

# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



End Violence  
Against Children



# TABLE OF CONTENTS



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<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>PART ONE: 2021 AT-A-GLANCE</b>	<b>8</b>
About the End Violence Partnership	2	Investing for Impact	9
End Violence Partnership 2022-24 Strategy	6	2021 Key Moments	10

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<b>PART TWO: PROGRESS AGAINST PRIORITIES</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>PART THREE: COUNTRY ENGAGEMENT CASE STUDIES</b>	<b>28</b>
Together to #ENDviolence	13	Cambodia	30
Pathfinding	15	Costa Rica	32
Safe at Home and in Communities	19	Japan	33
Safe Online	20	Jordan	34
End Corporal Punishment	23	Kenya	36
Safe to Learn	25	Sweden	38

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<b>PART FOUR: BUILDING A PARTNERSHIP FOR ALL</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>PART FIVE: LOOKING AHEAD</b>	<b>53</b>
		The Power of Partnership and Knowledge	54
		Challenges and Opportunities	54

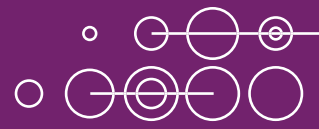
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<b>PART SIX: GOVERNANCE</b>	<b>59</b>		
End Violence Board	60		
End Violence Executive Committee	61		
Executive Committee Working Groups	62		
People	62		
2021 Financial Summary	63		
Expression of Thanks	67		
Annex: Safe Online Portfolio Results 2021	68		

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# INTRODUCTION





# About the End Violence Partnership

The Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children (End Violence Partnership) is the only global partnership and the largest fund dedicated solely to ending all forms of violence against children. Launched by the United Nations Secretary-General in 2016, the End Violence Partnership is a global coalition of more than 700 organisations across every continent and from every sector.

The Partnership brings together governments, UN entities, civil society organisations, faith networks, private sector, philanthropy, research and academic institutions, children and young people and adult survivors of childhood violence – all united to stop childhood violence, abuse and exploitation. Over 80 per cent of partners are civil society organisations, large and small, working to protect children in their communities. The Partnership is supported by:

**The End Violence Secretariat (End Violence):** A small team based mostly in New York and Geneva that manages the day-to-day delivery of the Partnership’s mission and priority strategies.

**The End Violence Fund:** A flexible funding channel that enables donors to invest in new strategies that protect children and build a stronger evidence-base to guide future policies and programmes. Since 2016, the Fund has awarded over US\$62 million to 52 organisations with impact in over 70 countries. The Fund has three investment priorities:

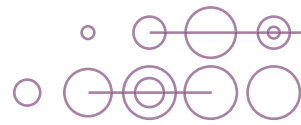
- Safe Online: preventing and responding to child online violence, abuse and exploitation.
- Safe to Learn: reducing violence in and through schools.
- Safe at Home and in Communities: promoting positive parenting programmes, ending corporal punishment and ensuring that children are safe wherever they live, learn and play.



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# Letter from the Board Co-chairs



We are living through a turbulent time for humanity. The world is grappling with the simultaneous crises of COVID-19, climate change, conflicts and rises in the cost of essential commodities that will push large numbers of people into hardship and poverty. Many of these crises are interrelated; all of them put children at greater risk of violence, abuse and exploitation.

Around the world, half of all children have experienced violence in the last year. It takes place in every country: at home, at school, online and in communities. Violence against children is a silent epidemic that does not discriminate. It often has devastating consequences for each and every one of the 1 billion children directly impacted each year, and for their family, community and the economy.

We know that violence against children is wrong, and that it undermines all other investments in children's health, education and development. We know that it makes economic sense to prevent it. We also know what works to stop it – and that our actions must be informed by listening to and working with children and with adult survivors of childhood violence and abuse.

Building on years of tireless effort and progress by so many individuals and organisations, the movement to end violence against children grows stronger every year. Partners, networks and advocates are working together like never before, and recent commitments offer hope – including G7 leaders' recent commitment to accelerate action to tackle child sexual exploitation and abuse.

Violence against children can no longer be ignored. We can and must end the pain and suffering that too many children have experienced for too long, so that it will not be experienced by future generations.

The End Violence Partnership and community are building on the foundations laid, awareness-raised and momentum generated by all of us in recent years.

Together, we must seize or co-create new opportunities to accelerate evidence-based action to prevent and respond to child violence – and in doing so reimagine and shape more just, inclusive and peaceful societies.

Let's seize this moment together – with and for the world's children.

**Helle Thorning-Schmidt & Joy Phumaphi**  
*End Violence Board Co-chairs*



## Let's seize this moment together – with and for the world's children.





# Letter from the Executive Director



In 2015, over 190 world leaders made an ambitious commitment to end all violence against children by 2030 (Sustainable Development Goal 16.2). Multiple global crises now threaten to stall or even reverse recent progress to end violence against children. We must not let that happen.

Building on five years of collaboration and progress that has created an enabling environment for change, the End Violence Partnership and community are well-positioned to not only help prevent a reversal of recent gains, but to find new ways to sustain and accelerate progress.

By showcasing progress across the priority initiatives of the Partnership during 2021, and the related achievements of partners, this report shows us how progress happens. Highlights include:

- Five more governments committing to comprehensive national action to end all violence against children as **Pathfinding** countries;
- Support to set up two innovative national **Safe Online** centres; new research to inform some of the world's largest technology companies design safer products/platforms; and \$21 million of new funding to tackle online child sexual exploitation and abuse through scaling technology solutions, strengthening systems, and funding research to fill the evidence gap;
- An ambitious new **Safe to Learn** strategy underpinned by a World Bank investment case setting out the economic returns from ending violence in schools;
- A new interagency Global Initiative to Support **Parents**;
- 23 million more children protected by law from **corporal punishment** in Colombia and the Republic of Korea;

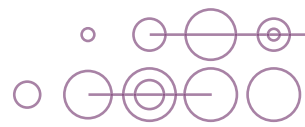
- The **Together to #ENDviolence** campaign continues to provide a platform for our many partners to convene, share solutions, and drive collective advocacy and action. For the first time the end violence community aligned behind a set of **policy proposals** and is using them to advocate with one voice. And government-led, **national policy dialogues** were held around the world to assess progress, gaps, challenges and opportunities and agree on priorities, all informed by the growing evidence-base of global best practice to end violence against children; and
- Development of a new **Partnership Strategy** that recognises the urgent need to mobilise the collective strength of partners large and small in protecting children during an era of heightened risks. The strategy includes a renewed Partnership vision, mission and impact statement, as well as an updated theory of change and core values.

We were also encouraged in 2021 by other significant developments and signs of progress, including:

- China, home to more than 300 million children, publishing a new plan committing to prevent all forms of violence against children;
- Australia's announcement of a 10-year plan to tackle child sexual exploitation and abuse, with allocated funding for the first 4 years;
- Traditional, religious and civil society leaders across Africa collaborating with the African Union Commission and UN Women's Spotlight Initiative to take bold action to end child marriage, female genital mutilation and other harmful practices;
- G7 Interior Ministers' groundbreaking commitment to tackle child sexual exploitation and abuse; and
- A nascent movement of adult survivors of childhood sexual violence, organising to advocate for Prevention, Healing and Justice (launched in 2022 as the Brave Movement).







All told, we're starting to see the sort of leadership attention, traction and action that the end violence community has long sought and called for. There is, of course, a long way to go. But with a Partnership of more than 700 organisations aligned around a shared vision, informed by a common strategy built on evidence of what works, and speaking powerfully with one voice, we have what it takes to bring about the step-change we all want for children.

A very big thank you to all our partners, donors and governing body members for their continued support, collaboration and tireless efforts to end all violence against children. We look forward to working with and supporting you until every child grows up in a safe, secure and nurturing environment.

**Dr. Howard Taylor**  
Executive Director, End Violence Partnership



**Every child  
safe at  
home, at  
school,  
online and  
within their  
community**



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# End Violence Partnership 2022-24 Strategy

## CORE VALUES

Rights focused | Child centred | Universal and inclusive | Gender transformative | Evidence-based

### VISION

A world in which every girl and every boy grows up in a safe, secure and nurturing environment

### IMPACT

Significantly reduced levels of violence against children, including the most vulnerable, in all settings by 2030

### MISSION

Power the global movement to end violence against children, driving progress towards the SDGs and contributing to the success of Agenda 2030



## KEY RESULT AREAS

Strategic pillars that anchor our work as a Partnership for all

Collective, focused advocacy

Collective, evidence-based action

Significant and sustained financing

### CHILD-CENTRED ENVIRONMENTS

The daily settings where children need protection so they can grow up:

Safe to learn

Safe at home and in communities\*

Safe online



## DRIVERS OF CHANGE

Key factors necessary for the Partnership to succeed:

Greater **global attention and awareness** on the issues of VAC

Enhanced **cross-sectoral collaboration and whole-society approach**

Improved collection, management and use of **VAC evidence, research, evaluations and prevalence data**

Strengthened **government accountability and ownership**

Capacity building for more effective and coordinated **evidence-based solutions**

Sustained **investment** from governments, philanthropy and the private sector, including through a flexible End Violence Fund

\*Includes a child's physical community, institutions (other than school) and religious, sporting and other such communities.







In the 2019-21 strategic period, the End Violence Partnership saw a growth in demand for evidence-based solutions for ending violence against children. This is illustrated by the steady stream of countries wishing to become Pathfinders, stronger visibility of the issue in high-level policy discourse and leadership events, the wider reach of our communication assets, and the surge of membership applications.

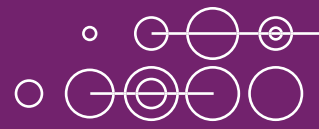
By the end of 2021, the **End Violence Fund** had invested more than US\$62 million in projects with impact in over 70 countries since the Partnership's launch in 2016. Additionally, the End Violence Partnership continues to make the investment case for significant new domestic and international finance to end violence against children. To date, just 12 Pathfinding countries have fully funded national action plans to end violence against children.

With the launch of the **End Violence Knowledge Platform** in 2020 and the implementation of innovative child protection solutions by our grantees, the Partnership has helped to equip practitioners in the field of violence prevention with tools and resources and provided opportunities for capacity building. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Partnership's role as a global collaboration hub and a credible source of information and resources became critical in addressing the heightened safety needs of children and families.

## New 2022-24 Strategy

The Partnership's new **strategy for 2022-24** prioritises collective, evidence-based advocacy, action and financing to end all forms of violence against children. Grounded in the Partnership's mission and core values, the new strategy sets a compelling vision of "a world in which every girl and every boy grows up in a safe, secure and nurturing environment." The environments where childhood violence occurs – in **homes, schools, communities and online** – provide a practical framework for legal, policy and programmatic solutions relevant to each environment.





# PART ONE

# 2021 AT-A-GLANCE







# Investing for Impact



Over **700 organisations are now partners** of the End Violence Partnership, up from 550 in 2020.



**86 partners convened 77 affiliate events** through the End Violence Partnership's Together to #ENDviolence campaign and Solutions Summit Series. As part of the campaign, End Violence convened global experts to **develop six evidence-based policy proposals to accelerate progress** and enable the Partnership to advocate with one voice.



**37 countries are now Pathfinders**, up from 32 in 2020. Of those, **21 countries have convened national policy dialogues** to further their commitment to comprehensive action to end all forms of violence against children.



**US\$21 million in new grants** will help build capacities across the globe to **protect children from online sexual exploitation and abuse** via the Safe Online initiative.



**14 major organisations** align around an ambitious **new Safe to Learn strategy and a compelling investment case** for keeping children safe in and through schools.



**23 million more children** are now legally **protected from corporal punishment** with [Colombia](#) and [the Republic of Korea](#) introducing new laws banning corporal punishment in 2021.



**63 countries have now fully prohibited corporal punishment** and a further 26 countries have committed to a full prohibition.



**Positive parenting programmes** were scaled up in **Uganda and Kenya** to keep children safe during COVID-19.



End Violence website traffic **grew by 50 per cent**, Instagram followers **by 36 per cent**, Twitter and Facebook followers **by 21 per cent**, newsletter subscribers **by 20 per cent** and LinkedIn was launched.



# 2021 Key Moments

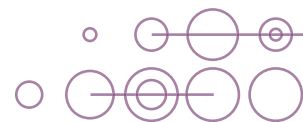
Despite heightened risks to children due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the End Violence Partnership celebrated some critical gains in 2021 that demonstrate growing global momentum and progress to end all violence against children by 2030.

Governments, civil society organisations, UN agencies, donors, children and survivors of violence took collective action and made new commitments to ensure that children can grow up safe, secure and nurtured.

- January**
- **The Republic of Korea** becomes the 62nd country to fully prohibit corporal punishment.
  - The **Tech Coalition Safe Online Research Fund** is launched to fund innovative research that can impact relevant policy and product development to tackle online child sexual abuse and exploitation.
- March**
- The **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child** incorporates children's rights in digital environments into its larger framework by adopting 'General Comment 25' – for the first time placing responsibility on countries and business to address online risks to children.
- April**
- **Papua New Guinea** and **Kenya** become the 33rd and 34th Pathfinding countries.
  - **Colombia** becomes the 63rd country to fully prohibit corporal punishment.
- May**
- **Jordan, Ethiopia** and **Guinea** become the 35th, 36th and 37th Pathfinding countries.
  - **End Violence launches a Country Dashboard** to showcase Pathfinding countries' commitments towards ending violence against children and monitor progress made under critical areas.
  - The **World Health Assembly passes a resolution on ending violence against children through health systems** strengthening and multisectoral approaches, with support from over 60 member states. The resolution emphasises that the health sector is key to identifying, preventing and responding to violence against children across the world.
- June**
- The **Global Initiative to Support Parents** is launched, with a **Call to Action** urging increased investment and scale-up of evidence-based initiatives to support caregivers.
- July**
- End Violence partners align around **six game-changing policy proposals** supported by a **leaders' statement** endorsed by over 50 international leaders and 289 partner organisations. The policy proposals cover multiple forms of violence against children and the varied environments in which violence occurs. Partners are collaboratively promoting these policy proposals to secure their adoption and implementation by national governments and other key actors.
  - The World Bank and End Violence launch **Ending Violence in Schools: An Investment Case**, demonstrating the fiscal benefits of investing in interventions to prevent violence in and through schools.
  - A new three-year **Safe to Learn strategy** is launched with endorsement of 14 collaborating partners working on a shared vision and path for creating safer learning environments.

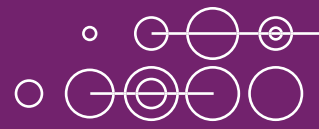






- September** ● **G7 ministers make a groundbreaking commitment** to tackle child sexual abuse and exploitation, including through investment in and support for the End Violence Partnership and Fund.
- In Wales**, the government **invests £2.2 million in a national campaign** to raise public awareness about corporal punishment and support positive parenting. The country's law prohibiting corporal punishment came into effect in March 2022.
- October** ● **ASEAN states** adopt the **Regional Plan of Action for the Protection of Children from All Forms of Online Exploitation and Abuse in ASEAN** and the **Declaration on the Elimination of Bullying of Children in ASEAN** to enable collaborative evidence-based action in addressing various forms of violence across the region.
- November** ● **Australia** announces a **10-year national strategy** for the prevention of child sexual abuse and pledges AU\$146 million for the plan's first four years, which will include strengthened law enforcement measures and support for survivors.
- December** ● **The United States Department of Justice** announces **grants of over \$140 million to help protect children** from exploitation, trauma and abuse, including funding improvements in the judicial handling of child abuse and neglect cases.
- By end-2021, **Australia, Cambodia, Ghana, Nepal and Ukraine** had passed legislative acts to strengthen online safety and protect children from online abuse and exploitation.

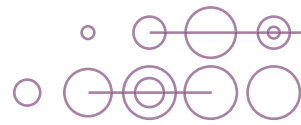




# **PART TWO** PROGRESS AGAINST PRIORITIES







The End Violence Partnership is a unique public-private coalition that works to strengthen countries and organisations across the world to achieve the global goal of ending all violence, abuse and exploitation of children by 2030. It does this through collective advocacy, action, and investment to ensure that every girl and boy can grow up in safe, secure and nurturing environments.

## Together to #ENDviolence

The Partnership works to catalyse the political and financial commitments needed to end violence against children by 2030. The **Together to #ENDviolence** campaign and **Solutions Summit Series** was launched in December 2020 to raise awareness, share solutions, and accelerate action and investment to end all violence against children.

The Together to #ENDviolence campaign provides our 700 partners with a global platform to elevate ending violence against children on the global agenda, showcase solutions, bring together diverse capabilities and agree on strategies to drive collective advocacy and action.

### 2021 Achievements

#### One movement, one voice

An important achievement during 2021 was the alignment of the Together to #ENDviolence partners around **six policy proposals** to end violence against children, a first for the end violence community. These proposals are backed by evidence, research and experience of what really works, and they will guide the partnership's 2022-24 strategy.

#### The six policy proposals are to:

1. Ban all forms of violence against children by 2030.
2. Equip parents and caregivers to keep children safe.
3. Make the internet safe for children.
4. Makes schools safe, non-violent and inclusive.
5. Protect children from violence in humanitarian settings.
6. More investment, better spent.

To support the policy proposals, a **Leaders' Statement** was signed by over 50 international leaders and endorsed by 289 organisations. A **Children's Manifesto** developed by child networks was also launched. Delivered by 15-year-old Thiago from Brazil, it speaks on behalf of children everywhere.



**As my friends and child leaders from Kenya, Yemen and Uganda shared... children and adolescents in many countries around the world suffer violence. It ruins our lives and our futures – and is not acceptable**

**Thiago, 15, Brazil**



## Strengthening the movement, accelerating change

Since its launch in December 2020, the Together to #ENDviolence campaign has sparked national dialogues on evidence-based solutions, inspired new leadership commitments and built global momentum for new investment. In 2021 alone, 21 government-led national policy dialogues were held and 15 formal statements were submitted to prioritise ending violence against children on national government agendas.

Also in 2021, 77 affiliate events were convened by 86 partners, including over 40 civil society organisations, 12 United Nations agencies and 11 governments to build momentum across all regions of the world.

One such event was the [Together to #ENDviolence spotlight session](#) at the Global Forum for Children and Youth in December 2021, that brought together compelling testimonies from children and survivors of violence alongside international leaders from government and civil society – all united by a shared vision of a world without violence and a commitment to work together to accelerate progress.



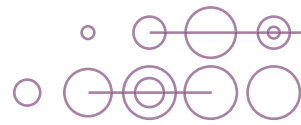
The virtual nature of the events enabled inclusive participation, connecting people across borders, encouraging collaborative action and building enduring networks and knowledge bases. The many affiliate events hosted via the Together to #ENDviolence campaign, supported by ongoing advocacy, helped achieve the following objectives:

1. Prioritise the issue of ending violence against children globally for COVID-19 and post-COVID-19 policy, planning and financing.
2. Showcase cost-effective, evidence-based solutions that can be scaled up as governments and societies build back better and safer for children.
3. Secure new political and funding commitments to begin closing the political and financing gap to end all forms of violence against children by 2030.
4. Bring the End Violence community together to strengthen and unite the movement.

The Together to #ENDviolence campaign culminated in a Leaders' Event in June 2022 at which heads of government and other stakeholders shared commitments to end violence against children.







# Pathfinding

The End Violence Partnership helps Pathfinding countries to transform their commitments to end violence against children into tangible progress.

**Pathfinding** countries are those whose government leaders make a formal, public commitment to comprehensive national action to end all forms of violence against children. This includes committing to five actions within the first 18 months of becoming an End Violence Pathfinding country:

1. Appoint a senior government focal point to lead the process.
2. Convene and support a multi-stakeholder group.
3. Collect and analyse data on violence against children.
4. Develop an evidence-based, budgeted national action plan that sets commitments for three to five years and a related resource mobilisation plan.
5. Consult with children and adhere to partnership standards on child participation.

The End Violence Partnership helps Pathfinding countries to achieve key milestones, providing them with a platform from which to learn, and supporting their scale-up of **INSPIRE**, a suite of seven evidence-based solutions to guide policies and programmes.



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## What are the INSPIRE strategies?

INSPIRE is a set of seven evidence-based strategies for countries and communities working to eliminate violence against children. Created by 10 agencies with a long history of child protection work — including WHO, UNICEF and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control — INSPIRE serves as a technical package and guidebook for comprehensive programming to combat violence against children.



### 1. IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS

INSPIRE encourages laws that ban violent punishment of children by parents, caregivers, teachers and other adults, along with laws criminalising perpetrators of sexual abuse and exploitation of children. INSPIRE also shows that laws preventing alcohol misuse and youth access to firearms and other weapons are proven to decrease violence.



### 2. NORMS AND VALUES

INSPIRE emphasises the importance of changing harmful societal norms, which can target gender, ability level, age and other indicators. INSPIRE provides examples of effective community mobilisation and bystander intervention programmes.



### 3. SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

INSPIRE demonstrates that addressing “hotspots” in communities leads to reductions in violence against children. Making environments safer can halt the spread of violence throughout a community.



### 4. PARENT AND CAREGIVER SUPPORT

To truly stop violence against children, parents and caregivers must be engaged. INSPIRE provides ways of doing so, including home visits, group activities in community settings, and other evidence-based programmes.



### 5. INCOME AND ECONOMIC STRENGTHENING

Violence can often be prevented if a family’s financial status improves. INSPIRE outlines interventions that strengthen families’ economic standing, including cash transfers, group savings and loans, and microfinance. Combining economic programmes with gender equity training leads to stronger results.



### 6. RESPONSE AND SUPPORT SERVICES

INSPIRE provides examples of effective counselling and therapeutic approaches, treatment programmes for juvenile offenders, and screening combined with interventions. It also includes foster care interventions for existing social welfare services.



### 7. EDUCATION AND LIFE SKILLS

INSPIRE provides recommendations to increase enrolment in preschools, primary schools and secondary schools, and relays the importance of safe, enabling school environments. By increasing children’s knowledge about violence and sexual exploitation, children are less likely to become victims of abuse.





