



GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

Second Global Consultation
Synthesis Report
April 2016

This report provides key findings from a second round of consultations on the Zero Draft Strategy of the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children, held between 4 January and 15 March 2016.

The consultations were aimed at identifying existing solutions and gaps to preventing and responding to violence against children, and to help set priorities that are based on existing knowledge and evidence of what works. The feedback collected through this round will be used to review the Zero Draft Strategy, and inform the final Strategy.

The Zero Draft Strategy was published in September 2015, following an earlier consultation round held in June and July 2015. During this previous round, interested parties had the opportunity to provide input on the Partnership's strategic focus and architecture through an open online survey.

This second round of consultations included three components; (i) children's consultations facilitated by civil society organisations (CSOs); (ii) an online survey for CSOs committed to ending violence against children; and (iii) an open consultation for professionals and organisations.

This synthesis report includes three sections that review and summarise the outcomes of each component. Section One discusses the feedback gathered from the children's consultations; Section Two looks at the CSO survey results; while recommendations made by professionals and organisations are discussed in the final section.

This report includes a small number of illustrative quotes – a full compilation of all the responses received are available in three *unabridged reports*, one for each component.*

* Where necessary, quotations have been translated or minimally edited for spelling and formatting. UK English has been used throughout.

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Key Findings

1. Children feel strongly that to end violence against children, we need to: (i) listen, support and empower them to speak up without fear; (ii) increase awareness about the level and impact of violence against children; and (iii) implement and enforce legislation.
2. To stop violence, children believe they can: (i) campaign and increase awareness; (ii) teach their peers about their rights; (iii) improve their own behaviour; and (iv) speak up, and report incidences of violence, but only if they do not have to fear the consequences.
3. The Partnership should help children learn about their rights and enable them to actively participate and contribute.
4. Children ask people everywhere to respect them and their rights, and ask their governments to commit to keeping them safe by improving legislation, security, and strengthening child protection policies and services.
5. There is strong support for the Partnership's proposed vision, mission, principles and ways of working among civil society organisations.
6. Key measures of success for the Partnership over the next five years should include: (i) violence against children becoming a high priority on global and national agendas; (ii) legislation being introduced and/or enforced; (iii) national plans being introduced by governments; and (iv) effective monitoring of progress in making children safer.
7. A majority of civil society organisations feel the Partnership should carry out all of the three proposed objectives, but see building political will to end violence against children as the Partnership's highest priority.
8. As a key stakeholder, civil society organisations feel they should be involved in the Partnership's governance, and expect the Partnership to provide a platform for them to share knowledge and expertise, and help them work together with other partners to end violence against children at country level.
9. There is strong support for children to be actively involved in the Partnership, but civil society organisations caution that their participation must be meaningful.
10. A majority of the civil society organisations agree with the proposed objectives for the Fund, although some suggest including support for existing actions, including those by children.
11. Respondents recommend that the Partnership: (i) develops clear and practical definitions for 'rights focused' and 'child centred', drawing on existing child rights frameworks; (ii) enables children to play a meaningful role; and (iii) ensures no child is left behind.
12. To enable partners to work together effectively, the Partnership should: (i) provide an open and inclusive platform; (ii) introduce a common results framework; (iii) act as a global 'hub of excellence'; and (iv) be transparent about all procedures and practices.
13. To make violence against children a global priority, respondents recommend developing a compelling narrative to mobilise the public and convince governments, harnessing the momentum around Agenda 2030 to secure commitment.

14. To effectively implement the 'building blocks', the Partnership will: (i) need to be flexible and allow for local adaptations; and (ii) ensure long term commitment and support by all stakeholders, including children.
15. The Partnership should develop strong and mutually-beneficial relationships with policymakers to ensure they work together more effectively.
16. If successful, pathfinder countries would within five years: (i) introduce costed national strategies; (ii) ensure sufficient funds and resources for violence prevention and child protection; (iii) implement proven violence prevention strategies; and (iv) monitor progress and share lessons learned.
17. To help Pathfinder countries to accelerate action to keep children safe, respondents believe the Partnership should act as a clearing house, and provide technical and financial assistance.
18. Respondents recommend that the Partnership introduces an online resource centre, and holds regular conferences – open and accessible to all, including children – to facilitate knowledge sharing.
19. To help tackle transnational threats, the Partnership could add value by: (i) creating an umbrella movement for all existing campaigns and initiatives to increase visibility; (ii) building political will; and (iii) providing a platform to share data and evidence.
20. To empower a more effective movement, respondents recommend that the Partnership develops a clear communication strategy and enables all stakeholders – including children, grassroots organisations and communities – to participate and collaborate.
21. The final Strategy needs to include a clear definition of 'violence against children'.

One

Children's Consultation

Introduction

About the research

To facilitate the children's consultations, a toolkit (available in Arabic, English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish) was developed to guide the process. The design and translation of the toolkit was led by Save the Children and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, while a larger group of CSOs were engaged in a feedback round. The face to face consultations were organised and facilitated by multiple in-country CSOs.

The focus of the consultation was to understand:

- The actions/solutions children believe are necessary to end violence against children in their community, country, and globally.
- The actions children can take to support ending violence against children.
- Children's recommendations for strengthening the work of the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children.

To ensure that the consultations were run safely and meaningfully, the toolkit included a list with the basic requirements for effective and ethical participation of children, and a template designed to obtain consent for the use of each child's contribution including quotes, photographs and videos.

To collate the responses, facilitators were provided with a *Documentation and Reporting Form*, which included a summary sheet and a critical questions guide. In some cases, facilitators also took photographs and/or produced a short video. A selection of these will be made available online.

Bottom up coding (coding based on repeated or key themes) was used to categorise the responses received from each consultation. Each response included a small selection of quotes from children. Where relevant, these have been added to illustrate some of the key findings. Names have been withheld to provide a degree of anonymity, but to contextualise the quotes, the age and country of the girl or boy quoted has been included.

About the participants

In total, 1,530 children, aged 8 to 18,* were consulted across 24 countries (see Figure 1), with slightly more boys (775) than girls (755) participating.

The consultations involved children from both rural and urban areas and mixed socio-economic backgrounds. Facilitators were encouraged to make the consultations as inclusive as possible by creating opportunities for otherwise marginalised children to participate. In some countries, the consultations included children registered as IDPs or refugees, children from marginalised ethnic groups or regions, or children with disabilities. Others included children working on the streets or as domestic workers, or residing in institutions. Children who had personal experiences of violence were also engaged. Some of them lived in areas with high levels of communal (gang) violence while others had suffered violence at home or in school.

* One consultation also included young people aged 18 to 21 – these have not been included in the final count.



Figure 1

Acting to End Violence Against Children

Finding 1: Children feel strongly that to end violence against children, we need to: (i) listen, support and empower them to speak up without fear; (ii) increase awareness about the level and impact of violence against children; and (iii) implement and enforce legislation.

The children identify six main actions that are needed to end violence against them:

- **Listen to and support** children. “Pay attention to the alerts children give, intervene immediately and provide the help and support needed to overcome suffering. I personally demand leave no child behind.” (13 year old girl, Bolivia) “Listen to children. They have their own opinions and their views are valid, at any age.” (15 year old girl, Canada)
- **Empower** children by ensuring they know their rights, and are able to speak up and access help without fear of repercussions.
- Increase **awareness** about the types, level and impact of violence against children among parents, teachers and the wider community. “I think it is too important and essential to create campaigns, projects and trainings.” (15 year old girl, Chile)
- Teach parents and caregivers **positive parenting** skills. “That instead of beating them [children], explain to them that if they did any mischief, [it] is wrong.” (unknown, Argentina)
- Implement and enforce **legislation** that protects children from violence. “Dear government, I want to tell you, you should make a law to protect children who are abused.” (15 year old girl, Chile)
- Ensure perpetrators are brought to **justice** but also **educate and rehabilitate** them to stop the cycle of violence. “My message to governments is that those who abuse children should be imprisoned and not be allowed to escape.” (15 year old girl, Argentina)

Some suggest that countries should be held **accountable** for ending violence against children and increase **child protection services**. Others suggest reducing potential drivers of violence by providing better **economic opportunities** for families, and ensuring schools and communities are **safe**.

Finding 2: To stop violence, children believe they can: (i) campaign and increase awareness; (ii) teach their peers about their rights; (iii) improve their own behaviour; and (iv) speak up, and report incidences of violence, but only if they do not have to fear the consequences.

When children were asked what stops them from speaking out about or reporting violence, the most common answer was **fear** – of being ignored, of not being believed, of the possible negative consequences – including that they might be held responsible.

- “At least 80% of children that experience violence and do not speak about it because of fear, the silence will not make us prosper, we will not endure it, we must have the courage to break the silence.” (16 year old girl, Nicaragua)
- “Children find it hard to report on violence against children because their parents themselves are the ones who cause the violence they are experiencing.” (16 year old girl, Philippines)

Other reasons include a lack of awareness about their **rights** or not knowing who they can **trust** and talk to. Some cite that there is no **network or legal entity** where they can go and **report** incidences of violence.

