

### **ORGANIZATION**

Verité Incorporated, United States of America pledges to

# Create a toolkit of resources for identifying, remediating, and preventing child labour in agricultural supply chains

VERITÉ INCORPORATED, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## Create a toolkit of resources for identifying, remediating, and preventing child labour in agricultural supply chains

#### Name:

Create a toolkit of resources for identifying, remediating, and preventing child labour in agricultural supply chains, beginning work in 2021.

#### **Description:**

Verité is an international fair labour NGO that provides the knowledge and tools to eliminate the most serious labour and human rights abuses in global supply chains. As an Action Pledge for the International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour, Verité will create an open-source toolkit to be hosted on <a href="www.verite.org">www.verite.org</a> to help companies and other stakeholders identify, remediate, and prevent child labour and other labor abuses on farms at the base of global agricultural supply chains. Work on the toolkit will begin in 2021 with initial funding from Verité private sector partners, and will continue in 2022 (and potentially beyond) as additional funds are raised.

To create the toolkit, Verité will synthesize research on best practices with expertise and innovations drawn from our work with major agribusinesses, including from our tenyear strategic partnership with Philip Morris International (PMI), whose leadership-level Agricultural Labor Practices (ALP) Program (<a href="https://www.pmi.com/sustainability/upholding-labor-rights-on-the-farms">https://www.pmi.com/sustainability/upholding-labor-rights-on-the-farms</a>) has successfully achieved independently verified reductions in child labour in the company's global tobacco supply chain over the past decade. PMI has committed to donating the core materials developed for the ALP program (including guidance documents, implementation protocols, and field tools) to Verité for use in the toolkit. Innovations and insights from other companies and industries, including the cocoa and coffee sectors, will be incorporated as well, and the tools will be designed to be applicable across a broad range of commodity agriculture contexts, benefitting children on farms of all kinds.

The toolkit will comprise practical, field-tested resources on topics such as child labour monitoring at farm level; farm- and community-level approaches to child labour remediation; root cause analysis of drivers of child labour; third party verification of child labour monitoring and remediation; and child labour data collection and reporting; among other subjects.

Verite will assemble a coalition of private-sector sponsors and advisors for the toolkit project, to inform the prioritization and development of the resources to be included, and to ensure that the toolkit is useful, credible, and robust – effectively facilitating companies' efforts to achieve SDG 8.7.

Verité will retain full, independent, editorial control over the toolkit contents.

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#### Implementation plan:

Steps to develop the toolkit will include:

- 1. Identify a select group of external stakeholders to act as sponsors and advisors for the project;
- 2. Catalog existing resources and develop an initial roster of tools needed in order to address child labour more effectively at the farm level of global agricultural supply chains;
- 3. Prioritize needs and develop a list of tools to be developed in 2021, in consultation with the project's stakeholder advisory group;
- 4. Create and revise initial tranche of tools, with input from the stakeholder advisory group;
- 5. Create toolkit microsite on <u>www.verite.org</u> and publish the first tranche of tools by end of 2021;
- 6. Add additional tools in 2022 and thereafter as funding permits.

#### Impact:

By compiling and making public the learnings from Verité's research and direct work on child labour with global agribusinesses, the toolkit to be developed will help companies and other stakeholders design and implement more effective programs to monitor, address, and prevent child labour at the farm level of global agricultural supply chains.