



Child Protection Matters

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International Child Protection Network Canada

<http://icpnc.wordpress.com/>

WHO WE ARE

The ICPNC is thrilled to produce its very first edition of “**Child Protection Matters.**” In January 2013 by a group of dedicated child protection practitioners, the ICPNC came to life. With close to **50 members** from diverse children’s rights organizations and individual consultants, the Network is increasing in momentum and finalizing critical governance and membership structures.

Objectives:

- **To improve Child Protection programming among Canadian International Development NGOs with an emphasis on rights based approaches, participation and accountability to children.**
- **To effectively engage key stakeholders on critical Child Protection issues.**

- **To improve Child Protection Policy, Systems and Procedures Organizationally among Canadian International Development NGOs**

All three objectives represent network members’ commitment and dedication to improving the lives of children around the world.

The ICPNC adopts a strong collaborative spirit through thematic working groups, specifically: **Monitoring and Evaluation, Policy Engagement, Child Safeguarding, Children & Work, Education and CP, Children’s Participation, Gender and CP, Child Protection Systems.** A Steering Group drives the strategic direction and works closely with working group leads to leverage opportunities and develop strategic resources in the name of the Network.

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Building on Canada's Commitment to Child Protection



Why Child Protection Matters to Canadians...

Canada has a long history of leadership in international work to advance children's safety, both through the strong efforts of the Canadian government and through the innovative and wide-ranging work of many NGOs and academic institutions. CIDA's Children and Youth Strategy (2010) identified child protection as a key focus area.

Great opportunity exists for Canada to strengthen its leadership in this important area. Further work is needed to share best practices and lessons learned, to refine tools and methodologies, to build knowledge, and to engage the Canadian public, government and other key stakeholders.

Building on CIDA's renewed interest in Child Protection; a strong network of Canadian institutions can leverage the strategic advantages of collaboration to strengthen Canadian policy engagement and effective programming on this critical issue. **ICPNC hopes to build off continued momentum and interest from the Canadian government in prioritizing key child protection issues, ultimately advancing children's ability to not only survive but thrive.**

Update from ICPNC Quarterly Face to Face Meeting

On Wednesday June 5th 2013, The International Child Protection Network Canada (ICPNC) met for an all-day meeting at Right to Play, Toronto Canada. Some of the objectives for the meeting were to finalize key decision-making processes, enhance understanding of working group updates and challenges, and to review updates for ICPNC Communications, potential funding models and explore membership criteria. The decision-making draft was widely accepted amongst members which will be critical as ICPNC moves forward in developing position papers and strategic documents. Two membership streams which were broadly accepted by members will be offered with the ICPNC: **Participating** (*lower level of engagement and responsibility*) and **Active** (*high level of engagement and responsibility*). A dynamic learning session regarding a systems approach to child protection was presented by Sarah Stevenson, followed by Joanna Wedge presenting on Child Protection in Emergencies. The Face to Face provided space for working group members to discuss transformative "Ah-Ha Moments" and collaborate on some of the challenges and potential opportunities for the ICPNC. The next Face-to-Face will be held in the Fall of 2013!

Canadian Resources on Child Protection

[CIDA's Children and Youth Strategy](#)

[Canadian Centre for Child Protection](#)

[Child Protection Information Network- Ministry of Children and Youth Services \(MCYS\)](#)

[Lessons Learned on Children and Young People's Participation in Development \(CIDA, 2007\)](#)

Upcoming Events

[Summer Course on the Rights of the Child- Moncton University, July 12-19](#)
(Laura Wright, ICPNC Member facilitating!)

[Canadian Red Cross, 1st Annual Conference on International Humanitarian Law, Friday Sept. 27th, 2013, University of Toronto](#)



Desperate for income to support her mothers and sisters, Moe (not her real name) traveled to Muse, a trading town in Myanmar on the border with China, to sell fabric. Once in Muse, she was held captive and forced to marry a Chinese man.

Spotlight on ICPNC Member Organization: World Vision – End Trafficking in Persons (ETIP)

In the midst of a 5 year multi-country project, World Vision's [End Trafficking In Persons](#) (ETIP) is an innovative approach to anti-trafficking, including: Prevention, Protection, and Policy. ETIP collaborates closely with law enforcement agencies and relevant stakeholders in the identification and protection of trafficking victims.

The goal of ETIP is to contribute to the mitigation and prevention of human trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region through specific outcomes in prevention, protection and policy advocacy. **ETIP program activities are focused in Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam.** ETIP Started in Oct 2011 and is expected to be complete in September 2016.

