



Together for girls

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS



STRATEGY

PARTNERS

Canada



cummins partners

UN PARTNERS:



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STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

Since 2009, the Together for Girls partnership has used a three-pronged model to address violence against children, with a particular focus on sexual violence against girls. All of our work is guided by **data** from the Violence Against Children Surveys, led by CDC as part of the Together for Girls partnership. The next area of work is **action**, which consists of evidence-based and multi-sectoral programming and policy, followed by **advocacy** to raise awareness, promote solutions to end violence and galvanize coordinated response across sectors.

This model has proven effective, standing the test of time. In less than a decade, the partnership has grown substantially – from working in a handful of countries to more than 20 – becoming a leader on the frontlines of ending gender-based violence and violence against children. Our success is a result of having a well-defined three-pillar methodology that is implemented collaboratively and collectively by our partners, which includes national governments and the world’s foremost health agencies.

In the past few years, we have also seen exciting progress in the global landscape. The Sustainable Development Goals have prioritized violence prevention and response across multiple goals. Recently, we have seen an outpouring of support for survivors as more people come forward to share their stories, sparking a global conversation about sexual violence. It truly feels like we are on the cusp of monumental change for the movement.

As we prepare for what’s next, we took the opportunity to reflect on the partnership’s achievements and to learn from our work to date. Our updated strategy will serve as a roadmap to guide the partnership in the years to come. One thing is clear: Now is the time to work together to create deep and lasting change for future generations. There is strength in numbers and power in action. Together, we can create a safer, more equitable world for all.



Gary M. Cohen
Founder of Together for Girls
Executive Vice President, Global
Health, BD (Becton, Dickinson
and Company)
President, BD Foundation

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary M. Cohen'.



Dr. Daniela Ligiero
Executive Director & CEO,
Together for Girls

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniela Ligiero'.

INTRODUCTION

Together for Girls (TfG) is a partnership between national governments, UN entities and private sector organizations. TfG works at the intersection of violence against women and violence against children, with special attention to ending sexual violence against girls. Founded in 2009, our partnership brings together influential actors across multiple sectors in a comprehensive and holistic approach to prevent and respond to violence.¹ This is essential to promoting and achieving individual rights, well-being, gender equality and sustainable development.

This strategy document outlines who we are, our approach, and our collective vision for the future as we work to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

THE VISION

We envision a world where every child, adolescent and young person is safe, protected and thriving.

Every person, including every child and adolescent, has the right to live free from violence and everyone has a role to play in making this a reality. To achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, we must focus on ending violence against children and violence against women. We bring special attention to the needs of adolescent girls – who often fall through the cracks of efforts to address children and women – and a strong focus on sexual violence, in all its forms.

THE PARTNERS



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¹ Together for Girls was founded by Gary Cohen. Other founding partners include UNICEF, CDC, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UN Women and the Nduna Foundation.



The partnership is unique and innovative because we:

- **Use data and evidence to guide the way.**
- **Connect state-of-the-art strategies and interventions to end violence against children and violence against women.**
- **Unite different actors and disciplines that often do not work together to address a multi-faceted problem.**

TfG partners are global leaders in development, violence prevention and response. Each partner contributes unique expertise and skills to strengthen our collective impact at national, regional and global levels.

TfG is governed by the Leadership Council, consisting of high-level representatives of TfG partner organizations. The council serves as an advisory group to provide strategic direction and vision for the partnership. The TfG Secretariat uses input from the Leadership Council to provide the coordination and backbone support needed to advance the goals of the partnership. The TfG Secretariat is hosted by UNAIDS as part of their contribution to the partnership.

We apply a gender and life-course perspective to our work and seek to identify the specific needs and vulnerabilities of both girls and boys. We pay particular attention to adolescent girls because they are more vulnerable to sexual violence, and because they often remain invisible. We also recognize that boys experience violence and that focusing on them is essential – both because their rights and well-being are equally important and because they play an important role in breaking cycles of violence. In addition, we take a holistic approach to ending sexual violence, given that it takes on many forms (rape, child sexual abuse, intimate partner and dating violence, sexual exploitation, etc.), but is often addressed in silos.



THE NEED

Violence is a global pandemic, affecting men, women and children. Violence against children (VAC) is a violation of children's fundamental human rights; it is a global problem with far-reaching consequences and devastating long-term effects. The same is true for violence against women (VAW), which is underpinned by deep and pervasive gender inequality. VAC and VAW are interlinked and cyclical, often passed from one generation to the next, with adolescent girls at the center of these two forms of violence. Both VAC and VAW are directly linked to important outcomes, such as unintended pregnancy, HIV, suicide, interruptions in education and economic disempowerment.

Fortunately, substantial evidence on what works to prevent and respond to VAC and VAW has been collected over the last 20 years, and we now know a great deal about how to address these issues effectively. We have the potential to create lasting, generational change if we think strategically, coordinate our efforts and act boldly.

CONSEQUENCES OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE



Note: Data from the eSwatini Violence Against Children Survey.

