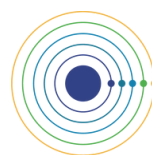




Save the Children

2024 - 2026

INCLUSIVE DATA CHARTER ACTION PLAN



**INCLUSIVE
DATA CHARTER**

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Introduction

Save the Children's vision is a world in which *every child* attains the right to survival, protection, development, and participation. However, we know that children experiencing additional and intersecting structural inequalities and discrimination are often more severely impacted.

That is why our global strategy is about transforming the impact for and with children, putting the protection of the rights of children most impacted by inequality and discrimination at the center of our work. This mirrors the pledge to Leave No One Behind in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which promised that goals will be met for all segments of society.

Addressing structural inequalities and discrimination requires us—as well as governments as duty bearers of child rights—to gather and analyze data using inclusive data approaches and principles. It also calls on us to use this data in strategic decision-making and accountability processes, both within and outside Save the Children.

Without inclusive and disaggregated data, relevant insights and evidence will be missing when we make decisions. For instance, policymakers won't fully understand which regions of the country and which children are furthest from achieving the SDGs, lacking relevant information on inequities and discrimination when deciding on the allocation of resources and public services. Similarly, our colleagues across Save the Children will not be able to fully understand how programmes and interventions may affect different groups of children differently, limiting our ability to learn and improve. Finally, the lack of inclusive data will limit civil society in holding duty-bearers accountable and highlight shortcomings.

Introduction

The Inclusive Data Charter (IDC) is mobilizing political commitments, strengthening collaborations between partners, and sharing knowledge to advance the use of inclusive and disaggregated data. Becoming an IDC champion will allow us to expand our partnerships, learn more effectively from other organizations, and contribute at scale to improve the collection and use of inclusive data.

Save the Children fully commits to the vision and principles of the Inclusive Data Charter. Over the next three years, we will advance our commitments across three core objectives:

1. Ensure that our own programmatic data aligns with inclusive data principles.
2. Use inclusive data in strategic decision-making processes.
3. Advocate to policymakers in national governments as well as multilateral organizations to increase investments in, and use of, inclusive data.

Objective 1

Ensure our programmatic data aligns with inclusive data principles

We will invest in developing and improving practices to support inclusive data principles across Save the Children's programmatic data collection.

- With the focus on ensuring that all populations are included in the data, Save the Children will particularly strengthen the **participation of children and youth in data collection activities**. Across the spectrum of children's participation in data, we will strive to establish more child-led and child-collaborative practices across humanitarian and development contexts. We will focus on collating best-practice resources and building capacity on various methodologies and tools for child-led, -collaborative, and -consultative approaches. In this process, we will also make sure to have a holistic approach and not treat children as one homogeneous group; whenever possible and applicable, we will create guidance on adjustments to data practices to make it more inclusive (for example, data collection activities to engage children with disabilities). We will understand the gaps in data practices both internally in Save the Children, as well as externally, and develop targeted activities to mitigate the challenges.



Ensure our programmatic data aligns with inclusive data principles

- We will increase **data disaggregation practice across programmatic data** to better understand the situation for children from communities impacted by inequality and discrimination and how programme outcomes differ across groups. Save the Children currently disaggregates routine monitoring/reach data by sex and age and has developed guidance for disaggregation of programme data with more variables (such as the type of location [urban/rural], disability, migration, and others). Over the next reporting period, Save the Children will focus on disaggregating routine data, emphasizing disability data disaggregation using the Washington Group Questions. The process of investing in disaggregated data will be implemented together with a focus on the use of such data in our programming, advocacy, and strategy (Objective 2 below).
- **Ethics in Evidence Generation** policy and procedure has been launched in Save the Children in 2023, which provides an important step to keep those who collect and analyze data accountable. Additional guidance and support will be provided to approach ethical and safe data collection and analysis when it comes to equality data, be it from a disaggregation perspective and data protection practices, or other risk and safety mitigations for involvement in data.
- We will **actively engage in knowledge exchange** with other IDC members. We look forward to learning from other members how they have successfully adjusted internal data practices to improve the collection and analysis of inclusive data. Equally, we plan to share our own experiences with the wider network, including child-participatory and child-led data practices, as well as ethics.

Objective 2

Use inclusive data in strategic decision-making processes

Save the Children will use the next strategy development period of 2025-2027 to create and use inclusive data in key decision-making processes:

- In **creating a culture of using inclusive data in decision-making**, we will ensure that our strategic direction is based on a strong equality analysis. For that reason, Save the Children has updated the Child Rights Situation Analysis methodology to focus more on equality rights, structural discrimination and unequal power dynamics. This analysis will inform the development of 2025-2027 strategy in country offices and globally. We will monitor the progress Save the Children is making towards the equality focus of the strategy, integrating metrics and accountabilities to monitor outcomes for children most impacted by inequality and discrimination.
- As a cross-cutting objective, we aim to **increase the awareness of Save the Children staff to inclusive data principles** and the importance of reflecting universal design, inclusivity, and equity in programmatic and strategic indicators and measures. Raising awareness, sharing best practices, and learning from each other (both through the Community of Practice on Measuring Equality and other internal groups) will increase understanding of the importance of inclusive data principles and improve implementation on country, regional, and global levels within Save the Children.



Objective 3

Advocate to policymakers in national governments as well as multilateral organizations to increase investments in and use of inclusive data

We will continue to advocate the importance of disaggregated data for children, both for more equitable decision-making and for accountability processes to highlight the situation of children impacted by inequality and discrimination.

- Develop evidence and policies, engage in advocacy activities, and support others within the IDC network and beyond in **highlighting the importance of inclusive data for sustainable development**. Influence governments and multilateral organizations to increase the availability of disaggregated data in public databases and portals, especially in the Global SDG Database.
- Work with partners to **champion the importance of multisectoral household survey programmes**, especially to highlight intersecting inequalities and overlapping deprivations. Share learnings through IDC knowledge exchanges and partnerships.
- **Promote and support national data partnerships** between National Statistical Offices and civil society, enabling regular discussions on strategies and processes that help strengthen national statistical systems for children. Learn from the IDC network how to strengthen advocacy capacity on inclusive data on global, regional, and country levels within a complex organization.

Acknowledgements

With support from the Community of Practice on Measuring Equality, we will report annually on our progress towards our objectives, holding us accountable for our commitments, and ensuring that inclusive data principles are integrated in Save the Children's plans and strategies.

