

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





SOUTH AFRICAN
COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONS

**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.



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.



INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE THE ROLE OF CYCWS IN PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

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



EXAMPLES OF CRITICAL ROLE OF CYCWS IN PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO VIOLENCE?

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.



PROMISING PRACTICES AND CASE STUDIES

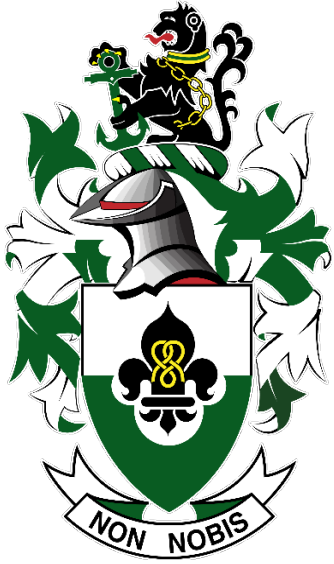
- The transformation committee of Council is championing the integrated case management agenda
- The two(2) Professional boards – social work and for child and youth care workers are in support .



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





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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

Peace through Participation

- * 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



Lebanon / UNHCR / S. Baldwin / October 2013

REFUGEE AND IDP CHILDREN IN 2018



Rohingya refugees cook outside their tent in Kutupalong refugee settlement. © UNHCR/Roger Arnold

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



Source: UNESCO (2016), UNHCR (2017)



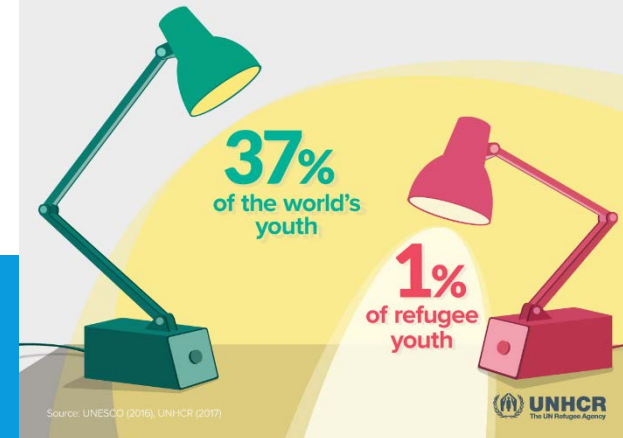
Secondary school enrolment



Source: UNESCO (2016), UNHCR (2017)



Higher education enrolment



Source: UNESCO (2016), UNHCR (2017)





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

International
State
Community
Family
Child

Legal & Policy
Framework

Knowledge &
Data

Coordination

Capacities Human
& Financial

Prevention &
Response Services

Advocacy &
Awareness Raising

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

Principles

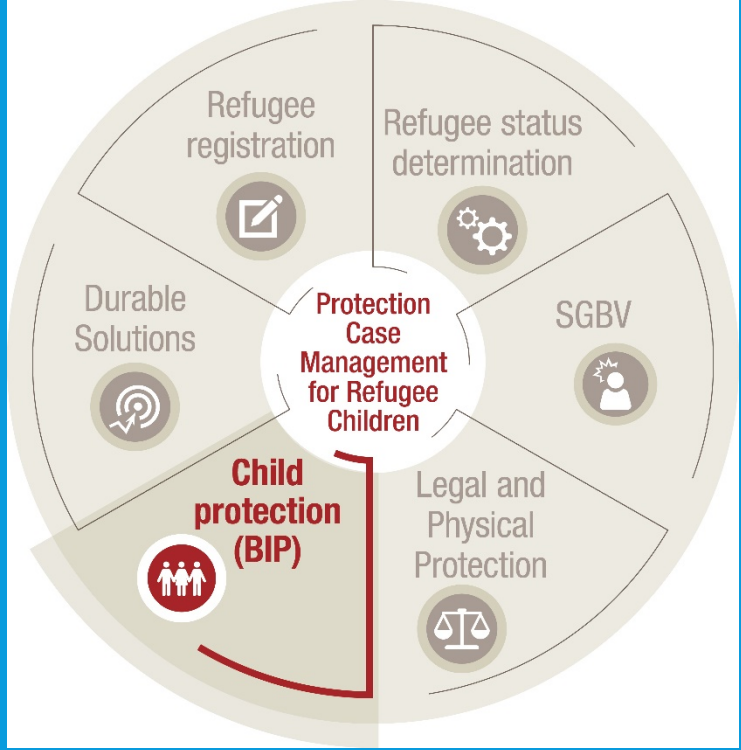
Steps in the Best Interests Procedure



BID

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

○-----> Represents possible steps that can be taken



CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEMS IN UNHCR

“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)

