

INSPIRE Implementation Working Group Meeting

7 September 2023

Virtual Meeting



INSPIRE

Seven Strategies for Ending Violence Against Children

Contents

Purpose and objectives	1
Developments on the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children	2
The INSPIRE Evidence update	3
Brokering requests for technical assistance	4
The capacity-building plan	5
Strengthening INSPIRE engagements	6
The INSPIRE communications strategy	7
Next steps	10
Appendix 1: List of participants	11



CDC	The Center for Disease Control and Prevention
CPC Learning Network	Child Protection in Crisis Learning Network
GBV	Gender-based Violence
IPV	Intimate Partner Violence
ISS	Institute for Security Studies
IWG	Implementation Working Group
MOOC	Massive Open Online Course
PEPFAR	President's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief
UNODC	United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAC	Violence Against Children
VAW	Violence Against Women
WHO	World Health Organization



The Implementation Working Group (IWG), established to support the roll-out of *INSPIRE: Seven strategies for ending violence against children*, held its third quarterly meeting of 2023 on 7 September (see Appendix 1 for a list of participants).

Purpose and objectives

The meeting had the following objectives:

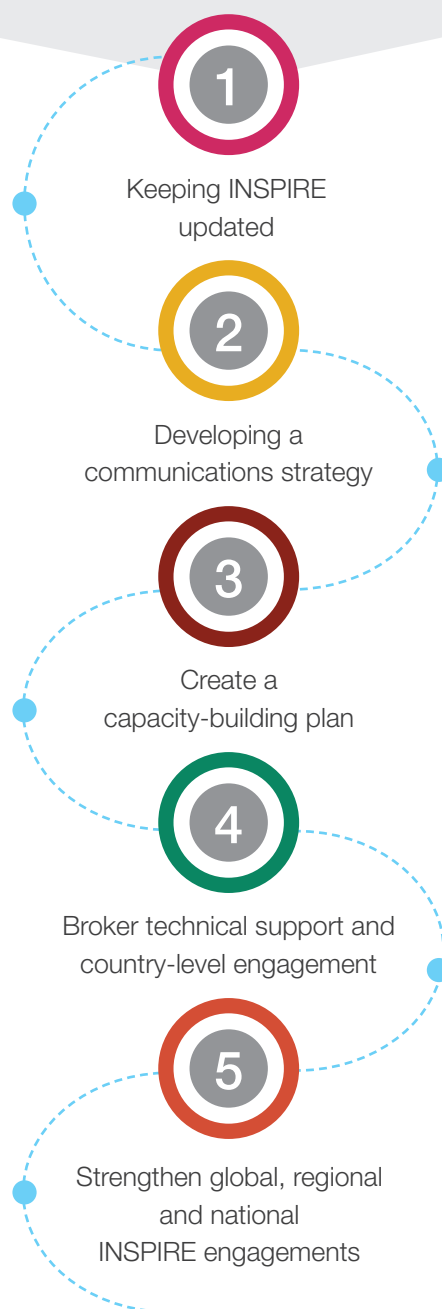
- For IWG members to reconnect and share developments and highlights
- Take stock of the IWG's progress on the five priority areas.



Sustainability of the coordination of the Working Group

At the June meeting of the Working group concern was raised about the continuity of the ISS as coordinator. Since then USAID, through the WHO has made a contribution to the coordination function of INSPIRE that will enable the ISS to continue in this role in 2024.

The five priority areas for 2023 are:



The Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children developments

The Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children (abbreviated to the Global Partnership) is one of the core signatures of INSPIRE. The Global Partnership played a central role in the positioning of INSPIRE. INSPIRE and Pathfinding are closely aligned.

The IWG is aware that the Global Partnership is transitioning and this has implications for INSPIRE going forward. Dr Howard Taylor provided an update on the Global Partnership's transition and key developments from 2022–2023.

