





Join us.

**The Eliminating Child Labour in Tobacco Growing Foundation is making a better life for children in tobacco-growing communities.**

By strengthening communities, improving policies, and advancing research, we are showing that tobacco-growing communities can benefit from agricultural farming while ensuring that their children are healthy, educated, safe from exploitation, and encouraged to reach their full potential.

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## MESSAGE FROM ANTONIO ABRUNHOSA, ECLT FOUNDATION'S PRESIDENT

As a leader in preventing child labour in tobacco agriculture, and in protecting and improving the lives of children in tobacco-growing areas, the ECLT Foundation had an exciting year.

We welcomed new Executive Director, Sonia Velázquez, who has brought exceptional vision and leadership to the Foundation and a sharp focus to strengthening families and youth, and advancing children's rights as a primary strategy in eradicating child labour in tobacco growing.

We advanced our global outreach efforts through a successful rebranding campaign and a renewed commitment by our members to engage in global advocacy, influence and

*These pages highlight the accomplishments of 2012, as we continue to strive to make a better life for children in tobacco-growing communities.*

improve policies, and build evidence of effective practices to eliminate child labour.

The ECLT Foundation has continued our commitment to forge new partnerships and expand upon our membership base in 2012. We welcomed new members to the ECLT Foundation: Hail & Cotton International Group, USA; Premium Tobacco Holdings Limited, Thailand; and, joining in 2013, Contraf-Nicotex-Tobacco, GmbH, Germany.

In partnership with the International Labour Organization, the ECLT Foundation supported the Government of Malawi to convene the National Conference on Child Labour in Agriculture, which is now a true landmark in our history, setting the way for an expanded programme agenda. We also co-sponsored the International Conference on Child Labour in Agriculture in Washington, DC, held by Global March Against Child Labour.

The ECLT Foundation further announced that Save the Children Switzerland is joining the Board as an Honorary Advisor in 2013, bringing unparalleled expertise in child protection that will benefit the children we serve. We approved three new projects in Mozambique, Uganda, and Kyrgyzstan each anchored in a national

plan to protect vulnerable children and eliminate child labour, help families strengthen their livelihoods, improve access to quality education, raise awareness about child labour, and strengthen the capacity of local and national governments to address child labour.

The projects directly help thousands of working, out-of-school, or otherwise vulnerable children and orphans and 20,000 families.

As we move ahead in combatting the root causes of child labour in tobacco growing, the ECLT Foundation realizes that sustaining the gains of our programmes will be possible only through the active partnership of multiple stakeholders. Our success will be determined by how well communities can sustain the benefits our programmes bring children and families and how well stakeholders work together in helping communities do this.

Because of this, we must continue to utilize the strengths of our unique partnership to ensure that we align corporate social responsibility efforts, identify and leverage new partnerships and resources to augment and sustain our successes, and support government in effectively monitoring child labour and protecting children in their communities.

These pages highlight the accomplishments of 2012, as we continue to strive to make a better life for children in tobacco-growing communities.

Thank you for your support in helping us ensure tobacco-growing communities are safe places where child labour laws are recognized and followed, families are able to benefit from tobacco agriculture, and where children and young people are given opportunities to live, learn, and thrive.



**Antonio Abrunhosa, ECLT Foundation President**



ECLT Foundation projects directly help thousands of working, out-of-school, or otherwise vulnerable children and orphans and 20,000 families.

## MESSAGE FROM SONIA VELÁZQUEZ, ECLT FOUNDATION'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Throughout the last decade, the effectiveness of the ECLT Foundation's projects to improve the lives of children in tobacco-growing communities has become well established, and our powerful impact has been documented.

But while our programmes have created progressive and measurable impact, there remain children who are being denied their rights and being forced into child labour, with their safety, wellness, and education in jeopardy. We knew we had to do more.

We set out to embrace this challenge in an unprecedented way. We elevated our voice, built on our successes over the last decade, and committed to creating a global agenda that reaches decision-makers around the world, so that it is a public priority to tackle the plight of children trapped in child labour.

Further, we took on major activities such as the Malawi National Conference on Child Labour in Agriculture, which was a highlight of the year. We selected three new projects, and we continued to engage in global activities and networks to develop new ways and partnerships to eliminate child labour in agriculture and in tobacco growing. We also published "Understanding, Identifying and Eliminating Child Labour in Tobacco Growing," a comprehensive field practitioner's guide to keeping children safe.

We infused performance indicators and metrics to gauge our success and the progress being made for children, and to understand the road ahead in the elimination of child labour. And we worked to strengthen and build on the principles of our multi-stakeholder approach.

