

Childwatch

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH NETWORK

WORKPLAN 2010

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THEMATIC GROUPS

Building Capacity for Ethical Research with Children and Young People

Including children as participants in social research raises many ethical dilemmas for researchers. While 'research ethics' is understood as a concept that varies from place to place, a universal challenge facing researchers is balancing the interests of the child with those of the community/society/family and the goals of research studies (Morrow, 2009). Legal responsibilities to uphold children's rights within the research process, enshrined by the UNCRC, sit alongside researcher obligations to respect the principles of justice, consent, confidentiality and avoiding doing harm to child participants – whether they are subjects, respondents or researchers themselves. This initiative is specifically designed to address the child research capacity building objective identified at the 2009 Childwatch Key Institutions Assembly. It will do this by providing up-to-date information and resources and identifying current issues specific to research contexts internationally so as to support researchers to walk the ethics tightrope (van den Hoonard, 2002) in the pursuit of high-quality, effective and respectful research with children (Morrow, 2009; Powell & Smith, 2007).

A particular focus of the study will be on the ethical issues that arise in participatory research with children, an approach to research that is widely utilized in majority and minority world contexts and which allows for strengthening the qualities of childhood, including in contexts which rely on low-cost, locally adapted and creative research approaches (Nieuwenhuys, 2005). The project is designed to draw on and enrich the existing knowledge base about ethical research within the Childwatch Network, and to capitalise on the information shared at the Child Participatory Research Roundtable at the Children's Rights at a Crossroads Conference (chaired by Natalie Bolzan and Jan Falloon) in Addis Ababa in 2009. It will also utilize and expand on the existing Child Research Methodology section of the Childwatch website, interface with the work of the Childwatch Training Course for Young Researchers to build research capacity, and extend the work already achieved in the citizenship, participation, and law thematic groups. The project also offers a valuable opportunity to explore the merits and challenges of conducting international research collaborations within the Network by seeking the views and experiences of KIs involved in previous and current Childwatch thematic groups. This will assist the Network to identify how best to support these international research efforts and to set realistic expectations for them.

The project is also designed to be inclusive of all Childwatch KIs *and* representative of the majority world interests and issues regarding the ethics of undertaking research with children and young people by proposing to bring researchers together on-line. Potentially, the project will overcome the usual budgetary, work and time constraints associated with bringing international researchers together. It is envisaged that meetings will be conducted using the interactive on-line software, Elluminate. This aspect of the project will require technical and administrative co-ordination by the Thematic Group members in planning, administering and facilitating the online discussion, including ensuring participants have the relevant IT

requirements and preparation/training and, for instance, to negotiate international time zones. Because of the unique nature of this enterprise, a small Steering committee, consisting of CCYP staff, Nicola Taylor (CRCF), and Jan Mason (SJSC), will travel to the CCYP to facilitate 'break-out' groups at various stages of project discussion, and to ensure the smooth running of the meeting. The tasks to be undertaken during the first year of the proposed Thematic Group are a scoping exercise. We anticipate drawing on the material collected to identify further phases of the project (for which applications will be made in subsequent years) such that it will be possible to maintain a broader involvement of majority world KIs in any subsequent project activities. Possible future initiatives include: i) an international action research project (incorporating children and young people's participation) and ii) a further training programme for young and emerging researchers – both of which would be designed to showcase the application of ethical principles in different research contexts.

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Child-Friendly Cities and Communities Research Network

The Child Friendly Cities Initiative (CFCI) was launched in 1996 to act on the resolution passed during the second UN Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) to make cities liveable places for all; in UNICEF terms, for "children first." CFCI advocates the adoption of governance approaches and participatory urban management that promote the realization of the rights of the youngest citizens. It is a powerful tool for identifying disparities and forms of discrimination, and addressing them in a systemic manner through the holistic implementation of full rights for all children.

