



**Global
Parenting
Initiative**

YEAR IN

REVIEW

2025

ABOUT

The Global Parenting Initiative (GPI) is a five-year collaboration of universities, foundations, and implementing partners, funded primarily by the LEGO Foundation and Oak Foundation with the aim of providing access to free, evidence-based, playful parenting support to every parent, everywhere, so that they are equipped with the knowledge and tools to help their children realise their learning potential and to prevent child sexual abuse, exploitation, and family violence.

INTRODUCTION

The GPI 4th Annual Report covers activities during the 12-month period from 1 January to 31 December 2025.

Across 2025, Global Parenting Initiative's multi-country programme continued to strengthen the evidence, tools, partnerships, and pathways needed to ensure more families can access free, effective parenting support. Building on results emerging from randomised trials across multiple contexts, GPI continues to demonstrate the potential for digital and blended parenting programmes to improve outcomes for children and caregivers, and to do so at low cost per family.

In this report, we highlight activities and achievements across 10 core project teams and 20 satellite studies, spanning 25 countries. Across this portfolio, Global Parenting Initiative's core research team has supported 16 randomised controlled trials (RCTs) and three factorial trials of innovative playful parenting programmes. Over the past year, combined research and engagement activities reached tens of thousands of families, while continued scale-up through country systems and partners has enabled GPI interventions to cumulatively reach 14,525,029 parents, caregivers, children, and facilitators across the first four years of the project.

All of this is only possible thanks to the generous support of the LEGO Foundation and Oak Foundation. This partnership has enabled Global Parenting Initiative to develop, test, and scale evidence-based playful parenting programmes at an unprecedented level. Their investment has helped create a global network of researchers, innovators, implementers, and policymakers working to ensure that every family has access to effective parenting support. We are extremely grateful for this support and look forward to continuing this work in the years ahead.

This executive summary highlights our progress across six core workstreams:

Evaluate

Increasing the evidence base on the effectiveness, cost-effectiveness, and adaptability of technology-assisted and in-person playful parenting programmes.

Innovate

Creating an open-source ecosystem of agile, scalable, and evidence-based technology-assisted parenting interventions.

Facilitate

Enhancing the skills and capacity of implementers, researchers, and policymakers through knowledge-sharing and capacity-building.

Advocate

Using rigorous evidence to campaign for the sustained institutionalisation of playful parenting programmes.

Generate

Building infrastructure and funding streams to support the scale-up and institutionalisation of Parenting for Lifelong Health (PLH) parenting approaches.

Accelerate

Providing strategic and technical support to integrate playful parenting into government and NGO programmes.

EVALUATE

WORKSTREAM AIM

To implement an ambitious programme of research across multiple countries in the Global South to rapidly advance knowledge on how technology-assisted parenting support can best help children realise their learning potential and reduce family violence.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

Increased evidence on effectiveness, cost-effectiveness, and transferability of technology-assisted playful parenting programmes.

