

## **CCFC – Safeguarding Project Summary** **Project Rationale**

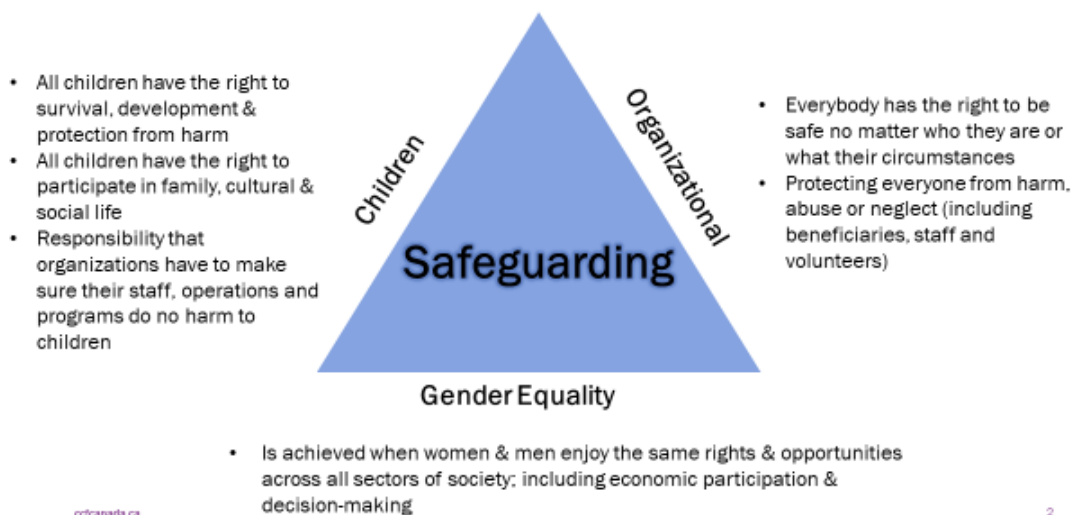
At Christian Children’s Fund of Canada, we believe it is our responsibility to provide a safe environment for the children we serve, the staff we engage, and to do so within workplaces and practices that celebrate and actively promote gender equality.

Recently, there have been multiple media reports concerning the conduct of some INGO staff, including in the aftermath of the Haiti earthquake of 2010-11. The stark reality of what has been reported (and the other significant instances) calls us all to examine our practices and pro-actively identify ways we take action to address similar risks. The reality of the work in which we are engaged, the vulnerable individuals and communities who are entrusted to our care and the staff and volunteers who contribute their skills and commitment are all deserving of a robust and comprehensive safeguarding program.

The organization has made deep investment in the protection of children in our programs; however, we recognize we are lagging in investment in organizational safeguarding and gender equality.

## **Core Project Anchors**

Safeguarding – Board Meeting March 18-19, 2018





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Based on how we understand our priorities, opportunities and risks, we have identified three core anchors for the Safeguarding Project:

### ***Child Safeguarding***

- *All children have the right to survival, development and protection from harm;*
- *Children have the right to full participation in family, cultural and social life;*
- *We have a responsibility to ensure our staff, our partners, our operational practices and programs do no harm;*

### ***Organizational Safeguarding***

- *Everyone for whom we have responsibility (program participants, staff, volunteers, donors) has the right to safety;*
- *The organization protects children, staff and volunteers from physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, violence, and neglect.*

### ***Gender Equality***

- *Within our scope of ability, we will challenge and dismantle systemic oppression, gender stereo-types, and vulnerability to all forms of harassment, that impacts gender equality;*
- *Gender equality will be achieved when men and women have the same rights, privileges, and opportunities for full participation, including economic participation, and enjoy full inclusion in discourse and decision-making.*

### **Key Questions for Alliance CEOs**

1. Is there a need for child focused organizations like ChildFund, to adopt a more holistic approach to safeguarding?
2. Since an opportunity exists for Alliance members to go beyond taking a risk based approach, what best practices can we emulate from the aid sector and/or other sectors?



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3. In the meantime, what can the Alliance do to:
  - a. Enhance child safeguarding policies and protocols
  - b. Strengthen program country office (operational) capacity in the specific area of child safeguarding
  - c. Enable members to collaborate in efforts to reform recruitment and vetting processes to prevent offenders from moving between organizations?