

**Exchange Visit of Delegates from
Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Nepal
to
M V Foundation, Andhra Pradesh, India
on
CHILD LABOUR FREE ZONES AND RIGHT TO EDUCATION**

**21st to 26th August 2010,
Hyderabad, India.**

Organised By



STOP



Child Labour
school is the best place to work



INTRODUCTION

Child labour free zones are (geographical) areas where all children are systematically withdrawn from work and (re)integrated into formal, full-time schools. No distinction is made between different forms of child labour in this process because every child has the right to education. The process of creating child labour free zones involves all stakeholders like teachers, parents, children, unions, community groups, local authorities and employers. Such zones have been created in India and Nepal, while various organizations in Africa and South America have also embraced the concept. Two concrete examples: the Building and Wood Workers' Union in India (BWI) has made 86 villages child labour free in 4 states. M V Foundation (MVF) in India has created 830 child labour free villages in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh where all children up to 14 are going to school.

The Stop Child Labour Africa Tour in 2008 involved a delegation of child rights defenders from India, Nepal and Morocco who toured across five African countries to discuss and find ways to eliminate child labour. MVF – lead of the tour delegation – interacted with local NGOs, trade unions, international agencies and government bodies on the area based approach to establish child labour free zones. This was an inspiring experience for all. Given that to “see is to learn”, it was proposed that delegations from these countries visit MVF's programs in Andhra Pradesh in India, to learn from first hand experience on the ground and obtain more insight in the concept of child labour free zones. It is a result of this interest in and commitment to establishing child labour free zones in different parts of the world that delegations from Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Nepal, with representatives from NGOs, Trade Unions and Teachers' Unions visited the MVF programmes and based on the learnings from the field designed their follow up plans and strategies (see Annex 1 for list of participants). 46 persons participated in this exchange visit.

The 6-day programme comprised of three days of input and sharing sessions and three days in the field (see Annex 2 for detailed programme).

INAUGURAL AND INTRODUCTORY SESSIONS

Inaugural Session:

The programme was inaugurated by the Minister for Secondary Education of the Government of Andhra Pradesh – Shri. D.Manikya Vara Prasada Rao. All the speakers in the inaugural session – the Minister, Mr M R Vikram – Secretary, M V Foundation, and Ms Sofie Ovaas – Stop Child Labour, emphasized the desirability and feasibility of establishing child labour free zones.

The Non Negotiables

- ◆ All children must attend full time formal day schools.
- ◆ Any child out of school is a child labourer.
- ◆ All labour is hazardous and harms the overall growth and development of the child.
- ◆ There must be a total abolition of child labour.
- ◆ Any justification perpetuating the existence of child labour must be condemned.

Key points from the speakers:



Mr.M.R.Vikram, Secretary, M V Foundation, while speaking of M V Foundation and its strategies attributed the success of MVF's programmes largely to the fact that (1) community and government are partners in the process of eradicating child labour and (2) the large group of volunteers who believe that it is possible to make areas child labour free and who have been

working untiringly to realize this dream. The newly passed Right to Education (RTE) Act in India has given activists a legal instrument that can be used to ensure that children are out of work and in school.

Ms. Sofie Ovaa from Stop Child Labour Campaign made the important point that Child Labour Free Zones are theoretically desirable and practically feasible. The poverty argument that is used to justify child labour is not a valid argument. Tracing the history of the present exchange visit, she spoke of it as a journey that began with the “Out of Work and into School – Child's Right to Education as a Non-negotiable” conference organized by MVF in 2004.



Shri. D. Manikya Vara Prasada Rao, Honorable Minister for Secondary Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh, in his remarks reflected the government's commitment to eradicating child labour. This is now made possible with the RTE which makes it a state obligation to provide free education for all children. He emphasized the importance of education and said “Education is the key to

reforming all social deformities.”

Introductory Session:

Presentations from the visiting organizations focussed on the work they were doing in their countries and also established the tone for the visit by articulating a common commitment to eradicating child labour. Speakers represented Trade Unions, Teachers' Unions and NGOs from the different countries. Following is the list of speakers and key points from their presentations.

Pascal Masocha, Coordinator, Coalition against Child Labour in Zimbabwe – CALCAZ. The coalition comprises two Trade Unions (1 Agriculture Workers' Union and 1 Teachers' Union) and one NGO. While the unions take up policy advocacy in terms of labour laws and collective bargaining, the NGO focuses on mobilizing communities, providing psychosocial support to child labourers and establishing Child Protection Committees. One of the advocacy issues that they have identified is to increase adult wages so that child labour can be decreased. The new legislation in Zimbabwe that no child labour is to be used in agriculture gives their campaign strength. Mr Masocha, testified to the interest in the area based approach and establishing a child labour free zone.

