



Call for Host



**World
Anti-Bullying
Forum**

2029



Are you the next host for the World Anti-Bullying Forum 2029?

The World Anti-Bullying Forum (WABF) bridges the gap between research and practice in order to prevent and stop bullying among and against children. Founded by the Swedish NGO Friends in 2017, WABF contributes to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and brings together researchers, policymakers, practitioners and young people from around the world.

Held every second year, the forum serves as a global platform for sharing knowledge, experience, and strategies to create safer environments for children and young people.

About the World Anti-Bullying Forum

WABF is an international and multidisciplinary forum that aims to broaden understanding of bullying, harassment, discrimination, ostracism, and other forms of violence among and against children and youth.

The forum includes keynote speeches, presentations, panel discussions, workshops, poster sessions, networking opportunities, and related events. It promotes research-based knowledge and collaboration among professionals and decision-makers who shape children's lives, with the goal of strengthening prevention efforts and improving responses to bullying in all child-focused settings.



Host Responsibilities and Support

The WABF headquarters at Friends in Sweden will work in close collaboration with the selected host organization in planning and delivering WABF 2029.

Together, the host and WABF headquarters will:

- Appoint the WABF 2029 Scientific Committee, led by the Research Manager at Friends;
- Manage the abstract review and scientific program process;
- Meet regularly throughout the planning period to ensure successful delivery of the forum;
- Coordinate the overall WABF framework, brand, and strategic direction.

The selected host will be responsible for:

1. Budget management

Managing the overall forum budget, including revenue, costs, financial reporting, and allocation of 10% of total income to WABF headquarters.

2. Project management

Appointing a local Project Manager with authority, experience, and capacity to lead the planning and delivery of the forum.

3. Event delivery

Hosting a three-day international forum for a minimum of 500 participants. The host is also encouraged to organize regional, national, local, or digital lead-up activities ahead of the forum.

4. Venue and logistics

Securing suitable conference facilities, accommodation options, technical setup, accessibility arrangements, and logistical support for participants, speakers, partners, and staff.



5. Fundraising and partnerships

Identifying and securing sponsors, funding opportunities, grants, exhibitors, and strategic partners to support the financial sustainability and visibility of the forum.

6. Communications and promotion

Planning and delivering communications and marketing activities that promote the forum, attract participants, and strengthen outreach nationally and internationally, in coordination with WABF headquarters.

7. Sustainability and inclusion

Ensuring that the planning and delivery of the forum reflect high ambitions in relation to accessibility, inclusion, child rights, and environmental sustainability.

Eligibility Requirements

To qualify as a host, the applying organization or institution must:

- be a legal entity, not an individual;
- demonstrate the organizational and financial capacity to host an international forum of this scale;
- have relevant experience in planning conferences, large-scale events, or complex multi-stakeholder collaborations;
- have an active Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) strategy or equivalent long-term sustainability commitments;
- adhere to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the International Labour Organization's conventions on labour standards;
- be able to work in English throughout the planning process and forum delivery.



Proposal Guidelines

Please submit a detailed proposal in English including the following:

Organizational profile

A presentation of your organization or institution, including mission, structure, and relevant experience.

Vision for WABF 2029

Your overall ideas and ambitions for the forum.

Why your organization should host WABF 2029

A short statement explaining the added value your organization, city, and country would bring to the forum.

Project organization and staffing

Proposed planning structure, key roles, governance model, and decision-making process, including the proposed local Project Manager.

Budget overview

A preliminary budget including expected income, expenses, key assumptions, financial risk, and contingency planning.

Partnership and funding strategy

Potential sponsors, funding sources, grants, public sector support, and pro bono partners.

Venue proposal

Proposed city and venue, including capacity, breakout rooms, accessibility, technical capabilities, international travel connections, accommodation options, and sustainability considerations.

Communications and participant recruitment plan

A preliminary plan for marketing, outreach, participant recruitment, and stakeholder engagement.

Accessibility, inclusion, and sustainability approach

How your organization would ensure that WABF 2029 is welcoming, accessible, inclusive, and environmentally responsible.



Optional digital or hybrid component

If relevant, describe your capacity and ambitions for digital participation or hybrid elements (not required).

Selection Process

A selection committee appointed by WABF headquarters will review all eligible proposals.

The selection process will include:

- review of written proposals;
- shortlisting of candidates;
- pitch meetings with shortlisted candidates;
- follow-up questions and possible requests for supplementary material;
- final assessment, due diligence, and contract negotiations with the preferred candidate.

Assessment Criteria

Proposals will be assessed based on:

- alignment with WABF's mission and values;
- organizational and operational capacity;
- financial feasibility and fundraising potential;
- quality and suitability of the proposed venue and location;
- accessibility, inclusion, and sustainability;
- communications and participant outreach potential;
- strategic added value for WABF's international development.

Geographical diversity and global impact

Proposals will be assessed in relation to WABF's ambition to reach different regions of the world over time. Locations that enable new regional engagement and expanded global impact are considered an added value but will not outweigh other key criteria.



Timeline for the Host Selection Process for WABF 2029

Information meeting and Q&A for interested applicants:

September 2026

Deadline for written proposals:

15 November 2026

Notification to shortlisted candidates:

11 December 2026

Shortlisted candidate pitch meetings:

February 2027

Follow-up with shortlisted candidates:

No later than 26 March 2027

Final evaluation and selection of preferred host:

Early April 2027

Reference checks and due diligence:

April 2027

Agreement process with preferred host:

May–June 2027

Signing of host agreement:

No later than 18 June 2027

Public announcement of the host of WABF 2029:

9–11 September 2027, at WABF 2027 in Lisbon, Portugal



Terms and Conditions

- Proposals must be submitted in English.
- WABF reserves the right to request clarifications or additional information from applicants.
- WABF reserves the right not to appoint a host if no proposal sufficiently meets the requirements.
- Costs related to preparing and submitting a proposal will not be reimbursed.
- Final appointment of the host is subject to successful contract negotiations and signed agreement.

Submission

Please submit your proposal by email to:

Frida Warg

Managing Director, WABF

frida.warg@friends.se

Deadline for submission: 15 November 2026

We warmly welcome proposals from organizations and institutions that want to contribute to a world where every child feels safe, respected, and included.



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