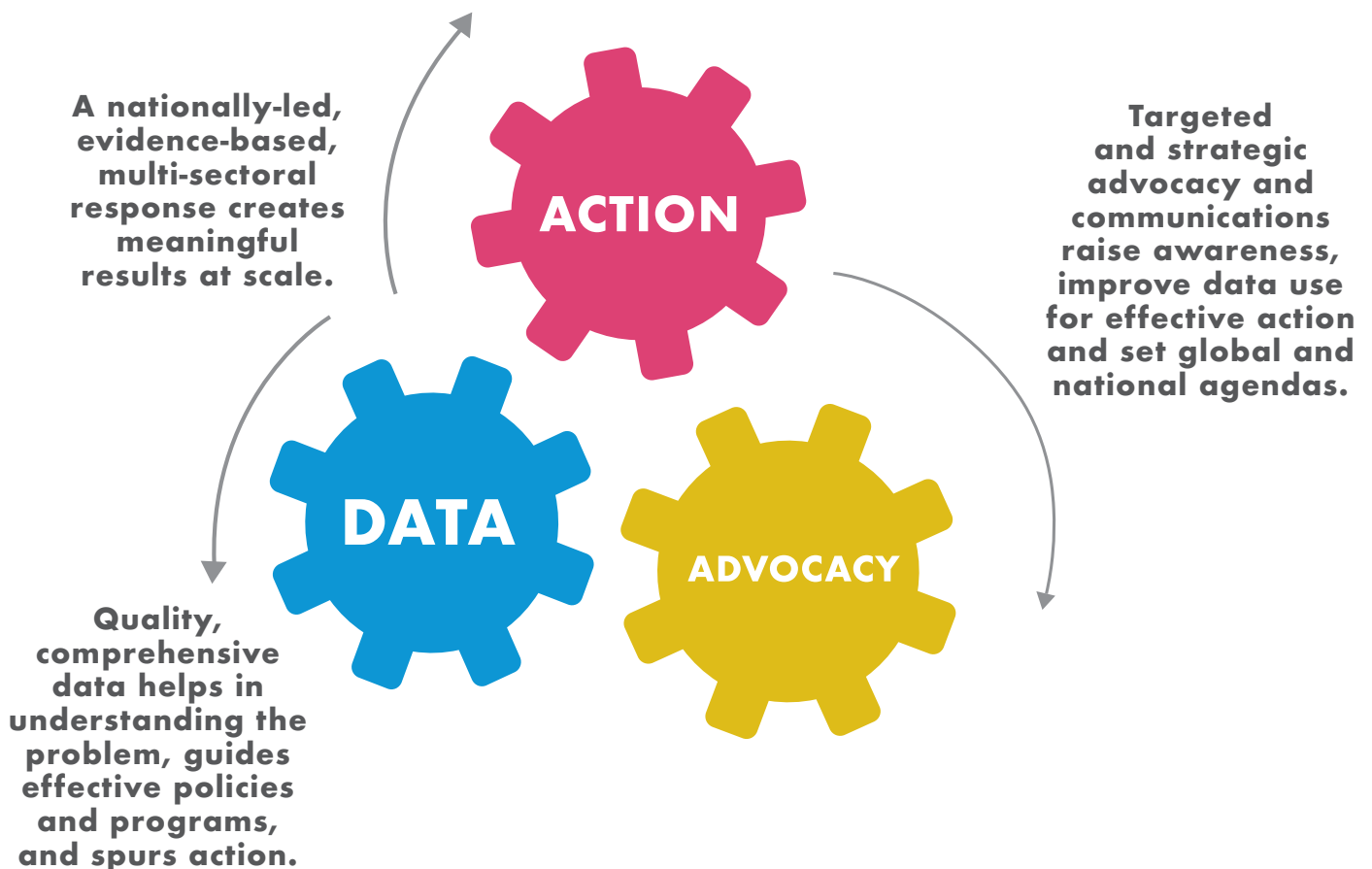
*As compared to girls who did not experience sexual violence.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) prioritize violence prevention and response for women, adolescents and children across multiple goals. There is a growing recognition around the world that addressing violence and empowering girls and women are essential to achieving our global development goals.



OUR MODEL

The partnership’s data-driven model is aligned with the SDGs and driven by country demand.² Our three pillars of work include: Data, Action and Advocacy.



² See Theory of Change on page 26.



