

# END CHILD LABOUR

## IN THE TEXTILE

## SUPPLY CHAIN



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### Why addressing child labour is important for your business

**The costs of restoring the public's faith in a brand due to child labour violations outweighs the costs of addressing child labour in the entire supply chain.**

Steven Walley,-  
Managing Director  
London Stone



The textile sector is very vulnerable to child labour. Child labour is forbidden by (inter)national conventions and laws, yet it continues to exist. Children are found working for example in spinning mills, garment factories, on cotton farms or, in case of outsourcing, at home. Consumers and investors take an increasing interest in the ethical origin of the products they buy or invest in.

**Addressing Child labour in the textile supply chain can lead to the following benefits:**

- **Sustainable growth** through long-term risk reduction and an increased value of company brand(s), access to new markets and responsible investment
- **Better reputation** in the textile sector and being an industry leader on ethical products, less accidents at the work floor, higher quality of production and increased supplier & buyer loyalty
- **More inspired and motivated employees** since the company upholds higher ethical standards within the textile supply chain
- Direct **contribution to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

## How can Stop Child Labour support you to address child labour

**“Being involved with Stop Child Labour on the ground has tremendously increased my understanding of what needs to be done. Seeing the first results after 2-3 years feels personally very rewarding.”**

Bram Callewier-,  
Managing Partner  
Beltrami



SCL can support you to work towards child labour free products through:

- **Sharing knowledge and sector specific expertise** on child labour, its root causes and how to address these
- Working together in **Multi-stakeholder initiatives** internationally and locally
- Taking joint actions towards the **development of Child Labour Free Zones (CLFZ)** that tackle the root causes of child labour in specific areas that are part of the textile supply chain (and include setting up a strong child labour monitoring system)

**After 2-5 years the following impacts can be expected at community level:** increased school attendance, better future opportunities for children, increased household incomes/wages, improved working conditions for adults, freedom of association, gender equality, improved social cohesion and more inspired and motivated employees.

These impacts are related to the following SDG's:



## What does Stop Child Labour need from you to end child labour

**“We feel proud of being in a Child Labour Free Zone. It is an added value for business”.**

Sriman Export



- Awareness of the link between company operations and children's rights in the sector
- Internal, intrinsic commitment of senior management to take the responsibility to plan, do, check and act on child labour
- Be willing to monitor progress in the CLFZ and use leverage over suppliers and actively engage with suppliers
- Long term financial contribution for a minimum of 3 years for the establishment of a CLFZ
- Non-financial investments such as the development of alternative skills that contribute to higher household incomes
- Openness to discuss and develop good practices and communicate effectively