



Child Rights
Coalition Asia



ANNUAL REPORT

2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	3
ABOUT US	4
CHILD RIGHTS GOVERNANCE 2022 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS	5
CHILD PROTECTION 2022 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS	11
CHILD PARTICIPATION 2022 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS	18
FINANCIAL REPORT	20
SOCIAL REPORT	22
THE ORGANIZATION	23

MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



AMIHAN ABUEVA

Regional Executive Director
Child Rights Coalition Asia

It is with great privilege that I welcome you to Child Rights Coalition Asia's (CRC Asia) 2022 Annual Report. This document not only reflects our achievements but also serves as a testament to our commitment to upholding the rights of children in Asia.

At the core of our organization lies a simple yet powerful vision: All children living in dignity by fully enjoying and exercising their rights. This vision guides everything we do, from advocating for policy change to capacitating civil society organizations to effectively campaign for the rights of children.

Despite the challenges brought about by COVID-19, climate change, and armed conflict this year, we did what we could to reach more children and youth. By ensuring access and participation of children and youth at different levels of governance, scaling up child protection policies and advocacies, and strengthening our child participation platforms, our collective work has made a tangible difference in the lives of children and youth across the region.

However, our work is far from over. The call for us is clear: To redouble our efforts in building a world where children grow up safe, healthy, and happy.

As we look to the future, let us continue to amplify the voices of children and ensure that their rights are upheld in every corner of our region. With you by our side, I have no doubt that we can make our vision a reality for and with children.

**We can make
our vision a
reality for
and with
children.**



ABOUT US

Child Rights Coalition Asia (CRC Asia) is a regional network of organizations working together for the fulfillment of children's rights. The *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child* and its Optional Protocols serve as the foundation of CRC Asia's work.

OUR VISION

All children living in dignity by fully enjoying and exercising their rights.

OUR MISSION

Strengthening Child Rights Movements

- We build networks and establish alliances with civil society organizations, child-led groups, and other stakeholders working with children. We strengthen the capacities of CRC Asia, our members, and other partners to play an active role in upholding the rights of the child.

Promoting Innovative Approaches

- We facilitate the exchange of sharing good practices and innovative approaches to the realization of children's rights. We raise awareness through offline and online means and conduct campaigns developed for and with children.

Advocating Better Policies For And With Children

- We engage with target bodies and groups to influence the policies related to children. In developing our advocacy priorities and advocacy calls, we gather inputs from civil society, children, and other partners. We conduct and provide support to research for evidence-based actions.



CHILD RIGHTS GOVERNANCE 2022 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

CRC Asia focuses on ensuring access and participation of civil society organizations and children in spaces that contribute to improved implementation and monitoring of child rights at different levels of governance. We also push for the inclusion of children and civil society in public budgeting processes at the local level.

Broadening and deepening partnerships for child rights monitoring

In 2022, we went beyond our usual partners and utilized opportunities created by various *United Nations (UN) Special Procedures* and bodies, ensuring that children and civil society organizations in Asia are able to voice out their experiences, views, and recommendations on UN platforms and processes. By providing assistance and sharing information on these opportunities for participation and representation, we contribute to influencing both the procedural and substantive aspects of global decision-making processes.

When the *UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)* decided for the first time to involve children in the preparation of its General Comment, children in Taiwan and Pakistan provided their inputs. In Taiwan, our member Child Welfare League Foundation provided the necessary preparations and assistance for a child representative to participate in the Children's Global Consultation on Sustainable Development and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which is divided into three regional consultations, including one in Asia-Pacific.

In Pakistan, our member Group Development Pakistan led the conduct of three preparatory meetings with 25 children in Peshawar, Islamabad, and Lahore. In these preparatory meetings, the consultation tools developed by *CESCR* and Child Rights Connect were translated into Urdu in order to facilitate better the participation of children in rural areas, children from indigenous communities, children belonging to religious minorities, children with disabilities, children members of child clubs, children who are out-of-school, and children subjected to child labor. The children in these preparatory meetings then selected their representatives who will join the Asia-Pacific regional consultation.

According to children who took part in this consultation process, achieving sustainable development requires addressing gender-based discrimination in the work place and education system, providing gender-responsive skills and enterprise development programs, ensuring safe spaces for girls, giving priority to the needs of children with disabilities, bringing cases to courts to get climate justice, improving the sanitation systems in schools, hospitals, and places of worship, and cleaning up parks and playgrounds. Through this process, the children who are mostly familiar with the *UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC Committee)*, also learned about the *CESCR* as another *UN* treaty body that they can work with. As such, CRC Asia joins the other child rights organizations in building on this experience to inspire child participation across other *UN* human rights mechanisms.

In May 2022, we also coordinated with Child Rights Connect the participation of children supported by ECPAT Philippines and Group Development Pakistan for the development of the simplified version of the United Nations Environment Programme's Policy on Environmental Defenders. Then in the last quarter of the year, we facilitated the nomination and successful selection of two children from Nepal to the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Child Online Protection Global Children and Youth Advisory Group. Supported by our member CWIN Nepal, the children were selected by each of their child-led organizations, National Adolescent Girls Network and National Adolescent Boys Network, to undergo ITU's seven-month process that involves online learning sessions and co-creation sessions to develop an online safety game for children and an app for young people. Giving children in Nepal the space to be part of this global effort does not only empower the selected child advisors, but also their respective child-led groups who will bring to fore the Asian perspective in the process.

CRC Asia linked various *UN Special Procedures* to civil society representatives in the region to inform the UN official reports, recognizing that the *UN Special Procedures* could contribute to an updated child rights monitoring. Throughout 2022, we recommended civil society experts to the *UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change* during his country visit to Bangladesh; to the *UN Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children*, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material during her visit to the Philippines; and to the *UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar* during his country visit to Malaysia. We also worked closely with the *UN Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Violence against Children*.



