



KINGDOM OF LESOTHO

Ministry of Social Development

INCEPTION REPORT

VAC HELPLINE SYSTEM

Submitted by



October, 2021

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Acronyms

VAC	Violence Against Children
FRD	Functional Requirements Document
ACHT	Average Call Handling Time
TAT	Turn Around Time
QC	Quality Control
MNO's	Mobile Network Operators
LAN	Local Area Network
UPS	Uninterrupted Power Supply
BITZ ITC	Bitz IT Consulting Ltd

Acknowledgments

The BITZ ITC team would like to express our gratitude to all who took the time to speak to us during this exercise.

We were able to conduct interviews with following teams

1. Ministry of Social Development
2. Karabo Ea Bophelo Project,
3. Children's Court---it is not an acronym
4. Ministry of Home Affairs,
5. UNICEF
6. Ministry of Education and Training

Because of this support BITZ ITC team feels that we are in a position to achieve more over the requirements gathering period. At the same time, we accept responsibility for any errors, omissions, misunderstandings in this report.

Executive Summary

Introduction

Child Helpline Lesotho was established in 2008 as an initiative of the then Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MoHSW) and was initially funded by Global Fund and UNICEF with the objective of handling violence against children's cases in Lesotho. When donor funding faced out, Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) took over the Child Helpline services.

One of the key components of Child Protection systems is the reporting mechanism by adults and children on incident or risk of any abuse, violence and exploitation happening against any child.

Scope

Under this assignment, BITZ Consulting Ltd will do the following:

1. The system should be able to receive calls for VAC on the toll free number through an E1 channel.
2. The system should be developed based on open-source standards and technologies preferably on major frameworks such as Laravel, Django, and Spring etc. The process shall be managed and code shared on a code repository such as GitHub with clear documentation on deployment and integrations.
3. Build capacity of the end-user teams to be able to make minor adjustments to the system (configurable modules where possible e.g. case categories, SIP accounts,) and to manage the system after it has been handed over.
4. Develop a universal documented API to enable integration with other 3rd Party systems which will come in the second phase.

API will enable a secure integration with any systems. As it will expose data for consumption in two-ways. External systems will be allowed to consume data from the CHL; the CHL will also be able to access and use data produced by other systems.

5. The solution should be able to handle case distribution, routing, escalation based on roles & permissions regarding access for reported cases. This should include follow-ups, case prioritization as well as case closure by providing necessary assistance to the clients who reach out to the Call Center.
6. Provide dashboard & Reports, real-time call and case analytics with key metrics based on the set Case Categories, Demographics, System Users, Calls, and Call activities.
7. Design and documentation such as:
 - a. User Training Manual and Guide
 - b. Technical system documentation such as system architecture and technical specifications documentation, system manuals including quick troubleshooting guides and summaries, system administration manuals, guides, configuration, backup and restore procedure manuals
8. Plan and conduct training for: Helpline staff, Helpline Supervisors and local helpline nominated IT focal points and other relevant staff identified.
9. Provide technical support and ongoing routine maintenance for the Helpline, including regular software updates/upgrades for a period of 6 months after the commissioning of the system.

10. Implement security protocols for call & case data and design & set up remote backup, restore & recovery plans, procedures, and systems based on the developed Functional Requirements Document (FRD) taking into consideration confidentiality of the data.
11. Deploy the enhancements on the hosting platform and secure it with a Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) certificate for added security.
12. Project Management. The solution developers shall report to the project manager under Bitz IT Consulting Limited.

Deliverables and Timelines

Work Schedule & Milestones

This is an activity assignment to the proposed 35 days project plan from signing the contract to design, develop, deploy and train to handover of the system after sign-off.