INCLUSION OF REFUGEES AND IDPS IN NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEMS

Inclusion of Refugee Children in National Child Protection Systems:

Guidance for Practitioners in East Africa



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 4:** Social Welfare Workforce and Child Protection Workforce Addressing Needs Of Refugees
- **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



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



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

unicef  | for every child



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)



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

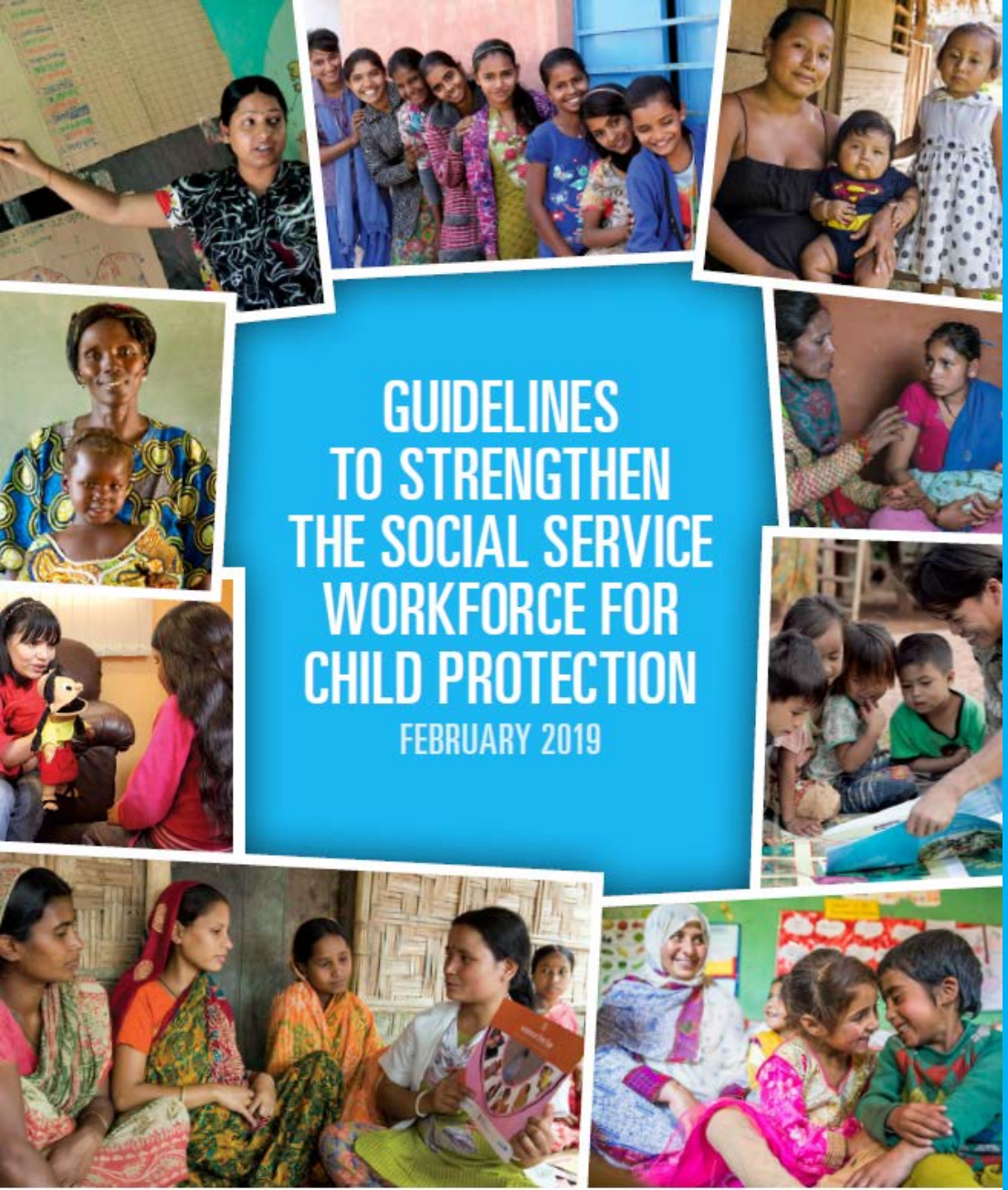


Child Protection Issues Feature Prominently in the SDG Agenda

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's Efforts to Strengthen the Social Service Workforce for Child Protection





GUIDELINES TO STRENGTHEN THE SOCIAL SERVICE WORKFORCE FOR CHILD PROTECTION

FEBRUARY 2019

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 
for every child

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

Strategic interventions to address the bottlenecks

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

Create an Enabling Environment

- Advocate for national leadership
- Support evidence generation and situation analysis
- Promote and facilitate collaboration and coordination

