



Protecting Children. Providing Solutions.



ALL CHILDREN COUNT BUT NOT ALL CHILDREN ARE COUNTED

An open letter to the UN and its Member States
Over 175 signatories



ALL CHILDREN COUNT, BUT NOT ALL CHILDREN ARE COUNTED

A global campaign calling on world leaders to ensure that no child will be left behind.

In September 2015, world leaders came together in New York for an historic meeting, unanimously adopting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Through the Global Goals, which set the development agenda until 2030, they have made a strong commitment to leave no one behind. The Global Goals include targets to reach many of children's holistic needs, including achieving good health, quality and inclusive education, gender equality, access to clean water and sanitation, reducing inequality, and ending abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture of children.

However, a group of NGOs, including Lumos, recognised that as it stands, children in orphanages and institutions, and other children who do not live in family settings, are at risk of being left very far behind. Despite their increased risk of adversity, children outside of family care are not covered by current mainstream data collection processes, because global data collection measures typically rely on household-based surveys, which do not reach children who live outside of households. While innovative approaches to identify and characterise this invisible population are starting to emerge, to date these efforts remain outside current SDG data discussions.

To tackle this omission, Lumos spearheaded an effort which has brought together over 175 civil society organisations to sign a letter calling on the United Nations and its member states to ensure that children living outside of households will be counted.

While we have had great success in bringing this forgotten problem to the world's attention, one year on there is still a lot of work to be done to ensure that indeed, all children get counted. Together with our partners, Lumos will be working vigorously to ensure that this goal will be reached.

Together we can make sure that no child will be left behind.

You can support our campaign.

Send this tweet before 25 September 2016:
I call on world leaders to help children living outside households by ensuring #AllChildrenCount in the #SDGs #UNGA <http://bit.ly/29yLVpn>

Spread the word among your network that organisations can join us and add their signature: <http://bit.ly/22VR0v8>



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An open letter to the UN and its Member States -
Over 175 signatories.

The signatories of this document welcome Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Global Action and applaud all involved for including many of children's holistic needs, including health care, education, and protection from violence, exploitation, and abuse. We wholeheartedly support the intention to 'leave no one behind' in the post-2015 global development agenda. To ensure that this is so, it is important that the global monitoring framework includes mechanisms to assess the most vulnerable and hard to reach populations.

Indeed, all children count, but not all children are counted. As a result, some of the world's most vulnerable children – those without parental care or at risk of being so; in institutions or on the street; trafficked; separated from their families as a result of conflict, disaster or disability; or recruited into armed groups – have largely fallen off the UN's statistical map. There are only limited data about how many children live in such precarious circumstances, except for scattered estimates from some specific countries.

According to UNICEF's 2015 Progress for Children report,

“As the world prepares for a new development agenda, data and evidence will only increase in importance and national systems must be strengthened to meet new demands. The new data agenda will need to harness the potential of new technologies to collect, synthesize and speed up the use of data, and also reinvigorate efforts to ensure complete and well-functioning registration systems. The new data agenda will need to provide insight into the most vulnerable children, relying on household surveys that provide data regardless of whether or not a child attends school or is taken to a health facility, as well as developing new approaches for collecting information about children who are homeless, institutionalized or internally displaced.”

With this in mind, we, the undersigned, recommend the following:

1. Ensure that children living outside of households and/or without parental care are represented in disaggregated data.

When assessing States' progress in improving the lives of children, living arrangements and caregiving environments are key markers for vulnerability, risk, and disadvantage. Children without parental care often experience abuse, neglect, lack of stimulation, and extreme and toxic stress, all of which have a profoundly negative effect on children's health, education, development, and protection.

If the Post-2015 agenda is to leave no one behind, it is essential that the global monitoring framework includes methodologies to ensure that children living outside of households and/or without parental care are represented and that data is used to inform targeted, appropriate, and accessible interventions.



Data disaggregation by care-giving setting/living arrangement is key to tracking progress for all children, particularly regarding Goals 1, 3, 4, 8, 10 and 16. This is critical to: a) analysing how trends differ between children living outside of households and/or without parental care and the general child population; and b) ensuring that programs and policies prioritize the most vulnerable children. Data collection should reflect the goals and definitions included in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

2. Improve and expand data collection methodologies to ensure all children are represented.

The Committee on the Rights of the Child has urged all States to develop indicators and data collection systems consistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child. However, children living outside of households and/or without parental care are not covered in current mainstream data collection processes, which rely on household-based surveys such as the Demographic and Health Surveys (USAID) and the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (UNICEF). Innovative approaches must be developed to assess the conditions of the world's most vulnerable children. The global monitoring framework must include mechanisms to track progress for all children, including those who are currently invisible as the result of inadequate indicators and data collection systems.

