

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

CONSIDERATIONS FOR REFUGEE POPULATIONS



THE ALLIANCE
FOR CHILD PROTECTION
IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION



THE ALLIANCE
FOR CHILD PROTECTION
IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Background

- **Ebola Virus Disease – 2014-15**
- [Guidance Note: Protection of Children During Infectious Disease Outbreaks](#)
- **COVID-19**
- [Technical Note: Protection of Children During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

A young girl in a blue headscarf is smiling at the camera. She is surrounded by other children in a community setting. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people and a patterned fabric. The entire image has a blue tint.

Technical Note: Protection of Children
during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Overview and Plans

Where to find the technical note



[Home](#) » [Learn and explore](#) » [Resources](#)

[View](#) [Edit](#) [Revisions](#) [Translate](#) [Clone content](#) [Voting results](#)

[LINK ME AS THE AUTHOR OF THIS RESOURCE](#)

[PROVIDE A TRANSLATION FOR THIS CONTENT](#)



Date of publication: 20 Mar 2020

Publisher:
The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action

Publication type:
Manuals, Toolkits and Guidance

The Alliance produced this **technical note** on the protection of children during the COVID-19 pandemic. The aim of this brief is to support child protection practitioners to better respond to the child protection risks during a COVID-19 pandemic. Part 1 presents the potential child protection risks COVID-19 can pose to children. Part 2

SUGGEST CONTENT TO BE ADDED HERE

Contribute to the Alliance website by sharing your content (resources, news, events, vacancies, etc.) here

RELATED CONTENT

Webinar | Protection of Children during the COVID-19 Pandemic

24 Mar 2020

COVID-19 is quickly changing the context in which children live. Prevention and control measures such as school closures

