

NATIONAL INTER-SECTORAL VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN STRATEGY IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19 (NIVACS) 2021-2023



November 2020



STATE OF PALESTINE

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ACRONYMS

AOP	Annual Operating Plan
CA	Children and adolescents
CBO	Community-based organisation
C4D	Communication for Development
COVID-19	Novel coronavirus disease
CS	Council Secretariat
CSO	Civil Society Organisations
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CwD	Children with Disabilities
ECD	Early Child Development
FBOs	Faith-based Organisations
FMoC	Fathers, mothers and other Caregivers
GbV	Gender-based Violence
HCoYS	Higher Council of Youth and Sports
INGO	International Non-governmental Organisation
ICHR	Independent Commission for Human Rights
MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MoC	Ministry of Communication
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoFP	Ministry of Finance and Planning
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoI	Ministry of Interior
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoL	Ministry of Labour

MoRA	Ministry of Religious Affairs
MoSD	Ministry of Social Development
MoWA	Ministry of Women's Affairs
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NIAF	COVID19- Needs Identification and Analysis Framework
NCC	National Children's Council
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
NIVACS	National Inter-Sectoral Violence Against Children Strategy
OCHA	Office for the Coordination and Humanitarian Affairs
PA	Palestinian Authority
PCBS	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics
RBM	Results based management
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SoP	State of Palestine
ToC	Theory of Change
TWG	Technical Working Group
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency
UNS	United Nations System
UNWOMEN	United Nations Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women
VAC	Violence Against Children
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
WHO	World Health Organisation

Opening remarks of His Excellency Minister Dr. Ahmad Majdalani, may God protect him

For the Strategic Plan to Combat Violence against Children

Based on the responsibility of the Ministry of Social Development in leading the childhood sector in the State of Palestine and its constant and continuous keenness on real partnership with all institutions to provide the best services to vulnerable and marginalized groups. It is working on developing policies and building strategic plans related to childhood in accordance with its developmental vision in order to promote the resilience of our people and assist them to face social problems, and we are looking forward to make necessary efforts to overcome all obstacles facing our children.

The legislations and policies that we implement aim to preserve family cohesion through targeting all social sectors. Child protection is a top priority for the ministry, as children make up more than forty-five percent (45%) of the Palestinian society, and they are the ones who will form the future social fabric of our people; therefore, the ministry is keen about their protection and providing the necessary prevention and welfare programs for them.

The Ministry of Social Development, by enforcing the legislation, takes all appropriate policies, programs, services and procedures to strengthen family ties, as the family is the first educational institution. This approach is in line with the International Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Sustainable Development Goals, to which the State of Palestine has committed.

And despite the existence of the Israeli occupation, that practices numerous violations against our children, we will stay in the first line of defense to protect them, invest in them, participate and prepare them to achieve a society free of violence and enjoy a safe, free, and developed life.

I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to all partners who contributed to the development of this strategy, including ministries, governmental institutions, civil society organizations, and the international institutions and organizations; and I extend my sincere thanks to the United Nation Children's Fund "UNICEF", for their assistance to us in developing this strategy. We look forward for all local and international partners to support the childhood sector in the State of Palestine.

Jointly and together to provide a safe environment for children of Palestine

Dr. Ahmad Majdalani

Minister of Social Development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A government declared emergency was declared in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Widespread movement restrictions, school and business closures were rapidly introduced. Many months later COVID-19 is very much an intrinsic part of the lives of Palestinian families and has had significant socio-economic impacts on children and families, including amongst others an impact on children experiencing violence and abuse at home.

The State of Palestine (SoP) is committed to prevent and respond to Violence Against Children (VAC) and join the global movement to end violence against children, as articulated in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Several studies and data collected by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) showed that many of Palestinian's children experience physical, emotional, and sexual violence.

In response to VAC, the Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) was appointed to lead the development of a National Inter-Sectoral Violence Against Children Strategy (NIVACS) and a three-year Action Plan. The NIVACS has also been supported by UNICEF SoP. For this purpose, two Technical Working Group (TWG) were established on Violence Against Children (one in Gaza and one in the West Bank) whose membership includes key government, development partners, civil society organizations and UN agencies.

This NIVACS process was designed to promote commitment and collaboration across sectors -health, social welfare, education, justice- and at all levels -national, governorate and district levels. Commitment and collaboration between all of these key stakeholders will be essential to establishing a nationwide coordinated child protection system with a skilled and competent workforce to prevent and respond to VAC in the SoP.

Based on the socio-ecological model for understanding and preventing VAC and the INSPIRE strategy, an intervention framework was discussed and agreed with the TWGs for developing the strategy approach addressing violence against children. The NIVACS and its Action Plan identifies three key areas, including:

1. Coordination and law and policy formulation and amendment (macro level of the socio-ecological model)
2. Multi-sectoral child protection response services (meso level of the socio-ecological model)
3. Primary prevention and positive behaviour change (micro level of the of the socio-ecological model)

In addition, the NIVACS also gives attention to two particular cross-cutting factors. These are: Communication for Development (C4D) to change gender discriminatory practices and social norms and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) across all results areas.

The prevention and response interventions articulated in each section of the Action Plan will be implemented at the national and sub-national levels by responsible ministries based on their core commitments, as well as by development and humanitarian partners.

To support ministries to incorporate activities to address VAC into their annual operation plans and budgets, the Action Plan includes cost estimations for the activities outlined in the key intervention framework. A M&E framework will report on progress and challenges to implementing the Action Plan. It will establish a comprehensive system for data collection on the nature and extent of VAC and an evidence base for best practices in prevention and response interventions.

In response to the COVID-19 declared emergency a Needs Identification and Analysis took place to understand and support actors to prioritise child protection concerns in the humanitarian response taking into consideration new emerging protection patterns, potentially induced or exacerbated by the pandemic. The NIAF identified violence in households as an important protection concern.

Finally, the NIVACS recognise that all actors in the SoP have an important role to play in the strategy implementation, which final goal is to ensure that all girls and boys below 18 years of age, especially those living in a situation of vulnerability grow up free of violence and discrimination.

CONTENTS

I. INTRODUCTION	12
1. METHODOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE NIVACS	12
TABLE 1. METHODOLOGY OF THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS	13
II. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE	13
BOX 1. CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (CRC)	14
BOX 2. GLOSSARY OF TERMS	16
1. LINKAGES BETWEEN VAC AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS/GBV	18
BOX 3. INTERSECTION AREAS BETWEEN VAC AND VAWG	18
BOX 4. TYPES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN	19
BOX 5. CONSEQUENCES OF VAC	20
III. THE SITUATION OF CHILDREN AND VIOLENCE IN THE STATE OF PALESTINE	20
TABLE 2. STUDENTS EXPOSED TO VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS	21
TABLE 3. CHILDREN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY CAREGIVERS	22
TABLE 4. CHILDREN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY PARENTS	22
TABLE 5. CHILDREN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A HOUSEHOLD MEMBER	22
IV. IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	23
V. REFERENCE FRAMEWORK	24
1. LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK IN THE STATE OF PALESTINE	24
TABLE 6. LEGAL FRAMEWORK – VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN, INCLUDING GBV	24
2. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK IN THE STATE OF PALESTINE	28
TABLE 7. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK – VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN, INCLUDING GBV- STATE OF PALESTINE	29
3. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK	30
FIGURE 1. SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL MODEL FOR UNDERSTANDING AND PREVENTING VAC	30
TABLE 8. INSPIRE STRATEGIES	31
VI. INTERVENTION FRAMEWORK	32
FIGURE 2. DRAFT THEORY OF CHANGE OF THE NIVACS	33
BOX 6. RBM AND TOC, A SNAPSHOT	34
MATRIX 1A. INTERVENTION FRAMEWORK: OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS	35
MATRIX 1B. INTERVENTION FRAMEWORK: OUTCOMES, OUTPUTS AND KEY INTERVENTIONS	36

1. ACTION PLAN OF THE NIVACS	40
MATRIX 2. KEY INTERVENTIONS, RESPONSIBILITIES, TIME FRAME, SOURCES AND ESTIMATED BUDGET	41
VII. IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION	45
1. PROPOSED NIVACS INSTITUTIONAL EMBEDDING	45
FIGURE 3. NIVACS INSTITUTIONAL EMBEDDING	45
2. M&E SYSTEM	47
MATRIX 3A. INDICATORS AT GOAL, OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS LEVEL	48
MATRIX 3B. MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF INDICATORS: M&E MATRIX	51
FIGURE 4. PROCESS SCHEME FOR M&E	57
FIGURE 5. M&E MILESTONES - NIVACS	58
ANNEX 1. DRAFT TOC OF THE NIVACS	59
ANNEX 2. PROPOSED M&E REPORTING TEMPLATES	63
TEMPLATE 1. MONITORING REPORT (BIANNUAL)	63
TEMPLATE 2. MONITORING AND EVALUATION MATRIX REPORT (BIANNUAL)	64
ANNEX 3. ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN FOR THE FIRST YEAR (2021) OF THE NIVACS	65
ANNEX 4. ROLES PROPOSED AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF TWGS OF THE NIVACS	72
ANNEX 5. REFERENCES	77
ANNEX 6. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS DURING THE NIVACS CONSULTATION PROCESS (2019)	79

14	BOX 1. CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (CRC)
16	BOX 2. GLOSSARY OF TERMS
18	BOX 3. INTERSECTION AREAS BETWEEN VAC AND VAWG
19	BOX 4. TYPES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN
20	BOX 5. CONSEQUENCES OF VAC
34	BOX 6. RBM, A SNAPSHOT
13	TABLE 1. METHODOLOGY OF THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS
21	TABLE 2. STUDENTS EXPOSED TO VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS
22	TABLE 3. CHILDREN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY CAREGIVERS
22	TABLE 4. CHILDREN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY PARENTS
22	TABLE 5. CHILDREN WHO EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE BY A HOUSEHOLD MEMBER
24	TABLE 6. LEGAL FRAMEWORK – VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN, INCLUDING GBV
29	TABLE 7. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK – VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN, INCLUDING GBV- STATE OF PALESTINE
31	TABLE 8. INSPIRE STRATEGIES
30	FIGURE 1. SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL MODEL FOR UNDERSTANDING AND PREVENTING VAC
33	FIGURE 2. DRAFT THEORY OF CHANGE OF THE NIVACS
45	FIGURE 3. NIVACS INSTITUTIONAL EMBEDDING
57	FIGURE 4. PROCESS SCHEME FOR M&E
58	FIGURE 5. M&E MILESTONES - NIVACS
35	MATRIX 1A. INTERVENTION FRAMEWORK: OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS
36	MATRIX 1B. INTERVENTION FRAMEWORK: OUTCOMES, OUTPUTS AND KEY INTERVENTIONS
41	MATRIX 2. KEY INTERVENTIONS, RESPONSIBILITIES, TIME FRAME, SOURCES AND ESTIMATED BUDGET
48	MATRIX 3A. INDICATORS AT GOAL, OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS LEVEL
51	MATRIX 3B. MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF INDICATORS: M&E MATRIX
63	TEMPLATE 1. MONITORING REPORT (BIANNUAL)
64	TEMPLATE 2. MONITORING AND EVALUATION MATRIX REPORT (BIANNUAL)

I. Introduction

The present *National Inter-Sectoral Violence Against Children Strategy* (NIVACS for short) is the result of the commitment of several stakeholders in the State of Palestine (SoP) to prevent, respond to and mitigate violence against girls, boys and adolescents in a time-bound period.

This document offers a framework for comprehensive, inter-sectoral and coordinated procedures to prevent and address violence against children (VAC), providing strategic guidance to the members of the Technical Working Group (TWG) set up for this purpose in Gaza and the West Bank.

The structure of the document is divided into five main sections:

- i) Background and rationale of VAC (including a glossary of terms) and its linkages with Gender-based Violence (GbV);
- ii) Situation of VAC in the SoP (providing figures available to illustrate the analysis);
- iii) Reference framework: which includes legal and policy framework, institutional framework and conceptual framework of VAC;
- iv) Intervention framework of the NIVACS: with the goal, outcomes, outputs and key interventions defined for a three-year period, as well as lead agency, actors involved, time frame, means or resources needed and the estimated budget associated (considered the Action Plan of the NIVACS);
- v) Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system for the NIVACS.

The document also contains the following annexes: (1) Draft Theory of Change (ToC) of the NIVACS in the SoP; (2) Proposed Monitoring and Evaluation reporting templates; (3) Annual Operating Plan (AOP) for the first year (2021) of the NIVACS; (4) Roles proposed and Responsibilities of the TWGs of the NIVACS; (5) References used; and (6) List of participants in the NIVACS consultation process (2019).

1. Methodology for development of the NIVACS

In order to guide the process of drafting an Inter-Sectoral Violence Against Children Strategy in the SoP, two inter-agency TWGs were established in the West Bank and Gaza with UNICEF support. The TWGs included representatives from key agencies (government and non-government) involved in the child protection system and guided the development of the NIVACS.

The methodology used consisted in consolidating existing information, gathering stakeholders' opinions and evidences on VAC and analysing the findings and detailed action plan in workshops. In the table below, there is a summary of the methodology tools and respondents involved during the consultative process carried out.

Table 1. Methodology of the consultative process

Methodology tools and respondents	
Literature review	Several documents were reviewed including studies, reports, evaluations as well as strategic plans.
Key informant interviews	36 in-depth interviews (22 women and 14 men) were conducted with 34 entities (10 governmental institutions, 6 INGO, 8 NGO and 10 UN agencies) in Gaza and the West Bank (see Annex 6).
Discussion Groups	3 discussion groups were held in Gaza (with Children, Child Protection Networks and the educative community – teachers, headmasters and school counsellors) and 2 in the West Bank (with Children and the educative community) to identify their violence perception and the practices undertaken for preventing and responding to VAC in different settings.
Online survey	An online survey was sent to 75 stakeholders (31 from Gaza and 44 from the West Bank) from line ministries, INGO, NGO and UNS to capture information and data about to what extent the work of key stakeholders was addressing the “Seven INSPIRE Strategies” and the geographic scope of VAC interventions.
Workshops	3 workshops were held in Gaza and the West Bank with the TWGs to identify key priorities areas, responsibilities and capabilities to reduce VAC, according the socio-ecological model of UNICEF and their Theory of Change

The strategy reflects the analyses of data from these various sources (literature review and field research) with information validated and triangulated from multiple sources.

This NIVACS and its Action Plan is the final product of the TWGs’ joint processes. It articulates strategies and activities along strategic areas of focus, including coordination and cooperation, prevention, response, laws and policies. It is to be accompanied by a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework.

II. Background and rationale

Violence against children (VAC) is a global issue that goes beyond economic, social, cultural, religious or ethnic circumstances, with serious consequences for the wellbeing, physical and psychological, and the emotional development of children. In accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC, 1989), the approach of VAC should refer in the first instance to the dignity and rights of children and adolescents.

Box 1. Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)

Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC, 1989)¹ – The **article 19** states that States Parties shall take “all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect” children and adolescents from “all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse”.

General Comment nº 13 of the Committee of the Rights of the Child “The right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence” (2011)² – The Committee interprets in a broad manner the expression of article 19 of the CRC “all forms of violence”, in the sense of violence (without exceptions). Therefore, the different forms of violence that are recognised, among others, are: neglect or negligent treatment (psychological, physical or emotional neglect, abandonment), psychological violence (insults, humiliation, isolation, etc.), physical violence (corporal punishment, hitting, burning, etc.), sexual abuse and exploitation, torture and inhuman or degrading treatment, peer violence, self-harm (suicidal thoughts and attempts), harmful practices (forced marriage, mutilation of female genitalia, etc.), violence in the media, and violence through information and communication technologies. In similar terms, the **Committee on the Rights of the Child** states that a VAC response requires a rights-based approach for children, which means they are no longer considered as victims and adopt a paradigm based on the promotion of human dignity and the children recognition as rights holders.

VAC manifests itself in many forms: neglect, physical and emotional violence, sexual abuse, rape, trafficking, torture, inhumane and degrading treatment or punishment, forced and child marriage, killings in the name of honour, forced begging, bonded labour and so many others. Other concepts and definitions related to VAC are defined in box 2 below (glossary of terms). Such violence also has serious and long-lasting consequences. It compromises child development and increases the risk of poor health, poor school performance and long-term welfare dependency. It is often associated with poverty and deprivation, and acts as a brake on the potential of individuals and nations. Likewise, violence against girls’ and boys’ cuts across boundaries of age, race, culture, wealth and geography. It takes place in the home, on the streets, in schools, in the workplace, in detention centres and in institutions for the care of children.

There are different forms of VAC which could be classified in four broad categories:

- 1. Physical violence** is any form of punishment in which physical force is used and intended to cause some degree of pain or discomfort. Physical violence is practiced through punching, hair-pulling, arm-twisting, pinching, slapping, kicking, strangling, scorching, pulling, dragging, killing, and beating. It is used to express physical power. The victim of physical violence is usually the weaker person³. Corporal punishment refers to any disciplinary measure in which physical force is used and intended to cause some degree of pain or discomfort, however light⁴.
- 2. Psychological or emotional violence** is any act or behaviour that conveys to a child that he/she is worthless, flawed, unloved, unwanted, endangered, or of value only in meeting another’s needs. It is done through the use of cursing and insults by the person who practices violence,

1- Available at: <https://www.unicef.org/sites/default/files/2019-04/UN-Convention-Rights-Child-text.pdf>

2- Available at https://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/docs/CRC.C.GC.13_en.pdf

3 - According to the PCBS: Violence Survey in the Palestinian Society, (2011).

4 - UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, CRC General Comment No. 8, The Right of the Child to Protection from Corporal Punishment and Other Cruel or Degrading Forms of Punishment, 2006. www.refworld.org/docid/460bc7772.htm

breaking things that belong to the person, shouting and yelling at, name-calling, mocking using demeaning names, forcing to do specific acts, throwing out of the house, locking up in the house, terrorization, continuous threatening, and forcing. Psychological violence is used to cause anxiety, fear, psychological damage, degradation, to make one feel negative, to weaken physical and mental capacities, to harm other people and to destroy capabilities, to shake self-confidence, and to undermine self-respect⁵.

3. **Sexual violence**⁶ is any sexual act or attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or trafficking anyone for sex, regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting, including at home and at work. Three forms of sexual violence are commonly distinguished: sexual violence involving intercourse (i.e. rape); contact sexual violence (for example, unwanted touching, but excluding intercourse); and non-contact sexual violence (for example, threatened sexual violence, exhibitionism and verbal sexual harassment).
4. **Neglect and negligent treatment**⁷ is the failure to provide for the development of the child in all spheres: health, education, emotional development, nutrition, shelter, and safe living conditions, in the context of resources reasonably available to the family or caretakers and causes or has a high probability of causing harm to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development. This includes the failure to properly supervise and protect children from harm as much as is feasible.

In addition, children with disabilities (CwD) can fall victim to violence in different settings, including schools, at home, or in institutions. Compared with adults, all children are in a situation of vulnerability, due to their stage of development, limited legal capacity and dependence on parents or other caretakers. This situation is exacerbated when a child has an impairment. Children with disabilities experience higher rates of violence as well as disability-specific forms of violence, which are different to those experienced by children without disabilities. They include violence motivated by prejudice towards the disability, restraint, sexual abuse during daily hygiene routines, violence in the course of treatment, as well as overmedication. Research shows that children with disabilities are particularly vulnerable to neglect, negligent treatment, psychological, sexual and physical abuse, which can devastate their lives⁸.

A Baseline Knowledge Attitudes and Practices study in the State of Palestine shows that stigma and discrimination are significant factors in the day to day life of children with developmental delays and disabilities. They are a significant barrier to the ability of these children to gain fulfilment of their human rights according to the CRC and laws of Palestine. Additionally, in the case of girls, results show that "girls with disability, sisters of children with disabilities and mothers of children with disabilities often face gender-specific vulnerabilities. Adolescent girls with disabilities are especially unlikely to attend school or be allowed to socialise. Those same girls-and their mothers-are at high risk of intra-familial violence"⁹.

5 - Terres des Hommes – European Commission, Child Protection Rapid Assessment Report, Gaza Strip, (2018).

