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Child Participation and Accountability to Children Resources

This catalogue presents practical resources that support meaningful child participation and accountability to children throughout the programme cycle. Organised by programme cycle phase, each entry includes a summary, available languages, other relevant phases, and a direct link to the resource *(embedded in the resource titles)*.

01 Preparedness

Child Participation and Accountability in Save the Children Colombia's Programming (2019)

Design and Planning, Implementation and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning | English, Spanish

It examines how Save the Children Colombia can strengthen meaningful child and adolescent participation across all programme stages to support learning, adaptation and accountability. Drawing on desk and field research with staff and young people, it identifies key challenges and provides practical recommendations.

Checklist for Incorporating Child Participation Across the Humanitarian Programme Cycle

Relevant for all Phases | English

A checklist for coordination teams on promoting children's safe participation, influence and leadership across the humanitarian programme cycle.

FAQs on Child Participation

Relevant for all Phases | English

Twelve frequently asked questions that clarify key terms and support child participation across the humanitarian programme cycle.

"Peace is the greatest thing in the world, and I want to say, let us preserve it together."

- Addi, 23, Ethiopia

02 Needs Assessment and Situation Analysis

We Know What We Need: Adolescent Consultation Summary Report (2023)

Preparedness, Design and Planning English

Summarises adolescent consultations in Ethiopia, South Sudan, the Lake Chad Basin and the Venezuela response, highlighting key findings, recommendations and lessons for programme design.

Assessment Tool: Community Mapping (Adapted from International Rescue Committee, 2012)

Preparedness, Implementation and Monitorin English

A community mapping tool for collecting qualitative information with adults, children and adolescents on available services, barriers to access and areas of risk.

Children's Ebola Recovery Assessment: Sierra Leone (2015)

English

Presents the views of 1,193 children consulted across nine districts of Sierra Leone on Ebola's impacts and their priorities for recovery, using a child-centred assessment methodology.

We need to do better: Climate-related disasters and child protection in Eastern and Southern Africa: IFRC and the Global Child Protection Area of Responsibility (2022)

Relevant for all Phases English

Examines climate-related disasters and child protection across Eastern and Southern Africa, drawing on a survey of 2,174 children and young people, interviews with 33 stakeholders and existing evidence.

Participatory Ranking Methodology: A Brief Guide (2013)

English

A mixed-method participatory approach that enables groups to generate, rank and compare contextualised responses, identify priorities and inform action plans.

Child Friendly Participatory Assessment Tools: A Toolbox of Ideas (2010)

Design and Planning, Implementation and Monitoring English

Provides child-friendly tools to identify, prioritise and analyse key issues and plan action, with objectives, materials, steps and facilitation notes for each activity.

Child and Youth-friendly participatory action research toolkit (2010)

Design and Planning English

Supports children's participation in identifying and analysing protection issues and planning solutions. Its sequenced tools cover risk identification, prioritisation, root-cause analysis and action planning.

Child Led Data Collection: A guide for young people to learn how to do research and create positive change

Preparedness, Design and Planning, Implementation and Monitoring English

A manual for young people and supporting adults or organisations on child-led data collection and children's role in researching and communicating their own realities.

Guide d'entretien pour la collecte des données d'identification du contenu du kit de dignité (2024/2025)

Design and Planning French

An adapted focus group tool for consulting women and girls aged 10–24 in the Lake Chad region to identify locally and culturally appropriate dignity kit contents.

Annex 2: Example of Key Steps and Timeline (2023)

Design and Planning, Implementation and Monitoring English

Provides participatory tools illustrating key steps and a timeline for planning and conducting consultations with children.



Frequently Asked Questions on Child Participation

Relevant for all Phases | English

Twelve practical questions and answers that help practitioners understand and support child participation.

Information Sharing & Communication with Children and Communities (2020)

Relevant for all Phases | English, Arabic, French, Spanish

Guidance for MEAL, programme and partner teams on two-way communication with children and communities, including what to share, who to involve and how to communicate in line with relevant standards.

