# End Violence Against Children

The Fund











## **Table of contents**

03.	Foreword		
04. Execut		tive summary	
05.	Priority 1: Keeping children safe online		
	l.	Results after one year	
	II. 	Online violence grants at a glance	
	iii.	Individual	
	IV.	Society	
	V.	Systems	
	VI.		
	VII.	Challenges and lessons learned	
	VIII.	Online grant portfolio	
	IX.	Snapshots from 2017 grantees	
15.	<b>Priority 2:</b> Keeping children safe in conflict and crisis		
	I.	Progress through July 2018	
	II.	Abducted, released and supported: a boy's story	
17.	<b>Priority 3:</b> Keeping children safe in the home,		
	school and community		
17.	Way forward		
18.	ANNEX A: International Justice Mission Grantee Profile		
19.	ANNEX B: Internet Watch Foundation Grantee Profile		

### **Foreword**

### Every year, over one billion children and adolescents experience violence.

Violence robs children of their childhood. It undermines their health and education, and prevents them from developing to their full potential, often with negative lifelong consequences and intergenerational impact. Violence against children occurs in all countries and all contexts - in homes, schools, care and justice systems, workplaces and communities, including as a result of conflict and natural disasters. Many children are exposed to various forms of violence, exploitation and abuse, including sexual abuse and exploitation, child labour, armed violence, trafficking, bullying, gang violence, female genital mutilation/cutting, child marriage, physically and emotionally violent child discipline, and other harmful practices.

Recognizing the devastating impacts of violence against children, in 2015 world leaders committed to end all forms of violence, abuse and neglect by 2030, as part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In July 2016, the Secretary-General of the United Nations launched the <u>Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children</u> (Global Partnership) and the associated <u>Fund to End Violence Against Children</u> (Fund).

The Global Partnership includes governments, UN agencies, international organizations, civil society, faith groups, the private sector, philanthropic foundations, research practitioners, academics – and, most importantly, children themselves – uniting their voices, actions and resources in a unique public-private collaboration focused solely on ending violence against all children.

Supported by financial commitments from the governments of the United Kingdom and Japan, and the Human Dignity Foundation, administered by staff of the Global Partnership Secretariat and guided by a <u>Fund Steering Committee</u>, the Fund supports goals of the Global Partnership with funding windows in three priority areas:

- 1. Preventing online violence, with a particular focus on online child sexual exploitation and abuse;
- 2. Addressing violence against children affected by conflicts and crises; and
- 3. Combatting violence in the home, school and community.

This report details the Fund's \$30 million in grants over the past year, as well as what our grantee partners are achieving and learning as they work to build a safer world for children. The Fund's work has been just one area of progress for the Global Partnership over its first two years. We have also enrolled 23 governments as <u>Pathfinding</u> countries; grown membership to nearly 300 organizations; helped develop and promote the <u>INSPIRE</u> strategies for ending violence against children; and galvanized those working to end violence through the inaugural <u>End Violence Solutions Summit</u>, held in Stockholm in February 2018.

In a context of growing global intolerance towards unacceptable behaviours, there is a tremendous opportunity to accelerate progress. The resources entrusted to us by the donors to the Fund will play a critical role in helping us meet this challenge and build a world where every child grows up free of violence – and free to reach their full potential.

DR. HOWARD TAYLOR

Executive Director, Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children October 2018

## 1. Executive summary

As of July 2018, the Fund has awarded grants to 43 projects in 21 countries and regions based on three equally important, inter-related and urgent priority areas:



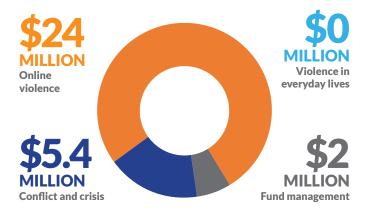
(1) Keeping children safe online, with a focus on sexual exploitation and abuse;



(2) Keeping children safe in conflict and crisis settings; and



(3) Keeping children safe in the home, school, and community.



Investments focusing on the first two priority areas have translated into tangible changes in ending violence against children, thanks to financial commitments from the Governments of the United Kingdom and Japan and from Human Dignity Foundation. Grantee partners are working to rescue victims and support survivors; develop reporting portals and industry solutions; reform legislation; change behaviors; build awareness and knowledge; and strengthen law enforcement and forensic skills. In Cebu, the Philippines, for example, the International Justice Mission's work with the public justice system and local and international law

enforcement agencies has already resulted in the rescue and provision of support to 40 children from situations of online sexual exploitation while strengthening the system's capacity to identify and prosecute cases, save children from harm, and prevent future violence. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malawi, Mozambique and the United Republic of Tanzania, Internet Watch Foundation has partnered with law enforcement, industry, government, and civil society to develop online reporting platforms that facilitate the removal of online child sexual abuse images and videos.

In relation to the second priority area, humanitarian projects launched this year in Nigeria and Uganda are addressing the consequences of violence and preventing future violence by:

- enabling children to leave armed groups and start new lives; providing vocational training and income generation;
- addressing the mental toll that violence has taken; and
- preventing children from experiencing more harm from landmines and other unexploded ordnance.

As additional financial commitments are made to the Fund, investments will be made in projects designed to address the third and equally crucial area – keeping children safe in the home, school, and community.

This report presents key results for the first round of grantees of the Fund, from April 2017 to July 2018. It also presents an overview and some initial results from investments made in early 2018.



<sup>\*</sup>The Fund also supports 3 regional and 5 global projects.

