



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY



# Framework for Strengthening Child Protection Systems in the East African Community





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## Acronyms

<b>ACPF</b>	African Child Policy Forum
<b>ACERWC</b>	African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
<b>ACRWC</b>	African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
<b>CBCPM</b>	Community-based child protection mechanism
<b>EAC</b>	East African Community
<b>UNCRC</b>	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

## Acknowledgments

This Regional Framework for Strengthening Child Protection Systems was developed in close consultation with ministries, departments and agencies in charge of East African Community (EAC) Affairs and those in charge of children, health and justice of the six Partner States within the EAC. Civil society partners, UNICEF and UNHCR also played a fundamental role. The EAC Secretariat through the Department for Gender and Community Development provided overall leadership and guidance in the development of the Framework.

The African Child Policy Forum provided the necessary technical support and catalyzed the research, consensus building and content validation consultations around the Framework. Maestral International L.L.C. was commissioned to undertake the writing of the Framework.

The Framework benefited from the evidence generated through a mapping of child protection systems in the region that was undertaken by Development Links Consult.

The processes that led to the development of the Framework and its actual development would not have been possible without the generous financial support of Save the Children International and the OAK Foundation.

# Foreword

In 2016, the Partner States of the East African Community adopted the Region's Child Policy. The policy document lays down, among others, a vision of how partner states can move towards a more integrated, multi-sectoral and systematic approach to addressing child protection issues. The Policy strongly emphasizes greater harmonization of efforts and cross-country co-ordination among Partner States in addressing child protection issues, including those that are transnational in nature.

This Regional Framework for Strengthening Child Protection Systems in the EAC region aims to provide Partner States and their partners across the region with a practical guidance to achieve a number of child protection system strengthening goals, including providing a platform for joint work with local stakeholders under the leadership of local governments. The Framework also helps partner states to harmonize their child protection efforts within their various organs and with other governments. It provides a set of standardized indicators for partner states for self-monitoring and review and for continuous upgrading.

The Framework will go a long way to assist us in the EAC Secretariat to facilitate the standardization and harmonization of approaches to strengthening child protection systems, enabling inter-country comparability and fostering the exchange of best practices and lessons learned.

I encourage governments, civil society actors, the business sector, and the wider public to make use of and apply the Framework within their respective areas of work to advance the right to protection of children in the region. The implementation of the Framework is anchored on cross-sectoral collaboration and strong formal-informal partnerships. Protecting children is everybody's business.



**Mary Makoffu**

Director for Social Sectors, EAC

## Executive Summary

Children constitute more than 50% of the EAC population, yet this segment of the population continues to face numerous challenges. Strategy 5 of the EAC Child Policy notes the need to strengthen national child protection systems and community mechanisms within the EAC region to ensure that all children in all settings are protected from violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect. The EAC Secretariat recognizes that whilst it is the primary responsibility of Partner States to address the majority of risks and vulnerabilities facing children, there is a transnational and sub-regional dimension to the protection of children, which are often not addressed by national child protection systems or frameworks. The EAC Secretariat has accordingly developed the Framework for Strengthening Child Protection Systems in the East African Community to, among others:

- Strengthen and apply a common understanding on child protection systems between local, national and regional stakeholders;
- Provide guidance to Partner States as to how they can build, reform or strengthen existing national child protection systems;
- Take into consideration and be responsive to cross-border issues that increase the vulnerability of children and expose them to risk and harm;
- Provide a framework for the EAC to assess the status of child protection systems in the EAC Partner States and to gauge related progress in meeting targets set out in the Sustainable Development Goals, Africa's Agenda for Children 2040, the EAC Vision 2050, amongst others, to ensure that no child is left behind.

# Concepts and definitions

<b>Child</b>	Every person being below the age of 18 years, consistent with the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child
<b>Child protection</b>	Preventing and responding to violence, exploitation and abuse, which is essential to ensuring children’s rights to survival, development and wellbeing. <sup>1</sup>
<b>Child protection system</b>	A comprehensive and sustainable approach to preventing and responding to violence against children, comprising a set of laws, policies, regulations and services required across all social sectors, especially social welfare, family wellbeing, education, health, security and justice as well as sectors dealing with emergency and migration situations. <sup>2</sup> At the level of prevention, the approach includes supporting and strengthening families and communities to reduce social exclusion, and to lower the risk of separation, violence and exploitation. <sup>3</sup>
<b>Child protection services</b>	Interventions that focus on cases of child abuse, neglect or exploitation, including promotion, prevention and response services involving, among others, the identification and assessment of at-risk and affected children and families and the provision of corresponding services in an effort to protect children and prevent further maltreatment, while wherever possible preserving the family. Such services are also sometimes known by other names, often attempting to reflect more family-centred (as opposed to child-centred) practices, such as “children and family services”, “child welfare services” or “psychosocial services” and even “social services”. <sup>4</sup>
<b>Community-based child protection mechanisms</b>	Refer to child protection initiatives undertaken by families, communities and children themselves, or other groups of individuals and/or organisations at community level which may be initiated and established by community with support from government, development agencies, or other actors. They can be formal or informal prevention and response tools, organs or processes to address child protection within communities, progressively becoming formal and linked to the state system. <sup>5</sup>
<b>Violence against children</b>	Refers to all forms of violence and exploitation, including physical, sexual, or psychological abuse, neglect and negligent treatment taking place in the home, on the street, in schools, in care centres, in places of worship, or in service providing institutions.
<b>Violence prevention</b>	Refers to legislative, policy or programmatic measures – both short and long term – to deter or stop violence from happening amongst the general child population or at risk children, or from recurring amongst children already vulnerable or victimised.

1. UNICEF (2008). Child protection strategy. Accessed at [https://www.unicef.org/spanish/protection/CP\\_Strategy\\_English\(1\).pdf](https://www.unicef.org/spanish/protection/CP_Strategy_English(1).pdf).  
 2. East African Community, EAC Child Policy (2016).  
 3. UNICEF (2008). Child protection strategy. Accessed at [https://www.unicef.org/spanish/protection/CP\\_Strategy\\_English\(1\).pdf](https://www.unicef.org/spanish/protection/CP_Strategy_English(1).pdf).  
 4. World Health Organisation. Global Status Report on Violence Prevention, 2014.  
 5. EAC Child Policy Op. Cit.

# Chapter I: Introduction and rationale

## I.1 Introduction

The East African Community (EAC) is an inter-governmental organization comprising of six Partner States, including the Republics of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. The Treaty for its establishment (hereafter the EAC Treaty) came into force in July, 2000. The vision of EAC is to attain a prosperous, competitive, secure and politically united East Africa. Its mission is to widen and deepen economic, political, social and cultural integration in order to improve the quality of life of the people of East Africa in accordance with the provisions of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.

Article 120(c) of the EAC Treaty notes that the EAC Partner States shall closely cooperate in the field of social welfare with respect to the development and adoption of a common approach towards the disadvantaged and marginalized groups, including children, the youth, the elderly and persons with disabilities. Article 6(d) of the EAC Treaty recognises, promotes and protects human and people's rights. These provisions, alongside others, in the EAC Treaty form the basis for the promotion and protection of children's and youth rights in the EAC.

The EAC Council of Ministers is charged with the responsibility for policy making within the EAC. In 2016, it adopted the **EAC Child Policy**. The overall objective of the EAC Child Policy is to provide a functional regional framework to facilitate the development, coordination and strengthening of national efforts geared towards the realization of children's wellbeing. It includes ten priority areas:

1. A regional approach to ratification, domestication and implementation of international instruments;
2. Harmonization of national laws and policies to the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC), and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and other key international child rights instruments;
3. The right to citizenship and identity;
4. Addressing cross border child rights violations;
5. **Strengthening of national child protection systems and community mechanisms within the EAC region;**
6. An integrated approach to providing quality education, health and social protection to children, which includes the development and implementation of minimum regional standards for children in education, health and social protection;
7. Child protection in conflict and emergency situations;
8. Resourcing of child welfare services and institutions;
9. Regional mechanism for monitoring, evaluation and reporting of child rights;
10. Child Participation.

## I.2 Rationale

Children constitute more than 50% of the EAC population, yet this segment of the population continues to face numerous challenges.<sup>7</sup> Strategy 5 of the EAC Child Policy notes the need to strengthen national child protection systems and community mechanisms within the EAC region to ensure that all children in all settings are protected from violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect. According to the EAC Child Policy, and in line with international and regional child-rights instruments, the primary responsibility for addressing the majority of issues facing children rests with the Partner States at national level. To date EAC Partner States have ratified various international treaties including the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) and put in place laws, policies, frameworks, and other measures for the implementation of the rights of children at the national level.

<sup>7</sup> See *Regional Minimum Standards on Comprehensive Services for Children and Young People's Wellbeing in the EAC*, EAC (2016), A baseline towards the implementation of the EAC Child Policy.

Yet, there still exists gaps in children’s protection within the EAC Partner States, and children continue to face high levels and different forms of violence.<sup>8</sup> The EAC Child Policy recognises that there is a sub-regional and transnational dimension to the protection of children, which are often not addressed by national child protection systems or frameworks. Particular transnational issues that can increase children’s risk of violence include, among others, forced separation of children from their families and / or displacement from their countries or origin (children are the biggest age group among refugee populations in the EAC<sup>9</sup>), children trafficked across EAC borders, and timely access to justice for child offenders in conflict with the law across EAC borders.

The EAC Child Policy has therefor developed a regional framework for the following purposes:

- (1) to strengthen and apply a common understanding on child protection systems between local, national, regional and international stakeholders;
- (2) to provide guidance to Partner States as to how they can build, reform or strengthen existing national child protection systems and strengthen linkages between formal and informal child protection systems and networks;
- (3) to take into consideration and be responsive to cross-border issues that increase the vulnerability of children and expose them to risk and harm;
- (4) to provide a framework for the EAC to assess the status of child protection systems in the EAC Partner States and to gauge related progress in meeting targets set out in the Sustainable Development Goals, Africa’s Agenda for Children 2040, the EAC Vision 2050, amongst others, to ensure that no child is left behind.



<sup>8</sup> EAC Child Policy. Op cit.  
<sup>9</sup> UNHCR. Refugee Figures

## Chapter 2:

# The EAC understanding and approach to child protection systems

## 2.1 The move to a systems approach

**P**olicy and programming to address violence against children, abuse, exploitation and neglect initially focused on targeting practices that tolerate violence or harm.<sup>10</sup> Efforts to address harmful traditional norms or cultural practices, such as child marriage, female genital mutilation/cutting, or corporal punishment, have attempted to raise awareness and address the fact that some groups of children are vulnerable to particular forms of violence. While vertical, issue-focused themes have mobilized governments, donors, and practitioners to serve a specific group of children, debate and analysis on applying a systems approach to child protection has generated increasing awareness that a holistic approach can more effectively prevent or mitigate risk of exposure to violence. These learnings have also been captured by other sectors, such as health and education, as they shifted to a systems orientation.

Using a systems lens allows us to move away from looking at child protection issues as ‘snap shot issues’ and instead allows us to take a deeper dive to ‘connect the dots’ between type and degree of vulnerability, and exposure to harm, in order to more effectively and efficiently roll-out prevention interventions. Considering children from a holistic point of view shows that children often face multiple protection risks at the same time. Understanding that violence is cyclical, i.e. that exposure to violence as a child can heighten the risk of perpetrating or being a survivor of violence in adulthood,<sup>11</sup> underscores the need for taking into account the risks that children confront in different contexts and at different ages and stages of their lives. In addition to being able to better understand the inter-connectivity between vulnerability and harm, applying a systems approach can also streamline and strengthen data collection and monitoring, workforce, and financing efforts to result in more sustainable and feasible prevention and response interventions.<sup>12</sup>

A systems approach takes into account the interaction and interconnectivity between different parts of a system to better understand how the different parts, or elements, can work together to address a problem. It further means discerning how an intervention aimed at one element of the system will impact on the other elements, to identify whether the intervention would be viable, appropriate or relevant to addressing the problem. “Systems thinking indicates the need to look at the underlying causes of a problem, its component parts and how these contribute to the problem or its possible solution; requires inclusion of different stakeholders, understanding of their perspectives and their roles; implies greater collaboration across actors within systems and beyond; draws attention to preventive as well as responsive actions; and emphasises the value of understanding both socio-cultural norms and the wider context. It inspires adaptive programming design that responds to the dynamic nature of system.”<sup>13</sup> In essence, a systems approach to child protection guides understanding as to how the different elements of the system are connected to more effectively and efficiently provide care and support to children; it is reflective of and responsive to the underlying causes of child protection risks and vulnerabilities. Child protection systems are therefore not static or wholly replicable, as they aim to prevent and respond to violence in a manner that reflects availability of resources, structures, mechanisms, and processes, and upholds local culture and values system.

<sup>10</sup> ACPF (2014). Child protection systems in Africa: An overview. Working draft.

<sup>11</sup> Crombach, A., & Bambonyé, M. (2015). Intergenerational violence in Burundi: Experienced childhood maltreatment increases the risk of abusive childrearing and intimate partner violence. *European Journal of Psychotraumatology*, 6. <http://dx.doi.org/10.3402/ejpt.v6.26995> Curley

<sup>12</sup> Forbes, B., et al. “Reconsidering child protection systems: Critical reflections.” Publication forthcoming.

<sup>13</sup> Joint Inter-Agency Statement (2013). Strengthening child protection systems in Sub-Saharan Africa: A call to action

Concerted efforts across Africa have attempted to contextualise what child protection systems in this region can look like, highlighting the need for involvement of multisectoral actors, and vertical and horizontal coordination. For example, the 2013 *Joint Inter-Agency Statement on Strengthening Child Protection Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Call to Action* refers to international and regional conventions, instruments and standards as the driving force, and establishing mandates, for governments to design and apply a systems approach to child protection, with the support of communities, civil society, and private organisations.<sup>14</sup> As a result, it calls upon governments, and other actors, to prioritise the development or strengthening of child protection systems to reinforce the promotion, prevention, and response efforts and capacities to best protect all children.

To support the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) to monitor the process and progress of governments in implementing child protection interventions through a systems approach, the Inter-Agency Work Group on Strengthening Child Protection Systems in Africa has developed a framework for the ACERWC to analyse State Party reports. This framework supports the ACERWC to identify how, and assess to what extent, States are implementing measures, including provision of services, that holistically address violence in all settings.

In addition, the ACERWC is in the course of developing a General Comment on Article I of the ACRWC, pertaining to obligation of State Parties, on General Measures of Implementation and Systems Strengthening. This is a clear and deliberate effort on the part of the ACERWC to support State Parties to appreciate the role of systems, and encourage them to apply a systems strengthening approach to implementing the ACRWC.

The UN Secretary General's *Study on Violence against Children* highlighted that a systematic and multifaceted framework be developed to prevent and respond to violence against children.<sup>15</sup> As a result, discourse on child protection systems strengthening took centre stage within the child protection sector, to define what a strong child protection system is, and what it looks like. Chapin Hall's *Adapting a systems approach to child protection* initiated thinking about what a conceptual and normative framework of the child protection system can look like. It highlights the importance of embedding supportive social values and norms, as well as tying other sectors, such as health, education and justice, into the system to highlight the contextualised and multi-sectoral nature of the continuum, process, and accountability of care.<sup>16</sup> World Vision's *A Systems Approach to Child Protection* adopts this approach and further stresses the need for linkages between laws, services, and capacities to strengthen coordination, cooperation and collaborative mechanisms.<sup>17</sup> Maestral International<sup>18</sup> and Child Frontiers<sup>19</sup> have developed comprehensive toolkits to support countries to undertake mapping and assessment initiatives to gather data on the current state of countries' child protection systems, to inform strengthening strategies or plans.

<sup>14</sup> Joint Inter-Agency Statement (2013). Strengthening child protection systems in Sub-Saharan Africa: A call to action

<sup>15</sup> United Nations Secretary-General (2006) Study on Violence against Children.