6 - According to the WHO, INSPIRE Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children, (2016).

7 - According to Child Protection Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group: Measuring Violence against Children: Inventory and assessment of quantitative studies, Division of Data, Research and Policy, UNICEF, New York, (2014).

8 - Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA): Violence Against Children with disabilities: legislation, policies and programmes in the EU, (2015).

9 - UNICEF (2019): Baseline Knowledge Attitudes and Practices (KAP) study in support of a C4D Strategy for Early Childhood Development and Children with Developmental delays and disabilities for Palestine. Jerusalem.

Below is a glossary used during the development of this strategy on VAC.

Box 2. Glossary of terms

CONCEPTS	
Bullying¹⁰	An intentional and aggressive behaviour occurring repeatedly against a victim where there is a real or perceived power imbalance, and where the victim feels vulnerable and powerless to defend himself or herself. The unwanted behaviour is hurtful: it can be physical, including hitting, kicking and the destruction of property; verbal, such as teasing, insulting and threatening; or relational, through the spreading of rumours and exclusion from a group.
Changing social and cultural gender norms and values¹¹	Aims to alter the social expectations that define “appropriate” behaviour for women and men, boys and girls such as norms that dictate men have the right to control women, and which make women and girls vulnerable to physical, emotional and sexual violence by men.
Child, early and forced marriage¹²	Is a marriage where at least one of the partners is below the age of 18 years, although the legal age could vary from country to country. Early marriage can also refer to marriages where at least one of the spouses is 18 years or older but other factors make them unready to consent to marriage, such as their level of physical, emotional, sexual and psychosocial development, or a lack of information regarding the person’s life options. Furthermore, it includes any marriage which occurs without the full and free consent of one or both of the parties and/or where one or both of the parties is/are unable to end or leave the marriage, including as a result of duress or intense social or family pressure.
Child participation	According to article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is framed as follows: “ <i>States Parties shall assure to the child who is capable of forming his or her own views the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting the child, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child</i> ” ¹³ .
Child protection services¹⁴	Investigate cases of child maltreatment and identify, assess and provide services to children and families in an effort to protect children and prevent further maltreatment, while wherever possible preserving the family. Such services are also sometimes known by other names, often attempting to reflect more family-centred (as opposed to child-centred) practices, such as “children and family services”, “child welfare services” or “social services”.
Gender-based Violence (GBV)¹⁵	An umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person’s will and that is based on socially ascribed (i.e. gender) differences between males and females. It includes acts that inflict physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion, and other deprivations of liberty. These acts can occur in public or in private.

10 - Olweus, Dan. *Bullying at school: What we know and what we can do* (Understanding Children’s Worlds). Wiley-Blackwell, 1993. Mentioned in UNICEF: *Preventing and Responding to Violence Against Children and Adolescents Theory of Change* (2017).

11 - WHO, INSPIRE Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children (2016).

12 - Ibidem footnote 11.

13 - More details available at: <https://www.wvi.org/sites/default/files/Defining%20Child%20Participation.pdf>

14 - Ibidem footnote 11

15 - IASC, *Guidelines on Gender-Based Violence in Humanitarian settings* (2015).

Gender norms ¹⁶	Social expectations that define what is considered “appropriate” behaviour for women and men, boys and girls. The different roles and behaviours of females and males, children as well as adults, are shaped and reinforced by gender norms within society.
Harmful practices ¹⁷	Those practices that are harmful to children and defended by some community members based on tradition, culture, or religion.
Interpersonal violence ¹⁸	Intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, by a person or a small group of people against another person or small group that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment or deprivation.
Intimate partner violence ¹⁹	Behaviour within an intimate relationship that causes physical, sexual or psychological harm to those in the relationship, including acts of physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse and controlling behaviours.
Communication for Development (C4D) ²⁰	C4D involves understanding people, their beliefs and values, the social and cultural norms that shape their lives. It involves engaging communities and listening to adults and children as they identify problems, propose solutions and act upon them. Communication for development is seen as a two-way process for sharing ideas and knowledge using a range of communication tools and approaches that empower individuals and communities to take actions to improve their lives.

16 - Ibidem footnote 11

17 - Terres des Hommes – European Commission: Child Protection Rapid Assessment Report, Gaza Strip, (2018)

18 - Ibidem footnote 10

19 - Ibidem footnote 10

20 - UNICEF

1. Linkages between VAC and Violence against Women and Girls/GbV

Both VAC and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) represent a violation of human rights, as well as serious public health problems and barriers to the integral development of survivors.

According to the **Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women**²¹, VAWG means any act of violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to girls and women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life.

Globally different types of violence affect women and girls throughout their life cycle: selective abortion and gender-based female infanticide, differences in access to food and services, sexual exploitation and abuse, child marriage and early unions, female genital mutilation, sexual harassment, dowry price abuse, honour killings, intimate violence, deprivation of inheritance or property, and mistreatment of older women.

Gender discrimination is the cause of various forms of VAWG, and at the same time contributes to its tolerance and acceptance as a social norm. The perpetrators often fail to account for their actions, while girls and adolescent girls, who have been subjected to violence, are discouraged from reporting and seeking for an appropriate response and protection. Although girls suffer mainly and historically gender discrimination, there are also some cases of boys and adolescents who suffer Gender-based Violence. These cases are also underreported, mainly for reasons of stigmatization and shame.

Box 3. Intersection areas between VAC and VAWG

- **Risk factors:** both have common risk factors;
- **Gender and social norms:** there are social and gender norms that naturalize violent behaviours and discourage seeking help;
- **Coexistence:** child abuse and intimate partner violence often coexist in the same household;
- **Intergenerational effects:** both VAC and VAWG may generate intergenerational effects.
- **Common consequences:** many forms of VAC and VAWG carry common and mutually exacerbating consequences throughout life; and
- **Adolescence:** VAC and VAWG intersect during adolescence (10-19 years), a period of increased vulnerability to certain types of violence.

UNICEF understands GbV²² as a term used for describing harmful acts perpetrated against a person based on socially ascribed differences between males and females. It can be physical, sexual and/or psychological, and includes: (a) violence in close relationships, (b) sexual violence (including rape, sexual assault and harassment or stalking), (c) slavery, (d) harmful practices, such as forced marriages, female genital mutilation (FGM) and so-called “honour” crimes, and (e) cyberviolence and harassment using new technologies. While the term is used historically and today primarily as a way of highlighting the vulnerable position of women and girls and adolescents in the face of various forms of violence, due to gender discrimination and inequality known to them in all societies and cultures of the world, it includes specific types of GbV against men and boys. In this sense, as INSPIRE²³ points out, any of the

21 - Available at <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/violenceagainstwomen.aspx>

22 - https://www.unicef.org/protection/57929_58001.html

23 - INSPIRE (2016) is an evidence-based resource aimed at all people working to prevent and respond to VAC. The World Health Organization (WHO) initiated the preparation of the INSPIRE strategy package, in collaboration with the U.S. Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Global Alliance to End Violence Against Children, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the United States President's Emergency Programme for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), Together for Girls, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the World Bank.

types and manifestations of VAC can constitute GbV when it is directed against girls or boys because of their gender.

The table below also shows the different types and manifestations of VAC and GbV, as well as the settings where it takes place and its main perpetrators.

Box 4. Types of violence against children

Violence against Children, including Gender-based Violence	Types	Perpetrators	Settings	Manifestations (VAC/GbV)
	Physical Violence	Caregivers, reference adults (mothers, fathers and relatives), peers, teachers, professionals in public services, strangers	Schools Communities Families Mafias / gangs networks	Physical/corporal punishment Bullying Children in need of care Homicide Femicide
	Psychological Violence	Caregivers, reference adults, peers, intimate partner, teachers, professionals in public services, strangers	Schools Communities Families Mafias / gangs networks	Bullying Cyberbullying Verbal aggression Emotional abuse Neglect Abandonment Unwanted early pregnancy
	Sexual Violence	Relative, friend, acquaintance, intimate partner, strangers	Communities Households Schools Streets Mafias / gangs networks	Sexual abuse Sexual exploitation Sexual assaults Rapes
	Economic Violence	Caregivers, reference adults, strangers	Communities Families Streets Mafias networks	Child Labour Street children Trafficking Early unions and child marriage ²⁴

According to the CRC, VAC “undermines investments in child well-being, health and education, and negatively affects the productive capacity of future generations”²⁵. There is clear and powerful evidence confirming that violence hampers all aspects of a child’s growth, including physical, psychological and social development. Furthermore, VAC inflicts damage at both the individual and societal levels, including direct and indirect costs resulting from increased social spending and decreased economic productivity (see box below):

24 - Early marriage can include consanguineous marriage.

25 - Article 19 of the CRC; Committee on the Rights of the Child (2011) General Comment No. 13 - The right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence; End Violence Against Children – The Global Partnership (2016) Strategy 2016-2020

Box 5. Consequences of VAC

According to different studies (INSPIRE; UNICEF and Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on VAC reports) the consequences of VAC have several manifestations:

- Children who have been severely abused or neglected often suffer from learning difficulties, poor school performance, and problems in transitioning to adulthood;
- Child's exposure to maltreatment has substantial intergenerational effects, where children who grew up in a violent household or community tend to internalise that behaviour as a way of resolving disputes, repeating the pattern of violence and abuse against their own spouses and children, and;
- Corporal punishment is an indicator of depression, unhappiness, anxiety, and feelings of hopelessness in children and adolescents.

The impact of VAC from an economic point of view:

- The cost of child maltreatment in the United States is estimated at USD 124 billion annually²⁶;
- According to the European Union, every € invested in preventing violence produces a social return of 87€.²⁷

III. The situation of children and violence in the State of Palestine

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), in 2018, the SoP has a population of approximately 4.9 million (an estimated 2.9 million people live in the West Bank and 1.9 million people live in Gaza), with a 38.5% below 15 years at the end of the year 2018 (36.6% in the case of West Bank and 41.6% in the case of Gaza)²⁸.

Palestinian children remain at risk of violence, maltreatment and other violations, with potentially severe and long-term repercussions. They are vulnerable to violence due to the protracted conflict, on the way to school, at home and in communities. According to the Ministry of Social Development (MoSD)²⁹, there are two main sources of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of children: (1) violence resulting from the protracted humanitarian situation caused by the Israeli occupation; and (2) violence within Palestinian families and communities. The two are interconnected, with the violence, daily hardships, trauma and dislocation from the occupation integrally linked to family stress and dysfunction.

Children are exposed to a variety of different forms of violence and insecurity as a consequence of the Israeli occupation, including: child deaths and injuries as a result of clashes between Palestinian and Israeli forces, military operations, settler-violence and explosive remnants of war; arrest, detention and ill-treatment of children by Israeli police and security forces; displacement, eviction and forcible transfer of children; harassment and attacks on school-going children; family separation due to Israeli civil documentation conditions; denial of access to education and health care; and child labour, including recruitment and use of children in armed conflict. In addition, the patchwork nature of areas where the Palestinian government is able to operate, Israeli-imposed travel and mobility restrictions and “no go zones”, and limited financial and technical capacities of social welfare service providers significantly

26 - Fang, X. et al (2012), The economic burden of child maltreatment in the United States and implications for prevention – see Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children, Toward a world free from violence: Global survey on violence against children, (2013).

27 - Vivian Reding, Vice-President of the European Commission, responsible for Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship, speech at the EU Conference on Violence against Children, Brussels, 25 November 2010 – see Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children, Toward a world free from violence: Global survey on violence against children, (2013).

28 - Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, Palestine in Figures 2018, Ramallah, Palestine, (2019).

29 - MoSD, State of Palestine, Strategic Plan for strengthening of child protection system 2018-2022.

undermine the government's ability to build a comprehensive, integrated child protection system for all Palestinian children. However, it is important to note the effort of the Palestinian Government on drafting a "Strategic Plan for strengthening of child protection system 2018-2022", developed by the MoSD, with the support of UNICEF SoP.

Additionally, children are experiencing relatively high levels of physical violence within their families and communities. According to the Palestinian Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), carried out by the PCBS with the support of UNICEF SoP and UNFPA (2014), 91.5% of children aged 1 to 14 years had experienced violent discipline (psychological aggression or physical punishment) during the last one month. In total, 92.2% of children had experienced physical punishment, (94.5% in Gaza and 90.4% in the West Bank and, of which 92.8% was experienced by males while 91.8% was experienced by females) including 23% experiencing "severe" physical punishment.

Violence in schools is also a significant issue for children. According to the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoE) in the SoP in 2016, 69.3% of students are exposed to violence at school in the basic cycle (54.9% to physical violence, 60% to verbal violence and 13.2% to sexual violence) and 77.5% in the secondary cycle (59.7% to physical violence, 71% verbal violence and 15% sexual violence)³⁰. In order to combat all forms of violence in schools, the MoE developed and adopted, in 2013, a comprehensive "Policy to Combat Violence and Enhance School Discipline."

Table 2. Students exposed to violence in schools

Percentage of students exposed to violence inside the school ³¹

Type of violence	Basic cycle	Secondary cycle
Physical violence	54.9	59.7
Verbal violence	60.0	71.0
Sexual violence	13.2	15.0
TOTAL	69.3	77.5

Child sexual abuse is also an issue of growing concern for Palestinian children, but given the highly sensitive nature of the issue, most cases are not reported. Most incidents of sexual abuse are resolved internally by the family in order to preserve the child's reputation and the family's dignity. Early marriage is also common. The 2014 PCBS MICS survey found that 9.3% of young women currently aged 15 to 19 years were married; approximately 2% of women aged 15-49 were first married before age fifteen, while 24.2% of women aged 20 to 49 were married before age eighteen (28.6% in Gaza and 21.4% in the West Bank) and 22% of women between the ages of 22 and 24 gave birth to at least one child before the age of 18.

Furthermore, high levels of poverty have also resulted in an increasing number of children engaging in harmful or exploitive forms of labour. According to the PCBS MICS survey³², 1.6% of children between the ages of 10 and 14 and 7.5% of children between the ages of 15 and 17 are working. Approximately 16% of children aged 10 to 14 and 30.8% aged 15-17 who were working do not attend school. International Labour Organisation (ILO) estimates that over 62% of working children surveyed performed dangerous work that is harmful to health, including work in tunnels, spraying pesticides, gravel collection, pottering, construction, demolition of buildings, fishing, and work in the petrochemical sector. In addition, 19.3% of the children interviewed worked in agriculture and were at risk of exposure to pesticides³³.

30 - MoE, State of Palestine, Monitoring and Evaluation System for the Third Education Strategic Plan EDSP 2014-2019. Monitoring and Evaluation Report 2016, Palestine, (2016).

31 - Ibidem footnote 30.

32 - PCBS, UNICEF and UNFPA, MICS (2014).

33 - ILO, Worst Forms of Child Labour Report: West Bank and the Gaza Strip, quoted in MOSD (2019), Review of the Child Protection System in the State of Palestine, (2014).

In addition to these figures, the PCBS conduct specialised surveys on violence in the Palestinian society (2005, 2011 and 2019) in light of the increasing need to fill the data gaps and to provide these indicators to realise national priorities. A specific chapter is dedicated to VAC with the following findings (see tables below):

Table 3. Children who experienced violence by caregivers

Percentage of children aged below 11 years who experienced violence by their caregivers by type of violence and region during the 12 months preceding the interview, 2019³⁴

Type of violence	Region					
	Palestine		West Bank		Gaza	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Physical violence	68.3	61.5	63.7	56.1	74.4	68.8
Severe physical violence	26.1	18.4	20.6	13.7	33.4	24.7
Psychological violence	79.1	74.4	76.5	70.4	82.5	79.8

Table 4. Children who experienced violence by parents

Percentage of children (12-17 years) who experienced a type of violence by either parent at least throughout the 12 months preceding the interview by region and abuser, 2011-2019³⁵

Type of violence	Abuser									
	Prevalence of violence		Father				Mother			
			Psychological violence		Physical violence		Psychological violence		Physical violence	
	2011	2019	2011	2019	2011	2019	2011	2019	2011	2019
Palestine	51.0	44.2	69.0	63.1	34.4	26.3	66.4	62.7	34.5	24.8
West Bank	45.8	36.1	64.6	54.4	28.7	15.5	61.9	56.8	27.7	17.7
Gaza	59.4	55.9	75.9	75.7	43.2	41.9	73.3	71.1	45.2	35.0

Table 5. Children who experienced violence by a household member

Percentage of children (12-17 years) who experienced violence by a household member or a relative and sought help by the party approached and region throughout the 12 months preceding the interview 2019³⁶

The parties approached by abused children	Palestine	West Bank	Gaza
A parent	63.7	59.3	68.6
A friend	20.9	21.5	20.3
A brother or a sister	26.9	26.5	27.4
A male or female teacher	16.9	14.8	19.2
A school counsellor	16.5	16.2	16.9

34 - PCBS, Preliminary results of the Violence Survey in the Palestinian Society, (2019).

35 - Ibidem footnote 34.

36 - Ibidem footnote 34.

IV. Impact of COVID-19 on children and families

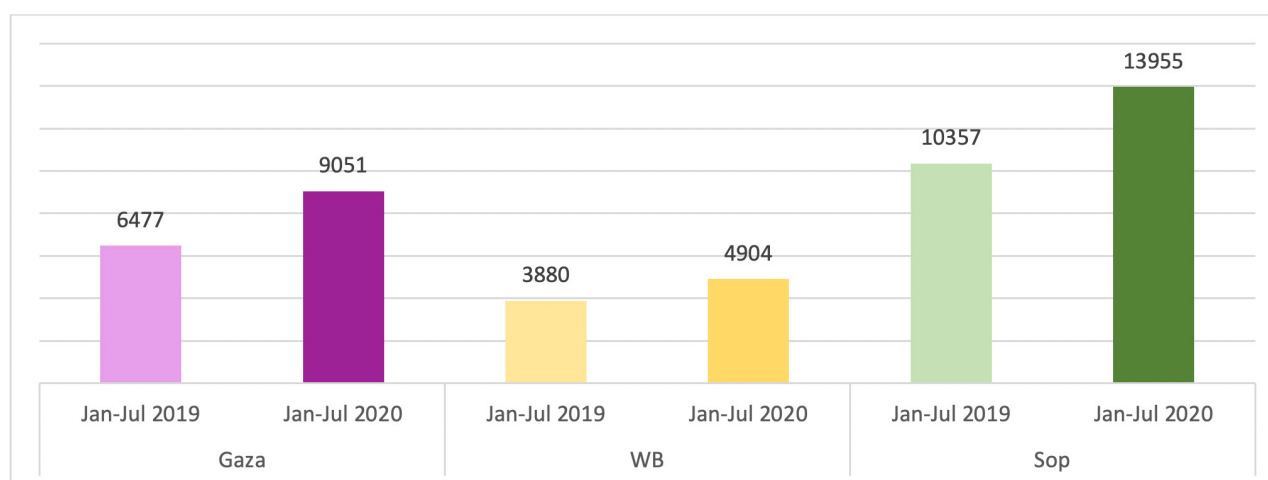
Prior to the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) outbreak in the State of Palestine, the country was already stirred by a protracted humanitarian protection crisis due to the ongoing occupation of the West Bank, and blockade of the Gaza Strip. The declared COVID-19 emergency and related regulations, movement restrictions, school closures, resulted in job losses and socio-economic distress. The Child Protection Area of Responsibility (AoR) in-country decided to generate evidence on how COVID-19 (and its associated mitigation measures) impacted, or were likely to impact, children's health, education, well-being, safety, protection and family finances. Towards this a Needs Identification and Assessment took place using the COVID-19 Needs Identification Assessment Framework (NIAF).

The NIAF compiles secondary data from the partners to give a trend analysis on protection needs, and compares service provision for the periods Jan – July 2019 with Jan – July 2020 (which included the outbreak of COVID-19 in country, March 2020). The level of service provision demand is a useful proxy to indicate the evolving protection needs.

There has been a significant increase in the demand and provision of protection services for children experiencing violence or abuse at home.