# 2. Priority 1: Keeping children safe online

The rise of the Internet has enabled new levels of creativity and innovation, and has enriched the knowledge base of generations, in particular children and young people. But the connectivity it has provided has also become a vehicle for extreme harm. The presence of 800 million minors online - many of whom are unsupervised - has made it easier for perpetrators to follow and contact them, and profit from their exploitation and abuse. Advances in information and communications technology (ICT) have also enabled the growth of extensive online offender communities, mostly operating in anonymity. In 2017 alone, online child sexual abuse imagery increased 37 per cent over the previous year, with an accompanying increase in images displaying rape and sexual torture. One of many hidden Internet services dedicated to abuse of young children was found to have over 18,000 registered members;<sup>2</sup> and another forum had over 23 million visits.<sup>3</sup> Disturbing new trends are emerging, threatening children of all ages, including some too young to speak, and the explosion of smartphone technology around the world has been a catalyst, intensifying this threat.

Since its inception in 2016, the Fund has invested in finding solutions to these grave problems. Over the past year, it has provided support to 31 projects addressing online child sexual exploitation and abuse (CSEA) in 20 countries, including three regional and five global projects. Our grantee partners are providing a range of support, including:

- Rescuing victims and supporting survivors.
- Establish reporting portals.
- Raising awareness of the problem and contributing to behavioural change.
- Strengthening law enforcement and legislative reforms.
- Innovating solutions within the technology and online service provider community.

To date, \$24 million has been awarded under this priority area, and another funding round is planned for late 2018.

### I. Results after one year

After one year of implementation, initial results are emerging from the first round of grants. The Fund aligned its grant decisions with its Theory of Change on combating online CSEA, which in turn is based on the WHO's INSPIRE strategies and the <u>Weprotect Global Alliance Model National Response</u>. Guided by these frameworks, we targeted our grant-making on four areas:

**Individual:** Activities centred around building resilience to online risks and increasing knowledge about appropriate and safe online behaviour among children and adolescents. Train-the-trainer and peer-led programmes were also delivered.

**Society:** Activities in this area focused primarily on increasing knowledge in communities and among parents and caregivers about the nature and risks to children of online exploitation and abuse. Attention was also paid to reporting mechanisms, the importance of reporting incidences of online exploitation and abuse, and to ensuring a child-friendly and victim-centric response to violence against children in legal and judicial systems.

**Systems:** At the systems level, efforts were focused in many countries on strengthening the capacity of legal and judicial systems to respond to online CSEA. Attention was also paid to building the capacity of law enforcement to investigate crimes in this area, and to improving media understanding of their role in accurate and victim-focused reporting of online CSEA.

**Industry:** Activities in this area focused on enhancing the knowledge base and commitment of the ICT sector to respond to online CSEA. This was done through national working groups and training for Internet café operators, and included the development and adoption of specific measures to remove and prevent access to child sexual abuse materials on the Internet. The long-term outcomes

<sup>1.</sup> Internet Watch Foundation annual report 2017 (https://annualreport.iwf.org.uk, accessed 18 April 2018).

<sup>2.</sup> US Department of Justice, January 2018 (cited in WePROTECT Global Alliance Global Threat Assessment 2018).

<sup>3.</sup> INTERPOL, January 2018 (cited in WePROTECT Global Alliance Global Threat Assessment 2018).

from the Fund's priority areas will contribute to the broader goal of the Global Partnership to reduce and ultimately end violence against children.

#### **Key results in Year 1:**

- More than 48,000 children benefitted from education and awareness raising about online safety;
- Close to 4,500 parents, educators and service providers learned how to prevent and respond to online violence against children and make referrals to law enforcement;
- More than 700 government, law enforcement and judicial officials received training on how to disrupt, prevent, investigate and prosecute perpetrators of online violence and support survivors;
- 215 journalists in Jordan and Colombia were trained how to report on online CSEA following ethical guidelines and good practices;
- Two national conferences on children in the digital world were held in Indonesia and Viet Nam, including the participation of the ICT industry.

## II. Online violence grants at a glance: 2016 grantees

Reporting period:	April 2017 - July 2018
First installment disbursed:	\$4.14 million of the \$11 million awarded to first round grants
Expenditure of first installment as of July 2018:	\$2.54 million (61 per cent)
Grant duration:	2 - 3 years
Individual grant value range:	\$300,000 - \$1 million

#### III. Individual

Under the Fund's Theory of Change, change at the individual level focuses on children who live and play online and offline, children who are survivors of violence and children who may be vulnerable to violence. Many grantees have dedicated their efforts to increase children's knowledge about how to better protect themselves from online violence and where to seek help if they feel unsafe or suffer from exploitation and abuse.

#### **Awareness raising:**

- 1. In Uganda, financial backing from the Fund made it possible for **UNICEF Uganda** to reach 35,476 children with information on online protection in three urban districts over the past year. These activities were facilitated by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development. UNICEF Uganda is also investing in a community-based approach to encourage reporting through awareness raising campaigns on what constitutes online abuse.
- 2. Support from the Fund enabled **UNICEF Albania** to engage with 7,350 school children through the National Child Helpline ALO 116 and held a series of events in public schools across the country on how to identify and report cases of violence, including violence online.
- 3. In Viet Nam, **ChildFund Australia** provided opportunities for parents and children to learn about online safety issues in their communities. For example, 90 members of youth unions held information events in seven communes within Hoa Binh province in Viet Nam, using role-playing dramas created and performed by children themselves, including the participation of 1,065 children and 30 government officials.

#### **Victim support:**

- **1.** The work of **International Justice Mission** (IJM) in the Philippines has resulted in 40 children being rescued and provided with aftercare services with its local partners.<sup>5</sup>
- **2.** Since April 2017, **UNICEF Jordan** supported the Government's Cybercrime Unit, which has identified and responded to 96 cases of child online exploitation, to provide counselling to victims and prosecute perpetrators.
- **3.** Similarly, two counsellors who are specialized in prevention and response to online violence from its Child Helpline provided counselling to 90 child survivors of online CSEA with the support of **UNICEF Uganda**.

