African Regional Convening to Support Parents and Caregivers

June 21-23, 2022
African Regional Convening to Support Parents and Caregivers

June 21-23, 2022

World Health Organization
Regional Office for Africa
Brazzaville – 2023
African Regional Convening to Support Parents and Caregivers

WHO/AF/UHP/TNR/01/2023

© WHO Regional Office for Africa 2023

Some rights reserved. This work is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 IGO licence (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO; https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/igo).

Under the terms of this licence, you may copy, redistribute and adapt the work for non-commercial purposes, provided the work is appropriately cited, as indicated below. In any use of this work, there should be no suggestion that WHO endorses any specific organization, products or services. The use of the WHO logo is not permitted. If you adapt the work, then you must license your work under the same or equivalent Creative Commons licence. If you create a translation of this work, you should add the following disclaimer along with the suggested citation: “This translation was not created by the World Health Organization (WHO). WHO is not responsible for the content or accuracy of this translation. The original English edition shall be the binding and authentic edition”.

Any mediation relating to disputes arising under the licence shall be conducted in accordance with the mediation rules of the World Intellectual Property Organization.


Cataloguing-in-Publication (CIP) data. CIP data are available at http://apps.who.int/iris.

Sales, rights and licensing. To purchase WHO publications, see http://apps.who.int/bookorders. To submit requests for commercial use and queries on rights and licensing, see http://www.who.int/about/licensing.

Third-party materials. If you wish to reuse material from this work that is attributed to a third party, such as tables, figures or images, it is your responsibility to determine whether permission is needed for that reuse and to obtain permission from the copyright holder. The risk of claims resulting from infringement of any third-party-owned component in the work rests solely with the user.

General disclaimers. The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of WHO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

The mention of specific companies or of certain manufacturers’ products does not imply that they are endorsed or recommended by WHO in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned. Errors and omissions excepted, the names of proprietary products are distinguished by initial capital letters.

All reasonable precautions have been taken by WHO to verify the information contained in this publication. However, the published material is being distributed without warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied. The responsibility for the interpretation and use of the material lies with the reader. In no event shall WHO be liable for damages arising from its use.

Designed in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo
# CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgements</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive summary</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background on the Global Initiative to Support Parents</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background on the African Regional Convening to Support Parents and Caregivers</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodology for identifying evidence-based programmes</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceedings</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion and conclusions</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Next steps</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annex 1: Agenda</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annex 2: Interventions to support parents and caregivers in Africa</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annex 3: Participants</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annex 4: Electronic resources relevant to the convening</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The hard work, dedication and efforts of all who volunteered their time, energy and commitment to organizing the convening are deeply appreciated.

Our sincere thanks go to:

- Alexander Butchart, World Health Organization
- Amanda Germanio, Global Initiative to Support Parents
- Assumpta W. Muriithi, World Health Organization
- Barack Odinga, Africa Early Childhood Network
- Bernadette Daelmans, World Health Organization
- Binta Sako, World Health Organization
- Chiara Servili, World Health Organization
- Enos Onjula, Africa Early Childhood Network
- Eugene Davids, independent
- Florence Baingana, World Health Organization
- Florence Naluyinda-Kitabire, UNICEF
- George Owino, Africa Early Childhood Network
- Haleinta Bara Traore, UNICEF
- Hlengiwe Sacolo, Parenting for Lifelong Health
- Isang Awah, Parenting for Lifelong Health
- Joan Mutinda, Africa Early Childhood Network
- Joanna Hoare, World Health Organization
- Josue Bamana Malonga, World Health Organization
- Katy Anis, in support of World Health Organization
- Kristine Hansen, UNICEF
- Larisa Souza, Gorongosa National Park,
- Lynette Okengo, Africa Early Childhood Network
- Marcelo Fernando Caetano, Africa Early Childhood Network
- Mery Jose Antonio, Africa Early Childhood Network
- Moses Abiero, Africa Early Childhood Network
- Nemes Joseph Iriya, World Health Organization
- Nicole Chetty, Parenting for Lifelong Health
- Nyandigisi Manyara, Africa Early Childhood Network
- Oliver Petrovic, UNICEF
- Princess Akoko, Africa Early Childhood Network
- Pudentienne Musabyimana, World Health Organization
- Richard Savo, Catholic Relief Services
- Sabine Van Tuyll Van Serooskerken Rakotomalala, World Health Organization
- Sharon Chacha, Africa Early Childhood Network
- Sheila Manji, World Health Organization
- Shekufeh Zonji, Early Childhood Development Action Network
- Stella Ayo Odongo, End Violence Partnership
- Susan Okoth, Africa Early Childhood Network
- Symplice Mbola Mbassi, World Health Organization

In addition, we express our heartfelt appreciation to the funder of the convenings, the United States Agency for International Development, and to the LEGO Foundation for their support.

“Now, more than ever, parents and caregivers have a pivotal role to play at the frontlines of protecting their children from stress and promoting their development, health, and well-being.”
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The African Regional Convening of the Global Initiative to Support Parents (GISP) stimulated the interest or engagement of almost 1500 individuals from 742 unique organizations in the fields of health, education, social welfare, women’s affairs, early childhood, water and sanitation, mental health, violence prevention, innovative finance, climate, and many others. The convening united representatives across governments, civil society organizations, programme implementers, philanthropies, multilateral organizations, bilateral funders, private companies, universities, schools and day care centres, and hospitals around the common cause of supporting parents and caregivers.

The event highlighted the diversity and scope of parenting support, touching on policy and practice, the role of fathers in parenting, the unique features of parenting adolescents, support for adolescents who are parents, parenting in humanitarian settings, and alignment with the Nurturing Care Framework, and the need to work with parents and children as co-creators. Many presenters noted the diversity of culture and context across the continent, and the critical need to localize interventions.

Over 50 evidence-based interventions were explored on topics as diverse as nurturing care for early childhood development, support for parents of adolescents, support for HIV-affected caregivers and children, mental health, violence prevention, and support for parents of children with disabilities. The cross-section of platforms for reaching parents was also explored, including those dealing with health, nutrition and education, as well as faith-, family-based and digital ones.

The convening also addressed the primacy of providing financing support to parents and caregivers, exploring perspectives from government, the private sector, bilateral organizations, regional entities, and corporate philanthropy. Panellists and participants identified the next steps for advocacy, innovation, generation and use of evidence, financing, and scale-up.

Following the convening, next steps were identified in terms of: consolidating and sharing experiences learnt; preparing a compendium on parenting programmes on the continent; and convening a working group dedicated to “continuing the momentum”. Some potential activities of the “continuing the momentum” working group include: developing key messages on parenting support that can be disseminated to support advocacy efforts and resource mobilization, selecting priority countries for implementing evidence-based parenting programmes, prioritizing a platform for continuity of engagement with partners, continuing the momentum by holding several regional events per year and operationalizing the next steps through the African Union platforms: Continental Education Strategy for Africa, and the four working groups of the Early Childhood Education and Development Cluster.

The African Regional Convening in Support of Parents and Caregivers was identified as a milestone event, as the first time in which so many diverse sectors from across so many countries in Africa came together around the cause of supporting parents. A platform of almost 1500 stakeholders interested in parenting has been mobilized, which can be re-engaged following the convening, to continue the momentum of supporting parents and caregivers across the continent.
In 2021, a coalition of partners joined together to mobilize increased investment and scale-up of evidence-based initiatives to support caregivers. They formed the Global Initiative to Support Parents (GISP), initiated by UNICEF, the World Health Organization (WHO), Parenting for Lifelong Health (PLH), the Early Childhood Development Action Network (ECDAN), and the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children, with the active engagement of regional early childhood networks.

GISP aims to:

1. Protect children and adolescents, and support families to cope with multiple stressors, including those resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic;
2. Enable parents to nurture their children’s development across the life course, in the context of reduced child-related services and increased parental responsibilities;
3. Build the foundation for mainstreaming the uptake and implementation of evidence-based parent and caregiver support initiatives in all countries.

GISP’s strategy is implemented through four pillars that guide country and global work: innovation, scale, evidence generation and knowledge sharing, and advocacy. Each pillar seeks to support a separate output, which, when combined, will serve to increase access to evidence-based parenting support worldwide.

Pillar 1 Innovation:
Innovative delivery models are available to amplify the reach of parenting interventions and services.

Pillar 2 Scale:
In selected countries, scale-up of evidence is based on sustainably delivered parenting interventions and services.

Pillar 3 Knowledge sharing:
The evidence base on the effectiveness and scalability of parent and caregiver support across the life course and for different outcomes, has increased and is regularly made public.

