

2013

CHILD PROTECTION RAPID ASSESSMENT REPORT



Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Child Protection Rapid Assessment

In response to the 2012 IDP influx from Khyber Agency FATA

Child Protection Sub Cluster
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa/FATA

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Child Protection Sub Cluster would like to thank all the staff members involved in the process of contextualization of CPRA tools, desk review, data collection, generation of site reports, data entry, and the valuable feedback.

Special thanks to the men and women who took the time to talk to us. Without them, this assessment would not be possible.

We hope that the lessons learnt and recommendations made from this report will strengthen future humanitarian responses for IDP children in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA.

Child Protection Sub Cluster
KP/ FATA

Introduction and Background

The ongoing security operations in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) have led to large scale population displacements across the region since 2009. The number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) arriving from Khyber Agency increased from January 2012. As of December 31, 2012, 70,113 families are displaced in off camp Peshawar valley and 12,442 families are displaced in Jalozai IDP camp.

Displacements were mainly from Bara tehsil in Khyber Agency where a number of new areas and tribal groups were notified as eligible for IDP assistance following the scaling up of security operations in their areas. The IDPs are mainly settled in off camp locations in districts of Peshawar, Nowshera and Kohat. IDPs are also settled in Jalozai camp in Nowshera. Limited access to local resources; unavailability of basic amenities and services; and the negative impacts on host communities, has increased the vulnerability of IDPs. IDPs are largely dependent on humanitarian assistance in order to meet basic needs.

Prior to the KP CRPA, there was no holistic child protection specific assessment conducted in Pakistan. Organizations had ad hoc data which was limited only to their targeted geographical locations. As a result, the overall child protection situation amongst IDPs from Barra Khyber Agency was unclear. In this backdrop, and keeping in mind the on-going displacement, a Child Protection Rapid Assessment (CPRA) was conducted to identify protection risks facing IDP children. The CP sub-cluster contextualised the global CPRA tool to reflect the KP/FATA context. The KP CRPA was jointly coordinated by the Government of KP (Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) and the Child Protection Welfare Commission), through the support of the CP sub-cluster members and the CPRA working group.

Summary of Key Findings

Unaccompanied and Separation Children

- 79% of sites reported separated children in their community and 21% of sites reported unaccompanied children. KI reported that there were more separated boys than girls. This was due to boys being sent away to madrassas or for work to support their family.
- Of the 79% of sites that reported having separated children in their community, 47% thought there was between 11-50 separated children, aged between 5-14 years
- 'Informal foster care' was stated as the main form of interim care arrangement used by communities. Informal foster care was defined by KI as extended family, hujras, mosques, and madrassas.
- 52% of sites knew of agencies/organizations maintaining list of separated children. However, 91% of sites were not aware of any list being maintained for missing parents.

Physical Safety and Security

- Of the 64% of sites that responded, 92% reported that 1-10 children have been seriously injured due to violence since the displacement.
- Of the 32% of sites that responded, 64% stated that involvement in criminal activities is the most reported violent risk for children in displacement. The KIs further characterized criminal acts as theft of pipes and water taps in the camp, substance abuse, and fighting with host community members

- 41% of sites reported that mostly children under the age of 14 years are targeted by violence as they are immature and can be easily targeted with low resistance.

Psychosocial Wellbeing

- Of the 94% of sites that responded, 53% reported inability to return home as the main source of stress for children since the displacement. Separation from family was the second main source of stress for children.
- The enumerators reported poor living conditions, non-acceptance by the local host communities, and adjustment to new surroundings as other causes of stress to children. Girls are particularly overburdened as they have to provide domestic help to both their parents and the host families.

Community Support Mechanisms

- 74% of sites reported lack of food as the main source of stress for caregivers, and lack of shelter as the second of stress for children.
- Of the 91% of sites that responded, 58 % reported that parents are the main source of support to children as they are easily accessible and trusted. 48% of sites reported peer groups as the second major source of support for children since displacement.

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

- Children below 14 years are reportedly most at risk of SGBV because they are immature, can be easily trapped, and don't have the strength to resist.
- Only 16% of sites knew where to get help for SGBV survivors

Child Labour and Child Marriages

- Of the 97% of sites that responded, 67% reported children's engagement in different forms of labour. This includes working in brick kilns, mechanical workshops, hotels, shoe polishing, and domestic help.
- KI reported that child marriage has increased since displacement due to prolonged stay in displacement sights and limited access to basic needs.

Methodology

A. Assessment Tools

The CPRA is a tool developed by the global CPWG. The objectives of the Child Protection Rapid Assessment were;

- to determine the scale of the needs and protection risks for children affected by the displacement
- to determine potential and actual capacities within the communities to respond to the existing risks and needs.
- to determine geographic and programmatic areas of priority for response

The CPRA tool is a qualitative, cross-sectional assessment that uses purposive sampling. This assessment tool uses; a desk reviews; Key Informant Interviews; Direct Observations; and Site Reports to collect data.

Desk Review

All the CP sub-cluster members shared reports/findings from IDP assessments conducted, and any other KP/FATA secondary data available. The Child Protection and Welfare Commission took a leading role in conducting a desk review and analyzing all the previous reports shared by some cluster members. The secondary data collected was then triangulated into the site reports, along with the KI interviews and direct observations. Unfortunately, there was limited information available to guide contextualization of the tools.

Key Informant Interviews (KII)

For the CPRA in Pakistan, the key informant was any adult who could provide information or opinion about the situation for children since the displacement, as specified in the CPRA guidelines. Key informants were identified based on their roles in the community and whether the assessment team was confident they could adequately represent the views or situation of children within selected sites. The key informants selected were social workers, teachers, religious leaders, community elders and camp managers.