Meseret Tadesse Beshah, FSCE, Ethiopia is from an NGO in Ethiopia that has been working to eradicate child labour. His remarks reiterated that it is possible to bring very poor children back to school. The Stop Child Labour Forum in Ethiopia has the involvement of several stakeholders and he acknowledged the role played by MVF in sensitizing the stakeholders during their visit to Africa.



Abdelaaziz Mountassir, SNE, Morocco SNE is primarily involved in stopping child labour through education. The principal idea is that “children are in labour because they are out of school or dropped out.” SNE plans to expand the stakeholder base so it is not just Trade Unions and NGOs that are involved in the movement but all stakeholders including the government.

Wakiraza Christopher, Kids in Need, Uganda. ‘Kids in Need’ works with children living on the streets in Kampala. It started as a street children's organization in response to need expressed by children living on the street and since then has evolved into a child rights organization. ‘Kids in Need’ is now implementing with ILO, an child labour elimination programme and interventions include increasing the income levels of the families, house to house campaigning, spreading the message that poverty is not the reason for child labour, rather absence from school perpetuates poverty, empowering duty bearers and increasing their knowledge of current legislations.

Wabe Children Aid and Training (WCAT), Ethiopia, focuses on children who are out of school and believe that adult education is essential to get children into school.

African Development Aid Association (ADAA), Ethiopia, focuses on access to education alternative basic education practices. This has been handed over to the government and has been upgraded to formal schools. For sustainability it is important to work with the government and the community, bring the school to the community and have a flexible school calendar.

Radha Koirala, Child Labour Eradication Network (CLEAN Nepal). CLEAN Nepal is a policy level initiative working towards ending child labour. There are different organizations and networks existing but they need to come together and there is need for a total, holistic monitoring mechanism.

Following the presentations, discussion focused on how one can take the learning forward and ensure there is continued discussion and sharing among the group. An important suggestion that was offered - have a platform for uploading documents. While there is one available on www.stopchildlabour.eu, there is need to make this more interactive and link with other discussion forums.

The sharing of the different organizations' focus and belief made it an input rich day. There were both similarities and different challenges based on specific situations. HIV/AIDS was presented as a major challenge to ensuring that children are in school. During the day the need for common monitoring systems also emerged – different organizations are using different monitoring tools. In Ethiopia, the government has developed a child monitoring tool. Uganda uses the ILO data monitoring system. Aasman Nepal has a monitoring system that gives feedback and is used primarily as a community mobilization tool.

FIELD VISITS AND FEEDBACK



Five groups travelled to MVF

“If you know teach it, if you don't - learn”

project locations in the following districts of Andhra Pradesh – Kurnool, Ranga Reddy, Mahbubnagar, Warangal and Nalgonda. The visit was organized to give an overview of the different strategies used by MVF to create

child labour free zones and included:

- Visit to the Residential Bridge Course Camps (RBCs) to interact with children, teachers, and staff and gain an understanding of the role the RBC plays in the programme.
- Interaction with Gram Panchayat (Local Government body) and the community, including ex employers of children.
- Interaction with government officials at different levels – the mandal, district and state.
- Interaction with Teachers' Unions.
- Interaction with Trade Unions.
- Interaction with Child Rights Protection Forum (CRPF) members.
- Interaction with MVF RBC alumni.

- Interaction with children who have graduated from the RBC and are currently in mainstream schools.
- Participation in a CRPF meet.
- Visit to social welfare hostels, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV).
- Visit to a child labour free village.



Field Visit – Kurnool District



Field Visit – Nalgonda District

As one participant described the visit, “it was like going to a supermarket of strategies for creating child labour free zones.”

Lessons from the Field:

Based on the feedback given by the participants, the following is what the participants took back with them as learning.

- MVF strategies are holistic and inclusive and involve all stakeholders. They use existing government structures and have a strong collaboration with government and community.
- The RBC is central to the programme, not merely as a transitional learning centre but as proof for the communities that it is feasible for children to be withdrawn from work and put in school.
- The CRPF is the biggest strength that the programme has as it is a community monitoring mechanism. This is also evidence that community ownership is high and key to the sustainability of the programme.
- The strategies used by the communities to bring children back to school and keep them in school are innovative and effective. An example is the whistle blowing technique employed by CRPF members to remind parents and children that it is time for school.
- The strategies used are not confrontational, rather they seek to co-opt. An example is the strategy of publicly honouring employers of child labourers who have agreed to set the children free.