To further meet the challenge, we started a journey to develop and maximize the ECLT Foundation's organizational capacities as a global leader through a new focus on advocacy and policy. This focus builds on the track record of our projects' relevance and impact, and propels our efforts to create social awareness and change. The positive responses from our collaborators and the engagement of new organizations have further motivated us to forge ahead into our next decade, as we know every aspect of our work will lead to new ways to help children.

As we continue to meet the challenges before us, we are energized by new and concrete opportunities to advance the unique mission of the ECLT Foundation. Together, we can lift children from child labour and ensure that they are protected and excelling, wherever tobacco is grown.



**Sonia Velázquez, ECLT Foundation Executive Director**



In 2012, the ECLT Foundation took its commitment to children and families to a new level and showcased that commitment with a focus on policy and awareness, additional programmes, and a new brand identity.

### 2012 WAS A YEAR FOR:

#### **Expanding our global reach and influence.**

We cemented our role as an international leader, partner, and advocate in ensuring that policies are in place and enforced to protect children in tobacco-growing communities.

**Growing partnerships.** Our projects continued to bring together farmers associations, trade unions, and the tobacco industry in ensuring child labour-free supply chains, withdrawing children from labour that may harm them, and promoting children's health and wellbeing.

**Increasing knowledge and best practices.** We continued to utilize baseline studies to better understand the root causes of child labour in tobacco-growing communities and support solutions surrounding key aspects of child labour in tobacco growing to bolster global policies, corporate responsibility, community practices, and local opportunities that allow children to thrive wherever tobacco is grown.

**Focus, energy, and commitment.** We held fast in seeking that every child living in tobacco-growing communities is healthy, educated, safe from exploitation, and encouraged to reach their full potential.

In 2012, we made our commitment to children and families more visible than ever. We launched a new visual brand that paves the way to engaging the global community in creating a better life for children in tobacco-growing communities.



Our new logo, colors, and graphic imagery symbolize our increasing global reach and influence, our growing partnerships, and — at our core — our universal and never-waning practice and philosophy: No child labour in tobacco growing.





**MALAWI**  
Ntchisi District,  
Mchinji District,  
Rumphi District

**13,000**

families got **financial support** and stopped engaging in child labour.

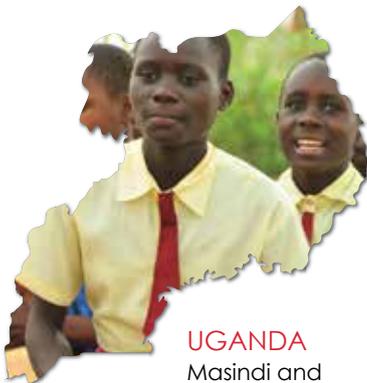
Project: Child Labour Elimination Actions for Real Change (CLEAR)  
Partners: Save the Children Federation Malawi, Inc.  
Creative Centre for Community Mobilization  
Total Land Care  
Youth Net and Counselling

**3,000** children were **withdrawn from child labour** or **prevented from entering it.**

Project: Elimination of Child Labour in Tobacco Growing in Kyrgyzstan  
Partner: The Working Group on Elimination of Child Labour in Tobacco Growing in Kyrgyzstan



**KYRGYZSTAN**  
Nookat District, Osh Province and Alabuka District, Jalalabat Province



**UGANDA**  
Masindi and Kiryandongo Districts

**80%** of residents (up from 36%) **know child labour is a problem in their community.**

Project: Community Empowerment for Elimination of Child Labour in Tobacco (COMEECA)  
Partners: Community Development and Conservation Agency Platform for Labour Action

**7,800** children are in school and being monitored to make sure they stay there.

Project: Promoting Sustainable Practices to Eradicate Child Labour in Tobacco (PROSPER)  
Partners: Winrock International  
Tanzania Association of Women Leaders in Agriculture and the Environment  
Tabora Development Foundation Trust



**TANZANIA**  
Urambo and Sikonge Districts, Tabora Region



The President of the Republic of Malawi, Her Excellency Joyce Banda, with children who attended the Children's Conference on Child Labour in Agriculture.

In September 2012, the ECLT Foundation joined with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Government of Malawi, trade unions, and employers to convene the Malawi National Conference on Child Labour in Agriculture.

The event was Malawi's first-ever international tripartite child labour conference. For the ECLT Foundation, it was a tremendous opportunity to harness the power of our multi-stakeholder approach and leverage a public commitment to ending child labour in agriculture in that country.