#### **Building resilience:**

**1.** Working in Viet Nam, **ChildFund Australia** trained 16 young adults as master trainers who, in turn, conduct-

 $<sup>4. \</sup> End \ Child \ Prostitution \ and \ Trafficking, \ a \ global \ network \ of \ civil \ society \ organisations \ that \ works \ to \ end \ the \ sexual \ exploitation \ of \ children.$ 

<sup>5.</sup> A grantee profile on the work of the International Justice Mission has been included as Annex A.

ed training sessions for 1,133 adolescents, who completed a 10-hour intensive course. ChildFund highlighted that in carrying out this project, "taking time to carefully design and test curriculum was priceless". The organization also recognized that having facilitators who understood how adolescents actually use mobile technology was a highly successful strategy.

- 2. In Colombia, Red PaPaz working with its partners Fundación Renacer and UNICEF Colombia, educated 494 children on how to protect themselves from online violence and trained 58 children in Bogotá and Cartagena who are members of the ECPAT<sup>4</sup> International Child and Youth Advisory Committee, which is developing prevention processes on online CSEA in schools.
- 3. Plan UK working in the Philippines held workshops on safe and appropriate online behavior for 879 adolescents aged 10-15 years through its child rights, child abuse and online safety project in Manila City and Quezon City. Topics included public posting on social media, watching pornography and meeting up with strangers with whom they had connected online. The effectiveness of the

workshops was measured through pre- and post-workshop testing using different methodologies in each location, namely group and individual completion of the tests. While the learning gained from the group responses could be less accurately measured, over 96 percent of students completing the pre- and post-workshop test on their own demonstrated an increase in knowledge about their online behavior. Following one orientation session, a case of online abuse was reported and referred to the Philippine National Police Anti-Cybercrime Group and the local social welfare office for action.

### **IV. Society**

Projects supported by the Fund also concentrated their interventions at the society level. The aim of these efforts is to increase the awareness and knowledge of people in the community who are part of children's lives. They make up the enabling environment in which they live and can help to better identify and take action to end online CSEA, together with children.

#### **Building resilience:**

1. In Peru, 309 community members, including parents, teachers and social service providers, participated in training on online CSEA conducted by **CHS Alternativo** to raise awareness of the importance of prevention and reporting. In order to integrate its work with the ICT industry, the NGO has established an alliance with Telefónica, the main telephone operator and Internet provider in Peru, to provide more extensive training, especially of teachers, beginning in September 2018.



#### **VOICES OF YOUTH**

"We have a voice for raising our concerns and letting people know about the abuse we experience. In fact, our voice is the loudest," said Jason during his speech at the Philippines House of Representatives." Jason is a college student and currently part of a youth group supported by Plan International Philippines, which is focused on combatting online CSEA.



©Plan Philippines/2018

- 2. Fundación Paniamor in Costa Rica focused its efforts on carrying out a Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices baseline study among a sample group of 400 adults and 400 children from priority districts, as well as on design of an e-learning platform on how to prevent and respond to online CSEA, aimed at reaching over 2,800 adults living in poverty.
- 3. Plan UK (Philippines) trained or provided orientation to 1,141 social service providers, including Village Council officials and staff, on their roles in protecting children online. Some of these adults were part of a team of social workers, police officers, lawyers, and physicians who had expressed concern that they lacked knowledge on how best to respond to cybercrime. After the training, the participants felt empowered to draw up a protocol for handling cases of online CSEA in accordance with their various roles in the community.
- **4.** In Namibia, 226 professionals from the legal and education systems were trained in the Child Witness

Programme (see box below) through a **UNICEF Namibia** project supported by the Fund. The programme was initially developed and implemented by the Child Witness Institute of South Africa in 2016, using funding from the WePROTECT Global Alliance. With the support of the Fund, UNICEF Namibia has been able to leverage the results achieved to expand the programme nationally and to reach more professionals.

#### **Awareness raising:**

1. Working in Peru, Save the Children has focused its efforts on increasing knowledge, changing perceptions and engaging community members, including adolescents and potential lawmakers, through the use of social media. Save the Children and its implementing partners, Paz y Esperanza (Peace and Hope) and the local adolescent organization Yo también tengo algo que decir (I also have something to say) have carried out three campaigns to achieve their goals:

## NAMIBIA'S CHILD WITNESS PROGRAMME

Namibia's Office of the Prosecutor General requested that UNICEF support stakeholders through the provision of a capacity-building programme. The Office faces severe challenges in appropriately responding to children affected by violence: cases are often withdrawn, the accused acquitted, and child witnesses retraumatized. In response to the request, the Child Witness Programme was developed to address both online and offline violence against children. It trains and sensitizes stakeholders in the legal system, including prosecutors, magistrates, social workers and police officers, on how to work appropriately and sensitively with children who witness or are victims of such crimes. In April 2016, 45 prosecutors, magistrates, law enforcement and social workers were trained as master trainers who, in turn, trained 226 professionals during the first round of rollout from March-July 2017.

The success of the regional roll-out has created demand for further capacity-building. The Prosecutor General has requested that UNICEF collaborate on a second round of training and draft a Child Witness Manual for use in future training. The manual has been drafted, in



©UNICEF Namibia/2017: Deputy Prosecutor General Philip Brink addressing a group of social workers, magistrates, police officers and prosecutors at a Child

collaboration with the criminal justice stakeholders, and additional training is expected to reach between 200-250 participants by the end of 2018. UNICEF Namibia has also developed a similar programme for educators, who are in a unique position to provide reporting and referral, and a 10-day capacity-building course for 34 educators got underway in August 2018.

- The #Formatea el Machismo (Eliminate Machismo) campaign is aimed at changing chauvinistic attitudes that promote or condone online and offline sexual violence so that people, particularly children, can live safely and free of stereotypes. The campaign reached 127,791 people on Facebook, including 42,607 adolescents, and received 3,735 reactions and 340 comments, indicating an active online engagement and broad reach.
- The #Youtubers against sexual violence contest asked contestants to create videos about sexual violence affecting children and adolescents online and offline. Four out of 25 videos received were selected for recognition. The contest reached 42,894 people on Facebook, with 458 reactions and 93 comments.
- Save the Children also began conducting an online campaign with adolescents pressing candidates in regional and municipal elections about their plans for protecting children from on and offline sexual violence.