<sup>16</sup> Wulczyn, F, et al (2010). Adapting a systems approach to child protection: Key concepts and considerations. Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago. New York: UNICEF.

<sup>17</sup> World Vision (2011). A systems approach to child protection: A world vision discussion paper.

<sup>18</sup> Child Protection Systems: Mapping and Assessment Toolkit, Maestral International, May 2010.

<sup>19</sup> Research Manual: Child Protection Systems Mapping and Analysis in West and Central Africa Phase II, Child Frontiers, August 2010.

## 2.2 Defining and understanding child protection systems

The Joint Inter-Agency Statement on *Strengthening Child Protection Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Call to Action* articulates the elements that constitute a child protection, by way of laying down the broad objectives of such systems:

Child protection systems aims to promote the right to child protection, through raising of knowledge and awareness and increasing access to protection measures, to contribute to the prevention of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation, through early identification and intervention when problems arise and by building the resilience (including economic) of children, families and communities; and to respond when violations or issues occur, through the provision of appropriate services and through community mechanisms such as mediation.<sup>20</sup>

The Interagency Group also identified the following as the basic building blocks of a child protection system,<sup>21</sup> each of which is unpacked under section 3.2:

- Appropriate policies, legislation and regulations;
- Well-defined structures and functions, and adequate capacities;
- Sufficient resource allocation and efficient fiscal management;
- Effective, sustainable community based and owned child protection mechanisms;
- Effective promotion actions
- Effective prevention actions
- Effective response actions
- Quality evidence and data for decision-making.

Hence, child protection systems constitute formal and informal structures, functions and capacities as well as comprehensive and sustainable approaches to preventing and responding to violence against children. It also includes different actors – children, families, communities, those working at subnational or national level and those working internationally. All this calling for more inter-sectoral approaches and collaboration that are catalytic for reinforcing long term coherent systems oriented work in sharing information among sectors. Most important are the relationships and interactions between and among these components and these actors within the system. It is the outcomes of these interactions that comprise the system.

Recognizing and strengthening the links between these components can result in interventions being more effective, allow for leveraging of scarce resources, and result in promotion, prevention and response interventions being more sustainable in the long-run.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>20</sup> Joint Inter-Agency Statement (2013). Op cit. pp. 2-3.

<sup>21</sup> Joint Inter-Agency Statement (2013). Op cit.; Maestral International, Op. cit; Child Frontiers, Op. cit.; Tesemma, S. for ACPF (2017). *A framework for strengthening child protection systems in Africa*. Zero draft; Training Resources Group and Play Therapy Africa for the Inter-Agency Group on Child Protection Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa, Op. cit

<sup>22</sup> Training Resources Group and Play Therapy Africa for the Inter-Agency Group on Child Protection Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa (2012). *Strengthening child protection systems in Sub-Saharan Africa: A working paper*

## 2.3 The role of community-based mechanisms in child protection systems

As part of the on-going shift in focus towards strengthening child protection systems, there is an ever-increasing emphasis on further supporting and strengthening the role of community-based child protection mechanisms (CBCPMs), which are considered pivotal in ensuring a strong child protection system. PLAN International defines CBCPMs as “a network or group of individuals at community level who work in a coordinated manner towards protection of children from all forms of violence, in all settings. Such mechanisms can be indigenous or externally initiated and supported. They may be more formal or informal in their structure and functioning. CBCPMs are linked and contribute to the child protection systems.”<sup>23</sup> The Working Paper on Strengthening Child Protection Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa states that systems strengthening efforts in the region have consistently highlighted the importance of building sustainable community-based mechanisms that are coordinated with the wider child protection system.<sup>24</sup> The objective of significantly strengthening CBCPMs in the context of child protection systems strengthening has indeed also been reflected in the EAC’s 2016 Child Policy that calls upon Partner States to make efforts towards “strengthening national child protection systems and community mechanisms within the EAC region.”<sup>25</sup> See Text Box I, which aims to clarify our understanding of CBCPMs.



### Understanding community based child protection mechanisms

Over the last two decades, the concept of establishing or supporting CBCPMs has become a central pillar of child protection programming amongst the child protection community, national governments and donors;<sup>26</sup> they are considered a fundamental component of both development and emergency child protection programming and systems. Community-based child protection mechanisms can be “formal/statutory” or “community-initiated/community-led”. Formal CBCPMs normally refer to structures or services which are part of a larger child protection system designated by government or other external programmes wherein the community plays a vital role in developing and running them. Informal CBCPMs can include local structures, services or practices often initiated and run by community members. These mechanisms might be perceived as traditional, cultural, or forms of endogenous community action, and may involve traditional, religious or local leaders, families, elders and local volunteers.

Communities frequently create their own mechanisms - without external guidance - to protect children.<sup>27</sup> CBCPMs “operate at grassroots levels such as village level in rural areas and neighbourhood level in urban areas, which is where children and families live and where children may be exposed to significant risks on an on-going basis. Also, they are rich in potential child protection resources such as parents, teachers, and religious leaders, among others.”<sup>28</sup> As a result, while CBCPMs can support coverage and access by children and families to community resource and services, it is not necessarily feasible or relevant for CBCPMs to take programmes or interventions to scale. Each community may develop its own unique set of action and responses in line with the context wherein they operate, which may not be of relevance to other communities.<sup>29</sup>

<sup>23</sup> Plan International (2015). Community-based Child Protection Mechanisms – A global synthesis report of Plan’s support to Community Based Child Protection Mechanisms.

<sup>24</sup> Training Resources Group and Play Therapy Africa for the Inter-Agency Group on Child Protection Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa (2012). Strengthening child protection systems in Sub-Saharan Africa: A working paper

<sup>25</sup> Priority 5 of the East Africa Community Child Policy (2016)

<sup>26</sup> Wessels, M. (2015). Bottom-up approaches to strengthening child protection systems: Placing children, families, and communities at the center. Child Abuse & Neglect, Volume 43

<sup>27</sup> Wessels, M. (2015). Bottom-up approaches to strengthening child protection systems: Placing children, families, and communities at the center. Child Abuse & Neglect, Volume 43

<sup>28</sup> Wessels, M. (2015). Bottom-up approaches to strengthening child protection systems: Placing children, families, and communities at the center. Child Abuse & Neglect, Volume 43

<sup>29</sup> Wessels, M. (2009) What are we learning about protecting children in the community? An inter-agency review of evidence on community-based child protection mechanisms. Published on behalf of the Interagency Learning Initiative on CBCPMs by Save the Children UK.

The need to acknowledge and incorporate both statutory and community mechanisms has become increasingly evident to strengthen the national child protection system. The Working Paper on Strengthening Child Protection Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa highlights the fundamental role of community ownership, support of traditional leaders, and the use of existing resources as a means to address and manage issues of power and diversity through participation and inclusiveness, including a more equitable distribution of and access to community resources, particularly for children and women. Save the Children's Building Rights-Based National Child Protection Systems<sup>30</sup> also emphasises the importance of community-based mechanisms as a means to scale up and provide wider and more sustained coverage of services, especially in contexts where governments have resource constraints.

However, a 2014 review of child protection systems in Africa argues that endogenous models of protection and care for children have often been relegated to the background whilst externally generated and supported models of community child protection have taken centre stage.<sup>31</sup> Externally supported CBCPMs can impact on sustainable positive outcomes for children as they are often based on top-down approaches to protecting children, which might be perceived as irrelevant or inappropriate by community members. In addition, CBCPMs can break down once external support has been withdrawn, or they revert back to their original practices despite the training received,<sup>32</sup> weakening hampering efforts aimed at harmonizing statutory mechanisms and processes with CBCPMs. However, in emergency settings, where government structures might be inaccessible, unavailable or under-resourced and where indigenous CBCPMs would have been eroded or weakened, it might still be pragmatic for CBCPMs to be established and supported by external humanitarian agencies.

Unsurprisingly then, linking CBCPMs to 'formal' or government-led elements of the system (such as laws, policies, workforce and financing), have been identified as a key challenge to strengthening child protection systems in the region. Underlying this challenge is the "significant disconnect" between statutory systems, which are largely based on Western systems and understanding on the one hand, and communal beliefs and practices, of care and protection, on the other<sup>33</sup> This disconnect has resulted in indigenous child protection mechanisms and norms seldom having influenced or informed the development of national child protection systems, resulting in 'top-down' systems being at odds with local cultures and value systems, often resulting in parallel systems.<sup>34</sup> In practice this might mean that community members choose not to use, or lack access to, statutory systems, preferring or falling back on local solutions.

That said, there is limited evidence from East Africa, including across Africa more broadly, about how endogenous, community-led and -owned models can link more effectively to formal systems. UNICEF's Global Child Protection Strategy has identified two priority areas to ensure the linking between statutory processes and indigenous practices: (1) to identify how different actors and sectors contribute to providing a minimum package of prevention and response services and (2) to develop and apply an analytical tool for assessing existing system components and processes.<sup>35</sup>

<sup>30</sup> Save the Children (2010). Building rights-based national child protection systems: a concept paper to support Save the Children's work. Save the Children Child Protection Initiative.

<sup>31</sup> ACPF (2014). Child protection systems in Africa: An overview. Working draft.

<sup>32</sup> Wessells, M. (2009) What are we learning about protecting children in the community? An inter-agency review of evidence on community-based child protection mechanisms. Published on behalf of the Interagency Learning Initiative on CBCPMs by Save the Children UK.

<sup>33</sup> ACPF (2014). Child protection systems in Africa: An overview. Working draft.

<sup>34</sup> Wessells, M. (2009) What are we learning about protecting children in the community? An inter-agency review of evidence on community-based child protection mechanisms. Published on behalf of the Interagency Learning Initiative on CBCPMs by Save the Children UK.

<sup>35</sup> UNICEF (2008). Global Child Protection Strategy

## 2.4 Child protection systems in humanitarian settings

Since a few decades, attention has been paid to generating understanding of what child protection systems in humanitarian, conflict, or emergency settings can look like. UNHCR, in its *Framework for the Protection of Children*<sup>36</sup>, recognises that children who are refugees or are displaced are particularly vulnerable to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect, and that using a systems approach improves the way in which children in these settings are protected, as they capitalize on existing resources, structures, and processes. In refugee emergencies, UNHCR and other relevant agencies are called upon to strengthen national child protection systems, to which all children under the jurisdiction of a State have non-discriminatory access and to supplement these where gaps exist.<sup>37</sup> The delivery of assistance in refugee emergencies to the extent possible through public authorities for social services and child protection is one element of a comprehensive refugee response framework which has been outlined by the UN General Assembly.<sup>38</sup>

Avoiding the creation of parallel systems, even if temporary, and strengthening the convergence between the emergency response and broader development agenda can reinforce the protection of all children in all settings.<sup>39</sup>

UNICEF and UNHCR have developed guidance for linking national child protection systems and refugee children to discourage the development of parallel service delivery models. This would entail establishing stronger linkages between refugee response and national child protection programmes in order to promote the Governments' overall leadership for the protection of all children within its territory. Harmonizing humanitarian child protection procedures and practices with national legal and policy frameworks and procedures to the extent possible and including refugee children in national legal/policy frameworks and services provided through public authorities to prevent the creation of parallel systems. This would in the long term result in national child protection systems that are more shock resistant and able to respond to child protection in emergency situations. However, this is a gradual and incremental process which will depend on their strengths and capacities at any given time. Based on evidence from the Eastern Africa and Great Lakes regions, UNICEF and UNHCR have identified a number of entry points for a gradual inclusion of refugees into national child protection systems and services. Highlighting that it is key to assess and harness existing opportunities at the country level to identify effective entry points. These entry points include e.g. legal and policy frameworks, national development plans, child protection policies and standards, the social welfare workforce, national surveys.<sup>40</sup>

Working through CBCPMs in conflict, humanitarian and emergency settings can influence the strengthening of national child protection systems in terms of coverage, scale, and promoting sustainability of child protection interventions beyond emergency recovery.<sup>41</sup> For example, external actors will cooperate with strong pre-existing community mechanisms, working in partnership with, and strengthening the capacity of local actors.

<sup>36</sup> UNHCR (2012). *Framework for the Protection of Children*.

<sup>37</sup> Conclusion on Children at Risk, No. 107 (LVIII) – 2007. Executive Committee 56th session. Contained in United Nations General Assembly document A/AC.96/1048.

<sup>38</sup> UN Doc. A/RES/71/1, Annex I, para 7 (b).

<sup>39</sup> The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (2016). "Adapting to learn, learning to adapt: Overview of and considerations for child protection systems strengthening in emergencies."; UNHCR (2010). *Protecting Children of Concern through a Systems Approach: Guidance for Field Offices*

<sup>40</sup> UNICEF and UNHCR (forthcoming). *Bridging the Humanitarian – Development Divide for Refugee Children in Eastern Africa and the Great Lakes: Formative review regarding inclusion of refugee children in national child protection frameworks and systems*.

<sup>41</sup> *Strengthening National Child Protection Systems In Emergencies Through Community-Based Mechanisms - A Discussion Paper*, 2010, Save the Children Fund

## 2.5 Child protection systems in EAC Partner States

The path that a systems strengthening process takes is country specific, as it should take into consideration country's social, cultural, economic, and political factors, broader development priorities, and resources. System strengthening processes are evolutionary and should build upon successful interventions and lessons learned, in order to ensure the child protection system best addresses the needs of all children, and particularly the most vulnerable and marginalised, to prevent their exposure to harm. As a result, systems strengthening can look different depending on the local context. An overview of what child protection systems in the six Partner States currently look like is presented below.<sup>42</sup>

As detailed in annex I, Partner States are at different levels of progress in terms of establishing an effective, functional child protection system. All Partner States have established and/or strengthened the legal and policy framework. Some of the countries have successfully undertaken national surveys, and hence have a clear sense of the magnitude and nature of violence faced by children in the region. Some Partner States have used this evidence to inform the development of national plans or strategies to address violence against children. Coordination structures for national initiatives have been instituted and, in some countries, strengthened. In addition, child protection prevention and response mechanisms within the framework of government/non-government partnerships have also been set up. Some of the countries have pioneered reforms in the area of family care, while others have put in place strong multi-sectoral structures for co-ordinating efforts to address violence against children.

In spite of these positive developments, more concerted efforts need to be made to consolidate a systems approach to child protection within the region. In particular, across the six Partner States, there is a need for an increased focus on strengthening multi-sectoral co-ordination mechanisms and involving communities, families and children in child protection efforts. The latter is especially crucial. There is also a need to encourage and adopt locally-owned service delivery models that take into account Partner States' values, traditions and indigenous knowledge systems in child care and protection. Further, efforts to meaningfully include children in processes and mechanisms that affect them should be strengthened and scaled-up. Overall, child protection systems are weakened as a result of inadequate resourcing, hampered also by lack of financing targets specifically for promotion, prevention and response to violence against children.

