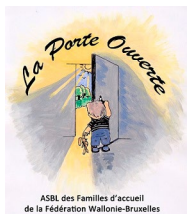


ALL CHILDREN COUNT BUT NOT ALL CHILDREN ARE COUNTED

An open letter to the UN Statistical Commission and
Inter-Agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators

Over 175 signatory organisations as of 30 March 2016







Defending rights,
creating futures



Jedava Ent



Uganda Reproductive
Health Bureau



The RISE Institute



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#leavenoonebehind

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The signatories of this document welcome Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Global Action and applaud all involved for including many of children's holistic needs, including health care, education, and protection from violence, exploitation, and abuse. We wholeheartedly support the intention to 'leave no one behind' in the post-2015 global development agenda. To ensure that this is so, it is important that the global monitoring framework includes mechanisms to assess the most vulnerable and hard to reach populations.

Indeed, all children count, but not all children are counted. As a result, some of the world's most vulnerable children – those without parental care or at risk of being so; in institutions or on the street; trafficked; separated from their families as a result of conflict, disaster or disability; or recruited into armed groups – have largely fallen off the UN's statistical map. There are only limited data about how many children live in such precarious circumstances, except for scattered estimates from some specific countries.

According to UNICEF's 2015 Progress for Children report,

"As the world prepares for a new development agenda, data and evidence will only increase in importance and national systems must be strengthened to meet new demands. The new data agenda will need to harness the potential of new technologies to collect, synthesize and speed up the use of data, and also reinvest efforts to ensure complete and well-functioning registration systems. The new data agenda will need to provide insight into the most vulnerable children, relying on household surveys that provide data regardless of whether or not a child attends school or is taken to a health facility, as well as developing new approaches for collecting information about children who are homeless, institutionalized or internally displaced."

With this in mind, we, the undersigned, recommend the following:

1. Ensure that children living outside of households and/or without parental care are represented in disaggregated data.

When assessing States' progress in improving the lives of children, living arrangements and caregiving environments are key markers for vulnerability, risk, and disadvantage. Children without parental care often experience abuse, neglect, lack of stimulation, and extreme and toxic stress, all of which have a profoundly negative effect on children's health, education, development, and protection.

If the Post-2015 agenda is to leave no one behind, it is essential that the global monitoring framework includes methodologies to ensure that children living outside of households and/or without parental care are represented and that data is used to inform targeted, appropriate, and accessible interventions.

Data disaggregation by care-giving setting/living arrangement is key to tracking progress for all children, particularly regarding Goals 1, 3, 4, 8, 10 and 16. This is critical to: a) analysing how trends differ between children living outside of households and/or without parental care and the general child population; and b) ensuring that programs and policies prioritize the most vulnerable children. Data collection should

reflect the goals and definitions included in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

2. Improve and expand data collection methodologies to ensure all children are represented.

The Committee on the Rights of the Child has urged all States to develop indicators and data collection systems consistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child. However, children living outside of households and/or without parental care are not covered in current mainstream data collection processes, which rely on household-based surveys such as the Demographic and Health Surveys (USAID) and the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (UNICEF). Innovative approaches must be developed to assess the conditions of the world's most vulnerable children. The global monitoring framework must include mechanisms to track progress for all children, including those who are currently invisible as the result of inadequate indicators and data collection systems.

The post-2015 global monitoring framework must establish mechanisms to integrate household-based data with additional information on children temporarily or permanently living outside of households. In some countries, such data already exist although, to date, such data have not been routinely collected or analyzed.

The post-2015 global monitoring framework offers an opportunity to do more and better on behalf of the world's most vulnerable children – ensuring, first and foremost, that they are no longer invisible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Abibimman Foundation
AbleChildAfrica
ActionAid International Rwanda
ADD International
ADILISHA: Children, Youth & Family Preservation
African Child Policy Forum
African Institute for Child Studies
*Alianza Latinoamericana y Caribeña de Juventudes**
Alliance for Children Mauritius
Alliance for Development
Alliance for Parenting Education in Africa
Amankay Instituto de Estudos e Pesquisas
American Academy of Pediatrics
Another Hope Children's Ministries
Association des Jeunes Solidaires de l'Afrique
*A.J.S.A.**
Association for Childhood Education International
*Association for Promotion Sustainable Development India**
ATD Fourth World
*Barcha**
Bethany Christian Services
Better Care Network
Buckner - Peru
Campaignon D'Action Pour le Developpement