“To travel is to see, to return is to narrate.”
- Ugandan saying

- Working along with the government was a very effective strategy, in that it was possible to bring about policy changes.
- In addition to returning childhood to children, the programmes have been effective in changing relationships between parents and children – parents learn to be parents.
- The volunteers' belief, commitment and patience are commendable. While change does not happen easily or quickly, they are willing to be patient and keeping trying different techniques to bring children out of work and into school.
- The Teachers' Forum for Child Rights is a powerful body and capable of bringing about changes at the policy level.
- Focusing on ensuring that children do not work has an impact on other areas and evolves into a full fledged child rights programme. Participants observed that the CRPF are also involved in preventing child marriages and monitoring the conditions in the government hostels. Also, in addressing blocks in child's participation in education, communities and local government bodies found themselves addressing health and other child related issues. Keeping child at the center thus makes for holistic programming and the overall development of the village.
- All political parties are united on the issue of elimination of child labour.
- There is strong investment in capacity building rather than structures and the focus is on strengthening existing structures and bodies.
- There is a good public monitoring system for children (public record keeping) and data collection in the community.

The Way Forward:

Morocco:

- There is need to design strategies for mobilizing all actors around the issue. Need communication strategies for all stakeholders.
- The programme needs planning and strategizing.
- There is need to keep the gender aspect in view and ensure that all children are in school.



Zimbabwe:

- The programme is inspiring, there are differences between the situation here and in Zimbabwe that need to be taken into account. Settlement patterns are different in Zimbabwe.
- Other issues that could arise – distance to school and school fees.

Ghana:

- As implementors we have to believe that it is possible and also be able to answer the question - “Why do children need to go to school?”
- Show role models as inspiration.
- Need to advocate with political parties to put away their political differences and come together on the issue of child labour.
- Lobby with district administrations to make child labour illegal and have a clear definition of child labour.
- Support parents.

Ethiopia:

- It is possible to replicate, but need to develop both country and regional strategies.
- Need to understand the Non Negotiable Principles (NNPs) and train staff on the principles.

Kenya:

- Need to work with the government – all departments and ministers. Good links established with the government but links with the community is also required.
- Need support from MVF and other partners to help set up the programmes at the community level.
- Organize such a visit for senior government officers.

INPUT SESSIONS

Dr Mohammed Ali Rafat, IAS, State Project Director, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Government of Andhra Pradesh, spoke to the group about the government initiatives to eradicate child labour. RTE firmly establishes education as a fundamental for all children, up to grade 8. SSA is the vehicle to implement RTE. Nationwide, it is estimated that it will cost Rs 19,000 crores to ensure that all children are in school, but the government is committed to making this happen. The SSA website has all the relevant statistics and is an important monitoring tool and source of information.

Other speakers for the input session included representatives from Action Aid and Plan International (India) – organizations that are deeply engaged with child rights and anti child labour programmes.

COUNTRY PLANS AND STRATEGIES



Following the three day field visit to learn about and from the strategies used by M V Foundation to create child labour free zones and ensure that every child is in school, the participating countries – Zimbabwe, Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, Morocco, and Nepal – developed their plans and strategies. The plans are based on the premise that child labour free zones are not just desirable but feasible and represent the countries'

commitment to create child labour free zones in their own respective countries. The plans and strategies are presented below.

ZIMBABWE

The participants from Zimbabwe arrived at their final plan after a SWOT analysis.

Strengths:

- Strong conviction that this strategy is possible
- They have a strong coalition various civil society organizations and community organizations
- The coalition already has the results of the child labour survey that it conducted in 2007.

Opportunities

- Zimbabwe's literacy rate was and continues to be the highest in Africa, but this is now declining – the fact that they did have a high literacy rate can be used in motivating parents to send their children to school.
- Structures and committees exist from national to local levels – these structures can be used.
- The political situation has improved.
- Zimbabwe is a signatory of ILO conventions on Child Labour.



Weakness:

- The economy is very poor but is improving
- Very poor resources and infrastructure.
- Unstable political situation.

Threats:

- Large scale migration of professionals to other countries.
- Policies such as school fees need to be paid by parents and mandatory school uniform prevent parents from sending their children to school.
- Poor access to schools due to schools being located at a distance from settlements.
- HIV/AIDS – though the prevalence is on a decline, it continues to remain high.

Based on the above SWOT analysis, the Zimbabwean team has identified the following areas that will require to be focussed on.

- At the strategic level, Zimbabwe will need to reexamine the experiences in the context of their operational needs and based on this develop a strategic plan to guide the operations. For all of this, they will need a strong resource strategy.
- At the operational level, they plan to
 - update the nationwide survey
 - campaign to enhance the beliefs (of parents)
 - undertake more exchange visits with other stakeholders, also within African countries
 - engage in capacity building within the coalition
 - demonstrate to the government the desirability and feasibility of the strategy
 - begin work with one ward with a population of 36,000
 - engage in capacity building of child protection committees
 - establish coalition with other organizations including PLAN, Save the Children, Child Line, Help age, SOS, International Organization on Migration
 - adopt a multi-sectoral approach
 - support other African countries in highlighting issues and campaigns

In order to do the above, Zimbabwe committed to support the SCLC movement and contribute to its growth by sharing the content for the website and increase its profile. They need support from SCLC for capacity building in campaigning and lobbying.