GPI CORE PROJECTS

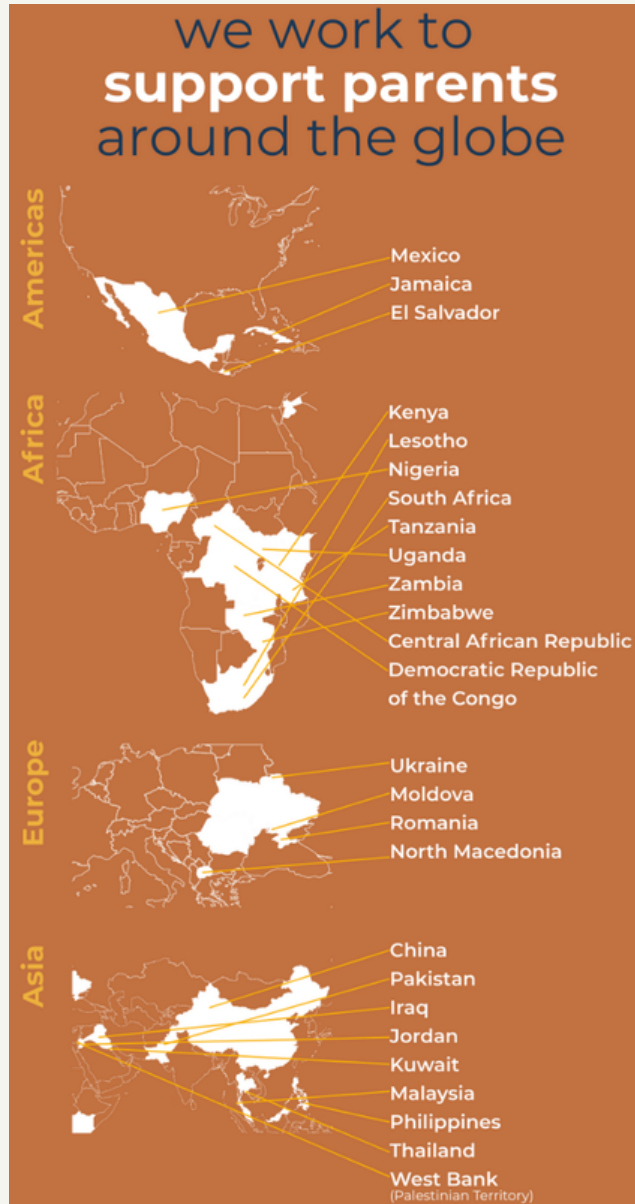
Research across GPI's 10 core projects includes effectiveness studies and implementation science research, conducted in six countries across sub-Saharan Africa and East Asia.

In 2025, the Evaluate workstream produced high-quality evidence across multiple studies, showing the promise of blended, digital, and in-person playful parenting programmes. During the year, multiple evaluations progressed from fieldwork to final analysis and dissemination, including ParentApp for Teens (Tanzania); ParentText (South Africa and China); Parenting on the Border (Thailand-Myanmar); ParentText Optimisation and Evaluation (Thailand); Hope Groups (Ukraine); and MaPa Teens (Philippines). Together, these studies expand comparative evidence across delivery modalities, developmental stages, and contexts of high adversity.

These evaluations have generated encouraging evidence across multiple outcomes. Across different delivery modalities and contexts, findings from completed studies show that playful parenting interventions can strengthen child learning outcomes, increase positive parenting practices, improve caregiver and child mental health, and reduce violence against children, including sexual and physical violence. Importantly, several digital and blended interventions achieved these outcomes at very low unit cost per family, demonstrating the potential for

effective parenting support to be delivered affordably at scale. **Research across the Global Parenting Initiative is also ensuring that the evidence generated is relevant and actionable.** Many evaluations have been embedded within routine health, education, social welfare, and humanitarian delivery systems, allowing studies to examine feasibility, engagement, safeguarding, workforce capacity, and delivery trade-offs under real-world conditions. Mixed-methods and economic analyses have further strengthened the

interpretation of results, supporting governments and partners to move beyond proof of effectiveness toward informed decisions about adoption, financing, and institutionalisation.



Project teams continue to produce high-quality, locally led, research outputs that reflect the scale, depth, and rigour of our work. In 2025, GPI teams published 14 papers in peer-reviewed journals, 7 of which were first-authored by researchers from the Global South. This brings the total number of peer-reviewed publications arising from GPI core and satellite projects to 38, with

researchers from the Global South authoring 18 of these. In addition, there is a strong pipeline of 13 manuscripts currently under review, and many more in preparation.

As the Global Parenting Initiative enters its final full year in 2026, the focus will be on completing ongoing studies, consolidating findings, and ensuring that evidence is translated into use. Several major trials will conclude data collection and analysis, including SWIFT in South Africa, ParentApp for Kids in Tanzania, Parenting for Respectability-Digital in Uganda, and studies embedded within preschool and social welfare systems in Malaysia and the Philippines. In parallel, GPI will advance cross-study analyses, including pooled analyses that bring together data from multiple trials to strengthen understanding of impacts, mechanisms, and variation across contexts and delivery models. The year will also prioritise dissemination and engagement with governments and partners, to ensure that evidence generated through the Initiative informs policy, delivery, and sustained scale-up beyond the life of the programme.