### **V. Systems**

In addition to focusing on enhancing capabilities at the individual and society levels, the majority of the Fund's grantees have also focused their efforts to effect change at the national or subnational system level. This encompasses the legal and judicial systems, the police and the media, with the objective of protecting children and enforcing their rights.

#### **Strengthening law enforcement:**

- **1. IJM's** efforts resulted in 16 perpetrators being charged; 4 perpetrators being convicted; and 32 referrals being made from foreign law enforcement received by the authorities of the Government of the Philippines. Since the start of the project, Filipino law enforcement agencies have conducted 12 rescue operations with the help of IJM's collaborative casework mentorship. IJM further strengthened capacity through training of 50 Filipino law enforcement officers and 100 judges and prosecutors on the intricacies of investigating and trying these crimes.
- 2. UNICEF Jordan worked to strengthen national capacity by providing the Cybercrime Unit at the Ministry of the Interior with technical and financial support. This helped the Unit to identify cases of online CSEA and handle them in a child-friendly and gender-sensitive manner. A sex offender database is being developed, based on international standards and best practice.

#### **Enhancing policy and governance:**

- 3. In Peru, support from the Fund allowed CHS Alternativo to propose legislation expanding the Peruvian Penal Code to criminalize sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism, including the use of children's bodies or images to promote CSEA. Congress approved this bill and the President made observations in July; there will be a process of revision before the bill is submitted again for final approval. The organization also drafted three additional bills to include changes to the code regarding child sexual abuse material, grooming and identity theft relating to children. CHS Alternativo also secured formal agreements for institutional collaboration with five Government ministries and successfully advocated for the inclusion of online CSEA in the 2018 agenda of the National Plan of Action for Children and Adolescents.
- 4. In January 2018, a cooperation agreement was signed between **UNICEF Albania** and the Parliament of Albania, expressing their mutual commitment to align and strengthen laws to better address online crimes against children. During the reporting period, UNICEF Albania consulted with a range of government and private sector stakeholders and developed a draft decision (by-law) for the consideration of the Council of Ministers, setting out procedural provisions on the protection of children from access to illegal and/or harmful content online.
- 5. Working at a regional level, the South Asian Initiative to End Violence against Children developed a draft regional strategic framework on online CSEA, slated to be finalized by end August 2018. Expert group meetings were held in Pakistan and Sri Lanka to review and refine the draft as well as to begin its translation and adaptation into the national plans for Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The Government of Pakistan committed to the roll-out of the national plan and policy on online CSEA within the regional framework.
- 6. UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office (EA-PRO), whose work similarly focused on regional systems impact, collaborated with the ASEAN<sup>6</sup> Inter-Parliamentary Assembly and ECPAT International to strengthen and harmonize legal frameworks to address sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism. The Inter-Parliamentary Assembly agreed to include such online aspects in its initiative to ensure that child sexual exploitation in all contexts is addressed; it plans to continue this initiative through ASEAN legal

## VIII. Online grant portfolio

**Total Funding Committed** 

\$ 23,974,615

#### Costa Rica

m Fundación Paniamor

**Dominican** 

**PLAN DR** 

\$999,312

**UNICEF DR** with

Protection for every

child against sexual

Mar. 2018 - Sept. 2021

exploitation and abuse

Republic

- Costa Rica says NO to online child sexual exploitation and abuse
- **L** July 2017 Dec. 2019
- \$ 998,409

Bringing Light to the Dark

May. 2018 - Apr. 2018

#### **Albania**

- **UNICEF** Albania
- Safer and better internet for children and youth in Albania
- May 2017 Apr. 2020
- \$ 999,915

Organization

Amount funded

Project

Duration

#### Mexico

- m Oficina de defensoría de los derechos de la infancia
- Effective legal representation of child victims of online sexual

- exploitation
- L Jan. 2017 Apr. 2019
- \$ 317,606

#### Peru

- Save the Children Sweden
- Combating online exploitation and sexual abuse of children and adolescents in Peru
- July 2017 Dec. 2019
- \$369,147

- n Red PaPaz
- protection of children against online sexual exploitation in Colombia

#### Colombia

Capacity building for the

Global

**1** Thorn

Web

\$700,000

- July 2017 June 2020
- \$ 995,636

#### Global

- international Centre for Missing & Exploited Children in partnership with Child Helpline International
- Implementing the MNR: collaborative approach to combat CSEA in five countries (Jordan, Kenya, Peru, Philippines, Romania)
- Mar. 2018 May 2020
- \$855,406

#### Peru

- m Capital Humano y Social (CHS) Alternativo
- Intersectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration to prevent and respond to the reality of online child sexual exploitation in Peru
- L June 2017 June 2020
- **S** \$825,440

#### Global

- Internet Watch Foundation (IWF)
- IWF reporting portal project for 30 least developed countries (initially Zambia, Tanzania and Mozambique)
- July 2017 June 2020
- \$ 448,875

#### Ghana

- m UNICEF Ghana
- Protecting children from cyber predators: A safe online future for all children in Ghana
- June 2018 May 2020
- \$999,380

#### Uganda

- **M** UNICEF Uganda
- Children in Uganda are safe online
- **1** Dec. 2016 Dec. 2019

#### Namibia

- **M** UNICEF Namibia
- End violence Tackling online child sexual exploitation and abuse in Namibia
- **L** Dec. 2016 Dec. 2018
- \$630,551

#### **South Africa**

- **M** UNICEF South Africa
- Strengthening children's online safety in South Africa
- May 2018 Apr. 2021
- \$999,615

