

ChildFund Korea is a child right’s advocacy organization, which has been representing the voices of children since 1948 to ensure every child gets respect and grows happily in a child-friendly environment. As a member of ChildFund Alliance, we support programs not only for children domestically, but also in 26 other countries.



Photo | Children of Don Phong Primary School where ChildFund Korea supported area. Don Phong commune, Bach Thong District, Bac Kan Province, Vietnam.



**Child First**  
ChildFund Korea

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# ChildFund Korea Advocacy Framework

ChildFund Korea  
Advocacy Framework

International  
Society



Government



Community



Family



Child Rights



# Child Rights and Advocacy

In order to reach the goal of development cooperation, the existing structure and root cause should be analyzed from multiple angles, and eventually, transform norms and practices in the community beyond one-off relief and service delivery. Advocacy plays an essential role in addressing structural issues.

At a community level, advocacy can be recognized as part of our international development cooperation program as it supports accountability for effective delivery of policy, system, and service by the local government. At a national level, advocacy activities can be carried out through joining forces to change the government policy and its budget. These local and national strategies

expand advocacy efforts through partnerships in regional and global mechanisms. That means advocacy is a long-term process that requires diversified approaches from different levels, as well as supporting right-holders to demand their rights and drive the changes they want.

ChildFund Korea defines advocacy on child rights as

**“a series of prolonged and systematic activities designed to improve awareness, environments, and drive policy change to protect, respect, and fulfill child rights.”**

Under our vision of the representative organization for child advocacy, ChildFund Korea works continuously to enhance and improve child rights.

At the global level, we do this by extending influence at domestic, regional, and global levels to take action to the issues that affect children in Korea and other countries where we implement development cooperation programs. Advocacy activities are implemented in cooperation and in coalition with other civil society organizations and international societies.

