



GlobalChild

www.globalchildnetwork.com



Dear team members, collaborators, supporters, and friends of GlobalChild,

I am excited to announce that, to date, we have successfully met every milestone of the project. Through extensive research and scientific rigor, the Indicators Development Team (IDT) has completed the enormous task of operationalizing the 41 substantive rights of the CRC.

I am particularly proud of our work on the Global Child Rights Dialogue (GCRD) since we were able to reach a diverse and large cohort of children to seek their opinions on these

substantive rights. With the goal of GCRD honouring the spirit of Article 12, and as a catalyst for awareness-raising on children's rights worldwide, we are happy that this project was done in time for the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child!

As we stand on the threshold of year four, we are looking forward to meeting many more milestones that will bring us closer to the vision of GlobalChild: a comprehensive global child rights monitoring platform. By the end of 2019, the very first version of the GlobalChild platform will be constructed. It will be subjected to Canadian and international pilot tests before it is finalized.

Sincerely,

**Ziba Vaghri, MSFHR Scholar and GlobalChild Principal Investigator, and the
GlobalChild team at the Secretariat**



Child Participation: The Global Child Rights Dialogue (GCRD):

To honour the principle of child participation, the GlobalChild team made it a priority to seek children's opinions on the work done so far. Therefore, the GCRD was designed as a candid dialogue with children from across the globe on their rights, and took place October 2018 to April 2019. The GCRD was a collaborative project between the GlobalChild team and the Centre for Children's Rights (CCR) at Queens University Belfast, Northern Ireland. Other vital partners of the GCRD include Save the Children and Initiative for Article 12 (InArt12) of Greece. The project enabled children from all five regions of the globe to participate in a series of workshops. The overarching goal was for children to discuss the child-friendly versions of the attributes for each CRC article and to share their input. Almost 2,000 children between the ages of 11-17 years participated from 52 sites in 35 countries, including Argentina, Canada, Greece, India, Japan, Russia, and Sierra Leone, among many others.

Through participation, children were able to express their thoughts using creative strategies such as artwork, games, and group discussions. Local facilitators led each workshop and provided thorough descriptions of specific CRC articles to inform children and enable them to participate in the conversations. The final reports from these workshops will summarize children's thoughts about each right; these will be adapted to create child-friendly reports to inform children about the impact of their participation in the GCRD. Finally, the IDT used this information to ensure that what children identified as important is incorporated in the GlobalChild indicators.



External Expert Review:

We are pleased to announce the completion of the GlobalChild external expert review of the indicators! We reached out to over 100 experts from across the globe and were fortunate to receive feedback from about 85 experts.

To initiate this review, the draft indicators were uploaded to an online platform, and child rights advocates, academics, and other experts were invited to review and critique the indicators relevant to their fields of expertise. The identification of experts was done through electronic mailing lists, online networking, and word of mouth. We want to extend our warmest thank you to all of the reviewers. Receiving feedback on a global scale brings us one step closer to finalizing the indicators and realizing the vision of the GlobalChild platform.



Completion of Phase 2 work of the Indicators Development Team (IDT):

We are delighted to share that Phase 2 of building the GlobalChild indicators is nearly complete. A huge thank you goes to the IDT team for all their hard work! Over two years, the IDT operationalized all substantive articles of the CRC and created an indicator set for each, following the SPO pattern of structure-, process-, and outcome-related indicators as advised in the OHCHR's Human Rights Indicators: A Guide to Measurement and Implementation.

The last phase of this work also involved seeking feedback on the indicator sets from children and international experts (described above). After much preparation, the IDT met at the end of June in New Brunswick, Canada to review the two sets of feedback and

incorporate them into the indicators as applicable, as well as to discuss critical features of the electronic platform and other issues. Once finalized, the indicators will be used to populate the electronic platform, and by the end of 2019, the resultant structure will become the GlobalChild platform and will be ready for pilot testing.



Building the Platform:

We are now in the process of hiring a system builder to build the GlobalChild platform. We hope to have the alpha version of the platform ready by the end of 2019 and look forward to piloting the platform within and outside of Canada in 2020.



BC Child Rights Symposium:

On November 16, 2018, the GlobalChild program, in collaboration with the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth of BC and Island Health, hosted the BC Child Rights Symposium at the University of Victoria (UVic). The opening of the event was by the Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Children and Family Development. The goal was to inform stakeholders on the outcome of the BC ECRI pilot and share information about how the province can better protect children against violence.

We are happy to announce that the symposium, the first of its kind in BC, was a success! There was a full house of participants who provided us with valuable feedback. A manuscript is in progress that will outline the process of the pilot and the lessons learned.



Recent and Upcoming Meetings and Events:

June 13, 2019: GlobalChild was featured during a news segment on CTV News to showcase all our fantastic work so far!

July 7, 2019: The GlobalChild Steering Committee met in Rabat, Morocco to discuss progress and to plan the next steps for the GlobalChild project. This meeting was generously hosted by the Observatoire National des Droits de L'enfant (ONDE). It was also in the headlines of many major newspapers (see picture below).

July 8, 2019: The GlobalChild Steering Committee met with government and NGO representatives from across Morocco, as well as Honourable Dominic Cardy, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, New Brunswick. This International Seminar was a joint event by ONDE and GlobalChild. The event ended with the signing of an agreement to plan a GlobalChild pilot in Morocco. An official memorandum of

understanding for a three-year project of research and development, commencing with the pilot project, will be signed later this year.

