

# abstracts

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## ANNUAL MEETING

for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action

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## LAUNCH

of the 2019 Edition of the Minimum Standards  
for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action



**THE ALLIANCE**  
FOR CHILD PROTECTION  
IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

## Overview

This Abstract Booklet contains abstracts that were submitted for the 2019 Meeting of the Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action from October 17-18, 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The 2019 Annual Meeting theme is: '[The Humanitarian-Development Nexus: Building Cohesive Partnerships for Child Protection](#)'.

The abstracts are organised by countries of focus (Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America, Middle East and Worldwide) and are searchable by author, organisation and key words using two indexes.

## Table of Contents

<b>Africa</b> .....	3
Burundi .....	4
Chad, Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon .....	5
Ethiopia .....	7
Kenya .....	8
Mali .....	10
Niger .....	11
Nigeria .....	13
Rwanda, Tanzania .....	16
Senegal .....	17
Somalia .....	18
Tanzania .....	19
Uganda .....	21
Uganda, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Djibouti .....	25
<b>Asia</b> .....	26
Afghanistan .....	27
Indonesia .....	29
Indonesia, Philippines .....	30
Nepal .....	31
<b>Europe</b> .....	32
Germany .....	33
Greece, Italy, Bulgaria, Serbia, Bosnia, Italy and Spain .....	34
Hungary .....	35
<b>Latin America</b> .....	36
El Salvador .....	37
Guatemala, Mexico .....	38
Mexico .....	39
Mexico, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Colombia, Peru and Chile .....	40
Nicaragua .....	41
<b>Middle East</b> .....	42
Jordan .....	43
Lebanon .....	45
Libya .....	48
<b>Worldwide</b> .....	49
<b>Author and Organisation Index</b> .....	63
<b>Key Words Index</b> .....	66



# Africa

## Burundi

**Title:** Durabilité et résilience des systèmes communautaires de protection des enfants : Cas des comités de protection des enfants et des Groupes Nawe n'uze au Burundi

**Author:** Nkezimana, Jean-Claude

**Organisation:** UNICEF

**Key words:** systems strengthening; social service workforce; community approaches; resilience

### Background

La pauvreté omniprésente au Burundi, la taille de ses familles nombreuses et sa population très jeune (49% de moins de 18 ans) constituent de graves problèmes pour la capacité du gouvernement à protéger les enfants, dont beaucoup risquent de se séparer de leur famille, de souffrir de détresse psychologique et d'être exposés à la violence et à l'exploitation, notamment l'exploitation sexuelle et le recrutement par des groupes armés. La crise politique et de sécurité qui prévaut au Burundi depuis avril 2015 est devenue crise essentiellement une crise de protection. Elle a exacerbé les problèmes de protection sous-jacents dans le pays.

### Type of activity

Avec l'appui de l'UNICEF le pays a mis en place un système de protection de l'enfance fort qui repose sur un réseau de comités de protection de l'enfance dans tout le pays. Ces derniers sont complétés par un réseau de groupes de solidarités qui organisent les ménages vulnérables au tour des activités de génération de revenu, d'entraide et de prise en charge des besoins de base des enfants les plus vulnérables de la communauté. Les activités: 1, développement des stratégies permettant la viabilité et la résilience des enfants, des ménages et la cohésion sociale dans les pays fragilisés par les conflits ; 2, construire les réponses humanitaires sur les structures endogènes, intégrant/renforçant la pleine participation des groupes vulnérables dans la réponse et le transfert des capacités et des compétences (prévention/mitigation des risques, relèvement communautaire) ; 3, mettre les enfants et les groupes vulnérables au cœur du développement local.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Cadre juridique incomplet pour la PE face à des comportements et pratiques sociaux préjudiciables;
- L'absence de mécanisme national de gestion des cas nuit à la coordination des prestataires de services.
- Insuffisance des services de réintégration pour les enfants en situation de rue.

## Chad, Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon

**Title:** Using Child-Centred Multi-Risk Assessments to assess the protection situation in the nexus: the experience from the Lake Chad

**Author:** Sole Fanuzzi, Maria

**Organisation:** Plan International

**Key words:** assessment; risks; child wellbeing

### Background

Assessments in humanitarian contexts aim to identify immediate and urgent child protection risks whilst assessments used in early recovery and development programming often have a broader analysis of environmental hazards, risks and vulnerabilities as drivers of violence. The Child-Centred Multi-Risk Assessment (CCMRA) brings these perspectives together in an approach of engaging with children in identifying multiple pre-existing and crisis-related risks in their environment.

### Type of activity

The CCMRA tool was used in the Lake Chad Basin to design programs as part of a 3-year regional strategy. The CCMRA was used as a baseline measure of key child protection outcome indicators including the perceived safety of children, the functionality of child protection systems and capacities and the fulfilment of children's rights. As part of the CCMRA, a social cohesion assessment assessed power dynamics in the community; a gender analysis explored the extent to which girls and women enjoy human rights in their communities; a risk and resource mapping exercise assessed safety perceptions; a body mapping exercise explored different protection concerns; and a stakeholder analysis identified key decision makers at community level.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- A human rights-based approach can be challenging in cultures that do not interpret individual-based rights as a standalone concept
  - Formal and informal structures can conflict making reconciling narratives difficult
-

## Title: Child Protection as Collective Nexus Outcome with the Lake Chad Crisis

Author: Witkowski, Katharina

Organisation: Plan International

Key words: collective outcomes; peacebuilding; refugees

### Background

The protracted crisis in the Lake Chad Basin region remains one of the most severe humanitarian emergencies in the world, affecting the North East of Nigeria, the Far North region of Cameroon, the Lake region of Chad and the Diffa region in Niger. The Lake Chad Programme (LCP) is a joint initiative from Plan International's Country Offices (COs) in Cameroon, Niger and Nigeria, as well as Plan International's West and Central Africa Hub to address the crisis in the Lake Chad Basin through an integrated and regional programme approach. The programme adopted a full-spectrum approach across the functional areas of humanitarian, development and social cohesion in order to ensure a holistic approach to protection and child protection in particular.

### Type of activity

The Lake Chad Program has four Strategic Programme Objectives (SPOs). Each SPO has a specific set of collective outcomes across the functional areas of Humanitarian, Development and Social Cohesion. SPO 2 focuses on Protection: "Improve the protection of girls and boys from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation in the Lake Chad region". For SPO2, the following collective outcomes will be achieved: 1. Girls and boys are active participants in their own protection and receive quality family care; 2. Community-based and government-led child protection systems prevent and respond appropriately to child protection and GBV concerns; 3. Girls, boys and adolescents have access to appropriate and timely services to prevent and respond to CP and GBV issues.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Identifying existing social norms and attitudes is important at the start of the response
- Strong divides exist within organisations between humanitarian and development domains
- Many professionals lack experience of working in both humanitarian and development settings

## Ethiopia

Title: Peace Building with Refugees and Host Communities in Pugnido Refugee Camp, Ethiopia

Author: **Marabi, Phoebe**

Organisation: **Save the Children**

Key words: peacebuilding; refugees; sports

### Background

Pugnido is the oldest refugee camp in the Gambella Region of Western Ethiopia, and is hosting both refugees that arrived twenty years ago, those who arrived in 2012 following the 2011 tribal conflicts in Jonglei and those who arrived after the December 2013 conflict. The camp population is primarily comprised of refugees from South Sudan's Jonglei State (70%) and Upper Nile (28%). Main ethnic groups are Nuer about 60%, Anuak about 39% and others 1%. Due to the protracted stay in the camp, the camp has now become like a settlement. The refugees compete for the available resources with the host community. Due to ethnic conflicts, some of the refugees were unable to access such resources.

### Type of activity

To strengthen the protection of children and promote peaceful coexistence with the local community, Save the Children undertook a 1 year project which: supported sport activities, trained members of youth clubs on conflict, conflict management and conflict resolution; provided material and technical support to community structures both within and outside of the camp; conducted capacity building on case management for case workers in camps and social workers outside of the camps; and shared messages around peaceful coexistence.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Getting government bodies for the host and refugee communities to work together
  - Ethnic conflict between the communities was easily triggered
  - Resources insufficient given the wide reach needed
-

## Kenya

**Title:** County Children Officers Embracing Alternative Care: Unaccompanied, Abandoned and Orphaned Refugee Children find a family in Dadaab Refugee Camp

**Author:** Wali, Irene

**Organisation:** Save the Children Kenya Office

**Key words:** alternative care; refugees; systems strengthening; social service workforce

**Background:** Children and adolescents in need of protection and support comprise 57% of the 211,544 population in Dadaab refugee camp. Kenya has a strong cultural history of kinship care, moving away from orphanages toward reuniting children with families. Currently, SC is supporting more than 13,878 children with case management and other targeted child protection support, including 552 unaccompanied minors and separated children living in alternative care arrangements.

**Type of activity:** Save the Children has been engaged in the following activities: 1, training of frontline workers including social workers, children officers, foster parents on fostering, alternative care guidelines, identification, referral and provision of quality case management services; 2, interventions to ensure unaccompanied, separated and undocumented children are better protected through enhanced case management and community-based child protection system; 3, strengthen the alternative care and referral systems established to provide basic services; 4, make provision for a small group home within the community for short term placement for adolescents who chose not to be put in foster care; and 5, providing psychosocial support, counselling and family therapy for the foster family.

### Challenges/Lessons learned:

- Absence of social protection program for sustainable family livelihoods and self-reliance in the camp.
- There is need to influence the way donors, policy makers and bi-lateral and multi-lateral institutions spend funds and design policy around alternative care for children.

**Title:** Working with National Authorities to Strengthen Child Protection Systems to Benefit Both Host Community and Refugee Children

**Author:** Podeszfa, Leana

**Organisation:** UNHCR

**Key words:** systems strengthening; refugees; self-reliance; social service workforce

### Background

Kakuma Refugee Camp and Kalobeyi Refugee Settlement currently host 191,000 refugees and asylum seekers. Due to renewed fighting in 2013 in South Sudan and the large influx that followed, Kakuma Camp was severely overcrowded. Based on the agreed need for a different approach to refugee assistance programming in the county, UNHCR and the Kenyan Ministry of Interior agreed with the Turkana County Government to develop a settlement that would promote the self-reliance of refugees and host communities by providing them with better livelihood opportunities and enhanced service delivery.

### Type of activity

In collaboration with the World Bank and the government, UNHCR developed the Kalobeyi Integrated Social and Economic Development Programme for Turkana West (KISEDPP), a multi-agency collaboration to develop the local economy and service delivery. It is integrated in the five-year County Integrated Development Plan 2018- 2022 for Turkana County. For child protection this entails working closely with authorities and agency partners at the national and sub-county level to strengthen the child protection systems in Turkana West to benefit both host community and refugee children. A focus is on strengthening the capacity of the Sub-County Children's Officer regularly in contact with children, on strengthening the legislative framework and aligning inter-agency child protection SOPs with national guidance to avoid parallel systems.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- KISEDPP is very broad with eight components ranging from agriculture to protection to entrepreneurship. Child protection is only a small if very important part.

