

tool 50 Linking Monitoring, Prevention and Response to Grave Violations

Factsheet

The collection of information about protection concerns should systematically trigger or inform prevention and response activities; this is a basic professional standard for all humanitarian actors¹³. Some NGOs engaged in the MRM may themselves be implementing specific response programs for children affected by war, others may not. Regardless of their programmatic activities, the table below shows steps that organizations can consider as a follow-up to cases of violations they come across, depending on the type of engagement they have in the MRM and on the security environment in which they operate.

Follow-up step	What it means	General aims	Examples of potential outcomes	Most relevant for what grave violation(s)?
Referral	Linking victims/relatives with a service provider that can respond to their needs. Typically, victims of grave violations are referred to medical and trauma care, psycho-social support and legal assistance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care/assistance. Reintegration. Accountability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Victim gets medical or psychological care. Victim or relatives get legal redress. Victim gets support to resume his/her 'normal' life. 	Maiming; rape and sexual violence; recruitment and use; abduction.
Advocacy	<p>Discussing how to address a particular situation or problem with armed actors and/or authorities, as well as with actors who may influence or have leverage with them.</p> <p>Discussing assistance needs of children affected by armed conflict and mobilizing financial support for response programs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance with an obligation. Accountability. Prevention of violations. Improved response/services for children in conflict. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Armed actor changes or stops a harmful practice (e.g., vacates a school, allows humanitarian access, releases children in its ranks). Authorities take proactive action to respond to violations and protect children (e.g., investigations and prosecutions of perpetrators; release of children detained for association with armed groups or application of juvenile justice standards in the event of a prosecution; adoption of child protection-related policies, legislation or services). Donors increase support to response programs for children affected by the conflict. 	All six grave violations (individually or as a whole).

¹³ See *Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action*, Child Protection Working Group, 2012 (Standard 6 – Child Protection) and *Professional Standards of Protection Work Carried Out by Humanitarian and Human Rights Actors in Armed Conflict and Other Situations of Violence*, ICRC, 2013

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(cont'd)

Follow-up step	What it means	General aims	Examples of potential outcomes	Most relevant for what grave violation(s)?
Awareness-raising	Sensitizing children, communities, child-minders, armed actors or authorities to the risks and impact of armed conflict on children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confidence-building. Prevention of violations. Reintegration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voluntary association of children with armed actors is prevented. Dialogue is established with armed actors and they adopt tactics and practices that prevent violations. Communities offer a supportive environment for survivors of rape and sexual violence and for children formerly associated with armed forces and groups. 	Attacks on schools and hospitals; denial of humanitarian assistance; rape and sexual violence; recruitment and use of children.

related tools

-  **tool 52** – Guiding questions ‘Mapping service providers and identifying referral pathways’
-  **tool 56** – Case study ‘Responding through advocacy: ad-hoc release of children in Eastern DRC’
-  **tool 53** – Case study ‘Emergency fund for referrals in Eastern DRC’
-  **tool 54** – Guiding questions ‘Planning advocacy on the grave violations’