a working group) and oversee the entire science to policy process
  – Science for Nature and People Partnership
• Documenting change through measurable impacts
• Short-term and long-term measures
• SROI analyses that can be used to coordinate across SDGS, initiatives
• Incentives for stakeholders to participate
• Stakeholder groups should consist of public-private partnerships
People In Crisis
Roadmap: Key Activities

- Within each SDG, having specific concrete topics/crisis – each topic/crisis would have public/private partnerships.
  - For next year’s discussion breaking out the groups according to SDGs selected, instead of broad categories.
- Research further into data collection/data identities and still protecting the security of individuals.
  - Having a symposium with speakers from all different sectors so we can learn from each other.
  - Contest/Challenge to identify pilot programs in data identity creation
- Localizing the SDGs seeking out smaller implementers that have successfully implemented programs that can then be scaled.
- Funding a working group that meets several times per year to discuss one specific issue.
- Turning the conversation towards transitions for long-term displaced persons post-crisis (health/climate/disaster/conflict) either at home or abroad. Not just returning them to status quo but increasing their involvement in the economy, making the healthier, and giving them more opportunity.
  - Funding scientists in developing world to share with the developed world their experience on the ground.
- NY Academy acting as a convenor/matchmaker for small start-ups and funders (angel investors/small foundations)