

Review of the Regional Framework for the Protection of Refugee Children in

KENYA

INTRODUCTION

On 15th December 2013, violence broke out in South Sudan's capital, Juba, and quickly spread to other locations in the country. The conflict has resulted in the wide-spread displacement inside and outside Sudan. 1.5 million people are internally displaced, and over 547,000 have fled to neighbouring countries. If the violence continues, it is expected these numbers will rise to 1.9 million internally displaced and 821,000 South Sudanese refugees by the end of 2015. By end of May 2015, Kenya hosts 46,057 new arrivals since the outbreak of the conflict. In total, there are 91,296 South Sudanese refugees in Kenya.

During the first months of 2014, child protection partners decided to jointly develop a *Regional Framework for the Protection of South Sudanese and Sudanese Refugee Children*, to provide a common vision for child protection in Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda. The framework was set for a one year period (May 2014-June 2015), after which it should be reviewed and updated.

This document is the initial report of the Regional Framework review mission which was conducted 27-29 May 2015 by reviewers from UNHCR, UNICEF, World Vision and Plan International. The review team conducted a total of 8 focus group discussions with 133 refugee leaders, community structures, children and youth, and 3 meetings with 20 representatives of child protection stakeholders from the Turkana County government, UN agencies and NGOs.

68% of the Sudanese refugees in Kakuma are **children**

10% of the South Sudanese refugee children are **separated or unaccompanied**

16 % of South Sudanese refugees in Kakuma have specific needs

OBJECTIVES OF THE CP REGIONAL FRAMEWORK

1. Ensure that all refugee girls and boys are **registered individually** and documented with the relevant authorities.
2. Ensure that refugee girls and boys have access to **child friendly procedures**.
3. Ensure that refugee girls and boys are **protected from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation** at home, in the community and when in contact with humanitarian services.
4. Ensure that **girls and boys with specific needs** are identified, prioritised and provided ongoing, appropriate, and targeted support.
5. Improve the protection and wellbeing of refugee children and adolescents through **education**.

COORDINATION

Since the largest majority of the South Sudanese refugees currently in Kenya are in Kakuma camp, coordination of the child protection (CP) response to South Sudanese refugees in Sudan has mainly taken place in that location. All partners highlighted the close collaboration among the different operational and implementation partners (OPs and IPs), and the fact that planning (including mapping of activities and budget analysis) is done jointly. Partners have made efforts to bring in additional funding, strengthening the capacity and outreach of the CP programme. The strong coordination has also been possible by the recruitment of a full-time CP UNHCR staff.

"THANK YOU FOR COMING, BECAUSE I FEEL I AM AN IMPORTANT PERSON NOW. I WISH TO HAVE PEACE IN SOUTH SUDAN AND GO HOME."

REFUGEE BOY, KAKUMA, MAY 2015

Partners stressed as particularly positive the drafting process conducted at the end of 2014 of the Kakuma Inter-agency Child and Youth Protection Strategy (2015-2016), which provides a common strategic vision and objectives for the child protection response, based on the *Regional Framework for the Protection of South Sudanese and Sudanese Refugee Children*, as well as on the global UNHCR *Framework for the Protection of Children*

Finally, in response to the gap identified in 2014 in terms of coordination with other sectors, particularly with Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Education, quarterly meetings have been arranged for 2015 and cross-cutting activities have been identified in the strategy.

MEETING FRAMEWORK OBJECTIVES

Child protection actors, including UN agencies, NGO partners and government officials were asked what they considered to be the achievements, gaps and priorities for the child protection response to South Sudanese refugees in Kenya. This section maps their responses against the objectives of the Regional Framework, highlighting the issues which were most frequently cited. The priorities mentioned below are also those put forward by partners in the different discussions.

In general, Registration (Objective 1) was identified as the area where more progress has been done, followed by Child Friendly Procedures (Objective 2), Protection from Violence (Objective 3), and Education (Objective 5). In contrast, Children with Specific Needs was identified as the area where there is more room for improvement (Objective 4).

