

Child Protection in Crisis Uganda: March 2012 Learning Retreat

Engaging Universities and Institutions of
Higher Learning to Integrate Child Protection
Course Units in their programs: Learning
from the Makerere Experience

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Child Protection in Crisis

Network for Research, Learning & Action

Child Protection:

- CP consists of reducing risks to Children's wellbeing,
- Making children's rights to protection a reality;
- Restoring hope and a dignified life where abuse and violence has occurred and;
- Creating an enabling environment that supports children's positive development
- CP work requires among others to utilize a systems approach so as to foster institutional change at various levels: national, sub national and village/community levels.

Children at risk



Are these at risk?



A child burnt
in Bundibugyo
2005



Formulation of the CP Curriculum

- It commenced with nationwide consultations with key actors in the sector to collect their ideas and experiences in child protection work
- TPO Uganda and partners developed and administered a tool for these consultations— key practitioners targeted in government institutions at district level
- The MGLSD was fully involved and gave support enormous support—mobilising key child actors etc

Formulation Cont'd...

- Practitioners and academics worked together to develop demand driven and tailor made child protection programs through a series of participatory learning workshops and/retreats
- Academics from Makerere Univ, Kyambogo Univ, and Nsamizi Inst of Soc Dev. were part of the technical working groups that developed the modules to ensure that materials are grounded in sound pedagogy and also meet UAPB standards
- Practitioners added practical value to the process

TWGs and training retreats



International involvement

- An international child protection materials expert was engaged to tap into global literature and materials
 - The final draft curriculum was subjected to a Global Academic Review Panel consisting of academics from South Africa and the Columbia University Group of Children in Adversity

CP Programs developed

Three programs comprise the developed CP curriculum:

- a) Child protection courses for integration in the ongoing university curriculum
- b) Short certificate training program targeting in service workers
- c) A diploma certificate program targeting ordinary certificate level graduates (basic skills for community workers)

University courses:

- The Undergraduate Course for B SWSA:
 - The course is referred to as SWA3118: Introduction to Child Protection
 - Was offered this academic year
 - Its major purpose is to familiarize undergraduate students to child protection issues
 - Was an exciting experience for the pioneers class

University courses continued:

- MA Social Sector Planning and Management
- The course is referred to as SSP 7199: Child Protection Theory and Practice.



MA Social Sector Planning and Management

- This course introduces relevant theories and practice approaches under pinning child protection.
- The course was offered last semester and very many practitioners were involved in the delivery of the course

Diploma in child protection

- This targets senior four (O'Level) graduates
- Offered by Nsamizi
- Comprises both theory and practice
- Was approved by the NCHE
- Nsamizi has a very vibrant team that is ready to deliver the course
- Preparations almost finalised

Practice Oriented Professional Certificate in Child Protection

- This course is aimed at standardizing and harmonizing child protection training in Uganda
- Its goal is to equip child protection practitioners with knowledge and skills to effectively deliver quality child protection services in their various placements
- Course duration is 3 months and it targets professionals working in child protection e.g. PSWOs, Social Workers with NGOs/CBOs, teachers, police officers, CDOs, Community

Certificate Contd.

Health educators, child protection unit officers of the UPDF and state prosecutors

- Course Units include:
 - I. Introduction to Child Protection
 - II. Legal framework and policy guidelines in CP
 - III. Formal and informal CP systems
 - IV. CP prevention and response strategies
 - V. Monitoring and Evaluation of CP interventions

- Plans in advanced stages to deliver the course by MUK and TPO

End

- Thanks