



INTERNATIONAL YEAR
FOR THE ELIMINATION
OF CHILD LABOUR

REGIONAL BODY

Miss-Collect, The Netherlands
pledges to

**Create a child labour free wastepaper value
chain in Pune, India**

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Name:

Creating a Child Labour Free Wastepaper Value Chain in Pune

Description:

Miss-Collect believes that children do not belong within the supply chains of paper products, and instead, should have the opportunity to receive an education. Unfortunately, the wastepaper value chain in Pune (India) often includes child labourers. Miss-Collect takes a clear stand on the matter: this requires change. However, as a consortium, we are aware change does not occur automatically. That is why various Indian and Dutch partners join efforts to create a child labour free wastepaper value chain. Our theory of change is the following: if we want to reduce child labour and increase education enrolment, we need to ensure adequate wages for the female waste-pickers. Miss-Collect believes this creates a win-win situation. On the one hand, this improves the livelihoods of the children and female beneficiaries. For companies, Miss-Collect offers the opportunity to enhance their business model's sustainability and to comply with due diligence standards.

Implementation plan:

Miss-Collect is a multi-annual project which focuses on creating a sustainable change for female waste-pickers and their children in Pune. Creating change requires extensive research on both the causes of child labour and opportunities to reduce this. Miss-Collect is currently conducting a local impact assessment and market research. We strive to find opportunities for new recycled wastepaper products with the latter.

Based on the research outcomes, Miss-Collect will develop a sustainable business strategy incorporating female waste-pickers in a favourable position in the value chain. As a result, their wages increase, and the working conditions improve. The purpose of including the women is to generate self-sustainability amongst the female waste-pickers.

Simultaneously, a child labour alert detects children working and connects them to more favourable possibilities. Miss-Collect strives to establish 'Child Labour Free Safe Zones' in Pune. Such a zone entails a safe place for children to go to, an internet connection, and a space for learning and education. Zones can also include additional activities for children after school. In this manner, Miss-Collect wants to ensure and protect children's education.

MISS-COLLECT, THE NETHERLANDS

Impact:

“If industries return, women earn, and children will learn” is our motto. We believe that simply detecting child labourers is insufficient when we do not combat the underlying root causes. Many waste-pickers are children of waste-pickers themselves, demonstrating that the challenge is intergenerational. Providing female waste-pickers with adequate wages sets them in more favourable positions in the value chain—the latter results in more self-sustainability and financial assurance for the families of waste-pickers. By implementing the steps mentioned above, child labour free safe zones can combat child labour in Pune. The zones provide more favourable opportunities for children than to engage in child labour.

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