Participatory Accountability Assessment Tool: Ensuring participatory design and review of our Accountability Systems (2022)

Implementation and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning | English, Spanish

Provides tools for consulting children and adults when designing or reviewing accountability systems, including feedback and reporting mechanisms and information-sharing approaches.

Guidance on Accountability to Children

Implementation and Monitoring | English

Introduces the principles and practices of accountability in child-centred programmes and helps programme and MEAL staff design systems responsive to children's needs and sensitivities.

Child-friendly feedback mechanisms training manual

English

A training manual introducing accountability in humanitarian settings and providing practical guidance and tools for designing and implementing child-friendly feedback mechanisms.

Guidelines: children and young people with disabilities

Needs Assessment and Situation Analysis, Implementation and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning | English

Offers practical guidance for consulting children and young people with disabilities in different settings and situations.

Présentations de formation pour la conception, la mise en œuvre et l'adaptation de mécanismes de retour d'information adaptés aux enfants au Cameroun: (1) Conception d'un mécanisme de retour d'information adapté aux enfants (2) Mise en place de la boucle de retour d'information (2023)

Implementation and Monitoring | French

Training presentations on key considerations for designing, implementing and adapting child-friendly feedback mechanisms in Cameroon.

Annex IV ideas for feedback channels including child friendly channels /withing FCRM (2021)

Implementation and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning | English

Presents options for establishing or adapting child-friendly feedback channels, with their advantages and disadvantages, including telephone, email, meetings, complaints desks, forms and online portals.

National Guidelines on the establishment of the Child Friendly Feedback Mechanism (2025)

Relevant for all Phases English

A standardised guideline for establishing accessible, confidential and safe child-friendly feedback mechanisms, based on a mapping of existing practices and focused on meaningful feedback from vulnerable children in Uganda.

Child friendly feedback mechanism guideline-Presentation-Uganda (2025)

Needs Assessment and Situation Analysis, Implementation and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning English

A presentation based on a 2024 assessment by Plan International, UNHCR, ChildFund International and the Child Protection Sub-Working Group on child-friendly feedback mechanisms in Uganda.

Mapping of Child Friendly Feedback mechanism- presentation- Uganda (2025)

Needs Assessment and Situation Analysis, Implementation and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning English

Presents findings from a 2024 multi-agency mapping of child-friendly feedback mechanisms in Uganda.

World Vision's Guidelines for Child Participation (2009)

Implementation and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning English

Sets minimum expectations for meaningful and safe child participation across World Vision, clarifying the responsibilities of staff, volunteers and partners before, during and after engagement with children.

Creating an inclusive and accessible feedback and reporting mechanism- modue 1

English

Guidance for MEAL, programme and safeguarding teams on establishing or reviewing inclusive feedback and reporting mechanisms through which children and communities can share feedback and concerns.

Accountability to children and communities: a "how to" guide (2021)

Implementation and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning English

Explains Terre des Hommes' approach to accountability to children and communities, with practical examples, tools, staff roles, behaviours and lessons for implementation.



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The Three Pillars of Accountability to Children and Communities (2023)

Evaluation and Learning | English

A concise leaflet outlining the three pillars of accountability to children and communities and key considerations for each, suitable for training or awareness-raising.

Child-Friendly Feedback Mechanisms: Guide and Toolkit (2018)

Relevant for all Phases | English, French, Spanish, Polish, Ukrainian

A step-by-step guide with 20 tools for designing, implementing and monitoring child-friendly feedback mechanisms with children, young people and communities in humanitarian settings.

Guidance on Accountability to Childre-MEAL4KIDS (2018)

Evaluation and Learning | English

Guidance for programme and MEAL staff on child-sensitive accountability systems, including tools for information sharing, feedback handling and defining roles and responsibilities.

Child-Friendly Complaint Mechanisms: National human rights institutions (NHRIs) Series: Tools to support child-friendly practices

Evaluation and Learning | English, French, Spanish, Polish, Ukrainian

Guidance on designing, implementing, and evaluating child-friendly complaint mechanisms, with practical examples from justice-for-children standards.

