



Independent Accountability Report 2017, Call for Evidence & Contributions: Guidance Note

About the IAP: The Independent Accountability Panel (IAP) for Every Woman, Every Child, Every Adolescent was mandated by the United Nations Secretary-General to provide an independent analysis and review of progress on the implementation of the *2016-30 Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescent's Health* ("Global Strategy"). Its niche within the overall Global Strategy architecture and monitoring efforts is its role in strengthening accountabilities, including by identifying promising models as well as critical accountability gaps in need of redress and intensified policy attention and investments. The IAP is unique in that it is a leading independent accountability mechanism established by the United Nations under the rubric of the 2030 Agenda, from a holistic, rights and gender-based approach. The IAP's inaugural report, *"Old Challenges, New Hopes,"* was launched and submitted to the UN Secretary-General in September 2016. This will be its second report.

For guidance, the IAP is seeking evidence on the following:

1) Effective Accountability Mechanisms at all levels, with a Focus on Adolescents – global, regional, country, with emphasis on national, subnational and local levels, especially on:

- Health sector and multi-sectoral mechanisms of monitoring and review of national plans and strategies
- Strategies and Follow-Up Mechanisms on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that feature adolescents prominently, including in data collection and analysis, and indicators
- Community-led and adolescent-led local level participatory models of monitoring that are effecting change (e.g. increased access and budgets for quality health information, education and services for adolescents; empowerment of girls; preventing violence; etc.)
- National parliamentary and judicial mechanisms, human rights treaty follow-up systems (international, regional), focused on monitoring and accountability to adolescents. This includes specific examples of remedies and reparations for human rights violations, such as by courts or through parliamentary oversight committees, administrative measures, professional associations, or other bodies; as well as the role of civil society or social movements in helping to secure these measures and their follow-up and implementation.
- New policy and legal reforms, such as on keeping pregnant girls, young mothers and adolescents living with HIV in school; age of marriage; sexual and reproductive health and rights of adolescents, including removal of third-party consent requirements; laws balancing child protection and adolescent autonomy; prohibitions on related human rights violations and harmful practices.
- Regulation and self-regulation of media and advertising industries as they relate to adolescent health and rights (e.g. gender stereotypes, violence, tobacco, dietary consumption, etc.).

2) Large-scale Programmes & Investments for Adolescent Health and Beyond at national, provincial and district levels, including cross-sectoral national strategies and investment frameworks, for example:

- Key sectors such as health, education, justice, safety, labour, immigration, youth, gender affairs and family protection, housing and/or others.
- Integrated essential services and programmes, including issues of universal health coverage and insurance schemes as they relate to adolescents; innovative outreach initiatives (e.g. digital, IT-based); mental health; gender-based and sexual violence; bullying and other forms of inter-personal violence; comprehensive sexuality education and sexual and reproductive health, including newborn and maternal health care, contraception, unwanted pregnancy and safe abortion, STIs and HIV, and the HPV vaccine; substance abuse; obesity and malnutrition; traffic injuries.
- Human Resources for Adolescent Health and Development, new developments in institutionalizing training on adolescent health and rights issues for health providers, and/or other key sectors.

3) Resource Flows for Adolescent Health & Rights

- *Domestic Resources:* Evidence of national public budget allocations *and actual expenditures* for adolescent health and well-being, including joint cross-sectoral budgeting initiatives and prioritization of left behind areas and groups.
- *Development Cooperation, Donor Aid Flows, Foundations & the Private Sector:* Evidence of qualitative and quantitative tracking of resource investments in adolescent health and development, including of public-private partnerships.

4) More broadly, recent examples of promising monitoring and accountability initiatives on the health and rights of women, children and adolescents across the Global Strategy's scope of issues under its *Survive, Thrive, Transform* pillars.

How to Submit Contributions:

Submissions should be addressed to info@iapewec.org

The IAP supports minimizing reporting burdens. As such, initial submissions of up to one page are welcome that summarize and specify the main findings; those of particular interest and relevance for this year's report may be invited to submit additional information and evidence. At the same time, complete submissions are strongly encouraged with supplementary documentation and evidence whenever possible (e.g. evaluations, articles, reports on lessons learned and findings, etc). Submissions may be made in English, Spanish or French.

Emphasis will be placed on objectively assessed practices and evaluations, on more recent findings (e.g. as of 2015), and on national, sub-national and local levels of promising practices, including from grassroots organizations. Submissions, including the one-pager, should clearly state essential information, such as: key issues and groups of focus, geographic coverage; nature of evidence submitted (e.g. report, external evaluation, research, statistical data, anecdotal account of a promising experience, other); time-frame/year of findings submitted; description of highlights;

analysis, results and lessons learned, and scale and reach of intervention (if applicable); and recommendations.

The IAP will analyse and assess all submissions as a basis for its succinct global-level report, which is intended to offer a 'snapshot' of progress linked to evidence-based conclusions and recommendations. As such, the IAP wishes to avoid raising expectations that submissions will be explicitly featured or cited in the main narrative and body of the report. Key sources utilized will be appropriately credited and cited. We will be very grateful for your inputs and contributions to ensure diverse perspectives and practical and inspiring experiences are captured.