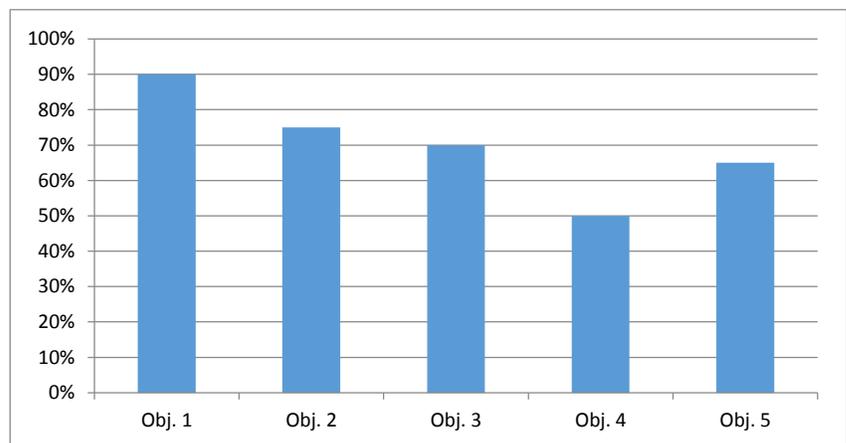


Figure 1: Self-assessment for extent to which needs are met in each objective

OBJECTIVE 1: REGISTRATION

Achievements

The *full individual registration of all children* was mentioned as a great success. All registration or screening points have child protection personnel or focal points, all registration staff has been trained on CP, and 105 national staff and Community Development Workers (CDW) have been trained on CP and registration procedures.

100% of children have been identified and registered in UNHCR's proGres database system, and there is a mechanism to identify, screen, and prioritize children at risk at the registration points. Similarly, all unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) and other children with special needs have also been identified and registered in the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS), managed by LWF in collaboration with UNICEF. *Child protection desks* have been set up at the border and in the reception center.

All 4 screening or registration points have child protection personnel

All 17 Government and UNHCR registration staff has been trained on CP

4,698 of refugee children in Kakuma under 12 months have birth certificates*

**Not available breakdown for South Sudanese*

Birth registration is ongoing in the camp, thanks to the existence of an adequate legal framework (2012 Birth Registration Act), which provides similar procedures for refugees' registration, as those for nationals. Birth notifications are provided in health centers, and Civil Registry carries out quarterly visits to Kakuma to issue birth registration notes.

Challenges

During 2014, particularly in the first semester after the outbreak of the conflict where there was a peak in new arrivals, the registration of vulnerable children in the *CPIMS suffered a backlog*. However, this was later overcome as the structures to address the emergency were set up and further strengthened. Partners also identified *mismatches between the figures in proGres and CPIMS*, despite efforts to harmonize the data of both of them.

In regards to *birth registration*, and despite the clear legal and policy framework, there are challenges in ensuring efficient and prompt civil registration and documentation for the refugee population in Kakuma due to competing work exigencies for the Civil Registrar Office in Lodwar whose jurisdiction covers the vast Turkana County. The absence of a permanent presence of the Department of Civil Registration in Kakuma has prevented expeditious birth registration, as visits only take place on a quarterly basis.

Priorities

- Harmonization of proGres data
- Use of prioritization criteria for the case follow ups after registration
- Building staff capacity

- Strengthening networks with government structures
- Training on modalities of birth and death registration facilitated by the Civil Registrar for medical practitioners at health facilities, birth registration and local chiefs

OBJECTIVE 2: CHILD-FRIENDLY PROCEDURES

Achievements

Great progress has also been made on this objective. *Child protection desks* have been set up at the border and in the reception center. The Kakuma CP strategy acknowledge the need to increase the number of CP desks to 8, and plans are in place for their set up. The need Child Protection staff follows up on children's individual cases from the moment of the registration, ensuring adequate referral to services. *Trainings* have been conducted regularly on general CP, psychosocial first aid (for 50 participants), and on communication with children (as a Training of Trainers) for different stakeholders including police, partners, teachers, block leaders, community structures, children, and youth.

2 CP desks have been established at the transit and reception center, benefiting 8,803 children

Great efforts have also been made to ensure *meaningful participation of children* in the planning and implementation of activities, supported by a specific Objective in the CP Kakuma strategy related to participation. In Kakuma, children have been consulted in the participatory assessments (using the Age Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming approach) in which 240 children participated, as well as in the rapid child protection assessment developed in the beginning of the emergency, and in the assessments done on case management and on child labour. *Two hotlines* have been established in Kakuma, one for refugees and one for the host community, and are managed by LWF. *A formal complaints and feedback mechanism* has been set up in the camp, under which complaints submitted by children are to be responded to within 14 days¹. There are plans to set up *complaints and feedback mechanism* boxes in all primary schools and youth centers.

Challenges

Partners acknowledged that despite the efforts, there are areas and sectors where child friendly procedures could be better mainstreamed. Currently the UNHCR registration unit is incorporated within the UNHCR offices, away from the areas where the refugees are, and without adequate specific space for children. Plans are in place to set up a registration outreach offices closer to the refugee settlements with a specific space for children.