Pillar 4 Advocacy:
The visibility of the demand for, and supply of parent and caregiver support as a global public policy issue has increased.
BACKGROUND ON THE AFRICAN REGIONAL CONVENING TO SUPPORT PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

Partners of the Global Initiative to Support Parents initiated the convening of regional conferences to develop a common understanding of evidence-based solutions and elicit further commitments towards supporting parents and families. The regional convenings are intended to culminate in a Global Summit, as well as a compendium of evidence-based case studies.

Objectives
The specific objectives of the African regional convening were to:

• share evidence-based parenting and caregiving support and practices for early childhood development, violence prevention, mental health, adolescent health and multisectoral life outcomes (including case studies, approaches, and Africa-specific accomplishments and challenges)
• generate policy dialogue to strengthen political, financial and human resourcing for scaled up implementation of parenting support interventions for children and adolescents
• promote the whole-of-government approach and multisectoral, multistakeholder collaboration for investment in parent support interventions for children and adolescents.

Outcomes
The convening intended to achieve the following outcomes:

✓ A shared understanding among regional stakeholders of the rationale to step up investment in parenting interventions.
✓ A shared understanding among regional stakeholders of evidence-based interventions and programmes, and delivery models.
✓ A shared understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of providing parenting support in the Region and ways and means of strengthening programming.
✓ Commitments from countries on the sustainable implementation of programmes to support parenting of children and adolescents.
✓ Commitment from a select number of governments and donors to step up investment in parenting.
Target audience
Participants invited to the convening represented a wide array of stakeholders, including:

• Senior government officials and technical staff from ministries of health, social affairs, education, gender, youth, finance, economic development, and other relevant sectors from 47 countries in Africa.
• Technical staff from implementation partners concerned with promoting early childhood development, ending violence against children, promoting mental health, ensuring adolescent well-being, promoting community development, empowering women, reducing harmful practices, advancing economic development and other areas as relevant.
• Experts and academics in the field concerned with supporting parents and promoting child and adolescent well-being in academic and training institutions, and regional networks.
• Representatives from development partners including bilateral and multilateral partners, private donors, foundations and global or regional funding initiatives.
• Organizing partners (WHO, UNICEF, End Violence, ECDAN, Parenting for Lifelong Health, AfECN and USAID)

The convening targeted African countries in sub-Saharan Africa in general, and specifically in East and West Africa, providing simultaneous interpretation and breakout rooms to cater to populations comfortable engaging in the English, French, and Portuguese language mediums. It was decided to include countries which predominantly use Arabic into the planned Middle East and North Africa regional GISP convening.

Presenters
Presenters at the conference included scientists, policy-makers, funders, programme planners and implementers and other key actors from across the continuum of care for early childhood, the second decade of development, violence prevention, gender-responsive parenting and caregiver mental health, disability, economic strengthening, as well as other relevant sectors working on parenting through multisectoral programmes.
METHODOLOGY FOR IDENTIFYING EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMMES

The conference’s Steering Committee first put out a call to request for submission of evidence-based parenting support interventions being implemented in African countries. The Africa Early Childhood Network distributed the call to constituents across the continent. The call was also shared through professional networks in the areas of early childhood, ending violence, male engagement, mental health and other related areas, and distributed through multitudinous informal networks.

Seventy-five noteworthy submissions were received. The convening’s subcommittee on evidence-based intervention met and reviewed the submissions carefully. A subset of programmes was identified of submissions with promising practice or early evidence. Following this, 50 interventions were selected for presentation in the convening, to represent a diverse range of countries, themes and service delivery platforms. In cases where particular themes or platforms were not fully represented, the committee invited other interveners to submit additional submissions.
PROCEEDINGS

The summaries and recordings of plenary and large group session, as well as links to presentations delivered in thematic breakout sessions are presented in the sections below.

Day 1 - Tuesday, 21 June 2022

• Day 1 Plenary session (Passcode: m=Xa5Ugg)

The opening panel of the convening drew on the African proverb: “It takes a whole village to raise a child”, to illustrate the need to support parents and caregivers as the central pillar for children’s growth. The plenary highlighted the need for a multisectoral approach by which stakeholders in the public and private sectors join efforts to support parents and caregivers. Panellists noted that two thirds of children in Africa are not developing to their full potential, with direct implications on later health, socioeconomic status, and lifetime outcomes. Community engagement and participation were cited as core interventions to reach parents. Plenary presenters also noted that children and youth make up 50% of Africa’s population, thereby illustrating the need for environments that support transition to adulthood through engaging parents and caregivers. The plenary was highlighted with a video presentation delineating the components of the Global Initiative to Support Parents.

The plenary presentation on “From Science to Scale” presented a framework for parenting and nurturing care across childhood. The model situated the transition through stages, from prenatal to adolescence, within the sectoral inputs of nurturing care, and framed by concentric layers of support, such as family, communities, services, policies, economic conditions, sociopolitical and climate conditions. The Science to Scale presentation also detailed examples of the four types of inter-related support that all parents need, including supportive policies, community support, supportive systems (such as education, health and social services) and supportive programmes.

The plenary provided an opportunity for government officials to demonstrate how ministries and government institutions were supporting parents and caregivers of children and adolescents. Programmes spanned the continent from Kenya, Zimbabwe, United Republic of Tanzania, Côte d’Ivoire, Liberia, and Zambia, and represented the diversity of approaches from support to children of mothers incarcerated in the prison system to integrated child development support. Government representatives detailed programmes and policies, delineated how government and nongovernmental actors could coordinate their actions, and explored how current programmes could be scaled up for greater reach and impact, with an eye to promoting a focus on sustainability, innovation and partnerships. Common themes across the presentations illustrated the importance of engaging communities for sustainability of programmes, the multisectoral approach to service delivery, and the use of policies and frameworks and indicators for measuring success.

The panel on evidence-based interventions highlighted the importance of the local context, be it in the use of local researchers, customization of programmes to local context or the inclusion of the voices of the community in research. The presentation highlighted the need for: (a) strategic partners who are able to embrace a culture of research evidence; (b) platforms that include government, civil society, networks, international agencies, community-based organizations, parent networks; and (c)
competencies that address the differing skills needed to thrive in different contexts. The presentation identified the need for models such as the ‘comprehensive prevention model’ that can work directly with the child, family as well as the ‘socio-ecological model’ that influences policies developed for the public at the grassroots level. The panellists emphasized that the transformation of systems must be owned both locally and at the international level, since parenting involves a diverse set of players/stakeholders. Across presentations, the need for understanding ‘evidence-based interventions’ to incorporate aspects of acceptability, feasibility, culture and the science of parenting was highlighted.

Resources available on the plenary include:

- Opening remarks
- Global Initiative to Support Parents
- Supporting parents and caregivers: from science to scale

**Day 2 - Wednesday, 22 June 2022**

- [Day 2 Plenary session](#) (Passcode: NM57=GN+)

The showcasing of evidence-based interventions across Africa was prefaced by keynote presentations on pluralism and the need to respect how each culture provides a natural pathway for the development of children. Evidence was presented on how parenting programmes have been successful in reducing child violence, and how programmes need to be targeted at the family level.

1.a. Nurturing care for early childhood development

This session presented diverse programmes that promote comprehensive nurturing care. Presentations identified project components, reach, longitudinal measurement plans and impact of harsh punishment, malnutrition and child deaths. Discussions focused on the monitoring of nurturing care and cost-benefit analyses.

