2025 IMPACT REPORT

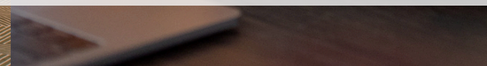
Building a Better Future for Every Child











ispcan.org

A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP



Pragathi Tummala
Chief Executive Officer



Aby Casas
Chair of the Board of Directors

We reflect with pride on a year defined by purpose, collaboration, and progress for children around the world. In a time of growing global challenges, ISPCAN remained focused on one central aim: helping countries and professionals strengthen prevention-oriented, integrated systems that respond effectively to the needs of children and families.

Through the new Rise Up Policy Forums and Huddle initiatives, ISPCAN supported governments and partners in translating research into coordinated action. These bold efforts strengthened linkages across health, education, justice, and social welfare sectors, moving countries beyond isolated projects toward more sustainable and scalable approaches to child protection. Our community of learning grew to include more policy makers, to add to our research and practice experts.

A second major area of progress was in advancing evidence and learning. ISPCAN continued to elevate high-quality research through the Journal of Child Protection and Practice and expanded opportunities for cross-country exchange. In 2025, we emphasized data that directly informed policy and practice, including cost-effective prevention strategies, workforce development models, and indicators of system performance. Knowledge sharing was increasingly connected to real-world decision-making at national and regional levels. This new journal has been accepted by Scopus and will be indexed within our three-year goal, while our flagship journal Child Abuse and Neglect continues to lead the field as the most impactful journal.

By deepening our global and regional partnerships and recognizing that child protection challenges vary by context but benefit from shared learning, ISPCAN strengthened its regional networks and promoted multidisciplinary collaboration. Building capacity through a skilled child protection workforce will always remain a core priority. In 2025, ISPCAN expanded professional development opportunities and promoted ethical, trauma-informed practice across disciplines, investing in a new working group on education and launching ISPCAN NEXT to support early career development. Leadership development and workforce capacity-building were central to our approach, recognizing that strong systems depend on skilled professionals who are supported and equipped to protect children effectively.

Advocacy for prevention is a moral and economic imperative. ISPCAN worked with governments and donors to frame child protection as a strategic public investment rather than solely a social service. In all programs, we highlighted the public health approach: evidence demonstrating that early intervention and family-centered supports reduce long-term health, social, and economic costs while contributing to more resilient communities. Sustainable change to systems is critical.

We close the year with gratitude for our members, partners, and supporters whose commitment made this progress possible. The achievements of 2025 demonstrated what can be accomplished through collaboration, evidence, and sustained leadership. We look ahead with confidence, knowing that the foundation laid this year will continue to advance the safety, dignity, and well-being of children worldwide.

ABOUT ISPCAN

Platinum Transparency 2026

Candid.

The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) is the world's leading global membership organization dedicated to improving the prevention, detection, and response to child abuse and neglect through a public health approach. With a multidisciplinary network of professionals across more than 190 countries, ISPCAN connects research, practice, and policy to strengthen systems of care and protect children worldwide.

OUR MISSION

Since 1977, we exist to bring research, practice, and policy together so child protection systems work better for children everywhere.

WHY IT MATTERS

Child abuse and neglect are complex public health challenges that require coordinated, evidence-based solutions. By connecting disciplines and engaging governments, ISPCAN helps strengthen systems of care so children can be better protected where they live, learn, and play.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Child abuse and neglect is a public health crisis that requires governments and all child service disciplines to join together. ISPCAN is driving change by uniting a global network of child protection professionals to exchange knowledge, break silos, and build a better future for every child.

In this report, we'll explore ISPCAN primary impact pillars:

1. **PREVENTION AS PUBLIC INVESTMENT.....PAGE 6**
    - Public health approach to child protection
    - New: Rise Up Policy Forum and policy briefs
    - Helping fund the biggest child protection issues globally
    - Public health campaigns
2. **CONVENING A GLOBAL COMMUNITY.....PAGE 14**
    - Annual Congress in Vilnius, Lithuania
    - Building Prevention-Oriented Systems
    - Strengthening the next generation of professionals
    - Regional partnerships and capacity building
3. **ADVANCING EVIDENCE AND LEARNING.....PAGE 29**
    - International research journals
    - Child Protection Frameworks
    - Member Training



When researchers, practice professionals, and policy makers connect and learn together, we can drive real change.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

Together, we are building a better future for every child. Who we serve:

20,000+ MEMBERS & COLLEAGUE CONNECTIONS

195 COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

30+ PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINES

72 COUNTRY PARTNERS

19 INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

7 REGIONAL NETWORKS

OUR IMPACT:

- 23,000 individuals trained via webinars and Knowledge Hub sessions
- 900 Congress and Rise Up Policy Forum attendees. Featured 346 presentations from 280 speakers, marking the most comprehensive multidisciplinary child protection conference
- 62 young professionals served in our early career networking group
- Hosted 5 Huddle sessions to review a CSA case study from different angles – a chance to apply skills to address system gaps
- 2,874 downloads of the ICAST child abuse research tool
- 9,423 child protection resources downloaded from our website
- ISPCAN website accessed by 215 countries



PREVENTION AS PUBLIC INVESTMENT

LEADING A PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACH TO CHILD PROTECTION: SIX FOUNDATIONAL PILLARS

ISPCAN aims to help countries improve the foundations of child protection by advancing the six pillars of a public health and system-strengthening approach to preventing child abuse and neglect. Together these pillars form the basis of a strong child protection system.

These ISPCAN public health pillars are aligned with the **Child Protection System Strengthening Framework for Action** launched at the Ministerial Conference on Ending Violence Against Children in Colombia in 2024.

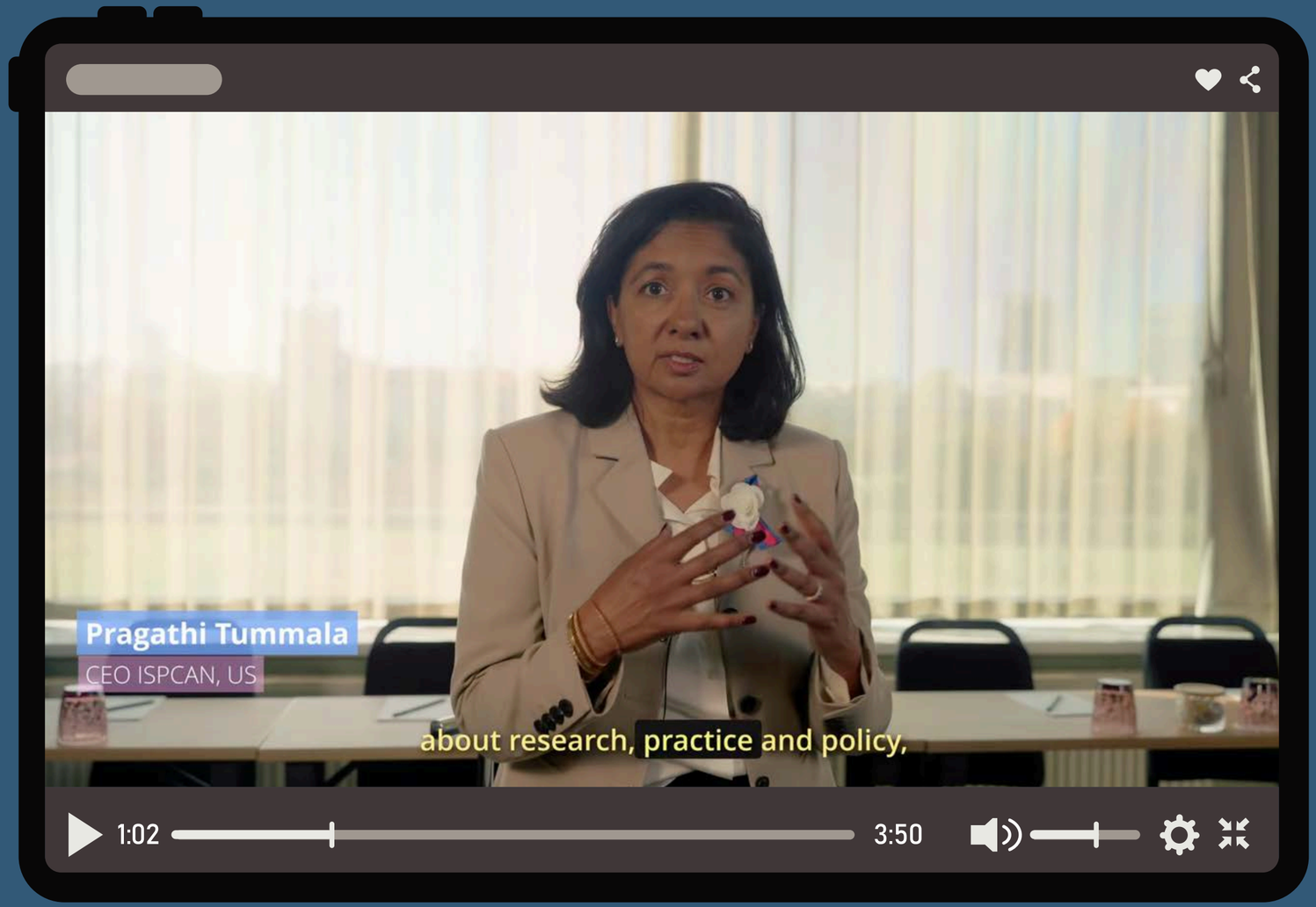
1. Ensure effective governance and multi-sectoral coordination.
2. Improve policies and legislation.
3. Advance data driven and evidence-based solutions to ending violence, abuse, and neglect of children.
4. Invest in national action plans, capacity building, and bringing solutions to scale.
5. Ensure child rights through universal access to a continuum of child protection prevention, early intervention, and response services.
6. Establish mechanisms for child, survivor, and community participation in solutions.

