

We contribute to:

1 NO POVERTY



End poverty in all its forms everywhere

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

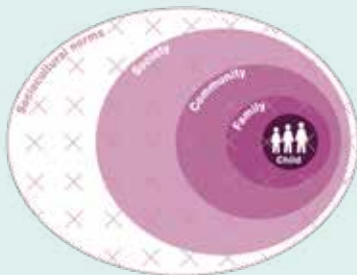


CHILD PROTECTION

Children all over the world are precious, a gift, and it is beautiful to see them growing up. But children are also vulnerable. They need care, love, and support from adults. And they need to be protected from all kinds of harm. Not so much by locking them up in the house, of course, but by preparing them, guiding them, and thus reducing the risk of something bad happening to them.

In our Western world, this is important but quite doable. But what if the children have to grow up under harsh circumstances? In poverty or conflict, in an unsafe home because of conflicts between the parents? Or in a climate which can cause severe droughts or floods? Help a Child is working in those kinds of areas and trying to improve the wellbeing of children. An important element is preventing any abuse of children and, if something does happen, organizing an adequate response. Therefore, we developed guidelines together with our offices and our partner offices. When focusing on child protection, it is important to work on different levels; we call it the rings of responsibility.

Four levels of the child protection socio-ecological model



The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action, 2019

Key statistics:



745
children groups supported

6,594

children supported through child protection activities



> 10,000
people reached through 'End child marriage' campaigns





UGANDA

The community response

To create a sustainable protection system, the whole community should be involved. In most projects, Child Protection Committees are established and trained and linked to the local government.

In Abim, in north-east Uganda, they even went a step further. Perpetrators of child abuse were known, but nothing would happen with them, because there was no clear system and the court was 100 km away. So another solution was created: a mobile court! The partner organization SAO works closely with the community, the Family and Child Unit of the police, the

Community Development and Probation Department of the district, and with the magistrate of the court in the region. Once a month, the magistrate will come to Abim and hold her

court in the open air under a tree in the community. In this way, justice is done to the victims and perpetrators realize they cannot just do anything to children and get away with it.





The voice of the children

To be heard, to be listened to... It sounds so simple, and yet it is very important. Adults all over the world often think they know what is best for children. But children do have their own voice too. That does not mean that we only listen to children and not to adults. You have to listen to everyone and preferably bring people together to listen to each other.

