

End Violence

Every year, more than one billion children experience violence, exploitation or abuse. This epidemic of violence against children takes place at home, online, at school and in communities. It happens in every country, city and community, and in all socio-economic and cultural contexts.

The case for action is clear: **ending violence against children is right, smart and possible**. It's right because every child should grow up safe and secure. It's smart because violence undermines investments in children's health, education, and development, with significant direct and indirect costs; investing to prevent violence and break intergenerational cycles of abuse makes economic sense. And it's possible — we know what works to stop it.

The **End Violence Partnership** and **Fund** were launched by the UN Secretary-General in 2016 as a platform for collective advocacy, action and investment to end violence against children and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

- Vision: A world where every child grows up safe and secure, wherever they live.
- Mission: To make societies safer for children and to contribute to ending violence against children.
- Reach: Our efforts in priority countries impact a combined population of over 500 million children.
- **Impact:** We hope to see significant and measure improvements in prevention and response to violence against children.

Approach

We catalyze and support five key components needed to accelerate progress:

- Political leadership and commitment
- Evidence-based solutions
- National and local data to inform context-specific planning and action, and to track progress
- Collaboration across multiple sectors, such as health, education, child/family welfare, justice and Information and Communication Technology
- Increased financial investment

Pathfinding

The objective of Pathfinding is to raise awareness, stimulate leadership commitment to action and establish a standard of national violence prevention in a large number of countries. Any country may become a Pathfinding Country within the End Violence Partnership if key criteria are met. Pathfinding Countries are those whose government leaders do two things:

- 1. Make a formal, public commitment to comprehensive action to end all forms of violence against children; and
- 2. Request to become a Pathfinder within the End Violence Partnership.

Within 18 months of Pathfinding status being confirmed by the End Violence Secretariat, Pathfinding Country governments are expected to:

- Appoint a senior government focal point to lead the in-country process;
- 2. Convene and support a multi-stakeholder group;
- 3. Collect, structure and analyse data on violence against children;



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- **4.** Develop an evidence-based and costed National Action Plan (NAP) that sets commitments for 3-5 years, and a related resource mobilization plan;
- 5. Implement the plan by scaling-up evidence-based programs
- 6. Evaluating the National Action Plan

As of February 2021, The End Violence Partnership has 32 Pathfinding Countries. To achieve SDG 16.2 by 2030, many more countries need to plan for and take comprehensive action to end violence against children.

The End Violence Secretariat's support to Pathfinding countries varies by need, but includes:

- Where appropriate, playing a convening role and brokering coordinated action by diverse international partners;
- Bolstering civil society engagement, including local NGOs, building on what exists;
- Providing an example implementation roadmap to be locally adapted; and
- Supporting governments at four key milestone moments:
 - o Public declaration of commitment by government;
 - Public launch and dissemination of national data;
 - o Public launch and dissemination of the National Action Plan; and
 - o Biennial update on National Action Plan implementation.

Why become a Pathfinding country?

- Access resources and technical expertise.
- → Learn from others and showcase best practices.
- ⇒ Be part of something bigger: link across sectors, constituencies, and geographic locations, as part of a global movement.
- → Amplify national, regional and global voices and efforts through joint advocacy initiatives.
- → Shape the agenda by making the investment case and mobilizing new resources.
- → Access resources and technical expertise.
- ➡ Be acknowledged globally through the Partnership's media channels and events.







Road Map for Implementation

Steps and activities are not necessarily achieved in order and are led by different partners in different countries

STEPS •	ILLUSTRATIVE ACTIVITIES	TOOLS
1. Engagement	 Engage in national dialogue Make the investment case Build and strengthen political will 	 Learning from other countries and drawing on proven participatory processes
2. Commitment	 > Public commitment to end violence against children > Appoint goverment focal point > Establish or strenghten multi-stakeholder platform 	Mapping tool of existing data and programs
Milestone: Public declaration of commitment by government		
3. Situation Analysis	 Mobilize national and international coordinating institutions for data, analysis, interpretation and reporting Collect and analyze data (Violence Against Children Surveys or other surveys)¹ Structure data for action (with INSPIRE Framework) 	 Representative population-based surveys (e.g., VACS) Mixed methodologies as proxies for/ or while anticipating a population-based survey (Drivers of Violence; administrative data; etc.) Data to Action Handbook and related learning materials
Milestone: Public launch and dissemination of national data		
4. National Action Plan	 Develop or adapt evidence-based multisectoral NAP Foster multi-sectoral coordination Engage meaningfully with children) Guidance on developing NAPs) INSPIRE training manual) Guidance on children's participation
Milestone: Public launch and dissemination of national Plan		
5. Implementation	 › Build consensus among all stakeholders to facilitate continuous flow of information and evidence › Plan intervention design (or re-design) › Identify financial support first at the national level, and where gaps remain, at the international level › Adapt interventions in real time as learning evolves › Implement NAP by multiple actors 	 Dialogue Toolkit approach adapted by setting Costing tool User-friendly technical briefs from numerous evidence-based sources INSPIRE Implementation Handbook
6. Monitoring & Evaluation	 Continuously monitor and learn (INSPIRE indicators) Use mixed methods approaches to measurement Adapt interventions and adjust NAP as needed 	 NAP analysis by country INSPIRE Indicator Handbook Continuous learning for practitioners through mini-courses, field-based schools, etc.
Milestone: Biennial update on National Action Plan implementation		