<sup>42</sup> For more detailed information see ACPF (2017). A comparative regional study on efforts related to ending violence against children in the East African Region; EAC Child Policy, Op. cit.; Regional Minimum Standards on Comprehensive Services for Children and Young People's Wellbeing in the EAC; EAC (2016), A baseline towards the implementation of the EAC Child Policy

## Chapter 3:

# Regional framework to strengthen child protection systems in the East African Community

### 3.1 Guiding principles

The Framework is anchored in the norms and principles enshrined in international, African and sub-regional child rights frameworks, which uphold the rights of all boys and girls, without discrimination, to survival, integrity, safety and dignity. The Framework is further guided by the following principles, which have been informed by the EAC Child Policy, Regional Minimum Standards on Comprehensive Services for Children and Young People in the EAC, and principles underlying Partner States’ child protection systems:

<p><b>Best interest of children - do no harm</b></p>	<p>This means putting children’s protection at the centre of every consideration, decision, and action that may affect them. It calls for the use of a multidisciplinary approach whereby the physical, social, psychological and emotional wellbeing of the child is guided by human rights standards and norms, the child’s choices and local cultural and values.</p>
<p><b>Non-Discrimination and Equality</b></p>	<p>All interventions, including services, should be provided equitably to all children, irrespective of the child’s, or his or her parent’s or legal guardian’s, race, ethnicity, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion. Special protection should be granted to the most vulnerable children, including children with disabilities, children living or working on the street, refugee and displaced children, children outside of parental care, and children deprived of liberty. Services must be available and appropriate for all children in need all children’s needs should be considered within policy and programming planning, budgeting, implementing, monitoring and evaluating.</p>
<p><b>Child participation</b></p>	<p>Meaningful, effective and well-informed participation of children and adolescents leads to better understanding of and more effective approaches to addressing violence. Children need to be able to exercise their right to participate in all efforts geared towards preventing and responding to violence against children, as well as recognise their duty to contribute to non-violent homes, communities, and societies. This includes listening to their opinion and wishes and taking it into consideration at all times, including in developing policies, programmes, and budgets around violence against children interventions.</p>

### 3.2 Unpacking the elements of a child protection system

Section 2.3 highlighted the different elements of a child protection system. Table 1 unpacks these elements. As discussed, when considered together, these elements comprise a child protection system to ensure effective promotion, prevention and response interventions. Table 1 further highlights the outcomes of a strong and functioning child protection system. To ensure a streamlined and harmonized approach to the EAC child rights framework, indicators marked with an \* contribute to measuring the Regional Minimum Standards on Comprehensive Services for Children and Young People in the East African Community; all indicators support the monitoring of the implementation of the EAC Child Policy. Partner States are recommended to report on progress in achieving the outcomes presented in Table 1 in their periodic reports to the EAC on implementation of the EAC Child Policy.

**Table 1: Unpacking the elements of a child protection system**

Child protection system element	Crucial components of the system element	Strategies to strengthen the element	Outcome indicators
Appropriate policies, legislation, regulations and standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All relevant international and regional child rights and humanitarian instruments are ratified and national laws are fully harmonised with the standards contained in those instruments.</li> <li>Relevant national laws and policies are harmonised with the EAC regional child policy and other regional and international child protection norms and standards, such as the EAC Minimum Standards on Comprehensive Services for Children and Young People.</li> <li>A coherent and comprehensive national plan of action, strategy or framework for protecting children from violence, abuse and exploitation is developed with clear benchmarks and indicators and is costed and lays out targets for domestic financing.</li> <li>Government, together with civil society, create general public awareness around child protection policies and standards</li> <li>All relevant governmental and non-governmental structures, including those operating in humanitarian and emergency contexts, develop and operationalize adequate child safeguarding standards and promote organisational norms, beliefs, values and attitudes that do-no-harm to children.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure consistency of policies around definition and approach to children's protection, development and well-being.</li> <li>National laws adopt the EAC Children's Policy, Africa's Agenda for Children 2040, and the violence-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals, and, wherever appropriate, other international and regional instruments and standards such as CRC General Comment No 13 on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence, General Comment No 1 of the ACERWC on General Measures of Implementation and Systems Strengthening and INSIPRE.</li> <li>Revise customary laws to ensure that they are appropriate and in line with the international and regional child protection protocols.</li> <li>Ensure that child protection policies are accompanied by costed action plans with targets for domestic financing and commitments by different actors and sectors on resource mobilisation.</li> <li>Disseminate policies and standards in popular and user-friendly versions to all actors who play a role in child protection, including in humanitarian and emergency contexts</li> <li>Facilitate training to strengthen capacity of relevant actors, including those working in humanitarian and emergency contexts on applying safeguarding standards, harmonizing child protection policies, legislation and standards with the EAC Child Policy</li> <li>Require government and organisations working around child protection, including in humanitarian and emergency contexts, to develop and operationalize child safeguarding and child protection policies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All appropriate laws and policies for the protection of children from all forms of violence, abuse and exploitation, in all settings, including in emergency contexts, are domesticated, harmonized, and implemented.</li> <li>National standards by which to uphold quality and effective policy and programme implementation are available and applied.</li> </ul>

Child protection system element	Crucial components of the system element	Strategies to strengthen the element	Outcome indicators
<p>Well-defined structures, functions, adequate capacities and multi-sectoral co-ordination mechanisms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mandates of child protection actors, including the roles of multi-sectoral and inter/ministerial coordination arrangements, are clearly defined within sectoral policies, regulations and standards,</li> <li>A dedicated social/child protection workforce is deployed in sufficient quantity and quality including on the basis of internationally recognised social worker to children ratios and accredited training.</li> <li>Governments ensure, with support from civil society, that structures, both formal and customary, mandated for co-ordinating, implementing and enforcing child protection norms and services are resourced in terms of knowledge, materials and assets, including staff, funding, facilities, informational materials and technology</li> <li>Community, local and national level governance and other structures addressing child protection are linked, integrated and coordinated to ensure nation-wide coverage of child protection services.</li> <li>Governments support EAC's efforts to establish platforms for collaborating with other governments in preventing and responding to issues of violence against children that are trans-national in nature, such as child trafficking, violence in cyber space, and violence in the travel and tourism sectors or risks facing migrant and refugee children.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify clear roles and responsibilities for all relevant child protection actors at all levels, including by developing national protocols on stakeholder roles and accountability.</li> <li>Ensure policies provide adequate guidance and clear mandates for the social welfare workforce, including for emergency situations such as national disasters, refugee situations.</li> <li>Establish structures for coordinating efforts of a wide range of actors, including government, children, youth and families, traditional and faith leaders, civil society and the private sector as well as humanitarian actors, where applicable.</li> <li>Build or strengthen the capacity of customary and traditional justice structures to enable them to uphold and respect the best interests of children and their right to protection against all forms of violence, including from harmful traditional practices.</li> <li>Identify national capacity needs and develop, cost and finance, and implement organizational capacity development plans related to child protection.</li> <li>Equip child protection structures with knowledge and skills, including practice knowledge in the delivery of culturally responsive services and with competencies in the areas of research, advocacy, leadership, team building and change management.</li> <li>Develop standardized and accredited and locally relevant curriculum on child rights and protection principles, standards and practices, as well as on child protection in emergencies, and provide training for the social service workforce, at all levels and for community and traditional leaders and volunteers.</li> <li>See Strategy "S: Social service workforce" in the Regional Minimum Standards on Comprehensive Services for Children and Young People in the East African Community</li> <li>Establish and implement performance monitoring and accountability systems for monitoring and tracking national child protection efforts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multi-sectoral and stakeholder coordination mechanisms to effectively enforce, implement, and monitor policies and programmes to prevent and respond to violence are available and functional</li> <li>Roles, responsibilities and accountabilities between the various relevant sectors and structures in designing, implementing and monitoring policies and programmes are clearly defined and acknowledged.</li> <li>Knowledge and capacities to execute roles are strengthened, including amongst the social services workforce and in emergency settings.</li> </ul>

Child protection system element	Crucial components of the system element	Strategies to strengthen the element	Outcome indicators
<p>Sufficient and stable resource allocation and effective fiscal management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governments, with support from technical partners, identify costs and financing gaps required for ensuring availability of child protection services and set domestic financing targets.</li> <li>Governments set priority on financing child protection primarily relying on country-led resource opportunities for ensuring sustainability and local ownership</li> <li>Governments strengthen sector wide approach to policy development, programming and budgeting for child protection.</li> <li>Engage more effectively with finance and development planning ministries to ensure their greater involvement in national child protection efforts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop an investment case to advocate for increased domestic financing targets, including identifying government and development partners contributions and commitments to closing the financing gaps.</li> <li>Child protection system strengthening strategies are aligned with broader development agendas and overall longer-term budget allocation procedures such as multi-year expenditure frameworks</li> <li>A sector wide approach is ensured by focusing on having a Medium Term Expenditure Framework that reflects sector strategies, systematic arrangements for programming resources that support the sector and a performance monitoring system for measuring progress and strengthening accountability</li> <li>Develop a costing model to identify short- medium- and long-term costs, and financing gaps, to ensure a strong child protection framework that is functional in both non-emergency and emergency situations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child protection system strengthening efforts are costed and included in budgets and Medium Term Expenditure Frameworks</li> <li>Domestic financial targets to resource the national child protection system are identified and met</li> <li>Resources to support both prevention and response mechanisms are increased</li> </ul>
<p>Effective, sustainable community based and locally-owned child protection mechanisms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communities, including traditional and religious leaders, and children, are empowered to lead in defining and participating in processes that address child protection</li> <li>Community-based Child Protection Mechanisms (CBCPMs) build on existing resources, both physical and knowledge resources, and avoid initiating parallel structures or processes.</li> <li>Alternative measures, such as mediation, conciliation, restorative justice practices, and traditional dispute resolution mechanisms, are recognised and promoted.</li> <li>Actors, value systems and processes that trigger and sustain harmful traditional practices, such as child marriage and female genital mutilation, are engaged with in culturally and contextually appropriate ways to strengthen supportive social norms and practices.</li> <li>CBCPMs are capacitated to play an enhanced role in the areas of early warning and emergency response to child protection concerns.</li> <li>Norms and values that promote non-violent, respectful, nurturing, positive and gender equitable relationships for all children are supported and harmful norms and practices addressed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen a uniform understanding as to what is meant by CBCPMs and highlight the potential roles and responsibilities of CBCPMs in strengthening national and sub-national child protection systems, including in emergency settings.</li> <li>Ensure participation mechanisms, such as community platforms, children's clubs, assemblies and/ or parliaments, and support groups are functioning, active, and contribute to national and sub-national child protection efforts</li> <li>Strengthen and institutionalise bottom -up reporting mechanisms (from community level to central level formal structures)</li> <li>Build or strengthen capacity of Children's Councils to play greater role in child protection at community level and in reporting child rights violations</li> <li>Implement capacity building interventions targeting community-led groups to ensure that they play a greater role in child protection at community level and in reporting child rights violations</li> <li>Link CBCPMs to statutory systems and social service workforce members to support easily accessible referral and monitoring mechanisms and for ensuring accountability within CBCPM structures.</li> <li>Strengthen a bottom – up reporting mechanism (from community level to central level)</li> <li>Identify and support community champions to challenge harmful traditional norms and identify positive alternatives, including around child marriage, female genital mutilation, and corporal punishment.</li> <li>Document and disseminate culturally appropriate positive alternatives to harmful traditional practices.</li> <li>Use local media and local leaders to disseminate good practices around addressing harmful traditional norms.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community based child protection mechanisms reinforce positive indigenous norms and practices, and are linked to statutory mechanisms</li> <li>Children's participation structures are available and function both at national and decentralized levels</li> </ul>

Child protection system element	Crucial components of the system element	Strategies to strengthen the element	Outcome indicators
<p>Effective promotion actions on protection of children from violence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schools mainstream the issue of violence against children and life skills in their curriculum and school bylaws</li> <li>Educational programmes and health care services provide comprehensive age-appropriate reproductive health education</li> <li>The role of the media is enhanced in sensitising the public on child protection issues</li> <li>Gender- and culture-sensitive information campaigns are implemented to raise awareness and educate all involved about violence against children</li> <li>Political support is given to expand the civil society space for effective advocacy and public mobilisation</li> <li>Structures and opportunities are created for meaningful participation by children, families and community members in decisions that affect children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and disseminate principles of good parenting, and develop minimum standards on better parenting.</li> <li>Ensure appropriate life skills and livelihood opportunities for girls and boys in schools</li> <li>Create platforms for community dialogue and involvement of the media and for undertaking public campaigns and child and youth-led awareness programmes</li> <li>Establish mechanisms for greater involvement of education policy makers and curriculum developers in child protection efforts</li> <li>Help local and community media to facilitate and promote protection of children from violence</li> <li>Undertake public sensitization and awareness raising campaigns around harmful traditional and cultural practices, including those related to occult practices</li> <li>Make available peer and parental education programmes about violence against children, including in the area of online and ICT-facilitated violence and cyber bullying by integrating them in the national school curriculum to prevent online violence and online radicalisation of children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effective promotion actions are identified based on evidence, including those in the INSPIRE package</li> <li>Promotion actions are mainstreamed across relevant sectors policies and programmes</li> </ul>
<p>Effective prevention actions, including effective provision of care</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that a Minimum Package of Services and related Quality Improvement Standards is made available and implemented to ensure all children's needs are met; strengthen children's and families' resilience; reduce risk of family separation; and reduce risk of exposure to violence.</li> <li>Support families and communities through "cash+care" programmes to better care and protect children.</li> <li>Ensure that child protection programming and structures are linked to the social protection programming and structures</li> <li>Identify violence hot spots and institute measures to ensure safety for children in existing public spaces as well as ensuring availability of new safe public spaces for children</li> <li>Support parents, as the primary care givers, with appropriate services and programmes</li> <li>Provide children with the means to promptly report abuse in a child friendly and an uncensored communication media</li> <li>Support the capacity of families and communities to enable them adequately protect children by enhancing their economic capacity through child-sensitive social protection schemes and by promoting positive, non-violent, non-discriminatory forms of child rearing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Strategies "C: Coordination of services" and "A: Availability and accessibility of appropriate services" of the Regional Minimum Standards on Comprehensive Services for Children and Young People in the East African Community.</li> <li>Identify and address child and family needs towards reducing risks and enhancing child safety and protective factors</li> <li>Link interventions for ending violence to care reform efforts to ensure that violence prevention is addressed in all settings, including in alternative care.</li> <li>Develop, disseminate and scale-up evidence-based practices on provision of quality child care, positive parenting and positive disciplining</li> <li>Increase safe spaces for children in both quantity and quality, including in schools, on the way to and from schools, and within the broader community</li> <li>Ensure the availability and accessibility of child helplines and hotlines for reporting violence and expand coverage of existing child helpline facilities</li> <li>Make knowledge resources on marriage, fatherhood, and parenting available in easily accessible formats, and build the capacity of structures and systems to promote child and family well-being</li> <li>Ensure that sectors dealing with social protection are included in child protection programming and make child protection expertise available for sectors developing social protection interventions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effective prevention actions are identified based on evidence, including those in the INSPIRE package, and implemented equitably</li> <li>Prevention actions are mainstreamed across relevant sectors policies and programmes</li> </ul>

Child protection system element	Crucial components of the system element	Strategies to strengthen the element	Outcome indicators
<p>Effective response actions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case management processes and referral pathways are established and harmonised as a national package with accompanying tools and guidance.</li> <li>• Post-violence care and services are available, accessible and appropriate to minimise post-violence trauma.</li> <li>• Formal complaint mechanisms, including response and emergency mechanisms, support child helplines and other child-friendly reporting mechanisms</li> <li>• Governments, along with partners, provide extra support services for children in particularly vulnerable circumstances, such as children with disabilities, children living and/or working on the street, domestic workers, juveniles, refugee children, and children in other emergency situations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish and monitor systems for mapping special vulnerabilities of children and their access to appropriate response services</li> <li>• Harmonise child helplines call numbers across the EAC with the number 116, which is designated for such purposes by the International telecommunications Union.</li> <li>• Ensure that case management steps and tools effectively identify needs of children affected by violence.</li> <li>• Make available guidance on how to deliver appropriate specialized services for children who have been affected by violence and children under especially difficult circumstances, such as children with disabilities.</li> <li>• Make available effective and functional referral pathways to clinical, social, and legal services for children who have been affected by violence.</li> <li>• Set up functioning and accessible national helplines to offer a safe environment to report or disclose violence.</li> <li>• Make child-friendly justice services available for children in contact with the law</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective response actions are identified based on evidence, including those in the INSPIRE package and delivered equitably</li> <li>• Response actions are mainstreamed across relevant sectors policies and programmes</li> </ul>
<p>Quality evidence and data for decision-making</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The evidence and information base on violence against children in all settings is improved through regular data gathering, methodologically robust and ethically sound research, ensuring that no children are left behind or invisible in these initiatives</li> <li>• A national child protection information management and surveillance systems is set up to regularly store and monitor the nature and magnitude of different forms of violence in all settings, and to identify emerging trends.</li> <li>• Permanent platforms, physical or digital, are established or strengthened, and made functional, for sharing good practices and lessons amongst sectors, and between countries, to inform child protection system strengthening efforts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide legal mandate for the establishment of a child protection information management and surveillance system, for systematising flow of information within decentralised structures and for designating a focal organisation for overseeing the system</li> <li>• Map and assess existing child protection systems, including those at community levels, to identify gaps and accordingly improve national child protection efforts.</li> <li>• Make use of the EAC website as an information hub where recent data, research, mappings, assessments and learning pertaining to child protection in the Partner States are disseminated.</li> <li>• Enhance the research and data collection and analysis capacity of relevant government sectors working in child protection.</li> <li>• Create or strengthen structures to encourage communities to participate in routine community level surveillance on violence risk factors</li> <li>• Ensure that government joins hands with development partners to undertake impact evaluations and effectiveness assessments of on-going and planned child protection interventions</li> <li>• Ensure that the EAC facilitates twinning or exchange visits amongst Partner States to foster peer-to-peer learning on lessons learned.</li> <li>• See Strategy “E: Evaluation, monitoring and learning” the Regional Minimum Standards on Comprehensive Services for Children and Young People in the East African Community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child protection information and data management and surveillance systems are available, harmonized, and functional</li> <li>• High quality research is undertaken to contribute to generating reliable data and evidence based learning.</li> </ul>



## Chapter 4:

# Monitoring the implementation of the Regional Framework for Strengthening Child Protection Systems: An outline

It is acknowledged that each of the six Partner States is at a different stage of building, strengthening and refining their child protection systems. As child protection systems are not static and are reflective of contexts, capacities, and resources, each Partner State is expected to contextualize the Regional Framework and identify steps for action at the national level. As a result, the scope of the Framework's application at the national level should be defined by country contexts and priorities.

