



The Agenda
2030 for Children:

End Violence Solutions Summit

Report
April 2018

Why was the Solutions Summit held?

The first-ever Agenda 2030 for Children: End Violence Solutions Summit, held in Stockholm over February 14-15, 2018, convened leaders from governments, the United Nations, civil society and the private sector to achieve one goal: end violence against children by 2030.

The Summit, hosted by the Swedish Government in cooperation with the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children and WeProtect, harnessed unprecedented global collaboration to focus on ending violence against children as part of the Sustainable Development Goals.

One billion children worldwide – half of the children in the world – suffer from violence, be it sexual exploitation, domestic abuse, human trafficking, armed conflict, neglect or gang-related brutality, among others.

The Summit ushered in a new era—centred on building **political will** and sharing stories and solutions in **collaboration** with stakeholders from around the world as participating countries move towards **accelerating action**.

Promoting the INSPIRE package and its seven evidence-based strategies for protecting children against violence, the Partnership supports Pathfinding Countries (PFCs)—nations that have pledged to implement new and innovative prevention policy and practice. Working in close tandem, the WeProtect countries present at the Summit promoted their Model National Response to online violence.

Combined, these efforts to protect children in all contexts are generating new data and creating new solutions, scaling up for national—and ultimately global—impact.



Sustainable Development Goals



Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations:

“Solutions can be delivered at scale, but only if we harness all energies across society: the private sector, the UN, the public sector and civil society”



Susan Bissell, one of the founders Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children:

“This summit is the beginning of bold change to hit SDG targets”



Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfven:

“Step up to ensure that the solutions presented at this summit will not end up as just high-sounding words or as broken dreams, but lead to permanent change. Step up to keep our promise: to end violence against children in our time”

Mobilising the human, financial and political resources to collectively end violence remains a pressing global priority framed by the Sustainable Development Goals.



Why children are front and centre



Penny Mourdant, Secretary of State for International Development of the UK:

“We have a moral responsibility – we must strive to ensure no child is harmed”



Child delegate from Tanzania, Raphael Denis:

“The world needs to change. The change needs me. It needs you, needs all of us. We have to stand together and we can end violence. Together, we can make it”



Marta Santos Pais, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Violence Against Children:

“If we invest in children, we will give every child the opportunity to grow up free from violence; free from fear”

Thirteen child delegates from countries including Tanzania, Paraguay and Indonesia gave a human face to the plight faced by children as they addressed the Summit. The Partnership recognizes the inevitable imbalances in power and status between adults and children. The participation of children and youth to influence decision-making that affects their lives, to bring about positive change, is fundamental.

Where violence happens



Ernie Allen, Board Co-Chair, WeProtect Global Alliance:

“Violence against children does not begin or end online—it’s a societal evil that happens when people do not take collective responsibility for children’s safety”



Bernard Gerbaka, Board Member, Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children:

“People around the world aren’t yet aware of INSPIRE—it’s all of our jobs to promote and strengthen the Global Partnership. The stronger it is, the better it is”



Carol Batchelor, Director of the Division of International Protection, UNHCR:

“In 2016, 43 million children in 63 countries required humanitarian assistance as a result of emergencies and humanitarian disasters. These humanitarian crises are complicated by a lack of solutions”

Online violence | Everyday violence | Humanitarian violence

Violence is a fluid and shifting phenomenon in children’s lives as they move between the places where they live, play, sleep and learn. Evidence shows that children experience violence in vastly different ways, depending on their gender, their age, where they live, their socio-economic background, and a number of other factors. While some children fall victim to macro-level failings—such as the refugee crisis, or deep-seated poverty—others are more vulnerable to interpersonal violence, such as negligence from parents or domestic abuse. Identifying and addressing unequal power dynamics, wherever they may occur in the home, school or community – and within all contexts where violence can happen – is critical.

Who was at the Summit



Henrietta H. Fore, Executive Director, UNICEF:

“The Solutions Summit is an opportunity to learn from each other and, most importantly, to scale up what works. And to do so collectively. As we seek solutions, we must involve *not only governments*, but teachers, police forces, parents, community workers and children themselves.”

Total participants: **454**

222 Government	89 Civil society organisations	61 United Nations	26 Foundations	15 Private sector
13 Child delegates	11 Research organisations	5 Faith-based organisations	3 Swedish Royal Court	9 Other

75 Countries represented

63 Directors

21 Ministers

5 Permanent secretaries



Pathfinding Countries ●

El Salvador
Indonesia
Jamaica
Mexico
Mongolia
Montenegro
Nigeria
Paraguay

Philippines
Romania
South Africa
Sri Lanka
Sweden
Tanzania
Uganda

Countries in discussion to becoming Pathfinding Countries ●

Belize
Brazil
Cambodia
Canada
Côte d'Ivoire
Dominican Republic
Egypt

Estonia
Georgia
Japan
Jordan
Lebanon
Malawi
Malta

Peru
Switzerland
United Arab Emirates
Uruguay
Vietnam



WeProtect

Online child abuse transcends borders—which means there are limits to what any one government or law enforcement agency can do alone. WeProtect is a global alliance that brings together 81 countries, 23 of the biggest names in tech, leading non-profits, and law enforcement agencies. Its goal is to create a single organisation with the expertise, influence and resources to fight for children’s safety online.

