

## Middle East & North Africa

# Child Protection Initiative

Mostapha Benzine, CPI, Genoa, ITALY - JANUARY 8, 2004

### Middle East & North Africa Region

|                                                                                    |                                                                                     |         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Algeria                                                                            |  | Morocco |
| Jordan                                                                             |                                                                                     |         |
| Somalia                                                                            |                                                                                     | Syria   |
| Kuwait                                                                             |                                                                                     |         |
|  | Lebanon                                                                             | Oman    |
|                                                                                    | Tunisia                                                                             | Egypt   |
|                                                                                    | Gaza & West Bank                                                                    |         |
| Comoros                                                                            | Yemen                                                                               |         |
| Saudi Arabia                                                                       | Libya                                                                               | Iran    |
|                                                                                    | Djibouti                                                                            | Qatar   |
| Mauritania                                                                         | Sudan                                                                               | Bahrain |
|                                                                                    | U.A. Emirates                                                                       |         |

E6

WORKSHOP VI

## Middle East & North Africa

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### Middle East & North Africa Region

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| Algeria                                                                              |  | Morocco |
| Jordan                                                                               |                                                                                       |         |
| Somalia                                                                              |                                                                                       | Syria   |
| Kuwait                                                                               |                                                                                       |         |
|  | Lebanon                                                                               | Oman    |
|                                                                                      | Tunisia                                                                               | Egypt   |
|                                                                                      | Gaza & West Bank                                                                      |         |
| Comoros                                                                              | Yemen                                                                                 |         |
| Saudi Arabia                                                                         | Libya                                                                                 | Iran    |
|                                                                                      | Djibouti                                                                              | Qatar   |
| Mauritania                                                                           | Sudan                                                                                 | Bahrain |
|                                                                                      | U.A. Emirates                                                                         |         |

## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### MISSION STATEMENT

**To improve well being of vulnerable & disadvantaged (V&D) children in MENA region (22 Arab countries & Iran)**

- Focused activities.
- Local government capacity building increased.
- Impact of selective interventions improved.
- Children's critical issues addressed.

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### DEFINITIONS

- **Disadvantaged children (V&D):** children already deprived of consistent care, health care, education, and integration with family and society (STOCK). Categories include: out of school children (working or street children); refugees; orphans; children with disabilities
- **Vulnerable children:** children 'at risk' of becoming disadvantaged, resulting from shocks (FLOW). Include those in poor families

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### RATIONALE

- Ù Attainment of Millennium Goals
  - À Need to reach out V&D children
- Ù Decentralization: local governments and local communities committed
  - À Closer to source and solution of problems.
  - À More responsive to the needs of children.

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### RATIONALE

- Ù Young age structure : UN Estimates on 1-1-2004
    - À 160 Millions under age 18.
    - À 43% of total population.
  - Ù Soaring unemployment
  - Ù Gender gaps
  - Ù Conflicts
- } **Increased Vulnerability**

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### OBJECTIVES

- Ù Building a Knowledge Base on key issues
  - Ã Research & Analysis.
  - Ã lessons learnt and good practices.
  - Ã Evaluations of V & D programs (MENA & other regions).
- Ù Capacity Building of Local Governments & Stakeholders
  - Ã Address issues: Cost effectively.
  - Ã Cross-fertilization of experiences & lessons.
  - Ã Network of municipalities & local governments.
  - Ã Resource mobilization.

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

- Ù Establishing the CPI secretariat.
- Ù Building the knowledge base (Dynamic Website).
- Ù Assessing an effective approach for a funding mechanism.
- Ù Identifying interested and qualified municipalities to participate in capacity building.
- Ù Contacting donors and mobilizing resources.

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### WORK PLAN

#### 1- To build the knowledge base, the following activities are envisioned:

- ✎ **Review existing studies** on the status of disadvantaged children (refugees, those in conflicts, orphans, street children, disabled, working children etc.) and undertake some new but selective studies in close collaboration with the mayors, civil society, statistical offices and programs such as UCW:
- ✎ **Review urban policies and programs** for disadvantaged children in the MENA region with the view to compare them and make them available to the stakeholders

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### WORK PLAN

- ✎ **Evaluate selected programs** for disadvantaged children in MENA municipalities, with the view to learn from these experiences and potential for transferring knowledge and information.
- ✎ **Provide a K-platform** (such as regular brainstorming and learning events/meetings) to share country/regional/global experiences in relevant areas;
- ✎ **Assist mayors** to evaluate capacity of their municipalities to undertake and address issues faced by disadvantaged children in their jurisdictions;
- ✎ **Develop a dynamic website** and a helpdesk function – both also available in Arabic and French, for information and knowledge sharing.

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### WORK PLAN

#### **2- To build the capacity of municipalities, the following activities are envisioned:**

- ù Support capacity enhancement of local government through knowledge-sharing, peer-learning, etc. on programs and projects which effectively address the issues faced by disadvantaged children;
- ù Provide workshops and training for analyzing information and data, planning and monitoring and evaluation and leveraging policies and programs for disadvantaged children in MENA countries.

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### WORK PLAN

- ù Collaborate with sectoral ministries, as well as NGOs, and communities, on these issues to enhance program coordination; and
- ù Increase management and fiduciary capacity skills (particularly to manage funds available through the mechanism to be established)

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### WORK PLAN

#### 3-To develop an effective approach for a funding mechanism the following activities are envisioned:

- 🕒 Review experiences and lessons of successful and not so successful examples (e.g. Global Fund for Women, Cities Alliance, PPIAF, etc) for funding local initiatives;
- 🕒 Explore with key players (such as UNICEF, ISDB, and other regional agencies) the prospects of a partnership among donors to support an effective funding mechanism.

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### WORK PLAN

- 🕒 Produce an operations manual/MOU for pooling donor resources which can then be used to leverage policies and programs or country specific activities, including emergency operations.
- 🕒 Help establish the funding mechanism with an efficient management structure and funding approval system (MOU) to be signed between partners/donors.

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### WORK PLAN

#### 4- Municipalities and towns will be selected for capacity building (and subsequent funding) on the basis of:

- ù Demonstrated interest (some co-financing will be sought as evidence for ownership and also for rationing demand).
- ù The magnitude of problems faced by disadvantaged children.
- ù Potential impact on national policy reforms.

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- ù Studies and evaluations conducted on lessons learned and good practices. Partnerships formed and forums organized to improve knowledge sharing. Website launched and operational
- ù Network established for coordination and dissemination mechanisms between National governments, international organizations and local governments, to improve knowledge management

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- Û Local government capacity improved on budget management, policy issues, and V&D children issues.
- Û Children's concerns mainstreamed in ongoing and planned public and donor assisted projects – increased sensitization and awareness.
- Û Rapid response, flexible funding approach launched & operational.

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### GOVERNANCE

- Û Independent lean secretariat(s) hosted by AUDI
  - À Implements activities.
  - À Guidance & supervision by SC.
- Û **Steering Committee (SC)**
  - À International & regional donors.
  - À 2 international experts.
  - À Senior officials from ministries/councils.
  - À Rotating chair.

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## MENA Child Protection Initiative (CPI)

### GOVERNANCE

#### 🏠 Overall Guidance by WB

- ⌚ For first 3 years.
- ⌚ Chair SC first 2 years.

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### Discussion

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