In total, the assessment team conducted 110 KII in 34 sites. This included 8 camp sites and 26 off camp sites. At least 3 interviews were conducted at each site. 65% of interviews were conducted with male KI, and 35% with female KI (the reason for this as previously outlined).

Direct Observations

The CPRA uses direct observation to triangulate the data collected. Assessment team members followed the direct observation form to conduct both structured and unstructured observations. Direct observation is best described as “looking for” and “looking at”. For instance, the researchers might “look for” hazardous objects around a playground. The assessors were also trained to “look at” the toilets and determine if they were child-friendly. The unstructured portion included looking into issues such as where children congregate in a site, or if there were services for children to access at the site. At least one direct observation form was completed for each site.

Site Reports

Site Reports are a summary of the data collected during KII. They also serve as a way to average out the information collected. At the end of each day, the team gathered together to compile the reports. The team leader asked questions from the site report and discussed the information gathered from the KII and Direct Observations. If certain issues were mentioned multiple times in the different KII, the team would compare with the direct observations to create a ranked set of answers. For instance, if two key informants reported “caretakers sending their children to live with relatives” as a form of separation, and one reported “caretakers sending their children to institutions,” the team would discuss both the frequency of reporting as well as the source of information to decide which would get ranked higher. Information from the site reports was then entered in the CPRA data management tool.

B. Assessment Teams

The assessment teams consisted of staff from IVAP, CERD, Save the Children and Child Protection and Welfare Commission Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. All the assessment team members went through a two-day training on the CPRA. The training included the objectives of CPRA, methodology, and the guiding principles for CPRA. Participants were also oriented on; interview and record keeping techniques; the use of the three assessment forms (KII survey, Site Report, and the Urgent Action

form); and the various methodologies to collect the data while ensuring confidentiality. The training was conducted by the Child Protection Sub-Cluster Coordinator and the Information Management Officer in KP, and the venues and refreshments were provided by the PDMA.

There were 2 males and 1 female per assessment team. Sadly, due to the targeted killing of polio workers in Pakistan, it was considered unsafe for women to go to the field at the time the CPRA data was being collected. As a result, there was not an equal gender balance of assessors. This has had a subsequent impact on the data collected as there is not an equal representation of the opinions of women.

C. Sample (Geographic/population)

During the planning phase it was decided that the sampling frame will be 'in camp' and 'off camp' areas where IDPs are residing. The camp is divided into eight phases and each phase was considered as a site. Likewise there are total 92 Union Councils in Peshawar district and 39 UCs were selected during planning phase based on the number of ID families living there. However, due to the fragile security situation in some UCs the data was collected only in 26 UCs considering that the findings were representative of all the UCS based on the consultation with all the working group members.

D. Data collection

Data was collected from KII and direct observation at 34 preselected sites. A formal letter was issued by the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) allowing all the teams to go to the field and collect data. At the end of each assessment day, assessors would sit with the team leader and information would be correlated and summarized within the site report. A debrief would also take place where assessors would discuss challenges faced and lessons learned.

E. Data Entry and Analysis

The process of analysis and interpretation of the data collected involved multiple levels. The first level of analysis and interpretation was carried out by the assessment teams during the process of compiling site reports. After collecting the data from the sites, the Site Reports were submitted to IVAP-IRC team for data entry into the CPRA data management tool. The changes that were made in the Key Informant Survey and Site Report during the contextualization process were incorporated in the data entry and analysis tool. Support was provided by the CP sub cluster to IVAP_IRC team during the data entry phase.

Once the data was entered into the data management tool, hard copies of the site reports were handed over to the CP sub cluster. The Information Management Officer cleaned the entered data for further analysis and triangulation. After the data was analysed, the findings were then shared with the CP sub cluster and CPRA working group members. The results presented in this report are based on the triangulation of data collected and in-depth discussions with the assessment teams around interpretation of the information, cultural and traditional practices, and existing social norms.

Key findings and recommendations

The KII's took place in official camps (23%), urban make shift camps (21%), and rural areas (56%). Information collected was divided into 6 sections. Sections include:

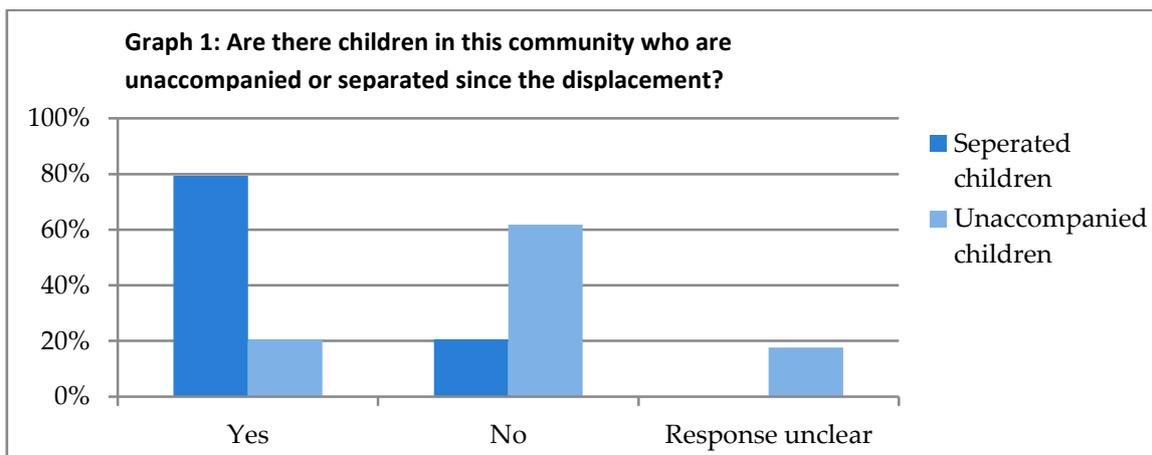
- Unaccompanied and separated children
- Physical safety and security
- Psychosocial wellbeing coping Mechanisms
- Children Affected my Armed conflict
- Sexual and gender based violence
- Child Labour and Child Marriages

Based on the structure of the survey, key findings will be outlined in each individual section, following the order of the survey. Lessons learnt have been highlighted and recommendations developed.