## **Bosnia** and Herzegovina m Bosnia and Herzegovina **Child Protection** Consortium: UNICEF BiH, Save the Children, International Forum of Solidarity (EMMAUS) End Violence Against Children: Preventing and tackling online CSEA in Bosnia & Herzegovina Feb. 2018 - Jan. 2021 \$999,939

Madagascar

\$999,916

**unicef** Madagascar

Strengthening the

national protection

system to prevent and

respond to online child

sexual exploitation and

abuse in Madagascar

Mar. 2018 - Jan. 2020

#### **State of Palestine**

- m The Palestinian Center for Democracy and **Conflict Resolution**
- Safe online environment for
- Mar. 2018 Feb. 2021
- \$504,797

#### Mongolia

Jordan

\$ 999,380

Targeting online

children in Jordan

**L** Jan. 2017 - Dec. 2019

sexual exploitation of

- **M** UNICEF Mongolia
- Adopting Model National Response in preventing and tackling CSEA in Mongolia
- Mar. 2018 Feb. 2020
- \$471,000

#### Global

- **1** UNICEF Child Protection, Programme Division, UNICEF Headquarters
- UNICEF Global Programme to build capacity to address online child sexual exploitation
- Mar. 2018 Feb. 2021
- \$999,430

World Health

Organization

online abuse

What works to prevent

and respond to child

May 2018 - Apr. 2021

Global

#### Viet Nam

- m ChildFund Australia
- Swipe safe: Helping young people make the most of the online world
- **L** July 2017 June 2020
- \$ \$513,547

#### Viet Nam

- m World Vision International in Vietnam
- Tackling online child sexual exploitation in Vietnam
- ⚠ Mar. 2018 Feb. 2021
- \$680,951

#### Regional

\$306,020

- Council of Europe
- End online child sexual exploitation and abuse @ Europe (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine)
- July 2018 Dec. 2020
- \$1,000,000

#### Kenya

- **M** UNICEF Kenya
- Development and implementation of a National Plan of Action to prevent and respond to online child abuse and exploitation
- Mar. 2018 Feb. 2021
- \$994,931

#### **Philippines**

- nternational Justice Mission
- Ending online sexual exploitation of children in Cebu
- ♣ Jan. 2017 Dec. 2019
- \$ 999,752

#### **Philippines**

- m Plan International UK
- Cyber-safe spaces for fildren and youth in the cities of Manila and Quezon City
- **L** June 2017 May 2020
- \$ 1,000,000

#### Regional

- South Asia Initiative to **End Violence Against** Children
- Strategic response to online child sexual exploitation
- **L** Aug. 2017 July 2019
- \$ 295,695

#### Regional

- **UNICEF East Asia and** Pacific Regional Office (EAPRO)
- Strengthening regional commitment and collaboration to end online child sexual abuse and exploitation in East Asia and the Pacific
- **D**ec. 2016 Dec. 2019
- **5** \$722,250

## of Tanzania

- m UNICEF Tanzania
- Preventing and responding to online CSEA
- ⚠ Mar. 2018 Feb. 2021
- \$952,300

#### Sri Lanka

- Save the Children Denmark
- Developing a National Action Plan tackling the online sexual exploitation of children in Sri Lanka whilst providing remedial act
- Amar. 2018 Feb. 2020
- **⑤** \$417,638



## **United Republic**

reform workshops in collaboration with UNICEF EA-PRO, the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime and the private sector. The ASEAN Secretariat invited UNICEF EAPRO to join a technical team to develop an ASEAN declaration to combat child sexual exploitation.

#### **Building resilience:**

- 1. In another Fund-supported initiative aimed at strengthening legal and judicial systems, the Mexican Oficina de Defensoria de los Derechos de la Infancia a.c. produced interactive online materials to train state child protection lawyers and case workers in 32 Mexican states on the skills needed for specialized representation and assistance to child survivors of online violence. The training, which got underway in September 2018, is expected to build the capacity of 1,280 professionals.
- 2. In Colombia, Red PaPaz, in association with its partners Fundación Renacer and UNICEF Colombia, trained 2,170 public servants to improve their capacities to provide comprehensive care to victims. Of the total number, 2,040 individuals were trained during the first International Summit on Child Protection in Travel and Tourism, organized by the Government of Colombia and numerous partners in Bogotá in June 2018. Another 130 officials were trained through certified courses at universities in Bogotá, Medellín and Cartagena. A total of 308 judicial system officials, law enforcement and court officers were trained to prevent and prosecute online violence and support survivors in seven cities.
- **3.** In Costa Rica, **Fundación Paniamor** has established a partnershipwith two Government ministries to strengthen the country's capacity on how to prevent and respond to online violence. Through this alliance, the National Programme *Hogares Conectados* (Connected Families), which aims to increase the access to information and communication technologies to families living in poverty, has incorporated a component to educate participating families in the secure use of the Internet.

#### Awareness raising:

**4.** As a way of leveraging communication efforts, **Red PaPaz** held 12 workshops with 185 journalists from 10 media outlets to raise awareness about the <u>Luxem-</u>

<u>bourg Guidelines</u> for the protection of children from sexual exploitation and abuse and the importance of disseminating ethical messages in their work.

5. UNICEF Jordan also focused on the media. It hosted a symposium on "The role of the media in preventing cyberviolence against children", involving 30 journalists and media graduate students who used the occasion to reach some 4,000 people through their social media messages. The project disseminated posters and messages on sexual exploitation and abuse through UNICEF social media platforms; and print versions of the materials were distributed to all project centres in the 12 governorates, including refugee camps, reaching some 30,000 people.

### VI. Industry

Industry level change focuses on businesses and industries that impact the lives of children and have the potential, through improved standards or regulation, to make children safer.

