

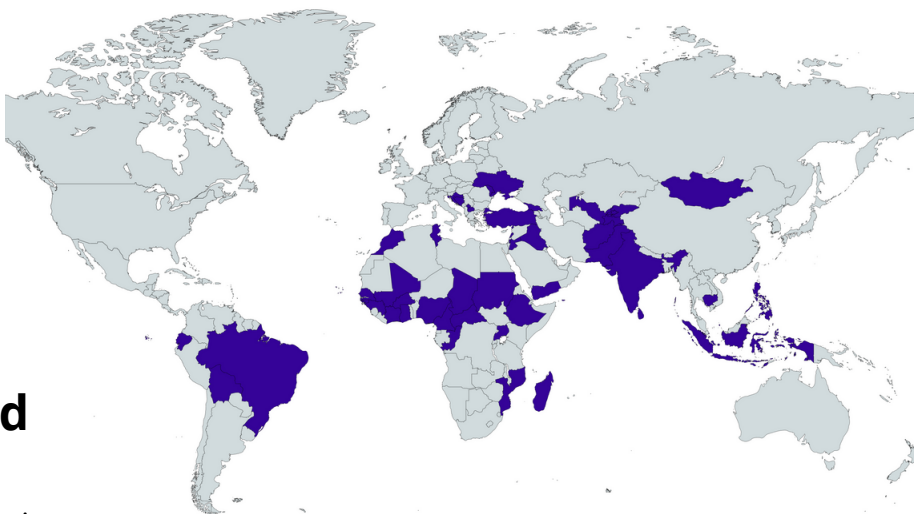
Child Protection in the World Bank's COVID-19 Social Protection Response



Responding to the COVID-19 crisis, the World Bank has deployed \$10 billion through its Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice to support social protection projects. Since these projects are purportedly designed to target the members of society most vulnerable to violence, abuse, and exploitation, the Bank should address child protection as a crucial element of social protection so that its projects effectively identify and reach the children most in need of social protection services.

WE ANALYZED
**55 PROJECTS
ACROSS 49
COUNTRIES**

APPROVED BEFORE
MARCH 31, 2021



Criteria Assessed



- Service delivery
- Multisectoral collaboration
- Child-friendliness
- Stakeholder engagement
- Data collection and disaggregation

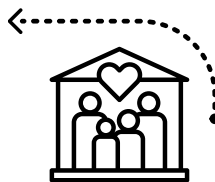
Recommendations

The World Bank should:

- Build on promising practices identified in this research and seek to replicate them across the social protection portfolio
- Develop a coordinated child protection strategy for social protection projects with appropriate technical guidance and adequate resources.
- Recognize child protection as a core element of social protection and require that social protection projects mainstream components to strengthen child protection systems.
- Where strong child protection measures are incorporated into project design, work with borrowers to deliver on them during project implementation.

KEY FINDING
**PROJECTS
CONTAIN
PIECEMEAL CHILD
PROTECTION
MEASURES**

AND LACK OF COORDINATED
STRATEGY FOR CHILD
PROTECTION



Key Findings and Promising Practices

Child Protection Approach

Service Delivery

Percentage of projects that:

Hire child protection service delivery providers



Include psychosocial support for children generally or to address SEA/H or VAC issues

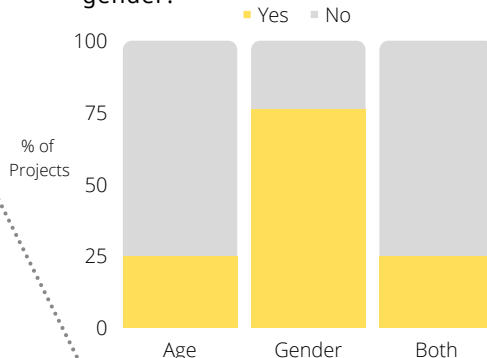


Integrate civil society into child protection service delivery efforts



Data Collection & Disaggregation

Is the project designed to collect disaggregated data by age and gender?



Child-Friendliness



Two-thirds of the projects include materials in a language that is accessible to children



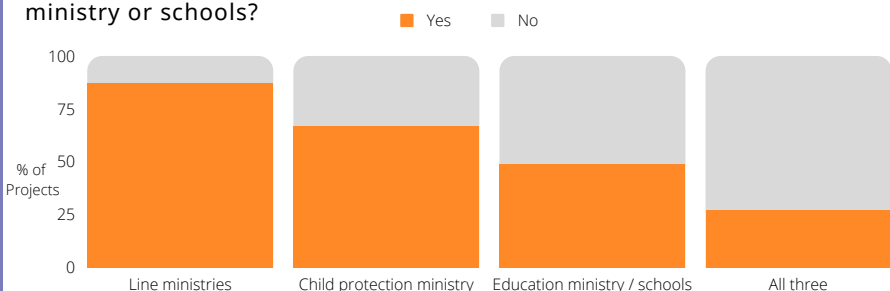
20% of projects included a child-friendly grievance redress mechanism



Almost 70% of the projects provided a referral pathway for child protection complaints

Multisectorial Collaboration

Did the project include multiple line ministries, the relevant child protection ministry, and engage the education ministry or schools?



Stakeholder Engagement

42% of projects had a basic strategy for child-friendly consultations

84%

of projects had inclusive measures for women and/or children to participate in consultations

47% of projects indicated plan to engage with child rights CSOs

PROMISING PRACTICE: HOLISTIC PROJECT DESIGN

The Lebanon Social Safety Net Project was the highest scoring project among the 55 reviewed. The project as a whole stands out as a promising practice on how the Bank can design broader social protection projects that simultaneously include children in the country's social safety net and contribute to capacity building that will strengthen the borrower's child protection system, even after the Bank project concludes.

PROMISING PRACTICE: CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT

The Afghanistan COVID-19 REACH project provides the strongest example of engaging child rights CSOs to assist in service delivery. NGO facilitating partners are expected to assist with the mobilization, verification of household lists, procurement, delivery, and monitoring of the relief support packages. The project can potentially benefit from the relationships these organizations already have with local communities, helping the project to reach people at risk of exclusion.