## Mali

**Title:** Jam Suka: Strengthening child protection mechanisms for children affected by the crisis in Mali

**Author:** Soyalp, Iraz

**Organisation:** Right to Play

**Key words:** systems strengthening; community approaches; internally displaced

### Background

In 2012, the multidimensional crisis in Mali created a situation of insecurity in the country, affecting especially children and young people. Right To Play International has initially designed a program to support the internally displaced children, which then merged system strengthening components to support the long-term goals.

### Type of activity

The project entitled Jam Suka is a five-year initiative (2016-2021) with a budget over 10 million CAD implemented by Right To Play Mali in partnership with the Ministry for the Promotion of the Woman of the Child and the Family of Mali. Jam Suka is being implemented by using a holistic and ecological approach (Bronfenbrenner, 1979). It supports not only the national framework but also establishment and reinforcement of community-based structures. The project includes the following activities: Mainstreaming child protection in emergencies lens in local government plans; building the capacity of child protection actors to respond to children affected by crisis; and the establishment and reinforcement of community listening centers to improve referral of and response to child protection issues in the country.

### Challenges/lessons learned

- Despite the progress on many fronts, children continue to face with deeply rooted cultural attitudes and customs upheld by parents and religious and community leaders.
- The majority of children and household heads confirmed the continuous existence of harmful traditional practices in their communities.

## Niger

**Title:** Adapter la boîte à outils de PE traditionnelle au contexte de la migration mixte: l'expérience de l'International Rescue Committee à Agadez, Niger

**Author:** Abdourahamane, Issa

**Organisation:** International Rescue Committee

**Key words:** children on the move; systems strengthening; program adaptation

### Background

Les enfants en mouvement sont souvent exposés à plus de risques que les enfants dans d'autres contextes humanitaires «traditionnels». On a remarqué plus de conscience chez la communauté humanitaire de l'importance d'adapter les approches en urgences aux contextes où on trouve les enfants en mouvement. Cependant, on remarque une lacune d'orientation, outils, et évidence concrets sur la réponse aux besoins de ces enfants. Depuis 2017, IRC Niger travaille dans la région d'Agadez au Niger où elle fournit des services aux enfants en situation de migration et leurs soignants.

### Type of activity

IRC est en train de mettre en œuvre un programme de protection intégrée financé par DFID, qui cible principalement les migrants et les personnes en mouvement dans la région d'Agadez au nord du Niger. L'IRC collabore avec les acteurs étatiques (tel que la Direction Régionale de la Protection de l'Enfance) et communautaires (tels que les leaders traditionnels et les femmes leaders de la communauté hôte) de la région d'Agadez pour renforcer leur capacité à répondre aux besoins des enfants migrants, à travers les formations en protection de l'enfance et l'identification et accompagnement des enfants vulnérables.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Il n'existe pas d'outils standardisés pour la gestion de cas pour les enfants en mouvement
- La cible de notre projet crée des défis relatifs aux principes comme la non-discrimination, car il y a un grand nombre des enfants chez la population autochtone dans la région qui sont très vulnérables
- La flexibilité en réponse à des changements constants est essentielle pour répondre efficacement

**Title:** Redefining Protection Intervention in Humanitarian Aid through External Factors:  
A Case Study of Niger

**Author:** Svobodova, Valerie

**Organisation:** Independent

**Key words:** internally displaced; accountability; research

**Background:** The magnitude of internal displacement worldwide is growing every year and represents a tripling of the existing number of refugees worldwide. Internally displaced persons have specific vulnerabilities and the system of assistance to them needs to be adapted and revised.

**Type of activity:** A study was conducted to identify external factors that influence protection interventions for internally displaced persons in humanitarian response. Using Benet's Polarities of Democracy theory and the Theory of Change Conceptual Framework as a framework, the study sought to identify key external factors influencing protection intervention in humanitarian aid settings. Data for this study was gathered through focus group discussions with internally displaced persons in Niger. Key informant and protection cluster members were interviewed as well and an online survey conducted. In total, 38 persons participated. Content analysis was used to identify significant themes. The data revealed that multiple external factors impacted the effectiveness of protection intervention in humanitarian action. The central theme was a need for strengthened accountability towards affected populations, with other major themes, including donors and their influence; quality of programs - holistic approach, external attention to the crisis; coordination; nature of the crisis; security; position of the government; and data and analysis, also emerging. The findings shed light on the vulnerability of protection intervention in humanitarian settings, and open opportunities for further research.

**Challenges/Lessons learned:**

- Significant gaps in research exist alongside gaps in understanding external factors that influence protection interventions

## Nigeria

**Title:** Mangrove Conservation Project in Community in Akpabuyo Local Government Area of Cross River State, Nigeria

**Author:** Asuquo, Ekei

**Organisation:** Green Concern for Development

**Key words:** climate change; alternative energy; child participation

### Background

In Nigeria communities are vulnerable to climate change impacts. The increasing risks due to climate change severely affect coastal communities in particular, through increasing risks of floods, deforestation, bush burning and low crop yield – all of which have implications for poverty alleviation and economic development.

### Type of activity

Green Concern for Development (GREENCODE) will implement the Mangrove Conservation project in EsukMba Community will be implemented in Akpabuyo local government areas of Cross River state. The project aims to contribute to the reduction of household carbon emission by 30% and encourage the use of alternative energy sources and promote environmental conservation at the grassroots level, through energy, environmental and climate change education to schools and communities. Also, the project will train young persons on simple techniques of alternative energy source, demonstrations in the construction of simple improved cook stove with local materials, to reduce the impact of carbon emission and climate change in the community.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Effective mobilization and participation of community gatekeepers

Title: Breaking the Barrier: Reaching conflict-affected adolescents in Northeast Nigeria through the OFDA-funded SAFE project

Author: **Barnabas, Joseph**

Organisation: **International Rescue Committee**

Key works: adolescents; resilience; internally displaced; inter-sectoral collaboration

### Background

Adolescent girls and boys affected by conflict and displacement in northeast Nigeria have been underserved and overlooked in humanitarian response. Current child protection interventions are not designed for the needs, interests and the social roles of this age group.

### Type of activity

The IRC, with funding from OFDA, developed *SAFE – Supporting Adolescents and their Families in Emergencies*, a resource package to increase the ability of humanitarians to target and engage with adolescents. The SAFE program model is designed to be an early phase response to engage adolescents in humanitarian settings by: informing adolescents and their caregivers about available services—while simultaneously advocating for improved, adolescent-friendly service provision; and fostering a set of key social and emotional skills among adolescents.

### Challenges/lessons learned:

- It's important to be clear on the scope and purpose of field testing for SAFE as part of an iterative process of resource development - not as an impact evaluation or more scientific research study.

Title: Using community-based Education to Promote inclusive and cohesive learning for Refugee, IDPs, and Migrant Children, the Nigeria Context

Author: Ede, John

Organisation: Ohaha Family Foundation

Key words: children on the move; community approaches; education

### Background

Education is often disrupted during humanitarian emergencies, with school buildings often used as shelters or schools closed altogether. For refugee, IDP and migrant children, accessing education is often challenging or impossible. Parts of Nigeria are currently experiencing such a crisis where affected children are unable to safely access educational opportunities.

### Type of activity

Ohaha Family Foundation conducted a needs assessment of the education needs of refugee, migrant and IDP children in two communities in northern Nigeria, Ruga and Anzare. Based on the assessment conducted, a community-based fusion of western and Qur'anic education was supported to provide children on the move with literacy and numeracy skills. Both Ruga and Anzare communities received support in the form of teaching and learning materials, and parents were also provided with food and non-food items to address critical needs.

### Challenges/Lessons learned:

- Low levels of awareness amongst host community members about lacking access to education
  - Lack of support from local authorities for community-based interventions
  - Insufficient well-trained teachers for the program
-

## Rwanda, Tanzania

Title: Integration of refugee children in CP national systems: lessons learnt from Eastern Africa

Author: Diop, Ndeye Marie / Laurin, Else

Organisation: UNICEF / UNHCR

Key words: systems strengthening; refugees; social service workforce

### Background

UNICEF and UNHCR are jointly collaborating at regional and national levels to strengthen the inclusion of refugee children in child. In East Africa, the two organisations worked together on the inclusion of refugee children into national protection systems.

### Type of activity

In 2018, UNICEF and UNHCR jointly published 2 brochures documenting the inclusion of refugee children in child protection systems: 1, The guidance document [Inclusion of Refugee Children in National Child Protection Systems: Guidance for Practitioners in East Africa](#); and 2, [Bridging the Humanitarian-Development Divide for Refugee Children in Eastern Africa and the Great Lakes Region: Mapping of existing national practice](#). Both documents were presented at the EAC/UNICEF/UNHCR/ African Child Policy Forum Roundtable on the Protection of Refugee Children organized in April 2018 and where EAC States signed a Statement of Good Practice to guide and inform the implementation of legislation and policies at regional and national levels. The UNICEF and UNHCR guidance notes are mainly based on Tanzania and Rwanda experiences, within their national programme. In Tanzania, this has notably led to the appointment of social workers by the government in Kigoma refugee camp.

### Challenges/lessons learned:

- This is still work in progress and requires constant advocacy at government level.

**Title:** Résumé de la Protection de l'Enfance dans les Situations d'Urgence

**Author:** Dia, Souleymane

**Organisation:** Government of Senegal

**Key words:** systems strengthening; social service workforce; emergency preparedness

### Background

Le Sénégal fait face à des risques liés aux changements climatiques, notamment les inondations, la sécheresse, l'érosion côtière, l'insécurité alimentaire, les feux de brousse. Au regard de l'entrave que ces menaces pourraient constituer dans le développement du capital humain du pays, le Gouvernement a défini, dans sa politique nationale de protection sociale, des stratégies pour renforcer la résilience des communautés. Ainsi, la Stratégie Nationale de Protection Sociale (2016-2035) identifie les chocs et catastrophes comme causes potentielles de vulnérabilités et, par conséquent, propose des mécanismes pour assurer leurs gestions (prévention et réponse). De plus, la mise en œuvre de la Stratégie Nationale de Protection de l'Enfant (SNPE) de 2013 a favorisé l'élaboration Du 1<sup>er</sup> plan national de contingence du secteur de la Protection de l'Enfant en 2016 et la mise en place d'un Roster national (équipe d'intervention rapide dont la mission principale est d'appuyer les acteurs locaux dans la prévention et la réponse pendant les situations d'urgence). L'Objectif principal de ce plan est d'assurer la protection des enfants pendant les situations d'urgence, de sauver des vies, atténuer les souffrances, lutter contre la faim, la malnutrition et l'insécurité alimentaire.