Children experiencing violence and abuse at home: Following the outbreak of the pandemic in the State of Palestine there has been an increase of services provided to respond to children experiencing violence at home: in Gaza, a 40% increase (from 6,477 to 9,051) and in the West Bank a 26% increase (3,880 to 4,904 cases). The combined effects of lockdown measures, movement restrictions, socio-economic implications, school closures or remote schooling and a lack of recreational spaces have translated into stressed families confined in relatively small places which had an impact on the prevalence of violence in households. This is on top of already high levels of violence in households prior to the COVID-19 outbreak (according to a MICS study conducted in 2014, 92% of children in State of Palestine were affected by some form of domestic violence).

Services provided to children experiencing violence or abuse at home in SOP (Source: NIAF Analysis)



37 - The NIAF is an investigative approach to identify and assess the needs of vulnerable children, and changes in child protection risks caused by COVID-19. The approach produces evidence-based analysis to better inform humanitarian and child protection actors in their operational planning of child protection responses.

V. Reference framework

1. Legal and policy framework in the State of Palestine

In April 2014, Palestinian Authority (PA) officials presented letters of accession to 15 UN treaties, including the CRC and its Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict. In December 2017, PA officials acceded to the Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons and the UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography. The ratification of the CRC and the subsequent first preparation of the State Party report has been a great opportunity to reflect the national efforts to reduce and combat VAC in the Palestinian context. The table below show the main laws and standards in the SoP regarding VAC.

Table 6. Legal framework – Violence Against Children, including GbV³⁸

DOCUMENT	REFERENCE	IMPORTANCE
INTERNATIONAL LEVEL		
Convention on the Rights of the Child – CRC General Comment Nº 13 - The right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict	Art. 24 ,19 paragraphs. 28 ,3 para. 37 ,34 ,2 (a) and 39	A binding instrument that mandates the State Party to comply with all its articles. The text proclaims the protection of the child and his/her rights. The comment interprets the meaning of violence without exceptions. The protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, recognises that female children are disproportionately represented among those who are sexually exploited. The protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict is an optional instrument that would raise the minimum age for participation in hostilities and for recruitment to 18 years and would encourage society not to allow children to join armed forces or groups.
Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women – CEDAW General recommendation Nº 35 on gender-based violence against women, - updating general recommendation Nº 19	Art. 1 and 2 direct implications. Rights of the child mentioned in the General Recommendation 35	A binding instrument that mandates the State party to comply with all its articles. The text calls on the State to take all appropriate measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women. Trafficking and sexual exploitation are recognised as forms of GbV.

³⁸ - Elaborated by the consultancy team on the basis of the mentioned documents.

Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (Palermo Protocol)	--	A law enforcement instrument with measures for victim protection.
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities – CRPD	Art 7 Art 23	A binding instrument that mandates the State party to comply with all its articles. It urges the State Party to protect persons with disabilities both within and outside the home from all forms of exploitation, violence and abuse, including GbV.

NATIONAL LEVEL

The amended Palestinian Basic Law of 2003	The Palestinian Basic Law pays attention to issues affecting children, stipulating the responsibilities and duties of SoP to provide comprehensive care and protection to all children. Connected to VAC, the following articles can be highlighted: Art. 10 Basic human rights and liberties shall be protected and respected. Art. 13 No person shall be subject to any duress or torture. Art. 29 Maternal and childhood welfare are national duties. Children shall have the right to: 1. Comprehensive protection and welfare. 2. Not to be exploited for any purpose whatsoever, and not to be permitted to perform work that might damage their safety, health or education. 3. Protection from harmful and cruel treatment. 4. Not to be subjected to beating or cruel treatment by their relatives. 5. To be segregated – in cases where they are sentenced to a penalty that deprives them of their freedom – from adults, and be treated in a manner that is appropriate to their age and aims at their rehabilitation.
Palestinian Child Law No. 7 of 2004 as amended. Enacted: 2012	According to this Law, the child is defined as any human being under the age of eighteen years. Furthermore, the minimum ages for criminal responsibility (12 years in the West Bank and 9 years in Gaza), and for engaging in labour (15 years) are defined. The minimum age for marriage is different for boys and girls (15 for girls and 16 for boys in the West Bank and, 17 years for girls and 18 for boys in Gaza³⁹), and whilst children are criminally liable from the age of 12 years in the West Bank and 9 years in Gaza, they are not considered competent witnesses to give evidence under oath until the age of 15 years. However, since the Child Law amendments were introduced by Presidential Decree, they are not fully recognised and enforced in Gaza. The complete text is connected to child protection and VAC, but some specific articles can be highlighted: Art. 36 prohibition of commercial sexual exploitation of children. Art. 27 and 44 prohibition of using children in illicit activities. Art. 42 the State must take all required legislative, administrative, social, educational and preventive measures to ensure children's rights to protection from all forms of physical, moral or sexual violence or abuse, neglect, inadequate care, vagrancy or any other form of abuse or exploitation.

39 - According to the article 5 of the Personal Status Law applicable in the West Bank and the article 5 of the Family Rights Law applicable in Gaza.

Minister of Labour's Decree No. 1 of 2004 on Hazardous Activities and Industries or those harmful to health in which minors are not allowed to work.	Art.1 prohibits child trafficking and forced labour.
The disability law No 4 of 1999 and by laws No 6 of 2004	This is a legal reference that regulates the rights of persons with disabilities in the Palestinian legal system.
The Family Protection Bill (not endorsed yet)	This includes a definition of family violence and calls on responsible ministries and governmental institutions to develop responsive programmes, policies, and plans that contribute to preventing violence, by enhancing the social culture, combatting violence and promoting the public policies.

The penal code applicable to the West Bank is Jordanian Law No. 16 of 1960 (Jordanian Penal Code for the West Bank). On the other hand, the penal code applicable to Gaza is Penal Code No. 4 of 1936 which was enacted during the British Mandate (Penal Code for Gaza).

The [policy framework](#) related to VAC is also guided by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) as a call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and improve the lives and prospects of everyone, everywhere. The SoP is committed to achieving the SDG. Two specific SDGs are directly linked to VAC (see table below), while other SDGs are contributing to reducing the risk of violence in the lives of children and adolescents and to providing effective responses (indirect link).

SDG directly linked to VAC	SDG 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
	SDG 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
SDG with an indirect link to VAC	SDG 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
	SDG 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

In this sense, the SoP has taken several measures to establish a policy and planning framework to protect children against violence. Components of this policy framework include: The National Policy Agenda, Policy to Combat Violence and Enhance School Discipline, the Strategic Plan for Strengthening of Child Protection System and the National Strategy to Combat Violence Against Women, among others.

The [National Policy Agenda 2017-2022](#) seeks to create “...a stable democratic state that respects human rights and guarantees equal rights and duties for all citizens”, and also “...Its people live in a safe and secure environment under the rule of law and it promotes equality between men and women...”⁴⁰. This Agenda includes three pillars: 1. Path to independence, 2. Government reform and 3. Sustainable development. It also includes ten national priorities.

40 - State of Palestine, National Policy Agenda 2017-2022: Putting Citizens First. Approved by the Council of Ministers, (2016).

The third pillar (Sustainable Development) has direct relevance to children and violence which includes the following priorities:

- National Priority 6: Economic Independence
- National Priority 7: Social Justice and Rule of Law
- National Priority 8: Quality Education for All
- National Priority 9: Quality Health Care for All
- National Priority 10: Resilient Communities

The following national policies have a special connection with VAC:

- Strengthening social protection
- Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
- Improvement of Students enrolment and retention
- Ensuring Community and National Security, Public Safety and Rule of Law
- Meeting the basic needs of our communities

The [MOSD Social Development Strategy 2021-2023](#) updated in August 2020 includes three strategic goals:

1. Preventing multidimensional poverty,
2. Effective national and local social protection measures, protecting the poor and vulnerable groups, both men and women, including ending all forms of marginalization, violence, exclusion, shocks, stresses, and disasters in the Palestinian society
3. Enhancing government standards, integrity and transparency

The [MOSD emergency COVID-19 response plan](#) includes two goals: 1) Women, children and vulnerable communities at risk and affected by COVID-19 have improved access to essential prevention and protection services, and frontline health, education and protection workers have capacities to detect and refer children and women at risk; 2) Children and women directly impacted by COVID-19 access rehabilitation and response services.

The [Policy to Combat Violence and Enhance School Discipline](#) was approved in 2013 seeking to combat all forms of violence in schools and ensuring the rights of Palestinian children. As part of MoE strategy to address VAC, this policy tries to be a step towards ensuring protection through a system of instructions and principles in achieving a violence-free school environment. It provides roles for different stakeholders in combating violence and lists the contraventions and degrees of contravention. For example, attacking and harming a student inside or around the school is a third-degree contravention and requires actions from the school principals, the student and their families. In 2019, this policy is currently under revision.

The [Strategic Plan for Strengthening of Child Protection System 2018-2022](#) was developed by the MoSD to guide reforms to ensure that the SoP has a comprehensive and effective child protection system to prevent and respond to all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of children in a realistic and sustainable manner.

The proposed interventions are built around the following four strategic objectives:

1. Promote positive social norms and prevent violence against children
2. Improve access to and quality of child protection services
3. Enhance capacity of all frontline child protection actors
4. Improve accountability, monitoring and evaluation

The [National Strategy to Combat Violence Against Women 2011-2019](#) has included in its ambit the domestic violence and VAWG within the family with the goal of protecting and supporting abused women and allowing them to live in a society free from all forms of discrimination, based on equality, dignity and respect for human rights. It has 6 strategic objectives:

1. Promote protection and empowerment mechanisms for women subjected to violence resulting from the Israeli occupation
2. Promote a legal framework and institutional mechanism to protect women from violence
3. Improve social protection and social support offered to women victims of violence
4. Improve health services in dealing with cases of VAW
5. Improve the protection, jurisdiction, shari'a and defence systems to protect women from violence based on a women's rights-based approach
6. Promote the principle of violence prevention as part of the strategic direction of institutions working on the protection of women's rights

Strategic objective two has direct connections with sexual violence and early marriage, among others connected to VAC, redefining ages and concepts. Furthermore, strategic objective six pays special attention to changing inequitable social gender norms and promoting the role of educational institutions in combating violence.

2. Institutional framework in the State of Palestine

The institutional framework that ensures the prevention and response to VAC is made up of several international and national entities, which must strengthen their coordination processes in order to achieve better results and full coherence of the laws and policies established in this sector. Nonetheless, in a broader perspective and taking into consideration the principle of partnership and collective responsibility, all actors have a role to play. All of them are involved in the prevention, response and mitigation of VAC in the SoP with specific mandates and responsibilities of children protection from violence:

- [Government bodies](#) have the responsibility of delivering a range of universal support services and early intervention initiatives to address violence and coordinate services by the non-government sector. They are also responsible for statutory child protection services as well as having the obligation to investigate and to punish violations of the children's rights. The following table (table 7) shows the key government bodies that have a specific mandate, defined roles and responsibilities within the child protection system in the SoP.
- [CSO and NGO](#) have a vital role to play in delivering services (including on behalf of the Government), contributing to the development of policies, programmes and the evidence base; and actively promoting child safety, protection, rights and wellbeing.
- [Humanitarian clusters](#) have clear responsibilities for coordination among humanitarian organisations. Specifically, those clusters with linkages to VAC, that are active in Gaza and the West Bank, are the Education cluster (coordinated by UNICEF and Save the Children) and the Protection cluster with a child protection sub-cluster (coordinated by UNICEF) and the GbV sub-cluster (coordinated by UNFPA).
- [Media professionals and the private sector](#) also have a critical role to play in supporting and reinforcing community and government efforts to protect and fulfil children's rights.
- [Communities and community leaders](#) should protect children and help families to raise their children in a space free of violence as well as playing a key role in challenging attitudes that perpetuate the tolerance and condoning of violence in all its forms.
- [Fathers, Mothers and other Caregivers](#) have the primary responsibility for bringing up their children and building a protective and loving family environment.
- [Children and adolescents](#) should also have an important role in decision making affecting them, protecting themselves and their peers, and seeking help when required.

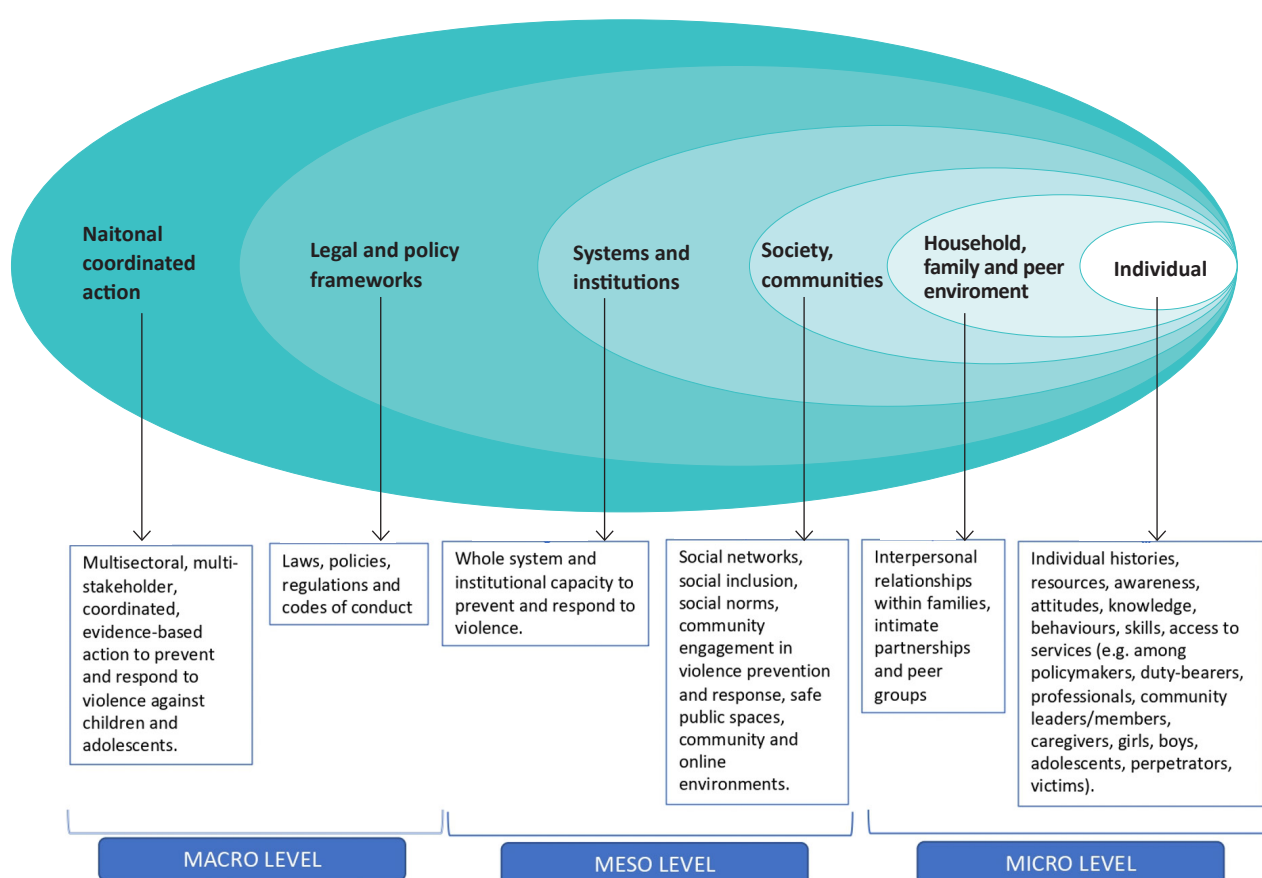
Table 7. Institutional Framework – Violence Against Children, including GbV- State of Palestine

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION – GOVERNMENT BODIES	
	Leading ministry mandated to coordinate national efforts for child protection efforts. It provides effective access to safe, child-friendly and gender-sensitive social welfare services, including child protection and social protection, at primary, secondary and/or tertiary prevention levels. Service delivery will predominately be outsourced to CSOs, with MoSD facilitating consultative planning, coordination and referral systems. MoSD has child protection units within each of the 16 governorates in West Bank and Gaza, each staffed by at least one child protection officer and support staff.
MoSD	MoSD operates a limited number of child protection centres for child victims of violence, abuse or neglect who require emergency and temporary protection: one in Beitunia (Ramallah) for boys aged five to 18 years, a Girls' Care Home in Bethlehem, and the Beit Al Aman shelter for Women in Gaza that take girls in some cases. There are also three women's shelters in the West Bank (one in Bethlehem, one in Nablus, and one in Jericho) that provide temporary care, and psychological and legal counselling services for girls who are victims of violence or in conflict with the law. MoSD also coordinates the Child Protection Networks (CPNs) that comprise of key service providers (government and CSO) in a given area, to promote inter-agency coordination in child protection service delivery. At the governorate level, there are 11 CPNs in the West Bank and 5 in Gaza.
MoE	Provides safe, non-violent and inclusive learning environments through various means – one of which is school based counselling services. School counsellors have been appointed in almost all the schools of Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. These counsellors deal with a range of student issues, and most have received training on psychosocial support, early intervention and referral procedures. They also deal with violence in schools.
MoH	Addresses VAC as a public health issue, identifying, assessing, referring and providing care to child victims of violence. The MoH operates the primary health clinics and hospitals across the Palestinian territory. It has internal instructions for reporting cases of sexual abuse or physical violence.
Mol	Investigates violations of criminal laws, including VAC. The police force has established a Family and Children Department, with a mandate over cases involving violence against women and children and children in conflict with the law.
MoWA	Constitutes the national machinery for the advancement of women in the SoP. It adopted the strategic plan for combating violence against women, 2019–2011 and it also established the National Committee to combat Violence Against Women, of which the National Referral System is one output. MoWA's mandate is to foster women's rights at the policy level as well as implementing training programmes and raising awareness around gender issues in close cooperation with women's rights organisations in the SoP.
Attorney General's Office	Prosecutes cases of child exploitation, including child labour. This Office has created a Gender Unit to deal with violence against women and children.

3. Conceptual framework

The socio-ecological model for understanding and preventing VAC, explains that while individual factors that increase the risk of violence are clearly important, there is broad consensus that VAC must not focus too narrowly on individual characteristics of victims and perpetrators. Rather, the focus should be enlarged to give more attention to broader social, economic, normative and institutional environments in which children and adolescents live. All these factors often interact at different levels of the “social ecological model” (see figure 1).

Figure 1. Socio-ecological model for understanding and preventing VAC



Effective violence prevention and response requires actions and interventions at all levels of the socioecological model, which encompasses: **a)** macro level, including national coordinated actions and legal and policy frameworks; **b)** meso level, including systems and institutions and society/communities and; **c)** micro level, including households/families (mothers, fathers and other caregivers); and girls and boys, including adolescents. Every sector highlighted in this socio-ecological model has an important role to play in VAC, including justice, social welfare/social protection, health and education, among others. Moreover, inter-sectoral collaboration among all these sectors is essential for creating a protective environment for children.

In addition, the INSPIRE strategies (see table 8) have also guided the definition of key interventions of the NIVACS in each level of the socioecological model, including prevention, response and mitigation to VAC.

Table 8. INSPIRE Strategies

INSPIRE Strategy	Description
1. Implementation and enforcement of laws	Ensure the implementation and enforcement of laws to prevent violent behaviours, reduce excessive alcohol use, and limit youth access to firearms and other weapons
2. Norms and values	Strengthen norms and values that support non-violent, respectful, nurturing, positive and gender equitable relationships for all children and adolescents
3. Safe environments	Create and sustain safe streets and other environments where children and youths can gather and spend time
4. Mothers, Fathers and caregivers support	Reduce harsh parenting practices and create positive parent-child relationships
5. Income and economic strengthening	Improve families' economic security and stability, reduce child maltreatment and intimate partner violence
6. Response and support services	Improve access to good-quality health, social welfare and criminal justice support services for all children who need them (including for reporting violence) to reduce the long-term impact of violence
7. Education and life skills	Increase children's access to more effective, gender-equitable education and social-emotional learning and life-skills training, and ensure that school environments are safe and enabling

Finally, the [approaches and guiding principles](#) of the NIVACS are:

Approach based on the rights of the child. The integration of the rights approach will be an important component to make a relevant reading of the strategy and resulting interventions as all children have an equal right to be protected from violence, regardless of their sex, age, ability-disability, race, religion, socioeconomic status of legal or care status.

