



## **Child Protection Policy**

Vision Development Organization (VDO) is committed to ensuring the safety, well-being, and rights of children in all aspects of our work. We recognize that children are vulnerable and require special protection measures to safeguard their dignity, safety, and development. As such, VDO has developed a comprehensive Child Protection Policy to guide our practices and ensure the protection of children from all forms of harm, abuse, exploitation, and neglect.

### **Our Commitment to Child Protection**

1. **Child-Centered Approach:** VDO places children at the center of our programs and initiatives, prioritizing their best interests in all decision-making processes. We are committed to promoting and protecting the rights of children, including their rights to survival, development, protection, and participation.
2. **Prevention and Risk Mitigation:** We are dedicated to preventing and mitigating risks of harm, abuse, exploitation, and neglect to children in all our activities. VDO conducts thorough risk assessments, implements preventive measures, and monitors and evaluates our programs to ensure they are safe and child-friendly.
3. **Child Safeguarding:** VDO has robust child safeguarding policies and procedures in place to prevent and respond to any form of harm, abuse, exploitation, or neglect involving children. Our staff and partners receive training on child protection principles, reporting mechanisms, and their responsibilities to ensure the safety and well-being of children.
4. **Community Engagement and Participation:** We actively engage with children, families, communities, and relevant stakeholders to raise awareness about child rights and protection issues. VDO promotes community participation in child protection efforts, empowering communities to identify risks, advocate for children's rights, and take action to address child protection concerns.
5. **Monitoring and Accountability:** VDO conducts regular monitoring, evaluation, and accountability activities to assess the effectiveness of our child protection measures and ensure compliance with our policies and standards. We collect and analyze data on child protection indicators, respond to complaints and feedback, and take corrective action as needed to improve our child protection practices.

### **Reporting Child Protection Concerns**

Any individual who has a concern or suspicion of child abuse, exploitation, or neglect involving VDO staff, partners, beneficiaries, or associated individuals is encouraged to report it promptly and confidentially. Reports can be made through the following channels:

- Email: [communications@vdongo.org](mailto:communications@vdongo.org)
- Phone: +93(0) 728 777 119

All reports will be treated with the utmost seriousness and confidentiality. VDO is committed to investigating all child protection concerns thoroughly and taking appropriate action to ensure the safety, well-being, and rights of children.

At VDO, we believe that every child has the right to a safe and nurturing environment where they can grow, learn, and thrive. Our Child Protection Policy reflects our commitment to upholding the highest standards of child protection and ensuring that children are protected from all forms of harm, abuse, exploitation, and neglect in our programs and operations.