## 2021 Achievements

Despite the pressing priorities that vied for government attention during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Partnership made solid progress in securing political commitments to end violence against children. This was achieved by promoting the issue as relevant, relating it to multiple development outcomes, and demonstrating that it is a cost-effective investment.

### Five new Pathfinding countries

In 2021, five new Pathfinding countries – Ethiopia, Guinea, Kenya, Jordan and Papua New Guinea – joined the End Violence Partnership, bringing the number of Pathfinders to 37. Of these, 21 convened government-led national policy dialogues to further their commitment to comprehensive action to end all forms of violence against children. With a steady demand from governments to become Pathfinding countries, the End Violence Partnership continues to expand its impact, turning government commitment into tangible progress<sup>1</sup> and sharing lessons-learned between Pathfinding countries so that each benefits from others' experience.

### INSPIRE Working Group

The End Violence Partnership worked with the INSPIRE working group<sup>2</sup> to develop and launch new tools to help accelerate violence prevention, support country implementation and document progress.

- The **INSPIRE Adaptation and Scale-Up Guide** aims to ensure that in the adaptation and scale-up of violence against children prevention programmes, interventions are aligned to existing evidence and are part of each country's national action plan. In developing the adaptation and scale-up guide, the INSPIRE Working Group engaged intensively with government officials in Cambodia, Colombia, Philippines and Uganda to ensure that the content is relevant and engaging.
- The **INSPIRE Training of Trainers** package is designed to help people to implement key approaches from the INSPIRE strategies within their work.
- The **INSPIRE Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)** is freely available online to everyone and provides an interactive approach to learning about the seven strategies and the interventions within each one.

In 2021, the End Violence Pathfinding team together with partners<sup>3</sup> created new episodes for an End Violence Podcast series entitled **Inspiring Ways to End Violence Against Children** with a focus on implementing solutions and protecting children during COVID-19. The series was originally launched in 2020 featuring experts from Honduras, Nigeria, the Philippines and South Africa describing the gains and challenges related to implementing programmes mentioned in INSPIRE. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, to help partners in their efforts to reduce violence against children, the INSPIRE Working Group and WHO also initiated a series of **eight training webinars** (December 2020 to April 2021) to give all INSPIRE stakeholders an opportunity to get detailed insights into each of the seven strategies and the cross-cutting elements.

In order to reflect on the ongoing progress, WHO also published **INSPIRE: seven strategies for ending violence against children: uptake between 2016 and 2021** which documents 140,000 downloads of the technical package and activities in 67 countries.

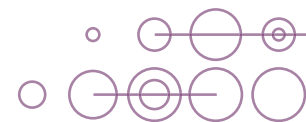


<sup>1</sup>In Pathfinding countries, UNICEF country offices provide technical support to governments while civil society organisations collaborate with various partners on the ground.

<sup>2</sup>Working group members representing more than 200 organisations meet regularly to discuss their efforts to scale up use of the seven strategies identified in the INSPIRE framework within Pathfinding countries.

<sup>3</sup>End Violence Pathfinding team and host Dr Catherine M Maternowska teamed up with Save the Children, Terre des hommes' COVIDunder19 initiative, and the Institute for Inspiring Children's Futures, COVID 4P Log project from the University of Strathclyde to launch six new episodes.





## East Asia and Pacific countries strengthen commitments to end violence

In November 2021, government leaders and representatives from 25 countries in East Asia and the Pacific identified actions that must be taken to end violence against children following a five-day **INSPIRE conference**. Another five countries launched their national action plans to end violence against children. A highlight of the conference was the young participants who convincingly declared that ending violence against children must be an integral part of the COVID-19 recovery plan.

### INSPIRE Regional Conference in South America

More than 120 partners from 10 countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela) came together to exchange and learn from promising practices to end violence against children being implemented in the region. Through a series of participatory webinars, partakers also discussed the challenges, opportunities and achievements from their respective countries.

The objective of the Conference was to increase local uptake of INSPIRE strategies by strengthening the capacity of practitioners from government, civil society and international organisations to choose, adapt and implement key approaches.

The workshop was organised by the members of the INSPIRE LAC group UNICEF LACRO, End Violence, PAHO, Save the Children, Plan International, CDC, Together for Girls, UNODC, USAID and World Bank.



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### Pathfinding Learning Exchange Series

A webinar series provided technical guidance to Pathfinding countries seeking to develop and implement National Action Plans to end violence against children. The learning exchanges connected Pathfinding countries with each other and with experts, researchers and civil society organisations, to enable the exchange of experiences and solutions.

### National Action Plans

Developing, implementing and evaluating a national action plan are key milestones of the Pathfinding process. In 2021, four existing Pathfinding countries launched their national action plans: Colombia, Finland, Honduras and Japan, with more countries to follow. End Violence supported the UNICEF Cambodia office and the Government of Cambodia in evaluating Cambodia's National Action Plan 2017-21.







# Safe at Home and in Communities

**End Violence focuses on investment in parent support programmes and the prohibition of corporal punishment to keep children safe at home and in the communities.**

Families want the best for their children, but they face many challenges including a lack of resources, support and accurate information, which has only been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, the End Violence Partnership invested in new efforts to help parents and caregivers to adopt positive parenting strategies during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. This included ending corporal punishment – the widespread use of violent forms of child punishment.

## Parenting

The End Violence Partnership aims to increase investment in evidence-based parent support programmes across the globe to help end violence against children in low-and middle-income countries.

The End Violence Pathfinding team collaborated with Parenting for Lifelong Health<sup>4</sup> to develop, test and evaluate positive parenting programmes. Results from control trials in various countries indicate this approach to be highly effective. The focus in 2021 was to adapt and widely disseminate the programmes in Uganda and Kenya during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In Kenya, the programmes are being adopted by the government as part of the national Parenting Programme and incorporated into development plans at subnational levels.

## 2021 Achievements

### Global Initiative to Support Parents

End Violence is a founding member of the [Global Initiative to Support Parents](#) (GISP), an interagency vision established to increase global support for parents and caregivers. It aims to push forward a collective action framework that calls for increased investment in evidence-based parent support initiatives across the globe.

### Positive Parenting in Kenya and Uganda

Uganda and Kenya are two End Violence Pathfinding countries committed to ending violence against children. To implement the positive parenting programme, the End Violence Partnership and Parenting for Lifelong Health worked closely with UNICEF Uganda, UNICEF Kenya, Makerere University and other organisations. Implementation occurred in two phases:

**Phase one** (up to December 2021) focused on strengthening government coordination and leadership to develop a national parenting manual and associated training materials. This phase secured the necessary consensus and harmonised national policies with the positive parenting programmes, paving the way for phase two.

**Phase two** (from January 2022) will focus on disseminating parenting programmes to provide caregivers with the tools and strategies they need to build positive parenting skills. This is achieved through frontline workers – from government, faith-based and civil society organisations – that reach deep into communities.

This work was made possible with generous support from the Government of Japan.

<sup>4</sup>A collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Clowns Without Borders South Africa, Mikhulu Trust, and the Universities of Oxford, Cape Town, Stellenbosch and Bangor.





# Safe Online

The End Violence Partnership's Safe Online initiative is placing online child safety at the heart of key policy debates and investing in technology solutions and national capacities to address online harms to children.

Currently, one in three internet users globally is a child. Of all the risks children face in the digital world, the most critical is online child sexual exploitation and abuse (CSEA). At any given moment, an estimated 750,000 individuals are looking to connect with children online for sexual purposes. With 800 million children actively using social media, this can have devastating consequences. There are currently more than 46 million unique images and videos of child sexual abuse material in EUROPOL's repository alone. Of these, 92 per cent depict children under 13.

Very few built-in safeguards exist to protect children in digital environments. That's why End Violence invests in building capacities, systems and technology solutions to tackle online harms to children, generates knowledge and evidence on what works, and raises awareness and advocates for policies and regulations to make the internet safe for children. For more details, see [Annex 1: Safe Online Investment Portfolio Results](#).

## 2021 Achievements

### G7 Governments commit to protecting children from child sexual abuse online

It was a pivotal moment for the End Violence Partnership when in June 2021, [G7 Governments committed to accelerate action and increase investments](#) to tackle online CSEA. The governments highlighted the End Violence Partnership as key to maximising collective impact to make the internet safe for children.

### Children's rights in the digital environment

In March 2021, the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) adopted [General Comment 25](#), a landmark step towards ensuring children's rights in the digital environment. This places responsibility on countries and businesses to take action to address online risks to children and is a historical achievement for all those working to protect children online. The Convention on the Rights of the Child has been ratified by 196 countries, more than any other human rights treaty. End Violence and partners jointly issued a [statement](#) calling on all countries to implement the CRC's General Comment 25.

### Experts united to protect children online

During 2021, End Violence elevated the issue of CSEA at over 30 public forums, including the [RightsCon Summit](#) and through technical panels at the [ISPCAN Milan Congress 2021](#). At these forums, experts, such as those from INTERPOL and the Council of Europe, shared the latest developments in all aspects of child safety online. These events and technical meetings influence professionals and policymakers to prioritise child online safety in policies, regulations, budgets and business practices.

### Safer Internet Day: Social media campaign reaching millions

The End Violence Partnership celebrated Safer Internet Day on 9 February 2021 with a social media advocacy campaign that reached millions, creating a 380 per cent surge in visitors to the End Violence website. The campaign used visual materials and statistics to raise awareness of increased online violence against children during COVID-19. The campaign offered solutions and shared resources to keep children safe online and encouraged people to spread the word.





## Disrupting Harm in Uganda and Kenya

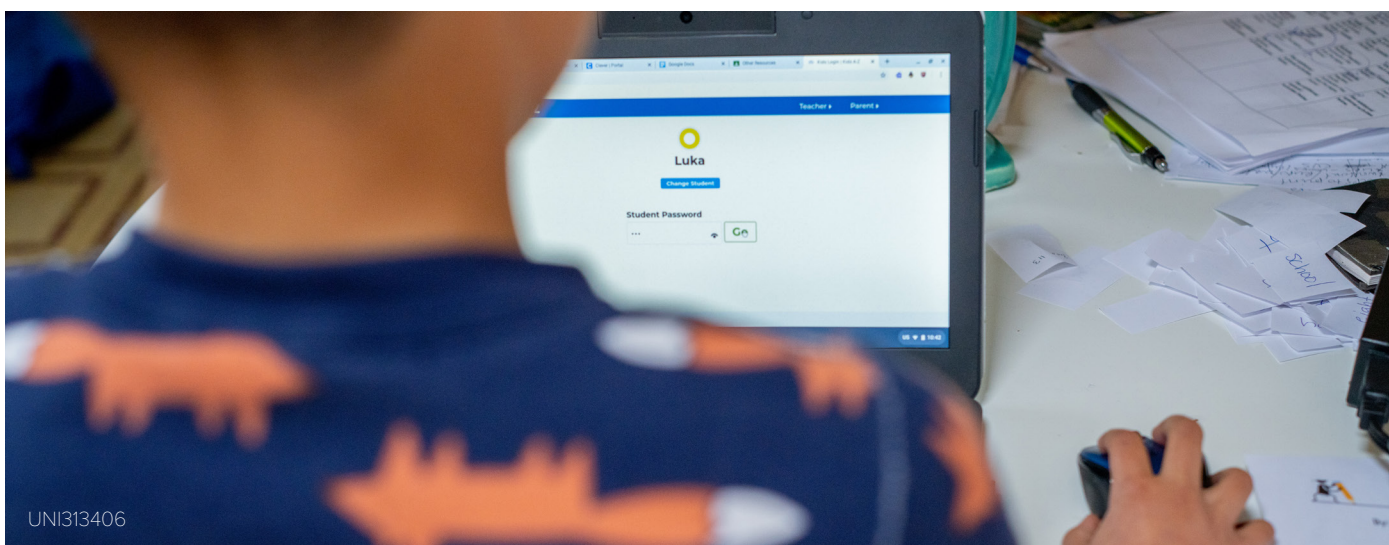
Disrupting Harm is a large-scale research project, funded by End Violence, which aims to better understand how digital technology facilitates the sexual exploitation and abuse of children. The centrepiece of Disrupting Harm is 13 detailed national assessments, one for each participating country. In 2021, **Kenya** and **Uganda** launched their national assessments, including a roadmap and initiatives to tackle the issue. The remaining 11 studies drafted in 2021 will be launched throughout 2022. Critical findings are emerging from the research that challenge long-held assumptions. For more details, see [Annex 1: Safe Online Investment Portfolio Results](#).

### Safe Online grantees

Since its launch in 2016, the End Violence Fund has supported 60 projects working to protect children from sexual exploitation and abuse online. This has had a direct impact in over 70 countries and was made possible by contributions from the UK Home Office, Oak Foundation and Human Dignity Foundation. For more details, see [Annex 1: Safe Online Investment Portfolio Results](#).

### Building Safe Online National Centres in Cambodia and Colombia

End Violence contributed US\$3 million to enable **Cambodia** and **Colombia** to establish the first Safe Online National Centres in Southeast Asia and Latin America. The centres build on a European model and will potentially serve as regional models. Both projects aim to strengthen the countries' capacity, capability and infrastructure to adopt technology solutions and ensure international and cross-sector collaboration, including the engagement of industry.



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### Researching actionable solutions for the technology industry

The Tech Coalition ([Project Protect](#)) and End Violence teamed up in 2021 to establish the [Tech Coalition Safe Online Research Fund](#). The Fund has awarded grants to five organisations conducting innovative research that will inform product and policy development to protect children online. Specifically, research will help inform the technology industry's approach to combating online CSEA by increasing understanding and tools for grooming detection, supply-side offending, offender help-seeking behaviour and support to content moderators. Three of the research projects have a global reach, and two of them focus on the Philippines and Colombia.

For example, one project led by the Universidad de los Andes in partnership with Programa Aulas en Paz will use artificial intelligence strategies and tools to study the language and patterns of interactions between potential and current offenders of online CSEA and current or potential victims of such violence.

End Violence will conduct a second round of research funding in 2022 to further support actionable research that will lead to real and lasting change for children's digital safety.







## Launch of new investment round to build capacity in three important areas

In 2021, the End Violence Safe Online initiative launched three new grant opportunities totalling US\$21 million. These will fund organisations working to tackle online CSEA through:

- **Open-source technology solutions:** The development of open-source technology solutions, such as artificial intelligence, machine learning and data science, to make the internet safer for children.
- **Systemic change:** Building national capacity to make the internet safe for children focusing on two regions: Eastern and Southern Africa and Southeast Asia.
- **Evidence:** Collaboration to scale up data collection in three additional regions to better understand how digital technologies facilitate the sexual exploitation and abuse of children and how countries are tackling the issue along with targeted roadmaps to improve national practices.

## Providing COVID-19 assistance to our grantee community

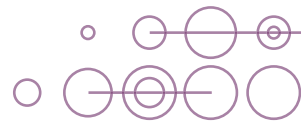
End Violence hosted its 12th [Global Knowledge Exchange Webinar](#) in 2021, convening 60 Safe Online grantees to discuss the latest data and trends regarding online CSEA during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Safe Online work was made possible with generous support from the United Kingdom Home Office, Oak Foundation and Tech Coalition.



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# End Corporal Punishment

**End Violence is making prohibition of corporal punishment a priority on the global agenda and assisting governments to implement corporal punishment prohibition.**

Corporal punishment is the most common form of violence a child will face with four in every five children aged 2-14 years experiencing violent punishment at the hands of their caregivers.<sup>5</sup> Corporal punishment is not limited to the home but takes place in schools and other institutions and settings as well. Prohibiting corporal punishment in legislation removes any grey area about whether physical punishment of children is acceptable. In most countries, this gives children equal protection under the law on assault as adults. Worldwide, 63 countries have banned all corporal punishment of children, but entrenched attitudes and practices continue to put children at risk, and 86 per cent of the world's children are still not protected by law.

The goal of the End Violence Partnership is universal prohibition of corporal punishment by 2030. End Violence is working to achieve this through:

- Generating and sharing evidence to support prohibition of corporal punishment.
- Providing nations with technical support to implement the prohibition of corporal punishment.
- Advocating to ensure that ending corporal punishment remains a priority on the global agenda.

In 2021, the End Violence Partnership made significant progress towards the goal.

## 2021 Achievements

### Growing support for universal prohibition of corporal punishment

Over 600 organisations and individuals have endorsed the [#EndCorporalPunishment Call to Action](#). This statement supports universal prohibition of corporal punishment by calling for urgent national action.

### International Day to #EndCorporalPunishment

The End Violence Partnership celebrated the first International Day to #EndCorporalPunishment in April 2021 with a high-level conference co-sponsored by the Governments of France, Japan and Tunisia. The event brought together 430 individuals from 75 countries to share evidence from academia, learnings from governments, experiences of young people and insights from civil society. End Violence ran a social media campaign to amplify the call to #EndCorporalPunishment, involving 79 countries and reaching 24 million people.



**The tradition of violence has been passed down from generation to generation. This needs to be stopped and redefined – right now.**

**Ericka, an 18-year-old youth activist from the Philippines**

<sup>5</sup>Hidden In Plain Sight: A statistical analysis of violence against children, UNICEF, 2014, p.96





## Sharing evidence and technical guidance through public forums

The End Violence Partnership shared evidence at public forums throughout 2021 to support the prohibition of corporal punishment, and presented technical guidance on prohibiting corporal punishment of children at the [ISPCAN World Summit 2021](#).

### Knowledge exchange

During 2021, the End Violence Partnership published four new resource materials to share with policymakers and partner organisations to help achieve the prohibition and elimination of corporal punishment:

1. *Prohibiting all corporal punishment of children*: A country-by-country analysis of corporal punishment laws.
2. *Implementation guidance*: Five steps from the prohibition of corporal punishment through to its practical elimination.
3. *Corporal punishment of children*: A summary of its impacts and associations.
4. *Ending corporal punishment in the early years of childhood*: Consequences of violence on the cognitive and socio-emotional development of young children.

## Colombia and the Republic of Korea prohibit corporal punishment

In 2021, Colombia and the Republic of Korea prohibited corporal punishment, protecting by law an additional 23 million children from violent punishment in all settings, including at home and school. The US Virgin Islands and the Islamabad Capital Territory, Pakistan, also prohibited corporal punishment in schools. A total of 63 countries have now fully prohibited corporal punishment, up from 61 in 2020. Another 26 countries, including China and Mexico, have committed to a full prohibition, demonstrating global momentum towards ending corporal punishment against children.

The Partnership's [End Corporal Punishment initiative](#) is leading advocacy for legal prohibition to eliminate violent punishment of children, and was pleased to support these governments through the process with technical advice, campaign support, translated resources, commentary on the new laws and their implementation, and by publicising the new prohibition internationally.



## A ban on the corporal punishment of children by their parents is the most fundamental stipulation preventing child abuse.

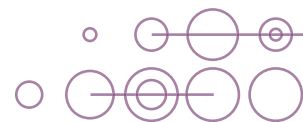
### Government of the Republic of Korea

#### Implementing the INSPIRE strategies in East Asia and the Pacific

In November 2021, the End Violence Partnership together with the Government of Mongolia, Terre des Hommes and Love Does Not Hurt delivered a technical workshop, titled *Ending corporal punishment: creative and cultural approaches to upholding children's human rights*, to strengthen the implementation of INSPIRE strategies in the East Asia and Pacific sub-region and encourage countries' commitment towards the prohibition and elimination of corporal punishment of children. A briefing published by the End Violence Partnership, [Progress towards prohibiting corporal punishment of children in ASEAN member states](#), provided attendees with a summary of the progress made by each ASEAN state towards the prohibition and elimination of corporal punishment. It demonstrated the breadth of the problem, identified opportunities and laid out five steps for moving from the prohibition to complete elimination of corporal punishment.







# Safe to Learn

**End Violence and the Safe to Learn coalition advocate for violence prevention to be embedded in education systems. End Violence partners lead by example and work together to help countries create and sustain the conditions for safe learning for all girls, boys and children in all their diversity.**

An estimated 246 million girls and boys experience violence in and around school every year. That violence takes many forms, including peer-to-peer bullying, attacks on schools, sexual exploitation, including by teachers, and corporal punishment. Almost half of all school-aged children (about 720 million) live in countries where corporal punishment in schools is not prohibited.<sup>6</sup> End Violence cross-functional teams work to build synergies to ensure the full prohibition and elimination of violent punishment against children, whether at home, in the community or in schools and other learning environments.

End Violence is dedicated to ending violence in and through schools and other learning environments. It is backed by a powerful coalition of partners representing education, child protection, violence prevention and health communities that are working together to have violence prevention mechanisms embedded within education systems worldwide. The Safe to Learn initiative builds political will while supporting local level action by raising awareness, supporting diagnostic exercises, convening national dialogues, and financing evidence-based interventions that support the implementation of the Safe to Learn [Call to Action](#).

## 2021 Achievements

### New Safe to Learn strategy (2021-24)

In May 2021, 14 Safe to Learn partners endorsed a new [three-year strategy](#) which leverages the diverse expertise of the partners. Aligning the Safe to Learn coalition in this way enables it to work collaboratively to build safer learning environments. The strategy focuses on two areas – country engagement and global advocacy – and aims to create systemic change by strengthening the authorising environment to prioritise violence prevention and response mechanisms in education systems worldwide. It includes a [Gender Technical Note](#) promoting a common understanding of the gender transformative approach of Safe to Learn in the context of the new strategy, and a [results framework](#) with which to assess Safe to Learn progress.



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<sup>6</sup> An Everyday Lesson: #ENDviolence in schools, UNICEF, 2018, p.3





## **An Investment case for ending violence in schools**

Developed with technical support from the World Bank, *Ending Violence in Schools: An Investment Case* is a cost-benefit analysis demonstrating that violence in and around schools negatively impacts educational outcomes. Society pays a heavy price as a result with a global estimate of US\$11 trillion in lost lifetime earnings. The investment case was launched with a supporting document, *Selected Findings*, at the **Global Education Summit** in July 2021. This report provides much-needed evidence and will strengthen advocacy and action towards safer learning environments.