### Type of activity

De manière spécifique, il s'agit de: 1, faire la cartographie des zones à risques et des acteurs intervenant dans ces zones; 2, définir par rapport aux différents risques les actions de prévention et réponses; 3, assurer la mise en œuvre et le suivi évaluation du plan de contingence.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Élaboration des procédures opérationnelles standardisées du Roster
- Intégration des Roster dans les comités de gestion de crise
- Plaidoyer pour la mobilisation des ressources nécessaires à la mise en œuvre du plan de contingence 2019-2024

## Somalia

**Title:** Building resilient among children headed households through provision of basic needs in Bay region

**Author:** Willow Adan, Mohamed

**Organisation:** Peace Action Society  
**Organization for Somalia (PASOS)**

**Key words:** child-headed households; resilience; inter-sectoral collaboration

### Background

Drought recovery and building resilience to natural disasters is a high priority in Somalia, after the country has experienced severe drought and other social challenges. Households and communities must recover, adapt and diversify their livelihoods and asset base in order to cope effectively during both harsh dry seasons and disaster episodes.

### Type of activity

PASOS carried out a project to build resilience and improve livelihood among beneficiaries, with a particular focus on children headed households. A holistic approach to the key child protection domains was taken, paying attention to the interconnectedness of the economic, social, political, cultural, environmental and community factors that result in increased risks and vulnerabilities for children. Looking at the inter-related factors makes it easier to see what is required at child, family, community and national levels to provide a protective environment for children.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Limited financing
  - Security concerns
  - Insufficient support from the federal government
-

## Tanzania

**Title:** Ending Violence Against Children through Positive Parenting in Protracted Refugee Situations in Tanzania

**Author:** Mdemu, Christina

**Organisation:** International Rescue Committee

**Key words:** family strengthening; refugees; violence against children

### Background

The Nyarugusu refugee camp in Tanzania has been in place for over 20 years. It is a protracted situation that experiences periodic emergencies bringing in an influx of refugees. IRC's interventions in Nyarugusu must address the divide between development and emergencies. Protection needs of children in Nyarugusu remains high with increasing numbers of unaccompanied and separate children (UASCs) without appropriate parental care, and boys and girls exploited through labor, sexual abuse and neglect. Children are exposed to safety risks in the community and unsafe family environments due to harmful parenting practices by caregivers. Social norms are one of the factors that contribute towards harmful parenting practices including the use of harsh punishment.

### Type of activity

IRC's parenting intervention to prevent violence against children was adapted to meet the needs of caregivers in Nyarugusu Tanzania; a protracted situation that experiences periodic emergencies bringing in an influx of refugees. IRC worked with the national social welfare institute to test/study and contextualize the parenting intervention program which is now used in the refugee camps. In November 2018, a survey was conducted which revealed that 56% of caregivers enrolled in parenting sessions were using positive parenting methods, improving the relationship between children and their caregivers. Children described a decrease in the use of harsh punishment and an increase in the time they spend with their parents.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Different approaches work for parenting interventions in emergencies and in protracted situations
- Working with development actors in designing/testing interventions adds value as it reflects best practices from the development sector which are of high relevance in protracted settings
- Parents highlight that parenting skills are needed on how to handle stress in stressful environments

## Title: Facilitating Linkages Between Formal and Informal Child Protection Systems

**Author:** Nyakato, Rhoda

**Organisation:** Plan International Tanzania

**Key words:** systems strengthening; community approaches; refugees; social service workforce

### Background

Tanzania hosts 328,083 refugees and asylum-seekers from Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 90% of whom live in three camps in the Kigoma region: Nduta, Nyarugusu and Mtendeli. While more than 75,000 Burundian refugees have returned, it is anticipated that a significant number will remain in Tanzania. The Government reiterates its commitment to international legal obligations to protect refugees and asylum-seekers; however, emerging administrative policies and directives have reduced opportunities for self-reliance, leaving refugees dependent on assistance and at heightened risk of exploitation and abuse. Plan International is working with host community child protection systems and District Social Welfare to extend services to refugee children, while simultaneously linking informal structures to formal ones.

### Type of activity

The following activities were undertaken to facilitate linkages between the formal and informal CP systems: 1, Engagement of Government Social Welfare Officers (SWO) as case workers in the refugee camps; 2, Coordination with host community government departments to prevent and respond to CP concerns including DSWO, immigration officials, police and informal host community structures such as women and children committees and foster homes; 3, Capacity building interventions for members of host community structures, government officials and refugees recruited as incentive Workers; 4, Community members were appointed to Child Protection Committees monitored vulnerable children in the communities.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- In Tanzania, DSWOs have no jurisdiction in refugee camps; bringing them in was viewed as an intrusion
- Language is a barrier for recruitment since English, Kirundi, and Kiswahili skills are needed
- Regular training, coaching and supervision are needed for SWOs and incentive workers

## Uganda

**Title:** Increasing access to child protection services through referral

**Author:** Cwinyai, Innocent

**Organisation:** AVSI Foundation

**Key words:** refugees; community approaches; self-reliance; inter-sectoral collaboration

### Background

AVSI's Graduating to Resilience Activity is a seven year USAID/Food for Peace funded activity designed to reach 13,200 extremely Poor Refugee and Ugandan households in Kamwenge district, with the goal of graduating them from conditions of food insecurity and fragile livelihoods to self-reliance and resilience. The activity targets all members of participating households with services such as coaching, referral and linkages, consumption smoothing, asset transfer, farmer field business schools and Nutrition services.

### Type of activity

Through community participatory approaches, AVSI Foundation identified 6,600 extremely poor households in the refugee and host community. The households are visited on a weekly basis by trained social workers who provide behavioural change messages on nutrition and protection concerns. This mechanism has strengthened the relationship between social workers and beneficiaries making it easier to identify child protection cases and make referrals to the mapped service points. The approach also provides for constant follow-up of the referred cases through the households visits. All these efforts have significantly increased the number of children accessing child protection services in Rwamwanja refugee settlement.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Limited capacity of some of the formal and informal child protection structures to respond to referred child protection cases leaving some cases unresolved
  - High transport cost involved in facilitating referrals and linkages especially for children in areas with inadequate services.
-

Title: Promoting wellbeing– engaging youth in psychosocial support programs within Refugee settings. AVSI Foundation in Omugo Refugee Settlement, West Nile, Uganda

Author: Larok, Rita

Organisation: AVSI Foundation

Key words: adolescents; refugees; resilience; psychosocial support

### Background

AVSI has been implementing a youth program in Omugo Refugee Settlement, Rhino Camp Extension since August 2017. In Uganda, 62% of refugees are below 18 years. The majority of adolescents are out of school, making adolescents a particularly vulnerable group since they are exposed to protection risks including sexual exploitation, child labor, drug abuse and early marriage. These risks present themselves in addition to the psychological distress refugees experience as a result of the conflict and displacement.

### Type of activity

AVSI constructed a multifunctional youth center as a space to engage youth in structured and guided recreation activities including sports, music, dance, drama, debate, art, indoor games, cinema shows and life skills training. In addition, AVSI engaged youth leaders to create peer-to-peer clubs/groups. AVSI implemented peaceful coexistence youth programs towards youth appreciation of meaningful and positive conflict management and resolution. AVSI staff were able to identify traumatized children and youth who presented in the center and to refer them to the nearest identified facilities that handle mental/psychological health using the established case management referral system.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Youth engagement activities require staff to have specific skills and competencies
  - Facilities for youth activities require ongoing financial investment
-

Title: Transitioning Community Hotspots into Safe Spaces through coordination – AVSI Foundation Better Outcomes for Youth and Children Project – Uganda

Author: **Murungi, Lydia**

Organisation: **AVSI Foundation**

Key words: community approaches; adolescents; resilience; violence against children

**Background:** In Uganda, several structures at both national and sub-national level have a mandate to coordinate the delivery of child protection services including the District OVC Committees (DOVCCs) and Sub-county OVC Committees. These include, the Probation and welfare Office, Community Development office, Police, Justice, Education, Community based organizations and even Health departments. The community has an important role to play in fostering and supporting healthy development of a young people. However, this positive role can be achieved if there is a coordinated effort that ensures that the community is a safe place that allows young people to congregate, enjoy social, athletic and other recreational activities.

**Type of activity:** AVSI is implementing a 5 year USAID funded 'Better Outcomes for Children and Youth' project in Eastern and Northern Uganda that aims to sustainably change the living conditions of vulnerable children and their families. One of the core protection activities is the creation of a protective community environment for young people. This is done by engaging young people to identify the safety risks, followed by community mapping where key information including; location of the different hotspots, category of the Hotspot and what makes them risky are gathered. Following mapping, a list of host spots is developed and shared at different coordination platforms including the child protection committee meetings which then develop and tailor a specific work plan indicating actions/resources/people needed to transition the hot spots into safe spaces.

**Challenges/Lessons learned:**

- The coordination of multiple stakeholders with varying roles and resource levels
-

**Title:** Building community-based structures for prevention sexual violence against children

**Author:** Nabwire, Dinnah

**Organisation:** TPO Uganda

**Key words:** community approaches; systems strengthening; violence against children

### Background

Following release of the Uganda national Violence Against Children Survey (VACS) report in August 2018, the Ministry of Gender Labor and Social Development has continued to mobilize partner capacities and resources to strengthen the data to action transition. TPO Uganda is one of the national agencies aligned to the Ministry coordination framework for prevention and response to violence against children.

### Type of activity

With specific reference to the VACS, TPO Uganda has undertaken an intricate process towards strengthening uptake of the findings and utilizing them to build community and national level programming that spearheads prevention of Sexual and all forms of Violence Against Children (SVAC). As such, the organisation has been identified innovative ways to build scalable community led interventions, including by integrating informal actors into existing formal – government led structures for a robust social service workforce, innovations around delivering parenting activities within context of SVAC prevention as well as transforming social norms to increase protection of children at community level. Moreover, the presentation will reference the national violence against children statistics to showcase ‘the-how-to’ dynamics of building and delivering research-based interventions that are proven to have high impact especially for low income settings. It will also highlight benefits and key considerations for organizations/actors looking to scaling up similar processes with or without a national anchor study.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Scaling up interventions following a national anchor study
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## Uganda, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Djibouti

Title: Creating a protective impact through social change

Author: **Huser, Catherine**

Organisation: **Act Church of Sweden**

Key words: peacebuilding; refugees; community approaches

### Background

Act-Church of Sweden supports partners in Uganda, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Djibouti to support refugees, many of whom face protracted displacement. Given that the vast majority of the refugees we work with are conflict affected, the underlying objective of the response is to help refugees to calm down, to recall their sense of themselves and to restore their sense of positive agency. Through supporting them to relearn peaceful attitudes, assumptions and behaviors, the aim is to restore a sense of well-being at both the individual and the community level.