I would like to be part of this youth advisory group because I have some experience in [using the] Internet. I will get more knowledge about online safety application and game development. I will meet like-minded people who are passionate about building a safer and [more] empowering online world for children.

- PRATIMA, NEPAL

ON HER APPLICATION TO BE PART OF THE ITU COP CHILD AND YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP

Throughout the year, we also deepened our partnership with our existing networks and links with global networks and regional groups on implementing and monitoring diverse child rights themes. For instance, our partnerships resulted to strengthened calls for the protection of child human rights defenders at the international level based on information on the ground. Our various efforts with Child Rights Connect at the global level were informed by the experiences in the Asian region, and the advocacy actions at the global level also influence the work at the national level, such as in the preparation of alternative reports to the Universal Periodic Review.

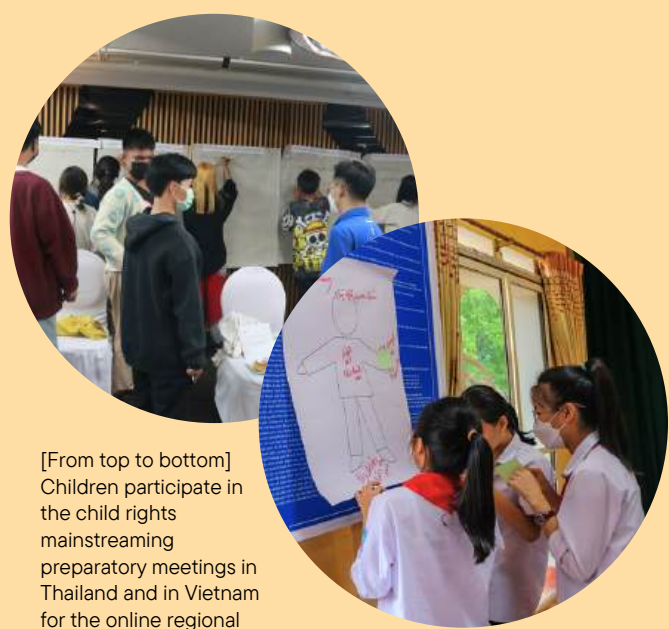
The partnerships also facilitated the participation of children and civil society to international platforms, bringing local perspectives to global processes related climate change and child rights mainstreaming. In September 2022, we joined child rights organizations and children, including children in Asia, to push collectively for meaningful child participation at the *UN Climate Change Conference* or *Conference of the Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change*, more commonly referred to as *COP27*. As convenor of Child Rights Connect's Working Group on Children's Rights and the Environment, we supported the conduct of a dialogue between children, COP Presidency, and experts at the sidelines of the Human Rights Council session.



“I want to see my land smiling. I want to see its revived beauty. I want everyone to inhale fresh air. I want fresh water to everyone. I want the earth to be protected from all risk. I want to save all of our resources. I want the earth to be safe place where there is no one being affected by any form of climate change.”

- MANAHIL, PAKISTAN

DURING THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL SIDE EVENT: THE VOICE OF CHILDREN AT CLIMATE COP27 AND BEYOND LAST SEPTEMBER 15, 2022



[From top to bottom] Children participate in the child rights mainstreaming preparatory meetings in Thailand and in Vietnam for the online regional consultation.

Furthermore, as part of the Working Group, we continued to be part of CRC Committee’s development of the *General Comment No. 26 on Children’s Rights and the Environment with a Special Focus on Climate Change (GC 26)*. We shared our inputs during two thematic consultations held in March 2022, and promoted the online survey for children throughout the year.

From September to October 2022, CRC Asia led the Asia regional consultations for both the children and civil society on the Development of the *UN Guidance Note on Child Rights Mainstreaming*. The online consultation with civil society was attended by more than 40 child rights advocates and representatives from national human rights institutions, representing around 20 countries in the Asia region.

The consultation became a platform to share good practices in the region that the Guidance Note can take inspiration from, identify key challenges to child rights mainstreaming across the *UN* system, propose priorities and opportunities to strengthen States’ accountability with *UN*’s support, and share concrete recommendations on what should be included in the Guidance Note.

Aside from informing the development process, we also intended this consultation to be a strategy for mobilizing civil society to support the implementation of the Guidance Note in the region.

Meanwhile, the consultation with children took a longer process which culminated in an online regional consultation in October 2022. In the preparatory meetings, more than 200 children from ten countries—supported by our members and partners Project Women Brunei, Child Rights Coalition Cambodia, Protect and Save the Children in Malaysia, CWIN Nepal, Group Development Pakistan, John Dewey School for Children in the Philippines, The Life Skills Development Foundation in Thailand, and Vietnam Association for the Protection of Children’s Rights—went through the tools prepared by Child Rights Connect in order to understand the contexts and terms used in the Guidance Note. During these meetings, children were also supported to respond to the child-friendly online survey that provides another way for them to share their views and ideas to the *UN*. In some countries, the tools and survey were translated into local language in order to support the participation of children from indigenous and ethnic communities, refugee children, and children living in urban poor communities. Translation support was also provided during the online regional consultation which provided a space for children in Asia to come together and learn from one another through the exchange of views.

Our engagements with partners, alliances, and other stakeholders contributed to creating an enabling environment for civil society participation, linking our child rights-focused work to the broader human rights movement and civic space discourse. For instance, we joined human rights organizations in Asia in submitting [recommendations](#) in October for improved meaningful engagements between civil society organizations, the *Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)*, and the *European Union (EU)* to strengthen the protection of human rights in the region. In the same month, we organized an Exploratory Partnership Meeting between representatives of the *ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR)*, the *ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC)*, and civil society organizations to identify possible areas of cooperation in the next few years.

