

STRENGTHENING CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEMS: GUIDANCE FOR COUNTRY OFFICES



Strengthening Child Protection Systems is at the heart of Save the Children's child protection programming. This guidance document aims to support the many Country Offices already working to strengthen child protection systems, as well as introducing system strengthening to those wishing to start such work. As well as case studies of different experiences within Save the Children, it includes a series of questions to support critical reflection and analysis that can guide strategic choices appropriate for different contexts.

By using the guidance, Save the Children staff and partners will be able to determine how best to contribute to strengthening Child Protection Systems in their own context, in a strategic, evidence-based and collaborative way.

REACHING OUR BREAKTHROUGHS

This guidance is critical to help Country Offices in reaching all our Breakthroughs; Survive, Learn and Be Protected. If children are not safe and protected, their ability to learn and stay healthy is greatly compromised. Working with child protection systems will also significantly contribute to reaching SDG 16.2 to *end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children.*

WHAT'S IN THE GUIDANCE?

The guidance describes a rights-based child protection system, which is like a jigsaw - it is made up of components, that when properly coordinated, work together to strengthen the protective environment around each child and his or her family. A functioning child protection system includes informal and formal elements, laws, policies, services and procedures to protect ALL children from ALL forms of violence. It works to both prevent and respond to violence against children in humanitarian and development contexts, and to help end violence **effectively, sustainably** and at **scale**.



HOW WILL THE GUIDANCE HELP?

The guidance will help Country Offices identify opportunities to strengthen existing child protection systems. It explains how different components and interlinkages can be targeted, building on Save the Children's experience and expertise. It links closely with our **Common Approaches** including Steps to Protect, Parenting without Violence, Safe Schools and Public Investment for Children and provides a framework for research, evidence and learning.

Most importantly, this guidance will help Save the Children maximise its contribution to ending all forms of violence against children



ACCESS THE GUIDANCE HERE

For more information, contact [Jane Calder](#), Senior Child Protection Advisor, Save the Children UK.