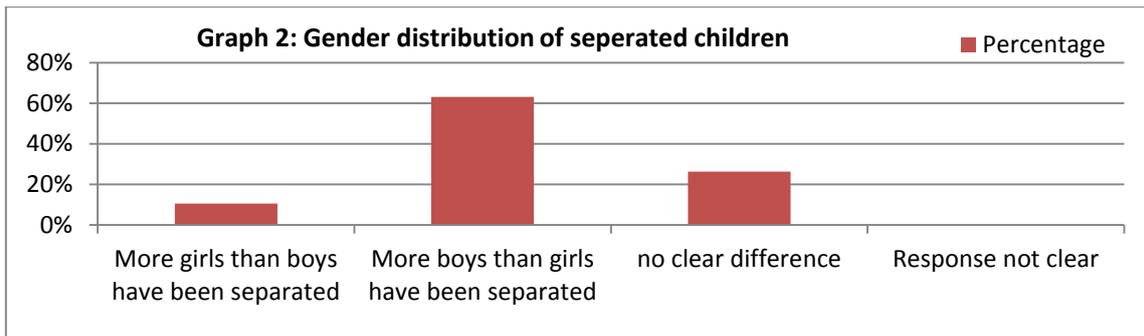
Unaccompanied and Separation children

Separation from family is one of the biggest protection risks faced by children after an emergency. In line with the Inter-agency Guiding Principles on Separated and Unaccompanied Children, the following definitions were used for this assessment:

- *child*: is any person under the age of 18;
- *separated child*: is a child who is separated from both parents, or from their previous legal or customary primary caregiver, but not necessarily from other relatives; and
- *unaccompanied child*: is a child who has been separated from both parents and other relatives and is not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for doing so.

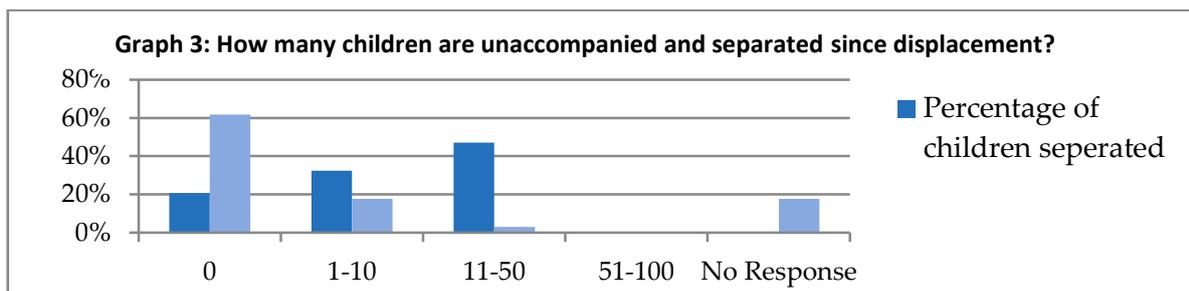


79% of the 34 sites reported separated children in their community since the emergency (graph 1). 21% of sites reported cases of unaccompanied children within their community. There was a high number of 'response not clear' for questions relating to unaccompanied children. This highlights potential confusion among the KI and/or the assessors on the definition of unaccompanied children, which could subsequently impact the information reported on unaccompanied children.

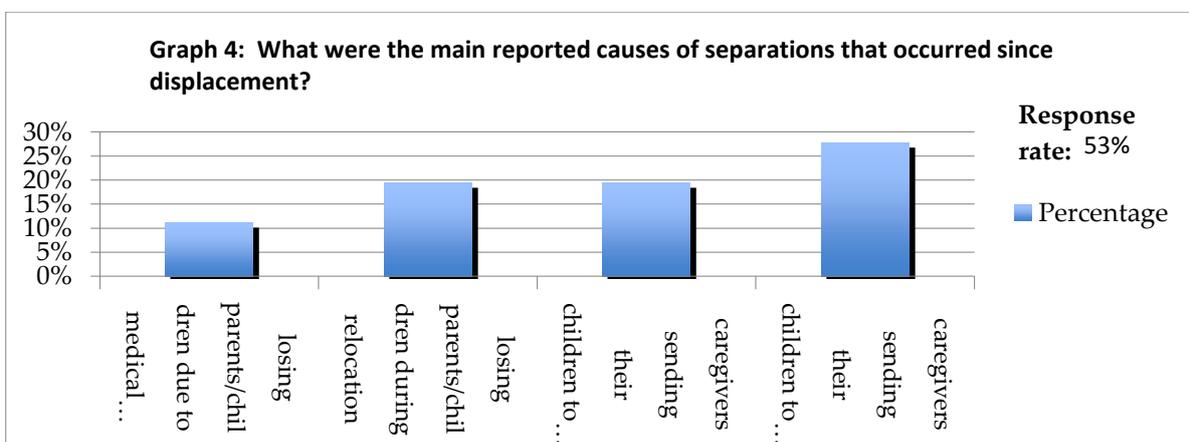


Of the 79% of sites that reported separated children, the majority were of the opinion that separated children were aged between 5-14 years (Annex 1), and there were more separated boys than girls (graph 2). Pakistani culture was sighted as a reason for this. Parents generally restrict girl’s movements outside the home. This is particularly enforced during an emergency due to heightened security risks.