Similarly, monitoring on the progress of child protection systems strengthening efforts is primarily rests on national level actors, primarily governments. Each Partner State will need to examine and choose from the outcome indicators - listed in Table 2 - that are best suited to track its own progress towards the regional framework. Further, each Partner State needs to identify the most suitable existing monitoring mechanism/format such as, voluntary national review mechanisms, Partner States periodic review reports to the EAC, where appropriate, as a further means of contributing to the overall follow-up and review of the EAC's Child Policy implementation, to avoid duplications.

The EAC Secretariat through Department of Gender and Community Development will have an important role in fostering knowledge sharing and promoting shared accountability for regional challenges and opportunities in strengthening national child protection systems. Correspondingly, the Secretariat also needs to align the review of the regional framework with the Child Policy monitoring framework.

**Table 2: Outcomes and related indicators of a strong and functioning child protection system**

This table highlights the outcomes and related indicators of a strong and functioning child protection system. It also provides an overview of the national and regional baseline and targets, and provides an overview of how each of the targets will be measured by the Partner States and EAC Secretariat through the Department of Gender and Community Development.

**Component I: Appropriate policies, legislation and regulations indicators**

<b>Outcome 1.1: All appropriate laws and policies are put in place for the protection of children from all forms of violence, abuse and exploitation and in all settings</b>	
<b>Indicator 1.1.1</b>	<b>Ratifications of the key international and regional instruments significant to children’s rights by partner states</b>
<b>Standard - How it is measured</b>	<p>This indicator is measured as the percentage of ratified international and regional conventions out of the list of 15 relevant instruments listed in Annex 2.</p> <p>Based on the annexed list, Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p><b>A.</b> Partner state that has ratified All the 15 relevant international and regional laws.  <b>B.</b> Partner State that has ratified 70–99% percent of the listed laws.  <b>C.</b> Partner State that has ratified 50–69% percent of the listed laws.  <b>D.</b> Partner State that has ratified less than 50%.</p>
<b>Baseline and targets</b>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> Percentage of international and regional instruments currently ratified by each partner states from the listed relevant instruments.</p> <p><b>Target:</b> By 2022, all Partner States ratified all the 15 key international and regional instruments related to child protection</p>
<b>Data Source</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National budget in sectors wide in the partner state</li> <li>Survey, research and project reports from public and civil society organization</li> <li>Reports of the EAC Secretariat</li> </ul> <p>Partner States’ reports to the UNCRC, ACERWC and EAC</p>
<b>Limitations</b>	Subscription to international and regional conventions is important but not always sufficient to ensure that ratified principles actually translate into domestic rules and practices. Therefore, this indicator should also be analyzed in close connection with 1.1.2, which attempts to measure enforceability of commitments.
<b>Indicator 1.1.2</b>	<b>Domestication of ratified international and regional instruments by the Partner States</b>
<b>Standard - How it is measured</b>	<p>The indicator is measured against key elements of a legislative mechanisms needed for a Partner State to domesticate and give effect to its legislative framework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Partner State’s constitution contains provisions on child rights, consistent with CRC and ACRWC as well as other global and regional covenants and instruments;</li> <li>A mechanism is in place to eliminate any of the existing legal inconsistencies and Fragmentation;</li> <li>Key child protection definitions and processes are sufficiently specified, precise, and supported by guidelines for implementation at relevant sub-national and district levels;</li> <li>The Partner State has prepared and/or adopted a comprehensive national plan of action on prevention and response to violence against children.</li> </ul> <p>Based on the above criteria, the Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p><b>A.</b> Legislative framework is consistent with <b>all</b> of the criteria.  <b>B.</b> Legislative framework is consistent with <b>at least three</b> of the criteria.  <b>C.</b> Legislative framework is consistent with <b>at least two of</b> the criteria.  <b>D.</b> Legislative framework is consistent with <b>one or less of</b> the criteria.</p>

<b>Baseline and targets</b>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> x Partner States have domestic mechanism that gives effect into the international and regional instruments ratified by the Partner States</p> <p><b>Target:</b> By 2022, all Partner States have domestic mechanism that gives effect into the international and regional instruments ratified by the Partner States</p>
<b>Data Source</b>	Partner States' legislative frameworks
<b>Limitations</b>	This indicator needs in-depth analysis of domestic policy-making processes, which is normally a significant challenge. Moreover, Partner States in EAC region are divided between the monistic and dualistic mechanisms in the domestication of international treaties and agreements following their linguistic and legal cultures.
<b>Indicator I.1.3</b>	<b>Consistency of the legal protocols and policy guidelines across levels of government and context including emergency situations</b>
<b>Standard - How it is measured</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key laws and national policies for child protection including in emergency situation are supported by: Availability and implementation of costed and resourced policies</li> <li>• Regular consultations with national, sub-national and district stakeholders engaged in law enforcement and policy implementation;</li> <li>• Clear and well-defined communication, instructions and guidelines of national policies and legislation to other tiers of government including for emergency situations;</li> <li>• Consistently applying rights based approach to survivors'/victims response, including investigative and prosecutorial practices that protect children from violence and linking them with services including in emergency situations;</li> <li>• Respective sub-national legislation (where this is applicable in the context of the Partner State's decentralized setting).</li> </ul> <p>Based on the above criteria, the Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p><b>A.</b> Interface between national and sub-national measures in child protection include <b>all of the criteria.</b></p> <p><b>B.</b> Interface between national and sub-national measures in child protection include <b>two of the benchmark criteria.</b></p> <p><b>C.</b> Interface between national and sub-national measures in child protection include <b>one of the criteria.</b></p> <p><b>D.</b> Interface between national and sub-national measures in child protection include <b>none of the criteria.</b></p>
<b>Baseline and targets</b>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> x Partner States have consistent protocols and policy guidelines across levels of government as well as for emergency situations.</p> <p><b>Target:</b> By 2022, all Partner States continuously streamline the required protocols and policy guidelines across level of government as well as for emergency situations</p>
<b>Data source</b>	Sectoral legal and policy guides, standards, protocols related to protecting children from violence, abuse and exploitation including humanitarian field.
<b>Limitation</b>	Central initiatives for child protection not only require clear communication to engage all government tiers including sub-national stakeholders, but also specific measures to ensure that central mandates are actually applied in practice by sub-national tiers, Moreover, this was one of the indicators where the quantity of instructions was not accepted as a reliable measure, since it was not necessarily reflective of quality. The current version of this indicator relies on three benchmark criteria, which determine the successful process of legal and policy communication across multi-layer structures, and help to rank a Partner State's progress in a regionally comparable way.

## Component 2: Well-defined structures and functions, and adequate capacities

<b>Outcome 2:1</b>	<b>Multi-sectoral and stakeholder coordination mechanisms improved to effectively enforce and implement policies and programmes to prevent and respond to violence against children including in humanitarian action</b>
<b>Indicator 2.1.1</b>	Number of Partner States who have multi-sectoral inter and intra ministerial and stakeholder coordination mechanism including in emergency situations with clear mandate, roles and responsibilities, and established linkages with key sectors at the different levels *
<b>Standard - How it is measured</b>	<p>This indicator is measured against the availability and effectiveness of policy coordination structures and processes including for emergency situations which encompass:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A parliamentary or other oversight body on child protection including in emergency situation which has a clearly defined mandate and meets regularly;</li> <li>• An inter-ministerial mechanism that coordinates child protection activities including in emergency situation, which has a clearly defined mandate, meets regularly and is attended by senior officials;</li> <li>• Increased accountability by Partner States for supporting comprehensive multi-sectoral action plans and strategies for preventing and responding to violence against children including in emergency situation;</li> <li>• Sub-national bodies which coordinate child protection policies or activities including in emergency situation and which meet regularly;</li> <li>• A coordination mechanism to effectively engage international development agencies in child protection including in emergency situation, which has a clear set of objectives related to child protection and meets regularly.</li> </ul> <p>Based on the above criteria, the Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p><b>A.</b> Policy coordination for child protection is consistent <b>with all of the criteria.</b>  <b>B.</b> Policy coordination for child protection is consistent with <b>at least three</b> of the criteria.  <b>C.</b> Policy coordination for child protection is consistent with <b>at least two</b> of the criteria.  <b>D.</b> Policy coordination for child protection is consistent with <b>one or less</b> of the criteria.</p>
<b>Baseline and targets</b>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> x Partner States have coordination mechanism that meet at least two of the criteria listed above.</p> <p><b>Target:</b> By 2022, all Partner States <b>have coordination mechanism with clear mandate, roles and responsibilities, and established linkages with key sectors at the different levels.</b></p>
<b>Data Source</b>	Partner States' policy frameworks
<b>Limitation</b>	While the importance of policy coordination <b>is recognized</b> , measuring it by the number of related bodies, the frequency of their meetings or complexity of their layers <b>is difficult, as none</b> of these quantifiable measures is reflective of the efficiency of respective structures. Therefore this indicator is based on a qualitative analysis of existing coordination capacities for child protection based on a list of benchmark criteria.
<b>Outcome 2.2</b>	<b>Coordination of different actors' (policy makers, judiciary, law enforcing bodies, service providers, community child protection actors, etc.) functions including those that are not generally considered as part of child protection system such as, education, health and those engaged in humanitarian action.</b>
<b>Indicator 2.2.1</b>	<p>Number of partner states that have mainstreamed issues of child protection especially in relation to children in conflict situation across all sectors</p> <p>Number of partners state doing assessment is one thing but finding consistence in those assessment in another things</p> <p>May be we could say a minimum divergence from the normal / standard / practices of those structures functions.</p>

<b>How it is measured</b>	<p>Well defined functions are supported by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear mandate, roles and responsibilities of actors that fit the local context and considers emergency situations;</li> <li>• Actors’ knowledge and skills in children’s protection from violence, abuse and exploitation that is based on empirical evidence and practices;</li> <li>• Examining how various practices, mechanisms, social norms, groups, institutions and processes affect children’s safety from violence;</li> <li>• Emphasis on evidence and learning on what is working;</li> <li>• A mechanism that periodically assess and support social workforce’ capability, training needs, performance, compliance to code of conduct and motivation level to protect children’s rights and to share attitudes which are conducive to protecting children from abuse, exploitation and violence;</li> <li>• Collaborative actions by different stakeholders in preventing and responding to VAC.</li> </ul> <p>Based on the above criteria, the Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p><b>A.</b> A child protection system that performs effectively includes <b>all of the criteria</b>.  <b>B.</b> A child protection system that is consistent with <b>two of the criteria</b>.  <b>C.</b> A child protection system that is consistent with <b>one of the criteria</b>.  <b>D.</b> A child protection system that performs <b>none of the criteria</b>.</p>
<b>Baseline and targets</b>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> x Partner States that examine on how various functions actually affect children’s safety from violence, abuse, and exploitation</p> <p><b>Target:</b> By 2022, all Partner States that regularly assess and learn on how various functions actually affect children’s safety from violence, abuse, and exploitation</p>
<b>Data Source</b>	<p>Sectoral reports and reviews. In instances where information is not readily available, it is vital that qualitative assessments employed to address the gap.</p>
<b>Limitation</b>	<p>Some actors within the child protection system may be acting according to their culturally constructed beliefs and values that may contradict to the promotion of child wellbeing. A well-functioning child protection system can only come when functions are seen as organic, evolving set of interconnected behaviors, programmes and policies.</p>
<b>Outcome 2.3</b>	<p><b>Laws, policies and services related to protecting children from violence enforced and delivered by trained and motivated people including those that are working in emergency situations.</b></p>
<b>Indicator 2.3.1</b>	<p><b>Number of Partner States that have periodic training/ refresher courses for social workforce, regulations and Standard Operating Procedures, including those that are working in emergency situations.</b></p>

<p><b>Standard - How it is measured</b></p>	<p>Well defined functions are supported by a regulatory framework for child protection that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A definition (in training or other institutions or in policy) of the professional responsibilities, skills and required training and/or standards to which social workers will be held accountable;</li> <li>• Specific requirements and standards for the social workforce working with children in emergencies;</li> <li>• A certification, accreditation or licensing process for the social workforce and other professionals who work within child protection field;</li> <li>• A system of regular performance evaluation for all staff, including para professional workers and volunteers, working on child protection linked to practical measures affecting compensation and continued training.</li> </ul> <p>Based on the above criteria, the Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p><b>A.</b> Child protection regulatory framework includes <b>all</b> of the criteria;  <b>B.</b> Child protection regulatory framework includes at <b>least three</b> of the criteria;  <b>C.</b> Child protection regulatory framework includes at <b>least two</b> of the criteria;  <b>D.</b> Child protection regulatory framework includes <b>one or none</b> of the criteria.</p>
<p><b>Baseline and targets</b></p>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> x Partner States have a child protection regulator frameworks for the child protection social workforce  <b>Target:</b> By 2022, all Partner States will <b>have a child protection regulator frameworks for the child protection social workforce</b></p>
<p><b>Data Source</b></p>	<p>Sectoral reports and reviews. In instances where information is not readily available, it is vital that qualitative assessments employed to address the gap.</p>
<p><b>Limitation</b></p>	<p>This indicator is focused on formal policies and requirements, and is not necessarily illustrative of actual practices applied on the ground. This limitation should be kept in mind in interpreting the scores for this indicator, which is best utilized in combination with other features assessed under this component.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 2.3.2</b></p>	<p><b>Number of Partner States that have professional training programmes for the social workforce across the broad child protection spectrum.</b></p>