### Type of activity

Building upon a sense of empathy and compassionate sense of social responsibility, we work to support individuals and communities to rebuild peaceful co-existence and social cohesion as essential components for building a different kind of future. This community-based approach to fostering well-being aims at creating change through influencing attitudes, beliefs and assumptions at the individual level; and shifting social norms at the community-level. Such change is essential to the efficacy of both humanitarian and development action. Helping people to reconnect with a sense of calm, self-confidence, and agency requires reflective dialogue to help them identify their capabilities. However, as capabilities such as finances, material goods and so on are typically limited in a refugee crisis, it is important to have these people identify what they can offer in terms of empathy, compassion, solidarity, unity and so on. Such reflections (e.g.: done in VSLA or other self-help groups), helps people become aware of a sense of social responsibility and their responsibilities to contribute to creating a different kind of community – and that they have the capacity to do so.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Social change is slow, incremental, often exceptionally difficult in terms of anticipating the precise theory of change (i.e.: cause and effect relationships); and attribution is seldom single-factored.
- Change at the level of attitudes, beliefs and social change are difficult to consolidate



**Asia**

## Afghanistan

Title: Systems Strengthening: Enhancing protection principles

Author: **Madhavan, Ramya**

Organisation: **Street Child**

Key words: juvenile justice; systems strengthening; community approaches

### Background

Incarceration has deep, damaging physical and psychosocial effects on children. This is especially the case in Afghanistan, where the corrections system suffers from a severe shortage of support and resources resulting from protracted political conflict and crisis, and is failing in its obligation to protect the rights of children in contact with the law. The juvenile justice code enshrines a commitment to 'ensuring incarceration and custodial sentences are used only as a last resort and for the shortest length of time'. Alternatives to incarceration prioritise the return of children in conflict with the law to their communities, critical to the protection of children and the prevention of further physical and psychosocial distress that can result in relapse; restorative alternatives are endorsed by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child.

### Type of activity

Street Child operates a programme that works with the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs to increase understanding of alternatives to incarceration across courts, correctional facilities and social service institutions. To date, a number of children have benefited from transfers from custodial sentences in closed centres to open centres, that allow them to remain in their communities; on 7 August 2019, Street Child was instrumental in supporting the first ever instance of community service sentencing to a child in Afghanistan.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Lack of interest or investment from government representatives, underpinned by a lack of appropriate resources to support the issuance of alternative sentences, including a comprehensive case management system.

**Title:** The need for integration of Mine Risk Education

**Author:** Ullah, ShafiError! Bookmark not defined.

**Organisation:** Directorate of Mine Action Coordination

**Key words:** mine risk education; inter-sectoral collaboration

### Background

Continued war and local conflicts has seen Afghanistan intensely littered with unrecorded landmine and explosive remnants of war contamination. This puts the lives and limbs of children, adults, and other living animals at continued risk. Directorate of Mine Action Coordination, previously UNMACA, has been operational since 1989 and has made significant contributions in ensuring the safety of children, adults, and other living animals by surveying contaminated areas, clearing them, and providing mine risk education. It will continue to be operational until the very last threats in terms of mines/explosive remnants of war are eradicated from Afghanistan.

### Type of activity

Mine Risk Education, given its ease of delivery, can be integrated into the programs of other humanitarian actors. For instance, we put a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in place with the Ministry of Education where we trained school teachers to provide mine risk education to children. An MoU is also in place with Ministry of Information and Culture to utilize small and mass media platforms for delivering MRE messages. We're currently working with Ministry of Public Health, Norwegian Refugee Council, and several other actors with a view to train their practitioners who have access to the fields in delivering MRE.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- A key lesson learned is the need for child focused MRE materials
- Poverty is a big challenge when it comes to having meaningful MRE interventions

## Indonesia

**Title:** Current state of wellbeing of children and families affected by disasters in West Nusa Tenggara and Central Sulawesi, Indonesia

**Author:** Pelupossy, Dicky

**Organisation:** Cris Center, Universitas Indonesia

**Key words:** child wellbeing; assessment; natural disaster

### Background

2018 witnessed Indonesia's most disastrous and deadliest year in decade. In 2018 humanitarian agencies and actors rushed to respond in West Nusa Tenggara and Central Sulawesi following a string of disasters struck the two provinces. The government of Indonesia took a distinct approach to international assistance. West Nusa Tenggara being the locus where international assistance was prohibited, whereas in Central Sulawesi, international assistance was allowed but required to be channel through local organizations. The humanitarian responses in these two areas included child protection and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS).

### Type of activity

Using a variety of tested measures for children's well-being in emergencies, the Crisis Center, Faculty of Psychology, at the Universitas Indonesia conducted a mixed methods study to analyze the well-being of both child and adult survivors several months after the disasters. The importance of the study is two-fold: to describe the well-being status of survivors who became the target of aid and responses, and to provide steering to ongoing post-emergency efforts.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Lack of pre-disaster baseline data so pre-post disaster comparisons cannot be made
  - Mobility of population post-disaster
-

## Indonesia, Philippines

**Title:** Community-based Child Protection System Strengthening in Humanitarian Settings: Case Studies from Indonesia, Philippines and Uganda

**Author:** El Manssy, Radwa

**Organisation:** Childfund International

**Key words:** community approaches; systems strengthening

### Background

Most countries are experiencing a spectrum of issues including political unrest, natural disasters and the impacts of climate change. The fragility of states can cause very stable countries to suddenly become an emergency setting and the child protection system may become weakened or ineffective as a result. Childfund recognises the need to develop and pilot a unique set of procedures to identify and build upon existing CP capacities and structures and to avoid the creation of parallel structures.

### Type of activity

Childfund adapted its global approach to community-based child protection mapping in three countries, piloting the process in emergency settings in Uganda with refugees in West Nile, Indonesia in Central Sulawesi region after the earthquake in 2018, and in the Philippines in six hazard prone communities. In Childfund's community-based child protection approach in humanitarian settings, the main goal is to promote collective learning about child protection risks and resources leading to and informing community action. To achieve this, there are three main processes: 1, learning phase; 2, community action-planning phase; and 3, implementation of action plan phase.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Process requires organisational commitment
- Promoting an inclusive dialogue is important for successful implementation
- Defining a community's role in action plan implementation alongside managing expectations

## Nepal

Title: “Rupantaran” (Transformation) among adolescents to combat violence in emergencies in Nepal

Author: Dangal, Mohan

Organisation: Child Nepal

Key words: resilience; adolescents; natural disaster; emergency preparedness

### Background

In Nepal, adolescents (10-19 years) and young people (10-24 years), who comprise 24% and 33% of the population, have been recognised as a vulnerable and under-served group. To address this, the Government of Nepal (GoN) formulated a National Plan of Action to promote the development of adolescents. The Plan prioritizes six areas where targeted interventions are required: safe and protective environments, education and skills, livelihoods and financial empowerment, civic engagement, gender equity and social inclusion, and sexual and reproductive health rights. To increase adolescents' knowledge in the above areas a manual was developed called “Rupantaran” (Transformation).

### Type of activity

Child Nepal applied the emergency and resilience version of the “Rupantaran” manual in five earthquake affected villages of Sindhupalchok district of Nepal. The aim of implementing the “Rupantaran” package was to enhance the resilience of adolescent boys and girls to assist them to cope with stressors and to protect themselves from potential violence in emergency situations. 16 day of training were held with adolescent boys and girls, and 5 days of training were held with the parents of the adolescents. There was interaction with the Government of Nepal at all levels - federal, provincial and local levels - regarding the program and its impact.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Ensuring regular attendance at the training sessions was a challenge for some adolescents
- Power differentials between the facilitators and adolescents in terms of their age and experience presented a barrier to some adolescents feeling at ease
- Some participants had difficulties understanding the concepts in the manual as formal language was used which differs from the ways concepts are described informally



# Europe

## Germany

**Title:** Child Protection Program in Germany

**Author:** Feldmann, Jasmina

**Organisation:** Plan International  
Deutschland

**Key words:** refugees; systems strengthening; resilience

### Background

The large number of refugees arriving in Germany in 2015/2016 put an enormous strain on existing State services, including accommodation. This resulted in difficult living conditions which affected children's and young people's well-being and increased their vulnerability to protection risks. During the following years (2017-2019) the main governmental and societal challenge was to ensure access of refugee and migrant children to national child protection systems and services and to empower young people to participate in the social structures of their new hosting society.

### Type of activity

In the first phase of the response, Plan provided critical assistance to children and their families within reception centers. This included the organization of safe spaces for children, the provision of case management services, including individual counselling and parenting sessions. To ensure the sustainability of the projects and to strengthen integrational processes into the host society, the program focus shifted from the provision of humanitarian assistance within the reception centers to providing integration support, as well as advisory services for governmental and non-governmental professionals. The new approach includes empowerment workshops for refugee children and youth to introduce them to existing support structures and increase their agency to engage in the systems surrounding them. Policy makers are counselled on the implementation of standards in refugee accommodations and the establishment of integration support.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Insufficient political attention to refugee issues now that the 'crisis' is over
- Drastic reduction in financial resources available with the transition from crisis to post-crisis

## Greece, Italy, Bulgaria, Serbia, Bosnia, Italy and Spain

**Title:** Making national child protection systems work for unaccompanied children on the move

**Author:** Chapuis, Laurent

**Organisation:** UNICEF Regional Office ECA

**Key words:** refugees; children on the move; systems strengthening; alternative care

### Background

An estimated 240,000 unaccompanied children have sought asylum in Europe between 2014 and 2018. Of these, approx. 40,000 UAC are currently in Greece, Italy, Bulgaria, Serbia, Bosnia, Italy and Spain. Only a minority benefits from appropriate care (estimated 30% in Greece, 41% in Italy, nearly none in Bosnia and Bulgaria). Most of these children are boys (over 2/3 of the arrivals in 2018), between the age of 15 and 17 years old. While national and international actors have made significant efforts to address this situation, national systems have failed to provide appropriate care and protection at scale.

