

ACTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS

JUNE 2025

Adolescent Girls
Investment Plan





Note from the Co-chairs

There are nearly 1.3 billion adolescents worldwide – the largest generation of young people ever. Although adolescent girls make up 33% of the global female population, they are one of the most marginalised demographics. They are disproportionately affected by the climate crisis, political instability, and global health emergencies, and are often obstructed by harmful gender norms.

Despite growing interest in the adolescent girl agenda and many commitments made in recent years, for instance at the Generation Equality Forum and the Summit of the Future, global processes lack accountability mechanisms that meaningfully include girls, and many girl-targeted investments do not reach girls directly. The leadership of adolescent girls on policy that affects their lives remains limited.

The current context of shrinking civic space, defunding of development programmes and accelerating rollback on rights exacerbates the intersecting challenges faced by adolescent girls. Around the world, there is a risk of losing hard-won progress on gender equality and for adolescent girls.

AGIP began in 2020 as a global, intergenerational, feminist coalition to drive evidence-informed investment with and for adolescent girls. As we enter a new strategy cycle, our vision, mission and collective action have become more crucial than we could have foreseen.

AGIP's 2025-2027 strategy leverages our strength and collaboration as a coalition, centres accountability and provides a framework for AGIP to play a critical normative role for the meaningful inclusion of adolescent girls. The strategy may be launched during a challenging time for all advocates for adolescent girls, but we are proud of how we have grown and remain optimistic for the impact we can achieve together over the next three years, guided by our incredible [Girl Advisors](#). We are especially grateful to the Wellspring Philanthropic Fund for their continued support and enthusiasm for AGIP as we take the next step in our collective journey.



Joy Zawadi
Executive Director,
Akili Dada



Kathleen Sherwin
Chief Strategy &
Engagement Officer,
Plan International

THE ADOLESCENT GIRLS INVESTMENT PLAN (AGIP)

Adolescent Girls
Investment Plan



WHO WE ARE

AGIP is a **global, intergenerational, feminist coalition** with members working with and for adolescent girls across advocacy, research, and at community level.

OUR VISION

We envision a world where **girls have the voice, choice, and agency** to determine their own futures, **supported by holistic investment** that responds to the full complexity of girls' lives and needs.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to drive **political commitment, accountability** and **evidence-informed investment** to create positive impact for adolescent girls in all their diversity.



OUR COALITION MEMBERS



WHAT BRINGS US TOGETHER

AGIP members are **motivated, mission-aligned organisations** from around the world who focus on **improving outcomes for adolescent girls** through advocacy, research, meaningful girl engagement, and girls' rights and programming.

Our members practice **high standards** of meaningful girl engagement and safeguarding, and are **intentional** about adolescent girls' leadership within their own decision-making.

AGIP members are committed to **learning and collective action** and truly believe we can **achieve greater impact together**.

HOW WE WORK

Our members **set the priorities** and share their **time, resources, knowledge and expertise** with the coalition. A full-time Secretariat convenes members and helps coordinate efforts to advance **collective goals and ambitions**.



THE ADOLESCENT GIRLS INVESTMENT PLAN



WHY WE EXIST

Global threats to adolescent girls

Around the world, the marginalisation faced by adolescent girls is exacerbated by a rise in polarization, shrinking civic space, sector defunding, and accelerating rollback on rights.

Lack of accountability

Global processes lack formal accountability or reporting mechanisms that meaningfully include girls, and many girl-targeted investments do not reach girls directly.

Low evidence uptake and knowledge-sharing

Robust evidence is not readily available and existing evidence is not effectively used to drive impact for adolescent girls, or made accessible to the girls themselves. In addition, there are not enough spaces for the sector to share critical knowledge and learnings.



WHAT MAKES AGIP UNIQUE

Girl-centered: By Design and In Practice

We walk the talk on adolescent girls' inclusion and leadership and set the global standard on safeguarding. Guided by our Girl Advisors, co-creation with adolescent girls is key to how we operate. We enable and empower them to drive the agenda, collaborate and participate in global events.

Focus on Accountability

We model and provide frameworks on how to develop, uphold, and implement girl-centered commitments. We help ensure girls are consistently prioritised not only by our coalition, but by our sector, by governments, and the multilateral system.

Multi-Issue and Holistic

We are united in driving the global agenda for adolescent girls. We understand that being girl-centered means addressing the full range of issues that affect girls and their communities. Through this shared vision, we contribute to sector-wide growth.

Cross-sector Expertise

We represent globally diverse, high-impact leaders with international and grassroots networks. We draw on the wealth of our diverse technical expertise – across advocacy, research, girl engagement, and girls' rights and programming. We build on one another's strengths, knowledge and resources with mutual support and continuous learning.