Mainstreaming CP across all sectors remains also a pending task. Shelter provision is a challenge overall given the congestion of the camp and lack of enough shelter materials available. In this context, and given

¹ There are focal points that were communicated to the community/children whom they can approach. There are also complain and feedback boxes in the community/youth centres. In in order to ensure a better access for children, teachers have been trained and focal point designated in schools. Talk boxes will also be set up in all primary and secondary schools & youth centres.

the large needs for the overall population, CP partners have struggled to ensure the shelter allocation for UASC, including teenage mothers, is considered as a priority. Finally, partners also recognized that, despite the efforts to ensure active engagement of children, their participation is oftentimes limited to activities specifically designed for children, but not in the general governance camp structures.

Priorities

- Operationalization of 6 additional CP desks in every camp
- Targeted training on child friendly procedures

OBJECTIVE 3: CHILDREN ARE PROTECTED FROM VIOLENCE

Achievements

Partners highlighted the efforts for the strengthening of the community based structures in Kakuma, as the main strategy for the prevention of violence. In the camp, there are 75 CDW who do identification and referral, and who support community based structures such the child protection committee at zonal level. *95 Child Rights Clubs* have been active in promoting children's participation and empowerment, providing a platform for community based activities where the voices of children are heard. *Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials* have been developed and over 1,018 activities have been carried out within the community, involving 20,492 children. There is also a specific radio programme on Saturdays, which broadcasts the views and voices of children recorded through the week, and that, according to a survey, is listened to by 50% of the refugee population.

20,492 children have been reached
with child protection messages
19 % of the children have
participated in CFS

Several initiatives have been carried out with youth around *peace building* and peaceful co-existence and prevent violence, through art performance, sport and community dialogue. Also, *children and youth* are provided with multiple opportunities for recreation and play, not only through the 8 Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) operating in Kakuma, but also through the organization of sport groups, the set-up of play grounds, and provision of recreational materials.

Challenges

Partners identified Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV), as the main gap in this objective, stressing the concerns around the low levels of reporting, and the cultural aspects that surround this issue. Also, partners acknowledge the need for further training and specialization of staff on psychosocial counselling. Finally, partners highlighted the need to increase the outreach of the CFS so that more children can access those spaces.

"CHILDREN HAVE TRAUMAS, THEY WITHDRAW, SOME HAVE NO GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CAREGIVERS. THEY DON'T LISTEN THE ADVICE. THEY FEEL THEY ARE BIG, BUT THEY ARE SMALL"

REFUGEE LEADER KAKUMA, MAY 2015

OBJECTIVE 4: TARGETED SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS

Achievements

LWF coordinates a solid *case management system*, under which specific case workers are attached to a specific area. CPIMS is regularly updated, and the information of proGres and CPIMS is compared and used to update both databases once a year. Best Interest Assessment (BIA) is conducted upon registration, using the CPIMS formats, and a Best Interest Determination Panel (BID Panel) has been set up and meets on a regular basis to deliberate and decide on the most complex cases.

5,535 Best interest assessments have been finalized for 100% of the UASC South Sudan refugee children

A range of programmes are available for different population groups. 108 *teenager* mothers benefit from income generating activities, and 7459 children benefit from *early childhood education*. Efforts are also ongoing to strengthen the follow-up of foster care placements, including through the formalization of care arrangements through a judge order. Kakuma CP partners also have been quite successful in managing in-country tracing activities: 805 children (601 male and 204 female), have been reunified within Kakuma, and 8 with their family in Juba, through the ICRC.

Finally, in regards to children victims of abuses, including SGBV, 568 children survivors have been identified, and referred for assistance. Also, there are “*safe havens*” operational in Kakuma for children at risk, which provide an immediate response for the most complex CP cases.

Challenges

Currently there are Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in Kakuma. Partners recognized the need to revise and make the current documents more operational. Despite the investment and efforts on the set up of a data base case management system, *capacities to do adequate follow up* was identified as a gap, and as a consequence, timely access of children to services. For children with special needs, adequate programmes and responses for *disable children* were mentioned as the main gap. Partners mentioned the need to mainstream disability within all partners and services, as for the moment interventions are focused on services mainly medical offered by Handicap International and JRS.

“WE HAVE NOTHING TO DO, AND AS A RESULT WE HAVE TEENAGE MOTHERS”

REFUGEE FEMALE ADOLESCENT, KAKUMA, MAY 2015

“SOMETIMES THE WAR CAN COME AT ANY TIME, EVEN WITHIN THE CAMP, THERE IS CONFLICT BETWEEN PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT ETHNIC GROUPS. AS PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY, WE CANNOT RUN AWAY. IT IS A PROBLEM”

MALE REFUGEE ADOLESCENT. KAKUMA. MAY 2015

The arrangement of *foster care placements* for adolescents was also mentioned as an important challenge. This has been partially arranged by the set-up of some home groups for these children.