Additionally, this year, we became a member of the [Asia Regional Hub of the Coalition of Good Schools](#), a network of and for the Global South to synthesize knowledge, convene practitioners, and advocate for the prevention of violence against children in schools. We also continued our collaboration with Save the Children in the How to Child Rights Series in developing and disseminating practical tools on child rights implementation. By being part of this effort, we contribute to ensuring that the tools reflect experiences on the ground and are applicable to the target users, including child rights organizations in the Asian region.

Strengthening our coalition and other coalitions in Asia

CRC Asia—both the Secretariat and members—strengthened our organizational capacities in the areas of influence and legitimacy, safety and security, governance, coalition building, and child rights monitoring throughout 2022.

CRC Asia received the Certification of Registration as a social welfare development agency and a License to Operate as an auxiliary social welfare development agency issued by the Department of Social Welfare and Development of the Philippines, the country where CRC Asia is legally registered. We also strengthened the safety and security of one of our member organizations not only in terms of physical safety, but also digital security, by supporting the development of their quick reaction plan.

We supported the organizational capacity development of two coalitions, one based in the Philippines and one in Laos. Our member Alliance for Child's Rights Mindanao, Inc. (ACRMI), a coalition based in the Southern part of the Philippines, now has an enhanced governance structure, with improved Board of Trustees composition that includes a child representative and a new five-year strategic plan. They also updated and finalized their Anti-Fraud Policy and Child Protection Policy, and enriched their visibility by developing their organizational website. Through these developments, we improved the sustainability of ACRMI as a member that contributes to the overall work of CRC Asia in the region.



ACRMI officials met to enhance their governance structure, with improved Board of Trustees composition

In Laos, a new coalition was formed where our member Village Focus International is a member. Responding to the request for capacity building for the newly established Lao Child Rights Network, we assisted in improving the capacity on facilitating child participation activities. The training was conducted in December 2022, with the technical assistance of Save the Children, and participated by 18 representatives from 12 child rights-focused organizations in the country. A participatory approach was used in order for the participants to have a better understanding of the application of tools, approaches, and skills that encourage meaningful participation of children.

On improving the capacities of organizations and coalitions on child rights monitoring, we provided interventions both at the regional and local levels

Through a regional online learning session, we explored utilizing the Voluntary National Reviews as another platform to monitor the realization of child rights. This session became a platform for CSOs in the region to share experiences in the Asian region and other parts of the world, using existing tools to utilize VNR and link *UN CRC* with the SDGs.

We also continued improving the capacities of CSOs and children in Thailand in child rights monitoring in using the *UN CRC* reporting process. Through our member organization The Life Skills Development Foundation, we developed the capacity of Lanna Children's Rights Network and the partner child rights youth activist network (CRYA) to engage with the *UN CRC* reporting process. Although the submission of the report to the *UN CRC* has been delayed, the CRYA would like to be prepared once the time comes in order to bring the voices of children in northern provinces to the national processes. Moreover, as a result of CRC Asia's continued support over the years to the formation of Lanna Children's Rights Network, the members inked their commitment to work together through the signing of a memorandum of agreement.



“CRC Asia’s in-country activities played indispensable support to empower and strengthen the child rights-focused CSO coalitions (LCRC) and Child Rights Youth Activists network (CRYA) to be able to strive for a strong positive impact on the livelihood and rights of children and youths, and ready to address, defend, and claim children’s rights from the relevant duty-bearers.”

- KREANGKRAI CHAIMUANGDEE, Executive Director of The Life Skills Development Foundation

**TỔNG HỢP KHUYẾN NGHỊ CỦA
ỦY BAN QUYỀN TRẺ EM VỀ VIỆC THỰC
HIỆN CÔNG ƯỚC CỦA LIÊN HỢP QUỐC
VỀ QUYỀN TRẺ EM
TẠI VIỆT NAM CHU KỲ 5 & 6**



NEW PUBLICATION: Through our member organization, Vietnam Association for the Protection of Child Rights, we developed the child-friendly version of the *UN CRC Concluding Observations* for Viet Nam

Public budgeting for children's rights

Equipped with capacities improved over the past years, we supported civil society and child participation in the public budgeting processes in Nepal and the Philippines in 2022. Our member organization CWIN Nepal actively engaged local governments to improve public budgeting for child rights. Children supported by our member organization Alliance for Children's Rights Mindanao, Inc. (ACRMI) also engaged in the local budget planning advocacy in the Philippines.

These interventions have successful advocacy results. CWIN Nepal was able to push for child rights-centered budget allocation in 10 municipalities and 2 cities in Nepal. Budget was allocated to interventions that support children's freedom of association (formation of/support to child clubs), child participation (meetings between adolescents and the heads of the local government), child protection system (support for operation of CWIN Nepal's Child Helpline Nepal 1098,) and gender-sensitive interventions (savings account for girl children, and programs for LGBTIQ+ and adolescents and ending child marriage), among others. In Mindanao, Philippines, children had their own budget advocacy strategy and were empowered to take part of the budgeting process when a city government

organized a consultation session on child protection programs, projects, and activities.

Our interventions also successfully influenced the procedures, with children and civil society taking part in the budgeting process. This is an important step towards the sustainability of civil society and child participation in public budgeting.

In 2022, we also explored improving child rights budgeting in international cooperation. Together with Joining Forces Asia, we submitted a recommendation for children's inclusion and participation in Asian Development Bank's Safeguard Policy. If successful, all those who engage with or borrow from the multilateral development bank in Asia would have to incorporate child safeguarding, with child participation, in their work.

[From top to bottom] Representatives of local level authorities from different municipalities in Nepal explained the budget allocated concerning children and youth. The program was organized by CWIN Nepal in partnership with CRC Asia



[From top to bottom] ACRMI officials learn about how to improve public budgeting for child rights.

