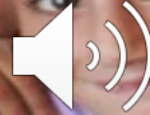


# Development and Evaluation of the Nurturing Families Programme in Jordan

Felicity Brown &  
Mark Jordans



War Child Holland

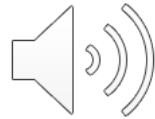
# Partnership introduction

- Lead organization: War Child Holland (R&D and Jordan)
  - Lead by: Prof Mark Jordans & Dr Felicity Brown
- This study is commissioned by the GIZ Regional Program *“Psychosocial Support for Syrian and Iraqi Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons”*
- International collaborators
  - Prof Wietse Tol (University of Copenhagen)
  - Prof Rachel Calam (University of Manchester)
  - Dr Anna Barrett (War Child Holland)
  - May Aoun (War Child Holland)
- Jordanian ‘experts’ / collaborators: TBD
- Implementing Organization: TBD



# Elements of our approach

- Participatory approach
- User-centred design with communities and families
- Action-reflection learning
- Evolutionary indicators



# Setting and population description


- Setting TBD, with input from local research coordinator and local experts, once established
- Study population will include *Syrian and Iraqi Refugees, IDPs and host community members in Jordan*
- Settings with *high levels of precariousness*
- Will have experienced high rates of human rights violations and other traumatic events (including torture)
- Continue to experience high rates of poverty, lack of access to basic needs, limited access to health and education services

