
The Weekly Pulse

NEWS FROM ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS IN GLOBAL CHILD ADVOCACY



Vol. 129: U.S. Global Strategy to Empower Adolescent Girls, InterAction Aid Delivers Report, & How to Engage the World Bank Around Child Rights event.

April 17, 2023

Calls to Action

The Thrive Coalition drafted a sign-on to Ambassador Samantha Power thanking her for the release of the implementation guidance for the Global Child Thrive Act. The letter offers “the Thrive Coalition to be a resource as USAID rolls out implementation in the country”. Additionally, the Thrive Coalition plans to cc the letter to all Assistant Administrators and Deputy Assistant Administrators, at the request of USAID’s Children in Adversity office. **If your organization is interested in signing its name to this letter, please sign [here](#) by COB, Wednesday, April 19.**

The Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies ([INEE](#)) is collecting evidence on efforts to support learners with disabilities in humanitarian or emergency settings. It seeks to understand disability-inclusive education interventions in emergency or humanitarian settings. This can include examples of disability-inclusive

projects in lower-middle-income countries (LMICs) affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters, or other countries affected by fragility, conflict, violence, or displacement. If you know of any examples (of policies, programs, projects, etc.), please share links or documentation, and complete the survey [here](#).

Quick Summary

For the first time, the State Department (DoS) has [posted](#) online its annual report on the implementation of the U.S. Global Strategy to Empower Adolescent Girls. The 2016 strategy was the first-ever, of any government, strategy to focus specifically on girls. Since 2020, Congress has required reporting from USAID and the DoS on their work to implement the strategy. ChildFund is working on an analysis of the past three years of these reports and welcomes your thoughts on what you are seeing and recommendations you may have after reviewing this year's report. Read the report [here](#).

InterAction [published](#) its Aid Delivers 2023– Foreign Assistance in the 118th Congress report. This report provides an overview of the impact of U.S. Foreign Assistance on key global sectors, including children and youth. The Basic Education, Maternal and Child Health, and the Vulnerable Children's accounts are some of the primary international children and youth funding streams. The report states that "Children and youth constitute over half of the world's population and are the majority population in many countries. This increases the urgency of prioritizing the lives of millions of young people who have witnessed setbacks to decades of progress in their countries due to the recent cycle of global crises (such as the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, mounting food insecurity, and ongoing conflicts)." It goes on to state that the U.S. foreign assistance "funding, policies, and programs must recognize the interconnected needs of children and youth regardless of where they live. Young people need to be supported at every stage of their lives to achieve their full potential. Programs and policies must invest in their most critical needs because the health, well-being, and economic security of an entire generation of children and youth are at stake." To read the report, click [here](#).

USAID Administrator Samantha Power [released](#) a statement in honor of World Health Day and outlined the impact world crises have on the health of children. She stated that "Putin's unprovoked full-scale invasion of Ukraine degraded the global food supply chain and drove increases in malnutrition, which contributes to nearly half of all child deaths. And climate-driven catastrophes like the flooding in Pakistan, cyclone Freddy in southern Africa, and historic droughts in the Horn of Africa have further strained fragile health systems. As a result, we have experienced the first global reduction in life expectancy since World War II." To help alleviate some of these health

crises, USAID is assisting in recovering by including global health security, which is the “existence of strong and resilient public health systems that can prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease threats” and investing in primary health workers. To read the statement, click [here](#).

Spotlight

The Bank Information Center held a [webinar](#) titled “How to Engage the World Bank Around Child Rights.” The **How to Child Rights** toolkit “aims to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations (CSOs) to advocate for child rights in the context of World Bank operations and to hold it accountable for project-related harms to children. It sets out the basics of how the Bank functions, how Bank policies consider issues related to child rights, and how to use these policies and the Bank’s independent complaint mechanism to hold the Bank accountable.” It also offers guidance, illustrative case studies, and useful resources to help CSOs understand how to:

- influence the Bank’s lending positively for children,
- advocate for change within the framework of a specific project that might be directly or indirectly negatively affecting children, and to
- seek remedy for children when harm has occurred as a result of a Bank’s project.

This guide is “aimed primarily at child-focused CSOs and other CSOs from a range of different contexts who are interested in engaging the Bank around child rights. It may also be relevant for academics, UN entities, and State authorities with an interest in the impact of the World Bank operations on child rights.” To learn more about this event and to read the report, click [here](#).

Events

- The Georgetown Collaborative for Global Children’s Issues [webinar](#) **“The Impacts of U.S. Immigration Enforcement on Child Migration and Labor.”** April 18, 2023, at 10 am ET.
- IUCN and USAID [hybrid event](#) **“Addressing gender-based violence and environment linkages: Impact of the Resilient, Inclusive and Sustainable Environments (RISE) grants challenge and new winners.”** April 18, 2023.
- The Safeguarding Hub Eastern Europe [webinar](#) **“Demystifying safeguarding investigations: Open discussion with Lucy Heaven Taylor, safeguarding and SEA investigations specialist.”** April 20, 2023, at 7:30 am ET.
- INHOPE [virtual event](#) **“Data for change: listening to the voices of children about their experiences online.”** April 20, 2023, at 9 am ET.
- The OECD [webinar](#) **“Playing with Ideas: Cultivating student creativity, innovation, and Learning in Schools.”** April 21, 2023, at 9 am ET.

- USAID Leading Through Learning Global Platform [webinar](#) “**USAID Higher Education #FailFest on Employability.**” April 25, 2023, at 10 am ET.
- The Georgetown Collaborative for Global Children’s Issues [webinar](#) “**Caring for Vulnerable Children: What Does Answering God’s Call Mean for Churches, Families, Orphanages, and Other Forms of Children’s Care?**” April 25, 2023, at 12 pm ET.
- Safe Sport Allies International [webinar](#) “**Bystander Intervention in Cases of Violence in Sports. How do we do it?**” April 26, 2023, at 6 pm ET.
- Keep Kids Safe [event](#) “**Hill Day 2023.**” April 26, 2023, in Washington, D.C.
- UN [forum](#) “**2023 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF).**” July 10-19, 2023.
- UN [conference](#) “**16th Session Of The Conference Of States Parties To The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) CRPD.**” June 13-15, 2023 in New York, NY.

Reports, Articles & Resources

- UNICEF USA [article](#) “**Inside Look: How UNICEF is Tackling the Global Nutrition Crisis for Women and Girls.**”
- World Vision [op-ed](#) “**Why children go hungry from a lack of clean water.**”
- UNICEF [article](#) “**Children pay a heavy price as more landmines are laid: Tragic reality of landmines in Myanmar.**”
- The New Humanitarian [article](#) “**Why foreign aid isn’t as generous as the latest figures might suggest: A closer look at the OECD estimates reveals that assistance to least developed countries actually fell in 2022.**”
- UNICEF [press release](#) “**Taliban’s decision to ban Afghan women from working with the United Nations will cost children’s lives: Statement by UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell.**”



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