KEY FINDINGS FROM 2025

- Playful parenting programmes delivered across digital, blended, and in-person modalities can achieve significant and consistent impacts across multiple outcome domains.** Across GPI trials completed or reported in 2025, interventions demonstrated improvements in children's learning and learning-supportive parenting behaviours, positive parenting practices, caregiver and child mental health, and reductions in violence against children. For example, the ParentApp for Teens trial in Tanzania showed sustained improvements in parenting practices, caregiver and adolescent mental health, and large reductions in sexual, physical, and emotional violence at 14-month follow-up, while digital and blended ParentText interventions in South Africa and China improved learning-related parenting behaviours, caregiver wellbeing, and reduced harsh parenting. Evidence from both digital and in-person trials indicates that playful parenting approaches can be effective across developmental stages, delivery models, and diverse country contexts.
- Multiple GPI evaluations now demonstrate that playful parenting programmes can deliver meaningful impacts at very low unit cost, strengthening the economic case for large-scale implementation.** Digital interventions such as the ParentText 5-Day programme in South Africa reached approximately 17,000 caregivers at an estimated provider cost of US \$1.24 per caregiver, translating modest individual-level effects into substantial population-level impact. In in-person delivery, economic analyses from Thailand show that Parenting for Lifelong Health for Young Children can be delivered through public health systems at approximately US \$82–195 per caregiver (provider perspective), with cost–benefit ratios ranging from 6.1 to 117.7 and positive net present values across scale-up scenarios. Together, these findings indicate that both digital and in-person playful parenting programmes can be affordable and represent good value for money within constrained public systems.
- Playful parenting interventions can achieve meaningful impacts even in contexts of displacement, conflict, and acute adversity.** In humanitarian settings, GPI trials reported positive outcomes across multiple domains. Along the Thailand–Myanmar border, the Being Family film intervention improved early learning-related parenting behaviours, positive parenting and family functioning, and reduced

physical violence against children among displaced families, while a more intensive trauma-informed parenting and mental health programme produced broader and more sustained improvements in parenting practices, caregiver mental health, and reductions in violence. In Ukraine, the Hope Groups intervention, delivered during active conflict using in-person, blended, and remote formats, demonstrated large reductions in violence against children and caregiver depression and anxiety, alongside improvements in parenting and child behaviour. These findings show that playful parenting programmes can remain effective under extreme conditions when delivery intensity and support are appropriately matched to family needs.

INNOVATE

WORKSTREAM AIM

To build a cohesive ecosystem of agile, adaptable, and scalable evidence-based technology-assisted parenting interventions.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

The creation of a unified and flexible ecosystem encompassing agile, adaptable, and scalable evidence-based technology-assisted parenting interventions.

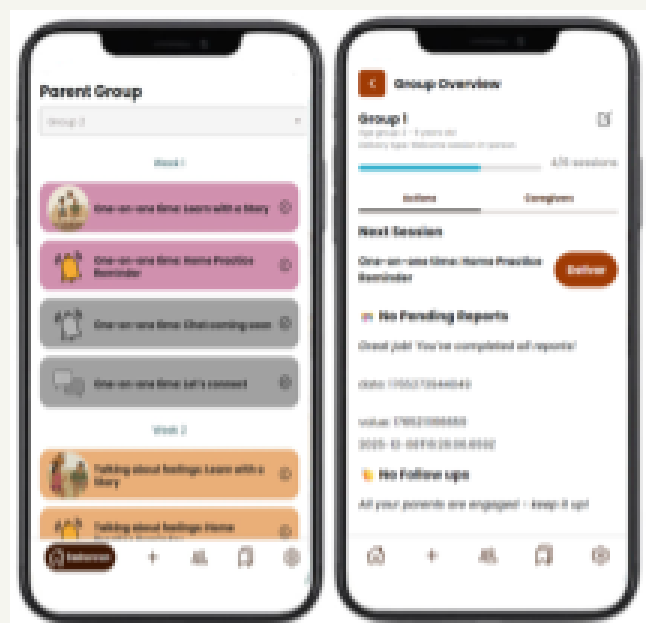
In 2025, the Innovate workstream continued to strengthen GPI's digital and blended parenting interventions.

