

# REPORT OF THE TRAINING WORKSHOPS HELD IN ABENGOUROU FROM 16 TO 19 JUNE 2026



## **BACKGROUND**

Save the Children International (SCI) is an independent organization that is a leader in the promotion and protection of children's rights around the world. Our mission is to inspire real change in the way the world treats children and achieve immediate and lasting change in children's lives; And our vision is a world where every child realizes the right to survival, protection, development and participation. Our values are: **ACCOUNTABILITY – AMBITION – COLLABORATION – CREATIVITY – INTEGRITY.**

Since 1992, it has been carrying out actions through various projects in Côte d'Ivoire to improve the level of protection of children as well as the living conditions of communities.

In this dynamic, SCI has been implementing a project related to the theme of "child-sensitive social protection" since January 2022, in the departments of Bondoukou and Tanda in partnership with the local NGO Soleil Levant/Education.

Funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, the main objective of the project is to strengthen the social protection system in Côte d'Ivoire and contribute to an improved and inclusive well-being of children in the departments of Bondoukou and Tanda.

In concrete terms, in the long term, the main impact of the interventions should be **an improvement in the well-being of children through the strengthening of the child-sensitive aspect of other social protection programmes in the Gontougo region.**

For a greater impact at the national level, an advocacy plan has been developed and validated with the Ministries of Women, Family, and Children, the Ministry of Employment and Social Protection, media and NGO partners as well as the regional directorates representing the two ministries mentioned above based in Gontougo.

The advocacy axis approved by all stakeholders is the follow-up " **Bring decision-makers to integrate the ICDP approach into the training modules of social workers in Côte d'Ivoire by the end of 2025.**"

To achieve this, several actions have been carried out during the years 2024 and 2025, including the establishment of a pool of trainers trainers at the level of Côte d'Ivoire. Two workshops are being held in Abengourou from June 16 to 19, 2026.

This report reports on the progress of these workshops, which are thus part of the strategy for the sustainability of the ICDP approach in Côte d'Ivoire.

### **WORKSHOP I: Training of Trainers on ICDP Modules for Deployment at the National Level organized by the CSSP MFA FINLAND Project**

The first workshop concerning the members of the pool of trainers of national structures including the DRPS, SLE, PPEAV, DAS and with a view to consolidating a national pool of trainers capable of supporting the sustainable integration of the ICDP program into the training system of social workers took place over two days on June 16 and 17, 2026.

The first day consisted of a reminder of the key elements of the ICDP programme, which are:

- The three dialogues
- The eight guidelines
- The Seven Principles of Awareness

At the end of this reminder, the participants shared their videos made during the facilitation sessions with the parents during the practical exercise. The screening of these videos allowed the participants to discuss the quality of the animation and especially the application of the seven principles of awareness. Participants also shared their experiences, made constructive observations and identified areas for improvement. Technical guidance has been provided to improve practices.

The second day was marked by the presentation of facilitators' certificates to participants who have successfully completed the requirements of the training process. After the presentation of the certificates, the participants began to reflect on the next steps in the implementation of the advocacy program and on their contribution to the development of the ICDP program facilitation guide contextualized to national realities.

## Highlights of the reflections:

- ❖ What are the indicators that the ICDP program wants to change? If there are no predefined indicators, it will first be a question of defining them.
- ❖ Open the ICDP program to applicants, not just social workers. Make a communication to encourage participation
- ❖ Provide a conceptual reference manual for the ICDP programme adapted to the realities of Africa and even Côte d'Ivoire
- ❖ Include certification at the end of the training process
- ❖ Set up a reflection committee composed of 4 members (SCI, INSFS, PPEAV, DAS)
- ❖ Plan a workshop for the development and validation of the action package.
- ❖ To make the program dynamic, it was recommended that the expansion of ICDP be promoted through workshops.
- ❖ Provide for the consultancy of the ICDP trainer from time to time in the validation and certification stages.
- ❖ The SCI team will be responsible for following the program requirements
- ❖ The ICDP trainer will be responsible for following the process until validation.
- ❖ Three workshops to be planned: the first to present the draft 1; the second to establish the communication tools and the third for the first validation and proofreading of the guide.
- ❖ Ensure that the guide for facilitating parent meetings takes into account the realities of different regions of the country
- ❖ Give the existing guide the codes and colours of a national document
- ❖ Review the language of the meeting facilitation guide to make it simple, self-explanatory, and easy to translate into local languages
- ❖ Adapt proverbs to the local context of each region
- ❖ The months of July and August are chosen for the re-reading and setting up of the guide for facilitating meetings with parents

At the end of the work, the trainers' questionnaire was sent to the participants, the answers are expected by July 30, 2026 at the latest.