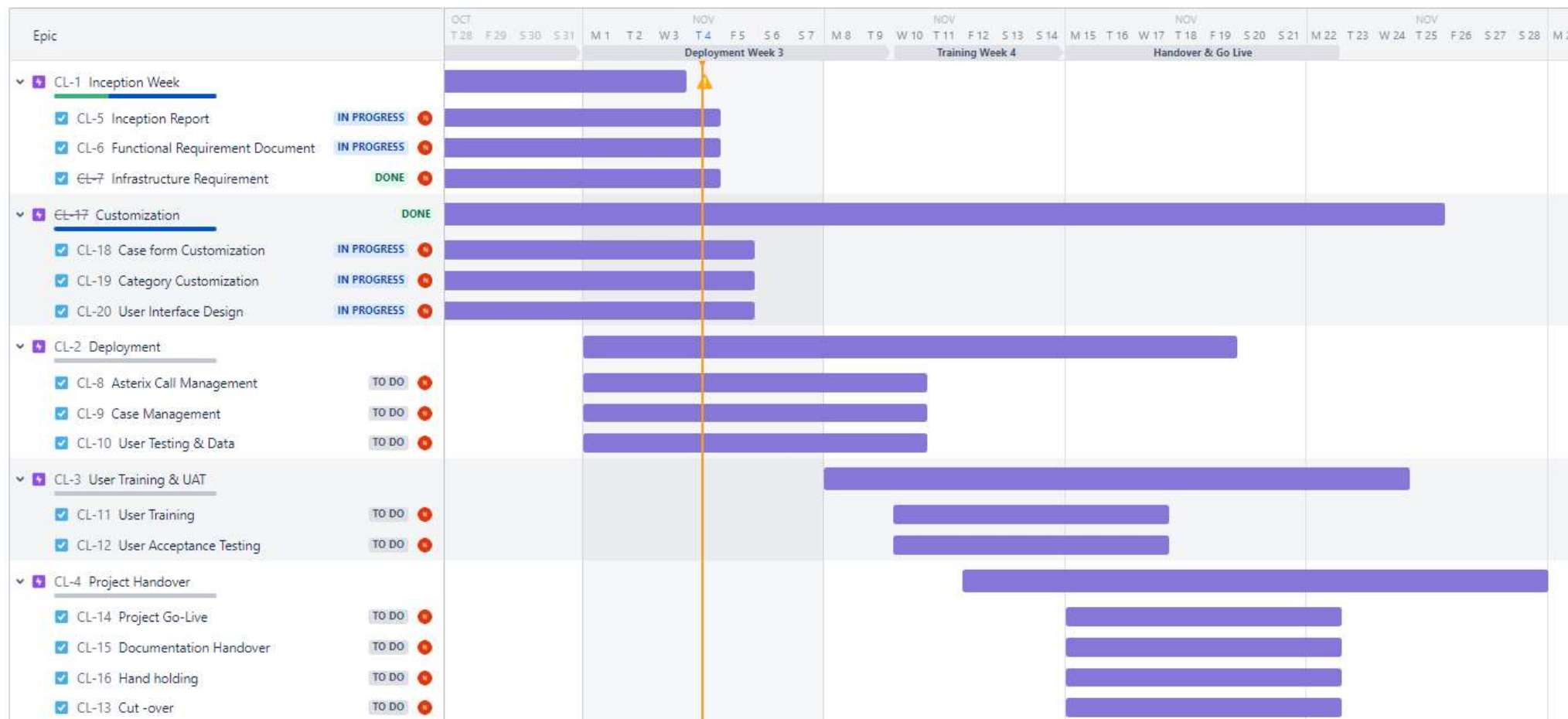


Figure 1: Implementation Schedule/Plan

Requirements Gathering

Participants

Day 1

Name	Organisation	Designation	Email	Tel. No
Rantsala Sanaha	UNICEF	CP Specialist	rsanaha@unicef.org	58903781
Mookho Motheo	MOSD	Director CP Services	mookho.motheo@yahoo.com	63604757
Mantoa Sejake	MOSD	Manager CP Services	man.sejake@yahoo.co.uk	58733990
Mankuebe Khiba	MOSD	Snr CP Officer	mankuebe7727@gmail.com	58008858
Boitumelo Mofolo	MOSD	CP Officer	boitumelomofolo16@gmail.com	58539873
Lerato Phitsane	MOSD	IS Manager	lerato.phitsane@gov.ls	62599930
Tiisetso Mohlabi	MOSD	Social Development Officer	tcmohlabi@gmail.com	63705232
Tamposse Phororo	MOSD	Snr Child Welfare Officer	phororotamposse@gmail.com	67081500
Matseliso Motae	MOSD	Social Worker	matlhony186@gmail.com	58058424
Mathabo Kopung	Children's Court	Magistrate	nkhauhele@yahoo.com	62784980
Litsoane Keketsi	Home Affairs	District Manager - NICR	litsoanekeketsi@gmail.com	58756823
Mathato Nkuatsana	Health	Adolescent Health	konosoang@gmail.com	57040683
Mothakathi Phapano	UNICEF	Senior ICT Associate	mphapano@unicef.org	58848641
Maobert Ramotso	WVL	Child Protection and safeguarding Lead	maobert_ramotso@wvi.org	58928607
John Mohlouoa	MOET	CP Officer	nkosijmohlouoa@gmail.com	62007488
Mpho Molise	MOLE	Labour Inspector	makamohelo@gmail.com	58589292
Napo Khuele	Home Affairs	Acting Director-NICR	ngbkhuele@gmail.com	58795552
Moliehi Mokoteli	Probation	Director Probation	malehakoe.madamane@gmail.com	63626059
Moseli Ts'eeiso	Probation	Senior Probation Officer	louistseeiso@gmail.com	
Malineo Motsephe	Letsema Child Rights Network	Secretary	ma.motsephe@gmail.com	58856711
Frank Melato	SOS Children's Villages	School Prinicipal	Frank.Melato@sos.org.ls	
Kananelo Kutumela	Child HelpLine	Technical Specialist-Child Helpline	kananelo.kutumela@crs.org	58189158
Lirontso Badela	Child HelpLine	Child Helpline Social Worker	lirontso.badela@crs.org	62964482
Mamahali Motanyane	Child HelpLine	Child Helpline Social Worker	mamahali.motanyane@crs.org	56700205