<https://cpie.info/COVID19Note>

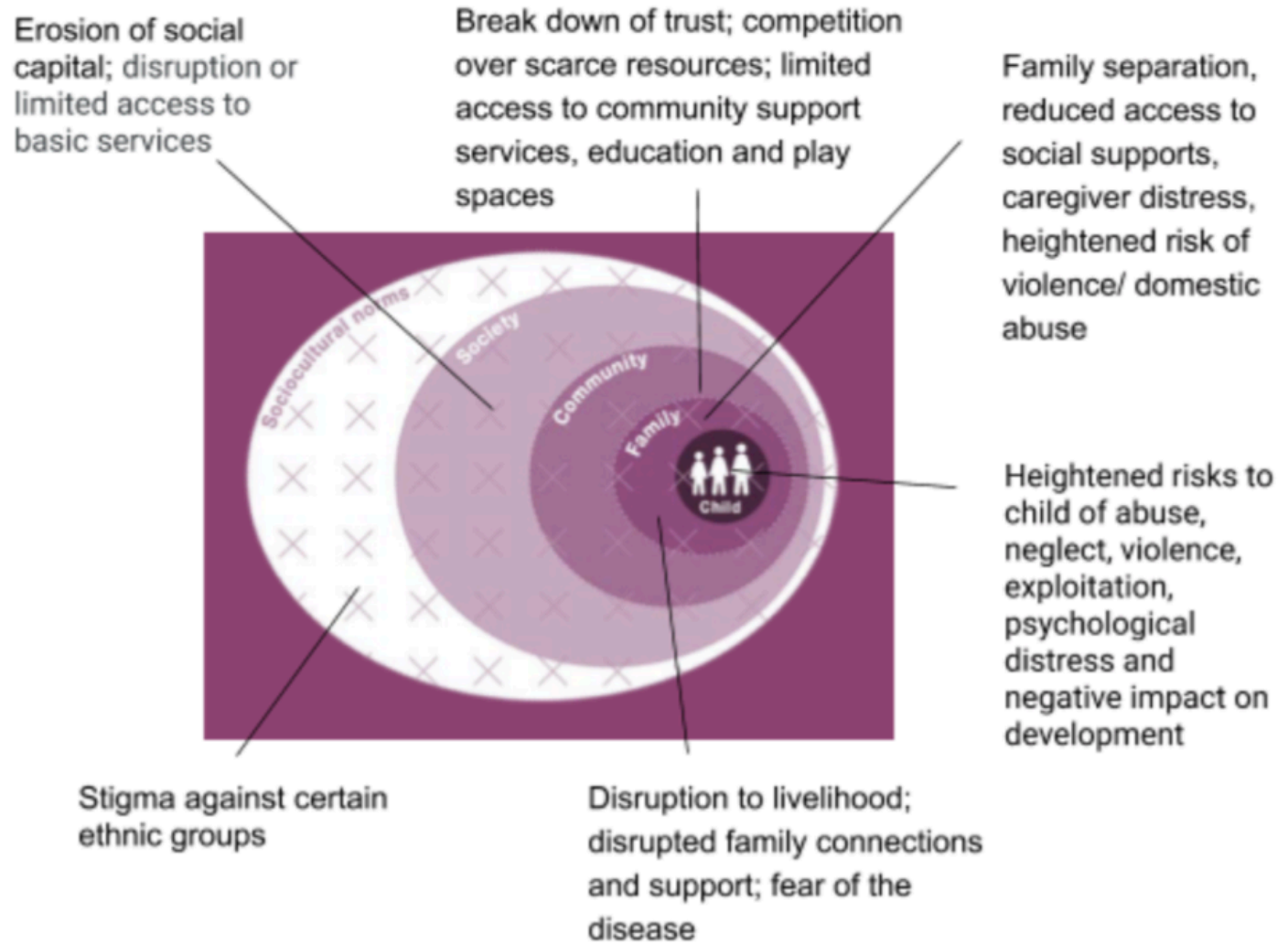
Translations

Status of translation

- French (Done)
- Farsi (Done)
- Italian (Done)
- Chinese (Done)
- Arabic (Done)
- Spanish (Done)
- Korean (Done)
- Portuguese (Done)
- Turkish (Done)
- Bosnian (Done)
- Nepali (Almost done)
- Hindi (Almost done)
- Swahili (Almost done)
- Thai (Almost done)
- Japanese (Almost done)
- Kurdish (Almost done)

Structure of the technical note

Part 1: Child Protection Risks



Par 1.2 Child Protection Risks

- **Neglect and maltreatment**, due to limited childcare options and the heightened risk of possibility of psychological distress or illness among caregivers
- **Increased incidence of violence**, including domestic violence, corporal punishment, sexual abuse, exploitation and child marriage, due to school closures, the loss of household income, persistent gender norms/gender inequalities and lack of access to basic services
- **Mental Health and Psychosocial distress**, due to isolation measures, illness or death in the family or other secondary risks
- **Hazardous, exploitative work** due to school closures or the loss of family support, care and household income
- **Separation from family**, due to illness or death of family members or the need for isolation
- **Stigmatization and exclusion**, including in schools that remain open, due to discrimination relating to the virus, or the disproportionate impact of secondary risks on already marginalized children and families
- **Disruption in social services**, that are crucial for survival and well-being of the most vulnerable children and families

Structure of the technical note

Part 2: Child Protection Response

2.1. Working across sectors and with governments

2.2. Child Protection-specific Programs

Annexes

Under Development

- Children in Alternative Care
- Protection of Social Service Workforce
- Children Deprived of their Liberties

Possible Annexes

Under Consideration

- Use of Child Helpline in COVID-19 response
- Community-level approaches
- Child Labour in the context of COVID-19
- Child abuse and maltreatment

Key messages

- Disrupts the environments in which children grow and develop
- This can have negative consequences for children's well-being, development and protection.
- Advocacy with government, collaboration with other sectors, and child protection-specific programming are key priorities during a COVID-19 response.
- In addition to mitigating risks, we must build on the strengths and positive coping mechanisms of communities, families, caregivers and children.