



List of research and studies undertaken 2009 – 2014 on community-based child protection systems

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Five years ago, community-based child protection mechanisms – such as child protection committees, child welfare committees and child protection focal points – were already well established as the main community-level mechanisms supported by many international child protection agencies and donors. Despite the widespread nature of this model, it was also generally recognised that programming using this approach was drawing from a very limited and somewhat disparate evidence base. So whilst community-based initiatives and efforts to keep children safe were considered to be key in children’s improved protection, it was not well understood exactly if, how or why these mechanisms were effective.

The 2009 report ‘[What are we learning about community based child protection mechanisms?](#)’ confirmed that the evidence base on community-based child protection mechanisms was indeed very weak. There were very few quality studies and evaluations dealing with this aspect of child protection and almost no evidence to tell us which community-based child protection mechanisms could be considered effective models and why. This lack of evidence also meant that the pivotal role of community-based child protection mechanisms highlighted by child protection systems thinking was based more on theory than on actual learning.

Five years on there has been a significant increase in quality evidence and learning around community-based child protection mechanisms. Since the 2009 review was released, studies of community-based child protection mechanisms and their relationship with child protection systems have been undertaken in over ten countries across the world. Not only are these studies significant and important contributions to a previously minimal evidence base, but they are also evidence of many child protection agencies’ commitment to working together in order to improve protection for children at the community level.

Countries included in study	Publishers	Year	Name and link to study
Kenya	Interagency Learning Initiative	2014	Summary and integrated analysis: a grounded view of community-based child protection mechanisms and their linkages with the wider child protection system in three rural and urban areas in Kenya
Liberia	CPC Learning Network	2013	Community-based child protection Mapping: Montserrado and Nimba Districts - Final Report

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Rwanda	CPC Learning Network	2013	Community-based child protection mechanisms in refugee camps in Rwanda: an ethnographic study
Somaliland and Puntland	The Columbia Group for Children in Adversity	2013	A rapid ethnographic study of community-based child protection mechanisms in Somaliland and Puntland and their linkage with national child protection systems
Sri Lanka	Save the Children	2013	A Capacity Assessment of Village Child Rights Monitoring Committees in Sri Lanka
Uganda	CPC Learning Network	2013	Community based child protection mechanisms amongst urban refugees in Kampala, Uganda: an ethnographic study
Uganda and Rwanda	CPC Learning Network	2013	Best practices for engaging community-Based child protection mechanisms and establishing synergies with the education sector: Learning from Protracted Refugee Settings in Uganda and Rwanda Webinar recording of the presentation of these findings (2014)
Lessons learned	CPC Learning Network and Interagency Learning Initiative	2013	Lessons learned: conducting research on community based child protection mechanisms
Asia: (Bangladesh; Cambodia; China; India; Indonesia; Laos; Nepal; Pakistan; the Philippines; Thailand; Sri Lanka; East Timor; Vietnam)	Plan International 2012	2012	A comparative analysis of community-based child protection mechanisms supported in by Plan in Asia

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Uganda	CPC Learning Network	2012	Mapping Community-based Child Protection Mechanisms – Uganda
Sierra Leone	Interagency Learning Initiative	2011	<p>Full report: An ethnographic study of community-based child protection mechanisms and their linkage with the national child protection system of Sierra Leone Research</p> <p>Brief: An Ethnographic Study of Community-Based Child Protection Mechanisms and their Linkages with the National Child Protection System of Sierra Leone (2012)</p>