A dialog was established between Childwatch International and the Innocenti Research Center (IRC) of UNICEF in the Autumn of 2007 of the possibilities of developing a research collaboration to improve the quality of the international Child Friendly City (CFC) initiative through a systematic effort to build a more self-critical program through the development of assessment and monitoring tools. In January 2008, IRC organized a consultation on Child Friendly Cities in Geneva. They brought together some 30 participants from Regional and Country Offices, National Committees of UNICEF together with Childwatch, as represented by the Children's Environments Research Group. The Consultation stressed the need for improved knowledge development and dissemination on CFC. A research initiative was proposed to be undertaken in collaboration with UNICEF country offices, National Committees, research partners and cities to review and improve the ways communities and cities assess and monitor their 'child-friendliness'. The proposal was endorsed and significantly advanced in the meeting, in relation to two interrelated components:

Partnership – A collaboration between IRC and Childwatch to promote partnerships among research institutions in both developing and industrialized countries. The focus would be on specific municipalities that wished to improve their approach to becoming a child friendly city

Knowledge development and dissemination – First there would be a phase to consolidate knowledge of existing experiences from child friendly cities in assessment and monitoring. This would be followed by the development and testing of new assessment instruments to promote greater participation by both child and adult community residents “child-friendliness” of communities and cities. Government officials would also be involved in the self-assessment of governance structures and processes for the fulfillment of children’s rights.

Key steps were identified for the development and implementation of the research initiative:

Formation of a **consultative group of researchers** through the Childwatch International network to serve as an advisory group for the research initiative. They were to provide guidance and critique in the development of the methodologies.

Critical review of existing approaches, tools and instruments for assessing and monitoring the conditions for the fulfillment of children's rights at the local level. The review was prepared by CERG and completed at the Childwatch/IRC experts’ consultation meeting held at the offices of the Bernard van Leer Foundation in The Hague in November 2008.

Design of the research methodology and of innovative tools, based on the critical review. CERG with IRC’s collaboration produced a modular set of tools to be adapted locally.

Pilot testing in two select countries and modification of the draft set of tools: A preparatory workshop for piloting was held in Brazil on March 19-21, 2009. Piloting over a five month period in The Philippines and Brazil allowed for modification of the draft set of tools before applying them.

A Consultation workshop was held in Rome in November 2009 to ensure a common understanding of the methodology and to facilitate knowledge sharing among the 11 countries participating in the implementation phase of the new system of tools.

Field testing of the assessment tools by students from 9 countries. Before the tools were tested by UNICEF sponsored teams, students completing their MCR (Master of Advanced Studies in Children's Rights), based in Switzerland, volunteered to use the tools. They completed a comprehensive report of their experiences in trying out the tools as part of the fulfillment of their masters degrees.

Research implementation in 11 countries: The tools are currently being implemented by municipalities in 11 countries in partnership with local research institutes and UNICEF. The local research partner is producing a report which includes a comparative analysis as well as a critique of the system of tools. CERG and IRC are supporting the 11 research teams through a wiki site.

Knowledge dissemination of findings through the Child Friendly City website (www.childfriendlycities.org), working papers and conferences. The products to date include: a) A set of community self-assessment tools for children of different age groups, parents and community service providers with an associated facilitator’s guide for use by communities; (b) a set of governance self-assessment tools for use by municipal officials; (c) reports of the piloting of the tools in Sao Paulo and Rio in Brazil and from Manila in The Philippines. A report from the current research in eleven countries will be produced by CERG and IRC this October.

Specific activities in 2010:

- A Childwatch/IRC report of the research findings in eleven countries
- A final revised set of tools and facilitators guides (on the Childwatch and the UNICEF websites)

- First draft of a Community Mapping Handbook (funded by Bernard van Leer Foundation).
- Childwatch Review of the Research to date (5 -10 pages) - from the Florence workshop.
- A Childwatch Advisory Board proposal (approximately 5 pages) for future research initiatives - from the Florence Workshop.
- Continued regular reports through the Childwatch Website
- Research funding sources identified and plans for grant proposals developed

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Training of Junior Researchers

An initiative was taken by the Key Institutions Assembly in 2005 to initiate training for junior researchers to support the network's aim to build capacity of research institutions, and to ensure the recruitment of strong child researchers in all parts of the world. Such a program could fully take advantage of the network of expertise on training and research that Childwatch International represents. The regional networks have seized the opportunity and Latin America has completed a successful pilot project, followed by the Middle East, carrying through their course in November 2009.

In **Latin America** 15 junior researchers from nine research institutions participated in the one year training course programme organized within the framework of the regional network in Latin America and the Caribbean. The programme was developed by the network, and hosted by CINDE in Colombia with trainers from Mexico and Colombia. The programme consisted of several phases: preparation, face-to-face course in Manizales Colombia and follow-up, including the young researchers doing research work with long distance tutoring.