<b>Standard - How it is used</b>	<p>Education and continued skills and career development system contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A university degree programme in social work whose curriculum includes courses on social services, developmental issues, protective and preventive topics, child protection in emergencies and therapeutic interventions;</li> <li>• A vocational qualification programme in social work or child development whose curriculum is approved by relevant authorities;</li> <li>• A system of accreditation of social work skills which is based on competency tests within relevant training programmes;</li> <li>• Training for education workers (such as teachers), health professionals and/or other professionals on abuse, violence and exploitation;</li> <li>• Specific training programme for staff within the ministries with lead interior and home affairs role and lead justice roles on children and justice.</li> <li>• Specific training programmes to para professional workers and volunteers</li> </ul> <p>Based on the above criteria, the Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p><b>A.</b> Partner State that has an education system which includes <b>all</b> of the criteria.  <b>B.</b> Partner State that has an education system which includes at <b>least three</b> of the criteria.  <b>C.</b> Partner State that has an education system which includes <b>one or two</b> of the criteria.  <b>D.</b> Partner State that has an education system which includes <b>none</b> of the criteria.</p>
<b>Baseline and targets</b>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> x Partner States have a professional training system on child protection for personnel working with children including those working in emergency situations</p> <p><b>Target:</b> By 2022, all Partner States will have a professional training on child protection for personnel working with children including those engaged in emergency situations</p>
<b>Data Source</b>	<p>Reports of ministries and agencies whose mandates involve working with children including, including in emergency situations.</p>
<b>Limitation</b>	<p>In the above criteria, there is limited focus for analyzing the quality of training programmes and the importance of linking these programmes to competency tests and accreditation requirements. Therefore, it is important in the country-level interpretation of the indicator to acknowledge the specific importance of accreditation mechanisms and whether the Partner State has established relevant systems.</p> <p>How the EAC support you to apply the M&amp;E framework? By support technical and material to apply M&amp;E framework.</p> <p>Harmonize the institutions to perform their ratification issues in the partners states</p>
<b>Indicator 2.3.3</b>	<p><b>Overall size of civil service/public sector staff with responsibility for child protection (all social workers across all ministries, qualified and unqualified)</b></p>
<b>How it is used</b>	<p>This indicator is measured against ratio of social workers with responsibilities for child protection (= service delivery personnel) per head of the child population.</p> <p>Based on the above criteria, the Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p><b>A.</b> 1:20,000  <b>C.</b> 1:100,000</p> <p><b>B.</b> 1:50,000  <b>D.</b> Greater than 1:100,000</p>

<p><b>Baseline and target</b></p>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> Current status of Partner States’ ratios of social workforce with a responsibility for child protection</p> <p><b>Target:</b> By 2022, all Partner States’ ratio of its social workforce with a responsibility for child protection will be optimum.</p>
<p><b>Data Source</b></p>	<p><b>Reports of ministries</b> and agencies whose mandates involve working with children <b>including</b>, healthcare and justice.</p>
<p><b>Limitations</b></p>	<p>The indicator covers all types of jobs in child protection without regard to the level of qualification, which should be treated with caution when interpreting regional comparisons.</p> <p>Number of partner states that have well paid, tooled and equipped personnel for the social workforce.</p>

### Component 3: Effective, sustainable community based and owned child protection mechanisms

<b>Outcome 3.1</b>	<b>Community based child protection mechanisms reinforce positive indigenous norms and practices, and are linked to statutory mechanisms</b>
<b>Indicator 3.1.1</b>	<b>Advocacy and awareness raising to combat harmful attitudes and practices including in emergency situation</b>
<b>Standard - How it is used</b>	<p>This indicator is measured against schemes and programmes under way to combat existing attitudes, customs and practices including in emergency situations which are contrary to a child's well-being, and which aim to promote open discussion with a view towards changing opinions.</p> <p>Based on the above criteria, the Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p>A. Partner State that has <b>more than five programmes</b> underway          B. Partner State that has <b>three programmes</b> underway.          C. Partner State that has <b>less than three programmes</b> underway;          D. Partner State with <b>no programmes</b>.</p>
<b>Baseline and target</b>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> Current status of Partner States' schemes and/or programmes on combatting existing attitudes, customs and practices which are contrary to a child's well-being, and which aim to promote open discussion with a view towards changing opinions.</p> <p><b>Target:</b> By 2022, all Partner States' will have more than twenty schemes and/or programmes on combatting existing attitudes, customs and practices which are contrary to a child's well-being, and which aim to promote open discussion with a view towards changing opinions.</p>
<b>Data Source</b>	Reports of ministries and agencies whose mandates involve working with children including, healthcare and justice as well as other non-governmental actors. In instances where information is not readily available, it is vital that qualitative assessments employed to address the gap.
<b>Limitations</b>	This indicator is not limited to any specific type of risk facing children and covers programmes which address a broad range of opinions about the violation of children's rights. And it is important for the awareness raising agenda to remain focused on the most imminent risks depending on the country context, and should evolve to respond to new and emerging problems.
<b>Indicator 3.1.2</b>	<b>Number of community based child protection mechanisms that are linked to services*</b>

<p><b>Standard - How it is used</b></p>	<p>This indicator examines existence of linkages and referral between community-based child protection mechanisms and formal /statutory child protection services within and across child protection agencies , including those working in emergencies in the Partner State Based on the above criteria, the Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p><b>A. All</b> child protection concerns are consistently assessed and referred on the basis of clear guidance and criteria. <b>B. The majority</b> of child protection concerns are consistently assessed and referred on the basis of clear guidance and criteria. <b>C. Many</b> child protection concerns are not assessed or referred. <b>D. Referrals and assessment are not linked.</b></p>
<p><b>Baseline and target</b></p>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> x Partner States’ community-based child protection mechanisms are linked to formal/statutory child protection services <b>Target:</b> By 2022, all Partner States’ community-based child protection mechanisms are linked to formal/statutory child protection services</p>
<p><b>Data Source</b></p>	<p>Reports of service providing organizations</p>
<p><b>Limitations</b></p>	<p>The indicator focuses on merely on the existence of the linkages without assessing the quality of the service provided</p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.1.3</b></p>	<p><b>Partner States that have coordinated initiatives between state and community based child protection mechanisms to increase accessibility and quality of comprehensive services for children*</b></p>
<p><b>Standard - How it is used</b></p>	<p>This indicator looks into the comprehensiveness of the coordinated work between state and CBCPM to increase accessibility and quality of comprehensive services for children. Coordinated interventions can further increase the capacity of CBCPM and decrease the burden of the state to deliver services. Based on the above criteria, the Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p><b>A.</b> The coordination work extends on <b>all</b> promotional, preventive and protective measures and services; <b>B.</b> The <b>majority</b> of coordination work extends on all promotional, preventive and protective measures and services; <b>C. Most</b> of the state and CBCPM work is not coordinated; <b>D.</b> State and CBCPM work is <b>not</b> coordinated.</p>
<p><b>Baseline and target</b></p>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> x Partner States have coordinated work between state and non-state actors to increase accessibility and quality of comprehensive services for children <b>Target:</b> By 2022, all Partner States have coordinated work between state and non-state actors to increase accessibility and quality of comprehensive services for children</p>
<p><b>Data Source</b></p>	<p>Reports of service providing organizations.</p>
<p><b>Limitations</b></p>	<p>The indicator focuses on merely on the existence of the linkages without assessing the quality of the service provided</p>

## Component 4: Effective promotion, prevention and response actions

<b>Outcome 4.1</b>	<b>Social protection systems directly address children's vulnerability to violence, abuse and exploitation</b>
<b>Indicator 4.1.1</b>	<b>Social protection systems include complementary programmes (e.g. cash plus programmes)</b> that can increase the effectiveness in tackling violence against children
<b>Standard - How it is used</b>	<p>This indicator looks into the investment made to support wide range of schemes and programmes – including, improvement of families' economic security and stability, the provision of comprehensive quality support services for families and children, across health, social welfare, justice and education sectors, as well as parent and caregiver support - within the social protection systems with the aim to reduce the risks of children being exposed to violence, abuse and exploitation.</p> <p>Based on the above criteria, the Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p><b>A.</b> Partner States that have comprehensively integrated and implemented at least two cash plus schemes/programmes within the social protection systems with the aim to reduce the risks of children being exposed to violence, abuse and exploitation;</p> <p><b>B.</b> Partner States that have the <b>scaled up the integration and implementation on two</b> cash plus schemes/programmes within the social protection systems with the aim to reduce the risks of children being exposed to violence, abuse and exploitation;</p> <p><b>C.</b> Partner States that have the <b>scaled up the integration and implementation on one</b> cash plus schemes/programmes within the social protection systems with the aim to reduce the risks of children being exposed to violence, abuse and exploitation;</p> <p><b>D.</b> Partner State that have <b>not made effort to scale up the integration and implementation of</b> cash plus schemes/programmes within the social protection systems with the aim to reduce the risks of children being exposed to violence, abuse and exploitation.</p>
<b>Baseline and target</b>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> x Partner States have scaled up the integration and implementation of at least two cash plus schemes/programmes within the social protection systems with the aim to reduce the risks of children being exposed to violence, abuse and exploitation</p> <p><b>Target:</b> By 2022, all Partner States have scaled up the integration and implementation of at least two cash plus schemes/programmes within the social protection systems with the aim to reduce the risks of children being exposed to violence, abuse and exploitation</p>
<b>Data Source</b>	Reports of government and non-governmental organizations engaged in child protection and social protection work.
<b>Limitations</b>	The indicator focuses on merely on the efforts without assessing the scope and quality of the schemes.

## Component 5: Sufficient resource allocation and effective fiscal management

<b>Outcome 5.1</b>	<b>Child protection system strengthening efforts are budgeted for and resourced</b>
<b>Indicator 5.1.1</b>	number of partner states with multi-year budget allocated to preventing and responding to violence, abuse and exploitation of children across all sectors including in emergency situations
<b>Standard - How it is used</b>	<p>This indicator examines the composition of expenditure compared to original approved budgets on child protection related programmes (administrative and functional) including for emergency situations over the last three years.</p> <p>Based on the above criteria, the Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p>A. Variance in expenditure composition <b>less than 5 per cent in any of the last three years.</b></p> <p>B. Variance in expenditure composition <b>by 5 per cent in one year over three years.</b></p> <p>C. Variance in expenditure composition <b>by 10 per cent in no more than one out of the last three years.</b></p> <p>D. Variance in expenditure composition <b>by 10 per cent in two out of the last three years.</b></p>
<b>Baseline and target</b>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> Partner State status of expenditure compared to original approved budgets on child protection-related programmes (administrative and functional) over the last three years current status of budget allocated to child protection activities</p> <p><b>Target:</b> All partner states' variance between expenditure and original approved budgets on child protection-related programmes (administrative and functional) is less than 5 per cent.</p>
<b>Data Source</b>	Sectoral reports. In instances where information is not readily available, it is vital that qualitative assessments employed to address the gap.
<b>Limitation</b>	Given the difficulties in separating sector-wide expenditures on child protection as a separate amount, this indicator gives flexibility to the users of the indicators in terms of the choice of sectors and programmes to be included into this analysis.
<b>Indicator 5.1.2</b>	Number of partner states with Policy-based budgeting for child protection
<b>Standard - How it is used</b>	<p>This indicator examines the existence of costed strategies for child protection in the Partner State.</p> <p>Based on the above criteria, the Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p>A. The Partner State <b>has a costed strategy or strategies</b> for child protection <b>which match child protection priorities to resource allocation</b>, based on consideration of costed options, and these strategies are considered explicitly during the budget process;</p> <p>B. The Partner State <b>has a costed child protection strategy(ies), but it does not match actual resource allocation</b> and is not clearly articulated by sector staff as budget proposals;</p> <p>C. Sector strategies <b>may have been prepared for some aspects of child protection, but not substantially costed for investment and recurrent expenditure</b>, although activities are underway to prepare one that would feed into the budget process;</p> <p>D. There are <b>no costed strategies</b> for child protection and no activities are under way to prepare one.</p>

<b>Baseline and target</b>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> X Partner State that has policy-based budgeting for child protection</p> <p><b>Target:</b> By 2022, all Partner State will have policy-based budgeting for child protection.</p>
<b>Data Source</b>	<p>Sectoral reports. In instances where information is not readily available, it is vital that qualitative assessments employed to address the gap.</p>
<b>Limitation</b>	<p>Given the difference in the Partner States political, institutional and administrative contexts, this indicator gives flexibility to the users to look into the analysis medium-term expenditure framework (MTEF) which represents a dialogue between all stakeholders, which should lead to agreement on how, based on the current macro-fiscal forecast (potentially available funds) and current government policies (jointly for the economy and for individual sectors), limited resources should be allocated across individual spending programmes.</p>

## Component 6: Quality evidence and data for decision-making

<b>Outcome 6.1</b>	<b>Child protection information and data management and surveillance systems are established, harmonized, and functional</b>
<b>Indicator 6.1.1</b>	Partner State that has an MIS with an interface amongst national/regional/sub-regional data collection (administrative and survey) and dissemination system that captures, stores, manages or transmits information related to child protection services, including hard-to-reach communities*
<b>Standard - How it is used</b>	<p>This indicator is measured against administrative data on child protection recorded by national MIS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use definitions and concepts which are appropriate for statistical purposes;</li> <li>• Allow tracking performance of existing child protection programmes and services (within and across sectors);</li> <li>• Allow tracking utilization of assets, expenditure and budget execution by child protection programmes and services;</li> <li>• Cover variables sufficient to support decisions on most of the specific national child protection policy priorities (e.g. migration-related risks, HIV, domestic violence, etc.).</li> </ul> <p>Based on the above criteria, the Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p>A. Administrative data on child protection recorded by national MIS satisfy <b>all</b> of the Criteria.</p> <p>B. Administrative data on child protection recorded by national MIS satisfy <b>at least three</b> of the criteria.</p> <p>C. Administrative data on child protection recorded by national MIS <b>satisfy one or two</b> of the criteria.</p> <p>D. Administrative data on child protection recorded by national MIS satisfy <b>none</b> of the criteria.</p>
<b>Baseline and target</b>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> X Partner State that has an MIS with an interface amongst national/regional/sub-regional data collection (administrative and survey) and dissemination system that captures, stores, manages or transmits information related to child protection services, including hard-to-reach communities.</p> <p><b>Target:</b> By 2022, all Partner State will have an interface amongst national/regional/sub-regional data collection (administrative and survey) and dissemination system that captures, stores, manages or transmits information related to child protection services, including hard-to-reach communities</p>
<b>Data Source</b>	The national MIS.
<b>Limitation</b>	This indicator is focused on administrative data related to child protection, and does not cover a comprehensive range of data which are required to analyse related issues (such as national surveys and especially those related to child protection outcomes).
<b>Indicator 6.1.2</b>	<b>evidence based research for child protection</b>

<p><b>Standard - How it is used</b></p>	<p>Child protection policy development and planning process is based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular provision to key decision makers of relevant evidence-based analysis and research;</li> <li>• ;Existence of a national research agenda on child protection issues, which identifies priorities for improving data on child protection problems, and key risk factors also in humanitarian settings;</li> <li>• Effective collection of information on children at risk for the purposes of</li> <li>• collaboration between public and/or external agencies in emergency contexts;</li> <li>• Capacity building and training programmes in key ministries with responsibilities in Child protection for data management, statistical analysis and evidence-based policy making.</li> </ul> <p>Based on the above criteria, the Partner State will be assessed as follows:</p> <p>A. Policy making is based on <b>all</b> of the criteria for data utilization.          B. Policy making is based on at <b>least three</b> of the criteria for data utilization.          C. Policy making is based <b>on one or two</b> of the benchmark criteria for data utilization.          D. <b>None</b> of the criteria for data utilization are satisfied during policy making for child protection.</p>
<p><b>Baseline and target</b></p>	<p><b>Baseline:</b> X Partner State has a policy making process that is informed by evidence-based analysis and research.</p> <p><b>Target:</b> By 2022, all Partner State will have policy making process that is informed by evidence-based analysis and research.</p>
<p><b>Data Source</b></p>	<p>Sectoral reports.</p>
<p><b>Limitation</b></p>	<p>In order for statistics to be of practical help to children, a child protection system has to contain a range of specific mechanisms, which translate numbers into policy outcomes. Relevant stakeholders should engage in on-going research on issues which are topical and important for children, and practical channels should exist so that the research findings and recommendations reach policy makers and influence their decisions. One requirement for this is to have policy makers acquire sufficient statistical skills.</p>



## Chapter 5: Key resources

- Bissel, S. et. al (2008). Rethinking child protection from a rights perspective: Some observations for discussion (a white paper).
- Child Frontiers (2010). Research Manual: Child Protection Systems Mapping and Analysis in West and Central Africa
- EAC Child Policy
- Ben-Arieh, A., et al (2014). Child wellbeing monitoring frameworks: synthesis and analysis. In ACPF: Measuring and monitoring accountability to children: a compilation of selected papers.
- Cook, P. et al (2016). Community engagement to strengthen social cohesion and child protection in Chad and Burundi: “Bottom Up” participatory monitoring, planning and action.
- Forbes, B. et al. Reconsidering child protection systems: Critical reflections
- Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children. Strategy 2016-2020.
- Interagency Group on Strengthening Child Protection Systems. Framework for Analysing State Party Reports Using a Systems Lens
- Joint Inter-Agency Statement (2013). Strengthening child protection systems in Sub-Saharan Africa: A call to action
- Local Government Association and Early Intervention Foundation (2017). Improving the effectiveness of the child protection system.
- Maestral International (2010). Child Protection Systems: Mapping and Assessment Toolkit
- Regional Minimum Standards on Comprehensive Services for Children and Young People in the EAC
- Save the Children (2010). Child protection systems in emergencies through community-based mechanisms: A discussion paper
- Save the Children (2010). Building rights-based national child protection systems: a concept paper to support Save the Children’s work.
- Training Resources for the Inter-Agency Group on Child Protection Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa. Policy and programming resource guide for child protection systems strengthening in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Training Resources Group and Play Therapy Africa for the Inter-Agency Group on Child Protection Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa (2012). Strengthening child protection systems in Sub-Saharan Africa: A working paper
- UN Secretary General (2008). Study on Violence Against Children
- United Nations Children’s Fund, Measuring and Monitoring Child Protection Systems:

Proposed Core Indicators for the East Asia and Pacific Region, Strengthening Child Protection Series No. 3., UNICEF EAPRO, Bangkok, 2012.