SGBV underreporting was also mentioned as a key challenge, allegedly due to inadequate knowledge of where to report to, fear of stigma or reprisal, cultural norms, and lack of trust in institutions such as the police. Finally, partners reported that the *safe haven* centers have operated to their maximum capacity for a long time, without capacity to admit new cases. One of the reasons is the lack of exit protocols, which leads to many of the children and women staying for prolonged periods of time, not due to the continuation of the risk factor, but due to the lack of alternatives.

Priorities

- Harmonization of SOPs
- Additional adolescent related activities
- Improve support to foster parents and community participation
- Community awareness in connection to UASC and tracing services
- Improve cross border FTR

OBJECTIVE 5: ACCESS TO EDUCATION

Achievements

Partners highlighted the efforts undertaken to ensure that education acts as a protection factor for the children. Two teachers per school have been *trained* on gender responsive pedagogies to ensure that schools are girls friendly, and social workers have been assigned to each school. Also, 30 teachers were supported to complete the diploma on “Training of Trainers: psychosocial training for a safe educational environment”, from Haifa University, and 120 teachers were trained on psychosocial approaches to education. Plans are in place to train 150 teachers on CP and SGBV in the second semester of the year.

Education enrolment is **65%**

120 teachers have been trained on psychosocial support and child protection

To retain girls in school and increase the enrolment of girls specific initiatives targeting girls have been developed such as girls boarding schools (Angeline Jolie and Montchapel), scholarship programme, distribution of sanitary kits, uniforms and solar lamps, remedial classes and community mobilizers who track and follow up drops out children especially girls, and

Challenges

The main challenge is related to school coverage. 46% of school-age children are not attending school, the two existing primary schools are extremely congested, and there are no secondary schools in the area. DRC is providing some scholarships for secondary education outside the camp, but they are far from what is required.

Priorities

- Increase infrastructures to decongest the existing facilities

- Increase enrolment of primary school out of school learners
- Alternative learning programmes for over-aged learners
- Set up new secondary school to increase the enrolment
- Improve WASH facilities in schools
- Increase the number of teachers and give them training opportunities to improve quality of education.

BEST PRACTICES IN KAKUMA

- In regards to **registration and case management**, an integral system that economizes procedures and ensures follow up on children has been successfully put in place. - UASC and other vulnerable children are identified at the reception center, accompanied by CP staff through the process, and have special procedures (including accelerated access to individual registration on a specific day). There is a child protection desk at the reception center in Kakuma to receive, asses (through BIAs), and refer children for further assistance. BIAs are done immediately upon registration, using CPIMS formats, and all cases are entered into the CPIMS (using the proGres individual number as a unique reference code).
- In Kakuma, several initiatives offer meaningful possibilities for the refugee children **to provide** feedback and seek help. Two hotlines have been set up, one for refugees and one for the host community. A formal complaints and feedback mechanism has been set up in the camp, under which complaints submitted by children are to be responded to within 14 days. Complain and feedback boxes have been set up in the community and youth centers. There are plans to set up talk boxes in all primary and secondary schools, and teachers have been already trained to learn how to handle and refer these cases.
- For **tracing** of the parents and relatives of UASC, information on children with tracing needs is regularly shared among CP partners, UNHCR and ICRC. LWF, the main CP partner, has managed to carry out 805 inter-camp family reunifications. Kenya Red Cross provides regular feedback on the outcomes of the tracing activities conducted, and also on the quality of the referrals made by partners.

FEEDBACK FROM REFUGEES AND HOST COMMUNITY

Priority issues for refugees

In discussions with refugee children and adults, several issues came up repeatedly. Most of the groups identified SGBV as the main issue of concern, mentioning incidents of sexual assault and even rape, which are reportedly aggravated by the overall context of impunity.

"I WAS SEPARATED FROM MY MOTHER DURING THE WAR. THERE WERE BOMBS AT SCHOOL, EVERYWHERE. MANY PEOPLE DIED. I DON'T KNOW WHERE MY FAMILY IS. WE WERE TAKEN IN A LORRY, I ASKED FOR MY MOTHER, BUT THEY TOLD ME TO COME. SO MANY BOMBS, MANY PEOPLE DIED. I CAN'T SLEEP. I WORRY"

REFUGEE BOY, KAKUMA, MAY 2015

"I CAME WITH MY BROTHER AND SISTER. WE RAN AWAY, WE WENT TO JUBA, THEN TO KAKUMA. NOBODY HELPS YOU. (...). WE HAVE A LOT OF STRESS. WE GO TO SCHOOL, WE DON'T HAVE UNIFORM. IN SCHOOL THEY TELL YOU TO GO ASK YOUR NEIGHBOURS, LET THEM GIVE YOU UNIFORM. WE HAVE NO PARENTS, WE JUST STAY HERE, NO ONE TO ASK, NO ONE AT HOME TO COOK FOR FOOD, YOU WORRY AT NIGHT, WHEN..."

