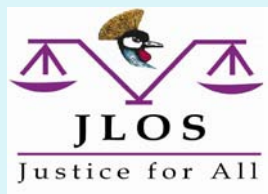


Child Protection in Crisis Uganda: March 2012 Learning Retreat

Justice for Children

*“Protecting children against all forms abuse, neglect, exploitation
and violence”*

*A Project of the Justice, Law and Order Sector & UNICEF Uganda
Implemented by the Centre for Justice Studies and Innovations*



Child Protection in Crisis

Network for Research, Learning & Action

JLOS response to Child Protection

Holistic Approach –Spanning across

- ❖ Criminal,
- ❖ Civil,
- ❖ Administrative,
- ❖ Informal justice spheres.

Ultimately protecting all children in conflict
and contact with the law

Recognition of role of NSA actors- opening space for participation and engagement

- ❖ CSOs both at the national and sub national levels to play watch dog role
- ❖ FBOs to make pronouncement relating to child protection
- ❖ Traditional leaders and institutional to strengthen safety nets in their communities
- ❖ Role of local governments

All working to craft resolutions that will ultimately keep our children safe from all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation and abuse.

System Based Approach

- a) Through seeking and integration of children voice and needs in Sector and institutional Plans and policies
- b) Working through District Chain Linked Committees to address context specific service delivery constraints.

J4C Focus Areas

J4C programme implementation is focusing on 4 critical areas namely:

- ❖ Legislative, Policy and regulatory framework;
- ❖ Change in practice of service delivery at the implementation level;
- ❖ Capacity development of duty bearers and rights holders;
- ❖ Result monitoring and reform advocacy.

Overall, the Programme is

- ❖ Working with DCCs to improve data sources, collection, analysis and utilization
- ❖ Creating and supporting district and national platforms for consideration of J4C performance and priorities;
- ❖ Mobilizing and supporting development of civil society and independent child rights constituency to monitor and evaluate J4C performance against commitments

J4C outcomes within the Justice system

- ❖ Rights of children integrated into the Justice system reforms in planning, implementation and monitoring;
- ❖ Increased awareness of roles, functions and standards of service delivery at the DCC level leading to quality responses to cases of children;
- ❖ Good practices for J4C documented, shared and picked up for national reform to enhance service delivery in the justice system
- ❖ Coherent and harmonized system responsive to children in conflict with the law, those at risk of violence or in need of protection at the national and implementation level.

Intended Results for Children

Improved Access to JLOS Services

of children being served by key JLOS institutions, by age, sex, justice claim, rights violation/offence/issue, service provided, outcome



Indicators

- ❖ *# of child victims of violence served by the justice law and order system, disaggregated by age, gender, location, rights violation/offence, JLOS institution, service and outcome in the last 12 months.*
- ❖ *No of cases involving sexual violence in the formal justice system as a proportion of the total number of cases*
- ❖ *# of children arrested during a 12 month period per 100,000 child population*
- ❖ *# of children in police detention per 100,000 child population; # of children in remand per 100,000 child population*

Better Services by the system

Indicators

- ❖ *Time spent in detention by children before or after sentencing*
- ❖ *Duration from date of filing to completion*
- ❖ *No of cases involving sexual violence that qualify to be backlog cases*
- ❖ *% of children in conflict with the law diverted from formal judicial proceedings*

Quality of Services

Key JLOS duty bearers respect children's due process in accordance with Children Act (and future Amendments)



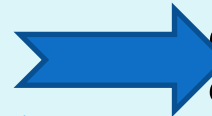
Better protection by the system

Better protection by the system

Children's homes, justice and other care institutions monitored for compliance with minimum standards of care for children, including violence-free environment

Indicators

- ❖ *# of JLOS institutions that have child friendly and gender responsive procedures or standards of practice for children who come into contact with the law as victims, witnesses, alleged offenders or who require care, custody or protection*
- ❖ *% of children in conflict with the law receiving a non-custodial sentence*
- ❖ *% of children in police detention not wholly separated from adults*
- ❖ *Established CSO' coalition promoting demand for JLOS services , and the respect of human and child rights.*



Issues emerging from programme implementation

Dysfunctional information management system

- ❖ Data on children is lacking, the exact number of children served by the system cannot be established
- ❖ Offender profiling is lacking
- ❖ Manual system of data handling and analysis
- ❖ Age determination, population statistics, movement controls and offender tracking are a challenge.
- ❖ There is no effort to monitor services to children who come into the system.

Ineffective service institutions

- ❖ Lack of professionalism among key actors like Police, probation workers and community leaders
- ❖ Insufficient funding and infrastructural facilities
- ❖ Gap between law and practice e.g. child to child defilement is not handled according to the provisions of the law.
- ❖ Failure to prioritize cases of children
- ❖ Inexistent medical facilities for victims of violence

Status of children's cases in Mbale- January- October 2011

Offence	Cases reported	Cases under inquiry	Cases detected	Cases in court	No. of convictions	Cases dismissed	Cases pending
Neglect	853	514	306	32	2	-	31
Desertion	316	167	138	12	2	-	9
Stealing	18	16	40	8	2	-	3
Trafficking	2	-	-	2	-	-	2
Abduction	98	83	13	2	-	-	2

Offences	Cases reported	Cases under inquiry	Cases detected	Cases in court	No. of convictions	Cases dismissed	Cases pending
Defilement	2107	1572	227	308	23	3	276
Child abuse	206	98	89	19	4	-	15
Infanticide	5	1	1	3	-	1	-
Kidnap	7	6	-	1	-	-	1
Abortion	21	17	3	1	-	-	1
Child disappearance	153	80	73	-	-	-	-
Grand total	3786	2599	890	388	32	04	341

Inadequate child care facilities in JLOS institutions

- ❖ Insufficient financial resources for the remand homes
- ❖ Lack of basic facilities like 3 meals a day, medical, learning, playing facilities and lack of transport to court
- ❖ Deficiency in human resource in remand homes
- ❖ Inadequate or total lack of holding facilities at the police

Community knowledge of child rights

- ❖ Community and parents lack of knowledge of children rights
- ❖ Ignorance of existing community structures that handle children issues and powers to practice diversion

Results so far??

Results are work in progress. Worth noting;

- ❖ Strong legislative and Policy framework;
- ❖ Capacity development to raise the standards;
- ❖ Priority given to children's issues in JLOS SIP III and Judiciary SIP III;
- ❖ System support through on the spot technical assistance;
- ❖ Justice for Children Structures at national and sub-national level
- J4C steering Committee and District Chain Linked Committee-
J4C Working Committees;
- ❖ Expansion of service points for children in the Judiciary – grant of jurisdiction to Magistrate Grade 1 over Children's issues;
- ❖ High top level leadership buy into the programme