### Type of activity

UNICEF supports the following activities: 1, aligning national legislation and policies with the UN Guidelines on the Use and Conditions of Alternative Care for Children while integrating migration-related child care into mainstream child and social protection systems; 2, extending community-based services and family based alternative care options to children affected by migration; 3, strengthening the social service workforce and case management to incorporate notions of Best Interest Procedures around age assessment, child friendly legal aid, durable solutions, access to health and education services, cultural mediation; 4, promoting investments that support families and prevention of unnecessary separation from family.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Migration is a highly divisive issue across the European political spectrum
- National care systems for unaccompanied children are not designed to cater for foreign and older children, who have experienced violence, abuse, neglect, and are GBV and trafficking survivors
- Europe asylum system's flaws result in an inadequate burden sharing that hampers durable solutions

## Hungary

**Title:** Lessons from Hungary's civil society: Protecting asylum-seeking children amidst the 2015 "migrant" crisis and the asylum system reform

**Author:** Luna, Mara Tissera

**Organisation:** Hungarian Helsinki Committee

**Key words:** refugees; children on the move; systems strengthening

### Background

Since the 2015 „migrant crisis” on the Balkan route, the Hungarian government has embarked upon the dismantling of the national asylum system. Since July 2015, it has implemented policy and legal reform aimed at severely tightening procedures imposed on asylum-seekers seeking to enter and remain in the country and eliminating all forms of social and integration policies for those who are granted international protection. The new legal and institutional framework allowed for children to become victims of: collective pushbacks at the Hungarian border; long delays and appalling living conditions in the „pre-transit zones”; arbitrary and massive detention in the so-called "transit zones"; questionable age assessments and the disregard for their special needs and vulnerabilities.

### Type of activity

Against this backdrop, the Refugee program of the Hungarian Helsinki Committee engaged in a series of strategic actions and partnerships including: 1, coalition-building with other non-for profits (both NGOs and international bodies) and some government bodies, which allow services to asylum-seeking children; 2, provision of key information and free-of-charge legal assistance to asylum-seeking and refugee children (both moving alone and traveling with their families); 3, public advocacy and engagement in litigation efforts in national and international fora, with the aim of, e.g., advocating for dignified reception conditions long-term and challenging the massive arbitrary detention of asylum-seeking and refugee children. An in-depth analysis was conducted of these activities.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- In 2017 the government of Hungary terminated the cooperation agreement which used to grant non-for profits access to the so-called "transit zones" to carry out monitoring visits
- In 2018 the government ceased to provide data on the number and demographics of asylum seekers. As a result, first-hand information on the detention conditions of asylum-seeking children and families detained at the "transit zones" is scarce, and accurate numbers are not available.



# Latin America

## El Salvador

**Title:** Family, community, church and child: Sustainable networks for child protection in El Salvador

**Author:** Gamero, Elisa

**Organisation:** World Vision El Salvador

**Key words:** community approaches; family strengthening; violence against children

### Background

El Salvador's fragility is founded in its inability to recover as a nation from its violent past. Though it has not been formally at war since the 1990s, rates of murder and violent control over citizens, and government's inability to provide security and protection in the face of gang-related factionalism, are akin to that of a war zone. Lack of efficiency for counting gang-related factionalism and violence remains the top concern. In many places across El Salvador gangs are not just a standing danger to public safety but also a de facto authority that exerts tremendous control over residents' daily lives. A low level of trust of towards each other, in government and in social institutions resulted in the Church being the most trusted institution in El Salvador.

### Type of activity

World Vision (WV) El Salvador prioritized strengthening the partnerships with the churches and contributing to churches' capacity building to have a stronger voice for child protection as a strategic direction. A situation analysis was conducted to inform the WV's program design. Based on the results the following faith-based methodologies were prioritized for action: Channels of Hope, Celebrating Family, Raising Children with Tenderness, (Crianza con Ternura), and Child Friendly Discipleship (Discipulado Amigable para la niñez).

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Social types of change – changes in attitudes and beliefs, are difficult to measure
- Impact measurements suited to the child protection outcomes are needed, starting with baseline figures (knowledge, attitudes, practices), to identify changes in levels of violence in communities

## Guatemala, Mexico

**Title:** Learning from Digital Storytelling, Child-Led Data Collection and PhotoVoice to inform participatory research with children on the move in the Middle East and Europe

**Author:** Jones, Camilla

**Organisation:** Family for every Child

**Key words:** children on the move; assessment; child participation

### Background

Family for Every Child's 'Children on the Move' Working Group comprises twelve 'member' organisations from the Americas, Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Europe. The group is working in regional 'corridor' groups that look at the issues affecting children on the move in source, transit and destination locations, to enable holistic and sustainable interventions to prevent family separation and respond to children's care and protection needs. The group has significant experience engaging children in participatory research using visual and digital methodologies. The Americas corridor-group is implementing participatory research using PhotoVoice in Guatemala, Mexico and the United States, which our member in the U.S. has experience with.

### Type of activity

The objective of this project is to promote participation of children on the move from Central America in policy, practice and democratic change in Guatemala, Mexico and the USA, and they have developed an advocacy strategy targeting government, communities and service providers. In addition, the project aims to enhance the self-confidence and resilience of the participating children and those they interact with through the project, such as those contemplating migration.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Participatory research takes time to implement
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## Mexico

**Title:** Healing through the Arts for Children in Adversity: preparing communities to provide structured psychosocial support across development and humanitarian contexts

**Author:** Richmond, Amy / Hommel, Sara

**Organisation:** Save the Children

**Key words:** psychosocial support; emergency preparedness; natural disaster

### Background

In both Mexico and Malawi, Save the Children implements structured Psychosocial Support programming in domestic development settings. In recent years, both countries have experienced sudden onset emergencies that have resulted in Save the Children supported humanitarian response. In Malawi, severe floods in 2015 and a cyclone in 2019 resulted in the establishment of IDP camps in which Save the Children supported Child Friendly Spaces and case management. In Mexico, the 2017 earthquakes and 2018 regional migration of refugees resulted in the establishment of Child Friendly Spaces in the immediate aftermath of the onset of these emergencies.

### Type of activity

In both the Malawi and Mexico context, local technical staff of the long term development program adapted an existing structured psychosocial support program to immediately respond to emergencies in their context. Local technical staff who had been trained previously on implementing the structured psychosocial support program were able to roll this out immediately. Because the technical staff capacity already existed in domestic development programming, and structure psychosocial support programming had already been contextualized at the local level, psychosocial support activities were able to start only 48 hours after the onset of the emergencies in both countries. The transition from development to humanitarian programming was fast and effective.

### Challenges/Lessons learned:

- Staff turnover reduces local capacity
- Lack of time for training at the onset of crises to expand local capacity
- Ensuring the well-being of staff working in humanitarian settings

## Mexico, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Colombia, Peru and Chile

**Title:** A Child Protection Response through the Regional Safe Spaces Network in the Americas

**Author:** Hernandez, José Luis

**Organisation:** UNHCR

**Key words:** children on the move; refugees; systems strengthening; inter-sectoral collaboration

### Background

The Americas region is currently facing several displacement situations due to violence and insecurity in the North of Central America, the crisis in Venezuela, the socio-political crisis in Nicaragua, and an increase in extra-continental human movement. According to the most recent 2019 figures from national immigration authorities gathered by the Response for Venezuelans platform, over 4 million Venezuelans have fled the country in light of the deterioration of the current situation. Meanwhile, by mid-2018, there were 312,000 refugees and asylum-seekers from the North of Central America region, around five times more than at the end of 2014.

### Type of activity

Under this context of displacement, UNHCR has been working with a variety of organisations to develop a Regional Safe Spaces Network (RSSN) across countries to provide protection to vulnerable individuals along the displacement cycle and ensure their access to a package of essential services. To date, 110 partners in the Americas region, including UN agencies, NGOs, institutions, and CBOs have come together through the RSSN to provide services to vulnerable people on the move. These services have included a coordinated case management response and transfer of cases across borders as people move from one country to another. Through the RSSN, cross-border referral and transfer SOPs have been developed to ensure a smooth continuation of protection services.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Increasing vulnerability of moving populations due to the prolonged situation of displacement
- Limited capacity for information management due to a multiplicity of systems and language barriers
- Rapid integration of new teams to emergency responses

## Nicaragua

**Title:** Building resilience and peacebuilders through sports

**Author:** Alvarez, Yoselin

**Organisation:** World Vision Nicaragua

**Key words:** peacebuilding; sports; community approaches; resilience

### Background

Fears, sorrow and high stress are some of the principal challenges children are facing in Nicaragua due to the high levels of violence resulting from the socio political crisis that started in April 2018. Experts of the OAS Interdisciplinary Group of Independent Specialists (GIEI) concluded that addressing the psychological trauma that children face due to the high levels of violence in the environment is a priority. Not doing so will have long term negative impacts.

### Type of activity

World Vision is providing emotional support and promoting a culture of peace and reconciliation amongst children through popular sports, such as football. The project, called "A goal for tenderness", promotes the integration and participation of a larger number of girls, boys, adolescents and their families, regardless of their political views. The project focuses on motivating the brotherhood, solidarity and interaction among all child participants to learn self-protection, strengthening of values and the search for harmonious coexistence. The essence of the league is not winning or losing but to gain as many Friends as possible through the promotion of values while playing. The first stage of the project involved working with churches on the issue of children's resilience. At this stage, a football league has been implemented in 46 communities, which raises awareness on child protection by using sensitizing messages about protection and promoting values including a culture of peace and friendship.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Getting girls involved in rural areas required concerted effort
- Clear safeguarding policies and protective measures need to be in place at all times
- Identifying volunteers from local communities is critical from a sustainability perspective



# Middle East

## Jordan

**Title:** Child Protection Outcomes of Renewable Energy Promotion

**Author:** Bahgat, Mirette

**Organisation:** World Vision Canada

**Key words:** alternative energy; inter-sectoral collaboration

### Background

There is insufficient research on the linkages between renewable energy promotion, cash and voucher programming, and child protection. However, the preliminary findings from projects carried out by World Vision Canada can serve as a catalyst to open up a discussion on similar projects and the available research/data that would probe further piloting opportunities for the integration of these three pillars.

### Type of activity

World Vision carried out the following projects: “NOUR: Enhancing Child Protection, Education, and Economic Resilience in Jordan” was a three-year project implemented from 2016-2019, and funded by Global Affairs Canada. NOUR implemented a restricted voucher methodology to promote the use of renewable energy, specifically Solar Water Heaters (SWH) systems for 799 Syrian and Jordanian families selected by using specific vulnerability assessment criteria, focusing on female-headed households in Zarqa and Irbid. The installation was coupled with awareness-raising sessions engaging different family members and children participating in CFS activities. “Bangladesh Refugee Emergency Response project” is a second project being implemented from April 2019-March 2020, is also funded by Global Affairs Canada. The project targets Rohingya refugees in Cox’s Bazar. The project combines life skills and psychosocial support activities targeting adolescent girls and boys with vocational training on renewable energy systems and solar panel installation.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- There is limited evidence that conditional voucher and cash programming employed to promote the use of renewable energy has direct child protection outcomes.

