



2020-2021 COVID-19 Work-Plan

Introduction

Since COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic, the Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (the Alliance), has been working to produce and disseminate much needed technical guidance, advocacy material, best practices, and other technical material in relation to the impact of the pandemic on the protection of children. Therefore, this work plan sets out the interagency standard setting and normative work of the Alliance, which aims to continue the prevention and response to infectious disease outbreaks, specifically COVID-19 and adaption of child protection programs in humanitarian settings.

Further updates will be available on the [Alliance website](#).

The Alliance

The Alliance is a global network of operational agencies, academic institutions, policymakers, donors and practitioners that support the efforts of humanitarian actors to achieve high-quality and effective child protection interventions in all humanitarian contexts. The Alliance achieves this primarily by facilitating inter-agency technical collaboration, including production of technical standards and tools, on child protection in all humanitarian contexts. The Alliance's work falls into five broad categories: **Standard setting and guidance development, Capacity building, learning and development, Evidence and knowledge generation, Advocacy and Convening**. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) co-leads this network with a rotating organization. Plan International is the co-lead for 2019-2021.

The Alliance is structured as an open and non-competitive network of organizations and individuals with interest in the protection of children in humanitarian settings. It has a Steering Committee composed of representatives from the 18 core members, composed of UN agencies, INGOs and NGOs and observer representative from the Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR). The Steering Committee has primary authority and responsibility on matters of strategic significance and governance issues.

Working Groups, Task Forces and technical focal points implement the Alliance work-plan. Working Groups and Task Forces are led by members of the Alliance and supported by Alliance coordinators. Working Groups are permanent work streams, while Task Forces are expected to serve a specific technical function and dissolve once the task is completed. Technical focal points are individuals, within member agencies of the Alliance, who have agreed to act as an inter-agency resource on a given technical area of child protection, where no working group or task force exists.

Working Groups within the Alliance:

- Advocacy Working Group (AWG), co-led by the ChildFund Alliance, Save the Children, and Swatantrata Abhiyan Nepal
- Assessment, Measurement and Evidence Working Group (AME WG), co-led by the CPC-Network and World Vision International
- Child Protection Minimum Standards Working Group (CPMS WG), co-led by Save the Children and UNICEF
- Learning and Development Working Group (L&D WG), co-led by Plan International and UNICEF

Task Forces within the Alliance:

- Case Management Task Force (CMTF), co-led by the International Rescue Committee and UNICEF
- Cash Transfer and Child Protection Task Force (Cash TF), co-led by World Vision International and the International Rescue Committee
- Child Labour Task Force (CL-TF), co-led by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and Plan International
- Children Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Groups Task Force, co-led by Plan International and UNICEF
- Community-Level Child Protection Task Force (CCP TF), co-led by Plan International and World Vision International
- Family Strengthening Task Force (FS TF), co-led by War Child Holland, the International Rescue Committee and Save the Children
- Unaccompanied and Separated Children Task Force (UASC TF), led by the International Rescue Committee and UNHCR (rotating leadership)

List of Acronyms:

CVA – Cash and Voucher Assistance
CVP – Cash Voucher Program
CLiE – Child Labour in Emergencies
CP – Child Protection
CP AoR – Child Protection Area of Responsibility
CPHA – Child Protection in Humanitarian Action
CPMS – Child Protection Minimum Standards
DPKO – United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations
IFRC – International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent
ILO – International Labour Organization
INEE – Interagency Network on Education in Emergencies
IOM – International Organization for Migration
IRC – International Rescue Committee
ISS – International Schools Services
MOOC – Massive Open Online Course
OFDA – Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance
UASC – Unaccompanied and Separated Children
UNHCR – United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF – United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund
UKZN – University of Kwazulu-Natal
VAC – Violence Against Children
WHO – World Health Organization
WVI – World Vision International