Young people use the internet to access information and communicate with others in many positive ways. Yet, digital communications also expose children to violence, trauma and aggression. Online violence is often an extension of offline violence. Harnessing children’s understanding and use of the digital world is a rapidly expanding frontier (REF).

Global Partnership

The Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children is an unprecedented development in international advocacy. It comprises national governments, civil society organisations, philanthropic foundations and individual actors, including the Pathfinding Countries, which are dedicated to spearheading policies and programs aimed at ending violence against children.

“PFCs who are here today can play a very important leading role in showing the world that investing in children can benefit us enormously”
Marta Santos Pais, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Violence Against Children

Solutions that emerged at the Summit



Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the WHO:

“We must put INSPIRE in the hands of all government officials, and we must build strong alliances with civil society partners. They play an essential role in civil society delivery, and must know about INSPIRE as well”



Kathleen Cravero:

“Violence is unacceptable and preventable – and we have the solutions to end it: enforce laws, change negative social norms, support parents, ensure adequate incomes, strengthen response mechanisms and make schools violence-free”

Targets to end violence against children are meaningless unless they are matched by a strong commitment to action. We have a legal and moral obligation to act, and a growing body of evidence from around the world that shows us how we can make societies safer for children.

With implementation of the right laws, systems, policies and investments, as well as adequate monitoring and evaluation and robust public education and campaigning, we can achieve significant, sustained reductions in violence. This is where INSPIRE comes in.

INSPIRE is a cross-cutting, multi-sectoral framework for policy and interventions that puts the latest evidence-based policy to practical use. At the forefront of this movement are Pathfinding Countries (PFCs), nations committed to accelerating achievement of the End Violence goals. The PFCs act as laboratories for violence prevention strategies – if successful, the tried-and-tested programs are scaled up and shared with the rest of the network.

In Nairobi, the INSPIRE framework was used to halve rates of sexual assault among participants. The program teaches girls to defend themselves and boys to intervene in assault by adapting teachings on empowerment and self-defence to a Kenyan context.

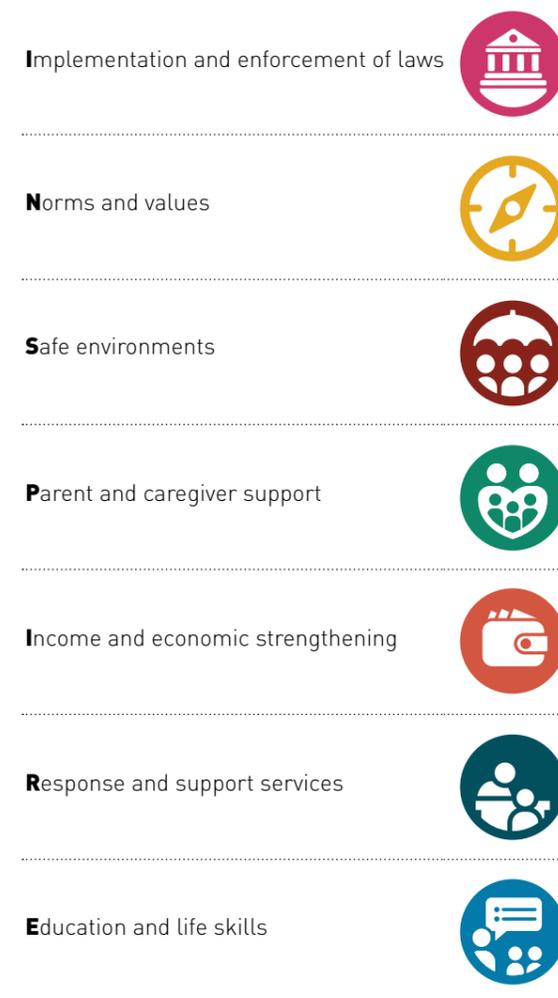
Cardiff, Wales reduced police-recorded violence by 42% by encouraging hospital emergency departments to share anonymised data with law enforcement. Data is analysed to isolate violence hotspots, giving policymakers information on where they should change alcohol licensing laws and pedestrianise streets.

In Uganda, The Good Schools Toolkit, an 18-month program of activities, slashed rates of corporal punishment in schools by 42%. The toolkit’s alternatives to corporal punishment provide teachers – many of whom still hit children, despite the practice being outlawed in Uganda – with examples of positive discipline.

The goal of the Partnership—working with all of its partners and in all countries—is to ensure that policymakers, funders and practitioners work together to create and use data and evidence to optimise effective violence prevention and response. The road ahead will be challenging, but commitment to date is a harbinger of the massive change underway.