REFUGEE GIRL, KAKUMA, MAY 2015

Also, children without parental care, child labor and early marriage, were identified by both partners, refugee and host community as pressing concerns. *Child labor* and exploitation is prominent among both

refugee and host community children. Refugee children carry out paid activities inside the camp, as well as outside, which has led to a number of children to move regularly to Lodwar city for work. Reportedly, there are also around 1,000 children from host communities who enter the camp on a daily basis to work there.

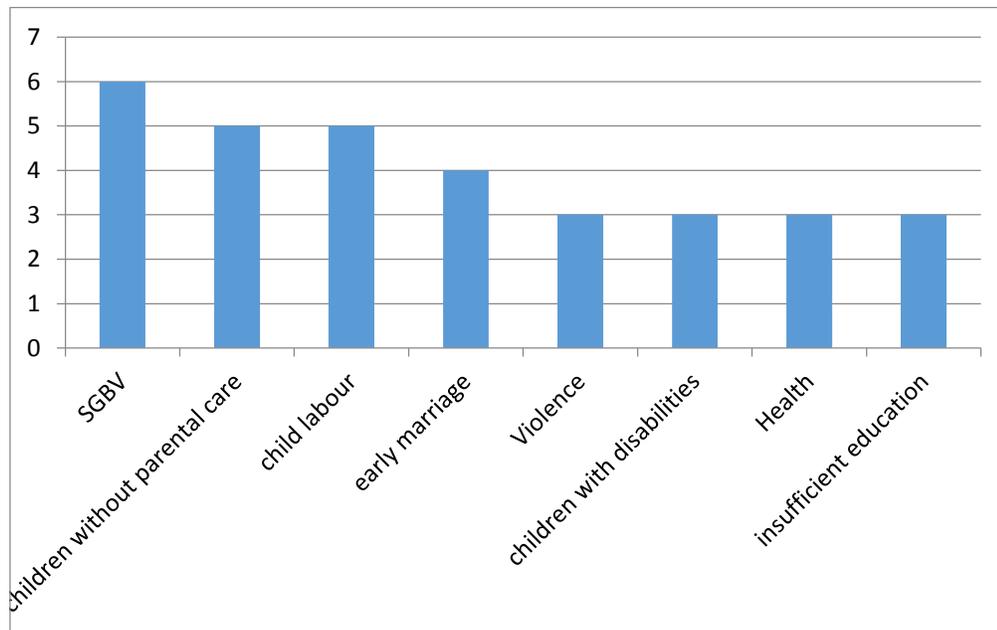


Figure 2: Priority issues for refugees and host community

Both adults and children also gave testimonies that gave an account of the magnitude of the problem of *family separation*, and the hardships UASCs face. In a focus group with 22 children (10 girls and 12 boys), for example, 19 of them reported to be unaccompanied children, and two of them to have moved to Kakuma with relatives (separated children).

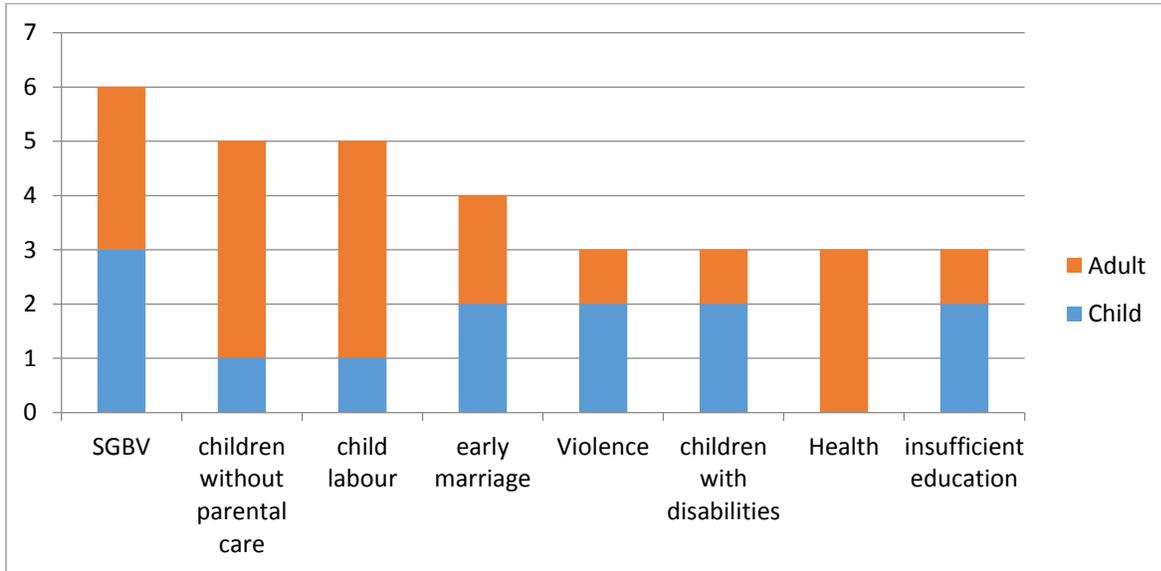


Figure 3: Priority issues for refugees and host community, disaggregated by children/adults