GHANA

Based on the lessons learned during the exchange visit, the Ghanaian team identified advocacy, poverty alleviation interventions for poor households, and networking as major focus areas. Specific activities that they will undertake are:

- lobby with the assembly for passing stringent legislation on child labour and ensure implementation
- income generating activities for parents so that they can send their children to school
- collaboration with other organizations and other bodies including government – example: Teacher's Union and Ministry of Women and Children
- initiate activities in the 4 regions
- use learning from the visit, resources from different agencies and support from other African countries to develop strategies
- capacity building at different levels
- rescue children from labour and put directly to school as there are no facilities for accommodating rescued children
- bring out a newsletter with other NGOs on Child Labour, and also engage the media in campaigns

In order to the above, they will need financial support to carry out the campaign. They commit to support and receive expertise from SCLC

ETHIOPIA

Based on the lessons learned, the Ethiopian team developed the following plans.

- They will adopt an area specific and community based approach. The creation of a child labour free zone will be situated at the *Kebelle* (the smallest administrative unit) level and the interventions will be community based.
- In order to bring about change, the intervention will begin with deepening one's understanding of the situation and a study to learn about the nature, extent and magnitude of the problem will be undertaken in the selected kebele.
- The main strategy for mobilization will be the focus on learning in groups (using community conversations and enhancement tools for deepening understanding on child labour). This societal



learning will focus on the ways in which different groups in society – parents, communities and government – work together to withdraw children from labour.

- Ensuring multi stakeholder participation is another strategy that will be adopted. Participation and engagement of government, teachers, communities, parents, families, youth, women and the children will ensure the creation and sustainability of child labour free zones. This multi stakeholder participation will be promoted from the beginning to the end of the programme and this will be used to elicit child labour issues in the selected kebele.
- Four phases of intervention are envisaged:
- Learning from experiences and initiating the processes in the selected kebele. During this phase the following learning activities will be undertaken – Learn the underpinnings (seven reasons) of SCLIM to establish area specific child labour zones; learn from success of MVF through exposure visit; endorse and accept the principles of child labour free zones; get government leaders to visit MVF. This phase also includes the initiation of the Child Labour Free Kebele (CLFK) by clarifying the reasons for and importance of establishing CLFKs to key stakeholders, undertaking initial situation analysis, establishing an interim steering body in the kebele, building stakeholder support and trust, outlining the process of application.
- Participatory diagnosis and planning. This phase will include appraisal and analysis of child labour situations in the Kebele; identifying child labour issues and opportunities; examining future scenarios; agreeing on strategies for change; and identifying actions and responsibilities.
- Collective action/implementation which will result in bringing all children out of work and into school. This phase will include developing integrated initiatives and detailed action plans; securing resources and technical support; developing capacity of stakeholders; maintaining stakeholder commitment and ensuring sustainability.
- Monitoring, follow up, review and reflection. Monitoring and evaluation will be included through all the stakeholder processes and will involve all stakeholders reflecting on their progress and analyzing it against milestones, drawing lessons and applying them in future policies and actions. This phase will include defining success criteria, developing and implementing monitoring mechanisms, reviewing and evaluating progress and identifying lessons – evaluations will be learning oriented; feeding lessons learned back into strategies and implementation procedures; developing and documenting the process; networking at the national, regional and global levels, mobilizing resources.

While taking up and designing the programme the following will be considered.

- Adaptation of the learning to the situation in Ethiopia.

- An understanding that institutionalization (running hostels) is not way forward, but use existing structures/ strategies.
- Use the wisdom of religious leaders.
- Ensure that the government and community is included in the strategy.
- Re-examine the involvement of community/government (agents of change) at the initial learning phase but ensure that from the diagnosis phase onwards involve all the stakeholders.
- Work initially with the lowest structure in the government and then move towards multi stakeholder approach.

UGANDA

Based on the lessons learnt during the visit, Uganda will focus on the following:

- Formation of village committees
- Identify the child labourers, counsel children and their parents, and referrals
- Engage teachers in supporting the students and monitoring
- Micro-finance and income generating programmes, to support the children
- Focus on street children
- Use National Child Labour Forum, and referral centers at various regions
- Mass mobilization campaigns
- There is the 2007 survey where 2.7 million child labourers were identified and 70% were identified as out of school. While this was an extensive survey people had little knowledge about child labour. This will now be used and activities undertaken to harmonize the legislations.
- Capacity issues will be addressed
- The interventions will work towards ensuring that community owns and run the Child Labour programmes
- Form Child Rights Protection Forums and child rights club
- Network with various government and civil society organizations
- Come out with collective strategy involving all stakeholders

