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Title: The Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus: In Theory and Practice

Countries experiencing or emerging from conflict will face particular challenges in achieving the 2030 Agenda. Recognizing the strong interrelationship between humanitarian, development, and peace efforts in these countries, national governments and the international community have increasingly emphasized the importance of working at the ‘triple nexus,’ where these dimensions intersect. However, to date, there has been significant confusion over what the triple nexus means in both conceptual and practical terms. This paper attempts to address these issues. Drawing on current, on-the-ground efforts in Afghanistan, our study proposes and schematically presents a framework that identifies the range of potential interrelations that interventions can support: the triple nexus, where interventions contribute to measurable outcomes in all three dimensions (i.e. humanitarian, development, and peace); double nexuses, where interventions contribute to outcomes in two of three dimensions (i.e. humanitarian and development, humanitarian and peace, or development and peace); and nexus-sensitivity, where interventions contribute to outcomes in one of the dimensions (i.e. humanitarian, development, or peace) while actively taking account of their effect on the others. Using this framework, we provide a number of examples from Afghanistan that illustrate what each of these types of interventions looks like in practice. Based on the framework and practical examples, we offer recommendations to better design, measure, and support nexus interventions in the future. By bringing greater clarity to the critical interrelationship between humanitarian, development and peace issues in both theory and practice, it is hoped that this paper will directly support broader efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, especially in countries affected by conflict.