Under the theme "Our Children, Our Future," the conference brought together 320 delegates from government, international corporations and development partners, local businesses, and civil society, as well as 40 children, to focus on solutions to child labour in agriculture in Malawi and make the National Action Plan on Child Labour a reality.



“This conference demonstrates the growing national and international concern about child labour in our country and globally. [It is] proof of our common will to contribute to the long-term goal of eliminating child labour.”

—Her Excellency Joyce Banda, the President of the Republic of Malawi

## COMMITMENT AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT

Her Excellency, the President of the Republic of Malawi, Mrs. Joyce Banda, opened the conference by reiterating her government's commitment to the elimination of child labour, pointing out that Malawi is a signatory of the ILO's Conventions No. 138 and No. 182 and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. She pointed out that child labour requires a multidisciplinary approach and called on government departments, employers' and workers' organizations, and NGOs to play a part in realizing the goals of the Child Labour National Action Plan for Malawi (2010 to 2016).

Running concurrent to the conference, the Children's Conference on Child Labour in Agriculture brought together 40 children from 11 districts in Malawi to share their child labour experiences. Themed “Anything about us, without us, is against us,” the children called upon government to give local traditional leaders the power to enforce child labour laws. Furthermore, the children called on their parents to provide them with the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual support they need to grow up, and promised to form child rights clubs to advocate for child rights in their communities.

## CONFERENCE OUTCOMES

The conference resulted in agreement and commitment to action by government ministries, farmers, agricultural producer associations, trade unions, the tobacco industry, tea and sugar sectors, other neglected sectors in agriculture, traditional leaders, media, and NGOs to:

- Improve access to quality, free, and compulsory basic education
- Strengthen the legal framework through the enactment of a Child Labour Policy, Labour Inspection Policy, and the Tenancy Labour Act
- Establish a Child Labour Unit, reinvigorate

the National Steering Committee on Child Labour, and introduce a national child labour monitoring system

- Introduce integrated production systems where possible, while ensuring that agricultural producers are paid fair and decent prices
- Promote new labour-saving farming techniques and technologies, improve farm-level productivity, and intensify agricultural extension services
- Respect and promote freedom of association and collective bargaining to promote social dialogue, youth employment, and decent working conditions for small-scale farmers and agricultural workers
- Collect up-to-date data on the incidence of child labour
- Empower traditional leaders to enforce child labour laws at the grassroots level

To read the key messages and action plans committed to at the conference, visit the ECLT Foundation website.



Cease Gausi, one of 40 former child labourers in attendance, urges delegates to stop child labour.



## PROSPER – TANZANIA

PROJECT NAME	Promoting Sustainable Practices to Eradicate Child Labour in Tobacco (PROSPER)
PARTNERS	Winrock International, Tanzania Association of Women Leaders in Agriculture and the Environment (TAWLAE) and Tabora Development Foundation Trust (TDFT)
DURATION	July 2011 – December 2015
BUDGET	US\$ 4,750,000
LOCATION	Urambo and Sikonge Districts, Tabora Region, Tanzania
OVERALL GOAL	To make a significant contribution to the elimination of child labour in tobacco-growing areas in Tanzania. The project aims to reduce child labour in Tanzania's tobacco industry through targeted interventions to address social and economic factors that fuel child labour in the target districts of Urambo and Sikonge.
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To protect children (5–17 years old) from exploitative, hazardous, and worst forms of child labour in tobacco growing</li> <li>2. To protect legally working children (15–17 years old) in non-hazardous work in tobacco-growing areas</li> </ol>
DISTRICT BENEFICIARIES	7,800 children and 2,330 adults

## ECLT - KYRGYZSTAN

PROJECT NAME	Elimination of Child Labour in Tobacco Growing in Kyrgyzstan
PARTNERS	The Working Group on Elimination of Child Labour in Tobacco Growing in Kyrgyzstan
DURATION	January 2010 – December 2012
BUDGET	US\$ 552,909
LOCATION	Nookat District, Osh Province and Alabuka District, Jalalabat Province
OVERALL GOAL	To create sustainable mechanisms to eliminate child labour in tobacco growing through increased family income and the provision of alternative forms of employment.
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mobilise and strengthen capacity of local stakeholders to implement and monitor efficient practices to eliminate child labour in tobacco growing</li> <li>2. Improve living standards of farmers in project districts, and expand the geographical areas covered by the project in the districts</li> <li>3. Support and develop credit unions and cooperatives to effectively reduce poverty</li> <li>4. Improve access to social services, education and vocational training to offer alternative forms of employment to children</li> <li>5. Provide direct financial support to poor families</li> </ol>
DISTRICT BENEFICIARIES	3,000 children withdrawn from child labour or prevented from entering child labour; 903 families, through Mutual Aid Groups (MAGs)

