

YOUNG LEADERS FOR CHANGE: ENGAGING IN GLOBAL FORUMS TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

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

Sub-Saharan Africa: Ghana, Mali, Niger, and Sierra Leone

The World Vision's project 'Young Leaders for Change' seeks to address the lack of spaces for children to speak up, promote children's rights, and act against violence against children. Through this project, the young leaders seek to collectively and individually influence decision-making and foster social change. To achieve this, the organization has engaged young leaders from World Vision's national offices in campaign initiatives to end violence against children, by investing in building their capacities to act on behalf of their peers in order to promote social change strategies in their communities, countries and regions. These young leaders have been provided with knowledge and tools to engage in global forums and platforms, to facilitate debates focused on emerging issues while building bridges between young leaders, stakeholders, policy and decision-makers working towards ending violence against children.

Participating children and young people have also outlined the value of the Young Leaders project, as an effective way for them to influence their society for the better. Most of the participants in the project acknowledge the improvement of their skills and abilities to engage and influencing decision-making processes. Young leaders have also acknowledged their own capacities to educate their communities on children's rights, and to work together to advocate for better protection and treatment of children who experience violence.

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