

# Child Protection in RRP

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## What is a Refugee Response Plan?

Refugee Response Plan (RRP) is an inter-agency, comprehensive planning tool led by UNHCR for large-scale or complex refugee situations. An RRP contributes to the application of the Refugee Coordination Model, ensuring accountable, inclusive, predictable and transparent response to refugee situations.

### When to initiate an RRP?

A Refugee Response Plan is prepared in situations where the scale of a refugee crisis requires a formal coordinated inter-agency response. An RRP can also be developed for mixed refugee-migrant displacement situations.

### For what purpose?

The RRP supports the States in coordinating and providing international protection and assistance for refugee, through mobilization of international support and funding, while it seeks to broaden the scope of partnerships to mobilize additional resources and increase visibility for the needs of refugees and their host communities.

## Child protection in RRP

- Child Protection is an integral part of refugee protection and solutions, and hence the collaboration with the Refugee Protection Working Group, GBV Working Group and other sectors is essential to ensure that child protection feeds into an integrated protection analysis and response.
- For better results for children, ensure that child protection is specified as a sub-sector of Protection with specific situational analysis, disaggregated target, specialized interventions and mainstreaming activities, monitoring framework and funding requirements.

**The process:** The child protection coordination focal point/s will facilitate the development of the child protection components, including drafting, soliciting member input, and ensuring that CP is well reflected in the final Regional

and Country RRP, in collaboration with the Refugee Protection Working Group, GBV sub-working group, and other coordination groups.

- **At the onset of the emergency**, the drafting process moves quickly, so make every effort to manage members' expectations and keep them informed. If you have not yet established a strategic advisory group, ask for volunteers to form a task team to support the drafting with representation from government, national, and international actors.
- Work with the task team to engage the members of the child protection coordination mechanism in the development of the child protection components of the RRP.
- Explain the process to the CP coordination mechanism and seek their support by:
  - a) Contributing to the situation analysis and stakeholders mapping (3Ws);
  - b) Share their planned activities and required funding;
  - c) Be part of the drafting taskforce.
- In the RRP document, ensure that child protection is specified as a sub-sector of Protection Sector with specific situational analysis, disaggregated target, specialized interventions and mainstreaming activities, monitoring framework and funding requirements.
- Keep child protection inputs short and to the point and balance between what need to be mainstreamed throughout the RRP sections and what should be highlighted in the child protection dedicated section. Remember you will be able to elaborate further in the Child Protection Working Group's strategy and work plan.

## Incorporating child protection into the regional and country RRP

RRP Section	Guidance	Tips
<b>Situation overview</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute to integrated protection analysis and response.</li> <li>Include child protection as a sub-sector under Protection Sector.</li> <li>Provide a brief overview of the child protection situation including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total number or percentage of refugee children (girls/boys) and others of concern.</li> <li>Identified child protection risks, needs and challenges in protection environment.</li> <li>Child protection response capacity and challenges (e.g., access to population, funding, human resources, refugee and host community support).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highlight the areas of collaboration for integrated protection analysis, planning and response which focus on the following areas: Protection analysis, monitoring and reporting; protection planning; protection case management and referral pathways and protection advocacy.</li> <li>Examples of challenges in the protection environment may include: the receptivity of the host community, legal framework, government policies or procedures such as restriction of movements of unaccompanied and separated children, separating families, procedures and services are not child-friendly, limited/ no access to national child protection systems and absence of family and community-based care.</li> </ul>
<b>Beneficiary Population</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children data should be disaggregated age groups (0-4, 05-11, 12-17) and sex.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Because the RRP template divides individuals with disabilities by per cent of women and girls and per cent of men and boys, try to obtain the overall percentage of children with disabilities disaggregated by sex and add it to the child protection data in the situation overview</li> </ul>	