Thuso Makoko	Child HelpLine	Child Helpline Social Worker	thuso.makoko@crs.org	62800030
Nthabiseng Koetlisi	Child HelpLine	Child Helpline Social Worker	nthabiseng.koetlisi@crs.org	62059299
Thato Mokaeane	KB Project	Senior Data Officer	thato.mokaeane@crs.org	57589445
Malehlohonolo Kuleile	KB Project	M&E Manger	mkuleile@baylorlesotho.org.ls	63879135
Limpho Kokome	KB Project	Data scientist	lkokome@baylorlesotho.org.ls	50223711
Tsepiso Makhetha	Child HelpLine	Child Helpline Social Worker	tsepiso.makhetha@crs.org	67376266
Khahliso Makhanoli	Child HelpLine	Child Welfare Officer	khahliso.mokhaoli@gmail.com	53291727

Summary table of requirements.

	Problem	Proposed Solution
1	Call Capacity at the Helpline with addition of calls	E1 or SIP which can handle more concurrent calls.
2	Knowledge on handling calls	Training and Capacity building required as a key component for the success of this project
3	Case categories	Bitz shared case categories for VAC as used in Uganda for review by the client. System to allow for creation of categories.
5	Integration to other systems	This will be done in the second phase. However, the system should have a provision for integration.
7	Flexibility to generate and Export reports	The system should have an inbuilt reporting engine. with the ability to view based on various metrics & parameters.
8	Roles & Permission	System will have a predefined permission matrix based to the different key stakeholders (Client to provide)
9	For IVR if possible let us have Language selection maybe a few of the major languages	The client will provide IVR in different languages. The system should allow for language selection configuration.
10	Social media reporting and other platforms	The function is available, Social Media and other platforms will be integrated in the second phase.

Infrastructure Findings and Recommendations

This is a study of the existing components fundamental to the functionality of the call center both software and hardware.

Current Infrastructure Setup

The server hardware is as provided below.

