



# Secretary General's Report

## Fiscal Year 2021

**Fiscal Year 2021 is a bridge year** for the Alliance as we coordinate a global response to COVID-19 and make final preparations to adopt a new four-year Strategic Plan in May 2021.

**One of ChildFund's primary priorities** since our last CEO Forum in June has been to implement the members' collective **COVID-19 Response and Recovery appeal** launched in April. In announcing the plan, we identified two key goals: Raising \$58M USD and reaching 6.3M children and families. To date, we've reached nearly 2 million children and families, while raising \$85M USD, greatly surpassing our goal of \$58M.

ChildFund Alliance's 11 member organizations are focused on stopping COVID-19 from infecting children and families; ensuring that children get the food they need; keeping children safe from violence—physically and emotionally; helping children to continue their learning; and elevating children and youth voices.







# Secretary General's Report

## Membership Growth

- Following a robust, nearly 2 process, ChildFund Alliance's Board of Directors voted on 4 November to approve WeWorld's application to join the Alliance.
- A comprehensive review by the Membership Sub-Committee determined WeWorld is fully compliant with all ChildFund Alliance standards and agreed they will contribute fresh ideas, offer needed capabilities, as well as provide greater global reach.
- The Sub-Committee recommends WeWorld work with a ChildFund mentor for their first year. Due to their experience with mergers and their location in Europe, the Sub-Committee proposes that Un Enfant par la Main serves in this capacity.
- Until the new Membership Agreement is in place, counsel has prepared a letter of intent for WeWorld, laying out the scope of the formal agreements and its obligations as a new member.





# UN Representation

## Key Activities

### Protecting Post-Pandemic Funding to End Violence against Children



**High-level Political Forum Side Event**  
Thursday, 9 July, 2020  
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM (EDT)

- ChildFund Alliance co-hosted the 9 July HLPF virtual side event with the UN Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, *Protecting Post Pandemic Funding to End Violence Against Children*. Participants included **Najat Maalla M’Jid**, SRSG to End Violence against Children; **Mikiko Otani**, Member of the CRC; **Howard Taylor**, ED, Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children; and **Cornelius Williams**, Assoc. Dir. Child Protection, Programme Division, UNICEF.
- Children Believe Global Youth Ambassadors participated in the UN Secretary-General’s virtual Youth Town hall in July 2020.
- **Jayathma Wickramanayake**, UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth profiled COVID-19 activities of our ChildFund child advocates in her online blogs.



# UN Representation

## Advocacy Highlights

- Shared ChildFund's COVID-19 global response and programming on health, hygiene, education, food and medical supplies with Member States, UN Agencies, partners and other stakeholders;
- Shared profiles of ChildFund child advocates taking part in COVID-19 activities at a global level and created opportunities for child delegates to interact virtually with UN and Member States/Governments;
- Informed the Strategic Planning process on relevant EVAC related topics:
  - Engaged with Member States, UN agencies including UNICEF, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, WHO, SRSG to end Violence Against Children, Global Partnership to EVAC (GPeVAC) and CSOs to share and receive information and to coordinate activities and advocacy efforts
  - Identified COVID-19 related partner priorities
- Supported program and policy work coordinated by the Alliance Program Committee (APC) and the Advocacy Task Force Initiative (ATF) and supported the Membership Sub-Committee's review of WeWorld's application for membership to the Alliance.



# Child-friendly Accountability

## Progress and Learnings

- The Alliance is currently in its second year of implementation following receipt of a grant from the Oak Foundation in 2018. The project is scheduled to be completed by late March 2021. Major learnings during this period include the importance of children's participation in leadership and the need for capacity building and staff support.
- The project engages children ages **13 to 17** years in some of the most marginalized communities to help them build the skills they need to hold governments accountable to their obligations to end all forms of violence against children. **Five** of the **eleven** Alliance members are integrating the methodology in their work in **nine** countries- **Burkina Faso, El Salvador, India, Mexico, Nepal, Paraguay, South Korea- Seoul, Tanzania, and Uganda.**
- Together, we have reached more than **9,000** children in **9** countries in more than **200** project locations. We are currently working on plans with **Un Enfant par la Main, Children Believe** and the **Joining Forces for Africa Project (JOFA)** to begin rollout in **Madagascar, Ghana, Nicaragua, Mali,** and to expand the program in other areas of Uganda.