The Global Partnerships key initiatives are transitioning as follows:

- 1 Pathfinding will transition to the UN Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children, Dr Najat Maalla M'jid.
- 2 Ending Corporal Punishments has transitioned and will be hosted by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- 3 The Positive Parenting work will continue within the Global Partnership until existing funds are dispersed.
- 4 The Safe to Learn initiative has transitioned to UNICEF.
- 5 Safe Online will continue to be hosted by UNICEF.
- 6 The products developed in the Childhood Sexual Violence and Investment case will be shared with partners.
- 7 A multi-stakeholder group is discussing the possibility of forming a new coalition to advance the global agenda of ending VAC.

All initiatives aim to be fully transitioned by the end of September 2023.

A full statement on the Global Partnerships' transition can be accessed [here](#).

INSPIRE evidence update

The CDC provided a progress report on the INSPIRE evidence update. The WHO and CDC are leading this work.

The evidence update has three objectives:

- To systematically identify evidence reviews on the impact of INSPIRE interventions published from 2010.
- To provide clear recommendations on which interventions should be prioritised for scale-up.
- To identify evidence gaps and areas where higher quality evidence is necessary.

A total of 22 105 records, including grey literature, have been identified through a comprehensive data search. Title-abstract screening is currently underway.



UNICEF Innocenti sought clarity on whether the update would include the intersections between intimate partner violence (IPV) and VAC. CDC reminded the IWG that the research protocol for the update is available for [viewing online](#). The review will include studies that captured IPV as a secondary outcome to VAC.

The University of Oxford emphasised that the majority of studies focusing on the intersections between IPV and VAC are either a) very recent, b) not yet published, or c) not yet captured in systemic reviews and will, therefore, not be included in the current INSPIRE update.

CDC stated that there is still an intention to include a crosswalk between VAC and VAW, as agreed upon at the 2022 Geneva meeting. The screening of each study and the completion of the update to the 'income and economic strengthening' strategy for IWG input is hoped to be completed by December 2023.

Since the meeting, UNICEF, CDC and others have met and shared resources that will strengthen the evidence update, including on the intersections between VAW and VAC.



UNICEF, CDC and others have shared resources that will strengthen the evidence update on the intersections between VAW and VAC

Brokering requests for technical assistance

The Working Group was reminded about the procedure for sharing technical requests.

If a Working Group member receives a request and would like to draw on the support of others in the working group, they should alert the coordinator to the request. The coordinator will inform the secretariat of the request and reach out to institutions and individuals in the IWG who may meet the need. The coordinator will record all requests and the outcome thereof (Figure 1).

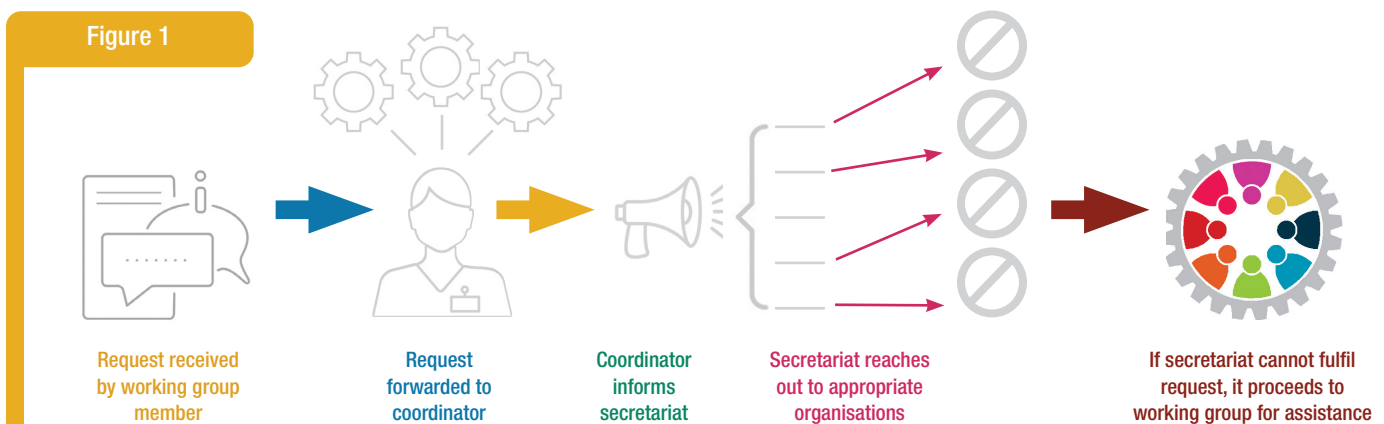
The procedure was discussed and it was agreed that since many WG organisations provide technical support as part of their mandate, the protocol should also be followed if support to meet the requested need involves more than one IWG member. The intention is for this to be an opportunity to harness the collective resources of the IWG. Brokering requests for technical assistance is also an opportunity to:

