

GLOBAL 20 SUMMIT 24 #FocusOn TheFuture



4-5 December 2024
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

The **WeProtect 2024 Global Summit #FocusOnTheFuture** comes at a critical moment for child safety and protection online. More than 300 million children a year are estimated to be victims of online sexual abuse and exploitation. On average, child abuse imagery is reported to watchdog and policing organisations once every second. Rapidly changing technologies and internet use have significantly exacerbated the serious problem of online sexual abuse and exploitation. Now is the time to act.

The fast-evolving nature of digital tools, means that counteracting these issues requires stronger international collaboration, improved digital safety protocols, better user education and robust enforcement mechanisms. In the 10 years since its foundation, WeProtect Global Alliance, an independent charity focused on developing policies and solutions to protect children from sexual exploitation and abuse online, has made significant progress but there is still so much to do.

This biennial Summit, co-hosted with the Ministry of Interior of the United Arab Emirates, will convene government ministers, business leaders, technology experts, academics, researchers and child safety advocates to drive global, transformative change in ending child sexual exploitation and abuse online. The two-day summit will take place on the 4-5 December 2024 in Abu Dhabi.

New research will be launched at the Summit on future scanning for emerging technology risks and future trends to ensure we are prepared to prevent them being misused to harm children.

We will discuss the wave of new challenges the rapid development of artificial intelligence poses to child safety, and how law enforcement is using it to tackle offenders.

Ministers from across the world will discuss progress in responding to child sexual exploitation and abuse online at a country level and explore specific challenges facing the global majority. We will also explore the future of regulation and the need for a coherent global framework.

Leaders from the Global Online Safety Regulators' Network, UNICEF, the Council of Europe, Microsoft, Snap Inc, INTERPOL and others will lead conversations you cannot afford to miss,

Survivors will share their perspectives on a different future, while young people's voices will be heard loudly through the #MyVoice#MyFuture campaign.

Venue: Erth Centre, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Dates: 4-5 December 2024

General Summit enquiries: globalsummit@weprotectga.org

GLOBAL 20 SUMMIT 24

WeProtect
GLOBAL ALLIANCE

#FocusOnTheFuture AGENDA

Please note this agenda is subject to change.

Day 1: Wednesday 4 December

09:00 – 10:00 **Opening and welcome**

10:00 – 10:30 **Keynote address: A focus on the humanity, tech and the future**

We are in one of the most transformative times in human history. Over the next decade technology will evolve at a rapid rate, and new technological threats to children will continue to emerge. The places where children learn, play and interact will become increasingly borderless and the digital world an even bigger part of their lives. What implications does this have? How can humanity respond to keeping children safe online when technology is developing at such a rapid pace? What will the future look like for children online and what role do we have to play in changing the future?

10 :30 - 11:15 **New horizons: emerging trends shaping the future**

What are the key emerging risks that could shape the future of child protection over the next decade? WeProtect Global Alliance and Thorn will launch groundbreaking new research on global emerging technological trends, followed by a panel with global experts exploring proactive strategies to prevent child exploitation and abuse before harm occurs.

11.15 – 11:45 **Refreshment break**

11 :45 – 12 :45 **Survivor perspectives: stepping up action for a safer future**

Survivors of child sexual exploitation and abuse will take centre stage, sharing their personal stories, insights and visions to inspire a collective reimagining of how we approach child protection, advocate for policy changes and empower others to take action toward a safer, more compassionate world for children.

12 :45 – 13:45 **Lunch and networking**

13 :45 - 14 :45 **Building the case for prevention**

As child sexual abuse rates continue to grow, critical gaps in prevention and intervention strategies remain. This session will explore perspectives to strengthen our collective understanding and strategies for preventing abuse and make the case for continued investment and innovation in creating safer futures for children through development of a new global framework.

14 :45 – 15 :45 **Exploring new trends and issues in depth**

Breakout 1 : Tackling the rise of AI-generated child sexual abuse material

From modifying and distorting existing images to creating deepfakes, AI is fuelling a wave of new challenges for child safety. This session features insights from law enforcement, technology experts, governments and regulators on the latest trends in AI-driven abuse and how they're addressing current and emerging risks to children online.

Breakout 2: Health and wellbeing: looking after frontline responders

WeProtect Global Alliance and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police will present research on the health, wellbeing and work impacts of responding to online child sexual exploitation

and abuse, including work-related risk and protective factors and recommendations to enhance work practices, build resilience and improve staff retention.