The training programme in Latin America aimed at promoting high quality research practices in the Childwatch Key Institutions in Latin America and at developing a pilot course for junior researchers that could serve as a model for Childwatch in other regions. The programme was evaluated by an independent consultant. A full report is available in Spanish and an extended summary has been written in English. This has been used by the MENA region in the development of their training course.

The projects the participants elaborated and worked on after the course in Manizales were presented at the regional conference in Argentine in October 2009. The University of Xochimilco and Bernard Van Leer co-sponsored the training course in addition to the local resources made available by CINDE and the Key Institutions in the region.

Based on earlier activities and experiences, the objectives in 2010 will be to:

- Strengthen the research capacity of Latin American Institutions belonging to the CWI network and other associate institutions.
- Create practical options for cooperative research projects among Latin American CWI Institutions.
- Make optimal use of the research capacity of the different Latin American

Institutions of the network as well as the strengths of its “senior” researchers in the preparation of a group of “junior” researchers.

- Encourage the interchange of knowledge and research practices among organizations based on lessons learned by the institutions themselves.

In order to achieve this the project will:

1. Evaluate the experience and materials and adapt if for further use in CWI Institutions in the region
2. Refine the curriculum and strategies for preparation of the multipliers.
3. Develop the final version of Training Manuals
4. Conduct a one week face to face training
5. Establish a platform for an E-learning course

All activities in 2010 are funded by CINDE (International Center for Education and Human Development)

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Social Exclusion or Inclusion of Vulnerable Youth in Societies in Transition

Young people are at risk for poverty and social exclusion in all European countries, in particular those who experience what is often called non-linear as opposed to linear transitions from school to work, to independent living, and to establishing themselves in a new family situation. In particular this pertains to youth who are vulnerable at the outset, such as youth formerly in public care, disabled youth, youth with drug or mental problems, ethnic or national minority youth, or refugee and migrant youth. At the same time youth between the ages of 16 and 25 are an extremely important resource for any country, and investing in good services is important for their well-being as well as for reducing more far-reaching effects on a country's welfare and other institutions. Thus, this project addresses (a) what initiatives, both public and NGO-based are actually taking towards including these groups, (b) what interventions seem helpful, (c) what are possible developments of new initiatives, and (d) how do the different countries succeed in engaging the youth themselves as partners?

This project focuses on Eastern European countries, from north to south. There are several reasons for this. First, these are countries in varying forms of transition, where it is important to include youth in developing and building new ways of organizing the societies. Second, these countries do not have established welfare regimes in the same way as Western European countries, and it is important to highlight possible ways of action when this is the case. Third, it is important to engage with Eastern European countries in order to try to extend the scope of Childwatch in this part of Europe, this, of course, in collaboration with already existing networks in the region, eg. [the Central and Eastern Europe Regional Network](#).

An important part of the project is to formulate initiatives that can be disseminated to public and NGO stakeholders in the participating countries, with the aim of establishing a wider

network that can continue working on these issues in their respective countries and also collaborate between themselves.

Institutions that are members of the Childwatch International network in the region will be invited to participate, but also researchers and stake holders in countries that are not represented in the network will be approached and invited to participate.

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REGIONAL NETWORKS

Sub-Sharan Africa : “Training workshop on “Designing participatory, rights-based research with children in Africa”

The African Network of Child Researchers is a network of academicians, policy makers and practitioners established in 2006 following the colloquium organized by Codesria, Childwatch International, Kenyatta University and University of Western Cape in Dakar, Senegal. The main aim of the Network is to foster dialogue and communication of research on, about and with children across diverse social, economic, cultural and political contexts of the African continent. Among other things, the network has the following aims: 1) To foster research on and with children and young people across the African continent; 2) To respond to identified child research needs in the African countries; 3) To form a basis of a network of child researchers in Africa; 4) To enhance collaboration with researchers from within and outside Africa, emphasizing not only inter and intra regional links but also links between academic researchers and practitioners; 5) To promote the capacity of African academics working in child research to take their proper place in global childhood and youth studies; 6) To foster a specifically African domain of the study of children and young people

In 2010 capacity building workshop for teachers of child research on designing and implementing scientific, rights-based research with children will be organized. The workshop primarily targets researchers who wish to carryout participatory research *with* children focusing on the use of new and innovative techniques including actively involving children during the entire stages of a research project.