## **ASEAN commits to eliminate bullying**

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) adopted a **Declaration on the Elimination of Bullying of Children** in October 2021. End Violence presented the importance of adopting a whole school approach at a Regional Workshop on Elimination of Bullying of Children. As a result of End Violence and other speakers' contributions, participants concluded that a whole school/whole education approach is a critical way forward.

## **Safer schools in Uganda and Nepal**

The End Violence Fund supported five **Safe to Learn projects across Nepal and Uganda** to strengthen education systems by incorporating violence prevention and response policies and mechanisms to create safer learning environments. The five grantees were **Mercy Corps**, **Voluntary Services Overseas**, and **World Education** in Nepal, and **Raising Voices** and **Right to Play** in Uganda.

In Nepal, more than 55,000 students and young people were reached with messages and training about prevention of and response to bullying, early child marriage, gender empowerment and life skills. In Uganda, over 1,000 schools were equipped with new tools and approaches in preventing and responding to violence. These included the development of codes of conduct and updating child safeguarding policies.

## **Global advocacy for safe learning environments**

End Violence organised a range of global, regional and local events with partners and grantees to raise awareness of violence prevention and response within education systems, and to provide guidance on how to create safer and more inclusive learning environments. For example, a virtual event co-hosted with the **Coalition for Good Schools**, on **Preventing Violence Against Children In and Through Schools** presented research demonstrating the magnitude of violence against children together with guidance on how to address it.

## **Knowledge exchange**

During 2021, in addition to hosting regular Grantee Knowledge Exchange Webinars, End Violence published four new resource materials. They included:

1. **Lessons Learned Reports for South Sudan and Uganda** that analyse the diagnostics process conducted in those countries.
2. Qualitative research reports on three Safe to Learn projects in Nepal, assessing how the projects accelerated progress towards the **Call to Action**.
3. **Role of Children's Clubs in Safeguarding of Children in Schools** research report.
4. **Are Schools Safe to Learn?**, an event to raise awareness of the benefits of undertaking the Safe to Learn diagnostics exercise and present the **Global Programmatic Framing and Benchmarking Tool**.





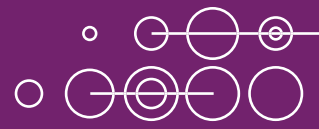


### COVID response

- Under the technical guidance of End Violence, each Safe to Learn grantee developed COVID adaptation plans as part of their project implementation. Adaptations included the use of mass media to amplify messaging, the shift of in-person training to online delivery or social distance modalities, enhancing complaint and response mechanisms in communities and schools and the development of a mobile app to enable continued monitoring and evaluation of project activities.
- In East Asia and the Pacific, End Violence co-hosted with SEAMEO, UNICEF and UNESCO a virtual session at the Regional INSPIRE Conference to raise awareness of violence prevention and response in and through schools as an imperative for regional COVID-19 back-to-school and learning recovery agendas.



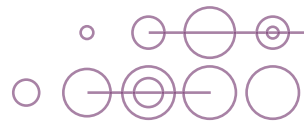




# PART THREE

## COUNTRY ENGAGEMENT CASE STUDIES





The hard work of building systems, implementing programmes and transforming social norms to protect children from violence largely happens at the country level. It is here that the work of the End Violence Partnership, working closely with governments and other partners, becomes real and tangible in the lives of children. Each country faces its own unique challenges and opportunities on the journey to ending violence against children. This section looks at how six countries gained traction in keeping children safe at home, at school and online in 2021, with support from the End Violence Partnership and Fund.

### Cambodia



### Costa Rica



### Japan



### Jordan



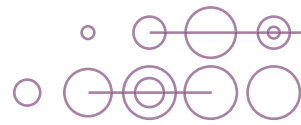
### Kenya



### Sweden







# Cambodia

Violence against children was identified as a serious issue in Cambodia during a 2014 survey<sup>7</sup> which found that more than half of children were physically abused. A following study<sup>8</sup> found that Cambodia lost at least US\$168 million in 2013, or 1.1 per cent of its gross domestic product (GDP), as a result of some of the negative health impacts caused by violence against children.

The Royal Government of Cambodia became a Pathfinder country in 2019, committed to ending all forms of violence against children. In 2021, the End Violence Partnership and UNICEF supported the Government of Cambodia in evaluating the progress it has made in implementing the Cambodian Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to Violence Against Children 2017-2021. The evaluation will inform development of the next five-year Action Plan to end violence against children.

Following the evaluation, the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation of Cambodia organised a national policy dialogue via the Together to #ENDviolence campaign and Solutions Summit Series. This provided an opportunity for other Pathfinder countries to identify key areas of progress, gaps and priorities in scaling-up evidence-based strategies to end violence against children as informed by the [Global Status Report On Ending Violence Against Children 2020](#).



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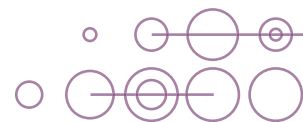
In addition to supporting Pathfinder in Cambodia, the End Violence Partnership is working to end corporal punishment, make schools safe to learn, and end online child sexual abuse and exploitation.

<sup>7</sup> Cambodia Violence Against Children Survey (2014).

<sup>8</sup> The Economic Burden of the Health Consequences of Violence Against Children (2015).







Although corporal punishment of children in Cambodia has been prohibited in schools, penal institutions and as a sentence for crime, it is still lawful in the home, childcare and alternative care settings. According to a study,<sup>9</sup> most parents in Cambodia accept corporal punishment for children. Acceptance of corporal punishment correlates with acceptance of intimate partner violence, particularly against women. Law reform prohibiting corporal punishment in all settings was included in the Cambodian Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to Violence Against Children 2017-21, however full prohibition is yet to be achieved.

In 2021, the End Violence Fund invested US\$1.5 million to tackle online CSEA in Cambodia. The aim of the project is to strengthen the country's capacity to tackle the issue and ensure regional and cross-sector collaboration, including the engagement of the tech industry, in addressing this problem.

End Violence also supported two technology focused projects aimed at building tech tools to prevent and respond to online CSEA in Cambodia:

- iCOP, an artificial intelligence (AI) software that detects child sexual abuse material (CSAM) is being enhanced by a team of researchers at the Universities of Bristol and Lancaster. In collaboration with the Cambodian Anti-Corruption Unit, iCOP2.0 will extend its reach in Southeast Asia and will support law enforcement agencies to use the software and strengthen their response to online CSEA cases in the country.
- The University of Kent is using our grant to design two digital games for children to prevent online CSEA and trafficking in Cambodia and Thailand. Both games will be piloted across schools in Cambodia in 2022.

The End Violence Fund supported UNICEF Cambodia to provide technical assistance to the Cambodian Government in the development of their National Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to Online Child Sexual Exploitation 2021-25. In addition, Cambodia's first Child Protection Information Management System was launched in June 2021 and will track the country's progress in child protection service delivery and provide invaluable data that will inform new policy and action.

Through the End Violence Fund, Safe to Learn continues to support a safe learning project implemented by Save the Children and its partners<sup>10</sup> in Cambodia. Working closely with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS), progress includes:

- Strengthening of the Cambodian child protection policy framework through development and dissemination of the Operational Manual on Child Protection in School (OMCP).
- Support to the MoEYS in piloting the OMCP in target primary schools to establish school-based child protection mechanisms.
- Development of the INSPIRE technical training package and curriculum.
- Support for the development of a data monitoring system.
- Empowerment of girls, boys, non-binary students and children with disabilities through implementation of self-protection and violence prevention activities, and the development of referral pathways.

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<sup>9</sup> The 2017 study found that 74 per cent of mothers and 57 per cent of fathers accepted corporal punishment of sons, while 70 per cent of mothers and 47 per cent of fathers accepted corporal punishment of daughters.

<sup>10</sup> Save the Children is working with a consortium of partners, including World Vision and Plan International.





# Costa Rica

The End Violence Fund is supporting the Fundación Paniamor to implement the CR-NEXST Initiative (Costa Rica dice NO a la Explotación Sexual de niñas, niños y adolescentes en Tecnologías) to address online CSEA. The initiative is under the leadership of Costa Rica's Ministry of Science, Technology and Telecommunications.

Progress in 2021 includes:

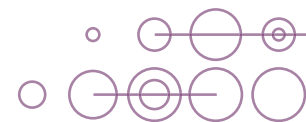
- The launch of the 2021-27 **National Strategy Against Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse**.
- A review of Costa Rica's legislative framework to address the prevention and response to online CSEA. The findings will be presented in 2022 to the National Commission of Online Security and will inform the design of a comprehensive national cybersecurity strategy that includes the right of children to be protected in digital environments.
- The development of the "**Code E-mentores**" in close partnership with key authorities and Information and Communications Technology (ICT) providers. The Code establishes clear standards to ensure that digital platforms are safe for children, not as an afterthought, but from the design stage.
- Eight companies (six Internet Service Providers and two ICT companies) in Costa Rica are already part of the E-mentores educational programme on child online safety. Since the start of the project in 2017, 1,733 public officers (1,200 in 2021) graduated as 'E-mentores agents' by completing a course on child online safety and 11,588 children (3,898 in 2021) have access to child-friendly resources about online safety.



The End Violence Partnership's Corporal Punishment initiative has also partnered with the Fundación Paniamor to promote understanding of the prohibition and elimination of corporal punishment in the Latin American region. Corporal punishment of children has been prohibited in Costa Rica since 2008. A 2009 study<sup>11</sup> involving over 1,000 parents and carers found that 86.6 per cent knew of the ban on physical and other humiliating punishment of children and nearly two thirds (64 per cent) agreed with the law. In November 2021, End Violence shared the Costa Rican experience with other national governments during a session at the ISPCAN World Summit.

<sup>11</sup> Consejo Nacional de La Niñez y la Adolescencia & Pani (2009)





# Japan

The Government of Japan is committed to ending violence against children, not just within their own borders, but globally. In 2018, Japan became a Pathfinding country, became a board member of the End Violence Partnership, and contributed US\$5.9 million to the End Violence Fund to assist with projects in humanitarian settings.

In 2021 the Government of Japan with support from the End Violence Partnership:

- Launched its National Action Plan to End Violence Against Children. It incorporates evidence-based INSPIRE strategies and was developed collaboratively with a powerful multi-stakeholder<sup>12</sup> partnership.
- Committed US\$1.39 million to help Pathfinding countries Uganda and Kenya to protect children from violence by adopting evidence-based and cost-effective parenting programmes in the context of COVID-19. The End Violence Partnership implemented the project in collaboration with UNICEF, Parenting for Lifelong Health, Makerere University and others.
- Co-hosted a high-level international webinar about prohibiting corporal punishment via the Together to #ENDviolence campaign. This provided an opportunity for governments to share lessons from their experience, for our partners to present evidence, for civil society organisations to share insights and importantly, for youth to share their experiences. The event aimed to accelerate progress towards the universal prohibition of corporal punishment and urged participants to view its elimination as an essential step toward ending violence against children once and for all.



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Corporal punishment against children was explicitly prohibited in Japan in 2020. Prior to the prohibition, a 2017 survey conducted by Save the Children Japan found that 56.7 per cent of adults approved of corporal punishment in Japan. By January 2021, that figure had dropped to 41 per cent. Most of those who had changed their mind did so partly because they had learned about the negative impacts of corporal punishment on children.

<sup>12</sup> Participants included representatives from the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare; the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports Science and Technology; the Ministry of Justice, the National Police Agency, international and national NGOs, United Nations Agencies, the private sector and independent experts.







# Jordan

The End Violence Partnership's engagement in Jordan focused on the Pathfinding process, and the Safe Online and Safe to Learn initiatives. 2021 was a year of great progress.

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan made a formal and public commitment to end violence against children, becoming the 35th End Violence Pathfinding country. This marks the beginning of the Pathfinding process in Jordan through which the Government, supported by partners, will transform its commitments into tangible progress towards ending violence against children.

To this end, the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children (SRSG-VAC) Najat Maalla M'jid visited Jordan. During her visit, in coordination with the Partnership, the Government launched a national study on violence against children to highlight community practices and attitudes on the issue and to assess the most recent data on the prevalence of violence.<sup>13</sup> The results of the study were presented at a launch event. Both the launch event and the study were supported by UNICEF.

Currently, child corporal punishment is common and socially condoned in Jordan, with eight out of ten children subjected to violent punishment. End Violence is monitoring prevalence and social attitudes in Jordan, as well as progress towards ending corporal punishment in all settings. Corporal punishment is prohibited in schools, penal institutions and as a sentence for crime, however it is still lawful in the home and childcare settings.

Jordan's Online Child Sexual Exploitation Prevention Unit (UPOCSE) continued their activities in 2021, in partnership with UNICEF Jordan and with financial support by End Violence. This is the only unit of its kind in the Arab world and is officially accredited by INTERPOL and linked to the International Child Sexual Exploitation database. As the implementing partner, UNICEF Jordan has supported the introduction of new technologies for obtaining forensic digital evidence. They also supported communications campaigns to raise awareness of the online CSEA issue and to enable volunteers and community members to identify them.



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<sup>13</sup> The study found that 75% of children aged 8-17 experienced at least one form of physical violence and 59% experienced at least one form of emotional violence.





The Ministry of Education of Jordan, UNICEF and End Violence finalised and launched the ‘[Diagnostic Study of National Efforts to Prevent and Respond to Violence in Schools in Jordan](#)’, made possible thanks to the generous support of the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). Key findings were presented and discussed at a national roundtable attended by the Jordan Government, UNICEF, the UK FCDO, End Violence and national and international civil society organisations. The study identifies best practices, gaps and priorities, and establishes a baseline for tracking Jordan’s progress in implementing the Safe to Learn [Call to Action](#). It provides evidence on where Jordan stands at both the national-level and the school-level in achieving progress under all five areas of the Call to Action and provides evidence-based recommendations for each area.

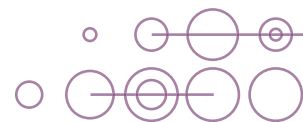


Findings were also presented at a Together to #ENDviolence campaign [affiliate event in November](#), where the Governments of Uganda and South Sudan shared findings from their national Safe to Learn diagnostic studies. The collaboration between End Violence, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and UNICEF Jordan also resulted in the publication of the Safe to Learn [diagnostic tool and interview guides in Arabic](#). These were adapted to the Jordan context and can support other Arabic speaking countries in conducting diagnostics as part of their efforts to prevent and respond to violence against children in and around schools.

The global [Safe to Learn diagnostic tool](#) is a joint tool published by End Violence, resulting from a meaningful collaboration between all Safe to Learn members under the technical leadership of UNICEF and with significant contributions from UNESCO, the World Bank, UNGEI and UK FCDO.







# Kenya

Kenya was one of the first countries to complete a Violence against Children and Youth Survey (VACS), in 2010 and again in 2019. The VACS are led by national governments, with technical assistance from the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as part of the **Together for Girls** (TfG) partnership. Since 2010, Kenya has worked to address risk factors for violence across multiple sectors. This resulted in significant decreases in sexual, physical, and emotional violence against children between 2010 and 2019.<sup>14</sup> However, the prevalence is still too high with 50 per cent of youth experiencing violence.

Based on these surveys, the Government of Kenya aims to reduce violence against children by a further 40 per cent. To achieve this, it has developed and launched a new National Prevention and Response Plan on Violence Against Children in Kenya 2019-23 which is based on learnings from the previous response plan and evidence-based strategies such as INSPIRE. Its implementation includes the development of a monitoring and evaluation plan, cost estimates, a resource mobilisation plan and a communication strategy. It will also provide parenting education.

In 2021, as part of this strong effort and commitment, Kenya became a Pathfinding country and is already sharing its best practices and experiences with other Pathfinding countries.

In 2021, End Violence supported Kenya's progress by:

- **Scaling up parenting programmes:** The End Violence Partnership, with support from the Government of Japan, supported the Government of Kenya, UNICEF and other partners to strengthen national systems to adapt and scale up evidence-based, cost-effective parenting programmes. A multisectoral Technical Working Group on the National Parenting Programme was established and has drafted National Parenting Programme Guidelines and a National Parenting Manual.



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<sup>14</sup> Sexual violence decreased by 50 per cent for girls and 66 per cent for boys. Physical violence decreased by 40 per cent for girls, 25 per cent for boys. Emotional violence decreased by 50 per cent for girls, 80 per cent for boys.







- **Tackling online CSEA:** The End Violence Fund invested US\$1 million in Kenya through its Safe Online initiative to tackle online CSEA, with UNICEF Kenya as the implementing partner. The project supports the capacity of the national child helpline to respond to cases of online CSEA. The project also strengthened Kenya's collaboration with the National Council on Administration of Justice and the Anti-Human Trafficking and Child Protection Unit. As a result, 52 magistrates and 28 prosecutors enhanced their knowledge on child online safety and the role of the judicial officers in the successful prosecution of cases.
- **Equipping the criminal justice system:** The End Violence Fund provided financial support to its Safe Online partners<sup>15</sup> to deliver training to more than 30 Kenyan police officers, detectives, prosecutors and judges, working on cybersecurity and child online safety. The training focused on the identification, investigation and prosecution of online CSEA. Professionals from Kenya and around the world presented good practices on how to navigate issues around child sexual abuse material (CSAM), the deep and dark net, tech industry efforts and how they are working with law enforcement agencies to ensure children's safety online.
- **Generating evidence of online CSEA:** The Disrupting Harm research project generated evidence on the scale and nature of online CSEA in 13 countries across Southeast Asia and Africa, including Kenya. Analysis of the data was discussed at a national consultation in Nairobi in June 2021. The *Disrupting Harm in Kenya* country report, launched in October, includes a series of evidence-based recommendations that cover legislation, law enforcement, social services, public awareness, and education programmes to disrupt online harm to Kenyan children. The findings show that the country needs to invest in capacity building of law enforcement, justice and social support systems to respond to cases of online CSEA and in enacting important online CSEA-related legislation, policies and standards.
- **Turning government commitment into progress:** Kenya's National Plan of Action on online child protection has been developed and is set for launch in 2022.
- **Monitoring progress on eliminating corporal punishment:** Kenya prohibited all corporal punishment of children in 2010. Although the practice is declining, social acceptance remains high in some places. End Violence continues to monitor progress on eliminating corporal punishment in Kenya and to support the work of the Kenyan Government. Partners include UNICEF and civil society organisations.



<sup>15</sup> The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) in coordination with the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children (ICMEC)





# Sweden

Sweden is a leader in the child protection space. In 1979, Sweden made history by becoming the first country in the world to prohibit all corporal punishment of children. It serves as a model for how to not only prohibit but eliminate corporal punishment of children. Research shows that public support for prohibition of corporal punishment is high (92 per cent) and use of violent punishment is low (3 per cent). The law prohibiting corporal punishment continues to be widely disseminated in society, through the school curriculum, citizenship education and information for parents. Sweden provides substantial support for non-violent parenting, including free parenting classes, pre- and post-natal support for new parents, generous parental leave and financial support.

Sweden has also played a critical leadership role in ending violence against children beyond its borders. It hosted an intergovernmental conference on prohibiting and eliminating corporal punishment, and played a central role in the Baltic Sea States [Non-Violent Childhoods project](#). Sweden has funded international projects supporting the prohibition and elimination of violent punishment. In 2018, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child was incorporated into Sweden's domestic law, with the change taking effect from 1 January 2020.



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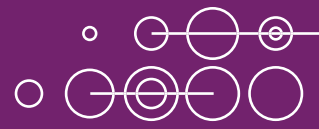
Sweden became one of the End Violence Partnership's first Pathfinding countries in 2016. The Government of Sweden granted funding to the Children's Welfare Foundation to carry out the Violence Against Children 2016 Swedish National Survey, deepening its understanding of children's experiences of corporal punishment, sexual violence, psychological violence, neglect, domestic violence and bullying.

Various agencies and authorities, such as the Linköping University (the national knowledge centre on violence against children), the Children's Welfare Foundation, the Ombudsman for Children and the National Board of Health and Welfare, conduct research and share knowledge on the issue of violence against children.

In 2018, Sweden hosted the End Violence Partnership's first Solutions Summit that showcased proven solutions to end violence against children across the world, and in 2021 Sweden contributed over US\$1 million to support the work of the End Violence Partnership. In May 2022, Sweden adopted its latest national strategy to combat violence against children.







# PART FOUR

## BUILDING A PARTNERSHIP FOR ALL







# Global Partners, Local Impact

Throughout 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to expose children to higher risks of violence and abuse and undermine recent progress. The End Violence Partnership proved to be an invaluable platform to enable the global network to share experiences, disseminate tools and train partners to adapt. With resilience and agility, partners pivoted their strategies to meet the needs of children facing heightened risks of violence and newly isolated from the support structures provided by school, friends and social services.

Individually, our partners carry out the critical day-to-day work of ending violence in multiple ways, from on-the-ground service delivery to global advocacy. Collectively, as part of the End Violence Partnership, our partners collaborate to address four key gaps in the global effort to protect children:

**Evidence and insights:** Stronger data and analysis of what's working – and why – to improve programmes, shape policy and drive investments.

**A networked community:** Better channels to speed the uptake of proven solutions across borders and sectors.

**A loud and unified voice:** Joint advocacy campaigns and thought leadership so children's concerns are heard, political will is forged and leaders held to account for their commitments.

**Finance:** More consistent funding to scale proven, evidence-based solutions and test new innovations.

End Violence partners operate in nearly every country and bring diverse perspectives, expertise, networks, and ideas to the table. While it is impossible to highlight the work of all partners, below is a sample of their critical contributions to protecting children in a year unlike any other in recent history.



## African Child Policy Forum (ACPF)

ACPF has been at the forefront of generating knowledge on the phenomenon of violence against children accused of witchcraft, mutilations and killings of children in order to harvest body parts and infanticides of children with disabilities and children with albinism. So far, progress across the continent has been inadequate. Robust data and evidence that can break the invisibility of such heinous crimes against children and challenge its social acceptance is still lacking in the region. What is often available is anecdotal evidence which is insufficient for countries to inform or reform their laws, policies and mobilise their communities.