KI also reported that boys are often sent to Madrassas for free education, or sent to work away from relocation sites in order to earn money for their families. As a result, there is a higher number of boys separated and/or unaccompanied. However, some of the enumerators were of the view that the KIs may not have enough information about girls due to girl’s restricted movements, and the limited number of female KIs interviewed.



It was reported that only PLACES facilitators were clear on the actual numbers of unaccompanied and separated children. Of the 79% of sites that reported having separated children in their community, the majority thought there was between 11-50 separated children (graph 3). For the 21% of sites that reported unaccompanied children, the majority thought there was between 1-10 unaccompanied children. However, for unaccompanied children there was an 18% ‘no response’ rate, highlighting that either KI’s did not know about the number of unaccompanied children or were unclear about the definition.



Of the 53% of sites that responded to this question, the major reason for separation was parents voluntarily sending their children to live with extended family members (graph 4). This was reportedly due to; concerns around security; parent’s lack of time to care for their children; and limited access to basic resources like food, water, and education in the relocation sites. Multiple marriages were also highlighted as a reason why children live with extended family. Children would remain with paternal family members whilst their father went to be with his second wife in another village, and the mother had gone home to take care of her maternal family.

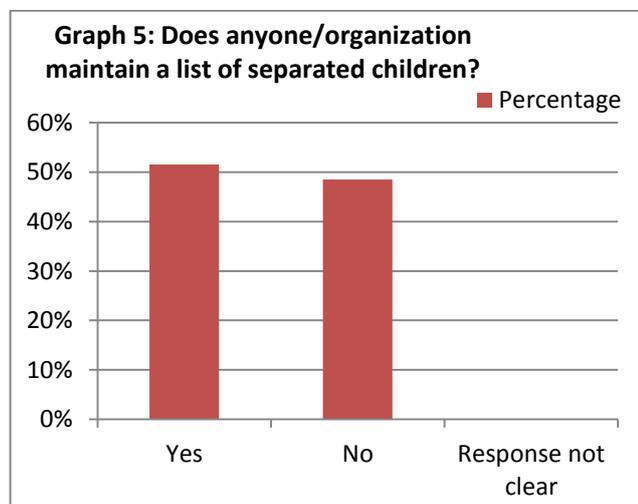
The other common reasons for separation were reportedly losing parents due to sudden relocation and children being sent to institutions (madrassa). Madrassas provide free education, food, and accommodation, and thus act as a coping mechanism.

‘Informal foster care’ was stated as the main type of interim care arrangement (Annex 2) used by communities. Informal foster care was defined by KI as extended family, hujras, mosques, and madrassas. These care arrangements are for both separated and unaccompanied children. ‘Children living on their own’ was sighted as the second most common interim care arrangement.

88% of sites stated that there were no reports of missing children (Annex 3).

52 % of sites reported that the Centre of Excellence for Rural Development (CERD) and IRC are maintaining lists of separated children in the camp (Graph 5). The Child Protection Unit and Save the Children were also keeping lists in off camp areas. 48% of sites were not aware of any lists being recorded.

Of the 94% of sites that responded, almost all reported that there was no list of parents who had lost their children. Therefore, it was reportedly difficult for children to trace their families (Annex 4).



Lessons learnt

- The definition of unaccompanied children should be clearly understood by both the KI and the assessors. This should happen during the training for the assessors and at the beginning of the KI interview. It is important that the KI’s recognize children living in Madrassa’s and places of work (ie, mechanics, brick kilns, and tea shops) as unaccompanied children. This will improve the quality of data collected.
- Need to ensure an equal gender balance of male and female assessors, and subsequently male and female informants.
- The question regarding interim care arrangements needs to be contextualized. ‘Informal care arrangements’ needs to be broken down into sub categories; family, religious institutions (madrassas and mosques), hujras, and work places.

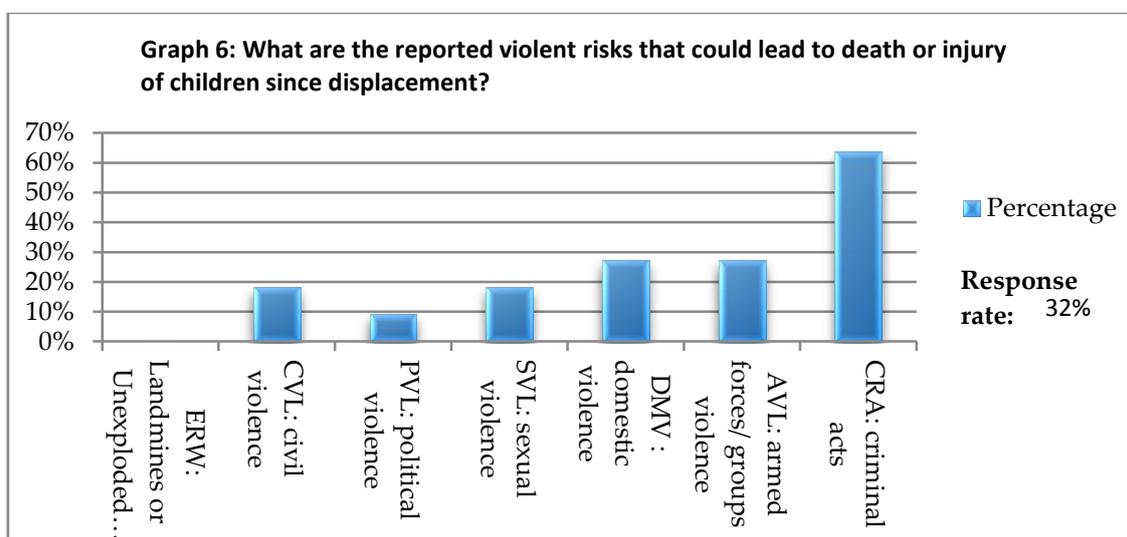
Recommendations

- CP sub-cluster will develop a standard definition for UASC. This definition will be based on the global definition, but will be contextualized to reflect the local language and customs.