Familial (CADF-ONG)
*Candid Concepts Development**
Care for Children
Casa Viva - Costa Rica
CBM
*Centre for Human Rights and Climate Change Research - Nigeria**
*Centre for Youth Development and Adult Education**
CESVI
Child Helpline International
Child in Family Focus - Kenya
Child Restoration Outreach (CRO) - Uganda
Child Rights Coalition Asia
Childcare Rwanda
ChildFund Alliance
Childhood Development Trust Fund Network
Children Agenda Forum - Kenya
Children at Risk Action Network (CRANE)
Children with Disability - Australia
Christian Alliance for Orphans
Christine Akwero Foundation (CAF) - Uganda
Collective Community Action
Columbia University - Columbia Group for Children in Adversity
Columbia University – Mailman School of Public

health

Comité de los Derechos del Niño - Uruguay
*Community Active In Development Association (CADA)**
Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute
Consortium for Street Children
Construons Ensemble le Monde (ONG CEM)
Convention pour l'Emergence du Sénégal - Coalition
*Agenda Post2015 (C.E.S.-C.A.P2015)**
Corporación OPCIÓN
CPC Learning Network
Crece con Justicia
Danielle Childrens Fund
Defence for Children International (DCI)
Defensa de Niñas y Niños Internacional (DNI) Costa Rica
Disability Rights International
Dogodogo Centre Street Children Trust
Elevate Children Funders Group
ENFOQUE Niñez
*Essl Foundation**
EU-CORD
Eurochild
European Association For Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD)
European Foundation Centre (EFC)
European Network on Independent Living (ENIL)
*Ezra Ministries of Tanzania**
Family for Every Child
Firelight Foundation
First Step - Cambodia
For Our Children Foundation
Foster Care India
Friends of Education for African Children Orphaned by AIDS
Fundacion Kidsave Colombia
GARJAN-Nepal
GHR Foundation
Global Alliance for Children (GAC)
Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children
*GlobalPartnersUnited**
Global Social Service Workforce Alliance
Goal Ireland Kenya
*Good Health Community Programmes**
*Grand River South East Youth Circle**
Group For Transcultural Relations, GRT
*Heshima Kenya**
Hope and Homes
Hope Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship
Human Dignity Foundation
Human Rights Watch
Inclusion International
Independent Living Programme for People with

Disabilities

International Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates
International Foster Care Organisation (IFCO)
International Social Service - Australia
International Social Service - Canada
International Social Service - Netherlands
International Social Service - USA
International Social Service -Switzerland
International Society on Early Intervention
International Step by Step Association (ISSA)
IntraHealth International
Investing in Children and their Societies
Isman Women Initiative Support Organisation (ISMAN)
*Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement Nepal (JVE NEPAL)**
Jo'burg Child Welfare
*Kakamega CSOs Network**
KEDEN-Alliance for Community Survival
*Kenya Counselling & Psychological Association**
Kidasha (formerly: Child Welfare Scheme)
KidSave
*La Porte Ouverte asbl**
Lango Samaritan Initiative Organization (LSIO)
Leonard Cheshire Disability
Light for the World
Literate Pakistan Programme - A project of NCLSW,
*Better Education for All - Pakistan**
Little Angels Network
Lumos
M'Lop Tapang
Maestral
Make Mothers Matter - MMM
Masizame Child & Youth Care Centre
Mouvement Africain Des Enfants et Jeunes Travailleurs (MAEJT)- Central African Republic
*Movimiento Salvavidas**
National Foster Care Association Malta - NFCAM
*National Youth Parliament**
*Ndenuka Education Centre**
New Light Children Center Organization
OAfrica
Oak Foundation
Parenting in Africa Network
*Parenting Uganda**
Partnership for Early Childhood Development & Disability Rights (PECDDR)
Patronato pro-home child irapuato, a.c. (Villa Infantil)
Peoples' Development Forum (PDF)
Phoenix Child Welfare
Psychosocial Support Centre ltd
Reacción Climática - Bolivia

Red een Kind
 Red Latinoamericana de Acogimiento Familiar
 RELAF
 REPSSI
 REPSSI Uganda
 RETRAK
 Resources Aimed at the Prevention of Child Abuse
 and Neglect
 Restorative Justice Centre
 Restoring and empowering communities (REC)*
 RIATT – ESA
 Rural Women Development Initiative
 S.A.L.V.E. International
 SA Cares for Life
 Safe Child Africa
 Save the Children
 Sedava Enterprises
 Sightsavers
 So They Can
 So They Can - Kenya
 Society "Our Children" Opatija - Croatia
 SOS Children's Villages
 SOS Children's Villages - Lesotho
 SPOON Foundation
 Tanzania Community Based Option for Protection
 and Empowerment Organisation (TACOPE)*
 TASH
 Technical Support Unit Ltd
 Terres des Hommes
 The Education Support Program, Open Society
 Foundation*
 The Foundation for Tomorrow*
 The Life Hood of Children and Development Society
 (LICHIDE)*
 The RISE Institute
 TRE for Africa Foundation
 Uganda Muslim Supreme Council (UMSC)
 Uganda Reproductive Health Bureau
 Umtata Child Abuse Resource Centre (UCARC)
 UNESCO Center for Global Education
 Upendo Daima Project for Street Children
 Vela Microboard Association
 Viva
 Voice Of Young Mothers
 VSO International
 We are the Present
 Wereldkinderen
 World Childhood Foundation
 World of Inclusion
 Young Mothers Support Group*
 Young Strong Mothers Foundation
 Youth Against Debt - Eastern Visayas Chapter*
 Youth Environment Network
 Youth for Peace International

Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA)
 Youth Revolution Clan (Y.R.C.)*

*logo unavailable