¹The Violence Against Children Survey (VACS) datasets provide an opportunity for researchers to conduct investigations with the rich, detailed information available in the VACS, and helps increase our understanding of and ability to prevent and respond to the epidemic of violence against girls and boys. (https://www.togetherforgirls.org/violence-children-surveys/)





The Role of In-Country Partners

At the national level, in-country partners are best placed to understand the local situation, identify the most appropriate contextualised responses, and agree how they can collaborate to drive the Pathfinding process forward. In-country partners who collaborate as members of End Violence are expected to:

- Contribute to the development and monitoring of the National Action Plan (or other relevant policy or strategy to end violence against children)
- Participate in raising public awareness and advocacy for political commitment to end violence against children;
- Take an active part in the national and subnational multi-stakeholder platforms established under government leadership and ensure linkages with humanitarian coordination architecture.
- Align and coordinate implementation of programmatic activities so that they contribute to the objectives
 of the National Action Plan (or other relevant national policy or strategy)
- Design and implement programmatic activities that build the capacity of national institutions responsible for the implementation of the National Action Plan (Government, civil society organisations, academia...)
- Provide technical support to government and national institutions in line within an area of expertise
- Facilitate and promote a meaningful and inclusive consultation process with children

The role of co-lead partners

With the agreement of the senior government focal point², two co-lead lead partners will be identified through a consultative process. These co-lead partners will work together to jointly support the national multi-stakeholder platform and help to mobilise in-country partners in support of government commitments. As well as these common objectives, the co-leads should have different but complementary roles.

(a) Co-lead partner- Secretariat Support

One co-lead will focus on support to the senior government focal point and National Multi-Stakeholder Forum. Its role will include:

- Support the senior government focal point in convening and facilitating the multi-stakeholder platform, acting as co-chair or secretariat if requested;
- Support the senior government focal point through key milestone moments³;
- Promote inclusion of relevant parties in the National Multi-stakeholder Forum;
- Support monitoring of the country's progress towards reaching milestones and achievement of SDG 16.2 and other targets related to ending violence against children;
- Facilitate communication between the End Violence Secretariat, the senior government focal point and members of the National Multi-Stakeholder platform

(b) Co-lead partner - CSO engagement

A Civil Society co-lead will be identified for each Pathfinding Country, through a consultative process involving existing CSO coordination for ain consultation with partners in the National Multi-stakeholder

³ As set out by End Violence, these milestone moments are (i) Public declaration of commitment by Government; (ii) Public launch and dissemination of national data; (iii) Public launch and dissemination of National Action Plan; (iv) Biennial update of National Action Plan implementatio



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² Upon committing to Pathfinding, Governments are expected to appoint a senior Government focal point to lead the in-country process



platform. The inclusion of a CSO co-lead in the National Multi-stakeholder Platform should not exclude participation of other CSOs.

- Mobilise CSO support to contribute to the development and monitoring of the National Action Plan.
- Act as liaison between the CSO partners at country level and the senior Government Focal Point/National Multi-stakeholder platform;
- Bring evidence and experiences from the field to inform the development and implementation of the National Action Plan;
- Gather inputs and contributions from CSOs to Pathfinding processes and activities;
- Using existing national level processes, discuss and develop relevant commitments for civil society in alignment with government-led plans, priorities and commitments to end violence against children;
- Represent the CSO community at meetings of the national multi-stakeholder platform, ensuring communications with civil society partners before and after the meetings.

Preferred modalities of engagement with the End Violence Secretariat

- At the global level, the End Violence Secretariat supports the Pathfinding process, providing political support, establishing the overall parameters and framework for Pathfinding, facilitating the exchange of knowledge and learning globally, tracking overall progress and communicating results across Pathfinding countries; and ensuring global partners are fully engaged and working effectively together in support of nationally led action.
- In all Pathfinding Countries, incountry partners look to the End Violence Secretariat to provide political support and visibility to governments at four key milestone moments: the public declaration of commitment by government; the public launch and dissemination of national data: the public launch and dissemination of the National Action Plan; and the biennial update on National Action Plan implementation. Beyond these events, once a country has been approved as a Pathfinding Country, government and in-country partners are expected to take responsibility for driving the Pathfinding process forward, calling upon existing capacities and networks to access technical support.

Any additional support required from the Secretariat will be requested through the senior Government Focal Point and consider the Secretariat's own resource constraints. Formal correspondence to Pathfinding Countries from the Secretariat should be addressed to the senior government focal point. To facilitate coordination of support, the two co-leads will be included in copy.

INSPIRE Knowledge and Evidence

INSPIRE, launched in July 2016 alongside the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children, is an evidence-based package for everyone committed to preventing and responding to violence against children and adolescents. It represents a select group of strategies based on the best available evidence to help countries and communities intensify their focus on prevention programmes and services with the greatest potential to reduce violence against children.

The INSPIRE Working Group contributes to INSPIRE-related actions to prevent and respond to violence against children by all member organizations, including bilateral agencies and international networks, and is a key mechanism through which the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children is working to accelerate country action.

In addition to ongoing collaboration with the INSPIRE Working Group, End Violence has launched a Knowledge Platform, a place to explore the latest evidence, research and data critical to ending all forms of violence against children. All of the content has been hand-picked by our team of data, evidence and learning specialists, and has been selected for its rigour and contribution to the field of violence prevention. The platform is divided into key sections, including our new podcast series, Evidence for Policy, Evidence for Programmes, Resources, and Learn from our Partners, along with external knowledge platforms, otherwise known as Partner Resource Hubs.





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