



# REIMAGINING A BETTER FUTURE FOR CHILDREN: A JOINT LEARNING AND ACTION INITIATIVE TO STRENGTHEN PROTECTION AND CARE

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HDPI Child Protection Reference Group &  
Partners

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# The Crisis in Child Protection and Care



- **Growing risks:** Children face rising poverty, conflict, displacement and a rollback of child-rights commitments, putting more children at risk of violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect and family separation.
- **System strain:** Global and national funding cuts, workforce losses and institutional changes are eroding core elements of protection systems; data platforms and policy frameworks are increasingly under-resourced or dismantled.
- **Fragmentation:** Policies and services on child protection and care often work in silos, and weak coordination between humanitarian and development actors undermines coherent responses.
- **Perception gap:** Protection and care are still not viewed—or funded—as life-saving, rights-based, economically sound, or core global development priorities, despite clear evidence of their social and financial value.



# A Joint Initiative to Strengthen Protection and Care

**Goal:** Support the sector to reimagine and strengthen child protection and care systems through joint learning, shared insight and coordinated action.

**Intended outcome:** To advance a unified, forward-looking, and locally led agenda that drives policy reform, investment and practice suited to today's realities and supports sustainable change.

**Examples of previous success of collective action:** Joint Learning Initiative on Children and HIV/AIDS, adoption of Sustainable Development Goal 16.2, Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action, Alternative Care Guidelines, Graça Machel Report on the impact of armed conflict on children, INSPIRE, VAC Ministerial Conference, and other landmark efforts.

# Three focal areas of this joint work

*Risks and disruptions: In this period of crisis, what are the drivers, barriers, and enabling factors shaping child protection and care?*



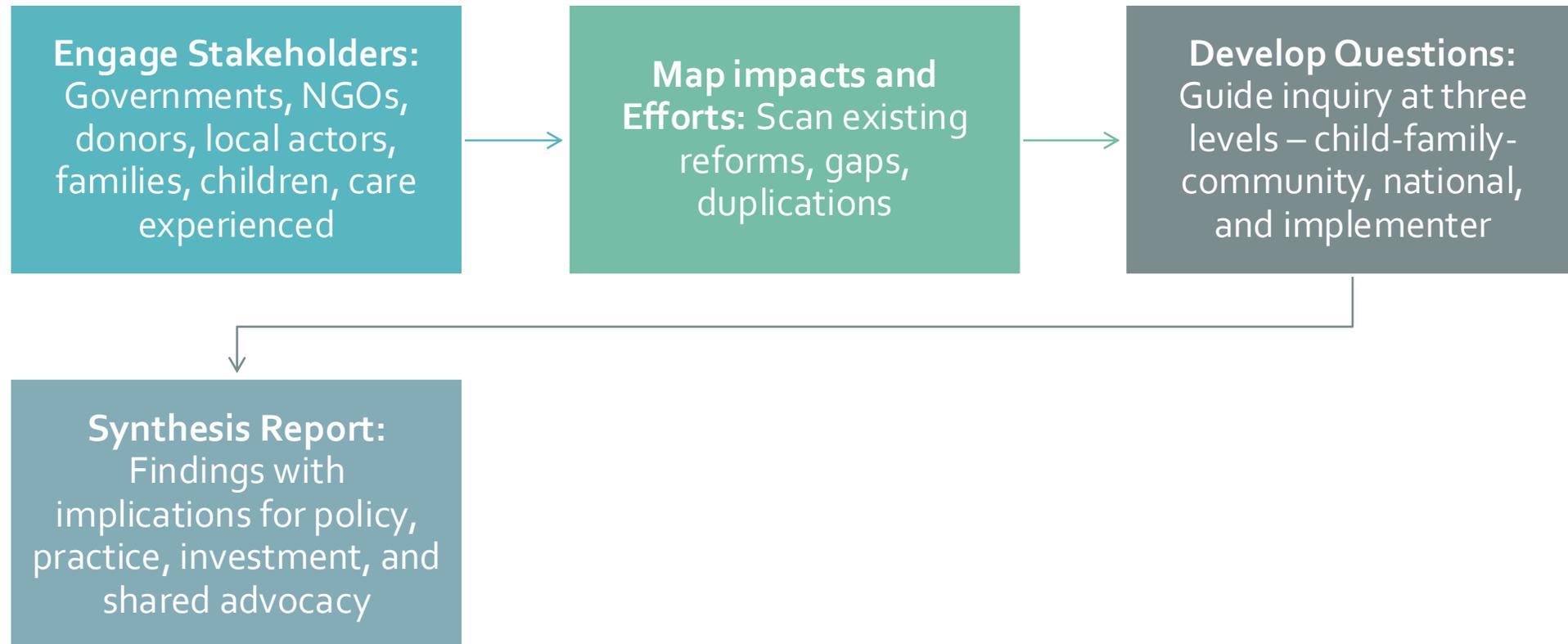
*Emerging responses: What adjustments are governments, civil society, and international partners making to their policies, programmes, and governance arrangements in response to rising pressures and system disruptions?*



*The way forward: What challenges and opportunities are stakeholders encountering in sustaining commitment, coherence, and innovation?*



# Phase I – Strategic Mapping & Inquiry (Months 1–3)



**Sector dialogues:** Convene discussions to deepen analysis, encourage peer learning, and align strategic responses

**Case studies:** Elevate scalable, context-specific innovations

**Collaborative platform:** Build a platform to sustain exchange, learning, and influence

## Phase II – Learning, Innovation & Co-Creation (Months 4–9)

# About: the Humanitarian Development Partners Initiative (HDPI)



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**Who We Are:** A multi-agency platform that works to improve collaboration humanitarian and development sectors.

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**Our Purpose:** To strengthen humanitarian and development responses globally by supporting affiliates, fostering collaborative innovation, and providing specialized services such as training, consulting, and evaluations.

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**Our Approach:** Work with partners to facilitate cross-sector dialogue; promote joint learning and action; elevate local leadership and innovation; align humanitarian and development responses with global child rights standards.

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**HDPI Child Protection Reference Group:** A thematic working group dedicated to strengthening child protection and care systems through evidence, coordination, and advocacy—supporting more effective, accountable, and sustainable approaches to child protection, care, and wellbeing, particularly in fragile and crisis-affected contexts.

# THANK YOU

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