

# CHILD-LED ADVOCACY WITH DECISION MAKERS

Children engaging with decision making

Europe and others: Georgia

In 2019 children identified which were the problems affecting them. Child advocates with the support of Save the Children approached decision makers at local and national level via emails, phone calls, face-to-face meetings. As a result, two of the challenges voiced by children were paid particular attention to. Namely, child advocates discussed the issue of lack of public transportation at Gori municipality – as a result, a decision on purchasing additional buses and extending their working hours was made by the municipality. Child advocates also discussed the issue of cyber-security- Ministry of Internal Affairs became particularly interested in the matter and conducted a series of trainings in Gori municipality with the participation of said group of children.

COVID-19: “Tell Your Leader” Campaign. Given the modalities related to COVID-19, it was decided to arrange the meetings of children with relevant decision makers in an online format – hence the campaign is also referred to as “Digital Hangouts”. Digital hangouts is a two-step action: first, children spoke to the decision-makers in the country where they live. Then, a smaller group of children from around the world get together to speak to global decision-makers. The main topic of digital hangouts was children’s right to education, but children also brought to the discussion the impacts of the pandemic on mental health. As result, government is working with schools to raise awareness on the importance of mental health care. Save the Children

