

**Terms of Reference Task Force on Child Protection in Humanitarian Action & Disaster Risk Reduction
Updated January 2021**

Background

Three strategic priorities underpin the ChildFund Alliance Five-Year Strategic Plan for the period 2016-2021, [Toward a Safe World for Children](#):

1. advance the achievement of target 16.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and related targets;
2. improve our capacity for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action and Disaster Risk Reduction; and
3. strengthen our membership engagement and growth.

The Alliance CEOs have approved the establishment of three Task Forces on these themes, which reports to the Secretariat, guided by a clear Terms of Reference (TOR), work plan and milestones. This TOR refers to #2, the Task Force on Child Protection in Humanitarian Action and Disaster Risk Reduction.

The Strategic Plan calls on the Alliance to develop its competencies and profile to be a leader in community-led Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and an expert in Child Protection in Humanitarian Action. To these ends, the Task Force aims to build cohesion across the Alliance in approaches to DRR and CPHA, leveraging our collective experience and resources.

Child Protection in Humanitarian Action and Disaster Risk Reduction

Child Protection in Humanitarian Action is defined in the Child Protection Minimum Standards as the prevention of and response to abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence against children in humanitarian action (CPMS 2019).

Disaster Risk Reduction is work that seeks to diminish damage caused by natural hazards such as earthquakes, floods, droughts and cyclones, as well as the risks posed by climate change, though an ethic of prevention. It seeks to reduce vulnerability and strengthen resilience at all levels. As a child-focused network, ChildFund's DRR work emphasizes reducing protection risks for children and maximizing the meaningful participation of adolescents and youth in a manner, that does no harm.

Rationale

Around the world, millions of children's safety and wellbeing is put at risk by a range of slow and fast onset emergencies. The world has experienced a marked increase in humanitarian crises and complex emergencies, with conflicts and natural disasters exacerbated by climate change and urbanization. At least 79.5 million people have been forced to flee their homes. Amongst them are nearly 26 million refugees, around half of whom are under the age of 18¹. The world's failure to prepare for natural disasters will have severe consequences as climate change fuels a huge increase in catastrophic droughts and floods and the humanitarian crises that follows.

In times of crisis, children face an increased risk of all forms of violence and exploitation, including family separation, trafficking, recruitment in armed forces, and physical and sexual abuse.

¹ <https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/figures-at-a-glance.html>

Purpose

The purpose of the Task Force is to provide guidance and coordination to support the CPHA & DRR objectives and activities of the Alliance.

Membership

The Task Force is a cross-functional group of specialists with child protection, emergency management, and/or DRR programmatic expertise. It may enlist consultants and will include a mechanism for involving outside experts not employed by ChildFund member agencies. In particular the group will include a representative(s) from the Terre des Hommes, an INGO network with significant CPHA experience internationally, with whom ChildFund Alliance has a Collaboration Framework.

The Alliance Advisor, CPHA & DRR, housed within the Secretariat, shall convene the Task Force and support and coordinate its functioning. All Member agencies of ChildFund Alliance are invited to appoint staff from their headquarters and program country offices to participate in the Task Force. The selection should reflect the group's mandate to build cohesion across the Alliance in approaches to DRR and CPHA. Specialists representing external institutions may also be invited to participate in an advisory capacity based on expertise relevant to the priorities of the Task Force.

The following staff persons have been designated as of January 2021:

Organization	Name	Email
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ChildFund Korea	Wonki Oh	cfk.wkoh@gmail.com
ChildFund New Zealand	Quenelda Clegg	Quenelda@childfund.org.nz
Children Believe	Dr. Feleke Tadele	ftadele@Childrenbelieve.ca
Educo	Maria Civit	maria.civit@educo.org
Secretariat	Faith Nimineh	fnimineh@childfundalliance.org
Terre des Hommes	Sophie Barbey	sophie.barbey@tdh.ch

Meetings

The Task Force convenes roughly once per month on Zoom. In-person meetings will be planned annually to coincide with other Alliance meetings in order to minimize travel costs associated with participation. When the group, or a subset of the group, decides to meet in person, all members of ChildFund Alliance, similar to the dues structure, will share the cost for the meetings.

Timespan

The Task Force shall operate in accordance with the *Five-Year Strategic Plan* timeframe, through the end of fiscal year 2021. The Secretary General will conduct an informal review of the Task Force at the end of each fiscal year to assess progress and make recommendations for adjusting its scope of work or

strengthening the Task Force the following fiscal year. Fiscal years span July 1 through June 30.

CPIE & DRR Objectives & Activities from the *Five-Year Strategic Plan*

1. Improve Child Protection in Emergencies Interventions
Activities 1.1 Develop local capacity in emergency response with a focus on preparedness 1.2 Coordinate innovative research projects on CPHA 1.3 Collect and systematize evidence from members' programs
2. Improve alliance-wide response for large-scale emergencies
Activities 2.1 Strengthen the mechanism for collective humanitarian action among Alliance member agencies 2.2 Explore partnerships with expert agencies in CPHA and DRR
3. Mainstream DRR into regular programming and community development
Activities 3.1 Incorporate DRR strategies into development processes
4. Build on successful youth-led DRR models
4.1 Identify innovations in youth DRR, undertaking new research as necessary 4.2 Members develop capacity for youth DRR

These Objectives and activities are currently being review by members of the Task Force

Scope of Work

The Task Force was formed in July 2017 and its initial focused on guiding the development of a short-term work plan. Subsequent work plans were developed in the years that followed. The Task Force members are in the process of reviewing its current workplan from 2019-2020 to develop an updated workplan for 2020-2021.

The Task Force will ensure its activities are tailored to the resources, expertise, programs and structure of ChildFund national offices. Members will participate in and guide this process as follows:

- Contribute to the development and implementation of workplans and a road map for capacity development.
- Participate in monthly calls and periodic face-to-face meetings.
- Guide the testing and finalization of any tools that may be developed.
- Share updates with colleagues in Member agencies as to Task Force initiatives and progress. (Ongoing)
- Contribute DRR and CPHA-related updates from the field or HQ level for a related newsletter. (Ongoing)