2026-2029

STRATEGIC PLAN: SUMMARY

PREVENTION COLLABORATIVE
feminist inspired | evidence driven

The Prevention Collaborative works with partners to reduce violence against women and children by improving prevention practice, fostering innovation, and strengthening the global prevention ecosystem. Founded in 2017, we act as a "scaffolding organisation" - that is, rather than implementing programmes ourselves, we support actors in the field to improve practice in low- and middle-income settings, especially through organisations with national or community reach. A virtual team of 15 across nine countries delivers through capacity strengthening, evidence curation and sense-making, advocacy for underutilised strategies and field building. **Our work rests on the following core beliefs: prevention is possible, training alone does not change practice, evidence should trump orthodoxy, and bridging siloes drives breakthroughs.**



From the start, we have focused on preventing intimate partner violence (IPV) and harsh discipline of children within the family - using gender-transformative parenting programmes as a bridge between the VAW and VAC fields. Since 2017, we have built a curated Knowledge Hub, developed a full suite of courses, facilitated nine learning partnerships, delivered six cluster programmes and catalysed the Affinity group on Gender, Violence and Parenting.

The plan arrives at a difficult moment. Human rights rollbacks across the globe, backlash against women and gender minorities and overlapping global crises coincide with cuts to overseas development assistance. This plan acknowledges these issues and provides a roadmap to ensure violence prevention of women and children remains core to the global agenda.

GOAL ONE: AMPLIFY GLOBAL INFLUENCE

Over the past year, we have built an extensive library of courses and knowledge products on violence prevention concepts and strategies. The next four years shift emphasis from production to uptake: getting existing resources to more people and new constituencies and using them to advance uptake of underutilised strategies and gender-transformative parenting. New and adapted work will extend to new communities (faith communities), new topics (Tech4Prevention) and new geography (Latin America).

Priorities:

- Grow learners on existing courses by at least 30% over three years, and offer courses and workshops more often.
- Repurpose at least 30% of resources into new formats and for new audiences.
- Include facilitator resources, such as manuals and guidance on difficult questions, in 75% of facilitated courses.
- Develop and launch at least four new courses or learning opportunities.
- Aim for cost-neutral facilitated courses through fees or other means, keeping free or subsidised places for those unable to pay.
- Translate at least 20 existing offerings using AI-supported translation with human quality assurance.
- Form at least two new partnerships in Latin America.

GOAL TWO: LEAD INNOVATION VIA TECH4PREVENTION

Digital and AI technologies are spreading faster than ever before. Much feminist attention has rightly focused on technology-facilitated gender-based violence, so we see other organisations better placed to lead that work. Our niche shows how technology can be a positive force for prevention.

Used ethically, technology could help solve the field's perennial problem of delivering cost-effective prevention at scale. Examples include: digital parenting programmes, tools that speed women's access to justice, AI 'co-pilots' that support facilitators during training, and social listening strategies to track shifts in harmful norms among young people. We aim to become a learning innovator in this space, while treating technology as a tool rather than a panacea. We believe that technology must be used within a clear ethical framework that addresses bias and inequality, and women's organisations must not be left behind.

Priorities:

- Equip the team and partners to use AI and emerging technologies to work more efficiently and effectively, without displacing human labour.
- Map and build relationships with women's groups, tech organisations, academics and donors in allied areas.
- Assess the potential and risks of these technologies and set ethical principles for their use in VAW/C prevention.
- Publish a foundational paper on applications of AI and digital tools in violence prevention.
- Plan how to operationalise this commitment across capacity strengthening, evidence and strategic communications.
- Co-design and pursue at least two digital or AI projects with dedicated funding from tech-aligned donors.

GOAL THREE: CHAMPION POLICY AND SYSTEMS REFORM TO REDUCE VAW AT SCALE

Many proven violence prevention strategies tend to be small-scale and depend on intensive community or group work. But governments (the usual partners for scaling social interventions) typically lack both the workforce and the community trust to drive such efforts. In 2025, we partnered with the World Bank Africa Gender Innovation Lab to identify policy and legal reforms that reduce IPV and sexual assault.
A review found 150 development economics studies evaluating the causal impact of policy change across ten domains, including family law, alcohol policy, agriculture, social protection, justice reform, education, health and social services, women's leadership, labour policy and infrastructure. The evidence suggests policy reform can reduce violence at scale by tackling structural drivers, going well beyond the usual focus on survivor services and violence-specific laws.

We will grow this into a full initiative, with a seven-year ambition to produce a menu of policy options adopted by governments, multilateral institutions and funders, and championed by women's rights organisations.

Priorities:

- Catalyse and support a network of researchers strengthening the evidence on policy and legal reform.
- Co-develop a research agenda and, where funding allows, give small grants to analyse past reforms using existing data.
- Develop advocacy materials and a strategy to raise awareness among policymakers and their advisors.
- Encourage women's rights organisations to adopt a wider range of policy targets in their advocacy.
- Publish an initial menu of policy options to reduce IPV by year three.

GOAL FOUR: EXPAND GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE PARENTING AND FAMILY STRENGTHENING, PARTICULARLY WITH FAITH-BASED ORGANISATIONS

Gender-transformative parenting, which challenges rigid gender roles and aims to reduce both partner violence and child maltreatment, remains the Collaborative's main bridge between the VAW and VAC fields. Our approach has so far been secular; over the next four years we will build relationships with faith-based organisations and adapt our offerings to their needs.

The rationale is strong. Faith leaders often work directly with couples and families, and religion shapes norms on relationships, gender roles and entitlements, sometimes through interpretations

that justify violence. Faith-based organisations such as Catholic Relief Services, Islamic Relief and World Vision have historically managed 25–40% of foreign and humanitarian assistance, giving them real potential to scale prevention. We will engage with humility, recognising the wisdom, moral authority and community ties that faith actors bring.

Priorities:

- Learn from existing actors and activities at the intersection of faith and VAW/VAC.
- Establish advisory relationships with feminist theologians and faith leaders from diverse traditions.
- Develop principles on when, whether and how to partner with organisations whose doctrines conflict with gender equality.
- Co-develop at least two partnerships with faith-based organisations on gender-responsive parenting and family-strengthening programmes adapted to their context.
- Build relationships with funders working across faith, development and violence prevention.

CONCLUSIONS

The plan rests on the conviction that has guided the Collaborative since our founding: violence against women and children is preventable. Grounded in feminist principles and robust evidence, the Collaborative has helped move the field beyond silos towards integrated approaches that address violence in the family and its root causes. By continuing to invest in capacity, collaboration, and learning, and by working alongside partners who share this vision, we can build a future where violence is no longer tolerated or normalised but prevented—decisively and collectively.

Read the full 2026-2029 Strategic Plan here.