

# Report of the subgroup on Child Online Protection indicators



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**9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Expert Group on Household Indicators (EGH)**

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# Background

- The 2017 EGH meeting agreed to explore and discuss how data from household surveys can contribute to increasing data availability relating to child online protection (COP).
- The 2018 meeting concluded that child online protection is a highly important topic for policymakers, industry and society in general, but its implementation within household surveys is complex.
- The 2020 Meeting of the EGH agreed to create a subgroup within EGH to address the measurement of child online protection within the context of household surveys.
- The objectives of the subgroup were to discuss ways in which issues relevant to child online protection might be measured within the framework of household surveys, and make proposals to the EGH in this regard.
- The subgroup consisted of representatives from Colombia, Costa Rica, Ghana, Kenya, the London School of Economics, UNICEF and ITU.

# Inputs





# Survey strategy – interviewing children

- Truthful answers in front of parents/guardians
  - Costa Rica: at school
  - Sensitive questions on a tablet
  - Interviewing parents/guardians at the same time (requiring 2 interviewers)
- Enumerators should be trained how to conduct interviews with children – how to build rapport, appropriate boundaries, knowing what to do if a child is upset by the survey etc.
  - UNICEF has developed some training materials
- Fieldwork interviewers may need to have special permission (e.g. police checks)
- EU Kids Online has developed a protocol for interviewing children (as well as for parents)



# Indicators

- Parents/guardians vs. children
  - Ideally mirrored for analytical purposes
- Age cut-off
  - Legal barriers in countries
  - Depends on questions and type of risks that are explored
  - EU Kids Online → 9-16 years (but less questions for 9-11 year olds)
  - Global Kids Online → 9 to 17 years



# Survey module

- For countries interested in the subject, but not (yet) in the ITU questionnaire
- Global Kids Online recommended as basis
- Full GKO survey is very long
- The subgroup recommends that EGH adopts the key measures for Global Kids Online
  - capture the fundamental issues related to children's internet use
  - encompass internet access, use, online opportunities, risk of harm and social support
  - have been pilot tested and implemented in multiple countries
- The GKO method guides cover the issues raised regarding ethics, survey administration, and so forth
- Of note that this only covers questions to children. For a parent module, countries need to refer to the core module



Thank you!