Accountability, Monitoring, and Data Collection: How can GlobalChild help?



Director CIHR-funded GlobalChild research program Proper implementation and monitoring of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) centres on appropriate and comprehensive data collection to verify duty bearers' accountability and the impact of this on children as the rights holders. The CRC remains the most highly ratified human right in history. However, despite this unprecedented level of ratification and revised legislation of the majority of the States Parties (SP), the state of children's rights in most SPs remains unsatisfactory. The evidence demonstrates that indicators can assist with implementing and monitoring human rights. This presentation will share a transformative tool called GlobalChild; the world's first comprehensive child rights monitoring platform, built on the indicator's framework and by an international team of experts working under the guidance of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, the monitoring body of the CRC.

<u>GlobalChild</u> will enable the states and other stakeholders to collect data on the structures (Laws and policies) required for the implementation of each right (structure indicators), the processes (programs and mechanisms) through which these policies are enacted (Process indicators) and their impact on the children (outcome indicators). By doing so, it will provide a comprehensive data collection tool that facilitates verification of the accountability of all duty bearers.

The need for such a system of accountability is critical during emergencies as well as in post emergencies. The pandemic has critically undermined progress made in child development almost in every country and has undercut the achimenes in the global targets such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The GlobalChild platform offers a rights-based and datacentric system to track children's rights as well as their development in all 196 SPs. It also establishes a system to track and evaluate the progress made on all child-focused SDGs targets for children of the world. The need for such an accountability tool will only increase in the post-COVID period when the impacts of the pandemic on children start to show their effects on children's health and development.