Despite the fear and lack of awareness, children say they need to speak up, and are very clear about what actions they can take to stop violence against children. They suggest children could:

- Increase **awareness** by campaigning at home, schools and in their communities, through (social) media, street theatre, discussions, marches, etc.
- **Talk** to someone they trust and/or **report** to the authorities if they or someone they know experiences any form of violence. “If at some point you suffer from violence, seek help, DO NOT REMAIN SILENT! Ask for help from your elders, help at school or from the police, but ask for help.” (14 year old girl, Chile)
- Improve their own **behaviour** by respecting others and by talking instead of fighting. “Let’s start to make change ourselves, for example, respecting our peers and not allowing bullying.” (10 year old girl, Colombia) “The problems are not resolved by beatings at school, they are resolved by discussion.” (12 year old boy, Colombia)
- Engage in **peer-to-peer advocacy** to help other children understand their rights.
- **Organise** themselves into formal groups (including children councils and parliaments) to **advocate** their rights with the local authorities and the government. “In our community, children sit in the Village Council for the Protection of Children to let the local government know what children are experiencing.” (15 year old girl, Philippines)

A few children also recommend that they avoid people and areas where they may fall victim to or be engaged in violence – by becoming part of gangs, for example.

How Can the Partnership Help?

Finding 3: The Partnership should help children to learn about their rights and enable them to actively participate and contribute.

For children to have a genuine voice and role in the Partnership, children recommend that the Partnership:

- Helps children **learn** about their rights (e.g. CRC) by providing child-friendly materials that are easily accessible.
- Invites and enables children to **contribute** at Partnership conferences, including the proposed Solutions Summit. “Kids should be able to be representatives in the summit.” (15 year old boy, USA)
- Consults and enables children to actively **participate** in Partnership, including in the design and implementation of programmes. “If only adults make up the Global Partnership, it won’t stop violence against children. They won’t see our point of view.” (14 year old girl, Canada)
- Ensures all partners have a **child participation policy** in place.

These recommendations are underpinned by the condition that the Partnership respects children’s voices and ‘really listens’. This would make the Partnership more effective. Other suggestions to strengthen the Partnership’s work include:

- Increase **awareness** about the Partnership among children and other interested parties. “They give more information about their work.” “More public figures that we identify can with, like Messi” (unknown, Argentina)
- Work with more **partners**.
- Improve **collaboration** between partners to avoid duplication of work.
- **Act**. Don’t sit around and talk, but work with parents, teachers and governments to end violence against children.
- **Visit** and **talk** to children on the ground to understand their situation – don’t just count them. “Consider our voice...don’t just see as a number.” (15 year old girl, Chile)

The children also had some questions for the Partnership. They want to know:

- “How will the Partnership help stop violence against children?” (Colombia) “What is your next step?” (Jordan)
- “How long will it take to get the Partnership up and running?” (Canada) “When will you start implementing this agenda to end violence against children?” (Uganda)
- “Can you defend our rights?” (Albania) “Do you think, looking globally, this has no solution?” (Chile)
- “What will you do with our opinions?” (Nicaragua) “How are we going to be involved in the Partnership?” (Uganda)

Children's Messages to the World

Finding 4: Children ask people everywhere to respect them and their rights, and ask their governments to commit to keeping them safe by improving legislation, security, and strengthening child protection policies and services.

When asked what messages they have for different groups in their communities, and different Partnership stakeholders, the children say that **everyone** should respect them, their voices and rights, and let them participate at both the community and national level in decisions that concern them.

In Greece, Paraguay and South Africa, the children wrote letters to their leaders.

"Dear Mr Prime Minister,

Could you please give some money to organisations for children who undergo violence? Vote laws at the Parliament to protect children from violence. Moreover, make a project or a course so that they don't use violence. There should also be a law so that in every school there is a psychologist. Thank you for listening to us.

Sincerely,

The Brownies of Ksylokaastro" (Greece)

"We ask them to invest more in protection for children and adolescents, supporting organisations and governmental or non-governmental; not promise more things that cannot be met; try to bring solutions to the irregularities that exist in terms of violence in our country. Also, they know how to listen to children, because as you know, children have the right to speak and be heard as stated in the Convention.

Children of CCFC / Global Programme Remansito" (Paraguay)

"Dear Government,

We believe that the government can play a huge role in preventing the violence that is happening in our country. The government can improve and implement new organisations to protect the rights of children. These organisations can empower children and teach them how to speak up.

Police should be told to take issues involving violence seriously and to treat everyone equally.

Programs should be instilled in schools to educate them using young people who have experienced the same problems young people have. This will help them to relate and make them aware that they are not alone.

Make these changes before it's too late.

L.A., M.C., C.B., S.P., S.M. and M.R." (South Africa)

Many children elsewhere agree with the points raised in these letters. In their opinion, governments should:

- **Commit** to and **invest** in action to end violence against children. "Taking action to ensure the safety of children and adolescents is not a waste of resources and efforts, nor is it a moral and image issue, it is an obligation that governments acquire along with power" (16 year old boy, El Salvador)
- Ensure **legislation** is introduced and enforced.
- Provide **security** and make sure children are safe.

- Introduce and improve **child protection policies** and **services**.
- Strengthen **coordination** between child protection partners.
- Support and enable children to **report** violence. “The kids could have a Hotline set up by the government where they can report being abused.” (15 year old boy, USA)
- **Monitor** and **evaluate** actions that have been implemented.

Children also have messages for other groups – not just their governments. They ask:

- **Children** to speak up and not be afraid. “Children should raise their voice to stop violence against them.” (15 year old boy, Nepal)
- **Parents** to listen and talk to children, and to use positive parenting skills. “Involve parents to make them aware of the violence exercised against their children.” (17 year old boy, Bolivia)
- **Teachers** to stop using physical discipline, discrimination and bullying, and to teach children about their rights.
- **Community leaders** to raise awareness about the impact of violence against children and child protection services.
- **Communities** to work together and provide a safe environment for children.
- **Police** to help provide security. “We want to see an end to violence and the police protect us with his patrol vehicle, to end with the criminals.” (13 year old boy, Paraguay)
- **CSOs** to help advocate for children’s rights and educate parents, teachers and the wider community.
- **Private businesses** to provide training and economic opportunities.

Giving Children a Voice



Two

CSO Consultation

Introduction

About the research

A separate online consultation for civil society organisations was developed and implemented by ChildFund Alliance, Plan International, Save the Children, SOS Children's Villages International and World Vision. The survey (available in English, French, and Spanish) was distributed to a group of CSOs that were engaged in joint advocacy on violence against children in the lead up to the launch of Agenda 2030.*

The survey collected input on the scope and objectives of the Partnership, the role of CSOs and children in the Partnership, and the priorities for the proposed Fund.

The questionnaire included both quantitative and qualitative responses, with the latter framed either i) in support of a previous quantitative question, where participants were able to optionally comment; or ii) as a standalone open question. Not all respondents answered all the questions, but responses collated have been used to develop a sense of themes and opinions.

About the participants

125 individuals from 50 countries (see Figure 2) participated in this online survey.



Figure 2

Professionally, preventing or responding to violence against children is important for nearly all respondents – most of whom (58%) work for an international civil society organisation. Two in five say the main focus of their work is concentrated on the community level, while another 31% focus primarily on the national level.

* The term 'civil society organisations' or CSOs is used in this report as an inclusive term for all non-market and non-governmental organisations.

Support for the Partnership

Finding 5: There is strong support for the Partnership’s proposed vision, mission, principles and ways of working among civil society organisations.

Nearly all respondents had heard about the Partnership before participating in this survey, but only 38% say they are well informed. A little over half of respondents say they know very little.

Nine in ten respondents agree with the Partnership’s proposed vision, mission, principles and ways of working (see Figure 3).

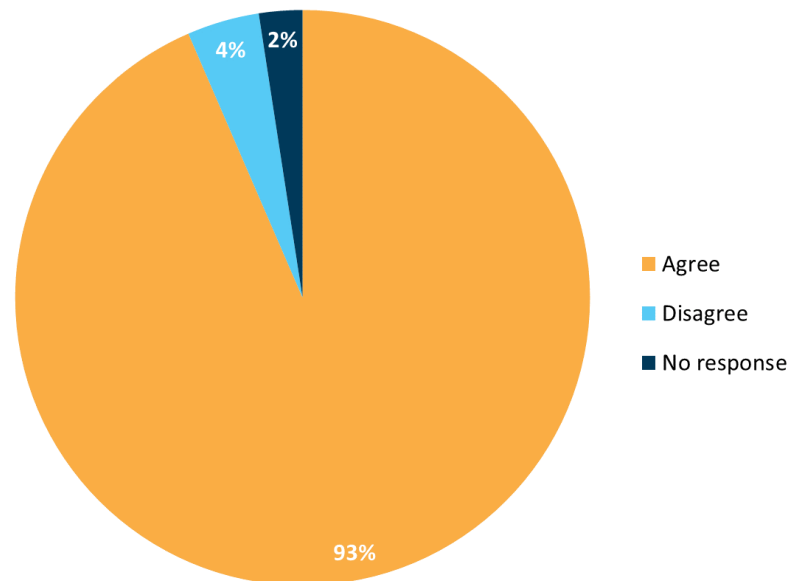


Figure 3

Of those who disagree or gave no answer, a majority say they don’t know enough about the Partnership.