The standard definition will be attached to the KI interview sheet to ensure that the same definition is being used in all KI interviews. The definition will also be shared at the training for the enumerators

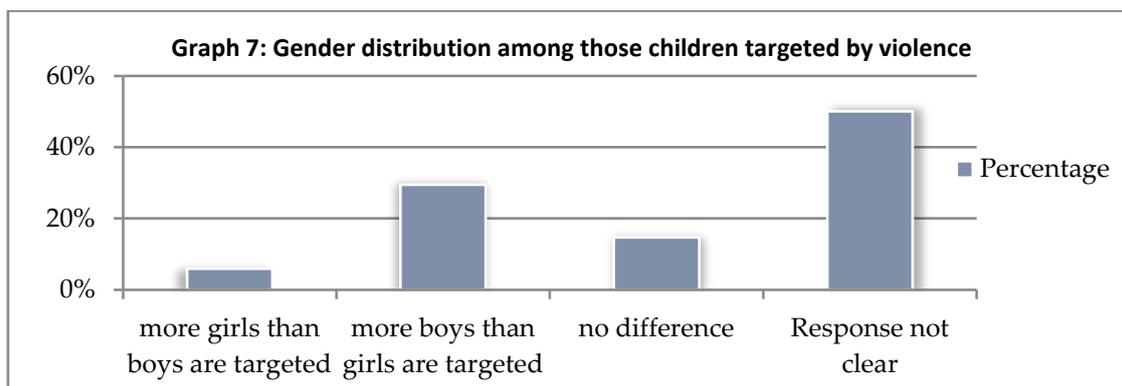
- Develop a list of pre trained enumerators which consists of at least 30% women. This list will be maintain and updated as required by the CP sub-cluster.
- Elderly female community members should be targeted as KI as it is culturally appropriate for these women to be interviewed by males.
- Those organizations maintaining a list of missing children should ensure a separate list of parent’s names is also maintained.
- There needs to be increased awareness around available tracing mechanisms for affected communities. Communities need to understand the importance of registration and which agencies/organizations can support them to trace family members.
- Educate families about the importance of establishing preparedness plans on how to trace each other after displacement. This could include; ensuring children know their basic bio-data (ie their full name, date of birth, home address, name of village); and identify meeting points (before and after displacement) once an evacuation alert has been made. These disaster risk reduction methods should be included into the UASC SOP with FDMA/PDMA.
- Contextualize the interim care questions to get a more accurate response for program planning.

Physical safety and security



Of the 64% of sites that responded, the majority reported that 1-10 children have been seriously injured due to violence since displacement (Annex 5). Of the 32% of sites that responded, 64% stated that involvement in criminal activities is the most reported violent risk for children since displacement (Graph 6). The KIs further characterized criminal acts as theft of pipes and water taps in the camp, substance abuse, and fighting with host community members. According to the KIs, domestic violence is the second most reported violent risk for children. KIs stated that conflict in the

home had increased due to the extreme stress parents are under since displacement. Sexual violence was also reported by elder IDP members as a violence risk for both girls and boys.



29 % of sites reported that more boys than girls are targeted by violence (Graph 7). According to the KIs, boys are more targeted due to their increased exposure within communities. Boys can go out any time for play, work, or school, whereas girls mostly remain inside their homes due to the purdah system. The enumerators further elaborated that male and female assessors had almost the same responses. However, it is unclear what the KI and assessor’s definition of ‘violence’ is, and whether they considered particular gendered acts of violence, like domestic violence, within their responses. As you can see from the high percentage of ‘no difference’ and ‘response not clear’, either KIs were unclear about the questions or did not feel comfortable to respond.

41% of sites reported that mostly children under the age of 14 years are targeted by violence (Annex 6) as they are immature and can be easily targeted with low resistance. However, 50% of responses for this question were recorded as ‘response not clear’.

Lessons learnt

- There should be a separate table for criminal activity, not a joint table of violence and criminal activity. It should also be broken down into age and gender.
- Need to ensure that assessors and KIs understand that definition of violence to include violence in the home. There was the concern that typical violence towards girls, such as domestic violence, was not considered in the KI responses.