- UNHCR (2010). Protecting Children of Concern through a Systems Approach: Guidance for Field Offices
- UNHCR (2012). Framework for the Protection Of Children
- UNHCR and UNICEF (forthcoming 2017): Bridging the Humanitarian-Development Divide for Refugee Children in Eastern Africa and the Great Lakes: Formative Review on Refugee Children and National Child Protection Systems
- UNICEF (2014). Ending Violence Against Children: Six strategies for action.
- UNICEF (2005). Protective Environment Framework
- UNICEF (2008). Global Child Protection Strategy
- UNICEF and UNHCR: National Child Protection Systems and Refugee Children: Towards and Integrated Approach
- Wessels, G. (2015). Bottom-up approaches to strengthening child protection systems: Placing children, families and communities at the centre. *Child Abuse and Neglect* (43) 8-21.
- WHO (2016). INSPIRE: Seven strategies for ending violence against children
- World Vision (2011). A Systems Approach to Child Protection. Discussion Paper.
- Wulczyn, F. et al (2010). Adapting a systems approach to child protection: Key concepts and considerations

## Annex I:

### Partner States' progress in establishing effective, functional child protection system

REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI	
Appropriate policies, legislation and regulations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Families and Persons Code (Decree No. 1/024 of 1993)</li> <li>2. Criminal Code (Law No. 1/05 of 2009)</li> <li>3. Code of Criminal Procedure (Law No. 1 of 1999)</li> <li>4. Labour Code (Decree No. 1/037 of 1993)</li> <li>5. Law of Adoptive Filiations (Law No. 1/004 of 1999)</li> <li>6. Code of Child Protection (validated, not yet approved)</li> <li>7. Act on the Prevention and Punishment of Trafficking in Persons and Protection of Victims of Trafficking (Act No. 1/28 of 2014)</li> <li>8. National Child Protection Policy</li> <li>9. National Strategy for Street Children Phenomenon, Prevention and Response</li> <li>10. Minimum Standards for Children Living in Residential Care Centres</li> <li>11. National Strategy for Social Protection</li> <li>12. Strategic Plan for the Implementation of the National Policy on Child Protection</li> <li>13. National Juvenile Justice Policy</li> <li>14. National Gender Policy</li> <li>15. National Human Rights Policy</li> <li>16. National minimum standards for vulnerable children (in process of being developed)</li> </ol>
Well-defined structures and functions, and effective multi-sectoral coordination horizontally and vertically	<p><i>National</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17. Ministry of Human Rights, Social Affairs and Gender</li> <li>18. National Child Protection Coordination Committee</li> <li>19. National Children's Forum</li> <li>20. Child Protection Committee in Emergency Situations</li> <li>21. Permanent Executive Secretariat on Social Protection</li> <li>22. National Platform on Psychosocial Support and Mental Health</li> <li>23. National Independent Commission on Human Rights</li> </ol> <p><i>Subnational</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24. Provincial, communal and village child protection committees</li> </ol>
Sufficient resource allocation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2012 eight out of 12 Government ministries declared they were particularly concerned with children's affairs, and each created a specific budget earmarked for child protection.<sup>i</sup></li> <li>• The committee on general purpose on the oversight activity on the legal framework and implementation of policies on the rights of the child in the EAC partner states, stated there is need to allocate adequate resources to address violence against children as insufficient budgetary support was provided.<sup>ii</sup></li> <li>• Despite this, since the 2015 crisis child protection funding has plummeted, meaning there is insufficient resources to conduct basic duties. For example In 2016, the Centers for Family Development held no activities due to decreased public funding.<sup>iii</sup></li> <li>• National Multi-Sector Committee for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor also lost funding in 2016, among numerous other agencies targeting child protection efforts.<sup>iv</sup></li> </ul>

<sup>i</sup> <https://www.crin.org/en/library/publications/burundi-childrens-rights-universal-periodic-review-second-cycle>

<sup>ii</sup> <http://www.eala.org/uploads/Report%20of%20the%20oversight%20activity%20of%20rights%20of%20the%20child%20of%20in%2019%2008%2015.pdf>

<sup>iii</sup> <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/resources/reports/child-labor/burund>

<sup>iv</sup> [https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/resources/reports/child-labor/burundi#\\_ENREF\\_47](https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/resources/reports/child-labor/burundi#_ENREF_47)

Quality evidence and data for decision-making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2013, community social assistants used registers to document cases, however there were often found empty or unavailable. Therefore, there was concern regarding sufficient documentation.</li> <li>• In response to ensure adequate supervision, the child protection policy provides for the creation of a child protection database.<sup>v</sup></li> <li>• With support from UNICEF and IRC, a project was introduced that helped to establish a case-file system with identification, documentation, follow-up, verification, and reunification forms. The information from these case files will be entered into the interagency Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS).<sup>vi</sup></li> <li>• Since then The Interagency Child Protection Information Management System (IA CP IMS) by the International Rescue Committee (IRC), Save the Children and UNICEF has been developed and used to effectively and efficiently respond to cases. Data analyses can be done to influence protection program's design, strategy and plans for resource allocation.<sup>vii</sup></li> <li>• An International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD) report on the two year (2014-2016) Child Protection Social Cohesion initiative in Burundi reported on child-centred, participatory action research (PAR), ethnographic research combined with local monitoring and Outcome Mapping, to leverage local knowledge on the development of community social cohesion.<sup>viii</sup></li> </ul>
Effective, sustainable community based and owned child protection mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan International works with Burundi refugees, developing child-friendly spaces (CFSs) that allow children to access psychological support and education in the camps. In addition to counselling, activities such as drawing, life skills, learning about their rights, hygiene education and games take place in CFSs.<sup>ix</sup></li> <li>• Clowns Without Borders France helps heal traumatic experiences for displaced children through with laughter, play and performance. Performers dress as clowns and perform shows in refugee camps, reaching 2,000 people each show.<sup>x</sup></li> <li>• The community-based child protection programme was initiated to promote protective environments in camps. Targeted was alternative care for unaccompanied children, kinship care for those with extended family, and independent living for youth. A two cohort system refugee work force was trained to monitor protection needs: Child Protection (CP) Community Mobilizers and Para-social Workers (PSWs).<sup>xi</sup></li> <li>• Solidarity Groups (savings and loan groups), organized by FVS/Amade have an "Orphans and Vulnerable Children Fund," as a resource to support vulnerable children in the community. If this practice is sustainable, it could enable CPCs to have a small local source of funds for emergencies.</li> <li>• IRC's Healing Families and 19 Communities (HFC) process. HFC involves in-depth discussions among group members on parenting. HFC participants consider the safety, development, discipline, and well-being of the children in their care.<sup>xii</sup></li> </ul>
Availability and accessibility of a comprehensive set of services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building a Caring Environment for Children in Burundi Project provides deinstitutionalization, improved institutional care, prevention of separation, which provides children with short-term assistance for reintegration (including access to school and/or vocational training, psychosocial support) and placement monitoring for at least 12 months.<sup>xiii</sup></li> </ul>
Structures and opportunities for meaningful participation by children, families and community members in decisions that affect children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Government approved a regulatory framework mandating that two children must be included as equal members of child protection committees at the provincial, commune, and colline levels from 2010 onward.<sup>xiv</sup></li> <li>• Burundi announced their commitment to establish a children's forum to help guide decision-making and planning in child protection. While a great move, there is concern that children from poor households, out-of-school children, orphans and children in street situations are deprived of their right to participation in such decision-making processes.<sup>xv</sup></li> <li>• Local government and UNICEF are building the capacity of nearly 3,000 community-based Child Protection Committees (CPCs) members, working to drive up local community involvement in the protection of children.</li> </ul>

v. <https://www.crin.org/en/library/publications/burundi-childrens-rights-universal-periodic-review-second-cycle>

vi. [http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf\\_docs/PA00JMFZ.pdf](http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00JMFZ.pdf)

vii. <http://cpwg.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2014/07/IA-CP-IMS-Fact-Sheet-2011-ENG.pdf>

viii. <http://iicrd.org/sites/default/files/groupdocs/Article-%20Strengthening%20child%20protection%20through%20community%20education%20and%20monitoring%20in%20Chad%20and%20Burundi.pdf>

ix. <https://plan-international.org/tanzania/protecting-burundian-refugee-children-tanzania>

x. <https://plan-international.org/tanzania/protecting-burundian-refugee-children-tanzania>

xi. [http://bettercarenetwork.org/sites/default/files/community\\_based\\_alternative\\_care\\_for\\_burundian\\_refugees\\_in\\_rwanda.pdf](http://bettercarenetwork.org/sites/default/files/community_based_alternative_care_for_burundian_refugees_in_rwanda.pdf)

xii. [http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf\\_docs/PA00JMFZ.pdf](http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00JMFZ.pdf)

xiii. [http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf\\_docs/PA00JMFZ.pdf](http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00JMFZ.pdf)

xiv. [https://www.unicef.org/about/annualreport/files/Burundi2010\\_final\\_edit\\_rev\\_AI.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/about/annualreport/files/Burundi2010_final_edit_rev_AI.pdf)

xv. <http://kidsrightsindex.org/Portals/5/pdf/Domain%205%20Child%20Rights%20Environment%20Scoretable.pdf>

REPUBLIC OF KENYA	
Appropriate policies, legislation and regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25. Kenya Constitution (2010) recognises the need for all children to be protected from abuse, neglect, harmful cultural practices, all forms of violence, inhumane treatment and punishment, and hazardous or exploitative labour.</li> <li>26. Revised Children’s Act, 2016</li> <li>27. Protection Against Domestic Violence Act, 2015</li> <li>28. Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act, 2012</li> <li>29. Counter Trafficking in Persons Act, 2010</li> <li>30. The Framework for Child Protection, 2011</li> <li>31. National Psychosocial Support Guidelines for Orphans and Vulnerable Children, 2015</li> <li>32. The National Plan of Action for Children 2015-2022</li> <li>33. National Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy 2015</li> <li>34. The Guidelines for Alternative Family Care in Kenya 2014</li> <li>35. National Standards for Best Practices in Charitable Children’s Institutions, 2013</li> <li>36. A Costed Response Plan to Violence against Children (2013-2018)</li> <li>37. Minimum Service Standards for Quality Improvement of Orphans and Vulnerable Children Programmes in Kenya, 2012</li> <li>38. The National Children Policy</li> <li>39. National Youth Policy</li> <li>40. National Plan of Action on Child Marriage</li> <li>41. National Plan of Action for Combating Human Trafficking (2013-2017)</li> <li>42. The Social Protection Strategy</li> <li>43. National Action Plan for Accelerating the Abandonment of FGM/C</li> <li>44. Integrated Early Childhood Development Policy (draft)</li> <li>45. National School Health Policy and Guidelines (draft)</li> <li>46. National Case Management and Referral Pathway Guidelines (draft)</li> </ul>
Well-defined structures and functions, and effective multi-sectoral coordination horizontally and vertically	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>47. Ministry of EAC, Labour, and Social Protection – Department of Children Services</li> <li>48. The National Council for Children’s Services (NCCS)</li> <li>49. Ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs)</li> </ul>

Sufficient resource allocation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2010 the Interagency global mapping toolkit methodology was used by the Department of Children’s Services and Maestral, with findings used to develop a draft costed child protection systems strategy that guided the ministry’s successful submission to the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (2011-14). The costed program strategy provided the Department of Children’s Services with information to influence the Ministry of Finance, and for donor engagement. In results funding was released to establish the District Children’s Offices and the hiring of 50 children’s officers at sub-national levels.</li> <li>• The costing experience led to concrete, affordable recommendations in terms of the social welfare workforce expansion, and helped ensure a realistic approach. It provided the opportunity to prioritize activities using estimated costs, as well as serve as a powerful advocacy tool for resource mobilization.<sup>i</sup></li> <li>• Devolution offers the opportunity to strengthen investment in child protection. Currently there are no costed strategies or costing models available to provide assistance in re-defining the child protection framework. Therefore, costing is urgently needed. In result, Kenya is currently in process of developing a revised robust costing model to identify costs and financing gaps of the child protection system. The costing analysis phase is expected to include a review of key government budget documents (including the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework and the Social Protection-Cash Transfers for Orphans and Vulnerable Children schemes) and the County Integrated Strategic Plans.</li> <li>• However, there is some information regarding child protection expenditure. In May 2015, the Institute of Economic Affairs and UNICEF undertook the Child Budget Analysis in Kenya. They found that the budget for children under nine ministries averaged 25% of the national budget in two financial years (2014/2015 and 2013/2014). In 2014/2015, the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Services who has the children’s rights mandate, increased budgetary allocations by almost 26%. However, that allocation is small when compared to the amount for children in health or education. Therefore, increased advocacy for more resources is vital.<sup>ii</sup></li> </ul>
Quality evidence and data for decision-making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2009 there was a mapping assessment to identify Kenya’s protection risks and protection framework, in addition to assessing coordination, accountability, and budgetary processes. This mapping found that despite a robust legislative framework, there is limited human, financial and technical capacities that prevent progress for child protection.</li> <li>• In 2010, Kenya implemented the Violence against Children Survey obtaining national information regarding the prevalence of sexual, physical and emotional violence in Kenya. The survey provided clear need and direction for the development and implementation of programmes, policies and services to reduce VAC.</li> <li>• In 2011 there was a study on child protection issues, assessing communities’ knowledge, attitudes and practices on child protection. The goal was to obtain information to help inform a behaviour change campaign, and understand communities’ KAPs in reference to child protection prevention and responses.</li> <li>• A national case management database for child protection cases has been established in the Department of Children Services, implemented in 27 of the 47 counties by the end of 2014. The database formed part of a planned national information management system that aims to provide comprehensive information on child protection issues nationwide.<sup>iii</sup></li> <li>• In May 2017, Kenya launched the Child Information Management System (CPIMS) to harmonise collection of data.</li> </ul>

i. [http://ovcsupport.org/wp-content/uploads/Documents/Strengthening\\_Child\\_Protection\\_Systems\\_in\\_SubSaharan\\_Africa\\_1.pdf](http://ovcsupport.org/wp-content/uploads/Documents/Strengthening_Child_Protection_Systems_in_SubSaharan_Africa_1.pdf)

ii. [https://www.unicef.org/protection/files/Kenya\\_CP\\_system\\_case\\_study.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/protection/files/Kenya_CP_system_case_study.pdf)

iii. [https://www.unicef.org/protection/files/Kenya\\_CP\\_system\\_case\\_study.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/protection/files/Kenya_CP_system_case_study.pdf)