- “I [am] not informed and engaged enough in the Partnership.”
- “I’m not familiar with them and just because I couldn’t answer on it.”

Finding 6: Key measures of success for the Partnership over the next five years should include: (i) violence against children becoming a high priority on global and national agendas; (ii) legislation being introduced and/or enforced; (iii) national plans being introduced by governments; and (iv) effective monitoring of progress in making children safer.

When asked what the key measures of success for the Partnership’s work over the next 5 years should be, respondents suggest the following:

- The Partnership is **established** and fully functional as a **multi-stakeholder** platform. “The Global Partnership and related Fund are established and their membership and governance include representatives of civil society organizations and children.”
- Violence against children is a **high priority** on both global and national agendas. “International agreements to end violence against children that lead to amendments in local legislation.”

“Strengthened national policy frameworks and budgets in Pathfinder countries and beyond”
 “Pathfinder countries align national development strategies and policies with Target 16.2”

- New **laws** are introduced, and all legislation is effectively implemented. “Adoption of protective laws and effective implementation.”
- More **funds and resources** for violence against children are made available. “Increased investment on VAC.”
- **Increased awareness** among professionals and the public. “Parents, teachers, caregivers understand that violence is preventable and that by raising a child without violence the whole society will benefit.”
- Stakeholders have an effective **platform for collaboration**. “To be united and coordinated in the politics of work.” “Coordination with stakeholders, an inclusive agenda and good communication.”
- **Violence** is reduced. “Real and measurable progress towards the prohibition and elimination of forms of VAC and reduction in prevalence of them.”
- Improved **data collection** and **research**. “Countries have well established data collection and monitoring mechanism on violence against children.” “Changes in practices and behaviour towards children, measured through cohort studies’ findings.”

Strategic Objectives

Finding 7: A majority of civil society organisations feel the Partnership should carry out all of the three proposed objectives, but see building political will to end violence against children as the Partnership’s highest priority.

The Partnership has identified three main objectives in the Zero Draft Strategy. When asked which of these objectives should be prioritised, respondents rank the options as follows:

1. Build political will to end violence against children: Make violence prevention a global policy priority.
2. Work with countries to accelerate action to tackle the dangers children face: Support ‘pathfinder countries’ to prevent and respond to violence.
3. Help countries to work together to tackle violence against children: Tackle transnational threats to children and create a platform for sharing knowledge.

A significant majority (92%) say the Partnership should carry out all three objectives. Six respondents feel that the Partnership should only focus on one objective, with two people recommending Objective 1 and one person suggesting the Partnership focus solely on Objective 2.

The Partnership’s second objective is to support ‘pathfinder countries’ to prevent and respond to violence. Nearly all respondents (98%) believe that other countries – those not participating as pathfinders – should have alternative ways to join and contribute to the Partnership.

When asked whether there are any other important objectives the Partnership should undertake, nearly a quarter of those who responded indicate that they are happy with the proposed set of objectives and/or have no alternative suggestions.

Some recommend introducing a stronger focus on:

- **Conflict-affected and fragile states.** “Ensuring pathfinder countries include countries considered conflict-affected and in a fragile state would ensure the most marginalised and vulnerable are reached.”
- **Gender.** “Have a strong gender focus.”
- **Child participation.** “All goals are fine, maybe just highlight more the protagonist role of children and adolescents in promoting and defending the right to live free from violence.”
- **Local knowledge and practices.** “Understand indigenous knowledge systems.” “Cultivate and support domestic, home grown best practices.”

Others suggest alternative objectives, including:

- Introduce a **multi-stakeholder network** at national and regional levels. “Build strong international working network.” “Work with regional mechanisms (IACHR, ACERWC; etc.) & networks (REDLAMYC; ACPF; etc.).”
- Follow international **guidelines** on child protection and child rights. “Check review protocols in case of violence against children.” “To follow up on the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child related to violence.”
- Collate existing **evidence** and **measure progress** in preventing violence against children. “Detailed mapping of the legality and as far as possible prevalence of all major forms of VAC.” “Systematic follow-up to the (international, regional) action, with publication of reports of progress.”
- Mobilise the **public.** “Encourage public awareness of the harmful effects of all forms of violence against children.” “Outreach to the general public.”
- Mobilise financial and technical **resources.** “Resource mobilisation is definitely essential.” “Help influence the donor landscape for increased funding for VAC programmes.”

Working Together

Finding 8: As a key stakeholder, civil society organisations feel they should be involved in the Partnership’s governance, and expect the Partnership to provide a platform for them to share knowledge and expertise, and help them work together with other partners to end violence against children at country level.

Respondents clearly feel civil society organisations should actively participate in shaping and directing the Partnership, especially at the national level. They also strongly believe (95%) that civil society organisations should be involved in the Partnership’s global governance as they:

- Represent a **key stakeholder** within the Partnership. “The Partnership includes civil society; therefore, this group must be represented in the governance structure.”
- Provide **accountability.** “NGOs will help in putting pressure on primary duty bearers to deliver on their promise.” “NGOs should participate because they put pressure on the state parties to fulfil their commitments to end violence.”

- Play a crucial role in **delivery**. “Absolutely, we are the main service providers.” “Since NGO are the implementers, they should be represented.”
- Provide alternative **expertise** and **experience**. “NGOs should [be] represented because they are complementing Governments efforts towards ending violence against children.” “NGOs bring a field perspective that is often missing in UN agencies.”
- Work directly with **children**. “NGOs are entities working with children and they can positively represent children and share children’s issues in such forums.” “To ensure the meaningful participation of children and adolescents.”

Some respondents believe it is important that the Partnership’s governance includes “as many voices as possible.” Others, however, caution that “this would add more to the complexity of the Partnership.”

Figure 4 summarises the main contributions respondents think CSOs can make in general within the Partnership. Although differences between the responses are minimal, there is a slight emphasis on working together with governments and other partners to campaign, and develop and implement strategies at the national level.

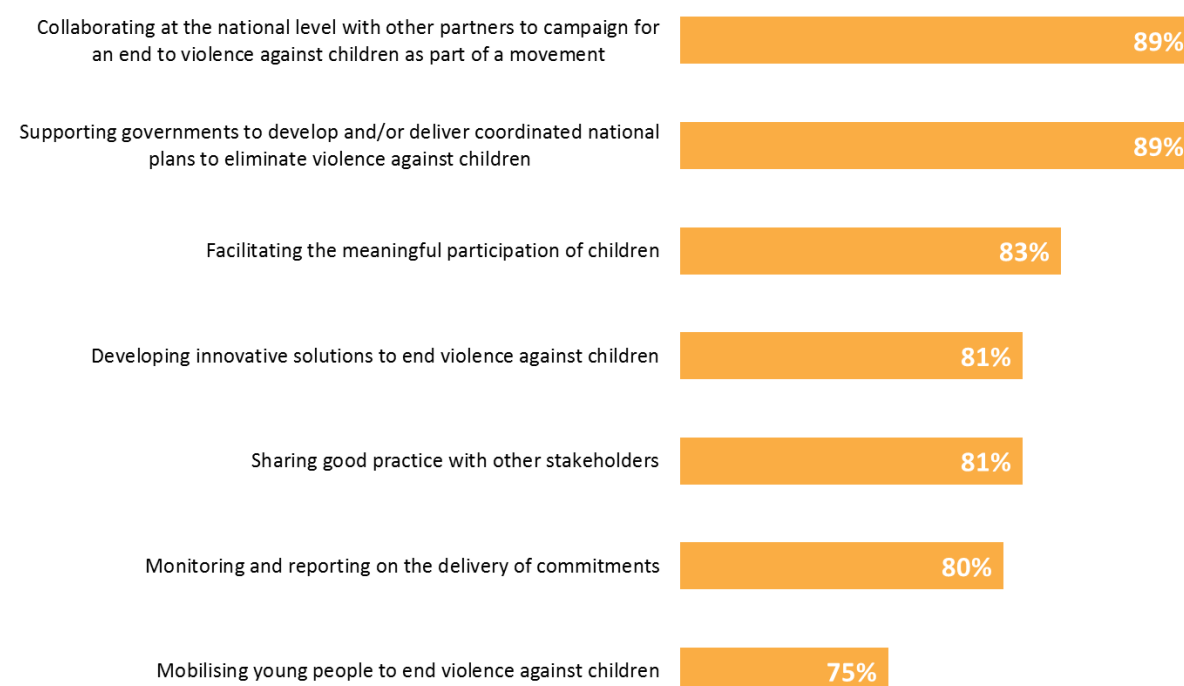


Figure 4

When asked how their *own* organisation could contribute, most respondents say by participating in technical groups and through knowledge sharing (see Figure 5).



Figure 5

The emphasis on knowledge sharing is also reflected in respondent's expectations of how the Partnership can help them in their work (see Figure 6).