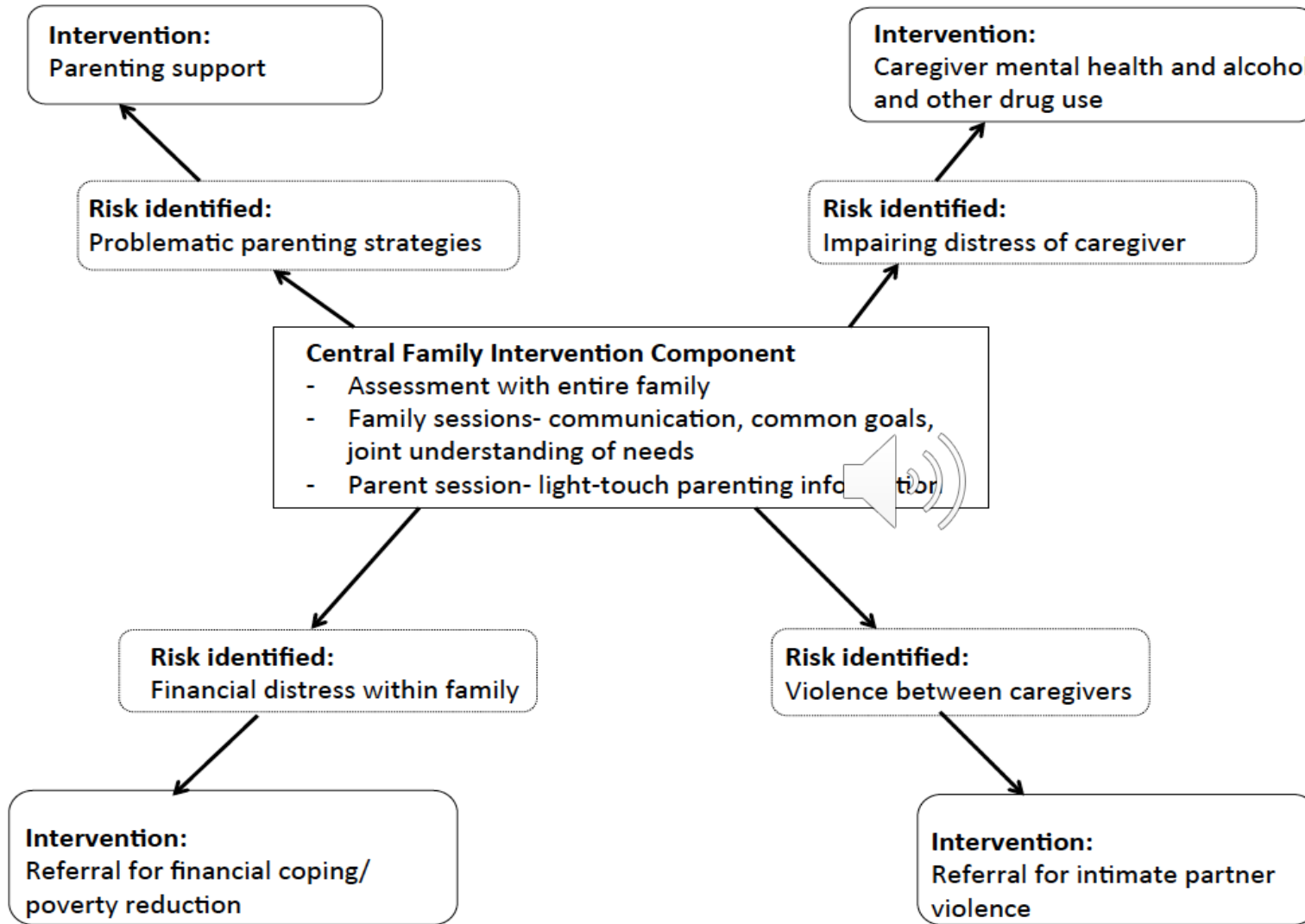


# Intervention description

- Will be co-developed using the approaches described
- Will be targeted, non-specialist intervention for families experiencing multiple and complex stressors and forms of distress (Level 3).
- Based on our understanding that:
  - Key family systemic factors underpin many mental health and wellbeing concerns in conflict-affected settings.
  - A nurturing family environment is essential for positive child development and wellbeing.
  - Caregivers are exposed to diverse stressors, can have high rates of distress, and may struggle to provide responsive and effective parenting
  - For some families, the effects of armed conflict compound those of other structural problems such as poverty, intimate partner violence, and parental mental illness.
  - Programmes working at the individual child level, while important, do not interact with many of the complex factors which add up to a positive trajectory for children
  - Yet, family approaches are seldom conducted or evaluated

# Current conceptualisation

- **Identified problem=** common structural issue in the siloed way that services are provided currently in humanitarian sectors - with families requiring multiple referrals for different problems, leading to gaps in care
- **Our solution=**
  - Inter-sectoral and transdisciplinary 
  - Modular



# Intervention implementation plan

- To be determined based on formative work- described in next slides





# Study objectives

- **Development stage:**
  - Identify the relevant evidence base for parenting and family interventions in Jordan
  - Conduct qualitative enquiry to inform the intervention and implementation
  - Develop a theory of change, modelling processes and outcomes.
- **Feasibility stage:**
  - Development of the new intervention
  - Test procedures via case studies - are they relevant, applicable and feasible?
- **Pilot stage:**
  - Pilot testing of the intervention and evaluation procedures- are they relevant, applicable, and feasible?
  - Are there indications of effectiveness and identifiable mechanisms of change?
- **Next steps:**
  - **Evaluation stage**- determine effectiveness via full-scale RCT
  - **Implementation stage** (if supported by the evaluation results) - monitoring of implementation and assessing system-level requirements and changes that enable policy and service uptake.

Each of these stages will be iterative, whereby lessons from previous phases are taken forward to next phases, and where necessary, further development or piloting is conducted after necessary changes are made.

# Study design

## Phase 1: Formative Work

Apr-Dec 2020

- I. Qualitative case-formulation approach with 10 families with poor family functioning & 10 families with high family functioning
- II. Focus groups, key informant interviews, and participatory workshops
- III. Development of a theory of change
- IV. User-centred co-creation and/or systematic cultural adaptation of intervention materials and measurement tools

## Phase 2: Case studies

Mar-Jun 2021

N= 10 families  
Qualitative and quantitative assessments

## Phase 3: Feasibility Study

Aug'21 – Aug'22

- Mixed methods longitudinal pilot RCT
- Qualitative interviews
- Quantitative assessments- exploring measure properties, indications of effectiveness, potential mechanisms of change

## Phase 4: Structural integration and dissemination

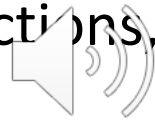
- Research publications
- Practice recommendations
- Methodological recommendations for mixed methods research on effectiveness evaluation processes in interventions for and with conflict-affected families

# Outcomes and methods

- To be determined
- Will measure
  - Child & parent outcomes
    - Qualitative and quantitative
    - Including for example- reduction of parental distress, improved child wellbeing
  - Family outcomes- quality of relationships and interactional processes
    - Qualitative and quantitative
    - Including for example - poverty, intimate partner violence, responsive parenting, daily stressors
  - Mechanisms of change
    - Qualitative and quantitative
  - Implementation factors
    - Fidelity, facilitator competence, attendance, referrals made
  - System-level outcomes
    - Intersectoral linkages
    - ??
- Will use evolutionary indicators

# Stakeholder Involvement and links to in-country processes

- An integral part of the study will be Local Study Advisors
- The implementation will be overseen by War Child Jordan Office- they will work closely with the Implementing partner
- War Child Jordan is already well connected to the MHPSS working group and Protection working groups in Jordan, and relevant ministries. Further, we are involved in regional initiatives including the NLG Taskforce.
- We aim to further build these connections, and also connect with
  - Local Jordanian researchers
  - Policy stakeholders
- This will be via
  - Building from existing partnerships and connections of GIZ Regional Programme
  - Regular attendance at working group and coordination meetings
  - Presentations at relevant meetings
  - Establishing collaborations with Jordanian researchers
  - Engaging with Ministry of Health and relevant focal points there



A photograph of three young children sitting at a wooden table, smiling warmly. The child on the left is a boy in a blue hoodie. The child in the middle is a girl in a white t-shirt with a dark collar. The child on the right is a boy in a pink and black patterned shirt. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

# Thank-you!

Questions, comments, suggestions?

