

# UN Global Compact Communication on Engagement

October 2019

## **CEO statement of continued support and ongoing commitment to the Global Compact initiative and principles:**

The Consortium for Street Children (CSC) remains fully committed to the UN Global Compact and its ten principles. In our five-year strategy (2019-2024), collaboration across sectors is a crucial aspect of our work to ensure street children are included on international development and human rights agendas, to strengthen and share data and research and to strength our network of member organisations. In particular, we focus on Principles 1 and 2: ensuring that businesses support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights and that they are not complicit in human rights abuses. We are proud to reaffirm our intent to advance these principles through our work and those who support it.



Caroline Ford, Chief Executive Officer  
October 15<sup>th</sup> 2019

## **Practical actions taken to support the Global Compact principles and to engage with the initiative:**

CSC continues to build activity around the [UN General Comment on Children in Street Situations](#) since its publication in July 2017. The General Comment gives specific authoritative guidance for governments on how to improve policy and practice so that street-connected children can access their rights. CSC has worked specifically with the government and NGOs in Uruguay on development of a National Strategic Plan for street children. The early adoption by Uruguay was supported through our partnership with Red Nose Day USA. CSC also works with the government and NGOs in Tanzania to promote the rights of street children. In particular, CSC is leading a study to assess the progress towards realising street children's rights in Tanzania, including a comprehensive legal review conducted in partnership with international law firm, Baker McKenzie.

We have worked with our corporate partner Baker McKenzie on developing the [Legal Atlas for Street Children](#). This online tool documents laws and policies around the world that discriminate against or have a discriminatory effect on street children. It puts knowledge of the laws and policies affecting street children directly into the hands of those working to protect street children. The project has the support of [16 corporate partners](#) (to date) who have given pro bono legal research assessing status offences, police round-ups and legal identification.

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We will continue this work in 2020 to raise awareness of the rights of street children among governments, lawmakers and lawyers to effect positive change.

International Day for Street Children (annually 12<sup>th</sup> April) in 2019 launched the Legal Atlas for Street Children at Salesforce. The theme of the day focused on Commit to Equality and called on governments to recognise that street children have the same rights as any other child and to reflect that in law and policy.

### **Measurement of outcomes (qualitative or quantitative measurements of results):**

- Since its launch, the Legal Atlas for Street Children has received 15,900 page views (stats for: 11<sup>th</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019)
- The 2018 International Day for Street Children (IDSC) launched our Four Steps to Equality campaign, breaking down the UN General Comment No 21 into four actionable steps. Its aim was to raise awareness and resulted in 50 million social media impressions, 9,000 visits to the dedicated website, supportive tweets from governments in Albania, India, Malawi and the UK as well as media coverage.
- The following year, IDSC 2019, carried a message “Commit to Equality” – highlighting the need for street children to be treated equally in the eyes of the law and not targeted for who they are – in particular through so-called ‘status offences’. This chimed with the launch of the Legal Atlas for Street Children.
  - Views of IDSC2019-related subpages from 6-12 April : 2,803
  - Social Media statistics – comparable to IDSC 2018
- The Keeping Street Children Safe project (partnering with Red Nose Day USA) directly impacted 4,045 street children. Its success also led to the award of an extension grant in 2019.
- In 2018, CSC held its first ever international conference on *Equality and Inclusion for Street Children* which brought together over 70 delegates from around the world to share knowledge and gain insights which they can use for their work with street children in their respective countries. Corporate perspectives were included in this through a keynote address and panel participation.
- CSC’s Global Resource Centre ([www.streetchildrenresources.org](http://www.streetchildrenresources.org)) is a free-to-use library of resources and research on street children internationally.
- We have, in June 2019, recruited a corporate relationship manager whose priority is to develop corporate partnerships in support of our work.