Child Protection in Crisis Uganda: March 2012 Learning Retreat

CPC Network – Uganda Program Learning Group
3 Year Strategic Plan & Priorities

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Introduction

• The Child Protection in Crisis is a collaboration of humanitarian agencies, local institutions and academic partners working to improve the protection of children in crisis-affected settings.

• In July 2010 the CPC Network established an interagency Program Learning Group (PLG) in Uganda which is hosted by Child Fund Uganda.

• The PLGs focus in Uganda covers three types of crisis situations namely; Conflict, Poverty and HIV/AIDS.
The PLG is guided by the following Principles:

- We are Child focused
- Our approach is ethical, respectful, and based on the ‘Do No Harm’ principle.
- We value partnerships and actively promote collaborative interagency-driven research.
- We are committed to supporting and developing national and local research capacities.
- We are committed to widespread dissemination of our research findings.
- We seek to work within the framework of child rights and to have open and transparent relationships with national and local authorities in the environments where we carry out research.
The PLG focuses on 3 priority areas of work:

1. To promote learning from applied research in child protection
2. To strengthen linkages and interface between academic institutions and practitioners in Uganda
3. To strengthen child protection systems in Uganda.
What has the PLG achieved so far

- Successfully constituted a vibrant inter-agency PLG Steering Committee. The committee has met more than 4 times over the past year.
- Implemented a livelihoods research in Western Uganda & a CP systems mapping in Northern Uganda.
- Developed locally meaningful indicators of psychosocial wellbeing.
- Participated in the development and integration of the National Child Protection Training Curriculum into university academic programs.
- Finalized the development of a 3-year strategic plan
Challenges that lay ahead

- Utilization of research findings is still low.
- Capacity to engage in rigorous academic research and evaluation in CP is still low & fragmented.
- Weak linkages between informal and formal child protection systems.
The 2012-2014 Strategic Plan focuses on:

- Implementation of the three priority areas.
- Undertake a meta-evaluation and review of existing child protection research reports.
- Scale up on-going systems mapping to other regions not currently covered.
- Undertake a pilot project to strengthen and link child protection systems to national systems.
- Promote the proposed Centre for Child Health and Protection an inter-institution forum aimed at building local capacity in teaching and applied research.
Harness synergies between the various applied research projects to promote holistic learning in child protection policy and programming.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!