



THE ALLIANCE
FOR CHILD PROTECTION
IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

EVIDENCE GAP:

CHILD PROTECTION IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS

Child neglect is the failure of a caregiver—any person, community or institution (including the State) with clear responsibility to protect a child from actual or potential harm—to fulfil that child's right to survival, development and wellbeing. The available data routinely demonstrates that child neglect is the most common form of child maltreatment and is the leading cause of death in child maltreatment cases.

WE KNOW...

Evidence from non-humanitarian contexts shows that child neglect has severe implications for children's physical, mental and emotional health and that the effects can extend into adulthood.



WE BELIEVE...

Anecdotal evidence and experience from practitioners suggests that child neglect may increase in humanitarian crises, increasing the risks to children's wellbeing, development and survival



WE NEED...

Collaboration between researchers and practitioners to better understand the relationship between humanitarian crises and child neglect and to identify effective prevention, mitigation & response strategies.



UNTIL THEN...

"Tried and tested" strategies drawn from non-humanitarian contexts may provide some guidance and be adapted for use in humanitarian settings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Clarify the shared definition of child neglect in humanitarian settings, and when to prioritize action;
- Conduct evidence-based research on the patterns, prevalence, effects and remedies of child neglect in different humanitarian settings;
- Include neglect in child protection assessment, monitoring and reporting systems;
- Integrate neglect into child protection programming;
- Ensure all case management information systems (such as CPIMS) include neglect by type;
- Advocate and raise funds for more neglect-focused research, prevention and response activities; and
- Adapt the Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (CPMS) to mainstream child neglect activities.

For the full report, click [here](#).