INTRODUCTION TO THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH INITIATIVE

BACKGROUND

Supported by a pooled fund through the Tides Foundation, InterAction launched the Children and Youth Initiative in 2020 to better integrate and elevate children and youth issues in our coalition’s advocacy. InterAction’s diverse membership includes many non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working and advocating on behalf of children and youth around the globe, often with a focus on topics such as the early years, education, health, or adolescent girls.

GOAL AND APPROACH

The initiative works to:

- Increase U.S. funding and advance effective policies to promote the well-being of children and youth
- Stimulate and integrate advocacy on children and youth in existing and future efforts
- Improve cross-sectoral coordination and information sharing between groups related to such issues

As a convener, InterAction utilizes its platform to highlight children and youth issues and support advocacy by its Member NGOs. Much of this work focuses on advocacy, supporting policies and budgets that benefit the whole child. InterAction utilizes its strong advocacy connections to work closely with Capitol Hill, USAID, the Department of State, White House, and others to highlight the importance of international assistance and support for children and youth.

While convening Members, this initiative focuses on identifying gaps in addressing the whole child and acting as an impartial convener to develop recommendations with the community’s support. Within the organization, children and youth issues span working groups, sectors, and teams. The leadership and resources for this initiative are fully integrated into InterAction’s Public Policy Team and led by a Senior Manager, Roxanne Paisible.

For more information on InterAction’s Children and Youth Initiative, please contact Roxanne Paisible at rpaisible@interaction.org.