Family photo of certified trainers

## WORKSHOP II: Coaching of two trainers of Abengourou social workers on the ICDP program

The second workshop consisted of the coaching of two new facilitator trainers. The coaching began in mid-May with a time to prepare for the workshop. The necessary documents have been made available to them so that they can practice preparing for a training workshop for facilitators.

On the afternoon of June 15, a meeting with the two trainers took place, in order to refine the agenda of the workshop and prepare the different sessions of the first day.

The day of June 16 began with an evaluation of the participants as a pre-test on their interactive profile, before setting out their expectations. Participants' expectations focused on understanding the program and the content of ICDP. Overall, these expectations show us that participants have a strong interest in learning about the content of the ICDP program.

The trainers gave a presentation of the scientific basis of the program that allowed the participants to understand the correlation between a good interaction and the

psychoneurological development of a child. This module was well explained through concrete examples taken in the field as well as illustrative videos used.

Ubuntu Zulu's ideology that "A person becomes human through other people" demonstrated to participants that the program has a humanistic foundation and is applicable to all walks of life. The program is not only intended for poor countries but for all countries in the world according to the cause of the relationship deficit between children and their parents, hence the constant need to adapt it according to the environmental context.

The trainers projected images on the emotions of sadness, anger, fear or fear. The participants had the opportunity to evaluate the ability to harmonize with others by taking into account the criteria laid down by the program, namely eye contact, facial expression; posture; the quality of the touch; the sound of the voice, etc.

The redefinition of the child through group work on the qualities of the ideal child and the qualities of the ideal caregiver, led the participants to understand that there is something positive in every child and that it is the duty of parents or caregivers to value these qualities to allow the child to better assert himself.

At the end of the day, a meeting was held with the two trainers for a debriefing and preparation for the second day. It should be noted that the two trainers have a mastery of the content of the program and manage to get the message across while keeping the participants on the edge of their seats because the sessions were dynamic. The roles were well distributed among them.



A view of the participants

During the second day, the reminder of the previous day was made, the ICDP guidelines held a lot of attention from the participants. The seven principles of facilitation of the ICDP program helped to discover the postures to adopt when facilitating a parenting skills session.

It was through a presentation of the three types of dialogues that the participants discovered the eight (8) guidelines for a good interaction of daily life.

### **1. Emotional dialogue**

- 1- Show feelings of positive love towards the child;
- 2- Follow the child's initiative;
- 3- Have an intimate dialogue with the children;
- 4- Confirm your child's efforts by praising and praising them to encourage them.

### **2. The dialogue of understanding**

- 5- Focus; shared attention with your child as well as a common concentration;
- 6- The meaning; describe and make sense of what you follow together
- 7- Expansion; Give an explanation beyond what is in front of your eyes, to the child, taking into account his age and his ability to understand.

### **3. Regulatory dialogue**

8a- Setting limits in a positive way

8b- Plan and guide step by step; Be a graduated support, a scaffolding.

The objective of this training is to allow participants to have the knowledge necessary to facilitate the discussion groups. To this end, the seven principles of awareness were discussed. Their application should facilitate the achievement of the objectives of the ICDP. These are:

1. Establishment of a contract of trust between the parents or members of the discussion groups and the facilitator.
2. Positive redefinition of the child.
3. Enable/prompt parents/caregivers to apply the eight (8) guidelines for proper interaction between them and their children.
4. Confirm the competence of parents or caregivers by highlighting what is already positive in their interactions with their children.
5. Use questions to guide discussions and exchanges about what good interaction is.
6. Encourage sharing and attentive listening between parents or caregivers, during group meetings, in order to learn from each other's experiences.
7. Use two styles of communication in relation to parents.

Four pairs were formed to provide stimulation on the third day. The animation guide and the image box were given to the pairs to prepare.

At the end of the work, a meeting with the trainers took place for a debriefing, the trainers were appreciated by the SCI staff and the trainer. There are several positive

points and above all the point to improve is time management and being able to limit discussions during the sessions.

Day three consisted of the simulation of the four pairs, who took turns to present "Showing feelings of love to the child"; "praise", "focus" and "set boundaries in a positive way".

Overall, participants did their best to explain the guidelines. The positive points noted are that all the pairs applied the principles in particular: establishing a contract of trust with the caregivers through the way of sitting in the group; Confirm the caregiver's capacity.

Areas for improvement are the principles on redefining the child in a positive way and sharing their own experiences with the caregiver group; But guidelines have been given to make this possible.

Following this exercise, the facilitators were invited to practice self-training on themselves and on a control group.