Effective, sustainable community based and owned child protection mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2013 the Interagency Learning Initiative on Community-Based Child Protection Mechanisms and Child Protection Systems conducted an analysis of community-based child protection mechanisms and their linkages to the wider child protection system. The findings revealed community-based mechanisms largely rely on religious leaders, elders and chiefs to address and respond to child protection issues.</li> <li>• The Government of Kenya, UNICEF and Childline Kenya have initiated a child helpline. The helpline is used both by adults and children to report abuse or seek information and/or advice, while also providing key national data. With up to 3,000 calls per day in 2015, about one-third result in direct intervention from concerned authorities, coordinated by Childline Kenya.</li> <li>• Kenya has implemented the OVC Cash Transfer Project. By 2012, cash transfers for orphans and vulnerable children were reaching 150,000 households and over 500,000 children in 47 counties. The coordination support from partners has accelerated the growth, while increasing the delivery of high-quality services. The program is 40% government funded, with the remainder coming from donor organizations.</li> </ul>
Availability and accessibility of a comprehensive set of services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A series of workshops have been implemented by the government to engage a wide range of stakeholders, including government health, education, judiciary, police, and others, NGOs and civil society, and including consultations with children. The National Council of Children's Services and African Network for Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect implemented the initiative to facilitate a needed shift towards holistic system strengthening. The intent was to lay a strong foundation for future partnerships and collaboration across organizations and sectors.<sup>iv</sup></li> </ul>
Structures and opportunities for meaningful participation by children, families and community members in decisions that affect children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The analysis of community-based child protection mechanisms and their linkages to the wider child protection system study showed that the main responders to child abuse were the family and the non-formal community structures. At times, the non-formal structures linked with the formal child protection system at community level via the Chief and/or elders. However, these formal agents were mostly "second tier responders". They were used primarily when the non-formal mechanisms failed.<sup>v</sup></li> <li>• From 2005 – 2008 a Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) pilot was implementing in the Nairobi Children Remand Home, a temporary government residential centre. The conferences addressed the well-being of 73 children where families participated in the decision-making process. The study found that those participating in the FGDM group had increased familial support, less risk, and increased material assistance. The control group experienced far riskier situations, lower permanence and decreased well-being. The benefits to children within the FGDM methodology lasted up to 54 months after placement.<sup>vi</sup></li> <li>• It is apparent that community mechanisms must be strengthened to enable them to integrate into the referral pathway for child protection. On the whole, community knowledge of child protection issues, such as where to report and obtain support, is very low. Therefore, improved awareness must be promoted to engage communities further.</li> </ul>

iv. [http://ovcsupport.org/wp-content/uploads/Documents/Strengthening\\_Child\\_Protection\\_Systems\\_in\\_SubSaharan\\_Africa\\_1.pdf](http://ovcsupport.org/wp-content/uploads/Documents/Strengthening_Child_Protection_Systems_in_SubSaharan_Africa_1.pdf)

v. <http://childprotectionforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Integrated-ethnographic-report-Kenya-1.pdf>

vi. [http://bettercarenetwork.org/sites/default/files/The%20Family%20Conferencing\\_0.pdf](http://bettercarenetwork.org/sites/default/files/The%20Family%20Conferencing_0.pdf)

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA	
Appropriate policies, legislation and regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Rights and Protection Law</li> <li>• Integrated Child Rights Policy, 2011</li> <li>• Government Program 2010-2017</li> <li>• National Anti-Trafficking Action Plan</li> <li>• Early Childhood Development Policy, 2016</li> <li>• Justice for Children Policy, 2014</li> <li>• Legal Aid Policy, 2014</li> <li>• National Guidelines for a Minimum Package of Services for OVC, 2009</li> </ul>
Well-defined structures and functions, and effective multi-sectoral coordination horizontally and vertically	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF)</li> <li>• Ministry of Local Administration (MINALOC)</li> <li>• National Commission for Children (NCC-Rwanda)</li> </ul>
Sufficient resource allocation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The government of Rwanda has been committed to the mobilization of public funding towards child protection, with a focus on protecting children within families and adequately resourcing the necessary workforce.</li> <li>• 2013 budgetary allocations showed increasing support for family-based care through earmarked funds for family reintegration. These funds were provided to local administrations working with residential institutions in across the country. Additional funds were dispersed to support disabled children, street children, and mothers with children in the prison system.</li> <li>• In 2013 the National Commission for Children and the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning began planning for the professional social workers and psychologists to be integrated into the civil service employment plan of each district.<sup>i</sup></li> </ul>
Quality evidence and data for decision-making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNICEF in collaboration with the IRC supported the Rwanda government to conduct a child protection information management systems (CPIMS) assessment, with the goal of informing a national action plan for establishing a harmonised CPIMS. Once completed, the Rwandan government agreed to begin following an incremental approach to establishing a national CPIMS. Once developed this support data collection, referrals and case management services.<sup>ii</sup></li> <li>• Efforts by Save the Children and GoR to develop a CPIMS began in 2016, with a focus on refugee camps.</li> <li>• Rwanda does have a robust and innovative health information management system (HMIS).</li> </ul>

i. <http://maestral.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/The-Role-of-Social-Service-Workforce-Strengthening-in-Care-Reforms.pdf>  
 ii. [https://www.unicef.org/about/annualreport/files/Rwanda\\_COAR\\_2013.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/about/annualreport/files/Rwanda_COAR_2013.pdf)

<p>Effective, sustainable community based and owned child protection mechanisms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prior to reform, social service delivery was a community-based method, however during the colonialism centralized state systems were introduced, thought they lacked the social workforce needed. In result the community provided for the protection of children and other vulnerable populations through traditional mechanism. This was undermined in the aftermath of the genocide, so with care reform, efforts to strengthen the traditional mechanisms of protection were re-introduced.<sup>iii</sup></li> <li>• CARE Rwanda’s Nkundabana approach mobilizes adult volunteers (trained in counselling, active listening, and life skills instruction) to provide guidance and care for children living in households without adult support.<sup>iv</sup> Amahoro Mobile is a National Museum of Rwanda project to protect street children using theatre groups to connect street children and their communities in dialogue and activities.<sup>v</sup></li> <li>• Established in 2001, the Association of Working Children and Youth (AEJT), comprises of children grassroots groups with more than 2,800 members. With youth support, children become activists instead of looking themselves always as the victims.<sup>vi</sup></li> <li>• Community HIV/AIDS Mobilization Program (CHAMP) promotes sustainable responses to health, economic and social challenges among OVCs, people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHAs) and their families. CHAMP helps orphans by providing school fees and other financial assistance, as well as organizing solidarity camps to equip students with key knowledge.</li> <li>• The first lady’s Imbuto Foundation started in 2007 to improve the living conditions of all vulnerable persons, especially children and families, providing school scholarships, community-based health insurance, and other needed support.<sup>vii</sup></li> </ul>
<p>Availability and accessibility of a comprehensive set of services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Minimum Package of Services for OVC’s is used by the Rwandan government, which highlights the essential services for their most vulnerable children. The Minimum Package includes: basic health care, nutrition, formal and non-formal education and training, child protection psychosocial services and socioeconomic services. This integrated community service delivery approach targets children 0 - 18 years of age who meet the criteria for being identified as “vulnerable.” A secondary target group includes those who support OVCs, such as caregivers, volunteers and local workers.<sup>viii</sup></li> </ul>
<p>Structures and opportunities for meaningful participation by children, families and community members in decisions that affect children</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rwanda’s policy work has been participatory and inclusive through the usage of working groups, commissions, and coordination committees led by reform leaders within and outside government.</li> <li>• Community protection mechanism are vital in Rwanda’s care reform, including community sensitization, early identification of protection concerns, gatekeeping and prevention services, informal monitoring of reintegration cases, and support and referral for families. Community mechanisms help link services to schools, health centres, and community- or faith-based organizations.</li> <li>• The government promotes “Friends of Families” at the community level who are trained community psychosocial workers.</li> <li>• Care reform has included the international faith community in the conversation about alternative care.<sup>ix</sup></li> <li>• In 2010 Save the Children completed the “Children’s Perceptions of Child Protection Measures Existing at Community Level in Rwanda” study, that assessed experiences of child abuse, knowledge of laws and policies, reporting mechanisms, as well as provided recommendations. The results were used to inform programmes and policies to fill gaps in child protection.</li> <li>• In Kigali, children often participate in child-led groups, where the majority reported their attendance in child protection consultations, workshops and meetings organized by AEJT, local government and communities.<sup>x</sup></li> </ul>

iii. <http://maestral.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/The-Role-of-Social-Service-Workforce-Strengthening-in-Care-Reforms.pdf>

iv. <https://www.crin.org/en/docs/Rwanda%20Nkundabana.pdf>

v. <https://reliefweb.int/report/rwanda/empowering-communities-protect-and-promote-child-rights-rwanda>

vi. <https://aejtrwanda.wordpress.com/>

vii. <http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.167.7393&rep=rep1&type=pdf>

viii. [http://ovcsupport.org/wp-content/uploads/Documents/Strengthening\\_Child\\_Protection\\_Systems\\_in\\_SubSaharan\\_Africa\\_1.pdf](http://ovcsupport.org/wp-content/uploads/Documents/Strengthening_Child_Protection_Systems_in_SubSaharan_Africa_1.pdf)

ix. <http://maestral.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/The-Role-of-Social-Service-Workforce-Strengthening-in-Care-Reforms.pdf>

x. <https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/node/4083/pdf/4083.pdf>

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN	
Law, policies, regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transitional Constitution of Southern Sudan (2011)</li> <li>• Child Act (2008)</li> <li>• National Gender Policy, 2013</li> <li>• National Standard Operating Procedures for Prevention, Protection and Response to Gender Based Violence, 2014</li> <li>• National Action Plan for Implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 1325 (2015-2020)</li> <li>• Policy on Children without Parental Care (draft)</li> </ul>
Sufficient resource allocation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nearly all social protection funding comes from nongovernmental sources.<sup>i</sup></li> <li>• The South Sudan National Development Plan and the Social Protection Policy Framework include a government commitment to spend one per cent of its annual budget to finance a child grant that ensures access to basic necessities. However, the conflict has prevented this from occurring due to budgetary limitations that worsened with the 2012 oil crisis and the rise in military spending. The 2015-2016 reduced budget, which prioritizes security and salary spending is unable to cater for the child grant.</li> <li>• However, government has reaffirmed commitment to re-allocate funds for child protection and social assistance to children if the security situation improves.<sup>ii</sup></li> </ul>
Quality evidence and data for decision-making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no centralized data collection system focused on child protection management, monitoring and analysis.<sup>iii</sup></li> <li>• The National Bureau of Statistics conducted a population census in 2008, South Sudan Household Health Survey in 2006 and 2010, and the National Baseline Household Survey in 2009. SSHHS 2010 provides limited data and information regarding child protection and rights governance, however it is not up to date and disaggregated data (by age and gender) on children and child rights is absent.</li> <li>• In 9 states, the Child-Friendly Community Initiative (CFCI) run by UNICEF and the Federal and State Governments, has assisted partners in developing, maintaining, and managing a database that organizes selected indicators data from surveys of regarding the most vulnerable and deprived.</li> <li>• There is an annual Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) on the condition of children affected by armed conflict in seven countries, including Sudan. The MRM reports on killing and injury of children, use of child soldiers, sexual violence against children, attacks against schools or hospitals, and abduction of children.<sup>iv</sup></li> </ul>

i. [http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/SA-SSUD\\_Mar-11-2016-Word\\_BM-Mar-22-2016a.pdf](http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/SA-SSUD_Mar-11-2016-Word_BM-Mar-22-2016a.pdf)

ii. <https://www.cmi.no/publications/file/4106-sudan-country-case-study-child-rights.pdf>

iii. [http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/SA-SSUD\\_Mar-11-2016-Word\\_BM-Mar-22-2016a.pdf](http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/SA-SSUD_Mar-11-2016-Word_BM-Mar-22-2016a.pdf)

iv. [http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/SA-SSUD\\_Mar-11-2016-Word\\_BM-Mar-22-2016a.pdf](http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/SA-SSUD_Mar-11-2016-Word_BM-Mar-22-2016a.pdf)

<p>Effective, sustainable community based and owned child protection mechanisms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Nonviolent Peaceforce conducts trainings regarding child protection for Parents and Teachers Associations (PTAs) and Women’s Peacekeeping Teams (WPTs). These workshops provide community members with information in regards to child rights and the impact of child labor, conflict, and child soldier recruitment on child development. As a result of these trainings, participants are better able to identify and respond to child protection issues.<sup>v</sup></li> <li>• Family Friendly Child Protection Units have been established, in which police / volunteer community police, judges, Save the Children, the Community-Based Child Protection Network, and the Social Welfare Department address child protection issues.</li> <li>• Informal community-based structures have been reported to be a better way to address child protection. For example, the use of elders and extended family system ensures the provision of alternative care for children,</li> <li>• In 2014, a restorative community consultation system was introduced in Wau. This system took customary practices into consideration through sensitization work for formal system stakeholders. While more sustainable and community-based, many cases did not align with the 2008 Child Act.<sup>vi</sup></li> <li>• Through the Child-Friendly Community Initiative (CFCI), women are oriented on the CRC to promote protection. CFCI also implemented an awareness-raising campaign regarding child protection to promote psycho-social support. 24 community-based Theatre for Life (TFL) youth groups have been initiated in Kassala, Gadaref and Red Sea to raise local communities’ awareness on child protection. Four children and youth centres were established and activated, with 100 children and youth involved daily.<sup>vii</sup></li> </ul>
<p>Availability and accessibility of a comprehensive set of services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are very few integrated services and referral mechanisms to address the health, education, and protection needs of children.<sup>viii</sup></li> </ul>
<p>Structures and opportunities for meaningful participation by children, families and community members in decisions that affect children</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Peace Agreement signed in August 2015 highlighted a number of participation roles for children and youth in overseeing community development, protection, peace building, and developing national legislation.<sup>ix</sup></li> <li>• While children and youth have a strong desire to be involved in decision-making, mechanisms to promote their participation are disjointed and lacking meaningful opportunities. Children are left out of decision-making at the family, school, and community levels. Girls in particular are socialised to remain out of decision-making, with children facing disabilities even more removed.</li> <li>• UNICEF’s 2015 assessment of children in South Sudan highlighted limited engagement of vulnerable communities in policy dialogue on child protection, resulting in limited ownership and inadequate demand.<sup>x</sup></li> <li>• Children have been trained on the child-to-child approach in child protection messaged dissemination, which include FGM, land mines, and girls’ education.</li> </ul>

v. [https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1866/success\\_story\\_south\\_sudan\\_03-31-2017.pdf](https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1866/success_story_south_sudan_03-31-2017.pdf)  
vi. [http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/SA-SSUD\\_Mar-11-2016-Word\\_BM-Mar-22-2016a.pdf](http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/SA-SSUD_Mar-11-2016-Word_BM-Mar-22-2016a.pdf)  
vii. <https://www.cmi.no/publications/file/4106-sudan-country-case-study-child-rights.pdf>  
viii. [http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/SA-SSUD\\_Mar-11-2016-Word\\_BM-Mar-22-2016a.pdf](http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/SA-SSUD_Mar-11-2016-Word_BM-Mar-22-2016a.pdf)  
ix. [http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/SA-SSUD\\_Mar-11-2016-Word\\_BM-Mar-22-2016a.pdf](http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/SA-SSUD_Mar-11-2016-Word_BM-Mar-22-2016a.pdf)  
x. [http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/SA-SSUD\\_Mar-11-2016-Word\\_BM-Mar-22-2016a.pdf](http://www.childrenofsouthsudan.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/SA-SSUD_Mar-11-2016-Word_BM-Mar-22-2016a.pdf)