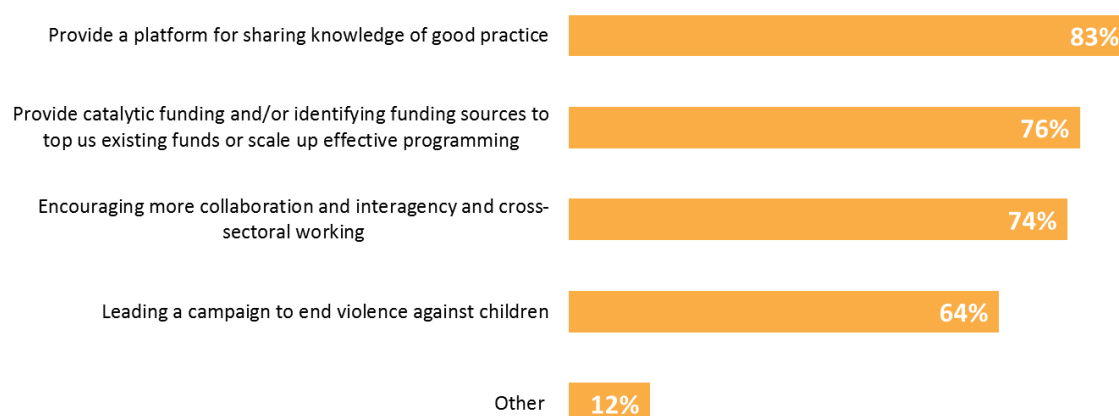


Figure 6

A few people suggest alternative ways in which the Partnership can help them, including:

- Collating and generating **evidence**. "Generating evidence on what works to feed local, national and global databases." "Gathering a global evidence base of effective practices."
- Promoting and developing common **strategies**. "Demonstrating rights-based advocacy strategies for accelerating prohibition and elimination of all forms of VAC." "Promoting and developing positive child care strategies."
- Providing **capacity building** for professionals working to end violence against children. "Help strengthen staff skills."

Finding 9: There is strong support for children to be actively involved in the Partnership, but civil society organisations caution that their participation must be meaningful.

Respondents strongly feel children should be involved in the Partnership at national, regional and global levels – with a slightly stronger emphasis on the national level. Nine in ten think children should also be represented in the global governance of the Partnership, because it:

- Is their **right** to participate in decisions that concern them. “It is the minimum condition for this proposal [that it] is consistent with the rights approach.” “The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child provides children with the right to participate in public affairs.”
- Will make the Partnership’s work more **effective**. “Involving any affected persons in decision making is key to successful decisions, plans and programmes.” “Will ensure that policies, progress and resources are allocated more effectively with the voice of children/youth represented.”

However, respondents caution that:

- Participation has to be **meaningful**. “Through meaningful participation, not tokenism or manipulation.” “I would only be wary that they not be utilised just for image purposes.”
- Clear **criteria** for children’s participation is required. “At this stage it would be premature to formally include them in the governance structure.” “But how to and who will set the selection criteria of who should represent the children could be a question.”
- Children’s **safety** has to be guaranteed. “We need to be careful of exploiting children to further the aims of the global partnership.” “Kids shall to be represented directly at the partnership via delegation them through NGO - not any government involved.”

Global Fund

Finding 10: A majority of the civil society organisations agree with the proposed objectives for the Fund, although some suggest including support for existing actions, including those by children.

A new Fund is being launched to support the work of the Partnership. The Zero Draft Strategy has proposed the following objectives for the Fund:

- Confronting new and emerging transnational threats to children, with an initial focus on online sexual exploitation.
- Support national action to end violence against children, with an initial focus on funding innovative approaches to demonstrating what works to prevent violence in pathfinder countries.
- Preventing violence against children in fragile and conflict-affected situations, recognising both the high levels of risk that these children face and the lack of institutional capacity to build more peaceful and inclusive societies.
- Building the movement to end violence against children.

Nine in ten respondents say these are the right set of priorities. Some additional suggestions include:

- Support **children’s actions** to end violence against children. “Supporting children and youth directly, through youth led initiatives, to be active contributors to end violence against children.”

- **Build capacity.** “Capacity building to local CSOs and NGOs as well as INGOs.” “Building children and youth capacity to protect themselves and other peers.”
- Develop a global **evidence database.** “Funds for evidence building.”
- Support **implementation** of existing (regional) plans. “Support regional (cross-countries) initiative and actions to end of violence against children.” “I would focus more on advocating for the implementation of existing plans.”

There is also some debate about whether the Fund should focus on all forms of violence:

- “The Fund should not highlight one specific violence.”

Or prioritise a focus on specific types of violence (e.g. sexual violence, child marriages, gender-based violence) or on a single area where violence takes place (e.g. in the home, at schools or in communities).

- “The ending of child marriage I think is the key items of ending violence against children”
- “Ending violence in all schools, as a catalyst for community change and avenue for role modelling alternatives to violence.”

Three

Open Consultation

Introduction

About the research

Professionals and organisations could contribute to the open consultation in one of two ways; through an online survey, or, by leading or participating in a constituency-led consultation. A toolkit was designed by the Partnership team to help guide the latter. Feedback for the constituency-led consultations could either be uploaded through an online survey, or emailed directly to the team.

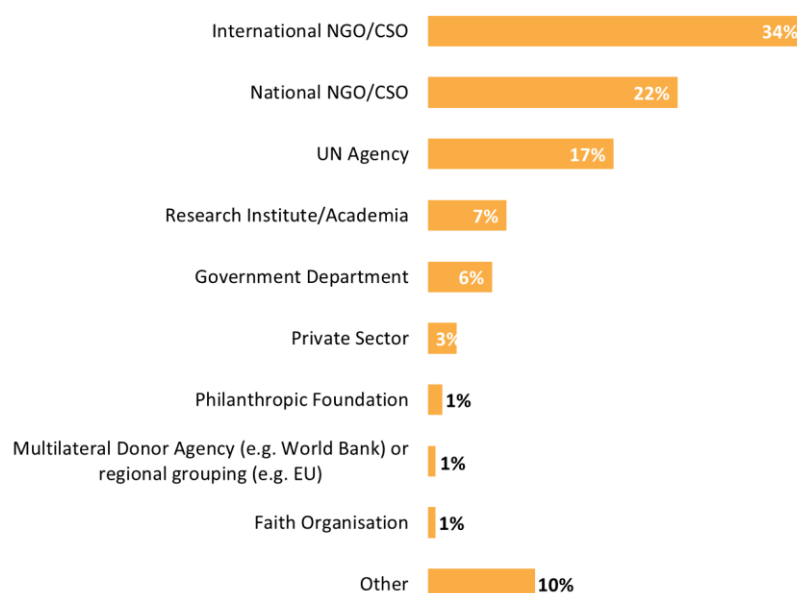
Both options included the same set of questions and focused on collecting strategic input. The aim was to focus on solutions – to understand how partners can help implement the Partnership principles, deliver on the strategic objectives, and contribute to building the global movement. Available in English, French, and Spanish, most of the questions were optional and open-ended, with the exception of a selection of background questions in the online survey.

This section focuses on summarising the strategic feedback. An accompanying unabridged report includes the full responses. To analyse the recommendations, responses were cleaned, collated and broadly categorised. Using an inductive, bottom-up approach, all responses were reviewed once to develop a sense of themes and suggestions. Responses were then reviewed again and a selection of succinct quotes were chosen to support the identified themes.

About the participants

In total, 161 open consultation responses were received. Four group contributions were received by email, while 157 individuals and organisations responded through the online survey.

A breakdown of the online survey respondents is shown below.



* 'Other' included consultants, activists, regional and other civil associations

Figure 6

Nearly half of the respondents described their or their organisation's work as being mainly focused on child protection or preventing violence against children, with another 15% participating in child-focused work. Just under half of the respondents work in the social welfare, education, health, nutrition or justice and security sectors. A similar number of respondents listed their sector as 'other' – specifying their field of work as child protection, child rights or human rights.

Principles

The Partnership has seven principles: rights focused, child centred, universal, inclusive, results, transparent, and learning.

As discussed in the Zero Draft Strategy, there are three principles that underpin the Partnership's work, including recognising that all children have the right to be protected from violence, that children's rights and needs are our primary focus, and that everyone – all countries and all parts of society – must take responsibility and be accountable for ending violence against children.

There are also four principles about how the Partnership works together and with others. The Partnership will provide an inclusive and transparent platform for all interested partners to help prevent and address violence through proven and results-based solutions. It also aims to continuously improve work by learning from the successes and failures.

Feedback on these proposed principles has mostly been positive:

- “We endorse these principles and think the Partnership is demonstrating good progress towards fulfilling them through the current processes.”
- “The Partnership's principles, focused on universality, rights and being child focused are clear and welcome.”

However, there was also a sense that the Zero Draft Strategy lacked detail about what these principles ‘really mean’.

- “The principles sound very good but mean very little if one can't understand how the Partnership and the individual members of it can break it down to create change.”
- “The Partnership should spell out what that right really means, and how it can be honoured.”

Respondents were asked how these principles can be put into practice, and many came back with detailed recommendations. Their suggestions have been summarised below.