It is in light of this significant gap in evidence on the scale, drivers and existing protective aspects of social practices that can support the abandonment of crimes and extreme violence in Africa that ACPF 2021 initiated a continental study. This study investigates what African countries are doing to end crimes and extreme violence against children, particularly those related to witchcraft accusations and ritual attacks. The study aims to explore ways in which national child protection systems can be strengthened to prevent witchcraft accusations and ritual attacks and prosecute offenders, and is complemented by an in-depth analysis of efforts in five African countries; Benin, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malawi, Morocco, and Tanzania. ACPF will launch the continental report in May 2022.





## African Partnership to End Violence against Children (APEVAC)

One of the important achievements of APEVAC is that it has galvanised the shared goal of an “Africa Free from Violence against Children” by engaging the most relevant and knowledgeable leaders and organisations, catalysing high-level dialogue towards enhancing African Governments’ commitment, leadership, resourcing and multi-sectoral action. In 2021, APEVAC in collaboration with the African Child Policy Forum (ACPF), organised a Pan-African Conference on Violence against Children, the first in its biennial series of such conferences, under the theme “Towards an Africa Free from Violence against Children” - Virtual High Level Conference Proceedings. The conference convened champion leaders and countries including, His Excellency Dr Lazarus Chakwera, the President of the Republic of Malawi, H.E. Dr Monique Nsanzabaganwa, Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Thematic Rapporteur on violence against children of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC), ministers from Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Namibia and Tunisia, and more than 500 participants across the continent.

In the conference, three reports were launched:

1. *Violence against Children: A Report on Progress and Challenges;*
2. *National Capacity to Address Violence against Children: Assessment in Ten African Countries;*
3. *Here to Stay: Home-Grown Solutions to Violence against Children.*

As a follow up to the high-level conference, APEVAC in collaboration with Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative (REPSSI) and West African Civil Society Forum (WACSOF) organised two regional dialogue forums aimed at enhancing national government accountability for the agenda to end violence against children among the 31 member states of Economic Community of West African States and Southern African Development Community collectively.



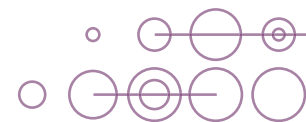
## Arigatou International

Arigatou International’s World Day of Prayer and Action for Children launched the first **Wear My Shoes Campaign** and Award calling attention to grassroots efforts and the remarkable actions co-led by children and adults aimed to mitigate the global learning crisis. At the invitation of Arigatou International and together with UNICEF and members of the Global Network of Religions for Children, 18 organisations working for children’s rights and well-being, including End Violence, joined forces in solidarity to draw world attention to the urgency of getting children back to school.

The Wear My Shoes Award was launched on 19 November at EXPO-2020 Dubai, with the support of the Interfaith Alliance for Safer Communities. Each of the five winners, who were selected for their outstanding practices carried out during the global pandemic in 2020-21, received US\$5,000 to continue their work. The winning practices were found in Ecuador, Cuba, Mexico, Myanmar and Serbia and focused on the most vulnerable and most excluded children whose education was deeply affected by the pandemic.

**Ending Violence Lab:** The Ending Violence Lab is one of the pilots that Arigatou International’s Prayer and Action for Children initiative supported in 2021 in Chile, Nepal, Serbia and Tanzania to strengthen local efforts to advocate for children’s rights and well-being using an interfaith approach. This process is based on the findings and recommendations of the 2019 multi-religious study *Faith and Children’s Rights* and the 2020 *Advocacy Guide and Toolkit*.





### ChildFund

ChildFund Alliance members, ChildFund International and ChildFund Korea embarked on a study conducted from August to December 2021 in the Philippines to assess vulnerabilities of children and youth with special needs (CYSN) related to online sexual exploitation and abuse. This study used a convergent parallel approach across five cities with 50 primary respondents and 36 key informants.

Key findings indicated that while CYSN did possess awareness about acts that led to online sexual abuse and exploitation, they were still vulnerable and had unregulated use of online media. There was a communication gap between parents, caregivers and CYSN, and training should be offered with a focus on establishing good relationships between both parties. Training would also address the gap of unregulated use of online media. Government should integrate lessons about online sexual exploitation and abuse of children (OSEAC) into the school curriculum and orient parents and caregivers to raise awareness about laws and policies that govern and regulate OSEAC. To address the lack of guidance and counselling services available to CYSN, government and other relevant stakeholders should invest in curriculum development on OSEAC as well as train special education teachers who would specifically provide these services to CYSN.



### Child Helpline International

Child Helpline International works collectively with child helpline members to support and protect children and young people through counselling, referral and intervention at times of crisis. Child helplines are also uniquely positioned at the intersection of national child protection systems and participation of children themselves, a low threshold mechanism and entry point to protective services.

As a network, Child Helpline International advocates achieving SDG 16.2 and other global goals to end violence against children through annual [data reports](#) and by building expertise and capacity on the issues that are affecting children in line with WeProtect's Model National Response and the End Violence Strategy. In 2021, the organisation partnered with members in Burundi, Ethiopia and Malawi to expand services across social media channels and to increase capacity to respond to cases of online CSEA and the ongoing impact of the pandemic.

This e-learning module is a combination of definitions, evidence-based good practices and interactive activities to strengthen Child Helpline's knowledge of counselling skills during emergency situations, and specifically the COVID-19 situation.

Through a strategic partnership with the African Union, Child Helpline will harmonise helplines across the continent, and address online CSEA, female genital mutilation and early and forced marriage, as well as many other interventions globally.



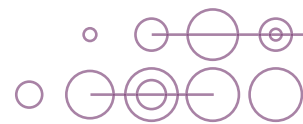
### Civil Society Forum to End Violence Against Children (CSO Forum)

The CSO Forum advocates achieving SDG 16.2 and other global goals to end violence against children. In 2021, the CSO Forum produced the CSO Call to Action on the Voluntary National Reviews prior to the UN High-Level Political Forum.

Working with the End Violence Partnership, the CSO Forum also delivered three regional webinars to support joint advocacy on the Together to #ENDviolence campaign, serving as advocacy planning sessions for civil society partners, allowing the sharing of advocacy experiences in various country contexts.







The CSO Forum further launched a new CSO Forum Working Group on Children and Youth Participation in the Together to #ENDviolence campaign to facilitate meaningful and inclusive participation of children and young people during the Together to #ENDviolence campaign Leaders' Event.

On Pathfinding, The CSO Forum helped expand CSO Focal Points beyond the initial pilot of five countries to identify and engage CSO groups leading on EVAC in a total of 12 Pathfinding Countries: Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Peru, Philippines, Romania and Uganda.

The Safe to Learn Working Group also hosted an Affiliate Event to the Together to #ENDviolence campaign on CSO Adaptations to Support Safe Learning Spaces in the context of COVID-19, building on the CSO Forum's ongoing efforts to help parents and educators keep children safe.



## ECPAT

In recent years, it has become apparent that we lack a comprehensive understanding of how sexual exploitation affects boys. Despite a growing global awareness that boys do experience sexual exploitation and at greater rates than previously recognised, there is limited research available to fully tell this story. To meet this challenge, in 2019 ECPAT launched the Global Boys Initiative to shed light on the scale and scope of this issue and to understand what programmatic response is required for better prevention and protection of boys and for more and better services specifically for male victims.

In 2021, with financial support from the End Violence Fund through its Safe Online initiative, ECPAT International managed and participated in the collection of qualitative data from government stakeholders, frontline service providers, justice professionals, as well as children and their parents who had experienced online sexual exploitation and abuse for the **Disrupting Harm** project. The resulting national reports are already being used to strengthen national systems to prevent and respond to CSEA.

During 2021, ECPAT, in partnership with McMaster University and others, published a first **Global Systematic Literature Review** on sexual exploitation of boys. In collaboration with network members from the respective countries, ECPAT launched specific country reports on sexual exploitation of boys for **Thailand, South Korea, Pakistan, Sri Lanka** and **Hungary**. The country reports include the results of surveys conducted with frontline social service providers about services available to boys subjected to sexual exploitation, analysis of how well the legal framework protects boys from sexual exploitation and recommendations for immediate and future action. Additional reports for Gambia, Bolivia, India, Morocco and Belgium will be launched in 2023 and ECPAT is currently working towards the first-ever global summit on sexual exploitation of boys to be organised next year.



## Global Coalition to Protection Education from Attack (GCPEA)

On 9 September, GCPEA celebrated the second anniversary of the International day to Protect Education from Attack. To commemorate this day, the Government of Qatar and Education Above All, together with UNICEF and UNESCO, held a high-level event that included interventions from GCPEA Executive Director Ms. Diya Nijhowne, United Nations Secretary-General Mr. Antonio Guterres, and many others. Both Senegal and Togo endorsed the **Safe Schools Declaration** ahead of the event.





### Global Initiative to Support Parents (GISP)

To urgently increase awareness and action to support parents and to scale parenting support programmes to families around the world, the GISP was launched, consisting of five core partner agencies.<sup>16</sup> This time-bound consortium aims to build on the Call to Action launched in 2021, in support of a collective action framework that urges increased investment in evidence-based parenting support and intervention across the globe. To date, the call to action has garnered the support of over 50 organisations from more than 25 countries, and over 60 individuals from over 35 countries.

The strategy includes the following collective actions:

1. **Scale:** Invest in proven, cost-effective parenting interventions while building capacity to sustain and scale-up delivery of the services.
2. **Innovate:** Design new digital approaches to support more parents and reach underserved populations.
3. **Generate Evidence and Exchange Knowledge:** Test innovation through real-world trials, optimisation studies and implementation research.
4. **Advocate:** Invest in advocacy for the uptake of parenting interventions through policy advocacy and public and private financing.

GISP was shaped in response to the high demand for parenting support emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic, and the increasing recognition of the critical importance of supporting parents and caregivers to secure a range of human development outcomes. The increased awareness of the importance of parenting support, coupled with the reality that most parenting programmes are delivered in fragmented, sectoral siloes without any cohesive platform to bring together parenting initiatives across the life course and sectors, positions GISP to fill a critical gap in the global, regional, and national ecosystems.



### Global Partnership for Education (GPE)

In July 2021, GPE hosted the **Global Education Summit: Financing GPE 2021-2025**; a key moment for the global community to come together and support quality education for all. As a result of the summit, GPE secured over US\$4 billion for reforming Education Systems, and governments pledged over US\$96 million in domestic funding for education. In addition, leaders across the world made 5-year pledges to support GPE's work to transform education in up to 96 countries and territories. Violence in education emerged as a common issue during the summit. GPE is collaborating with the End Violence Safe to Learn initiative to build on the summit's achievements and to elevate the prioritisation of ending violence in and through schools in GPE's new framework.

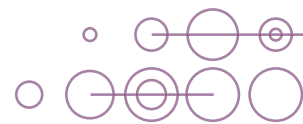


### The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN)

ISPCAN empowers frontline practitioners across all disciplines to lead in the global effort to protect children by providing the latest information, best practices and a worldwide network to create a community of learning. The organisation's goal is to take cutting edge data and research into action in all regions of the world and across all types of abuse. In 2021, ISPCAN hosted a virtual **World Summit** bringing together

<sup>16</sup> The Early Childhood Development Action Network (ECDAN), the End Violence Partnership, Parenting for Lifelong Health (PLH), UNICEF, and the World Health Organisation (WHO)





12 global organisations to highlight new emerging research and programmes in a post lockdown world, with over 1,900 delegates from 54 countries. The ISPCAN [Milan International Congress](#) in June hosted INSPIRE workshops and released the 14th edition of [World Perspectives](#) with 62 country profiles. ISPCAN also hosted over 35 webinars, 12 online trainings, and 5 regional and language-specific Circles of Learning. ISPCAN sits on the Board of Directors for GpeV and produces the monthly *Child Abuse & Neglect: The International Journal*.



### Internet Watch Foundation (IWF)

In 2021, IWF worked with partners across the globe to remove [252,000 webpages containing child sexual abuse imagery](#) from the internet. This includes more than 182,000 URLs containing images or videos of “self-generated” material, a 374 per cent increase on pre-pandemic levels.

The COVID-19 pandemic showed the importance of reporting child sexual abuse material (CSAM), and for all to have access to a reporting mechanism. Thanks to the End Violence Fund, IWF launched 30 reporting portals in least developed, low income and lower middle-income countries, including five new ones in 2021, [marking the success of the project](#). Thanks to this grant, more than 2 billion people have access to a reporting portal, at no cost to their nation.

The pandemic also exposed the huge demand for CSAM, with the UK’s National Crime Agency estimating that between 550,000 and [850,000 people in the UK posed a sexual risk to children](#) in 2021. In response, IWF launched its [reThink Chatbot](#) in partnership with The Lucy Faithfull Foundation and with financial support from the End Violence Fund. This automated chatbot aims to engage internet users who are at risk of viewing CSAM, to make them realise the dangers of their online behaviour and signpost them to the intervention and counselling support they need. Working with The Lucy Faithfull Foundation, IWF has designed a conversation flow which leads to services that could help prevent people from offending. This project could act as a deterrent while also curbing the demand for CSAM to make the internet safer for children.

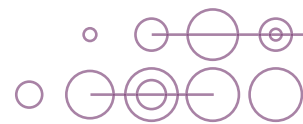


### Plan International

Plan International has been working to implement a gender-transformative approach to violence protection through programmes that target the root causes of violence against children, especially girls, by challenging harmful gender attitudes and patriarchal norms. In Cambodia, Plan International has worked with children, young people, parents, and caregivers to increase their knowledge on positive parenting, gender equality and children’s rights, and to raise awareness of the negative impacts of child marriage and intimate partner violence. In addition, Plan International Zimbabwe has implemented the 18+ project to end child marriages by promoting behavioural changes and strengthening the legal framework related to children’s rights. For this, Plan International has engaged with traditional leaders and youth as champions of change in their communities who are involved in awareness-raising activities, developing mechanisms to report and respond to child marriage cases, and monitoring and reporting cases of child marriage. Traditional leaders have been heavily involved in building the capacity of their communities to implement action plans to end child marriage, including leading community awareness meetings, supporting birth registration activities, and engaging in advocacy efforts.







### Save the Children

Save the Children continued to create space for children in national and international forums, empowering them to share their views and solutions on ending violence against children to key decision makers. These efforts included supporting children's inputs into [OHCHR's report on COVID-19 recovery](#) and, with key partners, hosting a panel of children to participate in the [Global Forum for Children and Youth 2021](#). Save the Children also supported a child speaker at the [Global Protection Cluster End of Year Annual Event](#) to illustrate the reality of children's experiences in conflict and reinforce the urgent need to fund response mechanisms to protect them.

Save the Children continued to support efforts to achieve a universal ban on corporal punishment, helping organise two End Violence high-level conferences amplifying the importance of enacting laws that ban corporal punishment and sharing experiences in putting prohibition into practice by eliminating violent punishment of children.

Save the Children also worked towards strengthening child protection systems through building the capacity of the social welfare workforce. Together with the National Council for Further Education in the United Kingdom Save the Children has developed COMPAQT – a scheme of evidence-based standards on what it means to be a leading-edge, accomplished or skilled child protection professional. At the [4th Biennial Conference on Alternative Care for Children in Asia](#), Save the Children staff shared their experiences and lessons on developing the social welfare workforce and improving the quality of alternative care through legislation and practice.



### The Lutheran World Federation

Since September 2020, the Lutheran World Foundation has embarked on its pledge of updating its global child protection guidelines and make prevention of violence against children a key theme. LWF has started to increase programming in this respect, and looked at how to integrate preventing violence against children in existing operations. LWF has also worked on developing a LWF member church and LWF World Service led programme in the Latin American and Caribbean region, however, this pledge is still under development. Lastly, LWF has more strategically engaged in the child development and protection space at large, focusing on early childhood development and quality service approaches. Internally LWF is updating its safeguarding policy and designed a new code of conduct, both to be adopted in 2022 and implemented throughout all of LWF's World Service country programmes.



### Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Violence Against Children (SRSG-VAC)

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) engaged in strong mobilisation and advocacy to end violence against children through more than 250 online and in-person meetings with Member States – 38 presenting Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) in 2021 – intergovernmental regional organisations, civil society, faith-based organisations, the private sector and academia. The SRSG continued to share evidence-based actions and develop tools to support Member States, including a briefing on the enormous returns of investing in integrated services for children promoted through a dedicated VNR lab during the 2021 High-Level Political Forum and bilateral engagement with Member States.

At the regional level, the SRSG mobilised entities of the United Nations system





and others to promote the adoption of integrated approaches to prevent and end violence against children and its drivers across the 2030 Agenda.

At the country-level, the SRSG participated in the National Policy Dialogue on Ending Violence Against Children in Nigeria and in the Philippines, which took stock of the countries' achievements since they became End Violence Pathfinding countries, and held an inspiring interactive dialogue with the Children's Parliament of Namibia. Country visits were also conducted to Chad, Niger, Lebanon and Jordan.

The SRSG partnered with children and child-led organisations from all regions supporting children's involvement in decision-making processes and, for the first time, reported directly to children.



### Terre des Hommes International Federation (TDHIF)

TDHIF works in around 70 countries around the globe to put child rights into practice, to protect children from harm as well as to influence agendas and strategies that affect children and youth at all levels.

The Voice for Change programme provides knowledge and skills to youth advocates in several countries to increase awareness of commercial sexual exploitation of children. With a focus on child sexual exploitation, the programme aims to empower children and young people to improve child protection systems by influencing decision-makers.

In Southeast Europe, TDHIF has created with its partners the Child Protection Hub, a vibrant community of child protection actors committed to transforming the lives of the most vulnerable children. The Child Protection Hub empowers and connects professionals to learn, advocate and collaborate in the fight against child abuse, trafficking and exploitation.

In nine countries in Africa and the Middle East, the She Leads Programme works with girls and young women to increase their sustained influence on decision-making and the transformation of gender norms in formal and informal institutions. For example, grassroots organisations and movements raise awareness and provide free legal support to women in rural areas on gender-based and domestic violence. The programme also supports girls to escape situations of violence, including early and forced marriages.



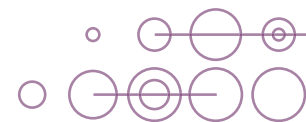
### Together for Girls

**Together for Girls** is a global partnership working to end violence against children and adolescents, particularly sexual violence against girls. The partnership pays special attention to the gendered dimensions of violence, and its impact on health, education and human rights. Together for Girls uses an innovative model of **data**, advocacy and action to drive lasting change and create a safer world for all.

In 2021, Together for Girls catalysed the **Brave Movement**, a global survivor-centred advocacy movement working to end all forms of sexual violence against children and adolescents. The Brave Movement is led by **15 survivor leaders** and allied partners. It demands bold and transformative action to mobilise billions for programmes focused on prevention, healing and justice worldwide, abolish statutes of limitation in every nation, and develop a child-rights-driven approach to online end-to-end encryption.

Together for Girls and partners also created a sister movement in the US, **Keep Kids Safe**, which aims to end sexual violence against children and adolescents through





federal-level advocacy. In 2021, Keep Kids Safe released the *U.S. National Blueprint to End Sexual Violence Against Children and Adolescents*, a roadmap outlining steps the US Federal Government can take to prevent sexual violence against children and adolescents and ensure that those who experience sexual violence have access to healing and justice.



### United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued into its second year, UNICEF's violence against children programming focused on mitigating the pandemic's impact on the protection and well-being of children. Around the world, efforts were made to bolster multisectoral response services for children experiencing violence; scale up support provided to parents and caregivers; help schools implement basic child protection measures as they reopened; and address risks for children in digital environments.

In 2021, over 4.4 million children who experienced violence were reached by UNICEF-supported services across 129 countries, a growth of 80 per cent since 2017. UNICEF also accelerated the scale-up of parenting programmes around the world, reaching 3 million mothers, fathers and caregivers with interactive curriculum and face-to-face support across 94 countries, a four-fold increase to those reached in 2017.

UNICEF country offices in all regions continue to support the strengthening of multisectoral national responses to combat violence against children facilitated by digital technologies. In 2021, with financial support from the End Violence Fund, UNICEF closed gaps in evidence around online CSEA. For example, 13 UNICEF offices supported the delivery of national cross-sectoral programmes to prevent and respond to online sexual exploitation and abuse. Drawing on learning from programming in 29 countries, UNICEF published critical findings in its report, *Ending online child sexual exploitation and abuse: Lessons learned and promising practices in low- and middle-income countries*. The report sets out the current level of implementation of the WeProtect Model National Response, gaps and challenges across countries, and promising practices and lessons learned.



### United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Office of Research – Innocenti

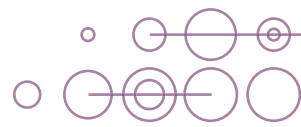
In 2021, with financial support from the End Violence Fund, UNICEF Innocenti collected extensive survey data from children and their parents regarding online sexual exploitation and abuse for the *Disrupting Harm* project. The resulting national reports are already being used to strengthen national systems to prevent and respond to CSEA.

UNICEF Innocenti also generates evidence on violence against girls, boys and women to support UNICEF's programming and the end violence movement more broadly by:

- **Synthesising** violence evidence and developing global shared **research priorities**.
- Exploring emerging issues in the violence against children and women fields, such as the **intersections** between these forms of violence and the need for **gender transformative** approaches.
- Building capacity for generating and using evidence.
- Exploring the impact of COVID-19 on **violence**.







UNICEF Innocenti hosted two evidence events via the Together to #ENDviolence campaign focused on the importance of data to guide action on **violence against children**, as well as on intersections of violence against children and **violence against women**. The events gathered hundreds of researchers, practitioners, policymakers and activists worldwide to take stock of what is known about addressing both forms of violence, pinpoint knowledge gaps and discuss opportunities to increase coordination across these fields.

The identified need to improve coordination between these fields also led UNICEF Innocenti to establish a collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) to develop shared **research priorities** for the intersections of VAC and VAW.



Information session with learners on keeping safe online facilitated by LifeLine/ChildLine Namibia with UNICEF support. Namibia is an End Violence Pathfinding country. © UNICEF Namibia



### UNICEF Venture Fund

The UNICEF Venture Fund, in partnership with the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children, invested in two new start-ups developing open source, AI-powered solutions to address digital risks to children - tilli and Talk2U.