1

ADVOCACY

We leverage our collective strength to influence global decision-makers and advocate for increased commitments, investments and accountability with and for adolescent girls.

- We advocate with adolescent girls for their unique needs to be recognised and prioritised in key global and regional policy and advocacy spaces.
- We create intergenerational spaces with and for adolescent girls to meaningfully engage with decision-makers beyond the major global advocacy spaces.
- We hold decision-makers (including our members) to account for shifting power to adolescent girls, and for their girl-centred commitments.
- We use our evidence and communications to push for greater commitments, investment and accountability for adolescent girls, in a context of shrinking civic space and roll back on girls' rights.
- We affect change by advocating for accessible, flexible funding and appropriate resourcing of adolescent girls and girl-led initiatives and organisations.





2

EVIDENCE

We draw on our members' technical expertise to generate, use and share evidence and resources informed by lived experience, demonstrating 'what works' with and for adolescent girls.

- We advocate for our members and allies to generate research and close evidence gaps on 'what works' with and for adolescent girls, using girl-centred methodologies.
- We encourage and facilitate the dissemination and active use of available evidence, generated by our members and the wider sector.
- We create opportunities for learning among members, the Community of Practice and wider stakeholders; co-creating best practice in our areas of expertise, sharing tools and resources and developing thought leadership.
- We ensure that adolescent girls themselves contribute to, access and benefit from the research and resources that we create.





3 MEANINGFUL GIRL ENGAGEMENT

Our approach to meaningful girl engagement and safeguarding guides everything we do.

- We model and promote best practice with our approach to meaningful girl engagement (MGE) and comprehensive safeguarding practices, always prioritising equity and inclusion.
- We shift power to adolescent girls by promoting girls' leadership and co-creating authentic, girl-led spaces that centre safety, agency, and holistic support.
- We continually update and improve our approach in direct collaboration with adolescent girls, including our [Adolescent Girls Advisory Committee](#).





Our goals

By 2027, AGIP aims to achieve the following overarching goals, to contribute to global-level outcomes for gender equality and girls' rights:

1

By the end of 2027, AGIP has successfully influenced key decision-makers and advocacy spaces to recognise, include, and invest in the unique needs of adolescent girls. AGIP has played a leading role in holding governments and the sector to account for their girl-centred commitments.

2

By the end of 2027, AGIP has significantly contributed to evidence-informed investments for adolescent girls through advocating for girl-centred and co-led research, and facilitating the uptake and dissemination of evidence among the sector. AGIP has also demonstrated the impact of the coalition itself.

3

By the end of 2027, all AGIP members have modelled meaningful girl engagement, and driven its integration across decision-making levels to ensure that adolescent girls' inclusion and leadership is well resourced and supported. AGIP has set the standard for girls advisory models, and safeguarding best practice for the sector.

AGIP'S STRATEGIC OUTCOMES



ADVOCACY

- Governments and other funders understand the importance of including and investing in adolescent girls, and make commitments accordingly.
- Global decision-makers act on their girl-centred commitments, implementing formal accountability and reporting mechanisms that meaningfully include girls.
- Adolescent girls in all their diversity participate actively and meaningfully in the decisions that affect their lives.
- Girl-serving programmes and girl-led initiatives receive direct support, and flexible funding to enact change.
- AGIP members have achieved greater advocacy impact through collaboration and collective action.

EVIDENCE

- AGIP makes a strong case for investment in adolescent girls through a cumulative body of research, generated both by our members and the wider sector.
- Governments and the sector utilise evidence to inform their prioritisation of and investment in adolescent girls.
- Adolescent girls co-lead and participate in research pertaining to their needs and lived experience.
- Girl-centred and serving research is accessible to and used by adolescent girls in their own advocacy efforts.
- AGIP raises long-term funding for the next strategy cycle owing to the clear impact of the coalition.

MEANINGFUL GIRL ENGAGEMENT

- AGIP members model shifting power to adolescent girls in their own organisations, and best practice on meaningful engagement.
- Adolescent girls in all their diversity are able to access and participate freely in decision-making spaces owing to enhanced safeguarding and increased resources.
- The Adolescent Girls Advisory Committee guide AGIP's approach and activities, and model effective girl leadership.



AGIP 2025-2027 STRATEGY: ACTION & ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS – A SUMMARY

WHO WE ARE

AGIP is a global, intergenerational, feminist coalition with members working with and for adolescent girls across advocacy, research, and at community level.