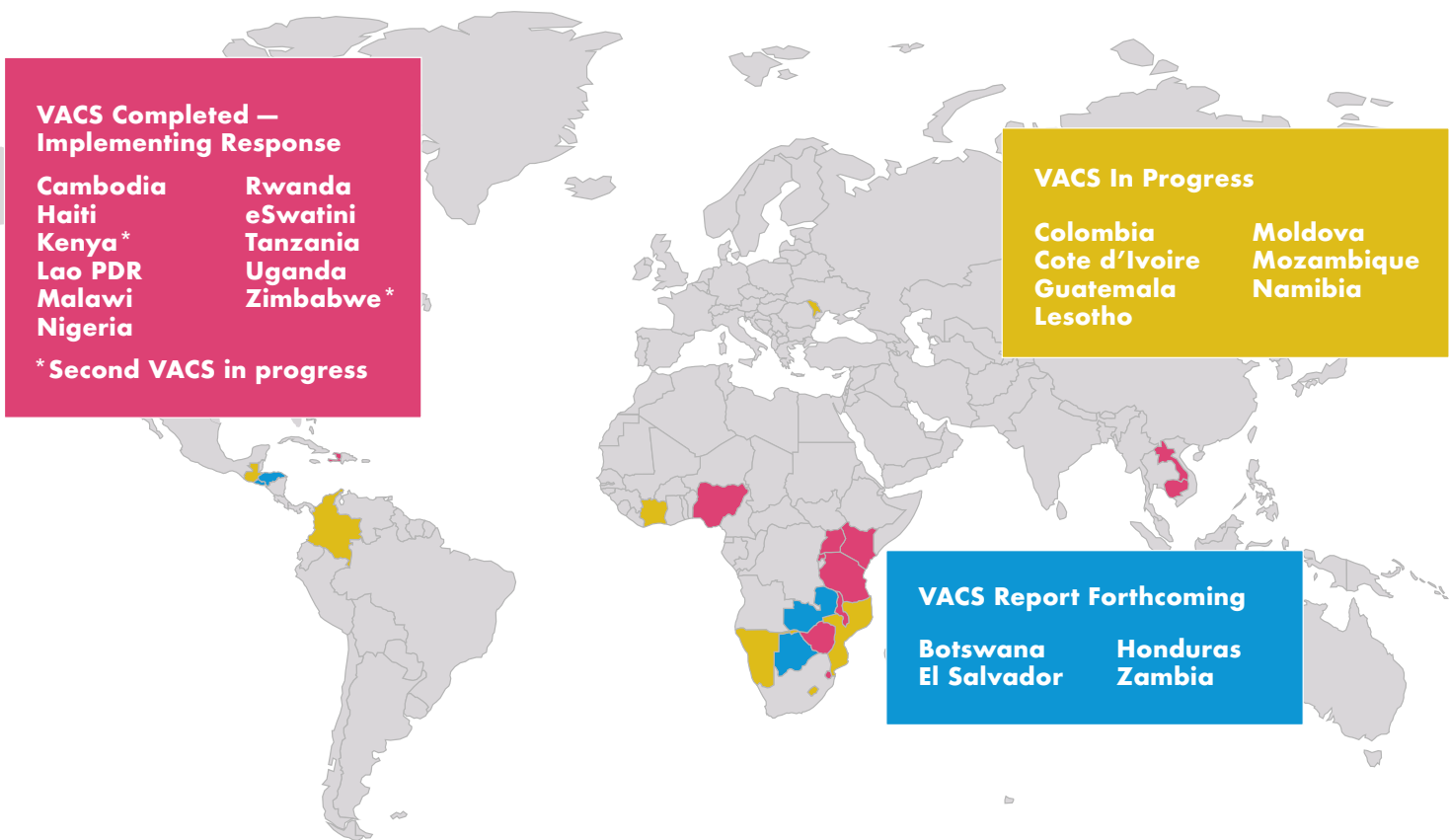
DATA

There is strength in numbers. Evidence should always guide the way.

This pillar of work is focused on understanding the magnitude and consequences of violence against children and youth in each country, including associated consequences and risk factors (such as HIV). This is done through the Violence Against Children Survey (VACS), a nationally-representative household survey of 13–24 year-olds. At a global level, this pillar of work is led by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as part of the TfG partnership, with support from various partners like UNICEF, PEPFAR and USAID. It is primarily carried out in low- and middle-income countries.

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN SURVEY COUNTRY MAP: 2018 *

Through the VACS, we now have data for approximately 10% of the world’s children, adolescents and young people.



*Status as of August 2018.



Dr. Asha-Rose Migiro, former UN Deputy Secretary-General, spoke at the launch of the Tanzania Violence Against Children Survey in 2011.



In February 2017, Together for Girls, PAHO/WHO and other partners hosted more than 200 participants for the first-ever "Latin America Regional Meeting on Preventing and Responding to Violence Against Children and Adolescents," which included high-level representation from 10 countries in the region.



Launch of the Violence Against Children Survey in Cambodia in October 2014. © UNICEF



The Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Marta Santos Pais, joined national leaders and youth at the Malawi Violence Against Children Survey launch event in March 2015. © UNICEF

At the national level, the implementation of the VACS is led by national governments, with CDC providing technical support. Our model is successful in undertaking this highly sensitive and complex survey because governments must request the survey and establish a multi-sector steering committee, which brings together all relevant government ministries, civil society and development partners to oversee the work. This approach embeds the VACS in national structures in a way that enables ownership, builds capacity and lays the groundwork for a comprehensive response once the data becomes available.

In addition to CDC, other TFG partners play a critical role in the process, depending on the country. UNICEF, and most recently in Central America, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), continue to be invaluable in supporting the multi-sector task force to coordinate the survey and response efforts, ensuring wide participation and facilitating the transition to action upon completion of the survey. The U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the Government of Canada and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) have made critical financial and technical contributions to implementing the VACS at the country levels.

In addition, other partners, such as UN Women, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the World Health Organization (WHO), provide important technical contributions to the VACS and to the ensuing response at the country level. They also facilitate wide dissemination of the data at the regional and global levels.

The VACS provides strong, reliable evidence that was not previously available. The survey answers key questions, including:

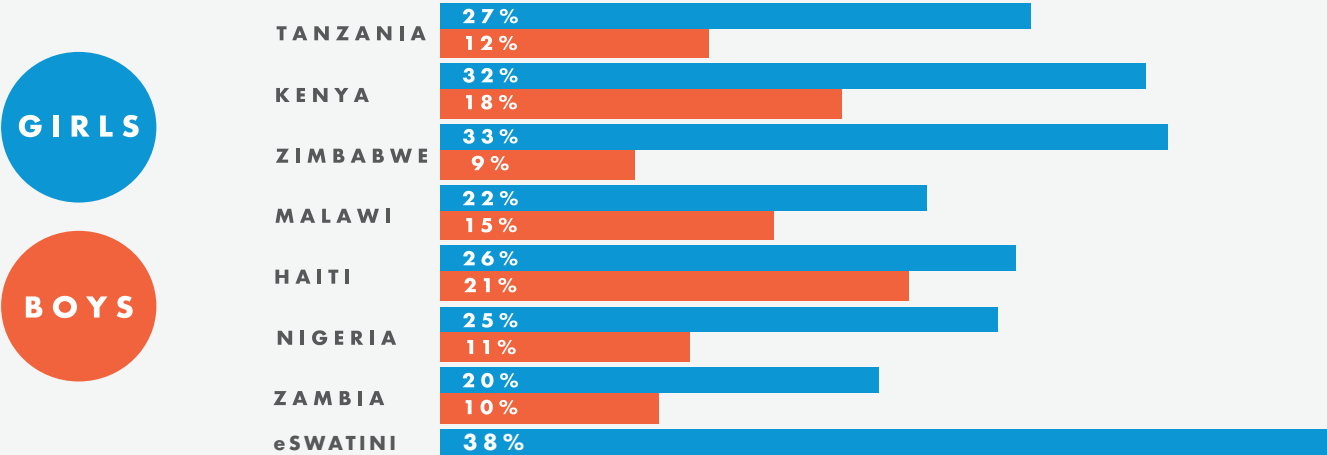
- What is the magnitude of physical, sexual and emotional violence against children and adolescents?
- What are the connections between violence against women, violence against children and violence against adolescents?
- What kinds of violence are boys and girls most at risk for at different stages of their lives?
- What are the contexts in which violence occurs?
- Who are the perpetrators?
- What factors increase risk for violence, and what factors protect children and adolescents?
- Do the victims of such violence have access to, and/or use services that can help them recover?