## CLEAR - MALAWI

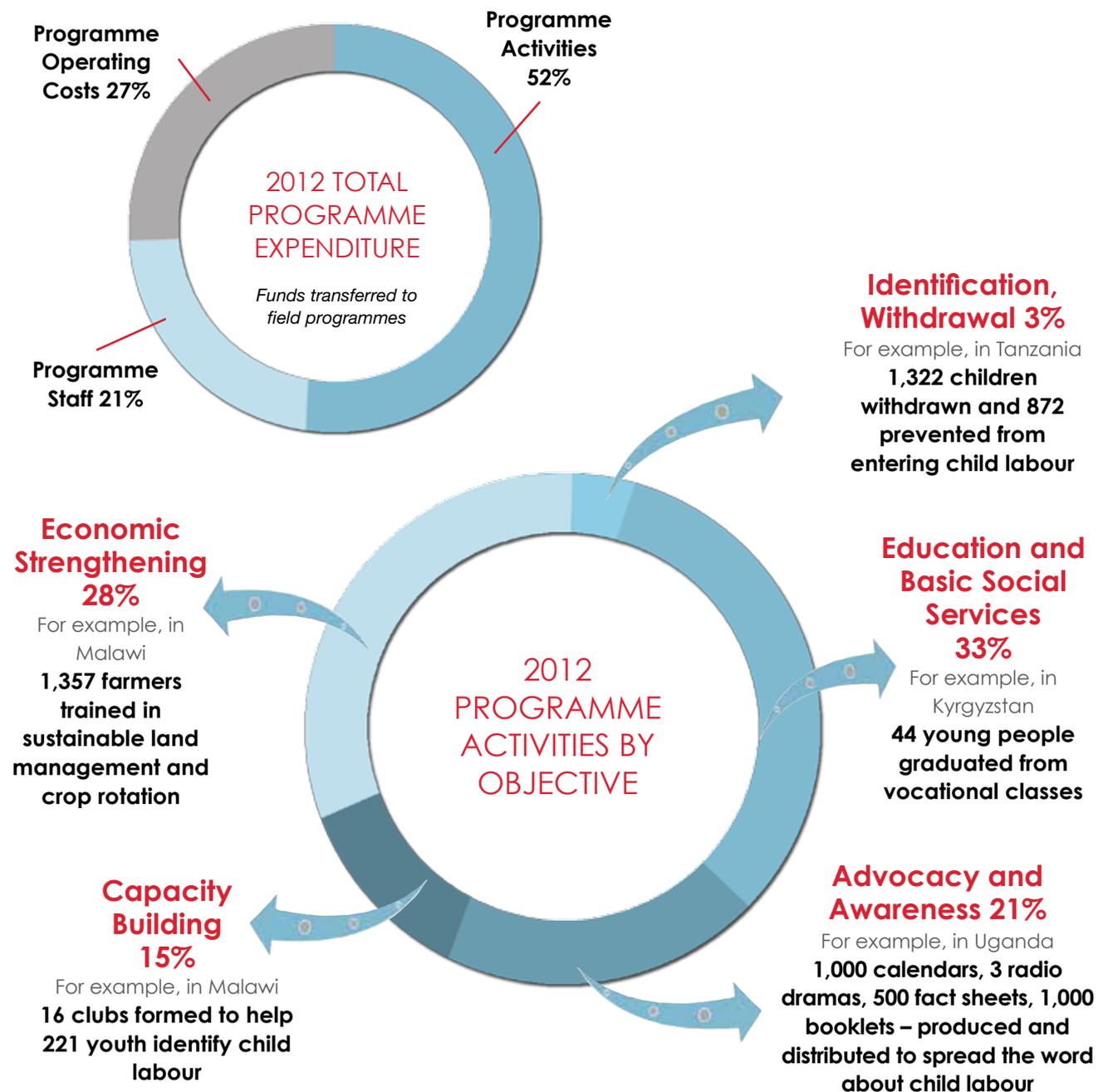
PROJECT NAME	Child Labour Elimination Actions for Real Change (CLEAR)
PARTNERS	Save the Children Federation Malawi, Inc. Creative Centre for Community Mobilization (CRECCOM) Total Land Care (TLC) Youth Net and Counselling (YONECO)
DURATION	July 2011 – December 2015
BUDGET	US\$ 8 million
LOCATION	Selected communities in Ntchisi District, Mchinji District, Rumphi District and nationwide (policy development, advocacy and capacity building activities)
OVERALL GOAL	To contribute to the elimination of hazardous child labour in tobacco-growing areas in Malawi within the context of the National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour in Malawi
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To protect children (5-17 years old) from exploitative, hazardous and worst forms of child labour in tobacco growing</li> <li>2. To protect legally working children (15-17 years old) in non-hazardous work in tobacco-growing areas</li> </ol>
DISTRICT BENEFICIARIES	14,725 boys, girls, women, and men

