

# ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN IS POSSIBLE!



OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON  
**VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN**

15 years of Advocacy

Together For & With Children



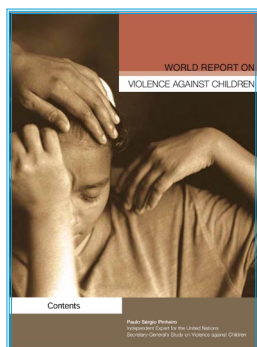
# 15 YEARS AGO

Following the **establishment of the mandate by General Assembly Resolution 62/141** in December 2007 and the appointment of the **Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children** in May 2009.

This mandate, framed by the **UN Study on Violence Against Children**, also leads the implementation of the **UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty** and emphasizes the urgency of implementing the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**.

As a global advocate dedicated to preventing and eradicating all forms of violence against children, **the Special Representative serves as a vital link and catalyst for action across regions, sectors, and settings where such violence may occur.**

She mobilizes support and political will to sustain momentum on this agenda and raise awareness of the detrimental impacts of violence on children. Additionally, she works to foster behavioral and social changes necessary for meaningful progress.



2006

*UN Study on Violence Against Children.*

**“No violence against children is justifiable and all violence against children is preventable”**



2007-2009

*The mandate of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children is established and the first mandate holder is appointed*



2015

*Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*



2019

*UN Global Study on Violence against Children*

**15 years of advocacy to end VAC**

# ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

## CANNOT WAIT

Despite numerous strides made in safeguarding children from violence, their vulnerability to and exposure to violence continues to increase worldwide, exacerbated by multifaceted and intersecting crises. Shockingly, **over half of the world's children encounter some form of violence annually.**

**The repercussions of violence against children are profound and enduring, constituting an intergenerational dilemma.**



# INVESTING IN CHILD PROTECTION AND WELL-BEING:

## AN ACCELERATOR FOR SDGs

Only six years remain until the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) deadline, yet the world needs to catch up on most SDG targets.

The drivers and the forms of VAC are multidimensional and interlinked, echoing the inter-linkages among SDGs and the importance of an integrated approach to implementing the 2030 Agenda.



We cannot hope to end violence against children if harmful social norms, poverty, social inequalities, gender discrimination, hunger, lack of access to health/education/justice/ social protection/decent work and living conditions, and humanitarian crises are not addressed.

Equally, **progress toward Agenda 2030 will be impeded if we do not end violence against children.** Investing in children's protection and well-being must be made to ensure people-focused development across the life cycle, with children and families at its core.

# ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

## IS POSSIBLE

The solutions exist to prevent and respond to VAC. We have more and more evidence-based and cost-effective solutions that, unfortunately, are siloed and not scaled up.

We know that effective violence prevention and child protection require addressing the root causes and drivers of violence at the same time as ensuring a chain of services.



We know that child sensitive and gender responsive protection systems must be fully embedded in national and local development plans.

# ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN MAKES ECONOMIC SENSE

Violence Against Children has enormous economic costs. Investing in child protection, development, and well-being has a high return and makes economic sense.



National studies have estimated that violence against children has economic costs of up to **5% of GDP**.



The costs of immediate and long-term physiological and psychological consequences of violence could save up to **\$393 billion annually**.



Ending child marriage could save up to **\$17 billion a year by 2030**.