**Title:** Girl-led energy mapping: intersections of energy use, GBV risk and resource conservation

**Author:** Itani, Zena F.

**Organisation:** Mercy Corps Jordan

**Key words:** gender-based violence; energy use; risks; refugees

## Background

Women and girls often manage energy in households. In emergencies, accessing energy in unsafe areas, by unsafe means or from contested sources can increase the risks of gender-based violence (GBV), while reliable energy access can improve safety, mobility and access to information for displaced women and girls.

## Type of activity

Funded by the United States Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (BPRM), Mercy Corps and the Women's Refugee Commission (WRC) are working in Uganda, Afghanistan and Jordan to capture current knowledge and practice around energy, gender and GBV risk mitigation. In Jordan, where most communities have reliable energy access, mapping energy *use* patterns at the household level is yielding data for ongoing humanitarian assistance alongside long-term development projects. Syrian and Jordanian adolescent girls, often overlooked by humanitarian and development practitioners, lead the mapping in North Jordan. Girls themselves identify energy-related GBV risks, household decision-making dynamics and entry points for risk reduction and resource conservation. This project's Jordan activities are in Rihab, an impoverished rural area in the north where Syrian refugees comprise almost 25% of the population.

## Challenges/Lessons learned

- While communities in Rihab are interested in supporting this effort, they also want support to act on the gaps and issues that adolescents are identifying

## Lebanon

**Title:** Finding common ground: interfaith leadership on local child protection action in Lebanon

**Author:** Abou Assaly, Zoubeida

**Organisation:** World Vision Lebanon

**Key words:** refugees; faith leaders; community approaches

### Background

Eight years into the Syria crisis, Lebanon remains the country hosting the largest number of refugees per capita. The influx of Syrian refugees to Lebanon, an already weak and vulnerable state, has negatively impacted life of families of all backgrounds. Both Lebanese and the refugees face increased poverty, decreased access to social services and worsened social tensions. These have resulted many children and adolescents become vulnerable to violence and exploitation at home and in the community. Religious leaders in Lebanon exercise a great deal of power in politics and have great impact in the society. In addition to that, religious courts are responsible to tackle all matters related to family issues including child protection concerns. Thus, engaging faith leaders through changing false attitudes and behaviors among the community is an effective way to reduce violence against children.

### Type of activity

One of the key strategies of WV Lebanon has been working with Christian Churches to empower faith leaders in community coordination. Given the influx of Syrian refugees, majority of whom are Muslims, WV has adapted its approaches and expanded a partnership with Islamic Relief, in order to engage with both Christian and Islamic faith networks on restoration of community-based systems and responding to violence against children. Interfaith dialogue has been key to overcome the significant barriers to local communication and collaboration. To this end, WV and Islamic Relief commenced local workshops with senior religious leaders allowing them to find for themselves the commonalities of sacred texts and doctrine about children and family.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Progress at scale is slow, parallel power structures and stigma against certain groups must be considered
- Building trust between different backgrounds and faiths require high-level of sensitivity

Title: Keeping Children Safe in Forced Displacement Settings - The Protection of Syrian Refugee Children in Lebanon from a Systems Perspective

Author: **Carter, Ann**

Organisation: **Osman Consulting**

Key words: refugees; systems strengthening; research

## Background

There is a lack of empirical evidence into what helps to keep refugee children safe who are living in neighbouring host countries. As refugee populations are largely situated in countries in the process of developing child protection services, responding to the protection of vulnerable refugee children in this context is particularly complex and challenging.

## Type of activity

Research was conducted into the situation in Lebanon. As a developing country, Lebanon was chosen as it is a significant contributor to hosting Syrian refugees, in relation to both numbers, and proportion of its own population, whilst also being itself in a process of development of public service provision. The study examined both the humanitarian architecture in Lebanon at country, regional and local levels, as well as the developing structures and processes for child protection in the country for Lebanese children, and examined the degree to which they connected, together with proposing opportunities to further a more integrated approach. The study explores the tensions between the emergency response and development nexus in a country part way along a process of developing a national child protection system.

## Challenges/Lessons learned

- Time constraints - a 3-week study trip to Lebanon meant that not all potential leads were followed up
- Small sample size of Syrian refugee families interviewed
- As the research is a case study of defined scope, it is not possible to say how 'typical' the living arrangements or experiences of the participants might be to others in Lebanon, or more widely

**Title:** Back to the Future: addressing the protection and education needs of Syrian refugees and vulnerable host communities, while strengthening the education sector in Lebanon

**Author:** Valerio, Sara

**Organisation:** War Child Holland

**Key words:** refugees; education; inter-sectoral collaboration

## Background

Eight years into the Syrian crisis, Lebanon remains at the forefront of one of the worst humanitarian crises of our time. More than half of school-aged Syrian refugee children, many of whom do not have prior education or have had their education interrupted for a long time, and 447,409 vulnerable Lebanese children are in need of educational assistance. In addition, violence, exploitation and abuse at home, in communities and schools are main child protection concerns. Between 2016-2019 a consortium of AVSI, War Child Holland and Terre des Hommes Italy funded by the EU Trust Fund collaborated with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), to respond to the education and protection needs of children.

## Type of activity

The *Back to the Future* program was a 30-month intervention aiming at ensuring access to quality educational services for all children, particularly those living in areas that have been most affected and made more vulnerable by the refugee crisis. The program addressed urgent needs of children while strengthening the Lebanese education system in the long term. It created windows of opportunity to influence education policy in Lebanon. The program included the following: 1, a curriculum developed by War Child with the MEHE was endorsed and extended to non-refugee vulnerable children; 2, SOPs for referrals to formal education were finalized and endorsed; 3, referrals to specialized child protection services were monitored.

## Challenges/Lessons learned

- Perceptions concerning what is urgent by communities and long-term sustainable interventions identified based on MEHE vulnerability criteria can differ
- Ensure that long-term thinking is embedded in the very design phase and strategic approach to programs
- In a refugee context, assessing and addressing the needs of all children and distant activities to a targeted population increases national system's accountability and ownership

**Title:** "Tutor of Resilience" model

**Author:** Caliandro, Davide & Giordano, Francesca

**Organisation:** Cesvi

**Key words:** systems strengthening; resilience; social service workforce

### Background

The protracted conflict in Libya continues to be of concern with both Libyans and non-Libyans populations. Since the aftermath of the Arab Spring and over the years Cesvi positioned itself as a protection actor focusing mainly on mixed migrations, but opening lately to a more comprehensive target approach, including vulnerable Libyans. Cesvi is currently operating in West Libya in different settings: in detention centers, IDP camps and urban areas.

### Type of activity

The "Tutor of Resilience model" (TOR) was developed by the Resilience Research Unit of the Catholic University of Milan which aims to provide social workers, caseworkers and other helping professionals with resilience-focused practical tools related to child protection (CP). This is part of Cesvi's efforts to build on existing supports, adapt actions to the local culture and context, focus on capacity building, promote greater power sharing with local actors, embed supports in local institutions, and strengthen the evidence base regarding sustainability.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Difficulties in finding appropriate measures with regard to the sample's socio-cultural characteristics
  - Absence of a baseline of the children's wellbeing before the forced migration
  - Challenges in coaching and supervising social workers due to security conditions
-



**Worldwide**

**Title:** The Community Participatory Evaluation Tool: toward efficacy and empowerment in community led child protection

**Author:** Bragin, Martha

**Organisation:** Silberman School of Social Work / International Association of Schools of Social Work

**Key words:** child wellbeing; assessment; community approaches; child participation

## Background

It is now widely agreed that standards for child protection and well-being must be developed and led by the communities in which children live for them to be sustainable and effective. All too often, interventions by outsiders are ineffective as they ignore local values, customs and processes, and therefore are ignored by local people. Further, externally imposed interventions can cause grave harm when external norms are substituted for local ones, marginalizing tried and true local methods. On the other hand, not all child rearing customs in any community are in children's best interests.

## Type of activity

A community participatory methodology was developed that can facilitate local people to spell out their standards for optimal child development and the means that they use to promote that development and protect children from harm. The method, called the Community Participatory Evaluation Tool (the CPET), involves a range of activities that can be done in the midst of emergencies or after them, involving parents, teachers, children, adolescents, elders, spiritual and traditional healers, birth attendants and any others with duties involving the oversight of child well-being. The idea is to establish local developmental norms, including what participants consider "usual" methods of helping with children in difficulty. The method enables the examination of how an emergency, may have affected those norms and supportive processes for children's growth and development. The method expressly facilitates discussion as to which practices people felt were useful, which they felt were not useful, and which were in fact dangerous or harmful.

## Challenges/Lessons learned

- The CPET is labour intensive at the beginning
- Community members need to be interested in evaluating their practices and may require practical assistance with data collection

Title: Revisiting Child Protection Systems Strengthening in the Era of Localization and Government-Led Humanitarian Responses

Author: Canavera, Mark / Vraalsen, Pia /  
Kusumaningrum, Santi

Organisation: CPC Learning Network

Key words: systems strengthening; research

## Background

After 3 years of research projects that spanned the globe, the Systems Strengthening and Disaster Risk Reduction Task Force of the Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action produced [key considerations](#) for practitioners who are attempting to link their humanitarian response efforts to longer-term systems strengthening efforts. Despite some key learning, these considerations were also cognizant that many agencies are not organizationally geared towards systems strengthening; the challenges often seemed more overwhelming than the proposed solutions.

## Type of activity

The CPC Learning Network would like to highlight promising new models for humanitarian responses in which “systems strengthening” is part of the response from the beginning. While recognizing that the viability of government engagement varies by setting, some of these models feature significant government involvement and in some cases, true government leadership. Two promising case studies: In Indonesia, the government leadership to recent disasters provides the potential for a more holistic response for children; 2, response to refugee children in the Eastern Africa region, notably in Tanzania and Kenya through comprehensive refugee response plans.

## Challenges/Lessons learned

- Dynamics between the international humanitarian community and national and local leadership vary
- Political viability can be tricky as actors navigate inclusion for emergency-affected populations

**Title:** Using a systems approach across the nexus to improve child protection

**Author:** Hall, Erica

**Organisation:** World Vision UK

**Key words:** organisational flexibility; program adaptation; competencies

## Background

Working at the nexus of humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding needs is an act of solidarity with people living in fragile contexts. However, often child protection (CP) is narrowed to focus on Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) or short term interventions, believing it is nearly impossible to strengthen CP systems in these contexts. At the same time, World Vision field teams and partners were experiencing continuous shifts in fragility and vulnerability across the nexus, without being supported to rapidly adapt CP projects to leverage existing CP system successes.

