
The Weekly Pulse

NEWS FROM ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS IN GLOBAL CHILD ADVOCACY



Vol. 110: Children & Youth at COP27, GCE-US Community of Practice Meeting, & USAID Grants.

November 14, 2022

Quick Summary

The United Nations declared November 18 as the World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence. This day will be used to “stress the need for prevention, for perpetrators to be brought to justice, and for victims to be given a voice as part of the long process of healing.” The UN resolution was sponsored by Sierra Leone and Nigeria and co-sponsored by more than 110 countries. The United Nations General Assembly recommended, “educating the public about the impact of sexual abuse on children, the need to prevent exploitation online and offline, and holding perpetrators accountable.” Click [here](#) to learn more about this UN resolution.

Global Campaign for Education-US (GCE-US) held its monthly Inclusive Education & Early Childhood Community of Practice meeting. During this meeting, USAID reflected on the UN Transforming Education Summit. The panel of speakers included Deputy Assistant Administrator and Acting Senior Coordinator of United States International Basic Education Assistance [LeAnna Marr](#), Senior Inclusive Education Advisor at USAID's Center for Education Leah Maxson, Senior Policy Advisor at the Bureau of Development, Democracy, and Innovation [Jeff Mettillie](#), Inclusive Education Specialist at USAID's Center for Education [Meghan Hussey](#), and Policy Advisor at USAID's Center for Education [Kirby Henslee](#). They highlighted the fact that foundational literacy and the language around inclusivity was spoken at all levels at the Transforming Education Summit. Additionally, they called for better screening of children with potential learning disabilities and programs to raise awareness and combat stereotypes of students with disabilities. They stated that advocates can be helpful by convening organizations, ministers, and countries that are good examples of inclusive education, getting important people in the room together, and helping USAID's upcoming learning opportunities. GCE-US will be holding its next Community of Practice meeting on December 7, 2022, at 9 am ET. Click [here](#) to sign up.

The UN Transforming Education [Summit](#) Solutions Day Transforming Commitments into Real Solutions for Disability Inclusive Education was held, in collaboration with governments and civil society partners. GCE-US co-organized a session that included powerful panel discussions among important stakeholders who highlighted new commitments and tools that aim to transform education systems to be more inclusive for children and youth with disabilities. USAID Deputy Assistant Administrator & Acting Senior Coordinator of U.S. International Basic Education Assistance [LeAnna Marr](#) [challenged](#) the World Bank Education Global Practice Lead Economist [Omar Arias](#) to work together to accelerate progress and ensure all their education programming is 100% disability-inclusive.

Additionally, during the UN Transforming Education Summit Leaders' Day Spotlight Session The Global Challenge of Addressing the Learning Crisis, First Lady [Dr. Jill Biden](#) [announced](#) that the U.S. Government is joining other nations and partners to endorse the Commitment to Action on Foundational Learning and addressed the disproportionate effect of the learning crisis on girls with a key commitment to improving access to education for 15 million girls and young women by 2025. During the event, U.S. Secretary of Education [Miguel Cardona](#) [stated](#) that "Education is the foundation for peace, for security, for global development. Education safeguards free communities, and free societies. Education can start and strengthen ties among individuals in our own countries and across the world. Education is essential to achieving all the sustainable

development goals.” To learn more about the UN Transforming Education Summit, click [here](#).

The 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference was this week and devoted a day to focus on Youth and Future Generations. The day highlighted “the impacts of climate change [that] are detrimental to the health, nutrition, education and the future of children, adolescents and youth, who are the most vulnerable to extreme weather events, toxic chemicals, temperature changes, and eco-anxiety.” According to Save the Children, 90% of diseases resulting from the climate crisis are likely to affect children under the age of five and almost **160 million children are exposed to highly severe and prolonged droughts**. The climate crisis is forcing families to migrate with estimates that by 2050, **there could be 143 million more migrants**. To learn more about COP27 and the day focused on Youth and Future Generations, click [here](#).

