



Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis

Purpose

The IFRC Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis tool supports IFRC Operations and Programmes to identify and rate their child safeguarding risks. With this information, operations can strengthen their child safeguarding practices and reduce the risk of harm against children as outlined in the IFRC Child Safeguarding Policy.

Who it applies to

The Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis applies to all IFRC Operations and Programmes.

The steps to the risk context

STEP 1: Does the activity involve **working with** children or **contact with** children?

STEP 2: Is the National Society child-focused and what child safeguarding controls are currently in place?

STEP 3: Based on the outcomes of the first two steps, determine the Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis. Is a detailed action plan required, including another analysis at a future date? Is technical support recommended?

Note: All three steps must be undertaken. Details of these steps follow.

Adding to Risk Register: In addition, a rating for child safeguarding, based on the above steps, should be added to the overall Operation's or Programme's Risk Register.

STEP 1: Does the activity involve working with children or contact with children?

PART A – What is the level of 'working with' or 'contact with' children at the activity level?			
1. Contact with Children – Assessment		Yes	No
Inherent risk	Personnel will be deployed internationally (outside their usual country of residence)?		
	Personnel will be working in a remote location?		
Degree of Isolation	Involves being alone with children?		
	Involves activities that are in the community?		
	Involves meeting one-on-one with children?		
	Involves unpredictable or remote settings?		
Online contact or access to personal details	Involves direct one-on-one or group access to children online?		
	Involves supervising child-to-child online contact?		
	Involves online access to a child's or children's personal and/or confidential information?		
	Inadequate/missing safe options for children to report unwanted attention or inappropriate behaviour by others?		
	Involves educating children and supporting adults on cyber safety?		

2. Working with Children – Assessment		Yes	No
Vulnerability of child/children	Engages with children living with disabilities or impairments?		
	Engages with orphaned, street, unaccompanied or separated children or other children who are alone?		
	Engages with children such as migrants, child headed households, and sexual minority children who do not have many social support systems (e.g. because of location, access issues, discrimination, etc.)?		
	Engages with child at risk of trafficking, sex worker, or with parents who are sex workers?		
Degree of physical contact	Involves demonstrating a skill to children?		
	Involves need for physical contact/touching children?		
	Involves providing a personal service? (e.g. washing, dressing, toileting)		
Sole provision	Involves being the sole, or primary, provider of goods and/or services, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical? • Food distribution? • Career training (sports/musical)? 		
Degree of supervision	Involves personnel having unsupervised contact with children?		
	Activities/engagement with children is not observed or monitored?		
	Insufficient number of trained staff to supervise activities/engagement with children?		
Degree of trust	Involves developing close, personal, long term relationships with children?		
	Involves transporting children?		
	Involves one or more of the following: One-on-one supervision, overnight supervision, out-of-town activities, advising or offering guidance to children or spending extended periods of time with children e.g. camps?		
	Contributes to important decisions regarding the future of children?		
Access to Property	Involves access to personal/confidential information of children?		
	Personnel have perceived or actual level of authority? (from child perspective)		
Skills and knowledge required	Requires specific skills, knowledge, qualifications or service eligibility requirements to undertake a child related position?		
Child labour	Possibility that activity will lead to the employment of children?		
	Possibility that activity will lead to the removal of children from school?		
	Possibility that activity will lead to children being employed in hazardous work?		
Child participation	Children are provided meaningful opportunities to participate in decisions that affect them?		
Vulnerability of parent/carer	Engages with parents who have challenges that contribute to their ability to provide care? (e.g. psychological, situational)		
	Engages with parents who do not have many support systems?		

PART B – Assess the Activity Risk

Based on your responses in Part 1, identify the inherent risk of the activity using the table below. Activity Risk is the level of potential risks to children due to the nature of the activity (working with children) or the design of the activity (design of the activity introduces risks to children).



LOW	No Contact	The activity does not involve any individuals working in-country with children (You answered No to all questions in Step 1 Part A)	
MODERATE	Contact with Children	The activity involves or may involve contact with children – this includes any work in country, remote or rural area. (You answered Yes to any questions in 'Contact with Children – Assessment' but No for all questions in 'Working with Children – Assessment')	
High	Working with Children	The activity involves working with children (You answered Yes to any questions under 'Working with Children – Assessment')	

STEP 2: Is the National Society child-focused and what child safeguarding controls are in place?