- Subsequent to this event, Dr. Ziba Vaghri; Justice Renate Winter; Madame Lamia Bazir, the head of ONDE; and Minister Dominic Cardy of New Brunswick met the Minister of State for Human Rights of Morocco at the presidential palace and discussed future plans.

September 23, 2019: Honourable Jean Zermatten, chair of the GlobalChild Steering Committee, and Dr. Vaghri are scheduled to present a progress report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child in Geneva, Switzerland, and to meet the new chair and other incoming members of the Committee.



Morocco's Minister of State for Human Rights, Mr. Mustapha Ramid; Minister of Health, Mr. Anas Doukkali; and New Brunswick Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, Dominic Cardy at the ONDE conference in Rabat.

A meeting with the representatives from Morocco and New Brunswick; and the GlobalChild Steering Committee in the Presidential Palace of Morocco.



Important Presentations:

“Early Childhood Rights Indicators: Where the Science of Child Development Meets Human Rights,” [International Society of Social Pediatrics and Child Health \(ISSOP\)](#), September 28, 2018. Bonn, Germany. Invited speaker.

“Deciphering the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) Vis-à-Vis Our Social Policies: What Does Each Article in the Convention Mean?” [Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children, Raise the Bar National Conference](#), November 21, 2018. Ottawa, Canada. Invited speaker.

“Using Global Benchmarks to Track Children’s Rights within the Realities of Their Local Contexts,” UBC Social Pediatrics, “Circle of the Child” Conference. November 22, 2018. Vancouver, Canada. Invited speaker.

“Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities,” [Annual Meeting of Child Rights Academic Network \(CRAN\)](#), February 8, 2019, Ottawa, Canada.

New Staff and Trainees:

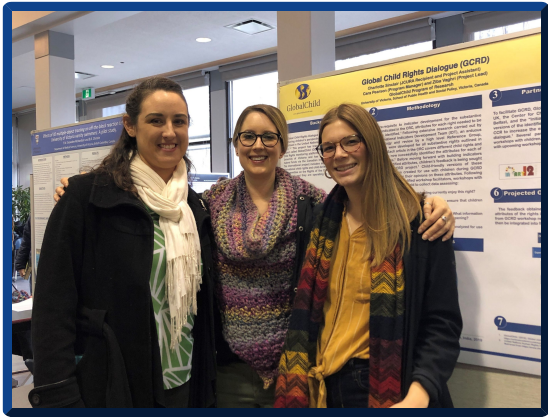
GlobalChild is pleased to introduce the new members of our team including Charlotte Sinclair, Zoë Tessier, and Anosha Afaq!

Charlotte is completing the Health and Community Services program at the University of Victoria (UVic)

with a focus on Indigenous Peoples' health. She was also a recipient of the 2018 Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Award (JCURA) and supported the GlobalChild team with the coordination of the GCRD.

Zoë is an MPH student at UVic who first joined the GlobalChild team as a practicum student, and has now continued as a research assistant; she has a passion for improving accessibility and social inequities. She has supported the team on many projects, including the preparation and implementation of the external expert review.

Anosha is an MPH student at Simon Fraser University and has joined the team as a practicum student. She is excited to learn more about policymaking for child health and development to improve public health. Anosha has also taken on a central role on several KT—focused activities of GlobalChild this summer, including the preparation, design, and publication of this newsletter.



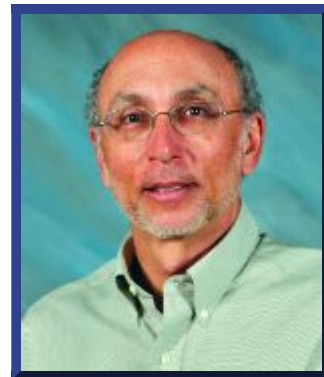
Announcements:

Dr. Najat Maalla M'jiid, a member of the Steering Committee of GlobalChild, was appointed as the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for violence against children.



Photo credit: UNSRSG on Violence Against Children

Dr. Jeff Goldhagen, the President of the International Society for Social Pediatrics and Child Health (ISSOP), was invited to join the GlobalChild Steering Committee representing the healthcare sector. Dr. Goldhagen has core expertise in maternal and child health; and in children's rights and child advocacy. He is currently working to implement international training programs to promote child rights and health equity for child health professionals.



New Publications:

Vaghri, Z. (2018). GlobalChild: A rights-based approach to enhance the health and developmental outcomes of children. *International Society for Social Paediatrics and Child Health (ISSOP) e-bulletin*. (36). [Available here](#).

Vaghri, Z., Covell, K., & Clow, H. (2018). Wiring the brain for exercise of participation rights through active listening and active learning. *The Canadian Journal of Children's Rights*. 5(1). [Abstract](#).

Vaghri, Z., & Erdemli, I. (2019). A Desk Top Review of the Existing Indicators on Articles

and General Comments of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.
Zeitschrift für Menschenrechte, Journal for Human Rights, (1), 94-117. [Available here](#).



Contact us:

Email: globalchild@uvic.ca

Phone: 1-250-472-5405

Follow us:



The GlobalChild team is a multi-agency alliance, led by the Secretariat from the University of Victoria, Canada, and generously funded by federal and provincial funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research.

Copyright © 2019. GlobalChild. All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

School of Public Health and Social Policy
University of Victoria
P.O. Box 1700 STN CSC
Victoria, B.C., V8W 2Y2
Canada

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list