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

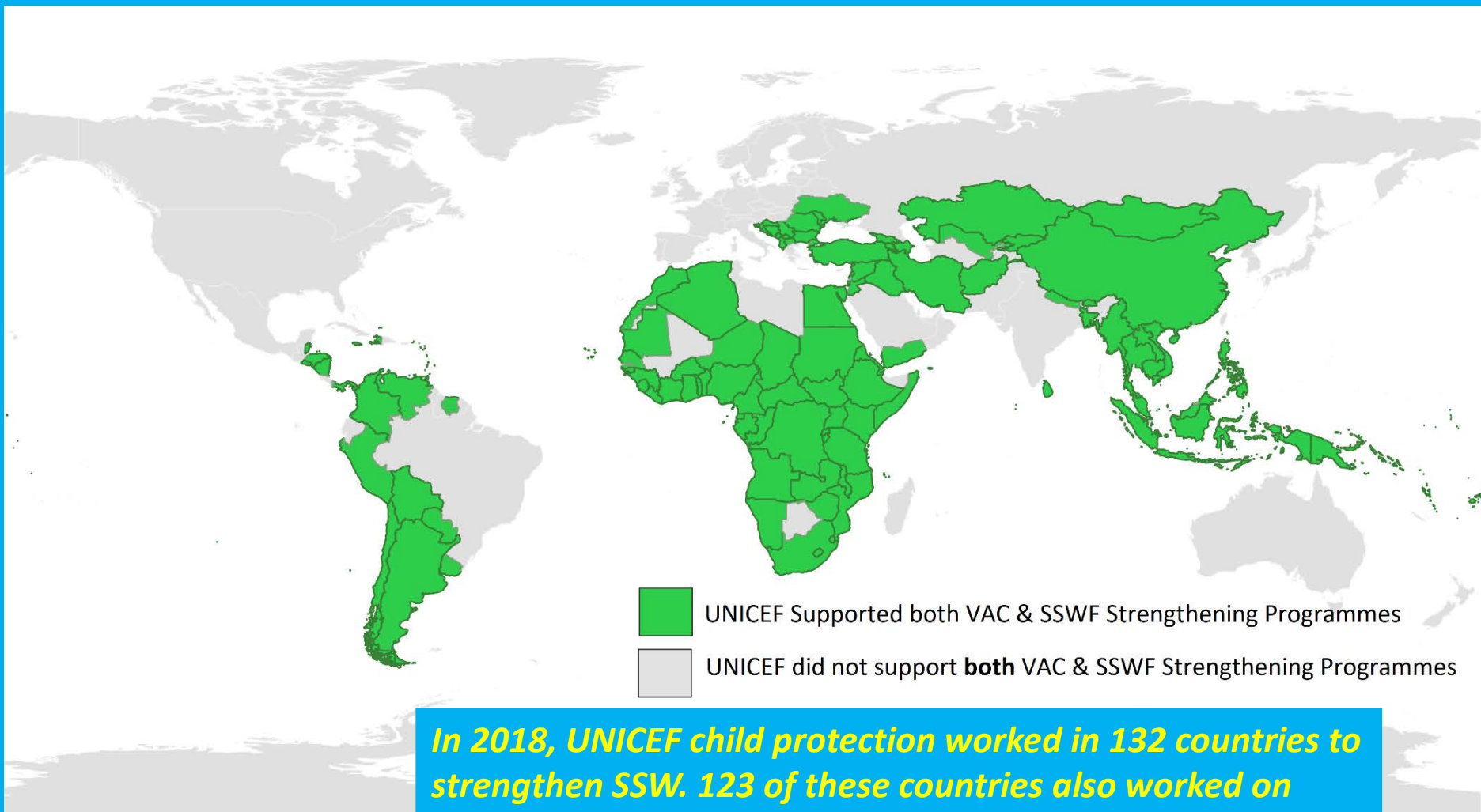


Bottlenecks to workforce strengthening the Social Service Workforce

- 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

