



## Global Child Labour Task Force Terms of Reference

Reports to: The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action  
Last updated: July 2018

### Background

In 2011 a child labour task group was established under the former global Child Protection Working Group (CPWG) to develop CPMS<sup>1</sup> Standard 12 on Child Labour. In 2012, a CPWG survey among country child protection coordinators showed that child labour had the highest average rating of gravity chosen from all fields of child protection in emergencies. Yet, only 18% of practitioners considered child labour issues were adequately addressed in early response activities. This led ILO and Plan International in 2012 to establish the global Child Labour Task Force.

Key activities undertaken by the Child Labour Task Force between 2013 and 2016 include:

- A global review of child labour response programmes in emergencies and identification of best practices, lessons learned and key gaps in guidance for practitioners (2013).
- The development of the Inter-Agency Child Labour in Emergencies Toolkit with guidance for practitioners on the prevention of and response to child labour in emergencies (2014-16)
- Development of capacity building materials on child labour in emergencies for the global Child Protection in Emergencies face to face training package
- Development of key reference materials on child labour, e.g. the child labour and education reference paper.
- Field-support was provided to emergency responses in Philippines, South Sudan, Middle East, Nepal and other contexts.

In March 2017, the Child Labour task force was formally re-instated under the new Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action.

### Rationale for the Task Force

Global humanitarian crises impact over 2 billion people worldwide<sup>i</sup>, and children make up half of the affected populations. Conflicts become more complex and protracted, natural disasters more frequent and population movement and migration trends are rising. In these contexts, where many have lost their livelihoods, breadwinners and access to education, and families are separated and displaced, children become particularly vulnerable to child labour and its worst forms (Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action, 2012).

Collective efforts and technical expertise are required to effectively work on preparedness, prevention and response to child labour and its worst forms including child recruitment, trafficking, hazardous work and exploitation. The Child Labour Task Force will provide a platform for development and humanitarian actors to table their issues and collectively work towards developing solutions, whilst documenting and sharing good practices and lessons learned in the sector and contributing to knowledge management of child labour during humanitarian crisis.

Given the complexity and cross-sectoral nature of child labour across the spectrum of humanitarian and development, the inter-agency Task Force is required and expected to represent child labour in humanitarian settings and speak with one voice when providing expertise to other sectors, global initiatives and working groups such as the Working Group on Minimum Standards for Child Protection and the global Alliance 8.7 on SDG 8.7 that calls on all to take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.

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<sup>1</sup> Child Protection Minimum Standards

## **Priorities for 2018-2020**

In 2018-20, the Child Labour Task Force will prioritise the finalisation of the Inter-Agency Child Labour in Emergencies Toolkit and wide dissemination through all relevant global, regional and national networks. The CLTF will continue to provide direct and remote technical support to country-based agencies and inter-agency coordination groups to support strategic response planning related to child labour, in line with global guidance. The CLTF will also continue to work with different expert agencies and global networks to strengthen knowledge management by documenting and sharing good practices in child labour in emergencies. Lastly, the CLTF will contribute to improved coordination and advocacy around child labour issues in humanitarian settings.

## **Task Force Membership**

The Child Labour Task Force is currently being co-led by Plan International and the International Labour Organisation (ILO). Member agencies represent a variety of organisations with wide geographical coverage. Each organization is officially represented by one member while more members of the same organisation can participate in meetings and discussions of the Task Force.

## **Membership Criteria**

Membership is approved by the Task Force co-lead agencies through general e-mail application process. Applications for new membership can be submitted on a rolling basis. As per January 2018, the criteria for membership are:

All members of the Child Labour Task Force shall:

1. Be committed to the objectives and principles of Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action, although it is not necessary to be a member of the Alliance.
2. Have an organisational mandate and/or programmes that relate to protecting children from child labour in humanitarian settings.
3. Be able and willing to actively contribute to one or more work plan activities of the CLTF in 2018-2020.