Although IDEMS International's core funding concluded at the end of 2024, IDEMS remained an active technical and innovation partner through project-based support across the GPI studies and scale-up work with the Parenting for Lifelong Health (PLH) charity, primarily through the Playful Parenting for All grant.

Over the past year, GPI has made several important advances across its digital portfolio. Streamlined versions of ParentApp were launched in Tanzania and South Africa, improving usability and reducing barriers for caregivers with limited connectivity or digital literacy. ParentText onboarding, engagement, and personalisation features were strengthened and then tested at scale in South Africa. Early findings show strong uptake and engagement, contributing valuable evidence on the potential of light-touch digital parenting support delivered at scale.

Innovation in 2025 also focused on strengthening blended delivery models. The FacilitatorApp was enhanced to better

support facilitators working alongside digital tools in schools, health systems, and social protection platforms. In Uganda, the digitalisation of Parenting for Respectability expanded the reach of gender-transformative parenting support, with an ongoing trial comparing self-led, light-touch, and blended approaches. New tools were also introduced, including ParentApp for Kids in Tanzania, delivering playful parenting and early learning content through interactive modules. Additional advances included integrating sexual violence prevention content into ParentText as part of the SWIFT study in South Africa.



Beyond individual tools, a central focus of Innovate in 2025 was consolidating a different model of digital scale. Our experience has consistently shown that parenting support must be adapted to local cultures, systems, and digital realities to be effective. However, many digital deployments rely either on one-size-fits-all replication, where meaningful adaptation is not possible, or on costly, bespoke redevelopment for each new context, which is difficult to sustain.

In response, we developed a digital architecture and ways of working that enable adaptation within a unified system.

This allows local partners to tailor content, delivery formats, and decision rules to their specific contexts without the need for costly redevelopment or specialist technical expertise. In practice, this significantly reduces the time, cost, and complexity of adapting parenting support for new settings, lowering technical and financial barriers to local ownership and making it easier to deploy, iterate, and sustain digital and blended parenting programmes at scale. Looking ahead to 2026, we will focus on formally documenting and disseminating this innovation approach, building on evidence generated through delivery to support wider uptake and sustained scale.

KEY FINDINGS FROM 2025

- **Innovation and expansion of GPI's digital tools are becoming faster and easier over time.** In 2025, GPI was able to launch new tools, variants, and adaptations more rapidly across countries, with less technical effort per deployment. Reuse of existing content, delivery logic, and digital components reduced development time and allowed innovation to focus on local adaptation and refinement, without the need to build new systems.
- **This acceleration in deployment is a result of a deliberate decision to build a unified system of digital tools rather than standalone products:** Treating ParentApp, ParentText, and FacilitatorApp as configurable delivery formats within a single ecosystem has created a cumulative, system-level innovation capability, rather than a series of one-off product developments, with each deployment strengthening the system as a whole.

FACILITATE

WORKSTREAM AIM

The core objectives of the Facilitate workstream are twofold. Firstly, to nurture the current and upcoming generation of world-class researchers and professionals in playful parenting. Secondly, to foster a culture and network that encourages shared learning and enquiry within this research field. These elements are fundamental in expanding our reach, influence, and sustainability beyond the GPI.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

Shared learning environment amongst the wider field of implementers, researchers, and policymakers engaged in parenting and violence prevention.

In 2025, the Facilitate workstream continued to strengthen the current and next generation of playful parenting researchers, practitioners, and leaders.

