



Safeguarding Policy

Date Effective: July 2019

Date for Review: July 2022

Introduction

About The Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children

The Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children was launched in July 2016 by the UN Secretary-General. The unique public-private collaboration is focused solely on ending violence against all children and includes governments, UN agencies, international organisations, civil society, faith groups, the private sector, philanthropic foundations, research practitioners, academics and children themselves – uniting their voices, actions and resources.

In its first 3 years, the Partnership has: enrolled 26 governments as ‘Pathfinder’ countries; grown its membership to over 350 organisations; helped develop and promote the INSPIRE solutions to end violence; awarded over \$30 million in grants to tackle online child sexual abuse and violence against children in conflict and crises; and galvanized those working to end violence through an inaugural End Violence Solutions Summit.

This policy builds on the work of multiple organisations and funders.¹

Purpose of the Policy: This policy outlines the expectations of End Violence regarding protecting all children from harm caused by members of End Violence as identified below.

Mission: Make societies safer for children and end violence against children everywhere.

Vision 2030: A world in which every child grows up safe and secure.

Scope

This document applies to:

- Members of the Board, Executive Committee, Fund Steering Committee and all Working Groups of End Violence
- All End Violence staff employed by the Secretariat including paid full time or part-time staff
- Consultants, interns and other contracted personnel at the End Violence Secretariat

¹ Comic Relief, Oak Foundation, Save the Children, ChildFund Australia, Plan International, World Vision International and UNICEF





Policy Statement

The Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children was created to implement the commitment made by world leaders to end all forms of violence against children by 2030. The Secretariat of End Violence was established to work across all partners to realize Vision 2030.

The Secretariat of End Violence is committed to the safeguarding of all people we engage with through our work and takes a zero-tolerance approach to any form of bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse. Children are our primary beneficiaries and, in all actions and decisions, the welfare of the child and their best interest will be the paramount consideration for all that we do. We are committed to ensuring that anyone working with us in any capacity does not harm, abuse or commit any act of violence against children or take actions to place a child at risk. We are committed to take actions in the best interest of the child as we work to secure children's rights as outlined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. All who work at the Secretariat understand our roles and responsibilities and are supported in meeting them.

We hold our grantees and other partners receiving funding from End Violence, accountable for child safeguarding. We will work through our grant making to provide support to achieve the objective of child-safe organisations.

We recognize that all children have the equal right to protection from harm and all adults have a responsibility to respond if they suspect a child is at risk of harm.

Definitions and Terms

Child: anyone under the age of 18 years old.

Child safeguarding: The responsibility that organisations have; to make sure their staff, operations, and programmes do no harm to children; and that they do not expose children to the risk of harm and abuse. Any concerns the organisation has about children's safety within the communities in which they work, are reported to the appropriate authorities.²

Adults at risk: Anyone 18 years or over who is, or may be, unable to take care of themselves against harm or exploitation, whether due to age, physical or mental disability or otherwise.

Violence: Defined by the World Health Organisation as the "intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, which either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment, or deprivation" (Krug et al. 2002).

Sexual violence: Any form of sexual abuse and exploitation including: (i) the inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful or psychologically harmful sexual activity including unwanted comments and advances; (ii) the use of children in commercial sexual exploitation; (iii)

² Keeping Children Safe





the use of children in audio or visual images of child sexual abuse; (iv) child prostitution, sexual slavery, sexual exploitation in travel and tourism, trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation (within and between countries), sale of children for sexual purposes and forced marriage; and (v) the inducement, coercion or arrangement of a child into a forced or early marriage.

Physical violence: Fatal and non-fatal physical violence including: (i) all corporal punishment and all other forms of torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; (ii) physical bullying and hazing by adults or by other children; (iii) harmful practices such as female genital mutilation or cutting; amputations, binding, scarring, burning and branding; violent and degrading initiation rites, exorcism; sex selection and 'honor' crimes; and (iv) engaging children in physical child labor, including non-sexual slavery, trafficking, and use of child soldiers.

Emotional violence: Psychological maltreatment, mental abuse, verbal abuse and emotional abuse or neglect including: (i) all forms of persistent harmful interactions with a child; (ii) scaring, terrorizing and threatening; exploiting and corrupting; spurning and rejecting; isolating, ignoring and favoritism; (iii) denying emotional responsiveness; neglecting mental health, medical and educational needs; (iv) insults, name calling, humiliation, belittling, ridiculing and hurting a child's feelings; (v) exposure to domestic violence; (vi) placement in solitary confinement, isolation or humiliating or degrading conditions of detention; and (vii) psychological bullying and hazing by adults or other children, including via information and communication technologies (ICTs) such as mobile phones and the Internet (known as 'cyber-bullying').