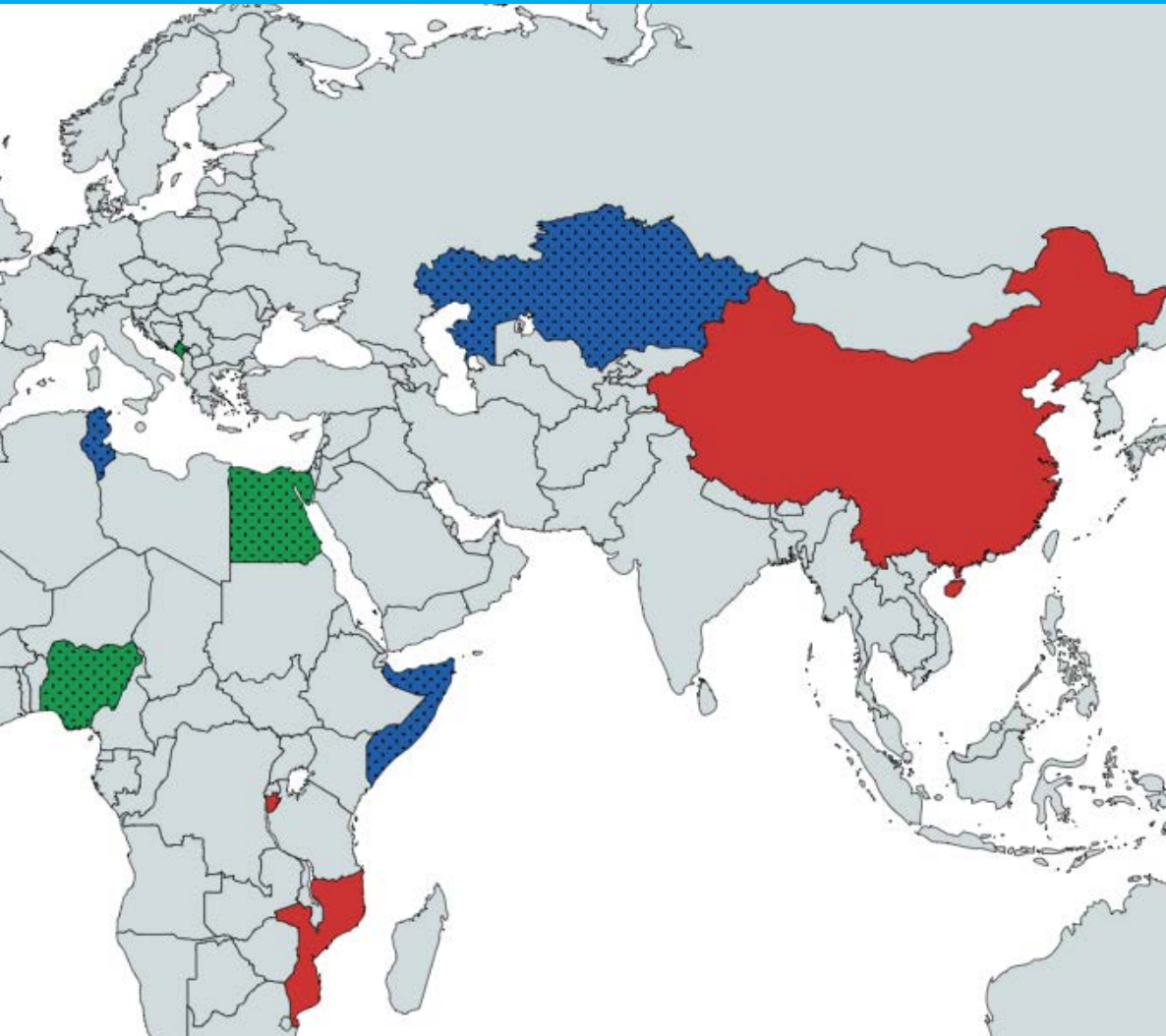
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UNICEF's Work on Addressing Violence against Children and Strengthening the Social Service Workforce