Work-Plan Secretariat

The Alliance Secretariat		
Outcome: Alliance continued to provide well-coordinated and high-quality support to the CP sector to respond to child protection needs during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.		
Lead agency(ies):	Plan International and UNICEF	Total Budget 2020-2021: \$610,000
Contributing members:	The Alliance Steering Committee members: AJEDI-Ka, BIFERD, ChildFund International, CPC Learning Network, Danish Refugee Council, Hurras Network, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies (IFRC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Islamic Relief Worldwide, Plan International, Save the Children, Terre des hommes, UNHCR, UNICEF, War Child Holland, War Child UK, World Vision International and Child Protection Area of Responsibility (Observer)	
Objectives	Activities	
Objective 1: Alliance COVID-19 initiatives are effectively managed and coordinated	1.1: Provide day to day management and strategic direction to the work of the COVID-19 core group.	
	1.2: Coordinate all COVID-19 related activities across Working Groups, Task Forces and other projects under the Alliance.	
	1.3: Support development and implementation of Alliance COVID-19 work plan.	
	1.4: Organize CPHA Annual Meeting on the topic of infectious disease outbreaks (and COVID-19).	
	1.5: Develop and maintain strong partnership with other actors (including other sectors) active in the area of COVID-19 and its impact on children.	
Objective 2: Produce and maintain guidance and evidence to place Child Protection at the center of COVID-19 responses, and improve programming	2.1: Identify gaps for technical material.	
	2.2: Produce and revise technical notes as per need.	
	2.3: Collect and produce case studies on best practice and lessons learned.	
	2.4: Revise the Guidelines on Protection of Children during Infectious Disease Outbreaks.	
	2.5: Synthesize evidence and produce evidence synthesis on an ongoing basis.	
Objective 3: Knowledge Management	3.1: Develop and enhance Alliance Website to support information sharing.	
	3.2: Make knowledge and technical material more accessible.	
	3.3: Support Working Groups and Task Forces in Knowledge Management strategy.	

	3.4: Translate key Alliance Products into languages other than English.
Objective 4: COVID-19 initiatives are coordinated across Education and Child Protection Actors	4.1: Develop a policy brief on re-opening schools (why and when).
	4.2: Coordinate between INEE and the Alliance on all relevant COVID-19 related initiatives.
	4.3: Review all Alliance products to ensure sensitivity to Education concerns.
	4.4: Conduct research on the impact of school closures on protection and well-being of children.
Objective 5: Fundraising and Grant Management	5.1: Work with existing donors on adapting to the COVID-19 realities.
	5.2: Fundraise for COVID-19 related initiative within the Alliance.
	5.3: Manage Grants.

Working Groups

Working Group 1. Advocacy Working Group (AWG)		
Outcome: Alliance members, working groups and task forces are supported in their advocacy of sustained and sufficiently resourced child protection in COVID-19 response and recovery actions.		
Lead agency(ies):	ChildFund Alliance, Save the Children and Swatantrata Abhiyan Nepal	Total Budget 2020-2021: \$2,000
Contributing members:	Child Frontiers, ChildFund Alliance, CPC Learning Network, Danish Refugee Council, Hurras Child Protection Network, Plan International, Retrak, Terre des hommes, United Citizens Child Support Organization Uganda, War Child Holland, World Vision	
Objectives	Activities	
Objective 1: Align global advocacy to promote the centrality of child protection in COVID-19 response and recovery	1.1: Review existing COVID-19 response and recovery frameworks to assess how well they protect children and make recommendations for improving the centrality of Child Protection in framework updates.	
	1.2: Encourage multilateral actors and international agencies to obtain and disseminate timely information on how governments are adjusting their Child Protection systems in response to COVID-19 response and recovery efforts, pressure governments to disclose to multilateral institutions and agencies how they have adjusted their Child Protection systems to provide effective service during the COVID-19 pandemic.	
	1.3: Engage children and youth in efforts to advocate on for their own protection in COVID-19 response and recovery actions.	
	1.4: Coordinate and support consistent advocacy messaging at the global level on the centrality of Child Protection in COVID-19 response and recovery.	
Objective 2: Support agencies and members with tools, materials and guidance to advocate internally and with national governments	2.1: Utilize webinar instant polling to determine the advocacy needs of CPHA members.	
	2.2: Use media mapping and active polling to suggest new advocacy tools and measure member interest in their development.	
	2.3: Strengthen the advocacy capacity of Alliance members with tools, materials, guidance and training.	
Objective 3: Secure sufficient funding for child protection in COVID-19 response & recovery	3.1: Reach consensus on a shared funding ask and develop materials to support it.	
	3.2: Update the <i>Unprotected</i> report with newer data, including data on Child Protection funding in COVID-19 response and recovery.	
	3.3: Promote the findings of the updated Unprotected report to (1) increase Child Protection funding in COVID-19 response actions, and (2) provide long-term Child Protection funding in COVID-19 recovery plans.	