The following presentations were delivered:

- Sugira Muryango (Rwanda)
- Nurturing Care Groups and Care and Comfort for Children (Multicountry)
- Integrated Early Child Development and Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (Multicountry)

1.b. Supporting caregivers of adolescents and adolescents who are parents

This session detailed the programme components of support to adolescent mothers through gardening, feeding, income generation, gender equity, sexual and reproductive health, character development, as well as reduction of violence toward adolescent children. Discussions focused on the sustainability of programmes and support delivered to adolescent mothers. The following presentations were delivered:
1.c. Supporting parents of children with disabilities

This session presented programmes that provide financial support, improve nutrition of children with disabilities, reduce stigma, provide additional skills beyond positive parenting, and address caregiver well-being. Discussions focused on how positive parenting is not enough to help parents cope with the needs of children with disabilities, how parents with disabilities themselves can recognize children with disabilities, and how to address a mix of mental and physical disabilities. The following presentations were delivered:

- Baby Ubuntu Early Care and Support for Young Children (Multicountry)
- Caregiver Skills Training (Multicountry)
- Paediatric Development Clinic Model (Rwanda)

1.d. Promoting caregiver and children’s mental health

This session noted how childhood adversity, poor maternal health and other factors increase issues of child mental health. The session explored programmes for adolescent mental health as well as maternal mental health. Discussions highlighted how levels of violence and trauma are so pervasive in some contexts that they are normalized. Faith-based organizations were identified as entry points and programmes recommended addressing both parents and children in group therapy. The following presentations were delivered:

- Early Adolescent Skills for Emotions (Tanzania)
- Psychotherapy for Adolescent Caregivers (Kenya)
- Thinking Healthy (Liberia)
- Supporting Parents in Uganda (Uganda)

1.e. Preventing child maltreatment

The session covered children vulnerable to maltreatment in differing contexts of: occasions where violence against children is normalized and common, loss of a parent, or living on the streets. Presentations demonstrated impact statistics on improved parenting skills, improved communication with parents, reduction in parental stress, increased involvement of male caregivers, and increase in parents spending time with their children. Discussion focused on measuring child attachment and countering stigma around living on the street. The following presentations were delivered:

- Parenting Without Violence (Zambia)
- Street Connected Mothers (Kenya)
- Children in Alternative Care (Multi-country)

1.f. Politique, coordination multisectorielle et financement (Francophone)

This session served as a platform for government agencies to detail interventions in support of caregivers and children. The presentations identified the policies, financing and multi-sectoral coordination in government service delivery around early child development, child protection, positive parenting. Discussion focused on multisectoral coordination, government financing, government delivery of results and national curricula. The following presentations were delivered:
This session presented diverse forms of evidence-based interventions in Lusophone countries, including parenting programs, psycho-social support services and networking platforms for advancing child issues. Discussion focused on recognizing the unity in diversity of the Lusophone world and connecting Lusophone actors for greater engagement. The following presentations were delivered by:

- Atividades com Pais (Mozambique)
- All United for Early Childhood (Angola)
- Apoio Psico-social (Multi-country)
- Rede de Instituições de Atendimento de Criança (Guinea Bissau)

DIVERSE PLATFORMS FOR REACHING PARENTS

2.a. Working through health and nutrition platforms

Findings from health and nutrition platforms were presented, with research demonstrating the need for intentionality in engaging fathers in design phase and balancing of nutrition and parenting content. Recommendations for parentings living with HIV included mentorship, linkage to income generation services, and longitudinal tracking. Strategies for system strengthening include: integrating early child content into national and subnational policies, guidelines, plans, and strategies, strengthening coordination and resourcing of ECD-supportive interventions, reinforcing early child content in workforce capacity-building curricula, integrating relevant indicators into surveys and government reporting systems and other means. The following presentations were delivered:

- Strengthening Health Systems (Multi-country)
- Young Mentor Mothers Living with HIV (Zimbabwe)
- Engaging Fathers for Effective Child Nutrition and Development (Tanzania)

2.b. Working through faith-based platforms

This session introduced the potential of faith-based platforms to support caregivers in caregiving practices, present interventions to illustrate different ways in which caregivers are being supported via faith based platforms, shared data on evidence impact of the interventions, and discussed scalability and sustainability of faith-based platforms as a way to reach parents and caregivers. The following presentations were delivered:

- Moments That Matter Early Childhood (Multi-country)
- Spiritual Development of Children For Violence Prevention (Multi-country)
- Celebrating Families Project Model (Multi-country)

2.c. Working through educationally oriented platforms

The session demonstrated how family literacy programs enabled children to develop active engagement between parent and child. Joint book reading was shown to lead to longer ability to pay attention, and increased learning. Challenges included parents paying close attention to children,
asking questions and giving feedback to children. Key areas of need include: financing, programming for adolescents and children with disabilities, and need to involve end users in design of the programs. The following presentations were delivered:

- Dialogic Book-Sharing (South Africa)
- Family Literacy Initiative (Liberia)

2.d. Working through family-based platforms

This session sought to share information about how the family is a platform through which child development outcomes can be improved, to share evidence on methods for reaching males and family members, and to bring the presentations together in a holistic way to demonstrate how the family is the first and most effective service provider. A strong focus rested on engagement of males. The following presentations were delivered:

- Good Families, Strong Nation (Tanzania)
- Role Model-Engaging Men (Rwanda)
- REAL Fathers (Multi-country)
- Child-optimized Financial Education (Multi-country)

2.e. Working through media and digital engagement

Programs were profiled that deliver content through: messages, voice notes, info graphs, video clips, radio, ParentChat, ParentApp, Parenttext, and hybrid means. One program had reached 2.4 million in audience. Outcomes of some programs were: higher rates of responsive caregiving, lower rates of depression and anxiety, and parents spending more time with their children. Discussion focused on measurement of digital engagement, male engagement strategies, and how digital media could address mental health issues. The following presentations were delivered:

- Parenting for Lifelong Health-Digital (South Africa)
- Parenting Journey (Tanzania)
- Digital Parenting Programme (Multi-country)

2.f. Interventions fondées sur des données probantes (Francophone)

This session presented diverse evidence-based interventions across the francophone world. Programs were able to effect: increased male engagement and commitment of fathers to contribute to welfare of children, increased male engagement in child care, adoption of non-violent care practices, increase in equitable division of labor, decreased intimate partner violence, and reduction of violence against children, improved communication between partners and their children, changes in parents’ attitudes resulting in healthier family relationships, increase in child friendly spaces, and increased consideration of parents with children with special needs. The following presentations were delivered:

- REAL Fathers (Senegal)
- Skillful Parenting (Côte d’ivoire)
- Imagination Afrika (Senegal)
- Enfance-Promotion du Développement De La Petite Enfance, DMI (Côte d’Ivoire)
- Les Familles Font la Différence (Côte d’Ivoire)

2.g. Trabalhando em diversas plataformas (Lusophone)

This session sought to present diverse types of platforms being used in Lusophone contexts to reach children and parents, including the education platform, health platform and environmental platform.
The following presentations were shared:

- Desenvolvimento da Primeira Infância nos Serviços de Saúde de Rotina (Multicountry)
- Plataforma de Educação, Prontidão Escolar Acelerada (Mozambique)
- Plataforma Ambiental, Apoio aos Pais e Cuidadores no Parque Nacional de Gorongosa (Mozambique)

**Day 3 - Thursday, 23 June 2022**

- **Day 3 Plenary Session** (Passcode: bAPP1Q?p)

The first plenary session on Day 3 addressed financing, exploring different stakeholders’ roles in the financing of support to parents, highlighting possible funding sources and strengths and weaknesses of each type and establishing the key role of government in creating fiscal space for parenting. Government panelists delineated how clear strategic plans and Annual Single Action Plans could be utilized to support parents, and that guidance and coordination is necessary for proper management of government funds. Bilateral panelists noted how bilateral support can be useful when it supports government priorities and multi-stakeholder efforts. Private sector liaison panelists noted how a clear business case was key for private sector engagement. Corporate panelists illustrated how corporate philanthropy is able to take risks that led to greater comprehensive child development efforts.

The concluding panel of the convening addressed next steps and identified key actions for taking the agenda forward keeping in mind: innovation, evidence, scale, advocacy. Key partners shared commitments, such as philanthropy committing to evidence-based research, implementing partners committing to act in unified platforms, and government coalitions placing emphasis on African leaders and holding them accountable for support provided to families. Panelists unified around a common collective vision as key to a clear path forward for joint support to parents.

**Breakout sessions with participants covered the following issues:**

- **Advocacy (English)**

The session on advocacy identified changes necessary over the next two years to increase attention to and investment in support for parents and caregivers of children and adolescents. These included: rigorous evidence, state leaders as strong advocates, joint mobilization across stakeholder advocates, acknowledgement of the comparatively greater influence of faith-based leaders and traditional leaders, sufficient support to the role of grandparents and to hired caregivers. Participants noted the need for action to begin from the policy level, targeting decision makers, and to be followed by sensitization and awareness. Multi stakeholders’ partnership is key, including the use of networks and coalitions to work families and communities. Fathers and first-time parents were identified as key target groups for advocacy.
- **Innovation (English)**
The innovation working group identified examples of innovations, as well as gaps in innovation. Rwanda tea factory early child interventions and Tanzania digital platforms were highlighted as promising interventions. Challenges to innovation included: lack of sustainable structures at the community level for innovative initiatives to run long-term, community ownership of the responsibility of parenting, high cost of running programs, instability hindering reach to children and parents in conflict-affected areas, lack of training for personnel, being able to measure effectiveness adequately and challenges in actually effectively scaling up innovation. Target groups for development of innovation include: children and adolescent growing up in urban informal settlements, grandparents and elderly caregivers, parents of adolescent boys, children on the streets, and parents in instable situations. Co-creation of interventions with target groups was considered key as beneficiaries may understand their own needs more than the implementers.

