

Partnership Kuncai and Terre des Hommes to ban child labour in mica industry

International child right organisation Terre des Hommes has developed an ambitious program with the participation of Kuncai "Beauty and a Beast, let's beat child labour in the mica industry". The goal of this three years program is to eliminate child labour in the mica sourcing communities in Jharkhand, India, with the overall objective to save 10,000 children from child labour in the Koderma and Giridih district of the State Jharkhand.

Kuncai is the first partner in this program of Terre des Hommes. We will contribute € 500,000 to the program and together with the contribution of € 100,000 of our European partner QolorTech, approximately 10% of the budget is covered. Next to our financial contribution we will act as ambassadors for this program in the supply chain of natural mica and will assist Terre des Hommes, where needed, to make this program a success.

It is a very complex challenge to eliminate child labour from the supply chain. This requires a structural and holistic approach through the complete supply chain and will ask cooperation of many actors (Children at risk, Communities, Government, Civil Society Organisations, Law Enforcement and the Private Sector). Alone one cannot make the difference and we are looking forward to work together reaching our shared ambition: no child labour in the mica supply chain.

After the announcement of our CEO Mr. Bingkun Xie, in December 2015, stating that we will increase our efforts to prevent child labour in our supply chain, we have approached Terre des Hommes in the Netherlands in January this year to join forces since we have the same goal: no child labour in the mica supply chain. We have acted as sparring partners for Terre des Hommes during the development of their program and have spent quite some time together on how to improve the supply chain, how to audit this process and how to further contribute in the program of Terre des Hommes. Next to our participation of the program, we decided to involve Terre des Hommes and other NGO's in our audits and in March we concluded to set up our own company in India. With this company we will buy directly from the mines and are able to work with the NGO's in India and do (unannounced) audits.

We are confident that with the participation in this program, as well as other steps, we will be able to reach our shared goal: no child labour in the mica supply chain.

Fuzhou, July 6, 2016