Fund to End Violence Against Children: Theory of Change and Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Table of Contents

Introduction

The Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children (the Partnership) has established the Global Fund to End Violence Against Children (the Fund), a multi-donor trust fund with a challenge grant component, to support activities to achieve the vision of the Partnership: **a world in which every child grows up free from violence and exploitation**.

The Partnership aims to end violence against children by pursuing three long-term goals:

1. **Building political will**
2. **Accelerating action**
3. **Strengthening collaboration**

Specifically, the Fund provides financial support to programs and activities that further the Partnership's goal of accelerating action in three priority areas:

1. Preventing **online violence**, with a particular focus on sexual exploitation.
2. Addressing violence in the **every-day lives of children**, with an initial focus on investments in pathfinding countries to implement evidence-based programming.
3. Addressing the prevention of violence against children facing **conflict and crisis**.

Through "catalytic" investments the Fund aims to prove that evidence based programming yields tangible results and that there is an "investment case" to be made, in particular with regard to national resources.

The Fund Theory of Change

The Fund Theory of Change (TOC) builds on the Partnership TOC and articulates how a small investment in a national or subnational intervention can accelerate action by governments, donors, and other stakeholders to tackle the violence that children face.

Audience

The Fund TOC has been developed to serve as an outward-facing framework that enables the Steering Committee and other stakeholders to clearly communicate the Fund's activities and outcomes within the goals of the broader Partnership. The Fund TOC makes visual the manner in which a donor investment advances change, and may help potential donors better understand the Fund's grantmaking strategy and intended outcomes.

Approach to Developing the Fund Theory of Change

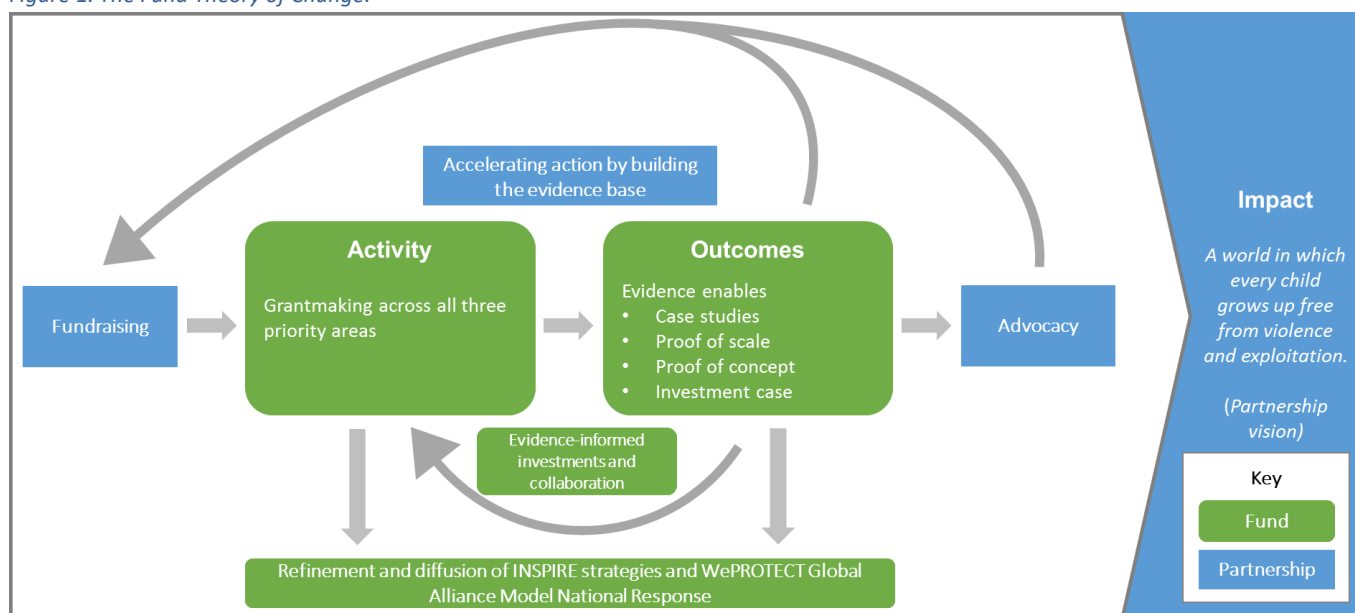The Fund TOC was developed through the following process:

- **Review of background information** including the Partnership business plan, the Partnership TOC, and the Fund's First Call for Proposals. See References for complete list of documents reviewed.