CHILD PROTECTION 2022 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

CRC Asia focuses on scaling up child protection by advocating for policies, programs, and mechanisms that address the underlying causes of violence against children, including discrimination on the basis of gender, ability, and age. We also push to uphold child participation in addressing child protection issues in rapidly changing settings, such as the digital environment, emergency situations, and changing climate.

Gender-transformative approaches to end violence against children

In 2022, we capacitated members of refugee communities in Malaysia to address sexual exploitation and abuse of children, and promoted the children's recommendation on the importance of comprehensive sexuality education to address online sexual exploitation of children.

Through the Keeping Me Safe Programme of Protect and Save the Children, CRC Asia's member organization in Malaysia, we engaged with refugee communities and conducted a series of activities pre-consultations, facilitation training workshops with youth community leaders, community workers and teachers, sessions with children by the newly trained facilitators, and post-consultations. This feeds into the strategy of mobilizing refugee men, women teachers, workers, and leaders as agents of change to stop sexual exploitation and abuse of children. It also empowered refugee boys and girls in- and out-of-school with knowledge and skills to report cases and be part of the prevention strategies.

Ultimately, we see this as a contribution to a gender-transformative approach that slowly breaks down the cultural barrier to discuss sexual anatomy and sexuality education.

Linked with other themes, we also utilized existing platforms to raise children's voices in Asia in international platforms. As an example, when we presented during the [Internet Governance Forum Workshop session](#) to talk about self-generated sexualized content, we [highlighted children's recommendations to conduct online and offline interventions](#), including comprehensive sexuality education. These are children's recommendations gathered from consultations in the previous years that we continually promulgate as part of our follow up to our child participation efforts.



From Protect and Save the Children Malaysia's Facebook Page: "With the support of CRC Asia, we are working together with a group of young leaders and teachers from a refugee community to be trained to speak about child rights and protection.."

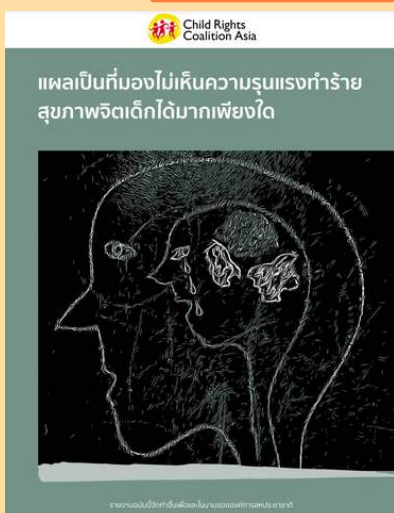
Advocacy on mental health

Our results in 2022 can be described in terms of building partnerships, facilitating services, and providing resources to support children's calls on addressing mental health with a broader perspective. In Indonesia, our interventions on mental health are linked to the theme of children's rights in the digital environment, and in the Philippines and Nepal, children's mental health is being discussed along with the themes public budgeting.

Our member organization Yayasan SEJIWA led the formation of partnership with PSIMAS, an association of professional psychologists at Universitas Gajah Mada in Indonesia. Together, they co-established a hotline called #BERSAMAMU to provide free counselling services to children, youth, parents, teachers, and other members of the general public. The development of this online hotline is a response to the need for support raised by the children, as well as by their parents and teachers, due to the feelings of depression, stress, and other mental and emotional issues that come up due to the lack of activities, sudden change in habits, and fear of uncertainties brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the online hotline, counseling services have been carried out with a total of 250 clients handled directly by 29 psychologists in a span of 6 months.



[From top to bottom] Our member organization Yayasan SEJIWA at a gathering centered on mental wellness for children and families.



NEW PUBLICATION: The UN SRSG VAC's 2020 report called Hidden scars: how violence harms the mental health of children is now available in [Thai](#)!

This translation to local language was informed by the 2020 report of our member organization Childline Thailand Foundation (CTF) that, in 2020, almost 41,500 children who sought services through CTF's Helpline 1387 reported mental health issues.

Ending child marriage

We continued working with girls and boys in Nepal as a strategy to end child marriage. Through CWIN Nepal, we facilitated a platform for the National Adolescent Girls Network (NAGN) and the recently formed National Adolescent Boys Network (NABN) to come together and share their experiences, achievements, and strategies. Facilitating an exchange between the two child-led networks is important since NABN was established a year ago only, and NAGN was established in 2012.

By providing them a platform to connect, the two groups had the opportunity to discuss and share their identified evidences of successes of children's actions such as conducting trainings with children on making sanitary pads; having sessions with parents on gender equality on treating sons and daughters equally; reducing the number of registered child marriage cases and the practice of "Chhaupadi Prathaa" or keeping girls in the animal shed during menstruation; including child safety, child rights, and child protection in the declaration document of the political parties; and reducing the prices of sanitary pads in some areas. The meeting also served as a platform for both groups to share their identified threats and harms experienced for being a child human rights defender.

The poster is for a webinar titled "Role of Boys For Ending Child Marriage Through Dialogue On Dignified Menstruation". It features a central Zoom meeting link with ID 987 959 7970 and password 5D58sk. The speaker is Radha Paudel, a Nurse, Author & Activist. The organizer is the National Adolescent Boys Network Nepal. The poster also mentions collaboration with CWIN Nepal and the Dignified Menstruation Campaign Nepal. Logos for the National Adolescent Girls Network (NAGN) and National Adolescent Boys Network (NABN) are present. The date is 9th July 2022, starting at 10 AM. Hashtags #DignifiedMenstruation and #DignifiedMenstruation2022 are included. Contact information for more details is provided at the bottom.

[In 2022, the National Adolescent Boys Network (NABN), in collaboration with National Adolescent Girls Network (NAGN), CWIN Nepal, and Radha Paudel Foundation, organized a webinar on the role of boys for ending child marriage through dialogue on dignified menstruation.]