Working Group 2. Assessment, Evidence and Measurement Working Group (AME WG)		
Outcome: COVID-19 related evidence and research are generated to promote informed decision making and effective interventions in Child Protection in Humanitarian Action.		
Lead agency(ies):	CPC Learning Network and World Vision International	Total Budget 2020-2021: \$145,000
Contributing members:	Action Contre la Faim (ACF), AVSI, Bethany Global, CARE US, Child Protection Area of Responsibility (UNICEF), Global Women’s Institute (George Washington University), InterAction, INEE, IOM, IRC, Maestral, OFDA, Plan International, Proteknôn Foundation for Innovation and Learning, Retrak, Save the Children, Silberman School of Social Work, Terre de hommes, UNHCR, UNICEF, War Child, WVI	
Objectives	Activities	
Objective 1: Evidence is generated, documented, and synthesized on the secondary impacts of COVID-19	1.1: Document and disseminate evidence on the impact of COVID-19 on violence against children and child well-being.	
	1.2: Document and disseminate evidence on children who are out of school as a result of COVID-19 and who do not return following the re-opening of schools/academic institutions and why, and the increased risk of exploitation and poverty.	
	1.3: Document and disseminate evidence on parenting programs in development contexts and how they can be adapted to COVID-19 in humanitarian contexts.	
	1.4: Document and disseminate learning on how Child Protection services were impacted, as risks to children increased, and the impact of this limited or unavailability of services for children.	
	1.5: Document and disseminate positive multi-sector practices related to CPHA during COVID-19 (e.g. links with CVP and social protection, and the integration of CP staff into health teams).	
Objective 2: Conduct research on how CPHA is being funded in light of COVID-19 and the impact on meeting minimum standards and outcomes for children in humanitarian settings	2.1: Compile learning from at least four diverse humanitarian settings.	
	2.2: Conduct budget analysis on child protection projects that had to reallocate funds from ongoing Child Protection programmes to COVID-19 response activities.	
	2.3: Develop key awareness and communication messages to advocate to donors.	
Objective 3: Conduct research on the correlation between domestic violence and child abuse during COVID-19	3.1: Desk review to compile learning from development and humanitarian settings (where possible).	

Working Group 3. Child Protection Minimum Standards Working Group (CMPS WG)

Outcome: CPHA practitioners and multi-sectoral actors have the knowledge, tools and resources to implement the CPMS in COVID-19 contexts and ensure greater quality and accountability in child protection responses.

Lead agency(ies):	Save the Children and UNICEF	Total Budget 2020-2021: \$205,000
Contributing members:	Child Protection Area of Responsibility, BIFERD (DRC), ChildFund, Child Soldiers International, Columbia University, CPC Network, Danish Refugee Council, DPKO, Geneva Call, Global Partnership to End VaC, Goal, ICRC, ILO, IFRC, IOM, IRC, Islamic Relief, KCS Coalition, Nirengi Association, Plan International, Save the Children, Terre des Hommes, UNHCR, UNICEF, Viva, War Child, WHO, World Vision	
Objectives	Activities	
Objective 1: Raise Awareness	1.1: Collaborate with multi-sectoral actors and the Humanitarian Standards Partnership to raise awareness on integrated approaches with child protection during COVID-19 responses.	
Objective 2: Country-level Implementation	2.1: Develop Case Studies on the use of the CPMS in COVID-19 response.	
	2.2: Developing online contextualization tool - two half day workshop, weight priorities, polls, etc.	
	2.3: Innovation fund – support to country-level roll out.	
Objective 3: Capacity-Building on New Approaches	3.1: E-course – Infectious Disease Outbreaks model.	
	3.2: Update the CPMS Video Series to strengthen representation of Infectious Disease Outbreaks contexts and develop an infectious disease specific video to capture learning on COVID-19 and how the CPMS can be used.	
	3.3: Continue CPMS webinar series with a focus on promoting Pillar 3 and Pillar 4.	

Working Group 4. Learning and Development Working Group (L&D WG)

Outcome: CPHA practitioners have access to a diverse set of opportunities for learning and development, aligned with COVID-19 needs and limitations.