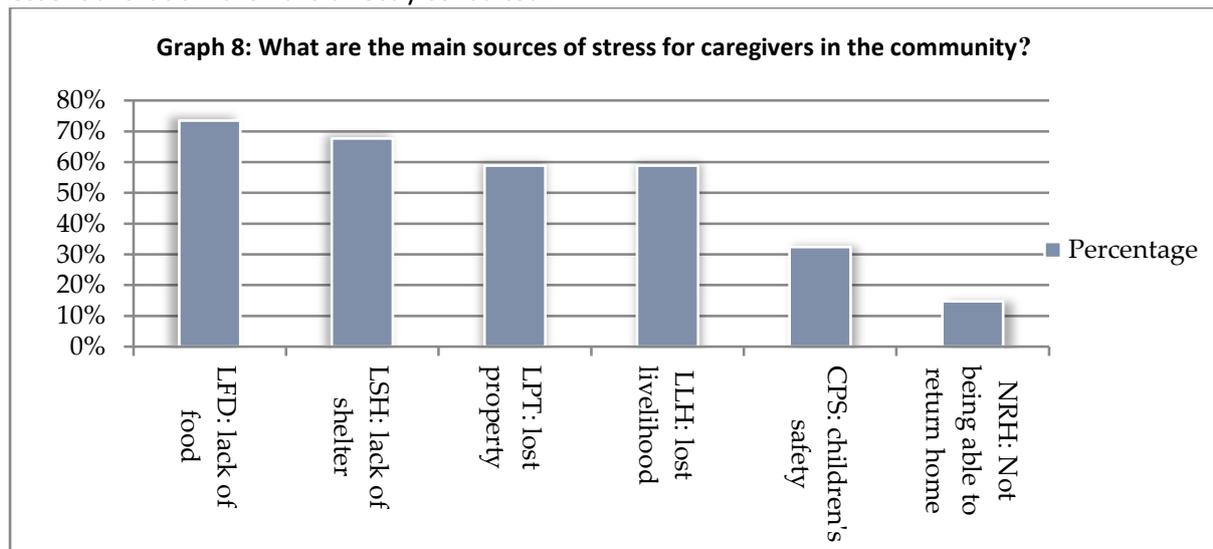
Recommendations

- Ensure that emergency responses include targeted activities towards adolescent boys in order to reduce rates of violence and criminal activity. This could be through recreational activities, skill development activities, engagement in management committees, and/or through recovery activities.
- Ensure that all questions regarding violence include a sub-category relating to violence in the home. A definition of violence should be developed by the sub-cluster and included in the KI Interview.
- That data analysis tool needs to include in the drop down menu ‘response not clear’ and ‘no’ in order to ensure accurate reporting for all the graphs.

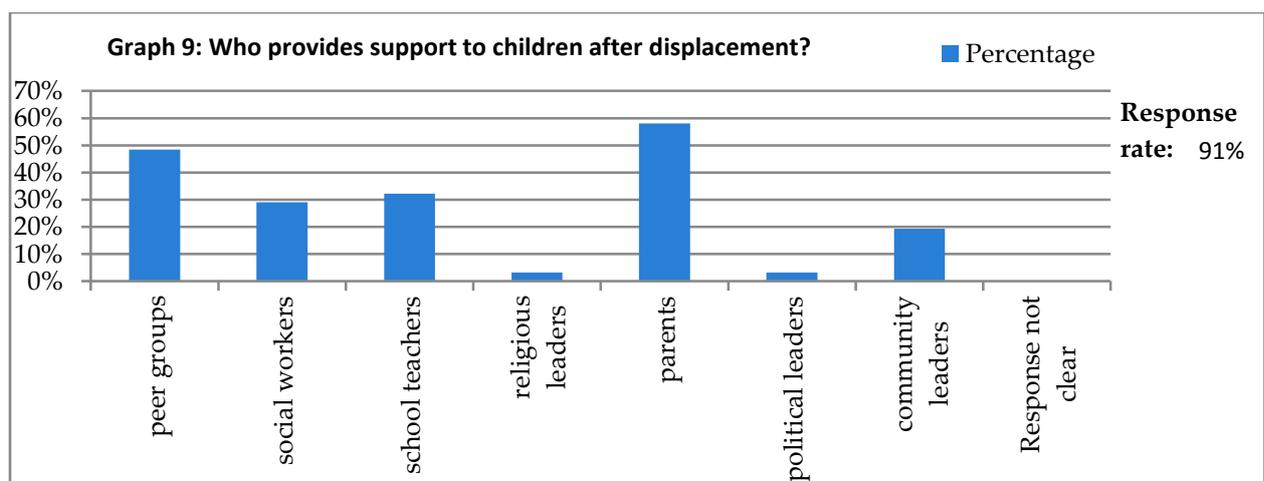
Psychosocial Wellbeing and community support mechanisms

Of the 94% of sites that responded, 53% reported inability to return home as the main source of stress for children since the displacement. Separation from family was the second main source of stress. The enumerators reported poor living conditions, non-acceptance by the local host communities, and adjustment to new surroundings as other causes of stress to children. Girls were reported as particularly overburdened as they have to provide domestic help to both their parents and the host families.

It was difficult to determine the main causes of stress for children as children themselves were not directly interviewed. KIs recorded multiple response based on their experiences and opinions, therefore the graph for this question is not clear. To get an accurate response for this question it is essential that children are directly consulted.



74% of sites reported lack of food as the main source of stress for caregivers (Graph 8). This was reportedly due to food rations being insufficient for families. Some of the IDP family's food rations are blocked due to discrepancies in their family tree or dual addresses on their national identity card. Lack of shelter was the second most common cause of stress for caregivers. This was especially linked to high rent prices for the off camp IDPs.



Of the 91% of sites that responded, the majority reported that parents themselves primarily provide support to children as they are easily accessible and are trusted (Graph 9). 48% of sites reported peer groups as the second major source of support. Social workers, school teachers and community elders were also reportedly viewed by children as support networks after displacement.

Talking with friends and family members was reported as the main coping mechanisms available for children after displacement. PLACES were reported as the second main coping mechanisms. Having access to a safe space with fun activities was sighted as the reason for this.

