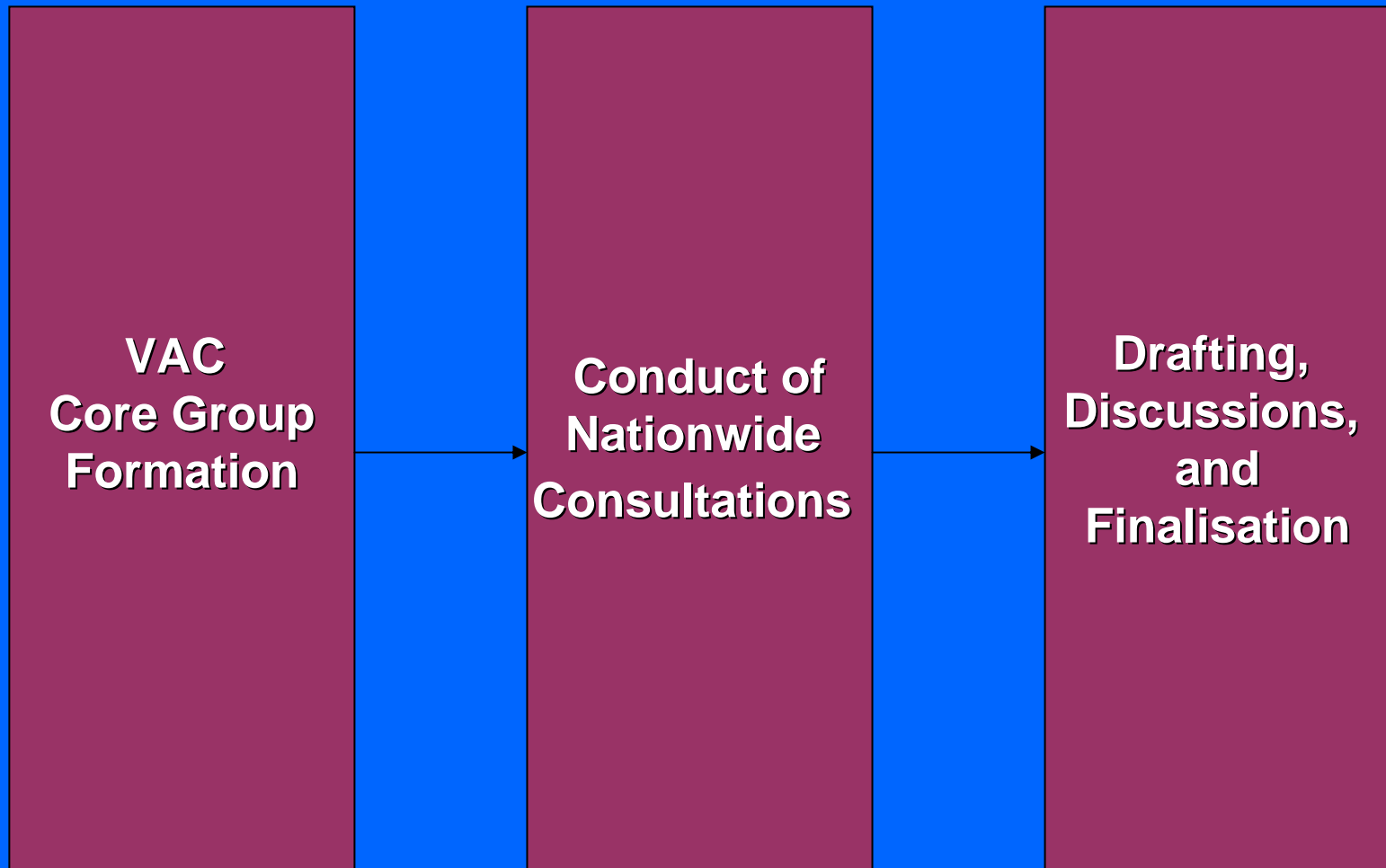


National Plan of Action

Philippine Experience

UNICEF – Save the Children  
East Asia and Pacific Meeting  
Bangkok, March 2008

# The Process



# VAC Core Group Formation

- Formed in 2005 as a follow-up to the Regional Consultation on the UN Study
- Members:
  - Gov't agencies: Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC – National focal agency for VAC), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Philippine National Police
  - NGOs: Plan Philippines, ECPAT, Open Heart Foundation, Christian Children's Fund (CCF), Save the Children Sweden
  - UN: UNICEF