The new cohort will receive equity-free investments through the UNICEF Venture Fund and a year-long mentorship with UNICEF's technical and programme experts and partners. End Violence is a technical partner and will provide programmatic expertise for the portfolio management of this cohort and enable access to key networks focusing on child online protection.

Technological solutions are a crucial element in efficiently responding to online threats to children. This cohort has been selected through a call for applications focused on software solutions that respond to four broad categories of digital risks to children: Content, Contact, Conduct and Contract Risks.





Tilli (Sri Lanka) is a game-based, AI-powered social-emotional learning tool that teaches 5-10-year-olds the skills needed to stay safe and healthy.

## Talk2U

Talk2U (Brazil) is a behavioural micro-intervention chatbot to impart strategies to users for child online safety, as well as trainings on different types of abuse.



### United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)

UNESCO, together with the World Anti-Bullying Forum, hosted a series of international webinars about school bullying in the lead up to the World Anti-Bullying Forum in November 2021. The four webinars that took place from March to September covered:

- The Whole Education approach to bullying prevention (including cyberbullying)
- Revisiting the definition of school bullying
- Bullying involving children with disabilities
- The role of teachers in preventing and addressing bullying and cyberbullying

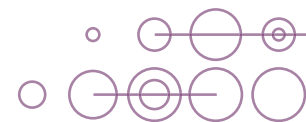


### WeProtect Global Alliance

The [WeProtect Global Alliance](#) launched its latest *Global Threat Assessment* in October 2021. The report highlighted the increase in both the scale and complexity of child sexual abuse online. It showed how COVID-19 has had a huge impact on children and their online exposure. Alongside the threat assessment, the WeProtect Global Alliance published the findings from the [Economist Impact Global Survey](#) and [Survey Of Tech Companies](#). The former was a study conducted by Economist Impact, surveying more than 5,000 18-20-year-olds in 54 countries worldwide to find out about their experiences of sexual harms online. The survey of 32 tech companies was carried out by WeProtect Global Alliance and the [Techn Coalition](#) to understand the scope of activities by technology companies to combat the issue of child sexual abuse online.

Another notable achievement in 2021 was the [WeProtect Global Alliance Executive Director's intervention at the Paris Peace Forum 2021](#) highlighting the need for a global coordinated response to CSEA online. In 2021, the Alliance also carried out [research on survivors' perspectives](#), in partnership with ECPAT International, culminating in six country-level reports and a global report. The Alliance also published a briefing paper with [FrameWorks UK](#) on [how to talk about child sexual abuse in the digital world](#).





### World Health Organization (WHO)

In 2021, WHO's African office launched the regional status report on preventing violence against children in [English](#), [French](#) and [Portuguese](#). The report, based on the findings of the *Global status report on preventing violence against children 2020*, collates inputs from decision-makers in 33 countries in the region who assessed their violence prevention status against the evidence-based approaches set out in *INSPIRE: Seven strategies for ending violence against children*. WHO brought together some 100 violence prevention focal points from the African region to discuss the report findings, provide an overview of INSPIRE and share experiences around its implementation in the region, and highlight the unique role of health systems in preventing and responding to violence, particularly in the context of COVID-19. The forum also encouraged the implementation of the 74th World Health Assembly resolution on "Ending Violence Against Children through Health Systems Strengthening and Multisectoral Approaches" and served as a platform to showcase the WHO documentary featuring victims of violence which was subsequently selected for an international short film festival. Furthermore, as part of ongoing support to the Government of Côte d'Ivoire in its efforts to prevent violence against children, WHO played a lead role in organising a week-long workshop that aimed to strengthen multi-sectoral coordination, move from data to action, discuss adaptation and scale-up of existing programmes, build capacities at country level, and discuss the upcoming National Plan to End Violence Against Children and Women. In Uganda, WHO similarly supported the National Policy Dialogue as well as efforts to strengthen the capacity of health care workers. Finally, WHO funded and organised the INSPIRE Training of Trainers, bringing together over 50 trainers from around the world, and training over 60 journalists on solutions-based reporting on violence against children.



### World Organisation of the Scout Movement (WOSM)

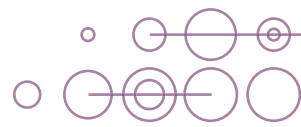
In 2020-21, World Scouting saw the true strength and resilience of its movement as it managed through the challenges of a global pandemic, celebrated some major milestones and continued to make progress towards achieving [Vision 2023](#), its Strategy for Scouting.

WOSM continues to make child and youth safety and protection a top priority across the movement. To date, more than 50 trained WOSM consultants have helped to deliver Safe from Harm services to 100 National Scouting Organisations (NSOs). This past year, a series of Safe from Harm [resources and e-learning courses](#) was launched for use at world and regional events, along with a Safe from Harm Self-Assessment Tool for NSOs and a set of accessible materials for Scout Leaders to adopt within the youth programme.

In August 2021, the 42nd World Scout Conference voted to change the [WOSM constitution](#), making it a requirement for member organisations to implement policies and procedures that ensure a safe environment for children, young people and adults in Scouting. The Conference also reaffirmed the Scout Movement's commitment to continue to strengthen the implementation of the World Safe from Harm Policy at all levels of Scouting, making this a key priority for the current triennium. World Scout Conference also worked with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Violence Against Children on two key events, one during the UN General Assembly on involving young people in decision-making around child protection policies, and another launching a child-friendly human rights report ahead of the [49th Human Rights Council](#).





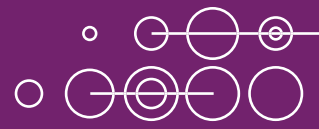


## World Vision

World Vision mobilised supporters to carry out over 2 million advocacy actions to end violence against children in 2021 as part of its It Takes a World campaign. The global effort across 87 countries has reached 268 million children and contributed to 265 policy changes that address violence against children. Critically, 65 of these changes were related to allocating, increasing or defending government funding to address violence against children. World Vision and the End Violence Partnership gathered 300 specialists to participate in three Together to #ENDviolence campaign affiliate events. Participants were from local, national, and global levels and included academia, policymakers and donors. More than 87 faith leaders and their spouses from three countries and diverse faith contexts actively worked on child protection in their communities after participating in World Vision Channels of Hope Child Protection workshops ([Faith Communities' Contribution to Ending Violence against Children](#)).







# PART FIVE

## LOOKING AHEAD





The world is grappling with simultaneous crises, including COVID-19, climate change, multiple conflicts, sharp increases in the cost of living and shortages of food and other essential commodities. Some of these crises are interrelated. All of them put children at greater risk of violence, abuse and exploitation. Despite these immense challenges, momentum towards change is accelerating.

## The Power of Partnership and Knowledge

A key strength of the End Violence Partnership lies in its power to convene, to bring partners, knowledge and expertise together, and to support and strengthen the growing movement.

2021 was a year in which the synergy of our multi-faceted partnerships was enhanced. Partner collaboration increased significantly and was critical for all of our key achievements. Convened by the End Violence Partnership, a growing movement of partners, networks and advocates, including more than 50 governments, worked together to share and implement what works to protect children and to advocate for the realisation of our common vision of a world free from violence.

End Violence Partnership played an important role in the collection, management, sharing and promotion of knowledge materials generated from our community of over 700 partners. Knowledge materials include case studies, research findings, policy reports, podcasts, courses, evaluations and other publications. The End Violence [Knowledge Platform](#) houses the latest evidence, research and data and amplifies partner research through promotional campaigns and targeted events.

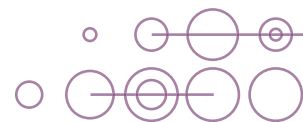
The gathering, sharing and promotion of evidence makes a strong case for change. These resources target diverse readerships. They support parents in safeguarding their children from violence; practitioners in advocating for and implementing change in-country; and policymakers in creating the policies and budgets to end violence against children.

## Challenges and Opportunities

In 2015, more than 190 government leaders committed to end all violence against children by 2030 as part of the Sustainable Development Goals. Those governments now have just eight years remaining to meet that target. The End Violence Partnership has created an enabling environment for change and a mechanism for collaborative support to accelerate progress towards the global goal.







## Raising Awareness Through Collective Advocacy

There is a lack of awareness about violence against children. Many people are unaware of both the scale of violence and abuse of children and the impact that it has on their health, education and development. More must also be done to raise awareness about how digital technologies are impacting existing and new forms of violence and abuse. But awareness is growing. While COVID-19 increased the exposure of children to violence, it also increased awareness of the scale and impact of violence against children, and the availability of practical, evidence-based solutions. The coming year will provide opportunities for collective advocacy around key global, regional and national moments as well as Safer Internet Day and the International Day to #EndCorporalPunishment. At other times, we will elevate violence against children on the global agenda through the mobilisation of End Violence Champions<sup>17</sup> and advocates, thought leaders and influencers as part of the Together to #ENDviolence campaign.

The launch of a Safe to Learn Global Advocacy Task Force in collaboration with the Global Partnership for Education will help to build political will at the global level and leverage high-level events to magnify the issue and amplify the voices of children.

There is also an appetite and sense of urgency for greater coordination and alignment around key advocacy and policy issues related to children's safety online. The End Violence Safe Online initiative will work with key partners to jointly leverage key opportunities, such as the G7 announcement in June 2021 that laid out a set of **ground-breaking commitments** to combat online CSEA and proposed **new European legislation to prevent and combat child sexual abuse online**.

## Increasing Political Will and Investment

Whilst everyone can agree that violence against children is profoundly wrong and must end, few are aware that violence undermines all government investments in services for children such as education, parenting programmes and antenatal care, or that violence against children holds back economic growth. Funds to end violence against children are rarely visible in domestic or Official Development Assistance (ODA) budgets. *Counting Pennies II: An analysis of official development assistance to end violence against children* was jointly released by the End Violence Partnership in February 2021. It found that a lack of ODA investment in child protection is a key obstacle to ending violence against children. A more recent paper, *The Violence Prevention Dividend: Why preventing violence against children makes economic sense*, builds upon this research to illustrate how ending violence against children can remove a critical barrier to children achieving their full development potential and could save costs to societies that have been estimated to be up to 5 per cent of national GDP.

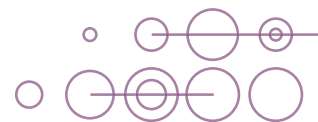
The End Violence Partnership is in a strong position to address these challenges. Having successfully aligned the Partnership around **six policy proposals**, we will now work with partners large and small to promote the policy proposals and secure their adoption and implementation among national governments. Inter-country learning exchanges involving governments, UN agencies, civil society, foundations, research institutions and other stakeholders will help to achieve this. The national policy dialogues and leader statements that result from these exchanges are key milestones towards policy and funding commitments.

## National policy dialogues and leaders' statements

The purpose of national policy dialogues is to achieve consensus on the main gaps in policy and to agree on areas for scaling up the INSPIRE evidence-based strategies to end violence against children. To continue the strident progress made during 2021 in which 21 countries convened national policy dialogues, 15 countries submitted government statements, and another seven countries planned to hold national policy dialogues during 2022, the End Violence Pathfinding team will work with UNICEF and civil society organisations in-country to continue engaging and supporting national governments.

<sup>17</sup> End Violence Champions are individuals who dedicate their lives to ending violence against children. We celebrate these individuals and amplify their voices.





## 2022 Leaders' Event to secure and announce government commitments

The Together to #ENDviolence campaign has enabled the End Violence community to share solutions and catalyse action and investment to end violence against children. Eighteen months of collaboration will culminate in a high-profile Leaders' Event in June 2022. Alongside children and adult survivors of violence and abuse, the event will provide a platform for heads of government and leaders of multilateral institutions, private sector, foundations, civil society, faith-based organisations, celebrities and others to demonstrate progress and share commitments to end violence against children.

## Safe to Learn roundtables to secure policy commitments

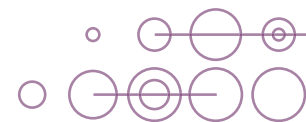
End Violence's Safe to Learn initiative will organise regional roundtables to support countries that are committed to embedding violence protection in their education systems. The roundtables will provide a platform to share and promote local expertise, and evidence-based policy and programming.



## Implementation guidance and technical support to end corporal punishment

Our goal is to achieve 100 prohibiting countries by 2030, reaching a global tipping point in which violence in child-rearing is no longer socially accepted, and non-violent childhoods are normalised. End Violence will continue to advocate for and support governments and partners on this journey, providing information and technical advice and engaging with human rights mechanisms to build pressure and momentum. To support countries in putting legal prohibition into effect, we have produced 'Implementation Guidance' in eight languages and will disseminate this globally in order to accelerate the elimination of violent punishment.





## Addressing Gaps in Evidence and Data

While solutions to end violence against children are becoming clearer, there is a need to increase investments to fill the evidence gap in the field of violence against children. For example, we lack sufficient evidence on what works to end online CSEA, and we have data gaps regarding the prevention of violence in low- and middle-income countries. Continued investment in research and programme evaluation is needed to improve the End Violence Partnership's knowledge of effective solutions and inform its Safe Online strategy and work. Furthermore, some countries lack baseline and trend data on violence against children indicators making it difficult to assess the scale of the problem, make the most strategic investments or to monitor progress toward addressing it.

In 2022, the End Violence Safe Online initiative will tackle one of the biggest gaps preventing an effective response to online CSEA – the lack of robust evidence, and a compelling narrative on what works to end online CSEA. New resources and efforts will be invested to generate, centralise and share evidence-based solutions and enable the movement to speak with one voice on what works to end CSEA.

To fill the gap in baseline data, the End Violence Partnership has undertaken a large-scale data gathering exercise to develop a **Country Dashboard**, a crucial new public tool to support and monitor government progress to end violence against children, beginning with the 37 Pathfinding countries. Data gathered includes information on demographics, prevalence of various types of violence, progress on Pathfinding milestones such as national action plans, and indicators on school-based and online violence. The dashboard will be a live platform regularly updated to ensure coherence across all initiatives. It will ultimately be expanded to encompass all countries, not only End Violence Pathfinders.

## Fundraising and Resource Mobilisation

We believe that the conditions are in place for a once-in-a-generation opportunity to accelerate progress and to reach a tipping point by 2030, where it has become unacceptable for children to experience violence in any setting, in any part of the world.

Working with donors, the End Violence Partnership serves three vital roles in accelerating progress to SDG 16.2. The first is in **securing further investment** for our own mission from an increasing number of governments, foundations, philanthropists, and private sector donors who share our vision and recognise that our evidence-based interventions are designed for scale.

The second is in establishing a **wider investment case for larger-scale funding** at country, regional and global levels to deliver a paradigm shift in the prevention of violence against children.

Our third role is to **facilitate collaboration and collective action** among the coalition of donors within this space. Events, such as our regular donor convenings, serve as a platform for synergising initiatives and helping donors to set key priorities, using a robust evidence-based approach.

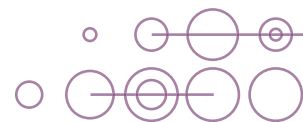
## Investment Case to Tackle Childhood Sexual Violence

Childhood sexual violence (CSV) happens at home, at school, online and in communities. And it happens at an appalling scale; estimates suggest that more than 1 billion people have experienced it. Right now, a combination of factors is combining to create a moment of opportunity to mobilise significant new investment to prevent and respond to CSV. These include:

- A growth in balanced, mainstream media coverage, e.g. an award-winning series in the **New York Times** raising public awareness;
- Political attention, most recently from **G7 Leaders** and also including **new legislation** proposed by the European Commission to better protect children online, and a new **White House Task Force** with a remit to tackle child sexual abuse domestically and internationally;







- The newly-organised voices of adult survivors of CSV, in particular the **Brave Movement**; and
- The global reach and proven ability of the **End Violence Partnership** to raise awareness, catalyse leadership commitments, share actionable evidence and invest for impact through the **End Violence Fund**.

We know from existing investments through the End Violence Fund that programming to tackle CSV will build capability and strengthen the systems needed to prevent and respond to multiple forms of child violence, abuse and exploitation. And because investing to tackle CSV helps prevent and respond to a range of physical, sexual, emotional and psychological child violence and abuse, in turn it has a positive multiplier effect on child health, education and development.



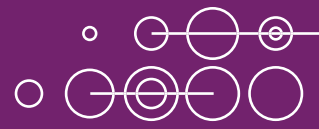
With initial support from Oak Foundation, Dalberg Advisors and the End Violence Secretariat are developing an investment case to mobilise significant new funding to tackle CSV through the End Violence Fund, working with adult survivors of CSV, experts, implementing partners and donors.

Our approach to launching the investment case and campaigning will be informed by other successful global partnership and fund replenishments, although carefully tailored to the unique nature of CSV as an emotionally compelling and significantly underfunded issue on which tangible progress can be made.

We expect to be ready to launch the investment case in the second half of 2022 and the campaign towards a pledging moment in mid-2023.







# PART SIX

# GOVERNANCE





# End Violence Board

The End Violence Board provides strategic input and oversight of the End Violence Partnership and Fund. Board members champion the cause of ending violence against children and advocate for leadership commitments, action and investment to support delivery of Partnership priorities.

## Board Members as of July 2022

<b>Niklas Andreen</b>	President and Chief Operating Officer, Carlson Wagonlit Travel*
<b>Sima Sami Bahous</b>	Executive Director, UN Women
<b>Gary Cohen</b>	Chief Revenue Officer, AeroFarms
<b>Iain Drennan</b>	Executive Director, WeProtect Global Alliance & End Violence Executive Committee Co-Chair
<b>H.E. Marcelo Ebrard</b>	Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Mexico
<b>Virginia Gamba</b>	United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict
<b>Meg Gardinier</b>	Secretary-General, ChildFund Alliance
<b>Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus</b>	Director-General, World Health Organization (WHO)
<b>Lena Hallengren</b>	Minister for Health and Social Affairs, Sweden
<b>Dr Etienne Krug</b>	Director, Department of the Social Determinants of Health, WHO & End Violence Executive Committee Co-Chair
<b>Dr A.K. Shiva Kumar</b>	Co-Chair, Know Violence in Childhood
<b>Rev. Keishi Miyamoto</b>	President, Arigatou International
<b>Dr Najat Maalla M'jid</b>	United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children
<b>Wendy Morton MP</b>	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for European Neighbourhood and the Americas), United Kingdom
<b>Dr Joan Nyanyuki</b>	Executive Director, Africa Child Policy Forum & End Violence Executive Committee Co-Chair
<b>Joy Phumaphi</b>	Executive Secretary of the African Leaders' Malaria Initiative & End Violence Board Co-Chair
<b>Dr Joanna Rubinstein</b>	Independent Expert; former President and CEO, World Childhood Foundation USA
<b>Rev. Dr Ioan Saucu</b>	Acting General Secretary, World Council of Churches
<b>Dr Rajeev Seth</b>	President, International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
<b>Helle Thorning-Schmidt</b>	Former President of Denmark & End Violence Board Co-Chair
<b>H.E. Hayashi Yoshimasa</b>	Minister for Foreign Affairs, Japan

\*New representative from Carlson Family Foundation appointed in 2022







# End Violence Executive Committee

The End Violence Executive Committee and its working groups develop and oversee delivery of End Violence Partnership strategy and priorities, including investments through the End Violence Fund. The Executive Committee also oversees the work of the Secretariat.

## Executive Committee Members as of July 2022

<b>Lina María Arbeláez Arbeláez</b>	Director-General, Colombian Institute of Family Welfare
<b>Diana Dalton</b>	Head of Gender and Equalities Department, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, United Kingdom
<b>Iain Drennan</b>	Executive Director, WeProtect Global Alliance & Executive Committee Co-Chair
<b>Kul Gautam</b>	Independent Expert; former Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF
<b>Maureen Greenwood-Basken</b>	Director, Global Children's Rights Program, Wellspring Philanthropic Fund
<b>Nazim Khizar</b>	Deputy Director, Financial Reporting and Grants Management, UNICEF
<b>Aggrey David Kibenge</b>	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Uganda
<b>Dr Etienne Krug</b>	Director, Department of the Social Determinants of Health, World Health Organization & Executive Committee Co-Chair
<b>Dr Daniela Ligiero</b>	Executive Director and CEO, Together for Girls
<b>Tobias Lundin Gerdås</b>	State Secretary to the Minister for Health and Social Affairs, Sweden
<b>Amanda Melville</b>	Senior Protection Officer, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>Dr Jim Mercy</b>	Director, Division of Violence Prevention, United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<b>Steve Miller</b>	CEO, Save the Children South Africa
<b>Eleanor Monbiot</b>	Regional Leader, Middle East and Eastern Europe, World Vision
<b>Dr Joan Nyanyuki</b>	Executive Director, Africa Child Policy Forum & Executive Committee Co-Chair
<b>Christian Papaleontiou</b>	Deputy Director, Tackling Exploitation and Abuse Unit, Home Office, United Kingdom
<b>Patricia Sainz</b>	Regional Program Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, SOS Children's Villages International
<b>Sanjay Wijesekera</b>	Director of Programme Group, UNICEF





# Executive Committee Working Groups

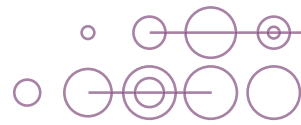
Since 2020, Working Groups of the Executive Committee have helped to guide and accelerate work in two high-priority strategic areas. Working Group members are drawn from the End Violence Executive Committee and other experts and stakeholders. In each case, the goal is to add critical expertise and access to resources to drive success. Each group makes recommendations to the Executive Committee for final approval.

- **Pathfinding Progress Working Group** provides strategic direction on scale-up plans in Pathfinding countries using the INSPIRE strategies. The working group considers programmatic aspects of country engagement – for example corporal punishment, parenting or child protection systems – and builds political and financial support for Pathfinding and INSPIRE.
- **Safe Online Working Group** provides strategic direction and guidance on the End Violence Partnership’s work to prevent and respond to child sexual abuse and exploitation online, as well as wider child protection and online safety issues. The working group recommends and monitors investments from the End Violence Fund in this area.

