



WORLD ASSOCIATION
OF GIRL GUIDES
AND GIRL SCOUTS

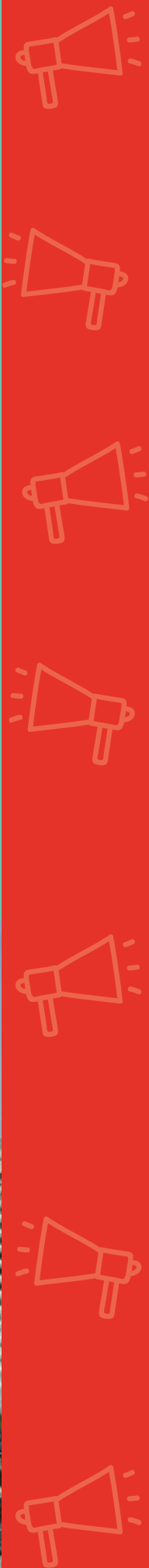
**STOP
THE
VIOLENCE**

Speak out
for girls' rights

STOP THE VIOLENCE

THE WORLD ASSOCIATION OF GIRL GUIDES AND GIRL SCOUTS (WAGGGS) GLOBAL CAMPAIGN TO STOP ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS.

"[Stop the Violence] has really changed my life! It has given me the strength to speak and to make sure that my voice is heard." -- Chhavi Goyal, Guide leader, Bharat Scouts and Guides





Launched in 2013, VAV is available in four handbooks' early years (ages 5-7) younger years (ages 7-11) middle years (ages 12-16) and older years (ages 17-25).

VOICES AGAINST VIOLENCE

The Educational Component of STV is Voices Against Violence (VAV), a non-formal education curriculum developed in partnership with UN Women and designed for girls around the world from the ages of 5 to 25 years.

It starts with the younger age and that is where other organisations fail because they start with adults, it is too late. We are raising a new generation. We raise strong girls and women who understand their rights.
VAV trainer

EDUCATION IS KEY

VAV is based on the premise that the best way to stop violence against girls and women is to prevent it from happening in the first place, and that education is the key to achieving this. The curriculum is an eye-opening guide for girls, boys and young women and men about the root causes of violence, what positive, respectful relationships look like and directs them to support networks if they need help.

The curriculum also includes a section called, **Speak Out and Take Action** which equips girls to take their new found knowledge back to their peers, set up a community action plan or start a campaign to influence policy makers.

Voices against Violence gives girls and young women the words they need to name and reject this violence. It passes on a powerful idea to girls – they do not have to accept gender-based violence as their norm or reality.
Billeen, who attended the third ACTIVATE event in the USA

SPEAK OUT & TAKE ACTION

SPEAKING OUT AND TAKING ACTION is a key component of the Stop the Violence campaign and since its launch in 2011, Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world have been advocating to end violence against girls and women in their communities, countries and around the world. Every year during the worldwide **16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence campaign** (25 Nov - 10 Dec), we set a theme and create a pack of non-formal education activities, mobilising our network to raise awareness on a specific issue area e.g., street harassment, victim blaming, or the alarming global level of gender-based violence.



2021 marked the 10th Anniversary of the WAGGGS Stop the Violence campaign. Thousands joined in to mark the anniversary and to support our 16 Days of Activism #HerStoryOurStory storytelling campaign with nearly 1000 Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from 38 countries posting their survivor stories and messages of solidarity and support.

THE SCALE OF THE PROBLEM

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) exists in every town, in every country, in the world. It can happen to all of us, our friends, family members and neighbours and can affect girls at every stage of their lives.



In West and Central Africa—over **four out of 10 young women** are estimated to be married before their 18th birthday.

In a multi-country study from the Middle East and North Africa, between **40-60% of women** said they had experienced street-based sexual harassment

European Union estimates indicate that **1 in 10 women** experience some form of online violence.

