



## **CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING: UGANDA'S PEOPLE DEFENCE FORCE MONITORING EXPERIENCES**

CHILD PROTECTION IN PEACE SUPPORT OPERATIONS SYMPOSIUM,  
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# Presentation Outline

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- Project objectives
- Approaches to monitoring
- UPDF engagement
- Monitoring findings
- Way forward

# About the Stenghtening Child Protection in African Union Peace Support Operations

## Project objectives

1. Enhanced capacity on child protection and child rights of the troops to engage children and community in conflict situation.
2. Endorsement of the Training Standards on Child Protection and the Child Rights and Child Protection Training Toolkit by AU PSO for utilization by EASF and ECOWAS-SF
3. TCCs and TCEs adopt and institutionalize the Child Rights and Child Protection Training Toolkit for AU PSO.
4. A child protection knowledge management system is operational to support learning and sharing of good practices on AU PSO before, during and after conflict.

# Training Approaches

The project engages the TCCs and TCEs to roll out the child protection training for pre-deployment.

The course targets the following audiences:

1. Civil-Military Coordinators (CIMIC): - targeting Sector Commanders, Battalion Commanders and Mission Managers, as well as Military Observers, and Police: - Individual Police Officers (IPOs) and Formed Police Units (FPUs)
2. Designated Child Protection Advisers/ focal persons, civil affairs officers, social workers and Protection Cluster elements.
3. Legal officers
4. Trainers and Experts in methodology.
5. Substantive civilian and mission support personnel on rosters

# Need for project monitoring and evaluation

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MEAL approach overview (Moving beyond the basic M&E)

This emphasizes on the collection and use of data for;

1. Decision making
2. Accountability
3. Continual improvement (through the learning)

The backbone being building the capacity and culture of organizations to enhance understanding and execution of MEAL roles.

# Approaches to Monitoring Training

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- ❖ KAP assessments
- ❖ Feedback meetings
- ❖ Focus Group Discussion's (children and community)
- ❖ Stories of change (Capturing case studies and MSC stories)
- ❖ Documenting approaches

# Approaches to Monitoring Child Protection Training

- KAP assessments

Random assessments to the trainees on their level of knowledge, skills and practice in missions to assess the effectiveness of the training on child protection.

- Feedback meetings

Dialogue and feedback meetings create the opportunity to capture expressions from various respondents.

- FGD's (children and community)

The platforms create the opportunity of triangulating information from the forces on practices and the expected outcome from the child protection trainings.

# Approaches cont'd

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- Stories of change (Capturing case studies and MSC stories)

Capturing the various changes that have been evident in an area of intervention and picking out the most significant one. This approach monitors the achievement of both the intended and unintended outcomes.

- Documenting approaches

Approaches applied differ with the context, parties engaged and methodologies applied. This incorporates mapping out approaches that have been applied and succeeded for testing and use in other contexts to achieve the same goal.

# Training effectiveness evaluation: UPDF



*UPDF staff at a Save the Children ToT in May 2016*

- In the past UPDF was accused conducting grave violations against children
- UN security Council declared Uganda security forces free of children on 15 Sep 2009 (S/2009/462).
- Save the Children has been conducting CP training with UPDF since the early 1990s
- UPDF has a child protection unit that now guides how the forces interact with children
- Continues to register other significant achievements with regards to child protection

# Knowledge Sharing Approaches

- **Training parades:** military periodic discussion groups
- **Civilian Military Coordination Unit:** liaison office with the community that serves as a focal point for information sharing and engagement with the community
- **Community engagement forums:** Platforms for having dialogue with the community to enhance positive engagement and relations with the community.
- **Children Forums:** The forces have continued to engage the children through the community and also in schools where the military has operations. They also engage in awareness creation to children on child rights and child protection.



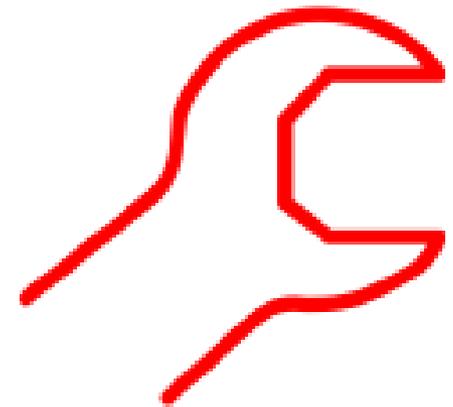
# Achievements

- Increased community and children participation (High understanding of their rights)
- Reporting (the result of this is clear referral pathways for cases reported)
- Improved relations between the community and the forces  
Perception has changed against the UPDF
- Positive change in behaviour  
This is realized across board from the forces members to the community and children.



# How can we build on the success?

- Scale-up of the trainings on child protection and child rights. Engaging more ToTs.
- CSO's networking and engagement in CP interventions in the target areas of operation.
- Strengthening information sharing and accountability systems; creation of information sharing models suitable for the target groups.
- Frequent monitoring to the mission areas.





### **Children Rights;**

*“Children have potential to achieve their dreams only if they are given the opportunity to achieve their rights fully. This could only happen by enhancing a violence free community.” –*

**Deputy Head Teacher Kasimeri  
Primary School - Moroto**



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Questions/ feedback?

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**THANK YOU**