KENYA

The constitution of Kenya has a separate section on children in the Bill of Rights. With this as the background and the lessons learned during the exchange visit, Kenya proposes to:

- Change the strategy of community involvement and mobilization
- Use community involvement as key player

- Make active use of community media for mobilization
- Continue lobbying and campaign and strengthen it at national and local structure
- Support for orphans – cash transfers
- Data collection and creation of database at national level
- Look at using public monitoring
- NGO child labour committee and SCREEN committee
- Target on the non negotiable of MVF
- Setup of linkages between the SHG and Child Labour work
- Linkages up to international level through SCLC, and build networking at various levels
- Perceived role of SCLC – information feeding from both sides (local and international linkages)
- Establish best practices within Africa and with MVF

MOROCCO

Morocco has been involved in learning community organization strategies from MVF from 2004 onwards. This along with learning from other different organizations helped them design a project on prevention of child labour (keeping children in school) by fighting drop-out. They have learn from the study on conducting situation analyses and associated strategies for change. With this they propose to:

- Put together large partnership and come out clear object and role of each partner.
- Conduct survey of the areas where we are working and come out with what the local network can do in the area
- Have exchange at Africa level once each country has come out with its proposition
- Have a coordinated campaign on Child Labour in North Africa.

NEPAL

Nepal's strategies are primarily based on networking and collaboration and community organization. Specific interventions that they propose to undertake in their country:

- Have a joint meeting with stakeholders – NGOs, INGOs, government. This will lead to planning.
- Actively collaborate with other stakeholders to conduct survey in clusters and nearby villages.

- Organize joint campaigns, advocacy and lobbying from central to local levels.
- Develop monitoring mechanisms within the community
- Maximize the use of Gefont's radio programme and mass meetings.
- Regular meetings with stakeholders.
- Share experience through websites.
- Work towards declaring, along with other NGOs and INGOs, 30 VDCs as child labour free.

VALEDICTORY SESSION



The closing ceremony for the exchange visit symbolized the energy that had been created around the issue of creating child labour free zones. The participation of children, village leaders, teachers, MVF staff and volunteers and the participants along with Sofie Ovaa of Stop Child Campaign and the Founder of MVF – Prof

Shantha Sinha, made it a memorable event. The significance of the ceremony was enhanced by the rendering of the child labour song by the children.



Mr Anand Babu, the President of All India Teachers' Forum for Child Rights, spoke again of the beliefs and strategies.

- Poverty cannot be cited as the reason for child labour.
- Creating a child friendly atmosphere in government schools plays a significant role in retaining children in school.
- It is evident that poor parents are willing to make sacrifices to ensure that their children participate in education.
- When government school teachers are motivated it paves the way for eradication of child labour.

- Corporal punishment is one of the reasons for drop out and the movement against corporal punishment in schools will ensure that we can create child labour free and corporal punishment free areas.
- Strategies such as “Parents' Respect Year” - honouring parents who send their children to school, serves as a crucial motivational strategy.
- Felicitation of village leaders who ensure that their villages are child labour free is also another motivational strategy.

Remarks from the participants during the valedictory session testify to the commitment to creation of child labour free zones in their respective countries.

Timothy P. T. Ekesa from Kenya - “We will try to create child labour free zones. We believe that it is possible. This is a beginning for us. Children's name is today, so we need to start today.”

Smriti Tamang Lama from Nepal - “We are going back with a new definition of child labour. We will work through the Trade Union to make sure that children are in school.”

Santa Kumar Rai from Nepal - “I remember my childhood. I was a child labourer. Even if I could not study, so what...I will work to send children to school. Children are the present and the future. I will prove that my village can become a child labour free zone.”

Representative from Zimbabwe - “In MVF's area based approach, the village is like a supermarket – all strategies are available there. I saw the synergy of the efforts of several people.”

Representative from Ethiopia - “We have been involved with this issue since 2008. But this visit is a turning point for us. I believe that it is possible to replicate this in our country.”

Representative from Zimbabwe Trade Union - “Learning is changing behaviour due to experience. I see the value of education as creating a human being out of a biological being. We might have limited resources, but we have unlimited imagination.”

Representative from Uganda - “We have high numbers of children out of school. But after this visit I go back with renewed courage.”

Khadija Boujadi, Morocco - “I saw that all sections are united on one issue and concept – stop child labour.”

Sofie Ovaa - “MVF is the main inspiration for the Stop Child Labour Campaign. Since 2003 we have engaged with MVF and other partners in Asia, Africa and Latin America to spread the NNPs. Participating in the celebration of Rakhi during our visit gives a sense of unity and is a symbol of brotherhood and testifies that we share the belief that it is possible to stop child labour.”