By embedding a public health approach within national strategies, budgets, and cross-sector systems, policymakers can reduce long-term social and economic costs while safeguarding the health, development, and rights of future generations. The choice is not whether action is possible, but whether it will be prioritized.



WHY A PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACH TO CHILD PROTECTION MATTERS

Watch Now



A NEW INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE FOR GOVERNMENTS AND POLICYMAKERS

DEBUT OF THE INAUGURAL RISE UP POLICY FORUM

The Rise Up Policy Forum is ISPCAN's global action platform that unites governments and leading child protection experts to drive real-world policy solutions that prevent and respond to violence against children through a public health approach.

Why it matters: By connecting research, practice, and policymakers, Rise Up helps countries move from pledges to implementation — strengthening systems, scaling evidence-based strategies, and advancing accountability through sustained international collaboration.

Goal: Accelerate progress in child protection and translate country pledges made at the 2024 Ministerial Conference on Ending Violence Against Children into action.

Program: Twenty-two interactive mastermind sessions highlighted foundational measures, breakthrough strategies, government best practice, and technical expertise.

Impact: The first Policy Forum in Vilnius was attended by 270 multi-sectoral experts including 63 government delegates, researchers, practitioners, NGOs, survivors and activists, funders, and policy makers from 60 countries.

Learn more about the 2025 Rise Up Policy Forum in Vilnius



The first Rise Up Policy Forum united experts and policy makers from 60 countries.

"Governments have the hardest job of all to manage many priorities and oversee the welfare of a nation. We have to help them be successful by bringing the research, practice, and policy together so HOW to best care for children is not only on them to figure out. Addressing the challenges, maximizing resources, and finding solutions is our collective responsibility."

Pragathi Tummala,
ISPCAN CEO

NEW RISE UP POLICY BRIEFS PROVIDE PRACTICAL GUIDANCE FOR POLICYMAKERS

DEBUTED THE INAUGURAL RISE UP POLICY FORUM

In 2025, we also launched our new Rise Up Policy Brief series. The Rise Up Policy Forum profiles the most impactful child protection strategies. ISPCAN's new series of policy briefs translate them into practical guidance for policymakers.

The first brief, Investment with Impact: Multisectoral Actions and Coordination in Barnahus, draws on lessons shared at the Rise Up session in Vilnius. It demonstrates how child-centred, multisectoral response hubs like Barnahus strengthen protection, recovery, and justice—while also delivering strong cost effectiveness.





RISE UP SESSION SPOTLIGHT

Mr. Mohamed Abdi Ali, Director of the Child Rights Department, Ministry of Family & Human Rights Development, Government of Somalia and Zahra Dahir, Head of Child Protection, Save the Children Somalia present their Rise Up session **Cultivating Change in Advancing Child Protection Systems in Somalia Through Collaborative Efforts and Coordinated Actions.**

Learn more about this session.

HEAR WHAT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES HAD TO SAY ABOUT THE THE FIRST RISE UP POLICY FORUM.

Watch Now



HELPING ADDRESS THE BIGGEST CHILD PROTECTION CHALLENGES FACING THE WORLD

By taking a public stand on key issues, we strive to deliver real change through a broad coalition of dedicated multidisciplinary partners dedicated to the protection of children everywhere.

In 2025, we focused our efforts on the following key issues:

- Children's access to essential health services, including trauma-informed mental health care, forensic medical evaluations, and treatment of adverse physical sequelae of violence and exploitation
- Advancing research on child maltreatment prevention which requires sustained investment and international collaboration
- Global response services for children on the move who are impacted by global wars and deportation

SUPPORTING CHILDREN IN ARMED CONFLICT

Children should not be affected in the middle of armed conflict or used as pawns. The short-term harm and long-term morbidity and risks for child abuse escalate exponentially in these situations, as do their chances of becoming orphans.

Partners joined us and signed our petition to end the violence in civilian areas in war and supporting caregivers through this trauma.

Ultimately caregivers must have the tools and resources to help children to mitigate further harm. On change.org, we had 531 support this campaign.

IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL POLICY AND DEFUNDING ON CHILD PROTECTION

UNICEF reports that foreign aid cuts across 17 high priority countries affect essential services to more than 2.4 million children.

ISPCAN remains resolute in its mission to work for the protection of children worldwide, regardless of geopolitical circumstances. Child protection must maintain or increase funding without bias for child protection research and practice, as the impact to child well-being is significantly worse during times of global violence and discord. Our duty is to serve all children without bias or discrimination based on race/ethnicity, nationality, gender, sexual orientation, religion or ability. We advocate to provide culturally responsive, trauma-informed, and rights-based care to children and families.

GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

DEBUT OF THE INAUGURAL RISE UP POLICY FORUM

A RIBBON THAT REPRESENTS THE MOST VULNERABLE

Every November, ISPCAN conducts a global child protection campaign. It's centered on our organization's mission – "Rise Up to End Child Abuse." Together, along with our members and partners, we are raising awareness about the realities of child abuse and neglect so we can impact norms and behaviors across communities.

WHY IT MATTERS:

Technology, wars, social media — all of these create new threats, and we are struggling to keep children safe. Child protection today requires confronting the stigma of child abuse directly so we can act faster — because 1 in 5 girls and 1 in 7 boys experience sexual violence. We need universal preventative care for every child.

Our ribbon represents every boy and every girl; a reminder of the children whose safety and futures we are fighting to protect.

CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

- Supports and amplifies other important days: Nov. 18th Child Sexual Abuse Awareness Day, Nov. 19th World Child Abuse Prevention Day, and Nov. 20th World Children's Day
- 9,600+ engaged on social media
- Two prevention webinars with over 1,500 registrants
- Daily prevention messages, resources, video recordings, training sessions, webinars, infographics to our global network of 20,000+
- Engaged our 72 country partners, 19 international partners, and members from around the world coming together to prevent child abuse and neglect

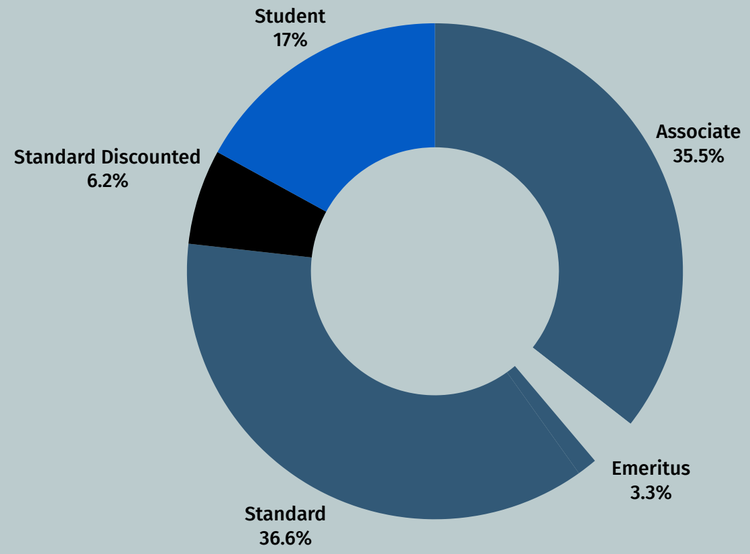




CONVENING A GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF CHILD PROTECTION LEADERS

GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP

ISPCAN IS THE ONLY GLOBAL ORGANIZATION THAT ENGAGES PROFESSIONALS AND PARTNERS FROM ACROSS ALL DISCIPLINES DEDICATED TO THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN.