- **Kickoff meeting** with Partnership staff to better understand the relationship between the Fund and the Partnership, specific goals of the Fund, and audience for the TOC.
- **Ongoing conversations** with Fund staff to inform framing, limitations, and assumptions.
- **Mid-Point and End-Point conversations** with Partnership lead to validate design, framing, and identify gaps.
- **Synthesis** of input, discussions, and feedback.

Evidence Generation as a "Virtuous Cycle"

The Fund creates change by generating new evidence. This evidence informs future programming and enables Partnership activities related to fundraising and advocacy, as well as optimizing investments in future grantmaking. These relationships between Fund activities and outcomes, and the Partnership activities represent a "*virtuous cycle,*" or chains of events that reinforce themselves through feedback loops. See the Fund TOC below.

Figure 1. The Fund Theory of Change.

Diffusion of Model National Response and INSPIRE

Parallel to this cycle and its associated feedback loops, the Fund's grantmaking also diffuses the WePROTECT Global Alliance Model National Response and INSPIRE, evidence-based strategies to prevent violence against children. As grantees implement projects guided by the Model National Response and consistent with INSPIRE, governments and national and subnational actors will begin to coalesce around these strategies as tools to prevent violence against children.

Table 1. The six WePROTECT Global Alliance Model National Response capabilities.

Model National Response Capabilities
Policy and governance
Criminal justice
Victim (Survivor)
Societal
Industry
Media and communications

Table 2. The seven WHO INSPIRE Strategies.

INSPIRE Strategies
Implementation and enforcement of laws
Norms and values
Safe environments
Parent and caregiver support
Income and economic strengthening
Response and support services
Education and life skills

Underlying Assumptions and Preconditions for Success

In order for the Fund's "*virtuous cycle*" to deliver beneficial results, certain assumptions and preconditions must be met. These highlight the importance of the enabling environment that predicts how and whether the fund can achieve its intended outcomes.

- In order to create impact in all priority areas, the fund must be adequately resourced.
- The Fund remains small. If the Fund exceeds $100 million, the TOC will be revisited to reflect increased resources and capacity for impact.
- Future grantmaking will be structured similarly to the current program on prevention of online violence.
- The Fund's grantmaking strategy focuses on demonstrating the effectiveness of the intervention on the respective target audience for that intervention (e.g., community, national, regional).
- While monitoring and evaluation of grants will generate evidence to inform future programming, the rigor of that evidence will depend upon the rigor of program design and the extent to which it is aimed at responding to a particular research question (e.g., randomized trials, counterfactual analysis, etc.).

Applying the Theory of Change

The TOC diagram is a useful tool for identifying specific milestones and concepts that define the Fund's grantmaking strategy. The TOC diagram is intended to be a meta-visual, illustrating the universal (applying to all

priority areas) aspects of the Fund's work. Due to the diversity of contexts the Fund seeks to influence, outputs and medium-term outcomes will differ widely by priority area. For these reasons the TOC has been developed to identify four levels of change that apply to the Fund's grantmaking across priority areas. These are

1. **Individual change:** Children who live and play in each of the three contexts, children who are survivors of violence, and those who may be vulnerable to violence.
2. **Society change:** People who surround children's lives and make up the enabling environment in which children live (e.g., teachers, care givers, social workers, and service providers).
3. **Industry change**: Businesses and industries that impact the lives of children and have the potential, through improved standards or regulation, to make children safer.
4. **Systems change:** National or subnational systems that can protect children or enforce children's rights (e.g., legal and judicial systems, police, and media).

Logic Model

The logic model is a tool designed to provide additional context to support the TOC framework. Logic models include greater specificity and content detail behind each step or concept presented in the TOC diagram. The Fund logic model serves as an internal-facing, pragmatic tool for mapping inputs and activities required to support identified short-term outputs, mid-term outcomes, and long-term outcomes that the Partnership seeks to achieve through grantmaking.

