Facebook Live Stream:
Global Social Service Workforce Alliance
“SSWAlliance”

Nation Building:
The Role of the Child and Youth Care Workforce in Child Protection and Violence Prevention
NATION BUILDING: THE ROLE OF THE CHILD AND YOUTH CARE WORKFORCE IN CHILD PROTECTION AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Langi Malamba
Registrar
3 July 2019
NACCW 22nd Biennial conference

NON NOBIS – Not For Our Selves
VISION

Social service practitioners united in excellence.

NON NOBIS

South African Council for Social Service Professions
MISSION

Serving the **best interests** of the social service practitioners, professions and service users by regulating, leading and promoting the social service professions in an innovative and responsive manner.

South African Council for Social Service Professions
1. As a professional body, Council manages the statutory function as mandated by the social service professions Act no. 110 of 1978

2. The mandate focuses on 3 areas-
   - Registration
   - Education, training and development
   - Professional conduct

3. Council ensures that all child and youth care workers are recognised as a unique, designated profession operating in the life space of children
There are a number of NGOs doing incredible work in the child protection field who are impacting the lives of orphans and vulnerable children in difficult situations in a positive way.

Once such NGO is NACCW that has pioneered the Isibindi model.
PROMISING PRACTICES AND CASE STUDIES

• NACCW has success stories on Supporting Young People and Families Experiencing Violence. Example safe parks.
The transformation committee of Council is championing the integrated case management agenda.

The two Professional boards – social work and for child and youth care workers are in support.
RECOMMENDATIONS TO BETTER SUPPORT CYCWS IN RESPONDING TO CHILDREN IMPACTED BY VIOLENCE

1. Relevant training.
2. An enabling environment.
3. Unpack concepts that inform interventions.
4. Advocacy and lobbying
Thank you

NON NOBIS – Not For Ourselves
Nation Building, Child and Youth Care and Violence Prevention: An Academic Perspective

Dr. Kiaras Gharabaghi, Ph.D
Director, School of Child & Youth Care
Ryerson University
Toronto, Canada
Building Communities, Building Peace

- Child and Youth Care & the Life-Space Orientation
- Peace is not an academic exercise; it requires attention to the moment
- Understanding the ecology of children’s lives
The greatest resource for Peace are children and youth

Child and Youth Care practice in support of participatory structures and processes
How Child and Youth Care Can Contribute to Building Strong Nations

- Child and youth care practice that shapes communities through connections and networks of relationships

- The importance of child and youth care practice in core institutions and settings: schools, courts, child welfare, refugee camps
Thank You

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LEAVE NO-ONE BEHIND

Inclusion of refugee and displaced children in social service strengthening and child and youth care work

Amanda Melville
Senior Advisor, Child Protection and Youth, UNHCR
2/3 of refugees come from 5 countries: Syria, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Myanmar, Somalia
52% of refugees are children

In Africa, 59% of refugees are children

Estimated over 13.5 million child refugees

138,600 separated or unaccompanied children (UASC) in 2018

1-2% of refugee children are UASC (up to 10% in emergencies)
Refugee Children are among the most disadvantaged

Primary school enrolment
- 92% go to school

Secondary school enrolment
- 84% of the world’s children
- 23% of refugee children

Higher education enrolment
- 37% of the world’s youth
- 1% of refugee youth

**Goals for Children**

**Goal 1:** Children are safe from violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect

**Goal 2:** Children are protected and empowered through participation

**Goal 3:** Child-friendly protection procedures are available

**Goal 4:** Children’s right to legal protection and documentation is respected

**Goal 5:** Vulnerable children receive targeted support & assistance

**Goal 6:** Implementation of solutions in children’s best interests

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**Child Protection Systems Components**

- Do No Harm
- Child Participation
- Urgency
- Non-Discrimination
- Age, Gender & Diversity Sensitive Approach
- Family & Community Based Approach
- State Responsibility for Child Protection
- Partnership
- Accountability to Children & Communities

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**Principles**

- Legal & Policy Framework
- Knowledge & Data
- Coordination
- International
- State
- Community
- Family
- Child
- Capacities Human & Financial
- Prevention & Response Services
- Advocacy & Awareness Raising
Steps in the Best Interests Procedure

1. Identification
2. Best Interests Assessment (BIA)
3. Case Planning
4. Implement Case Plan
5. Follow up and Review
6. Case Closure

A Best Interests Determination (BID) can be initiated at any step of the Best Interests Procedure.