- Disseminate the MOOC.
- Document adaptations and scale-up efforts in countries.
- To act as a thinking partner for countries.



The ISS asked whether the recording of requests was useful for IWG members. Joining Forces agreed that it would be helpful for the organisation to see what was taking place and if they could offer support in some way. USAID agreed, saying it would be a valuable tool to see where requests are coming from and to use it to advocate for funds.

The IWG agreed it would be helpful for the coordinator to continue tracking requests, and agreed that broader selection criteria should be developed by the secretariat for review by the IWG.





Most MOOC users are female, have an advanced degree and are based in the USA. Users are from 135 countries

The capacity-building plan

INSPIRE-related capacity building is based on the following:

- The dissemination of the [MOOC](#)
- INSPIRE trainers
- Dissemination of the existing training materials

Disseminating training materials and the MOOC will contribute to further awareness and hopefully, uptake of the INSPIRE package. Most of the progress in relation to capacity-building pertains to the MOOC. CPC [provided updates](#) on the MOOC:

- CPC has received analytics on MOOC users, course completion and enrolment. Most MOOC users are female, have an advanced degree and are based in the USA. Users are from 135 countries.
- The MOOC will be reviewed in mid-late 2024 for additional changes and updates in accordance with the INSPIRE evidence update.
- The CPC is exploring options to increase access to the MOOC and welcomes suggestions from the IWG.
- In the short to mid-future, CPC will release a MOOC learner survey to assess quality and learning.

- There are plans to translate the MOOC into French and Spanish.

The IWG offered the following suggestions about MOOC dissemination:

- Try to get the MOOC listed alongside other child protection courses. Incorporating the MOOC into curricula would be ideal.
- The timing of MOOC dissemination could be more strategic, for example, when countries start developing national action plans.
- Obligatory course completion can also facilitate completion, e.g., before in-country INSPIRE training.

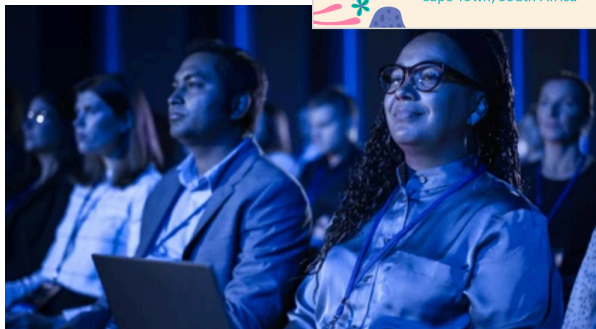
There remains an intention to interview the people trained as trainers. USAID will support the IWG by providing interns to follow up with people who have been trained. The coordinator will meet with USAID to action this two weeks after the meeting.

Discussions between CPC and UNICEF are underway to explore how the MOOC can be integrated onto AGORA, UNICEF's online training platform.



The conversation on strengthening INSPIRE engagement centered on two key points.

- Developing a process for identifying and engaging in INSPIRE dissemination and uptake.
 - It was suggested to regularly map existing or upcoming engagements at global, regional and national levels.
 - Upcoming opportunities for 2024 include the Global Ministerial Conference, SVRI Conference and Parenting Summit.
 - There was a suggestion to produce a second version of the [INSPIRE Uptake Report](#) published in 2021.
 - USAID suggested developing an INSPIRE/IWG kit consisting of a slide deck on the IWG objectives and five priority activities, a factsheet and FAQs. USAID, the University of Oxford and the ISS have met to action this and development of the material is currently underway.