Rights focused, Child centred, and Universal

Finding 11: Respondents recommend that the Partnership: (i) develops clear and practical definitions for ‘rights focused’ and ‘child centred’, drawing on existing child rights frameworks; (ii) enables children to play a meaningful role; and (iii) ensures no child is left behind.

For the Partnership to live up to these principles in practice, respondents recommend that the Partnership:

- Develops **clear** and **practical definitions** for the ‘rights focused’ and ‘child centred’ principles, that draw on existing child rights frameworks and tools. “It is recommended that the Partnership strive to ensure that more developed practical definitions and tools...are in place to support pathfinder and non-pathfinder states to effectively implement the principles.”
- Underpins all **documentation and actions** with these principles. “All publications, policy documents, public statements, products, MOU's and contractual arrangements, actions need to be underpinned by and reflect these three principles.”

- Ensures all partners to **commit** to these principles. “The Partnership will ensure that all countries and all segments of society are aware of and effectively apply this legislation.” “All organisations should follow principles and practice.”
- Ensures **children** play an active and meaningful **role** in the Partnership. “The Global Partnership and its members should ensure and help facilitate the meaningful participation and child-voice perspective across all levels of the mandate and work of the Partnership.”
- Enables **children** to **participate** in regional and national platforms. “The Partnership should set up mechanisms so that children can be prominent and influencing in country, at regional and global level through for example African Union, ASEAN, Arab League and the UN/EU.”
- Ensures that ‘**no child is harmed**’ by sharing and implementing agreed child protection policies. “The Partnership should seek to ensure that the protection sector does not cause direct or indirect harm to children and young people. A recommendation to the Partnership is to consider existing child safeguarding policies as tested best practices to be adopted.”
- Ensures ‘**no child is left behind**’ especially the most vulnerable and marginalised children. “The Partnership should ensure that all children, in all situations, are able to be caught within the actions of the Partnership.”

In their own work, respondents implement these principles by:

- Developing and implementing **rights-based programming**. “Whole school approaches aim to bring about a fundamental transformation in the school environment by embedding child rights, into the everyday management, functioning, and atmosphere of the school.”
- Running open **consultations**. “Through CSO driven national consultations and well researched recommendations.” “We have been able to keep members engaged by regularly updating, consulting and having task teams organised around specific outputs.”
- **Involving children**. “We have encouraged children to participate in our international meetings.” “Making sure that children are included/ participating in our programmes (design, implementation and evaluation).”
- Providing **training** on child rights, and child-centred programing. “Empowering all organisations...by providing training on the CRC and Child Protection policies.” “Offer our grantees training on [the] principles.” “Staff and associated personnel is trained how to engage with children appropriately.”
- Following a common child protection **code of conduct**, standard or policy. “We have strict ethical frameworks that ensure children’s safety.” “We have a child protection policy at international level of the NGO that each member of personnel in all countries has to sign.” “Implementing [an] agency Code of Conduct.”

Respondents feel that being part of the Partnership will enable them and their partners to live up to these principles more effectively if it:

- Provides a **platform** to share principle-based resources and expertise. “Mutual monitoring, networking and support...Sharing resources with the principles.” “If the Partnership is a way of better linking practitioners across the humanitarian and development continuum I think it would be easier to uphold children’s rights across the board.”

- Amplifies the **voice** of the most vulnerable and marginalised children. “Being part of the Partnership would...allow this often ignored sub-section of the child population a larger voice.” “[Our] input to the Partnership...would demonstrate that disabled people have a role to play in addressing violence against children.”
- Takes a strong **child rights focus**. “Being part of the Partnership will only enable me to more effectively live up to these principles if the Partnership takes a stronger child rights focus.”

Inclusive, Results, Transparent, Learning

Finding 12: To enable partners to work together effectively, the Partnership should: (i) provide an open and inclusive platform; (ii) introduce a common results framework; (iii) act as a global ‘hub of excellence’; and (iv) be transparent about all procedures and practices.

For the Partnership to live up to these principles in practice, respondents recommend that the Partnership:

- Provides a **platform** where **all stakeholders** can contribute. “Create a space for partners at all levels, including at community levels to contribute.” “Giving an equal voice to small and larger organisations will elicit a wider set of experiences.”
- Develops **common guidelines** for meaningful participation and action. “A recommendation to the Partnership would be the development and dissemination of clear guidelines on facilitating meaningful participation.” “Development of shared goals and a shared understanding of the strategies, programmes and activities of the Partnership.”
- Develops a **common results framework** to monitor and evaluate progress. “Use of theory of change and results based framework would help to improve the work and promote integrity.” “Promote the need for more and more rigorous data, have a continuous improvement focus, a strong feedback loop.”
- Develops a **monitoring mechanism** that draws on existing tools and can be easily implemented. “Set up a monitoring mechanism, easy and concise enough to be utilised by national and local CSOs.” “Consultation participants noted the major progress in recent years in the development of applicable monitoring and evaluation tools and indicators. A key role for Partnership would be supporting the capacity of different partners in the effective application and use of these tools.”
- Implements a **holistic approach** to gathering **evidence**, including both quantitative and qualitative research. “Take a more holistic view of evidence and learning.” “Create space for more qualitative inputs.”
- Acts as a global **‘hub of excellence’**. “Much of the evidence on violence prevention is being produced by other initiatives and partnerships...there is a need to harmonise and coordinate the different initiatives.” “Role of the Global Partnership be expanded to act as a global ‘hub of excellence’ that not only directly generates and disseminates learnings, but acts to collate and disseminate external learning and knowledge.”
- Develops **working groups** that focus on a small selection of key thematic areas. “It probably would be useful to have separate areas for knowledge sharing for each of the building blocks.” “Split the issues up (e.g. trafficking, child labour, bullying etc.) and convene working groups around them.” “Try not to have too many different sub-groups/lines too much gets lost in too many sub-groups.”

- **Communicates** regularly and provide information that can be accessed and understood by all. "Translation into child friendly information the learnings etc. is one of the biggest task." "Some parts of the knowledge platform should provide information in Arabic, French and Spanish, as well as English." "Have regular consultations, webinars, e-conferences etc. using digital technologies and social media. While also building in for those without digital access."
- **Is clear and open** about any successes and failures. "Some degree of failure is to be expected, and it is essential to have a strong commitment to honest, objective assessment of the results." "To ensure transparency, the Partnership needs to share openly all successes and failures."
- Ensures **accountability** by being transparent about all Partnership procedures and practices. "Must define a charter of conduct and a manual of administrative and financial procedures." "The Partnership should be open when it comes to issues of accountability in terms of methods, results, successes and failures and funding mechanisms."

When asked about how the Partnership should provide a platform that will enable all partners to work together effectively, many respondents suggest an online platform, and/or regular conferences and forums (see page 36). Respondents also recommend that the Partnership strengthen regional and national interaction and networks.

- "Broaden the alliance and partnership between the North and South regional bodies." "Support national and regional and international networks."

Respondents say that being part of the Partnership and working together with other partners will improve their ability to work effectively for children as it:

- Minimises **duplication** in efforts. "It will provide a platform for collaboration, networking and linkages thereby reducing cases of duplication of efforts."
- Expands and **improves** current **practice**. "Critically interrogate what has been achieved...what new models, strategies can be employed...look at the emerging child protection issues." "More knowledge about different problems and how to solve them." "In Estonia, we have great role models from Scandinavian countries. For example, Iceland Barnahus system and Norwegian Bufetat system for organizing child welfare have influenced child welfare politics and developing child abuse diagnostic teams in Estonia."
- Provides new opportunities to **collaborate**. "Partnership would be the core around child protection, linking all likeminded actors together at various continents...possibly to liaise with governments and branches including the private sector." "Can help build alliances with sectors that have traditionally faced not developed tools for political alliances focused on the rights of children." "A platform...allows to identify critical partners for future programs."

A few respondents suggest adding another principle:

- "I like the 'solutions-focused' approach, but I would add 'creative' to these principles."
- "The Global Partnership include the additional Gender as an additional standalone principle."

While others state that they expect these principles to be flexible and reviewed at a later stage in the Partnership:

- "Principles are good but we expect will be changing according to time and needs depending on circumstances."

Build Political Will to End Violence Against Children

The Zero Draft Strategy includes three objectives. The first objective is aimed at making ‘ending violence against children’ a global policy priority by demonstrating that we should – and can – make societies safer for children.

There is strong agreement among the online survey respondents that violence prevention should be a greater priority, and that there is a need to increase awareness of evidence-based solutions and strategies.