It also provides answers to how violence is linked to a variety of important development issues (such as education, HIV, unintended pregnancy, mental health, etc.) and an opportunity to highlight specific experiences and associated risk factors that differ for boys and girls.

Today, we have a better understanding of the overall global landscape of violence against children and violence against girls and women, and there is growing evidence of global trends and regional similarities. However, there are also significant country and community-level differences which need to be understood if we are to invest in effective violence prevention and response.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE AMONG GIRLS AND BOYS

% who experienced any sexual violence before age 18



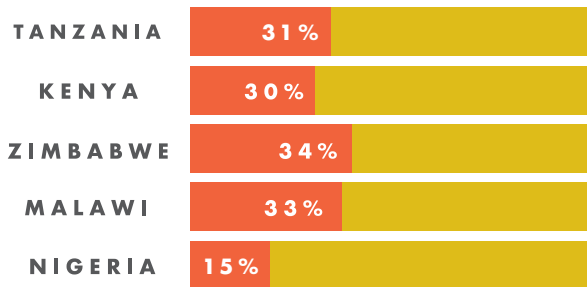
Note: All data from the Violence Against Children Surveys, led by CDC as part of the TfG partnership.

GIRLS

MORE THAN
1/4 OF
GIRLS' FIRST SEXUAL
INTERCOURSE WAS
PHYSICALLY FORCED
OR COERCED

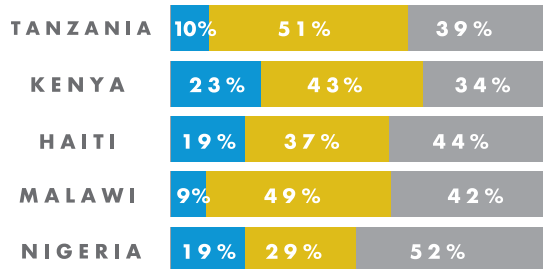


SEXUAL VIOLENCE RESULTS IN HIGH UNINTENDED PREGNANCY RATES



% of females ages 18-24 who reported pregnancy resulting from physically forced and/or coerced sex during their lifetime.

GIRLS EXPERIENCE SEXUAL VIOLENCE THROUGHOUT CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE



Age of first incident of physically forced or coerced sex in childhood, reported by 18-24 year old females who experienced sexual violence.

BOYS


ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST BOYS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH NEGATIVE MENTAL HEALTH



2/3 of boys who experienced sexual violence report mental distress later in life.*

BOYS WHO EXPERIENCE SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CHILDHOOD ARE SIGNIFICANTLY MORE LIKELY TO PERPETRATE VIOLENCE AGAINST A PARTNER*



 Males who experienced sexual violence in childhood

 Males who did *not* experience sexual violence in childhood

* As reported by Malawi males, 18-24.

Note: All data from the Violence Against Children Surveys, led by CDC as part of the TfG partnership.

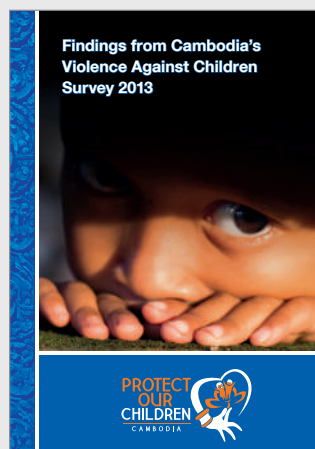
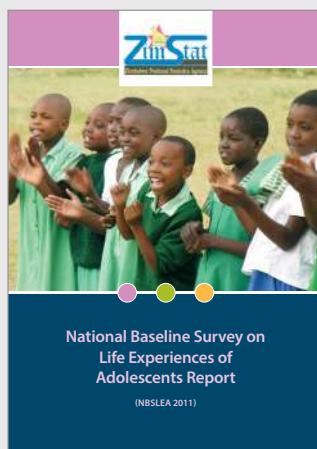
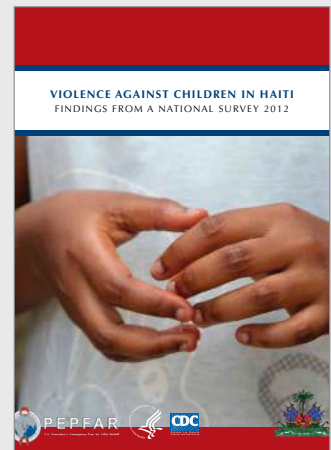
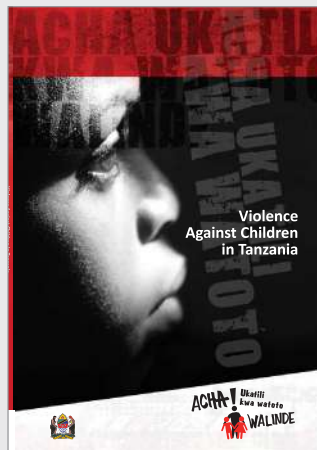
KEY ACTIONS FOR THIS PILLAR INCLUDE:

- 1. Generating new knowledge at the country level:** The partnership, with CDC technical leadership and guidance, supports national governments to conduct the VACS. We do so by leveraging funding, fostering collaboration and learning to continuously improve the survey, associated methodology and use of results. This includes supporting countries who wish to repeat the VACS to monitor and continue to explore the issue of violence against children in their country.
- 2. Connecting to existing knowledge:** As part of the data-to-action model, TfG partners, with support from the TfG Secretariat, work to map, connect with and understand existing data (qualitative work, administrative data, other surveys such as DHS, MICS, etc.) that could be useful in informing the national response along with the VACS. This provides a nuanced and more complete national picture of violence against children and youth, and helps to translate the data into enforceable policies, sustainable investments and effective programs. We then connect these national experiences and learnings to the global community.
- 3. Supporting national capacity and systems to conduct research and monitor programs and progress:** TfG partners work to expand a cadre of national experts by helping to increase their capacity to collect, analyze and use data, including the VACS. We will increase our focus on mobilizing resources and providing support so that in-country partners can strengthen routine monitoring and surveillance systems across sectors, including social services, health, justice, finance and education sectors, to name a few.
- 4. Growing global evidence:** The TfG partnership works with research organizations to build global and regional knowledge on how violence and gender interact across childhood, adolescence and young adulthood, and what approaches work best to prevent such violence. We also work to strengthen collaboration on violence against children and violence against women and girls to increase efficiencies and impact.

