The International Rescue Committee responds to the world’s worst humanitarian crises and helps people to survive and rebuild their lives. Founded in 1933, the IRC offers lifesaving care and life-changing assistance to people affected by war or disaster. At work today in over 40 countries and 22 US cities, the IRC provides support across the sectors of child and youth protection and development, economic recovery and development, governance and rights, health, and women’s protection and empowerment. The IRC furthermore has a Research, Evaluation and Learning unit that support IRC’s programmes across sectors to ensure that they are based on the best available evidence and continue to generate evidence on the effectiveness of programmes.

The IRC has been implementing programmes to support children and youth since its founding. Today, this includes programmes in the areas of child protection, education and youth, and livelihoods. IRC’s vision is for children and youth to live in a world where they are protected, resilient, and able to develop to their fullest potential. One of the core objectives in achieving this vision is working towards better prevention of and responses to the abuse, exploitation, and neglect of children. IRC’s programmes ensure immediate care and protection as well as long-term stability and development of children and youth; work hand-in-hand with children, youth, families, schools, local organizations, businesses and government institutions that make up a child’s environment; work across age groups using approaches that are tailored to the developmental stages of childhood and adolescence; are based on a deep contextual knowledge and experience, as well as evidence of what works to improve the lives of children and youth; and generate new knowledge about the most effective ways to improve the lives of children and youth. The IRC has programmes for children and youth in conflict and crisis affected countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East.

Laura Boone
Senior Technical Advisor for Child Protection
International Rescue Committee, UK
Phone: + 44 20 7692 2757
Email: Laura.boone@rescue-uk.org

Laura Boone has been working for the IRC since October 2006, first as the Child and Youth Protection and Development (CYPD) coordinator in Uganda and since November 2007 as Child Protection Technical Adviser to IRC’s global CYPD Technical Unit. Laura currently heads the child protection sector and leads IRC’s work on key policy, programming, research, and advocacy issues related to children in humanitarian settings. Laura is a social worker by profession and has a Master’s degree in Social Development. She has over 10 years of experience working with especially vulnerable children in humanitarian and development settings including in Ethiopia, Kyrgyzstan, the Netherlands, Uganda and the United Kingdom.