HOW WE SUPPORT OUR MEMBERS THROUGH CAPACITY BUILDING

KNOWLEDGE + DEVELOPMENT: Publish scientific journals to advance cutting edge research + practice, curate a knowledge hub, host online learning + training

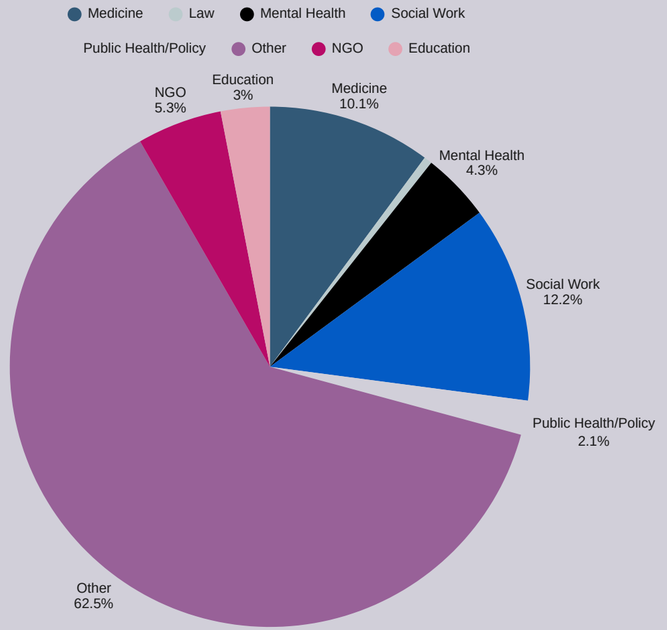
ONLINE MEMBER FORUM: A place for multidisciplinary professionals across the world to share, connect, and communicate across thematic interests

CONGRESS + EVENTS: Build capacity and workforce development hosting events with legacy and impact to share innovation and best practice

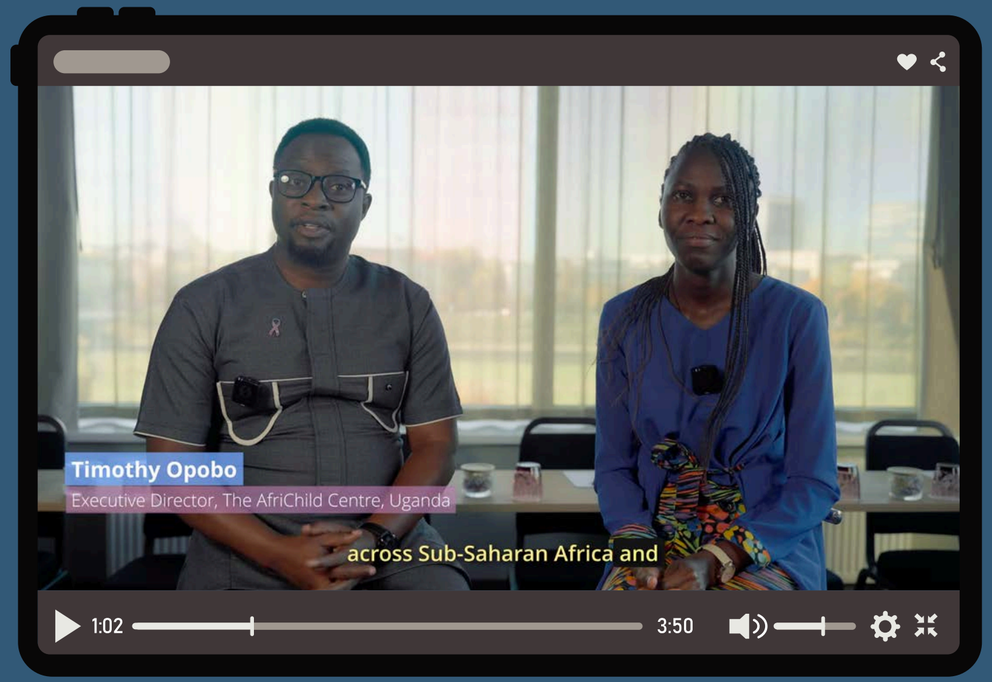
COLLABORATIVE WORKING GROUPS: Gather multidisciplinary professionals across the world to address gaps and advance data-driven best practice

PARTNERSHIPS + ADVOCACY: Build strong networks to advance child protection regionally and globally through Country Partners and International Partners

CAMPAIGNS: We amplify our members' voices and strengthen collective action to protect children by raising awareness, mobilizing communities, and advocating for policies that prevent abuse and support healing.



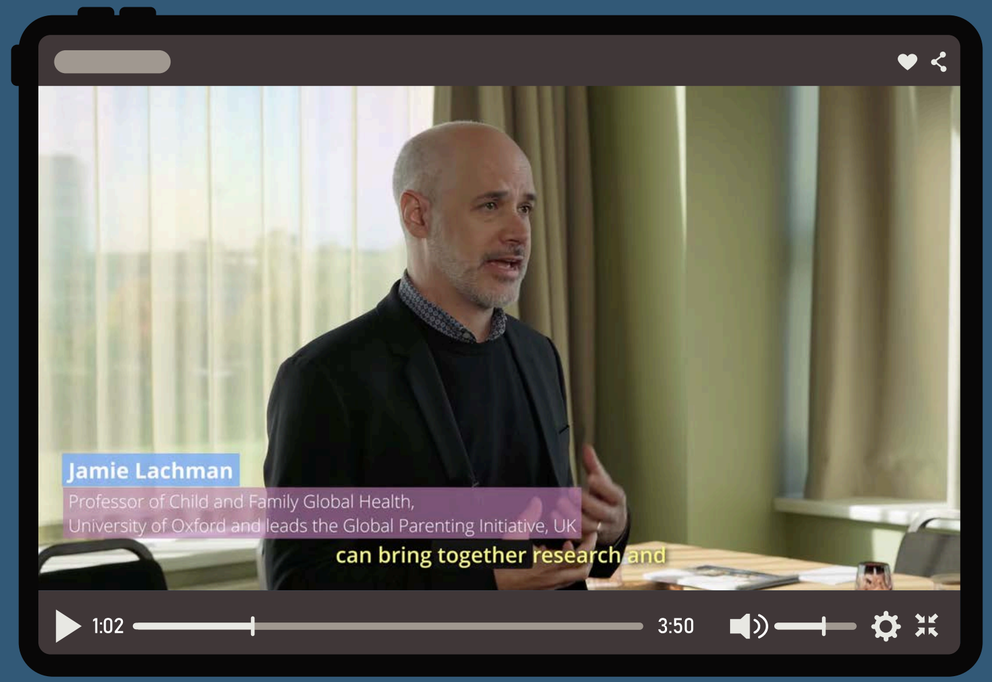
ISPCAN MEMBER PROFILES



TIMOTHY OPOBO

As executive director The AfriChild Centre in Uganda, Timothy Opobo is addressing critical issues in families and communities through research, policy improvement, and early childhood development.

Watch Now



JAMIE LACHMAN

As a professor of child and family global health at Oxford and the leader of the Global Parenting Initiative, Dr. Lachman is using technology to support and develop healthy parenting skills.

Watch Now

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS GATHERING IN VILNIUS

Hosted in partnership with the Ombudsperson for Child's Rights in Lithuania, the 2025 ISPCAN Congress brought together multi-disciplinary experts to learn, share, and network with child protection experts from across the world. We hosted over 900 delegates from over 80 countries representing approximately 40 disciplines.

The Congress theme was "Child Well-Being in a Changing Reality" which emphasized the difficult realities, new challenges that children face, and the innovative solutions our global community is employing in research and practice.

