U.S. Government Evidence Summit on Protecting Children Outside of Family Care

Focal Question 4:
What models, systems, or strategies demonstrate efficacy, effectiveness, and/or sustainability for monitoring children who are or were outside of family care and/or for evaluating the impact of the programs intended to serve them?

December 12-13, 2011
Pavilion II, Ronald Reagan Building
U.S. Agency for International Development, Washington, DC
KEY ROLES OF MONITORING & EVALUATION

**Activity**

**Output**

**Outcome**

Impact on the broader "problem"

Informing future programming

Informing program revision/development

Accountability

Time
From pool of 80,000 documents, 611 were identified by pre-screening.

71 of these documents were rated either very relevant or relevant to the question.

Following Pre-Summit, 28 additional documents were submitted by team members.

After extraction process, based on parameters determined at pre-summit, 58 papers were identified as most pertinent for preliminary analysis.

39 documents presented specific models, systems or strategies.

19 documents presented expert guidance on principles and approaches.
**SPECIFIC MODELS, SYSTEMS AND STRATEGIES**

**Focus**
- Populations
- Groups
- Individuals

**Timescale**
- One-off
- Episodic (e.g. pre/post)
- Long-term

**Prevalence Surveys**
- 3

**Needs Assessments**
- 14

**Screening Assessments**
- 6

**Project Evaluations**
- 11

**Nationally Representative Surveys**
- 0

**Collation of Data Routinely Collected by Government Systems**
- 1

**Case Management Systems**
- 1

**Longitudinal Research Studies**
- 3

**Census Data**
- 0
SPECIFIC MODELS, SYSTEMS AND STRATEGIES

Tools are available for assessment of children’s needs... ...but not necessarily with the required speed and scope

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Focus Diagram:
- Prevalence surveys: 3
- Needs assessments: 14
- Screening assessments: 6
- Project evaluations: 11
- Collation of data: 1
- Case management systems: 1
- Longitudinal research studies: 3
- Nationally representative surveys: 0
- Census data: 0

Collation of data routinely collected by government systems: 1
SPECIFIC MODELS, SYSTEMS AND STRATEGIES

**Rigorous evaluations can establish the outcomes and impacts of provided assistance**

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**case management systems**
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SPECIFIC MODELS, SYSTEMS AND STRATEGIES
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Long-term follow-up of children is crucial to developing the evidence-base regarding effective strategies

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- prevalence surveys 3
- needs assessments 14
- screening assessments 6

- project evaluations 11

- nationally representative surveys 0
- census data 0
- collation of data 1
- routinely collected by government systems
- case management systems 1
- longitudinal research studies 3
Systems-wide monitoring mechanisms are being tentatively explored.

SPECIFIC MODELS, SYSTEMS AND STRATEGIES

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Protective factors and processes of resilience are important in understanding children’s adaptation.
Communities are an important source of information for monitoring.

Addressing the Needs of At-risk Children

An estimated 215 million children are engaged in child labor that impedes their right to education. Child laborers experience physical and psychological damage, and without that basic human right, the cycle of poverty and child labor is perpetuated. Child labor exists in many sectors, from commercial and subsistence agriculture to fishing, mining, manufacturing, domestic work, and commercial sexual exploitation.

Winrock’s Response.

Winrock’s child labor programs take a holistic approach to fight exploitative child labor. The Millennium Development Goal 2000 report on the Education for All progress states that high rates of poverty in rural areas limit educational opportunities because of demands for children’s work, lack of access to preschool education, and lack of access to good quality schooling. Winrock’s approach is based on these lessons through the following strategies:

- Work with a variety of partners to reach those most at risk of child labor.
- Work in the most vulnerable regions to address exploitative child labor.
- Strengthen national governance and policy returns to address exploitative child labor.
- Protect and improve the livelihoods of children and their families.
- Create opportunities for education and employment.
- Reach awareness and changing perspectives of child labor at national and local levels, which is crucial to creating sustainable change.

Winrock’s Expert.

Winrock and local partners around the world work to improve the lives of children engaged in child labor through education. Our work is based on a local program in a village in Ukraine that successfully scaled through education. It was funded under the Child Labor Monitoring and Evaluation Facility. The facility is an initiative of the United Nations Office of Children’s Affairs.

A framework for the protection, care and support of orphans and vulnerable children living in a world with HIV and AIDS

What Are We Learning About Protecting Children in the Community?

An inter-agency review of the evidence on community-based child protection mechanisms in humanitarian and development settings.
Caregivers are a key focus - and channel - of monitoring
Target group categorization may stigmatize children
Children can, and should, be active in processes of monitoring and evaluation.
FQ4 TIMELINE

Pre-Summit

- Identified subset of evidence papers
- Team members reviewed papers
- Team discussed ways to frame and present topic
- Organized evidence

Summit

- Core group reviewed completed templates
- Developed framework
- Wrote DRAFT Evidence Synthesis Paper

Incorporate recommendations from Summit participants; finalize paper
FOCUS OF REFLECTION

- Clarification and elaboration of evidence

- Refinement of recommendations for POLICY, PRACTICE, and RESEARCH