



THE ALLIANCE

FOR CHILD PROTECTION IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

2018-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN: SUMMARY



An emergency, whether caused by armed conflict or natural disaster, makes children extremely vulnerable to various types of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect. Children may become separated from their families, recruited into armed forces, and economically or sexually exploited. They are at risk of injury and disability, physical and sexual violence, psychosocial distress and mental disorders—even of losing their lives.

The mission of **the Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action** is to support the efforts of humanitarian actors to achieve high-quality and effective child protection interventions in humanitarian contexts, both in refugee and non-refugee settings. As a global network of operational agencies, academic institutions, policymakers, donors and practitioners, the Alliance facilitates inter-agency technical collaboration on child protection in all humanitarian contexts. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) currently co-leads the Alliance with Save the Children.

The Alliance's work falls into five categories:

- Standard setting and guidance development;
- Capacity building, learning and development;
- Evidence and knowledge generation:
- Advocacy; and
- Convening.

Strategy development

Through extensive consultation with local, national, regional and global humanitarian actors, the Alliance has defined its strategic priorities for the period 2018–2020. These priorities were incorporated into the work plan of the Alliance’s technical working groups and task forces and will guide the work of the Alliance over this period. The purpose of the strategic plan document is to better define the Alliance’s added value to the sector and to position this inter-agency network in the context of the multitude of global actors that are working towards similar or complementary goals.

The principles outlined in the Minimum Standards

for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (CPMS) serve as key guideposts for this strategy. Three companion precepts provide additional direction when implementing the plan’s approaches and activities:

- *Field-focused.* The technical material that is produced will be needed and useful for field practitioners and those who support them.
- *Child-centred.* Based on the guiding principles outlined in the CPMS, all activities and products of the Alliance will place the child at the centre.
- *Family- and community-driven.* Using the socio-ecological model as a frame of reference, the Alliance’s products will promote the involvement of families and communities in defining and implementing protection of children in all contexts.



The Alliance identified three primary strategic goals and two secondary priorities (prevention and the strengthening of child protection workforce capacity) to be achieved by 2020:

Strategic Goal A: Child Protection and select sectors have mechanisms in place that foster **integrated programming** for prevention and response to abuse, exploitation, neglect and violence against children.

Integrated programming is defined as programmatic approaches that incorporate activities that typically sit within two or more humanitarian sectors under one programme. The Alliance inspires to explore and develop technical guidance and mechanisms that can foster integrated child protection programming. It involves looking at bottlenecks to cross-sectoral collaboration, both on the child protection side and that of other sectoral actors.

Strategic Goal B: Alliance resources, including standards and technical guidelines, are **grounded in robust evidence**.

The main objective of this priority is to significantly boost our reliance on robust evidence in designing and implementing child protection programmes in humanitarian action. The Alliance will achieve this goal through synthesis and by making evidence accessible to programmers as well as by incorporating evidence into all its technical resources, such as the CPMS. Strengthening of

evidence is already reflected in the 2018–2020 workplan of all 9 Alliance working groups and task forces. The Alliance will also analyse the causes of weak use of data and evidence in programming so that technical groups under the Alliance can more effectively address this issue.

Strategic Goal C: A **diversity of local child protection actors** from different contexts drive and benefit from Alliance activities.

Through this priority, the Alliance seeks to increase the diversity of actors involved in its work. The Alliance strives for diversity in voices and views in our working groups and task forces, primarily by facilitating further involvement of local child protection actors from different contexts. The Alliance aims to augment inclusion of local actors across its membership, training activities, global and regional gatherings, and in peer-to-peer learning initiatives. As part of the Alliance's governance structure, its Steering Committee will actively seek out national and local partners to sit as core members. Currently, there are four vacant seats (out of 21) within the Steering Committee, which welcomes new members. The Alliance will strive to have all four seats filled with local, national or regional organizations by 2020. The Alliance will also seek to ensure (directly





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and through partners) that national and local actors have the necessary resources to participate in and/or lead Alliance working groups, task forces, global and regional events and specific workplan activities.

Membership in the Alliance has increased significantly since the group's launch in November 2016, and over 60 per cent of new members are local and national actors.

Alliance collaboration with key partners will continue to evolve and expand, depending on global, regional and national initiatives as well as on the humanitarian contexts over the course of 2018–2020. The Alliance will look at opportunities for collaboration that will support the three main priorities developed in this strategy, while also promoting collaboration across the humanitarian-development continuum.



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Suggested Citation: The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (2018). 2018-2020 Strategic Plan: Summary. *The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action*.