#### **Enhancing policy and governance:**

1. Twenty-eight entities representing Government ministries and departments, telecommunication companies and civil society participated in 12 working group meetings on "ICT and children" convened by Red Pa-Paz, Fundación Renacer, and UNICEF in Colombia. A preliminary notice and takedown protocol for Internet service providers for internal implementation was drafted and feedback from key stakeholders in this field was being sought.

#### **Building resilience:**

1. In the Philippines, Plan UK trained 353 Internet café operators about children's rights, child abuse and their role in child protection, including how to monitor their computers, how to install filters to block pornographic sites, the removal of cubicles and other measures to keep children safe. Some also joined the policy consultation with village officials, and in two villages the operators were given logistical support by the project team to support local efforts to provide children with online protection.

<sup>6.</sup> Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

## NATIONAL WORKSHOPS WITH ICT INDUSTRY

**UNICEF EAPRO** collaborated with the Global System for Mobile Communications Association (GSMA) on two national workshops with the ICT industry in Indonesia and Viet Nam in March 2018. It was the first time UNICEF EAPRO had engaged with governments on children's rights in the ICT sector. Following the Hanoi workshop, the Embassy of Sweden asked UNICEF Viet Nam to co-organize the Viet Nam Internet Forum in October 2018 in Hanoi, where a full breakout session on "Children in the Digital World" will be organized by Lund University and UNICEF Viet Nam. Additionally, June 2018 was named as the Month of Action on Child Digital Safety by the Vietnamese Government. The workshop in Jakarta included participants from ministries of information, justice, and women and children's affairs, as well as representatives of Twitter and other major companies in the ICT sector in Indonesia. After the workshop, UNICEF Indonesia carried out a U-Report consultation with 20 young people who reported feeling unsafe at times on the Internet because of the risk of violence, and the uncertainty of the identity of social media users they encounter online. UNICEF Indonesia will continue to engage with the Government as it develops a national road



©UNICEF Viet Nam/2018: Secretary-General of the Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry addressing the participants.

#### Awareness raising:

2. The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) established incident reporting portals in 4 countries – the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malawi, Mozambique and the United Republic of Tanzania – and held 10 country-based roundtable meetings with various stakeholders, building knowledge on online child sexual abuse among the ICT sector, governmental, NGO and law enforcement communities and reinforcing their efforts to tackle online crimes. Specifically, the Internet industry has been represented at all 10 roundtable meetings, developing a knowledge-base and building their capacity to support national efforts to tackle online CSEA in these countries.

## VII. Challenges and lessons learned

In reporting on their achievements after more than a year of implementation, some grantees under the Fund's first priority area also shared some challenges that they have faced, resulting in useful lessons learned as their projects proceed. Highlights include:

- For many grantees, given that online CSEA is a relatively new phenomenon in their project areas, engaging different community sectors is necessary to develop more champions and facilitators who can effectively promote awareness of dangers and solutions. These champions from different sectors can help break the culture of silence, leverage resources for a shared purpose and change the perspective of the community. This multi-stakeholder approach is both a strength and a challenge, as it also requires intense coordination and planning with all actors.
- Moreover, grantees report that building on existing child protection interventions to address CSEA has also been key to implementing their programmes, because children who are victims or at risk of online CSEA benefit from the same services and receive similar support to that received by children who are victims or at risk of other forms of violence and exploitation. The initiatives now underway should contribute to building a strong, comprehensive, well-established and sustainable national child protection system.

<sup>7.</sup> A grantee profile on the work of the Internet Watch Foundation to establish reporting portals in 30 developing countries is included as Annex B.
8. Angola, Belize, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, El Salvador, Guatemala, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, and Zambia.

- Furthermore, since the digital environment is rapidly growing, there is a significant lack of local know-how in this area as well as a general lack of data and statistics on the prevalence and facilitating factors of child online abuse and exploitation. To mitigate this shortcoming, a few grantees are seeking technical advice from international experts.
- Other grantees reported that changes in leadership at the governmental level have resulted in significant hurdles in programme implementation. A number of grantees have dealt with these challenges by formulating partnerships at different levels of government, including at the regional and local levels, as well as by ensuring advance planning.

## IX. Snapshots from 2017 grantees

All 16 grantees who received funding in 2018 under the Fund's first priority area have begun the preparatory phases of their projects, including the following results achieved in the first months of implementation:

- Council of Europe sensitized around 300 country officials and representatives of other international organizations and NGOs about its regional project covering 10 countries in Eastern Europe, which began in July 2018.
- The International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC) and Child Helpline International held a kick-off planning meeting in Nairobi in June 2018, allowing their teams to better understand the anew Fund-supported initiative to establish or enhance national response systems in five countries.
- The Palestinian Centre for Democracy and Conflict Resolution signed a memorandum of understanding with two ministries, outlining their mutual commitments during the 2018-2020 period, including staff training, joining global alliances, networking and coordination mechanisms. With expertise from child sexual abuse experts, the Centre also began developing training manuals to support efforts to safeguard children and caregivers.
- Thorn increased the user base of its tool by 33 per cent to dramatically improve the ability of law enforcement to conduct more timely and effective investigations of child sexual abuse in the Dark Web.
- UNICEF Dominican Republic and Plan International helped launch the country's commitment to the WePRO-TECT Global Alliance to end online CSEA with Government counterparts and more than 120 representatives from entities involved in the project. The UNICEF office drafted a protocol for providing assistance to online vio-

- lence victims and coordinated with the Ministry of Education to train educators and parents.
- UNICEF Ghana trained 203 community facilitators, representing State institutions and NGOs, and used child protection toolkits as part of awareness raising with 215 adults and 434 children on child online safety issues.
- UNICEF Kenya worked to support the creation of a Technical Working Group comprised of all relevant government agencies, chaired by the Department of Children Services, to coordinate online child protection work in Kenya. The project will provide guidance to the partners, and supervise the development and finalization of the national framework and plan of action to address child online protection.
- **UNICEF Madagascar** trained 60 law enforcement officials on online CSEA and sensitized 1,000 adolescents through workshops on safe Internet use and how to access support services in the capital, Antananarivo.
- veloped a series of five animations on CSEA featuring age-appropriate and gender-sensitive messages for adolescents on possible risks. The videos have been widely disseminated through digital platforms, including Facebook, and national and provincial television networks agreed to broadcast them at no cost as part of their corporate social responsibility programmes.
- UNICEF South Africa finalized the scope and terms of reference in consultation with the Government and UNICEF Innocenti for a nationally representative Kids Online study, which will adapt the existing methodology to the South African context.
- World Vision Viet Nam organized a project orientation workshop with 32 government leaders and officers from 15 departments and organizations in Da Nang and three target districts and two provincial departments.