## COMECCA – UGANDA

PROJECT NAME	Community Empowerment for Elimination of Child Labour in Tobacco (COMECCA)
PARTNERS	Community Development and Conservation Agency (CODECA) and Platform for Labour Action (PLA)
DURATION	18 months from 01 January 2011, to 30 June 2012
BUDGET	US\$ 779,070
LOCATION	Masindi and Kiryandongo Districts, Uganda
OVERALL GOAL	To contribute to the elimination of hazardous child labour in tobacco-growing areas in Uganda
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reduce the incidence of child labour in Masindi and Kiryandongo districts by 3,000 children</li> <li>2. Improve national stakeholders' knowledge to address hazardous child labour in tobacco-growing areas</li> </ol>
DISTRICT BENEFICIARIES	3,000 children identified for withdrawal and prevention



In 2012, the ECLT Foundation funded work that strengthens communities, raises awareness, supports research, and influences policies to end child labour in tobacco growing. ECLT Foundation-funded projects built schools, provided training, and gave families new options for making a living without child labour—keeping children in school, with opportunities to reach their full potential.



The financial accounts of 2012 have been audited by an independent Geneva-based firm,  
Berney & Associates S.A.

## 2012 BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	The currency used is US Dollars (USD)	
TREASURY	4,557,435	
DEBTORS	19,861	
FIXED ASSETS	77,853	
		<b>4,655,149</b>

LIABILITIES & CAPITAL		
<b>SHORT TERM</b>		
PAYABLES	53,403	
MEMBERS (ADVANCE FOR 2013)	3,341,135	
ACCRUED PROJECTS	330,247	
ACCRUED EXPENSES	94,961	
CONTINGENCIES DERIVED FROM PERSONNEL ROTATION	215,241	
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>4,034,987</b>
<b>CAPITAL &amp; RESERVE FUNDS</b>		
FOUNDATION CAPITAL	53,144	
MEMBERSHIP FEES	127,546	
BROUGHT FORWARD AS AT 1.1.2012	428,377	
RESULT OF EXERCISE	11,095	
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>620,162</b>
		<b>4,655,149</b>

## 2012 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

<b>INCOME</b>		
MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS	4,871,463	
FINANCIAL ADJUSTMENTS	866,758	
BANK INTEREST AND OTHER RECEIPTS	53,242	
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>5,791,463</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
OPERATING COSTS	1,740,216	
PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE (TRANSFERRED TO FIELD PROGRAMMES)	3,579,682	
PROGRAMME SUPPORT/RESEARCH & ADVOCACY COSTS	460,470	
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>5,780,368</b>
<b>SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<b>11,095</b>



Thanks to ECLT Foundation funding, the COMEECA project withdrew children from child labour in Kiyogoma Village, Uganda, and placed them back in school.

The ILO estimates that 215 million children around the world are engaged in some form of child labour. As many as a quarter of all children globally are out of school, being denied an education because they are being forced to work instead. Further, more than 60 percent of child labour happens in agriculture, including in tobacco growing, where some of the work is considered the worst forms of child labour and is hazardous to children's health, safety, and well-being.

There are many reasons child labour exists in agriculture or in tobacco-growing communities. At the beginning of the supply chain, farmers may opt for child labour because of poverty, lack of resources, and few alternatives for ensuring their livelihood. Also, schools in tobacco-growing communities may be overcrowded, teachers may be under-qualified, and school buildings may be in disrepair. These circumstances can make children not want to go to school, and thus they become more prone to enter into child labour.

#### WE COMBAT CHILD LABOUR BY ADDRESSING THESE ROOT CAUSES

We draw on our multi-stakeholder partnership of trade unions, tobacco growers, and the corporate sector to combine

boots-on-the-ground projects, research, and global awareness and advocacy efforts to address the real reasons child labour in tobacco growing is happening.

Working together, we strengthen the practices and policies of nations and communities so that families and children recognize child labour, and have options to prevent it.

Our experience and insights make us a valuable resource for farmers, trade unions, tobacco companies, government agencies, policy institutions, NGOs, communities, and families everywhere, as we are dedicated to building and imparting knowledge and demanding what's best for children in tobacco-growing communities.

