



# **CHILD PROTECTION MONITORING AND EVALUATION REFERENCE GROUP**

**Technical Working  
Group on Data  
Collection on  
Violence against  
Children**

# Background

- Part of the CP MERG
- TWG established in April 2011
- TWG members: ILO, Save the Children, Pop Council, ChildFund, Plan International, EU FRA, ICF MACRO, UNICEF
- Chaired by UNICEF
- More information available at: <http://www.cpmerng.com/>

# Rationale

- Proliferation of different measurement efforts aimed at filling the existing gaps, primarily using large-scale population-based surveys
- Use of different definitions, indicators, questionnaires, field work protocols and procedures , methodologies
- Different standards and practices for protection of respondents and interviewers, and follow-up support to victims

# Goal and objectives

Goal: assist countries/partners in their efforts to gather reliable, useful, comparable and ethically sensitive data on VAC

Objectives: Development of guidelines for the collection of data on VAC

- **Technical guidelines** aimed at maximizing the disclosure of actual violence and at guaranteeing high quality data
- **Ethical guidelines** aimed at minimizing the risk of potential harm to respondents, interviewers and others, resulting from the data gathering process

# Membership Criteria

- Members of the Technical Working Group to be nominated by the core MERG members
- Core CP MERG members: Sub-national, national, regional and international organizations that are operational in field-level child protection programming and have technical capacity in monitoring and evaluation
- Additional institutions may be invited to join the TWG on the basis of their expertise and interest
- Membership will include representatives with technical expertise in the area of data collection on violence
- External individuals may also be invited to contribute to specific activities as consultants based on their technical expertise

# 2012 outputs

- Conducted a **mapping exercise** and a **critical assessment** of data collection efforts to identify existing self-report survey tools and methods that are being used or are under development in the area of violence against children
- Conducted a **literature review** on research **ethics** and **risks** associated with data collection on violence against children

# Inventory and assessment on VAC surveys: content

- Inventory and description of quantitative large-scale/nationally representative surveys or tools on VAC
  - 40 national/regional studies + 6 multi-country studies identified
  - Leads to additional 21 studies (not found or not published)
- Indepth assessment of 7 studies (UK, Georgia, India, Moldova, Tanzania, Eastern Caribbean, Chile)
- Elements covered in the review/assessment:
  - Definitions and indicators
  - Research protocols
  - Sample designs
  - Ethical protocols
  - Field coordination, quality control and data processing

# Inventory and assessment on VAC surveys: main findings

- Highly fragmented research sector
- Overall, the quality of the studies to vary to a very high degree
- Key terms defined on an ad-hoc basis that was unique to each specific study
- Absence of a clear (theoretical) research framework
- Research designs and ethical protocols developed from scratch
- No validation nor proper field testing of instruments/methods
- Choice for or against specific approaches not discussed or were justified ex post

# Literature review on ethics and risks: content

- Documentation, including both published and ‘grey’ literature, that is of specific relevance to research ethics in collecting data on VAC
  - *Review of ethics documentation: guidelines, codes and standards*
  - *Review of published literature*
  - *Ethical challenges and dilemmas*
  - *Risks associated with VAC surveys*

# Next steps

- Development of guidelines for data collection on violence against children
- Intended for use by NSOs and other agencies that want to gather data on VAC
- Training material and workshops on the guidelines

# Guidelines for data collection on violence against children

- Introduction
- Chapter I: Role and types of statistical surveys on VAC
- Chapter II: Concepts, definition and indicators of VAC
- Chapter III: Topics for inclusion in surveys on VAC
- Chapter IV: Planning a survey on VAC
- Chapter V: Questionnaire design
- Chapter VI: Mode of data collection and survey implementation
- Chapter VII: Ethical issues specific to sample surveys on VAC
- Chapter VIII: Data processing and analysis
- Chapter IX: Data Dissemination

# Thank you

