



Observatoire de la Gouvernance et des Droits Humains en RDC

PROJECT : SAVE THE CHILDREN FROM MINES IN DRC



Practices to help companies and mining cooperatives to identify and eliminate the worst forms of child labor in mineral supply chains.

PROJECT CONTEXT

Despite the existence of important natural resources (forests, cultivable land, minerals, hydraulic resources, etc.), the DRC is still among the poorest countries in the world and is located in 176th (out of 187 countries) of the last index human development (UN, 2015). The poverty rate certainly experienced a drop of 71 % to 64 % between 2005 and 2012, but still remains high. In some provinces of the country as in the east, mining is the main source of household

income following the very low economic diversification. The work from this activity is very weakly remunerated and is carried out under indecent conditions.

Children's work in mines has serious consequences on several levels. Thousands of children are excluded from the school system to become young people at risk of social exclusion, exposed to manipulation and instrumentalization in an area (eastern DRC) exposed to multifaceted and complex armed conflicts. These children are also exposed to serious pathologies due to the irradiation of minerals and their future is in danger.

According to UNICEF, nearly 158 million children aged 5 to 14 work worldwide. A third are employed in sub-Saharan Africa, or 69 million. Among the children are adolescents between 15 and 17 years old who are carrying out the most dangerous work, indicates an ILO report published in 2015. The DRC is no exception. In Africa, thousands of children work against their will. A situation that strongly harms their health and education.

In 2014, more than 40,000 children worked in mines in the south of the country, according to figures from the United Nations Childhood Fund (UNICEF). Aged 3 to 17 years old, these children indulge in tasks such as mineral washing, digging in embankments, collection, sorting and transport of minerals. In South Kivu, the trend becomes more and more worrying. In these mining sites, just like adults, they work tirelessly and without safety. From a young age, they are not lucky to live with the family, to study, to flourish in a conducive environment. They are exposed to diseases, sexual exploitation, a risk of asphyxiation, landslide or other fatal accidents.

This project is a replica in the face of children's exploitation and work in the East of the DRC, in the South Kivu province, Walungu, Mwenga, Shabunda and Kabare territories. He comes to promote children's right in the craft operations of minerals. All of them involves the awareness campaign for mining cooperatives, sensitive communities and local authorities in order to put in place measures against the exploitation of children in mineral supply chains. Promote

the education of children out of mining sites through their respective families and schools.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The project aims to contribute to the establishment of a responsible supply chain of minerals in compliance with the rights of the child.

COMPONENTS AND IMPLICATIONS

	COMPONENTS	IMPLICATION
1	Support for the promotion of children's rights and the guide to practical actions to help companies and mining cooperatives to identify and eliminate the worst forms of children's work in supply chains in minerals	(i) Development and implementation of a strategic communication and awareness plan for an alternative membership; (ii) awareness of populations on the importance of agriculture as an alternative profession to mine and as a means of diversification of the local economy, (iii) awareness of populations to access to education and health care , to hygiene sanitation and change of behaviors for the prevention of epidemics (Ebola, cholera, etc.), to sexually transmitted (IST) and HIV infestions, to gender equity and fight against gender -based violence, to the quality of nutrition, reproductive health and desirable births, etc. ; (iv) Awareness of the social responsibility of mining companies in accordance with the provisions of the new mining code providing for societal fees.
2	Socio-economic conversion of children and their parents and	(i) Identification of children and their parents working in cobalt mines; (ii) social management (school, health including the effects linked to the irradiation of cobalt

	promotion of alternative economic opportunities	minerals on health, nutritional, psychological and registration in civil status) of children; (iii) Entrepreneurial support and economic empowerment of parents whose children have left the mines. (IV) Technical supervision for training in financial inclusion (financial education) of 100 women.
3	Institutional support for the promotion of the responsible for minerals supply chain	Support for the implementation of an operational system for the fight against child labor in mines and mining sites: (i) Establishment of a database on the situation of children in mines and mining sites and Strengthening of the alert and surveillance system, (ii) Installation of a permanent consultation framework for better mobilization and use of the societal fees provided for in the new mining code in order to perpetuate and extend to other categories of mines , the system for combating child labor in mines and mining sites, (iii) high -level plea for the chain responsible for supplying cobalt and others.

EXPECTED RESULTS

□ An awareness campaign carried out on children's rights, the worst forms of child labor and the role that each part concerned can play in developing solutions locally in the mineral supply chain. Messages will be broadcast via several supports (radio, school programs, posters, other media) as well as on various occasions (children's activities, football matches) and carried by champions and other local celebrities appreciated by children.

□ Training workshops carried out for parents, managers of mining cooperatives and legal responsible using the worst forms of children's work, or being about to use it, in order to help them make better decisions to The well-being of their children.

□ Procedures taken to suppliers upstream of the supply chain so that they manage their concessions and their warehouses in a responsible manner, that they officially refuse to employ children in their mines or their warehouses (whether they declare or not) and whether they warn all their customers that they will not buy minerals themselves produced by children.

CALENDRIER DES ACTIVITES

NUM	ACTIVITIES	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
1	Awareness campaign on children's rights, the worst forms of child labor and the role that each part concerned can play in developing solutions at the local level in the mineral supply chain			
2	Training workshops for parents, managers of mining cooperatives and legal responsible			
3	Monitoring and plea in favor of the rights of children who came out of mines			
4	Socio-economic conversion of children and their parents and promotion of alternative economic opportunities			
5	Monitoring and evaluation			

Of expenses for the realization of the project **SAVE THE CHILDREN FROM MINES IN DRC**

COMMUNICATION	1000 USD	Radio spots, posters, flyers, roll up, launch press conference
Team displacement	2000 USD	Bus, taxi ...
ADMINISTRATION	1000 USD	Unforeseen and management fees
Training workshops	5000 USD	Remboursement de transport, logistique, restauration, etc
Awareness campaign	5000 USD	Sound tools, printing brochures on documents (mining code, OECD guide), etc.
Social support of 200 children out of mines	2000 USD	Schooling costs, registration in the civil state
Entrepreneurial support for 100 women from children who came out of mines	3000 USD	support for small commercial activity
Monitoring and plea for children who came out of mines	1000 USD	
TOTAL	20.000 USD	