- ✓ System x3200 M3
- ✓ OS: windows server 2008 R@ standard
- ✓ Processor: Intel (R) XEON (R) CPU X3430 @ 2.40GHz 2.39GHz
- ✓ RAM: 2.00GB
- ✓ Type: 64bit OS
- ✓ HDD: 250 GB

The center uses GSM/LTE for voice calls. Although the fibre link which is an extension from the government offices is yet to be installed, a VLAN for voice has already been configured within the government network, however, there is no termination to the center and so service remains inactive.

The voice services are currently managed within the virtual LAN (VLAN) within the ministry with a fibre extension from government offices to the call center. A switch with 4mbps is configured for MPLS on the call center. The fibre link has not been fully adopted thus the call center lacks internet and connection to the VLAN.

Proposed Infrastructure

RAM

- ✓ Asterisk - 4GB RAM
- ✓ Database - 16 GB RAM

Storage (HDD/SSD)

- ✓ Operating system partition - 100 GB
- ✓ Database 100 GB
- ✓ Call Recording 1 TB

CPU

- ✓ Xeon Processor
- ✓ 4 cores 2.0 GHz

Operating System

- ✓ Centos 8

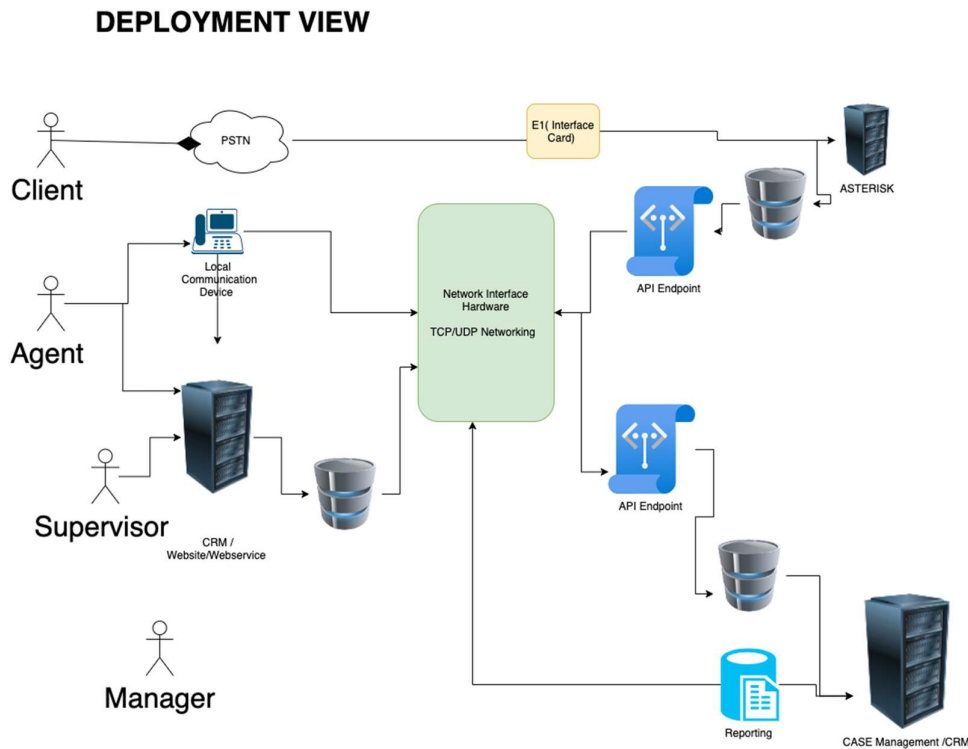


Figure 2: Proposed Infrastructure

Operations and Roles

The system shall have the following user levels: administrator, counsellor/agent, supervisor and partner.

Every user level shall dashboard representative of their account roles and activity including statistics of calls and cases based on parameters such as categories, status, gender, locations,

priority and any other applicable field. The dashboards will also have graphical displays line & pie charts, bar graphs, etc.

Partner

They will be assigned **View** roles so that they can log-in to the system and anytime and view the activities and statistics at the Helpline as may be required. Mostly they will be given access to view reports from the system.

Administrator

This is a general system administrator responsible for general system configurations, they can view cases, they have minimal or no action. The following are some of the roles by administrators:

- Create and update configurable parameters such as case categories and services offered.
- Manage system users.
- View reports.