There are two parts to this step:

PART A – Assessment of National Society's Focus on Children and strength of child safeguarding systems in place

PART B – Assess the Organisation Risk

PART A – Assessment of National Society's Focus on Children and Strength of Systems			
Focus – A child-focused National Society is a National Society that answers 'yes' to any of the questions below.		Yes	No
Types of activities	Does the National Society provide any direct activities/services for children across all of its operations?		
	Does the National Society provide any humanitarian relief?		
Degree of Isolation	National Society provides Residential/Orphanage/Shelter services?		
	National Society requires technical experience/expertise to implement child related services?		
	National Society uses children and/or images of children as a 'product' for fundraising activities?		
Referral services	National Society maps referral services for children who experience violence, abuse, exploitation, or neglect?		
<i>Note: If a National Society is 'child-focused' then a detailed child safeguarding action plan is recommended.</i>			
Systems and Controls – Strength of systems and controls scaled by number of 'yes' responses. 0 Yes answers = poor systems, 9 Yes answers = strong systems		Yes	No
Child protection policy and procedures¹	Child Safeguarding Policy in place that includes a commitment to preventing a person from working with children if they pose an unacceptable risk to children?		
	Risk management practices in place and include risks to children		
	Recruitment practices, screening completed for all staff, before commencing work?		
	Recruitment practices, screening completed for all volunteers, before commencing volunteering?		
	Incident reporting procedures in place?		
	Staff and volunteers receive child safeguarding training?		
	Boundaries for appropriate behaviour/code of conduct are implemented?		
	The National Society's employment contracts / IFRC Staff Regulations contain provisions for suspension or transfer to other duties of any employee who is under investigation and provisions to dismiss any employee after an investigation?		
	Record keeping procedures are in place (meetings, activities, incidents, reports, logs, record of complaints, staff performance)?		
The National Society ensures that their partners such as contractors and supplier (organisations or individuals) comply with child safeguarding procedures?			

¹ A no response to all or most questions would indicate a high-risk organisation due to poor systems. A yes response to all or most questions would indicate strong systems

PART B – Organisational Risk

Organisational risk is the level of potential risk posed by the organisation due to their ability to address child protection risks through their policies, procedures and systems and the type of work the organisation engages in (e.g. if they are a child focused organisation, their risks will be higher).

Level of Risk	Level of focus and systems strength	Description of level of risk	Actions to be taken based on level of risk	✓
LOW	NO FOCUS	National Society is not a child-focused organisation <i>(You answered No to all questions in Step 1 – Focus)</i>	No further action required	
MODERATE	FOCUS & STRONG SYSTEMS	National Society is a child-focused organisation and has good child protection safeguards in place <i>(You answered Yes to any question in Step 1 Focus and had a majority of Yes answers to the questions under systems and controls)</i>	Develop a short plan of action that describes how existing gaps will be strengthened or developed	
High	FOCUS & POOR SYSTEMS	National Society is a child-focused organisation and has poor child safeguard systems in place <i>(You answered Yes to any question in Step 1 Focus and had a majority of No answers to the questions under systems and controls)</i>	Develop a detailed plan that describes how systems will be developed, budgeted for, monitored, and accountability ensured	
VERY HIGH	FOCUS & SYSTEMS LACKING	National Society is a child-focused organisation and has no or almost no child safeguard systems in place <i>(You answered Yes to any question in Step 1 Focus and had a majority of No answers to the questions under systems and controls)</i>	Develop a detailed plan that describes how systems will be developed, budgeted for, monitored, and accountability ensured Involve IFRC or external technical expertise for support	

STEP 3: Establish the overall child safeguarding risk context

Establish the overall child safeguarding risk to determine what level of action is required.

Once you have completed steps 1 and 2 you can establish the overall risk by placing the results of each activity in the appropriate field below.

National Society level of contact with children and systems in place (National Society inherent risk from Step 2)	Activity Level of Contact with Children (activity inherent risk from Step 1)		
	NO (LOW)	CONTACT (MODERATE)	WORKING (HIGH/VERY HIGH)
NO FOCUS (LOW)	No further action required	Action plan for specific vulnerabilities required	Detailed action plan required – consider the need for technical expertise
FOCUS & STRONG SYSTEMS (MODERATE)	Action plan for specific vulnerabilities required	Action plan for specific vulnerabilities required	Detailed action plan required
FOCUS & POOR SYSTEMS (HIGH/VERY HIGH)	Detailed action plan required	Detailed action plan required	Detailed action plan required – consider the need for technical expertise

Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk	Very High Risk
----------	---------------	-----------	----------------

Remember: Identify and record who completed the steps above and when the child safeguarding action plan (if required) will be completed.

Signature, name and date

National Society Representative completing the Risk Analysis

Date:

Name:

Signature:

IFRC Representative completing the Risk Analysis

Date:

Name:

Signature:

IFRC Child Protection Advisor completing the Risk Analysis

Date:

Name:

Signature: