

---

# *The Weekly Pulse*

---

NEWS FROM ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS IN GLOBAL CHILD ADVOCACY



---

Vol. 49: The Girls Girls' Leadership, Engagement, Agency, and Development (LEAD) Working Group, USAID, & The Global Health Council Updates

20 August 2021

## Quick Summary

**The Girls Girls' Leadership, Engagement, Agency, and Development (LEAD) Working Group** published a [website](#) to help raise support for the Girls LEAD Act of 2021. The website provides fact sheets of both the House ([H.R 1661](#)) and Senate ([S.634](#)) versions of the legislation, a social media advocacy toolkit, as well as a call to action page. Currently, the Senate bill has nine cosponsors and the House bill has twenty six cosponsors.

**The House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman, Meeks, and The Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman, Menendez,** issued a [joint statement](#) on the fourth

anniversary of the Rohingya Genocide. The statement highlights the human atrocities, including the sexual assault of women and girls, inflicted on the Rohingya population and calls on President Biden to make a formal determination that the crimes constitute genocide.

**USAID** released the [“U.S. Government COVID-19 International Basic Education Response”](#) which highlights the “collective impact of the U.S. Government response to COVID-19 related to education access, attendance, retention, and learning

**The Global Health Council** hosted a [community focus group discussion](#) aimed to understand the effects of COVID-19 on youth. The session included a panel of youth speakers working in youth targeted organizations. Some key takeaways from the youth panel included the issue of mental health and the exacerbating effect of social media; misinformation from social media channels on the virus; lockdown policies removing access to safe spaces for children threatened by sexual violence; and the loss of educational opportunities due to school shutdowns or the loss of jobs. This information will be included in an upcoming Global Health Council publication that will dive into the “inequities across marginalized populations during the COVID-19 pandemic.”

**InterAction** published a [blog](#) in commemoration of International Youth Day 2021. The blog, “Transforming Food Systems Requires Engaging and Investing in Youth,” highlights the interrelated nature of youth development and the modernization of the agricultural sector. It calls for the vocational training for youth; the utilization of information and communications technologies; the promotion of the agriculture sector as an attractive livelihood; and the creation of a “transparent multi-stakeholder mechanism that works across governments (national, regional and local), the private sector, youth organizations, and development partners to ensure that programs are coordinated and produce the desired outcomes.”

## Virtual Events

- August Global Campaign for Education-US [Coalition Meeting](#)  
**31 August, 2021 10 AM ET**
- Day of General Discussion on Children's Rights and Alternative Care. 16-17th, September 2021. **Registration opens 1st September, 2021**
- The Alliance for Children Protection in Humanitarian Action’s 2021 [Annual Meeting](#) on Child Protection in Humanitarian Action.  
**4-8th October, 2021**
- UNICEF, WHO, UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, the Sexual Violence Research Initiative, Raising Voices, The End Violence Partnership, and The Commission for Children are hosting an [event](#) on “Intersections Between

Violence Against Children and Violence Against Women: Identifying Evidence, Gaps, and Opportunities for Collaboration”.

**19 October, 2021 4pm ET**

### Reports, Articles & Resources

- **UNICEF’s [report](#)**, “The Climate Crisis is a Child Rights Crisis: Introducing the Children’s Climate Risk Index.”
- **New York Times’ [podcast](#), [The Daily’s episode](#)**, “Why Apple Is About to Search Your Files: Apple has taken action against child sexual abuse material on its platforms. Its solutions, however, have not been met with universal support.”
- **Save the Children’s [blog](#)**, “What Does the Future Look Like for the Children who Remain in Afghanistan?”
- **UNICEF’s [conceptual framework](#)**, “Scaling Up Child Protection: A Framework for the Future.”
- **Inter-agency Network for Education in Emergencies’ [podcast series](#)**, “Educate Us! Women and Girls on Learning in Humanitarian Crises,” featuring World Vision, Together for Girls, Girls Not Brides, and other child advocates.”
- **Society for Research in Child Development’s [article](#)**, “Global estimates of the implications of COVID-19 related preprimary school closures for children’s instructional access, development, learning, and economic wellbeing.”



Copyright © 2021 Tides Center, All rights reserved.