- **Financing (English)**
The breakout session on financing addressed macro-fiscal risks affecting parenting such as slowing economic growth, informal jobs, rising prices and fiscal austerity. The relevance of fiscal austerity was explored in terms of the impact of fiscal austerity and inflation on children, and the impact on social services. Support to government was prioritized in terms of improving the design of annual budgets, removal of budget execution bottlenecks, expansion of resilience interventions, review of public finance management, and regional overviews of expenditure by government. Efforts that governments could prioritize include: paid parental leave, minimum wage, subsidized or free childcare, breastfeeding breaks, legislation on female equity in land possession and wages, and public information campaigns to support parenting. The importance of a holistic approach of government and engagement of the treasury was noted as key. The panel addressed the role of international organizations in advocacy to raise awareness, influencing policies, co-financing of small-scale initiatives and leveraging of funds for scaling-up. The role of the private sector centered on actualizing family-friendly policies, providing in-kind support and financing parenting programs. The role of the families and communities focused on contributing parenting programs through in-kind contributions such as participation, offering food, and providing collective care for children.

- **Scale up (English)**
Participants in the session on scaling up prioritized the need to map and document best practices, principles, and effective monitoring and evaluation frameworks. Design of interventions should be inclusive and diversity-sensitive, considering culture and religion. Participants highlighted the importance of targeting groups, locations, implementing partners, resource partners and reasonable time frames, instead of rushing to scale while compromising on quality. The need for consensus on what constitutes valid evidence was identified, with a tangible need for cost-effective alternatives to randomized control trials for community-based organizations and non-governmental organizations. In dissemination of findings to government, clear communication should be used, targeting the language and the level of education of the audience, with testimonials effectively influencing scale up. Sound replication modeling should take into consideration who the stakeholders are, how prepared they are, and what capacities are needed. Power, influence and allegiance are key factors in actualities of interventions being taken up to scale.
Quality of scale-up can be maintained through mentorship and supportive supervision using simple cost-effective infrastructure, one example being WhatsApp. Effective coordination among partners builds synergies and minimize overlaps for effective scale up and impact. The nature of collaboration is best when it is both formal and informal, to address the contradictions between formal systems and social movements. Special consideration was given to integrating caregivers of children with disabilities into scaling as well as the promotion of health/child development joint scaling. Participants concluded by asserting, “As we document what to scale up, we also need to document what needs to be scaled down.”

- Advocacy (French)
  This breakout session posed questions around: what changes would be needed in the next two years to increase attention and investment in supporting parents of children and adolescent, how stakeholders can make change happen, who the actors are in advocacy, what the opportunities are, what tools exist, and how they can be convincing and effective. The group discussed identifying key partners, convincing them of their contribution to create behavior change on parenting and cultivating them into “champions.” The group noted that politicians and policy makers may not always be the best advocates on parenting as they are often tied by political imperatives and agendas that do not allow them to make decisions that could be unpopular. Social mobilization at the community level was prioritized, highlighting the need to involve religious leaders in the communication, especially in the West African context of Islamic societies. Generation of solutions should take into account the main beneficiaries of parenting programs, parents and children, as co-creators. The group identified the use of existing forums and meetings as platforms to raise the issue of parenthood. In addition to advocacy with governments, regional entities such as ECOWAS, and African Union were identified as bodies that could benefit from increased collaboration. Mobilizing the role of the private sector in initiatives that integrate positive parenting through corporate values and evidence generation was also identified as a potential area of exploration. The group identified the need to prioritize household economic strengthening initiatives and umbrella organizations in agriculture to advocate for the needs of parents around economic development.

- Scale up (Portuguese)
  This discussion highlighted stakeholders across Lusophone countries in West, Southern and Eastern Africa. One key recurring theme of the discussions on scaling was the issue of resources as a root challenge. Participants asserted that no other challenge (such as materials, personnel training, sustainability or other issues) could be addressed until adequate financing was addressed.
DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The closing session framed the African Regional Convening as a milestone event, as the first time in which so many diverse sectors from across so many countries in Africa had united around the cause of supporting parents. The sessions demonstrated that the evidence on the value of parenting support interventions continues to grow in low- and middle-income countries, with compelling evidence on the rationale for interventions and the effectiveness of innovative, hybrid and digital delivery models. The critical importance of context and the uniqueness of families was clearly articulated through the presentations. Fifty evidence-based programmes highlighted progress and successes that have been achieved in recent years in bringing parenting support to families, parents, and caregivers.

The first day of sessions served to frame the convening, and highlighted the diversity and scope of parenting support, touching on policy and practice, the role of fathers in parenting, the unique features of parenting adolescents, parenting in humanitarian settings, and alignment with the Nurturing Care Framework, the INSPIRE strategy, and the Helping Adolescents Thrive Toolkit.

The second day explored evidence-based interventions further. The presenters in breakout sessions discussed topics as diverse as nurturing care for early childhood development, support for parents of adolescents, support for HIV-affected caregivers and children, mental health, violence prevention, and support for parents of children with disabilities, while also allowing for a deep dive into the different platforms that have enabled these programmes to succeed, including health and nutrition, education, faith-based, family-based and digital platforms.

Many presenters noted how the continent is composed of diverse cultures and each culture provides multiple pathways to raise children. Context is key. Diverse examples highlighted how evidence can be translated into policy and practice through stakeholder consultation, community engagement, and adaptation.

The three days of the convening demonstrated the vision, skill, and drive that organizations and individuals across Africa have shown in implementing these programmes and in innovating, delivering, and scaling up these interventions. The challenge identified in the conclusions centred on how to combine efforts under coherent strategies that governments can coordinate and drive, in order to achieve implementation at scale, reaching many more families and children.

The closing of the conference left stakeholders with challenges to action:

1. **ADVOCACY** - The call to action challenged participants to use the energy of the convening and the lessons learnt to inform advocacy and programming, sharing learning with constituencies represented, communities where stakeholders work, and partnerships. Stakeholders were called upon to advocate with ministers of finance and tap into domestic resources.

2. **EVIDENCE** - Implementers need to be deliberate about documenting interventions, gathering data on progress in care practices, child outcomes, and costs, in order to distil best practices. Too often, good initiatives are not sustained because the evidence is not consolidated, or available funds dry up. Only by demonstrating how interventions work and at what cost, can stakeholders mobilize and sustain both political and programmatic action.
3. **INNOVATION** - Core to implementation has been the use of community platforms, integration into existing services such as health and education, targeted support for vulnerable communities and populations, and specialized services for families and children with particular needs. The pandemic period illustrated the power of digital approaches to complement face-to-face interactions for reaching families when no other ways are available. The closing of the convening called on stakeholders to continue to innovate as well as develop hybrids that merge different approaches, to increase reach and amplify impact.

4. **SCALE** - Governments need to be in the driver’s seat and partners aligned around a common vision and strategy, in order to make implementation part of government budget lines. Fifty-seven per cent of countries in the African Region have a national policy on early childhood development. Stakeholders must support more countries to adopt such policies and move from policy to implementation. Plenary session speakers and evidence-based presenters also highlighted a number of opportunities where stakeholders can improve while continuing to innovate, advocate, and scale up parenting programmes across the continent.