The Fund logic model highlights the universal inputs and long-term outcomes of the Fund, while a "priority area pop out" diagram illustrates the outputs and outcomes specific to each priority area. As additional grantmaking evolves for the Every-day Life and Conflict and Crisis priority areas, "priority area pop outs" for each will be developed.
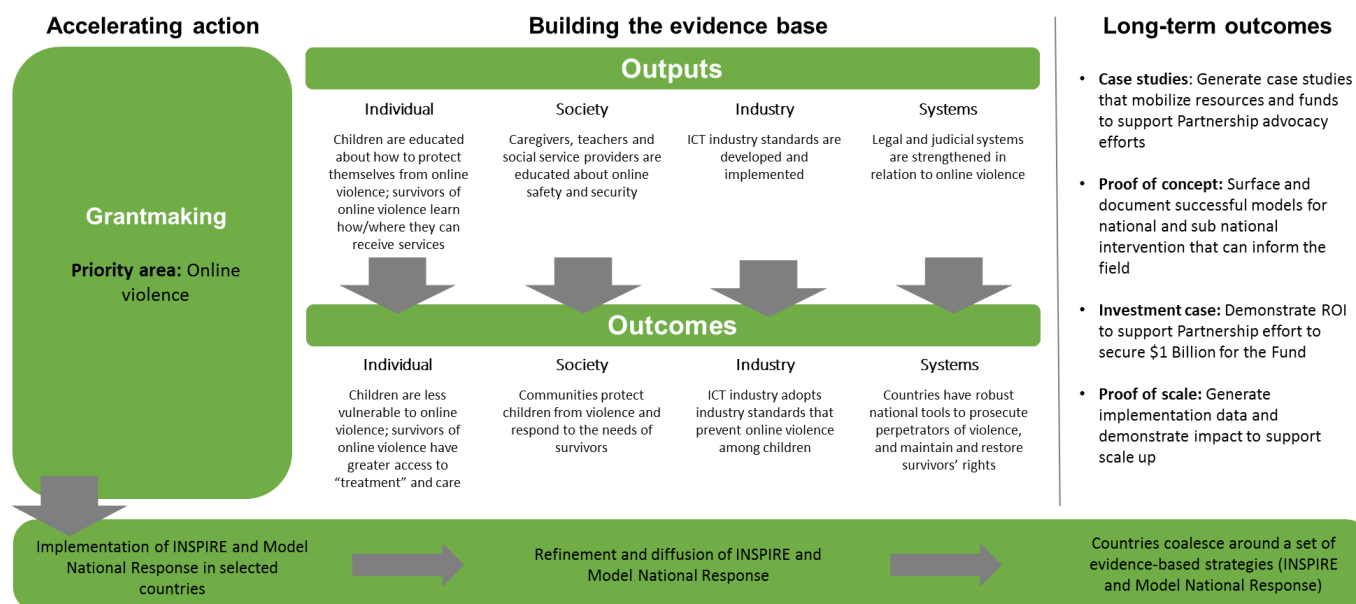
The overall logic model envisions the Fund's activities, outputs, and outcomes nestled within Partnership Goal 2.

Figure 2. The Fund overall logic model.

The "priority area pop out" unpacks the outputs and outcomes specific to each context, as described in Figure 3. The "pop out" TOC for the Online Violence priority area is described below. Similar "pop out" TOCs will be developed as grantmaking evolves for the other priority areas.

Figure 3. The Fund priority area pop out Theory of Change for online violence.

Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

The Fund Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework is presented in two parts. The highest-level M&E Framework is at the Fund level and is focused on monitoring progress across investment priorities related to the overall Fund Theory of Change. The second part is focused on grant-level monitoring to track progress of outputs, outcomes, and impact for each priority area.

Fund-Level Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

The Overall Fund M&E Framework provides a set of indicators and potential evaluation questions at the highest level of long-term outcomes targeted across the Fund's grantmaking priority areas. The purpose of this high-level M&E Framework is to monitor progress and test assumptions and hypotheses behind the virtuous cycle underlying the Fund TOC.

