



State-led Implementation Network on the Safe Schools Declaration

What is the Implementation Network?

The Implementation Network promotes cooperation and peer-to-peer exchange of experiences and good practice between states that have endorsed the Safe Schools Declaration¹ commitments. It was launched by the Government of Norway in October 2021, during the Fourth International Conference on the Safe Schools Declaration held in Abuja, Nigeria.

What is the Safe Schools Declaration?

The Safe Schools Declaration is an inter-governmental political commitment dedicated to protecting education in armed conflict. It outlines a set of commitments to strengthen the protection of education from attack and restrict the use of schools and universities for military purposes. Since it was opened for countries to endorse in May 2015, 118 states have since joined the Declaration. By endorsing the Declaration, States are also endorsing the *Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflict*.²

What are the activities of the Implementation Network?

The Network promotes various activities focused on sharing good practice in implementing the Safe Schools Declaration between endorsing states. These activities include webinars on relevant topics related to protecting education in armed conflict, and international trainings and regional workshops, as well as bilateral and multilateral dialogue and exchanges on implementing the Declaration commitments. Examples of good practice are also available on the Resource Bank on Implementing the Declaration.³

Who can participate?

The Implementation Network aims to facilitate contact between endorsing states, serving as a platform to connect experts in different countries. All endorsing states are invited to join the Implementation Network by nominating focal points from the Ministries of Education, Defence, Foreign Affairs, Justice, and other ministries that play a role in implementing the Declaration.

[1] https://www.regjeringen.no/en/topics/foreign-affairs/development-cooperation/safeschools_declaration/id2460245/

[2] <https://protectingeducation.org/publication/guidelines-for-protecting-schools-and-universities-from-military-use-during-armed-conflict/>

[3] <https://ssd.protectingeducation.org/implementation/>

How does the Network function?

The activities of the Network are supported by a digital collaborative platform for coordinating and sharing information and resources, hosted through *Workplace*. The platform is accessible to endorsing states and a few other invited actors, such as technical experts who can provide guidance on implementing the Safe Schools Declaration. Through the platform, the Network aims to facilitate meaningful engagement between states in a confidential forum.

What do we expect from participants?

Participants in the Network are invited to engage actively in the activities of the Network, such as webinars and trainings. Participants are encouraged to share their experience implementing the Declaration, and invited to post on Workplace, disseminate relevant documents, pose questions to others, and generate discussion. Suggestions and proposals for new activities and initiatives to be organised as part of the Network are welcomed.

Contact

If you wish to receive more information, express your interest in being part of the Implementation Network, or share the contact details of the nominated focal points from the relevant ministries to participate in the Network, please contact [Ms. Michela Ranieri](#), the Implementation Network Coordinator, at mranieri@protectingeducation.org.

**We hope to count on your participation in
the State-led Implementation Network soon!**