WHY WE EXIST

- Increasing global threats to adolescent girls
- Lack of girl-centred accountability
- Low evidence uptake and knowledge-sharing

WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE

- Global legitimacy and leadership
- Focus on accountability
- Multisectoral expertise
- Girl-centred by design and in practice
- Agile and dynamic collaboration

ADVOCACY OBJECTIVE

We leverage our collective strength to influence global decision-makers and advocate for increased commitments, investments and accountability with and for adolescent girls.

GOAL

By the end of 2027, AGIP has successfully influenced key decision-makers and advocacy spaces to recognise, include, and invest in the unique needs of adolescent girls. AGIP has played a leading role in holding governments and the sector to account for their girl-centred commitments.

EVIDENCE OBJECTIVE

We draw on our members' technical expertise to generate, use and share evidence and resources informed by lived experience, demonstrating 'what works' with and for adolescent girls.

GOAL

By the end of 2027, AGIP has significantly contributed to evidence-informed investments for adolescent girls through advocating for girl-centred and co-led research, and facilitating the uptake and dissemination of evidence among the sector. AGIP has also demonstrated the impact of the coalition itself.

OVERARCHING APPROACH: Our approach to meaningful girl engagement & safeguarding guides everything we do

GOAL

By the end of 2027, all AGIP members have modelled MGE, and driven its integration across decision-making levels to ensure that adolescent girls' inclusion and leadership is well resourced and supported. AGIP has set the standard for girls' advisory models, and safeguarding best practice for the sector.

AGIP 2022-2024 STRATEGY: GIRLS ON THE AGENDA & AT THE TABLE – A SUMMARY

STRATEGY SUMMARY

AGIP's *Girls on the Agenda and at the Table* strategy ran from 2022-2024, driving impact across advocacy, evidence and meaningful girl and youth engagement.

- 1. ADVOCACY:** AGIP engaged with governments, UN bodies, and sector peers to influence global decision-making spaces and advocate for increased investments, commitments, and accountability with and for adolescent girls.
- 2. EVIDENCE:** AGIP produced 7 research studies, successfully bridging gaps on girl-centered evidence available in the sector.
- 3. MGYE:** AGIP established itself as a technical partner for safeguarding & meaningful inclusion of adolescent girls in key global processes, and promoted best practice through events and the Adolescent Girls Advisory Committee.

AGIP also expanded its membership to include more girl-centered organizations from the global majority and more research institutions.

Critically, AGIP updated its [Board](#) composition to include adolescent and youth board members.



ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Secured girl-centered funding commitments in Generation Equality Forum** through intergenerational dialogues between girls and sector peers
- **Launched advocacy calls to action** on resourcing and accountability for girls based on girls' feedback at multistakeholder, girl-led events during Women Deliver 2023.
- **Co-created and launched Accountability Champions Platform** at the Summit of the Future securing sign-ons from 3 governments.

EVIDENCE HIGHLIGHTS

1. January 2023: [Investing in adolescent girls: mapping global and national funding patterns from 2016-2020](#)
2. June 2023: [From Advocacy to action- Research Report June 2023 Lessons on girl- and youth-led systems accountability in India, Kenya, and Uganda](#)
3. July 2023: [Investing in adolescent girls- Key changes in the bilateral donor funding landscape - 2021 update](#)
4. October 2023: [Resourcing girls directly: What does the current funding landscape for girl- and youth-led organisations look like?](#)
5. March 2024: [Resourcing girls: The potential and challenges of girl- and youth-led organising](#)
6. November 2024: [Towards Inclusive Systems- Understanding Adolescent Girls' Engagement, Challenges, and Demands for System-led Accountability](#)
7. December 2024: [Investing in adolescent girls-Key changes in the bilateral donor funding landscape – 2022 update](#)

MGYE HIGHLIGHTS

- **Engaged 50+ adolescent girls and 20 young women** in global advocacy spaces such as GEF, CSW68, WD2023, SoTF, CSW69, disbursing \$19k to support their participation.
- **Served as technical advisor** for [keeping young people safe at the Women Deliver Conference 2023](#) impacting 6000+ attendees; presented AGIP's MGYE work as expert in global conferences; published [Digital safety guidelines and resources](#).
- **Launched Adolescent Girls Advisory Committee** in March 2023, disbursing over \$25k to support their meaningful engagement.

Adolescent Girls Investment Plan



www.adolescent-girls-plan.org



www.tinyurl.com/agipnewsletter



[@AdolescentGirlsPlan](https://www.instagram.com/AdolescentGirlsPlan)



[@AdolescentPlan](https://twitter.com/AdolescentPlan)