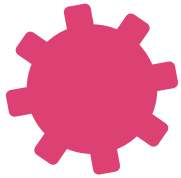


DATA: SNAPSHOT OF RESULTS

- Over the last decade, the global data landscape for VAC and VAW has dramatically changed.
- **Over 20 countries across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean** are in various stages of government-led VACS implementation. Ten countries completed VACS with reports available and in use, generating data for approximately **10% of the world's child, adolescent and young adult population (under age 25)**.
- VACS public use data sets are available for **various countries (e.g. Haiti, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Nigeria and eSwatini)** for use by multiple stakeholders such as researchers and advocates, both in-country and globally. These data sets are a public resource and have been used to advance national and global understanding and policy for both VAC and VAW. Public use data sets are made available one year after release of VACS country reports.



Violence Against Children Survey report covers: Top row, from left to right – eSwatini, Tanzania, Kenya and Haiti. Bottom row, from left to right – Malawi, Zimbabwe, Cambodia and Nigeria.



ACTION

There is strength in numbers. Working together, across sectors and with multiple partners, we can change the lives of millions of children and adolescents around the world.

This pillar of work is where the partnership directly impacts the lives of children and adolescents.

With strong data to guide the way, the TfG partnership works to develop, strengthen and expand comprehensive, evidence-based national actions. This pillar is guided by the leadership of national governments, with overall coordination and technical support led by UNICEF and significant financial investments from PEPFAR, USAID and the Government of Canada.

We focus on both violence prevention and response.

A clear lesson learned from the first years of TfG is the importance of coordinated, multi-sector national actions, whether as multi-year plans, strategies, agendas or other forms. These plans have high-level government commitment, clear divisions of labor, concrete accountability measures and are gender-responsive. As a partnership, we prioritize investments in coordination to fully develop, implement, monitor and evaluate these plans. Investment in the coordination function at the lead government ministry with support, generally from UNICEF, is essential.

Within the partnership, this pillar also benefits from the large implementation platforms of TfG partners in addition to UNICEF, which further contributes to both scale and technical excellence. Other TfG partners lead in their own areas of work and include: PAHO and WHO in the health sector, PEPFAR and UNAIDS on the HIV response, UN Women on gender equality and violence against women (VAW), UNFPA on sexual and reproductive health, UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children (VAC) through high-level political engagement, and USAID on orphans and vulnerable children, migration and justice reform.

KEY ACTIONS FOR THIS PILLAR INCLUDE:

1. Supporting coordination and scale-up: The TfG Secretariat focuses on supporting global coordination efforts for the partnership. At the country level, national governments drive the efforts on the ground with the support of a lead partner, usually UNICEF. Our partners promote national-level coordination, particularly among different government sectors (social welfare, health, education and justice), and between national governments, multilateral, bilateral, civil society and private sector actors. In addition, the newly-launched framework offered by INSPIRE (see page 18) guides evidence-based programming on the ground. This work across sectors helps to prevent violence and deliver results at scale. Governments, TfG partners and civil society organizations implement the national response to the survey data, while the TfG Secretariat supports coordination and collaboration among the partners.



As a result of the Violence Against Children Surveys, more than 16,000 girls participated in self-defense training programs in Malawi. © UNICEF

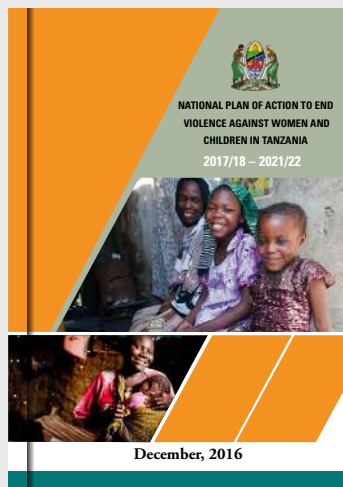
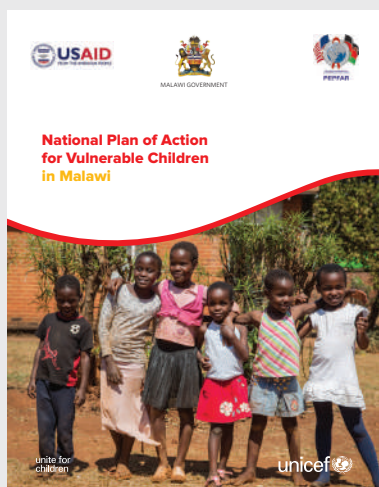
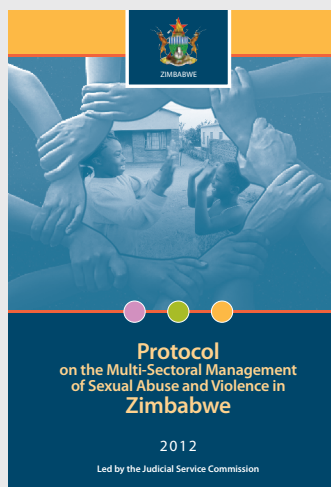


Twenty countries gathered in eSwatini for the Global Violence Against Children meeting in 2014 - the first of its kind. The event was hosted by the Government of eSwatini, with support from UNICEF, Together for Girls and other partners (including the U.S. government). © UNICEF