It is interesting to see the difference in answers between adults and children. Children mentioned *SGBV* the most, but then they equally referred to *early marriage, violence, children with disabilities and insufficient education*. For the later component, children referred to several issues related to education, including the need of access to scholastic materials, congestion of classes and lack of seats, and also lack of scholarships. Children also reported incidents of ill-treatment when in the school.

"IT HELPED ME TO TURN AROUND STRESS. IF THEY TELL ME NOW NEGATIVE THINGS, LIKE YOU ARE UGLY, I DON'T CARE ANYMORE, BECAUSE NOW I THINK I AM BEAUTIFUL. I NOW FORGET ALL AND I LEARN HOW TO DO KINDNESS."

"BEFORE WE HAD A LOT OF THINGS IN OUR MIND. NOW WE CAN COUNSEL EVEN OTHERS"

REFUGEE FEMALE ADOLESCENTS. KAKUMA. MAY 2015

Finally, it is worth to stress the mention of 'emotional abuse' and lack of assumption of responsibility by the foster care families reported in the discussion with refugees. This was reported in relation to cases of negligence and ill-treatment, especially at home, and likely linked to stress and trauma. It is worth noting that when children were asked about who they went to in order to seek help when confronted with a problem, they mentioned block leaders, teachers and "Child Protection" (actors), but never families.

Feedback on the response

In focus group discussions, refugees mentioned more often services related to case management, school, play, distributions (particularly of Non-Food Items (NFIs)), police, and counselling.

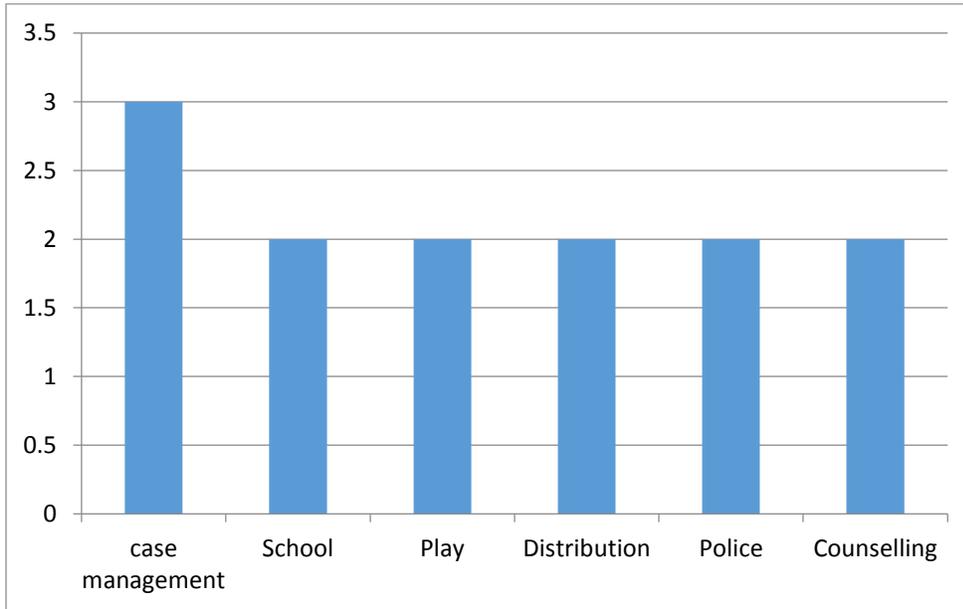


Figure 4: Services identified more often by refugees and host community

As it can be observed in the graph, which shows the services that were identified by the community that need improvement, play opportunities and materials for cultural opportunities were also on top of the list, particularly for children. Several of the respondents highlighted the importance of having CP field offices at the camp level, as well as the attention to children with disabilities.