Protection Case Management for Refugee Children

- Child protection (BIP)
- Refugee registration
- Refugee status determination
- Durable Solutions
- SGBV
- Legal and Physical Protection
“States should promote the establishment and implementation of child protection systems, in accordance with [their] international obligations and to which children under their jurisdiction should have **non-discriminatory access**... UNHCR and partners [...] should **supplement and strengthen** the national child protection systems in areas **where gaps exist** and be delivered in a spirit of partnership by building on each actor’s comparative advantages to reinforce the beneficial impact on the protection of children”

ExCom Conclusion No. 107 (2007)
Section 4: National Child Protection Systems and Protection of Refugee Children

- **Opportunity 1**: National Legal Frameworks and The Protection Of Refugee Children
- **Opportunity 2**: Tapping Into National Development Planning Processes
- **Opportunity 3**: Inclusion Of Refugee Children In National Child Protection Policies And Standards
- **Opportunity 5**: Considering Refugee Communities In National Surveys and Research
- **Opportunity 6**: Strengthening Capacity Of Existing Birth Registration Systems To Facilitate Access For Refugee Children
- **Opportunity 7**: Pursuing Regional Entry Points
ROLE OF CHILD AND YOUTH CARE WORKERS TO SUPPORT DISPLACED CHILDREN

- Integrate in existing services
- Children’s Best Interests
- Assessed and address specific needs
- Facilitate access to basic services
- Provide information
- Celebrate diversity
- Reinforce children’s values and life skills
INCLUSION OF DISPLACED CHILDREN IN THE WORK OF CHILD AND YOUTH CARE WORKERS

**Advocate for child rights**
- Advocate for legal and policy reform and non-discrimination
- Support access of refugee children and their families to services and their rights

**Inclusion in services**
- Conduct outreach and identify those most vulnerable
- Deployment of child and youth care workers in areas with large concentrations of refugees
- Adapt existing services to needs of displaced children

**Build capacity**
- Provide training for child and youth care workers on working with refugee and IDP children
- Building capacity of child and youth care workers to operationalize the best interests principle and procedures
- Develop specialization in working with displaced children

GLOBAL REFUGEE COMPACT

Key opportunities:
• Inclusion of displaced children in social service strengthening
• Reform social welfare systems to make them more responsive to the needs of vulnerable children and families
• Innovate new approaches and methodologies that benefit all
• Promote professionalization of services to refugee and host communities, including as child and youth care workers

- Shares responsibility more fairly
- Benefits refugees and host communities
- Facilitates self-reliance of refugees and their All of society and government approach

Thematic & Regional Discussions
Jan - Dec 2017
Application of the CRRF
Sept 2016 - End 2018

Stocktaking
Dec 17 - Jan 18

Formal Consultations
Feb - Jun 2018

Sep 2016
New York Declaration

Jun 2017
NGO consultations

Dec 2017
High Commissioner's Dialogue

End 2018
Global Compact on Refugees
UNICEF’s Global Efforts towards Strengthening the Social Service Workforce for Child Protection

“Investing in child and youth care, contributes to Nation Building- one Child at a Time”

Global Social Service Workforce Alliance | 3 July 2019
Why is Child Protection Important?