Prof Shantha Sinha, Chairperson, National Commission of Protection of Child Rights, New Delhi, India concluded the meeting and the visit with an

inspirational talk that recognized the work of the volunteers and the community leaders. She attributed the success to the fact that there is only one conviction - "No child should work" and the fact that everyone wants it. The simple act of bringing children into school has a profound impact on many fronts and opens up a world of opportunity for the child. Parents become parents and there is a renegotiating of relationships. Teachers become teachers and are empowered with the realization that every child in the community should become a student. Child planning is the key – if 600,000 children have been brought out of work and into school, this means that there are 600,000 child plans and this act deepens democracy. We now need to work to create child rights defenders globally.

Text of Prof Shantha Sinha's Speech:

It is so good to be amongst a collegiate of fellow travellers across continents who think alike and are fully convinced that there must be a total abolition of child labour and that this is possible. As all of us agree abolition of child labour and realisation of children's right to education are two sides of the same coin. One cannot be achieved without the other. The issue is in preparing every stakeholder to accept that 'no child must work and that every child must attend full time formal schools and as a matter of right'.

This can happen if we show how the lives of children who work day in and day out are so interdependent and integral to our lives and well-being. They contribute enormously to what we eat, the clothes we wear, and the products we consume. They are busy making our lives comfortable at the cost of childhood.

First of all children will have to be seen as equal and not as less than adults. Indeed because of their special circumstances and needs they should be regarded as more than equals. It requires a change in terms of looking at the child with respect and as an individual in her own right. A rights based perspective regards all children, yours and mine as the same; they must all be provided with the same entitlements equitably. Those facing discrimination or those who are at a disadvantage, must be provided additional facilities through affirmative action to enable them to be on par with their peers.

It is important that there is a sense of urgency and immediacy in provisioning for children. It is often heard that it is impractical to cover all children, and all services at one go and so 'doable' 'practical' targets are to be defined. It is often asked to spell out short term needs and the vision for long term goals. It is not practical to keep some children on hold and let them suffer due to our incapacities. It does not make sense for the child concerned to be asked to wait till the world of adult is ready for them. Childhood comes only once. A lost childhood can never be regained. The long term effects of children who have missed out on their basic entitlements and its impact on their vulnerabilities as they grow has lasting implications for children, and the society at large. The best has to therefore be given in a time-bound manner without any waiting.

Annexure 1:

S. No.	NAME OF PARTICIPANT	ORGANIZATION	COUNTRY
1	Radha Koirala	Clean Nepal	Nepal
2	Meseret Tadesse Bedshah	FSC-E	Ethiopia
3	Tibebe Mergia Habtemariam		
4	Mekonnen Belete Woldeyes		
5	Tamirat Asfaw Tegene		
6	Mestika Negash Akalie	WCAT	
7	Desta Asratie Kassie		
8	Tarekegn Dagnew Melesse		
9	Fassil Taye Molla		
10	Berhanu Tufa Workneh	ADAA	
11	Gemechu Benta Koji		
12	Temesgen Jori Muture		
13	Samuel Tuffa Kodji		
14	Pascal Masocha	CALCAZ	Zimbabwe
15	Osward Madziva	PTUZ	
16	Nokhutula Hlabangana		
17	James Goneso	GAPWUZ	
18	Juliet Sithole		
19	Aaron Zinyanya	ANPPCAN	
20	Tinashe Muromo		
21	Katherine Neumann	ACTED	India
22	Nawal Kishore Yadav	Aasmaan	Nepal
23	Kabindra Shekhar Rimal	GEFONT	
24	Smriti Tamang Lama		
25	Krishna Raj Joshi		
26	Santa Kumar Rai		
27	Prabhu Rajendran		
28	Abdelaaziz Mountassir	SNE	Morocco
29	Khadija Boujadi		
30	Hmida Nahhass		

S. No.	NAME OF PARTICIPANT	ORGANIZATION	COUNTRY
31	Corolien Groeneveld	HIVOS	Netherlands
32	Sofie Ovaa		
33	Madhukar Gumble	AHS	India
34	Mahaveer. T. Wasnik		
35	Timothy P.T. Ekesa	KAACR	Kenya
36	Turyahabwe Beatrice	KIN	Uganda
37	Magombe Fred		
38	Namayanja Jacent		
39	Wakiraza Christopher		
40	Avuyem Emmanuel Awe		Ghana
41	Bannerman Teye Christopher		
42	Bonyah Caroline Asante		
43	Boahen Juliana		
44	Rajendran Nathan	HIVOS	India
45	Saraswathi Rao	DWHH	India
46	Reena Fernandes	HIVOS	India

