



The Republic of Uganda

National Quality Standards for the Protection, Care and Support of Orphans and other Vulnerable Children in Uganda

NOTE: This framework should be used in conjunction with the companion booklet entitled *A guide for interpreting and applying national quality standards for the protection, care and support of orphans and other vulnerable children in Uganda*



BUILDING BLOCK A SUSTAINING LIVELIHOODS			STANDARDS	NATIONAL INDICATORS	SAMPLE INTERVENTIONS NSPPI p43-46
SPPO I: To create a conducive environment for the survival, growth, development, participation and protection of OVC	CRC Article 27: The right of every child to a standard of living adequate for his/her physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development	CPA I: Socio-economic security OVC and their households are able to sustain their livelihood, accessing short-term emergency assistance where needed	- The most vulnerable children and households receive priority protection, care and support services - Basic livelihood resources, such as agricultural inputs, are provided to needy households - Training and capacity building programmes equip vulnerable children and households with skills to improve their socio-economic security	1.1) Ratio of proportion of OVC versus non-OVC in households living below the poverty line	- Regular income support for older caregivers of OVC - Microfinance and small credit services for vulnerable youth and households - Strategic discussions among multisectoral community leaders regarding socioeconomic security issues for OVC - Volunteer programmes, including community labour, support community safety nets
		CPA II: Food security and nutrition All household members access adequate and appropriate food to meet their nutritional needs	- Early warning systems and services and safety nets exist to identify and meet emergency food security requirements of vulnerable children and households - Household members acquire skills and resources to improve food security - Community programmes reduce food insecurity experienced by vulnerable households	2.1) Ratio of proportion of OVC versus non-OVC who are malnourished (underweight) 2.2) Ratio of food insecure households with OVC compared to households without OVC	- Agricultural tools and equipment provided to vulnerable households - Short-term school-based and/or community food programmes - Training in less labour-intensive farming technologies - School-based gardening programmes for older children
		CPA III: Care and support The basic physical, cognitive and psychosocial needs of OVC and their care givers are met, on a sustainable basis	- OVC and their households have basic commodities such as shelter, food, clothing and bedding - Families and communities access support and services to provide quality care to OVC - Alternative care facilities meet nationally approved standards	3.1) Ratio of OVC versus non-OVC who have three minimum basic material needs for personal care 3.2) % OVC whose households received free basic external support in caring for the child 3.3) % OVC who live under the protection of an adult caregiver	- Short-term care packages for vulnerable children living without adult supervision or in institutions - Assistance to improve shelter, water, sanitation for the neediest households - Programmes for the reintegration and/or resettlement of children from alternative care facilities into communities - Specialised assistance for children and caregivers with disabilities
	CRC Article 38: The right to all feasible measures to ensure protection and care of children who are affected by an armed conflict	CPA IV: Mitigation of the impact of conflict Children affected by conflict enjoy the same rights as children elsewhere in Uganda	- All actors work collaboratively to secure an environment in which essential social services reach vulnerable children affected by conflict - Conflict affected and displaced children are resettled into non-conflict areas or alternative care - Family tracing and reintegration services and child soldier demobilisation programmes reach vulnerable children	4.1) % of children affected by conflict/displacement accessing essential services	- Counselling, demobilisation and safe havens for conflict-affected children - Community-based education on minimising the impact of conflict on children - Programmes in safe areas for children living in unstable areas to access education and health services - Training for health personnel in documenting psychosocial and physical trauma due to violence
BUILDING BLOCK B LINKING ESSENTIAL SOCIAL SECTORS			STANDARDS	NATIONAL INDICATORS	SAMPLE INTERVENTIONS NSPPI p47-49
SPPO II: To deliver integrated, equitably distributed and quality essential social services to vulnerable children and households	CRC Article 28: The right of the child to education, and with a view to achieving this right progressively and on the basis of equal opportunity	CPA V: Education All OVC have equitable access to education and to formal and informal systems of information acquisition, skills building and technical experience	- Education access and retention for OVC is supported materially and financially - Alternative or non-formal basic education is available to vulnerable children who are educationally marginalised - Systems are in place to ensure significant and permanent gains in achieving equitable access to education at all levels	5.1) Ratio of proportion of OVC versus non-OVC aged 10-14 years who are currently attending school	- Short term assistance (scholastic materials and uniforms) for needy students - Training to keep girls in school and safe - Adult education programmes for caregivers of OVC - Community innovations and early childhood care and development programmes for preschool children