The post-2015 global monitoring framework must establish mechanisms to integrate household-based data with additional information on children temporarily or permanently living outside of households. In some countries, such data already exist although, to date, such data have not been routinely collected or analyzed.

The post-2015 global monitoring framework offers an opportunity to do more and better on behalf of the world's most vulnerable children – ensuring, first and foremost, that they are no longer invisible.

Thank you for your consideration.





Abibimman Foundation
AbleChildAfrica
ActionAid International Rwanda
ADD International
ADILISHA: Children, Youth & Family Preservation
African Child Policy Forum
African Institute for Child Studies
Alianza Latinoamericana y Caribeña de Juventudes
Alliance for Children Mauritius
Alliance for Development
Alliance for Parenting Education in Africa
Amankay Instituto de Estudios e Pesquisas
American Academy of Pediatrics
Another Hope Children's Ministries
Association des Jeunes Solidaires de l'Afrique
A.J.S.A.
Association for Childhood Education International
Association for Promotion Sustainable Development
India
ATD Fourth World
Barcha
Bethany Christian Services
Better Care Network
Buckner - Peru
Campagnon D'Action Pour le Developpement
Familial (CADF-ONG)
Candid Concepts Development
Care for Children
Casa Viva - Costa Rica
CBM
Centre for Human Rights and Climate Change
Research - Nigeria
Centre for Youth Development and Adult Education
CESVI
Child Helpline International
Child in Family Focus - Kenya
Child Restoration Outreach (CRO) - Uganda
Child Rights Coalition Asia
Childcare Rwanda
ChildFund Alliance
Childhood Development Trust Fund Network
Children Agenda Forum - Kenya
Children at Risk Action Network (CRANE)
Children with Disability - Australia
Christian Alliance for Orphans
Christine Akwero Foundation (CAF) - Uganda
Collective Community Action
Columbia University - Columbia Group for Children in
Adversity
Columbia University – Mailman School of Public
health
Comité de los Derechos del Niño - Uruguay
Community Active In Development Association
(CADA)
Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute
Consortium for Street Children
Construisions Ensemble le Monde (ONG CEM)
Convention pour l'Emergence du Sénégal - Coalition
Agenda Post2015 (C.E.S.-C.A.P2015)
Corporación OPCIÓN
CPC Learning Network
Crecer con Justicia
Danielle Childrens Fund
Defence for Children International (DCI)
Defensa de Niñas y Niños Internacional (DNI) Costa
Rica
Disability Rights International
Dogodogo Centre Street Children Trust
Elevate Children Funders Group
ENFOQUE Niñez
Essl Foundation
EU-CORD
Eurochild
European Association For Service Providers for
Persons with Disabilities (EASPD)
European Foundation Centre (EFC)
European Network on Independent Living (ENIL)
Ezra Ministries of Tanzania
Family for Every Child
Firelight Foundation
First Step - Cambodia
For Our Children Foundation
Foster Care India
Friends of Education for African Children Orphaned
by AIDS
Fundacion Kidsave Colombia
GARJAN-Nepal
GHR Foundation
Global Alliance for Children (GAC)
Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of
Children
GlobalPartnersUnited
Global Social Service Workforce Alliance
Goal Ireland Kenya
Good Health Community Programmes
Grand River South East Youth Circle
Group For Transcultural Relations, GRT
Heshima Kenya
Hope and Homes
Hope Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship
Hopeland
Human Dignity Foundation
Human Rights Watch
Inclusion International
Independent Living Programme for People with
Disabilities
International Association of Youth and Family
Judges and Magistrates