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA	
Appropriate policies, legislation and regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Law of the Child Act, 2009</li> <li>• Amendment of the Education Act, 2016</li> <li>• National Costed Plan of Action 2013-2017 (NCPA II)</li> <li>• National Action Plan to end Violence Against Women and Children 2016 - 2021</li> <li>• New Education Policy</li> <li>• Education and Training Policy</li> <li>• National Guidelines for Psychosocial Care and Support Services for Most Vulnerable Children and Youth in Tanzania, 2014</li> <li>• National Guidelines for Improving Quality of Care, Support and Protection for Most Vulnerable Children in Tanzania, 2009</li> <li>• National Social Security Policy, 2003</li> <li>• Child Development Policy, 2008</li> <li>• National Development Vision 2025</li> <li>• National Health Policy, 2008</li> </ul> <p><b>Zanzibar:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children's Act No 6 of 2011</li> <li>• Zanzibar Social Protection Policy, 2013</li> <li>• Zanzibar Child Protection Policy, 2017</li> <li>• Zanzibar Residential Children Regulation, 2017</li> <li>• Action Plan on Violence Against Children</li> </ul>
Well-defined structures and functions, and effective multi-sectoral coordination horizontally and vertically	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children – Department of Child Development</li> <li>• Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children – Mainland and Zanzibar</li> <li>• Line ministries, international and local NGOS and FBOs</li> </ul>
Sufficient resource allocation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a lack of adequate funds to implement child protection plan design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.<sup>i</sup></li> <li>• With the new district child protection system, three districts have allocated a budget to the District Child Protection Teams within the District Medium Term Expenditure Framework 2011-12 for the first time. While small portions of funding, there was increased funding for staff, emergency response costs, and printing.<sup>ii</sup></li> <li>• Debate regarding the need for community volunteers for child protection, or the increase in higher trained professionals to take on the work, when there is no budgetary allocation to staffing.<sup>iii</sup></li> </ul>
Quality evidence and data for decision-making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most Vulnerable Children Data Management System (DMS) exists, with the goal of providing data for policy-makers and program managers.<sup>iv</sup></li> <li>• There is a Child Protection Management Information System (CPMIS), which provides violence, abuse, neglect, and exploitation prevention and responses data. The CPMIS generates data regarding the status of violence against children, as well as evaluates interventions. Indicators include: 1. # of cases of violence against children reported to relevant authorities; 2. # of reported and confirmed cases of violence against children; and 3. # of confirmed cases that receive appropriate care and support services.<sup>v</sup></li> <li>• In 2011, the Department of Social Welfare (DSW) and UNICEF mapped and assessed Tanzania's (informal and formal) child protection interventions and system, determining that abuse / neglect prevention and response structures at national, district and community levels were either "weak or non-existent".</li> </ul>

i. Mgomberi, P., Mtebe, E., Kawemama P., WO, O., Hickmann, M. (2014). Technical Approach to and Experiences from Strengthening National Monitoring and Evaluation System for Most Vulnerable Children Program in Tanzania. International Conference on Social Protection.  
 ii. [http://childprotectionforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Tz\\_DCPSS\\_model\\_UNICEF\\_oct11.pdf](http://childprotectionforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Tz_DCPSS_model_UNICEF_oct11.pdf)  
 iii. [http://childprotectionforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Tz\\_DCPSS\\_model\\_UNICEF\\_oct11.pdf](http://childprotectionforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Tz_DCPSS_model_UNICEF_oct11.pdf)  
 iv. [https://www.unicef.org/tanzania/PAPER\\_-\\_SOCIAL\\_PROTECTION\\_CONFERENCE\\_28\\_11\\_2014\\_\(2\).pdf](https://www.unicef.org/tanzania/PAPER_-_SOCIAL_PROTECTION_CONFERENCE_28_11_2014_(2).pdf)  
 v. The United Republic of Tanzania, (2015). National National Most Vulnerable Children Monitoring and Evaluation Plan. Department of Social Welfare.

<p>Effective, sustainable community based and owned child protection mechanisms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Community for Children’s Rights (CCR) helps city councils, schools, community groups and social workers protect children from violence through research, education, creation of community of protectors, equips young people to break the violence cycle, and helps local authorities to govern in the interests of children. CCR developed a tool that allows City Council to better deliver child protections response and shares key information to help protect children, as well as maps out hot spots.<sup>vi</sup>The organization C-Sema provides all-inclusive child services focusing on children, parents, communities and government. C-Sema manages the National Child Helpline (CHL) with local government, providing a free call-centre for any Violence, Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation (VANE). Cases are recorded, then advised, connected to counselors or referred to the appropriate government agency for follow-up.<sup>vii</sup></li> <li>• “Fit Parents” initiative, which designates volunteer parents whom demonstrate strong positive parenting skills (vetted by the Social Welfare Officers). These Fit Parents then act as emergency foster carers in their communities.</li> </ul>
<p>Availability and accessibility of a comprehensive set of services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-Sector Task Force on Violence Against Children (VAC) was setup to improve the cross-sectoral response to ensuring children are free from violence. The Task Force is ensuring co-ordination among all sectors responsible for prevention, treatment, and justice for children within a nationally supported Child Protection System.<sup>viii</sup> This refers to the need to engage various stakeholders, such as:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensuring law officials understand how to implement the Law of the Child</li> <li>2. Setting up Gender and Children’s Desks in all police stations and training police in violence sensitivity</li> <li>3. Ensuring health workers have the capacity to respond to violence</li> <li>4. Expansion of safe school practices</li> <li>5. Strengthening of community response mechanisms, including the Child Helpline</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
<p>Structures and opportunities for meaningful participation by children, families and community members in decisions that affect children</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within the district child protection system, there are community volunteers that play an essential role in educating the public regarding child protection. Community members have also indicated an increased desire to report abuse, as they are beginning to see action being taken.</li> <li>• A 2010 Children’s Councils appraisal indicated that children are vital in reporting children in need, as well as referring them to support. Therefore, children have the opportunity to assist if adults listen to their information and recommendations.<sup>ix</sup></li> <li>• There are Children Clubs and Junior Councils for secondary school-level (including out-of-school children), as committees to support child protection.<sup>x</sup></li> </ul>

vi. <http://www.makingallvoicescount.org/project/from-early-warning-to-response-in-preventing-violence-transforming-conflict-through-citizen-engagement/>

vii. <https://dlab.or.tz/c-sema-using-data-to-optimize-a-child-protection-helpline-in-tanzania/>

viii. [http://www.tzdp.org.tz/fileadmin/documents/dpg\\_internal/dpg\\_working\\_groups\\_clusters/cluster\\_2/health/DPGH\\_Meeting\\_Documents\\_2011/Violence\\_Against\\_Children\\_in\\_Tanzania.pdf](http://www.tzdp.org.tz/fileadmin/documents/dpg_internal/dpg_working_groups_clusters/cluster_2/health/DPGH_Meeting_Documents_2011/Violence_Against_Children_in_Tanzania.pdf)

ix. [http://childprotectionforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Tz\\_DCPSS\\_model\\_UNICEF\\_oct11.pdf](http://childprotectionforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Tz_DCPSS_model_UNICEF_oct11.pdf)

x. [https://www.unicef.org/evaldatabase/files/VAC\\_Tanzania\\_final\\_report.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/evaldatabase/files/VAC_Tanzania_final_report.pdf)

REPUBLIC OF UGANDA	
<p>Appropriate policies, legislation and regulation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Constitution (1995) provides provision on the right of children to care and protection, including protection from abuse and exploitation.</li> <li>• The Amended Child Act, 2016</li> <li>• Registration of Persons Act, 2015</li> <li>• Anti-Pornography Act, 2014</li> <li>• Domestic Violence Act, 2010</li> <li>• Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act, 2010</li> <li>• Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act, 2009</li> <li>• National Child Policy (draft; to replace the National OVC Policy)</li> <li>• National OVC Policy</li> <li>• The Social Development Sector Strategic Investment Plan (SDIP): Addressing inequality, vulnerability and exclusion of orphans and other vulnerable children, among others</li> <li>• National Social Protection Policy</li> <li>• National Gender Policy</li> <li>• National Child Labour Policy</li> <li>• National Education Policy</li> <li>• National Strategic Plan on Violence against Children in Schools (2015-2020)</li> <li>• Reporting, Tracking, Referral and Response Guidelines on Violence against Children in Schools, 2014</li> <li>• National Integrated Early Childhood Development Policy and related Action Plan (2016-2021)</li> <li>• National Strategy to End Child Marriage and Teenage Pregnancy 2015-2020</li> <li>• National Child Justice Strategy 2017/18-2021/22</li> <li>• Youth Livelihood Policy</li> <li>• National Youth Policy</li> <li>• National Gender Based Violence Policy</li> <li>• National Quality Standards for the Protection, Care and Support for OVC, 2007</li> <li>• National Alternative Care Framework</li> <li>• National Child Participation Strategy, 2016-2020</li> <li>• National Psychosocial Guidelines</li> </ul>
<p>Well-defined structures and functions, and effective multi-sectoral coordination horizontally and vertically</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development</li> <li>• Uganda National Children's Authority; other government ministries, agencies, development partners and civil society organizations.</li> </ul>

<p>Sufficient resource allocation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social services within Uganda have historically, and continue to be a low priority. The Social Development Sector has the mandate to promote equal opportunities for all marginalized and vulnerable persons, including all child protection mechanisms. Uganda’s budget allocation is focused on “growth sectors”, leaving the social sectors as the third or last priority area for spending. Budgetary allocations to social sectors are declining as a proportion of the national budget, with a heightened focus on transport infrastructure and energy.<sup>i</sup></li> <li>• From FY 2008/9 and 2014/2015, the proportion of the sector’s budget has averaged between 0.5 percent and 2 percent. The FY 2014/15, budget allocation to child protection stood at UGX 6.2 billion (approx. USD 2.2 million). The FY 2017/18 Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development has been allocated only 0.2% of the national budget for all children sectors.<sup>ii</sup></li> </ul>
<p>Quality evidence and data for decision-making</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Interagency Child Protection Information Management System (IA CP IMS) was funded by UNICEF, Save the Children and the IRC. It is being used as a case Management tool for vulnerable refugee children. It is used by Save the Children, CCF, World Vision, War Child, CARITAS, FHI, UNICEF, MGLSD and other national partners.<sup>iii</sup></li> <li>• In 2008, it was used to respond to the large influx of Eastern DRC refugees into Western Uganda. The IMS allowed separated and unaccompanied children to be identified, with information shared appropriately among child protection agencies in Uganda and the DRC to support reunification.<sup>iv</sup></li> <li>• However, this did not offer a <b>comprehensive</b> management information system (MIS) on violence against children. This is in the 2016-2020 plans for UNICEF and the Government of Uganda. Early piloting of the OVC-MIS, the on-line tool for tracking service delivery is ongoing. The integrated information management system will be linked to the gender-based violence / refugee children information management system, focused on tracking cases of children entering the child protection system, as well as to strengthen accountability for results.<sup>v</sup></li> </ul>
<p>Effective, sustainable community based and owned child protection mechanisms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Protection Committees (CPCs) have been established in over 20 districts, with all CPC members are trained in basic child protection. CPCs then host community dialogues regarding child protection issues and providing information on how communities can protect their children. CPC members also identify cases of child abuse, neglect, violence and exploitation, referring them to the local authorities who are mandated to take action</li> <li>• Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO) provides emergency psychosocial and mental health support. TPO partners with communities by first mapping existing community structures, assessing existing groups’ capacity and then providing tailored support to allow recognized community groups to more effectively support children and families. Initial evaluations suggest that such work leads to more sustainable results and is contributing to stronger national child protection systems.</li> <li>• Child Protection in Crisis is working with national and international NGOs in Uganda to map community-based protection mechanisms, including their linkages to formal service providers.<sup>vi</sup></li> <li>• The local organization Bantwana builds the capacity of families, communities, civil society organizations, and local government to address the long-term, comprehensive needs of vulnerable families. Bantwana’s approach improves and expands tested models of support for OVCs using a community-based case management approach that strengthens the role that communities play in identifying, assessing, and referring vulnerable children to the critical services they need. Trained community case care workers are linked to schools to follow up on child protection issues in communities and with district protection staff.<sup>vii</sup></li> </ul>

i. UDN and SCIU, 2014; Ochen, et al, 2013

ii. A Comparative Regional Study on Efforts related to Ending Violence against Children in the Eastern African Region, (2017).

iii. <http://cpwg.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2014/07/IA-CP-IMS-Fact-Sheet-2011-ENG.pdf>

iv. [http://cpaor.net/sites/default/files/cp/Evaluation-IA-CP-IMS-Final-ENG\\_0.pdf](http://cpaor.net/sites/default/files/cp/Evaluation-IA-CP-IMS-Final-ENG_0.pdf)

v. [https://www.unicef.org/uganda/Child\\_protection\\_print\(1\).pdf](https://www.unicef.org/uganda/Child_protection_print(1).pdf)

vi. [https://www.unicef.org/protection/files/strengthening\\_child\\_protection\\_systems\\_in\\_sub-Saharan\\_Africa\\_-\\_August\\_2012.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/protection/files/strengthening_child_protection_systems_in_sub-Saharan_Africa_-_August_2012.pdf)

vii. <http://bantwana.org/where-we-work/uganda/>

<p>Availability and accessibility of a comprehensive set of services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The National Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children Policy mandates the delivery of Integrated and Holistic Services to all OVCs. The policy states, “All interventions designed for orphans and other vulnerable children by all actors at all levels will include the relevant components of the basic services to orphans and other vulnerable children.”<sup>viii</sup> The Bantwana programme tested a model providing livelihoods support, psychosocial support home visits, and connected vulnerable families to social services. Analyses revealed positive trends over time in economic well-being, psychosocial functioning, and school participation, suggesting multifaceted, family-focused programs as a key solution to lasting success.<sup>ix</sup></li> </ul>
<p>Structures and opportunities for meaningful participation by children, families and community members in decisions that affect children</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MGLSD with support of UNICEF and Save the Children, has developed Uganda’s National Child Participation Strategy 2016-2020. This strategy aims to empower children and youth to become directly involved in their own protection by exposing abuse and exploitation, in addition to sharing their violence prevention and mitigation solutions from their perspective.</li> <li>• The local organization Bantwana has also developed Child Rights Clubs in schools, which build children’s agency to understand and know their rights and responsibilities, as well as report abuse.<sup>x</sup></li> </ul>

viii. [https://www.unicef.org/uganda/National\\_OVC\\_Policy.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/uganda/National_OVC_Policy.pdf)  
 ix. <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/01488376.2015.1039103>  
 x. <http://bantwana.org/where-we-work/uganda/>

## Annex 2: List relevant international and regional instruments on children

No.	International and regional instruments on children
1	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)
2.	African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
3.	Optional Protocol to CRC on Sale of Children, Child prostitution and Child Pornography
4.	Optional Protocol to CRC on Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict
5	Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa ( Maputo Protocol)
6	African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights
7.	ILO Convention on the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment
8.	ILO Convention on the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour
9.	UN Convention on Persons with Disabilities
10	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)
11	Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
12	The four modern Hague Conventions on children include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hague Convention of 1980 on International Child Abduction;</li> <li>• Hague Convention of 1993 on the Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Inter-country Adoption;</li> <li>• Hague Convention of 1996 on the Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement, and Co-operation in Respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children</li> <li>• Hague Convention of 2007 on the International Recovery of Child Support and other forms of Family Maintenance.</li> </ul>
13	Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime
14	International Covenant on Economic Cultural and Social Rights;
15	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

**Done in Arusha, June 2018**

# INTER AGENCY WORKING GROUP ON THE EAC CHILD POLICY



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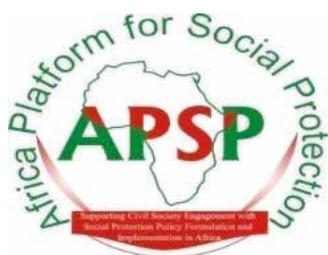


Elizabeth Glaser  
Pediatric AIDS  
Foundation

*Until no  
child has  
AIDS.*



**Save the Children**



Eastern & Southern Africa  
Regional Inter Agency Task Team on Children & AIDS







EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

## **Framework for Strengthening Child Protection Systems in the East African Community**

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