ORGANIZATION

Lab 8.7, France
pledges to

Sharpen the vigilance and action of stakeholders to prevent child labour in supply chains
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Name:
Lab 8.7 sharpens the vigilance and action of stakeholders to prevent child labour in supply chains

Description:
The complexity of child labour risks in supply chains precludes simple, one-sided solutions. Such solutions, applied to symptoms, at best displace the problem, at worst exacerbate it. In parallel, current compliance audits and compliance policies, while necessary, have proven insufficient to prevent child labour.

In the course of its 15 years of field missions around the world and in a wide variety of environments, the NGO Human Resources Without Borders (RHSF) has acquired first-hand knowledge of these realities. Because new solutions must be designed and validated in a comprehensive approach involving stakeholders, RHSF launched the operational solutions incubator Lab 8.7 with pioneering actors including the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs as well as committed companies ready to test solutions. Together, they engage to invent, test and disseminate new operational solutions.

Our approach in 2021: empower all stakeholders of the supply chains to prevent risks effectively and sustainably and to engage in new experiments from 2022 onwards. Our commitments:

- Develop and share a common reference framework that will enable each stakeholder in supply chains to act step by step to prevent risks.
- Deploy at least 10 training sessions for professionals, French diplomats and elected officials to enable joint actions.

Implementation plan:
Our approach in 2021: empower all stakeholders of the supply chains to prevent risks effectively and sustainably and to engage in new experiments from 2022 onwards. Our commitments:

- Develop and share a common reference framework that will enable each stakeholder in supply chains to act step by step to prevent risks. Based on the French “corporate duty of vigilance” law and anticipating the European regulation in preparation, this common framework will allow the different stakeholders to intervene in the same direction and in
a way that is consistent with their environment and not only with the requirements but also with the spirit of the French and European legislation, to ensure their impact on child labour prevention. Already tested with stakeholders in supply chains and to be refined thanks to further testing with them, this reference framework should enable organisations to define a sincere and coherent policy to prevent the risks of child labour and forced labour. Equipped with this powerful reference framework, companies will sharpen their vigilance, assessors (analysts and civil society representatives) their demands, investors their analysis while governments will strengthen their steering of risk prevention.

- Deploy at least 10 training sessions for professionals, French diplomats and elected officials to enable joint actions. The training sessions will enable them to gain a common understanding of the issues and levers for action and to set up experimental projects together.

**Impact:**

As there is currently no turnkey solution to the complex risks of child labour, we need to test and disseminate new solutions: this is the aim of Lab 8.7. Based on its field expertise, the NGO RHSF will compile a reference framework tested and validated by the companies and actors of Lab 8.7.

It will then be widely disseminated to all stakeholders in supply chains so they can build a coherent, effective and sustainable policy to prevent child labour. Training will also support those willing to engage in this virtuous framework within Lab 8.7.

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