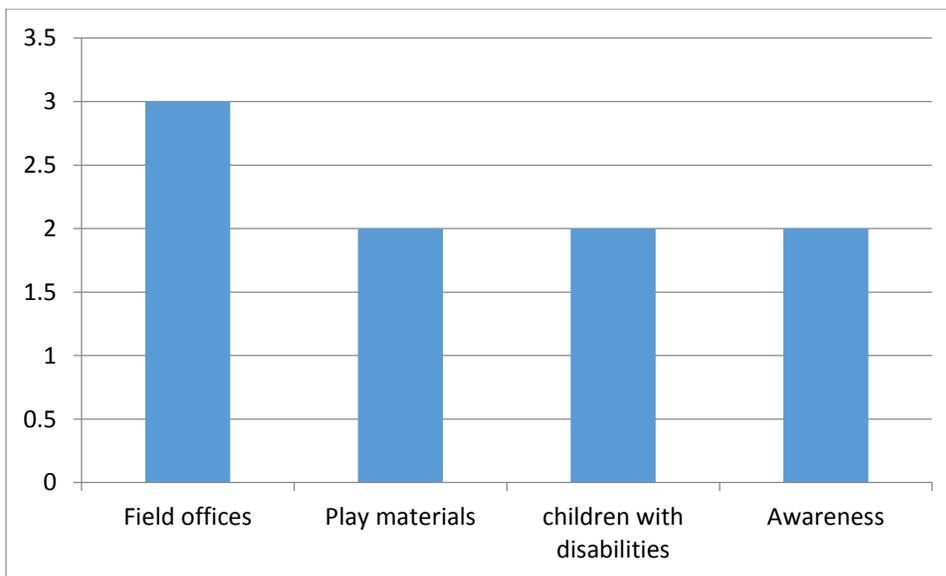


Figure 5: Areas for improvement according to refugees and host community

For the service providers, leaders and host community, the main areas of concern were the lack of awareness on some child protection concerns, specially child labour and early marriage. Finally, several

refugees raised their concern about the lack of opportunities for resettlement, and the length of the best interest determination process, which they perceive could potentially delay the decision on resettlement.

In regards to the *host community*, they expressed mixed feelings regarding the presence of refugees. On the one hand, issues like the 10% allocation of school enrolment and access to health services, or the positive effect of food distribution on market prices and food variety, were highlighted as a positive aspect. However, environment degradation, or the increase of child labour, were pointed out as the downside of the refugees' presence in the region. Finally, the host community also shared the concern of children born from mixed marriages between South Sudanese and Kenyans, who have been left with a single parent (mainly the mothers), due to the return of the South Sudanese to their country of origin.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE INTERAGENCY TEAM

- **Develop joint CP and Education funding initiatives, and explore funding opportunities.** A large number of CP staff has been recruited under emergency funds, which will end in October 2015, yet sustaining the level of staffing (backbone for the current solid CP programme) is critical. On the other hand, no integral protection will be achieved if enrolment rates are not improved, and for that, the increase of the education facilities is necessary.
- **Improve the linkages between the national CPWG and the Kakuma CPWG, and invest in measures to strengthen linkages between the national child protection system and refugee operations,** for example, by strengthening the engagement of local government authorities in best procedures, and the training of refugee social workers.
- **Set up child friendly facilities** in the registration rooms (interview rooms with toys and child activities), and establish child friendly desks or offices at the camp level.
- **Improve the case management system by reviewing the SOPs** for child protection, **reviewing and strengthening existing referral mechanisms,** and by the set-up of a system for better **coordination and harmonization of proGres, CPIMS and GBVIMS,** including the schedule of regular information exchange, and systems to address discrepancies between the different systems.
- **Strengthen systems to empower and build the capacity of the Child Rights clubs, Youth Groups, Child Protection Committees,** to ensure children's and youth's voices are taken into consideration in the decision making structures at the camp, and to increase their engagement in the identification and referral of children at risk and/or survivors.
- **Support the recreation community initiatives;** and increase the number and outreach of CFS, the areas of play, and provision of materials, with particular attention to girls and disabled children's needs.
- **Develop a specific strategy based on community dialogue with particular emphasis on SGBV and early marriage,** including an assessment to identify root causes of these harmful practices and cases of violence, and the development of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials with the participation of children and youth.

- **Strengthen the response to UASC**, by the provision of a targeted financial and material support to foster care families, and by further training potential parents and by establishing foster care parents reference groups. **In regards to tracing, disseminate better the tracing services of CP partners and restoration of family linkages services of ICRC**, and increase the efforts of all partners to improve the inter-camp tracing and reunification.
- **Develop a comprehensive programme for the prevention of child labour**, including sensitization campaigns between both refugee and host communities, strengthening community based child protection mechanisms, advocacy with government institutions.
- **Incorporate more specialized psychosocial programming** in CFS and other services for children who have experienced traumatic events.
- **Advocate for regular Children’s Court sittings.**
- **Prioritize programming for adolescents and youth**, and strengthen the conflict sensitive lens of the programme, scaling up the children and youth engagement in peace building programmes and in awareness sessions on conflict management
- **Strengthen the linkages between the CP system and Education**, by developing further the reporting and monitoring mechanism in the school, further training the CP focal points/counsellors, set up schedules for social workers assigned to regularly visit the school, and by increasing the capacity of children and youth on the identification of children at risk and referral to services.

