

Developing a baseline on violence in the school environment

Learning into Action Conference
Geneva, 24 June 2010



Save the Children

Context: Côte d'Ivoire

- Uprising September 2002
- Country divided in two
- On-going tension
- “No peace, no war”



Rewrite the Future

- Education programme for children affected by armed conflict
- Objectives:
 1. Access
 2. Quality
 - 3. Protection**
 4. Financing



Protection Activities of Rewrite the Future

- Referral pathways
- Codes of Conduct for teachers
- Children's Club's advocacy
- Teaching methods training – alternatives to corporal and humiliating punishment



Violence in Schools Research

- Objective:
 - To understand the types and frequency of violence and abuse experienced by children in schools and some of the main causes
- What we were hoping to understand:
 - The impact of conflict on levels of violence in school environment - regional variation in the violence
 - Baseline / current situation so we could evaluate our programme impact

Developing the methodology

- Discussions with Ministry of Education at National level
- Methodology and tools developed by committee, representatives from:
 - Ministry of Education
 - Local and international NGOs
 - Save the Children protection & education

Research methods used

Qualitative:

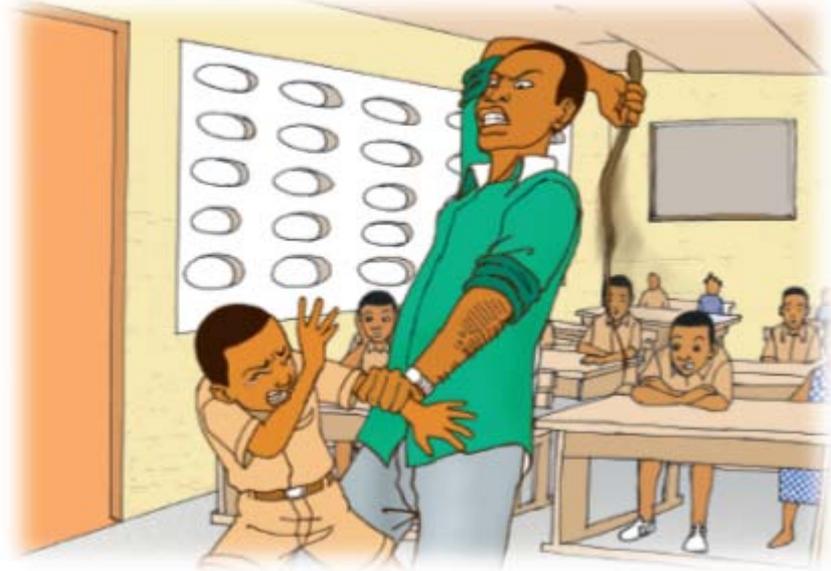
- 44 Focus Group Discussions: 78 parents, 136 pupils, 84 teachers
- Role plays with children: 472 children
- Children's drawings: younger children: 579 in total
- Key Informant Interviews: local education authorities:15

Quantitative:

- Questionnaires: 472 (212 girls, 260 boys)

The questionnaire

- What do you think about hitting a child?
 - Good?
 - Bad?
 - Don't know?



4- Que penses-tu de :

Chicoter un enfant ?

Bon Mauvais Ne sait pas

5- As-tu été déjà été chicoté dans ton école ?

Oui Non

6- Si oui, qui chicote les enfants dans ton école ? (*plusieurs réponses possibles*)

Maître Elèves Maitresse Autres (*à préciser*)

Site selection

- Identify 4 sites: from rural north to urban south
- Engage Local Education Authorities at district level
- Minimum 4 schools in each area
- Schools supported by Save the Children and schools in which we have not yet started working

Children do role play



What went well?

- Showed geographical variation in types of violence & prevalence of different forms of violence
- Sexual violence reported in questionnaires, drawings and adult key informant interviews
- Locally appropriate child friendly images in questionnaire
- Children enabled to feedback on their situation and speak out in confidential context

Difficulties

- Children not engaged in developing tools
- Not all children can read or write French well enough
- Tools not tested and evaluated before running research
- Consultant lacked experience doing research with children
- Lack of technical support for the researcher

Children draw dangers in school



Difficulties continued

- Adults hard to get female participation:
 - parents, education authorities and teachers mostly male
- Lack of funding not able to do:
 - Child developed action plans
 - 2nd round of research to assess impact

Thank you for listening

Hannah Thompson,

h.thompson@savethechildren.org.uk