



# Framework for Collaboration

## Between African Partnership to End Violence against Children (APEVAC) and Global Partnership to End Violence against Children (End Violence)

African Child Policy Forum  
Addis Ababa  
[www.africanchildforum.org](http://www.africanchildforum.org)



## Background

The African Partnership to end Violence Against Children (APEVAC) is an African umbrella coalition and a collective platform established in September 2016, to bring together like-minded national, regional, and international organizations for collective action to ending violence against children in the continent. APEVAC's work is guided by three pillars 1) Building political will for action at Pan-African and national levels; 2) Catalysing cross-country and cross-regional collaboration & learning; 3) Accountability, monitoring and reporting on progress on VAC related targets. APEVAC is currently active in over 18 countries on the continent and enjoys a strong collaboration with the African Union and its organs on VAC related matters.

The End Violence Partnership and Fund are providing a global platform to convene, coordinate and support a unified effort to promote and take action to keep children safe during COVID-19 and beyond. With our 420 partner organisations and networks we are advocating for governments to include child protection measures in their national plans, have prepared evidence-based advice and resources for parents and caregivers, and developed technical guidance for policymakers, civil society organizations, the private sector and other key stakeholders. All of this work builds on progress made and networks developed in recent years in the 30 Pathfinding countries, through the Safe to Learn coalition and the global network of Child Online Safety partners and grantees.

Over the years, APEVAC and End Violence worked together to build a movement around the violence-prevention agenda in Africa mainly through mobilising countries to join the pathfinding initiative, building the capacity of national governments on violence prevention strategies, supporting the development of national plans of action, and leveraging important AU and RECs advocacy platforms to promote violence-prevention efforts.

APEVAC and End Violence would like to strengthen and extend their ongoing collaboration drawing on respective political capital, network, influence, position and knowledge resources for the success of their engagement and towards a world free of violence against children.





## Rational for the Collaboration

APEVAC and End Violence share a common vision - *“to create a world free of violence against children.”* Both partnerships are engaged in mobilising a global and/or continental movement and action to support governments and civil society organisations in achieving violence related targets of SDGs (particularly Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children). APEVAC is positioned to promote Agenda 2063 (Aspiration 6: An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children) and Africa’s Agenda for Children 2040 (Aspiration 7: Every child is protected against violence, exploitation, neglect and abuse) and through this augment End Violence efforts within the African continent.

The framework outlines collaboration between the two partnerships to strengthen the movement to end VAC and ensure, the efforts to address VAC at pan-African Level and national level are harmonised and complement each other thus improving coordination of efforts and enhancing synergy in their interventions.

## Overarching principles for collaboration

**Shared Vision:** Both partnerships are enjoined by a mutual agenda and will ensure all initiatives undertaken will contribute to the realisation of a continent free from violence against children.

**Complementarity /Joint Undertakings:** Considering the multiple actors and sectors involved in this area, both partnerships will leverage their comparative advantages, complement each other and be mutually supportive, and cross-engagement should be encouraged. Both partnerships will seek each other’s inputs and engagement in agenda-setting, fund raising and undertaking collaborative initiatives, as deemed appropriate. APEVAC will participate in relevant working groups of End Violence such as the INSPIRE Implementation working group, the Business Plan working group and others as may be required from time to time. End Violence will participate in APEVAC working groups and initiatives such as regional meetings, key communications initiatives and other activities as may be required from time to time.

**Equality, integrity and independence:** The collaboration is based on the principle of a ‘partnership among equals’, where both partners endeavour to respect and support each other’s mandates, obligations and principles as well as each other’s integrity and independence.

**Transparency and accountability:** Both partnerships will strengthen the universal agenda of cooperation and learning with a focus on North-South exchanges. Each partnership will regularly inform the other of its work and/ or involve representatives from each to participate in country, regional and international level fora and events.

## Governance

**Participation in governance structures:** APEVAC will be represented in the governance structures of End Violence, while End Violence will be represented in the Executive Council of APEVAC. This will help ensure coordination, flow of information and cross-learning.

## Areas of Collaboration

**1. Reinforcing continental and sub-regional engagements on VAC:** APEVAC is active in 18 countries, collaborating with governments, and VAC national stakeholders in the region and implementing a pan African agenda through and has established strong collaboration and working relations with the African Union (AU), particularly the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC), the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights (ACHPR), and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs). APEVAC and End Violence have implemented collaborative initiatives that have contributed to improved awareness in a number of countries in Africa. APEVAC and End Violence will consolidate this reach in the 18 countries and further extend their presence in other countries across the continent.





APEVAC and End Violence will therefore work in a coordinated manner on VAC initiatives leveraging their respective networks for the realisation of a VAC agenda in Africa.

- 2. Accelerating national level action on VAC:** End Violence has so far registered 7 pathfinding countries (**Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe**) in Africa and has received expressions of interest to join pathfinding initiatives from a number of countries on the continent. APEVAC will leverage its physical presence on the continent and its strong collaboration with African governments to mobilize more countries to join the pathfinding initiative. In addition, APEVAC and End Violence will also work together to support pathfinding countries to sustain actions to prevent and respond to VAC and to learn from each other. Priority countries will include Ethiopia, Zambia, Kenya, Ghana, Rwanda, Kenya, Namibia, Madagascar, and will be regularly reviewed.
- 3. Building greater momentum towards the realisation of the regional and global VAC targets** (AU Agenda 2063, Africa's Agenda for Children 2040, and SDGs): End Violence and APEVAC will jointly:
  - a.** advocate with the AU for a continent where there is zero tolerance for violence against children; and
  - b.** provide technical backstopping support to AU and RECs during policy development and reform processes. This is a strategic area for APEVAC given the strategic significance of working with the AU.
- 4. Strengthening programmatic synergy:** End Violence and APEVAC will work together to:
  - a.** organise periodic continental events and conferences on VAC and related thematic issues,
  - b.** organise continental learning, sharing and exchange forums on good practices to end violence against children, and
  - c.** support continental and sub-regional VAC-related monitoring mechanisms and processes.
- 5. Harmonising global and African engagements:** End Violence and APEVAC will work together and in close collaboration with international VAC stakeholders in their joint initiatives. APEVAC will ensure that pan-African, sub-regional and national initiatives are informed by global agenda and processes, while End Violence will take up African issues and reflect the same in global policy platforms and processes.
- 6. Providing capacity building support:** Owing to the strong collaboration between the two partnerships over the years, APEVAC has acquired technical and institutional capacity to sensitize and support countries on the implementation of INSPIRE strategies. The two Partnerships will coordinate their future INSPIRE training plans and make use of APEVAC's relative comparative advantage in terms of physical presence, legitimacy and political capital in the continent to provide capacity building to African countries.
- 7. Managing membership:** APEVAC and END Violence are membership organisations and because they both operate in Africa, they may have members that belong to both Partnerships. End Violence will encourage members in Africa to join the APEVAC and vice-versa through a joint mailout.

## Collaboration on proposal development and fundraising

End Violence and APEVAC have different funding models. Each organization will continue to seek funding independently, but efforts should be made to ensure mutual support. APEVAC and End Violence will endeavour to identify areas for joint fundraising and jointly submit proposals for funding, whenever necessary or possible. APEVAC will be eligible to apply for funding through the trust fund associated with End Violence.

## Management of the Collaboration

Both APEVAC and End Violence will be accountable for the success of these proposed areas of partnership. Senior officials of ACPF, APEVAC and End Violence will meet twice a year in order to review collaboration and discuss next steps. Technical officials will meet more regularly to ensure delivery of work. This framework of collaboration will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis, as the work of the two partnerships continues to evolve and expand.