# Nationwide Consultations

- 7 regional consultations with Government agencies, NGOs, academe, and children
- Common forms of VAC, causes, and gaps were identified by participants



# Nationwide Consultations

- Recommendations for different levels (local, regional, national) were made
- Recommendations formed the basis of the Plan of Action
- NGOs were actively involved in the entire process

# Launch of National Plan of Action

- The National Plan of Action, together with the UN Study on VAC, will be launched on 25 March
- National communication campaign called “**Children Against Violence**” will also be launched.
- Strategy and plan for behavior change communication campaign was developed in consultation with the VAC core group



**CHILDREN  
AGAINST  
VIOLENCE**



# The Philippine National Plan of Action on Violence Against Children

## Highlights of the Plan

# Goal

- Goal: To prevent and protect all children, especially those at risk, from violence and ensure the recovery and reintegration of victim-survivors in their families and communities, and facilitate the rehabilitation of perpetrators of violence.



# Areas for Strategic Action

- Legislation/Policy Development and Implementation
- Social Protection System
- Information Management System
- Monitoring and Evaluation System

# Legislation/Policy Development and Implementation

- Enactment or amendment of laws to fight and prevent violence against children in all settings (e.g., anti-corporal punishment of children law, age of sexual consent, child pornography)
- Strict implementation of existing laws and policies

# Child Rights Now!

Protect Our Children Today  
to Protect Our Country's Tomorrow.

## WHY TODAY?\*

**Every year,**  
**3,200 children**  
become victims of sexual abuse.

**Every quarter,**  
**280 children**  
are physically abused and  
scarred for life.

**Every month,**  
**3 children**  
fall victim to pornography.

**Every day,**  
**10 children**  
are neglected and abandoned.

**Every hour,**  
**30 children**  
are born underweight.

## WHY NOW?

The numbers are staggering.  
The statistics grow each day.  
With every second that passes,  
a child is at risk, a dream is shattered,  
a future is destroyed.

## Pass the Child Rights Bills now!

Anti-Child Exploitation Law of 2007

Anti-Corporal Punishment Law of 2007

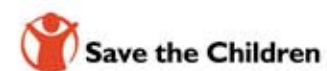
Anti-Child Pornography Act of 2007

Foster Care Act of 2007

Expanded Breastfeeding  
Promotion Act of 2007

\*Estimates from  
the Department of Social Welfare and Development,  
the National Statistical Coordination Board, and  
the National Statistics Office.

*Lady Legislators  
of the 14<sup>th</sup> Congress*



# Social Protection System



- Education for parents, teachers, service providers, policy-makers, children and the general public
- Establishment of structures and mechanisms for children's participation in anti-VAC programmes, policies and other initiatives

# Social Protection System

- Ensuring involvement of parents and communities in prevention, response and rehabilitation programmes; law reform; and monitoring
- Provision of prevention, protection, rehabilitation and re-integration services for children
- Capacity-building for all who work for and with children and families

# Social Protection System

- Mainstream a multi-disciplinary approach in the management of cases of VAC
- Develop and mainstream a child protection policy within government and NGOs dealing with children (i.e., institutional procedures, standards of behaviour)
- Train/orient media people on guidelines for reporting on children's cases

# Information Management System

- Ensure systematic data and information collection, reporting, and monitoring
- Conduct relevant research on VAC in different settings
- Document and promote good practices and effective strategies
- Ensure free and accessible birth registration

# Monitoring and Evaluation System

- Strengthen mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation at national and local levels
- Involvement of children, parents and communities in the monitoring and evaluation of government policies and programmes