INSPIRE

Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children



“We have to ask ourselves the hard questions: who among us uses our power to create positive change for children? Which organisations have accelerated change in those areas? Which found money and took interventions to scale? In doing that, we’ll be able to celebrate those who are succeeding, support those who are trying, and hold to account those who are doing little or nothing”

Kathleen Cravero

President, Oak Foundation, Co-Chair Executive Committee Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children

As the Partnership steps up to the challenge—to co-create with its partners the massive social change needed to end violence—harvesting and consolidating resources from the larger ecosystem will be of central importance. Resources can be human, financial or knowledge-based. Taken together, all of these resources will be critical as best practice, solutions and innovative ways of working together are celebrated and scaled up. Moving forward from the Summit, the Global Partnership will:

- Catalyse a global movement
- Broker the demand for and supply of resources for country-level action
- Commission, consolidate and share data, evidence and stories
- Mobilise resources and make catalytic investments from the End Violence Fund



Commitments made at the Summit

Japan will become a PFC and significant contributor to accelerating action:

- It will contribute \$5.9 million to the Fund to End Violence Against Children
- The contribution will support projects in Nigeria and Uganda's existing humanitarian response plans
- It will join the Board of the partnership
- "Japan would like to affirm its commitment to building better a world so every child grows up free from violence, and has hopes and dreams for the future"

The **Oak Foundation** and **Ignite Philanthropy** will launch a flexible funding pilot, which will provide \$20-50 thousand in grants for communities accelerating innovative solutions.

Since the Summit, **18 additional countries** have joined the movement to build political will and accelerate action.



The **Civil Society Forum** will continue to work collaboratively to end violence with all stakeholders and sectors: "We pledge to maintain or increase our financial commitment to end violence and dedicate significant resources to this issue." It will contribute to the End Violence business plan.

The **World Council of Churches** will support its 348 member churches in 120 countries in their efforts to prevent and respond to violence against children.



Insights from the Summit



Pernilla Baralt, Former State Secretary to the Minister for Children, the Elderly and Gender Equality, Government of Sweden:

"We have a lot to learn from how we have pushed gender equality forward, and we must apply it to violence against children. It is only by putting our issues in the core business of governments that we will ever have the resources to move forward"

Intersections between violence against children and violence against women

Policies and programs have historically addressed violence against women and violence against children separately, with disparate funding streams, government agencies, and strategies. But new research shows that they are deeply linked. In Sweden, for example, national surveys show that young men who agree with stereotypical statements about gender roles are more likely to use violence. And according to a recent 15-country Global Early Adolescent study, ideas about gender norms are usually set by age 10.

A wealth of evidence shows that child victims of violence or neglect have an increased risk of becoming either

perpetrators or victims as adults. Even witnessing intimate partner violence against their mother can make children more likely to experience violence in future relationships.

Collaborative solutions that recognize the importance of these intersections are emerging. Tanzania, for example, is working to end violence against women and children concurrently with an ambitious \$119 million prevention plan. The government works with communities to address root causes, including poverty, gender inequality and social tolerance of violence.

Collaborative Solutions

Implement and enforce laws criminalizing abuse and exploitation of both men and women.	Promote gender norms that do not accept violence against women or violence against children.	Improve access to safe and responsive prevention and support services that are age and gender appropriate.	Integrate material on gender socialization and equal treatment of girls and boys into home and community-based parenting programmes .	Promote the integration of a gender perspective within microfinance programs .	Strengthen intimate partner violence prevention programmes and ensure they also consider children both directly and indirectly exposed to violence.

Moving Forward Together

- Change **social norms** that deem violence against women or violence against children to be acceptable
- Focus **prevention efforts** on both violence against women and violence against children
- Promote an age-appropriate and **multi-faceted response**
- Close the gaps in research and promote coordination in **measuring progress** toward 2030 Sustainable Development Goals

Solutions from workshops



Elisabeth Dahlin, Secretary-General, Save the Children Sweden:

“We know solutions exist. We need to scale them up and make them a reality”

Workshops:

At the Solutions Summit, we heard refrain over several of the same themes over and over. During a series of workshops, participants agreed that creating change requires collaborating on both advocacy and action.

- Social Protection
- Corporal Punishment
- VAC and Data
- Online Violence
- Children in Crisis and Conflict
- Youth-Led

Advocacy	Action
Build political will to ensure necessary buy-in from governments	Share best practice and lessons (including failures) from PFCs
Raise awareness of violence against children to promote greater understanding of risks	Promote greater reporting and data standardisation and ensure data comparability
Engage industry, civil society and religious leaders in prevention	Design evidence-based programs and policies
Develop comprehensive global strategies and legislation	Develop methods to calculate the return on investment from prevention, including the costs of inaction (such as lost productivity) and the costs of programmes
Support governments to develop better social protection systems	Develop more resilient systems to protect children in conflict scenarios
Address sexist social norms	Invest in high-quality, inclusive – and ideally free – education systems

We can and must end violence against every child, wherever they may live. It's not just the right thing to do, it's also a smart investment to make. We know what works, and we know who needs to do what. The Solutions Summit has given us the inspiration, evidence, connections and the tools to act, and act now.

Howard Taylor

Executive Director, Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children