- “The continent is not short of evidence-based parenting programmes and now is the time for systematic and structured scale-up”.
- Enabling environments for parenting support must be further strengthened through additional policy commitments in a number of areas.
- Families and communities need to be consulted at the design phase to ensure relevance, sustainability, and ownership of the programmes in question and to allow for cultural diversity.
- Programmes need to be designed to document learning and evidence to show what works in different contexts.
- Support needs to reach parents and caregivers of children that are particularly vulnerable, including teenage parents, parents of children with HIV, and parents of children with disabilities and families affected by HIV/AIDS.
- Parenting support can be further integrated on multiple existing delivery platforms.
- Further multisectoral collaboration across sectors and across service providers is needed, to prevent silos and to ensure the greatest reach possible by building on existing efforts rather than duplicating. Partners should avoid working in silos and instead encourage cross-pollination of thematic areas such as child protection, early childhood development and health.
- Scaling up should focus on quality, and not just quantity, to show impact on children.
- Lack of funding is an overarching challenge across implementation. Securing adequate financing needs to be a highlighted priority of the movement for support to parenting.
- Changing and strengthening systems to create an enabling environment to support parents will take a decade; therefore, we need milestones to mark progress.
NEXT STEPS

The regional convening was the start of a process with concrete outcomes. The following next steps activities arose as recommendations:

- Consolidation and packaging of learning from the African Regional Convening to Support Parents and Caregivers event
- A mapping of the African regional policy landscape to support parenting in preparation for further political and financial commitments in 2023
- The development of a compendium that documents programming across Africa in support of parents
- The development of key messages on parenting support that can be disseminated to Member States to support advocacy efforts and resource mobilization
- Selection of priority countries that will be provided technical support for implementation of evidence-based parenting programmes
- Participants identified the need for a platform and mechanism for feedback and continuity of input with governments to move with partners to scale up best practices. The Africa Early Childhood Network was identified as a partner positioned to build a community of common practice
- Continuing the energy and engagement at the regional level through holding one or two gatherings per year
- The Africa Early Childhood Network offers to support two subregional events addressing support to parents

- The Scaling Breakout Session Working Group identified opportunities to operationalize the next steps through the African Union platforms: Continental Education Strategy for Africa, and the four working groups of the Early Childhood Education and Development Cluster:
  - Access to quality services
  - Knowledge generation and management
  - Governance and accountability
  - Policy and advocacy.

Following the conference, the following GISP working groups were established to move forward initiatives.

1. African Regional Convening Summary Report Working Group
2. Compendium: Africa Notebook on Parenting Working Group
3. Continuing Momentum and Strategic Opportunities Working Group

In the months following the convening, these small groups continued to meet to drive forward specific initiatives.

A platform of almost 1500 stakeholders interested in parenting has been mobilized, which can be re-engaged following the convening, to continue the momentum for support to parents and caregivers across the continent.

ANNEX 2: INTERVENTIONS TO SUPPORT PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS IN AFRICA

“We have a lot of evidence on what works in our Region and now we need to join hands together and bring it to scale.”
- participant at the convening
### Day 1  Tuesday, 21 June

**MC: Assumpta Muriithi, World Health Organization**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Facilitator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Welcome briefing and introduction of the agenda</td>
<td>Ms. Binta Sako, World Health Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:10</td>
<td>Parent testimonial</td>
<td>Ms. Aicha Bah-Kaba, Parent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:20</td>
<td>Opening remarks:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• WHO, Director Healthier Populations, Regional Office for Africa</td>
<td>Dr. Adelheid Onyango</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• UNICEF, Deputy Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa</td>
<td>Ms. Lieke van de Wiel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child</td>
<td>Hon. Aboubekrine El Jeri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:35</td>
<td>Global Initiative to Support Parents</td>
<td>Video</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45</td>
<td>Supporting parents and caregivers, from science to scale</td>
<td>Prof. Linda Richter, University of the Witwatersrand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15</td>
<td>Panel 1: Government led efforts to support parents and caregivers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Moderator: Ms. Maniza Ntekim, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Kenya, Deputy Commissioner General of Prisons</td>
<td>Ms. Florence Omundi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Zimbabwe, Child Protection Services</td>
<td>M. Tawanda, Zimhunga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. United Republic of Tanzania, Ministry of Community Development,</td>
<td>M. Sebastian Kitiku</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gender, Elderly and Children</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Côte d’Ivoire, Ministry of Women, Child Protection and Solidarity</td>
<td>Dr. Didier Lath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Zambia, Ministry of Education</td>
<td>M. Charm Kalimbika</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45</td>
<td>Q&amp;A in the chat</td>
<td>Ms. Maniza Ntekim, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Panel 2: Evidence-based interventions to support parents and caregivers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Moderator: Ms. Isang Awah, Oxford University)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Childhood and adolescence, Aga Khan University</td>
<td>Prof. Amina Abubakar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Policy and practice, University of South Africa</td>
<td>Prof. Hasina Ebrahim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. The role of fathers in parenting, Makerere University</td>
<td>Dr. Godfrey Siu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Humanitarian settings, International Rescue Committee</td>
<td>Ms. Yvonne Agengo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Reflections on evidence-based interventions, SAPPIN</td>
<td>Dr. Nicki Dawson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Day 2  Wednesday, 22 June

**MC:** George Owino, Africa Early Childhood Network

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Presenter/Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Parent testimonial</td>
<td>M. Daniel Mbuntum, Parent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:10</td>
<td>Opening remarks:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• A case for pluralism and context-sensitivity</td>
<td>Prof. Kofi Marfo, Aga Khan University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Accelerator approach and delivery modalities</td>
<td>Prof. Lucie Cluver, University of Oxford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Orientation for breakout sessions</td>
<td>Ms. Binta Sako, World Health Organization</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Presentations/Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:40</td>
<td>1.a. Nurturing care for early childhood development</td>
<td>Sugira Muryango (Rwanda)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nurturing care groups and care and comfort for children (Multi-country)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Integrated ECD and Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (Multi-country)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:40</td>
<td>1.b. Supporting caregivers of adolescents</td>
<td>Supporting pregnant adolescents and young mothers (Lesotho)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nia programme (Kenya)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parenting for Lifelong Health (Tanzania)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PEPFAR and parenting (Multi-country)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:40</td>
<td>1.c. Supporting parents of children with disabilities</td>
<td>Baby Ubuntu early care and support for young children (Multi-country)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Caregiver Skills Training (Multi-country)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pediatric Development Clinic Model (Rwanda)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:40</td>
<td>1.d. Promoting caregiver and children’s mental health</td>
<td>Early Adolescent Skills for Emotions (Tanzania)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Psychotherapy for adolescent caregivers (Kenya)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Thinking Healthy (Liberia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Supporting parents in Uganda (Uganda)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:40</td>
<td>1.e. Preventing child maltreatment</td>
<td>Parenting without violence (Zambia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Street connected mothers (Kenya)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Children in alternative care (Multi-country)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:40</td>
<td>1.f. Politique, coordination multisectorielle et financement (Francophone)</td>
<td>Ministry of Education (Cameroon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ministry of Education (Burkina Faso)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ministry of Education (Tunisia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ministry of Women, Family and Children (Côte d’Ivoire)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ministry of Education (Senegal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:40</td>
<td>1.g. Intervenções baseadas em evidências (Lusophone)</td>
<td>Atividades com Pais (Mozambique)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>All United for Early Childhood (Angola)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Apoio Psico-social (Multi-country)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rede de instituições de Atendimento de Criança (Guinea Bissau)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:40</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BREAKOUT SESSIONS 2

11:50  2.a. Working through health and nutrition platforms
- Strengthening health systems (Multi-country)
- Young mentor mothers living with HIV (Zimbabwe)
- Engaging fathers for effective child nutrition and development (Tanzania)

2.b. Working through faith-based platforms
- Moments that matter early childhood (Multi-country)
- Spiritual development of children for violence prevention (Multi-country)
- Celebrating families project model (Multi-country)

2.c. Working through educationally oriented platforms
- Parenting programme via adult literacy (Eritrea)
- Dialogic book-sharing (South Africa)
- Family literacy initiative (Liberia)

2.d. Working through family-based platforms
- Good families, strong nation (Tanzania)
- Role model-engaging men (Rwanda)
- REAL Fathers (Multi-country)
- Child-optimized financial education (Multi-country)

2.e. Working through media and digital engagement
- Parenting for Lifelong Health-Digital (South Africa)
- Parenting journey (Tanzania)
- Digital parenting programme (Multi-country)

2.f. Interventions fondées sur des données probantes (Francophone)
- REAL fathers (Senegal)
- Skillful parenting (Côte d’ivoire)
- Imagination Afrika (Senegal)
- Enfance-Promotion du développement de la petite enfance, DMI (Côte d’Ivoire)
- Les familles font la différence (Côte d’Ivoire)

2.g. Trabalhando em diversas plataformas (Lusophone)
- Desenvolvimento da primeira infância nos serviços de saúde de rotina (Multi-country)
- Plataforma de Educação, Prontidão Escolar Acelerada (Mozambique)
- Plataforma Ambiental, Apoio aos Pais e Cuidadores no Parque Nacional de Gorongosa (Mozambique)
- Rede de instituições de Atendimento de Criança (Guinea Bissau)*

12:50  - Key messages and summary of the day
Dr. George Owino, Africa Early Childhood Network