BY THE NUMBERS

- 900 attendees
- 80 countries
- 7 Inspiring keynoters
- 95 parallel sessions
- 346 presentations
- 280 speakers
- 125 research posters
- 5 master classes
- 23 workshops
- 7 working groups

Explore the full Congress recap





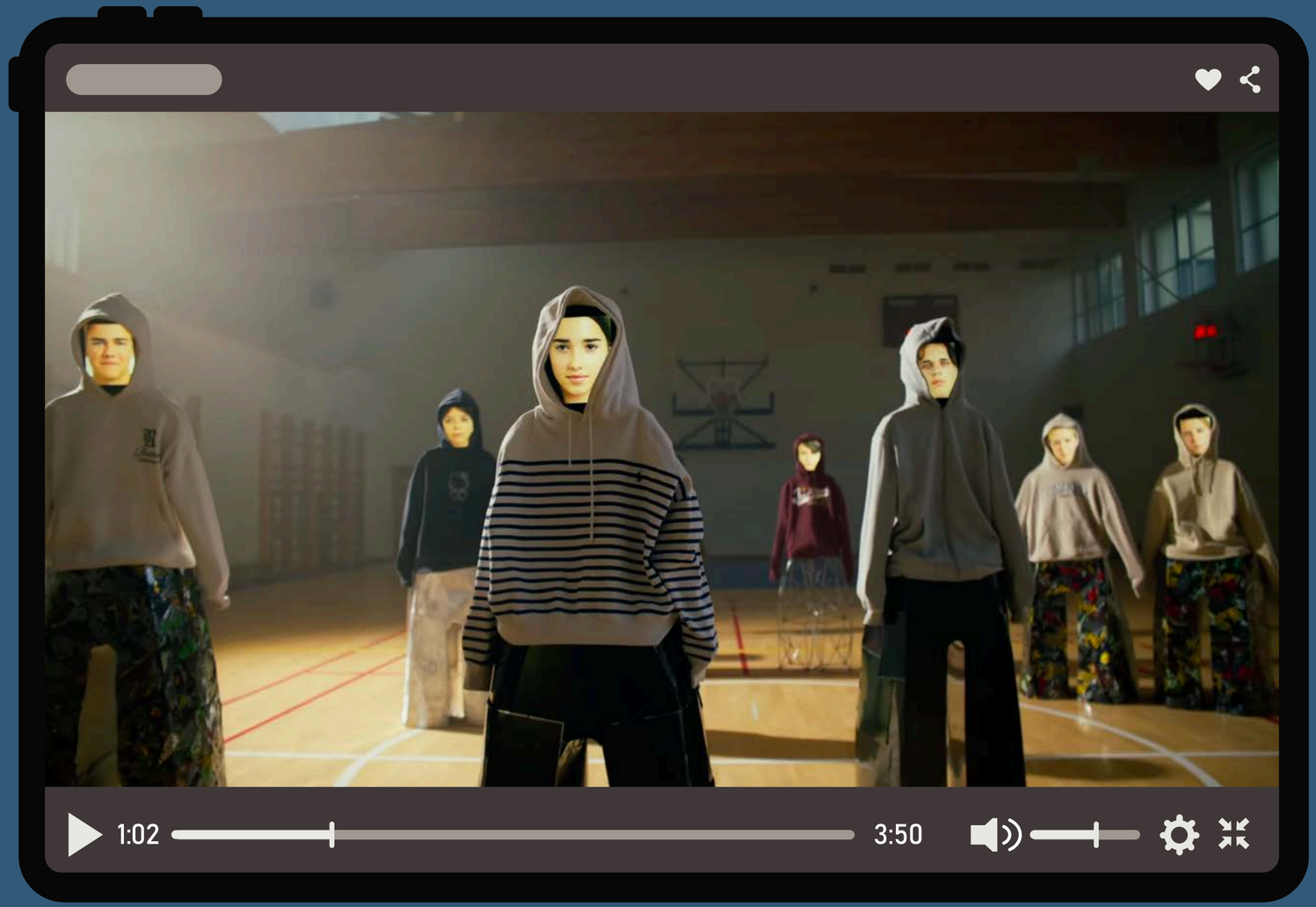
"Imagine a world in which all children and young people grow up in a protected and supportive environment, where they can develop their talents and are optimally prepared for an active and self-determined life. Their rights would be recognized and upheld by all people. We are committed to working on this."

Dr. Simone Toepfer, Head of Child Safeguarding and Child Protection at SOS-Kinderdörfer weltweit.

YOUTH FORUM PRESENTATION: YOUNG HEARTS, GREAT STRENGTH

In Lithuania, 1,165 children shared their deepest wish – to feel less anger, less anxiety, less sadness, and less of the heavy thought that they are “not enough.” They try to cope through music, tears, silence, or by hiding what they truly feel.

But children deserve more: they deserve to be seen, heard, and embraced because every feeling matters and every connection can heal. This interactive art exhibit was installed at the Congress and then in the Vilnius downtown for the community to experience.



Watch Now

ROBUST EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

The ISPCAN International Congress featured parallel programming on the top issues in child protection. Our authors, practitioners, policy makers, governments, and researchers shared groundbreaking insights on practice, policy, public health, and research — all helping to raise the global standard for protecting children everywhere.

93% OF ATTENDEES SAID THEY WOULD USE THE RESEARCH PRESENTED TO INFORM THEIR PRACTICE/PROFESSION

INSPIRING KEYNOTERS

Each day of ISPCAN Congress started with inspiring keynote sessions from the following experts:

- Agnes von Maravić, The Council of Europe Head of the Children's Rights Division
- Jennie Noll, PhD, Prof.
- Rimantas Kėvalas, MD, PhD
- Jeremy Shiffman, PhD
- Richard D. Krugman, MD
- John Carr, OBE

Watch the full conference video





"Hosting the Congress in Lithuania is not only a recognition of our efforts but also an opportunity to share our experiences and learn from others. It's a unique chance to deepen global dialogue, adopt best practices, and work toward sustainable solutions."

Edita Žiobienė,
Lithuania's Ombudsperson for Children's Rights

VILNIUS KEYNOTE SPOTLIGHT

Jennie Noll, PhD, Prof.
Professor, Department of Psychology Executive Director, Mt. Hope Family Center
University of Rochester

Keynote Title: Preventing and addressing child abuse in this age of shrinking resources and support; A message of HOPE through science

Watch Now

View all keynotes



COLLABORATIVE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

THE HUDDLE: A CASE-BASED LEARNING EXPERIENCE

The 2025 Huddle explored a multigenerational child sexual abuse case shaped by culture, family dynamics, and systems of care. Through a child-centered, case-based format, participants examined how medical, mental health, child protection, and justice systems responded to protect and support healing — and where missed opportunities may have changed the child's trajectory.

Told through Sasha's own perspective, including home videos that helped recreate his experience, the case invited participants to see the system through the eyes of the child. Participants also heard Sasha reflect on the case with the benefit of hindsight, offering powerful insight into what worked, what was missed, and what true child-centered practice requires.

By revisiting foundational cases in this way, The Huddle creates a valuable opportunity to assess outcomes, strengthen accountability, and identify best practices for professionals across child protection systems. Rooted in lived experience, it helps move learning beyond theory and toward continuous improvement in how systems prevent, identify, and respond to abuse.

The 2025 Huddle training included five online sessions, each focused on a different aspect of CSA and designed to deepen multidisciplinary learning and practice.

Explore the full Huddle library



CHILD MALTREATMENT DATA COLLECTION

The goal for this group is to identify and share the key methodological approaches and findings and to explore areas of difference and comparability. The global group represents a broad diversity of cultures, approaches to service delivery, languages, methodologies, and comparative data. **Led by Franziska Meinck, Andreas Jud, Gertrude Hafstad**

PARENTING AND SCALE-UP WORKING GROUP

Our goal for this Working Group is to have a collective group of people collaborating, learning from one another and engaging to provide personal growth in your daily work. The Parenting Working Group is in partnership with and led by **Genevieve Haupt Ronnie and Saara Thakur from the Global Parenting Initiative.**

TRAUMA INFORMED CARE/MENTAL HEALTH

We are bringing together trauma-informed care and practices that would be beneficial to any community. The goal is to develop practical tools and resources that make providing mental health care attainable for children and families. **Led by Brooks Keeshin and Jessica Griffin**

6 WORKING GROUPS BRING MEMBERS AND PARTNERS TOGETHER TO ADDRESS SPECIFIC ISSUES

MULTIDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE

The Mission of this working group is to share ideas around collaborative practices and best ways to expand collaboration across sectors, regions, and the world. Our goal is to have global responses to child abuse to benefit all children, regardless of geographic location and resources. **Led by Abbie Newman and Diahann G Harrison**

CHILD DEATH REVIEW WORKING GROUP

Child Death Review (CDR) is a systematic process aimed at examining child fatalities to identify causes and implement preventive measures to enhance child safety and health. This community of practice-shared learning for members to connect and share ideas, skills, research, resources, multiple perspectives, and new information regarding this topic. **Led by Fujiko Yamada, Vince Palusci and Joanna Garstang**

CHILD SAFEGUARDING WORKING GROUP

Specifically focused on implementing preventative actions that ensure that all children and young people are protected from deliberate or unintentional acts that could lead to the risk of or actual harm. This group plays an important role in protecting children from harm, abuse, neglect, or exploitation. **Led by Rocco Briganti and Maryam Ehsani**

Ask Me Anything
WEBINAR
ISPCAN NEXT
DROP YOUR QUESTION
https://ispcan.org/next/

NURTURING THE NEXT GENERATION OF CHILD PROTECTION PROFESSIONALS

Equipping the next generation of global child protection leaders with the knowledge, connections, and tools needed to create a safer, more supportive world for children—now and in the future. ISPCAN's new young professionals group, ISPCAN N.E.X.T (Network of Emerging eXpertise in child proTection), met in person for the first time at Congress. The event brought together 38 professionals from multiple regions.