Interagency Study on Child-Friendly Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms Within NGO Programmes I Save the Children's Resource Centre (2015)

Relevant for all Phases | English

Presents survey findings and examples from five international NGOs on establishing feedback and complaint mechanisms that are accessible to children.

Child Participation Guidelines for Online Discussions with Children (2021)

Needs Assessment and Situation Analysis, Evaluation and Learning | English, Bahasa Indonesia, Korean, Chinese

An information card for caseworkers to explain family tracing and reunification services to children and caregivers, including the caseworker's responsibilities and contact details.

Family Tracing and Reunification Service Card (2016)

Evaluation and Learning | English

An information card for caseworkers to explain family tracing and reunification services to children and caregivers, including the caseworker's responsibilities and contact details.

Manual of psychosocial skills

Evaluation and Learning | English

Practical guidance on understanding, giving and receiving effective feedback with both adults and children.

Children's Consultations in Humanitarian Contexts Annex 5: Example of a Referral Protocol (2023)

English

Provides an example referral protocol to support safe children's consultations in humanitarian contexts.

How to Integrate Children's Participation in Health and Nutrition Programming (2015)

Relevant for all Phases | English

Helps health and nutrition staff and partners involve children meaningfully in programming, including young children, rights analysis and participation across the programme cycle.

Adolescent Friendly FGD Guide For adolescents 12-14 years and 15-17 years

Preparedness, Needs Assessment and Situation Analysis | English

Guides focus group discussions with girls and boys aged 12–17 in Syria on protection risks, safety, security and access to services.

Quality Checklist for Child Participation

Evaluation and Learning | English

A checklist with five indicators for assessing how effectively a service provider encourages and enables child participation.

Child Participation Guidelines for Online Discussions with Children

Design and Planning | English

A concise version of the guidance for organisations and schools conducting online consultations, surveys and other activities with children.

Plan best practices in communicating with children

Relevant for all Phases | English

A practical tip sheet outlining good practices and common mistakes when communicating with children.

You create ART KIT: Participatory Action Research for Young Change Makers, 2019

Design and Planning, Evaluation and Learning | English

A participatory action research kit for YouCreate youth leaders aged 15–25 and their adult supporters, covering creative and digital arts, safeguarding, wellbeing, project roles and learning.

Burkina Faso: Améliorer notre redevabilité envers les enfants que l'on soutient | Terre des hommes (2025)

Evaluation and Learning | English

A Burkina Faso case study describing a methodology co-created with children, the challenges encountered and solutions developed to support genuine collaboration.

A Toolkit for Monitoring and Evaluating Children's Participation: Introduction. Booklet 1 (2014)

English

Introduces a six-booklet toolkit for monitoring and evaluating children's participation, including its conceptual framework, key terms, guidance and practical tools.

Practice Standards in Children's Participation (2005)

English, Arabic and French

Sets standards for consistent, meaningful and high-quality child participation, providing field staff and partners with a framework for improving participatory practice.

A Toolkit for Monitoring and Evaluating Children's Participation: Measuring the creation of a participatory and respectful environment for children. Booklet 2 (2014)

English

Provides 25 indicators and practical tools for assessing whether an environment respects and supports children's participation, covering rights protection, awareness and opportunities to participate.

Now I'm Stronger - Child Protection at the IRC: Focused Activities for Children's Emotions (FACE) (2025)

Evaluation and Learning English

A psychosocial support curriculum that builds coping and resilience through active participation and life skills, with ten age-adapted sessions for children aged 6–17 and guidance for facilitators and volunteers.

A Toolkit for Monitoring and Evaluating Children's Participation: How to measure the scope, quality and outcomes of children's participation. Booklet 3 (2014)

English

Explains how to measure the scope, quality and outcomes of children's participation, including when children engage, their level of influence and who is included.

