



The Human and Child Rights and Safeguarding Guidance – FAQs

1. Is it common practice for considering human and child rights and safeguarding in event?

At present, human and child rights are not generally being prioritised or considered by the global event sector. Among the event sector, there is a lack of understanding on how to start considering human and child rights so this is where the guidance is really important. However, event organisers are more likely to have considered safeguarding – e.g. by publishing a safeguarding policy – as they become increasingly aware of their duty to keep children safe at their events.

2. Is there any other support for event planners to consider human and child rights and safeguarding?

No, this is the only event-centred guidance for considering human and child rights and safeguarding – but stakeholder engagement is set out as a key priority within this guidance which includes engaging with experts in these areas. There is potential for event organisers to partner with experts in human and child rights and safeguarding – e.g. National Human Rights Institutions or organisations specialising in safeguarding – when planning, delivering and thinking about the legacy of their event.

3. How can considering human and child rights and safeguarding advance sustainability at the event?

Implementing human and child rights and safeguarding considerations when planning your event provides an opportunity to advance the social sustainability of the event. Global Governments and Companies are increasingly focused on social sustainability such as inclusion, diversity and having a fair and just transition to net zero. Event planning is only focused on their environmental impact and climate relating United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). The consideration of human and child rights and safeguarding is a crucial way of supporting the global focus to social sustainability by advancing UN SDGs such as SDG 10: Reduced Inequality, SDG 5: Gender Equality and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

4. Are there any other practical actions for event planners to use the guidance?

For actions to take, the best option is to explore the Positive Impact Human and Child rights hub which contains practical steps to take which will support the implementation of human and child rights and safeguarding guidance. This hub outlines practical steps through providing understanding, implementation methods and guidance from Human and child rights experts, Unicef UK on the follow topics: Safeguarding; meaningful participation; and Remedy.



5. Why is implementing the guidance along with ISO 20121 the best approach?

The guidance goes hand-in-hand with ISO 20121. ISO 20121 is the only global standard for sustainable events. The ISO process is about embedding sustainability practices into every aspect of event planning and building a structure which could be followed to create a culture for sustainability. By aligning the guidance with ISO 20121, event planners will better equip to embed human and child rights and safeguarding into the entire lifecycle of your event – from planning and delivery right through to legacy as well as in the overarching event strategy and way of working.