



CHILD-CENTERED INDICATORS



What is it? Child-Centred Indicators capture local specificities while also reflecting up to global indicator standards. The INSPIRE guidance acknowledges the importance of qualitative indicators. However, the core indicators are primarily quantitative and pitched at the intermediate and high outcome levels, measuring end-results like changes in laws and policies, social norms, and professionals' awareness and skills. Child-Centered Indicators create qualitative measures to allow for a richer, deeper and more nuanced understanding of change *for children* over time, thereby complementing the suite of core INSPIRE indicators and generating 'real-time', child-centred data to iteratively guide the design, implementation and evaluation of strategies in the shorter term.

The resulting indicators complement indicators found in the [INSPIRE Handbook and Technical Package](#). They help [Pathfinding Countries](#) engage children and a range of adult stakeholders in mapping children's understandings and experiences of violence and safety, in their everyday lives, as they co-design implementing indicators for violence prevention. The process ensures that strategies to end violence directly – and positively – impact children's lived experience. The indicators support Pathfinding Countries to work with children to measure, monitor and report on progress being made on National Action Plans, as well as on localized strategies, as they strive to meet the SDGs related to violence.

What challenge does it solve? To know whether efforts to end violence against children are successful, governments, NGOs/CSOs and UN agencies need to find appropriate ways of asking children themselves. Using child-centred indicators to guide national and/or local design, monitoring and evaluation is one way to make sure that violence prevention initiatives positively impact children's lived experiences. This intergenerational approach means that both children and adults commit to concrete, achievable actions to end violence, aligned to their relative personal and institutional goals, capacities and resources. The project builds research capacity in partner organisations from a foundation of safeguarding children and their data privacy. It enhances organisations capacity to work with children to generate data, and channels children's insights into policy and practice outcomes.

How is it done? Two consultants and a small in-country team, who benefit from capacity building, run a series of creative workshops with children and adults to generate rich and diverse forms of data, including text, photos, drawings, collage and maps. The process has three parts:

- 1) **Scoping and collecting phase (6 months):** Map children's understandings/perceptions of violence and safety in their everyday lives, alongside the challenges faced by adult stakeholders in reducing violence against children
- 2) **Making sense phase (2 months):** Map critical issues for children, and available expertise and resources for addressing violence, onto a tool based on the social ecological model of violence
- 3) **Action phase (4 months):** Generate a list of child-centred indicators for further testing with child and adult stakeholders and then build these into existing M&E; refinement of the indicators is on-going for several months.

Cost & deliverables: ~\$80,000/country; a comprehensive set of outcomes (what matters most to children) and indicators (what children wish to see happen) that can be aligned with National Action Plans or more specifically with a country's INSPIRE implementation strategies.



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of EDINBURGH

