

**Input for the 2025 High-level Political Forum  
The Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)**

**Your assessment of the impacts of the multiple and interconnected crises on the implementation of SDGs 3, 5, 8, 14 and 17.**

The Committee on the Rights of the Child, when examining the reports of the States parties, noted differentiated results according to the States, but a trend that is emerging with difficulties in accessing to health care; to education and the persistence of multiple inequalities against girls, barriers to their empowerment, resulting in gender-based violence, including sexual violence leading to early pregnancies and impacting their rights. This situation is exacerbated in situations of armed conflict or serious urban violence.

The current situation has been marked by an increase in conflicts and serious violations of children's rights in conflict situations. One in five children still lives in a conflict zone. Nearly half a billion children are currently living in conflict zones around the world, including in Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Mali, Myanmar, Niger, the Occupied Palestinian Territories and in particular the Gaza strip, the Syrian Arab Republic, Somalia, Sudan, Ukraine and Yemen, which is twice as many as in 1990.

The Committee is particularly concerned by the extremely high level of discrimination against girls, which leads to their exclusion from the right to education, leisure, expression and participation, as is the case in particular in Afghanistan.

Children continue to face major challenges, as the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the combination of political, economic and environmental crises have continued to negatively impact their rights around the world. Most children's rights have suffered significant setbacks in recent years, including in the areas of health, education, protection from violence and special protection measures.

Important: This is an extract of the whole assessment of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, submitted to the HLPF Secretariat. You can access it on the Committee's website ([www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/crc](http://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/crc)).

**Three key areas where sustainable, inclusive, science-and evidence-based solutions for achieving the SDGs and leaving no one behind are being effectively delivered, especially related to the cluster of SDGs under review in 2025, also bearing in mind the three dimensions of sustainable development and the interlinkages across the Goals and targets.**

Please, see the other sections of the CRC input.

**Three examples of measures to accelerate progress towards SDGs through well-coordinated actions**

**in key transitions to bring progress to scale (food security, energy access and affordability, digital connectivity, education, jobs and social protection, climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution), building on interlinkages between SDGs to ensure cohesive progress.**

Addressing poverty and inequality is needed to remove barriers and progress on many SDGs targets.

Indeed, poverty and inequality remain the root causes of the difficulties children face in their daily lives. One in six children worldwide lives in extreme poverty. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, many States had made significant progress in reducing the number of children living below the international poverty line. However, the situation has deteriorated significantly due to the pandemic, and it now seems unlikely that Sustainable Development Goal 1, to end poverty in all its forms everywhere by 2030, will be achieved on current trends. Poverty rates are particularly high in sub-Saharan Africa, where 40 per cent of children live in extreme poverty. The Committee also noted that even in stable and wealthier countries, the number of children living in poverty is increasing.

Food insecurity and difficulty in accessing adequate housing are increasingly noted by the Committee, a situation which no longer spares the richest States, where many children receive only one meal a day and where school canteens are not widespread or able to meet the needs of economically and socially vulnerable children.

Violence against children is of particular concern – within their own homes and in society. We note that more than 120 states issued pledges to reduce violence at the First Ministerial Conference on Violence Against Children in Bogota, Columbia in October 2024, and the Committee aims to track government's progress on these pledges.

Furthermore, children are facing multiples obstacles while trying to exercise their rights to access to justice and effective remedy in regard of the rights protected by Goals 3 and 5. This means that, as it is the case for many other rights protected by the Convention, these rights are not effective and remain purely theoretical. This is why the Committee has decided to dedicate its next General comment to access to justice and effective remedies.

**Follow-up actions and measures being undertaken by your intergovernmental body or forum to support implementation of the 2023 SDG Summit Political Declaration and the outcomes of the 2024 Summit of the Future, to advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.**

The monitoring of the SDGs is carried out through the examination of periodic reports and is the subject of observations and recommendations adopted following the dialogue with the States parties.

The Committee monitored the progress made in the run-up to the Summit for the Future and proposed that children and their rights be better taken into account in the final version of the Pact for the Future and the Global Digital Compact. The issue of children's rights must be considered in all the debates and in all the decisions that will be adopted, in particular on the climate crisis, peace and security, the

Global Digital Compact and future generations.

The Committee will continue monitoring the progress made by States in their implementation of the rights of the child and the SDGs, through its review of the States parties' periodic reports and will continue to include a reference to the SDGs in the Concluding observations and other statements.

**Recommendations and key messages to be considered for inclusion in the Ministerial Declaration of the 2025 HLPF.**

The global partnership for development must integrate the search for peaceful solutions to the conflicts that are shaking the world and give priority to establishing the sustainable conditions for international peace and security.

Achieving the sustainable development goals requires ending the crisis of multilateralism and renewing a partnership for development, placing human beings at the heart of the various agendas.

A new financial governance is needed to guarantee access to financing for sustainable development and leave no one behind.