

International Classification of Violence against Children (ICVAC)

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Introduction

RATIONALE AND PRINCIPLES

- Developed in response to the need to have comprehensive operational definitions of VAC and a statistical codebook/classification of all forms of VAC
- Built on the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes (ICCS) and other classifications
- Follows United Nations Statistics Division's principles on statistical classification

PROCESS

- First expert meeting in November 2018
- Task force created in 2019
- First expert review in 2019
- Second expert review and country consultation (April to September 2022)
- Four expert meetings in October 2022



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Definition of violence and principles

DEFINITION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

*“A deliberate, unwanted and nonessential **act, threatened or actual**, against a child or against a group of children that either **results** in or has a **high likelihood** of resulting in **death, physical pain or psychological suffering**”.*

ELEMENTS OF DEFINITION

ACTS

Single or repeated acts, including acts of omission

INTER-PERSONAL AND COLLECTIVE ACTS

Individual and group violence

FOUR CONCURRENT CHARACTERISTICS

Non-essential, unwanted, deliberate and harmful

NATURE OF VIOLENT ACTS

Physical, psychological, or sexual and neglect



LEVEL 1 CATEGORIES

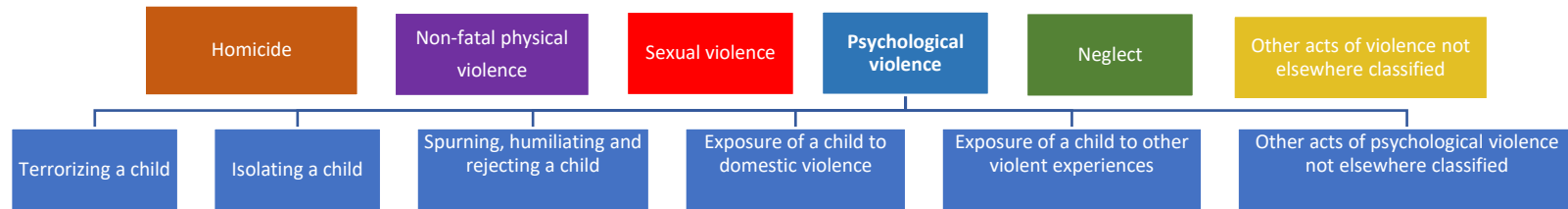
01	Homicide of a child
02	Non-fatal physical violence
03	Sexual violence
04	Psychological violence
05	Neglect
09	Other acts of violence not elsewhere classified

Criterion used for category one: Nature of the violent act

DEFINITIONS OF LEVEL 1 CATEGORIES

Homicide of a child	Non-fatal physical violence	Psychological violence	Sexual violence	Neglect
<p>A non-essential, unwanted and deliberate act leading to death or intending to cause death of a child</p>	<p>A non-essential, unwanted and deliberate act that uses physical force against the body of a child and results or can result in injury, pain, or discomfort</p>	<p>A non-essential, unwanted and deliberate act that harms or has the highly likelihood to harm the self-esteem, identity, or development of the individual child</p>	<p>A non-essential, unwanted, and deliberate sexual act and attempted sexual act against a child, including for exploitative purposes. Acts of sexual nature include sexual intercourse, contact acts, non-contact acts.</p>	<p>A non-essential, unwanted, deliberate and ongoing failure to meet a child's physical or psychological needs, protect the child from danger, or obtain medical, educational or other services when those responsible for the child's care have the means, the knowledge, and access to services to do so</p>

EXAMPLE OF STRUCTURE



DISAGGREGATING VARIABLES

VICTIM	PERPETRATOR	SETTING	CIRCUMSTANCES
GiV – Gender (II)	SP – Gender (II)	Ho – Home (III)	Loc – Location (III)
AV – Age of victim (I)	AP – Age of perpetrator (II)	Ed – Education/school settings (III)	DT – Date and time (III)
ViP – Victim-perpetrator relationship (II)	ViP – Victim-perpetrator relationship (II)	Com – Community (III)	
BaC - Background characteristics (III)	GP – Group perpetrator (II)	Car – Residential care facilities (III)	
VH – Previous victimisation history (III)	PH – Previous history of violence/recidivism (III)	Wor – Working places (III)	
SoV – Sexual orientation of the victim (III)		Cus – Custody, police station/detention (III)	
		DS – Digital spaces and platforms (III)	

(I) = Tier I – in italics (indispensable characteristics)

(II) = Tier II (minimum characteristics)

(III) = Tier III (additional characteristics)



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Implementation plans

IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

The ICVAC will be made available in the six UN languages and UNICEF will produce tools for the uptake of ICVAC by NSOs and ministries responsible for collecting VAC data

Implementation tools	Substantive guidance
1) To facilitate the mapping of existing national statistical definitions into the ICVAC framework and identify gaps and needs	5) To harmonise population-based survey questions on violence against children with ICVAC
2) To facilitate the transition from core and minimum disaggregating variables to additional ones	6) To strengthen administrative data on violence against children and how to harmonise it with ICVAC
3) To develop a national implementation action plan	7) On counting rules for different statistical units such as child victims or perpetrators
4) To set up multi-sectoral implementation task forces at country level	8) How to use of ICVAC to collect data on specific manifestations of VAC such as online violence, dating violence, school-based violence, etc
Technical assistance and training (regional workshops in 2023) – Engagement with regional entities	



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THANK YOU

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