Gender approach. Gender equality is one of the fundamental principles for the exercise of rights. It is understood that gender equality implies that women and men, girls and boys have the same rights, the same resources, the same opportunities and the same protection. In the framework of the VAC and in order to mitigate the danger of violence that threatens children and women, as well as to meet their specific needs for care and support, it is necessary to apply approaches that take into account aspects related to gender equality. There is no gender-neutral interventions when working to improve the lives of people, of women and men, and, specifically, of children.

Equity approach. The changes and the way in which they occur must be analysed in the context of the power, gender and any other type of relations in which they are immersed. Thus, it is recognised that certain groups of people, and specifically children, have differential protection needs due to their specific situations, the dynamics and particularities of the areas in which they live and, in some cases, due to structural inequities of society. Therefore, to identify intersectionality of multiple factors is fundamental to increase different voices of girls, women, boys and men, according to geographical origin, income, age, sexual orientation, gender identity and disabilities (physical and/or intellectual), among others.

Participatory and inclusive approach. Special emphasis will be placed on the promotion of processes and spaces for dialogue and consultation that will allow a diversity of actors with different hypothesis of work in VAC, including GbV, to be heard. Partnership and shared responsibility are crucial in this strategy: parents, families, the educative community, government bodies, civil society organisations, the private sector and children themselves, all have a role to play. A mix of communication tools and channels to facilitate dialogue, participation and engagement with children, families, communities, networks and policy makers will be considered.

Accountability mechanisms and evidence-based interventions. Accountability refers to being held responsible for one's actions and for the results of those actions as agencies and individuals providing services that must comply with national legal and policy frameworks. In addition, the establishment of accountability mechanisms implies that programmes and interventions addressing VAC will be informed by the best available data or evidence. Data collection and research will be used to plan interventions, and to monitor and assess their impact at all levels (including community engagement and involvement).

Government ownership. The development of the three-year strategy and its action plan is the result of coordinated efforts, under the leadership of the MoSD, with high commitment to active participation and cooperation from all ministries, government institutions, international and local NGOs, the private sector and other humanitarian and development partners. The line ministries, members of the National Children's Council (NCC) and the TWGs, are responsible for the implementation of its strategic goal, outcomes, outputs and key interventions within their area of responsibility (see section V.1 and Annex 4).

Human, financial and technical resources. Considering that resources should be allocated, across sectors, the maximum extent of available resources, and robust monitoring mechanisms should be developed to ensure accountability in allocation and utilization of budgets.

Effective coordination. Understanding that mechanisms must be put in place to ensure effective coordination at central, governorate and directorate level, between sectors and with civil society.

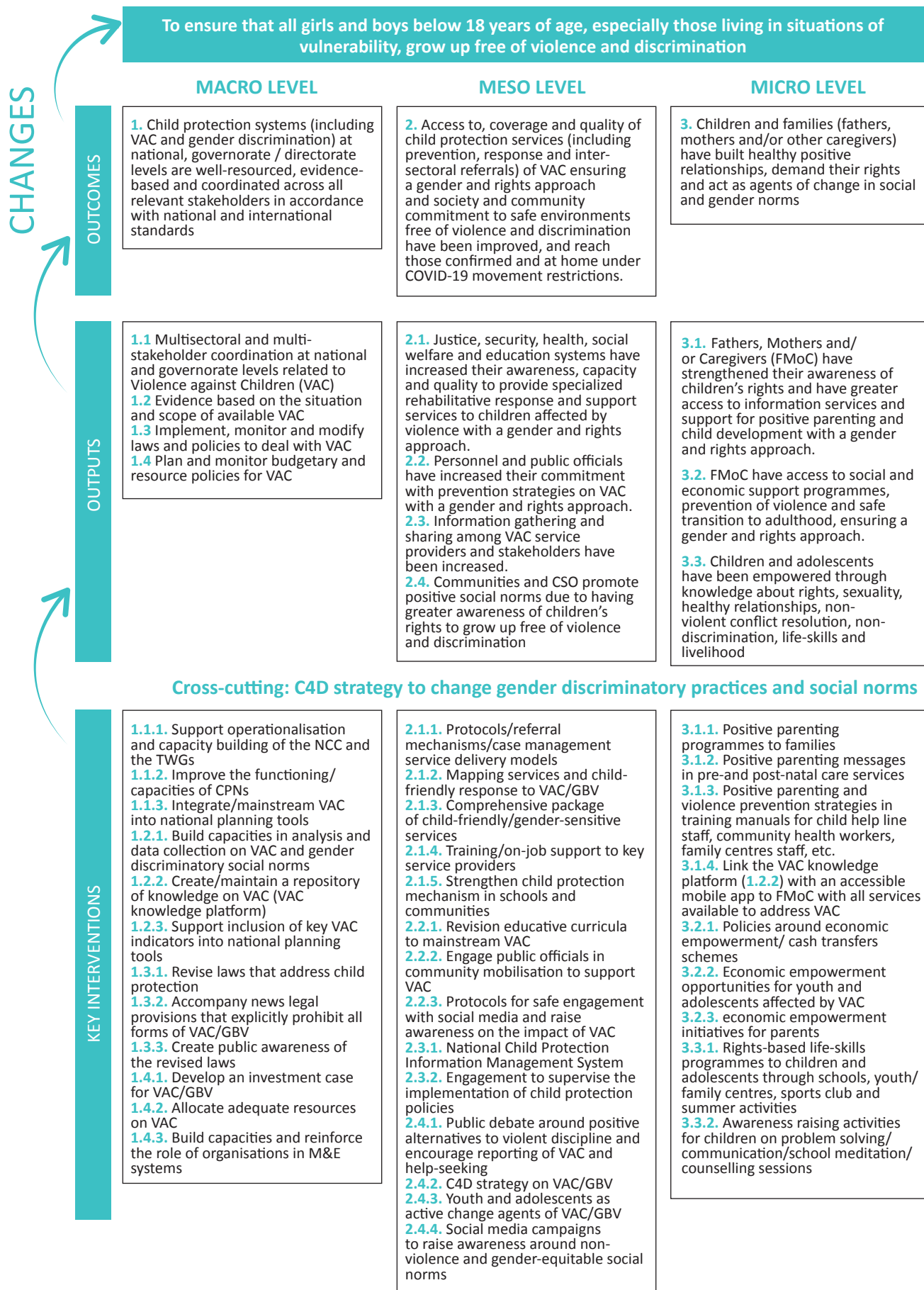
VI. Intervention framework

The intervention framework of the NIVACS has been developed taking into account the three levels of the socio-ecological model (see IV.3). To this end, a Theory of Change (ToC) on VAC has been developed to support the action plan of this strategy (NIVACS) based on a systematic review of the relevant literature and a secondary analysis of the existing primary datasets on VAC in the SoP. This ToC operates at the 'system level' and lays out how changes in the Palestinian child protection system can bring about the desired elimination of violence and discrimination against children (see figure 2). Please refer to Annex 1 for more details of the draft ToC. This ToC guides the NIVACS as well as the Global Partnership's INSPIRE: Seven Strategies for Ending VAC⁴¹ (see IV.3 table 8).

Additionally, the action plan for the strategy was revised considering vulnerabilities highlighted by the NIAF.

41 - Ibidem footnote 11.

Figure 2. Draft Theory of Change of the NIVACS MESO LEVEL



The **scope** of the NIVACS

Geographical scope: The SoP (Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem), prioritising those governorates with a high level of VAC.

Temporal scope: The strategy contains a three-year action plan 2021-2023 (in accordance with the sectoral public planning in the SoP) and an annual operating plan for its first year of implementation (see Annex 4).

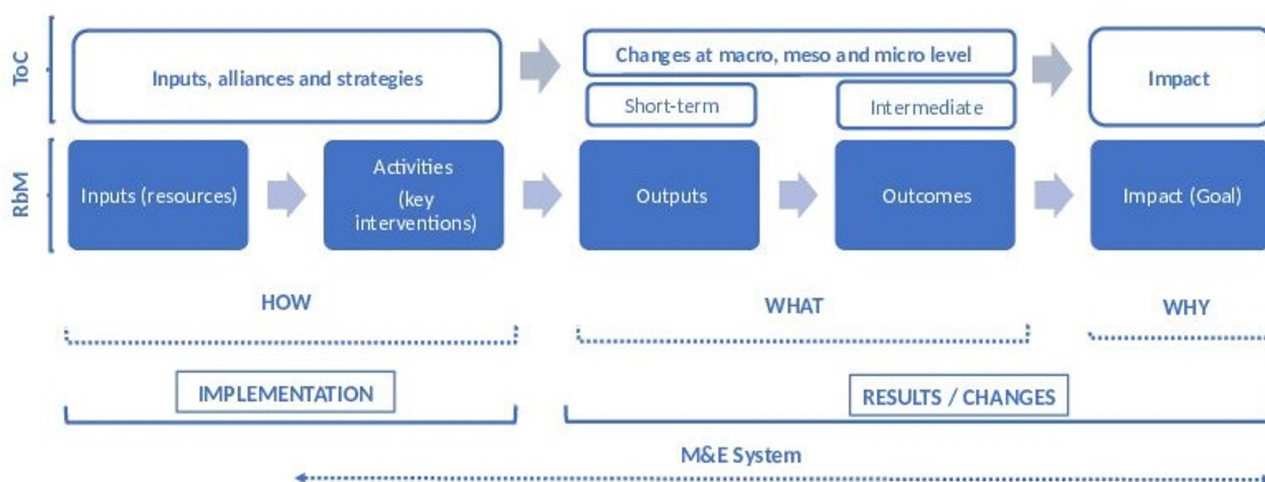
Thematic scope: physical violence, emotional or psychological violence and sexual violence in three specific settings: households, schools and communities.

Actors involved:

- All relevant ministries and institutions
- National and governorate / directorate administration
- Development and humanitarian actors
- Civil society (NGO, CBO and faith-based organisations)
- Survivors and victims of VAC and GbV
- Vulnerable children and families
- General public

The **Results-based Management (RbM)** proposed for the NIVACS includes activities or key interventions, outputs, outcomes and a goal through a chain of results. This results framework and the NIVACS' ToC (see figure 2) are both approaches to describe how this strategy will lead to results or changes. On the one hand, this results framework serves as a key tool to plan the objective/goal of this strategy and then link key interventions to the outcomes and outputs that directly relate to that goal. On the other hand, the ToC suggested allows stakeholders to visualize the logic of intervention and identify the proposed causal links among inputs, alliances and strategies with changes at short-term (outputs) and intermediate term (outcomes) to bring about the final desired change (impact). See the box below:

Box 6. RbM and ToC, a snapshot



Finally, the final goal of the NIVACS in the SoP is to ensure that all girls and boys below 18 years of age, especially those living in a situation of vulnerability⁴², grow up free of violence and discrimination.

42 - Situations of vulnerability may include girls and boys with disabilities, refugees, living in extreme poverty, living with illnesses and those affected by harmful practices.

Matrix 1a. Intervention framework: outcomes and outputs

OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
OUTCOME 1. Child protection systems (including VAC and discrimination for various reasons including gender) at national, governorate / directorate levels are well-resourced, evidence-based and coordinated across all relevant stakeholders (from government and non-government sectors) in accordance with national and international standards	OUTPUT 1.1. The multisectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination at national and governorate levels related to VAC with gender and human rights approach have strengthened their capacity. OUTPUT 1.2. Evidence based (collecting, analysing and disseminating data and research results) on the situation and scope of available VAC -protection system has been strengthened. OUTPUT 1.3 Mechanisms have been strengthened to implement, monitor and modify laws and policies to deal with VAC, in accordance with international and regional standards (including service delivery standards). OUTPUT 1.4. The commitment to plan and monitor budgetary and resource policies for VAC prevention and protection has increased.
OUTCOME 2. Access to, coverage and quality of child protection services related to VAC (including prevention, response and intersectoral referrals), ensuring a gender and rights approach and society and community commitment to safe environments free of violence and discrimination, have been improved and reach those confirmed and at home under COVID-19 movement restrictions.	OUTPUT 2.1. Justice, security, health, education and social welfare systems, among others have increased their awareness, capacity and quality to provide specialised rehabilitative response and support services to children affected by violence with a gender and rights approach. OUTPUT 2.2. Personnel and public officials have increased their commitment to prevention strategies on VAC with a gender and rights approach, reducing stigma, violence and victimization in their policies and work. OUTPUT 2.3 Information gathering and sharing among VAC services providers and stakeholders have been increased. OUTPUT 2.4. Communities, community-based organisations, faith-based organisations and civil society have greater awareness of children's rights to promote positive social norms children's and grow up free of violence and discrimination, regardless of age, sex / gender, disability or any other social or economic disadvantage.
OUTCOME 3. Children and families (mothers, fathers and/ or other caregivers) have built healthy positive relationships, claim children rights and act as agents of change in social and gender norms	OUTPUT 3.1. Fathers, mothers and other caregivers (FMoC) have strengthened awareness of the children's rights and have greater access to information services and support for positive parenting and child development with a gender and rights approach. OUTPUT 3.2. FMoC (vulnerable households) have access to social and economic support programmes, prevention of violence and safe transition to adulthood, ensuring a gender and rights approach. OUTPUT 3.3. Children and adolescents (CA) have been empowered through knowledge about (a) rights, sexuality, healthy relationships, (b) non-violent conflict resolution, non-discrimination, life-skills and (c) livelihoods.

Matrix 1b. Intervention framework: outcomes, outputs and key interventions

OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS	KEY INTERVENTIONS
OUTCOME 1. Child protection systems (including VAC and discrimination for various reasons including gender) at national, governorate / directorate levels are well-resourced, evidence-based and coordinated across all relevant stakeholders (from government and non-government sectors) in accordance with national and international standards	OUTPUT 1.1. The multisectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination at national and governorate levels related to VAC with gender and human rights approach have strengthened their capacity.	1.1.1 Support operationalisation and capacity building of the National Children's Council and the Technical Working Groups (Gaza and the West Bank) on VAC to provide a platform across sectors and at national level to share information, work together and coordinate their actions
		1.1.2 Improve the functioning and capacities of the Child Protection Networks (CPNs) at governorate level, improving their inter-agency child protection policy and practice in relation to all forms of VAC, including GBV as a specific VAC manifestation
		1.1.3 Integrate and mainstream VAC interventions of the National Inter-Sectoral Violence Against Children Strategy (NIVACS) into national planning tools and coordination frameworks at national and governorate levels
	OUTPUT 1.2. Evidence based (collecting, analysing and disseminating data and research results) on the situation and scope of available VAC -protection system has been strengthened.	1.2.1 Build capacities of PCBS and the Academia in analysis and data collection on VAC and gender discriminatory social norms to conduct regular research, publications and evaluations to gain a better understanding of root causes of VAC and GBV, and links between them; how children access services and interventions to prevent and respond to violence and undertake a formative evaluation on this VAC strategy, among others
		1.2.2 Create and maintain a repository of knowledge, good practices, innovations and lessons learned on the prevention and response to VAC, including GBV as a specific VAC manifestation, and ensure their dissemination among all sectors and actors involved at national and governorate levels (link with 2.3.1. and 3.1.4.)
		1.2.3 Support inclusion of key VAC indicators (disaggregated by type of violence, sex, region) into national planning tools and surveys including National Plan of Actions (NPA), sectoral strategies and MICS.
	OUTPUT 1.3. Mechanisms have been strengthened to implement, monitor and modify laws and policies to deal with VAC, in accordance with international and regional standards (including service delivery standards).	1.3.1 Revise laws, their executive regulations and related national policies that address child protection in the State of Palestine in accordance with international standards (CRC, CEDAW, CRPD)
		1.3.2 Accompany new legal provisions with executive regulations for implementation and operationalise policy initiatives that explicitly prohibit all forms of VAC, including GBV as a specific VAC manifestation, and promote non-violent and gender-equitable social norms and behaviours (Line Ministries develop specific VAC interventions under their revised 2020-2022 ministerial action plans)
		1.3.3 Create public awareness on the revised laws and policies
	OUTPUT 1.4. The commitment to plan and monitor budgetary and resource policies for VAC prevention and protection has increased.	1.4.1 Develop an investment case including costing for implementation of VAC, including GBV as a specific VAC manifestation, across different sectors
		1.4.2 Allocate adequate financial, technical and human resources in budgetary and resource processes regarding VAC prevention and response and monitor budgetary allocations (child-sensitive budgeting and planning to address VAC prevention and protection)
		1.4.3 Build capacities and reinforce the role of organisations (line ministries, CBOs, Service Providers and NGOs) in monitoring and evaluation systems to ensure the application of policies and budgets of VAC in different sectors and improve mechanisms for reporting

OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS	KEY INTERVENTIONS
OUTCOME 2. Access to, coverage and quality of child protection services (including prevention, response and intersectoral referrals) of VAC ensuring a gender and rights approach and society and community commitment to safe environments free of violence and discrimination have been improved and reach those confirmed and at home under COVID-19 movement restrictions.	OUTPUT 2.1. Justice, security, health, education and social welfare systems, among others have increased their awareness, capacity and quality to provide specialised rehabilitative response and support services to children affected by violence with a gender and rights approach.	2.1.1 Update and disseminate protocols and referral mechanisms and case management service delivery models among all concerned ministries and organisations working in the field
		2.1.2 Mapping services available to ensure an effective, multi-sectoral (justice, social welfare and protection, health, education, humanitarian/emergencies) and child-friendly response to VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, among all concerned ministries and organisations working in the field
		2.1.3 Provide a comprehensive package of specialised child-friendly and gender-sensitive services for child victims and survivors of violence - including children with disabilities (CwDs) (including confidential medical care, legal assistance and mental health and psychosocial MHPSS support and family counselling) to unify the approach
		2.1.4 Provide accredited training and on-job support in prevention and protection to key service providers across different sectors (social workers, health workers, justice and welfare professionals, education staff, community workers and leaders)
		2.1.5 Strengthen child protection mechanism in schools and communities with unified codes of conduct and clear operating procedures regarding all forms of VAC (including identification, reporting, response mechanism and M&E system)
	OUTPUT 2.2 Personnel and public officials have increased their commitment to prevention strategies on VAC with a gender and rights approach, reducing stigma, violence and victimization in their policies and work.	2.2.1 Revision of the educative curricula to mainstream VAC prevention strategies, positive discipline and gender discriminatory social norms to disseminate among the educative community (teachers, headmasters, counsellors and school parliaments/councils)
		2.2.2 Engage public officials in community mobilisation through community dialogues, workshops and development of community action plans to encourage key influencers (including religious figures) to support VAC prevention initiatives
		2.2.3 Develop online engagement protocols for safe engagement with social media and raise awareness on the impact of VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, in communities and schools
	OUTPUT 2.3 Information gathering and sharing among VAC services providers and stakeholders have been increased.	2.3.1 Put in place a National Child Protection Information Management System to facilitate case management and generate evidence on needs in order to inform programming and resource allocations (link with 1.2.2. and 3.1.4.)
		2.3.2 Strengthen engagement with independent bodies/committees to supervise the implementation of child protection policies and minimum standards and share the results.
	OUTPUT 2.4 Communities, community-based organisations, faith-based organisations and civil society have greater awareness of childrens rights to promote positive social norms and grow up free of violence and discrimination, regardless of age, sex / gender, disability or any other social or economic disadvantage.	2.4.1 Provide opportunities for public debate and discourse around positive alternatives to violent discipline and encourage reporting of VAC and help-seeking behaviour at community level
		2.4.2 Develop a communication for development (C4D) strategy on VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, and support implementation of ECD C4D strategy for CwD to raise awareness and change behaviour for target communities
		2.4.3 Engage with youth and adolescents as active change agents for prevention and reduction of VAC, including GBV as a specific VAC manifestation
		2.4.4 Conduct social media campaigns to raise awareness around non-violence and gender-equitable social norms and on available inter-sectoral VAC services and modalities for access

OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS	KEY INTERVENTIONS
OUTCOME 3. Children and families (mothers, fathers and/or other caregivers) have built healthy positive relationships, claim their rights and act as agents of change in social and gender norms.	OUTPUT 3.1 Fathers, mothers and other caregivers (FMoC) have strengthened awareness of the children's rights and have greater access to information services and support for positive parenting and child development with a gender and rights approach.	3.1.1 Design, strengthen and expand positive parenting programmes to families with children and adolescents and test and evaluate delivery mechanisms to facilitate national scale up.
		3.1.2 Integrate positive parenting messages in pre- and post-natal care services, Primary Health Units/centres, kindergartens and nurseries.
		3.1.3 Incorporate positive parenting and violence prevention strategies in training manuals for child help line staff, community health workers, family centres staff, child protection networks, school counsellors, among others.
		3.1.4 Link the VAC knowledge platform (1.2.2) with an accessible mobile app to FMoC with all services available to address VAC.
	OUTPUT 3.2 FMoC (vulnerable households) have access to social and economic support programmes, prevention of violence and safe transition to adulthood, ensuring a gender and rights approach.	3.2.1 Revise policies around economic empowerment/ cash transfers schemes (PNCTP) to reach vulnerable families, including children affected by violence.
		3.2.2 Create economic empowerment opportunities for youth and adolescents affected by VAC to guarantee a safe transition to adulthood through existing platforms.
		3.2.3 Develop economic empowerment initiatives for parents which include stress release activities related to VAC and positive parenting messages.
	OUTPUT 3.3 Children and adolescents (CA) have been empowered through knowledge about (a) rights, sexuality, healthy relationships, (b) non-violent conflict resolution, non-discrimination, life-skills and (c) livelihoods.	3.3.1 Strengthen and expand rights-based life-skills programmes to provide accessible and age-appropriate information and empowerment on life skills to children and adolescents through schools, youth/family centres, sports clubs and summer activities.
		3.3.2 Carry out awareness raising activities (via systematic programmes) for children on problem solving, communication and school mediation and counselling sessions inside the classrooms ensuring child participation.