Approximately **15 million adolescent girls (aged 15 to 19)** worldwide have experienced forced sex (forced sexual intercourse or other sexual acts) at some point in their life².

▶ **Despite its global prevalence, a lack in political will have meant that very little has been invested in research and prevention programmes or the gathering of data to highlight the true scale of the issue.**

OUR STV CAMPAIGN SET OUT TO CHANGE THIS.

I don't think anywhere in the world is 100% safe. Girls need to support each other. Guides should teach other girls in my country how they can help themselves and other exposed to violence. To all women on this planet – no-one should ever hurt you – and believe me when I say together we have the power and ability to stop it.
Luluwah, aged 20, Kuwait

ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN

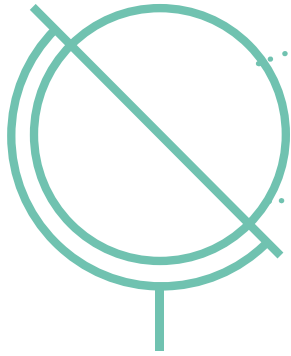
As the largest voluntary organisation for girls with a network of 10 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts across 152 countries - many of them who were already working to stop violence in their communities – we recognised the unique role we had to reach and inspire girls to be the voice of change.
All the work of STV falls into five categories, designed to ensure the campaign has a direct impact on girls' lives, as well as enabling them to influence policy, and change societal attitudes at a local, national and global level.

- 1 AWARENESS RAISING
- 2 EDUCATION
- 3 RESEARCH AND CONSULTATION
- 4 LOBBYING AND POLICY
- 5 NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY CAMPAIGNING

To run STV, we develop partnerships between our Member Organisations and other likeminded organisations in order to, for example, train Guide Leaders to deliver the VAV curriculum or to deliver advocacy campaign trainings for girls to design their own campaigns or to mentor and support young women to attend the UN Commission on the Status of Women, and improve global policy on the rights of girls and women worldwide.

¹ <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/violence-against-women>
² <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/facts-and-figures>

OUR IMPACT: A SNAPSHOT



STV has had a presence in more than **70 COUNTRIES**.

80,000 young people have completed the VAV curriculum so far.

9,000 youth leaders have been trained as STV 'Trainers'.

- In MALAYSIA, the Girl Guides partnered with UNICEF on #NoBridesUnder18 campaign - which resulted in several states agreeing to close loopholes in the law that allow girls under 18 to be married.
- In MALTA, the Girl Guides successfully lobbied the government to pass a law banning Female Genital Mutilation.
- In BARBADOS, Girl Guides contributed to drafting the government's Domestic Violence bill.
- In MALAWI, Girl Guides played their part in increasing the legal age of marriage from 15 to 18, representing a major victory for girls in a country that has one of the highest rates of child marriage in the world.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL (SDG) 5:

GENDER EQUALITY

5 GENDER EQUALITY



Our ambition is to shape a world where no girl or young woman faces violence or discrimination. All our work is designed to help achieve this vision and enable the world to meet its commitment to SDG5; achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Many Girl Guides and Leaders are introduced to the concept of gender equality for the first time through the VAV curriculum. It makes them aware that gender stereotypes and inequality are the root causes of violence, and enables them to identify it in their own communities and take action to challenge it.

CASE STUDY: GIRLS AS DRIVERS OF CHANGE

JORDAN AND UGANDA



In 2019, we launched a new partnership with **Save the Children – Out of the Problem, into the Solution: Girls as Drivers of Change (GADC)**. Funded by the **Postcode Global Trust**, the programme worked to address gender-based violence through the education of and leadership of girls. According to Sarah Namutebi, the lead for the project in Uganda, “the girls felt that once a girl or

woman does not have access to her own finances, she’s more likely to become a victim and be subjected to violence. To solve this, the girls came up with the idea to run income-generating activities for themselves and also their peers at school.”

In total, 70 girl-led solutions for gender-based violence were funded.