Through the GPI Future Leaders Programme, we supported more than 100 early- and mid-career researchers, administrators, and practitioners to generate high-quality evidence, strengthen implementation science capabilities, and engage effectively with governments, civil society, and delivery systems.

Across the lifetime of the Initiative, more than 100 Future Leaders have been supported through capacity-sharing work. As of December 2025, the programme comprised 83 active participants, 80% of whom were based in the Global South. Training and skills development in 2025 focused on practical capabilities needed for late-stage research, transition to independence, and applied leadership. Ten structured training sessions were delivered across four interconnected themes: research impact and innovation; personal and

professional growth; core research and academic skills; and leadership for social change and applied practice. Sessions covered topics such as policy and media engagement, implementation pathways, innovation, and team management, and were grounded in examples from active GPI studies to enable immediate application.

A major focus in 2025 was strengthening Future Leaders' readiness for independent funding in a constrained global funding environment. A dedicated series of grant-writing workshops supported participants to develop realistic funding strategies, refine research ideas, identify appropriate funders and collaborators, and build competitive budgets. This training culminated in a competitive pump-priming funding opportunity: six Future Leaders were awarded grants of US \$3,000 – 5,000 to support early-phase research activities,

explicitly positioned as stepping stones toward larger external funding applications.

Professional development and leadership support were further strengthened through the Capacity Sharing Fund and targeted leadership coaching. Since its launch, the Fund has supported 66 Future Leaders across conference participation, technical training, and leadership development.

In 2025, 12 Future Leaders received support to present their work at major international and regional conferences, while Future Leaders collectively contributed 35 conference presentations, panels, or posters across the year. Two cohorts of Global South Future Leaders also participated in the LeadMe Leadership Programme, with participant reflections and coach feedback indicating meaningful shifts toward more reflective, people-centred leadership practices and stronger team management capabilities.

Alongside individual capacity development, Facilitate continued to strengthen communities of practice and shared learning systems across the Global Parenting Initiative. As more studies moved into analysis and dissemination, Research-in-Progress sessions increasingly focused on emerging findings, pathways to impact, and practical challenges of scale-up. Playful Learning Groups provided sustained thematic engagement around prevention of sexual violence, learning through play, gender-equitable practices, and disability inclusion. The Open Webinar Series extended learning beyond the consortium, covering advocacy, policy, regional perspectives, and collaboration with partners such as the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect (ISPCAN). In-person convenings in 2025 focused on shared learning with external stakeholders. A Southeast Asia Shared Learning Event involving government, implementing, and academic partners in Kuala Lumpur strengthened regional collaboration around scale-up, while engagement at the ISPCAN Congress in Vilnius consolidated GPI's role within global parenting and child protection networks.



“LeadMe has pushed me to look deeper – **to intentionally grow the competencies that make a strong leader** and not just refine the qualities that make an effective manager.

Before LeadMe, our team was focused on getting things done. Now, we're focused on communicating well, connecting with one another and getting things done!

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Testimonial from:
Carly Katzev
Global Parenting Initiative
UCT-GPI

KEY FINDINGS FROM 2025

- **Investing in leadership development for the GPI Future Leaders has been hugely beneficial.** Future Leaders who participated in the leadership development programme delivered in 2025 (LeadMe) reported meaningful personal and professional growth, including greater confidence, improved communication, and more reflective approaches to leading teams. This appears to be because the programme offered tailored support through coaching, structured reflection, and practical tools grounded in participants' day-to-day work, rather than relying on generic or one-off training sessions.
- **The GPI Future Leaders are increasingly prominent in the national, regional, and global fora.** In the past year, many Future Leaders seized opportunities to present, publish, and contribute to global and regional platforms, continuing to go

ADVOCATE

WORKSTREAM AIM

Our advocacy aims are twofold. Firstly, to raise awareness of and drive the demand for evidence-based human digital playful parenting programmes in the Global South. This is achieved by enhancing visibility and understanding of these interventions and their effectiveness, both globally and at the country level. Secondly, to strengthen advocacy capacity across the GPI study teams and build a Global South-powered advocacy hub in the GPI.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

Policy environment at country-level supporting the sustained institutionalisation of parenting programmes.