**NEW IN 2012: 20 CORE INDICATORS HELP US MEASURE EFFECTIVENESS**

The ECLT Foundation's projects are integrated, replicable, and sustainable. In 2012, we added to the value they bring communities by standardizing, refining, and automating the way we monitor and evaluate them.

We established 20 core indicators to measure impact, outcomes, and outputs and brought them into the monitoring and evaluation plans of all our projects. This improved our past techniques for measuring and recording project indicators by using a common set of indicators across all projects.

Knowing how valuable data is to our project partners in communities, as well as government agencies, we developed monitoring and evaluation software that will allow them to enter and report on indicators and projects' achievements directly, online.

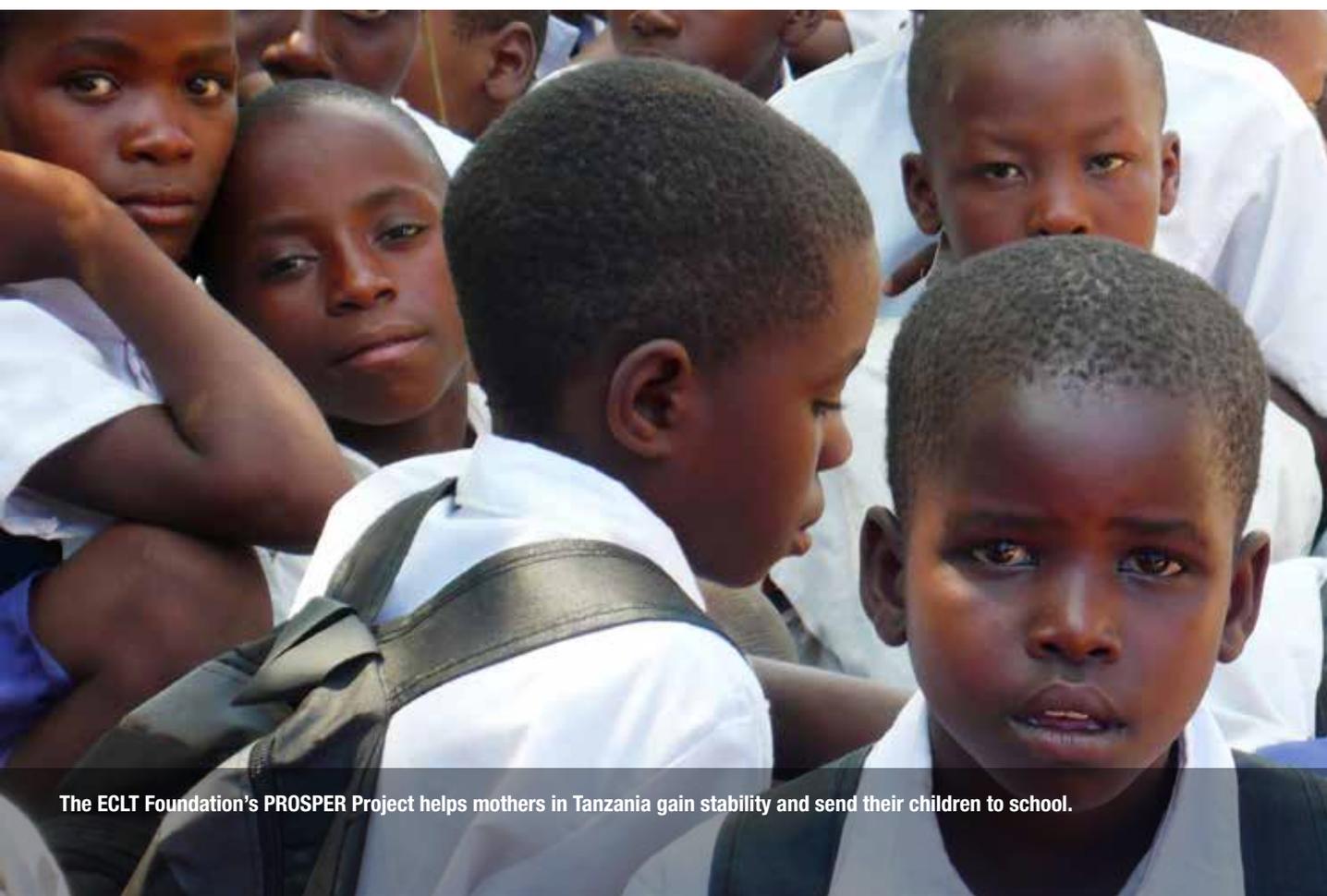
This monitoring and evaluation system, which will be implemented in 2013, will strengthen the quality of monitoring and reporting of projects and increase the relevance and visibility of the work of the ECLT Foundation and its partners.

