

This is what needs to be done to protect children in humanitarian settings



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Advocacy

Advocacy with governments, donors and high-level actors and decision-makers. For example, child protection actors can advocate against the use of orphanages and international adoption in humanitarian crises because experience demonstrates that children are far better cared for in a family in their own communities

Community based mechanisms

Support and develop community-based child protection mechanisms: networks or groups of individuals operating at the community level who work in a coordinated manner towards child protection goals. Such mechanisms may be indigenous or externally initiated and supported.

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The right child protection
intervention at the right time can
save a child's life.



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Case management

Improve case management whereby vulnerable children are identified and referred to essential services (medical support, interim care, psychosocial support, legal assistance, etc.) accompanied by a trained caseworker

Capacity building

Build capacity at national, local and community levels on child protection issues. For example, child protection actors may pilot training programs for local social workers to provide supportive care to children and their caregivers. They may also implement activities to promote resilience and develop life skills for children and families

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Situation and response monitoring

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In certain contexts, child protection actors gather data on grave violations against children (MRM). In other settings, the systematic monitoring of child protection incidents enables child protection actors to identify and understand patterns of violence, exploitation and abuse.



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Mainstreaming

Mainstream and integrate child protection objectives into other sectors' programme activities, including supporting other sectors to consider the views of children throughout the project cycle.

Alternative care

Develop, support and monitor alternative or interim care for separated, unaccompanied or orphaned children or those needing alternative arrangements for their safety. This includes children requiring temporary care after release from armed forces or groups, or from detention.

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Social activities

Provide structured social activities for children facilitated by adults from their own community. Examples include child friendly spaces and other psychosocial support activities, such as mass communication about positive coping methods, the activation of social networks and psychological first aid.

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Awareness raising

Raise awareness targeting beneficiaries, the wider population, parents, and communities. For example, work with local communities to develop public awareness campaigns against child trafficking during and after emergencies.

Family tracing, reunification and reintegration

In crisis, a significant number of children become separated. UN agencies, governments and NGOs have developed interagency procedures to return children to their families.

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