In 2025, the Global Parenting Initiative's advocacy work reached decision-makers at the highest levels of government and multilateral policy-making.

The Global Parenting Initiative also used global moments to keep parenting support visible as policy agendas moved from commitment to delivery. During UN General Assembly week in September 2025, the Advocacy Team contributed to a series of high-level events in New York that reinforced parenting support as a route to children's rights, safety, and wellbeing. These included engagements linking parenting support to public health, faith, and diplomacy agendas, as well as a global children's rights convening that underscored the urgency of evidence-based approaches in increasingly complex and uncertain contexts.

In collaboration with the Global Initiative to Support Parents (GISP) and partners, including PLH, WHO, UNICEF, IRC, and ECDAN, GPI co-hosted two sessions at ISPCAN's Rise Up Policy Forum in Vilnius. These sessions addressed pathways to universal access to parenting support and the practical requirements for embedding evidence-based, gender-transformative parenting within national systems. Together, they helped bridge high-level commitments with operational questions around leadership, laws, delivery systems, financing, and workforce capacity.

A major focus of global advocacy in 2025 was strengthening dialogue on how parenting support can be delivered at scale.

At the national level, advocacy efforts contributed to tangible progress in how parenting support is recognised, governed, and planned within public systems.



Chayan Wanaleelaha, father of two and PLH-YC participant.

In Thailand, advocacy focused on supporting the implementation of the prohibition of corporal punishment.

The GPI team members hold important roles within national child protection and youth mental health committees, and are able to inform the development of a National Positive Parenting Strategy and related delivery frameworks. In the Philippines, sustained engagement with the Department of Social Welfare and Development led to the GPI-supported teams contributing directly to the drafting of implementing regulations for the Parent Effectiveness Service Programme, increasing the likelihood that evidence-based parenting content is embedded within routine social welfare delivery.

KEY FINDINGS FROM 2025

- **Sustained country-level advocacy is vital for shaping real policy processes.** Experience from Thailand and the Philippines shows that having GPI-supported actors embedded in national committees, regulatory consultations, and implementation planning creates meaningful opportunities to influence how parenting support is governed and delivered. The policy changes seen in the last year in part reflect the value of long-term engagement by local teams.
- **Strong, clear global advocacy is essential in a rapidly changing and increasingly contested policy environment and is a clear priority for 2026.** As global attention is pulled across multiple crises, GPI's engagement in high-profile settings over the last year has been extremely important in keeping evidence-based parenting support visible, credible, and connected to live policy agendas. In 2026, the final year of GPI, the team is investing in dedicated, high-quality communications support to sharpen and target global advocacy messaging around key policy moments, helping maximise the influence of GPI's evidence.

GENERATE

WORKSTREAM AIM

Creating a sustainable infrastructure to support scale-up and capacity building of Parenting for Lifelong Health (PLH) technology-assisted parenting programmes.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

Successfully crowd-in additional resources to support the scale-up and sustainability of GPI activities.

In 2025, the Generate workstream continued to mobilise additional resources to extend the reach of interventions and expand GPI's research into new contexts.

Across the year, the GPI partners secured US \$785,148 through eight funding awards, bringing the cumulative value of additional resources mobilised since 2021 to US \$5.25 million.

Funding secured during 2025 reflected opportunities available within a competitive and evolving funding landscape. A significant share of funding supported the Parenting on the Border programme for Burmese refugees and asylum seekers, including a major award to co-design and test a family-based mental health intervention for refugee children and families, alongside additional grants to replicate and extend work on adolescent mental health and family functioning in Vietnam. UNHCR Thailand also provided funding to expand mobile cinema screenings of the Being Family film intervention across refugee camps on the Thailand–Myanmar border, supporting wider reach following positive trial results.