Rationale: *There is a lack of competencies among researchers on how to do research with children through interactive and participatory approaches. In addition, often times the methods used in research tend to overlook ethical protocols for the protection of human rights of children during the research process.*

Rights-based research with children is grounded in the principle that children are knowledgeable subjects who can participate in detailed research processes. Article 12 of the UNCRC focuses on the right of children to express their views freely in matters affecting their lives, and to have their views given due weight in research, policy and practice. Translating this into a research context means viewing children as subjects of research and acknowledges their right to be

properly researched.¹ However while creating the spaces for participation is desirable, sustaining children's involvement throughout the life time a given research project (planning, research design, data collection, coding, analysis, interpretation, and dissemination) requires particular knowledge, reflexive skills and sensitivities.² In addition, although it has been argued that new academic theories (e.g. social studies of childhood) in the global North and rights-based perspective are accompanied by the advent of participatory techniques (e.g. mental maps, photo diaries, drawing, essay composition, ranking and areal mapping, stories and sentence completion etc); the ways of using these research tools are far from known by many social science researchers in Africa. These research tools are seen to empower children and have been documented as having immense impact on gaining rich insights into their social, material and spatial worlds. Given the fact that social studies of childhood in Africa is at its infancy, one of the primary task the Network has envisaged is to carry out a capacity building training on these methodologies so that researchers have the ability and confidence to conduct scientific research with children.

Goal: *The overall aim of the training workshop is to enhance the capacity of researchers to plan, conduct, analyze and disseminate scientific, rights-based research with children.*

Rights-based research approaches have been the basis of planning, monitoring and evaluation of interventions for children and are also used increasingly by academics.³ The research methodology training is grounded in culturally-appropriate and local sensitive approaches, actively involving the researchers themselves to ensure that the training builds on their prior knowledge on research methods and ethics. Although participants of the workshop may have an adequate mastery of the basic principles of social science research, rights-based *with* children requires a paradigm shift that acknowledges the view that children are similar to adults but possess different qualities, skills and competencies.⁴

Objective: *The main objective of the training workshop is to equip researchers with knowledge and skill to conduct rights-based research with children.*

The approach to be followed by the workshop will encompass the full cycle of doing rights-based research with children including:

- How to use methods that facilitate children to share their views and experiences;
- How to put scientific, replicable information from children and about children in the hands of policy makers and programmers;
- How to empower children (and adults) to find out about their own lives.
- How to protect children through a comprehensive ethical strategy.
- How to monitor, analyze and disseminate research results for a wider audience, including for children.

¹ Ennew, Abebe and Kjørholt (2009). *The Right to be Properly Researched: How to do Scientific, Rights-based Research with Children*: Bangkok: Knowing Children, World Vision International and Norwegian Centre for Child Research

² Abebe, T. 2009. Multiple methods, complex dilemmas: negotiating socio-ethical spaces in participatory research with disadvantaged children. *Children's Geographies* 7 (4), 451 – 466.

³ See for example the special issue of *Children's Geographies* 7 (4) December 2009, *The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child 20 years on: The right to be properly researched*.

⁴ Punch, S. 2002

Recognising children's competencies in research needs techniques that are empowering: the Training Workshop will use unique research manuals for planning and carrying out individual and/or larger research project, as well as exercises to be carried out by the researchers so that, at the end of the workshop, they can design research protocols and be prepared for research with children and young people in 'a messy, real world'.

Participants:

The workshop is designed for training of trainers in child research. All the participants will have a minimum of PhD degrees or at the final stages of their research in the social sciences and have some experience in child research. Applicants should be placed in an African university of research institute. The objective is to have a multiplying effect of the workshop with the trained scholars providing further guidance and training in their home institutions.

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Asia and the Pacific: “Exploring child to child violence and its socio-cultural contexts”

This activity directly relates to the CWI priority focus on 'Child Protection, especially violence against children'. In its focus on child to child violence it takes as its starting point the UN special report on Violence Against Children and its reference to the lack of attention to the significance of socio-political factors in understanding child to child violence.