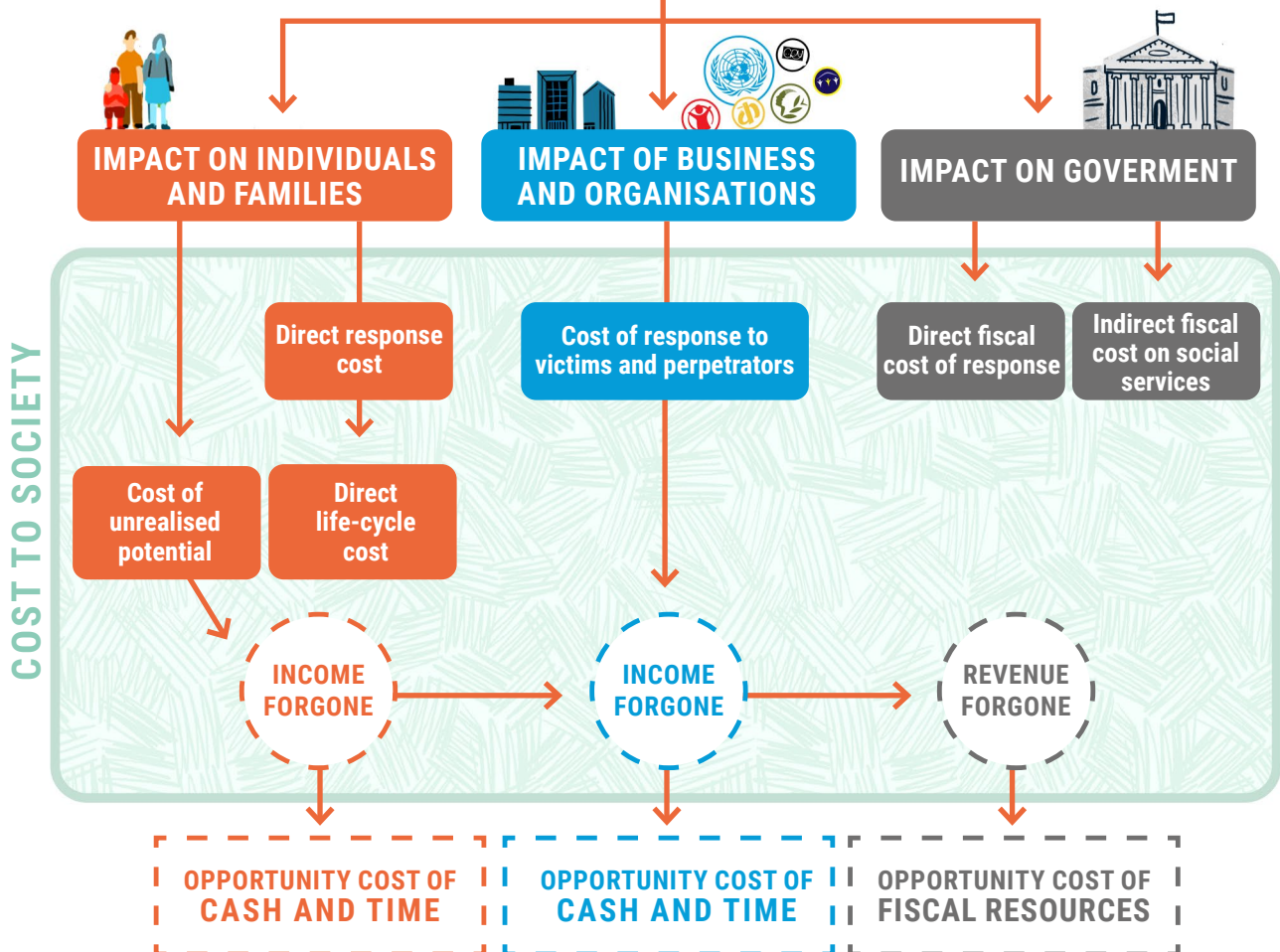


Ending violence in and around schools will save up to **\$11 trillion of lifetime earnings**.