Call for Proposals

USAID and the National Academics Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER) are offering several grants related to COVID, GBV among women and girls, youth, and early childhood development:

- **[Uganda - COV-096: The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on GBV among women and girls in informal settlements in Kampala](#)**: The main objective of this project is to explore the impact of COVID-19 on GBV among women and girls in informal settlements in Kampala, with a view to identifying entry points for testing the “SafeBangle ” innovation. The SafeBangle is wearable technology that will send an alarm by SMS to people chosen by the woman herself. The project researchers believe that the SafeBangle innovation will be effective to enhance reporting and response to GBV survivors.
- **[Uganda - COV-027: The impact of COVID-19 on school enrollment and mental health of children in the Manafwa watershed area in Uganda](#)**: This study aims to collect household-level data about the impact of COVID-19 on school enrollment and mental health of children in the watershed. Dr. Batte and his colleagues will use a mixed-methods approach. Data retrieved from schools will be used to determine school attendance before and after lockdown, the Beck youth inventory II will be used to assess mental health, and the Kidcope questionnaire will be used to assess coping.
- **[South Africa - COV-054: YouthCAN - Co-design African Needs: Exploring strategies to increase the uptake of a SARS-CoV-2 vaccine in youth: A co-designed study with youth](#)**: This study addresses three linked objectives, which are listed below along with the planned activities: 1.) To understand and

explore ways to increase the uptake of a SARS-CoV-2 vaccine in young people. Activities: Formative rapid community assessments including Group Discussions and an online survey (months 3-5) 2.) To explore vaccine hesitancy by determining exposure to community rumors, social media “news,” other sources of information or misinformation, and the impact of this information on behavioral responses to COVID-19 and vaccine confidence. Activities: Data analysis (months 5-6) 3.) To co-design an intervention to maximize SARS-CoV-2 vaccine uptake and address vaccine hesitancy in youth in sub-Saharan Africa. Activities: Youth-led workshops (months 6-8)

- [South Africa - COV-060: Early child development during a global pandemic: Indirect effects of COVID-19 in South Africa](#): The project will collect data on socio-demographic characteristics of the household, caregiver and infant, child development, child feeding practices, clinic attendance, caregiver experiences of parenting through the pandemic and household experiences of COVID-19 illness and death. Child development will be measured using the Ages and Stages Questionnaire, Third edition (ASQ-3), and the Bayley Scales of Toddler and Infant Development, Third edition (BSID-III).

To learn more about the USAID and National Academics Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER) grants, click [here](#).

Events

- Center for Global Development [virtual conference](#) “**Future of Development Forum.**” November 14, 2022 at 8:30 am ET.
- Alliance for Peacebuilding Digital Peacebuilding Community of Practice [webinar](#) “**Shifting the Influencer Model to Promote Peace and Fight Misinformation.**” November 15, 2022 at 11 am ET.
- European Parliament, End Violence’s Safe Online Initiative, WeProtect Global Alliance [virtual event](#) “**Safe Digital Futures for Children: Data for Change.**” November 17, 2022, at 4 am ET.
- OECD [virtual event](#) “**Job shadowing: practical approaches to an effective career guidance intervention.**” November 17, 2022 at 10 am ET.
- The Global Book Alliance and USAID [webinar](#) “**Global Book Alliance: Launch of Book Supply Chain Training Modules.**” December 14, 2022 at 9 am ET.

Reports, Articles & Resources

- World Vision Advocacy [article](#) “**Let’s Unite for Children.**”
- Devex [podcast](#) “**COPcast: Mark Suzman on Gates ‘shift’ on climate.**”
- OECD [resource](#) “**Youth-Led Social Enterprises.**”

- Girls Not Brides [article](#) “**Three takeaways from the UN General Assembly: What’s on the international agenda and what does it mean for ending child marriage?**”
- UN General Assembly [report](#) “**Protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity - Report of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (A/75/235).**”
- The Guardian [article](#) “**Boys need to talk more about feelings and fight inequality, report says.**”
- UNICEF [article](#) “**UNICEF Poll: African youth report reconsidering having children due to climate change at a higher rate than youth from other regions.**”



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