1. Action Plan of the NIVACS

The matrix below, considered as three-year Action Plan of the NIVACS, provides information regarding the key interventions, the lead agency and other actors involved, as well as the time frame to undertake these actions with the resources and means, needs and an estimated budget associated (in USD). To do the costing of these key interventions, the two regions (Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem) were considered for a three-year period (2021, 2022 and 2023). Please refer to Annex 3 for the Annual Operating Plan suggested for the first year of implementation (2021, where real timing must be planned). As it is an estimation, a real costing is suggested to be developed during the first year to include the funding commitments within the public budgets for the next two implementing years (see key intervention 1.4.1).

Matrix 2. Key interventions, responsibilities, time frame, sources and estimated budget

KEY INTERVENTIONS	LEAD AGENCY	ACTORS INVOLVED	TIME FRAME			MEANS / RESOURCES	BUDGET USD (ESTIMATED)
1.1.1 Support operationalisation and capacity building of the National Children's Council and the Technical Working Groups (Gaza and the West Bank) on VAC to provide a platform across sectors and at national level to share information, work together and coordinate their actions	MoSD NCC	MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGOs, INGOs, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Technical assistance Stationery, mailing management, etc.	36,000
1.1.2 Improve the functioning and capacities of the Child Protection Networks (CPNs) at governorate level, improving their inter-agency child protection policy and practice in relation to all forms of VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation	MoSD	MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MOL, JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS, Sharia Courts, MoWa, HCoYS, NGOs, INGOs, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Specialised technical assistance (elaborate ToR and plans for CPNs)	80,000
1.1.3 Integrate and mainstream VAC interventions of the National Inter-Sectoral Violence Against Children Strategy (NIVACS) into national planning tools and coordination frameworks at national and governorate levels	Prime Minister / Cabinet	MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, Justice institutions, MoWa, HCoYS, NGOs, INGOs, UNS	2021	2022	--	Advocacy for planning inclusion on VAC	8,000
1.2.1 Build capacities of PCBS and the Academia in analysis and data collection on VAC and gender discriminatory social norms to conduct regular research, publications and evaluations to gain a better understanding of root causes of VAC and GbV, and links between them; how children access services and interventions to prevent and respond to violence and undertake a formative evaluation on this VAC strategy, among others	PCBS / MoE	PCBS, MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGOs, INGOs, Academia	2021	2022	2023	Researchers fees, publications, dissemination of results, etc.	220,000
1.2.2 Create and maintain a repository of knowledge, good practices, innovations and lessons learned on the prevention and response to VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, and ensure their dissemination among all sectors and actors involved at national and governorate levels (link with 2.3.1. and 3.1.4.)	NCC Humanitarian Clusters	MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, NGO, INGO, Academia	2021	2022	2023	Technical assistance, website management, emailing dissemination	30,000
1.2.3 Support inclusion of key VAC indicators (disaggregated by type of violence, sex, region) into national planning tools and surveys including National Plan of Actions (NPA), sectoral strategies and MICS	MoSD	PCBS, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, NGOs, INGOs, Academia	2021	2022	--	Technical assistance VAC indicators inclusion	5,000
1.3.1 Revise laws, their executive regulations and related national policies that address child protection in the SoP in accordance with international standards (CRC, CEDAW, CRPD)	NCC MoSD	MoSD, MoE, MoH, JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGOs, INGOs, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Specialised technical assistance	30,000

KEY INTERVENTIONS	LEAD AGENCY	ACTORS INVOLVED	TIME FRAME			MEANS / RESOURCES	BUDGET USD (ESTIMATED)
1.3.2 Accompany new legal provisions with executive regulations for implementation and operationalise policy initiatives that explicitly prohibit all forms of VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, and promote non-violent and gender-equitable social norms and behaviours (Line Ministries develop specific VAC interventions under their revised 2020-2023 ministerial action plans)	MoSD	MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGOs, INGOs, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Specialised technical assistance	66,000
1.3.3 Create public awareness of the revised laws and policies	NCC MoSD MEDIA	Justice institutions, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGOs, INGOs, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Workshops facilitators, stationery, posters, etc.	15,000
1.4.1 Develop an investment case including costing for implementation of VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, across different sectors	MoC/ Justice institutions	MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	--	--	Researchers fees, publications, dissemination of results, etc.	20,000
1.4.2 Allocate adequate financial, technical and human resources in budgetary and resource processes regarding VAC prevention and response and monitor budgetary allocations (child-sensitive budgeting and planning to address VAC prevention and protection)	MoSD/ MoFP	MoSD, Justice institutions, MoI, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	--	2022	2023	Specialised technical assistance (elaborate executive regulations) and advocacy for allocations	28,000
1.4.3 Build capacities and reinforce the role of organisations (line ministries, CBOs, Service Providers and NGOs) in monitoring and evaluation systems to ensure the application of policies and budgets of VAC in different sectors and improve mechanisms for reporting	MoSD/ MoFP	MoE, MoH, MoI, JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS, MOL, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Means for specific trainings: facilitators, stationery, posters, etc.	54,000
2.1.1 Update and disseminate protocols and referral mechanisms and case management service delivery models among all concerned ministries and organisations working in the field	MoSD	MoSD, Justice institutions, MoI, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Mailing, printing documents, training sessions (facilitators and materials), etc.	60,000
2.1.2 Mapping services available to ensure an effective, multi-sectoral (justice, social welfare and protection, health, education, humanitarian/emergencies) and child-friendly response to VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, among all concerned ministries and organisations working in the field	MoSD	Justice institutions, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Technical assistance Stationery	60,000
2.1.3 Provide a comprehensive package of specialised child-friendly and gender-sensitive services for child victims and survivors of violence - including CwDs (including confidential medical care, legal assistance and mental health and psychosocial MHPSS support and family counselling) to unify the approach	MoSD	Justice institutions, MoE, MoH, MoI, MOL, JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Technical assistance for the elaboration of the package, publications, dissemination sessions, etc.	81,000

KEY INTERVENTIONS	LEAD AGENCY	ACTORS INVOLVED	TIME FRAME			MEANS / RESOURCES	BUDGET USD (ESTIMATED)
2.1.4 Provide accredited training and on-job support in prevention and protection to key service providers across different sectors (social workers, health workers, justice and welfare professionals, education staff, community workers and leaders)	MoE/INGO (UNICEF)	Justice institutions, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoL, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Facilitators, training venue, materials, etc.	360,000
2.1.5 Strengthen child protection mechanisms in schools and communities with unified codes of conduct and clear operating procedures regarding all forms of VAC (including identification, reporting, response mechanism and M&E system)	MoE	MoSD, Justice institutions, MoL, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Facilitators, training venue, materials, etc.	36,000
2.2.1 Revision of the educative curricula to mainstream VAC prevention strategies, positive discipline and gender discriminatory social norms to disseminate among the educative community (teachers, headmasters, counsellors and school parliaments/ councils)	MoE/MoSD	MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	--	Specialised technical assistance	30,000
2.2.2 Engage public officials in community mobilisation through community dialogues, workshops and development of community action plans to encourage key influencers (including religious men) to support VAC prevention initiatives	MoSD (CPNs)	MoSD, MoL, MoE, MoRA, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Advocacy strategies, technical assistance	18,000
2.2.3 Develop online engagement protocols for safe engagement with social media and raise awareness on the impact of VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, in communities and schools	MoSD/MoE/MoH	MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS, Academia	--	2022	2023	Specialised technical assistance, dissemination activities	3,000
2.3.1 Put in place a National Child Protection Information Management System to facilitate case management and generate evidence on needs in order to inform programming and resource allocations (link with 1.2.2. and 3.1.4.)	MoSD/World Bank	Justice institutions, MoL, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, PCBS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Specialised technical assistance, digital resources	120,000
2.3.2 Strengthen engagement with independent bodies/committees to supervise the implementation of child protection policies and minimum standards and share results.	ICHR	Justice institutions, MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, PCBS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Specialised technical assistance	72,000
2.4.1 Provide opportunities for public debate and discourse around positive alternatives to violent discipline and encourage reporting of VAC and help-seeking behaviour at community level	MoE	MoSD, Justice institutions, MoL, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Facilitators, materials, media involved, etc.	18,000
2.4.2 Develop a communication for development (C4D) strategy on VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, and support implementation of ECD C4D strategy for CwD to raise awareness and change behaviour for target communities	MoE/MoSD	MoE, MoSD MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	--	Technical assistance	60,000

KEY INTERVENTIONS	LEAD AGENCY	ACTORS INVOLVED	TIME FRAME			MEANS / RESOURCES	BUDGET USD (ESTIMATED)
2.4.3 Engage with youth and adolescents as active change agents for preventions and reduction of VAC, including GBV as a specific VAC manifestation	MoSD/ MoE	MoSD, MoL, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Facilitators, materials, etc.	15,000
2.4.4 Conduct social media campaigns to raise awareness around non-violence and gender-equitable social norms and of available inter-sectoral VAC services and modalities for access	MoC/ Min of Media	Justice institutions, MoL, MoC, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Technical assistance, digital resources, etc.	60,000
3.1.1 Design, strengthen and expand positive parenting programmes for families with children and adolescents and test and evaluate delivery mechanisms to facilitate national scale up	MoSD	MoSD, MoL, MoE, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Allocations, evaluation technical assistance	180,000
3.1.2 Integrate positive parenting messages in pre- and post-natal care services, Primary Health Units/centres, kindergartens and nurseries	MoH	MoSD, MoL, MoE, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Technical assistance Materials	72,000
3.1.3 Incorporate positive parenting and violence prevention strategies in training manuals for child help line staff, community health workers, family centres staff, child protection networks, school counsellors, among others	MoSD/ MoH/ MoE	MoH, MoSD, MoE, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Manuals editing, dissemination strategies, facilitators, etc.	35,000
3.1.4 Link the VAC knowledge platform with an accessible app to FMoC with all services available to address VAC (link with 1.2.2. and 2.3.1.)	MoSD	PCBS, Justice institutions, MoL, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Technical assistance, digital resources	36,000
3.2.1 Revise policies around economic empowerment/ cash transfer schemes (Palestinian National Cash Transfer Programme - PNCTP) to reach vulnerable families, including children affected by violence	MoFP/ MoSD	MoL, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Advocacy strategies and technical assistance	6,000
3.2.2 Create economic empowerment opportunities for youth and adolescents affected by VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, to guarantee a safe transition to adulthood through existing platforms	MoSD/ MoL	MoSD, MoL, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Allocations, evaluation technical assistance	300,000
3.2.3 Develop economic empowerment initiatives for parents which include stress release activities related to VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, and positive parenting messages	MoSD/ MoL/ MoFP	MoSD, Justice institutions, MoL, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Allocations, evaluation technical assistance	900,000
3.3.1 Strengthen and expand rights-based life-skills programmes to provide accessible and age-appropriate information and empowerment on life skills to children and adolescents through schools, youth/family centres, sports clubs and summer activities	MoE/ UNWRA	MoSD, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Allocations, evaluation technical assistance	540,000
3.3.2 Carry out awareness raising activities (via systematic programmes) for children on problem solving, gender equitable social norms, communication and school mediation and counselling sessions inside the classrooms, ensuring child participation	MoE/ UNWRA	MoSD, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS	2021	2022	2023	Allocations, evaluation technical assistance	2,700.000

BUDGET USD (ESTIMATED)

\$6,354,000

VII. Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation

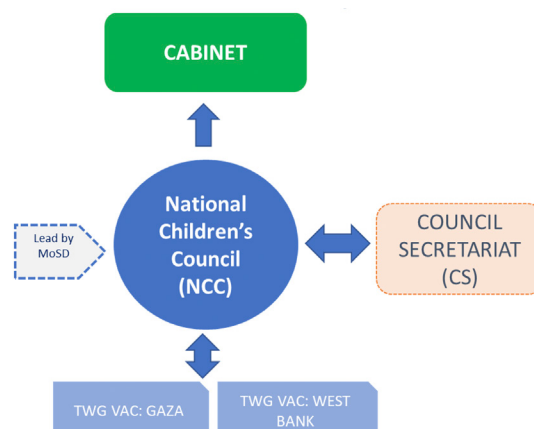
1. Proposed NIVACS Institutional Embedding

The NIVACS will be implemented by relevant ministries, departments and agencies of Government, as well as civil bodies, including NGOs, FBOs, CBOs, the private sector and international development and humanitarian actors.

While the implementation of the NIVACS will be carried out by identified stakeholders that are engaged in the child protection system, the MoSD will lead this strategy and will have the responsibility for coordinating the multi-sector response and its Action Plans.

The main bodies of the NIVACS will be the following: (1) Cabinet, (2) National Children's Council (3) Council Secretariat and (4) Technical Working Groups (see figure 2).

Figure 3. NIVACS institutional embedding



1) Council of Ministers/Cabinet

The final approval of any policy is usually undertaken by the highest body at national level. To ensure sustainability and enforcement / implementation of the NIVACS, the cabinet in the SoP made up of the top leaders of the executive branch will approve and publish the strategy.

Functions:

- Final approval of the NIVACS and its Annual Operating Plans (AOPs).
- Recommend any measure to include in the strategy, as well as support, with their political will, its implementation.

2) The National Children's Council (NCC)

To ensure successful achievement of the NIVACS, an inter-sectoral coordination is critical. For that purpose, the National Children's Council (NCC), as an inter-sectoral committee, already established in the SoP (by Decision of the Council of Ministers (2017) on the National Children's Council), will lead the strategy. This council will assume the overall coordination at the highest level of the NIVACS. The NCC is chaired by the MoSD and meets twice per year.

Composition: Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Justice, Higher Council of Media, Academia, NGOs, Independent Commission for Human Rights, and others.

Tasks and Authorities of the NCC (according to the art. 7 of the Decision of the Council of Ministers 2017)

- To propose general State strategies and policies in the field of child care and protection, and submit them to the Council of Ministers for approval, following up their implementation.
- To propose a comprehensive national action plan for children and submit it to the Council of Ministers for approval.
- To follow up and coordinate efforts between the various stakeholders, bodies, official institutions and NGOs working in the field of child care and protection.

- To endorse standards for the protection of children's rights in accordance with international conventions and agreements.
- To contribute to elaborating legislation related to childhood and child protection.
- To assess stakeholders involved in the implementation of general strategies and policies pertaining to childhood, and to make recommendations with a view to improving and developing their participation in the best interest of the child.
- To follow up with the competent authorities to issue reports on the situation of children, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- To ratify internal and external child-related conventions.
- To set up sub-committees to follow up on some of the Council's tasks and terms of reference.

In particular for the **NIVACS**, the **NCC** would have the following functions:

- Advocate for and communicate the NIVACS in accordance with the strategic framework.
- Provide guidance to address any obstacles and bottlenecks surrounding the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the NIVACS.
- Ensure the establishment of memorandum of understanding with implementing agencies, at CSO and NGO/INGO level, to ensure commitment and to clarify roles and responsibilities with respect to the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the NIVACS.
- Revision of the AOPs on a biannual-basis and the NIVACS every 3 years to ensure its relevance.
- Communicate the status of the NIVACS implementation to the Council of Ministers/Cabinet and disseminate the results of the follow-up among stakeholders involved.

3) Council Secretariat (CS) of the NCC

According to the art. 9 of Decision of the Council of Ministers (2017) on the National Children's Council:

The Child Protection Department of the MoSD shall be in charge of the Council Secretariat (CS), undertaking the following tasks:

- Develop the session agenda and prepare the Council meetings.
- Send invitations to Council members and provide them with agendas in due time.
- Elaborate session minutes.
- Report the Council's decisions to stakeholders and follow up their implementation.
- Follow up the work of the committees set up by the Council and make the necessary recommendations thereon.
- Provide the necessary child-related information, statistics and studies, evaluate the indicators and results achieved, and submit them to the Council.
- Any other tasks assigned by the Council.

In particular for the NIVACS, the CS will ensure an adequate flow of information throughout the NIVACS M&E system and channels of communications (see figure 3).

4) Proposed establishment of Technical Working Groups (TWGs):

In order to put in place an effective coordination mechanism for the NIVACS implementation, two Technical Working Groups will be also established⁴³, one in Gaza and the other in the West Bank. Both TWGs, specialised on VAC, shall include representatives of stakeholders covering the following topics: (a) Legal, Policy and Coordination, (b) Child protection services, (c) Knowledge Management (including data, research, analysis) and, (d) Mobilisation, communication and empowerment (children, family and community).

43 - It is highly recommended to set up these TWG with a formal constitution.

The main objective of these two TWGs will be providing technical advice for the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the NIVACS and its AOPs. This body will meet every two months (and on a biannual basis they will provide the M&E reports). Please refer to Annex 4 for more details about the responsibilities of the line ministries members involved in these TWGs.

*Composition of the TWGs*⁴⁴ : Each TWG will be chaired by a selected government institution within the child protection system, acting as a coordinator of the group, and it will also include key stakeholders from line ministries, the civil society, private sector, academia and international development/humanitarian partners as appropriate (including at least the related humanitarian cluster coordinators). The coordination of each TWG will be rotative on an annual basis.

Functions:

- Update information during the implementation process.
- Improve the internal and external dissemination of the Plan.
- Analyse the development of the interventions.
- Reflect on the continuity of the actions.
- Identify new needs that require actions and establish proposals to improve the Plan.
- Know the degree of compliance with the objectives of the Plan by obtaining information from each agency responsible for the preparation of the Monitoring Report through the information obtained from the monitoring sheets (on a biannual basis).
- Proposal for improvement actions that correct possible deficiencies detected, as well as new actions that consolidate the commitment of the SoP to combat VAC.

2. M&E system

Monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the NIVACS is required to ensure its successful implementation. The goal of these efforts will be to identify the progress of the key interventions to prevent and respond to VAC, as well as to identify weaknesses, gaps, and challenges. The successes and obstacles identified during implementation will inform adjustments to strategic interventions and will be documented as lessons learned and best practices to be disseminated and used in planning the next steps for interventions to end VAC.

New and existing mechanisms and tools will be used to establish a data collection system to monitor the implementation of the NIVACS in cooperation with line ministries and all the key stakeholders involved. The M&E system will coordinate data collection on VAC and provide access to available data from different sources on a regular and reliable basis. This will enable government ministries and other stakeholders to systematically assess trends for improved interventions for VAC. This system will provide government ministries with resources for policy development and analysis, and for improving performance in service delivery. It will also identify the most efficient use of available resources, as well as implementation difficulties, thus enhancing transparency and accountability of government actions.

