



## CODE OF CONDUCT RELATED TO CHILD PROTECTION TO PARTNERS OF KIDS EMPOWERMENT

**As part of your activities with Kids Empowerment (KE), you are required to:**

- not humiliate, intimidate, reject, belittle a child or treat him/her in a degrading manner;
- not use corporal punishment, such as slapping, spanking or any other practice that violates the dignity of children;
- use positive reinforcement methods towards children;
- not have a child carry out labor activities that are inappropriate to his/her age or developmental stage, nor obtain personal favors from him/her;
- not support voluntarily or otherwise, nor participate or organize activities, in which children engage in violence;
- not ask a child to keep secrets;
- identify potential dangers that can lead to violence against children and oppose any practice violating provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs or other illegal substances while in contact with children;
- not use inappropriate language nor act in a physically or sexually suggestive manner;
- not give presents to nor accept gifts from a child without the consent of his/her legal representative. Always inform KE officers about such eventuality;
- not exhibit favoritism toward a child;
- not invite a child to your home, in your car, go to the home of the child or being alone with him/her isolated without supervision or formal authorization from KE officers, except if the child is in danger;
- always apply the "2 adults rule" during contact with a child or on outings / trips with children;
- refrain from meeting a child alone unless it is necessary and only in a space open and visible to third persons;
- not introduce other partners to a child without KE's express authorization;
- not help a child perform intimate tasks that he/she is able to do alone: bathing, getting dressed, etc. ;
- maintain, proper physical distances with a child, even if the aim is to reassure him (in particular refrain from cuddling, kissing or inappropriate touching);
- obtain the consent of a child's legal representative and his/her consent if he/she is 7 years or older, before taking and publishing his/her picture;
- not take pictures of children (photos, video etc.) that are degrading, sexually suggestive or that violate their dignity;
- not use images of children (photos, video etc.) for profit purposes other than for professional journalism;
- not show the face of children who are victims of exploitation, trafficking, in conflict with the law, in contact with armed groups and which can be localized even if their identity was modified;
- justify the possession of children's images;

- protect the security and private life of children and their families by refraining from publishing a picture or a story that could help identify or locate and/or which could endanger them;
- keep confidential all information affecting the protection of a child, his family, his community; communicate this information to competent persons only if it is in the best interest of the child;
- not communicate with children on social networks, unless it is within a specific KE project which requires it and with the express authorization of KE;
- never give your personal contact information to a child;
- not assist a child to leave his community even with the consent of his/her legal representative;
- encourage children to talk openly about child/adult interactions;
- inform children about their right to report any violence toward children;
- report without delay any concerning situation, suspected or confirmed, of violence against a child or any violation of this code of conduct, to KE officers; or inform the competent public authorities;
- consult KE officers for any question or doubt arising in relation to child protection.

**KE needs to be ensured that aside from your official activities with KE, you maintain high standard behavior toward children. In that respect you must:**

- consider children as full subjects of law and treat them with respect;
- never engage in illegal activities with children such as violence , exploitation or sexual intercourse, regardless of the age of consent in domestic law;
- not look at, publish, produce or share pornographic images with children;
- engage with children in a collaborative manner based on mutual respect and trust with the aim to enhance their capacity and develop their potential;
- not engage in harmful or abusive traditional, religious or ritual practices regardless of their acceptance in local custom.
- listen and take into consideration the views of children and help them take part in decisions that affect them, in a manner consistent with their evolving capacity.

I, the undersigned \_\_\_\_\_ (First name, Last name) undertake to abide by the terms of this code of conduct, which I have read and understood, throughout the period of my engagement with KE. I declare that there is no mention of offences related to violence against children or domestic violence in my criminal records. I have been informed that failure to comply with this Code of Conduct will result in sanctions that may lead to the termination of my engagement with KE or even to legal proceedings in accordance with Article 7 of KE's by-laws .

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of partner: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed with the mention "read and approved"

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