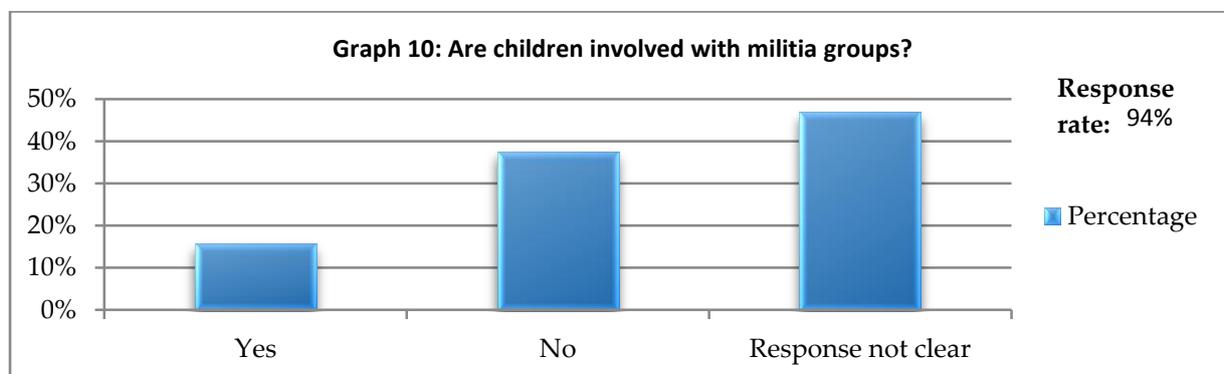
Lessons learnt

- Most of the questions for this section required direct responses from children themselves. Asking adults these questions will only result in the response being based on opinion rather than fact. Without having an accurate response, the data cannot be used for psychosocial program planning.
- For Graph 9, talking to ‘friends and family members’ should be included as two separate sub-categories.

Recommendations

- Conduct 2 child consultations, one in camp and one off camp. Children will be asked in a child friendly group context, ‘what are the main causes of stress after an emergency’, ‘how do they cope with this stress’, and ‘who do they turn to for support’. This information will then be triangulated into any future CPRA conducted.
- Peer-to-peer support system must be made available for children in humanitarian settings. Cluster members should map existing peer-to-peer activities to see what could be rolled out in a humanitarian response.

Children in armed forces and group



Of the 94% of sites that responded, 16 % reported that children were involved with militia (graph 10). However, for 47% of sites, the response was recorded as ‘response not clear’. Enumerators reported considerable reluctance by KI to answer questions relating to recruitment, reportedly due to fear of retribution.

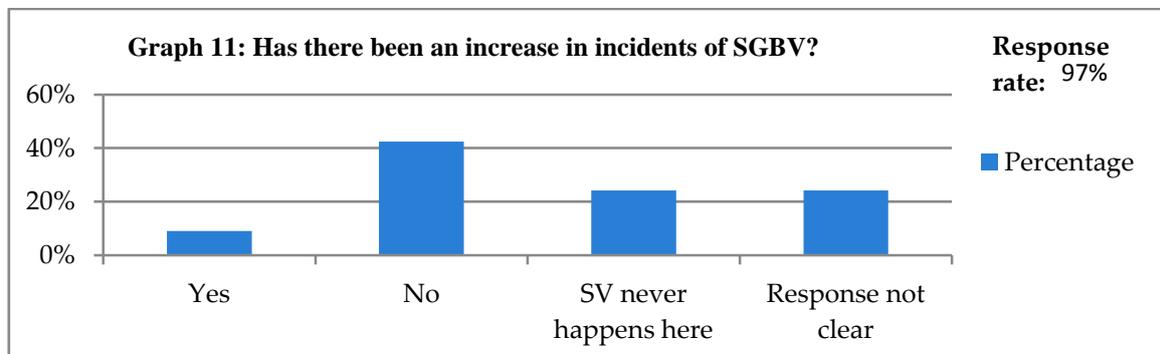
Lessons learnt

- During the contextualization phase of the CPRA, participants should decide on whether the questions being asked about recruitment are appropriate. Questions might be reworded/contextualized, bearing in mind the cultural sensitivity, or taken out of the KI interview altogether. If they are taken out then information on recruitment needs to be gathered through secondary data or from existing research/reports.

Recommendations

- Update the desk review to include the most recent information on recruitment. This information should form the bases of analysis on recruitment when communities aren't comfortable answering the questions.

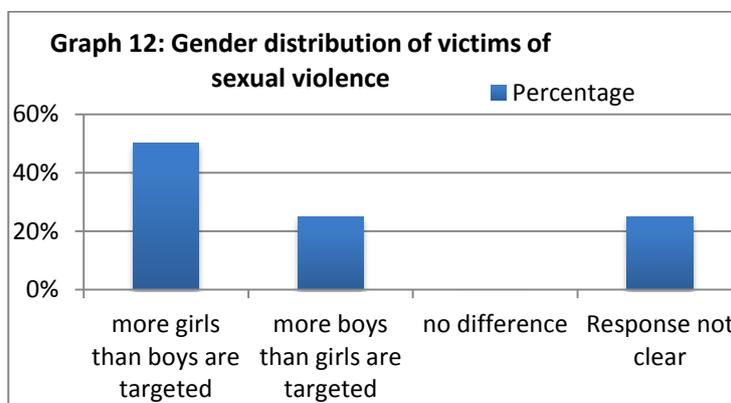
Sexual and Gender-Based Violence



42% of sites reported that there has been no increase in the number of SGBV incidents since displacement. In fact, 24 % of sites reported that gender based violence never happens in their area (Graph 11). Only 9% of sites acknowledged any incidences of SGBV, with the majority of incidences reportedly occurring in the home. The enumerators stated, during the interpretation workshop, that people don't report SGBV cases due to cultural sensitivity. Such cases are kept secret as relatives are most commonly the perpetrator and reporting a case leads to long lasting enmity within the family. SGBV is a very sensitive topic and one which communities in all the sites did not feel comfortable talking about. This explains the high percentage of 'response not clear. Only 6 out of the 34 sites acknowledged SGBV within their community.