Ending physical and humiliating punishment

We deepened the partnerships between children and civil society organizations through aligned advocacy actions to end violence against children in Thailand. Through the leadership of TLSDF, children from CRYA and CSO members of Lanna Children's Rights Network collaborated in implementing campaigns and conducting policy advocacy at the national level to reform the law to end all forms of physical and humiliating punishment of children. Concurrently, they also conducted legislative advocacy at different municipalities to promote and/or strengthen positive discipline.

Although the results of the legislative advocacy could take time, we our results in terms of improving the advocacy capacity of children by supporting the implementation of the action plans that they developed for the child-led network. As part of sustainability and empowering children's agency, supporting not only the planning, but also the implementation of their strategies is crucial. Also, deepening the partnerships between children and civil society through aligned advocacy actions to end violence against children help ensure that children human rights defenders have allies and support.

Digital environment

Our strategic actions to uphold children's rights in the digital environment give are informed by the recommendations of children we are working with. We improved the digital literacy of parents, teachers, students, and volunteers from two communities with marginalized groups in Indonesia through our member organization Yayasan SEJIWA. After conducting the training, one of the unexpected results from the participants is their voluntary sharing of training materials to community leaders, which then led to the rollout of the training to their communities.

We also supported the children's participation in the development of an evidence-based research by partnering with academics. Through our member organizations Yayasan SEJIWA in Indonesia, The Life Skills Development Foundation, Protect and Save the Children in Malaysia, and our partner Save the Children in Vietnam, children from these countries took part in producing a regional research on online safety led by the Young and Resilient Research Centre of Western Sydney University and funded by Australia's eSafety Commissioner.

Also, in partnership with UNICEF East Asia Pacific Regional Office, we conducted a series of online learning sessions that builds the capacity of CSOs and NHRIs in Asia and the Pacific to support children's online participation and access to information. This intervention contributed to the improved knowledge of CSOs and other stakeholders on current and emerging situations based on experiences from across the globe and by different sectors, taking on a wholistic view of the digital environment through recognition of both the opportunities and risks presented by the digital environment. The learning sessions also became a platform to highlight on children's civic and political rights in the digital environment in the Asian context.

Out of the learning sessions we conducted, we developed a workbook designed for civil society organizations (CSOs) and national human rights institutions (NHROs) that offers videos, presentations, and resources to facilitate child-friendly, safe, and inclusive platforms for meaningful child participation in the online space.



Through our member organizations, children from Southeast Asia took part in this regional research on online safety.



NEW PUBLICATION: We developed this **Workbook for CSOs and NHROs** as a guide on meaningful child participation in the online space.



These campaigns also opened an opportunity for the children to expand their child-led network. In Nepal, CWIN Nepal held a virtual comic book development workshop with children, reflecting different themes on online safety selected by each child. In Vietnam, our member organization Vietnam Association for the Protection of Children’s Rights (VACR) developed a child-friendly resource providing practical safety tips for children. The development of the resource was participated by children in shelters and children in rural areas, providing an platform for VACR to reach out to children who have never been consulted before or are not familiar with participating in activities outside the school.

Protecting the rights of children in emergency situations

We implemented child-centered and child-participated strategies to protect the rights of children in conflict situations and multi-hazard settings.



[From top to bottom] Samples from CWIN Nepal’s virtual comic book development workshop with children on online safety.

Through our member organizations, we also empowered children and children’s networks in Indonesia, Nepal, Thailand, and Vietnam to co-create advocacy actions and campaign materials on children’s rights in the digital environment. In Indonesia, an online webinar about digital well-being was co-created by children and Yayasan SEJIWA in which children co-developed the program, presented as moderators/speakers, and served as part of safety team. In three areas in Northern Thailand, children in partnership with The Life Skills Development Foundation co-developed online child protection campaigns.

We co-developed with children a digital solidarity campaign called #AllTogether4MyanmarKids that has the ultimate goal of empowering children and young people in Myanmar who are experiencing different forms of violations of their rights due to the conflict in the country. This effort was prompted by children and co-developed with children from four countries in several stages of the development—from planning, to identification of campaign title, to risk assessment and ensuring child safeguarding, up to the submission of videos. One of the recommendations from children, for instance, is to encourage the use of creative masks to protect the faces and reduce the risks of children voicing out their support. At the same time, CRC Asia continued our actions to support children in Myanmar in different ways, taking into consideration the confidentiality and security measures.

In 2022, we also supported the improvement of the operations manual of CWIN's Child Helpline Nepal 1098 by providing a space for the service providers or actual users of the manual to review and provide feedback based on their experience. By doing so, we strengthened CWIN's Child Helpline Nepal 1098 to have a set of standard operations procedures that responds to the situation and needs of the service providers.

In partnership with Plan International, CRC Asia implemented a project to build the resilience of civil society organization in multi-hazard settings. The project—conducted with our member organizations Yayasan KKSP in Indonesia, CWIN Nepal, Alliance for Child's Rights Mindanao, Inc. in the Philippines, and The Life Skills Development Foundation (TLSDF) in Thailand—capacitated civil society networks and paved way for sustainability of the project gains by starting conversations with duty bearers and getting CSOs and child-led and youth-led groups to understand the value of incorporating children's rights in disaster risk reduction programming at the local level.



The Children's Climate Cards are translated into 5 languages!

“This program has succeeded in fostering a spirit of activism and collective action in me. Meeting children and youth from groups with the same focus and concern has revived the spirit of movement in me.”

- DIAZ, YOUTH FROM BINJAI CITY, INDONESIA

Some of the follow up actions presented by the project include the advocacy campaigns in schools to improve emergency evacuation, new links established with government stakeholders, presentation of children's recommendations to decision-makers, educational activities developed and implemented by youth groups, and capacity building of CSOs on children's right to healthy environment.