Neglect or negligent treatment: The deliberate failure to meet children's physical and psychological needs, protect them from danger or obtain medical, birth registration or other services when those responsible for their care have the means, knowledge and access to services to do so. This includes intentional (i) physical neglect: failure to protect a child from harm, including through lack of supervision, or to provide a child with basic necessities including adequate food, shelter, clothing and basic medical care; (ii) psychological or emotional neglect, including lack of any emotional support and love, chronic inattention, caregivers being 'psychologically unavailable' by overlooking young children's cues and signals, and exposure to intimate partner violence or drug or alcohol abuse; (iii) neglect of a child's physical or mental health: withholding essential medical care; (iv) educational neglect: failure to comply with laws requiring caregivers to secure their children's education through attendance at school or otherwise; and (v) abandonment.

End Violence Board: The End Violence Board provides high-level strategic advice on key issues, memberships, and priorities for the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children and the End Violence Fund. Governed by renowned, constituency-based and independent individuals, the Board mobilises resources by securing the necessary political and financial support and leveraging different platforms of advocacy and engagement towards End Violence's core objectives and aspirational goals. The Board provides high-level strategic oversight and supports the Partnership through advocacy and resource mobilization.

End Violence Executive Committee: The End Violence Executive Committee oversees the work of the End Violence Secretariat and the End Violence Fund Steering Committee, and provides direction and support on strategic planning, performance monitoring, governance, finance and risk.





End Violence Fund Steering Committee: The End Violence Fund Steering Committee sets the overall programme and funding priorities for the Fund consistent with the agreed priority areas and the overall objectives of End Violence. It establishes the principles that govern the grant-making activities of the Fund; reviews and approves requests for funding; and oversees the strategy for identifying and managing risks associated with use of funds disbursed from the Fund. It is represented by all current donors to the Fund, as well as an independent expert and a representative from the WePROTECT Global Alliance.

End Violence Secretariat: The Secretariat is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Partnership, supporting the operations of the Board and Executive Committee, and the associated Fund.

Vulnerable circumstances: Vulnerability is a changeable and contextual state but may include people with a diagnosed condition such as dementia or blindness, individuals with learning difficulties or literacy issues, or those who have mental condition such as severe anxiety or depression.

Pathfinding Country: Pathfinding countries are those whose government leaders do two things: make a formal, public commitment to comprehensive action to end all forms of violence against children; and request to become a Pathfinder within the Global Partnership. More information on Pathfinding can be found at end-violence.org.

Grantee: Any organisation that has been selected by the Secretariat to implement national, regional and international projects and programmes that further the goals of the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children and associated Fund.

Roles and Responsibilities

All Board members, Executive Committee members, staff, consultants, volunteers and interns will:

- Comply with this policy and Code of Conduct – Child Safeguarding (forthcoming)
- Follow the Child Safeguarding Procedures (forthcoming)
- Be aware of risks to children

All staff consultants, volunteers and interns will:

- Familiarise themselves with this policy and comply fully with the *Child Safeguarding Procedures*
- Report any concern about the safety of children as per the reporting procedure (*forthcoming*) and participate in any inquiry if requested
- Participate in annual trainings on child safeguarding

The Executive Director will:

- Assisted by the Deputy Director and Child Safeguarding Advisor, manage the process of implementation of the policy and associated procedures
- Report regularly to the Executive Committee and Board on progress





- Be accountable to the Board for ensuring that the End Violence Secretariat is meeting its commitments as outlined in the policy

The Senior Leadership Team will:

- Be responsible for the promotion of good practice by championing the safeguarding policy within their teams and ensuring staff compliance

The Deputy Director will:

- Be responsible for the management of the reporting procedure
- Commit to responding appropriately and referring safeguarding concerns promptly to the relevant authorities as required
- Participate in specific trainings to be able to fulfil their role appropriately
- Take all reasonable precautions to ensure all staff, consultants, interns and volunteers do not pose a risk to children

End Violence's child safeguarding policy has a number of accompanying procedures including whistleblowing, communications and code of conduct.