Of the 10% of sites that reported SGBV, 50% reported that more girls than boys are victims of sexual violence (Graph 12).

Children below 14 years were reportedly most at risk of SGBV because they are immature, can be easily trapped, and don't have the strength to resist. The mother was reported as the most likely person a child would turn to for help.



Only 16% of sites knew where to get help for SGBV survivors (Annex 9). KI highlighted police and community groups as people who can provide support to survivors.

Lessons learnt

- It is clear that SGBV is too sensitive of a topic to discuss in quick interviews where limited rapport has been established. Therefore, information regarding SGBV should be sort through sub-cluster members working in SGBV response and prevention. Alternatively, information could be collected from a community in post recovery where assessors and/or organizations have existing rapport.
- The SGBV questions should be asked (if asked at all) at the end of the interview to maximize rapport building and not impact the rest of the interview.

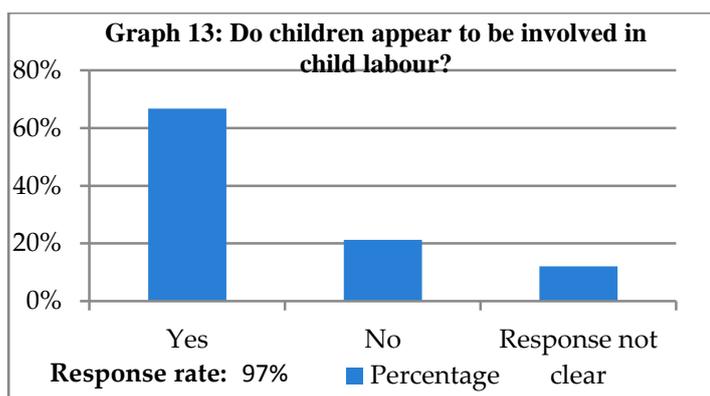
Recommended

- CP sub-cluster should consult with the SGBV sub-cluster on how to improve the questions for the SGBV section of the CPRA, taking into consideration the local context. SGBV sub-cluster should advise on who would be most appropriate/comfortable to respond to the questions regarding SGBV ('in camp' and 'off camp').
- CP and SGBV sub-cluster should develop a communication strategy to increase community awareness on how to access support for survivors of SGBV in emergency settings.

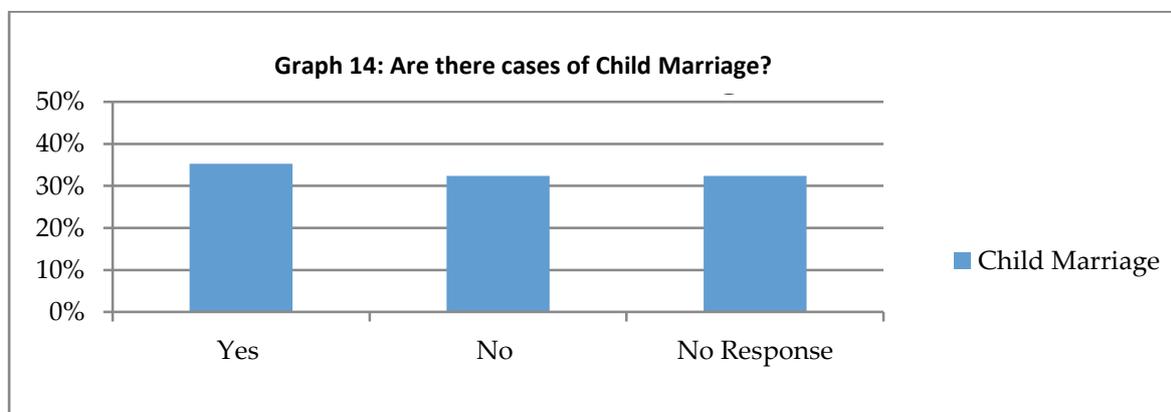
Child Labour and Child Marriages

Of the 97% of sites that responded, 67% reported children's engagement in different forms of labour (Graph 13). Child labour included working in brick kilns, mechanical workshops, shops, hotels, shoe polishing, and domestic help.

97% of the reported sites were of the view that more boys than girls are involved in child labour (Annex 10).



Of the 67% of sites that reported child labour, 52% of these sites reported that children above 14 years were more at risk, whereas 48% of sites reported children below 14 years (Annex 11). Child labour is common practice in Pakistan. Therefore, it is unclear if child labour has increased as a result of the displacement.



35% of sites reported child marriages in their community (Graph 17). However, 32% of sites did not respond to the question. The enumerators further elaborated that mostly girls aged 12-13 years are married to boys aged 17-18, or sometimes older. It was reported that marriages usually occur between relatives. These marriages are decided by parents without the children's consent. This trend reportedly increases during emergencies due to prolonged stay in displacement and the limited access to basic needs. Thus, child marriage is used as a coping mechanism by families.

Lessons learnt

- It is important the KIs and assessors are aware that these questions should relate to worst forms of child labour only. Worst forms of labour should be defined in the information sessions prior to the interviews taking place. Only worst forms of labour which result from the emergency should be recorded.

Recommended

- The CP sub-cluster should look at the contextualized list of worst forms of child labour for Pakistan. The list should be reduced to those forms of labour existing in KP/FATA and attached to the KI interview for reference.

Annexes