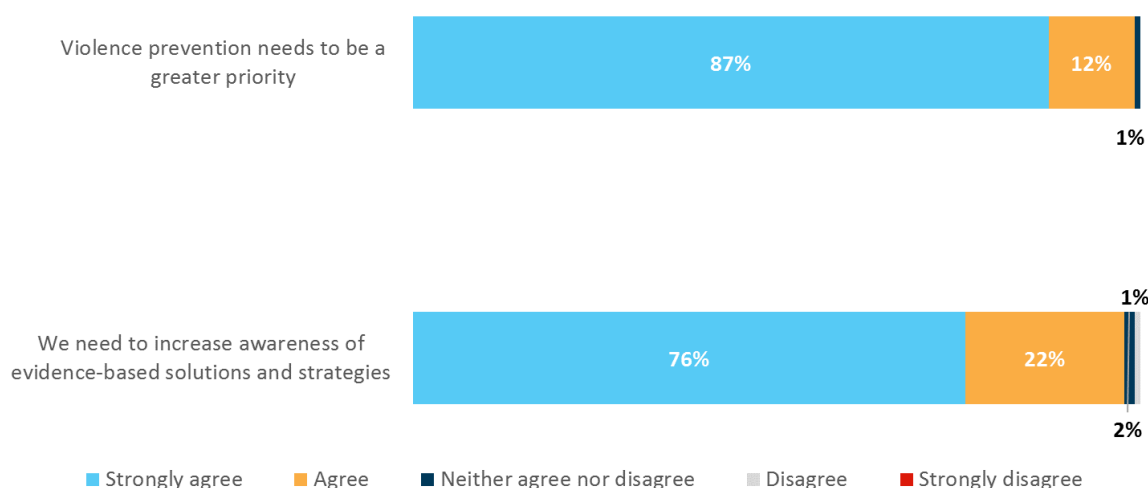


Figure 7

Making Violence against Children a Global Priority

Finding 13: To make violence against children a global priority, respondents recommend developing a compelling narrative to mobilise the public and convince governments, harnessing the momentum around Agenda 2030 to secure commitment.

Respondents were asked what they think is needed to make ending violence against children a global policy priority. They came back with a range of practical suggestions, including:

- Harness the **momentum** surrounding **Agenda 2030** to secure commitment and initiate action. “In one sense, it already is on paper, with the SDG targets. Full advantage needs to be taken of this new advocacy context.” “Take SDGs as the entry point to push countries to commit to this agenda.”
- Develop a **compelling narrative** that highlights the physical, social and economic costs of violence against children as well as the benefit of prevention. “Couch the impact of violence on children in health-economic terms...Demonstrating the investment return of the Partnership’s work.” “Disseminating key finding on the impact of violence to targeted audience – ‘cost of violence’ and ‘impact of violence on development agenda’ to government and donors – ‘impact of violence on child development’ to parents.”
- Build on **existing work** implemented by (potential) partners. “Ensure the Partnership has fully mapped who is currently working to end violence against children, what are the opportunities to develop existing good practice and work together with existing leaders in the field.” “Build

on/work with, don't compete with existing national, regional and international child rights coalitions."

- Develop a **multi-sector approach** focusing on high priority sectors such as health and education. "Recognise cross-thematic linkages between ending violence against children, and the health, education and humanitarian sector and advocates."
- **Lobby governments.** "Lobby and attempt to influence all international structures that engage with governments." "Concentrated lobbying and advocacy with governments is needed. Partnership can build and harness the work being done by UNSRSG rapporteurs." "Raising the issue and keeping it on the agenda at multiple levels – national, regional (ACERWC, OECD, Council of Europe, Arab League), and international."
- Push for **commitments** and herald early successes. "While hard evidence is needed to affirm solutions, local participation, inclusiveness and buy-in will be critical for their success in different contexts." "Strong commitment by the State...is necessary." "Acknowledge/concede good practice by governments."
- Mobilise **public opinion.** "If violence on children is not tolerated anymore in society, then politicians will follow." "Mobilisation of public opinion therefore should be an important part of the strategy... changing public opinion will help persuade governments to take appropriate action."
- Introduce **champions.** "Mobilise significant donors and public figures to give the issue visibility... solicitation of champions among the public figures – celebrity traction." "It needs involvement of the world's great religion leaders, including Pope Francis and the Dalai Lama." "Mobilise champions among politicians, media, celebrities etc."
- Mobilise the **media.** "Work with national journalists to raise the issue and make it a key priority globally." "Mobilise media." "Mass media should be used [for] preventative awareness against violence."

Implementing the 'Building Blocks'

Finding 14: To effectively implement the 'building blocks', the Partnership will: (i) need to be flexible and allow for local adaptations; and (ii) ensure long term commitment and support by all stakeholders, including children.

An immediate priority for the Partnership is to work with partners to develop consensus around the policies and programmes that are most effective for preventing violence, building on the leadership shown by governments, the United Nations, civil society, and other partners in strengthening the evidence base in recent years.

A working group of international organisations is developing these 'building blocks' for violence prevention which will sit at the heart of the partnership's strategy. The latest overview of the package of interventions lists the following strategies:

- Teach positive parenting skills
- Help children develop life skills and stay in school
- Raise access to treatment and support services

- Implement and enforce laws and policies that protect children
- Values and social norms that protect children
- Empower families economically
- Sustain safe environments for children

To effectively deliver these ‘building blocks’, there are three overarching catalysts: delivery systems, guidance and capacity, and monitoring and evaluation.

Many of the respondents indicate that they were working on one or more of these building blocks already. Based on their experience, they shared the following lessons to ensure implementation is more effective.

- **Stakeholder support** is crucial. “Important to work with governments and gather trust to be able to influence legislative process and provide useful technical assistance.” “Engaging all stakeholders at the community level, particularly parents and community leaders, is crucial to retention and successful completion.”
- **Involve children**, and enable all children to participate. “Involving children as much as possible.” “We must give children with difficulties to communicate conventionally access to a communication system suitable for all children speak with their own voice, even write or indicate symbols.”
- Be flexible, and adapt to the **local context**. “These are excellent and important strategies but...no model can be used globally without very careful local adaptation.” “Locally owned adaptation of solutions was critical for success – it insured that interventions are rooted in local capacity and positive values.”
- Be prepared for **long term commitment**. “Strategy implementation has to be seen and acted on, on a long term basis.”
- Work with the **building blocks** as a **set**. “It is felt that success can only be possible if several of them are worked together.” “The seven strategies should not be conducted in isolation. Each strategy links to other strategies.”
- Promote collaboration across **sectors**. “Focus on inter-sector working together rather than siloed efforts.” “Integrated programming (Education, Child Protection, DRR) can be extremely effective.”

Respondents also call for the capacity of child protection professionals and delivery systems to be strengthened, and all progress to be monitored through robust data collection – reinforcing the proposed overarching catalysts.

Although each of the seven proposed building blocks found support, some respondents caution against viewing legislation to end violence against children as an evidence-based strategy.

- “One of the problems we have with the Draft Strategy is the confusion between ‘evidence-based’ and ‘rights-based’. You don’t need evidence to justify prohibiting all violence against children; it is their immediate right...when it comes to how to quickly achieve law reform and how to implement and enforce...then evidence-based strategies are of course valuable.”

Instead, they see legislation as the foundation for further action rather than one of the options.

- “Strong laws and legal systems have to be the foundation for ending violence against children.”
- “Implementing laws to protect children is also a key matter. Without a law supporting a child or specialist keen on helping a child they finally reach the ‘glass ceiling’.”

Working with Policymakers

Finding 15: The Partnership should develop strong and mutually-beneficial relationships with policymakers to ensure they work together more effectively.

By uniting partners around a set of evidence-based strategies, the Partnership is shifting the debate from problems to solutions. Presenting cost-effective and proven solutions is one way respondents say will make working together with policymakers more effective. Other recommendations include:

- Build strong **working relationships**. “We need to develop a good working relation with them. Need to develop an ambassador within policymakers.” “Relationship building is essential and takes time. The right people are also critical in doing this.”
- Know your **allies and opponents**, support the former and engage the latter in constructive dialogue. “Find your champions at all levels of government and support them first. Enrol naysayers in the cause.” “Provide allies within the government with the moral and technical support that will strengthen their hand.”
- Understand and tailor according to their **agendas**. “Take on their practical concerns and considerations, recognising the politics that plays a role.” “First seek to address their most pressing VAC concerns.” “Targeting the right policymakers...and knowing what works for them.”
- Avoid a **critical** approach. “A greater appreciation of local capacities and practices would go a long way in ensuring buy-in from partners.” “From a collaborative attitude rather than criticism” “There is more to be gained from peer review mechanisms than building civil society coalitions to (as government often view it) humiliate or harass government to act.”
- Consider working with policymakers at a **local level**. “Open, transparent [and] equal relationships at the local level, developing a partnership agreement accepting each other’s constraints and working together to address/improve them.” “Ensure a wide spectrum of inputs...the more local a solution, the more likely it will have success.”

Work with Countries to Accelerate Action to Tackle the Violence Children Face

In its early years, the Partnership will support a small group of ‘pathfinder countries’ that will play a leadership role in designing and implementing new approaches to preventing and responding to violence against children. These are countries whose leaders are prepared to step up for children and who are committed to accelerating efforts to make children safe. They will confront the many factors that leave children vulnerable to violence, assess evidence for what works, and bring together the partners and investment needed to make their societies safer.

The initial group of pathfinder countries is likely to be quite small, but will include a selection of countries from all income groups and regions.

Pathfinder Countries

Finding 16: If successful, pathfinder countries would within five years: (i) introduce costed national strategies; (ii) ensure sufficient funds and resources for violence prevention and child protection; (iii) implement proven violence prevention strategies; and (iv) monitor progress and share lessons learned.