## People

The 24-member End Violence Secretariat is a diverse, multicultural team with unique expertise ranging from child protection, education, global policy and aid financing to gender and inclusion, and communications and advocacy. The Secretariat is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the End Violence Partnership’s work around the world. Based in New York, Geneva and other locations, the team connects individuals, organisations and governments to ensure that ending violence against children is on the global agenda and galvanise the political will and resources needed to make the world safe for all children.



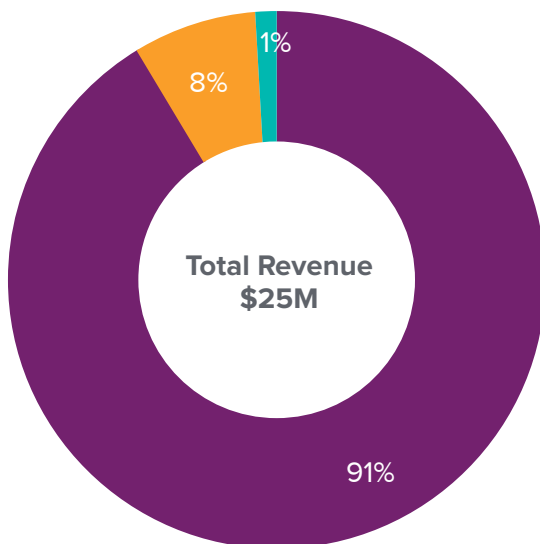


# 2021 Financial Summary

Financial and in-kind support from funders and partners ensured that adequate resources were available for End Violence Partnership and Fund to continue delivering tangible results to prevent and respond to violence against children in homes, schools, communities and online. Despite the ongoing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and a constrained global economic situation, the End Violence Partnership received over US\$25 million in contributions in 2021, including from the Governments of Japan, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

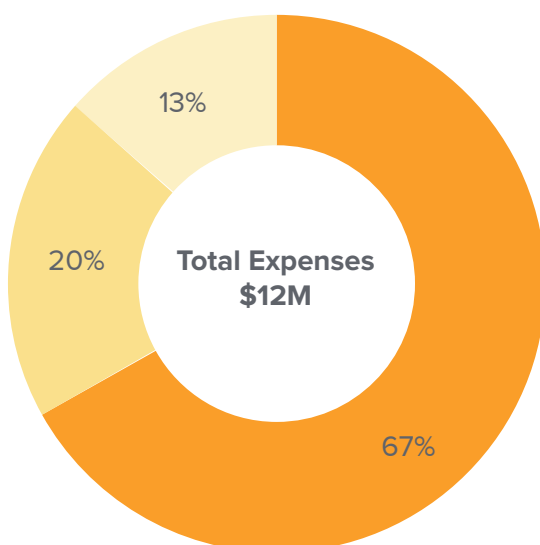
The End Violence Secretariat used funding flexibility in 2021 to assist our global partners in responding to the elevated risks of violence to children brought on by the isolation of COVID-19 lockdowns. This meant pivoting significant portions of planned 2021 work to COVID-19-related efforts to ensure policymakers, practitioners, donors and partners understood the elevated risks to children and were equipped to respond.

The following pages show a breakdown of income and expenditures for both the End Violence Fund and Secretariat in 2021, as well as cumulatively since 2016.



## 2021 Revenue

- Governments
- Foundations & Individuals
- UN



## 2021 Expenditure

- Grants
- Programme Support
- Management & Operations







## INCOME

All figures are in USD

Sources of funds	Committed contributions <sup>1</sup>	Received 2016-20	Received 2021	Total Contributions Received
Carlson Family Foundation	\$0.02 M	\$0.02 M		\$0.02 M
Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children	\$0.11 M		\$0.11 M	\$0.11 M
Government of Canada	\$0.07 M	\$0.07 M		\$0.07 M
Government of Japan	\$7.30 M	\$5.91 M	\$1.39 M	\$7.30 M
Government of Sweden	\$1.89 M	\$0.79 M	\$1.10 M	\$1.89 M
Government of Switzerland	\$5.26 M	\$5.26 M		\$5.26 M
Government of United Kingdom FCDO	\$12.64 M	\$12.64 M		\$12.64 M
Government of United Kingdom Home Office	\$72.24 M	\$51.56 M	\$20.68 M	\$72.24 M
Human Dignity Foundation	\$5.05 M	\$4.30 M		\$4.30 M
Ignite Philanthropy (New Venture Fund)	\$2.91 M	\$2.13 M	\$0.78 M	\$2.91 M
Kofi and Nane Annan	\$0.14 M	\$0.14 M		\$0.14 M
Oak Foundation	\$5.00 M	\$5.00 M		\$5.00 M
Roblox	\$0.01 M		\$0.01 M	\$0.01 M
Tech Coalition	\$2.01 M	\$0.18 M	\$1.02 M	\$1.20 M
<b>Total contributions</b>	<b>\$114.66 M</b>	<b>\$88.01 M</b>	<b>\$25.09 M</b>	<b>\$113.10 M</b>
Less UNICEF 1% fee <sup>2</sup>		-\$0.88 M	-\$0.25 M	-\$1.13 M
UNICEF (bilateral contribution from Canada) <sup>3</sup>		\$0.17 M		\$0.17 M
UNICEF (thematic funds) <sup>4</sup>		\$0.25 M	\$0.25 M	\$0.50 M
UNICEF		\$0.59 M	\$0.04 M	\$0.63 M
<b>Total sources of funds</b>	<b>\$114.66 M</b>	<b>\$88.15 M</b>	<b>\$25.13 M</b>	<b>\$113.27 M</b>

<sup>1</sup> Committed contribution refers to the total amount confirmed in the contribution agreement. All figures are in US Dollars and rounded to the nearest \$1,000.

<sup>2</sup> UNICEF as funds custodian and administrator applies a 1% administrative fee to all contributions received.

<sup>3</sup> Canada's 2019 contribution of \$174,800 was made through a UNICEF project on "Supporting Girls to be Safe to Learn".

<sup>4</sup> Contribution managed via UNICEF Programme Division, under Global Thematic Funding for Child Protection.





## TRANSFERS TO SECRETARIAT FOR ACTIVITIES AND OPERATIONS

Contributions earmarked for secretariat <sup>1</sup>	2016-19	2021	Total
Government of Canada	\$0.07 M		\$0.07 M
Government of Sweden	\$0.78 M	\$1.09 M	\$1.87 M
Government of Switzerland	\$1.20 M		\$1.20 M
Government of the United Kingdom FCDO	\$7.10 M		\$7.10 M
Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children		\$0.11 M	\$0.11 M
Ignite Philanthropy (New Venture Fund)	\$2.11 M	\$0.77 M	\$2.88 M
Other transfers to secretariat <sup>2</sup>			
Carlson Family Foundation	\$0.01 M		\$0.01 M
Government of Japan	\$0.45 M	\$0.21 M	\$0.65 M
Government of Switzerland	\$1.03 M		\$1.03 M
Government of United Kingdom FCDO	\$0.43 M		\$0.43 M
Government of United Kingdom (Home Office)	\$5.94 M	\$3.14 M	\$9.08 M
Kofi and Nane Annan	\$0.14 M		\$0.14 M
Oak Foundation	\$0.40 M		\$0.40 M
Tech Coalition	\$0.18 M	\$0.20 M	\$0.38 M
Roblox		\$0.01 M	\$0.01 M
UNICEF	\$0.48 M	\$0.11 M	\$0.59 M
Total transfers to Secretariat	\$20.34 M	\$5.64 M	\$25.97 M
UNICEF (bilateral contribution from Canada)	\$0.17 M		\$0.17 M
UNICEF (thematic funds) <sup>3</sup>	\$0.25 M	\$0.25 M	\$0.50 M
Total sources of funds to Secretariat	\$20.76 M	\$5.89 M	\$26.65 M

<sup>1</sup>Contributions fully earmarked by the donor for the End Violence Secretariat to support Partnership activities and operations.

<sup>2</sup>A portion of contributions to the Fund, as agreed with the donor, for grant management costs and crosscutting support, such as communications, resource mobilisation and safeguarding. Also includes un-earmarked contributions from various donors.

<sup>3</sup>Contributions made available to the End Violence Secretariat via UNICEF Programme Division, but not transferred to the End Violence Secretariat account.

All figures are in US dollars and rounded to the nearest \$1,000.

The End Violence Secretariat also received in-kind contributions of staff (experts on loan) during 2016-21, worth an estimated \$6.2 million, from the following partners: Government of Switzerland (\$1.9M); UNICEF (\$1.43M); UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (\$0.9M); ChildFund Alliance (\$0.5M); No Violence in Childhood (\$0.3M); UNHCR (\$0.2M); SOS Children's Villages (\$0.2M); Save the Children–Sweden (\$0.2M); and Ignite Philanthropy: inspiring the end to violence against girls and boys (\$0.6M).





## EXPENDITURE

END VIOLENCE FUND	Spent 2016-20	Spent 2021	Total
Grants for projects to prevent and respond to violence, abuse and exploitation of children online, in schools, at home and in communities	\$49.15 M	\$8.11 M	\$57.26 M
Outstanding grant commitments to be disbursed			\$5.59 M
Refunds of unspent grant balances		-\$0.29 M	
<b>Total commitments</b>			<b>\$62.85 M</b>

END VIOLENCE SECRETARIAT	Spent 2016-20	Spent 2021 <sup>1</sup>	Total
Partnership activities and operations	\$15.84 M	\$4.02 M	\$19.86 M

Total Expenditure – Fund and Secretariat (including outstanding grant commitments)			\$82.71 M
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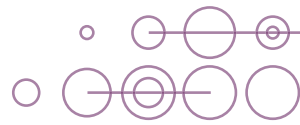
<sup>1</sup>Includes USD 206,486 contributed to End Violence Secretariat but managed via UNICEF Programme Division



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# Expression of Thanks

The End Violence Partnership wishes to thank and acknowledge the generous contributions of our partners that continue to make a remarkable difference to the lives of so many children.

From  
the People of Japan

IGNITE  
PHILANTHROPY  
inspiring the end to violence  
against girls and boys

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

TECHNOLOGY  
COALITION  
FIGHTING CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

UKaid  
from the British people

The End Violence Partnership is a member of the Funder Safeguarding Collaborative and is committed to promoting a culture of safety and embedding practices that keep people safe from harm in all areas of its work. See our [safeguarding policy](#).



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Website [End Violence Partnership](#)

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# Annex: Safe Online Portfolio Results 2021

Safe Online Investment Portfolio Results in 2021 – highlights of the results achieved by Safe Online grantees worldwide.

## Safe Online Investment Portfolio

As of December 2021, the Safe Online investment portfolio included **58** projects with impact in over **70** countries. Funded projects ranged from programs building strong systems at country and regional level and large-scale research projects (e.g. **Disrupting Harm**), to designing new and scaling-up existing **technology-based solutions** for tackling online sexual exploitation and abuse against children. The descriptions of the investments are available [here](#), and below you can find the map of our investments as of December 2021. To access more information about the Safe Online work please visit our [website](#).



This appendix outlines the key results achieved by the Safe Online investment portfolio from January to December 2021 and covers the work of 42 grantees whose projects (45) were active throughout the year. It does not include results from grantees that ended their grant by December 2020, and from those organisations whose grants were awarded or started in 2022.



# SAFE ONLINE INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO MAP

**Total Funding Committed**  
**US \$48,028,431**

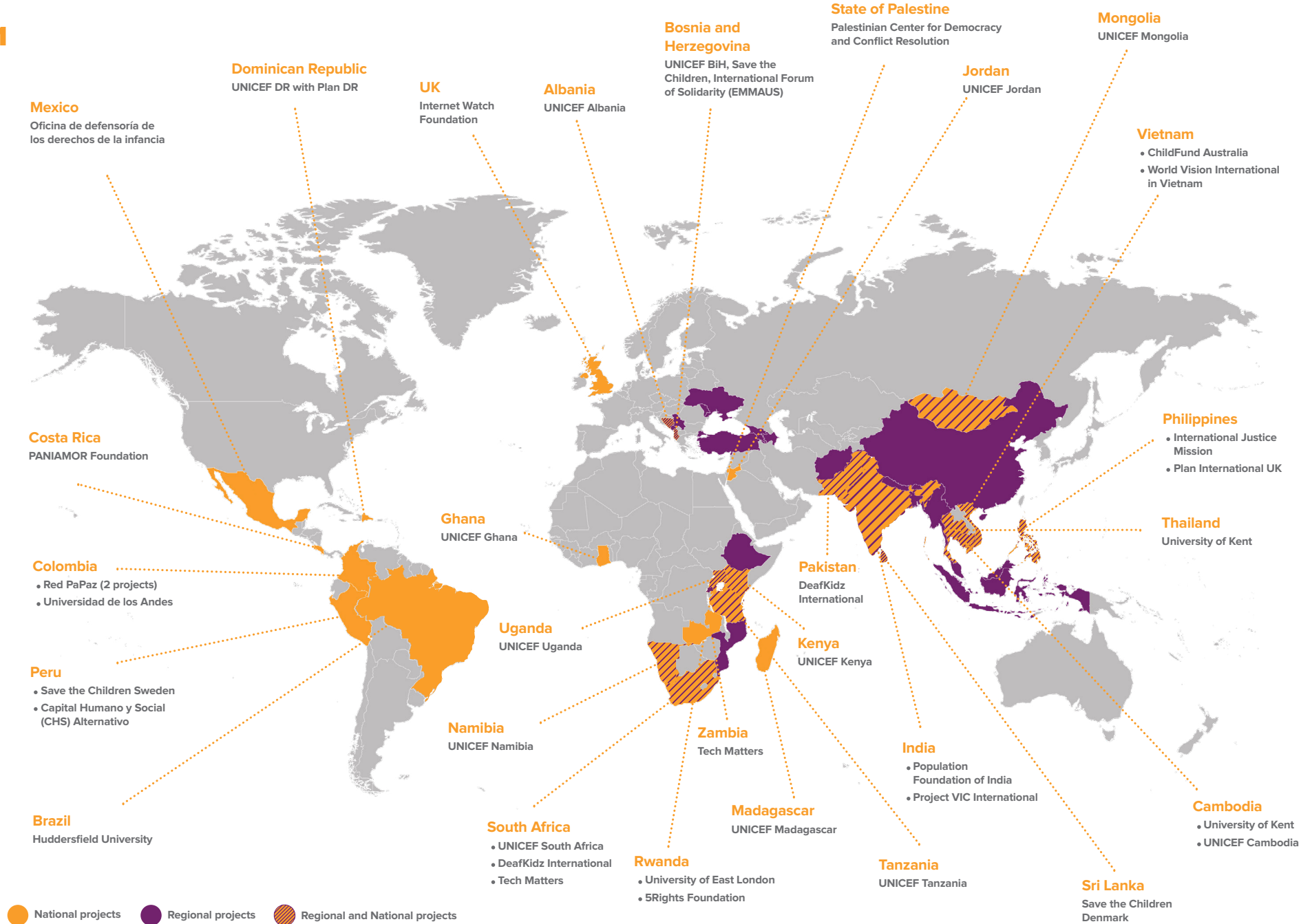
As of November 2021

## Global Projects

- 5Rights Foundation
- International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children in partnership with Child Helpline International
- Internet Watch Foundation (IWF)
- New Venture Fund
- Marie Collins Foundation
- Thorn (2 projects)
- UNICEF Child Protection, Programme Division, UNICEF Headquarters
- World Health Organization
- Canadian Centre for Child Protection
- Child Rescue Coalition
- INHOPE
- INTERPOL
- Suojellaan Lapsia Ry - Protect Children Finland
- University of Swansea
- Justice and Care
- University of Kent
- Middlesex University
- Technology University of Dublin

## Regional Projects

- **Council of Europe:** Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine
- **Disrupting Harm:** ECPAT International, INTERPOL, UNICEF Office of Research - Innocenti
  - **Africa:** Ethiopia, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda, Mozambique, South Africa, Namibia
  - **Asia:** Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam
- **South Asia Initiative to End Violence against Children:** Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal
- **UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office:** Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, China
- **University of Bristol:** Thailand, Cambodia, the Philippines, Indonesia, Myanmar, Malaysia, Vietnam, and Singapore







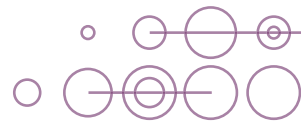
The appendix is divided in four main sections outlining the key areas of impact that Safe Online is making through its investments. The first three sections are focusing on Safe Online's investment priority areas:

- A. Strengthening Systems, Capacities and Networks**
- B. Generating Data and Evidence, including the Tech Coalition Safe Online Research Fund**
- C. Technology Solutions**
- D. Network Building and Strategic Direction** outlines critical activities that Safe Online is doing to maximise the overall impact of its investments, build collaborative network of grantees and strengthen their capacities, as well as outlines key investment priorities and actions for 2022.

The below table shows the grantees included in this appendix and the countries of implementation of their projects:

Country of implementation	Grantees
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Consortium: Forum of Solidarity - EMMAUS, Save the Children, UNICEF Country Office
Brazil	Huddersfield University
Cambodia	UNICEF Cambodia
Colombia	Corporación de Padres y Madres - Red PaPaz
Costa Rica	Fundación Paniamor
Dominican Republic	UNICEF Dominican Republic, Plan International
Ghana	UNICEF Ghana
India	Population Foundation of India Project VIC International
Kenya	UNICEF Kenya
Madagascar	UNICEF Madagascar
Mongolia	UNICEF Mongolia
Palestine	Palestinian Centre for Democracy and Conflict Resolution
Peru	Capital Humano y Social Alternativo
South Africa	UNICEF South Africa
Sri Lanka	Save the Children Denmark
Tanzania	UNICEF Tanzania
Uganda	UNICEF Uganda
United Kingdom	Internet Watch Foundation
Vietnam	World Vision Vietnam
Multi-country: South Africa, Pakistan	DeafKidz International





Multi-country: South Africa, Zambia	Tech Matters
Regional: Europe	Council of Europe
Regional: Latin America	Universidad de los Andes
Regional: Southeast Asia	University of Bristol
	University of Kent
Regional: Southeast Asia, Eastern and Southern Africa - Disrupting Harm	ECPAT International
	INTERPOL
	UNICEF Office of Research - Innocenti
Global	5Rights Foundation
	Canadian Centre for Child Protection
	Child Rescue Coalition
	INHOPE
	Internet Watch Foundation
	INTERPOL
	Marie Collins Foundation
	Middlesex University
	New Venture Fund
	Protect Children Finland
	Swansea University
	Thorn (2 projects)
	Technology University of Dublin
	UNICEF Headquarters, Child Protection Division
World Health Organisation	





## A. Strengthening Systems, Capacities and Networks

### 1. Improve reporting, investigation and prosecution of online CSEA cases

Safe Online grantees contributed to strengthening systems to report, investigate and prosecute cases of online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (CSEA) by supporting the establishment of child protection units, investigation tools, reporting mechanisms and capacity of key professionals across multiple countries. More specifically, in 2021, **seven** countries established a reporting mechanism to identify and remove child sexual abuse material (CSAM), which brings the total number of countries where Safe Online has supported the establishment of CSAM reporting portals to **49** (since 2017). Moreover, in 2021, **12** countries strengthened the capacities of their hotlines and helplines to effectively report online CSEA.

Safe Online Portfolio Results	In 2021	From 2017-2021
National CSAM reporting portals	<b>7</b>	<b>49</b>
Online CSEA cases reported	Over <b>3,300</b>	More than <b>6,000</b>
Child victims of online CSEA identified	Over <b>1,200</b>	Nearly <b>5,000</b>
Child victims of online CSEA referred to services	Nearly <b>200</b>	Over <b>2,000</b>
Perpetrators identified	Over <b>700</b>	More than <b>3,000</b>

#### Key highlights

**Serbia and Albania** established their national Hotlines (**NET Patrola** and **isigurt.al**) to report CSAM and related standard operations protocols to manage the hotline developed with technical support from INHOPE.

The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) launched **five** new portals to report and remove CSAM in **Argentina, Kenya, Guatemala, Morocco, and Tunisia**, bringing the total number supported by the Safe Online grant since 2017 to **30** portals<sup>1</sup> featuring **14** different languages. Overall, **21** Child Sexual Abuse Imagery (**68** since 2017) and **17** Child Previously Actioned content (**74** since 2017) representing **38** CSAM (**143** since 2017) were recognised through the portals.

In 2021, the **Kenya** Anti-Human Trafficking and Child Protection Unit (AHTCPU) analysed a total of **7,821** CyberTip<sup>2</sup> with **202** CyberTips identified as actionable reports which resulted in **one** arrest. The Unit was established with financial and operational support from UNICEF Kenya thanks to the Safe Online grant, in partnership with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) and INTERPOL.

Thanks to a law enforcement tool developed by Thorn, investigators in **Germany** were able to arrest an offender who had shared CSAM of a toddler and was planning to abuse his unborn child, and investigators in **Canada** identified two victims, a 13-year-old boy and girl. In 2021 only, the investigation tool developed by Thorn helped identify **1,049** child victims and **711** abusers.

In 4 years (2017-2021), the tool supported the identification of over **3,500** child victims, it was used across **50** countries and reduced investigation time by **68%**.

The **Sri Lanka** National Child Protection Authority (NCPA) adopted the new **mobile applications** “1929 Child Protection” to re-port online CSEA and the “Law Enforcement Officer” to manage cases of online CSEA developed by Save the Children with funds from Safe Online. The 1929 app was downloaded nearly **1,000** times by the end of 2021.

<sup>1</sup>Tanzania, Mozambique, Malawi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia, Angola, Burundi, Liberia, Nepal, The Gambia, Comoros, Sierra Leone, Ukraine, Zimbabwe, Pakistan, Haiti, Mali, Mongolia, Indonesia, Senegal, Malaysia, El Salvador, Madagascar, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana.

<sup>2</sup>A CyberTip, short for CyberTipline report, is a report regarding suspected online crimes against children.







