



Community Level Child Protection Working Group, Myanmar Terms of Reference

The Child Protection Area of Responsibility, Myanmar

Introduction:

As international and national organizations strive to understand and build on existing capacities of communities to respond to child protection concerns and find ways to ensure sustainability of programs beyond the initial international engagement, it becomes increasingly important to reflect upon and strengthen our effectiveness when working with communities. As the Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (CPMS) Standard 17 state:

‘Community-level approaches support community members to protect children and ensure their right to healthy development. There is no ‘one-size-fits-all’ model. Humanitarian actors should seek to understand existing community capacities that promote children’s rights, safety, development, well-being and participation.’

Globally, and in Myanmar, understandings of community level child protection vary greatly. The typical community based child protection activities rely heavily on an agency-led approach. The CP AoR, Myanmar, seeks to expand and shift this approach to align with standard 17 of the CPMS and promote a less agency-led and a more community driven approach to CLCP. Recognising that supporting local approach(es) requires much time and commitment, with extensive listening, face-to-face research, and an awareness that CLCP will differ depending on the location and cultural specificities in different locations. The Community Level Child Protection Working Group was formed to focus on best and promising community-level practices and support the CP AoR towards this new way of thinking with a view to more sustainable CLCP across Myanmar.

CLCP WG Membership:

The CLCP WG will have a rotational Coordinator identified from within the membership. Rotational coordination will be on a yearly basis unless there is a need to rotate earlier

The CLCP WG is based at national level but aims to support subnational interventions, which are aimed at strengthening and supporting CLCP in different locations. CLCP minutes will be shared with subnational CP AoR colleagues and, as the WG progresses, will endeavour to meaningfully engage with subnational actors and support them with the shift in approaches.

Membership is open to all members of the CP AoR based on a voluntary nomination on an annual basis. New members may be added on a case by case basis with consensus of the WG members.

CLCP Goal:

The goal for the CLCP WG is to support CP AoR members to have the tools, resources and capacity to implement quality community level Child Protection programmes in the humanitarian setting that is Myanmar settings in an efficient, coordinated, sensitive, and relevant manner.

CLCP Working Group Priorities and Functions¹:

¹ INSPIRE: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241565356>
CPMS: https://handbook.spherestandards.org/en/cpms/#ch006_005

The detailed list of activities of the CLCP WG will be included in the Work Plan. The Work Plan is reviewed and updated on a bi-annual basis initially and shifting to an annual basis after one year. In particular, the CLCP WG will ensure the following considerations in its work and the work plan:

- 1) Encourage observation, research, listening, discussion with, and documentation of existing local coping mechanisms and strengths in supporting children's development, safety, and wellbeing
- 2) Promote extensive meaningful participation and age-gender and disability inclusion of children, getting their views and perceptions of risks, vulnerabilities, prioritization of needs, and existing or desired strategies for addressing needs and risks
- 3) Facilitate organizational and personal reflection to promote more genuine shifts in thinking and action in supporting communities and community approaches
- 4) Link with the Case Management Task Force, MHPSS WG, Protection Cluster. and other relevant fora to ensure community-level approaches are well-coordinated across all child protection workstreams
- 5) Engage with child protection local systems for a more cohesive, linked approach, including engagement of local groups such as womens groups and community leaders
- 6) Promote and maintain an inclusive approach within the working group and in all CLCP work to ensure all voices and groups are participating and have influence
- 7) Ensure inter-agency capacity strengthening opportunities are available and organized to support greater reflection, understanding, and more appropriate strategies

Roles and Responsibilities

Expectations for all CLCP WG members:

- Identify 1 – 2 focal points from your agency to attend monthly and ad-hoc CLCP WG meetings and follow-up in a timely manner to the requests sent by lead agencies and/or CLCP WG coordinator, including feedback on key documents, emails, etc. whilst making every effort to respect the agreed deadlines). Members make a commitment to keep in touch and respond to communications and deadlines and will inform the co-leads about possible delays.
- Membership is on an **individual basis**, therefore agencies are required to nominate a Primary Focal Person to attend CLCP meetings and engage with the WG over email as required. Agencies can nominate an alternate focal person who can attend if the primary focal person is on leave, however, it is important for continuity that members are consistent
- Share CLCP tools, training materials and resources to lead agencies in order to contribute to the development of interagency technical guidance.
- Participate in inter-agency assessments and research where feasible to do so
- Timely technical review of tools, training materials and guidance materials.
- Be responsible for keeping their respective agency and partners (or regions) informed on achievements, requests, etc. of the CLCP WG, including sharing of key developed documents/resources;
- Report back to the CLCP WG on the progress against applying and utilizing learning obtained through participation in the WG
- Share and orient CP AoR members on new developments, findings, tools and resources to enhance quality CLCP in Myanmar

Expectations for Lead Agencies and Coordinators

- Initiate consultative process for developing bi-annual work plans for the CLCP
- Monitor the activities of the CLCP against the bi-annual work plan
- Initiate the CLCP WG and oversee its operation in Myanmar

https://alliancecpha.org/en/community_volunteers

<https://alliancecpha.org/en/community-level-approaches>

Wessells, M., [A Toolkit for Reflective Practice in Supporting Community-led Child Protection Processes](#), Child Resilience Alliance, New York, 2018.

- Identify and support CLCP WG coordinators in all aspects of coordination
- Support the CLCP WG to develop and follow annual or bi-annual work plans
- Ensure that the CP AoR benefits from the work of the CLCP WG
- Update the membership list and facilitate new application for membership as well as representative replacement of member agencies.
- Prepare for meetings including invitations and agenda setting in advance
- Facilitate the meetings
- Follow up on action points with members
- Initiate communication with members over email between meetings
- Update the CP AoR on the work of the WG in monthly meetings

CLCP WG will meet on monthly basis and ad-hoc meeting as required