13:00  End of day 2

Day 3  Thursday, 23 June | MC: Oliver Petrovic

MC: Oliver Petrovic, UNICEF

10:00  Opening remarks  M. Oliver Petrovic, UNICEF

10:05  Panel 3: Financing policies and programmes
(Moderator: M. Arif Neky, UN Strategic Partnerships)*

1. Rwanda National Child Development Agency  Ms. Diane Iradukunda
2. UNICEF Private sector engagement Liaisoning  Mr. Rajat Madhok
3. United States Department of State’s Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator and Global Health Diplomacy  Dr. Janet Saul
4. Safaricom Foundation  Mr. Henry Kilonzo
5. African Development Bank  Mr. George Ouma*

10:45  Q&A in the chat  M. Arif Neky, UN Strategic Partnerships

11:00  Orientation for breakout sessions  M. Oliver Petrovic, UNICEF
| 11:05  | Break |
| 11:15  | **Reflections & way forward in mixed groups**  
Breakout rooms. Participants reflect on learnings and identify key actions for taking the agenda forward keeping in mind: innovation, evidence, scale, advocacy. |
| 11:45  | 1. Advocacy (English)  
2. Innovation (English)  
3. Financing (English)  
4. Scale up (English)  
5. Advocacy (French)  
6. Scale up (Portuguese) |

| 12:00  | **Panel 4: Way forward**  
(Moderator: Ms. Stella Ayo-Odongo, End Violence) |
| 12:40  | 1. LEGO Foundation  
2. Joining Forces Africa  
3. African Child Policy Forum  
4. Africa Early Childhood Network  
M. Aaron Lee Morris  
M. Geoffrey Oyat  
Ms. Retta Getachew  
Dr. George Owino* |
| 12:50  | Closing on behalf of parents  
Closing on behalf of GISP partners  
Ms. Teresa Njoroge, Parent  
Ms. Elizabeth Lule, Early Childhood Development Action Network |

| 13:00  | End of day 3 |

* Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.  
- Maya Angelou
Here below are the submissions that were received by the Convening Steering Committee as interventions to support parenting. The evidence-based interventions that were profiled in the convening are noted in blue, with a hyperlink to their presentation.

**The following information was collected on interventions:**

- name of the programme
- name of the organization/s implementing the programme:
- short description of the programme
- country/countries of implementation
- type of evidence:
  - effective (at least two high- or moderate-quality impact studies)
  - promising (at least one high- or moderate-quality impact study)
  - prudent (qualitative or observational studies)
- name of proposed presenter/s
- contact information.

### Programmes by Country

**Angola**
- All United for Early Childhood (Angola) - ADPP /AMPA

**Burkina Faso**
- Ministry of Education (Burkina Faso)

**Côte d’Ivoire**
- Enfance-Promotion du Développement De La Petite Enfance (Côte d’Ivoire) - Development Media International
- Les Familles Font la Différence (Côte d’Ivoire) - International Rescue Committee
- Ministry of Women, Family and Children (Côte d’Ivoire)
- Skilful Parenting (Côte d’Ivoire) - Investing In Children

**Eritrea**
- Parenting Programme at Scale Via Adult Literacy (Eritrea)- Ministry of Education

**Guinea-Bissau**
- Rede de Instituições de Atendimento de Criança (Guinea-Bissau) - Rede Nacional dos Jardins de Infância da Guiné Bissau

**Lesotho**
- Supporting Pregnant Adolescents and Young Mothers (Lesotho) - Help Lesotho

**Liberia**
- Family Literacy Initiative (Liberia) - We Care Foundation
- Liberia’s Mental Health and Women’s Empowerment Programme (Liberia) - Restore Hope Liberia
- Thinking Healthy (Liberia) - Carter Center

**Kenya**
- Malezi Bora na Maisha Mazuri (Kenya)-Parenting for Lifelong Health
- Nia Programme (Kenya) - ZanaAfrica
- Positive Parenting- Malezi Bora ya Awali (Kenya)- Early Childhood Network for Kenya
- Psychotherapy for Adolescent Caregivers (Kenya) Aga Khan University
- Street Connected Mothers (Kenya) - Oxford/ Parenting for Lifelong Health
- Team Mums Child (Kenya)- Team Mums Child

**Malawi**
- Early Child Development - Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission Integration Programme, (Malawi)
- Improving children’s well-being among young families living in adversity - Supporting pregnant adolescent girls and young mothers (Malawi)- Baylor Paediatric HIV Centre of Excellence, Mothers-to-Mothers, Family Planning Association of Malawi, UNC-Lilongwe Medical Trust, and Partners in Health
- Yamba Malawi, (Malawi)- Yamba Malawi

**Mozambique**
- Atividades com Pais (Mozambique) - Wonna Sonana
- Desenvolvimento da Primeira Infância nos Serviços de Saúde de Rotina (Mozambique and Multicountry) - PATH
- Plataforma Ambiental, Apoio aos Pais e Cuidadores no Parque Nacional de Gorongosa (Mozambique)- Parque Nacional de Gorongosa
- Plataforma de Educação, Prontidão Escolar Acelerada (Mozambique) - American Institutes for Research

**Nigeria**
- A structured work and study programme that combines education, technology, peer to peer learning and access to childcare jobs for women and youth (Nigeria)- Icarella Caregivers Institute
- Association For Childhood Education Practitioners (Nigeria) - Association For Childhood Education Practitioners
- Parents Cooperation - Inevitable at all Levels of Child Care and Education (Nigeria)- Community Child Education And Development
South Africa
- Early Childhood Development (Rwanda) - Caritas Kibungo
- Pediatric Development Clinic Model (Rwanda) - Partners In Health/Inshuti Mu Buzima
- Role Model-Engaging Men (Rwanda) - Rwanda Men’s Resource Center
- Sugira Muryango (Rwanda) FXB-Rwanda
- Transforming the Lives of Children in Rwanda through Early Childhood Development and Family (Rwanda) - UNICEF in collaboration with the Government of Rwanda, and the Imbuto Foundation.

Senegal
- Gender Transformative Programme for Advancing Care for Children in Adversity (Senegal) - Plan International Sénégal
- Imagination Afrika (Senegal) - Imagination Afrika
- Ministry of Education (Senegal)
- REAL Fathers (Senegal) - PLAN Senegal.

Sierra Leone
- TINAP - Stand for Development, (Sierra Leone) - TINAP - Stand for Development

South Africa
- Dialogic Book-Sharing (South Africa) - Mikhulu Child Development Trust
- Family Maths Science and Literacy (South Africa) - COUNT Educational Institute
- National Parenting Programme (South Africa) - Department of Social Development of South Africa with the support of UNICEF
- Pregnant adolescent girls and young women peer mentor programme (South Africa) - UNICEF
- South African Parenting Programme Implementers Network (South Africa) - African Parenting Programme Implementers Network MenCare Programme 50:50 (South Africa) - UNICEF South Africa Office in partnership with the National Department of Social Development and Sonke Gender Justice.

United Republic of Tanzania
- Early Adolescent Skills for Emotions (Tanzania) - Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences
- Good Families, Strong Nation (Tanzania) - Government of Tanzania and UNICEF
- Integrating Mother-Baby Course into Early Childhood Development Project (Tanzania) - Catholic Relief Services Tanzania
- Malezi Bora Engaging Fathers for Effective Child Nutrition and Development (Tanzania) - Global Communities, Harvard University, Purdue University, and Africa Academy of Public Health
- Parenting for Lifelong Health (Tanzania) - National Institute for Medical Research
- Parenting Journey (Tanzania) - British Broadcasting Corporation and UNICEF Tanzania
- Tuwekeze Pamoja - Let's Invest Together (Tanzania) - Save the Children Tanzania and ADP Mbozi.

Tunisia
- Ministry of Education (Tunisia)

Uganda
- Baby Ubuntu Early Care and Support for Young Children (Multi-country) - Uganda Medical Research Council/UGanda Virus Research Institute / London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
- Zambia
- Parenting Without Violence (Zambia) - Save the Children

Zimbabwe
- Young Mentor Mothers Living with HIV (Zimbabwe) - Africaid.