Child helpline Social workers

Child Helpline Social Workers handle calls and are mainly based at the call center. They are trained to offer first-line support for both VAC. Additionally, they:

- create cases from calls
- escalate cases to supervisors
- View their own cases.
- Can search cases from all cases

Supervisor

A supervisor is the call center manager who is in charge of counsellor/agent work affairs and to ensure they are within the set policies of the helpline. They:

- Can create cases.
- View all cases with an option to update.
- Perform QA on calls.
- Propose system settings and updates to the administrator.

Case Escalation Process

This is the process in which a case goes through before it is closed. A case may be closed at the time of creation by the counsellor but sometimes it requires attention from a higher level of the user hierarchy.

Helpline Social workers escalate cases they are not able to resolve to supervisors who are always the center managers for further action.

After these roles were defined Case capture flow was also discussed. Seven broadly classified tabs for the information to be captured were proposed.

- a) Case Reporter Details
- b) Case Category

- c) Other Client Details
- d) Perpetrator Details
- e) Case Narrative
- f) Services Offered
- g) Case Action

Depending on the case status if the client is a first time Reporter the counselor would click on Create New case otherwise if the client is a repeat Reporter/ Client the form should populate their details accordingly.

Case Categories

BITZ ITC shared the list of generic categories with the client. The initial categories will be uploaded into the system at inception, however, the system allows for additional categories

Appendix 2 outlines the various proposed Categories for the VAC which the consultant will continue to work with the stakeholders to harmonize.

Reporting Module

All activities done on the case management system will result in reports which are used by the supervisors, managers, and others to analyze the trends and be proactive and take corrective measures to mitigate situations. Both call and case reports shall have a list and statistical (pivoted) reports.

Pivot Reports

Pivot report refers to the statistical description of the data captured generated by a system user based on select report fields. It presents fields on an X and Y axes form and is filtered by date and/or date range.

This gives a permeation & combination of the type of reports required and the different data required. Additional fields can be provided for filtering the reports. This applies to both call and case reports.

The report should be printable or exportable to acceptable formats such as PDF or spreadsheet.

Comprehensive Reports

These are the main types of reports with listings of records are collected by the system. The module should provide filters for all of these kinds of reports to allow users get what is needed for a particular purpose. The filter may include date created, location, categories, gender, and status among others.