Annexure 2: Detailed Programme

Exchange Visit on Child Labour Free Zones and Right to Education Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Nepal 21 st to 28 th August, 2010, Hyderabad India	
	Inaugural Session Programme 21st August 2010 Chair: M R Vikram, Secretary Trustee, MVF Chief Guest: Shri D Manikya Vara Prasada Rao Minister for Secondary Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh Registration 09:00-09:30 Introduction 09:30-10:00 Welcome by Mr. R. Venkat Reddy, M V Foundation 10:00-10:10 Ms. Sofie Ovaa, Stop Child Labour Campaign 10:10-10:20 Delegates' Reflections 10:20-10:40 Inaugural Speech by Shri D Manikya Vara Prasada Rao, Minister for Secondary Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh 10:40-11:00 Vote of Thanks 11:00-11:10 TEA BREAK
11:30-12:20	Session II – Presentations on NGO and Trade Union Initiatives from Visiting Organizations Chair: R. Venkat Reddy, National Convenor, M V Foundation Wakiraza Christopher, Kids in Need, Uganda Paschal Masocha, Coordinator, CALCAZ, Zimbabwe Representative from GEFONT, Nepal Representative from Wabe Children Aid and Training Representative from African Development Association
12:20-13:00	Session III: Presentations on NGO and Trade Union Initiatives from visiting organizations
13:00-14:30	Chair: Sofie Ovaa, Stop Child Labour Campaign Maseret Tadesse Beshah, FSCE, Ethiopia Abdelaaziz Mountassir, SNE, Morocco Bannerman Teye Christopher, GAWU of TUC, Ghana Representative from AASMAN, Nepal LUNCH
14:30-16:30	Session IV: Presentation of MVF activities
15:30-15:45	Strategies of M V Foundation TEA Open Discussion
16:30-17:30	Preparation for field visits and logistics of group formation

Warangal Group 1 Resource Person: Dhanajay – 81061 40749	
	Programme
	Sunday 22 August 2010
09:00-09:30	Breakfast
09:30-10:00	Travel to RBC Camp, Chandrayangutta
10:00-13:00	Interaction with Camp children and teachers
13:00-13:30	Lunch at RBC
13:30-17:30	Travel to Warangal
	Monday 23 August 2010
08:00-10:00	Travel to Haripirala
10:00-12:30	Interaction with Gram Panchayat Members/Mahila Groups
12:30-13:00	Travel to Thorur
13:00-14:00	Lunch at Guest House
14:00-15:00	Interaction with mandal level officers at Thorur
15:00-17:00	Interaction with MVF alumni in welfare hostels, students of higher education and MVF volunteers at Thorur
17:00-17:30	Travel to Vardhannapet
17:30-18:30	Interaction with CRPF at Vardhannapet
18:30-20:30	Travel to Warangal, Dinner at Warangal
	Tuesday, 24 August 2010
09:00-11:00	Travel to Thirumalgiri (Palakurthy mandal)
11:00-13:00	Interaction with Gram Panchayat members
13:00-13:30	Travel to Palakurthy
13:30-14:30	Lunch at Palakurthy
14:30-15:30	Interaction with local school teachers
15:30-19:30	Travel to Hyderabad
20:30	Dinner at Hyderabad

Warangal Group II Resource Person: C N Reddy, Yadaiah – 94939 74118	
	Programme
	Sunday 22 August 2010
09:00-09:30	Breakfast
09:30-10:30	Travel to RBC Camp, Nagole
10:30-13:00	Interaction with camp children and teachers
13:00-14:00	Lunch at RBC
14:00-18:00	Travel to Khammam, Night stay at Khammam
	Monday 23 August 2010
08:00-09:30	Travel to Thattupally
09:30-13:00	Interaction with community
13:00-14:00	Lunch at Sarpanch's home
14:00-14:30	Travel to Korivi
14:30-15:30	Interaction with officials at Korivi
15:30-17:00	Travel to Mothey
17:00-18:00	Interaction with children pursuing higher education at Mothey
18:00-18:15	Travel to Chandupatla
18:15-19:15	Interaction with hostel students at Chandupatla
19:15-19:45	Travel to Suryapet, stay at Mamatha Lodge
	Tuesday 24 August 2010
09:30-10:00	Travel to Ghattikal
10:00-12:30	Interaction with the community
12:30-13:00	Travel to Suryapet
13:00-14:30	Lunch
14:30-15:30	Interaction with school teachers at Suryapet
15:30-18:00	Participation in CRPF meet
18:00-21:30	Travel to Hyderabad, stay, dinner

