CHILD RIGHTS NOW!
Joining Forces for Children across Child-Focused Agencies (CFAs): June 22, 2017

In June 2017, ChildFund Alliance, together with leadership from Plan International, Save the Children International, SOS Children’s Villages International, Terre des Hommes International Federation and World Vision International, participated in the meeting “Joining forces to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for children.”

Strategic Intent
Ensure that the implementation of the SDGs achieves a step change in realizing children’s rights

Why we must act now?
Internationally agreed child rights norms are under pressure and there is a real risk that further backlash will undermine progress. The synergies between SDG implementation and child rights provide an opportunity to counter this trend and to deepen political commitments to realizing child rights in every country.

What does success look like?
• Taking joint positions to progress children’s issues related to SDGs and child rights, focusing on children left behind
• Increased political commitment to realize child rights, reflected in e.g. SDG implementation discussions and reporting
• Leveraging commitments to child rights at the 30th anniversary of the Child Rights Convention in 2019 - being a focal point at the UN and national level
• Ensuring that children in most vulnerable situations are consulted and included
• Harnessing resources used on separate actions to create collaborative reports and activities

How do we do it?
• Creating synergy between children’s rights and the SDG agenda
• Jointly supporting and strengthening SDG implementation at UN level advocacy focusing on Leaving No One Behind / neglected agendas
• Reaffirming and leveraging commitments to Child Rights Convention with a major step at the UN and national level in 2019 on the 30th anniversary
• Explore contribution to new Leave No One Behind (LNOB) ICSC data collection process

Framework for joint CFA action to 2030
1. Global analysis of SDG voluntary national reports (VNRs) – Annual
• Analyse VNRs post the HLPF each year to put a spotlight on progress, gaps and solutions regarding Child Rights in the SDG implementation. These are used to inform countries reporting in the next years VNR cycle.
• The focus is to encourage their strong commitment to report on progress, gaps and solutions for children. Child led solutions derives from the Ending Violence Joint CFA initiative are highlighted in each report.
• Jointly led by CFA advocacy teams according to aligned criteria. A team of cross CFA analysts is also formed and resourced.

2. Child Rights Now report - Child Rights Situation Analyses including SDG trends - 2019 and every five years up to 2030
• Joint CFA Child Rights Situation Analyses in 20 countries with the participation of minimum 3 CFAs per country.
• Joint CFA Children’s consultation resulting in a trends analysis on both SDGs and Child Rights.
• Results targeted at the 2019 Heads of States HLPF; UN GA and Child Rights Convention 30th anniversary.
• Child friendly reports to be considered.

3. 2019 Celebration and making Children’s Rights a reality
• Joint CFA Global Child Rights Summit in 2019 together with other external partners
• National level focus on implementation experience leading to a global summit

4. Ongoing advocacy to use results
• Rolling calendar of child rights and SDG opportunities for influence at global and regional level.
• National level advocacy
• Share child led solutions from the joint CFA initiative on Ending Violence against Children

Steering Committee
• One senior executive lead per CFA
• Rotating chair – Save the Children will be the first chair
• The steering committee draws up own ToR
• The steering committee convenes as needed and meets face-to-face with CEOs during semi-annual meetings

Time line

June to Dec 2017
• June 30th – Accountable executive team formed for Child Rights Now! Appointed by CEO. Team draws up own terms of reference.
• June 30th – Draft communication providing direction to CFA UN offices in New York and Geneva and analyst team. (coordinated by World Vision)
• July 30th – Concept note for joint CFA initiative shared with CEOs considering external inputs. To be used for internal and external communication and funding. (coordinated by Save the Children)
• August 30th – Joint CFA VNR report completed based on common criteria and matrix.
• September - UNGA Joint event to communicate collaboration and share VNR analysis report. Concept note is also shared with partners and funders
• November 1 – Report to CEOs for approval
  o Child Rights Now project plan prepared including 20 targeted countries
  o Review of CFA communication and advocacy plans to prioritize a shared activity in 2019.
• November 30th – National rollout of plan to incorporate in 2018 CFA work plans
2018
• January – March
  o Advocacy efforts start in countries preparing VNRs
  o Start Joint CFA Child Right Analysis in all countries
• Prepare aligned CFA advocacy and communication plan for 2019
• February 13-14: Solution Summit Ending Violence - Stockholm
• March 1 – Report to CEOs on status
• July HLPF – Joint CFA advocacy activity and continue annual cycle
• July-December: Execute agreed plans

2019
• Joint CFA communications activities
• July 1st – Child Rights Now report released
• July HLPF and continue annual cycle
• November 20: Child rights 30th anniversary and summit option

2020-2024
• Continue annual VNR and advocacy cycle (globally – national)
• 2024 – Child Rights Now report