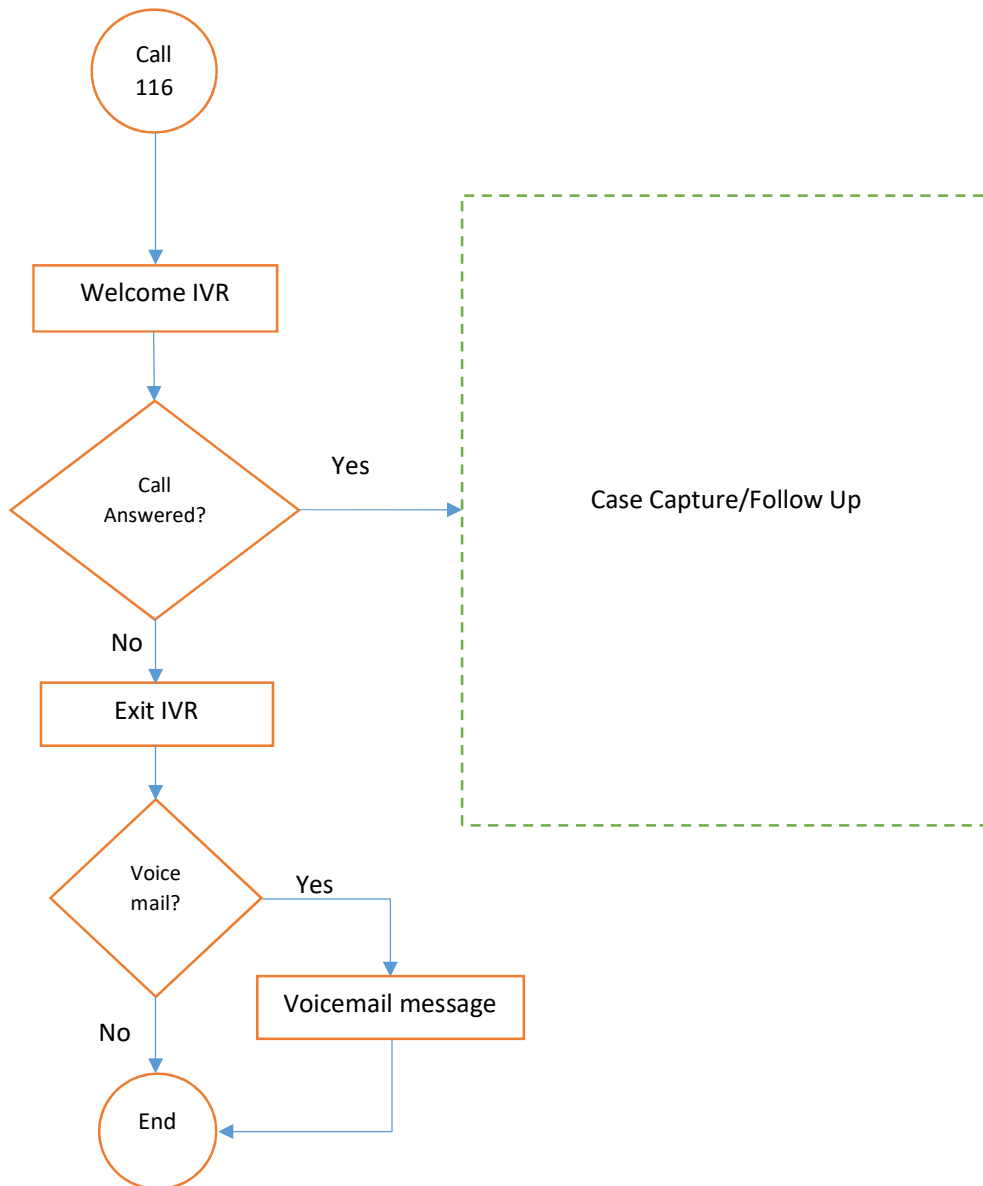
These reports include:

- ✓ Call Reports
- ✓ Case Reports
- ✓ Counsellor Reports
- ✓ Performance Reports

The comprehensive reports shall have export option to formats such as XLSX, CSV, XLS and PDF either for further analysis or presentation.