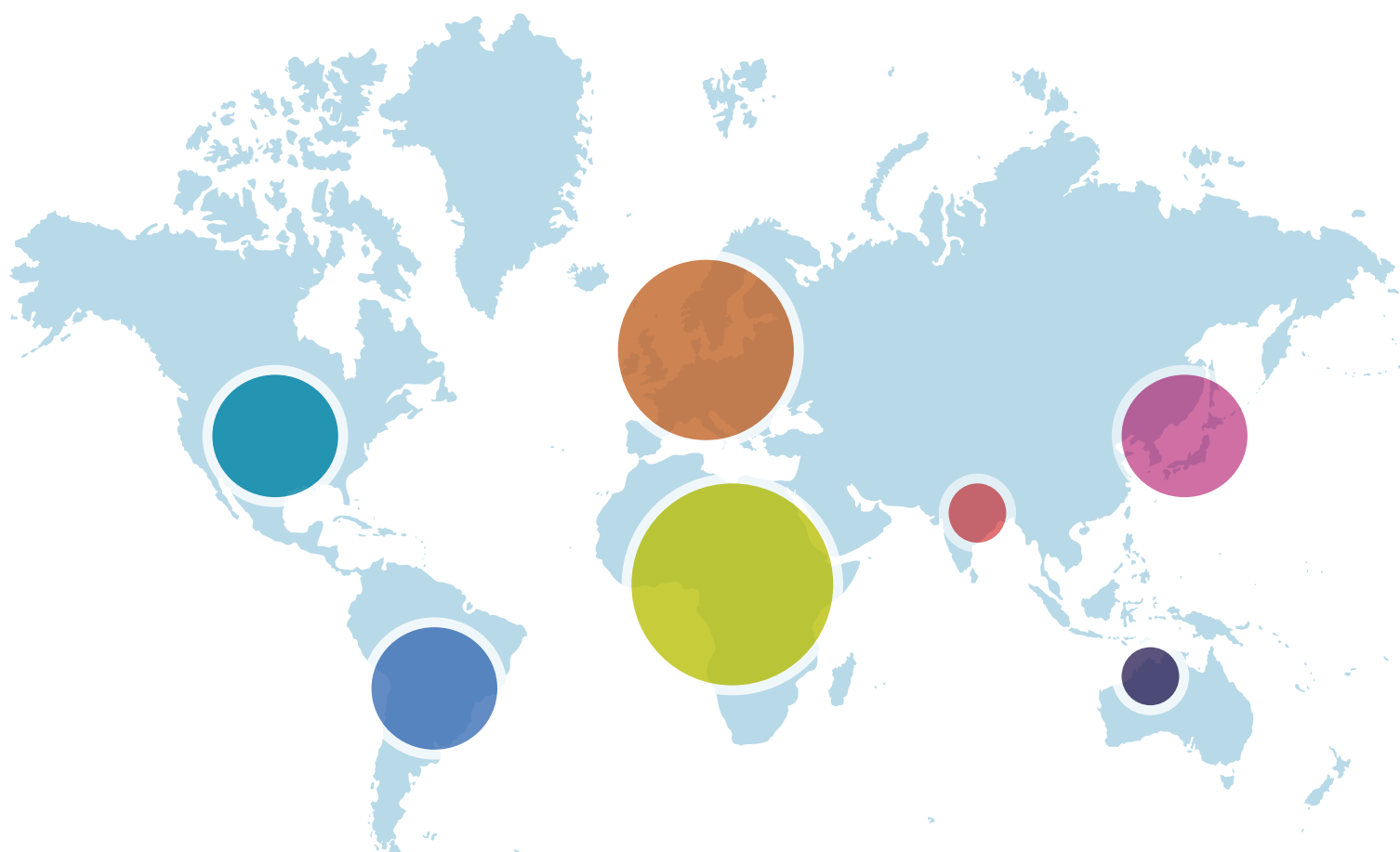
International Foster Care Organisation (IFCO)
 International Social Service - Australia
 International Social Service - Canada
 International Social Service - Netherlands
 International Social Service - USA
 International Social Service -Switzerland
 International Society on Early Intervention
 International Step by Step Association (ISSA)
 IntraHealth International
 Investing in Children and their Societies
 Isman Women Initiative Support Organisation
 (ISMAN)
 Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement Nepal (JVE
 NEPAL)
 Jo'burg Child Welfare
 Kakamega CSOs Network
 KEDEN-Alliance for Community Survival
 Kenya Counselling & Psychological Association
 Kidasha (formerly: Child Welfare Scheme)
 KidSave
 La Porte Ouverte asbl
 Lango Samaritan Initiative Organization (LSIO)
 Leonard Cheshire Disability
 Light for the World
 Literate Pakistan Programme - A project of NCLSW,
 Better Education for All - Pakistan
 Little Angels Network
 Lumos
 M'Lop Tapang
 Maestral
 Make Mothers Matter - MMM
 Masizame Child & Youth Care Centre
 Mouvement Africain Des Enfants et Jeunes
 Travailleurs (MAEJT)- Central African Republic
 Movimiento Salvavidas
 National Foster Care Association Malta - NFCAM
 National Youth Parliament
 Ndenuka Education Centre
 New Light Children Center Organization
 OAfrica
 Oak Foundation
 Parenting in Africa Network
 Parenting Uganda
 Partnership for Early Childhood Development &
 Disability Rights (PECDDR)
 Patronato pro-home child irapuato, a.c. (Villa
 Infantil)
 Peoples' Development Forum (PDF)
 Phoenix Child Welfare
 Psychosocial Support Centre ltd
 Reacción Climática - Bolivia
 Red een Kind
 Red Latinoamericana de Acogimiento Familiar
 RELAF