If all children completed their schooling, national productivity income would increase by **between 4% and 14%**

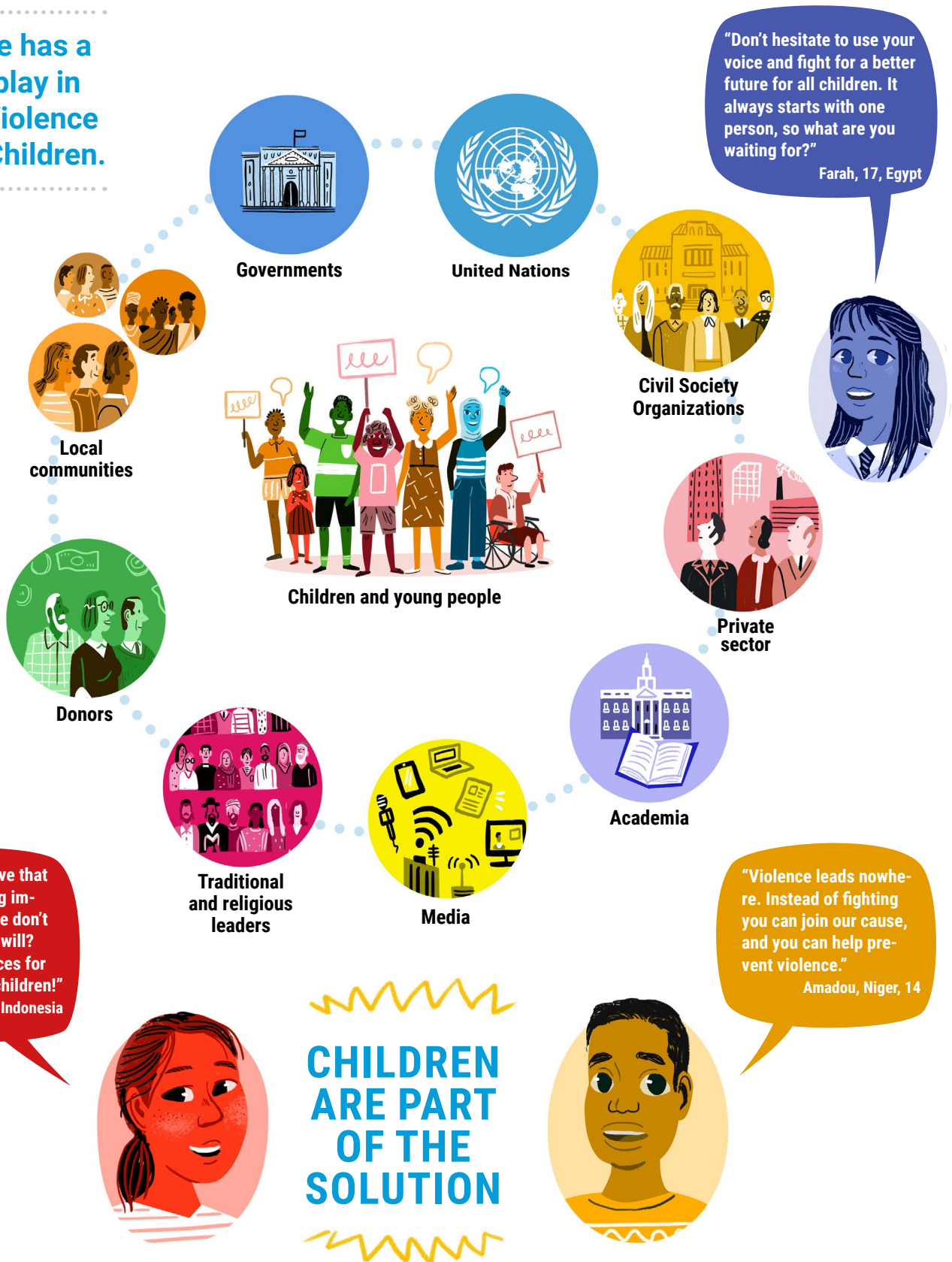
## COST OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN



# LET'S ACT TOGETHER NOW

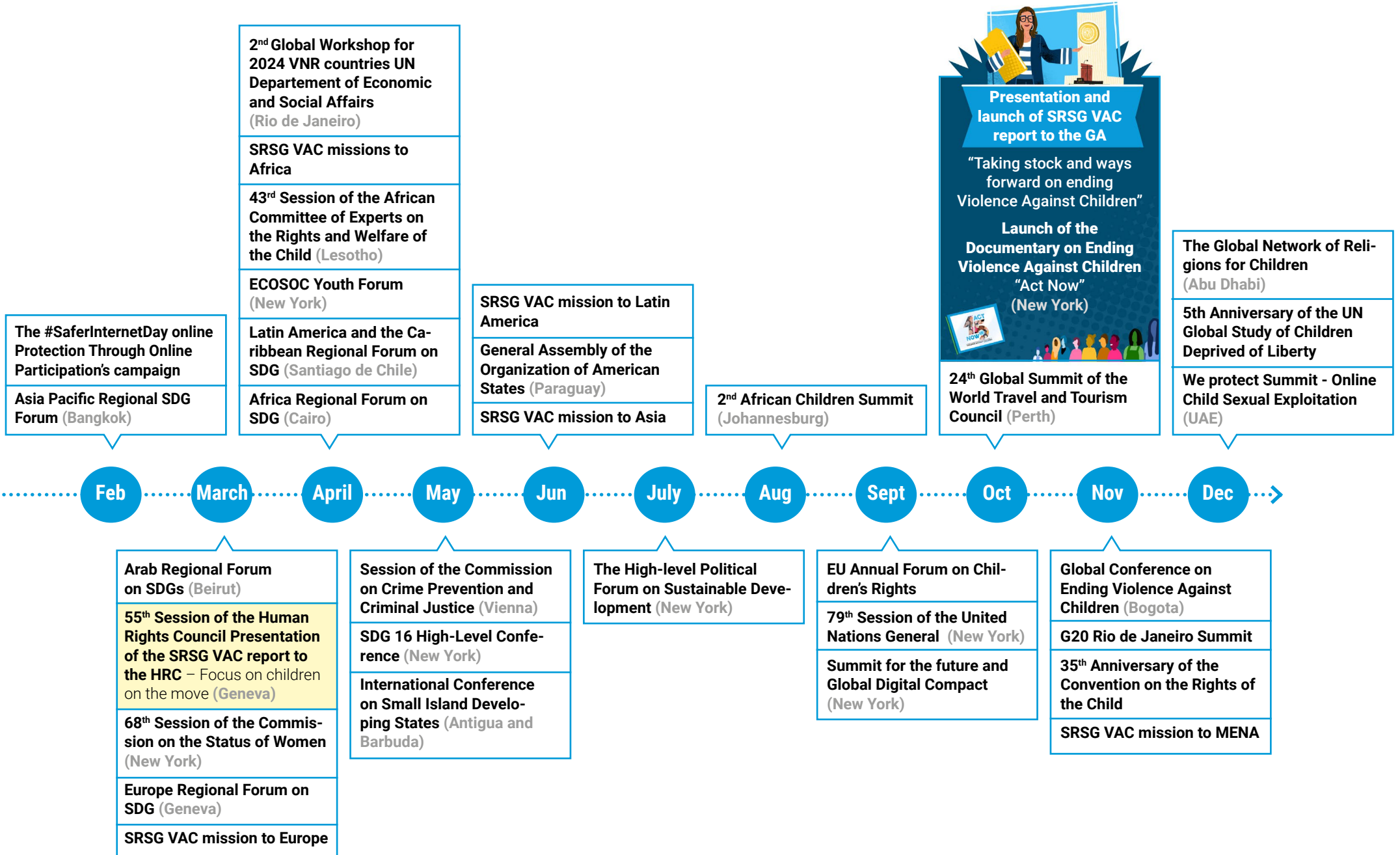
## FOR AND WITH CHILDREN

Everyone has a role to play in ending Violence Against Children.





# 2024: MILESTONES ADVOCACY MOMENTS





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#ActNOWToEndVAC

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