



RESOURCES FOR ADULTS ENGAGING WITH CHILDREN: HOW THE CLIMATE CRISIS AFFECTS VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

For the office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children (SRSG-VAC), children's participation is a key component of her mandate and a cross-cutting priority*. Throughout different actions the SRSG-VAC promotes a culture of meaningful and representative child participation, where children, as key stakeholders in all matters concerning their safety and wellbeing, are also actors and agents of change in the development of integral protection systems. A key aspect of a culture of meaningful participation is bridging the gap between children who are taking actions and decision makers, by facilitating access to information that can be used by children to input their own actions and initiatives, and that has been adapted to fit children's needs.

The following resource has been developed to support those who engage with children, to help educate on the relationship between the climate crisis and violence against children. It combines educational materials that have been developed by the office of the SRSG-VAC, with the goal of making this information available to children in an accessible and child-friendly format.



WHAT DOES CHILD-FRIENDLY MEAN?

Children have the right to seek and access information, especially that 'aimed at the promotion of their social, spiritual and moral well-being and physical and mental health'**. For this right to be implemented it isn't enough to make the information available: It needs to be packaged in an accessible format for children.

Child-friendly content is content that has been 'made' or developed for children, keeping in mind their age, their evolving capacities, their right to be protected from all forms of violence, their language, and accessibility and limitations amongst other aspects.

The following documents contains child friendly materials, together with additional resources that should support practitioners when engaging with children on how the climate crisis affects violence against children.

CHILD FRIENDLY VERSION OF SRSG-VAC'S REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2022: A SAFE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR AND WITH ALL CHILDREN



In order to empower children with information regarding how the climate crisis affects violence against children, we have developed a child friendly version of the report 'A safe and healthy environment for and with all children'. The report includes an explanation of the issue, and the main key messages on how to address the climate crisis placing children at the center.



Click or scan to access the report.

You can also go directly to our website violenceagainstchildren.un.org, click on 'Child Participation', and then on 'Child Friendly materials'

HOW THE CLIMATE CRISIS AFFECTS VAC: EXPLANATORY VIDEOS



Because the connection between the climate crisis and violence against children is not a natural one to make, we put together two short videos for children. One explains how climate change triggers displacement, and the other one makes the connection between the climate crisis, dropping out of school, and child marriage.

Click or scan to access the videos

You can also go directly to our website violenceagainstchildren.un.org, click on 'Child Participation', and then on 'Videos'



SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE'S BRIEFING WITH CHILDREN

On the margins of the UN General Assembly, the Special Representative held an interactive dialogue with over 100 children, on how the climate crisis affects violence. Children from different countries put forward their questions on this issue. The event was recorded with the goal of sharing it with children everywhere.



Click or scan to access the video

You can also go directly to our website violenceagainstchildren.un.org, click on 'Child Participation', and then on 'Videos'

WHAT DO CHILDREN HAVE TO SAY ABOUT HOW THE CLIMATE CRISIS AFFECTS VIOLENCE?

Children from different countries sent their messages to decision makers regarding how the climate crisis affects violence against children. We put together a short video with their messages.



Click or scan to access the video

You can also go directly to our website violenceagainstchildren.un.org, click on 'Child Participation', and then on 'Videos'



SAFEGUARDING!



When engaging with children, especially when it comes to addressing sensitive issues, it's important to make sure children are safe throughout the process. In our website you will find a child friendly version of safeguarding measures taken to protect children during online events.



Click or scan to access child friendly safeguarding recommendations

You can also go directly to our website violenceagainstchildren.un.org, click on 'Child Participation', and then on 'Child Friendly materials'



DIGITAL PARTICIPATION MAP

Children are taking actions EVERYWHERE! In our website violenceagainstchildren.un.org you can access our child participation digital map to learn more. You can also tell send us your initiative.



Click or scan to access digital participation map

You can also go directly to our website violenceagainstchildren.un.org, click on 'Child Participation', and then on 'Child Participation Map'

NAJAT BRIEFS CHILDREN IN MARCH AROUND THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL, AND IN OCTOBER DURING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF OUR NEXT BRIEFING WITH CHILDREN? WRITE TO US! srsg-vac@un.org



*A/RES/64/146, which calls upon all States to develop policies and effective mechanisms at the local and national levels to enable children to be heard and to participate safely and meaningfully in the monitoring and reporting processes related to the implementation of the Convention.

** Convention of the rights of the child, Article 17.