Building on the previous partnership experiences of the Asia Pacific Study Group this activity will extend strategies learnt in our recent collegial research, to facilitate transfer of skills between participants in additional diverse cultural settings

The Special UN report on violence highlighted that lack of research on the socio-cultural aspects of violence, our proposal to focus on this aspect in our child to child research requires an interdisciplinary approach. The team is predominantly social work and social work is a discipline which of itself is based on an interdisciplinary approach, informed by knowledge from a range of disciplines, eg social policy, psychology, sociology and law. Additionally the team also includes persons with specific academic qualifications in sociology, psychology and international development. The composition of the team is predominantly that of researchers, but also includes practitioners. The team members conduct their research in partnership with both practitioners and policymakers. This research will require furthering of these links.

All KI and PI study group members will be responsible for identification, circulation of documents via email and summarising of main points as background of relevant in-country and internationally available literature on the topic before the proposed meeting in late July/August 2010 (eg UN 'Special report on Violence Against Children' and the Northern Ireland report, 'Childhood In Transition, Experiencing Conflict and Marginalisation in Northern Ireland', and documents such as the blog of Children's Advisory Board, India. 'Learn without Fear').

The initial literature review will be developed for publication, either separately or in conjunction with the results of the actual completed research. A book will be written on the research project and its findings. Opportunities will be taken as they present, to publish on the project in journals

and in chapters of other books. It is likely that the research will tie in with potential publications through ISCI on child well-being.

East and Central Europe: “Children in Care”

During previous CWI meetings, the care of children in institutionalized settings was identified as one of the most important topics for vulnerable groups of children in the CEE region. A high level of institutionalization of care persists and is the real challenge for the future. New types of community based and family centred services are needed. The region lacks new forms of foster care.

An expert meeting will bring regional representatives with colleagues from other countries together and give them an opportunity to share experiences and discuss how research can contribute to changes.

Preliminary programme:

Brief introduction to the situation of children without parental care in the participant's countries/regions (each participant is supposed to prepare short presentation and take active part in process), Overview of research activities in the field of children in care, Identify the priorities in the research, Search for common research topics, Discussions on possible joint research projects. Up to 20 participants are expected.

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Latin America and the Caribbean: “Excluded Children and Youth: Outcomes and Challenges of the New Millennium”

This is the VI International Conference and Annual Regional Meeting of the Latin American and the Caribbean Network to be organised second half of October. Five other Conferences have been held with success in Brazil (2004, 2005); Mexico (2006); Jamaica (2007); Colombia (2008) and Argentina (2009) with full participation of KI's of the region and from other participants that collaborate in different ways with CWI. All these events have been the reference point for publications in Spanish.

The Conference will be hosted by El Colegio de Jalisco in Guadalajara Mexico. It will be co-organized with Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana . It is expected to have full participation of our KI Latin American and Jamaica, and will be making efforts to invite new partners from countries that don't have any KI. The presence of Chile is very important this year since we are all concerned with making a serious reflection on ways in which researchers may support different strategies to promote the rights paradigm in scenarios of distress such as the one that this country has been facing, as well as Haiti. We are expecting also the launching of the publication with the participants of the last Conference that took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina. In these meetings we will present some of the outcomes of some of the common projects that are taking place in different countries, such as the youth's Social participation

project (Venezuela-Argentina), the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program (Costa Rica-Venezuela) and other initiatives like the Results of the Consultation on the Right of Children to Play made in different places in Mexico.

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Middle East and North Africa (MENA): “Roundtable Conference and Training- Peer to Peer Methodology/Research Ethics/ Child Friendly Schools”

The aim of this activity is to invite speakers, stakeholders working with children and education to share their knowledge regarding the issue of Peer to Peer methodology, ethics of involving children in research, violence in schools, gender equality and safety that can be applied in the school setting to reduce violence in schools.

The aim of the conference is to map the experiences and tools used for research related to child friendly schools and give recommendations for a comparative study between all regions participating to explore the ideal school environment within the social and cultural context. The aim is to enhance the capacity of the researchers to conduct further qualitative research in the area of child friendly schools.

During the workshop Key Indicators will be developed. These will be used to measure if the research projects brought by participants from each region show that the schools are engaged in child friendly activity. For example, the school infrastructure, number of students enrolled in a class, safety provided in schools etc. The selected participants will be sent a questionnaire before arriving for training to bring selected studies regarding the child friendly schools in their country which will help to develop the key indicators.