<p><b>Needs Analysis</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mention if children participated in needs and capacity assessment or similar exercise.</li> <li>Include child protection as a sub-sector in the Protection Analysis.</li> <li>Articulate the child protection risks, including pre-existing vulnerabilities.</li> <li>Estimate total number/ percentage of children and caregivers who need child protection services, including UASC, as well as any demographic observations (e.g., no adolescents boys, children travelling with mother only)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to the issues related to challenges in the protection environment highlighted in the Situation Overview</li> <li>In addition, child protection risks may include, family separation, trafficking, association with armed forces and groups, detention, mental health and psychosocial distress discrimination, gender-based violence, child marriage, child labour, physical and emotional maltreatment, neglect physical and environmental dangers that injure, impair and kill children, etc.</li> <li>Highlight particular protection needs for girls and boys, children with disabilities, adolescent and other groups.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Response strategy and priorities</b></p>		
<p><b>Overall Strategy</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorporate child protection objectives in the strategic objectives of the response.</li> <li>Include child protection as sub-heading with short narrative on core strategies and approaches to address the identified child protection risks and challenges in the protection environment.</li> <li>Highlight areas of collaboration with other areas of protection and sectors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See <a href="#">Annex</a>.</li> <li>Child protection strategies and approach should work towards strengthening national systems and capacities and providing core child protection services and interventions.</li> <li>Prevention of separation and further harm to children.</li> <li>Describe how to ensure that feedback and complaints mechanisms are appropriate, accessible, and safe for children.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain the factors that may impact the planning or delivery of the response.</li> <li>• Mention how the children from the host communities will benefit from the planned child protection response.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Articulate how refugee children and families in urban settings will have access to key national services through multisectoral approach.</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Response Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include child protection priority activities as a sub-sector of Protection.</li> <li>• Enhance/establish child protection services to address the protection needs of children.</li> <li>• Promote activities that strengthen child, family, community and society-level capacities to protect children.</li> <li>• Include learning activities to address learning needs.</li> <li>• Coordinate with GBV regarding the prevention and response to GBV against children and provision of services to child survivor.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See <a href="#">Annex</a> for suggested activities and indicators.</li> </ul>
<b>Other sectors response strategies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mainstream child protection into other sectors, particularly Education, Health, shelter and NFI, livelihoods and cash assistance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See <a href="#">Annex</a> for suggested activities and indicators.</li> <li>• Meet with other sectors to explain what CP mainstreaming means and how concrete activities can be incorporated into their responses, (based on context/needs/capacities and limited resources).</li> </ul>
<b>Partnership and Coordination</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State UNHCR leadership of the coordination of refugee child protection in support of the government.</li> <li>• Describe the co-ordination arrangements and requirements for effective coordination and information management.</li> </ul>	<p>Suggested language:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The State is the primarily responsible the coordination of refugee child protection effort, supported by UNHCR.</i></li> </ul>

		<p><i>In [name of the country] The Refugee Child Protection Working Group is co-lead by [Insert the name of the government institution] and UNHCR.</i></p> <p><i>OR (where the State is unable or unwilling to lead)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Refugee Child Protection Working Group is co-coordinated by UNHCR and [Insert the name of the UN agencies/ organization]</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Sector Financial Requirements</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specify inter-agency funding required for the planned child protection response, including mainstreaming activities.</li> <li>• Track fund received and gaps through Refugee Funding Tracking system.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Operational child protection actors to provide the funding required for the RRP period.</li> <li>• If you notice a duplicate, talk to the submitting entities about it (in particular donor agencies and their partners).</li> <li>• All agencies appealing for funds in the Regional and Country RRP are required to report at least on a monthly basis on the funds received for programmes in the RRP.</li> <li>• All funding reporting is done through the <a href="#">Refugee Funding Tracker</a><sup>1</sup>, unless alternative tool is used in your context.</li> <li>• If the Refugee Funding Tracker is utilized in your context, remind child protection partners to mention <b>Child Protection</b> in the <b>contact information</b> and pick <i>Protection</i> under sectors when filling out the <a href="#">reporting form</a>.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> [The Guide to the Refugee Funding Tracker](#)

## Annex: Sample monitoring framework

- This sample monitoring framework provides suggested strategies, activities and indicators for refugee situations at the onset of the emergency (3-6 months) and protracted situations.
- For the RRP, select from the list [the priority strategies, activities, and indicators that address the identified needs within the indicated timeframe](#).
- The indicators highlighted **in blue** are core indicators that would be aggregated at the global level from all RRP to illustrate the progress for refugee children, therefore we strongly encourage the coordination mechanism to select these.
- In addition to the RRP, use the sample framework to work with the CP coordination mechanism in developing a detailed results framework.

**Additional guidance, tools, and examples from the field are available at the online CP refugee coordination Toolkit [here](#).**

1. Prevention and response Strategy	2. Activity	3. Situations	4. Output Indicators	5. Notes/ Indicator description
1. <b>Strengthen child protection systems and child-friendly procedures</b>	1.1. Advocacy with national actors on child protection issues and child friendly procedures <sup>2</sup> .	Emergency	# of joint advocacy messages/ campaigns/actions developed by the child protection sub-working group.	The child protection coordination mechanism to put advocacy plan in place based on the issues identified.
		Protracted situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Including the above.</li> <li>• # or % of advocacy campaigns/ actions that have contributed to a change in policy,</li> </ul>	<b>Same as above.</b>

<sup>2</sup> Please consult [UNHCR Advocacy Toolkit](#) on how to understand, approach and implement advocacy to influence positive outcomes for children and other groups.

			legislation or practice in an area of child protection.	
	1.2. Enhance child protection capacity, including through technical and financial support.	Emergency and protracted emergency situations	# of individuals trained on child rights and child protection prevention and response, including mainstreaming (disaggregated by sex and cadre).	<p>For monitoring, please use the following indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of (W/M) community members trained on child rights, child protection prevention and response, including mainstreaming.</li> <li># of (W/M) staff and front-line workers from government and non-government actors trained on child rights prevention and response, including mainstreaming.</li> </ul>
	1.3. Ensure reception, registration, asylum, BIP and durable solutions procedures are child friendly.	Emergency and protracted situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Barriers (cultural, social and structural) and risks to children accessing and participating in protection procedures have been assessed and addressed (Yes, no).</li> <li>Staff knowledge and skills have been assessed, and training on child protection, techniques for interviewing children on and unconscious bias provided (Yes, no).</li> <li>Interpreters are trained on interviewing children of different ages and backgrounds (Yes, no).</li> </ul>	For additional indicators, please see <a href="#">the child friendly procedure checklist (page 41)</a> .