Agencies who are interested in the global work of the CLTF but not able or willing to become a member, can sign up for the Community of Practice Mailing List to receive regular news updates on activities of the task force, invitations for webinars and new global resources.

## **Current Task Force members**

As of July 2018 the following agencies are members of the Task Force:

- International Labour Organisation (ILO) – Task Force co-lead
- Plan International – Task force co-lead
- Advocacy for Child Relief (ACR) Uganda
- Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR)
- Ghiras Foundation Turkey
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- The International Rescue Committee (IRC)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Save the Children International
- Terres des Hommes (TdH)
- UNHCR
- Unicef
- World Vision International (WVI)
- Independent consultants working on child labour in emergencies

The membership list is regularly updated and shared among the Task Force members by the lead agencies.

## Terms of Reference of the Child Labour Task Force

The purpose of the Child Labour Task Force is to ensure practical coordination and collaboration amongst humanitarian responders and development actors at the global level to strengthen quality and coordinated child labour in emergencies preparedness, prevention and response actions at country level, through capacity building of practitioners to use and access to technical tools, and guidance, knowledge management and coordination.

The Task Force will provide a platform to identify and seek to address common challenges in child labour in emergencies programming; providing a collective technical voice on child labour issues in emergencies for other core pieces of work such as humanitarian standard setting, inter-sectoral collaboration, and global advocacy and policy work related to child labour.

Key objectives:

**I. Technical tools and guidance:** Inter-agency technical guidance, standards and tools to prevent and respond to (the worst forms of) child labour in emergencies are available and reflect the latest evidence and lessons learned.

**II. Capacity building:** Humanitarian responders have enhanced knowledge and competencies to prevent and respond to (the worst forms of) child labour in emergencies.

**III. Coordination, policy and advocacy:** Child labour in humanitarian settings is integrated/reflected in the agenda's of relevant global, regional and local platforms, including but not limited to the 8.7 Alliance and other Task Forces under the Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action.

The detailed activities under each objective is included into the Task Force workplan for 2018-2020. The workplan is updated on an annual basis. For specific activities in the Task Force work plan that do not require involvement of all TF members, smaller, activity-based working groups may be established that consist of task force members as well as external agencies or individuals.

## Roles and Responsibilities

All Task Force Members:

- Participate in quarterly Task Force calls per calendar year to progress collective work and contribute to decision-making, as well as one annual face to face meeting;
- Contribute to the development of the Task Force work plan and identify linkages with other initiatives or actors relevant to the Task Force;
- Actively lead on/contribute to work plan activities and provide regular updates on progress to Task Force leads;
- Provide technical contribution to agreed joint pieces of work such as tools, training and guidance materials, policy and advocacy papers;
- Follow-up in a timely manner to requests sent by lead agencies or other members (including providing feedback on key documents, emails, etc);
- Be responsible for keeping their respective agency and partners (or regions/countries) informed on achievements, requests, etc. of the Child Labour Task Force including sharing of key developed documents/resources;
- Contribute to resource mobilization to support the Task Force work plan;
- Participate in joint advocacy efforts on agreed priorities, including in support to ensuring adequate child protection responses at field level.

Task Force Lead Agencies:

- Coordinate the work of the Task Force, facilitate and minute regular calls and meetings;
- Lead the development and review process of the annual work plan and budget;
- Oversee the full implementation of the Child Labour Task Force work plan;
- Finalize key documents with consideration of the members' feedback, including but not limited to the annual work plan.

- Ensure collaboration between the Child Labour Task Force and other coordination groups including the Alliance 8.7;
- Represent the Child Labour Task Force to the Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action
- Represent the Child Labour Task Force in the CP AoR, Glocal Protection Cluster and other key working groups/coordination bodies;
- Lead on resource mobilization and coordinate fundraising efforts.

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<sup>i</sup> World Bank, **Helping Countries Navigate a Volatile Environment** 2016. Available from: <http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/fragilityconflictviolence/overview>