
The Weekly Pulse

NEWS FROM ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS IN GLOBAL CHILD ADVOCACY



Vol. 105: First Focus Children’s Budget Book 2022, World Mental Health Day, & Bureau of International Labor Affairs Child Labor Reports.

October 10, 2022.

Quick Summary

The U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of International Labor Affairs published three reports on international child labor and forced labor. These Department of Labor reports are their “[Findings](#) on the Worst Forms of Child Labor”; “[List](#) of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor”, and “[List](#) of Products Produced by Forced or Indentured Child Labor.” Each report has a distinct mandate, focus, and set of implications, but taken collectively, they document the current situation of child labor, forced labor, and forced child labor around the world. The [Findings](#) on the Worst Forms of Child Labor report found that “This year, of the 131 countries and territories we assessed, nine countries—Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Ecuador,

Guatemala, Honduras, Jordan, and Uzbekistan—received the highest assessment of Significant Advancement.” Additionally, they found that twenty-two countries—Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas), Gabon, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyz Republic, Mali, Mauritania, Moldova, Montserrat, Pakistan, Saint Helena, Ascensión, and Tristán da Cunha, Somalia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Ukraine, Yemen, and Zimbabwe “implemented or maintained a law, policy, or practice related to access to education, the minimum age for work, labor inspection, impunity for perpetrators, criminal treatment of victims, or the recruitment and use of child soldiers that undermined advancement.” To read all three reports, click [here](#).

In honor of World Mental Health Day, UNICEF USA highlighted the importance of the MINDS Act (H.R. 3988) (S.2105). The MINDS Act supports “the integration of mental health services in U.S. foreign assistance programming, with a particular focus on children, their families, and other vulnerable populations.” Currently, the MINDS Act has 55 cosponsors in the House and new ones continue to be added. Additionally, InterAction has called on the House and Senate Leadership to take up the MINDS Act as a [priority bill](#). If you are an InterAction member, click [here](#) to add your name by October 14th.

[UNICEF USA](#), [World Vision](#), [Catholic Relief Services](#) and [Save the Children](#) also have petitions to Congress, which are seeking endorsements.

The Children’s Policy & Funding Initiative held its annual Grantee Workshop to review grantee joint actions, achievements, and future plans to make children and youth a higher priority in US foreign assistance. Accomplishments included developing **joint advocacy proposals** that call for child impact statements, better budget tracking, and a Cross-Agency Priority (CAP) goal by OMB; the inclusion – for **first time – of budget tracking requirements for funds supporting children and youth** as well as **mental health programs** in the FY2023 House and Senate State and Foreign Ops Appropriations Bills Report; and the creation of the Initiative’s **Youth Alliance Working Group** to increase youth engagement in developing priorities and in advocacy with policymakers. Click [here](#) to see a list of upcoming grantee events.

Spotlight

First Focus on Children held its annual Children’s Budget Summit 2022 and launched its 2022 Children’s Budget [Book](#). [Senator Ron Wyden, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee](#), kicked off the discussion with policymakers, experts, and advocates to analyze the report’s findings and its implications for future policy. **The White House**

Office of Management and Budget [Director Shalanda Young](#) joined the Summit in a recorded conversation with [Bruce Lesley](#), President of First Focus.

The Children's Budget report tracks federal spending in roughly 250 domestic and international programs. This was the first year First Focus began to track the impact of climate change, air pollution, toxic substances, pesticides, and other



areas of environmental health on children. The Children's Budget 2022 found that **the share of U.S. domestic and international spending on children “rose 21% over the last five years, making up 11.98% of all federal spending in FY 2022 (11.88% for domestic, 0.10% for international).** This share stands in stark contrast to pre-pandemic investments when the total share of federal spending on children was only 7.55% of the federal budget.” However, with inflation-adjusted, “dollars for children dropped nearly 17% between FY 2021 and FY 2022.”

Global crises, including the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, are upending the lives of children and youth around the world. In under-resourced parts of the world, this “confluence of challenges is undermining decades of progress to improve children's health and well-being. Children and young people internationally receive a minimal share of foreign assistance funding. **Only about \$.085 of every \$1 of foreign assistance investments benefitted children.**”

First Focus is holding another virtual event on **international investments for children and a tutorial on how to use ForeignAssistance.gov on Wednesday, October 12th, at 2 pm.** Representatives from USAID and the State Department will be in attendance. Click [here](#) to register for that event. To read the Children's Budget Book 2022, click [here](#).

Events

- The Early Childhood Development Action Network (ECDAN) [virtual event](#) “**The Climate Crisis: A Threat Multiplier for Violence Against Children.**” October 10, 2022, at 8:30 am ET.
- PLAN International [virtual forum](#) “**International Day of the Girl: 24-Hour Virtual Forum.**” October 11, 2022, at 6 am ET.

- Amplify Girls [virtual event](#) “**Girls’ Agency: In Their Own Words!**” October 11, 2022, at 8 am ET.
- Save the Children [webinar](#) “**Girls on the Frontline: Girls’ experiences of childhood marriage and conflict.**” October 11, 2022, at 10:30 am ET.
- The OECD Development Centre [webinar](#) “**DevTalks: Equal Rights Under Attack.**” October 11, 2022, at 11 am ET.
- UNICEF & The RISE Institute [webinar series](#) “**From Fragmented Fields to a Unity of Efforts for Early Childhood Development: The SDGs and Multisectoral ECD Monitoring and Evaluation Systems: Webinar #2: Population-level data and measurement of ECD: Global monitoring and reporting within the SDGs and collecting data through household surveys.**” October 12, 2022, at 8:30 am ET.
- First Focus, USAID & U.S. Department of State [virtual event](#) “**Tracking Investments for Children Internationally: A tutorial on navigating ForeignAssistance.gov.**” October 12, 2022, at 2 pm ET.
- UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS), UN Girls’ Education Initiative, & UKAID [virtual event](#) “**Launch of the Global Objectives On Girls’ Education Baseline Report.**” October 13, 2022, at 8 am ET.
- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) [virtual event](#) “**AAP Global Mental Health Summit.**” October 13, 2022, at 1 pm ET.
- WFF Global Youth Forum, the FAO Science and Innovation Forum, and the FAO Hand-in-Hand Investment Forum joint [summit](#) “**World Food Forum 2022.**” October 17-21, 2022.
- PLAN International [webinar](#) “**\$2.6 Billion for Global Gender Equality: What will USAID and State deliver?**” October 25, 2022 at 10 am ET.
- The Guardian Foundation Behind the Headlines [virtual event](#) “**Fostering resilience: Develop young people’s critical media literacy skills.**” October 27, 2022, at 11 am ET.
- Darkness to Light, the John Hopkins Bloomberg of Public Health, & the Moore Center for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse [in-person event](#) “**Envision National Prevention Conference.**” November 8-9, 2022.

Reports, Articles & Resources

- Out of the Shadows [report](#) “**Measuring progress towards a world free of child sexual violence.**”
- The Elevate Children’s Funder Group [report](#) “**Shifting the Field: Philanthropy’s Role in Strengthening Child & Youth Led Groups.**”
- YouthPower2 [blog post](#) “**How to Engage Young People in Online Community Events.**”

- YouthPower2 [report](#) “Youth Engagement and Co-creation: Approaches, Lessons, and Resources from USAID’s YouthPower 2 Collaboration Group.”
- The New Humanitarian [article](#) “Meet the Afghans determined to give women and girls an education.”
- WeProtect Alliance YouTube [playlist](#) “Voices of Survivors.”



Copyright © 2021 Tides Center, All rights reserved.