Practical field work that will include visit to two schools in groups of two (i.e. 10 researchers in each group) to have practical field experience utilizing various types of peer-to-peer methodology; correct implementation procedure, and training methodology to teach researchers how to use children in research. This will be followed by focus group with students (i.e. male and female students), to learn about student’s perception on the subject of violence and abuse in the school environment, stories of occurrence of violent behaviour, patterns of violence, equality in the learning process for boys and girls, student’s expectation regarding child friendly school environment.

Participants

Researchers for the workshop will be from the region including countries like Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Yemen, Dubai, Oman, and Palestine. The participants will be selected based on their involvement in the field of social educational sciences (research programs and services). They minimum experience required for participation should be at least one year.

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Other Network Activities

Child Poverty

Childwatch International has joined forces with the Comparative Research Programme on Poverty (CROP) to initiate activities focusing on child poverty. In the coming year CROP and Childwatch will continue to support the efforts of an established research team as they further develop and concretize their research proposals. It is expected that funds from CROP will be complemented by financial, infrastructural and other forms of support from the Social Science Research Institute and the Population Research Institute, both at Penn State.

This support will be used by the team to:

- (1) create a project website to facilitate communication and proposal development, and to provide a common and accessible storage location for pertinent literature and documents;
- (2) conduct systematic and comprehensive searches for (a) recent academic and non-academic literature on child poverty and (b) governmental, foundation and other programs that might fund the proposed research;
- (3) establish and follow a protocol for the development of one or more proposals on child poverty;
- (4) develop and write a brief on child poverty for CROP's new research/policy brief series;
- (5) hold at least one face-to-face team meeting of selected project personnel to visit prospective field research settings and to finalize project proposals;
- (6) conduct pilot research to assess the viability of data collection strategies and make adjustments as necessary, thereby strengthening the team's research grant proposal; and
- (7) reach out to partner institutions, like CODESRIA, to explore the possibility of strategic additions to the research team, thus enhancing our research capacity in Africa and other regions.

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International Society for Child Indicators (ISCI)

ISCI is the outgrowth of the multi-national project for Measuring and Monitoring Children's Well-Being which Childwatch International participated in and supported from its beginning in 1996.

ISCI is publishing newsletters both in English and Spanish and has launched the journal Child Indicators Research (CIR) as a full scale Springer academic journal.

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Norwegian Forum for Research and Child Rights

The Childwatch Secretariat has taken on the responsibility to administer a Forum for Research and Child Rights. The Forum will organize meetings and workshops in order to secure a productive dialogue between child rights NGOs, relevant government agencies and academics involved in child research.

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Towards a new strategic framework for Childwatch International

During the Board meeting held in NY, 22-23 April 2010 the Board adopted the following conceptual framework to inform its strategy direction and operations for the next three years. These board thematic areas were informed by:

- i. Lessons learnt by the previous CWI boards
- ii. The outcomes of the 2009 key Institutions assembly
- iii. The proceedings, report and call for action of the Nov/Dec 2009 “Child Rights at a Cross Roads” held in Addis Ababa.¹
- iv. Consultative meetings held with organizations such as UNICEF.
- v. Strategic discussions held at the first board meeting of the current Board (2010-2012)

Strategy direction and thematic/focus areas

1. Confronting Violence against Children
2. Children’s participations, governance and citizenships
3. Protective environments for children and families

Within each of these main areas there are cross-cutting issues and conditions that may impact on children’s lives. These can be included as a main or sub-focus of the main/ key thematic area (1, 2, and 3 above). The following cross-cutting areas have been identified so far. There may be others:

- i. Capacity development(including training)
- ii. Integrations and strengthening of the relationship/links between research, policy and practice.
- iii. Ethical approaches to child research including children’s participation.
- iv. CRC range of commitment to children between 0 -18 years. Including focus on specific transactions and vulnerability.
- v. Gender

This approach was adopted to enhance and strengthen:

1. Overall strategic direction, orientation and collaboration within the CW1 network
2. Facilitate decision making about the optimal and fair use and allocation of CW1 resources

3. Facilitate decision making regarding research projects and activities as identified by the sector.

In order to give effect to the process forward for this project, 3 working groups have been established. Each group will develop a framework for future focus that will be integrated into one strategy.

ⁱ <http://www.africanchildinfo.net/conference/>

<http://www.childwatch.uio.no/projects/global-conferences/un-child-rights-convention-anniversary-conference-2009/index.html>