

ANNEX 1: EXAMPLES OF COMMON RISK AND PROTECTIVE FACTORS

List of Common Protective Factors

Examples to commonly identified protective and risk factors related to child protection outcomes.¹

International and Regional

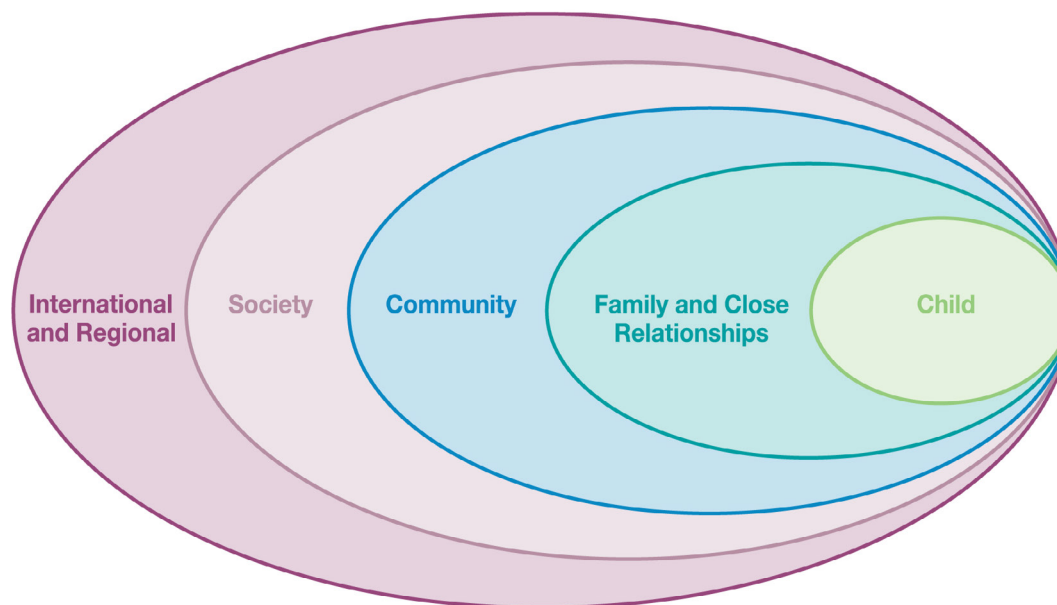
- Enforcement of legal and normative frameworks that protect children from abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence

Society

- Access to effective formal and non-formal education
- Access to quality basic services (shelter, water and sanitation, medical care)
- Health, economic, educational and social policies that promote economic, gender and social equality
- Adequate social protection for all

Community

- Opportunities to acquire skills and knowledge according to the requirements of culture
- Access to effective formal and non-formal education
- Age-appropriate opportunities to contribute to community well-being
- Opportunities to exercise a growing capacity for agency and judgment in the cultural context
- Participation in culture, ritual, and communal systems of belief, leading to a sense of belonging



Family and Close Relationships

- Caregiving in early life by at least one consistent and responsive caregiver
- Opportunities to develop problem solving, learning and adaptation capacities
- Age-appropriate opportunities to contribute to family well-being
- Trust and support from peer

Child

- Ability to form and sustain meaningful connections to at least one other person throughout life
- Ability to regulate emotions
- A sense of self-esteem and self-efficacy
- Ability to make/find meaning in life
- Hope, faith and optimism

¹ The Annex for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (2021). [Identifying and Ranking Risk and Protective Factors: A Brief Guide.](#)

List of Common Risk Factors

International and Regional

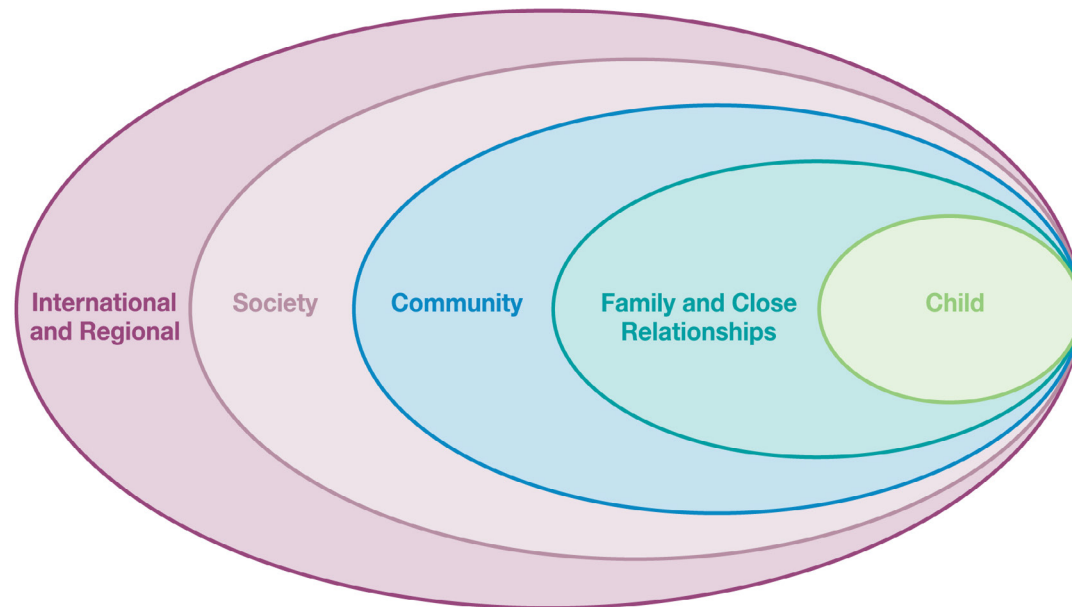
- Absence or non-enforcement of legal and normative frameworks to protect children from abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence
- Displacement resulting from forced migration or loss of home in case of international conflict

Society

- Lack or loss of access to effective formal and non-formal education
- Lack of access to quality basic services (shelter, water and sanitation, medical care)
- Discriminatory health, economic, educational and social policies that promote inequality
- Lack of social protection systems

Community

- Lack or loss of access to effective formal and non-formal education
- Unmet basic needs (such as limited access to adequate nutrition, shelter, clean drinking water, and medical care)
- Exposure to structural, social, or interpersonal violence (including racism, caste or ethnic discrimination and marginalization, gender or sexual orientation discrimination, community violence, or physical, sexual or emotional abuse)
- Loss of community connections
- Unsafe physical environments
- High community crime rates
- Harmful social or gender norms
- Non-enforcement of legal and normative frameworks to protect children from abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence



Family and Close Relationships

- Lack of caregiving by consistent and responsive caregivers during early life
- Loss or lack of opportunities to develop problem solving, learning and adaptation capacities
- Family separation, temporary or permanent
- Exposure to interpersonal violence (including gender or sexual orientation discrimination, family or intimate partner violence, or physical, sexual or emotional abuse)
- Harmful social or gender norms
- Unmet basic needs or neglect
- Early or forced marriage
- Bullying or harmful relationships with peers

Child

- Premature birth, birth anomalies or low birth weight
- Disability, impaired brain and cognitive development or psychological disorder
- Harmful use of alcohol or drug abuse