



Child protection programming in conflict affected settings

August 2023

NEWSLETTER
Q11

Ensuring that children remain safe

COME JOIN US IN THE NEW JOINING FORCES PROJECT!

The Joining Forces for Child Protection in Emergencies (JF-CPIE) project is a global consortium project bringing together six large child rights organisations in Germany to improve the protection of children and adolescents amongst refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) as well as their host communities in Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Colombia, Ethiopia, and South Sudan.

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JOFA Q11 Newsletter



Inside this edition:

- Project Progress
- Child protection programming in conflict affected settings

About JOFA

Joining Forces is an alliance formed in 2017 of the six largest child-focused international NGOs – ChildFund Alliance, Plan International, Save the Children International, SOS Children’s Villages International, Terre des Hommes International Federation, and World Vision International. Together, they are working with and for children to secure their rights and end violence against children.

Project Progress

IT'S ALL ABOUT COLLABORATION

In this quarter, the JOFA project continued to strengthen national and local protection and response systems.



In Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali and Uganda, coordination meetings with formal and informal child support protection coordination mechanisms at local, regional, and national level were conducted. Child referral pathways were mapped, reviewed, and adapted and relevant stakeholders trained on the adapted identification, reporting and referral mechanisms. Child Protection services participated in trainings on psychosocial support activities for children and community-based case management and received material support.

Activities to improve protection in resilient families, communities and institutions continued. Awareness raising activities were conducted in Mali, Ethiopia and Senegal and included the review and updating of child protection messages in Mali, a conference on child marriage and a press release in Ethiopia, and sensitization through art and radio programmes in Senegal. The Parenting without Violence sessions continued in Kenya, Ethiopia, Mali, and Uganda. In Senegal, the Celebrating Families approach continued. Community-based mechanism were supported



Find out more on the [JOFA approach to joint national level advocacy to change or approve laws and policies.](#)

through trainings and material support in Ethiopia, Mali, and Senegal. Furthermore, teachers, school support staff and parent teacher associations received training on psychological first aid for children and on identification, reporting and referring procedures in Kenya, Senegal, and Ethiopia.

The JOFA project also continued to strengthen the capacity and agency of children to prevent and respond to violence against them. Peer-based networks were supported through trainings on child protection risks and behaviours, reporting and referral mechanisms. In Ethiopia and Uganda, peer-based networks received training and subsequently applied the "Child-friendly Accountability" Approach.

In Kenya, Mali, Uganda and Ethiopia, the project supported advocacy dialogues between children and policy makers and sub-national and national level as well as child-led campaigns and public mobilization in schools and communities.



To increase the learning and sharing of knowledge and best practice, review and learning meetings were conducted in Ethiopia, Mali, and Uganda. Community-based feedback and complaints mechanisms are in place and functional.

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CHILD PROTECTION IN REFUGEE CAMPS

In this quarter, activities planned to be implemented in Mao Komo district in Ethiopia remained suspended due to increasing levels of violence.

Instead, refugees who have re-located from Tongo refugee camp (in Mao Komo district) to the Tsore camp (Homosha district) participated in the project activities.

Given this situation, it is worth taking a closer look at the project's approach to child protection programming with refugees and in conflict-affected settings.

The JOFA project works with refugee and IDP populations in Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, and Uganda. Project activities aim at ensuring that the most vulnerable children in refugee camps and IDP settlements remain connected to their peers and receive psychosocial support.

Key technical approaches used for this purpose are the psychosocial support intervention [TeamUp](#), [Parenting without Violence](#) and [Child Friendly Accountability](#). Given that children in refugee camps face heightened child protection risks, the project developed special safeguarding tools to support participatory activities and build children's confidence to share their experiences.

Learn more

Learn more about child protection programming in conflict affected settings, challenges and lessons learned!

Download the [JOFA Project Thematic Review: Child protection programming with refugees and in conflict-affected settings](#).

Read through one of the [JOFA case stories of provision of protection services to children in refugee camps in Ethiopia](#).



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