The project involved a series of coordinated regional and national-level planning, workshops, learning sessions, and webinar on children's rights and resilience building in multi-hazard settings. It also supported the translation of Children's Climate Cards into to five languages (Filipino, Thai, Nepali, Traditional Chinese, and Vietnamese), as well as the physical production of this resource into different formats (e.g., flip book, booklet, flip chart, etc.), depending on the need of the CSOs. The Children's Climate Cards, designed for children aged 7 to 12 years old, provides a series of interactive activities to engage children on the climate change agenda and inspire a global children's call for climate action now. In translating the Climate Cards, some of the visual elements were also re-drawn to make the material more reflective of the cultural context of the country.

Upholding children's right to a healthy environment

In 2022, we developed tools and platforms that advance the participation of children in climate-related issues and decision-making processes. One of these tools is the publication called My Planet, My Rights: A guide for children to tell the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child about their Right to a Healthy and Safe Environment developed with the support of Terre des Hommes-Germany in Southeast Asia. Designed for children aged 13 and above, this resource material assists children in monitoring their right to a healthy environment as they prepare their report to the *UN Committee on the Rights of the Child*.

Also with the support from Terre des Hommes-Germany in Southeast Asia, we developed a child-friendly [digital campaign webpage](#) and a publication called [5,000 and Growing: Stories of Children Taking Climate Action](#). It contains experiences of children across the Asian region who are sounding the alarm and mobilizing individuals to take climate action now. For us, this publication serves as an advocacy tool providing evidences that children should be part of environment-related decision-making processes.



The Child-friendly information brief of the Principles and Policy Guidance on Children’s Rights to a Safe, Clean, Healthy and Sustainable Environment in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN PPG) is now available in Asian languages!

In 2021, CRC Asia partnered with UNEP, OHCHR, and UNICEF in developing the English child-friendly information brief. This year, together with Tdh Germany, the information brief is now available in Bahasa Indonesia, Burmese, Cebuano, Filipino, Lao, Thai, and Vietnamese.

We also strengthened capacities of children to design their interventions and take action, and to participate in available child participation spaces. CWIN Nepal improved the capacities of CSOs and adolescents on understanding the link between disaster risk reduction and children’s right to a healthy environment. In Cambodia, Child and Youth-Led Networks (CYLNs), supported by our member organization Child Rights Coalition Cambodia, were capacitated on climate change, disaster risk reduction, and climate change adaptation. The CYLNs then prepared a joint statement and submitted it to the key relevant ministries in Cambodia. They hope that this statement could serve as an anchor point for a possible intergenerational dialogue with the decision-makers in .

In Thailand, The Life Skills Development Foundation conducted learning sessions with the participation of children and youth, as well as a consultation with them on emerging situations and issues regarding children’s right to a healthy environment. These spaces became an opportunity for the young people to voice out their concern regarding mining and industrial and underground-water tunnel building projects. These processes also helped them decide to commit their participation to the next round of consultations for the development of the *UN CRC General Comment No. 26*, and to express interest in taking an active role in co-organizing a session during the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development in 2022. In the Philippines, our member Alliance for Child’s Rights Mindanao, Inc. supported a series of child-led climate actions, which also resulted to reactivation of membership of some children to their child-led groups.



Cover of the publication “5,000 and Growing: Stories of Children Taking Climate Action” that CRC Asia developed with Terre des Hommes-Germany in Southeast Asia.



[Principles and Policy Guidance on Children’s Rights to a Safe, Clean, Healthy and Sustainable Environment in the ASEAN Region](#) (ASEAN PPG) available in [From Left to Right] Vietnamese, Bahasa Indonesia, Burmese, Filipino, Cebuano, and Lao.

CHILD PARTICIPATION 2022 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

CRC Asia focuses on creating and strengthening platforms and support for children to voice out and claim their rights.

Children's access to justice and complaints mechanism

Our interventions in 2022 feed into the strengthening children's complaints mechanisms at different levels of governance. In partnership with UNICEF EAPRO, we gathered child rights-focused organizations, members of the *UN Committee on the Rights of the Child*, and representatives from ASEAN to discuss access to justice and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure (OPIC). This resulted to renewed linkages with the representatives of the *ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR)* and the *ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC)*, as well as identification of advocacy strategies to improve the ratification of OPIC in the region.

At the local level, we also strengthened the capacity of the staff of CWIN's Child Helpline Nepal 1098 by making the information management and case management more efficient. Helpline responders were invited to review the information and case management templates and provide suggestions for improvement. Simple recommended changes to the templates surfaced, and although these are simple changes, these improved the efficiency of the helpline responders. Also, these changes to the templates would not have surfaced without this process of consulting the responders.

Improving our child participation capacity

We explored using another way of partnering with children in conducting campaigns. In December 2022, CRC Asia member organizations gathered to review the Shift Campaign Accelerator process of the Save the Children and make suggestions on how to improve the tools to make it more child-friendly, gender sensitive, and inclusive. We plan to use this process in developing a child-led regional campaign in 2.



Our Child Participation Guidelines for Online Discussions with Children is now available in video format!

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLaxdbOeUYvS0KEEACSkCJjft79HRL7HfX>

Co-creating child participation spaces at different levels of governance

We supported several platforms for children to take part in regional and international global platforms. These are composed of both preparations done at the local level and participation to the regional and global platforms.

In the first half of 2022, CRC Asia partnered with the UN Environment Programme, Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights, UNICEF, and UN Development Program, and other CSO partners to conduct the Asia Regional Dialogue on Climate Justice for Children, Youth and Future Generations.

Children—supported by our member organizations Child Rights Coalition Cambodia, Yayasan KKSP in Indonesia, CWIN Nepal, Group Development Pakistan, The Life Skills Development Foundation in Thailand, and Vietnam Association for the Protection of Children Rights, as well as our partner from John Dewey School for Children in the Philippines—share their good practices, experiences, and recommendations both during the local level preparations and the regional consultation that culminated in May 2022.