**Project Implementation in Tobacco-Growing Areas**

**Research, Evidence and Knowledge Building**

**Global Advocacy / Dissemination of Best Practices**

Influence  
Public Policy  
to Sustain  
Change



The ECLT Foundation's PROSPER Project helps mothers in Tanzania gain stability and send their children to school.



Farmer Tolubai Irisbaev of Kyrgyzstan and his family have new opportunities for the future, free from child labour.

IN 2012, THE ECLT FOUNDATION SUPPORTED THE **WITHDRAWAL OF 6,513 CHILDREN** AND **PREVENTED A FURTHER 4,988 CHILDREN FROM ENTERING CHILD LABOUR.**

## WITHDRAWING CHILDREN

The ECLT Foundation works to end child labour in tobacco growing at all stages—preventing at-risk children from entering child labour, withdrawing children who are already engaged in it, and protecting children who are old enough to work but who should not do work that is harmful to their health, safety, and well-being.

After children are withdrawn from child labour, we work to build community capacity so that they have opportunities to re-enrol in schools or vocational training and receive the services and support they need to succeed. We also work with their families to help them increase their income so that children do not go back to labour.

### HOW WE WITHDRAW CHILDREN

**Awareness about policies and laws**

**Youth clubs**

**Village child labour committees**

**Resources and information**

**Trainings**

**Collaboration with tobacco companies in the area who visit farmers and identify child labour**

## Withdrawn from the Worst Child Labour, 400 Teens Learn New Skills

In Tanzania, 82% of the population lives in rural areas where children are at risk of entering agricultural child labour. Here, the ECLT Foundation's Promoting Sustainable Practices to Eradicate Child Labour in Tobacco (PROSPER) Project organized trained community activists in each village to help form and strengthen child watch committees and child labour committees.

James\* is one of the 400 young people, ages 15 to 17, the project identified, withdrew from the worst forms of child labour, and provided entrepreneurship and agriculture skills.

"We have been very grateful to the PROSPER project as its interventions have contributed significantly to our withdrawal from child labor. Furthermore the skills which have been vested to us will enable us to perform economic activities on our own and eventually improve our livelihoods," said James.

The PROSPER Project facilitated the Model Farm Schools in Urambo and Sikonge Districts by providing furniture, equipment, educational materials, and agricultural inputs for demonstration plots.

\* Not real name

THIS YEAR, **WE REACHED MORE THAN 50,000 PEOPLE**, LETTING THEM KNOW **CHILD LABOUR IN TOBACCO GROWING IS UNACCEPTABLE**, AND HELPING THEM FIND WAYS TO STOP IT.

## RAISING AWARENESS

Raising awareness—not only among communities, families, and children, but also among national stakeholders and government officials—is an important part of effectively addressing the root causes of child labour.

Throughout 2012, we designed and implemented events and activities, locally and internationally, to raise awareness about child labour. On 12 June, World Day Against Child Labour, we joined with the International Labour Organization and others to call for protection of children from child labour and other violations of fundamental human rights.

Going forward, the enhanced online presence, social media, and outreach capabilities we established in 2012 will add visibility and reach to our mandate of **No Child Labour in Tobacco Growing**.

### HOW WE RAISE AWARENESS

**Campaigns**

**School parliaments**

**Parent and teacher committees**

**Workshops**

**Songs, poems, speeches, and plays**

**Calendars, publications, radio talk shows, radio dramas**

One Model Farm School offered students two projects: Maize production and horticultural crop production. Through the PROSPER Project, the school secured a piece of land, which the students were able to maximize using their new skills in fertilizer application, weeding, and pests and disease controls. Students were able to build on this opportunity, eliminating their need to return as minors to tobacco growing.

After graduation, students received “kits” that enabled them to access capital to continue and expand their enterprises.



**In Uganda, children use song and dance to convey the importance of ending child labour.**

ONGOING STRATEGIES. MEASURABLE OUTCOMES.



Thanks to the PROSPER Project, 600 children in Tanzania received scholarship kits that included school bags and uniforms.

OUR PROJECTS IN 2012 **INCREASED SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.**

**KEEPING CHILDREN IN SCHOOL**

Education is often a low priority for families that are struggling to make ends meet on a daily basis. To support communities and help them promote attendance and decrease drop-out rates, the ECLT Foundation increases access to schools and materials, and improves school facilities so they are more conducive for learning.

