Clarissa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland pledges to

**Spotlight child-led evidence and solutions from Nepal and Bangladesh to understand and tackle the Worst Forms of Child Labour**
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Name:
Spotlighting child-led evidence and solutions from Nepal and Bangladesh to understand and tackle the Worst Forms of Child Labour

Description:
The Child Labour: Action-Research-Innovation in South and South-Eastern Asia (CLARISSA) Consortium recognises that, with a reality of worsening economic situation, the priority is about getting children into better and safer work. This requires a focus on better regulation and enforcement beyond the formal sector and large global brands, but a recognition that the most exploitative and dangerous forms of child labour happen in the informal sector. We need to understand why businesses require cheaper labour and what drives children into child labour.

CLARISSA works on the basis that children are the experts on their own realities, we are unlikely to find solutions if we do not include them in shaping policies and programmes. If governments are serious about ending the most exploitative and dangerous forms of child labour, then they must listen to children and take them seriously.

The primary beneficiaries are children in the worst forms of child labour and those who are vulnerable to being drawn into it. The families of these children will benefit from greater resilience to shocks, better options for their children's safe and healthy future and less intra-family stress and conflict. Businesses will benefit from practical solutions to child-labour free supply chains. Policymakers, NGOs, and researchers will benefit from knowledge of what works.

CLARISSA will generate activities and interventions through a large scale action research process. Interventions will range from small scale solutions to local problems, behaviour change initiatives, and large scale pilots. Action research is a programming modality that combines evidence gathering and learning from action. It is designed to enable diverse groups to meet over a period of time to consider the evidence and generate theories of change about interventions; plan and programme innovative solutions; test the solutions in real-time, and then evaluate them.
Implementation plan:

- We will undertake action research including the collection and analysis of life stories with children in the worst forms of child labour in Nepal and Bangladesh as part of the Child Labour: Action Research Innovation in South and South-Eastern Asia (CLARISSA) programme to understand their situation and involve them in developing our advocacy because we know that children are experts in their own lives.
- We will highlight the evidence that emerges from this participatory child-led research in Nepal and Bangladesh to a wide range of stakeholders, sharing children's perspectives and solutions with policymakers and other influential actors.
- Bring emerging evidence to key national, regional, and international decision-makers and advocate for the inclusion of the voices of children in their work on Worst Forms of Child Labour.
- Nurture and grow a dialogue between relevant stakeholders, including civil society, unions, international organisations, governments and funders, to consider how interventions and policies are designed to address the WFCL, especially in hidden and informal spaces.

Impact:

For children in the Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL), often not working is not an option, as they depend upon work to survive. For these children, transitioning from WFCL to safer, more regulated forms of labour would be a step forward. All out bans on child labour risk pushing these children into hidden, dangerous forms of work. Our pledge is focused on these hidden, unregulated spaces and the WFCL. It is rooted in the principle that children are the experts of their own realities. Only with their participation can we find sustainable solutions and move towards ending child labour.