

CHILDREN INFLUENCE THE NATIONAL STRATEGY ON ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

Children advocating, mobilizing, raising awareness, informing and communicating.

Asia and the Pacific: Indonesia

In Indonesia the NGO Youth Voice Now partners with children from ages 13 to 17 to address issues related to bullying and cyberbullying, violence against girls and women, sexual abuse and exploitation of children, online violence as well as the digital divide affecting in particular children with disabilities and children in rural areas.

Based on the observation that children and adolescents are heavily impacted by the exposure to the Internet, which can cause stress and trouble concentrating, while increasing their chances of being victims of cyberbullying and online violence, the organization Youth Voice Now has come up with programmes focusing on protection from violence, mental health, COVID-19, and access to education, that include children (and their parents) as equal partners.

Youth Voice Now implements its vision through:

- The creation of intergenerational dialogue spaces and activities such as a movie called "Me and Pandemic" to reach out to parents, children and youth on the importance of "positive parenting and support to positive activities for children and youth"
- Investing in social media platforms for children to lead the conversations related to mental health and the prevention of child marriage through child-led campaigns and online petitions and support groups.
- Organizing a national writing competition for children to express themselves,
- Involving and engaging government through national, provincial, and district dialogue on Ending Violence Against Children Strategy

As result, the organization was able to create online and offline spaces in which the children and adolescents felt free and safe to share their experiences and express themselves. In addition, Youth Voice Now has been able to influence national policies on child marriage, children on working situations, sexual and reproductive health, and access to online learning.

Youth Voice Now