Safe Online supported the capacity of various national Child Helplines to receive reports and provide support services to child victims of online CSEA.

Case of online CSEA received and referred to support services	In 2021	From 2017-2021
<b>Uganda*</b> Child Helpline (UCHL)	115	748
<b>Kenya</b> Child Helpline and Field Offices	162	574
<b>Mongolia</b> Child Helpline	37	70
<b>Madagascar**</b> Helpline LV 147, Arozaza Online Reporting Platform, National Police Cybercrime Services	57	100

\*The **Uganda** Child Helpline registered a total of **8,458** cases of violence against children in 2021, out of which **115** related to online CSEA. It seems that reporting of online CSEA cases remains low due to lack of knowledge about risks, how and where to report, as well as limited law enforcement capacity to manage online CSEA cases. Cases are reported as sexual abuse and handled as such without specifying online CSEA as the nature of the offence.

\*\*In 2021, the **Madagascar** “Arozaza Online Reporting Platform” got **13,771** visits, hosted **30** new articles and resources, and received 10 reports of online abuse (including **three** cases of child sexual abuse images). **586** cases of violence against children were reported through the “Helpline LV 147”, **two** were online CSEA. **193** cases of online CSEA were reported to the Police Cybercrime Unit, 96 cases are being investigated, **97** were referred to the justice sector.



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## 2. Expand and improve the quality of services for child victims of online CSEA

Safe Online aims to strengthen systems and equip practitioners with the necessary tools and skills to respond to cases of online CSEA in a timely, child-friendly and gender-sensitive manner to ensure early identification, and recovery of child victims while supporting their families. In 2021, despite COVID-19 restrictions trainings to law enforcement continued to be key to strengthen national capacities to report, investigate and prosecute online CSEA cases (over **5,000** law enforcement officials were trained in 2021, around **25,000** since 2017). More than **2,000** services providers were engaged in capacity building activities, bringing up the total number since 2017 to over **10,000**.

Safe Online Portfolio Results	In 2021	From 2017-2021
Law enforcement officials trained	Over <b>5,000</b>	Nearly <b>25,000</b>
Social service providers engaged in capacity development	More than <b>2,000</b>	Over <b>10,000</b>

### Key highlights

**Costa Rica's** Social Protection Agency (IMAS) incorporated the E-Mentores virtual course developed by Fundacion Paniamor in their human resources platform. Since 2017, **1,733** public officers (**1,200** in 2021) graduated as 'E-Mentores agents' by completing the learning program on child online safety that aims to strengthen their understanding of online CSEA including prevention, reporting and approaches to convey relevant information to families.

The Council of Europe provided training to **654** government officials including law enforcement officers (**3,445** since 2018) in different countries including the **Republic of Moldova, Turkey and Ukraine**. A training module on online CSEA "Improving operational capacities to tackle online CSEA" was finalised and translated in 10 languages.

In **Kenya**, **52** judges and magistrates (**353** since 2018) and **28** prosecutors (**37** since 2018) were trained thanks to UNICEF on child online safety and on the role of judicial officers in the prosecution of online CSEA cases. A mandatory Child Protection Workforce Training Curriculum is now in place and is embedded within the Kenya School of Government to ensure sustainability of training for professionals. Moreover, **30** police officers, prosecutors and judges working on cybersecurity and child safety benefited from an online training course delivered by the Internet Watch Foundation in coordination with the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children.

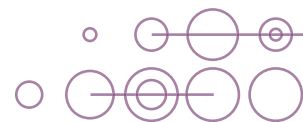
The **Uganda** Director of Public Prosecution rolled out the multi-disciplinary training curriculum on gender-based violence/violence against children including online CSEA for justice actors and social welfare officers, with the support of UNICEF in the country. In 2021, the course was completed by **73** child protection professionals which brings the total number to **169** since 2017. **26** participants completed the "Training of Trainers on online CSEA" as part of the Uganda Government Taskforce led by Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development (MGLSD) which included representatives from education, justice and social welfare.

The **Bosnia and Herzegovina** Prosecutorial Training Centers (JPTCs) developed an educational programme on child online safety for judges and prosecutors that is now embedded in the standard curricula for judges and prosecutors. **15** judges and prosecutors benefited from this training in 2021. This was the result of an MOU between JPTC and the consortium of Safe Online grantees composed of IFS-Emmaus, UNICEF Country Office and Save the Children.

The **Global** Protection Online Network platform developed by Marie Collins Foundation counted **285** members includes the e-learning training "Click: Path to Protection" outlining best practices to support survivors of online CSEA with their recovery. In the first month (December 2021), **40** professionals completed the course available in English and Vietnamese.







As of December 2021, **251** members (**185** in 2021) of the **Dominican Republic** Local Protection Boards were engaged in capacity building activities to prevent, report and support survivors of online violence, with the support of UNICEF in the country. Also thanks to UNICEF Country Office, in **Madagascar**, **33** services providers in the cities of Toamasina and Antananarivo were trained on youth-friendly management of online CSEA cases. In **Vietnam**, **30** social service providers engaged in capacity-building activities to support survivors of online violence. As a result of the project Tackling Online Child Sexual Exploitation (TOCSE) funded by Safe Online and implemented by World Vision, a team of **38** core trainers comprising of teachers and child protection officers at school, ward, and district levels are skilled to facilitate training on child online safety.

### 3. Generate knowledge, evidence to inform programming, policy and advocacy

Another focus of Safe Online efforts is generating knowledge and evidence on online CSEA to inform programming and influence policies and practices of governments and other key stakeholders at all levels. In 2021, grantees continued to carry out pioneering data collection efforts across many countries in the world, including through primary research (e.g. Disrupting Harm) and reviews of legal frameworks, policies and regulations to evaluate countries' capabilities and inform legal and policy reform, amounting to a total of **26** reviews of legal and policy frameworks and gap analysis (nearly **300** since 2017).

#### Key highlights

The **Dominican Republic** study “**Adolescentes y el uso de Internet**” produced by UNICEF and informed by a national survey with adolescents (12-17 years old) was published in September 2021. The study grasps the attitudes, perceptions and practices of children towards online risks and harms including CSEA and provides actionable recommendations to improve prevention and response.

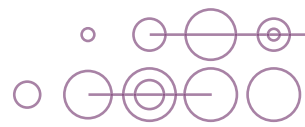
The **Baseline Mapping** for the Council of Europe **47 Member States** on policies, legislations and best practices on online CSEA was updated in 2021. A comparative review of existing mechanisms to coordinate efforts to tackle online CSEA and a review of training materials for law enforcement was also conducted in **Armenia, Azerbaijan** and **Ukraine**.

In October and November 2021, **Kenya** and **Uganda** officially launched their national assessments of online CSEA and other forms of violence against children. These are the first **two national assessments out of the 13** being produced as part of the large-scale research project **Disrupting Harm** implemented in Eastern and Southern Africa and Southeast Asia regions. Disrupting Harm is a holistic and innovative methodology and approach to conducting comprehensive assessments of online CSEA at national and regional levels to better understand how digital technology facilitates the sexual abuse and exploitation of children. It's funded by Safe Online (US\$ 7 million) and jointly implemented by ECPAT International, INTERPOL and UNICEF Office of Research – Innocenti. See section B of this Appendix for more information about **Disrupting Harm**.

The review of national responses to online CSEA in **29 countries** “**Ending Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse: Lessons learned and promising practices in low- and middle-income countries**” conducted by UNICEF Headquarters with funds from Safe Online was published in December 2021. The review shows that many countries have taken measures to improve online safety but there are still many systemic challenges to address. 59% of the surveyed countries have national policies or strategy, but significant gaps re-main in legislative frameworks (over 90%). Where laws exist, there is limited enforcement due to low capacity and lack of awareness. Child protection systems are weak overall with limited awareness of online CSEA. Due to such shortcomings, there is ineffective implementation of policies and programs to tackle online CSEA.







Since January 2021, in **Vietnam** online CSEA data will be disaggregated from the National Hotline 111. This is the result of a collaboration between the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs and the Tackling Online CSEA project implemented by World Vision with funds from Safe Online. This data is vital for analysing online CSEA trends and providing evidence to develop future interventions and policies.

**Sri Lanka** hosted an event supported by Save the Children to discuss how to strengthen national investigation and prosecution mechanisms to tackle online CSEA and how to empower children to be Responsible Digital Citizens. More than **300** participants attended, and panellists included government officials, children and representatives from civil society, INTERPOL, Safe Online, UNICEF and the WeProtect Global Alliance.



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#### 4. Strengthen cooperation, policy development at national and regional levels

Safe Online leadership and investments led to significant progress in 2021 for national and regional engagement and cooperation to tackle online violence against children. This is particularly important because child online safety is often not a high political priority in most countries and requires significant cross-country cooperation. In various countries, multi-stakeholder bodies continued to coordinate the cross-sector collaborations, and new national plans of action or strategies to tackle online violence have been designed or approved in 2021.

##### Key highlights

In **Palestine**, the Palestinian Center for Democracy and Conflict Resolution organised **eight** workshops and roundtables, which were attended by around **60** multi-stakeholders including law enforcement, public department officials, Child Protection Network and civil society to discuss the results of the national study “Online Security for Children: Safety and Exploitation” and to present the draft of the “Strategic Plan to Protect Children from Online CSEA”.

In 2021, **Armenia** and **Azerbaijan** developed national strategies on child online safety informed by the “Gap Analysis of Legislation, Policies and Practices” conducted in 2020 by the Council of Europe and funds from Safe Online. **Albania** included the child online safety within its national child protection strategy. **Ukraine** passed legislative changes to law articles related to the possession of CSAM and e-evidence provisions.

In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, the Police Directorate of Federation and District Brcko Police adopted the “Strategic Action Plan for Combating Online Violence against Children in the Digital Environments 2021-2024” with technical support from the Safe Online Consortium (IFS-EMMAUS, Save the Children, UNICEF).

The **Vietnam’s** Network for Child Online Protection was established in May 2021 with 24 members (government, industry, media and civil society) to coordinate activities to strengthen the country capacity to tackle online CSEA, with the support of World Vision. The Ministry of Information and Communications is currently developing a national program on child online safety.

In **Cambodia**, Technical Working Group on online CSEA is coordinating the implementation of the “Action Plan to Tackle Online CSEA 2021-2025” led by the Cambodia National Council for Children and UNICEF Country Office with financial support from Safe Online.

In August 2021, **Costa Rica** Minister of Science, Technology and Communication launched the “**National Strategy for the prevention and response to online CSEA**”, and a Technical Secretariat was established to monitor its implementation.

#### 5. Ensure child participation in combatting online CSEA

Safe Online grantees work to ensure that children have opportunities to share their experiences, express their opinions and needs and that these are considered by relevant stakeholders so that policies and programming can be informed by real life practices. This is done in many ways; for example, via commissioning studies that consult children or by providing training to children so they can become Safe Online champions in schools, policy forums and other settings, as well as initiatives where children lead on the design of policy and awareness raising materials/tools.

##### Key highlights

As part of the large-scale research project Disrupting Harm, around **13,000** children were interviewed to gather their experiences and perspectives of online harm and other forms of violence across **13 countries in two regions** (Eastern and Southern Africa Southeast Asia). For one of the research activities, Disrupting Harm partners gathered insights directly from children through a household survey, about a range of different experiences that can constitute online CSEA. Data were collected between December 2020 to April 2021. Nationally representative random samples of approximately **1,000** children aged 12 to 17 were obtained in each of the **13** countries between December 2020 and April 2021.







In June 2021, 15-year-old Nguyen Duc Toan from **Vietnam** was selected to represent children and share his opinion on violence in schools including online CSEA to contribute to regional advocacy efforts to prepare for governments and decision-makers joining the G7 and Global Replenishment Summit. The child was selected as he had joined the “Basecamp” digital platform for child-led mobilisation thanks to the Tackling Online Child Sexual Exploitation (TOCSE) project implemented by World Vision International with funds from Safe Online.

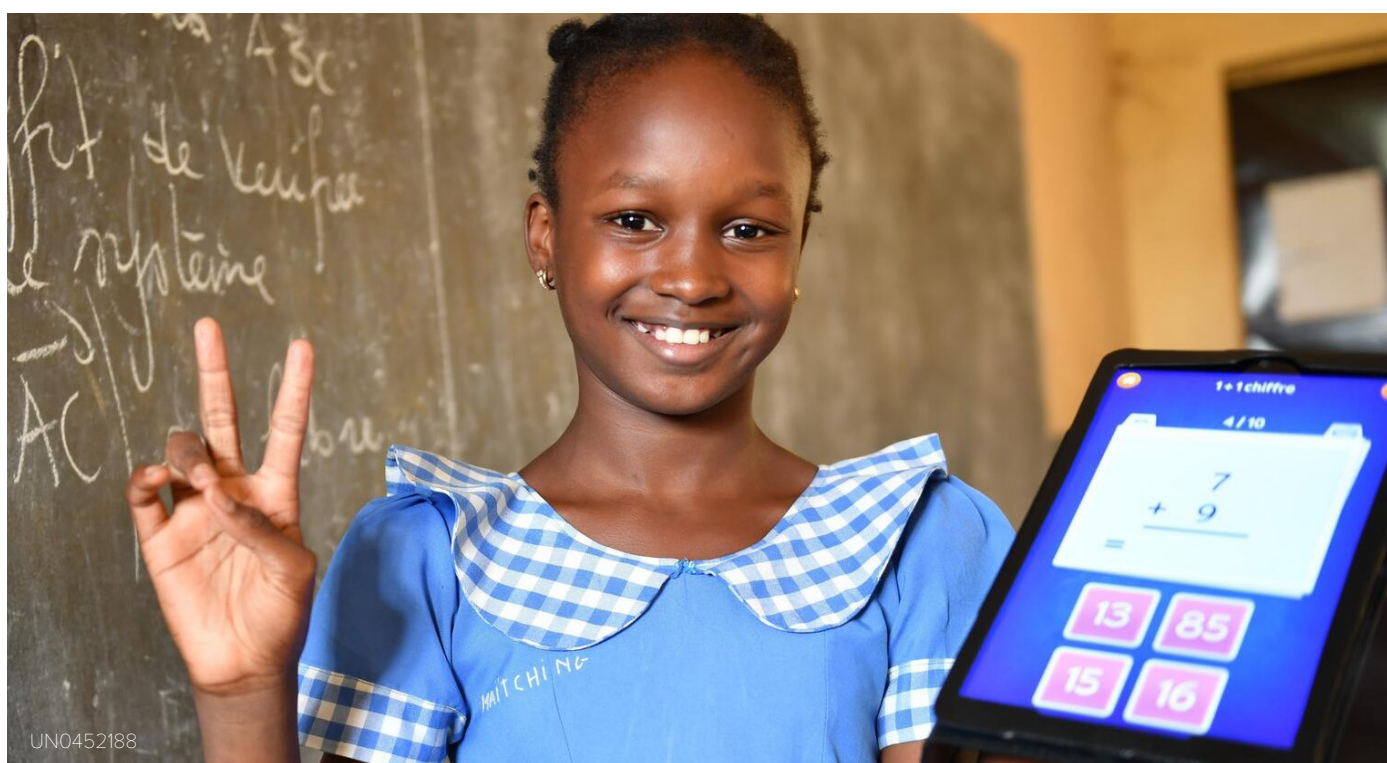
During 2021, in **Madagascar 166** members of **11** Young Reporters’ Clubs in Atsinanana, Boeny and Analanjirofo regions received training on child online safety and media content production thanks to UNICEF, which resulted in all **11** clubs developing a three-month action plan (currently being implemented) for the production of radio programs on child online safety to be broadcasted on local radio stations. In addition, a training of trainers reached **36** young people who trained facilitators of education sessions for children that resulted in **6,870** children participating in education activities on child online safety (**21,635** since 2018) across **six** regions.

## 6. Engage industry, media and technology solutions

Industry and the media have a critical role to play to ensure children are safe online, and many grantees are piloting new approaches to facilitate their engagement. Consultations and events were organised to strengthen this aspect, and by December 2021, nearly **500** industry and **17** media representatives benefitted from trainings or education activities on child online safety (more than **4,000** and **400** since 2017, respectively), and **25** industry partners (over **1,500** since 2017) agreed to ICT standards to protect children from online violence.

### Key highlights

In **Peru**, Softnyx Latino (owner of video game platforms such as Rakion, Wolfteam, Operation7 and Gunbound) made progress towards making its game platforms safer for children. As a result of an agreement and training delivered by Capital Humano y Social Alternativo with funds from Safe Online, the content of the game platforms has been adapted to assist users in identifying and managing risks of online CSEA and they are currently working to incorporate online CSEA in their safeguard policies.



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In 2021, IWF organised roundtables with ICT industry in **Kenya, Morocco, Tunisia** and **Argentina**, reaching **326** participants in total. Throughout the project funded by Safe Online (2017-2021), IWF has reached **1,229** participants with these roundtables targeting ICT industry partners in order to support the development and implementation of industry standards around online CSEA.

In **Madagascar**, in 2021, **17** new cyber cafes signed the code of conduct to fight against online CSEA bringing the total number of cybercafes reached to date to **78**. This is the result of a collaboration between the Regional Directorate of the Ministry of Population in the Atsinanana region and the Regional “Cyber Friends of Children Association” created with technical support from UNICEF and financial support from Safe Online.

In **Costa Rica**, Fundacion Paniamor finalised the design of the Code “E-Mentores” for ICT private sector; a self-regulatory mechanism to establish rules and responsibilities for industry to discourage and sanction child online abuse practices. As of December 2021, **eight** ICT companies were part of the E-Mentores program (**two** joined in 2021) and had adopted the E-Mentores resources in their corporate responsibility programs. In addition to this, **185** employees of ICT companies had been trained on online safety by the end of 2021.

In **Vietnam**, the Da Nang Department of Information & Communication (DOIC) issued the Code of Conduct for ICT businesses with the support of World Vision, with focus on: (i) building protocols that prohibit access to and ensure the removal of CSAM; (ii) collaboration with law enforcement investigating online CSEA incidents; (iii) providing guidance to children to use ICT services safely; (iv) designing online platforms to enable children’s participation, and; (v) developing digital education content for children. The Code of Conduct has been informally shared with **250** ICT businesses, and DOIC plans to present it officially at a workshop in 2022.

## 7. Build resilience, enhance digital education and awareness raising, and address social norms

In 2021, with Safe Online support, nearly **100,000** children and nearly **50,000** community participants (more than **32,000** caregivers and relatives, and nearly **12,000** members of the community) were engaged in digital education and awareness raising activities on child online safety. Since 2017, around **900,000** children and more than **200,000** community participants have been engaged in similar activities. Additionally, over **five million** people (nearly **35 million** people since 2017) were reached via advocacy and information campaigns, news media outlets and publications and social media channels covering issues related to online CSEA.

Safe Online Portfolio Results	In 2021	From 2017-2021
Children engaged in education activities on online safety	Nearly <b>100,000</b>	Nearly <b>900,000</b>
Community participants (parents, educators, child service providers) engaged in education activities on online safety for children	Nearly <b>50,000</b>	More than <b>200,000</b>
Individuals reached through mass media; information/advocacy campaigns	Over <b>5 million</b>	Nearly <b>35 million</b>





## Key highlights

In **Mongolia**, the child online safety resource hub [www.ekids.mn](http://www.ekids.mn) and two nationwide campaigns “Unfriend the Unknown” and “Share the Good” reached **three million** people in 2021, and **6.4 million** since the start of the Safe Online grant provided to UNICEF in 2018.

In **Tanzania**, child online safety messages reached **426** school children in 2021. Since the start of the Safe Online grant to UNICEF in 2018, the National Child Helpline C-Sema and Local Authorities reached a total of **5,500** school children with messages on online safety across **five** regions.

In **Vietnam**, **5,257** children and **2,644** community members (parents, teachers, child service providers) were engaged in educational activities on child online safety in 2021 and **2,966** children accessed child-friendly resources on online safety. Since the start of the Safe Online grant to World Vision in 2018, more than **16,000** children had access to events, leaflets, plays/dramas, videos, posters, paintings, online contests, website and the counselling corner at Da Nang Center for Social Work.

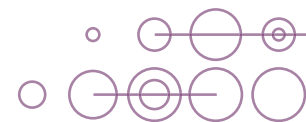
In **Costa Rica**, in 2021, the E-Mentores program developed by Fundacion Paniamor reached **364** teachers, and **3,898** children (**11,588** since 2017) had access to child friendly resources on online safety via different tools and platforms - e.g., E-Compa toolkit (interactive audio-visual platform to learn about online safety from other peers). In 2021, **701** adults engaged in education activities on child online safety (**6,027** since 2017).

In **Ghana**, a Digital Literacy Package for schools was finalised in 2021 to equip children with digital literacy and resilience skills. This is the result of a joint collaboration between multiple Ministries, civil society organisations and UNICEF; the Package is awaiting final approval from the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment. **144** trainers have already been trained to facilitate the Package rollout at subnational level.

In **Uganda**, **22,695** caregivers were reached in 2021 (**42,826** since 2017) through household visits and community gatherings with messages on parenting, counselling and mentoring on how to support children including how to prevent and respond to online CSEA. A total of **17,500** students are using the Kolibri platform<sup>3</sup> that contains over **37** resources related to violence against children, internet safety and online CSEA. Thanks to a collaboration between Local Education Departments, a business company (Bishop Willis Core PTC) and UNICEF, in 2021, **405** teachers and students were trained to use Kolibri in **27** secondary schools across **nine** districts. To date, Kolibri has been deployed in **50** schools with **750** teachers and students trained.

<sup>3</sup> Kolibri is a computer-based programme that can be used for teaching-learning processes, it's an offline and online learning platform for marginalised adolescents. Kolibri has over 37 digital resources and topics related to violence against children, internet safety and online CSEA.