## Type of activity

WV carried out a pilot project leveraging well-defined Child Protection Systems approaches, Child Protection Minimum Standards, and the WV Fragility Context programming approach, which looks across three dials (1. Surviving; 2. Adapting; and 3. Thriving). The project included: 1, facilitating field teams in CP System approach analysis, prioritizing the key CP issues and the impact on the environment; 2, enabling teams to develop CP programming scenarios based on internal and external factors and the context analysis; 3, creating space for the team to consider potential adaptations needed to CP interventions based on the context analyses and scenario; 4, applying the CP programme, and reflecting on a monthly basis on the context dynamics across the triple nexus, and adaptations occurred to respond to the change.

## Challenges/Lessons learned

- Shifting approaches calls for high competency of field staff and space for staff to create the shift
- Sufficient time is needed to adapt the design of the intervention, contextualize the tools in advance, allocate time to build community trust
- Flexibility regarding the definition of child protection systems is important

**Title:** Forced Labour, Forced Recruitment into Armed Groups, Abductions, and Forced Marriage of Children in Protracted Displacement Contexts

**Author:** Hills, Simon

**Organisation:** ILO, IOM, and Walk Free Foundation

**Key words:** child recruitment; child labour; child marriage; research

## Background

Armed conflict and displacement can have long-term negative consequences for the rights of children, such as an exacerbation of trafficking in persons and different forms of exploitation, and child labour including its worst forms. At its most damaging, the effects of conflict are visible in the cases of children who are trafficked across borders, or forced into slavery inside their countries, or children recruited and used by armed groups. Despite the strong international commitments to address violations of children's rights, applicable also in conflict and post-conflict settings – violations continue. At the global level, there also continues to be a lack of solid information on violations in the context of armed conflict.

## Type of activity

In order to better understand the scale as well as the patterns, risks and vulnerabilities to known violations of children's rights in humanitarian contexts – forced recruitment into armed groups, abductions, forced labour and forced marriage – a study was undertaken by IOM, ILO and Walk Free Foundation in three locations affected by protracted displacement and conflict: North Kivu in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), South Sudan and North-East Nigeria. The research also explored the prevalence of these particular human rights violations for adults.

## Challenges/Lessons learned:

- Limitations and challenges are described in the study.

**Title:** Strengthening the health sector's response to child maltreatment

**Author:** Kieselbach, Berit

**Organisation:** World Health Organization

**Key words:** violence against children; health; inter-sectoral collaboration; guidelines

## Background

Only a fraction of children that are exposed to maltreatment and desire support actively seek and access health and/or social services due to various access barriers. The health sector is often the first official point of contact for children exposed to maltreatment. In many instances however, severe maltreatment is not disclosed nor recognized in routine healthcare encounters or healthcare providers do suspect maltreatment but do not have the capacity to offer a child-centered first line response.

## Type of activity

WHO developed new guidelines to help frontline health workers to identify child maltreatment, provide first line physical, sexual and mental health support, interact constructively with caregivers and document cases of maltreatment applying a child centered approach. WHO is supporting health care providers to develop national protocols based on the guidelines and to systematically integrate a better response to child maltreatment into routine healthcare provision.

## Challenges/Lessons learned

- The health sector's resources are limited and it is challenging to integrate a new responsibility into the portfolio of frontline healthcare providers.
  - Healthcare providers often fear reprisal from perpetrators when they support victims of violence and other negative consequences, especially when they are asked to testify in courts.
-

**Title:** La transformation de la pratique des acteurs sociaux de protection de l'enfance, réflexion sur l'approche par compétences-clés

**Author:** Landry, Guillaume

**Organisation:** Bureau International des droits de l'enfant

**Key words:** systems strengthening; social service workforce; competencies

### Background

Le Bureau international des droits des enfants (IBCR) agit pour les droits de l'enfant depuis 1994 avec des projets menés dans près de 45 pays d'Afrique, d'Amérique, d'Asie et du Moyen- Orient. Par une approche fondée sur la collaboration, nous oeuvrons avec nos partenaires sur le terrain, à la promotion et à la protection des droits de l'enfant. En effet, dans les pays en situation d'urgence, de nombreuses problématiques liées à la protection de l'enfant sont observables, notamment en termes de violences.

### Type of activity

À travers nos projets, nous avons pu mesurer les nombreux défis liés à la résistance aux changements, plus particulièrement concernant le renforcement des capacités des effectifs des services sociaux. Cette réflexion nous a conduit à développer une méthode spécifique, fondée sur l'approche par compétences-clés. Ainsi, dans le cadre d'un atelier de réflexion régionale<sup>1</sup> à Cotonou – Benin en 2016, nous avons pu ainsi travailler de concert avec divers pays et agences dans l'élaboration de compétences clés pour le personnel social et du travail, aboutissant au développement d'un référentiel de compétences-clés des acteurs de la protection de l'enfant.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Plusieurs défis: le développement d'un vocabulaire commun aux différents types d'acteurs, de la valorisation du travail social comme facteur de développement de lois appropriées et de la société en général, de la formation initiale qui prend en compte les défis actuels, de la formation continue de ceux qui sont déjà sur le terrain, et du développement de standards pour l'Afrique de l'Ouest.

Title: Child friendly spaces impact across five humanitarian settings: a meta-analysis

Author: Mwebe Mofya, Frieda

Organisation: World Vision

Key words: child-friendly spaces; psychosocial support; research

### Background

Child friendly spaces (CFS) are - widely used as an approach to protect children in emergencies by providing them with safe place to play recreation, psychosocial support and referral of those with specific child protection needs to appropriate available services. However, little evidence documents their outcomes and impacts.

### Type of activity

A meta-analysis was conducted on the effectiveness of one of the most widely-used interventions in humanitarian contexts, child-friendly spaces. The study reviewed five short-term impact evaluations of Child Friendly Spaces in Ethiopia, Uganda, Iraq, Jordan, and Nepal. In the study, survey methods were complemented by participatory sessions, stakeholder mappings and key informant interviews. Findings confirmed significant intervention impacts were observed through site-level analysis for protection concerns (Ethiopia, Cohen's  $d = 0.48$ , 95% CI 0.08–0.88), psychosocial wellbeing (Ethiopia,  $d = 0.51$ , 95% CI 0.10–0.91; and Uganda,  $d = 0.21$ , 95% CI 0.02–0.40), and developmental assets (Uganda,  $d = 0.37$ , 95% CI 0.15–0.59; and Iraq,  $d = 0.86$ , 95% CI 0.18–1.54) amongst younger children aged 6 to 11 years. Pooled analyses for this age group found impacts of intervention to be significant only for psychosocial wellbeing ( $d = 0.18$ , 95% CI 0.03–0.33). Among children aged 12–17, site-level analysis indicated intervention impact for protection concerns in one site (Iraq,  $d = 0.58$ , 95% CI 0.07–1.09), with pooled analysis indicating no significant impacts.

### Challenges/Lessons learned

- Findings suggest that child-friendly spaces can provide a protective and promotive environment for younger children, albeit inconsistently.
- CFS show no impact with older children and in connecting children and caregivers with wider community resources.

**Title:** Ending violence in and through schools via evidence-based interventions

**Author:** Neuweiler, Chantal

**Organisation:** Global Partnership to End Violence against children

**Key words:** violence against children; education; inter-sectoral collaboration; guidelines

## Background

Each year, up to one billion children experience some form of physical, sexual or psychological violence. This can happen at home, in the community, in institutions, in the way to and from schools and/or within schools. Schools are in a unique position to address violence against children and to reduce their current and future risks of victimization or perpetration. This can include forms of violence that occur within school settings as well as within homes and/or the community. Schools can also contribute to addressing harmful social norms around violence.

## Type of activity

WHO, with contributions from UNESCO, UNICEF and support from the Global Partnership to End Violence against children developed a short practical handbook on school-based violence prevention, which outlines nine steps that schools can undertake to implement an evidence-based whole-school approach to violence prevention.

## Challenges/Lessons learned

- As it is newly developed, there are only a few documented examples of how the handbook is being or could be used in humanitarian settings and at which stage
  - Education and child protection actors in emergency were not necessarily directly involved in the drafting of the handbook which might hamper its dissemination
-

**Title:** Strengthening response and reporting mechanism for children and young people in child protection fragile and humanitarian contexts: child helplines contribution, challenges and opportunities

**Author:** Ombono, Richard & Machado, Mara      **Organisation:** Child Helpline International

**Key words:** systems strengthening; child helplines

## Background

Child Helpline International is an organisation that brings together 175 child helplines in 145 countries around the world to advance a common agenda: to strengthen child protection systems and amplify the voices of children at a national, regional and global level. Helplines offer their services to children and young people, and to adults calling on their behalf. Child helplines around the world can operate under different circumstances and capacities. Several operate within fragile, conflict, post-conflict zones, or disaster-struck areas, while many others could strengthen their role in humanitarian settings.

## Type of activity

Both natural and human-induced disasters cause disruptions in children's lives and wreak havoc in the immediate and longer term. Children, all too often, are the silent victims of circumstances beyond their control. Child helplines play a crucial role in recognising children's needs and thus in their recovery. There is a myriad of actions and support that child helplines are well-equipped to take. Direct services include: rescuing children; reuniting families; ensuring basic needs of children are met; monitoring children's well-being; providing support in psychosocial rehabilitation; supporting and training parents and humanitarian staff in adopting the right approach to children suffering from trauma. Indirect services include: collecting and monitoring data on children's issues and violations of children's rights; flagging gaps in the child protection system; holding stakeholders accountable.

## Challenges/Lessons learned

- Insufficient coordination among service providers; availability of toll-free numbers
- Limited resources, connectivity and access to technology to reach out to all children

**Title:** Bridging Humanitarian and Development Divide through Social Service Workforce Strengthening: Country and Regional Examples

**Author:** Partsksalazade, Natia

**Organisation:** Global Social Service Workforce Alliance (GSSWA)

**Key words:** systems strengthening; social service workforce; assessment

## Background

While responding to some of the most complex and challenging child protection cases in humanitarian and development settings, the social service workforce (SSW) is often under-resourced and under-recognized. In addition, social service workers are dealing with high workload, poor working conditions, inadequate resources to work with, low or no salaries, poor coordination between the stakeholders, etc. They experience burnout and secondary trauma and are often left without adequate supervision and support. Some countries still lack clarity about who constitutes the SSW and hence, are not able to recognize and support all groups of the workforce.

## Type of activity

In collaboration with the UNICEF, over the past few years, the GSSWA has mapped the SSW in 32 countries in South Asia, East Asia and Pacific, Middle East and North Africa. These countries are going through significant developments and at the same time, many of them are facing unprecedented humanitarian risks. Closer engagement of humanitarian actors in the mappings will ensure better recognition of humanitarian workers under the national SSW and will impact the definition of this workforce adopted in the country. In addition, engagement of humanitarian actors in SSW assessments will support contextualization of mapping tools, generate higher quality data and ensure more coordinated action planning and implementation of recommendations at the national and local levels.