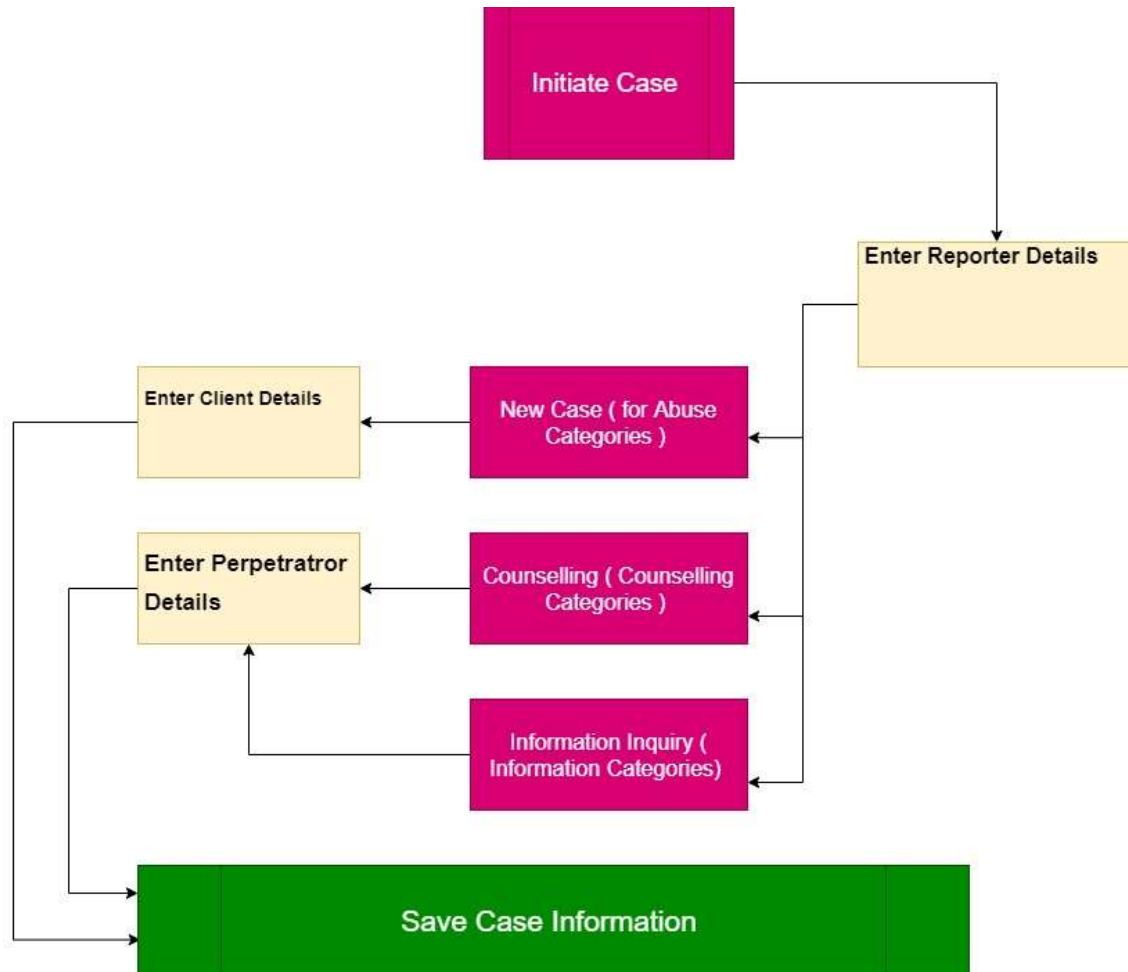
Proposed Process Flows

Call process flow



Case Capture Process Flow.

This shows the flow of the case capture process. The reporter details can be prefilled on call if the details exist and for all historical cases.



Conclusion

The existing infrastructure and the current system require a complete overhaul. The CHL systems provide a perfect opportunity to improve the process at the CHL center. Eventually, we expect that the volume of calls and cases at the helpline to increase exponentially.

With all the stakeholders working together we believe that the consultant will successfully deploy the envisaged system in the timeframe provided of 35 days.

Appendix 1: Proposed Case Fields

#	Grouping	Field(s)
1.	Report Details	Name, gender, phone number, language, Age Group, location (hierarchical), Nearest Landmark(e.g. school /mountain/church) , Alternative Contact (Text Field) Email Address (Text Field), alternative contact, nationality and ID
2.	Case Categorization	Case Category (Select Categories), case subcategory (select sub categories), if reporter is client (reporting for self)
3.	Client Details <i>(Collected if the reporter is different from the client)</i>	Name, gender, phone number, language, Age Group, nationality, location (hierarchical), Nearest Landmark, Alternative Contact (Text Field) Email Address (Text Field), relationship to reporter, relationship comment, health status
4.	Additional Client Details	DOB (Date of Birth),Age (in months and years),Guardian name, guardian marital status, disability status, disability type, if referred to receive special services, HIV status, household type, number of adults in household, occupation of household head, if client attends school, name of school, client school level, type of school, school attendance, school attendance reason, school address, if client is married, spouse name, spouse profession
5.	Perpetrator Details	Name, gender, relationship with client, if the perpetrator share household with the affected person, location (hierarchical), Nearest Landmark, age, age group, perpetrators guardian name, tribe, health status, marital status, additional details
6.	Case Narrative	Narrative, case plan, status in the justice system, general case assessment, related files, priority
7.	Services Offered	Services offered, appropriate referrals
8.	Case Action	Case action (status), status comment, how one got to know about 116

Appendix 2: Proposed Case Categories

N.B. This is the generic list of the helpline categories as provided by BITZ ITC.