Regarding the M&E system and in order to follow up the progress on the aforementioned outcomes and outputs of the NIVACS it is necessary to generate relevant information to analyse the achievements so as to prevent, respond to and mitigate VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, in the SoP. In this sense, it is important to use SMART indicators to monitor achievements⁴⁵. To ensure that the indicators used for the M&E system are suitable to the Palestinian context and respond to the SMART qualities, it is recommended to make methodological notes for each indicator, assigning a responsible per each indicator to follow-up the means of verification, considering its periodicity, availability and cost associated, if it is the case.

44 - Proposed by the consultancy team

45 - The acronym SMART summarises the key criteria that indicators should comply with. A SMART indicator must be Specific, Measurable, Achievable/Attainable and Attributable, Relevant and Timely (time-bound, trackable and targeted).

As a starting point, the following *proposal of indicators* (see matrix 3a) are based on three types of indicators:

1. Those already existing in the SoP and therefore easy to measure and track (named as existing indicators);
2. Those achievable / attainable during the implementation of the NIVAC (named as achievable during the NIVACS);
3. Those which need to be tracked during the NIVACS (named as trackable during the NIVACS), either because the variables are not commonly defined/agreed by the TWG or because the calculating formula needs to be traced during the three-year implementation of the NIVACS.

Following this, a M&E matrix of indicators is presented below (see matrix 3b), which with a joint monitoring report (proposal template in annex 2) will be the main follow-up tools of this strategy.

Matrix 3a. Indicators at goal, outcomes and outputs level

GOAL	IMPACT INDICATORS (II)		Means of verification
To ensure that all girls and boys below 18 years of age, especially those living in situations of vulnerability ⁴⁶ , grow up free of violence and discrimination	II1. Prevalence of Violence against children in households (%) : - Physical violence - Psychological violence	Existing indicator	PBCS survey on violence (Next PCBS survey on Violence 2024) ⁴⁷ MICS (PR2; PR15) (Next MICS May 2020) ⁴⁸
	II2. % of students exposed to violence inside the school (basic education) : - Physical violence - Verbal violence - Sexual violence	Existing indicator	Annual Report MoE - MoE (2017): Monitoring and Evaluation System for the Third Education Strategic Plan EDSP 2014-2019. Monitoring and Evaluation Report 2016. Palestine (ps. 65 and 93) ⁴⁹
	II3. At the end of the VAC strategy implementation the % of girls married under 18 has decreased (see early marriage strategy)	Existing indicator	PCBS main indicators ⁵⁰

46 - Situation of vulnerability may include: girls and boys with disabilities, refugees, living in extreme poverty, living with HIV, affected by harmful practices.

47 - Available at: http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/site/lang__en/699/default.aspx

48 - https://mics-surveys-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/MICS5/Middle%20East%20and%20North%20Africa/State%20of%20Palestine/2014/Final/State%20of%20Palestine%202014%20MICS_English.pdf

49 - Available at: http://www.MoE.gov.ps/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=ntpr8_qoiS8%3D&tabid=209&portalid=0&mid=893

50 - Available at: http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_Rainbow/Documents/main%20indicator%20E.htm

OUTCOMES	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPI)	
Outcome 1. Child protection systems (including VAC and discrimination for various reasons including gender) at national, governorate / directorate levels are well-resourced, evidence-based and coordinated across all relevant stakeholders (from government and non-government sectors) in accordance with national and international standards	KPI 1.1 Funds allocated for the VAC strategy implementation at national, governorate / directorate levels	Achievable indicator during the NIVACS
	KPI 1.2 Number and types of changes in laws and /or policies, including:	Achievable indicator during the NIVACS
	- National laws and/or policies passed prohibiting physical violence, and gender discrimination, including corporal punishment in households, schools and communities	
	- National laws and/or policies passed prohibiting psychological violence, and gender discrimination, in households, schools and communities	
	- National laws and/or policies passed prohibiting sexual violence, including sexual abuse, and gender discrimination, in households, schools and communities	
	KPI 1.3 Existence of effective ⁵¹ coordination mechanisms at all levels (national, governorate / directorate) that address VAC by type	Trackable indicator during the NIVACS
Outcome 2. Access to, coverage and quality of child protection services (including prevention, response and intersectoral referrals) of VAC ensuring a gender and rights approach and society and community commitment to safe environments free of violence and discrimination have been improved and reach those confirmed and at home under COVID-19 movement restrictions.	KPI 2.1 % of Schools with protective school policies (including hygiene and sanitation standards) that address VAC, including GBV as a VAC manifestation	Achievable indicator during the NIVACS
	KPI 2.2 At least 50% of service providers (social welfare and protection and health) identify, treat, support and refer children and adolescent survivors of violence	Trackable indicator during the NIVACS
	KPI 2.3 At least 50% child protection services (health, justice, social welfare, safety and security and education) meet minimum standards ⁵² based on national protocols and guidelines	Trackable indicator during the NIVACS
Outcome 3. Children and families (mothers, fathers and/or other caregivers) have built healthy positive relationships, claim their rights and act as agents of change in social and gender norms	KPI 3.1 Percentage of children age 1-14 years only receiving non-violent discipline methods during the last one month	Existing indicator ⁵³
	KPI 3.2 % children, reached by VAC interventions, who know their rights and have non-violent relationships	Achievable indicator during the NIVACS

51 - Effective coordination might mean sufficient staffing, clear leadership, solid participation of relevant actors and ensuring an information system

52 - Minimum standards include infrastructure, staff, supplies and documentation

53 - Means of verification: MICS 2014 (CP.5) (Next MICS May 2020: PR2; PR15)

OUTPUTS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (PI)	
Output 1.1 The multisectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination at national and governorate levels related to VAC with gender and human rights approach have strengthened their capacity.	PI1.1 Number of operational regulations and protocols in place for the coordination mechanism at all levels (national, governorate/directorate) that address VAC, including GBV as a VAC manifestation, by type.	Achievable indicator during the NIVACS
Output 1.2 Evidence based (collecting, analysing and disseminating data and research results) on the situation and scope of the available VAC-protection system has been strengthened.	PI1.2 Number and type of evidence base, including violence-related and gender discriminatory social norms research, mapping, surveillance, monitoring and evaluation.	Achievable indicator during the NIVACS
Output 1.3 Mechanisms have been strengthened to implement, monitor and modify laws and policies to deal with VAC, in accordance with international and regional standards (including service delivery standards).	PI1.3a Key articles of CRC and observations made by the CRC Committee to the State of Palestine dealing with VAC have been included in national laws and policies.	Achievable indicator during the NIVACS
	PI1.3b Key articles of CEDAW and observations made by the CEDAW Committee to the State of Palestine dealing with VAC have been included in national laws and policies.	
	PI1.3c Key articles of CRPD and observations made by the CRPD Committee to the State of Palestine dealing with VAC have been included in national laws and policies.	
Output 1.4 The commitment to plan and monitor budgetary and resource policies for VAC prevention and protection has increased.	PI1.4 % of investment to ensure adequate staffing and to train duty-bearers to implement new national laws and policies regarding VAC, including GBV as a VAC manifestation.	Trackable indicator during the NIVACS
Output 2.1 Justice, security, health, education and social welfare systems, among others have increased their awareness, capacity and quality to provide specialised rehabilitative response and support services to children affected by violence with a gender and rights approach.	PI2.1 A comprehensive package of specialised child-friendly and gender-sensitive services for child victims and survivors of violence available among sectors in the 16 governorates.	Achievable indicator during the NIVACS
Output 2.2 Personnel and public officials have increased their commitment to prevention strategies on VAC with a gender and rights approach, reducing stigma, violence and victimization in their policies and work.	PI2.2 Number of VAC prevention sessions, including GBV as a VAC manifestation, by public officials in their workplace or community centres.	Trackable indicator during the NIVACS
Output 2.3 Information gathering and sharing among VAC service providers and stakeholders have been increased.	PI2.3 Information management system on VAC, including GBV as a VAC manifestation, put in place among services providers and stakeholders at governorate / directorate level using minimum standards (confidentiality, anonymity, ethical sharing, etc.)	Achievable indicator during the NIVACS
Output 2.4 Communities, community-based organisations, faith-based organisations and civil society have greater awareness of children's rights, to promote positive social norms and grow up free of violence and discrimination, regardless of age, sex / gender, disability or any other social or economic disadvantage.	PI2.4 Number and types of awareness raising and advocacy strategies to mobilise the general public, key constituencies and policy makers to promote positive social norms to prevent VAC.	Achievable indicator during the NIVACS

OUTPUTS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (PI)	
Output 3.1 Fathers, mothers and other caregivers (FMoC) have strengthened awareness of the children's rights and have greater access to information services and support for positive parenting and child development with a gender and rights approach.	PI3.1 Percentage of FMoC satisfied with positive parenting initiatives who have changed their behaviour towards children.	Trackable indicator during the NIVACS
Output 3.2 FMoC (vulnerable households) have access to social and economic support programmes, prevention of violence and safe transition to adulthood, ensuring a gender and rights approach.	PI3.2 Number and types of programmes on social and economic support provided to vulnerable households.	Achievable indicator during the NIVACS
Output 3.3 Children and adolescents (CA) have been empowered through knowledge about (a) rights, healthy relationships, (b) non-violent conflict resolution, non-discrimination, life-skills and (c) livelihoods.	PI3.3 % of students' participation in supportive extra-curricular activities that link learning to real life.	Existing indicator ⁵⁴

Matrix 3b. Monitoring and evaluation of indicators: M&E matrix

GOAL	IMPACT INDICATORS	BASELINE	TARGETS			MEANS OF VERIFICATION	COMMENTS
			2021	2022	2023		
To ensure that all girls and boys below 18 years of age, especially those living in a situation of vulnerability, ⁵⁵ grow up free of violence and discrimination.	II.1.1 Prevalence of Violence against children in households (%): - Physical violence - Psychological violence.	(2019) - 68.3% male / 61.5% female physical violence - 79.1% male / 74.4% female psychological violence	TBD	TBD	TBD	PBCS survey on violence MICS (PR2; PR15)	Data disaggregated by sex, territory and abusers Next PCBS survey on Violence 2024 Next MICS May 2020
	II.1.2 % of students exposed to violence inside the school (basic education): - Physical violence - Verbal violence - Sexual violence	(2016) - 54.9% physical violence - 60% verbal violence - 13.2% sexual violence	TBD	TBD	TBD	Annual Report MoE	Disaggregated by cycle: basic and secondary education No disaggregation by sex nor by region.
	II 1.3 At the end of the VAC strategy implementation the % of girls married under 18 has decreased (see early marriage strategy).	(2017) 10.8%	TBD	TBD	TBD	PCBS main indicators	Women aged 20-49 years who first married below age 18 10.8 Percentage 2017 West Bank 8.5 Percentage 2017 Gaza Strip 13.8 Percentage 2017

TBD: to be defined

54 - Means of verification: Education Sector Plan 2017-2022, p.72.

55 - Situation of vulnerability may include: girls and boys with disabilities, refugees, living in extreme poverty, living with HIV or affected by harmful practices

OUTCOMES	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	BASELINE	TARGETS			MEANS OF VERIFICATION	COMMENTS
			2021	2022	2023		
O1. Child protection systems (including VAC and discrimination for various reasons including gender) at national, governorate / directorate levels are well-resourced, evidence-based and coordinated across all relevant stakeholders (from government and non-government sectors) in accordance with national and international standards.	KPI 1.1 Funds allocated for the VAC strategy implementation at national, governorate / directorate levels.	n. a	TBD	TBD	TBD	MoFP Monitoring reports of the NIVACS	
	KPI 1.2 Number and types of changes in policies, including:						
	National laws and/or policies passed prohibiting physical violence, including corporal punishment in households, schools and communities.	1	TBD	TBD	TBD	MoSD internal records	ref p. 58 MoSD Sector Plan 2017-2023 without disaggregation (Review policies and legislation relative to marginalized groups).
	National laws and/or policies passed prohibiting psychological violence in households, schools and communities.	1	TBD	TBD	TBD	MoSD internal records	ref p. 58 MoSD Sector Plan 2017-2023 without disaggregation (Review policies and legislation relative to marginalized groups).
	National laws and/or policies passed prohibiting sexual violence, including sexual abuse in households, schools and communities.	1	TBD	TBD	TBD	MoSD internal records	ref p. 58 MoSD Sector Plan 2017-2023 without disaggregation (Review policies and legislation relative to marginalized groups).
	KPI 1.3 Existence of effective ⁵⁶ coordination mechanisms at all levels that address VAC by type.	0 at national level 16 at governorate level	TBD	TBD	TBD	MoSD / MoE	NCC not active yet at national level 11 CPN active in West Bank + 5 CPN in Gaza = 16 at governorate level.

n.a. not available

⁵⁶- Effective coordination might mean sufficient staffing, clear leadership, solid participation of relevant actors and ensuring an information system.

OUTCOMES	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	BASELINE	TARGETS			MEANS OF VERIFICATION	COMMENTS
			2021	2022	2023		
O2. Access to, coverage and quality of child protection services (including prevention, response and intersectoral referrals) of VAC ensuring a gender and rights approach and society and community commitment to safe environments free of violence and discrimination have been improved.	KPI 2.1 % of schools with protective school policies (including hygiene and sanitation standards) that address VAC.	n. a	TBD	TBD	TBD	MoE data base Palestinian Water Authority	The School VAC policy is under revision (See final version).
	KPI 2.2 At least 50% of service providers ⁵⁷ identify, treat, support and refer children and adolescent survivors of violence.	n. a	TBD	TBD	TBD	MoSD/MoH/ MoWa internal records	MoH register in a sheet the number of cases of GBV against girls (monthly statistics report) disaggregated by type of violence (physical, psychological sexual). The number of cases referred is also registered.
	KPI 2.3 At least 50% of child protection services ⁵⁸ meet minimum standards ⁵⁹ based on national protocols and guidelines.	% Primary Health C. % Legal aid centres/ clinics % of CPNs/ welfare nets % CSO providing extra-curricular education	TBD	TBD	TBD	Internal intermediate Monitoring reports Final external evaluation report	Ref. MoSD AP 2017-2019 (p. 14) Effective social and legal counsel-ling units operating in Yatta, Dura, Jenin and other targeted areas. In Gaza there is an evaluation 2015-2017 of the Family centres.
O3. Children and families (mothers, fathers and/or other caregivers) have built healthy positive relationships, claim their rights and act as agents of change in social and gender norms.	KPI 3.1 % of children aged 1-14 years only receiving non-violent discipline methods during the previous month.	(2014) 6.3%	TBD	TBD	TBD	MICS 2014 (CP.5) MICS 2020 (PR.2; PR.15)	Disaggregated by region, sex, governorate, area, age, education of household head and wealth index quintile.
	KPI 3.2 % of children, reached by VAC interventions, who know their rights and have non-violent relationships.	n. a	TBD	TBD	TBD	UNICEF U-report	

n.a. not available

57- Service providers include social welfare and protection and health

58 - Child protection services encompass health, justice, social welfare, safety and security and education.

59 - Minimum standards include infrastructure, staff, supplies and documentation.

OUTPUTS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	BASELINE	TARGETS			MEANS OF VERIFICATION	COMMENTS
			2021	2022	2023		
1.1 The multisectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination at national and governorate levels related to VAC with gender and human rights approach have strengthened their capacity.	PI1.1 Number of operational regulations and protocols in place for the coordination mechanism at all levels (national, governorate/ directorate) that address VAC by type.	1 at national level n. a. at governorate level	TBD	TBD	TBD	MoSD internal records CPNs terms of reference	
1.2 Evidence based (collecting, analysing and disseminating data and research results) on the situation and scope of available VAC-protection systems has been strengthened.	PI1.2 Number and type of evidence base, including violence-related research, mapping, surveillance, monitoring and evaluation.	n. a	TBD	TBD	TBD	Line ministries internal records Monitoring report of the NIVACS	
1.3 Mechanisms have been strengthened to implement, monitor and modify laws and policies to deal with VAC, in accordance with international and regional standards (including service delivery standards).	PI1.3a Key articles of CRC and observations made by the CRC Committee to the SoP dealing with VAC have been included in national laws and policies. PI1.3b Key articles of CEDAW and observations made by the CEDAW Committee to the SoP dealing with VAC have been included in national laws and policies. PI1.3c Key articles of CRPD and observations made by the CRPD Committee to the SoP dealing with VAC have been included in national laws and policies.	n. a	TBD	TBD	TBD	CRC, CEDAW and CRPD reports and observations made by the Committee. Line ministries internal records Monitoring report of the NIVACS	The CRC observations to be launched in 2020

OUTPUTS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	BASELINE	TARGETS			MEANS OF VERIFICATION	COMMENTS
			2021	2022	2023		
1.4 The commitment to plan and monitor budgetary and resource policies for VAC prevention and protection has increased.	PI1.4 % of investment to ensure adequate staffing and to train duty-bearers to implement new national laws and policies regarding VAC.	n. a	TBD	TBD	TBD	MoFP records (% of investment of the SoP budget)	
2.1 Justice, security, health, education and social welfare systems have increased their awareness, capacity and quality to provide specialised rehabilitative response and support services to children affected by violence with a gender and rights approach.	PI2.1 A comprehensive package of specialised child-friendly and gender-sensitive services for child victims and survivors of violence available among sectors in the 16 governorates.	n. a	TBD	TBD	TBD	Internal records of the TWGs Monitoring report of the NIVACS	
2.2 Personnel and public officials have increased their commitment to prevention strategies on VAC with a gender and rights approach, reducing stigma, violence and victimization in their policies and work.	PI2.2 Number of VAC prevention sessions (including GBV) by public officials in their workplace or community centres.	n. a	TBD	TBD	TBD	MoH/MoE/ MoSD administrative records External evaluation	
2.3 Information gathering and sharing among VAC services providers and stakeholders have been increased.	PI2.3 Information management system on VAC put in place among service providers and stakeholders at governorate / directorate level using minimum standards ⁶⁰	n. a	TBD	TBD	TBD	Cabinet press releases	

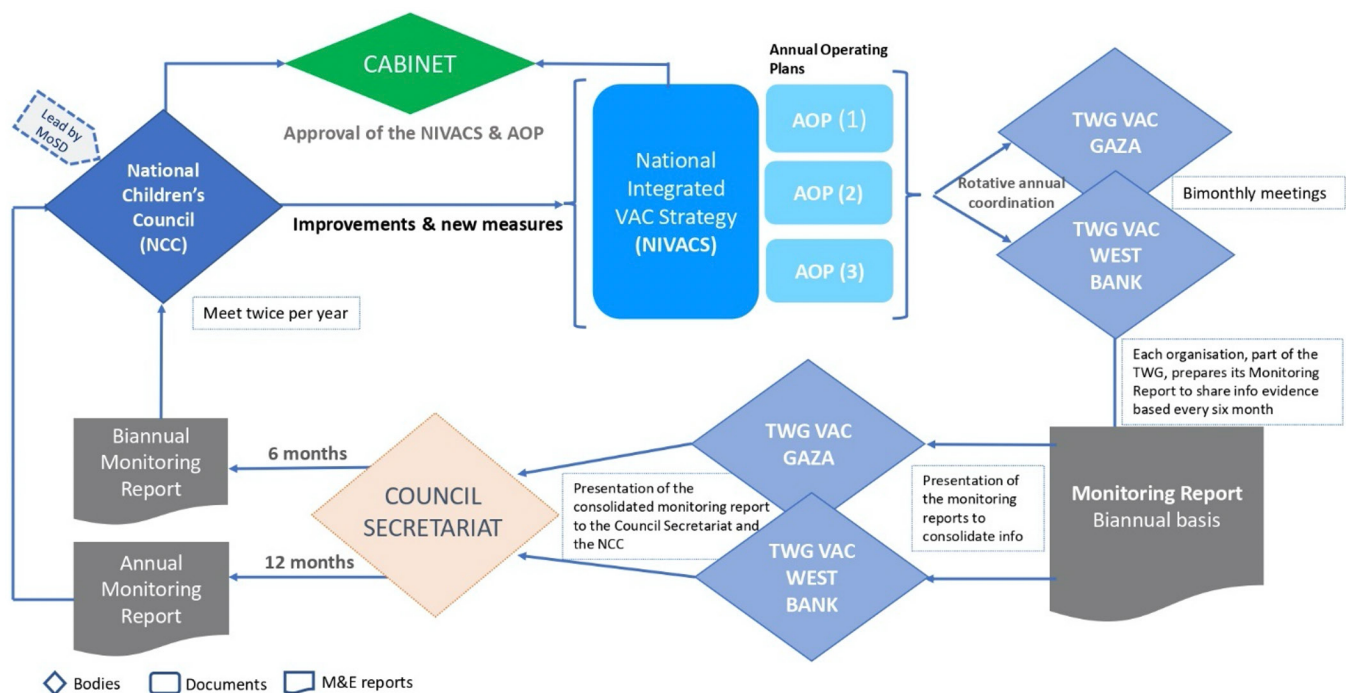
60 - Minimum standards include confidentiality, anonymity, ethical sharing, etc.