Suryapeta Group III Resource Persons: Rekha Abel – 98492 19237, V V Rao – 96662 43468	
	Programme
	08/22/10
09:00-12:00	Travel to RBC, Thirumalgiri
12:00-13:00	Lunch at RBC
13:00-16:00	Interaction with camp children and teachers
16:00-17:30	Travel to Suryapet
	Monday 23 August 2010
08:30-09:30	Travel to Macharam (Penpahad mandal)
09:30-12:30	Interaction with GP, community, parents
12:30-13:00	Travel to Suryapet
13:00-14:00	Lunch at Suryapet
14:00-16:00	Interaction with higher education students and MVF volunteers
16:00-16:30	at Suryapet
16:30-17:30	Travel to Chivvemla
17:30-18:00	Interaction with mandal level officials
18:00-19:00	Travel to Chandupatla
19:00-19:30	Interaction with hostel students
	Travel to Suryapet to stay at MNR Lodge
09:30-10:00	Tuesday 24 August 2010
10:00-13:00	Travel to Patha Suryapet
13:00-13:30	Interaction with GP/CRPF/Community
13:30-14:30	Travel to Suryapet
14:30-15:30	Lunch at Suryapet
15:30-18:00	Interaction with teachers
18:00-21:30	Participation in CRPF meet
	Travel to Hyderabad

Kurnool Group IV Resource Person: Arvind Kumar – 98480 48051, Prakash – 98484 98464	
	Programme:
	Sunday 22 August 2010
09:00-11:00	Travel to RBC, Alur
11:00-13:00	Interaction with camp children and teachers
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-19:00	Travel to Yemmiganur
	Monday 23 August 2010
09:00-09:30	Travel to TS Kulloor
09:30-11:30	Interaction with gram panchayat, community
11:30-12:00	Travel to Yemmiganur
12:00-13:00	Interaction MVF camp alumni at KGBV school
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:00	Interaction with civil society organizations and Trade Unions
15:00-16:00	Interaction with mandal level officials
16:00-17:30	Interaction with Teachers' Unions
17:30-19:00	Travel to Kurnool
	Tuesday 24 August 2010
07:30-10:30	Travel to Bobbiligama, Shahbad
10:30-12:00	Interaction with gram panchayat members
12:00-12:45	Interaction with CRPF at Bobbiligama
12:45-13:30	Lunch
13:30-14:00	Travel to Chevella
14:00-15:00	Interaction with mandal development officer and Task Force
15:00-16:00	Interaction with MVF alumni (hostel students and students of higher education) and MVF volunteers
16:00-17:30	Travel to Hyderabad
17:30-18:30	Interaction with the district collector
18:30	Travel back to Hotel Golkonda, Hyderabad

Mahaboobnagar Group V Resource Persons: Y Rajendra Prasad – 98496 48363	
	Programme:
	Sunday 22 August 2010
09:00-11:30	Travel to Dharur (Ranga Reddy district)
11:30-13:00	Interaction with camp children and teachers
13:00-14:00	Lunch at RBC
14:00-17:00	Travel to Mahaboobnagar
	Monday 23 August 2010
08:00-10:30	Travel to Kothapalem
10:30-12:30	Interaction with community and GP members
12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-14:30	Travel to Dharur (Mahboobnagar District)
14:30-16:30	Interaction with MVF alumni (KGBV school)
16:30-19:00	Travel to Mahboobnagar
	Tuesday 24 August 2010
08:00-10:00	Travel to Kothapally (Ranga Reddy district)
10:00-12:30	Interaction with community
12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-14:00	Travel to Shankarpally
14:00-15:30	Interaction with President, Mandal Parishad, Shankarpally
15:30-16:30	Interaction with MVF alumni (students of higher education) and MVF volunteers
16:30-17:30	Travel to Hyderabad
17:30	Interaction with IKP CEO

Wednesday 25th August 2010:	
09:00-10:00	Presentation of Field Representatives
10:00-11:00	Presentation of field reports by groups Chair: Mr Wakiraza Christopher, Kids in Need, Uganda
	Group I Discussions
	Group II Discussions
	Group III Discussions
11:05-11:20	TEA BREAK
11:20-13:00	Chair: Mr Paschal Masocha, CACLAZ, Zimbabwe
	Group IV Discussions
	Group V Discussions
	Overall impressions and way forward
13:00-14:00	LUNCH
14:00-15:00	Panel Discussion with state officials Chair: Mr Venkat Reddy, M V Foundation
	Mr Rafat Ali, SPD, SSA
	Mr Ajay, Deputy Commissioner of Labour
	Mr Reddy Prakash, Secretary, APSWRS
	Open discussions
15:00-15:15	TEA BREAK
15:15-16:30	Panel Discussion with NGOs/INGOs Mr Murali Krishna, UNICEF
	Mr Raghu, Action Aid
	Mr Babji Jaladi, Plan International
	Mr P Anjaiah, Save the Children
16:30-18:30	Discussion on lessons learnt and how to translate lessons into effective action in own countries
Thursday 26th August 2010	
09:00-13:00	Discussion on resource mobilization for creation of child labour free zones
13:00-14:00	LUNCH
14:00-15:00	
15:00-17:00	Discussion on resource mobilization for child labour free zone Final consultation: Discussion on future goals, action plan and follow up action
17:30-20:00	Valedictory session and dinner