• 300 million children (2 to 4 yrs) regularly subjected to violent discipline in the home
• 15 million adolescent girls experienced forced sex
• 650 million children under 16 don’t have a birth certificate
• 168 million children (5 – 17 yrs) in worst forms of labour
• 200 million girls/women alive today in 30 countries have undergone FGM
• 12 million estimated total number of girls married as children every year
• 50 million children have migrated or been forcibly displaced
• 2.7 million children live in residential care
Strengthening the SSW as a priority for Child Protection

SSW remains one of the weakest components of national child protection systems (2015 VAC evaluation)

“a trained social service workforce that is in contact with families and communities is vital” to child protection”  (Key lesson learned from UNICEF’s Strategic Plan 2014-2017)

Child Protection Issues Feature Prominently in the SDG Agenda

To meet the ambitious SDG Targets for child protection, and to ensure that no child is left behind

Goal Area 3
“[g]irls and boys, especially the most vulnerable and those affected by humanitarian crisis, are protected from all forms of violence, exploitation, abuse and harmful practices

UNICEF STRATEGIC PLAN
2018-2021
Executive Summary
UNICEF’s Efforts to Strengthen the Social Service Workforce for Child Protection
A well-developed social service workforce contributes to:

- promoting social justice
- reducing discrimination
- challenging and changing harmful behaviours and social norms
- preventing and responding to violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation and family separation

“No system can function effectively without the individuals who make that system come to life.”
Strategic Framework for Strengthening the Social Service Workforce for Child Protection

UNICEF Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021

Goal Area 3: Girls and boys, especially the most vulnerable and those affected by humanitarian crisis, are protected from all forms of violence, exploitation, abuse and harmful practices.

Promotive Work
- Strengthen policies, laws, and budgets for child protection
- Conduct National assessments and programme reviews
- Promote citizen engagement
- Set accountability and ethics frameworks
- Establish standards for services

Preventive Work
- Support at-risk children and their families
- Organize parenting programmes
- Provide social protection support, including cash
- Provide gatekeeping to prevent unnecessary family separation
- Organize community groups to protect children and promote positive social norms

Response Services
- Provide support and services to VAC, secure justice, and quality care
- Ensure child participation and best interests of the child during interventions
- Undertake assessments for long-term therapeutic services, e.g., medical and psychosocial interventions
- Deliver rehabilitative and reintegration services

The social service workforce at the national and subnational levels is well planned, developed, and supported to perform a range of functions to provide a continuum of child protection services.

Plan the Social Service Workforce
- Enact policy and legislation for social service work
- Define types, functions, ratios of social service workers (incl. para-professionals)
- Undertake costing and financing for social service work
- Establish regulatory framework for education, accreditation, licensing
- Set human resource policies, and practice and organizational standards

Develop the Social Service Workforce
- Establish multisector collaboration for education and training
- Align education and training to national priorities and standards
- Integrate fieldwork and indigenous knowledge in education and training
- Offer ongoing and continuing opportunities for training and professional development

Support the Social Service Workforce
- Improve recruitment and retention of workers
- Support social service work associations and councils
- Invest in quality supervision of social service workers
- Promote career development and progression
- Invest in promoting the image of social service workers

UNICEF Country Offices can play an important role in advocating for and providing technical support to plan, develop, and support the social service workforce for child protection.

Bottlenecks to workforce strengthening the Social Service Workforce
- Absence of normative framework
- Lack of professional standards and codes
- Inadequate resource allocation
- Undefined roles and responsibilities & Poor HR policies
- Inadequate ratios of social service workers to children
- Inadequate standards, provisions for training and certification
- Limited opportunities for career enrichment
- Poor professional image and poor retention rates
- Absence of support structures, coalitions and associations
In 2018, UNICEF child protection worked in 132 countries to strengthen SSW. 123 of these countries also worked on prevention and response to VAC.
Supporting National Efforts to Plan, Develop, and Support the Social Service Workforce

Planning the Workforce: Egypt, Montenegro, Nigeria

Developing the Workforce: Kazakhstan, Somalia, Tunisia

Supporting the Workforce: Burundi, China, Mozambique
Moving Forward: Key Actions to Strengthen the Social Service Workforce for Child Protection

• Use an evidence-based investment case for social service workforce strengthening

• Advice the government to establish and implement comprehensive policies

• Set standards for workers, accreditation, and supervision systems