Other awards supported the integration of parenting support into existing systems and emerging priority areas.

UNICEF Headquarters provided substantial funding to integrate the prevention of online sexual abuse into national parenting programmes, extending GPI's work into digital safety. In Thailand, funding from the Department of Mental Health and the World Childhood Foundation supported facilitator training, coaching materials, and delivery of parenting programmes through public health services. In the Philippines, GPI's local implementing partner, MaPa Inc., mobilised a package of smaller awards from government and civil society partners to support blended delivery, facilitator training, and programme adaptation across multiple implementation pathways.

2025 also reflected a challenging global funding environment. This is characterised by increased competition and uncertainty across international research and development funding. Alongside the awards secured, the GPI partners submitted multiple large-scale proposals to major funders, including Horizon Europe, the Wellcome Trust, and others. Some of these proposals were successful, others were not funded, and decisions on several are still pending.

KEY FINDINGS FROM 2025

- **A more challenging global funding environment is increasing the importance of proactive resource mobilisation across the GPI partners.** Reductions in UK Official Development Assistance (ODA) and the withdrawal of major US government funding streams have increased competition for global health and development funding. These shifts have had direct implications for GPI. For example, in the past year a large National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) award (over £3 million) was approved by the UK government but subsequently cancelled prior to implementation following ODA funding cuts. Despite these headwinds, GPI has continued to secure major international grants, with several additional funding decisions pending. In 2026, the whole GPI network will have sustained focus on proactive resource mobilisation.

ACCELERATE

WORKSTREAM AIM

Scale-up and institutionalisation of technology-assisted playful parenting programmes embedded into national governments and NGO service delivery systems.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

Evidence-based technology-assisted playful parenting programmes embedded into national governments and NGOs.

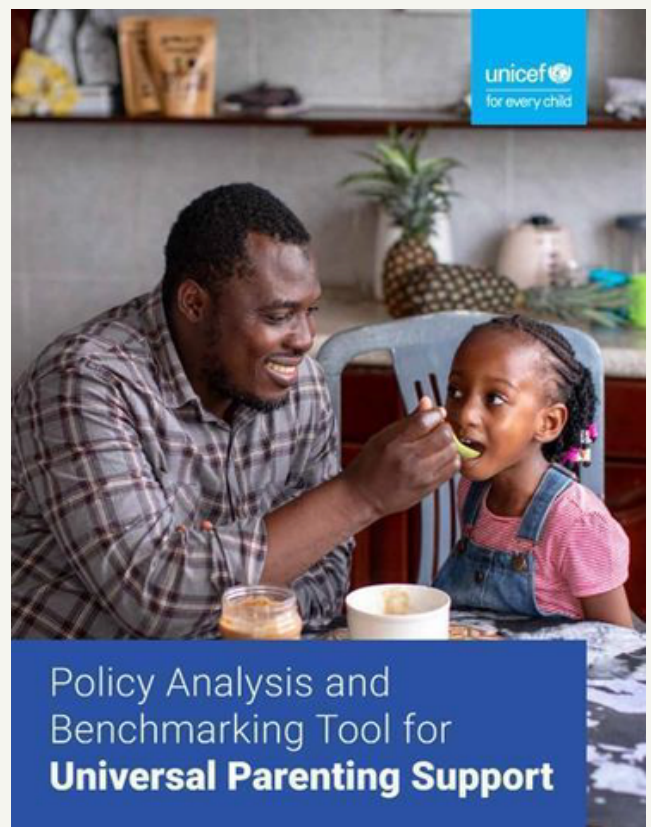
In 2025, the Accelerate workstream focused on translating evidence into delivery approaches that governments and NGOs can sustain at scale.

Across the first four years of the Initiative, GPI has now reached 14,525,029 parents, caregivers, children, and facilitators with evidence-informed parenting content.

