



Save the Children

LOCAL TO GLOBAL

A short introduction

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SC Sweden's International Program 2018/19

LOCAL TO GLOBAL: A SHORT INTRODUCTION

What is Local to Global and Save the Children's work for advocacy in short?

Local to Global is both a Sida-funded program implemented by Save the Children Sweden and its global partners, and a way of working with advocacy across the Save the Children global movement.

Local to Global want to see changes at local and national level, working with and for children. Through coordinated advocacy linking local, national, regional and global levels, it seeks to amplify the voices of children as right holders, but also of local partners working with them.

With the help of Save the Children's four Global advocacy offices (see below) and SC country offices, children and local partners can get access to regional and global platforms. There they can push their governments (duty-bearers) to keep promises to children (right-holders), and make sure the promises are held on local level: from Local to Global and back. Advocacy is simply a set of strategies – formal or informal, hidden or open – trying to influence people and organizations for the change we want to see: for example getting a law passed on corporal punishment of children or ending child marriage. Asking: who holds the key to change? Then give reasons to unlock that door: what have been promised children, and what is in it for different stakeholders to change?

Focus of the program and the different stakeholders involved

Local to Global (LtG) receives 50 million SEK for five years: 2017-2021, and is part of Sida's Civil society organizations grant. SC Sweden works via the SC country/regional/advocacy offices in the world – and then out to their partners. Local to Global include a total of five countries and one regional program: **Zambia, Kosovo, the Philippines, Bangladesh and Pakistan and a regional program in Latin America.**

The grant also gives financial support and work closely with the **four Global Advocacy offices (GAO) in Geneva, Brussels, Addis Ababa, and New York.** They provide our LtG-countries and their partners with the regional and global platforms necessary to make the required change. The Global Advocacy offices assist in strengthening the national advocacy goals on a regional and global level: such as enabling meetings between civil society and government officials at global events, therefore keeping governments accountable and making children's voices heard. This way SC creates a necessary platform for civil society, in response to the problem of "shrinking space" for civil society across the world. 68% of the grant is spent through sub-granting to civil society partners, but the Global Advocacy offices and SC members are exempted and keep 100%.

Local to Global has a Child rights governance and Child protection focus. Under these two areas, offices have identified various thematic areas: corporal punishment, children on the move, child marriage, public investment in children, and protection of children from violence (Sustainable development goals, 16.2).

Four elements are vital to Local to Global:

1. Cooperation with and strengthening of local partners
2. Safe and meaningful participation of children and youth
3. Advocacy across different levels
4. A Child rights based approach

Reporting on the Sida-funded Local to Global (2017-2021) and its objectives

All country/regional report back to SC Sweden once a year, with the assistance from the four Global advocacy offices where the Geneva office has a coordinating role. The overall objectives are:

- **Objective 1:**ⁱ To hold States accountable for their commitments and obligations to children's rights and protection of children from violence through improved monitoring and advocacy by civil society actors
 - **Program outcome 1:** Increased capacity of and space for civil society partners and children to use and influence regional and global policy discussions and accountability mechanisms on children's rights
 - **Program outcome 2:** Increased commitments and accountability of States at regional and global levels for implementing their obligations and commitments on children's rights, protection of children from violence and an enabling environment for civil society

The intention with Local to Global is that the Sida-funded programs in the respective countries focus on their existing outcomes and not let LtG be a separate program, but rather a financial contribution to work on coordinated advocacy and to reach these pre-established goals. So, different country offices and regional programs work with what is of most use for them: such as the examples given on the thematic areas (ending child marriage, investment in children et c). However, for SC Sweden and the four GAO to be able to support their work on advocacy, a specific LtG- Activity plan, with corresponding budget, and a special reporting section is needed – so that SC Sweden can report back to Sida.

ⁱ The overall Sida strategy for all support through Swedish CSOs 2016–2022 should contribute to the following key objectives:

1. Strengthened capacity of civil society actors in developing countries, contributing to poverty reduction in developing countries
2. Fostering a favourable climate/space for civil society organisations in developing countries (the "shrinking space" issue)

The overall goal being: A vibrant and pluralistic civil society in developing countries that contributes effectively, using a rights-based approach, to improved living conditions for people experiencing poverty in all its dimensions