Breakout 3 : Emerging risks and solutions: insights on the ground

Organisations from across the world will share key insights following a series of consultations where they explored current and future issues and solutions. The sessions provide a useful roadmap for opportunities to strengthen national, regional and international collaboration.

Breakout 4: A roadmap for navigating the future of age assurance

Digital age assurance is a complex and sensitive issue, requiring a careful balancing of rights and risks. This session will bring together insights from policy, regulatory, industry, and civil society to share effective approaches and discuss how we can build a common global framework for understanding the age of users.

15:45 – 16:15

Refreshment break

16:15 – 17:15

National perspectives and future commitments to combat exploitation and abuse

Governments will discuss their progress in tackling child sexual exploitation and abuse online, outlining current challenges, sharing best practices and revealing their commitments to future actions. This session will not only reflect on past and present efforts but also focus on how countries plan to evolve and strengthen their strategies to effectively combat exploitation and abuse in the digital age

17 :15

Close of Day 1

Day 2: Thursday 5 December

09:00 – 09:20

Keynote: Looking back, looking forward

Reflections on changes in child sexual exploitation and abuse and the key challenges ahead

09:20 – 10:00

Keynote: Hopes, reflections and creating a different future

As online risks continue to evolve, influential voices will share their visions, strategies, and commitments to creating a safer digital world.

10:00 - 10:15

#MyVoice#MyFuture – youth film

Screening of a short film featuring voice of young people in two countries and their perspectives on their concerns, digital rights and the future world they would like to see online.

10:15 – 10:45

Refreshments and networking

10:45 – 11 :45

A focus on the future: practical applications

Breakout 1 : #MyVoice#MySay – participation in practice

Alliance members from across sectors will bring to life innovative child-centred case studies and explore key standards and principles for ethical child and youth participation.

Breakout 2: Using AI in the fight against child sexual abuse

From clustering users on darknet forums to AI-driven analysis of support chats for children, World Childhood Foundation will share insights on how society can use artificial intelligence (AI) to advance the fight against child sexual abuse. Participants will gain insights into the potential of leveraging AI to keep children safe, and inspiration on how to engage in cross-sectoral collaborations.

Breakout 3 : How technology and new learning is shaping law enforcement

How is AI technology and new learning providing tools and opportunities for law enforcement around the world? This session will feature four case studies from leading

law enforcement and academic professionals, highlighting the latest research and the value of international collaboration across borders.

Breakout 4: Innovations and responding to future risks

As we continue to face new and emerging threats, we also need innovative ways to tackle them. This session will feature innovations being developed to protect children online. Praesidio Safeguarding will share work they have been doing with influencers in West Africa and shed light on some of the protection gaps children face in Africa and Asia, and the solutions needed to safeguard them in the future. They will be joined by two technology organisations who will showcase their innovations in gaming and the work they have been doing to make gaming experiences safer.

11 :45- 12 :30

Uniting for impact: national and transnational state collaboration

As technology continues to outpace traditional methods of investigation and prosecution, governments and law enforcement agencies face growing challenges in combating online child sexual abuse and exploitation. This session will explore actionable strategies on how governments can strengthen legal frameworks, enhance international collaboration and support proactive measures to address transnational crimes.

12:30 – 13:30

Lunch and networking

13 :30 – 14 :30

Shifting safety on a regional scale

International cooperation and globally aligned approaches are essential for ensuring that all children can explore the digital world without fear of abuse or violence. This panel will bring together high-level representatives from regional bodies across the world to share their respective and shared challenges, showcase successful initiatives and spark further action at the national and international level.

14 :30 - 15 :30

The future of regulation

Can regulation keep pace with the rate of technological change? What's on the horizon and how can we join up global responses to close the gaps? What needs to be done to support countries at the beginning of their regulatory journey? The session will look at key emerging issues, the impact of current regulations on child safety, and discuss the need for a coherent global framework with clear targets for the future.

15:30 – 16 :00

Refreshments and networking

16:00 – 16:30

Reframing the future: a new narrative

How we talk about child sexual exploitation and abuse online matters. Our words and language can make the difference between salience and dismissal, between hope and fatalism, between collective action and stepping back. How can the media, better storytelling and stronger narrative frameworks help to change the story?

16 :30 – 17:00

Closing address