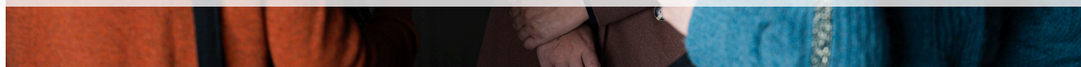
ISPCAN NEXT offers:

- Global Connections: Network with early-career professionals, experts, and mentors worldwide.
- Exclusive Learning and Professional Development: Access to free and discounted webinars, training, and peer support.
- Career Advancement: Get leads on job and funding opportunities, and forums to present your work at the Congress and virtually.
- Cutting-Edge Research: Stay updated on the latest studies and best practices.
- Collaborate & Innovate: Learn from others and work on global projects, research, and advocacy initiatives.

ISPCAN NEXT hosted their first Webinar. Watch Here



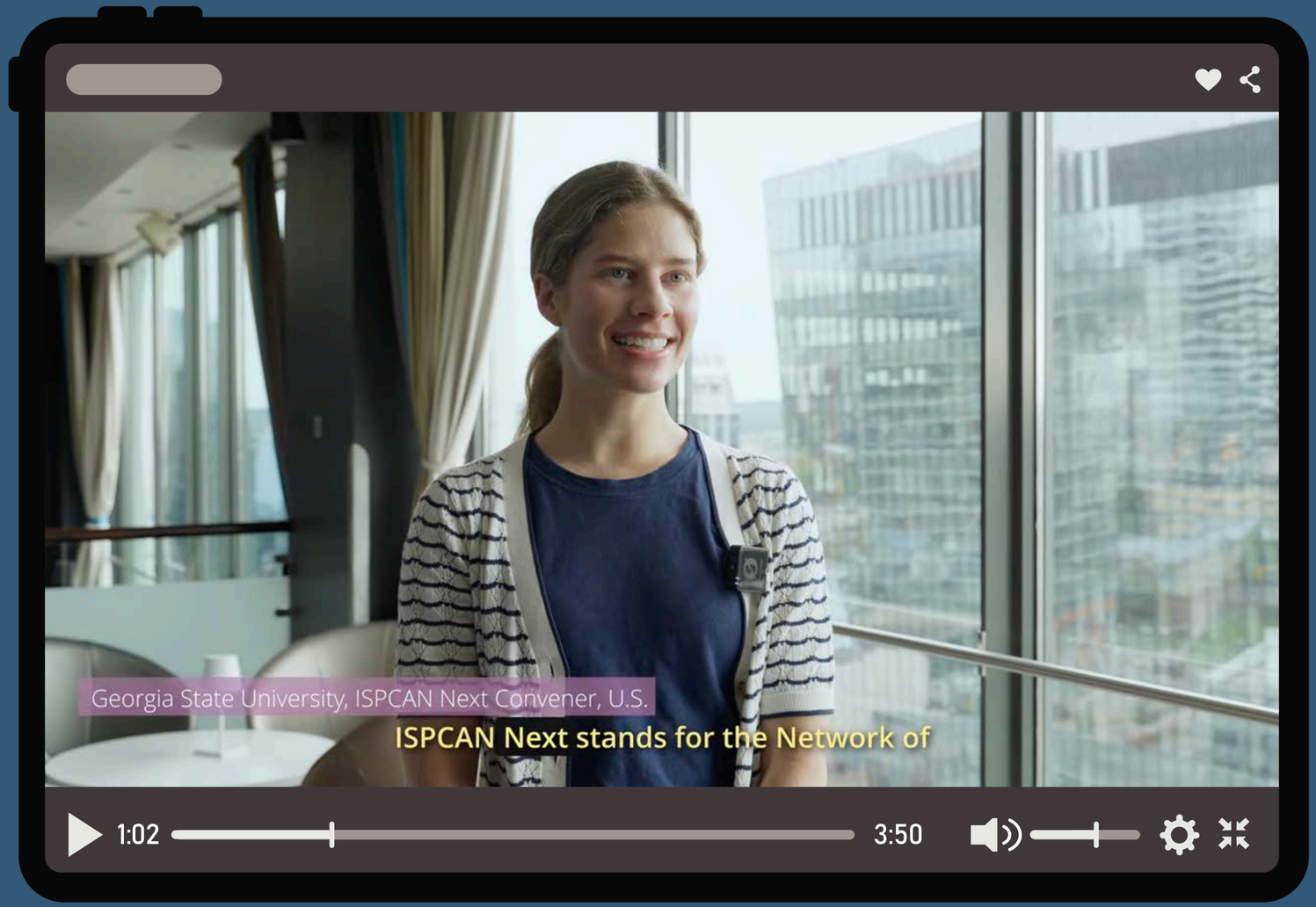




ISPCAN NEXT CONVENERS

Dr. Elizabeth Perry, a Behavioral Scientist and Postdoctoral Research Associate at Georgia State University's Mark Chaffin Center for Healthy Development, and Dr. Christina Thurston, a Psychotherapist and adjunct faculty at Antioch University New England are the co-conveners of ISPCAN NEXT. In this video, they share more about the community and areas of focus.

Learn More About ISPCAN NEXT



Hear from conveners

GROWING COUNTRY PARTNER NETWORK

Country Partners are mission-aligned organizations dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect. Through collaboration and shared resources with 72 organizations we work together to support children, families, and professionals at the local level. **In one year this program grew 27%.**

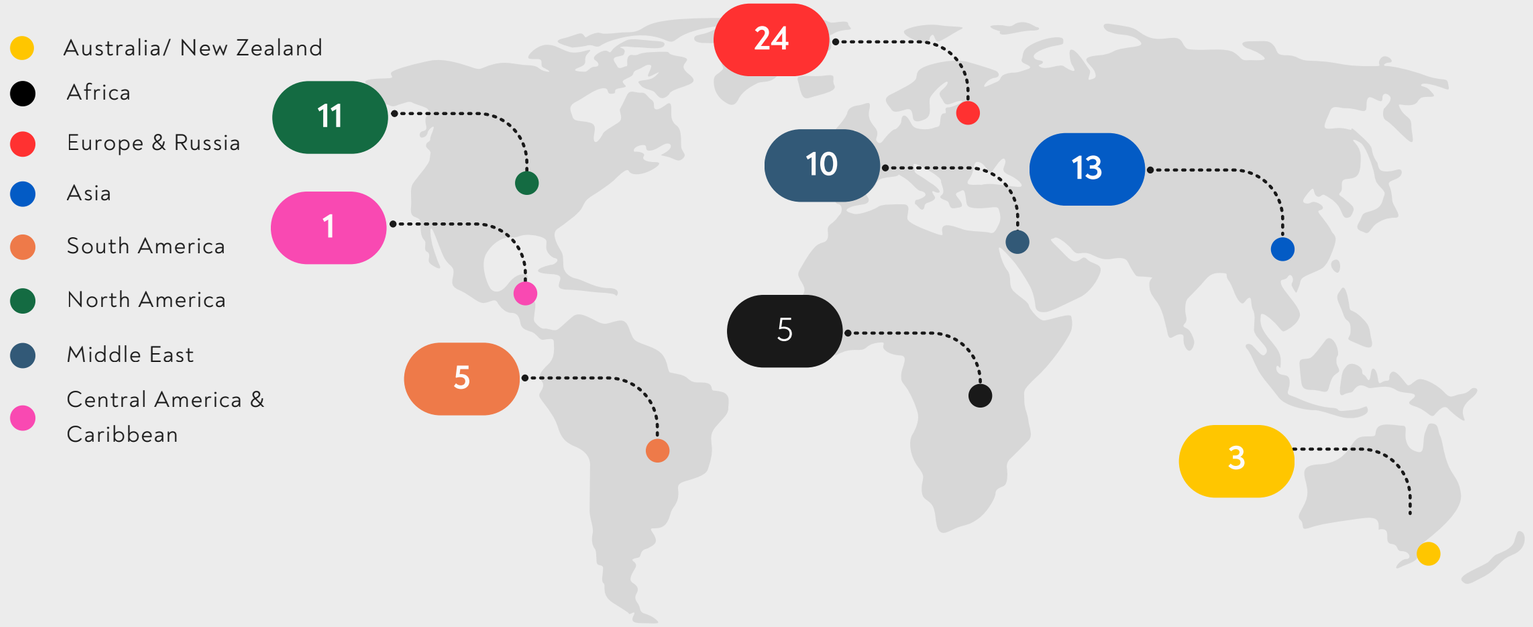
COUNTRY PARTNER BENEFITS:

Country Partners receive special affiliation with ISPCAN and opportunities to collaborate on global and regional initiatives to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Benefits include:

- Promotion of each partner's work to ISPCAN's global audience
- Leadership opportunities for trainings and webinars
- Participation in regional hubs and Huddle trainings
- Engagement at ISPCAN Congress
- Access to leading research journals, educational webinars, data tools such as ICAST, and multidisciplinary resources through the ISPCAN Knowledge Hub

Through these connections, Country Partners strengthen collaboration, share knowledge, and advance child protection efforts in their regions and worldwide.



