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# *The Weekly Pulse*

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NEWS FROM ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS IN GLOBAL CHILD ADVOCACY



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**Vol. 85: The G7 Foreign Ministers statement on Afghan Women and Girls, The Hill Op-Ed, & House Foreign Affairs Committee Hearing on USAID's FY23 Budget Request.**

May 23, 2022

Calls to Action

**The Summit for Democracy organizers have prepared a series of consultations on different topics, including one on children and youth, over the coming weeks.**

They are encouraging organizations to participate, including organizations from the youth, gender, disability, and LGBTQI+ spaces. **Below is the list of topic meetings with dates and times. Click [here](#) to learn more and sign up.**

- **Media Freedom**, 5/24/2022, 9:00am
- **Climate/Environment**, 5/26/2022, 9:00am
- **Racial Justice**, 6/2/2022, 9:00am
- **Combating Bribery**, 6/7/2022, 9:00am

- **Youth & Child Rights**, 6/9/2022, 9:00am
- **LGBTQI+ Issues**, 6/14/2022, 9:00am
- **Disability Issues**, 6/16/2022, 9:00am
- **Gender**, 6/21/2022, 9:00am
- **Financial Transparency**, 6/23/2022, 9:00am
- **Labor Rights/Forced Labor**, 6/28/2022, 9:00am

The [USAID Leading through Learning Global Platform](#) (Leading Through Learning) and its three Learning Networks, the USAID Education in Crisis and Conflict Network ([ECCN](#)), the USAID Global Reading Network ([GRN](#)), and the USAID Higher Education Learning Network ([HELN](#)), invite members to submit **Concept Notes proposing tasks for implementation over the next year**. This Call for Concept Notes will provide an opportunity for Leading Through Learning to identify and develop tasks that build the evidence and/or knowledge of USAID staff and partners, provide opportunities for professional development, or create opportunities for engagement across partners and staff. Concept notes that meaningfully integrate marginalized and underrepresented groups including women, youth, persons with disabilities, LGBTQI+ people, indigenous people, and other groups are especially encouraged. **Applications are due Wednesday, June 15th, 2022 at 12 am ET. Click [here](#) to learn more and apply.**

#### Quick Summary

**The G7 Foreign Ministers of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and the High Representative of the European Union released a [statement](#) on the lack of rights and freedoms Afghan women and girls are experiencing under the Taliban.** They state that “We stand with the Afghan people in their demand for equal rights in line with the Taliban’s commitments to all Afghans and Afghanistan’s obligations under international law. We condemn the imposition of increasingly restrictive measures that severely limit half the population’s ability to fully, equally, and meaningfully participate in society, including the recent announcement on women’s appearance in public along with new punishments for family members to enforce compliance with these restrictions.” The G7 Foreign Ministers call on the Taliban to “urgently take steps to lift restrictions on women and girls, respect their human rights, and meet the expectations of Afghans and the world to permit their full, equal, and meaningful participation in work, education and public life, as well as freedom of movement and freedom of speech, which is crucial for long-term peace, stability, and development of the country.” To read the full statement, click [here](#).

**The Hill published an opinion [piece](#) by InterAction CEO, Sam Worthington, regarding the minimal mention of children and youth at the second White House**

**COVID-19 Summit.** He expressed that “Only groups, UNICEF and the Catholic Relief Services, were able to finally place the plight of children and youth before summit leaders, presenters, and the viewing public.” He continued to explain that Children and youth constitute [over half of the world’s population](#) and the [majority population](#) in many countries. Worthington highlighted that the second White House COVID Summit failed to address the “the untapped potential that the global youth population represents for future workforce stability,” and that the current [global food crisis](#) exacerbated by and compounding the impacts of COVID-19 in many parts of Africa, Asia, and the Americas.” Click [here](#) to read the op-ed.

