



Addressing Children's Care in the Midst of COVID-19

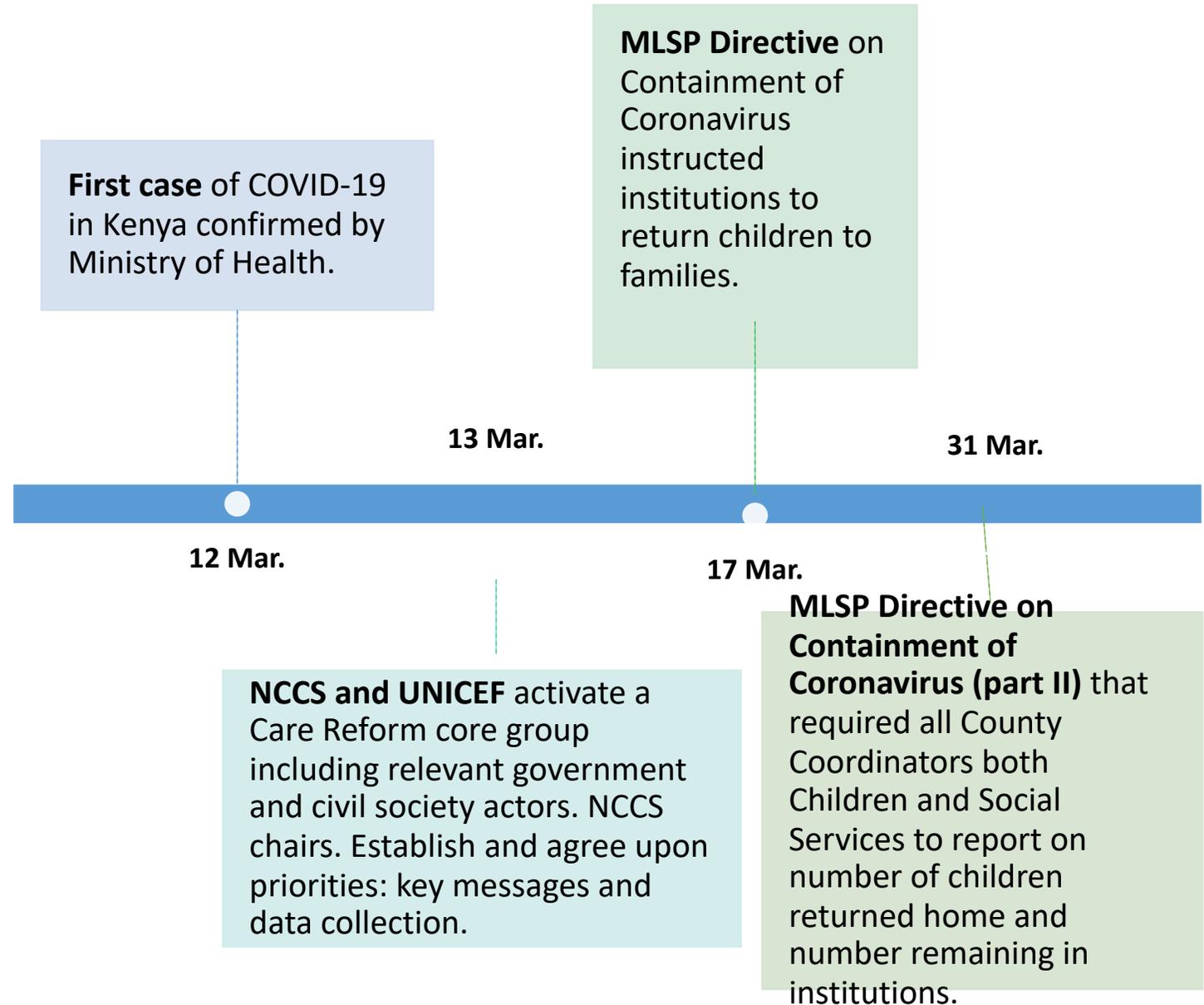
The experience of Kenya

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Context



Key messages



Sub working group involving National Council for Children's Services (NCCS), Department of Children Services (DCS), MOH, UNICEF, CTWWC, ChildFund, Adoptive Parents of Kenya.



Used **global guidance** to inform the content of key messages for people working with children. Messages targeted the following: children (age appropriate language and content); parents/caregivers; communities; those working in refugee settings and with street connected children and families; and for residential care facilities.



Final endorsement by the Principle Secretary – State Department of Social Protection.

Data collection

Sub working group involving designed an agreed upon data collection tool.

DCS and NCCS disseminated it to all 47 counties and all the counties responded.

Information collated (initial and **still not official**) and shared with the larger Core Team.

Initial (unofficial data) on children leaving care

- Total number of CCIs (in all 47 counties): **910**.
- Total number of **children released** from the CCIs is **19,282**.
 - Of those: children released to **biological families**: **4,012**.
 - Total number of children **released to other alternative family care options** of care is **15,270**. **Details will be generated by level 2 data collection tool**.
- Total number of **children with disability released** from CCIs: **1330**.
- Total number of **children remaining in CCIs**: **26,198**.

Next steps

Child and household-level data collection where possible to facilitate virtual monitoring, linkages to available services including cash transfer and longer-term goal of **sustained** safe family-based care for those rapidly exited from residential care.



Working with CCIs to **ensure quality care of children currently in care.**



UNICEF and CTWWC supporting **comprehensive interventions in three counties.** Monitoring, linking to services, preventing separation.

Next steps continued

- **Government funds** at national and county level to support vulnerable households with children.
- Several **hotlines have been established** (Child Help Line, SGBV, #719 MOH for COVID-19 info).
- **Focus on inclusivity** to ensure **children with disabilities** are able to access services.
- Reviewing **CPMIS modules** to be able to address COVID-19 data needs.
- Planning for what happens next once containment measures ease. **Prevention and alternative care** needs prioritized.
- Continued **coordinated work** with GOK, UNICEF and NGOs.