Child Protection in the COVID-19 Emergency Response (COVER)

Bill Forbes, Child Protection and Participation
World Vision is responding to the impact of COVID-19 in more than 70 countries.

Our US$350 million response aims to reach 72 million people, including 36 million children, especially the most vulnerable.

RESPONSE GOAL
To limit the spread of COVID-19 and reduce its impact on vulnerable children and families

Strategic Objectives
1: Scale up preventive measures to limit the spread of COVID-19
2: Strengthen health systems and workers
3: Support for children impacted by COVID-19 through child protection, education, food security, and livelihoods
4: Collaborate and advocate to ensure vulnerable children are protected

People Reached
- Men 7,003,099
- Women 7,710,633
- Children 9,717,345
- Boys 4,767,963
- Girls 4,949,382
Observations From the Field

1. Violence against children in the home is going up
2. Remote access is a huge challenge
3. Inconsistent acknowledgement of CP and social services as essential service
4. Challenges to already stretched or inadequate child protection systems
5. Dealing with pre-existing poverty & injustice, and emerging new disasters
WV's Priority Focus Areas in Child Protection

COVID-19 Response

1. Adapted reporting and referral mechanisms

2. Standard procedures on alternative care

Multi-Sectoral Systems Approach

3. Psychosocial support for parents and caregivers

4. Psychosocial support for children and adolescents
EXAMPLES OF CHILD PROTECTION INTEGRATION

EDUCATION
Joint learning & psychosocial resource packs

LIVELIHOODS
Integrating Reporting mechanisms & positive parenting

SPONSORSHIP
Child Monitoring and promoting online safety

F&D
Faith actors supporting families in distress with Psychological First Aid

CASH
Targeting of MV Households and monitoring of most vulnerable children

HEALTH
Equipping Community Health Workers to recognize and respond to abuse, child labour and child marriage
LESSONS & CHALLENGES

1. Stress on staff and volunteers
2. “Lock and Lift” variable social distancing restrictions
3. Most vulnerable children
4. Contributions of various actors, including government, faith communities, media, civil society, business.
5. Need for ongoing monitoring of emergent CP issues and scenario planning