# 3. Priority 2: Keeping children safe in conflict and crisis

With the contribution of the Government of Japan, the Fund has addressed violence against children facing conflict and crisis through 12 projects totaling \$5.4 million in Nigeria and Uganda. Many children in both countries have been displaced from their homes by violence, placing them at heightened risk of being killed or injured, becoming orphaned, losing access to essential services, becoming separated from their families, being recruited into armed forces or groups, being sexually abused, trafficked or, worse, experiencing several of these scourges at the same time.

Four months in, Fund-supported projects are addressing the consequences of violence today and preventing violence in the future by:

- enabling children to leave armed groups and start new lives:
- providing vocational training and income generation;
- addressing the psychosocial toll that violence has taken; and
- preventing children from injury by land mines and other unexploded ordnance.

Grantees are delivering evidence-based solutions for all children, linked, where possible, to the INSPIRE set of seven strategies with the greatest potential to reduce violence against children. Efforts are increasingly focused on prevention, not merely response. Grantees are prioritizing work across sectors, as the problems and solutions are often inter-related and not limited to a single area.

### I. Progress through July 2018

#### In Nigeria:

- Mine Action Group (USD 540,401) taught 1,500 children about the risks of explosive remnants of war.
- **Street Child** (USD 540,351) is training teachers and caregivers on income generation for children affected by conflict.
- **UNICEF** (USD 540,351) is working to release 3,000 children from armed groups, and 183 freed children are receiving services at a transit centre.

## II. Abducted, released and supported: a boy's story

"I still remember the day when my village was attacked and I was separated from my parents," recalls 10-year old Dauda\* from Borno State, in northeastern Nigeria. Dauda was abducted by a non-State armed group and kept in its camp for more than two years.

"I was forced to call one of the men 'my father' and attend Qur'anic school. Many of the boys like me were sent to work on farms. We were asked to fetch water and bring it to the leader's house. If we ever refused to run errands, we were beaten. We were treated like slaves," he says, describing his difficult life at the camp. After being released, Dauda and another 182 children were brought to a transit centre in early July 2018. While under care at the centre supported by UNICEF Nigeria, he says he dreams of becoming a doctor to help the sick and the less fortunate.

\* Name changed to protect identity



@UNICEF Nigeria/2018: 10-year-old Dauda outside the transit centre where he now lives.



- International Rescue Committee (USD 540,402) supported parents and caregivers to prevent corporal punishment, and is providing 1,500 children with psychosocial support.
- **Terre des Hommes** (USD 540,401) provided psychosocial care to 1,250 children.

#### In Uganda:

• Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (USD 556,940) provided life skills training to social workers, and psychosocial support to 3,000 children.



- **World Vision** (USD 306,530) is providing livelihood training to 750 adolescents, including teenage mothers.
- **UNHCR** (USD 107,000) is conducting "best interest determination" surveys for 10,000 children to inform response efforts.
- Save the Children (USD 596,361) is providing psychosocial support to nearly 1,300 children, including 566 girls.
- Lutheran World Federation (USD 560,917) conducted awareness raising activities with over 1,600 community members on child neglect and early marriage.
- **UNICEF** (USD 79,180) is coordinating and building partner capacity to end violence against children.
- Association of Volunteers in International Service (USD 494,978) has helped 170 children to obtain birth certificates, helping to provide greater access to services.



Every five minutes, a child dies as a result of violence. Violence against children undermines every other investment in children and compromises their health, education, development and future opportunities, with negative lifelong impacts and intergenerational consequences. Such violence is most commonly perpetrated by people with whom children interact every day, and often occurs in places where they should feel safe – in their homes, schools and communities.

To expand the political will and individual and collective action needed to create safer environments in the settings where children live – where they play, learn and

contribute to their communities every day – the Fund is seeking investments to eliminate violence, focusing initially on programming to end violence in schools. In the context of the "Safe to Learn" campaign, future projects are expected to aim at improving regulations and laws protecting children; delivering school- and community-based advocacy or training; or making school facilities safe havens, among others. In addition, the outcomes of all projects to be funded under this stream are intended to add to the evidence base on what works to keep children safe. This priority area, which affects the greatest number of children in home, community and school across the world, urgently calls out for donor investment.

## 5. Way forward

The Fund is at a key – and opportunistic – moment in its evolution. More than two years from its inception, and with over 40 grants operating to tackle online child sexual abuse and exploitation and violence against children in conflict and crisis, the Fund can now reflect on its growth, and better align its strategy and investment approach to that of the Global Partnership.

A recently-completed review has already looked to strengthen the Fund's operational modalities for the next online funding round, planned for the fourth quarter of 2018. The second phase, involving the Partnership's broader governance, is a strategic review that will ask what sort of Fund is now needed to deliver the achieve its overall vision, purpose and objectives.

As it seeks to better align with the Partnership, the Fund continues to build its capacity to maximize its investments. This has included strengthening the Global Partnership Secretariat to provide more substantive guidance to grantees and partners on online violence; to better monitor and evaluate its work and desired impacts; and to mobilize new resources so it can better equip practitioners through strategic investments. It continues to facilitate the exchange of knowledge between grantees and other partners working to ensure better collaboration, learning and results.

