
The Weekly Pulse

NEWS FROM ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS IN GLOBAL CHILD ADVOCACY



Vol. 115: FY2023 Omnibus Appropriations Bill, U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit, & the U.S. Strategy on Global Women's Economic Security.

January 9, 2023,

Quick Summary

Congress [passed](#) the FY2023 omnibus appropriations bill which included slight increases in child-focused accounts. The bill had an increase in key accounts that support children globally. More analysis will be included in a forthcoming newsletter. **The FY2023 omnibus appropriations bill also included language around a Children 's Interagency Coordinating Council through [HHS](#) and tracking funding towards children and youth globally through a [Youth Report](#).** The Children 's Interagency Coordinating Council aims to “foster greater coordination and transparency on child policy across agencies. The Council shall enter into agreement with NASEM to prepare a report to Congress analyzing federal policies that have affected child poverty. The study should rely on the U.S. Census Bureau Supplemental Poverty Measure, among other sources of information. The Council will also examine and periodically report on a broad array of cross-cutting issues affecting child well-being.” The omnibus

appropriations bill also states that the Youth Report is “the reporting requirement under the heading Tracking of Funding/or Children and Youth in the House report. The USAID Administrator shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on such report prior to its submission, including data collected on programs to ensure all age groups are benefitting proportionately, particularly infants and children under school age. The USAID Administrator should work with partner countries to prioritize the needs of such age group.” To read more about the FY2023 omnibus appropriations bill, click [here](#).

The White House and the U.S. Department of State [held](#) its U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit last December, where delegations from 49 African countries and the African Union, alongside members of civil society and the private sector, attended. During the **Africa and Diaspora Young Leaders Forum**, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken emphasized that the “United States is committed to ensuring that young people can continue to bring their talents and hard work to the benefit of people across the continent and to the benefit of people in the United States. We’ve got a number of programs that are doing just that – programs like the Young African Leaders Initiative – and through our economic development programs, like the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs program.” In a statement recapping the event, Secretary Blinken stated that “Across every single one of our priorities, civil society will play a critically important role, and in particular, youth. Today the median age in Africa is 19 years old. By 2030, two in five people on this planet will be African. And the choices that rising generations make will shape the future not just for Africa but for the entire world. That’s why we’re investing more in Africa’s emerging leaders, more than ever before.” To learn more about the summit, click [here](#).

Spotlight

The U.S. Department of State Secretary’s Office of Global Women’s Issues, in coordination with the White House Gender Policy Council [launched](#) the first U.S. Strategy on Global Women’s Economic Security. This strategy “lays out a vision in which women and girls around the world, in all their diversity, are able to fully, meaningfully, and equally contribute to, and benefit from, economic growth and global prosperity.” This strategy addresses a multitude of barriers that women and girls face including, advancing care infrastructure and valuing domestic work, committing to the Do Not Harm principle, and safeguarding and protecting against sexual exploitation and abuse.

The launch of this strategy included remarks from the U.S. Secretary of State [Antony Blinken](#), Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Gender Policy Council [Jennifer Klein](#), and USAID Administrator [Samantha Power](#). Secretary Blinken

highlighted programs that the State Department is supporting, including the World Bank's Invest in Child Care Initiative, which "will help improve access to quality, affordable child care in low- and middle-income countries around the world."

After the remarks, there was a panel discussion among various White House offices about the intersectionality between gender and economies. Senior Advisor to the U.S. Trade Representative [Jamila Thompson](#) emphasized this by explaining that when women thrive, we all thrive. She underscored the fact that children and youth rely on women as caregivers and when they are economically stable, their lives improve.

To learn more and rewatch this event, click [here](#).

Events

- Global Rights for Women [webinar](#) "**Safe Consultations with Survivors of Violence Against Women and Girls.**" January 11, 2023, at 1 pm ET.
- The Global Health Council [hybrid event](#) "**Global Health Conference 2023.**" January 23, 2023, online and in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.
- The Implementation Science Collab [webinar](#) "**Using Violence Against Children and Youth Survey (VACS) Data and Process to Accelerate National Action to Protect Children.**" January 24, 2023, at 9 am ET.
- The Inter-America Development Bank [virtual event](#) "**Skills for Youth. Investing in human capital in Latin America and the Caribbean.**" January 24, 2023, at 10 am ET.
- UN [event](#) "**5th United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC5).**" March 5-9, 2023 in Doha, Qatar.
- The UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) [in-person event](#) "**Arab Regional Forum for Sustainable Development 2023.**" March 14-16, 2023, in Beirut, Beyrouth, Lebanon.
- UN Economic and Social Council's (ECOSOC) [in-person forum](#) "**ECOSOC Youth Forum 2023.**" April 18-20, 2023 in New York, NY.
- United Nations [event](#) "**United Nations World Data Forum.**" April 24 & 27, 2023.
- UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) [in-person forum](#) "**ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development Follow-up (FfD Forum) 2023.**" April 24-27, 2023 in New York, NY.
- European Union Capactiy4dev [hybrid event](#) "**The European Youth Event (EYE) 2023.**" June 9-13, 2023 online and in-person at the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

Reports, Articles & Resources

- Human Rights Watch [article](#) “**Ten Good News Stories for Kids in 2022: Banning Child Marriage and Corporal Punishment among Children’s Gains.**”
- UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) [report](#) “**General Recommendation No. 39 (2022) on the Rights of Indigenous Women and Girls.**”
- Girls Not Brides [training manual](#) “**Stand up, Speak out! Youth activism training – to help you end child marriage.**”
- The Women Refugee Commission [resource hub](#) “**Sibling Support to Adolescent Girls in Emergencies Resource Hub.**”

Professional Opportunity

The International Rescue Committee is seeking to hire a new policy officer for the Early Childhood Development (ECD) team. The Policy Officer will “support the advancement of the ECD and Education influence and visibility scopes of work, enabling the execution of standing policy change strategies in MENA, Latin America, and Africa. This role will support engagement on key bilateral and multilateral processes and lead on policy analysis, writing, and communications. This position will also support advocacy capacity-building across IRC’s ECD and education teams. This is a full-time, fixed term one year contract.” To learn more and apply, click [here](#).



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