

5 KEY CHANGES 2021-2023

IFRC CHILD SAFEGUARDING POLICY

2021 Version



Background

In 2021 the IFRC has launched a revised Child Safeguarding Policy ("Policy"). The implementation of the Policy will aim to make the following key changes over the next three years (2021-2023).

Technical and operational support

The following changes will be supported through various units, as needed. This includes: Programme leadership, Regional IFRC PGI personnel, IFRC Senior Child Protection Advisor, other relevant personnel as needed from units such as Operations, Legal, OIAI, Human Resources, Security, Logistics, and Communications.

CHANGE #1:

Roll-out to ensure all IFRC personnel understand the Policy and the required behaviours

Roll-out the policy in 2021 and continue each year as needed. In addition, revise the existing online learning course.

CHANGE #2:

Implement the Child Risk Analysis Tool across all programming

At present, IFRC programmes do not include any child safeguarding risk assessments. The revised Policy includes a requirement for all IFRC programmes to complete a Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis to measure what actions are being taken, what is missing, what risks are present, and how to move forward. The Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis is designed to support programme risk registers.

In 2021, the Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis will be piloted in three locations in each of the IFRC's five Regions: these total 15 pilots. Starting in 2022, and based on learning from the piloting in 2021, the Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis will be required for all IFRC programming.

CHANGE #3:

Technical support will be provided to IFRC programmes at medium and high child safeguarding risk

Based on the results of the Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis, the IFRC programme leadership, PGI team, and other relevant departments will determine an appropriate and locally relevant course of action and technical support for all programmes that rate as medium or high risk around child safeguarding,

CHANGE #4:

New guidance tools will be implemented

In the past, IFRC programmes have not had specific tools to support their implementation of child safeguarding. IFRC programmes will now implement the Policy by using new guidance tools such as on Field Visits, Documenting Personnel Working with Children, Ethical Reviews Involving Children, Youth Events with Persons Under 18 Years, and Communication Guidelines (including with children). These tools will be integrated into relevant systems.

New guidance tools for Meeting Child Safeguarding in Supplier and Contractor Processes, Screening Local Personnel, Child Participation in Programme Development, and possibly for Mapping and Ensuring Survivor-Centered Referrals will be developed and their implementation supported.

CHANGE #5:

Integration into emergency planning and responses

Child safeguarding will be integrated into IFRC emergency planning and response tools such as Emergency Plan of Action, Emergency Checklist, and Surge Competency Framework.