In July 2022, we co-created with children through #CovidUnder19: the 2022 HLPF side-event called Eyes on the Horizon - Rallying Children & Young People for Intergenerational Partnerships & Meaningful Participation in the 2022 SDG Summit. We also co-authored with children a Joint Intergenerational Statement to the 2022 HLPF. Then in the second half of 2022, CRC Asia partnered with Child Rights Connect and the Office of the *UN High Commissioner on Human Rights* in holding the Asia Regional Children's Consultation on the Development of the *UN Guidance Note on Child Rights Mainstreaming*.



NEW PUBLICATION:

Rainbow Healers: A child rights first response kit

This is a product of #CovidUnder19 and CRC Asia helped in children in the development of this new publication

Through these, we helped empower children as they co-create these platforms with us and provide an opportunity to connect with other children in the region and learn from one another. We also surfaced recommendations that bring the perspectives from Asia to the global discussions, and guide the advocacy and strategies of CRC Asia.

Moreover, we supported strategies for child participation at the local level. In Nepal, through CWIN, we facilitated the reformation of National Adolescent Girls Network at the provincial level in response to the changes in the federal structure in Nepal. The network of girls held an election of new members, followed by learning sessions on online child protection and ending child marriage for these new members. Through these interventions, we strengthened network of girls in Nepal that allow them to work more strategically due to the external changes.



“The transformation has been observed in the girls after they were part of Girls’ Network, the confidence is seen in the NAGN members, they are now able to confidently conduct session and they have a better knowledge of the social issues and are playing a great role in spreading awareness and advocating for various issues related to children. The NAGN has become a very useful platform where the adolescent can learn so many things about the child related issues. Besides, the trainings, exposure and opportunity to enhance their knowledge brings lot of change in them. They are able to advocate on the issues, aware their peer group and community and have become an inspiration to other adolescent through their continuous remarkable work and winning awards.”

Our member organization The Life Skills Development Foundation also conducted a children’s meeting in Northern Thailand on child participation, freedom of expression, and the concept of children human rights defenders. This resulted to the self-determination of children as “child rights youth activists” and as “child human rights defenders in Thailand” as announced during the 2022 International Children’s Day in November. Also, this paves way for deeper discussion on children’s civil and political rights, which are not common areas of discussion in Asian countries.

FINANCIAL REPORT

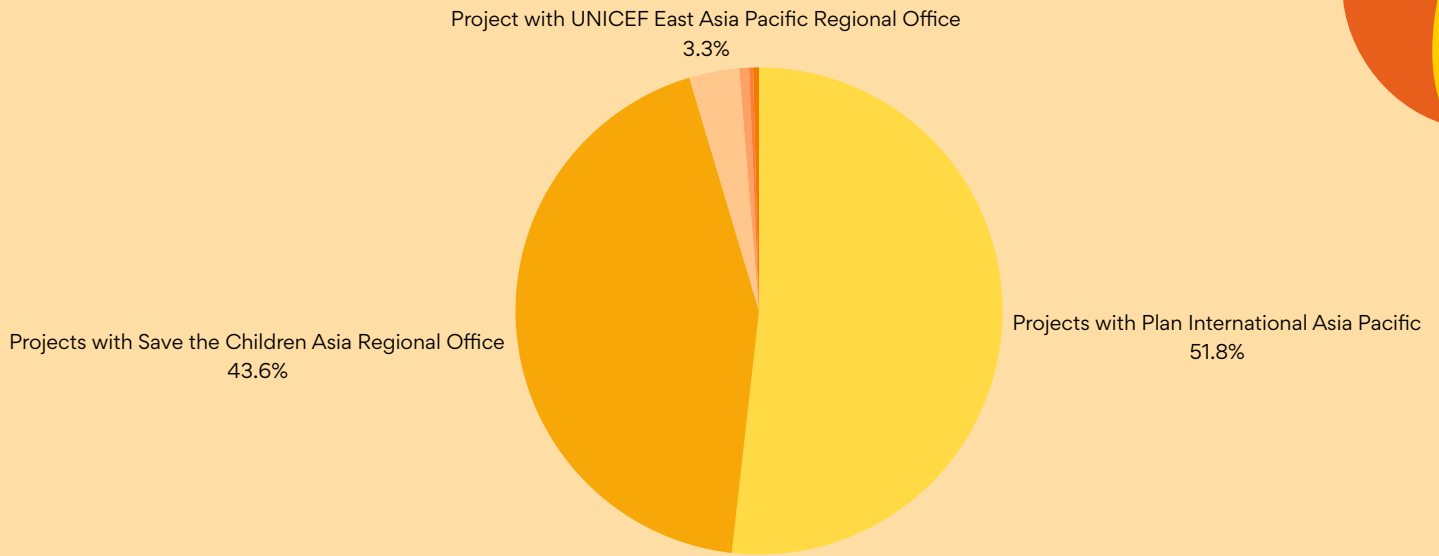
Statement of Financial Position as of 31 December 2022, with comparative figures of 2021

ASSETS	2021	2022
Current Assets		
Cash	8,010,515	13,759,408
Receivables	217,670	795,738
Refundable Deposits	30,000	30,000
Non-Current Assets		
Property and Equipment Fund	340,032	433,141
TOTAL ASSETS	P8,598,217	P15,100,940

