

Save the Children's Human Rights Council advocacy : making children's rights children's reality

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Who are we?

Save the Children works to inspire breakthroughs in the way the world treats children and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives.

In 2012, we reached out to 125 million children through our programmes in health, nutrition, education, protection, child rights and responses to humanitarian crises.



Common vision

Save the Children envisages a world that respects, protects and fulfils children's rights.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) is the foundation of our work.



Advocacy

Save the Children is committed to persuade and challenge those with power and influence to make a better world for children.

For Save the Children, advocacy is defined as “a set of organised activities designed to influence the policies and actions of governments, international institutions, the private sector and civil society to achieve positive changes for children’s lives”.

Accountability Tool and Catalyst

The Human Rights Council, including the Universal Periodic Review mechanism, can be used to:

- Hold Governments to account on their **obligations and commitments to children.**
- **Support national accountability processes**, including child rights infrastructure and NHRIs.
- Create space for **quality interaction between child rights actors.**



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Case study: «Local to Global» project UPR of India



Local



National



International



Case Example: “Local to Global” Project

UPR India

- **Formulation of Demands:** grounded in community intervention experiences
- **Advocacy Strategies**
 - a) **Evidence based**
 - b) **Working in partnerships** (e.g. World Vision) to submit the stakeholder UPR report
 - c) **Speaking in one voice** at national and international levels (complementary and coordinated advocacy)



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Case Example: “Local to Global” Project

UPR India

National Advocacy:

- a) **Political Mapping:** We identified all the relevant embassies and high commissions based in India
- b) **Advocacy Meetings:** We raised challenges on maternal and child health and suggested advance questions
- c) **Working with a champion:** A Parliamentary champion was identified that raised our specific demands at all the relevant policy forums
- d) **Advance meetings with high-level policy officials:** Meetings with the Prime Minister and the Leader of Opposition before the review to highlight our recommendations



Case Example: “Local to Global” Project UPR India

International Advocacy

- a) **Side event on nutrition** during the HRC in March 2012 linked to UPR advocacy.
- b) **Side event during the 13th UPR WG session** in May 2012 on the role of the UPR to strengthen accountability around the child’s right to health.
- c) **Oral statement at Human Rights Council** in September 2012.
<http://webtv.un.org/watch/save-the-children-item:6-india-upr-report-consideration-22nd-meeting-human-rights-council/1851522268001>



Case example: UPR of India

Outcome:

- 16 recommendations on health

National Follow-Up:

- Follow-up meetings to ensure that recommendations are implemented
- Linking UPR to other policy discussions such as the possibility of including UPR as an accountability indicator for the post-MDG framework