REPSSI
 REPSSI Uganda
 RETRAK
 Resources Aimed at the Prevention of Child Abuse
 and Neglect
 Restorative Justice Centre
 Restoring and empowering communities (REC)
 RIATT – ESA
 Rural Women Development Initiative
 S.A.L.V.E. International
 SA Cares for Life
 Safe Child Africa
 Save the Children
 Sedava Enterprises
 Sightsavers
 So They Can
 So They Can - Kenya
 Society "Our Children" Opatija - Croatia
 SOS Children's Villages
 SOS Children's Villages - Lesotho
 SPOON Foundation
 Tanzania Community Based Option for Protection
 and Empowerment Organisation (TACOPE)
 TASH
 Technical Support Unit ltd
 Terres des Hommes
 The Education Support Program, Open Society
 Foundation
 The Foundation for Tomorrow
 The Life Hood of Children and Development Society
 (LICHIDE)
 The RISE Institute
 TRE for Africa Foundation
 Uganda Muslim Supreme Council (UMSC)
 Uganda Reproductive Health Bureau
 Umtata Child Abuse Resource Centre (UCARC)
 UNESCO Center for Global Education
 Upendo Daima Project for Street Children
 Vela Microboard Association
 Viva
 Voice Of Young Mothers
 VSO International
 We are the Present
 Wereldkinderen
 World Childhood Foundation
 World of Inclusion
 Young Mothers Support Group
 Young Strong Mothers Foundation
 Youth Against Debt - Eastern Visayas Chapter
 Youth Environment Network
 Youth for Peace International
 Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA)
 Youth Revolution Clan (Y.R.C.)



A GLOBAL MOVEMENT

Support for the letter continues to grow and has spread all over the globe.



You can support our campaign by taking the following action:

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#UNGA <http://bit.ly/29yLVpn>

Spread the word among your network that organisations can join us and add their
signature: <http://bit.ly/22VR0v8>

To read more about the campaign, visit:

wearerumos.org/get-involved/take-action/all-children-count-not-all-are-counted-leavonoonebehind



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About Lumos

Lumos, an international non-profit organisation founded by J.K. Rowling, is dedicated to ending the institutionalisation of children – a practice that decades of research have shown is harmful to child development. We are working with many others and at all levels to ensure the right of every child to family life and transform the lives of eight million children currently living in institutions and orphanages. We help countries transform education, health and social care systems for children and their families, and help move children from institutions to family-based care.

By advocating at all levels, collaborating widely and running evidence-based demonstration projects that prove reform can work, we are able to achieve maximum impact from our funding to benefit some of the most vulnerable children in the world.

Lumos is founder member of the European Expert Group on the Transition from Institutional to Community Based Care (EEG) and has been instrumental in the development of guidelines and toolkit in 13 European languages in order to guide national governments through the process of deinstitutionalisation and transitioning to community-based care services. For more information see: <http://deinstitutionalisationguide.eu>.

We are a founding member of the Global Partnership for Children with Disabilities and a member of the Leaders Council for the US-based Global Alliance for Children.

For more information visit our website wearelumos.org find us @Lumos on Twitter and /lumos.at.work on Facebook or email us on info@wearelumos.org

Lumos Foundation, founded by J.K. Rowling, is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales no. 5611912. Registered charity no. 1112575.

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