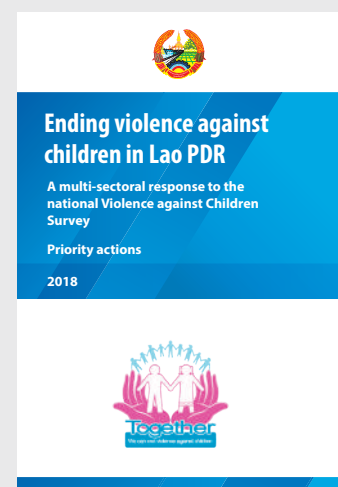
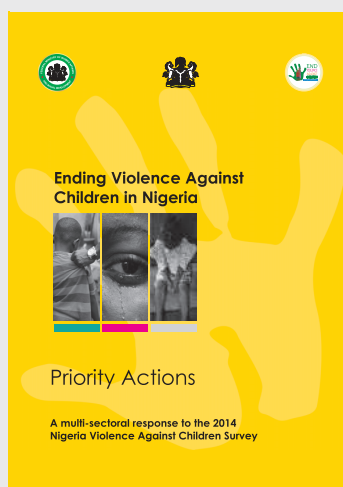
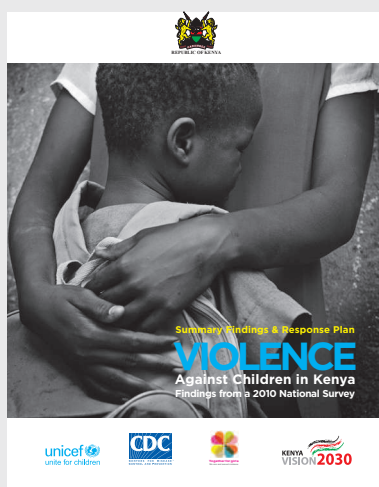
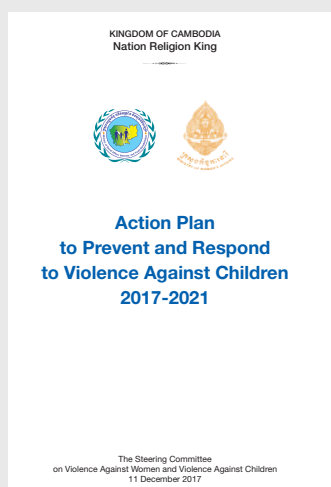
- 2. Contributing to global knowledge that can be utilized for scale-up at country level:** TfG partners and the TfG Secretariat support the development of global evidence-based tools, such as “INSPIRE: Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children” and the Data2Action tool, which can be used at the national level to help guide an effective response. We also partner with other organizations to learn about and evaluate program interventions for effectiveness and scale. Such partnerships exist within a wider community of practice, which we foster by actively sharing new learnings and offering platforms where other organizations and countries can explore challenges and successes.
- 3. Supporting the development and alignment of diverse monitoring frameworks to track progress and ensure accountability:** The TfG Secretariat works with TfG partners and other key stakeholders to improve the alignment of diverse monitoring frameworks, such as INSPIRE. TfG partners support country-led capacity to report on both global and national indicators. We also align our work to contribute to the goals of the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children (End Violence). In addition to SDG tracking, an effective response to violence must be guided by regular and reliable data collection systems, which can track progress and help course-correct as needed.

⚙️ ACTION: SNAPSHOT OF RESULTS

- In all countries that completed the Violence Against Children Survey (VACS), national governments (with support from UNICEF and other TfG partners) utilized the survey data to develop and expand policies and programs for protection of children from violence.

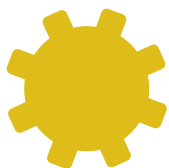


Country action plan covers: Zimbabwe, Malawi, Tanzania, Cambodia, Kenya, Nigeria and Lao PDR.



- In 2016, with WHO's leadership, TfG partners worked with other organizations to develop a new resource entitled **"INSPIRE: Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children."** INSPIRE details a group of strategies distilled from the best available evidence with the greatest potential to reduce violence against children.





ADVOCACY

There is strength in numbers. When we stand together and raise our voices as citizens, advocates and survivors, we can change the world.

Led by the TfG Secretariat, this pillar of work focuses on drawing attention (with a gender lens) to the problem of violence against children (VAC) and violence against women (VAW) and promoting evidence-based solutions. Many of our partners, especially private-sector partners including BD and Cummins&Partners, significantly contribute to this pillar.

KEY ACTIONS FOR THIS PILLAR INCLUDE:

- 1. Maximizing the use of knowledge:** Quality data is of no benefit if it is not used to advance knowledge and inform programs and policies. We seek to translate complex data for a variety of audiences and expand our dissemination channels to improve data use by key stakeholders at the global, regional and national levels. Part of this means ensuring we highlight unique experiences and needs, such as the high rates of intimate partner and dating violence against girls that often start in early adolescence. We also work to empower civil society and youth groups by ensuring they have access to data and evidence that can support their programmatic and advocacy efforts. We use new technologies and existing networks to invest in data translation and data visualization, framing knowledge for a range of stakeholders and audiences. Finally, we strive to increase investments in evidence-based strategies to prevent and respond to violence through our communications platforms – including supporting the dissemination of INSPIRE.
- 2. Changing the conversation:** We work to raise the visibility of the issues we care about, highlighting both the extent of the problem and evidence-based solutions in order to: influence global, regional and national agendas; change cultural norms; and urge diverse audiences to take action in an ethical and empowering way. By collaborating with the media and other opinion-makers, we reach a wide audience and reshape how sexual violence is discussed and showcased, while also creating platforms to ensure that the voices of children and adolescents are heard.
- 3. Putting a face to the data:** We are dedicated to breaking the silence around violence and ensuring survivors have a platform to share their stories. We connect our data to personal stories, seeking to bring a face to the numbers. Through this pillar, we make a special effort to highlight the needs and experiences of girls, who are disproportionately affected by sexual violence. Our goal is to work with a wide range of partners, at global and local levels, to tell the stories that need to be told, creating a movement that gains strength in numbers.



TfG Founder Gary Cohen and TfG Executive Director & CEO Dr. Daniela Ligiero join World Bank President Jim Yong Kim to accept the 2017 Innovation in Prevention of Gender-Based Violence Award.