Lead agency(ies):	Plan International and UNICEF	Total Budget 2020-2021: \$225,675
Contributing members:	Bioforce, Child Frontiers, Child Safe, Columbia University, Horizons, IFRC, ILO, IOM, IRC, ISS, King College London, Plan International, Save the Children, UKZN, UNHCR, UNICEF, War Child, The Watchlist, WVI	
Objectives	Activities	
Objective 1: CPHA capacity development initiatives during COVID-19 are evaluated and guided by evidenced based L&D Strategy	1.1: Develop a CPHA COVID-19 learning and development strategy a capacity gaps analysis to appropriately inform capacity building efforts.	
	1.2: COVID-19 capacity building efforts are evaluated.	
Objective 2: High quality learning material and support are made available and accessible for CPHA actors at all levels and across stages of emergencies	2.1: Rebrand, revise, translate current global level training materials including the CPHA Face to Face package, in accordance with the revised Child Protection Minimum Standards and latest development of COVID-19.	
	2.2: Develop and Launch MOOC Protecting Children during the COVID-19 Pandemic.	
	2.3: Agree and fundraise for MOOC content to become a MOOC on Protecting Children during pandemics.	
	2.4: Develop training modules and learning tools on child protection program adaptations for COVID-19.	
	2.5: Identify and disseminate case studies capturing skills-building adaptations in the context of COVID-19.	
	2.6: Translate and launch MOOC in two other languages.	
Objective 3: Increased learning and development opportunities for CPHA actors at global, regional and national levels	3.1: MOOC Protecting Children during the COVID-19 Pandemic is rolled out.	
	3.2: MOOC Protecting Children during the COVID-19 Pandemic is rolled out in two additional languages.	
	3.3: Develop COVID-19 training resources and technical guidance through online learning series, video shorts and podcasts.	
	3.4: Interagency capacity building initiatives are supported and endorsed by the Alliance.	

Task Forces

Task Force 1. Case Management Task Force (CMTF)		
Outcome: Child Protection Case Management practitioners have access to the necessary resources and support to provide quality case management services during and in response to the impacts of the COVID-19 emergency.		
Lead agency(ies):	International Rescue Committee and UNICEF	Total Budget 2020-2021: \$48,400
Contributing members:	CP AoR, IRC, Plan International, Save the Children, Terre des hommes, The Global Social Workforce Alliance, UNHCR, UNICEF, War Child Holland, WVI	
Objectives	Activities	
Objective 1: Capacity of social service workforce at national, regional and global levels is strengthened to respond to COVID-19 emergency and its effects on existing emergencies with respect to Child Protection Case Management	1.1: Develop an Operational Guidance for Adaptation of Child Protection Case Management in COVID-19, plus accompanying annexes and briefs.	
	1.2: Translate the Operational Guidance for Child Protection Case Management in COVID-19.	
	1.3: Develop short Learning Videos on adapting Case Management during COVID-19.	
	1.4: Peer to peer exchange on COVID-19 and Case Management through a webinar series in multiple languages.	

Task Force 2. Cash Transfer and Child Protection Task Force (Cash TF)		
Outcome: Cash and Voucher Assistance Programming during the COVID-19 response and recovery is strengthened to respond to child protection concerns.		
Lead agency(ies):	World Vision International and the International Rescue Committee	Total Budget 2020-2021: \$68,000
Contributing members:	Cash Learning Partnership, CP AoR, Human Rights Center (UC Berkeley), IOM, Plan International, Save the Children, UNHCR, UNICEF	
Objectives	Activities	
Objective 1: Evidence is generated on how cash and voucher assistance is employed to respond to Child Protection concerns arising from COVID-19	1.1: Conduct a qualitative research with recommendations that focuses on the use of CVA with UASC and children in alternative care during the COVID-19 response and recovery.	
Objective 2: Practitioners have the tools to inform country-level policy on child sensitive social protection and cash assistance during COVID-19 response and recovery	2.1: Develop a policy brief on child-sensitive formal and informal social protection systems during the COVID-19 response and recovery.	
Objective 3: Learning on cash and voucher assistance during COVID-19 response and recovery to respond to Child Protection concerns is documented and synthesized	3.1: Conduct learning webinars and podcasts on the use of CVA during COVID-19 response and recovery in different contexts to respond to Child Protection concerns.	
	3.2: Create a CVA and Child Protection library linked to the Alliance website.	

