

Elements of a National Child Protection System

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A national strategy/policy must be based on:

- the CRC principles - particularly children's participation, non discrimination
- articles related to protection - recovery - rehabilitation
- the right to stay with family when in the best interest
- knowledge on child development

4 main interconnected and mutually supporting elements:

1. Legal reform and policy development

- prohibiting all forms of violence against children
- guiding the system

2. Multisectoral cooperation: between Ministries and with Civil Society

- All levels: national, district and community
- Creating an interconnected prevention, protection and response system
- Roles and responsibilities clarified through guidelines/agreements
- The authorities having primary responsibility
- Civil society: monitoring, research, training, campaigns, facilitation etc
- Comprehensive training programme

3. Creating an informed, enlightened public

4. Ongoing research programme

- increase insight in general - on root causes of violence
- evaluate programmes and inform action
- building national documentation on violence

A visual image of a national and community based child protection system including a national strategy to end violence against children