COUNTRY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



Strengthening Parent Child Relationships in Taiwan

Ting-Yu Cheng

MS, LPC Child Welfare League Foundation (CWLF)

Watch Now



CWLF sharing ISPCAN Booth Space and interacting with Congress participants.

Yi-Ting Chen

Vilnius Congress 2025

PROUD TO DEEPEN OUR WORK WITH 19 INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

In coordination with child protection global organizations, we transform how child abuse and neglect is prevented and treated worldwide. No one institution, organization, or government can tackle these issues in isolation; it is only through working in partnership that we can work towards lasting solutions. Rise Up Policy Forum was launched with the support of our international partners and networks.

International partner benefits:

- Special affiliation with ISPCAN and opportunities to collaborate on global and regional initiatives to prevent child abuse and neglect
- Promotion of each partner's work to ISPCAN's global audience
- Leadership opportunities for trainings and webinars
- Participation in regional hubs and Huddle trainings
- Engagement at ISPCAN Congress
- Partners also gain access to leading research journals, educational webinars, ICAST data tools, and multidisciplinary resources through the ISPCAN Knowledge Hub

INTERNATIONAL PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Andrew Russo, Co-Founder of International Association of Family Support Networks, presented at the ISPCAN Vilnius Rise Up Policy Forum on Family Resource Centers (FRC). Developed in partnership with the local community and typically run by non-governmental organizations, FRC provides parenting support, access to resources, and builds families' social connections with each other.

Independent research has shown FRCs make a significant difference in supporting families to thrive, including yielding a $4.93 social return on investment for every U.S. dollar invested and a 63% reduction in child maltreatment cases. There are national Networks of FRCs in Australia, Canada, France, Finland, Hong Kong, Ireland, Japan, Singapore, Sweden, and the United States, representing thousands of programs serving millions of families every year.

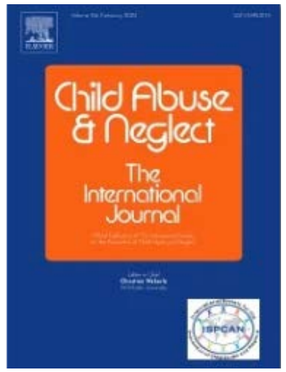
Learn more about FRC's impact





ADVANCING EVIDENCE & LEARNING

ISPCAN JOURNALS CURATE GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE





Tracie Afifi, PhD
Editor in Chief
University of Manitoba,
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Our peer-reviewed monthly journal Child Abuse & Neglect: The International Journal is a member benefit and provides an international, multidisciplinary forum on all aspects of child abuse and neglect, with special emphasis on prevention and treatment. The Citescore of 6.1 and Impact Factor of 3.4 make it noteworthy in the field and the leading journal in child maltreatment.

Through Journal Clubs and Special issues, we bring together editors and authors sharing their articles with thousands of CAN professionals around the world on a monthly basis and make the articles open access for the month.

Special issues in 2025:

- Methodological Advances in the Study of Child Maltreatment, Child Welfare and Child Well-Being Outcomes
- Adverse Childhood Experiences after 25 years – Lessons Learned and Future Directions
- Child abuse and neglect in the area of COVID-19: international examination among diverse communities
- Current Reviews in Child Maltreatment: A Public Health Approach
- Children's right to participation in the context of child abuse and neglect
- Advancing our understanding of violence against children: Consideration of global threats of conflict, displacement, and climate change.
- Sibling sexual abuse: broken from a (supposedly) unbreakable bond
- Global advancements in adapting, evaluating, and implementing Nurse-Family Partnership



A systematic review of positive childhood experiences and adult outcomes: Promotive and protective processes for resilience in the context of childhood adversity

Background: Research on positive childhood experiences (PCEs) as counterparts to childhood adversity has surged in the last five years. A systematic review of the additive and interactive effects of childhood adversity and PCEs across adult outcomes is needed to contextualizes the long-term correlates of childhood experiences within a developmental perspective.

Objective: The current review synthesizes the empirical evidence for PCEs as resilience factors for a range of adult outcomes.

ISPCAN JOURNALS CURATE GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE

CO-EDITORS IN CHIEF



Christine Wekerle, PhD
McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
Journal of Child Protection and Practice

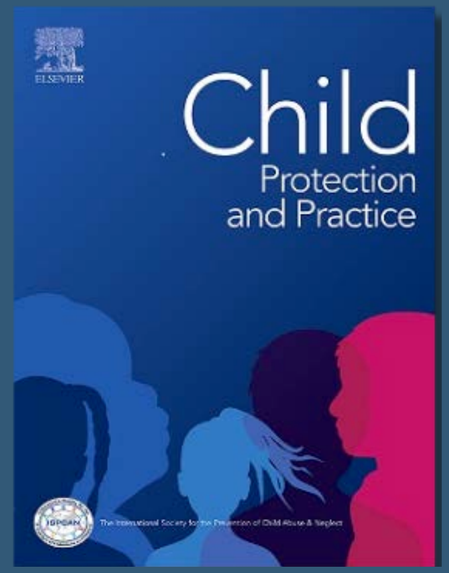


M. Catherine Maternowska, PhD
The University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK
Journal of Child Protection and Practice

OPEN ACCESS JOURNAL

Child Protection and Practice is an international, interdisciplinary journal that brings together research and practice to support governments, NGOs, and civil society in strengthening families and protecting children from violence, abuse, exploitation, and neglect. By connecting academic research with frontline experience, the journal promotes evidence-based solutions to complex child protection challenges. It encourages collaboration across sectors and values diverse perspectives to advance innovative, outcome-focused approaches—particularly in resource-limited settings. The journal welcomes contributions from researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and advocates that advance knowledge, policy, and practice in child protection.

In December 2025, Child Protection and Practice was officially indexed in Scopus!



SPECIAL ISSUES IN 2025

- Illuminating the invisible – the role of data in child protection research and practice: Special issue by the ISPCAN Working Group on Child Maltreatment Data Collection
- Exploring Childhood Emotional Maltreatment, Childhood Verbal Abuse, and Current Research and Practice Issues
- Honouring Child and Youth Voices and Right to Participation in Child Protection Research and Practice
- Transforming the child welfare system

DEVELOPING TOOLS TO ADVANCE MULTIDISCIPLINARY COORDINATION

The 12-step framework for building an action plan for any community to respond and prevent Child Sexual Abuse launched in 2024, and is now being piloted in Palestine, published and shared in the Huddle.

Managing child sexual abuse cases well with good outcomes for children can be done anywhere with your existing resources. Developed over two years with a panel of experts and core partners, this 12-step, how-to framework is intended to help support teams and caregivers, regardless of their circumstances or training, to begin forming their own collaborative plan of action to Child Sexual Abuse. Everyone can build on the resources that they already have in their community to help children who have experienced sexual abuse with as little as two people. The Resource Guide and a customizable fillable form are included and can be used to help create a response plan that supports the strengths of any community and assist them to give children who have experienced sexual abuse the best support.

Each steps helps guide the thought process to decide what to build into a community's collaborative plan using the existing resources available. The plan will automatically generate and be applicable to their culture, their setting, and their community resources.

Framework Tool Link



In 2025, we released a new overview video explaining the framework and giving partners a practical, flexible guide.

Watch Now

GOLD STANDARD DATA COLLECTION TOOL

ISPCAN'S FREE ICAST DATA TOOL

MEASURING THE SCOPE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

ISPCAN's goal with ICAST is to provide a method to make reported incidence of all forms of violence against children more accurate and more representative of the true scope of the problem. Research instruments that measure child maltreatment are significant tools in preventing child abuse and neglect globally.