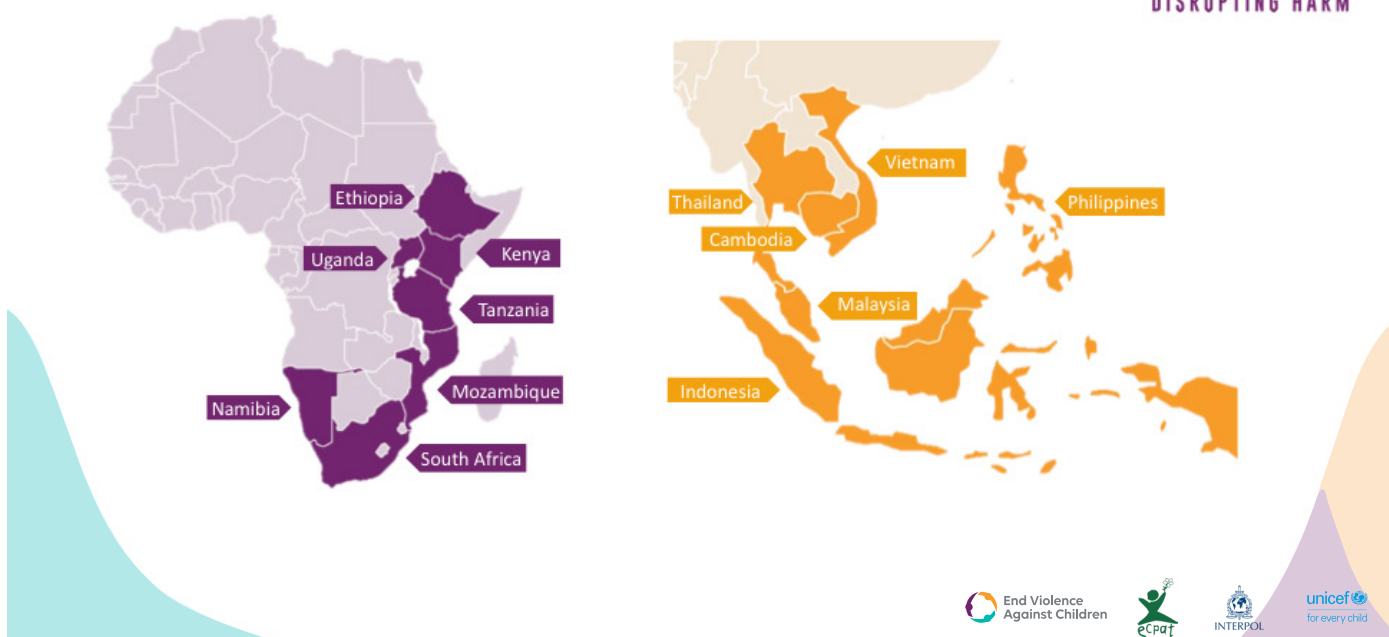




## B. Evidence Generation

In 2021, Safe Online continued to make a strong push for generating evidence on both trends and threats to children in digital environments, as well as on what works to end online CSEA.

During 2021, the **three** Disrupting Harm partners (ECPAT International, INTERPOL and UNICEF Office of Research - Innocenti) continued implementing the large-scale research project to shed light on the nature and scope of online CSEA in **13** countries - **seven** in Eastern and Southern Africa (**Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda**), and **six** in Southeast Asia (**Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines, Vietnam**). Leveraging the unique and comprehensive evidence gathered, Disrupting Harm identifies practical and actionable solutions to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation both online and in other contexts.



In addition, Safe Online and the Tech Coalition (**Project Protect**) teamed up in 2021 to establish a **Tech Coalition Safe Online Research Fund**. The Fund awarded grants to **five** organisations conducting innovative research that will inform product and policy development to protect children online. Specifically, research will help inform the technology industry's approach to combating online CSEA by increasing understanding and tools for grooming detection, supply-side offending, offender help-seeking behaviour and support to content moderators.

### Key highlights

In the last quarter of 2021, the first **two Disrupting Harm national assessments** were launched with key findings and actionable recommendations for the government, lawmakers, industry and other actors to strengthen the national prevention and response to online CSEA. The **Kenya** national report was released at a virtual launch event held on 27 October 2021 and attended by **80** participants. The **Uganda** report was released at a hybrid event held on 16 November 2021, attended by **41** in-person participants and **29** joined virtually. Both events marked good representation from the government along with other key stakeholders and regional and in-country partners.







**Key findings** from Kenya and Uganda include but are not limited to the following:

**7%** of children in Kenya and **9%** in Uganda have had their sexual images shared with others without their consent, in the past year alone. This represents an estimated **350,000** children per year in Kenya and approximately **215,000** children in Uganda.

There are almost no gender differences in children's experience of online CSEA; boys and girls are both subjected to differing forms of online child sexual exploitation and abuse.

In Kenya, less than **5%** of children who were subjected to online CSEA in the past year say they formally reported to the police or a national helpline most commonly due to fears of stigmatisation. Similarly, too many children are not reporting in Uganda for fear of stigma or belief it will not lead to change or "not knowing where to go or whom to tell."

Some children interviewed in Kenya said that the reporting process was re-traumatising because they were required to re-tell their experience many times throughout the process. In Uganda, the interviews show that children were rarely able to bring cases to justice through the court system.

In 2021, **nine Disrupting Harm national consultations** to facilitate the engagement of key stakeholders were held in **seven** countries and secured attendance from over **400** participants including government, civil society and UN representatives.

In June 2021, the **Kenya** national consultation organised by the Kenya Alliance for Advancement of Children and UNICEF was attended by **39** participants including representatives from the De-partment of Children Services, Childline Kenya, INTERPOL, Judiciary, National Council for Children Services, National Law Reform Commission, National Film Classification Board, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, amongst other government agencies and partners.

In December 2021, the **Philippines** national consultation was attended by **42** participants. Remarks were delivered by several government officials including the Assistant Secretary Department of Social Welfare and Development, Division Chief, Policy, Plans, and Research Division, Council for the Welfare of Children, and the Executive Director at the Cybercrime Investigation and Coordination Center.

In August 2021, in **Uganda**, a national consultation was attended by **45** participants and with opening remarks by a representative from the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development.

**Tanzania** hosted two consultations, in September 2021, with **40** participants and in October with **47** participants with contributions from the National Child Online Safety Task Force.

**Vietnam** hosted two consultations, in October 2021, with **38** participants and in December with **35** participants from across sectors.

In September 2021, the **Ethiopia** national consultation session was attended by **25** participants with opening remarks by the State Minister for Youth Affairs and representatives from the Ministry of Women, Children and Youth and Ministry, federal law enforcement, international agencies and civil society.

In July 2021, the **Thailand** national consultation was attended by **100** participants, with opening remarks by the Permanent Secretary from the Ministry of Digital Society and Economy and a representative from the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security.

The first ever **Tech Coalition Safe Online Research Fund** grants were announced in 2021. The impacts of the **five** research projects have a global reach, with specific focus on the Philippines, Colombia, the UK, Ireland, Mexico, and South Africa. Three of the research projects began their research at the end of 2021.





Universidad de Los Andes launched their **research work to tackle online grooming**, confirming key partnerships and roles for the development of the work with partners [TeProtejo](#), RedPapaz, and the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare (ICBF). The team has begun developing a buffering effects model for protective parental mediation, one key component of their work to develop strategies to mitigate online CSEA.

Technology University Dublin has kicked off their research project, **N-Light**, at the end of 2021 which employs AI to develop a tool to understand trends in perpetrator behaviour (conduct, contact, content) – including grooming. The team has focused first on ensuring regular exchange with the two key national project partners - [the Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children \(ISPCC\)](#) and [Hotline.ie](#), the Irish national centre combatting illegal content online.

Middlesex University initiated their research project “**Invisible risks: combating secondary trauma to safeguard children**” at the end of 2021, completing a workshop with industry experts that resulted in a Theory of Change Model. This highlighted important themes around: a) what indicators of change are important, and b) how these might be measured to show that change has taken place. The scoping literature has been accepted by *The Psychologist* to ensure dissemination of the research, along with publishing a blogpost about content moderation which led to a connection with Ofcom about the study. Efforts to begin building strong relationships based on trust especially with tech industry contributors is a key focus from this initial phase of the work.



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## C. Technology Solutions

In October 2020, Safe Online invested US\$ **10** million and welcomed **15** new grantees working to develop new or to scale up existing technology tools (AI/ML, data science, open-source software, etc.) aimed at preventing and responding to online CSEA and complementing previous investments to strengthen the global architecture to protect children online.

This section provides a brief outline of the 2021 key results of these investments across four main areas of work:

1. Detect, remove and report images and videos with sexual content or acts involving children
2. Block adults' access to children on digital platforms intended to sexually abuse them
3. Stop live-streaming of child sexual abuse performed in front of a camera
4. Prevent online CSEA before it happens, including prevention and solutions that directly target online child sex offenders and adults with a sexual interest in children

### 1. Detect, remove and report images and videos with sexual content or acts involving children - often referred to as CSAM

In 2021, Safe Online grantees worked to improve the detection, removal and reporting of images and videos with sexual content involving children (CSAM) to enable victim identification and assistance at global, regional and national levels by leveraging the use of the latest technologies in this area. This was also facilitated through provision of capacity building programs for the law enforcement and other key stakeholders to deploy frontier technologies to detect, remove and report CSAM both in the open and on the Dark Web.

#### Key highlights

- Thanks to the **Targeted Platform Modules (TPM)**, Project Arachnid proactively detects CSAM on platforms that may not show up in a typical crawl approach, through tailored technological tools written to discover CSAM on these specific platforms. In 2021, the Canadian Centre for Child Protection (C3P) registered a significant increase in detection of known CSAM (**640%** increase, from around **350,000** in 2020 to more than **two million** in 2021) and not previously known CSAM (**325%** increase, from **270,000** in 2020 to nearly **900,000** in 2021) and also noted an increase of **270%** in the number of CSAM items hashed (i.e. assigned a digital fingerprint) and added to shared lists and repositories, such as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's database or Microsoft's PhotoDNA platform. This makes the material available to a wider audience, maximising the chances of further detection. C3P's strategy of prioritising sites based on prevalence of CSAM resulted in the addition of **12** new TPMs targeting a combination of dark web forums, clear web forums, and file-hosting sites. **Two** ESPs (image hosting services) were also added to automatic detection based on TPM.
- In 2021, the International Association of Internet Hotlines (INHOPE) processed **928,277** CSAM out of which **443,705** were shared with INTERPOL via the secure platform **ICCAM**, a technology platform that has been in use for years by hotlines all around the world to exchange reports and ensure a speedy take down of CSAM. With the support of Safe Online, ICCAM has been enhanced with a new Application Programming Interface (API) for faster classification of CSAM reporting and to maximise interoperability with ReportBox, the International Child Sexual Exploitation (ICSE)-INTERPOL database, Arachnid, AviaTor (owned by INHOPE) and other hotline specific reporting systems. In 2021, **five** hotlines have already signed up to be onboarded and test the new **API**, and the last one is scheduled to onboard in 2022. In addition, the INHOPE network continued to expand with Serbia and Albania as new members and with **six** analysts fully trained to operate their Hotline, analyse CSAM reports and use ICCAM platform.
- In 2021 with the support from Safe Online, INTERPOL's **DevOps group** created a **Catalogue of Products** during the second DevOps Working Group meeting organised virtually as TechSprint 2.0 in November







2021. The DevOpsGroup is composed of online Child Abuse technical experts from law enforcement agencies, academia, and industry partners. This group aims to be the place where specialised units in INTERPOL member countries can bring their technical challenges to the DevOpsGroup and where practical solutions to some will be developed and extended for use. As for the Catalogue developed in 2021, it lists the functionalities of video fingerprinting/hashing tools developed by different law enforcement partners so that different stakeholders can find a tool tailored to their needs for investigation of crimes against children. In 2021, the INTERPOL Crimes against Children Unit (CAC) uploaded **56,238 International Child Sexual Exploitation (ICSE) media** (**44,760** images, **11,478** videos). The global upload of ICSE media during the same period was **467,325** (**402,354** images, **64,971** videos).

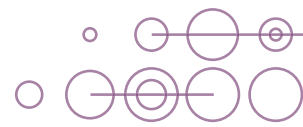
- Through the **Katalyst Academy Learning Management System (LMS)**, Project VIC International together with Pathfinder Labs continues to deliver training to law enforcement in **Kerala (India)**. Prominent activities in 2021 include responding to reporting outcomes from the LMS that had challenges with completion rates for more complex self-learning courses. Adaptations were made to split each subject matter area into Online Training and Instructor-led training which resulted in a **100%** completion rate of the course. Training in 2021 included multiple classes in victim identification during the CSAM investigation, **25** additional courses, lessons and guest speakers in the area of forensic analysis of cases and overall workflows. In 2021, India executed large search operations called the P-Hunt Operations in Kerala that resulted in **hundreds** of pieces of evidence seized and **14** victims identified; the Kerala unit was also supplied hardware to safely handle and forensically report the proper findings of the seized evidence.



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- In 2021, more than **1.8 million** suspected pieces of CSAM were identified through the use of Thorn's **CSAM Classifier tool**, which was tested by law enforcement professionals worldwide through an existing investigation platform. The CSAM classifier is meant to automate the review of reports of potential CSAM to triage and support the processing of the most egregious abuse based on a collaborative global data. The classifier is also extracting additional information from images (e.g., age, sex, skin tone, hair colour, eye colour, and the presence of identifying markers), including unseen CSAM. A large tech partner executed the CSAM Classifiers at full volume with over **223 million** images scanned from November to December 2021 and found reportable and unknown content that can be actioned by partners; as a result of this there are ongoing plans to lower the strict threshold to find even more content. Thanks to Thorn's tools to date, **22** child victims were identified. A user recently reported the identification of an 8-year girl who was being abused, which was a direct hit from the CSAM Classifier. This led to her recovery and arrest of her perpetrator.





## 2. Block adults' access to children on digital platforms intended to sexually abuse them - usually referred to as online sexual grooming or solicitation

In 2021, Safe Online grantees facilitated the blocking of adults' access to children on digital platforms for sexual abuse and exploitation purposes (i.e., grooming or solicitation) making use of cutting-edge technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML), but also conducting research in this area of work.

### Key highlights

- Safe Online is supporting **DeafKidz Defenders**, an early intervention tool comprising state of the art digital, educational and sequential games. This tool is aimed at empowering and resourcing deaf children aged 6-10 to reduce their risk and vulnerability to online CSEA, to understand their right to stay safe online and to recognise grooming and solicitation. During 2021, the **DK Defenders working group** made up of experts from the fields of deaf education, research, child protection and gaming development was created by DeafKidz International (DKI) to guide the design of the toolkit DeafKidz Defenders collaboratively with deaf children. **Seven** specific themes were selected, with the first **four** themes (trusted adult, keeping secrets, saying stop and private body parts) providing a solid knowledge foundation for deaf children. **Three** further themes (online bullying, online grooming and indecent images/ videos) were added, and badge symbols were also designed for all **seven** games to reward the player on completion of each game.
- In 2021, progress was made in the design of **Spotter and Shield**, vital linguistics / AI powered tools, developed to help law enforcement identify online grooming content in real-time, as part of **Project DRAGON-S** (Developing Resistance Against Grooming Online – Spot and Shield) implemented by the Swansea University. This project will offer tools based on integrating AI/Linguistics that enable law enforcement and other professionals (e.g. social workers, educators) to spot online grooming content in real-time and learn more about this issue. The Alpha testing for Spotter tool which works to pinpoint and detect manipulative language tactics that groomers use to exploit children, was held in November 2021, and all phases of the work progressed well and was co-developed and co-created with stakeholders including some with experience of online grooming and children and young people.

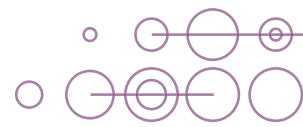
## 3. Stop live-streaming of child sexual abuse performed in front of a camera - usually referred to as live-streaming of child sexual abuse material

In 2021, Safe Online grantees continued working to stop live-streaming of CSAM by supporting development of digital forensic and evidencing tools that can support the work of law enforcement in the digital environments where the abuse takes place, as well as by building their capacity to conduct video analysis through AI-based technologies.

### Key highlights

- During 2021, thanks to **Project NEMESIS** (a tech solution developed by Child Rescue Coalition that automates the handling of evidence – including chat logs, data and videos – for live streaming abuse cases), **two** child sex trafficking networks were disrupted, **four** traffickers were arrested, **twelve** offender buyers were arrested, and **thirteen** children were rescued. The Child Rescue Coalition identified a growing evidence based in livestreamed environments that is shaping the direction of the work and collaboration with other organisations and technology solutions to ensure synergies and avoid duplication of efforts. Stakeholder engagement also remains strong, particularly with law enforcement in developing and informing NEMESIS.
- Safe Online is also supporting **iCOP 2.0**, an artificial intelligence software created to flag new or previously unknown child sexual abuse material. This new version will extend the software's reach to **Southeast Asia**. In 2021, the iCOP 2.0 research teams developed, tested and evaluated a





keyword list, with contributions from law enforcement, to help towards developing a novel filename classification approach for the project. This approach utilises a combination of linguistic clues and specialised vocabulary used by Southeast Asian offenders to share or stream CSEA content on peer-to-peer networks and will enable improved detection of CSAM material.

#### 4. Prevent online CSEA before it happens, including solutions that target online child sex offenders and adults with a sexual interest in children

In 2021, Safe Online grantees worked towards the prevention of online CSEA via setting up programs specifically targeting offenders in different contexts (both at the global and national level), supporting the development of new and streamlined hotline and helpline tools in different countries, and deepening the research on this type of behaviours and motivations.

##### Key highlights

- Since 2020, Safe Online is supporting **Aselo**, Tech Matters' customisable, open-source, contact center platform that allows children and youth to reach out to helplines via voice, SMS, webchat, WhatsApp, and Facebook Messenger. In 2021, **Aselo** was deployed by Tech Matters in Zambia and South Africa which resulted in a significant usage increase for Childline **Zambia** with the average calls per month nearly doubling; data also reflected an increase in the number of text-based contacts. Support was given from the Zambian regulator (ZICTA), and Zamtel and MTN routed the Zambia 116 Child Helpline through Aselo. Work in **South Africa** included planning for expansion to two new provinces.
- Also in 2021, the development of a new interactive online game **Emilio**, was started by the None in Three Research Centre at University of Huddersfield. This game aims to understand and tackle behaviours that lead to online sexual abuse. The team engaged young people, completing research with 67 boys/young men from Brasilia and Londrina (Brazil) to investigate their attitudes and opinions regarding online child sexual abuse and more specifically behaviours around 'sexting'. The None in Three team also consulted with user reference groups, each comprising 18 young people (boys and girls), to obtain target user feedback on the game intervention.
- In September 2021, Protect Children Finland launched the **ReDirection Self-Help Program** in English and Spanish, working to prevent the consumption of CSAM on the Dark Web. In 2021, the program was accessed by more than **9,000** individuals (around **4,000** on the Dark Web), and Meta platforms, Facebook and Instagram, and Mindgeek shared this as a resource for their users. A comprehensive report, **CSAM Users in the Dark Web: Protecting Children Through Prevention**, based on the two surveys – Help Us to Help You and No Need for Help, reveal findings that have been recognised and referenced by organisations globally to develop their work in this space. Notably, **70%** of respondents say that they first saw CSAM when they were under the age of 18, and nearly **40%** say that they were under 13 speaking to opportunities for early intervention. Speaking importantly to the clear connection between viewing CSAM and offline abuse, **44%** of respondents said that viewing CSAM made them think about seeking direct contact with children. And **37%** reported that they have sought direct contact with children after viewing CSAM.
- The **reThink chatbot** project by the IWF - an automated chatbot that detects potential offenders and refers them to support through the Lucy Faithfull Foundation - was launched in 2021, with a focus on the **United Kingdom**. With the help of practitioners and psychologists from The Lucy Faithfull Foundation, IWF project team have designed a conversation flow to guide an internet user exhibiting offending behaviours to services offered by the Stop It Now! helpline and have conducted two focus groups with **11** offenders participating who have undergone treatment and counselling. When the chatbot is deployed it will enhance efforts to curb the demand for criminal images on the internet.







## D. Network Building and Strategic Direction

Alongside the investments, Safe Online **fosters knowledge generation and collaboration** within the Safe Online Community of grantees and the wider ecosystem to maximise the use of collective resources and ensure investments have a broader impact.

Throughout 2021, the Safe Online team supported the grantee community through tailored **technical support** in the form of match-making with necessary expertise and connections, advocacy, communications and resource mobilisation support, and knowledge exchange opportunities through global webinars to promote learning within the grantee community and the wider ecosystem.

As part of this, in 2022, Safe Online hosted its second **Safe Online Network Forum and Donor Convening** on the side of the WeProtect Global Alliance Summit in Brussels, Belgium.

Safe Online grantees, partners, and industry representatives joined from across the world for ‘networking and knowledge-sharing’. The Safe Online community engaged on critical discussions around turning evidence into change, cross-sector collaborations, emerging trends and key priorities in the CSEA ecosystem. The Donor Convening, co-hosted with the WeProtect Global Alliance, provided a unique opportunity to get insights from frontline organisations working to tackle online CSEA in preparation for strategic deliberations with key global leaders, influencers and survivors of CSEA at the Summit in Brussels.

Following the two Open Calls launched in September 2021, in 2022 Safe Online welcomed a **new cohort of grantees** working on evidence-based programs to strengthen national and regional systems, capacity and networks to tackle online CSEA and on cutting-edge technology tools for the global community to make the Internet safe for children. In 2022, Safe Online is also expected to expand the large-scale research project **Disrupting Harm** to other regions of the world to generate comparable robust and comprehensive evidence on how digital technology can facilitate risks and harm to children. Additionally, in 2022, Safe Online is planning to continue its collaboration with the Tech Coalition and as part of this to launch the second **Tech Coalition Safe Online Research Fund** Open Call. This will continue supporting innovative research that can impact relevant policy and product development, with a priority given to research that can help inform technology industry’s approach to combating online CSEA.

Finally, building on End Violence’s role as advocate and convener, Safe Online will continue to actively advocate and **influence key global and regional policy debates** on the Internet, digital platforms and services regulation that have an impact on children’s safety online.





# End Violence Against Children

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