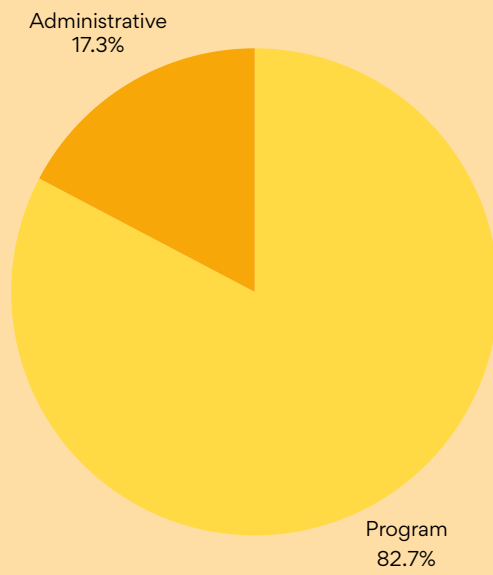
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	2021	2022
Current Liabilities		
Payables	1,281,011	1,086,355
Current Statutory Payables	137,987	129,231
Non-current Liabilities		
Deferred Support	6,822,658	13,343,578
Fund Balances		
Operational Fund	16,529	17,365
Property and Equipment Fund	340,032	433,141
TOTAL ASSETS	P8,598,217	P15,100,940

	2021	2022
Support		
Grants and Donations	16,602,659	26,298,930
Membership Fees	95,596	88,217
TOTAL SUPPORT	P16,698,255	P26,387,147
Expenses		
Project Costs	16,659,344	26,286,049
General Fund Administrative Expenses	38,911	101,098
TOTAL EXPENSES	P16,698,255	P26,387,147
Other Comprehensive Income		
Interest income from bank account	1,365	1,106
TOTAL EXCESS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	P1,365	P1,106

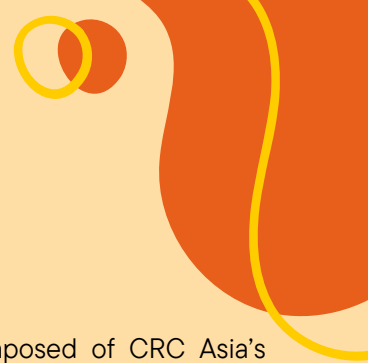
INCOME 2022



EXPENSES 2021



SOCIAL REPORT



CRC Asia's Policies and Procedures

This guides the governance structure of the organization. The General Assembly, composed of CRC Asia's member organizations, is the highest decision-making body of the organization. It is supported by the Board of Trustees and the Secretariat.

CRC Asia's Policies and Procedures was updated in July 2019.

CRC Asia's Child Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct

This ensures that the rights of children we work with are protected from any form of violence and discrimination arising from their involvement in our programs and activities; all those who work with us have the understanding, internalization, skills, and support needed to safeguard the children they are in contact with; and the procedures are in place to prevent and deal with discrimination and violence against children within our organization.

CRC Asia's Child Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct was updated in 2021.

CRC Asia's Finance Policies and Guidelines

This guides the effective implementation of CRC Asia's financial management system. It describes the various components of financial management such as finance procedures, budgeting, internal controls, procurement, accounting, and bookkeeping.

CRC Asia's Finance Policies and Guidelines was updated in 2017. Since 2020, CRC Asia regularly updates our interim finance policies and procedures on specific areas to cope with the movement restrictions and health protocols brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

CRC Asia's Anti-Fraud Policy

This provides guidelines for the organization to prevent, detect, investigate, and act on fraud against the organization or that may be committed by anyone associated with the organization. It includes policies on whistleblowing and retaliation.

CRC Asia's Anti-Fraud Policy was reviewed and updated in 2022.

CRC Asia's Policy against Workplace Harassment

This ensures that CRC Asia provides a work environment that is free from sexual harassment and other types of discriminatory harassment. It has a reporting procedure and a protection against retaliation.

CRC Asia's Policy against Workplace Harassment was adopted in 2013.

CRC Asia's Formal Complaints Process and Disciplinary Process

These are our mechanisms to receive and manage reports. They identify the persons tasked to receive complaints and the handling process. The Formal Complaints Process has policies on whistleblowing and protection from retaliation. It also requires the annual publication of summarized formal complaints received.

CRC Asia's Policies on Formal Complaints Process and Disciplinary Process were adopted in 2020.

THE ORGANIZATION

CRC Asia Member Organizations

1. Child Rights Coalition Cambodia
2. Hong Kong Committee on Children's Rights
3. Yayasan KKSP Education and Information Centre for Child Rights (Indonesia)
4. Yayasan SEJIWA (Indonesia)
5. Village Focus International (Lao PDR)
6. Protect and Save the Children (Malaysia)
7. Equality Myanmar
8. Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Centre
9. Group Development Pakistan
10. Civil Society Coalition on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Philippines)
11. Mindanao Action Group for Children's Rights to Protection (Philippines)
12. ChildFund Korea
13. Child Welfare League Foundation (Taiwan)
14. The Life Skills Development Foundation (Thailand)
15. Childline Thailand Foundation
16. Vietnam Association for the Protection of Children's Rights

Board of Trustees

President: Elizabeth P. de Castro

Secretary: Victoria Juat

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Members:

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Ester Isberto

Valerie Khan (until 16 August 2022)

Sanphasit Koompraphant

Li-fang Pai (starting 16 August 2022)

Madhav Pradhan (until 16 August 2022)

Ilya Smirnoff (starting 16 August 2022)

Key Partners

Plan International

Save the Children

UNICEF

Terre des Hommes Germany

Secretariat

Regional Executive Director: Amihan Abueva

Program Manager: Hazelyn Joy Bitaña

Program Officers:

Luz Indah Abayan (Organizational Development)

Rosheic Sims (Communications, until 31 August 2022)

Dennis Velasco (Monitoring and Evaluation of Learnings and Innovations)

Finance Officer: Irma dela Cruz

Finance and Admin Associate: Francis Copino

Finance Assistant: Florence Casedo

Affiliations

Consultative Relationship with AICHR since 2015

Member of Child Rights Connect since 2016

Member of the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children since 2017



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