<b>2. Access to mental Health and psychosocial support and community-based child protection</b>	2.1. Provide community-based psychosocial support.  2.2. Strengthen community and family supports.	Emergency and protracted situation	# of girls and boys accessing culturally, gender-, age-sensitive group activities.  # of parents/caregivers participated in MHPSS and parenting programmes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define what constitutes ‘culturally, gender, age and diversity-sensitive group activities’ according to the context. Group activities may include structured and free activities; arts and sports; resilience and life skills programmes; peer to peer activities for adolescents.</li> <li>Parenting programmes include parenting and community support groups, counselling and referral to services that strengthen families’ and communities’ child protection capacities.</li> </ul>
			Referral to clinical services established (yes, no).	
	2.3. Provide child-friendly information on asylum, solutions, and services.	Emergency and protracted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of children reached with child-friendly information.</li> <li># of parents and community members reached with child-friendly information.</li> </ul>	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of child and community-led child protection initiatives.</li> </ul>	
	3.1. Provide Best Interests Procedure/Child	Emergency and protracted situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of children at high risk, including unaccompanied and separated children, identified.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of girls and boys at risk (including UASC) identified.</li> </ul>

<b>Provide Child protection services</b>	Protection Case management for children at high risk.		# of children at high risk, including UASC, with BIP undertaken.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of girls and boys at heightened risk for whom BIP was initiated.</li> </ul>
		Protracted situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include the above</li> <li>% of children at high risk, including UASC, with BIP undertaken.</li> </ul>	<p>This indicates the proportion of children at high risk covered by the best interest procedure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numerator: # of children at high risk who are supported by a Best Interests Procedure.</li> <li>Denominator: Total # of children at high risk identified.</li> </ul>
	3.2. Facilitate children access to birth registration.	Emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of (refugee) children whose birth is registered.</li> </ul>	
		Protracted situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of refugee children under 5 years of age whose births are registered.</li> </ul>	
	3.3. Ensure that unaccompanied and separated children are in appropriate alternative care arrangement and reunify with family or place	Emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of unaccompanied and separated children for whom BIP was initiated.</li> <li># of unaccompanied children placed in alternative care arrangement.</li> <li># of separated children for whom care arrangement is being formalized or placed in new care arrangements.</li> </ul>	All figures should be disaggregated by sex, age group and separation status.
		Protracted situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Includes above indicators.</li> </ul>	

	in longer care arrangement.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># or % of unaccompanied and separated children reunified with families or placed in long term care arrangements.</li> </ul>	
	3.4. Targeted support for children with disabilities	Emergency and protracted situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of girls and boys with disabilities access child protection services.</li> <li>Safe spaces and other services are accessible for children with disabilities (yes, no).</li> <li>Information on asylum, solutions, and services is accessible for children with disabilities (yes, no).</li> </ul>	
	3.5. Develop inter-agency SoPs and referral pathways for child protection	Emergency and protracted situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inter-agency Best Interests SOPs developed and operational (yes/no).</li> <li># of children referred to non-child protection services (i.e., education, health, etc.)</li> </ul>	
	3.6. Provision of legal aid to children	Emergency and protracted situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of girls and boys at risk referred to legal aid. and/or</li> <li># of girls and boys at risk received legal aid.</li> </ul>	<p>In addition to access to asylum, this also includes support to children in detention and in contact with the law, custodian/guardianship determination.</p> <p>Include the indicator highlighted in yellow only if the legal aid is provided are funded through a child protection.</p>

<p><b>4. Cash assistance</b></p>	<p>4.1. Children at high risk and their caregivers benefiting from cash assistance</p>	<p>Emergency and protracted situations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of children at high risk, and their caregivers, benefitted from cash assistance.</li> </ul>	<p>This includes children at risk and caregivers referred to multipurpose cash assistance and cash for child protection<sup>3</sup></p>
<p><b>5. Child Protection Mainstreaming and Integration of children protection and wellbeing across other sectors of the refugee response</b></p>	<p>5.1. Mainstream Child Protection across other priority sectors responses in line with the CPMS Pillar 4<sup>4</sup>)</p>	<p>Emergency and protracted situations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of sectors in targeted location integrating child protection measures including minimum safe identification and referral of children at risk or abuse, violence, exploitation and neglect.</li> </ul>	<p>‘Mainstreamed and Integrated approach’ refers to child protection programming interventions that are integrated into the design, implementation and monitoring of other sectors/ response strategies to uphold centrality of protection, this is to promote the wellbeing and protection of children at the core of the humanitarian response.</p>

<sup>3</sup> For further guidance on promoting child protection through cash, please see [here](#).

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.alliancecpa.org/en/series-of-child-protection-materials/minimum-standards-child-protection-humanitarian-action-cpms-e>