The INSPIRE communications strategy


This session continued the communication strategy as discussed at the Cape Town meeting.

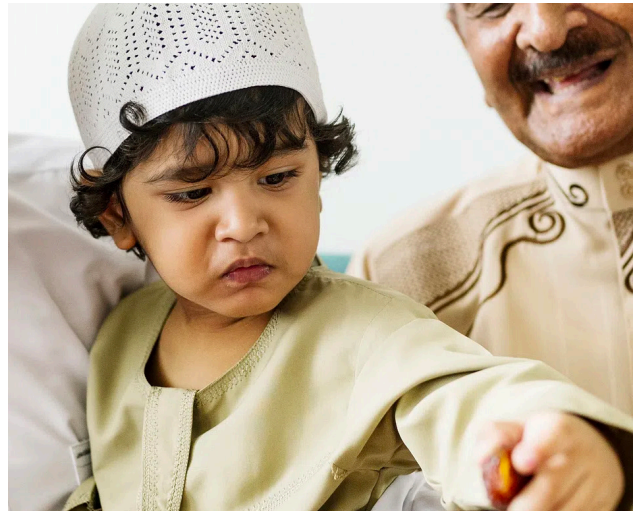
At that meeting, the IWG identified key audiences for communication:



- Institutional donors
- High-net-worth individuals
- NGOs and civil society actors at both global and national levels

- Countries that have not yet taken up INSPIRE
- UN country offices and teams
- Academics who can help build up the evidence.



The IWG conducted a [virtual activity](#) to determine who in the key audiences should be targeted and when. The activity is captured in the table below.

Key audiences	What messages do we need to communicate to each audience?	What/when are the key opportunities to communicate these messages? And by whom?
<p>Institutional donors</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INSPIRE is evidence-based. • Adopting INSPIRE as your frame of reference for VAC prevention will enhance your effectiveness. • Violence can be prevented – solutions exist! • VAC continues to be of concern in this changing world. INSPIRE can help governments to prevent and respond. • We have enough evidence to act but we need to continue investing to improve evidence and fill gaps. • It is possible to prevent VAC but we need to focus on the quality of implementation, particularly for scale-up. • Countries are using INSPIRE to real effect in policy and programming. • Investment in eliminating VAC through INSPIRE is a smart return on investment. • We need to focus on behaviour and on norms (including gender norms) that condone violence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNGA • USG State Department Ambassadors annual convening • Whenever we engage with donors about VAC, INSPIRE should be mentioned as the overarching framework. • Conferences • G8 Meetings • EU Meetings • Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting




Key audiences	What messages do we need to communicate to each audience?	What/when are the key opportunities to communicate these messages? And by whom?
Institutional donors <i>cont.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We still need more evidence for emerging interventions – don't let INSPIRE's success minimise importance of supporting research into those emerging interventions. 	
High-net-worth individuals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have enough evidence to act but we need to continue investing to improve evidence and fill gaps. The gaps in evidence that continue to need new innovations, evaluation and testing. It is possible to prevent VAC but we need to focus on the quality of implementation, particularly for scale-up. Linking to their current investment plans; thus doing a strategic approach to different agencies illustrating the INSPIRE added value. Focus on promoting 1 strategy - one of most interest to the donor (and mention the other 6). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social media In-person meetings/trainings Leveraging networks
NGOs and civil society actors at both global and national levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> INSPIRE isn't a single tool. It is a compilation of programmes that can be adapted, and it evolves. Don't see your programme here? Let's talk! INSPIRE can help your existing programmes. Evidence based of what approaches can work and how the various stream in INSPIRE work together. INSPIRE is built on global best practices – not USA/'western' interventions exclusively. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning exchanges ISS quarterly webinars NGO networks, newsletters and events



