

TERMS OF REFERENCE
Mentoring Relationship Between
National and Regional Child Protection Working Groups

I. RATIONALE

Republic Act 10121 mandates the “institutionalization of policies, structures, coordination mechanisms and programs with continuing budget appropriation on disaster risk reduction from national down to local levels towards building a disaster-resilient nation and communities.”¹

Pursuant to this law and in cognizance of the need for a coordinating inter-agency body to protect children in emergencies, the National Child Protection Working Group (NCPWG) was established in 2009. As stipulated in the NCPWG Terms of Reference (2020), it responsible for capacitating and equipping duty bearers, organizations and institutions working along child protection [in emergencies] at all administrative levels” with “adequate knowledge and skills to handle preparedness, mitigation, and response in addressing child protection needs in times of emergency.

Due to the varying geographical vulnerabilities of different areas in the Philippines, sub-national bodies called Regional Child Protection Working Groups (RCPWGs) were also created by CWC Board Resolution No. 3 s. 2014. At present, all 17 regions have resolutions instituting their respective RCPWGs.

These structures are further institutionalized by Republic Act 10821 (*Children’s Emergency Relief and Protection Act*) where the RCPWG, as a sub-structure of the Regional Committees/Sub-Committees for the Welfare of Children shall coordinate child protection efforts in humanitarian settings to ensure that children are protected from abuse, neglect and exploitation.²

To support the functionality of the RCPWGs, the NCPWG continue to provide guidance through a mentoring relationship with its regional counterparts, as cultivated during the coordination for COVID-19 pandemic response.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE MENTOR-MENTEE RELATIONSHIP

The mentoring relationship between the National and Regional Child Protection Working Groups aims to ensure the functionality of RCPWGs and capacitate its members in implementing Republic Act 10821, Child Protection Minimum Standards, and other relevant policies and guidelines on child protection in emergencies.

III. NCPWG MEMBERS’ CRITERIA FOR SELECTING THEIR ASSIGNED MENTEE/S

All NCPWG members are encouraged to signify their commitment to mentor a RCPWG/s based on their:

1. Geographical Presence
2. Human Resource Capacity

¹ Section 2h, Republic Act 10121 (*Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010*)

² Section 2c, Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 10821

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IV. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES (MENTOR/NCPWG MEMBERS)

Each NCPWG member shall have the following responsibilities:

1. Provide technical assistance to their assigned RCPWG/s in the performance of its functions.³
2. Support the regular and timely reporting of information management (IM) tools on child protection issues and risks before, during, and after disasters of the RCPWG to the NCPWG.
3. Provide updates to the RCPWGs on NCPWG activities.
4. Advocate NCPWG initiatives/plans/policies in their respective RCPWGs.
5. Serve as resource person for Child Protection capacity building activities upon request of the RCPWGs.
6. Ensure that RCPWGs are consulted in coming up with NCPWG plans.
7. Support the conduct of periodic training needs assessment to determine relevant training and mentoring to the RCPWG.

V. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES (MENTEE / RCPWGs)⁴

Each RCPWG Member shall have the following responsibilities:

1. Ensure attendance to CPWG meetings.
2. Ensure timely submission of information management (IM) tools on child protection issues and risks before, during, and after disasters to the NCPWG.
3. Share regular RCPWG updates to the NCPWG.
4. Consider NCPWG initiatives/plans/policies in developing their respective RCPWG policies, plans, and programs.
5. Integrate in the regional DRRM plans relevant RCPWG policies, plans, and programs aligned with the Child Protection Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Action and the Comprehensive Emergency Program for Children (CEPC)
6. Serve as resource person for CPiE trainings/capacity building activities upon request of the LDRRMCs/LGUs.
7. Enjoin all LGUs and CSOs working for children to fully adopt and implement the provisions of RA 10821.

VI. ROLE OF THE NCPWG CO-CHAIRS

1. Oversee the implementation of the Mentoring Relationship.
2. Develop capability building plan for RCPWG, as part of the NCPWG rolling workplan.
3. Provide technical assistance and support to the NCPWG members.
4. Timely consolidation of reports and management of information received from the mentors (NCPWG members) and/or mentees (RCPWGs).
5. Document good practices on CPiE for plausible replication in other regions/LGUs as well as lessons learned/challenges for policy formulation and plan and program development.

³ The RCPWG TOR outlines the roles and responsibilities of the RCPWGs: (1) child protection and community-based programming, (2) coordination of child protection response, (3) advocacy and development of IEC materials. Source: <http://www.iccwtnispcanarc.org/upload/pdf/880537601REGIONAL%20CHILD%20PROTECTION%20WORKING%20GROUP.pdf>

⁴ Specific functions and responsibilities of the RCPWG are indicated in the RCPWG TOR.