		CPA VI: Psychosocial support OVC and vulnerable households access assistance to positively and meaningfully affect their psychological and social situations	- Psychosocial support is an integral part of all care and support programmes for OVC - An appropriate range of psychosocial support services is available to vulnerable children and family members, including therapeutic, succession planning and recreational activities - Referral systems and networks are in place to ensure access to psychosocial support services	6.1) % OVC 6-17 years participating in peer group activities 6.2) Ratio of proportion of OVC versus non-OVC aged 12-17 who have a positive connection with the adult they live with most of the time	- Assistance in preparing wills and memory books and for transitions in care giving - Facilitation of youth groups and other peer groups - Community awareness raising around AIDS and OVC and the prevention of stigma and discrimination - Provision of recreational equipment, facilities and programmes
	CRC: Article 24: The right of a child to the highest attainable standard of health and to facilities for the treatment of illness and rehabilitation of health	CPA VII: Health All OVC enjoy a state of physical, mental and emotional wellbeing that allows them to be productive and to achieve their potential	- OVC access preventive, curative and rehabilitative health services on an equal basis with other children - Children who are living with HIV access appropriate specialised care - Health status of vulnerable children is monitored, eg through inclusion of key information on immunisation cards and clinic and hospital forms	7.1) Ratio of proportion of OVC 12-24 months versus non-OVC 12-24 months who are fully immunised	- Preventive health care services for vulnerable children - Hospice care for chronically and terminally ill children in need of specialised care - Training of health care workers in providing more user-friendly services for vulnerable children, those with disabilities and older persons - ART programmes for parents/caregivers and children living with HIV
BUILDING BLOCK C STRENGTHENING LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORKS			STANDARDS	NATIONAL INDICATORS	SAMPLE INTERVENTIONS NSPPI p50
SPPO III: To strengthen the legal, policy and institutional frameworks for programmes targeting vulnerable children and households at all levels	CRC: Articles 32, 34, 35 & 36: The right of all children to protection from all forms of abuse and exploitation	CPA VIII: Child protection CPA IX: Legal support OVC are protected from all forms of abuse and exploitation and from hazards and harm	- OVC access legal assistance in cases related to inheritance, property and guardianship - There are immediate responses to circumstances and conditions that grossly violate the rights of children, subjecting them to serious risks and hazards - Vital registration (birth, death, etc) and information systems that support children's rights are in place and/or strengthened	8.1) Ratio of proportion of OVC versus non-OVC aged 15-17 who had sex before age 15 years 8.2) Proportion of children under 5 years whose births are reported registered	- Legal aid for OVC and their care givers - Broad-based awareness campaign on reporting cases of child abuse, neglect, or labour - Legal redress for widows and OVC regarding pensions and property - Monitoring mechanisms implemented to report on child protection issues
BUILDING BLOCK D ENHANCING THE CAPACITY TO DELIVER			STANDARDS	NATIONAL INDICATORS	SAMPLE INTERVENTIONS NSPPI p51
SPPO IV: To enhance the capacity of households, communities, implementing agents and agencies to deliver integrated, equitably distributed and quality services for vulnerable children and households	CPA X: Strengthening capacity and resource mobilisation Capacity – individual, household, community and national – is improved to deliver integrated care to OVC		- Infrastructure, personnel, training and management are adequate to deliver care, support and services to OVC - Interagency linkages, communication and co-ordination effectively support policies, planning and programming for OVC - Meaningful community involvement in OVC-related matters takes place at all stages and levels	10.1) % OVC who have access to a comprehensive OVC service package 10.2) % OVC programme resources that was spent on direct programme costs	- Improved facilities and resources for social welfare workers - Initiatives to mobilise and allocate resources - Operations research, documentation and dissemination - Improved communication between MGLSD, development partners and implementing agencies

Key strategies

- Direct interventions
- Mobilisation, advocacy and promotion
- Collaboration and linkages
- Leadership
- Gender analysis
- Documentation and assessment

Guiding principles

- Building on the human rights-based approach to programming
- Making the family and community the first line of response
- Focusing on the most vulnerable children and households
- Reducing vulnerability
- Facilitating community participation and empowerment
- Promoting gender equity
- Treating recipients with respect
- Reducing stigma and discrimination
- Ensuring the social inclusion of marginalised groups
- Ensuring the participation of vulnerable children and families
- Strengthening partnerships
- Delivering integrated and comprehensive services
- Supporting service delivery through decentralisation
- Designing age-sensitive programmes

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