The M&E Framework identifies potential evaluation questions that can be refined and right-sized depending on available resources for M&E and information needs. The Framework assumes that the Fund will have opportunities to evolve grantmaking approaches and shape program design in order to develop more rigorous evidence of program effectiveness and respond to particular research questions (e.g., randomized control, counterfactual designs).

Across the three grantmaking priority areas, the Fund aims to achieve impact at scale by generating evidence from implementation to support expansion of successful models and the case for investment.

Figure 4. Overall Fund M&E Framework.

	Long-term outcomes	Indicators	Potential evaluation questions
Grantmaking across all three priority areas will support long-term outcomes	• **Case studies:** Generate case studies that mobilize resources and funds to support Partnership advocacy efforts	• % of Fund projects with case studies/evidence briefs documenting program implementation, outcomes, and best practices	• Does the Fund's grantmaking result in sufficiently robust evidence to support Partnership advocacy efforts?
	• **Proof of concept:** Surface and document successful models for national and sub national intervention that can inform the field.	• % of Fund projects implementing models that are endorsed as "evidence-based" by an impartial evidence review body • % of Fund projects using valid and reliable measurement tools developed to assess progress of child violence programs • Review of evidence completed on an annual basis and used to inform implementation guidance and best practices	• Is the evidence generated from the Fund's grantmaking sufficiently robust to inform national and sub-national implementation efforts? • How transferable are implementation models across country contexts? • To what extent do countries use evidence from Fund projects to inform broader implementation plans? • Is evidence sufficiently robust to support country resource commitments to maintain and expand interventions?
	• **Investment case:** Demonstrate ROI to support Partnership effort to secure $1 Billion for the Fund.	• Reports generated on an annual basis summarizing Fund investment costs, results, and opportunities for additional impact	• Does the Fund's grantmaking result in sufficiently robust evidence of the return on investment in child violence interventions to support Partnership advocacy goals?
	• **Proof of scale:** Generate implementation data and demonstrate impact to support scale up.	• Impact assessment completed in a subset of priority countries with sufficient investments across Fund priority areas to achieve impact at scale	• To what extent do investments in the three priority areas in a given country constitute a comprehensive approach with the potential for significant impact at scale towards the goal of ending child violence?
Implementation of INSPIRE and Model National Response in selected countries	• Countries coalesce around a set of evidence-based strategies (INSPIRE and Model National Response)	• # of countries that have comprehensively implemented at least two INSPIRE strategies or Model National Response (Common Fund and Partnership performance indicator)	• To what extent do INSPIRE strategies and Model National Response evolve to reflect new evidence from the field, including evidence from Fund investments?

Grantee-Level Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

The Priority Area Monitoring Framework provides a set of indicators for tracking outputs and outcomes at the grantee level within a particular priority area. The high-level nature of the indicators are designed to allow for flexibility and specification at the project level.

The monitoring framework serves as the basis for the development of reporting templates and guidance for consistent monitoring and reporting of progress. It also enables the aggregation of evidence of progress across the Fund's grantmaking. Grantees will be asked to align their monitoring plans with the Priority Area Monitoring Framework, with the opportunity to provide more specificity around indicator definitions and targets aligned within their specific project implementation plans. As grantmaking evolves for the other two priority areas (Every-day Life and Conflict and Crisis), similar frameworks will be developed to guide monitoring and reporting.

Framework 1: Online Violence

The Online Violence Priority Area aims to achieve impact through expanding knowledge of online safety among individuals and society, establishing industry standards, and strengthening systems to investigate and prosecute online violence and support survivors. The specific indicators proposed to track the progress of outputs, outcomes, and impact of these projects are identified in the following table.

Figure 5. The Fund online violence priority area monitoring framework.