# Child-friendly Accountability

## Key Highlights & Achievements

- As part of ChildFund's plans for the Oak grant's second year of activities, the Alliance organized and co-hosted on 9 September the virtual event, *What Children Have to Say: Conversations with Advocates and Policymakers on the COVID-19 Lockdown*. Child delegates from four of the nine participating countries took part in the event (Mexico, India, South Korea and Uganda) as did colleagues from Educo.
- In many of the country offices, children created and shared messages on how to stay safe and healthy; they participated in online surveys; and held meetings with local policymakers to discuss issues of concern during the COVID-19 lockdown.
- We are in the process of hiring an external consultant to conduct a final evaluation of the project and prepare a report to the Oak Foundation on project deliverables. This evaluation will also inform decisions for the next strategy of the methodology.





# Child Protection in Humanitarian Action & DRR

## Task Force Progress

- Since the June CEO Forum, the Task Force has undergone a number of changes. In August, Faith Nimineh began serving as Chair, in addition to her role as Coordinator of the Child-friendly Accountability Initiative. In 2016, she worked as a consultant to develop the Alliance's child safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The Task Force is currently reviewing the 2019-2020 consolidated work plan to update it and ensure it aligns with the FY21 Strategic Plan. The new work plan will focus on key relevant activities brought forward from the 2019-2020 plan with a focus on new priorities.
- The TF is creating a Community Based Child Protection (CBCP) in Emergencies Toolkit. ChildFund International and Educo have piloted the toolkit, which the Task Force will promote when Covid-19 restrictions ease.
- The Task Force submitted an application to join the Global Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in the Education Sector (GADRRRES) with the goal of strengthening global coordination, increasing knowledge, and advocating on risk reduction, education and safety in the education sector.



# European Union Office

## Grant Acquisition

### Leading and supporting EU Grant acquisition work in 2020

- Monitored funding trends and opportunities, including the EU COVID-19 response and recovery plan
- Provided support and coordination in the development and implementation of Joining Forces' JOFA project

### Pre positioning for EU grant acquisition in 2021-2027

- Achieved influence work on the regulation for the new funding instrument (NDICI) and its programming process
- Gathered intelligence and disseminated information to Alliance members about thematic and geographic programming, drafted of briefing notes for COs
- Supported the development of country / regional roadmaps to engage with EU Delegations
- Organizing webinars about EU programming and engagement

### Global grant acquisition as of 2021 onward

- Setting the foundations of the multi member grant strategy, focusing on drafting of ToRs and preparing recruitment



# European Union Office

## EU Advocacy

**Influencing the new EU Strategy on children's rights, making sure that children participate in EU policy-making**

- July: Together with the Child Rights Action Group and UNICEF, ChildFund Alliance contributed to a Joint Position Paper on a Comprehensive Child Rights Strategy.
- September – November: In cooperation with the European Commission, UNICEF, Save the Children and World Vision International, ChildFund Alliance organized consultations with children in order to inform the development of the upcoming EU Strategy.
- October-December: Engaged in public consultations.



# Communications

## Key Activities June - October

- Provided strategic guidance to the Communications and Marketing Committee including preparing a global press release on the collective results of ChildFund's COVID-19 Response Plan and advising the ATF on FY21 Strategic Plan deliverables.
- Worked with the Environmental Sustainability Standards Working Group to develop a set of standards to support ChildFund's Value Proposition Principle 7: *to care deeply for the earth and how its health impacts children and future generations*. The WG proposed 4 standards for consideration by the Board and CEOs: Education & Advocacy; Programs; Internal Operations, and Learning.
- Lent support and input to the Strategic Integration Team as the SIT moves forward with planning and development for strategic plan years 2022-2025.
- Produced content and materials in support of the Alliance's UN High-level Political Forum event in July; the Child-friendly Accountability webinar in September; and the Secretary General's statements to UNICEF's Executive Board in June and September.



# Communications

## 20 November JF Forum

On 20 November, ChildFund Alliance will host a global forum on behalf of the Joining Forces partnership in recognition of Universal Children's Day. *Children's Right to be Heard* will highlight the right of children afforded under Article 12 of the CRC, through the lens of children's experiences during COVID-19.

The program will include **child and youth delegates from around the world, along with UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore and Vice-President of the European Commission Dubravka Šuica**. There also will be private plenaries immediately following the event to engage children in a global discussion on their right to have their voices heard.

ChildFund Alliance will incorporate feedback provided by child participants into a policy brief we are developing on behalf of the JF partnership. *We're Talking, Are You Listening* is scheduled for release in mid-January. The brief will be the fifth policy paper developed by the JF partnership. The JF alliance released its first report in June 2019.