For these pathfinder countries to be considered successful in the first five years, respondents expect them to:

- Deliver a **costed national action plan/strategy** to end violence against children. “Pathfinder countries should develop well defined national strategies...that is well aligned with the country specific context.” “Costed national plan of action.” “An ‘action plan’ with specific targets...that incorporates measures related to SDGs, UPR-based commitments...and recommendations of the CRC treaty committee.”
- Ensure sufficient allocation of **funds and resources** for violence prevention and child protection. “To allocate more funds and resources in the national budget for children especially child development and child protection.” “Having child right governance and child friendly budget.” “Improved public and private economic contributions towards the objective.”
- Provide evidence of robust **monitoring and evaluation**. “Existence of a national (and in many cases sub-national) framework for ensuring and monitoring implementation.” “Legacy of strong and robust evaluation.” “Tangible, independently verified progress on set indicators.”
- Share **lessons learned** by piloting and reviewing prevention strategies. “Some good strong evidence of what has worked in their context.” “These results can serve as model cases that are similar and are considered pilot results for all countries had the same problems in common.” “Lessons learned...including challenges and what failed.”
- Develop an inclusive, multi-stakeholder **coordination** mechanism. “Form coalitions at country level to prevent violence against children.” “Coordination mechanism to steer VAC work.” “Involvement of all actors, including children and other family, community members, professionals.”
- Ensure meaningful **child participation**. “Pathfinder countries should commit to meaningful child and youth participation.” “It will be important to fully involve child victims in decisions that affect them and to contribute to overall protection of children.”

- **Implement** the evidence-based strategies to end violence against children. “Pathfinders should take visible steps in implementing the ‘building blocks for violence prevention’.” “I would hope the pathfinder could deliver a model of effective, sustainable interventions that help reduce social inequality, reduce the incidence of violence against children, increase measures of protection in terms of safety and security.”

Accelerating Action

Finding 17: To help Pathfinder countries to accelerate action to keep children safe, respondents believe the Partnership should act as a clearing house, and provide technical and financial assistance.

To support Pathfinder countries to achieve these measures of success, and accelerate action to keep children safe, the Partnership should:

- Provide **technical assistance** and build capacity in-country. “Knowledge-sharing and technical capacity support in areas that they request support.” “Long term in-country technical assistance.” “Providing ‘specialist professional panel’ available for consultation in policy and strategy planning.”
- Provide **financial assistance** and facilitate resource mobilisation. “The Partnership should undertake a robust funding mechanism, supported by public and private donors. That arranges public-private partnership and rolls out comprehensive programs.” “Provide...financial resources.” “Seek funding and leverage new/other donors through advocacy and connecting appropriate people/places/institutions.”
- Support in-country **needs assessments**, and the development of action plans. “It should help the countries design and implement a baseline study covering the seven building blocks...then it should support, as needed, the development of strategies for responding to the gaps and needs identified.” “Conduct a strengths based assessment and gap analysis of current practices of pathfinder countries.”
- Promote **collaboration** within and across countries. “Coordinating with stakeholders across country. Mainstreaming child protection across all sectors.” “Provide visibility, facilitate learning exchanges with other countries.” “Prevent siloed approaches...promote joined up multi agency working.” “Foster peer exchange.”
- Act as a **clearing house**. “Providing a clearing house for sharing information.” “Needs to provide resources links, sharing of what exists and plugging into existing networks and systems that are working.” “The Partnership should provide resources, guidance and exchange of best practices.”
- Provide a **platform for learning** that encourages transparent peer review. “The Partnership should do a supervisory role in making pathfinder countries account for in country interventions and share success and failures transparently.” “We could look as well as a peer review from other pathfinders form other pathfinders.” “Create platform to publicise and recognise commitments and for pathfinders to share their experiences.”

Within country, various partners can help support the pathfinder country by:

- Providing **technical expertise** and capacity building. “Training and teaching social workers” “Partners will contribute with their experience, knowledge and understanding.” “Training based on their own experiences.” “Technical assistance, capacity building.”
- Providing **financial and human resources**. “Financially and professionals.” “Funds and trained personnel.”
- **Implementing** programmes and services. “By providing services that support the strategy.” “Delivery of services.”

Multiple respondents suggest pathfinder countries develop a **clear coordination mechanism** to help in-country partners work together more effectively.

- “A clear coordination mechanism that enables partners to work together to share experience on the interventions that they have implemented on ending violence against children.”
- “Formalised co-operation and designed forms of support based on local needs and opportunities.”
- “There should be a strategic planning group representing all key partners in the country and there should be a clear strategic plan about how they are going to implement the change programme.”

Most respondents feel that non-pathfinder countries should be able to participate in the Partnership – primarily by **sharing knowledge and learning** with one another.

- “Participate in global learning – solution summits – knowledge exchange.”
- “There should be an opportunity for these countries to draw on the experience of these countries, which could mean active outreach by the Partnership to all countries.”
- “They should be encouraged to share their own programmes that are evidence informed...there should be regional groupings of pathfinder and non-pathfinder countries to facilitate sharing.”
- “Partnership will need to develop a broad knowledge base on all the building blocks. One thing that it could and should do to assist governments, institutions, associations and organisations in non-pathfinder countries, is to make the knowledge base publically available online.”

Other recommendations include:

- Be involved in the **monitoring** and **evaluation** of Partnership’s progress. “Countries not pioneers can analyse the results of the pioneer countries.” “Invite them to join the Partnership and learn and critique/commend the Partnership and networks.”
- Contribute or be able to apply for **financial support**. “They should also set indicators and receive funding for solutions.” “Help to finance the activities of the Partnership as such.”
- Be **‘early followers’**. “Non-pathfinder countries can ready themselves to be pathfinder countries in the next round, and can begin by gathering data on violence against children in their country, assembling their own country plans and budgets, identifying potential partners, and setting five-year goals that move them towards sustainability of efforts.” “Support the pioneering countries and aspire to be ‘early followers’.”

There are a few concerns that the focus on pathfinder countries may not be sufficiently inclusive, or sustainable and effective in the long run. To remedy this, respondents suggest:

- “Further consideration should be given to bringing new partner countries ‘online’ before the first five years of the Global Partnership has been completed.”
- “Instead of a group of pathfinder countries, it could be more constructive to highlight good practice from various countries in various parts of the world.”

Help Countries to Work Together to Tackle Violence Against Children

The third core objective of the Partnership is to help countries tackle threats to children that transcend national borders, and to build a forum for countries to learn from each other.

Feedback from some respondents suggest that the Zero Draft Strategy is not as clear about this objective as the others, and will need clarifying in the next draft.

- “It is not clear if this objective is about transnational forms of violence...or also embraces the need for states to work collaboratively in various fora.”
- This pillar of the Partnership is underdeveloped and needs to be built out with the existing constituencies.”

Sharing Knowledge

Finding 18: Respondents recommend that the Partnership introduces an online resource centre, and holds regular conferences – open and accessible to all, including children – to facilitate knowledge sharing.

The Zero Draft Strategy noted that the Partnership can play an important role in sharing knowledge. Respondents were asked how the Partnership can help fulfil this role to help strengthen standards and norms, and disseminate models and best practice. Their suggestions include:

- Develop a user-friendly and regularly updated **online resource centre**. “Online platform with...strategy building tools and best practice materials.” “Resource centre on the website that would provide information on the latest research and publications...linkages should be made with existing networks and academic institutions that generate evidence.” “Keep it as simple as possible.”
- Introduce **publications, seminars, webinars and conferences**. “Publications, TED talk, website, webinars, regional conferences (less costly).” “Online webinars and remote virtual conferencing.” “Provide seminars for participants of institutions working in the field.” “Partnership should advocate for and host bi-annual high level meeting.”
- Participate in **existing platforms** and **mechanisms** for knowledge sharing. “Identify, participate in and strengthen existing fora.” “Use existing mechanisms for information sharing...its work should also be mainstreamed throughout the UN system.”
- Facilitate **study visits**. “Structured study visits.” “I recommend study-visits between countries with similar cultural background to learn about different subjects.”
- Facilitate **exchanges** between high level **policymakers**. “Anything the Partnership can do in advance to build bipartisan trust between governments is important. Sometimes facilitating face to face introductions to relevant partners in each country is a first step.” “Foster and facilitate exchanges between senior government officials of pathfinder countries.”
- Develop **shared standards** and **practices** at the **regional** level. “Regional groups of countries could develop shared policies that enable shared practices that protect children from illegal movement across borders.” “Promote regional and sub regional standard setting.”

Respondents stress that any type of knowledge sharing platform – an online resource centre, a conference, or any another format – should be accessible to all, and have:

- “Accessible information in Spanish, sign language, clear, direct.”
- “Resources, knowledge etc. available in local languages and in simple form.”
- “Provision of sign interpreter...or provision of materials in large print or Easy English.”
- “Accessible venues, all documentation is distributed in accessible formats.”