OUTPUTS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	BASELINE	TARGETS			MEANS OF VERIFICATION	COMMENTS
			2021	2022	2023		
2.4 Communities, community-based organisations, faith-based organisations and civil society have greater awareness of children's rights to promote positive social norms and grow up free of violence and discrimination, regardless of age, sex / gender, disability or any other social or economic disadvantage.	PI2.4 Number and types of awareness raising and advocacy strategies to mobilise the general public, key constituencies and policy makers to promote positive social norms to prevent VAC.	n. a (at least 1 = UNRWA campaign)	TBD	TBD	TBD	Annual Report NIVACS	
3.1 Fathers, mothers and other caregivers (FMoC) have strengthened awareness of the children's rights and have greater access to information services and support for positive parenting and child development with a gender and rights approach.	PI3.1 Percentage of FMoC satisfied with positive parenting initiatives who have changed their behaviour towards children.	0	TBD	TBD	TBD	Evaluation reports of positive parenting programmes	
3.2 FMoC (vulnerable households) have access to social and economic support programmes, prevention of violence and safe transition to adulthood, ensuring a gender and rights approach.	PI3.2 Number and types of programmes on social and economic support provided to vulnerable households.	200 income generating projects	TBD	TBD	TBD	MoSD administrative records ⁶¹	
3.3 Children and adolescents (CA) have been empowered through knowledge about (a) rights, sexuality, healthy relationships, (b) non-violent conflict resolution, non-discrimination, life-skills and (c) livelihoods.	PI3.3 % of student participation in supportive extra-curricular activities that link learning to real life.	(2015) 86%	95%	TBD	TBD	MoE administrative records ⁶²	

61 Referred in the MoSD Sector Plan, p. 56.

62 Referred in the MoE Education Sector Plan 2017-2022, p.72.

The objective of this M&E system during the three-year implementation of the NIVACS is to facilitate the coordination, responsibilities and flow of information, including data gathering, between all bodies involved (see previous section VI.1). This system identifies the challenges and lessons learned encountered during the implementation and promote the decision-making, as well as ensure effective and efficient measures to improve the dynamic of the NIVACS. The coordination and flow of information between all of these aforementioned bodies (NCC, CS and TWGs – see section VI.1) is presented in the graphic below.



- **Lead Agency:** the lead agency is the one who will start the key intervention implementation with the support of each agency involved. They will be the responsible not only for executing the actions but also for its monitoring and evaluation. The lead agency will gather the M&E reports and information from the implementing agencies regarding the set of key interventions they are leading, to report to the TWG responsible of the M&E of the NIVACS.
- **Implementing Agencies** (line ministries, NGO, CSO): They will execute the key interventions in which they are considered as actors involved. The collection of information on the actions carried out is under each agency involved responsibility. They will provide the M&E report to the lead agency of any key intervention executed.
- **TWGs:** the TWGs will be responsible for drafting the final monitoring reports (twice per year). They will prepare the periodic reports and will inform the results to the NCC via the Council Secretariat.
- **NCC** will present annual results of the NIVACS to the Cabinet.

Tools for reporting: for the monitoring report is proposed to use the following two templates:

(ii) Template 2 (see annex 2 and matrix 3b): The M&E matrix to measure the achievements of the selected indicators.

Evaluation of the NIVACS

The evaluation is the process that aims to obtain a precise knowledge about the interventions carried out, which allows the issuing of an assessment (critical prosecution) on the value or merit of them, so that they are useful for decision-making. This requires starting from the collection and analysis of the information through rigorous methods and techniques.

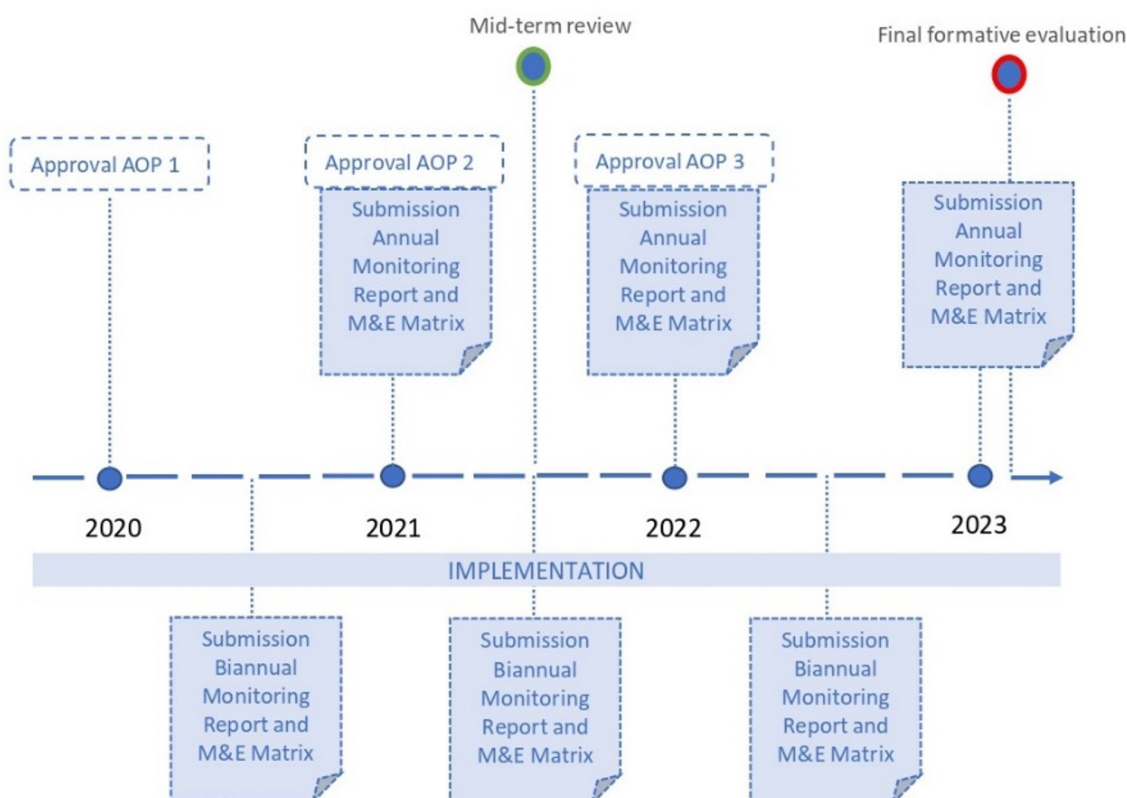
- The evaluation is used to analyse the development of the NIVACS process, correct errors and enable the modification of the course of the actions undertaken, that is, it must be used to make decisions and improve all the proposed measures and actions.
- Identify new needs that require the promotion of actions in accordance with the commitment acquired to combat VAC.
- Know the degree of compliance with the outcomes and outputs of the NIVACS.
- Assess the adequacy of resources, methodologies and procedures implemented during the development of the NIVACS.

The overall purpose is to provide a vision of the progress made in the SoP to prevent and address VAC. To evaluate the effectiveness and impact of the NIVACS, a **mid-term review** should be undertaken. Moreover, a **final external evaluation** should be conducted at the end of the NIVACS to assess the impact created and inform the future planning process for the next NIVACS.

The CS, with the TWGs advised, will be the final agency responsible for the internal evaluation (the mid-term review). In the case of the final evaluation, it would be advisable to use an external and independent formative evaluation, although the TWGs would be responsible for coordinating the evaluation team, supervising and approving the final evaluation report, before presenting it to the NCC.

In summary, the M&E system will include biannual and annual monitoring reports, a mid-term review and a final evaluation, always in accordance to the Annual Operating Plans (AOP) approved at the beginning of each year. Please refer to Annex 2 for more details about the M&E reporting.

Figure 5. M&E milestones - NIVACS



ANNEX 1. Draft ToC of the NIVACS

This Theory of Change (ToC) presents a narrative of the short-term changes (outputs) and intermediate changes (outcomes) that should occur at different levels to achieve final changes in the long-term (impact), taking into account a series of specific assumptions:

1. MACRO LEVEL: National Coordinated Multisectoral Action / Legal and Policy frameworks: *if* the SoP has multisectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination and planning mechanisms to respond to child rights violations related to VAC from a gender and rights perspective; *if* through these mechanisms, evidence and data on VAC are collected and used; *if* the legal and political frameworks are aligned with international and regional standards regarding VAC, and *if* SoP is willing to resource initiatives at national and local levels and also mobilise the necessary resources, **then** it can be said that they are better prepared to implement sustainable multisectoral plans and policies on VAC, with a gender and rights approach at national and local level that result in a life free of violence and discrimination against children and adolescents.

1.1. Short-term changes (outputs):

- The multisectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination at national and governorate levels to implement public policies on VAC with a gender and rights approach have strengthened their capacity.
- Evidence based on the situation and scope of available VAC -protection services have been strengthened.
- Mechanisms have been strengthened to implement, monitor and modify laws and policies which deal with VAC, in accordance with international and regional standards (including service delivery standards).
- The commitment to plan and monitor budgetary and resource policies for VAC prevention and protection has increased.

1.2. Intermediate changes (outcomes):

- Child Protection systems (including VAC and gender discrimination) at national, governorate / directorate levels are well-resourced, evidence-based and coordinated across all relevant stakeholders (from government and non-government sectors) in accordance with national and international standards.

1.3. Assumptions: The SoP has the political will to ensure coordination for the rights of the children while the allocation of resources is flexible enough to allow progress in the eradication of the VAC, thus ensuring a life free of violence and discrimination for children and transform their allocation of resources and commitments into policies for the prevention and reduction of VAC. The SoP has the political will to guarantee the children's rights and to transform their international and regional commitments into policies, supported by the necessary institutions and budgets, to ensure a life free of violence and discrimination for children.

2. MESO LEVEL: Systems and institutions / Society and communities: *if* key sectors such as justice, security, social welfare, health and education, among others, have the necessary tools, including regulations, guidelines, protocols, minimum standards and action plans, to prevent and address the VAC, *then* the delivery of essential services to children and adolescents will be more efficient, effective and gender sensitive and will contribute to a life free of violence and discrimination against children and adolescents. *If* personnel and public officials at national and local levels in these sectors have the capacity to identify, address and prevent VAC and increase their knowledge, competences and awareness of the children's rights, especially in their role to deliver services that are fair, efficient, high-quality and child, age and gender sensitive, *then* it will facilitate the reduction of stigma, violence and victimization or revictimization of children and adolescents contributing to a life free of violence and discrimination against children and adolescents. *If* the information flows across actors and sectors with tools to share evidence *then* the service providers will base their decisions to prevent and response to VAC with an increasing quality and efficiency. Finally, *if* society and communities are aware of the rights of children to live a life free of violence and the negative consequences of a life with violence, *then* the likelihood to reject any form of violence will increase. Similarly, *if* society and communities have the will and capacity to participate and influence policy decisions on VAC, as well as being committed to changing discriminatory legal and social practices, *then* interventions will be more relevant, sustainable and will target equity by reaching a broader population, especially those most vulnerable and at risk, contributing to a life free of violence and discrimination against children and adolescents in all their diversity and circumstances.

2.1. Short-term changes (outputs):

- Justice, security, health, social welfare and education systems, among others have increased their awareness, capacity and quality to provide specialised rehabilitative response and support services to children affected by violence with a gender and rights approach.
- Personnel and public officials have increased their commitment with prevention strategies on VAC with a gender and rights approach, reducing stigma, violence and victimisation in their policies and work.
- Information gathering and sharing among VAC service providers and stakeholders have been increased.
- Communities, community-based organisations, faith-based organisations and civil society promote positive social norms due to having greater awareness of children's rights to grow up free of violence and discrimination, regardless of age, sex, gender, disability or any other social or economic disadvantage.

2.2. Intermediate changes (outcomes):

- Access to, coverage and quality of child protection services (including prevention, response and inter-sectoral referrals) of VAC ensuring a gender and rights approach and society and community commitment to safe environments free of violence and discrimination have been improved.

2.3. Assumptions: there is a political will to ensure resources within local and national institutions, and service providers at different levels are interested in developing their capacity in data collection and the improvement of their services, contributing to a life free of violence and discrimination against children and adolescents. Openness from communities to receiving information regarding behaviour change messages and to participating in prevention activities that assure a life free of violence and discrimination for children and adolescents.

3. MICRO LEVEL: Fathers, mothers and other caregivers / Children and adolescents: *if* fathers, mothers and other caregivers know and are aware of the importance of maintaining equitable and respectful relationships, including positive parenting attitudes and favouring the empowerment of girls and adolescents and *if*, for the specific case of households in a situation of vulnerability, there is greater stability and economic security, *then* the probability of experiencing episodes of violence at home will be reduced, contributing to ensuring children's rights and a life free of violence and discrimination. If the schools and other relevant out-of-school platforms are equipped with tools and have the appropriate capacity to provide quality programmes relating to positive parenting, *then* this will contribute to preventing attitudes and violent behaviours and to promoting awareness of their right to live a life free of violence. *If* children are exposed to alternative social norms that promote non-violence, peace and life-skills, *then* they will increase their resistance to and reject any attitude or violent behaviour, and act as agents of change in their own communities. Finally, *if* children and adolescents increase their awareness of rights, make use of the existing mechanisms to be heard and participate in prevention initiatives, *then* they will be empowered as rights holders and will be able to contribute to building communities without violence and discrimination.

3.1. Short-term changes (outputs):

- Fathers, Mothers and other Caregivers have strengthened their awareness of children's rights and have greater access to information services and support for positive parenting and child development with a gender and rights approach.
- Fathers, mothers and other caregivers have access to social and economic support programmes, prevention of violence and safe transition to adulthood, ensuring a gender and rights approach.
- Children and adolescents have been empowered through knowledge about rights, sexuality, healthy relationships, non-violent conflict resolution, non-discrimination, life-skills and livelihoods.

3.2. Intermediate changes (outcomes):

- Children and families (fathers, mothers and/or other caregivers) have built healthy positive relationships, demand their rights and act as agents of change in social and gender norms.

3.3. Assumptions: willingness and interest of parents, and other caregivers to receive information about behaviour change messages and to participate in prevention activities that assure a life free of violence and discrimination for children and adolescents. On the other hand, in the case of households in a situation of economic vulnerability, the necessary market opportunities must be given so that they can achieve economic security. Prevention initiatives will have enough leverage amongst children and adolescents to ensure they engage in the initiatives and therefore to help to ensure a life free of violence and discrimination.

ANNEX 2. Proposed M&E reporting templates

Template 1. Monitoring report (biannual)

AGENCY:

Date of report:

Period of report:

Year:

Semester:

Outputs	Key Interventions		Non started	On track	Finalised	Progress and Weaknesses	Allocations in USD
1.1	1.1.1						
	1.1.2						
	1.1.3						
...	...						
1.2	1.2.1						
	1.2.2						
...	...						

Other measures developed by the institution for NIVACS

Outputs	Indicators	Progress in the implementation (Quantitative e Qualitative)	
1.1			
1.2			

Other remarks, comments for NIVACS

Template 2. Monitoring and evaluation matrix report (biannual)

GOAL	IMPACT INDICATORS	BASELINE (YEAR)	TARGET (YEAR)	MEANS OF VERIFICATION
OUTCOMES	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	BASELINE (YEAR)	TARGET (YEAR)	MEANS OF VERIFICATION
OUTPUTS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	BASELINE (YEAR)	TARGET (YEAR)	MEANS OF VERIFICATION

ANNEX 3. Annual Operating Plan for the first year (2021) of the NIVACS

KEY INTERVENTIONS	REGION	LEAD AGENCY	ACTORS INVOLVED	TIMEFRAME (months) - YEAR 1 (2021)												MEANS / RESOURCES	BUDGET USD (ESTIMATED)
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
1.1.1 Support operationalisation and capacity building of the NCC and the TWG (Gaza and the West Bank) on VAC to provide a platform across sectors and at national level to share information, work together and coordinate their actions.	Gaza West Bank	MoSD NCC	MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Technical assistance Stationery, mailing management, etc.	12,000
1.1.2 Improve the functioning and capacities of the CPNs at governorate level, improving their inter-agency child protection policy and practice in relation to all forms of VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation	Gaza West Bank	MoSD	MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Specialised technical assistance (elaborate ToR and plans for CPNs)	80,000
1.1.3 Integrate and mainstream VAC interventions of the NIVACS into national planning tools and coordination frameworks at national and governorate levels.	Gaza West Bank	Prime Minister Cabinet	MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Advocacy for planning inclusion on VAC	4,000
1.2.1 Build capacities of PCBS and the Academia in analysis and data collection on VAC and gender discriminatory social norms to conduct regular research, publications and evaluations to gain a better understanding of root causes of VAC and GbV, and links between them; how children access services and interventions to prevent and respond to violence and undertake a formative evaluation on this VAC strategy, among others.	Gaza West Bank	PCBS MoE	PCBS, MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, Academia													Researchers fees, publications, dissemination of results, etc.	73,333

KEY INTERVENTIONS	REGION	LEAD AGENCY	ACTORS INVOLVED	TIMEFRAME (months) - YEAR 1 (2021)												MEANS / RESOURCES	BUDGET USD (ESTIMATED)
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
1.2.2 Create and maintain a repository of knowledge, good practices, innovations and lessons learned on the prevention and response to VAC, including GBV as a specific VAC manifestation, and ensure their dissemination among all sectors and actors involved at national and governorate levels (link with 2.3.1. and 3.1.4.)	West Bank	NCC Humanitarian Clusters	MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWA, NGO, INGO, Academia													Technical assistance, website management, emailing dissemination, etc.	10,000
1.2.3 Support inclusion of key VAC indicators (disaggregated by type of violence, sex, region) into national planning tools and surveys including National Plan of Actions (NPA), sectoral strategies and MICS.	West Bank	MoSD	PCBS, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, NGO, INGO, Academia													Technical assistance VAC indicators inclusion	5,000
1.3.1 Revise laws, their executive regulations and related national policies that address child protection in the State of Palestine in accordance with international standards (CRC, CEDAW, CRPD)	Gaza West Bank	NCC MoSD	MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Specialised technical assistance	7,000
1.3.2 Accompany new legal provisions with executive regulations for implementation and operationalise policy initiatives that explicitly prohibit all forms of VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, and promote non-violent and gender-equitable social norms and behaviours (Line Ministries develop specific VAC interventions under their revised 2021-2023 ministerial action plans).	West Bank	MoSD	MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Specialised technical assistance	22,000

KEY INTERVENTIONS	REGION	LEAD AGENCY	ACTORS INVOLVED	TIMEFRAME (months) - YEAR 1 (2021)												MEANS / RESOURCES	BUDGET USD (ESTIMATED)
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
1.3.3 Create public awareness on the revised laws and policies.	Gaza West Bank	NCC MoSD Media	Justice institutions, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Means for workshops/ public events.	5,000
1.4.1 Develop an investment case including costing for implementation of VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, across different sectors.	Gaza West Bank	MoC Justice institutions	MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Research costs, publications, dissemination of results, etc.	20,000
1.4.3 Build capacities and reinforce the role of organisations (line ministries, CBOs, Service Providers and NGOs) in monitoring and evaluation systems to ensure the application of policies and budgets of VAC in different sectors and improve mechanisms for reporting.	Gaza West Bank	MoSD MoFP	MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Means for specific trainings	18,000
2.1.1 Update and disseminate protocols and referral mechanisms and case management service delivery models among all concerned ministries and organisations working in the field.	Gaza West Bank	MoSD	MoSD, Justice institutions, MoI, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Mailing, printing documents, training sessions	20,000
2.1.2 Mapping services available to ensure an effective, multi-sectoral (justice, social welfare and protection, health, education, humanitarian/emergencies) and child-friendly response to VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, among all concerned ministries and organisations working in the field.	Gaza West Bank	MoSD	Justice institutions, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Technical assistance stationery, mailing management, etc.	20,000