VAC Categories and Sub-categories

#	Category	Subcategory
Abuse		
1.	Murder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child Death due to Abuse - Attempted Murder - Child Sacrifice - Concealment of birth - Mysterious Death - Poisoning - General
2.	Physical Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corporal Punishment - Electric-shocking - Beating - Burning - General
3.	Emotional Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Labelling - Witness to Violence/Abuse - Bullying - Verbal Attack - Stigma and Discrimination - General
4.	Child Trafficking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Internal Trafficking - Cross Border Trafficking - Abduction/Kidnapping - General
5.	Child Exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child Labour - Commercial - Children used for Criminal Activity - Children used for Begging - Child Labour - Domestic - Child Labour - Bonded - Child Labour - Commercial Sex Exploitation - Herders - General
6.	Child Neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Denial of Education - Child Malnutrition - Child Abandonment - Child Maintenance - General
7.	Sexual Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Defilement - Exposure to Pornographic Materials - Sodomy - FGM (Female Genital Mutilation) - Teenage Pregnancy - Early/Forced Marriage - General
8.	Online Child Sexual Abuse And Exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Online Extortion and Blackmail - Victim of Online Sexual Exploitation - Exposure to Online Child Pornography

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Victim of Online Child Pornography - Attempted Defilement - Online Grooming for Sexual Purposes - Unwanted Sexting - Revenge Pornography - General
Counselling		
1.	Boy/Girl Relationship	
2.	Student or Teacher Relationship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teacher Problems - Student in Problems with School Authority - Concealment of Birth
3.	Stress/Depression	
4.	Self Esteem	
5.	Reproductive Health Issues	
6.	Loss and Grief	
7.	Career Guidance	
8.	Juvenile Delinquency	
9.	Family Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Divorce/Separated Parents in Conflict - Sibling Relationship - Family Member in Conflict
10.	Parent or Child Relationship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unmanageable Children
11.	Parental Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Positive Parenting - Coping with Single Parenthood
12.	Peer Influence	
13.	HIV Counselling	
14.	Child Custody	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Institutionalization - Adoption - Paternity/Maternity Rights
15.	Child In Conflict with the Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child Imprisonment - Juvenile Delinquency - Child to Child Sex
18.	Addiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drugs - Smoking - Alcohol - Gambling - Gaming - Pornography - Social Media/Internet - Food - Masturbation
19.	Mental Issues	
20.	Legal Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child in need of representation - Child Witness - Law in Conflict with Children's Rights - Child in Conflict with the Law - Child Imprisonment - Child Imprisoned with adult Person - Pre-Trial Briefing - Child Maintenance, custody and Access
21.	Child to Child Sex	
22.	Lost Child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seeking shelter - Missing Child - Homeless Child

		- Lost Child
23.	Life Skills	
24.	Property Rights	- Inheritance issues - Property grabbing
25.	Persons with Disabilities	- Deaf - Visually Impaired - Mental Disability - Physical Disability
26.	Orphans	- Child headed families - Orphan in need of care and support - Orphan in need of school fees - Orphan living with elderly person - Orphan living with HIV-Infected person
27.	Street Child	
28.	Discrimination	- Age - Ethnicity - HIV/AIDS - Marginal/Vulnerable Groups - Criminal Record/Ex-Prisoner - Access to Education - Albinism
29.	Run Away Child	
30.	Medical Aid	- In need of medical assistance - Access to health care - Concerns about illnesses
Information Inquiry		
1.	Pre-trial Briefing	
2.	Inquiry on Other Services	
3.	Information on Helpline Services	
4.	Financial Aid	
5.	Employment/Job	
6.	Topical Issues (Child rights, Biology etc)	
7.	Case Update	
10.	Birth Registration	
11.	Appreciation	
12.	In Need of School Fees	

Next Steps

After conclusion of our finding we have compiled and documented the Functional Requirement Document. In this document we have indicated the key areas of the solutions that our teams will implement.

With all factors remaining constant the key milestone as indicated on the project schedule, will be completed in the next 5 weeks.

Sign Off

By signing this document, I acknowledge that I have received stated deliverables to the agreed quality levels.	
	Signature:
	Date:
	Signature:
	Date:
	Signature:
	Date: