

# COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

ChildHope UK



## Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021

To: 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023

## Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Executive Director

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023

To whom it may concern

I am pleased to confirm that ChildHope UK reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption.

This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents. In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours.

This CoE is drawn from: our annual reporting, covering the CoE period; our strategic plan 2021-2025, which was developed during the same period; and an overview of our actions and progress during the almost two-year period.

We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Yours sincerely



Nicola (Nicky) Davies  
Executive Director  
ChildHope UK

## Part II. Description of Actions

### Overview

ChildHope works in Africa and Asia. For a fuller understanding of our work, please refer to ChildHope's 2021 annual report and our Strategic Framework 2021-2025, all of which can be found on our website [www.childhope.org.uk](http://www.childhope.org.uk).

We are recognised for strength in child protection and safeguarding and, in recent years, have established a training and consultancy network with six of our partner organisations in Africa and Asia. The South2South safeguarding network offers contextually relevant support to organisations wanting to make their operations safer. Find out more here: [Home | South2South Network](#).

ChildHope works with local partner organisations, experts in the lives and contexts that the children live in. In Africa we have partners in Ethiopia, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Sierra Leone and The Gambia. In Asia we have partners in Nepal, Bangladesh and India. We focus on the protection, safeguarding, education, training, livelihoods and well-being of highly marginalised children.

The information below gives a flavour of our actions that relate most closely to UNGC, specifically our actions related to child labour, particularly the worst forms of child labour.

**We would be happy to make connections with those businesses and other agencies, members of UNGC, who share our commitment to improve the lives of children in these areas.**

### A selection of our programmes in Asia, tackling the worst forms of child labour

#### 1. CLARISSA

##### Child Labour Action Research Innovation in South and South East Asia

CLARISSA is a consortium tackling child labour and modern slavery in **Bangladesh** and **Nepal** focusing on the research, development and testing of innovative solutions to the ongoing problem of exploitation of children and young people. The programme will run for four years, and implementation started in 2020 in spite of the challenges of COVID-19. ChildHope and partners Voice of Children (VoC) and Grambangla Unnyan Committee (GUC) are playing an instrumental role in the creation and development of the project and its implementation.

**Funder:** UK Aid/FCDO

**Consortium Lead:** Institute for Development Studies (IDS)

**Consortium Partners:** ChildHope and partners Voice of Children (Nepal) and Grambangla (Bangladesh), Terre des Hommes, Consortium for Street Children

The programme started in 2020 with intensive induction and training workshops on-line, to deepen our understanding of working children's lives. When COVID-19 allowed we were able to learn more about the lives of the children themselves by listening to their stories. The children's stories have been collected and have been analysed with and by the children. Since 2022 the children formed groups to identify and test ways to overcome the challenges and injustices they face in their lives and workplaces. In 2023, the children, supported a necessary by adults, will design and lead actions that can demonstrate how their lives and workplaces can be improved and these actions scaled to benefit others.

## 2. Bangladesh – Access to Education and Protection for Children of Garment Industry Workers

**Funder:** TR Aid

**Partner:** Nagorik Uddyog

A grant from TR Aid enables ChildHope and our partner Nagorik Uddyog to develop educational and child rights programmes with the children of garment industry workers in Dhaka. The programme has now been running for nine years.

Although the garment industry in Bangladesh has provided opportunities for women to earn a living, it has also had a seriously negative impact on their children. Most textile workers are single mothers, who have very low education levels and are unskilled. Working long hours for extremely low pay and without access to childcare facilities in their place of work, single working mothers are unable to adequately care for their children. Often, they are forced to leave their young children alone or in the care of older siblings, exposing them to accidents, trafficking and sexual abuse. Poverty forces older children to supplement their mothers' meagre income by entering illegal activities (notably drug trafficking) or informal sector jobs, depriving them of education and exposing them to extremely hazardous working conditions, irregular pay and violence.

The project aims to protect and improve the lives of at least 200 children aged 2-16 years every year with enrolment priority given to the poorest households, single parents and children with disabilities, and quality support a priority.

Project impact (2022 data)

- 142 children under 5 years of age received early childhood education, nutritious meals and care in a child friendly safe environment of two-day centres in Dhaka.
- 116 children (6-17 year) received non-formal education at two drop-in centres in Dhaka. Most of them are working children engaged in either local garment retail shops or as a domestic help.
- 68 children (14-17 years) received vocational training on sewing and tailoring.
- 39 children from the day care and drop-in centres were mainstreamed to local government schools.
- 71 children from day care and drop-in centres accessed birth certificates which is used as legal documentation to access available rights and entitlements, e.g. school or hospital admission.

Nagorik Uddyog works closely with parents whilst raising awareness amongst textile factory employers, community leaders and government policy makers of the need to better respect the rights and improve the working conditions of garment workers and expand access to education and skills training opportunities for their children.

### 3. Uganda - The Happy Maths Hub and Child Health First Clinic

**Funder:** British and Foreign Schools Society, the Government of the Faroe Islands and the States of Guernsey Overseas Aid & Development Commission

**Partner:** Kabukye Trust

The Kabukye Trust is one of ChildHope's newest partners and we have spent a lot of time working together during 2021 and 2022, on project development and securing funding to support the development of Kabukye's core projects, the Happy Maths Hub and the Child Health First clinic.

The Happy Maths Hub aims to engender an excitement for learning, particularly for maths, among children using the Maths Mastery approach. Kabukye Trust is focusing on highly marginalised children, particularly disabled children and others whose attendance at school is affected by issues of inequality and poverty. The Hub has trained local teachers in Maths Mastery, a teaching and learning approach that develops a deeper understanding of mathematics rather than rote learning, and through participation in Chess Clubs students are acquiring additional logic skills.

The Child Health First clinic is a complementary project supporting access to school and breaking down barriers and stigma faced by disabled children, particularly those with visual impairment, many of whom have diabetes. The Child Health First clinic focuses on prevention and early detection of diabetes through community awareness campaigns and provision of ophthalmology services for the treatment of diabetes related vision impairments.

Building the physical Happy Maths Hub and Child Health First Clinic buildings has been a major activity for 2022. The Happy Maths Hub was officially opened in September 2022. Both facilities are fully accessible so the whole community can access the inclusive services.

ChildHope has supported Kabukye trust with finance systems, safeguarding policy and practice, team recruitment, and developing plans for gender and disability inclusion training and the project's monitoring and evaluation system.

Project Impact (2022 data)

- The Hub has trained 50 local teachers in Maths Mastery, a teaching and learning approach that develops a deeper understanding of mathematics.
- 251 students participating in Chess Clubs to acquire additional logic skills.
- Project supported 855 children, 65 with disabilities, who now have access to child-friendly and timely vision and type 1 diabetes (T1DM) screening, treatment and care.
- Project supported 50 teachers with type 2 diabetes (T2DM), 76 adults with uncorrected refractive errors (URE) and 95 other adults with T2DM
- 26 teachers and village health team members have been trained in the simple screening of URE and diabetes treatment and management.

## Other Initiatives and Engagement

In the reporting period, ChildHope has also

- Engaged in UNGC events on-line
- Kept up to date via the regular newsletter
- Surveyed our partners on implementation of our environmental policy and included a review in our annual report

Completed a significant FCDO funded project delivered with Shakti Samuha, our partner in Nepal. This 'CLAMP' project supported the eradication of forced labour, ending modern slavery and human trafficking. The project received a A\* rating from FCDO. More information can be found on the ChildHope website. Shakti Samuha is designing a follow on to this project (CLAMP II) which is currently not funded. Project results in the graphic below.



## Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

### 2022 in Numbers

We collate quantitative and qualitative data on our work annually, taken from the reports produced for each of our programmes and projects.

ChildHope's work aims to achieve positive change for children in six children's development (CD) dimensions, which assess improvements in:

- CD1 Children's participation in decision-making and inclusion.
- CD2 Protection from violence and abuse.
- CD3 Context (changes in laws and policy that impact on children's lives).
- CD4 Health and well-being.
- CD5 Access to quality education.
- CD6 Livelihoods options (increases in income and improved working conditions that lead to change in the lives of children and young people).

The information in the tables below shows numbers of children and adults receiving direct support from our partner organisations through projects supported by ChildHope. While we are increasingly collecting and disaggregating data to include information around disability, it remains insufficient to add to our quantitative reporting tables. This capacity will increase as we build disability inclusion into new grants, with monitoring systems to match, and ongoing use of the Washington Group of questions.

When we refer to children, we use the United Nations (UN) definition of people under 18 years of age. However, in some contexts, when young people are in high-risk situations, we may continue to support them up to 25 years old. The adults in the tables below are parents, teachers, community leaders and other people over 18 years old who benefit directly from the work of our projects and contribute to the improvements in the lives of children and young people.

**Table 1: Children Reached, by Dimension**

Dimension	Africa Girls	Africa Boys	Asia Girls	Asia Boys	Total Girls	Total Boys	Total
1. Children's participation in decision making and inclusion	105	118	336	1325	441	1443	1884
2. Protection from violence and abuse experienced by children	186	196	2111	1468	2297	1,664	3961
3. Context (e.g. policy)	0	0	125	81	125	81	206
4. Health and well-being	369	391	2360	1194	2729	1,585	4314
5. Access to quality education	358	386	2841	989	3,199	1,375	4574
6. Livelihoods options	38	0	68	45	106	45	151

**Table 2: Children We Work With, by Continent**

	Girls	Boys	Total
Africa	905	996	1,901
Asia	7,841	5,102	12,943
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,746</b>	<b>6,098</b>	<b>14,844</b>

**Table 3: Adults We Work With, by Dimension**

It is important to note that the numbers below refer to the number of adults we work with, but the changes refer to *the impact of their participation in our programmes upon children and young people*, who are the main focus of our work. The adults in our programmes are encouraged to become more inclusive and supportive of the children in their lives – as parents, teachers and leaders in their communities. Everything we do with adults is focused upon improving the lives of children and young people.

Dimension	Women	Men	Total
1. Children's participation in decision making and inclusion	2,171	2,406	4,577
2. Protection from violence and abuse experienced by children	4,896	3,499	8,395
3. Context (e.g. policy)	211	216	427
4. Health and well-being	2,298	1,184	3,482
5. Access to quality education	724	109	833
6. Livelihoods options	602	274	876

Table 4: Adults We Work With, by Continent

	Women	Men	Total
Africa	392	417	809
Asia	10,369	7,279	17,648
Total	10,761	7,696	18,457