It is our hope that the use of these tools will result in policies and programs that promote child protection and in curricula adaptation for general and continuing professional education. Most child abuse research to date has been conducted in affluent, Western countries.

With the support of the Oak Foundation, ISPCAN collaborated with UNICEF, the UN Secretary General's Study on Violence against Children, the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights, and the World Health Organization (WHO) to create the ICAST. The tools were designed by international experts, reviewed by more than 100 professionals from different countries using a Delphi process, field tested in 8 countries, and refined. Since then, ICAST has been translated and tested in at least 20 languages.

- Website page with in-depth supporting research on the ICAST Tool:
- Downloaded 2,874 times in 2025 from the ISPCAN Website (up 18%)
- This gold standard data collection tool is available in over 20 languages

ICAST DATA TOOLS



ISPCAN WEBINARS PROVIDE INSIGHT AND TRAINING ON CUTTING EDGE TOPICS

IMPACT:

- 13 live and on-demand sessions
- 35 disciplines represented
- 97% highly valuable ratings
- 95 average countries represented per session
- 40+ subject matter experts
- 12,500+ professionals educated



Every Child Safe: Preventing Child Abuse Through Parenting Support

This webinar explored how parenting support can serve as a powerful tool for prevention of child abuse and maltreatment. Drawing on global evidence and practical experiences from diverse contexts, the session highlighted how evidence-based parenting programs are helping families build positive relationships, manage stress, and reduce the use of harsh discipline — thereby preventing abuse before it occurs. Watch.



iGuardian Program for Trusted Adults
Keeping Kids Safe in a Rapidly Changing Digital Environment

This engaging presentation covered tactics used by online predators, the growing crime of sextortion, the information that devices give away, and the newest apps, online games, and social networks children are using. Project iGuardian® was presented by Homeland Security Investigations, the primary investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. Watch.

VIOLENCE ACROSS GENERATIONS: WHAT WE KNOW AND WHERE DO WE GO?

In partnership with SVRI, this special webinar discussed the research findings on the intergenerational continuity of violence from a longitudinal, multi-generational, mixed methods study. Watch.

DEMYSTIFYING HOW TO SCALE SOLUTIONS

This session introduced the key principles, mindsets, and pathways for scaling impact effectively, explored how to know if your solution is ready to scale, and discussed real-world insights from organizations successfully navigating their scaling journey. Watch.

UNDERSTANDING AND PREVENTING THE THREAT OF SEXTORTION

The internet has created new risks for young people, and one of the fastest-growing and most devastating threats is sextortion - a form of online exploitation where someone uses sexual images to blackmail and threaten others. This session covered what a young person experiencing sextortion or other online harms do and how can they get help. Watch.

WEBINARS PROVIDED A WIDE RANGE OF TRAINING AND INSIGHTS

ISPCAN/INTER-CAP PETIT FOUR WEBINAR

The webinar offered perspectives on how healthcare professionals navigate their dual responsibilities—providing trauma-informed supportive care while contributing to forensic investigations—within a diversity of legal frameworks across countries. Watch.

ADVANCING CHILD MALTREATMENT DATA COLLECTION: THE NEED FOR IMPROVED DIAGNOSTIC CODING AND AN ICD-11 PREVIEW

This webinar addressed the challenges of documenting and coding child abuse and neglect through an innovative online training. Watch.

THE COST OF CARING: STRATEGIES TO COMBAT BURNOUT AND SECONDARY TRAUMA AMONG PROFESSIONALS WORKING WITH CHILDREN

Dr. Zlatina Kostova provided an overview of STS and burnout, explored their physiological and psychological impacts, and shared concrete tools for recognizing, managing, and mitigating these effects. Watch.

BUILDING VISIBILITY & INFLUENCE ON LINKEDIN

This session explored how researchers and practitioners use LinkedIn to strengthen their personal brand, share their impact, and connect with key audiences. Watch.

ISPCAN KNOWLEDGE HUB

This collection of resources can be searched by critical topic, author, presenter, or type of resource and is organized so that all the supplemental material and links are also attached, making it very user-friendly.

In the Global Reports section, we have created a central location where important partner reports can be shared. These include our ISPCAN World Perspectives Reports as well as the important work of our partners and colleagues throughout the sector.

Partner Resources make it easier for our members to access everything in one place and to help reach low-resource areas with the tools and programs that can support their efforts to impact systems of care in their regions.

Infographics, Toolkits, and Country Data reports are a few of the items that you will find in our Downloadable Resources. These are all printable versions that can be openly accessed and utilized by frontline practitioners .

DOWNLOADABLE RESOURCE



Resources in the ISPCAN Knowledge Hub were accessed more than 23,633 times in 2025

ON DEMAND LEARNING ON YOUTUBE:

In 2025, we rebranded our YouTube Channel in 2025 to reach a broader market with strong results:

- **496 subscribers**
- **148 ISPCAN videos**
- **7,112 views in 2025 – up 115% from 2024**
- **705 hours watched – up 97% from 2024**

HONORING CHILD PROTECTION HEROES: JULY 7, 2025

Why July 7th?
On 7/7/77, ISPCAN was established. Our work embodies Henry Kempe's desire that all of us working in the field never cease to ask difficult questions, to challenge ourselves to reach beyond what is possible, and to strive for what is needed to protect children. We continue to adapt, evolve, and progress with our global workforce to "rise up to end child abuse" and do more.

WHAT IS CHILD PROTECTION DAY?
On this day, we honor frontline professionals – social workers, educators, medical staff, child protection officers, law enforcement, and community advocates who dedicate their lives to keeping children safe.

We promote resilience and well-being in the profession – highlighting the importance of building pride, mutual support, and reducing secondary stress (the emotional impact of working daily with trauma, abuse, or neglect cases).

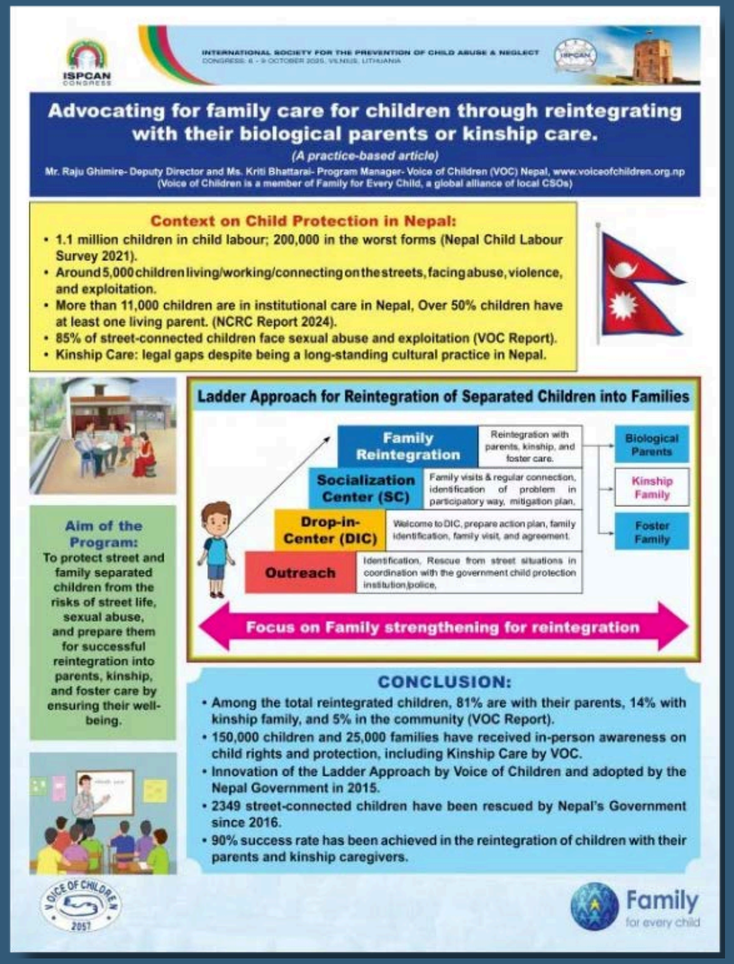
Child Protection Day is about supporting the heroes who protect the children, ensuring they are valued, encouraged, and cared for so they can continue their vital mission.

WEBINARS:
Building Visibility & Influence on LinkedIn: A Free Workshop for ISPCAN Network Colleagues
Presented by: Tracey Shell

The Cost of Caring: Strategies to Combat Burnout and Secondary Trauma among Professionals Working with Children
Presented by: Dr. Zlatina Kostova

IMPACT:
Our global gratitude reach included our ISPCAN Members, Country Partners, International Partners, 20,000+ professionals via our Communications system, Social media with Weekly positive messages leading up to July 7th.