Key audiences	What messages do we need to communicate to each audience?	What/when are the key opportunities to communicate these messages? And by whom?
<p>Countries that have not yet taken up INSPIRE</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impact of INSPIRE on SDG indicators. • Understand what they are doing already – and promote the national strategy or INSPIRE strategies already in place. • Countries are using INSPIRE to real effect in policy and programming (+ case studies) • How to support evidence-based approaches to end violence in their country and evaluate their effectiveness. • We need to focus on Behaviour and on norms (including gender norms) that condone violence. • Share other INSPIRE country experiences e.g. Columbia. • INSPIRE is built on global best practices – not USA/‘western’ interventions exclusively. • You don’t have to do all the interventions in INSPIRE but really consider which ones are the best for your country and the gaps you have identified. • Suggest a needs analysis first: figure out what that country is doing, what it is not doing and then working with them. • INSPIRE exists and can add value to all of your efforts by anchoring them in evidence and helping you access interagency support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remind countries that they are probably already doing many of the things that INSPIRE suggests, and they just need to bring those together • WHO Ministerial Conference • Regional health Meetings • When countries are developing national development plans for children • Global policy-making meetings such as the World Health Assembly and UNGA • When the politicians are campaigning • Finding opportunities to integrate with basic needs, or for countries viewing children’s needs from sectors rather than VAC • Targeting the education sector, taking advantage of current programmes/ operations at national level
<p>UN country offices and teams</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There’s no need to reinvent the wheel – INSPIRE exists and is a ready-made frame of reference. • Support governments in the implementation and “how” in delivering evidence-based approaches. • Promote evidence-based approaches and question those that don’t have an evidence base. • Are the programs that you are supporting evidence-based? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WHO Ministerial Conference • Webinars • Regional meetings, especially Child Protection meeting. Get an accessible and easy to understand person advocating for INSPIRE. Show how neighbouring countries have succeeded • Regional bodies – AU, SAIEVAC, ASEAN • When offices are starting new programmes



Key audiences	What messages do we need to communicate to each audience?	What/when are the key opportunities to communicate these messages? And by whom?
UN country offices and teams <i>cont.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ending VAC is the task of multiple sectors since it involves modifying underlying causes and risk factors. INSPIRE is measurable! You can show results in the short, medium and long-term. 	
Academics who can help build up the evidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaps in research/evidence which need further evaluation. How to get engaged with folks working on promising programmes/interventions that need to be rigorously evaluated. There are exciting new digital tools to explore how VAC impacts multiple sectors and are critical for development. Before embarking on new research, look at existing research agendas that have collectively and participatorily identified priority research questions. Communicate that VAC – INSPIRE are life-saving solutions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conferences Webinars Annual conventions of specialty societies <div style="border: 1px dashed blue; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>The ISS' communications experts will consider the findings from the communication strategy exercise to determine the next steps</p> </div>



The next steps

In concluding the meeting, the INSPIRE coordinator outlined the next steps before the final quarterly meeting in December 2023:

- The ISS will produce a meeting report and circulate it to the IWG for input.
- A decision will be made regarding the hosting and location of the 2024 annual in-person INSPIRE meeting.
- The secretariat will develop criteria for recording requests for assistance from countries.
- The coordinator will log all INSPIRE related events.
- The ISS Communications person will draft a communications strategy.

Appendix 1: List of participants

IWG members represented at the meeting held online on 7 September 2023:

INSPIRE Secretariat members:

- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Institute for Security Studies (ISS)
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- The Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children
- Care and Protection of Children Learning Network (CPC)
- Joining Forces Alliance

INSPIRE Implementation Working Group members:

- Oxford University
- Violence Prevention Alliance Jamaica
- Together for Girls
- Universidad de los Andes
- USAID
- Red por la Infancia
- University of Edinburgh
- World Bank
- Plan International
- UNICEF Innocenti
- World Vision International
- Child Protection Network Foundation, Inc
- The U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

*The IWG is made of the secretariat and the INSPIRE working group





Image credits

	Page
WHO	Cover
AdobeStock.....	Inside cover
AdobeStock.....	1
Olivier Girard/The Global Financing Facility (top).....	3
Carsten ten Brink/Flickr (bottom)	3
Lead Beyond/Flicker.....	4
IICD/Flicker	5
Dreamstime	6
Raw Pixel	8
AdobeStock.....	10
AdobeStock (top).....	Back cover
Raw Pixel (bottom).....	Back cover



This report is funded by the ISS