The opportunity presented by the Fund's existing portfolio of grants – and that offered by a strengthened investment approach – is a critical foundation in building a world where every child grows up free of violence and free to reach their full potential.

#### **ANNEX A:** International Justice Mission Grantee Profile



#### Keeping Children Safe Online

The International Justice Mission (IJM) works closely with the Government of the Philippines to strengthen its capacity to address online sexual exploitation of children (OSEC), in particular the exchange of live-streaming sexual abuse of children and other child exploitation material between paying customers via the internet and facilitators of the abuse (or traffickers) in the Philippines. IJM works with the public justice system to rescue and rehabilitate victims, hold perpetrators accountable for crimes, increase the capacity of local authorities, and diagnose specific gaps in the public justice system that result in impunity. IJM also partners directly with local and international law enforcement agencies - including police and court systems - to identify and rescue victims, arrest perpetrators, and gather sufficient evidence to support criminal prosecutions. It supports the public prosecutors through the entire legal case, equipping them with proper case law, assisting them in locating and preparing witnesses for trial, and drafting opening and closing arguments. IJM supports child victims through the public justice system from start to finish, with trials lasting up to five years, including by assisting survivors to give testimony in court hearings and ensuring that courts use child-sensitive and trauma-informed practices to protect children from re-traumatization.

**Photo description:** Rosie, a survivor of online sexual exploitation, was rescued with her sisters and now lives in an aftercare center, where she is pictured above with a friend (IJM 2017)

#### **RESULTS TO DATE**

As of May 2018, IJM has partnered with local authorities to rescue 40 children from ongoing situations of online sexual exploitation, using each case as an opportunity to build local expertise in the investigation and prosecution of this crime. IJM has partnered with local law enforcement to arrest nine suspected perpetrators and support prosecutors in filing charges against seven suspects, while supporting national and local prosecutors in ongoing cases. As convictions typically take 3-4 years, and none have been reached yet as part of this project, IJM is negotiating plea bargaining in five open cases to shorten trials and reduce the court system's backlog of cases. IJM further strengthened capacity through training of 50 Filipino law enforcement officers and 100 judges and prosecutors on the intricacies of investigating and trying these crimes. Leveraging international partnerships has helped IJM bring perpetrators to justice and create criminal deterrence on both the customer side of the crime internationally and the trafficker side locally in the Philippines. In November 2017, two Australian police agents waived their diplomatic immunity to immediately testify in a case without applying the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT), eliminating the need for the hearing to be delayed by a year. The case involved an alleged Australian pedophile who was arrested for buying child exploitation material, including explicit images of children, from a Filipino suspect. The agents testified how the investigation in Australia identified the suspect's role in supplying illegal materials, ultimately resulting in their double conviction. IJM continues to advocate with the Philippines Congress and other agencies to deliver on the Government's three-year commitment to strengthen personnel and funding of the national Women and Children's Protection Unit.



#### **ANNEX B:** Internet Watch Foundation Grantee Profile



#### Keeping Children Safe Online

IWF works for the global elimination of online child sexual abuse imagery. On this project, IWF is partnering with law enforcement, industry, government, and civil society to provide 30 countries with a sustainable mechanism to report and remove online child sexual abuse images and videos. IWF designs and builds a customized reporting web interface, which is linked to the host organization's interface via a reporting button. Once the reporting portal is set up, citizens can make a report by submitting a 'URL' (individual webpage) for assessment, either anonymously or with their contact details if they want feedback on any action taken. Once submitted, an IWF analyst in the United Kingdom will assess the URL rapidly. If they find it to be illegal, they work with partners to have it removed from the internet. IWF also provides ongoing support to partners including awareness raising via templates for posters, press releases, handouts, and social media campaigns. An IWF analyst is assigned to each portal country to respond to any specific enquiries. Having a reporting mechanism is a key milestone in fulfilling the national commitments of the Model National Response framework and reflects a determination to protect children and the public in the digital age.

**Photo description:** MacBain Mkandawire, Executive Director of Youth Net and Counselling (YONECO), speaks to the awaiting press at launch of the reporting portal in Malawi in March 2018 (YONECO 2018)

#### **RESULTS TO DATE**

AsofMay2018,IWFhaslaunchedreportingportalsinTanzania, Mozambique, and Malawi with four more expected to launch by quarter three of 2018 in Zambia, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). IWF has also held seven roundtables with industry leaders in Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia, Malawi, El Salvador, Guatemala, and DRC, where participants discussed the key challenges in disrupting the spread of child sexual abuse images online and were offered support through IWF to improve internet safety and protect children from revictimization. Despite a current humanitarian and epidemiological crisis in the DRC, IWF staff used video conferences from the United Kingdom to 'virtually' join a successful roundtable with 46 participants who met at the Ministry for Gender in March 2018. The event used simultaneous translation and roundtable participants included a judge from the Juvenile Court, academics, the Ministry of Justice, War Child who runs DRC's child helpline, and child rights charity Menelik Education. DRC's portal will be launched on June 16, which is the International Day of the African Child, and it will be available in French, Swahili, and Lingala - a Bantu language spoken throughout the country's northwestern region. The variety of languages facilitated by the portal demonstrates IWF's commitment to ensuring that the portals are linguistically accessible to the local population.

Partnerships with other like-minded organizations in multiple countries also resulted in fostering further involvement of the internet industry, NGO sector, and law enforcement. For example, IWF has built upon the Fund-supported portals in Tanzania, Mozambique and Malawi to leverage support from partners such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to launch a similar portal in Belize.





Photo credit: ©Dung Dao/Viet Nam/2018

Picture description: Adolescent trainers practice with a mobile phone as part of their train-the-trainer curriculum.

Designed by: Federico Fontan

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