## Spotlight

**The House Foreign Affairs Committee held a hearing to discuss USAID’s Foreign Policy and International Development Priorities in the FY23 Budget Request.** [Rep. Grace Meng \[D-NY\]](#) drew on the Report Language that the grantees of the Children’s Policy and Funding Initiative submitted to her office. During the House Foreign Appropriations hearings with Samantha Power, on USAID’s FY2023 Budget request, Rep. Meng asked Ms. Power about disaggregated data on children and youth.

In addition to other issues, the Chairmen, Representative Meeks, emphasized that 1 in 5 women have experienced gender-based violence (GBV) in humanitarian emergencies. He stated that “We must ensure that the protection services including counseling, safe spaces for women and children, protection from GBV, and reducing the risk for human trafficking are available.” He also cited that the increase in food insecurity will increase GBV against women and girls globally. Ranking Member Rep. McCaul cited that GBV and sexual violence against women and girls is currently happening in Ukraine and echoed support for more documentation efforts.

In Administrator Samantha Power’s opening statement, she expressed gratitude towards the committee, explaining that “we’ve led life-saving humanitarian and disaster responses in 68 countries, including Haiti, Ethiopia, and Ukraine; we’ve helped enhance pathways for legal migration to the United States while working to strengthen worker protections; and **we’ve assisted the relocation and resettlement of Afghan colleagues and refugees under the most dire of circumstances, while pivoting our programming in Afghanistan to address ongoing food insecurity and public health needs, and continuing to push to keep women and girls in school.**” However, she also acknowledged that we continue to face challenges, including the war in Ukraine. She stated that “**Putin’s war has displaced more than 14 million people, including two-thirds of Ukraine’s children.** It has led to serious disruptions to global food, fuel, and fertilizer supplies around the world, further taxing the already

overwhelmed international system—up to 40 million additional people could be pushed into poverty and food insecurity in 2022 due Putin’s war.”

To read Administrator Power’s full opening statement, click [here](#). To watch the entire House Foreign Affairs Committee meeting, click [here](#).

## Events

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- The Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD) [virtual event](#) “**184th Public Meeting of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD).**” May 23, 2022, at 12 pm ET.
- End Violence Against Children [virtual event](#) “**Together to #ENDviolence Leaders' Event.**” June 14, 2022, at 8 am ET.
- **InterAction’s annual Forum.** June 15 (Long View Art Gallery) -16 (The Ronald Reagan Building), 2022, starting at 1:30 pm ET.
- InterAction’s annual Forum [event](#) “**Breakout: Two Sides of the Same Coin – Breaking Down Silos for Children and Youth.**” June 16, 2022, at 11 am ET in The Ronald Reagan Building.
- Safe to Learn [virtual event](#) “**Driving action towards ending violence in schools: Pre-summit discussion.**” June 28, 2022, at 6:30 pm ET.

## Reports, Articles & Resources

- InterAction [article](#) “**Global Rise in Vaccine-Preventable Diseases Highlights Urgent Actions Needed to Save Lives and Alleviate Future Suffering.**”
- UNICEF [blog post](#) “**Childcare: An overlooked response to emergencies.**”
- USAID EducationLINKS [report](#) “**Evidence Summary: What Works in Pre-Primary Education Pedagogical Practices.**”
- The World Bank [publication](#) “**Quality Early Learning: Nurturing Children's Potential.**”
- UNICEF [article](#) “**World a ‘virtual tinderbox’ for catastrophic levels of severe malnutrition in children.**”
- UNICEF [article](#) “**Child alert: Severe wasting.**”

## Professional Opportunity

**Global Solutions Ventures (GSV) is seeking to hire an Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) Technical Advisor** to join and support the team of the USAID Inclusive Development Hub (ID Hub). The ID Hub’s mandate is to promote the rights and inclusion of marginalized and underrepresented populations around the world in the development process, working across various technical areas to “combat stigma and

discrimination, promote empowerment and inclusion of marginalized or underrepresented groups, and improve the lives of populations in high-risk situations.” This Advisor will support the technical direction of USAID’s global ECCD efforts in line with the U.S. Government (USG) Strategy, Advancing Protection and Care for Children in Adversity (APCCA). To learn more and apply, click [here](#).



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