## Key Terms



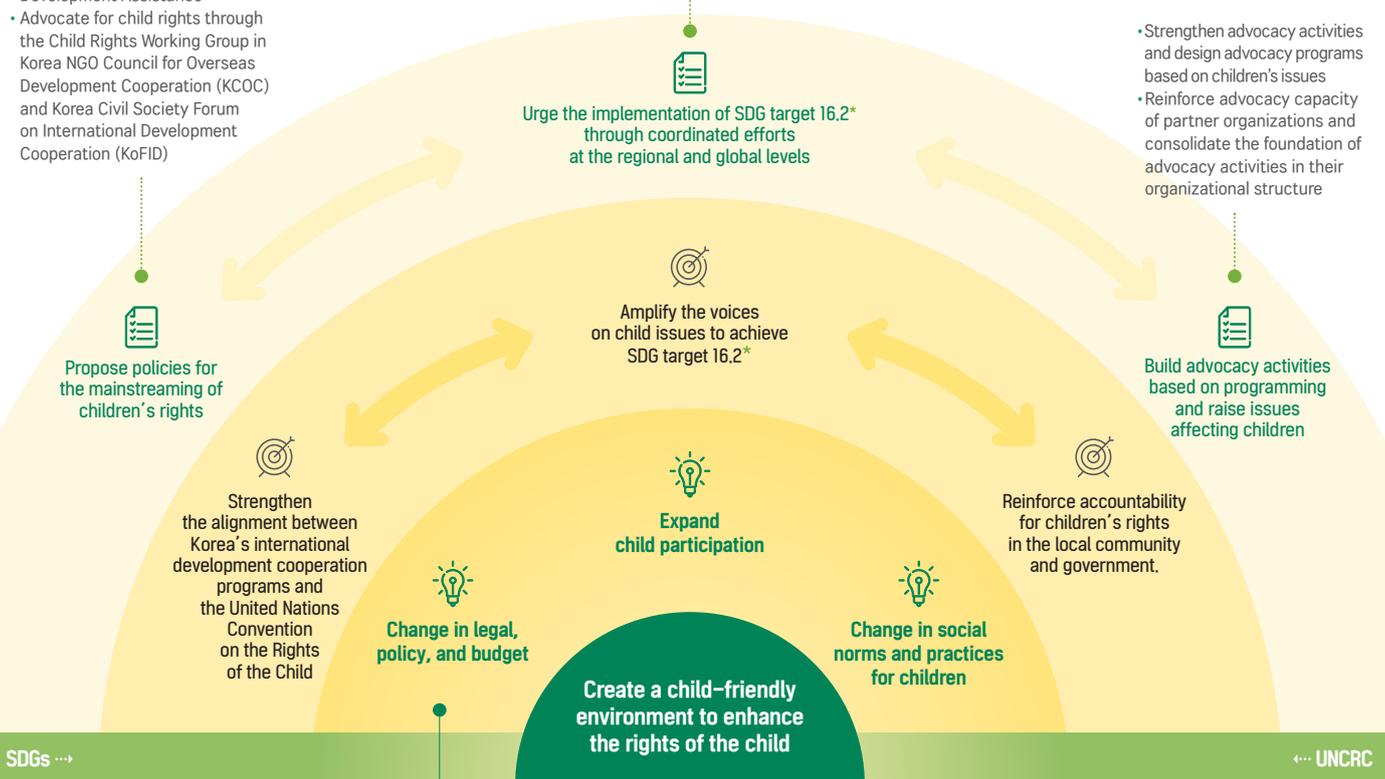
## ChildFund Korea Advocacy Framework

- Advocate for policies and research on children's rights through Official Development Assistance
- Advocate for child rights through the Child Rights Working Group in Korea NGO Council for Overseas Development Cooperation (KCOC) and Korea Civil Society Forum on International Development Cooperation (KoFID)

- Collaborate with ChildFund Alliance for SDG target 16.2 at the regional and global levels by utilizing SDGs monitoring platform such as HLPF, ESCAP, etc.
- Join forces for child rights in Asia and partnership with group of CSOs such as Child Rights Coalition in Asia

- Goal
- 💡 Dimension of Change
- 🎯 Strategy
- 📄 Intervention
- ⋯ Activities

\*Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children



SDGs →

← UNCRC

Dimension of Change

### Change in legal, policy, and budget

Advocating children's rights should go further beyond criticizing and raising issues of traditional policy, system, and power structures to provide positive alternatives for children. As issues affecting children are diversified and complicated, we need to come up with various measures to address them. In addition to one-off aid and service delivery, ChildFund Korea advocates to raise awareness and bring about fundamental, structural changes to law, system as well as policy.

### Expand child participation

Working for and with children is the most important but challenging task. Being with children helps you take a step in the right direction to advocate for children's rights. As children are well aware of various issues they face every day, engaging children in multiple ways in various aspects of their life issues is very important and valuable. That's why duty bearers need to provide and expand opportunities for child participation.

### Change in social norms and practices for children

Our sensitivity, attitude, and perspective towards the issue of child rights is the most important thing in recognizing child rights advocacy. Social norms, practices, and understanding of children affect our perspectives on children. Thus, efforts to change prejudice, stereotypes, and misconceptions about children in individuals, families, communities, and countries, and to change social norms and practices are important elements of advocacy for child rights.

Strengthen the alignment between Korea's international development cooperation programs and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

Amplify the voices on child issues to achieve SDG target 16.2

Reinforce accountability for children's rights in the local community and government.

Propose policies for the mainstreaming of children's rights

Urge the implementation of SDG target 16.2 through coordinated efforts at the regional and global levels

Build advocacy activities based on programming and raise issues affecting children

International development cooperation programs have immense impacts on the lives of children either directly or indirectly. In this sense, children's rights should be considered not only in fields of health and education that are directly linked to children but also in various fields surrounding children such as agriculture, water & sanitation, and environment. Children should be accepted as right holders, and the mainstreaming of children's rights in the international development cooperation program has to prioritize the most vulnerable children including girls, children with disabilities, refugees, and minorities. In order to ensure child protection, structural safeguarding of the organization and its program is required. For this, we urge the Korean government and domestic CSOs to adopt policies for child rights and proceed with international development cooperation programs aligned with general principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

We advocate to prevent violence against children and respond to child protection issues by urging the government to enforce relevant laws and allocate budgets, organizing research on child protection, collecting evidence data, and leading campaigns. We join in the review process of whether SDG target 16.2 is incorporated into policy at domestic, regional, and global levels. Additionally, coalition efforts are made within the network by being responsive to child protection issues. In particular, various participation spaces are created for children to raise their own voices on child violence.

We target duty bearers in the local community and government to enhance their awareness and will on child rights and shift social norms and practices in a child-friendly way. We work in partnership with local partners to drive change in policy, system, and budget while being responsive to child-relevant issues in a region where we implement programs. During the process, opportunities for children to directly participate in advocacy activities are created and expanded. Additionally, conducting research, preparing articles, and publishing advocacy guidance on children's issues are supported in an effort to build on and enhance the advocacy capacity of partner organizations.