The Partnership is planning to hold a Solutions Summit on proven strategies to address violence in 2017. Most respondents say they can contribute by presenting best practices models and case studies of:

- **Strategies** to prevent violence against children. “Present some models of prevention practice.” “Presenting good practices.” “Share good practice and facilitate dialogue on practical operational experience in leading violence prevention at country level.” “Present country scaling-up experiences.”
- **Capacity building** and **collaboration**. “Case examples of training inter-disciplinary and inter-sector teams.” “Models to train professionals in monitoring/auditing child care facilities.” “I would like to share in the summit a partnership model of engaging both actors of development necessary to end VAC among our communities.”

Other possible contributions include:

- Participate in the **organisation** of the event. “We could be the host country...participate in any planning or steering group meetings relating to the summit.” “Would be happy to facilitate a session, present or act as a rapporteur. Also would be pleased to play a role on the organising committee.”
- Develop a **research** agenda. “A consortium of universities working together on this agenda could raise the profile of the topic and integrate findings from work into training on curriculum development as well as into future research agendas.” “Could organise for a special edition of the International Journal on Child Abuse and Neglect that will focus entirely on the global Partnership.”

Respondents recommend that the Summit:

- Is based on careful **preparation, clear goals** and **follow up**. “Good online preparation of materials ahead of time, clearly defining what results we would like to achieve by the Summit, with strategy of follow up after the meeting.” “Provide opportunity...for governments and other partners to publicise their commitments for action...these commitments have to be linked to existing mechanism for measuring or reporting on them to ensure accountability and follow up.”
- Has clear **leadership**. “Pull together a small organising committee.” “Participatory development of the agenda as much as possible, but final decisions need to be made by someone with a clear overview of the Partnership’s ultimate goals.”
- Has an **influential patron**. “Pull in the absolute top persons of integrity and impact to model this...and pull in kids from every region.” “To attract the right crowd the Summit would need to have patronage of influential state, UN agency or prominent public figure.”

- Includes multiple components but prioritises **roundtables/workshops**. “Keep the plenaries short, have more workshops or knowledge sharing sessions or round tables.” “Reduce the ceremonies and grand speeches.” “Mobilise market place, documentary exhibitions, press conference where different countries will share their situation and expectation in front of media.”
- Is **inclusive** and **open** to all stakeholders, especially children. “We believe it is essential that the different child protection actors from different states involved in the Partnership are represented at the Summit, as well as representatives of the health and education sectors, and civil society organisations working on violence, families and children.” “Vital to have child and youth engagement for such a summit, not just adults.”
- Enables representatives from **developing countries** to attend. “In terms of conferences – offer funding, otherwise civil society in developing countries cannot come.” “Involvement from development countries. There is a lack of representation from developing countries in most platforms and forums.”

Transnational Threats

Finding 19: To help tackle transnational threats, the Partnership could add value by: (i) creating an umbrella movement for all existing campaigns and initiatives to increase visibility; (ii) building political will; and (iii) providing a platform to share data and evidence.

To explore where the Partnership can add value to existing campaigns and initiatives to tackle transnational threats, respondents were asked how the Partnership can support them. They highlighted five possible ways in which the Partnership could add value.

- **Map existing initiatives** to identify gaps and opportunities for collaboration. “Mapping of what other partners are doing in-country...would help establish partnerships...avoid duplication of work and help better management of resources.” “Be aware of all campaigns and take a bird’s eye view on where they overlap and where the gaps are.”
- Provide a **platform** to collate data and evidence. “It could be a repository for gathering and sharing data that could be used in advocacy to make the case for and provide successful, tried and tested examples from other contexts.” “Circulate up-to-date research and data on global data related to transnational threats to children.”
- Increase visibility by creating an **umbrella movement**. “Bring campaigns together under an umbrella movement...global visibility in term of branding etc.” “Work on shared voice and advocacy messages by Partnership on behalf of multiple partners for campaigns and initiatives.” “Gathering the various existing campaigns under the same criteria, image etc.”
- Build **political will**. “Putting issues that are rarely a priority on the government’s priority list.” “By strengthening connections and impact with relevant decision makers at transnational level”
- Encourage the development of **regional approaches**. “Initiating cross/trans-national agreements on the movement of children – the support of simple helpline regional numbers that are usable across borders.” “Inter-regional exchanges, inter-country MOUs.” “Based on the country-specific assessment on these transnational threats, we could look at regional strategy.”

Building a Movement

The Partnership plans to unite a global coalition – including all people who care about ending violence against children – behind the need to invest in and implement solutions that will keep children safe. Children themselves will be at the forefront of this global movement.

The movement's most immediate priority will be to challenge governments to act swiftly to begin delivering their commitments to end violence, helping convince them that investing in violence prevention will deliver substantial benefits for children and for the broader society.

The launch of Agenda 2030 and of the Partnership itself, also offers a unique opportunity to begin the process of uniting a global grassroots coalition behind the need to find, invest in and implement solutions that will end violence against children.

Finding 20: To empower a more effective movement, respondents recommend that the Partnership develops a clear communication strategy and enables all stakeholders – including children, grassroots organisations and communities – to participate and collaborate.

To learn from existing campaigns and empower a more effective movement, respondents share the following lessons:

- **Communicate** clearly, effectively and frequently. “Clear messaging – use of storytelling – stay away from the strong technical discourse to ignite a movement....be clear about your objectives and what you can accomplish in the short term versus more aspirational goals.” “Make your strategy clear and communicate often.” “Make sure the Partnership has an effective communications strategy.”
- Make your **story** evidence-based. “Use statistics and use the media. One good stat is better than a thousand personal stories, contrary to what many PR people think.” “Make them evidence-based – not sensational.”
- Create accessible networks, and work with existing movements to encourage **collaboration**. “I think it is necessary to create networks, collaborative work and share a lot of information to promote an effective global movement.” “The movement building requires facilitating grassroots action and ensuring southern focus by widening the interaction beyond online platforms.” “Link itself with women's rights, environment and human rights movements, work with campaigns to engage men and boys.”
- Enable meaningful participation by **children**. “The Partnership must be child led...A parallel KidzBoard to be configured alongside the Partnership board/forum.” “Involving children and letting them express their views would make the whole campaign more credible.” “Use among younger social networks and communication platforms that help spread messages about solutions to the issue of violence.”
- Enable **grassroots organisations** and **communities** to play an active role in developing the movement. “According to our experience, we think these campaigns should be made in communities and by communities themselves.” “I think this partnership needs to reconsider its potential as a movement. Led by the UN, in NYC and Geneva, without grassroots organizations at the helm, this is arguably not a movement.”

To motivate a broader movement, in a similar vein to building political will (see page 29), respondents recommend introducing ‘champions’. There was some debate, however, as to whether the movement should speak with one voice:

- “The use of common language among partners, and a set of clear messages to partners to use in their advocacy efforts.”

Or be tailored to each audience.

- “Make space for regional adaptations and priorities – the fact that a campaign works in one region does not mean that it will work in all.” “Develop different messages for different audiences”

General Feedback

Finding 21: The final Strategy needs to include a clear definition of ‘violence against children’.

The consultation provided space for respondents to give general feedback on the Zero Draft Strategy. Some people provided detailed comments on the language, and structure of the strategy – these can be found in the *unabridged* report.

One common recommendation, however, was that the final Strategy should include a clear definition of ‘violence against children’.

- “It is imperative, in our view that a clear definition of ‘violence’ be given...would recommend that ‘neglect’ be clearly recognised as a form of violence and abuse by the Partnership. Failure to recognise this within the parameters and focus of the Partnership could risk excluding many cases of severe harm from relevant actions (including prevention of violence) and ultimately put the achievement of the SDG Goal 16.2 in doubt.”
- “The Partnership should develop a clear and comprehensive definition about what violence against children means.”
- “It is surprising that no definition of violence – not even a tentative or illustrative one – is given. Perhaps that was not feasible thus far, but it cannot be postponed for long, for a definition will eventually be need to measure the impact of the Partnership.”

Enablers

In addition to the principles, objectives and movement building, the Zero Draft Strategy also discusses three enablers: finance and resources, data and evidence and, monitoring and evaluation. As separate processes will be set up to look at these technical areas, they were not the primary focus of the consultation although any input on them was welcome.

Comments related to the enablers are included above, but on the whole, references were made throughout. Data and evidence was mentioned repeatedly in contributions on working together (page 26) and sharing knowledge (page 36). Monitoring and evaluation also came up quite frequently, especially in relation to the ‘results’ principle where respondents recommended developing a common results framework, and a monitoring mechanism (page 26).

The final enabler is ‘finance and resources’. As mentioned in Section Two, The Zero Draft Strategy briefly discusses The Global Fund to End Violence Against Children, which will be independent from, but associated with, the Partnership. One recommendation made by a number of respondents – and that is not currently listed as a priority for the Fund – is that it should be used to stimulate in-country resource mobilisation.

- “The Partnership and associated fund should look to provide direct funding as appropriate to the model, but also seek to leverage funding indirectly, though the provision of technical assistance and capacity building to increase domestic resource mobilization.”
- “The establishment of the Global Fund to end violence against children should be expedited upon with different program areas across board. For example, interventions geared towards advocacy initiative to have CSOs meaningfully engage governments to commit adequate resources to support ending violence against children in pathfinder countries.”