In the past 12 months, several GPI countries have laid strong foundations for the future expansion of playful parenting programmes:

- **Tanzania:** GPI supported the development of a National Roadmap to Scale digitally enhanced parenting interventions and a National Coordination Framework, setting out how parenting support can be expanded through existing health, education, social protection, and child protection systems, with clearer roles and reduced fragmentation.
- **Uganda:** Working with the government, GPI strengthened national parenting standards and supported the scale-up of Parenting for Respectability through district-led delivery using existing government and community structures, alongside broader reach through mass communication channels such as radio.

- **Philippines:** GPI worked closely with the government to further strengthen evidence-based parenting support within the national conditional cash transfer programme, focusing on improving feasibility and consistency as delivery continues at a national scale.
- **Malaysia:** GPI received formal government approval to expand parenting support through the national preschool system as part of the Naungan Kasih programme.



Policy Analysis and
Benchmarking Tool for
Universal Parenting Support

At the global level, GPI has also developed tools to support system-level planning. In collaboration with PLH, GPI supported UNICEF Headquarters to develop and pilot the Policy Analysis and Benchmarking Tool for Universal Parenting Support, enabling governments to assess readiness, coordination, delivery capacity, and financing against evidence-based benchmarks, and the Global Parenting Support Framework, which provides a shared

foundation for aligning policies, financing, workforce development, and service delivery around ensuring that every family has access to the support they need to raise children in safe, nurturing, and protective environments. Together, these activities position Accelerate as the bridge between evidence and sustained delivery, supporting countries to move from pilots to coordinated, system-embedded parenting support at scale.

KEY FINDINGS FROM 2025

- **There is a clear interest among governments and delivery partners in scaling playful parenting support within existing systems.** Experience in Tanzania, the Philippines, and Malaysia suggests the growing prominence of playful parenting within national priorities, with increasing focus on integration into existing delivery platforms rather than standalone interventions.
- **Progress on scale-up needs to be matched with strong evidence on feasibility and cost-effectiveness.** This is particularly important for government decision-making and sustainability, and is a key focus for GPI's analysis, research, and advocacy in 2026.

LEARNINGS FROM IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation over the past year has generated several important lessons. These lessons cut across programme delivery, engagement processes, data management, and priorities for future research.

- **Adapting programme content without testing its fit with delivery systems risks ineffective scale-up, even when that content has demonstrated impact elsewhere.** Evidence from multiple studies shows that translating or digitising parenting programmes does not automatically lead to improved outcomes. For example, the ParentChat trial in Thailand demonstrated that delivery through the public health system was feasible, but it did not lead to reductions in child maltreatment. This clearly shows

the importance of early piloting to assess whether programmes delivered in real-world settings are aligned with caregiver needs, organisational capacity, and prevailing delivery norms. Without such testing, there is a heightened risk of scaling approaches that are poorly matched to their delivery context. For example, in the MaPa Teens trial in the Philippines, the in-person intervention showed no impact on primary outcomes in a context of low attendance and completion. In contrast, the Parenting within the Preschool System study in Malaysia incorporated a phased piloting and refinement stage prior to scale-up. Early pilot results were promising, and results from the main trial are expected in 2026.



Likhona and Bronwen from the GPI SWIFT team conducting exit interviews during the pilot at the Wolseley Clinic.

- **Delivering global digital programmes across multiple regulatory environments creates complex data governance challenges that must be actively managed.** During the year, the team identified that the data processing platform (TextIt) used by the ParentText chatbot was not compatible with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) requirements or with the University of Oxford's data management standards.

This had immediate implications for the SWIFT project, which was pilot testing an early version of ParentText in the Western Cape, South Africa. In response, GPI's core digital partner, IDEMS, rapidly developed a solution to locally host a new data processing platform for the service, ensuring compliance with both GDPR and South Africa's data protection regulations. This rapid mitigation was only possible because GPI works with dedicated digital partners as long-term collaborators rather than short-term contractors. More broadly, the response to the ParentText issue has contributed to a wider programme of work to strengthen data protection, governance, and compliance across GPI's digital portfolio.

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