

Uganda – Child Protection Sub-Working Group Meeting Minutes



Date	10 June 2021	Location	Teams meeting
Chair	Sophie Etzold, CP Officer UNHCR Daniel Okello, UNICEF	Minutes prepared by	Sophie Etzold
Participating organizations	24 participants from: UNICEF, UNHCR, NRC, Alight, LWF, SCI, CAFOMI, WVI, War Child Holland, AAR Japan, Isra Aid		
Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child Marriage Research findings presentation by SCI (Bidibidi and Palorinya) - Updates by partners and impact of COVID19 outbreak on CP programs - Review/ amendment of BCP (please see attached the previous version for your perusal and comments) - Recap of previous thematic subjects/ updates from Task Forces - ActivityInfo data discussion – challenges - Preparations for DAC/ WRD, by partners - AOB 		

DISCUSSIONS

By Agenda Item	Main Points and Decisions from Discussions	Agreed Action	Responsibility
Child Marriage Research (Bidibidi and Palorinya)	<p>Presentation by University of California, Berkeley on child marriage in Uganda (and Jordan) with main findings form consultation with over 280 girls and community members</p> <p>Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need to comprehensively address gender norms and harmful traditional practices, applying a family approach, need to adopt cash-based interventions (one interesting finding was that in Uganda girls have required cash to cover basic needs – opposed to in Jordan where girls would use cash for purchasing mobiles, etc. - Impact of current COVID19 situation and challenges of online communication - Need for peer-to-peer approaches and innovative protection responses - Need to strengthen education and sexual and reproductive health education and services - Awareness raising remains a critical activity to address/ reduce stigma and ensure longer-term behaviour change in displaced communities; - Issues around basic needs and access to adequate space was also commented on as a factor to increase child marriage and the need for close collaboration with other sectors; - Need to quantify the results to integrate findings in programming <p>Next phase will include quantitative and qualitative methods</p>	<p>Share presentation and report with members</p> <p>Provide any good/ innovative practices to SCI and researcher from University of California for the second phase</p> <p>Share handouts for youth engagement</p>	<p>UNHCR co-chair</p> <p>Members</p> <p>SCI/ University of California</p>

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Updates by partners and impact of COVID19 outbreak on CP programs	<p>COVID19 impact of CP partner programs given current measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - overall activities are ongoing but in line with COVID19 measures, reduced staffing and rotational basis as well as reduction of face-to-face contact with children and reduction of group activities - role of CP should be to ensure critical activities are maintained and to ensure CP aspects in awareness activities <p>WCH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - programs are maintained with staff on the ground// no full program closure planned and awaiting directive from District TF and OPM - consultations with District task force - Sensitization on COVID19 - Identification of concerns - Home-to-home activities - Amending programs to small group activities - continuation of psychoeducation, parenting and messaging <p>LWF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operations are maintained and staff is continuing activities on the ground - Risks identified recently in Palabek have included an increase of substance abuse/ alcohol abuse by parents - Parenting and messaging is continued - Meetings with new partners have been held as some locations have been now taken over by WVI or PI based on new funding <p>AAR Japan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - implementation of education and protection programs have been affected by current COVID19 situation - Scholastic material distribution was postponed until school re-opening - Girls' education programs will be continued and shifted to more engagement at community level - School parliaments have been impacted and on hold <p>IsraAid:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COVID19 greatly affected programs and staff - children's clubs have usually taken place in schools and therefore had to be placed on hold; <p>WVI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continuation of activities but scaled down presence of staff, phased approach team A and B - Remote case management guidelines to be applied while face-to-face is ongoing for critical cases 	Members to share regular updates on programs/ risks	All members
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Also emphasis on community-based interventions - Upscale awareness <p>ALIGHT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operation is maintained, case management ongoing - Essential staff is present in the office and rotation of staff is applied - Limited direct contact and face-to-face interventions - More use of radios and awareness activities <p>SCI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continuation of activities in all locations with no foreseen full closure of programs; - Reduction of staff in line with the 30% staffing presence - Focus also on staff wellbeing and health and safety through PPEs, etc. - Case management guidelines are upheld - Radio communication is increased to ensure awareness - Strengthen engagement with CPCs and community engagement and mobilization - Home based PSS interventions will also be maintained and upscaled - Monitoring of child protection concerns and case load, including on impact of COVID19 on the CP situation and risks <p>NRC/ CAFOMI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access centers in the urban areas are all open despite impact of COVID19 on staff - Staffing is present on rotational basis but both access centers have a CP presence every day - ongoing case management for critical cases - Low risk cases are addressed through regular phone follow up - Involvement and follow up on CPCs with additional airtime o be provided to ensure maintained identification, referral, follow up and monitoring 		
<p>Updates on previous meetings and TFs</p>	<p>Community-based guidelines and CBI/ CP guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need to follow through with previous documents; CP co-chair to reach out to members who had been identified to support community based interventions as well as cash-based interventions. <p>CP CM TF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - v4 proGres data was presented see presentation - ISP was circulated and should be adopted by all members providing CM services - Alternative care forms have been developed and discussions with MGLSD is planned <p>CFS TF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - co-chaired by WVI/ SCI - Supported by UNICEF to reach out MGLSD stakeholders 	<p>Follow up with interested members</p> <p>Draft of guidelines and circulation with members</p>	<p>UNHCR/ UNICEF co-chairs</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facility management despite closure is undertaken by relevant actors - Guidelines on re-opening shall be updated in line with current situation - Meeting scheduled next week with MGLSD to present the guidelines 		
Preparations for DAC/ WRD	<p>Impact by current measures on activities planned in all locations; members shared revising plans to undertake safe awareness activities</p> <p>Importance to ensure that the focus on child participation is maintained by rethinking activities and maybe address specific protection issues that were identified, i.e. teenage pregnancy, etc.</p>	<p>UNHCR co-chair to draft a form to include member agencies</p> <p>Deadline 14 June</p>	
Next Meeting			
Date	8 July 2021	Location	Teams Meeting
Chair	UNHCR/ UNICEF		