ISPCAN MEMBERS MAKING AN IMPACT THROUGH RESEARCH

Raju Ghimire, Deputy Director-Program for Voice of Children Nepal was awarded Best Poster during ISPCAN's 2025 International Congress.

Research and poster focus: Advocating for family care for children through reintegrating with their biological parents or kinship care



"I would like to sincerely thank you for your support in enabling me to participate in the ISPCAN Congress. I truly enjoyed the sessions, learned a lot, and felt inspired to continue working for the protection of children—especially after receiving the Best Poster Award."

Raju Ghimire



HUMAN RESOURCES & FINANCIALS

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

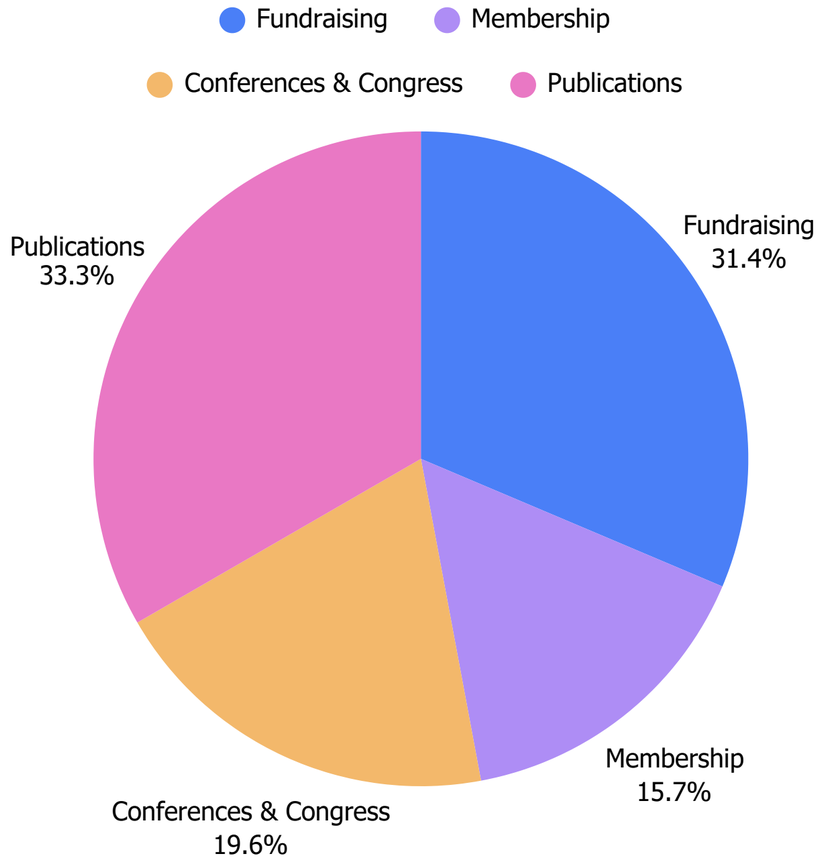
REVENUE

Diversified & Strategic Income Sources. Key factors contributing to growth:

- Strong fundraising performance (↑ 3,161% YoY)
- Membership growth (+75%) shows core mission strength

Strong growth Year on Year: Growth is scalable with revenue increasing 3x faster than costs.

- Revenue: +72%
- Expenses: +23%
- Net Income: +1,404%
- Lean operations and controlled overhead



FINANCIAL SUMMARY (2025)

Total Revenue: $979K
Total Expenses: $677K

Assets Growth: +32% YoY → $1.25M
Liabilities: Only $25K (extremely low)
Net Assets: $1.23M (+33% YoY)

REVENUE VS EXPENSES (EFFICIENCY DEMONSTRATED)

Revenue significantly exceeds expenses
Demonstrated disciplined cost control

ISPCAN converts ~69 cents of every dollar into program + operations while generating 31% reinvestment

EXPENSE STRUCTURE (LEAN OPERATIONS)

Personnel: $420K → 62%
Non-personnel: $254K → 38%
Minimal operating expenses

Lean staffing model, remote offices with controlled administrative overhead
Flexible non-personnel spending (well below budget)
Under budget on expenses — a major efficiency signal

2025 FINANCIAL STRENGTHS

1. Lean & Efficient Operations

ISPCAN continues to operate with a highly disciplined financial model, delivering global impact while maintaining low overhead and strong cost control. In 2025, total expenses below budget, demonstrating operational efficiency without compromising program delivery. In five years, ISPCAN has strengthened our assets by 50%.

2. Strong Financial Stewardship

With only 2% liabilities relative to total assets, ISPCAN maintains an exceptionally strong balance sheet. The organization closed 2025 with $1.25M in assets and $1.23M in net assets, ensuring long-term sustainability and resilience.

3. High Impact per Dollar

ISPCAN generated a surplus (31% margin), enabling reinvestment into:

- Global programs (Huddle, Rise Up)
- Country partnerships
- Research and policy advancement
- This reflects a model where each dollar raised delivers amplified impact

4. Strategic Revenue Growth

Revenue grew 72% year-over-year, driven by:

- Major expansion in fundraising (+$603K YoY)
- Strong membership growth (+75%)
- This diversified revenue base strengthens long-term sustainability.

5. Scalable Model for Global Expansion

ISPCAN's financial structure demonstrates:

- Low fixed costs
- High adaptability
- Scalable program delivery

ISPCAN utilizes 100% of donations to provide support to the front-line workers tirelessly dedicating their careers to eradicating all forms of child abuse and neglect worldwide. Our entire board of directors supported ISPCAN to provide duty, care and loyalty to the organization.

See Full List: Individual and Corporate Donors

ISPCAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ISPCAN is led by global leaders who bring diversity of thought, help with strategic planning, and ensure financial security for our organization. They serve on our Board of Directors to provide duty, care, and loyalty to the organization in four-year terms.



Abigail Casas-Muñoz
MD MSc PhD

Board Chair
National Institute of Pediatrics (INP)
National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)
MEXICO



Pragathi Tummala, MPH

CEO
ISPCAN
Ex-Officio Board Member
USA



Rocco Briganti, PhD

Chair Elect
CEO Specchio Magico Cooperativa Sociale Onlus
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ITALY



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Past President

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Discipline Lead Social Sciences
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Pediatrician
Penn State University
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Diahann G Harrison, JD

Ombudsman, Office of the Children's Advocate
JAMAICA



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Gabriel Otterman, MD MPH PhD

Pediatrician
Barnafrid
SWEDEN



Catherine Mbengue

Child Protection Advocate
ECPAT
MOZAMBIQUE/ OMAN



Aanchal Jain

Product Manager
Adobe Corporation
USA

ISPCAN DISTINGUISHED ADVISORY COUNCIL

Our Distinguished Advisory Council provides in-kind expertise through various projects to benefit the organization or our members. They bring unique skills or a new perspective to help ISPCAN and can be from any region, any discipline, survivors, or others. They serve in a two-year term, voted in by the Board.



Abbie Newman, JD, RN

Mission Kids Child Advocacy Center
USA (PA)



Carmit Katz, PhD

Hebrew University
Haruv Institute
ISRAEL



Scottye Cash, PhD

The Ohio State University School of Social Work
USA (OH)



Chrissy Sykes

Creator & CEO of the My Body is My Body Program
UK



Andreas Jud, PhD

University of Ulm
GERMANY



Brooks Keeshin, MD

Psychiatry and Pediatrics, University of Utah
USA (UT)



Lakshmi Neelakantan, PhD

Population Mental Health Unit, Centre for Mental Health & Community Wellbeing
University of Melbourne
AUSTRALIA

ISPCAN DISTINGUISHED ADVISORY COUNCIL (CONTINUED)



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Parenting for Lifelong Health
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Jessica Griffin, PhD

Associate Professor and Executive Director, Lifeline for Kids, University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School
USA



Hanan A. Alshaikh, MD

Consultant Pediatrician
Saudi Aramco
SAUDI ARABIA



Sidnei Priolo Filho, PhD

Professor Department of Psychology, Universidade Tuiuti do Paraná (UTP)
BRAZIL



Timothy Opobo, MSW

Executive Director, the AfriChild Centre, Makerere University
UGANDA



Genevieve Haupt Ronnie, MS

Global Parenting Initiative
Centre for Social Science Research at the University of Cape Town
SOUTH AFRICA



Paul Stewart, OBE

Survivor and Union of Safeguarding Officers Executive Chairman
Former premiership footballer
UNITED KINGDOM

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We Rise Up to build a brighter future
for all children.
Thank you to our members, partners, board members and donors who contribute to strengthening our global community of learning.
ISPCAN