FUTURE OF THE CHILD PROTECTION FRAMEWORK

In general, partners consulted were aware of the CP Framework (11/20). On average, participants rated the usefulness of the Regional Framework at 3.75 out of 5. It was mentioned that the Framework was useful as a “basis for programming”, for example in proposal writing. It was noted that the Regional Framework was very close to global frameworks, including those of UNHCR and UNICEF, but that it gave a regional perspective which is also useful, and that it provided some details on how to pursue some objectives.

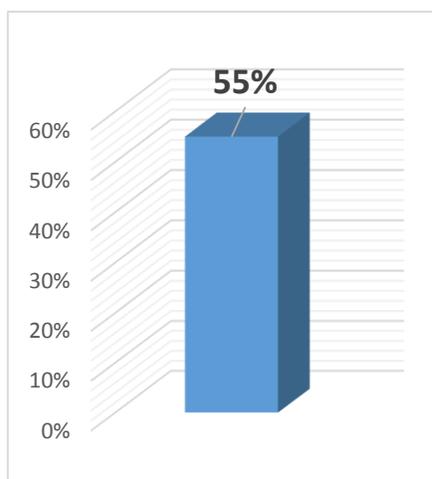


Figure 6: % of actors aware of the CP Regional Framework

However, there were also suggestions for improvement. First, partners highlighted the long period of time the framework took for its development. It was suggested to include a financial component, and to strengthen the dissemination efforts. Finally, the importance of reinforcing monitoring and information management in relation to response measurement was stressed, and the need to better link it with the Education and SGBV components.

ANNEX: A NOTE ON THE METHODOLOGY

The review used mixed methodologies in order to probe different aspects of the response and to triangulate the responses received. Secondary data review, meetings and group discussions with refugees and child protection actors, and observations were used as the principle sources of information. Throughout, the design of the methodology has been guided by the purpose of the exercise, which is not to evaluate the response, but rather to identify the individual successes and challenges in the response, the extent to which the response has been approached strategically and in a coordinated way, and the extent to which the regional framework has been useful.

The proposed review presented a number of methodological challenges – in particular, how to compare and consolidate information across a variety of locations, countries and respondents. In order to analyse the data effectively given limited time and resources, the review adopted several measures to structure information in such way as to make it more easily comparable. For secondary data, an indicator matrix was developed, which different operations were asked to fill in according to the information available to them. These matrices were also reviewed on location by a member of the review team with the focal point for the information in the specific location. For group discussions, several strategies were used. A ‘tag word’ approach was adopted for several questions, where essentially those conducting discussions were asked to assign no more than 5 tag words to capture the main issues raised. These tag words were then reviewed and cleaned at the end of the mission so that points relating to the same issue were grouped under the same tag, and tags were given definitions that were refined as the exercise went forward. A number of questions that asked respondents to assign a number to a particular question (either a rating or a percentage) were also introduced as a way to compare the relative positioning of issues across locations and countries.

The Review team conducted a total of **12 focus group discussions** with **224 refugee leaders, community structures, children and youth, and members of the host community**, and **9 meetings** with **40 representatives of child protection stakeholders** from the government, UN agencies and NGOs (see Table 1 below for details).

Number of participants		KENYA			
		#	M	F	Total
FGDs	Community	2	14	2	16
	Children	2	21	17	38
	Leaders	1	12	2	14
	Service	2	21	6	27
	Youth	2	28	13	41
	Sub-total FGD	9	96	40	136
Meetings	CP organisations	1	10	8	18
	Government	1	2	0	0
	Sector	0	0	0	0
	Sub-total MTG	1	10	8	18
Totals		10	108	48	154



THE
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LIMITATIONS

The principal limitations of this review are in its ambition: it is important to remember throughout that the review does not attempt to evaluate the response or even the Regional Framework, but rather to identify common achievements, challenges and ways forward. The findings of this review must therefore be seen as indicative rather than definitive. The review was limited especially in time (often only one day spent in a location to collect information), and in resources (review team size varied from 1 to 8 persons, but only one person was constant for all of the missions). In terms of the methodology, the approaches adopted in terms of ‘tag words’ (see above) and numerical ratings, while helpful in being able to compare issues across settings, are also very much of the ‘quick and dirty’ school of measurement. These approaches are inevitably subject to the lens of those persons assigning and cleaning the tag words, and – given that the discussions were conducted by a variety of different persons – ensuring consistency and faithfulness to the original discussions were often at odds. However, these limitations were, as much as possible, mitigated by taking extensive notes which could be referred back to check the original meaning of tag words, and by ensuring wherever possible that more than one person was involved in the discussions and assigning of tag words.