## Challenges/Lessons learned

- More concerted efforts are needed to include humanitarian actors in social services workforce assessments

**Title:** The Role of Faith Actors in Protecting Children on the Move in Fragile Contexts: Evidence and Learnings for Programming and Policy

**Author:** Rives, Amanda / Forbes, Bill

**Organisation:** World Vision International

**Key words:** faith leaders; community approaches; children on the move; research

## Background

Children on move and their communities are fleeing, moving through, and often staying in extremely fragile contexts, which span the range of the challenges that exist in the humanitarian-development nexus. The range of services needed to ensure a continuum of child protection includes prevention, response, reintegration and restoration. Faith actors are at the front lines of providing protection and can offer added value in terms of local and sustained child protection.

## Type of activity

In 2017, World Vision and 13 key faith-based organizations began a close collaboration to address violence against children on the move, carrying out a systematic review of academic and grey literature along with a call for case studies which was led by the Joint Learning Initiative for Faith and Local Communities. Over 222 documents and 33 case studies were reviewed which resulted in three learning briefs: (1) The role of faith in strengthening the continuum of protection for children on the move; (2) Spiritual support to children on the move and their caregivers as a source of healing and resilience; and (3) The role of faith in building peaceful societies and combating xenophobia.

## Challenges/Lessons learned

- Difficulties arise when community and grassroots Initiatives are not supported by broader networks with capacity training, resources and authority
- More evidence is needed around the effectiveness of CFS to continuously improve on current practices and gain a better understanding of the potential role of faith actors in CFS provision

Title: Building durable and effective child protection systems in humanitarian contexts: Opportunities and constraints

Author: Torsein, Christina

Organisation: Proteknôn Consulting Group

Key words: systems strengthening; refugees; children on the move; research

## Background

While child protection programming in a humanitarian context can be challenging, legislative reform and revisions to national guidelines are possible. There is also a renewed responsibility to prioritize the needs of refugee children and other children on the move, and include them in national child protection systems.

## Type of activity

Christina is currently writing a book, “Child Protection Systems in the Developing World”, for Springer International Publishing. The book addresses how child protection in humanitarian contexts should include a focus on longer-term vision and planning. The findings are based on the author’s field experience as a programme manager for UNICEF and as a technical adviser for governments and organisations (working independently and for Proteknôn). Her work includes efforts to strengthen the social welfare workforce, legislative reform, and efforts to establish adequate monitoring systems, amongst others.

## Challenges/Lessons learned

- Insufficient focus on public financing for children
  - Overall lack of donor coordination fora for child protection at the country level impacts sustainability and transparency of funding
  - Need for additional focus on inter-sectoral collaboration: measuring impact on preventing violence against children; civil registration and vital statistics; greater technical guidance and direction from respective National Offices of Statistics.
-

Title: “Unprotected: Crisis in Humanitarian Funding to Child Protection”

Author: **Whitaker, Victoria**

Organisation: **Save the Children**

Key words: funding; research

## Background

Although the number of children living in conflict affected areas has almost doubled since 1990, and the verified grave violations against children has almost tripled since 2010, activities that aim to increase the protection of children in humanitarian settings remain alarmingly underfunded. The systematic underfunding of child protection activities in humanitarian assistance and calls for increased efforts from both humanitarian actors and donors to address the gaps.

## Type of activity

Save the Children conducted a desk review of the total global humanitarian funding allocated to child protection between 2010 and 2018, with in-depth studies of 13 conflict affected countries, including Syria, Yemen, Iraq and Afghanistan. The study finds that although the overall humanitarian funding has increased over the last decade, including the funding allocated to child protection interventions, the need for child protection interventions has increased even more. In countries like Afghanistan and the Central African Republic, only 18 % and 25 % of the funding requirements for child protection were met in 2018. The report addresses needs and gaps that, in addition to increased humanitarian funding, also require a long – term approach and investments in capacity building and resources in a range of different areas including MHPSS, SGBV, case management, to name a few.

## Challenges/Lessons learned

- There are limitations to the main data source for this desk review, the Financial Tracking Service (FTS) managed by UN OCHA.
- This report should initiate a dialogue within the humanitarian community, as well as between the humanitarian community and the donor community on what concrete measures are needed to address the gaps.



# **Author and Organisation Index**

**Abdourahamane, Issa**

International Rescue Committee, 12

**Abou Assaly, Zoubeida**

World Vision Lebanon, 49

**Alvarez, Yoselin**

World Vision Nicaragua, 45

**Asuquo, Ekei**

Green Concern for Development, 14

**Bahgat, Mirette**

World Vision Canada, 47

**Barnabas, Joseph**

International Rescue Committee, 15

**Bragin, Martha**

Silberman School of Social Work/  
International Association of Schools of  
Social Work, 56

**Caliandro, Davide**

Cesvi, 54

**Canavera, Mark**

CPC Learning Network, 58

**Carter, Ann**

Osman Consulting, 51

**Chapuis, Laurent**

UNICEF Regional Office ECA, 36

**Cwinyai, Innocent**

AVSI Foundation, 23

**Dangal, Mohan**

Child Nepal, 33

**Dia, Souleymane**

Government of Senegal, 18

**Diop, Ndeye Marie**

UNICEF, 17

**Ede, John**

Ohaha Family Foundation, 16

**El Manssy, Radwa**

Childfund International, 32

**Feldmann, Jasmina**

Plan International Deutschland, 35

**Forbes, Bill**

World Vision International, 68

**Gamero, Elisa**

World Vision El Salvador, 40

**Giordano, Francesca**

Cesvi, 54

**Hall, Erica**

World Vision UK, 59

**Hernandez, José Luis**

UNHCR, 44

**Hills, Simon**

ILO, IOM, and Walk Free Foundation, 60

**Hommel, Sara**

Save the Children, 42

**Huser, Catherine**

Act Church of Sweden, 27

**Itani, Zena F**

Mercy Corps Jordan, 48

**Jones, Camilla**

Family for Every Child, 41

**Kieselbach, Berit**

World Health Organization, 61

**Kusumaningrum, Santi**

PUSKAPA, 58

**Landry, Guillaume**

Bureau International des droits de l'enfant,  
62

**Larok, Rita**

AVSI Foundation, 24

**Laurin, Else**

UNHCR, 17

**Luna, Mara Tissera**

Hungarian Helsinki Committee, 37

**Machado, Mara**

Child Helpline International, 65

**Madhavan, Ramya**

Street Child, 29

**Marabi, Phoebe**

Save the Children, 8

**Mdemu, Christina**

International Rescue Committee, 20

**Murungi, Lydia**

AVSI Foundation, 25

**Mwebe Mofya, Frieda**

World Vision, 63

**Nabwire, Dinnah**

TPO Uganda, 26

**Neuweiler, Chantal**

Global Partnership to End Violence against  
children, 64

**Nkezimana, Jean-Claude**

UNICEF, 4

**Nyakato, Rhoda**

Plan International Tanzania, 21

**Ombono, Richard**

Child Helpline International, 65

**Partsksalazade, Natia**

Global Social Service Workforce Alliance  
(GSSWA), 67

**Pelupessy, Dicky**

Cris Center, Universitas Indonesia, 31

**Podeszfa, Leana**

UNHCR, 10

**Richmond, Amy**

Save the Children, 42

**Rives, Amanda**

World Vision International, 68

**Sole Fanuzzi, Maria**

Plan International, 6

**Soyalp, Iraz**

Right to Play, 11

**Svobodova, Valerie**

Independent, 13

**Torsein, Christina**

Proteknôn Consulting Group, 69

**Ullah, Shafi**

Directorate of Mine Action Coordination, 30

**Valerio, Sara**

War Child Holland, 52

**Victoria Whitaker**

Save the Children, 70

**Vraalsen, Pia**

Child Frontiers, 58

**Wali, Irene**

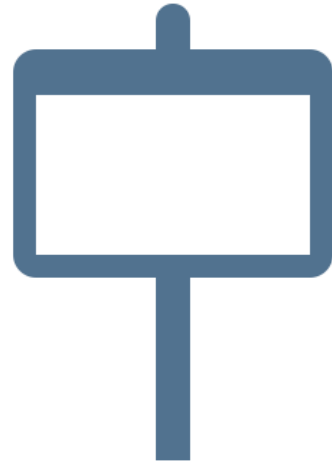
Save the Children Kenya Office, 9

**Willow Adan, Mohamed**

Peace Action Society Organization for  
Somalia (PASOS), 19

**Witkowski, Katharina**

Plan International, 7



# **Key Words Index**

**accountability**, 13  
**adolescents**, 15, 25, 27, 35  
**alternative care**, 9, 39  
**alternative energy**, 14, 51  
**assessment**, 6, 33, 45, 60, 71  
**child helplines**, 69  
**child labour**, 64  
**child marriage**, 64  
**child participation**, 14, 45, 60  
**child recruitment**, 64  
**child wellbeing**, 6, 33, 60  
**child-friendly spaces**, 67  
**child-headed households**, 20  
**children on the move**, 12, 16, 39, 41, 45, 48, 72, 74  
**climate change**, 14  
**collective outcomes**, 7  
**community approaches**, 4, 11, 16, 22, 24, 27, 28, 29, 31, 34, 44, 49, 53, 60, 72  
**competencies**, 63, 66  
**education**, 16, 56, 68  
**emergency preparedness**, 19, 35, 46  
**energy use**, 52  
**faith leaders**, 53, 72  
**family strengthening**, 21, 44  
**funding**, 75  
**gender-based violence**, 52  
**guidelines**, 65, 68  
**health**, 65  
**internally displaced**, 11, 13, 15  
**inter-sectoral collaboration**, 15, 20, 24, 32, 48, 51, 56, 65, 68  
**juvenile justice**, 31  
**mine risk education**, 32  
**natural disaster**, 33, 35, 46  
**organisational flexibility**, 63  
**peacebuilding**, 7, 8, 29, 49  
**program adaptation**, 12, 63  
**psychosocial support**, 25, 46, 67  
**refugees**, 8, 9, 10, 18, 21, 22, 24, 25, 29, 38, 39, 41, 48, 52, 53, 55, 56, 74  
**research**, 13, 55, 62, 64, 67, 72, 74, 75  
**resilience**, 4, 15, 20, 25, 27, 35, 38, 49, 58  
**risks**, 6, 52  
**self-reliance**, 10, 24  
**social service workforce**, 4, 9, 10, 18, 19, 22, 58, 66, 71  
**sports**, 8, 49  
**systems strengthening**, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 18, 19, 22, 28, 31, 34, 38, 39, 41, 48, 55, 58, 62, 66, 69, 71, 74  
**violence against children**, 21, 27, 28, 44, 65, 68