



Understanding of Child Rights-based Programming¹

Adopted by the Board of Directors, April 1, 2009

In line with its Strategy 2012, Pestalozzi Children's Foundation (PCF) will introduce a Child Rights-based Approach in the entire organisation. This approach will also be integrated into the Foundation's existing programmes in education. Until 2012, relevant training courses will be offered for Programme Directors and Country Coordinators within the Programme Departments Switzerland and International.

Definition of Child Rights-based Programming

Child Rights-based Programming provides a framework for the analysis, planning, implementation and evaluation of all promotion and protection measures with and for children and young people. It includes ideas and concepts relating to children's rights as well as knowledge and experience about the capabilities and competencies of children and young people.

Child Rights-based Programming is based on the following four fundamental principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC): the right to survival and development; the right to non-discrimination and equal treatment; the best interests of the child; and the right to participate and to be heard.

The overriding goal of Child Rights-based Programming is to ensure that all children and young people are able to exercise their rights and to live in a society which acknowledges and respects their rights.

Mutual understanding of Child Rights-based Programming

The programmes of PCF in Switzerland and international are aimed at promoting and advancing children's rights as defined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and other international human rights treaties.

The standards and principles of the CRC and other relevant human rights instruments define PCF's programming. These standards and principles are the indivisibility, inalienability and universality of human rights, the principle of accountability, and the four principles of the CRC.

The programmes of PCF intend to strengthen the ability of the duty-bearers to respect, protect and implement the rights of all children and young people. PCF supports and empowers children and young people to claim their rights, either directly or with the promotion of their families and communities.

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¹ The understanding of Child Rights-based Programming adopted by the Pestalozzi Children's Foundation is based on the definitions of the Save the Children Alliance (Save the Children Alliance: Getting it Right for Children, A practitioners' guide to child rights programming, 2007).