**EVERY HOUR MATTERS
YOUTH ENGAGEMENT TOOLKIT:
UGANDA**

EVERY H⁷²OUR MATTERS
Speed is of the essence.

Every Hour Matters, a global campaign to increase awareness of the importance of quickly accessing post-rape care (particularly for girls and women) was launched in 2016. The campaign calls on national and community leaders to ensure that comprehensive services are widely available. With technical support from USAID, CDC, PEPFAR, PAHO, WHO, UNAIDS and UN Women, and design support from Cummins&Partners, communication materials were developed and translated into four languages and are available to a wide range of organizations. In 2017, TfG convened 10 youth advocates from Kenya and Uganda to develop the EHM Youth Engagement Toolkit, a peer-to-peer workshop that helps train young people to advocate for the needs of survivors in their communities. The toolkit was launched at the UN Commission on the Status of Women in March 2018.

**CADA
H⁷²RA
CUENTA**

La rapidez es la esencia.

**CHAQUE
HEURE
C⁷²MPTE**

La vitesse est de l'essence.

**KILA SAA
INAY⁷²PITA
NI MUHIMU**

Kasi ni Lazima.



**Together
for girls**



“Unexplained Feeling” by 15-year-old Shafiqah, one of the winners of the 2017 “World in Your Hands” art contest hosted by TfG and the Coalition for Adolescent Girls.



TfG Executive Director & CEO Dr. Daniela Ligiero, UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka and UN Foundation President & CEO Kathy Calvin celebrated International Day of the Girl 2017. © Sharon Natoli

🌱 ADVOCACY: SNAPSHOT OF RESULTS

- Through our advocacy and communication efforts, and by using data and evidence to guide the way, we’ve helped shape the growing global movement to end sexual violence and achieve gender equality.
- TfG launched its digital magazine, *Safe*, in 2013 to showcase the people, organizations and countries that work every day to combat the violence that affects children, adolescents and women. It is the first digital magazine to tackle this topic and provides a platform for survivors to tell their stories.
- TfG successfully supported advocacy for the inclusion of targets on VAC and VAW in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Altogether, the TfG partnership has approximately 13 million Twitter followers from over 30 countries.
- In 2017, based on partner input, TfG developed an interactive data visualization tool highlighting the VACS data and making them easier to access.
- TfG raised awareness, highlighted solutions and amplified the voices of survivors by hosting high-level events around key moments, including the UN General Assembly, the Commission on the Status of Women, International Day of the Girl and Women Deliver.



**TOGETHER
FOR GIRLS
GUIDING
PRINCIPLES**



Based on global learning, as well as the experiences and lessons learned by TfG, our partnership is guided by the following core set of principles:

- **Focusing on adolescent girls is essential:** Girls, especially adolescent girls, face unique challenges: they are at the intersection of violence against children (VAC) and violence against women (VAW), experiencing the types of violence that are common to all children (e.g. corporal punishment in schools), as well as violence that is much more common among women (e.g. intimate partner violence). They also face unique consequences, such as unintended pregnancy and HIV.
- **Gender matters:** A gender perspective is crucial for understanding how structural factors, such as different access to education, resources and opportunities, as well as rigid gender norms define the different challenges, risks and opportunities that both boys and girls face.
- **Data guides the way:** We must use both quantitative and qualitative data to define and understand the magnitude, specificities and consequences of violence – and then apply proven, context-specific and evidence-based solutions.
- **Violence is preventable:** Violence, and cycles of violence, can be interrupted and consequences mitigated – especially if we start early. The evidence base regarding effective interventions is growing, enabling us to take effective, targeted action. The strategies featured in “INSPIRE: Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children” help guide countries’ efforts.
- **Collaboration is the only way:** Deep, lasting global change for a problem of this magnitude can only be achieved in partnership; no single actor or sector in isolation can end VAC (including boys and girls), or VAW.
- **National and local ownership is key:** All policies and programs must be country-led and work towards long-term, lasting change for children and communities.
- **Adolescence and pre-adolescence are critical times:** Policy and programs that aim to prevent and respond to violence must use a life-course approach to be effective.
- **We need to hear and amplify the voices of children and adolescents:** We recognize each data point on violence is a person’s individual experience and story. As a child- and adolescent-serving organization, we seek to lift up the voices of young people as leaders in their own communities and ensure they are included in the global dialogue.
- **Accountability is essential:** Violence prevention and response is a relatively new area of intervention for many communities, countries and development partners. As we introduce and scale-up interventions, we must monitor and evaluate these efforts to ensure we are not causing harm and are supporting the most effective and efficient approaches in each country or context.

THE IMPACT

As a partnership, we hold ourselves accountable to achieve results across our areas of action and to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). TfG has developed a Theory of Change³ and a core set of indicators in our Results Framework against which we monitor progress. All partners have agreed upon this framework. The indicators we use are fully aligned with the SDGs, as well as the new core set of indicators for monitoring the implementation of INSPIRE.

Violence prevention and response is an emerging field. TfG knows that it is essential that we achieve a global consensus on shared indicators across multiple actors and stakeholders. We actively engage in efforts to strengthen measurements and view our Results Framework as a living document, which can be adapted as the field continues to evolve.





