

# Child Protection in Crisis Uganda: March 2012 Learning Retreat

Developing locally meaning pss indicators for child programming.

Qn: how can we measure the impact of community based pss programs for children

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Child Protection in Crisis

Network for Research, Learning & Action

# Local pss indicators

- This question was addressed in 2010 ethnographic study in Uganda
- Interviews were conducted with 230 children and 150 parents in rural and urban settings
- Information gathered was used to develop core indicators of children's pss wellbeing

# Clusters of outcomes and indicators of children's PSS wellbeing

- Reduced troubling thoughts and feelings: Reduction in anxiety, calmness and sense of security
- Strengthened self-esteem: sense of control and pride over physical well being, good health and grooming
- Engagement at home: improved relationships with parents, contribution to household responsibilities

# Cluster of outcomes and indicators

- Engagement in school: positive learning attitude and strategies, improved relationship with teachers
- Engagement in community: social and cultural competence-enacting age and gender appropriate positive values and behaviors.
- Social relations: pro-social values and behaviours with peers and none family adults, reciprocated social and community support, increased social expression

# Outcomes and indicators

- Problems solving: increased problem solving skills, risk reduction behaviors, age appropriate autonomy, initiative, curiosity, exploration and self-regulation.

# key findings

- Both parents and children rated a child's family situation and access to education as the most critical indicators of child wellbeing.
- Family situation included whether a child lives with one or both of their biological parents, access to schooling, and access to basic minimum material needs and services

# Key findings

- Child poverty is associated with a wide range of risks to child survival, health and development

# Emotional and Social well-being

- Most psychosocial well-being outcomes that were identified by children and adults are subjective and complex constructs that are related to emotional and social well-being
- Positive relationships were ranked as an important which generally include multiple other elements eg. Closeness, communication, trust, emotional supportiveness.



# Emotional well-being

- Highly rated outcomes include-social, friendly, caring and energetic, associates with children her age, gives good advice to others
- Child has peace of mind, self-respect, positive approach to age appropriate life tasks.
- Contributes to the household, feels useful to the community

# Emotional Well being

- Alert, motivated self-disciplined and pursues a healthy lifestyle.
- Educational attainment, proactive coping strategies
- Emotional well-being appear to be slightly more weighted toward pro-social behaviour followed by indicators related to development of individuality

# Emotional well being

- From the findings, it appears like other indicators of emotional well being such being happy, feeling secure, positive self-worth, being hopeful for the future, freedom from anxiety etc will result from culturally determined positive social functioning.
- The findings validate the important of including social well being as a domain underpinning pss well-being.

# Social well-being

- Given the importance of relationships to the development of and well being of a child, outcomes and indicators regarding relationships are placed within with the social well being domain.

# Knowledge and skills

- Knowledge and skills required for social and cultural competence are integrally associated with relationships and the generation and maintenance of personal identity, social standing, and social capital.
- Access to schooling is considered crucial to addressing the problems of children in Uganda

# Child's gender and pss outcomes

- Boys express respect and obedience in their attitude and behaviours within social exchanges-towards the development of moral competent and socially respected family man
- For girls, social and cultural competence is more closely associated with maintenance of the household and meeting basic needs, her social connectedness with peers and her self-respect as a woman

# Child's age and psychosocial outcomes

- Children place a higher significance on risks of child abuse in particular sexual abuse and domestic violence than parents/guardians do
- As a response to this, an outcome dealing with age appropriate risk management skill is included.

# Family planning

- Parents believed that having too many children to care for is a critical reason why some parents with fewer children do well in caring for their children



# Domains of pss programming

- Is related to one or more of the first three domains and these are: 1. skills and knowledge 2. Emotional well-being 3. Social well-being
- Pss indicators related to emotional and social well-being are important for understanding a child's well being as they represent critical inputs to overall wellbeing

# Using the results of the study

- A framework was developed with a set of core outcomes and indicators that can be used for developing contextually relevant pss monitoring and evaluation tools.

THANK YOU

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