



# STRENGTHENING CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION TO IMPROVE PROTECTION AND CARE FOR CHILDREN WORLDWIDE

Day of General Discusión  
Children's Rights and Alternative Care



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# INTRODUCTION

## FAMILY POWER

*A research and communication project, initiated in The Netherlands, to show HOW vulnerable children worldwide can grow up in a safe, caring and permanent family, visualizing and sharing existing best practices from all parts of the world. As a result, a training and consultancy program for small NGOs will be developed in order to strengthen cross-border cooperation.*

**Family Power is a joint initiative of 9 Private Initiatives (PIs) in the Netherlands and their international Partner Organizations (IPOs). During 2021 - 2022 those organizations will share their experiences in a structured way and will make visible HOW vulnerable children can grow up in a safe, caring and permanent family despite harsh conditions. The ultimate common goal: helping more children grow up in a family successfully!**

## PARTICIPANTS

Kenya

KidsCare Kenya  
Macheo Children's  
Organisation

Tanzania

Tan-Kids - Share to Grow /  
Acodeta

Cambodia

COLT Cambodia

Indonesia

Yayasan Setetes Embun -  
PWM  
Westerlaken Foundation -  
Yayasan Bali Bersih

Sri Lanka

Friendship Foundation -  
DLFF

Ukraine

SOFT Tulip - CFEIK

Ecuador

Daniëlle Children's Fund



# RESEARCH

## NETWORK PARTNERS

Family Power is working together with network partners like Wilde Ganzen, Partin, Better Care Network Netherlands (BCNN), Radboud University, Dutch Coalition on Disabilities and Development (DCDD), Family for Every Child and Transform Africa Alliance. They play an important advisory role within the project.

## CASE STUDY

All participating organizations will provide data and learnings from a running case project or program aimed at family-based care for vulnerable children. Vulnerable children are defined as children without adequate parental care or being at risk of losing that care (Faith to Action, 2018; UNGA, 1989). An important group are special needs children. The cases are varying from kinship care to de-institutionalizing and from preventive care to national public policy change. A literature study is providing the theoretical framework, building a case study on academic level. A challenge we are currently taking on with the support of the Radboud University, Nijmegen, Holland. The investigation will focus on the definition of factors that accelerate and that complicate successful implementation of family-based care by IPOs.

## DATA COLLECTION

The IPOs play a crucial role in the research. They share information about their programs, approach and experiences, including those of their employees, beneficiaries and important stakeholders. By means of questionnaires, (digital) interviews, reports and documents they are providing information to the project coordinator. In group discussions the IPOs share more in-depth knowledge and experience. All projects will be visited by the project coordinator to continue dialogue with employees and observation. Finally, a pilot will be carried out with digital storytelling, in which children share their story and process by means of self-recorded video images.



## AWARENESS & INSPIRATION

The research provides more than a learning effect to those directly involved as the 'HOW' question is relevant to a bigger audience. Through a vibrant informative campaign based on tangible data and above all full of inspiring local field stories, Family Power will demonstrate to fellow organizations and sponsors/donors that good family-based care alternatives have been developed. This may give parties the confidence and conditions to further implement and grow family-based solutions worldwide, in the interest of many children. A campaign strategy is being developed around the following parameters:

- IPOs, Dutch PIs and donors as target audiences
- The actual global care reform
- Practical success stories of family-based care
- Captured by local videographers and digital story telling by the children themselves
- Supported by relevant and appealing conclusions from the research
- From the Netherlands but internationally useful.



## TRAINING & CONSULTANCY

The 9 IPOs will translate the acquired knowledge into training and consultancy programs for their own organization, their local network and for interested peer organizations, worldwide. The training and consultancy activities will be delivered by the IPOs and specialised external organizations. Training and consultancy will address issues such as transforming institutionalised care into family-based care, alternative family and community based care, network development, inclusion and advocacy. An active exchange and consultation process between the IPOs will give this further substance and shape. This way we will work towards the sustainable dissemination of the collected knowledge and practices.



# MANIFEST Every child needs a family

## WE BELIEVE IN THE STRENGTH OF INSPIRATION **NEED FOR EXAMPLES**

A child develops best in a safe, caring and permanent family. However, many children worldwide lack adequate parental care. The interest in family-based childcare is growing, but challenging conditions among small NGOs often hamper success rates. There is hence a need for collaboration and exchange of experiences. This is the essence of what Family Power aims to achieve.

## WE BELIEVE IN BUILDING ON AN ACADEMIC LEVEL: **INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH**

Family Power contains elements of research and communication. Every IPO provides data and learnings from a running case project or program aimed at family-based care for vulnerable children.

An academic case study will map family-based childcare success factors and bottlenecks in a structured way.

## WE BELIEVE IN SUSTAINABILITY: **TRAINING AND CONSULTANCY**

The 9 IPOs will translate the acquired knowledge into training and consultancy programs for their own organization, their local network and for interested peer organizations, worldwide. The training and consultancy activities will be delivered by the IPOs and specialised external organizations. In this way, an appealing and practical training and consultancy program will be co-constructed.

## WE BELIEVE IN FAMILY-BASED CARE: **FAMILY POWER**

Family Power is a joint initiative of 9 Private Initiatives (PIs) and their International Partner Organisation (IPO) spread over 4 continents. The organisations want to show 'how' effective conditions may be created for vulnerable children to grow up in a safe, caring and permanent family. These organizations believe in the strength of growing up in a family and are fully committed to this. They are keen to share their local practical experiences with each other and with a bigger audience.

## WE BELIEVE IN A GREATER LEARNING EFFECT: **AWARENESS AND INSPIRATION**

Through a vibrant informative campaign based on tangible data and above all full of inspiring local field stories Family Power will demonstrate to fellow organizations and sponsors/donors that good family and community based care alternatives have been developed.

## WE BELIEVE TOGETHER WE CAN GO FURTHER: **INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT**

Family Power is not an isolated initiative. We are an inspiring and activating part of a larger international movement. Together we want to bring about a change. Family Power sees this movement as an open partnership with national and international network partners. Our approach is based on practice and 'being the change'. This allows Family Power to have a role as an innovative catalyst in the movement. Our current network partners are Wilde Ganzen, Partin, BCNN, DCDD, Radboud University, Family for Every Child and Transform Africa Alliance.

**WE APPRECIATE YOUR FEEDBACK**  
**SEE OUR WEBSITE [WWW.FAMILYPOWER.NET](http://WWW.FAMILYPOWER.NET) OR SEND US AN EMAIL:**  
**[INFO@FAMILYPOWER.NET](mailto:INFO@FAMILYPOWER.NET)**