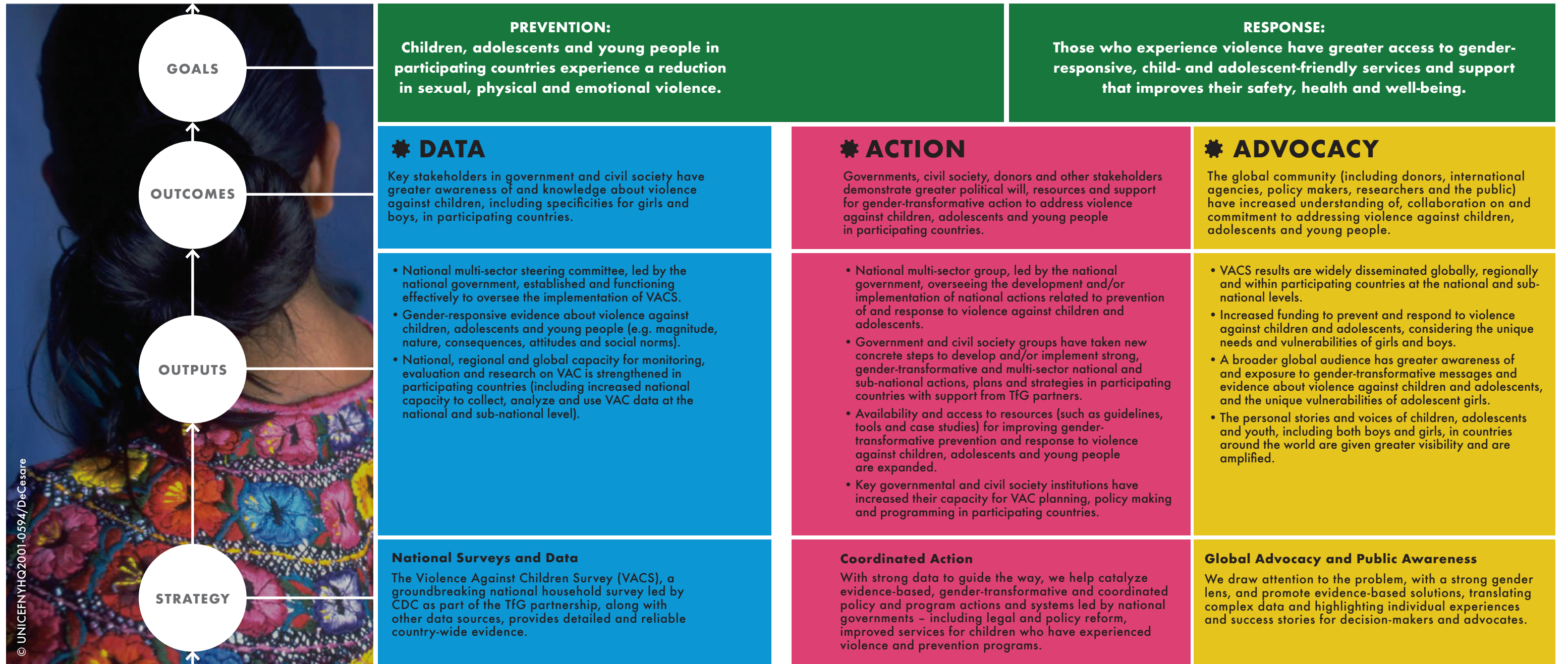
ONWARD

As a partnership and as individual organizations, we work to transform data into action, changing the lives of people around the world.

Together, we can end the pandemic of violence against children, adolescents and young people.

 **VISION**

We envision a world where every child, adolescent and young person is safe, protected and thriving.



PREVENTION:
Children, adolescents and young people in participating countries experience a reduction in sexual, physical and emotional violence.

RESPONSE:
Those who experience violence have greater access to gender-responsive, child- and adolescent-friendly services and support that improves their safety, health and well-being.

DATA
Key stakeholders in government and civil society have greater awareness of and knowledge about violence against children, including specificities for girls and boys, in participating countries.

ACTION
Governments, civil society, donors and other stakeholders demonstrate greater political will, resources and support for gender-transformative action to address violence against children, adolescents and young people in participating countries.

ADVOCACY
The global community (including donors, international agencies, policy makers, researchers and the public) have increased understanding of, collaboration on and commitment to addressing violence against children, adolescents and young people.

- National multi-sector steering committee, led by the national government, established and functioning effectively to oversee the implementation of VACS.
- Gender-responsive evidence about violence against children, adolescents and young people (e.g. magnitude, nature, consequences, attitudes and social norms).
- National, regional and global capacity for monitoring, evaluation and research on VAC is strengthened in participating countries (including increased national capacity to collect, analyze and use VAC data at the national and sub-national level).

- National multi-sector group, led by the national government, overseeing the development and/or implementation of national actions related to prevention of and response to violence against children and adolescents.
- Government and civil society groups have taken new concrete steps to develop and/or implement strong, gender-transformative and multi-sector national and sub-national actions, plans and strategies in participating countries with support from TFG partners.
- Availability and access to resources (such as guidelines, tools and case studies) for improving gender-transformative prevention and response to violence against children, adolescents and young people are expanded.
- Key governmental and civil society institutions have increased their capacity for VAC planning, policy making and programming in participating countries.

- VACS results are widely disseminated globally, regionally and within participating countries at the national and sub-national levels.
- Increased funding to prevent and respond to violence against children and adolescents, considering the unique needs and vulnerabilities of girls and boys.
- A broader global audience has greater awareness of and exposure to gender-transformative messages and evidence about violence against children and adolescents, and the unique vulnerabilities of adolescent girls.
- The personal stories and voices of children, adolescents and youth, including both boys and girls, in countries around the world are given greater visibility and are amplified.

National Surveys and Data
The Violence Against Children Survey (VACS), a groundbreaking national household survey led by CDC as part of the TFG partnership, along with other data sources, provides detailed and reliable country-wide evidence.

Coordinated Action
With strong data to guide the way, we help catalyze evidence-based, gender-transformative and coordinated policy and program actions and systems led by national governments – including legal and policy reform, improved services for children who have experienced violence and prevention programs.

Global Advocacy and Public Awareness
We draw attention to the problem, with a strong gender lens, and promote evidence-based solutions, translating complex data and highlighting individual experiences and success stories for decision-makers and advocates.

PROBLEM

Violence against children (VAC) is a gross violation of and devastating long-term effects, such as unintended against women (VAW). These forms of violence are economic, social and security consequences to

human rights and is tragically widespread. It is a global pandemic with far-reaching consequences pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, suicide and decreased access to education. The same is true for violence often interlinked and transmitted in cycles from one generation to the next, with severe health, individuals, communities and countries.



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**Together
for girls**