
The Weekly Pulse

NEWS FROM ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS IN GLOBAL CHILD ADVOCACY



Vol. 103: The Transforming Education Summit, Organizational Sign-On Letter, & Youth Protection and Safeguarding.

September 26, 2022

Calls to Action

ChildFund, InterAction, First Focus, and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) are requesting organizations to sign onto their [organizational sign-on to a letter](#) supporting strong oversight of youth funding by requesting report language in the State, Foreign Operations and Other Programs (SFOPS) Appropriations bills for Fiscal Year 2023 in the House and Senate. The letter to leadership expresses a desire to see this language reflected in the Explanatory Statement that will accompany the final FY 23 SFOPS bill. They hope to “use this letter to not only push for this language reflected but that if and once it is enacted that the report it calls for is created.” If your organization is interested in signing on, please fill out the [form](#) by

Monday, October 3rd. If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Clement at rclement@childfund.org.

USAID is seeking feedback from interested persons, particularly implementing partners and other development stakeholders on its [draft guidance](#) “Collecting Feedback from Beneficiaries of Development Programs: A Guide for USAID Implementing Partners.” USAID commissioned this draft guidance document to help USAID implementing partners integrate beneficiary feedback into their USAID-funded development activities. It describes basic concepts of beneficiary feedback and good practices for collecting and responding to it. To review the draft guidance, click [here](#). To provide comments to USAID, please email IndustryLiaison@usaid.gov until the **close of business (5:00 p.m. EDT) on October 12, 2022**. Please put “Comments on Beneficiary Feedback Guidance” in the subject line of your email.

Quick Summary

The Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) held its 2022 Forum, which is the “largest global, abstract-driven research and advocacy conference on violence against women and violence against children.” The goal of this forum was to “learn about the newest innovations for prevention and responding to gender-based violence in low- and middle-income countries and to meet some of the most influential researchers and practitioners in the fields of violence against women and violence against children.” There were a multitude of events around children, including events on child marriage, violence against children, and meaningful youth engagement. In addition, the [Global Women’s Institute of George Washington University](#) presented awards to [A Breeze of Hope](#) for their exceptional work to end child sexual abuse and to the Nicaraguan women political prisoners who are incarcerated for their work on democracy, human rights, and an end to violence against women. To learn more about the award and recipients, click [here](#). To learn more about SVRI and watch forum events, click [here](#).

Search for Common Ground and Youth Excel held an event on “Shrinking Civic Spaces Facing Youth: Protecting Young Activists Worldwide.” Hosted by Meghana Srikrishna, Youth, Peace and Security Fellow at Search for Common Ground, this event highlighted the need for youth protection and safeguards when advocating for social change, especially around climate change and gender-based violence. Nikki Enersen, Foreign Service Officer at the U.S. Agency for International Development, leads the Children, Youth, and Families team, the Indigenous Peoples Program, and is the acting deputy director for the Inclusive Development Hub. She acknowledged the risks youth take when taking on humanitarian and development projects and highlighted that the burden should not be on youth leaders. Civil spaces for youth have shrunk globally due

to COVID, which has increased the need for youth engagement, consultation, and participation. Participants heard from many youth voices, including [Dumiso Gatsha](#), Founder and Director of Success Capital Organisation, and [Catherine Mootian](#), Founder and Director of Girls Redefined. Dumiso emphasized the importance of story-telling as an evidence-building tool, eliminating harmful gender norms, and addressing legal loopholes. Catherine spoke on her experience living and growing up in Kenya. Where she is from, elders do not engage with youth. Youth are not seen as partners. She also emphasized the need for education, especially around gender-based violence. Some people do not know what gender-based violence is and that they are experiencing it. To learn more about this event and Youth Excel, click [here](#).

Spotlight: The UN Transforming Education Summit

The **UN Transforming Education Summit** kicked off the UNGA 71 session with attendance from organizations, governments, activists, and youth from around the world. The summit provided a “unique opportunity to elevate education to the top of the global political agenda and to mobilize action, ambition, solidarity, and solutions to recover pandemic-related learning losses and sow the seeds to transform education in a rapidly changing world.” Notable speakers included UNICEF Executive Director [Catherine Russell](#), U.S. First Lady [Dr. Jill Biden](#), and many more world leaders.

Youth were at the forefront of the Summit. With the help of the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, youth from around the world wrote the [Youth Declaration](#). It is presented as “young people’s inputs to the Transforming Education Summit Chair Summary/Secretary-General’s Vision Statement. Its aim is to drive political commitment on the need to transform education and build young people’s ownership over this process.” In the Youth Declaration, there is a list of 25 demands that youth are calling on world leaders to address. To read the Youth Declaration, click [here](#).



Throughout the TES, there were many sessions and events covering all aspects of education globally. [Anny Lin](#), **Student Fellow at Global Campaign for Education-US** spoke with world leaders during the "Education

financing observatory: setting the grounds for sustainable, fair and inclusive financing." This session responds to the call for action of Action Track 5 and proposes to scale up a specific initiative on Education financing data and accountability (Action Area 3) called "Education Financing Observatory", developed by the Global Campaign for Education. The session brought together diverse voices to discuss alternative pathways for more sustainable, fair, and inclusive education financing. Anny emphasized the need for gender and disability inclusive transformative education. She highlighted that "**when we talk about transforming education, we must use an intersectional lens.**" She called on world leaders to incorporate a "**whole-child support approach. Not just in programming, but also in financing. If a child lacks nutrition, housing, and health services, how can we expect them to be able to learn in school?**" To watch and hear her full statement, please use this link [here](#) and scroll to timestamp 3:25:22.

Events

- World Bank Group & IMF [in-person event series](#) "**2022 Annual Meetings of the World Bank Group (WBG) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).**" October 10-16, 2022. Register by September 26, 2022.
- USAID & YouthPower2 [webinar](#) "**Cultivating Authentic Youth Partnerships in Systems Change.**" September 27, 2022 at 10 am ET.
- FHI360 [webinar](#) "**International Day of the Girl Roundtable: Inclusive Education and Adolescent Girls.**" October 6, 2022, at 9:30 am ET.
- Faith Communities for Peace & Search for Common Ground [virtual roundtable discussion](#) "**Thursday Talk: Towards Fridays for FoRB? Making space for youth leadership on freedom of religion or belief.**" October 6, 2022, at 10 am ET.
- International Association for Adolescent Health - Young Professionals [webinar](#) "**Innovations in adolescent mental health.**" October 9, 2022, at 10 am ET.

Reports, Articles & Resources

- USAID & YouthPower2 [factsheet](#) "**Youth Mainstreaming Factsheet.**"
- USAID & YouthPower2 [factsheet](#) "**Youth Analysis Factsheet.**"
- Devex [Podcast](#) "**UNGA Decoded.**"
- InterAction [blog post](#) "**Taking a Common-Sense Approach for Children and Youth Policies and Programs.**"



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