Tool 2.6 PGI Focus Group Discussion Guide: Adapted from International Federation of Red Cross and Red Cresent Societies- Protection Gender and Inclusion in Emrgencies Toolkit (Pilot Version)

Design and Planning English

Guidance for conducting focus group discussions on protection, gender and inclusion, assessing dignity, access, participation and safety in a specific context.

Child Participation Toolkit (2024)

Needs Assessment and Situation Analysis, Design and Planning English

A toolkit for National Societies on engaging children safely and meaningfully in consultations and throughout programme development, grounded in IFRC policies and inter-agency standards.

Best practices in communicating with children

Relevant for all Phases English

A short tip sheet on good practices for communicating effectively with children.

Closing the feedback loop- module 3

Evaluation and Learning English

Explains how to close the feedback loop by telling children and communities how their feedback influenced decisions, what actions were taken and why some requests could not be acted upon.

Annex 1: Participatory Data Collection Tools -annex1

Relevant for all Phases English

An annex containing participatory tools for collecting data with children and communities.

Child Wellbeing Matters: Improving Case Management Practice Through Research (2025)

Evaluation and Learning English

Examines how children, caregivers and caseworkers experience child protection case management and identifies the service components and pathways that contribute to child wellbeing.

05 Evaluation and Learning

Child Participation, Influence and Accountability in Humanitarian Response: Landscape review (2019)

Relevant for all Phases | English

A landscape review based on literature and key-informant interviews, presenting findings and recommendations on child participation, influence and accountability in humanitarian response.

Review of Children's Participation in Humanitarian Programming (2013)

Relevant for all Phases | English

Reviews the scope and quality of children's participation in humanitarian programming through surveys, interviews and desk research, and recommends practical steps for more systematic, safe and inclusive participation.

The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action. (2024). Child accountability in humanitarian contexts: A desk review

Design and Planning, Implementation and Monitoring | English

A rapid desk review of how accountability to children is understood and applied in humanitarian action, including children's involvement in accountability systems and practices across the project cycle.

Survey: Children's rights during the war in Ukraine | Terre des Hommes (2023)

Needs Assessment and Situation Analysis | English

A survey co-designed with internally displaced children on their rights and experiences during the war in Ukraine, intended to inform humanitarian action and longer-term reconstruction.

A Toolkit for Monitoring and Evaluating Children's Participation: Children and young people's experiences, advice and recommendations. Booklet 6 (2014)

English

Shares children's experiences of piloting participation evaluation tools, their advice to facilitators and child-friendly guidance on what young people should expect from adults.

Feedback mechanism evaluation form (Fiche d'évaluation du mécanisme de retour d'information) (2024/2025)

Implementation and Monitoring | English

An evaluation form for reviewing the functionality, accessibility and improvement needs of Plan International's child-friendly feedback mechanisms.

Feedback form suitable for children (Formulaire de feedback adapté aux enfants) (2024/2025)

Implementation and Monitoring | English

A tool for assessing the functionality and child-friendliness of feedback mechanisms, identifying strengths, weaknesses and priority areas for improvement across five key aspects.

Group feedback form-P3 participant satisfaction with Programme: Adapted from Save the Children, A kit of tools for participatory research and evaluation with children, Young people and adults (2021)

Implementation and Monitoring | English

A group exercise for gathering participants' views on programme activities and improvements, which can also measure satisfaction with opportunities to influence programmes.

