

# What is a Child Rights Connect Working Group?



Child Rights Connect is a group of organizations around the world who work to make sure children practice their rights and participate in decision-making.



There is a document called the Convention on the Rights of the Child which includes all the promises that governments made to children to help them enjoy a good life in all places where they live and stay safe from danger. Child Rights Connect is working to remind governments to follow the Convention.



Child Rights Connect also helps children tell the UN about their rights and what governments should do so children can be safe and develop.

# What is a Working Group at Child Rights Connect?



## Who can join the group?

Working Groups are integral part of Child Rights Connect work and open for any organisation that is member of the network. There are different types of participants:

**Members:** These are experts from children's rights organizations who make decisions.

**Affiliates:** Experts who are not actively involved, but wanting the opportunity to know what is happening.

## Who leads and helps the group?



The group has a leader called a '**Convenor**.'

They make sure the group works well and hold meetings where everyone can discuss the work.

They also help the group to develop and finish their tasks.

There are also special helpers called the **Secretariat**. They share important information and answer questions of the members.



## How do working groups work?

Every year, the Working Groups identify 2–3 priorities and develop an annual work plan which contains a few joint activities. One or more individuals or organisations lead and support each of the activities.

Working Groups also meet at least two times during the year to discuss progress. The Convenors take notes and share with the group to keep them informed about decisions made.



# How many groups currently exist?

## Children's Rights and the Environment

They make sure the Earth is safe and clean for children. They fight against the impact of climate change on children..



## Children of Incarcerated Parents

They help children whose parents are in trouble and can't be with them.



## Children and Armed Conflict

They work to ensure children are safe during war.



## Children and Violence

They fight against violence and keep children safe from harm.



## Children and the Right to Education

Make sure all children are able to go to school and get a good education.



## Child participation

Children have a say in things that affect them. Children are included when the UN or governments make important decisions.



# How can children participate at the Working Groups?

1

Children can attend the meetings of the Working Groups and engage with the members

AND

Representatives of the Working Groups can attend meetings of the children and update them about their activities.

2

There can be several occasions when children can have a dialogue with the Working Group. For example discussing the priorities of the Annual Work Plan which is the yearly programme of activities planned by the Working Group.

3

Children can participate in activities organised by the Working Group, for example speaking at events, joining open letters and meeting decision-makers.