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

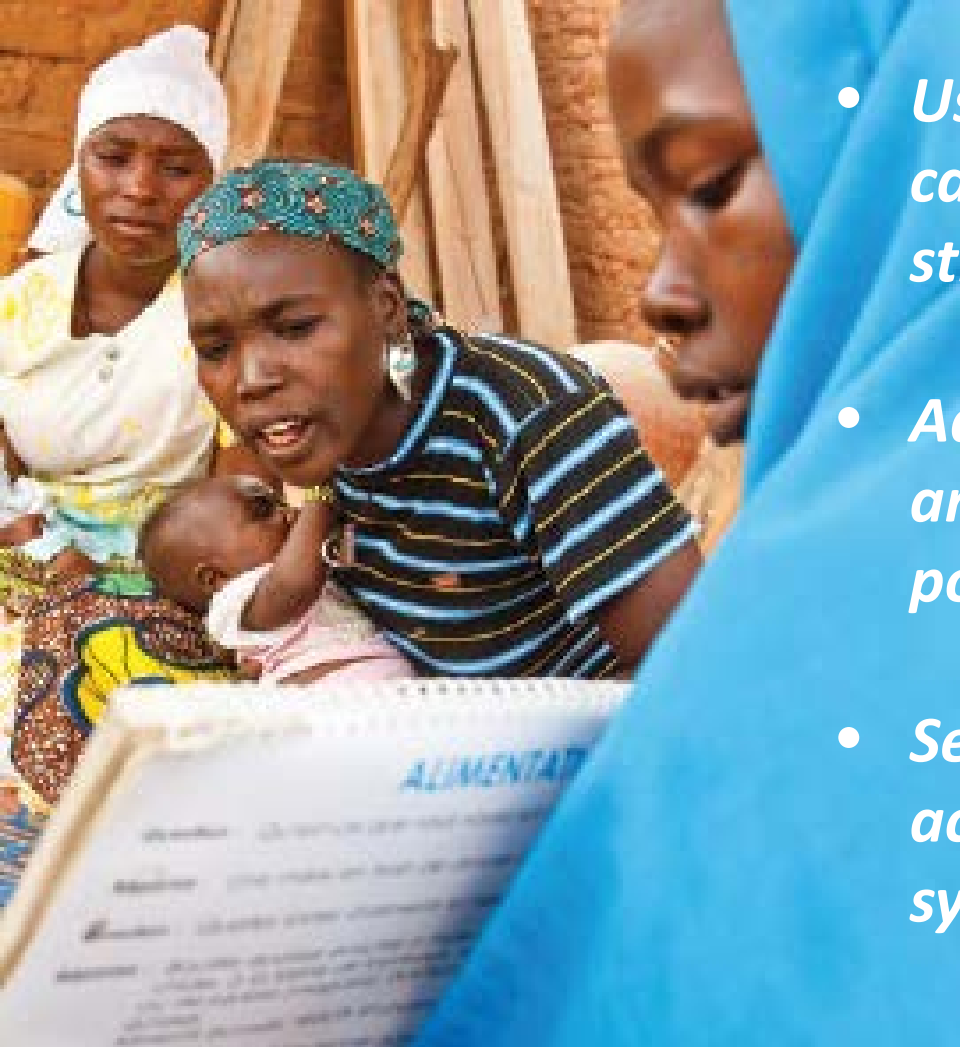


Planning the Workforce:
Egypt, Montenegro, Nigeria

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*
- *Advise the government to establish and implement comprehensive policies*
- *Set standards for workers, accreditation, and supervision systems*