KEY INTERVENTIONS	REGION	LEAD AGENCY	ACTORS INVOLVED	TIMEFRAME (months) - YEAR 1 (2021)												MEANS / RESOURCES	BUDGET USD (ESTIMATED)
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
2.1.3 Provide a comprehensive package of specialised child-friendly and gender-sensitive services for child victims and survivors of violence - including CwDs (including confidential medical care, legal assistance and mental health and psychosocial MHPSS support and family counselling) to unify the approach.	Gaza West Bank	MoSD	Justice institutions, MoE, MoH, Mol, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Technical assistance, publications, dissemination sessions, etc.	27,000
2.1.4 Provide accredited training and on-job support in prevention and protection to key service providers across different sectors (social workers, health workers, justice and welfare professionals, education staff, community workers and leaders).	Gaza West Bank	MoE INGO (UNICEF)	Justice institutions, MoE, MoH, Mol, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Facilitators, rental rooms, materials, etc.	120,000
2.1.5 Strengthen child protection mechanisms in schools and communities with unified codes of conduct and clear operating procedures regarding all forms of VAC (including identification, reporting, response mechanism and M&E system).	Gaza West Bank	MoE	MoSD, Justice institutions, MoL, MoH, Mol, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Facilitators, rental rooms, materials, etc.	12,000
2.2.1 Revision of the educative curricula to mainstream VAC prevention strategies and gender discriminatory social norms to disseminate among the educative community (teachers, headmasters, counsellors and school parliaments/ councils).	Gaza West Bank	MoE MoSD	MoH, Mol, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Specialised technical assistance	15,000

KEY INTERVENTIONS	REGION	LEAD AGENCY	ACTORS INVOLVED	TIMEFRAME (months) - YEAR 1 (2021)												MEANS / RESOURCES	BUDGET USD (ESTIMATED)
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
2.2.2 Engage public officials in community mobilisation through community dialogues, workshops and development of community action plans to encourage key influencers (including religious men) to support VAC prevention initiatives.	Gaza West Bank	MoSD (CPNs)	MoSD, MoL, MoE, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Advocacy strategies and technical assistance	6,000
2.3.1 Put in place a National Child Protection Information Management System to facilitate case management and generate evidence on needs in order to inform programming and resource allocations (link with 1.2.2. and 3.1.4.)	Gaza West Bank	MoSD World Bank	Justice institutions, MoL, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, PCBS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Specialised technical assistance, digital resources	40,000
2.3.2 Strengthen engagement with independent body/committee to supervise the implementation of child protection policies and minimum standards.	Gaza West Bank	ICHR	Justice institutions, MoSD, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Specialised technical assistance	24,000
2.4.1 Provide opportunities for public debate and discourse around positive alternatives to violent discipline and encourage reporting of VAC and help-seeking behaviour at community level.	Gaza West Bank	MoE	MoSD, Justice institutions, MoL, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Facilitators, materials, media involved, etc.	6,000
2.4.2 Develop a communication for development (C4D) strategy on VAC, including GBV as a specific VAC manifestation, and support implementation of ECD C4D strategy for CwD to raise awareness and change behaviour for target communities.	Gaza West Bank	MoE MoSD	Justice institutions, MoL, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Technical assistance	60,000

KEY INTERVENTIONS	REGION	LEAD AGENCY	ACTORS INVOLVED	TIMEFRAME (months) - YEAR 1 (2021)												MEANS / RESOURCES	BUDGET USD (ESTIMATED)
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
2.4.3 Engage with youth and adolescents as active change agents for preventions and reduction of VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation.	Gaza West Bank	MoSD MoE	MoSD, MoL, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Facilitators, materials, etc.	5,000
2.4.4 Conduct social media campaigns to raise awareness around non-violence and gender-equitable social norms and on available inter-sectoral VAC services and modalities for access.	Gaza West Bank	MoC Min. of Media	Justice institutions, MoL, MoC, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Technical assistance, media management, digital resources, etc.	20,000
3.1.1 Design, strengthen and expand positive parenting programmes to families with children and adolescents and test and evaluate delivery mechanisms to facilitate national scale up.	Gaza West Bank	MoSD	MoSD, MoL, MoE, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Allocations, evaluation technical assistance	60,000
3.1.2 Integrate positive parenting messages in pre- and post-natal care services, Primary Health Units/centres, kindergartens and nurseries.	Gaza West Bank	MoH	MoH, MoE, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Technical assistance Materials	24,000
3.1.4 Link the VAC knowledge platform with an accessible app to FMoC with all services available to address VAC (link with 1.2.2. and 2.3.1.)	Gaza West Bank	MoSD	PCBS, Justice institutions, MoL, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Technical assistance, digital resources	12,000
3.2.1 Revise policies around economic empowerment/ cash transfers schemes (PNCTP) to reach vulnerable families, including children affected by violence.	Gaza West Bank	MoFP MoSD	MoL, MoE, MoH, MoI, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Advocacy strategies and technical assistance	6,000

KEY INTERVENTIONS	REGION	LEAD AGENCY	ACTORS INVOLVED	TIMEFRAME (months) - YEAR 1 (2021)												MEANS / RESOURCES	BUDGET USD (ESTIMATED)
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
3.2.2 Create economic empowerment opportunities for youth and adolescents affected by VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, to guarantee a safe transition to adulthood through existing platforms.	Gaza West Bank	MoSD MoL	MoSD, MoL, MoE, MoH, Mol, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Allocations, evaluation technical assistance	100,000
3.2.3 Develop economic empowerment initiatives for parents which include stress release activities related to VAC, including GbV as a specific VAC manifestation, and positive parenting messages.	Gaza West Bank	MoSD MoL MoFP	MoSD, Justice institutions, MoL, MoH, Mol, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Allocations, evaluation technical assistance	300,000
3.3.1 Strengthen and expand rights-based life-skills programmes to provide accessible and age-appropriate information and empowerment on life skills to children and adolescents through schools, youth/family centres, sports clubs and summer camps.	Gaza West Bank	MoE UNWRA	MoSD, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Allocations, evaluation technical assistance	180,000
3.3.2 Carry out awareness raising activities (via systematic programmes) for children on problem solving, gender equitable social norms, communication and school mediation and counselling sessions inside the classrooms ensuring child participation.	Gaza West Bank	MoE UNWRA	MoSD, MoH, Mol, MoWa, HCoYS, NGO, INGO, UNS													Allocations, evaluation technical assistance	900,000
BUDGET USD (ESTIMATED)		FIRST YEAR (2020)															\$2,213,333

ANNEX 4. Roles proposed and Responsibilities of TWGs of the NIVACS

The stakeholders involved in both TWGs of the NIVACS are committed to strengthen and coordinate efforts to end violence against children. Within their respective mandates, responsibilities and policies, individual members of the TWGs are encouraged to support the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the NIVACS in the SoP and the key interventions outlined in this NIVACS.

The following core commitments and key roles and responsibilities highlighted are made only for a core member of the TWG. Nonetheless, they should be expanded to all members (including media and the private sector) and discussed to reinforce them in a “review workshop” before the final approval of the NIVACS.

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (MoSD)

The Ministry will call for zero tolerance of Violence Against Children and will promote equitable social norms that condemn all forms of violence, including GbV as a specific manifestation of VAC.

The MoSD, in close collaboration with the MoFP and the PCBS, will support the operationalisation and monitoring of this multi-sectoral strategy to prevent and respond to VAC in the SoP.

The MoSD will prepare the groundwork for a coordinated and integrated multi-sectoral reporting, referral and response system at national and governorate levels to VAC (including GbV), across relevant sectors. The Ministry will coordinate the development of child-friendly and gender-sensitive procedures with minimum operating standards, guidelines and protocols to respond to cases of VAC. The Ministry will work with relevant actors to ensure child protection frontline workers and other duty bearers and service providers are trained to prevent, identify, refer, report and respond to all forms of violence and have an understanding of their roles and responsibilities.

The MoSD, in close collaboration with the MoE and MoWA, will also support the formulation and implementation of a comprehensive multi-sectoral behaviour and social change strategy to address the social and cultural norms that legitimise and promote violence against children, targeting key actors at national and governorate levels, and promoting positive change in perceptions, attitudes and practices. This will increase people’s ability to identify violence against children, raising awareness of its negative impact and empowering children and families to report incidents of violence.

The MoSD will coordinate with the MoWA, the Child Protection Networks with the National Referral System.

In particular, during the three-year NIVACS implementation, the MoSD:

1. Will contribute to the capacity building of the TWGs on VAC to share information, work together and coordinate their actions to prevent and respond to VAC in the SoP. To this purpose, the Ministry will set-up the TWGs with responsibilities and tasks defined in a term of reference and formalising their constitutions (one in Gaza and one in the West Bank).
2. Will promote the improvement of the functioning and capacities of the Child Protection Networks’ (CPNs) response to violence against children at governorate levels, improving their inter-agency child protection policy and practice in relation to all forms of VAC, with a special emphasis on gender-based violence. Particularly, the Ministry will assist the CPNs with the elaboration of clear Terms of Reference and the elaboration of their plans of action.
3. In close collaboration with the PCBS, will support the inclusion of key VAC indicators (disaggregated by type of violence, sex and region) in national planning tools and surveys, including National Plans of Action (NPA), sectoral strategies and the MICS.

4. Will revise laws, executive regulations and related national policies that address child protection in the SoP to ensure their harmonisation with international standards (taking into special consideration the CRC, CEDAW and CRPD, among others).
5. Will invest in the social and welfare system at national and governorate levels to enable legal provisions, to ensure that its regulations and policies related to VAC promote non-violent and gender-equitable social norms and behaviours and to create awareness in this regard.
6. In close collaboration with the MoFP, will increase budgets to ensure technical, human and financial resources aim at preventing and responding to VAC in the SoP. To ensure the sustainability of the investments, the Ministry will promote a child-sensitive budgeting and planning to address VAC.
7. Will facilitate capacity building processes to reinforce the role of organisations (line ministries, CBOs, service providers and NGOs) in monitoring and evaluation systems regarding VAC to ensure the application of policies and budgets of VAC in different sectors and to improve mechanisms of reporting, putting in place a National Child Protection Information Management System.
8. Will update and disseminate protocols and referral mechanisms and case management service delivery models; will provide with mappings of services available to ensure an effective, multi-sectoral and child-friendly response to VAC (accessible for services providers and fathers, mothers and other caregivers); and will provide a comprehensive package of specialised child-friendly and gender-sensitive services for child victims and survivors of VAC, among all concerned ministries and organisations working in the field of child protection.
9. In close collaboration with the MoH and the MoE, will formulate, implement and enforce an Online Engagement Protocols for child protection in social media and will raise awareness of the impact of VAC in communities and schools.
10. Will develop a C4D strategy on VAC actively promoting the youth and adolescent participation as active change agents for prevention and reduction of VAC in the SoP.
11. Will design, strengthen and expand positive parenting programmes and will include positive parenting and prevention strategies in training manuals for stakeholders involved at community level. The Ministry will test and evaluate delivery mechanisms to facilitate national scale up.
12. In close collaboration with the MoL and MoFP, will revise policies around economic empowerment, including cash transfer schemes, to reach vulnerable families including children affected by violence. The Ministry will ensure that stipulated positive parenting messages and stress release activities will be included to prevent VAC.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION (MoE)

The Ministry will call for zero tolerance of Violence Against Children and will promote equitable social norms that condemn all forms of violence, including GbV as a specific manifestation of VAC.

The MoE, in close collaboration with the MoSD and the PCBS, will facilitate and promote data collection systems and research on VAC in a systematic manner.

The MoE will formulate, implement and enforce a Professional Code of Conduct in schools and will ensure that the educative community (teachers, headmasters and school counsellors) are trained and adhere to this professional code and to the Education Policy to combat VAC in the SoP. The Ministry will, in cooperation with line ministries, coordinate and facilitate the development and review of VAC protection and prevention codes and will ensure these include stipulated penalties for any child abuse or gender violations in schools.

The MoE, in close collaboration with the MoSD and MoWA, will support the formulation and implementation of a comprehensive multi-sectoral behaviour and social change strategy to address the social and cultural norms that legitimise and promote violence against children, targeting key actors at national and governorate levels, and promoting positive change in perceptions, attitudes and practices. This will increase people's ability to identify violence against children, raising awareness of its negative impact and empowering children and families to report incidents of violence.

In particular, during the three-year NIVACS implementation, the MoE:

1. In collaboration with the Academia, will conduct regular research of root causes of VAC and GbV, and links between them; will research how children access services and interventions to prevent and respond to violence and will undertake a formative evaluation on this VAC strategy, among others.
2. In close collaboration with the Academia and International Organisations, will provide accredited training and on-job support in prevention and protection regarding VAC to key service providers across different sectors. The Ministry will invest in the expansion and training of the educative community and increase budgets for social support services, such as positive parenting programmes.
3. Will strengthen and scale up the implementation of the Policy to Combat Violence and Enhance School Discipline, with unified codes of conduct and clear operating procedures regarding all forms of VAC, including identification, reporting, response mechanism and monitoring and evaluation system. Children will learn and understand norms that condemn all forms of violence and promote gender equality. Teachers will be able to identify and show authorities acute cases of violence. The Ministry will promote child participation in decision making, such as decisions about school management.
4. Will ensure designated educational staff receive complementary training on child-friendly and gender-sensitive guidance, primary counselling skills and services to promote a protective environment within all schools. The Ministry will ensure these educational staff members have the knowledge and basic skills to prevent, identify, refer, report and respond to all forms of violence in schools.
5. Will revise the educational curriculum to mainstream VAC prevention strategies and will disseminate the results among the educative community (teachers, headmasters, school counsellors and school parliaments).
6. In close collaboration with the MoH and the MoSD, will formulate, implement and enforce Online Engagement Protocols for child protection in social media and will raise awareness of the impact of VAC in communities and schools.
7. In close collaboration with the MoSD, will develop a communication for development (C4D) strategy on VAC, actively promoting youth and adolescent participation as active change agents for prevention and reduction of VAC in the SoP, will provide opportunities for public debate and discourse around positive alternatives to violent discipline and will encourage reporting of VAC and help-seeking behaviour at community level.
8. In close collaboration with the MoSD, will design, strengthen and expand positive parenting programmes and will include positive parenting and prevention strategies in training manuals for stakeholders involved at community level.
9. Will strengthen and expand rights-based life-skills programmes to provide accessible and age appropriate information and empowerment on life skills to children and adolescents through schools and other collaborative organisations, such as youth / family centres, sports clubs and summer camps.
10. Will carry out awareness raising activities, via systematic programmes for children of problem solving, communication and school mediation and counselling sessions inside the classrooms, ensuring child participation.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH (MoH)

The Ministry will call for zero tolerance of Violence Against Children and will promote equitable social norms that condemn all forms of violence, including GbV as a specific manifestation of VAC.

The MoH will include data on violence against children in the health information system. The MoH will work with relevant actors to ensure health workers and other duty bearers and service providers are trained to prevent, identify, refer, report and respond to all forms of violence and have an understanding of their roles and responsibilities.

The MoH will develop guidelines for health clinics and effectively train health professionals on how to respond to violence against children, including identification of child survivors, care, reporting and referral of cases of violence against children to the appropriate social services. Child-friendly care services include counselling, forensic examination, treatment, HIV transmission prevention, emergency contraception for adolescent girls and other necessary medical care.

In particular, during the three-year NIVACS implementation, the MoH:

1. Will incorporate child protection issues in its annual plan of action and programmes.
2. Will integrate positive parenting messages in pre-natal and post-natal care services, Primary Health Units and/or centres, kindergartens and nurseries.
3. Will incorporate positive parenting and violence prevention strategies in manuals for community health workers, among others.

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (MoI)

The Ministry will call for zero tolerance of Violence Against Children and will promote equitable social norms that condemn all forms of violence, including GbV as a specific manifestation of VAC.

The MoI will strengthen enforcement of the implementation of existing laws and policies to protect children from violence.

The MoI will strengthen existing community-based prevention initiatives and mobilise communities to challenge the social and cultural norms that promote acceptance of violence against children.

The MoI will ensure that all administrative police stations provide child-friendly services, in a confidential and supportive environment, to children who report violence. The Ministry will ensure that police investigations will be governed by child-friendly investigation procedures which meet the specific needs of child victims.

The MoI will strengthen the capacity of national police officers to identify, respond to and refer cases of violence against children, including capacity building and skills training on case management and primary counselling, ensuring privacy and confidentiality, using specific protocols for children.

MINISTRY OF WOMAN AFFAIRS (MoWA)

The Ministry will call for zero tolerance of Violence Against Children and will promote equitable social norms that condemn all forms of violence, including GbV as a specific manifestation of VAC.

The MoWA will strengthen enforcement of the implementation of existing laws and policies to protect children from violence.

The MoWA, in close collaboration with the MoE and MoSD, will also support the formulation and implementation of a comprehensive multi-sectoral behaviour and social change strategy to address the social and cultural norms that legitimise and promote specifically violence against girls, targeting key actors at national and governorate levels, and promoting positive change in perceptions, attitudes and practices. This will increase people's ability to identify violence against girls, raising awareness of its negative impact and empowering girls and families to report incidents of violence.

The MoWA will strengthen existing community-based prevention initiatives and mobilise communities to challenge the social and cultural norms that promote acceptance of violence against children.

The MoWA will coordinate the National Referral System with the Child Protection Networks and strengthen the capacity of national officers to identify, respond to and refer cases of violence against girls, including capacity building and skills training on case management and primary counselling, ensuring privacy and confidentiality, using specific protocols for children.

CIVIL SOCIETY (CSO, NGO and INGO)

The CSOs, NGOs and INGOs will call for zero tolerance of Violence Against Children and will promote equitable social norms that condemn all forms of violence, including GbV as a specific manifestation of VAC.

The CSO, NGO and INGO will establish effective partnership and coordination mechanisms with all clusters and bodies to protect children from violence and mobilise resources in this regard.

The CSO, NGO and INGO will participate in the review providing suggestions for improving legislation related to VAC.

The CSO, NGO and INGO will provide sound data and information to feed the monitoring and evaluation system defined for the NIVACS.

The CSO, NGO and INGO will participate in capacity building of all those dealing with VAC cases.

The CSO, NGO and INGO will provide legal, educative, psychosocial support and empowerment to victims of VAC and their families to ensure an adequate response to VAC at all levels.

The CSO, NGO and INGO will raise awareness about the rights of children and how to identify different forms of violence promoting positive change in perceptions, attitudes and practices. This will increase people's ability to identify violence against children, raising awareness of its negative impact and empowering children and families to report incidents of violence.

ANNEX 5. References

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ANNEX 6. List of participants during the NIVACS consultation process (2019)

Aisha Association

Centre for Women's Legal Research and Counselling (CWRC)

Child Protection Networks from Gaza

Children from Gaza and from the West Bank

Educative community (teachers, headmasters and school counsellors) from Gaza and the West Bank

High Council of Youth and Sports

Humanitarian Inclusion (HI)

Ma'an Development Centre

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)

Ministry of Social Development

Ministry of Education and Higher Education

Ministry of Health

Ministry of Interior (Police)

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Palestinian Vision (Pal Vision)

Palestinian Counselling Center (PCC)

Save the Children (StC)

Spafford Centre

Sawa

Tamer

Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture (TRC)

UNCHR

UNFPA

UNICEF

UNRWA

UNWOMEN

War Child Holland

World Vision (WV)

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2021-2023

November 2020



STATE OF PALESTINE