	Level	Outputs	Output indicators: Grantee level	Outcomes	Outcome indicators: Grantee level	Impact indicators
Priority area: Online violence	**Individual**	• Children are educated about how to protect themselves from online violence • Survivors of online violence learn how/where they can receive services	• #/% targeted children engaged in education activities for online safety • Hotline/helpline or online reporting mechanisms established or strengthened • #/% targeted children with access to high quality, effective child-friendly resources about online safety	• Children are less vulnerable to online violence • Survivors of online violence have greater access to 'treatment' and care	• % of participants (or sample of children) who demonstrate increased knowledge of online safety • % of reported online violence survivors who are referred to survivor services	• # of reports of online violence involving children to hotline or online platform per 1000 population aged 18 and under (national statistic)
	Society	• Caregivers, teachers, and social service providers are educated about online safety and security	• #/% targeted community participants (parents, educators, child service providers) engaged in education activities for online safety for children • #/% targeted social service providers engaged in capacity building activities to support survivors of online violence • #/% targeted individuals reached through mass media/information/advocacy campaigns	• Communities protect children from violence and respond to the needs of survivors	• % of community participants (or sample of participants) who demonstrate increased knowledge of online safety and reporting mechanisms • % of social service provider participants (or sample of participants) who demonstrate increased technical skills to support survivors of online violence • % targeted policies changed/protocols and SOPs updated among child service provider organizations and institutions	• % of online violence survivors who receive support services
	Industry	• ICT industry standards are developed and implemented	• #/% targeted industry participants engaged in education activities related to online safety for children • #/% targeted industry partners that have agreed to ICT standards to protect children from online violence	• ICT industry adopts industry standards that prevent online violence among children	• % of industry participants (or sample of participants) who demonstrate increased knowledge of online safety and incident reporting mechanisms • % targeted ICT industry partners that have implemented functional safeguard and reporting mechanisms	• % of reported cases of online violence followed up by the removal of harmful internet content
	Systems	• Legal and judicial systems are strengthened in relation to online violence	• #/% targeted government officials, law enforcement, and judicial officers engaged in capacity building activities to prevent and prosecute online violence and support survivors • Multi-stakeholder body established to evaluate country capabilities and develop a national plan to prevent/prosecute online violence and support survivors • Review of legal framework, policies, regulations, government agency SOPs completed; gaps identified to prevent and prosecute online violence • National image database established and linked to international database.	• Countries have robust national tools to prosecute perpetrators of violence, and maintain and restore survivors' rights	• % of government participants (or sample of participants) who demonstrate increased technical skills to prevent and prosecute online violence and support survivors • Countries have comprehensive, multi-sectoral plans to prevent and prosecute online violence against children and support survivors • % targeted policies changed/laws revised/government agency protocols and SOPs updated to prevent and prosecute online violence against children and support survivors	• % of online violence investigations that proceed to indictment/ prosecution/ conviction

References

Call for Proposals 2016: Approved Projects. Unpublished internal documents.

End Violence Against Children: The Fund. "Fund Overview," 2016. Retrieved from http://www.end-violence.org/strategy.html.

End Violence Against Children: The Fund. "The Fund to End Violence Against Children: Call for Proposals 2016," 2016. Retrieved from http://fund.end-violence.org/sites/default/files/files/Call for Proposals Document_final.pdf.

End Violence Against Children: The Global Partnership. "Strategy: 2016-2020," Retrieved from http://www.end-violence.org/strategy.html.

End Violence Against Children: The Global Partnership. "About the Partnership," Retrieved from http://www.end-violence.org/about.html.

EndViolence. "Business Plan – Activities and Budget: 2017-2018," Revised 4 April. Unpublished internal documents.

"Global Partnership to End Violence against Children." *Partnerships for SDGs*. Accessed April 12, 2017. Retrieved from https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/partnership/?p=9061.

INSPIRE: Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children. Geneva, Switzerland, 2016. Retrieved from http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/207717/1/9789241565356-eng.pdf?ua=1.

Review of Potential to Quantify Investment in Violence Prevention in Terms of Return on Investment. 5 May 2016. Unpublished internal documents.

WePROTECT Global Alliance. "Preventing and Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (CSEA): A Model National Response," 2016. Retrieved from https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5630f48de4b00a75476ecf0a/t/582ba50bc534a51764e8a4ec/1479255310190/WePROTECT+Global+Alliance+Model+National+Response+Guidance.pdf.

WePROTECT Global Alliance. "The WePROTECT Global Alliance: Our Strategy to End the Sexual Exploitation of Children Online," 2016. Retrieved from https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5630f48de4b00a75476ecf0a/t/578408b5f7e0ab851b789e14/1479254482761/WePROTECT+Global+Alliance+Strategy.pdf.