Multicountry
- A Strengthened Partnership for Nurturing Care (Kenya, Zambia) - ChildFund International, USA and Child Fund Kenya
- Apoio Psico-social (Multicountry) - Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative
- Bright Talk (Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya, United Kingdom) - Bright Talk
- Caregiver Skills Training (Multicountry) - Cape Town University
- Celebrating Families Project Model (Multicountry) - World Vision
- Child-optimized Financial Education (Uganda, Kenya, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Cameroon) - Catholic Relief Services
- Children in Alternative Care (Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zanzibar) - SOS Children's Village
- Digital Parenting Programme (Tanzania, Zambia and Uganda) - Stellenbosch and Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative
- Integrated Early Child Development and Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (Multicountry) - Mothers2Mothers
- Lively Minds (Ghana, Uganda) - Lively Minds
- Moments That Matter Early Childhood (Multicountry) - Episcopal Relief Zambia Anglican Council/Anglican Development Services
- Nurturing Care Groups and Care and Comfort for Children (Burkina Faso, Burundi, DRC, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe) - World Vision
- Parenting for Lifelong Health - Digital (Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Eswatini, Lesotho, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Kenya, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, South Sudan, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa) - Clowns without Borders
- Parenting Under Pressure (Burkina Faso, Myanmar, Uganda, Rwanda, Mozambique) - Plan International
- PEPFAR and Parenting (Multicountry) - USAID
- REAL Fathers (Uganda, Rwanda, Malawi, Senegal, Sierra Leone) - Impact and Innovation Center
- Spiritual Development of Children for Violence Prevention (Multicountry) - Consortium on Nurturing Spirituality in Early Childhood for the Prevention of Violence
- Strengthening Health Systems (Mozambique, Kenya, Ethiopia, Zambia) - PATH.
Almost 1500 people registered for the conference, with up to 391 participating in a session at any one time. Individuals from the following cross-section of institutions registered for the conference:

- Acção Social Angicana
- Accelerate Hub
- African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
- African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child Secretariat
- Achieve - Namibia
- Ack All Saints Kebulonik School
- Action pour le développement et la solidarité
- ActionAid Tanzania
- Adilis Alaba University
- ADPP Angola
- AEH Foundation
- Assistance aux Enfants Abandonnés et Orphelins-Centres Nutritionnelles et Alimentaires
- African Development Bank
- African Early Child Network
- African Brotherhood Church
- Africa Early Childhood Network
- Africa Inland Child & Community Agency for Development
- Africa Network for Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect - Malawi Chapter
- Africa University
- Africaid Zvandiri
- African Child Policy Forum
- African Network for the Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN) Nigeria
- African Partnership to End Violence against Children, African Child Policy Forum (ACPFF)
- African Peer Review Mechanism
- African Population and Health Research Center
- African Relief Service
- African Union Commission
- African Union - Economic Community of Central African States
- Africhild Centre
- Aga Khan Hospital
- Aga Khan University
- Agape Children’s Ministry
- Agence Nationale de la Petite Enfance et de la Case des Tout-Petits
- AHRM Consult Ltd-Mauritius
- Aide au Sahel-Mali
- American Institutes for Research
- Aldeas Infantiles SOS
- Aldeias Infantis SOS-Cabo Verde
- Allies in Development
- ALTEN Group-Niger
- Aman For Child and Woman Development
- Amani Girls Home
- Association Marocaine d’Appui à la Promotion de la Petite Entreprise
- Ambassador 4 Change
- Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham University
- Andal & Pinal
- Arab Network for Early Childhood Development
- Antonia Health
- Aqymerac Ojeko Women Group for Development
- Associação do Centro de Apoio à Mãe
- APPOUJES - Développement pour la Participation
- Arab Resource Collective
- Aroa Virtual Services
- Argatou International
- Arise Katabalanga Foundation
- Art2Care
- Asociación Artística Y Cultural Actores Del Milenio
- Asociación de Apoyo a la Mujer Africana
- Assistance aux Enfants Abandonnés et Orphelins
- Associaçao Chapateca
- Associação Nona Sanana
- Association Appui Moral, Matériel et Intellectuel à l’Enfant
- Association d’Assistance au Développement
- Association de Soutien aux Revenus & Economies Fragiles
- Association Guinéenne des Assistantes Bookings
- Association Jeunesse et Développement du Mali (AJDM)
- AVSAs
- Atlantique
- Atlas Corps
- AVSI Foundation
- AVSI Foundation Uganda
- AVSI Foundation Rwanda
- Awakening Horn For Inclusive Rural Development
- Bantuva Initiative
- Bantwana Zimbabwe
- Battenberg
- British Broadcasting Corporation - Media Action
- British Broadcasting Corporation - Media Action
- Tanzania
- Beijing Normal University
- Bernard van Leer Foundation
- Beruhum Org
- Bethany Christian Services Global
- Bielefeld University
- BiriaElat
- Blossoming Cherries
- Booking Assurance
- Boston College
- Bubbly Blossoms Childcare
- Bugando-Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences
- Build Africa Kenya
- Bwafwano Integrated Services Organization
- Cabrini Ministries
- Cadre de Concertation des ONG et Associations Actives en Education de Base au Burkina Faso
- Canada Mathare Education Trust
- CAPEH Senegal
- Capeverdean Institute of Children and Adolescents
- Capeverdean Institute of Children and Adolescents - Centre Nos Kaza
- Capital for Life
- Cardiff University
- CARE International in Zambia
- Caritas Harare
- Caritas Nigeria
- Carter Center
- Canada Africa Schools Partnership
- Catholic Caritas Foundation of Nigeria
- Catholic Relief Services
- Christian Blind Mission
- Center for Adolescent Girls Health
- Center for Learning and Childhood Development-Ghana
- Centre Diocésain de Communication
- Centre for Muslim Civil Society Learning and Development
- Centre for Research and Development in Population Health
- Centre for Transformative Parenting
- Children in Crossfire
- Childline
- Childline Eastern Cape
- Childline Gauteng
- Childline South Africa
- Childline Zimbabwe
- Children in Crossfire
- Children on the Edge
- Children’s Chance International Uganda
- Children’s Rights and Violence Prevention Fund-East
- Child’s Destiny and Development Organization
- ChildSafe
- Child Witness Institute
- Chimwemwe Organization for Promotion of Childhood Rights, Education and Development
- Chinsisi Foundation
- Christian Youth Volunteers Association Trust
- Center for International Health, Education, and Biosecurity--KenyaCIBHEB KENYA
- CivSource Africa
- Clean Start Solutions Kenya
- CLM Consultants Ltd
- Cloud Baby Inc
- Clowns Without Borders South Africa
- Color Outside of the Lines Education Consultants
- Columbia University
- Commonwealth Association-Uganda
- Communities That Care
- Community Action Scheme Africa
- Community And Family Aid Foundation-Ghana
- Community Hands Against Poverty
- Community Transformation Foundation Network
- Compassion International
- Compassion International Uganda
- Competence Building Society of Early Childhood Education for Kenya
- Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
- Consensusbuild.org
- Coptic Dreams
- Correctional Services
- County Government
- County Government of Busia
- County Government of Mombasa, Kenya
- County Government of Siaya
- Creative International
- Changing the Way We Care
- Curriculum Development Centre
- DAN-Mozambique
- Development Aid from People to People-Orphans and Vulnerable Children Western DAQY - Kenya
- South African Human Sciences Research Council’s Developmental, Capable and Ethical State Division
- Department of Child Development-Zambia
- Conflict & Humanitarian Data Centre
- Chengelo School
- Chikumbi Children’s Home
- Child Care And Adoption Society Of Zambia
- Child in Family Focus
- Child Protection Alliance
- Child Protection Consultant
- Child Reintegration Centre
- Child Welfare
- ChildFund -Ethiopia
- ChildFund International
- ChildFund - Kenya
- ChildFund -Uganda
- ChildFund Mozambique
- Childhood Development Organisation
- Childlife Mozambique
- Childline
- Childline Eastern Cape
- Childline Gauteng
- Childline South Africa
- Childline Zimbabwe
- Children in Crossfire
- Children on the Edge
- Children’s Chance International Uganda
- Children’s Rights and Violence Prevention Fund-East
- Child’s Destiny and Development Organization
- ChildSafe
- Child Witness Institute
- Chimwemwe Organization for Promotion of Childhood Rights, Education and Development
- Chinsisi Foundation
- Christian Youth Volunteers Association Trust
- Center for International Health, Education, and Biosecurity--KenyaCIBHEB KENYA
- CivSource Africa
- Clean Start Solutions Kenya
- CLM Consultants Ltd
- Cloud Baby Inc
- Clowns Without Borders South Africa
- Color Outside of the Lines Education Consultants
- Columbia University
- Commonwealth Association-Uganda
- Communities That Care
- Community Action Scheme Africa
- Community And Family Aid Foundation-Ghana
- Community Hands Against Poverty
- Community Transformation Foundation Network
- Compassion International
- Compassion International Uganda
- Competence Building Society of Early Childhood Education for Kenya
- Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
- Consensusbuild.org
- Coptic Dreams
- Correctional Services
- County Government
- County Government of Busia
- County Government of Mombasa, Kenya
- County Government of Siaya
- Creative International
- Changing the Way We Care
- Curriculum Development Centre
- DAN-Mozambique
- Development Aid from People to People-Orphans and Vulnerable Children Western DAQY - Kenya
- South African Human Sciences Research Council’s Developmental, Capable and Ethical State Division
- Department of Child Development-Zambia
- Department of Early Childhood Care and Education, Adeyeye College of Education
- Department of Social Affairs- Seychelles
- Department of Social Development- Zimbabwe
- Development Initiative for Community Enhancement
- Development Media International
- Développement Média International
- Dignitas
- Direction de la Nutrition- Burkina Faso
- Direction De La Santé Communautaire- Côte d'Ivoire
- Direction de la Santé de la Famille- Burkina Faso
- Direction Nationale de l’Enfance- Guinea
- Direction Régionale de l’Educação Préescolar, Primário e Non Formelle du Centre- Burkina Faso Directorate of Children Services- Kenya
- Doctoran with Africa CIUAMM
- Dominican Institute
- DrMrj, Bridging The Gap
- Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung (DSW)
- Early Childhood Care and Education Authority
- Early Childhood Development Coalition Malawi
- Early Childhood Development Action Network
- Early Child Network for Kenya
- Elevate Children Funders Group
- École l’Étincelle
- ECPAT Indonesia
- Education Development Centers
- Educating Girls and Young Women for Development
- Educo
- Eduquer, Former les Femmes, un Appui au Développement
- Egit India
- eKitabu
- Elgin Community College
- Elimu Yetu Coalition
- Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation
- ELMA Philanthropies
- ELMA Philanthropies- East Africa
- End Violence Partnership
- ENDa- Guinea-Bissau
- ENDa Ecopole-Senegal
- Enda Tiers-Monde- Guinea-Bissau
- Enrichment Center Ethiopia (ECE)
- Episcopal Relief & Development
- Equipe Recherche Action pour le Développement Durable
- Ethiopian Society of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists
- Esther Endy Foundation
- Ethiopian Center for Disability Development
- Ethiopian Midwives association
- Ethiopian Pediatrics Society
- End Violence Against Children
- Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania
- FACT Zimbabwe
- Foyer d’Accueil pour Jeunes Filles Mères
- Families and Futures Coalition of Tanzania
- Family Support Trust
- Forum for African Women Educationalists Uganda
- Foundation for Community Work
- Feboct Charity Foundation
- Fundação São E E Cooperação
- Federal Ministry of Education
- Federal Ministry of Health
- Feeding Minds
- Feeding Minds Trust
- The International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics
- Finestjay Lightcrew
- Firelight Foundation
- First Step Cambodia
- Fondation Terre des Hommes Italie
- Forensic Pathology International
- Forgotten Voices International
- Fórum Caboverdiano da Sociedade Civil
- Forum for African Women Educationalists
- Forum for African Women Educationalists- Uganda Chapter
- Foundation for Integrated Rural Development
- Foundation for Professional Development
- Foundation for the Promotion of Childhood Care and Development in Nigeria
- Frontier Counties Development Council
- FST South African Food Science and Technology Magazine
- Full Proof Mission
- Future Leaders Initiative SL
- FXB Rwanda
- Georgetown University
- Georgetown University- Center for Child & Human Development
- Ghana Education Service
- Ghana Health and Education Initiative
- Ghana Health Service
- Ghana health service- Family Health
- Division
- Global Initiative to Support Parents
- Global Affairs Canada
- Global Childhood Academy
- Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children
- GOAL
- GOAL - Sierra Leone
- God’s Chosen Women Organisation
- Goldian Day Care
- Gorom Gorom National Park- Mozambique
- Government Ministry
- GPI - Peace Culture Foundation - Thailand
- Grassroots Development Initiatives
- Foundation
- Great Lakes Institute For Strategic Studies
- GrowthMind Africa
- HakElimm
- Haramaya University, Kerra Health and Demographic Surveillance System
- Harvard
- Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health
- Haut-Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les Réfugiés
- Heal Historical Trauma
- Health Care Agency-Seychelles
- Heartlines
- Help a Child
- Help Lesotho
- HelpAInternational
- Health NGOs Network- Kenya
- Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Research, Military HIV Research Program
- Hewlett Foundation
- Home-start Burundi
- Home-Start South Africa
- Home-Start Worldwide
- Hope World Wide
- Hope World Wide Botswana
- Hope World Wide South Africa
- HOPE Worldwide Zambia
- HOPE Worldwide Zimbabwe
- Hope-Aid Organisation
- Hospital and Palliative Care Association of Zimbabwe
- Howard Hospital Pathways Projects
- Human Rights and Democracy Link Africa
- Human Sciences Research Council
- Humanity & Inclusion
- HURDA - Agence des droits de l’homme et du développement- Cameroon
- ICARD international- Mali
- Icarella Childcare Services Ltd
- Investing in Children and their Societies
- Ignite Philanthropy
- Imagine Africa
- Impact and Innovations Development Centre
- Inclusion Ghana
- Initiative for Youth Empowerment and Economic Development
- Insiza Godways AIDS Council
- Instituto Caboverdiano da criança e do Adolescente
- International Center for Research on Women
- International Rescue Committee
- International Society for Peace and Safety
- Islamic Relief - Yemen
- Islamic Relief Malawi
- International Youth Foundation
- JALI Community Programme- Kenya
- Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology
- John Hopkins School of Public Health
- Jimma University
- John Snow Inc.
- Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
- Joint Office of UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA
- Joint Hands Welfare Organisation
- Joy for Children
- Kenya Alliance for Advancement of Children
- KANCO network organization in Kenya
- Kenya Prisons Service
- Kenyatta University
- Kindernothilfe
- Kiruma Valley Christian Centre
- Kissi University
- Kismu Medical and Education Trust
- Kismu Medical and Education Trust- Smart Start Siaya
- Komolò Integrated Development Organization
- Korea Foundation for International Healthcare
- Kubata- Zimbabwe
- LAMAP - Denmark
- Learn To Play
- LEGO Foundation
- Les Ateliers De Maya La Soninke
- Lifecycle consulting
- Lifeline/Childline Namibia
- Little Light Foundation
- Lively Mind
- London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
- Los Bernarditos
- The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
- Medicine- Baby Ubuntu
- Luapula Foundation
- Luigi Giussani Institute of Higher Education
- Lumos
- Lutheran World Federation
- LV FARMS Lda- Mozambique
- LVCT Health- Healthy Communities- Kenya
- Lwala Community Alliance
- Mothers2Mothers
- Mabalepodi Primary School
- Macheo Children’s Organisation
- Maestral International
- Makerere University
- Makerere University Walter Reed Project
- Maliko
- Maryland Global Initiative Corporation
- Massana Hospital
- Mauritius Family Planning & Welfare Association
- Mavambo Orphan Care
- Mckarrm International
- Médecins Sans Frontières
- Media Concern Initiative
- Medical Research Council / Uganda
- Virus Research Institute & London School Hygiene and Tropical Medicine Uganda
- Research Unit
- MEMP- Benin
- Ministère de l’Education nationale, de l’Alphabétisation et de la PLN- Burkina Faso
- Ministère de la Femme, de la Famille et de l’Enfant- Côte d’Ivoire
- Mid Sweden University
- Midrift Human Rights Network
- Mihkulu Child Development Trust
- Mihkulu Trust
- Ministère de l’éducation de base- Cameroon
- Ministère de la Femme, de la Famille et de l’Enfant- Côte d’Ivoire
- Ministère de la promotion de la femme et de la Famille- Cameroon
- Ministère de la santé- Burkina Faso
- Ministère de la santé- Mauritania
- Ministère de la santé et de la Population- Central African Republic
- Ministère de la Santé et de la Population- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Ministère de la santé et de l’hygiène publique- Burkina Faso
ANNEX 4: ELECTRONIC RESOURCES RELEVANT TO THE CONVENING

The following documents are hyper-linked to facilitate access to background documents related to the convening:

- Parenting Inter-Agency Vision-English
- Parenting Inter-Agency Vision-Portuguese
- Parenting Inter-Agency Vision-French
- AfECN Video: Early Years Matter
- UNICEF Video: Laura Mucha Poem
- UNICEF Video: Adverse Childhood Experiences

Convening feedback survey

- English
- Portuguese
- French
African Regional Convening to Support Parents and Caregivers

June 21-23, 2022