Managing, Analysis and presenting feedback data for action 2

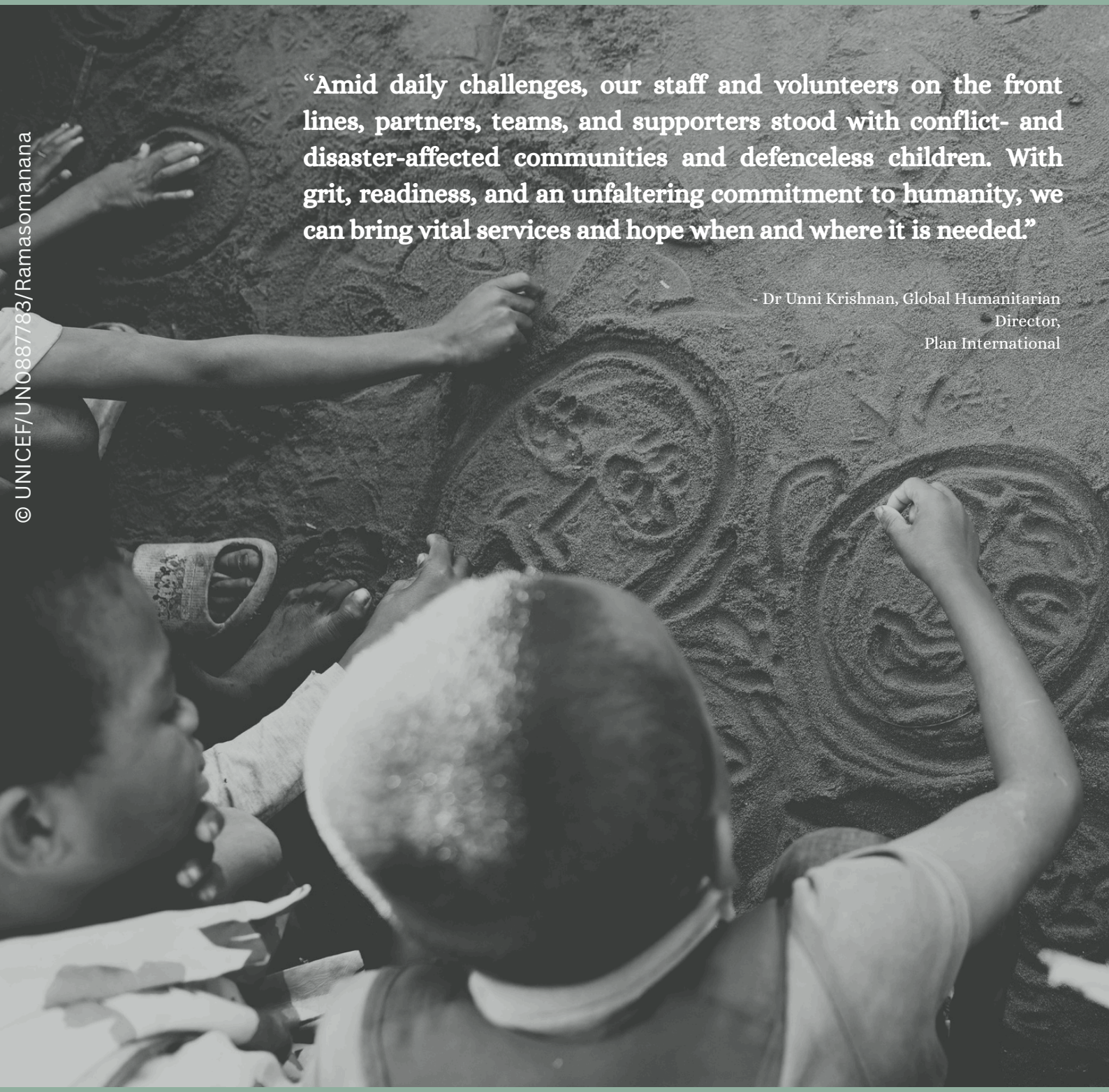
English

Step-by-step guidance for MEAL teams on managing, analysing and presenting feedback data for action, while helping programme and senior management staff use findings for decision-making and programme quality.

Child Centred Accountability and Protection Evaluation (CAPE) Guide for Involving Young People in Monitoring & Evaluating Child Protection Systems (2012)

Implementation and Monitoring English

Provides practical tools for involving children and young people in monitoring and evaluating child protection systems, including analysing risks, assessing services, engaging decision-makers and promoting accountability.



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"Amid daily challenges, our staff and volunteers on the front lines, partners, teams, and supporters stood with conflict- and disaster-affected communities and defenceless children. With grit, readiness, and an unfaltering commitment to humanity, we can bring vital services and hope when and where it is needed."

- Dr Unni Krishnan, Global Humanitarian Director, Plan International