Task Force 3. Child Labour Task Force (CLTF)		
Outcome: Humanitarian responders and development actors have the knowledge, skills and tools to implement quality and coordinated child labour in emergencies preparedness, prevention and response actions during COVID-19.		
Lead agency(ies):	Plan International and International Labour Office (ILO)	Total Budget 2020-2021: \$126,000
Contributing members:	Advocacy for Child Relief (ACR) Uganda, CP AoR, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Ghiras Foundation Turkey, Independent consultants working on child labour in emergencies, IOM, IRC, ILO, Plan International, Save the Children International, Terre des Hommes, UNHCR, UNICEF, WVI	
Objectives	Activities	
Objective 1: Launch and implementation of the Child Labour in Emergencies toolkit (including disease outbreak section) in targeted countries affected by COVID-19	1.1: Translate the CLiE toolkit into Arabic, French and Spanish.	
	1.2: Support design and contextualization of the technical note on COVID-19 and Child Labour 19 and the CLiE toolkit in selected countries affected by COVID-19.	
	1.3: Provision of remote technical support for the roll out and implementation of the CLiE toolkit in selected countries (selection criteria to be set).	
Objective 2: Increased technical capacity among child protection actors to prevent and respond to child labour during COVID-19, including its worst forms	2.1: Develop a CLiE online training package for humanitarian actors including during disease outbreaks, which make the latest guidance and tools accessible to practitioners responding to COVID-19.	
	2.2: Organize and facilitate two distance trainings as part of the launch the CLiE toolkit in different regions (selection criteria to be set).	
	2.3: Lead on production of one podcast on COVID-19 and Child Labour as part of the inter-agency podcast run by the Alliance, <i>Protected!</i>	
Objective 3: Increased political will and investment to end Child Labour during the COVID-19 pandemic and by 2025	3.1: Develop advocacy brief and organize a webinar on preventing and responding to child labour during the COVID-19 pandemic and ensure collaboration with other sectors and technical networks.	
	3.2: Advocate with members of Alliance 8.7 in developing priorities to end child labour in fragile and humanitarian settings and investments in relation to the 2021 Year to Eliminate Child Labour.	

Task Force 4. Community-Level Child Protection Approaches Task Force (CCP TF)

Outcome: CPHA practitioners are connected to a robust Community-Level network and have the necessary tools and evidence to improve the quality of CCP activities in humanitarian contexts.

Lead agency(ies):	World Vision and Plan International	Total Budget 2020-2021: \$40,000
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Contributing members:	AVSI, BIFERD (DRC), Care (Mozambique), Child Frontiers, Child Fund, Child Safe Horizons, Community Action Network (Pakistan), Community Child Protection Exchange, CP AoR, CPC Learning Network, Children of One World, Hope Springs Haven, ICCRD, IRC, Islamic Relief Worldwide, IsraAID, New Hope Winners Foundation, Plan International, RISE Learning Network, Save the Children, SEDHURO, Terre des hommes, UNHCR, UNICEF, United Citizen Child Support Organization of Uganda, University of Bedfordshire, War Child Holland, WVI	
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Objectives	Activities
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Objective 1: Technical tools and resources on Community-Level Child Protection are developed to enable protective environment for children in the times of COVID-19	1.1: Follow up activities regarding Standard 17.
	1.1.2: Foster dialog on relevance of Standard 17 during the COVID-19, in the context of the Webinar for launching the new Standard.
	1.2: Translate guide into French, Arabic, and Spanish.
	1.2.2: Develop resources to reflect the feedback collected during dissemination, and case studies on adaptations of CCP during COVID-19, including successes, challenges, and lessons learnt.
	1.2.3: Organize webinar to capture the reflection on the implementation of the guidance from the practitioners.

Objective 2: Improved availability and accessibility of relevant knowledge on Community-Level Child Protection in humanitarian action and linkages with other CB initiatives and sectors	2.1: Disseminate the CCP COVID-19 Technical Note (Working with Communities to Keep Children Safe) and provide support to partners in capacity building and adapting programming during COVID-19.
	2.1.1: Host webinars to introduce the guidance, including in Arabic, French, or Spanish (if feasible). Also ensure a reference to the CCP COVID-19 Guidance is included in other relevant CCP webinars.
	2.1.2: Develop capacity building tools on the CCP COVID-19 Guidance.
	2.1.3: Pilot CCP COVID-19 guidance in refugee context.
	2.1.4: Organize webinar to capture the reflection on the implementation of the guidance from the practitioners.
	2.1.5: Carried out a rapid evaluation on the usefulness of the guide and needs for improvements.

Task Force 5. Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC TF)		
Outcome: Child Protection practitioners have the necessary knowledge and skills to continue their work on prevention of separation and provision of services to children already separated from their caregivers.		
Lead agency(ies):	International Rescue Committee and UNHCR (rotating)	Total Budget 2020-2021: \$10,000
Contributing members:	ICRC, IRC, IOM, Save the Children, Terre des hommes, UNHCR, UNICEF, WVI	
Objectives	Activities	
Objective 1: Child Protection practitioners working on UASC have access to technical material in support of their continued work under COVID-19	1.1: Produce a Technical Note (annex to the main Alliance Technical Note) on alternative care.	
	1.2: Produce a Technical Note (annex to the main Alliance Technical Note) on adaptation of FTR under COVID-19.	