We also promote education by awarding scholarships, providing afterschool programmes and mentoring, and giving schools sports and music equipment so they can enhance learning through recreation. Our education efforts also reach older children with vocational training programs, including cooking and sewing courses, which keep youth learning while offering useful skills for future employment.

**HOW WE KEEP CHILDREN IN SCHOOL**

- Scholarships**
- New schools and renovations**
- Health fairs and centers**
- Vocational training**
- Counselling and support**
- School lunch programmes**
- Nutrition and vitamins**
- Recreation programmes**

**New Desks, New Schools, New Opportunities**

Before the CLEAR Project began in Malawi, the school in the Rumphu District-Mwazisi Zone had a shack shelter that was used as a classroom. "We used to sit on the floor either on mud or dust, depending on the season," said 11-year-old student Towera. If it rained heavily the classroom structure would leak, she said, so the teacher would ask students to go home.

Excused for the day, they would return home with soiled clothes from sitting on the floor. "We had problems cleaning the clothes every day and our parents could not afford to buy the soap for washing our clothes. Some of our friends would develop coughs and sneezes that did not end, especially in the dry season," added Towera's friend Mphatso.

At home, children were often asked to help ferry, stack, and grade tobacco leaves to help their parents. The rainy season coincided with peak tobacco leaf picking time, so work would increase, at the same time the children's classroom would be particularly inhabitable due to the leaking room.

When the CLEAR Project began, the ECLT project officer met with the chiefs, the school management committee, and the parent

FOR THE FOUR PROJECTS IN 2012 AND THREE MORE LAUNCHING IN 2013, **WE FORMED PARTNERSHIPS WITH MULTIPLE LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS** AND BROUGHT TOGETHER MORE THAN 30 PROGRAMME MANAGERS FOR **SPECIALIZED TRAINING ON CHILD LABOUR IN AGRICULTURE IMPARTED BY THE ILO TRAINING CENTER.**

## STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

ECLT Foundation projects strive to establish and strengthen structures, policies, and mechanisms to combat child labour from the national, down to the village levels.

Our programmes provide funding to help communities address socio-economic issues that can contribute to child labour, such as inadequate access to health services, lack of clean and safe drinking water, and poor hygiene and sanitation standards.

The projects' National Advisory Committees serve as a guiding force for all ECLT Foundation-funded projects. Though these

### HOW WE STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES

**Bring stakeholders together**

**Build on communities' culture and traditions**

**Support local officials**

**Coordinate child labour actions**

**Improve access to water, sanitation, and labour-saving technologies**

committees, we bring together stakeholders from tobacco companies, key ministries, trade unions and employers' associations, and civil society to support and implement projects that will maximize communities' strengths and be sustainable by communities after our programmes end.



In Tanzania, the ECLT Foundation initiated and implemented plans to improve access to water for hundreds of families and children.

teacher association and mobilized them to contribute toward the construction of a new school block and toilets. The CLEAR Project brought in all the materials for construction while community members contributed the sand, quarry, and bricks. Working together, they finished the school and office and provided desks for the children.

Teachers say the new school has transformed the area and raised the interest of the children in school. Since the CLEAR Project began, enrolment and readmission has increased from 135 students at the end of the 2011 academic year to 204 students at the end of 2012.

### Support for Kondwani and Family Leads Him Back to School

Before the ECLT Foundation came to Malawi with the Child Labour Elimination Actions for Real Change (CLEAR) Project, life was hard for 16-year-old Kondwani. He stopped school in Standard 2 because of poverty, and he worked on tobacco estates for four years.

"I was working for the whole day without resting so that I could find the basic needs such as food and clothes since my parents are very poor," he says. "Today I am back in school and am doing well in class."

What made the difference? Kondwani received psychosocial support and counselling from a teacher-counsellor and a community counsellor, which helped him make the decision to stop working and

go back to school. He received financial assistance to buy the school materials he needed. His parents received 10 local chickens from the CLEAR Project, whose eggs they can sell to meet their basic needs. Kondwani's mother became a member of the Village Saving and Loans Association that was established by the CLEAR Project and received loans to support her family so that they do not need to rely on child labour.

Despite being older than the rest of his classmates, Kondwani has fit in at school, thanks to the support of his counsellors. Today he is a top performer in his class, and he hopes to become a policeman when he finishes school.

"Without CLEAR," says Kondwani, "I could still be in child labour. I am thankful to the CLEAR Project."



Thanks to ECLT Foundation efforts, families have options and opportunities for earning a living that do not involve child labour. These children in Tanzania are able to go to school and prepare for bright futures.



This year in the Masindi district, Uganda, we protected 7,700 children through awareness-raising, education, scholarships, and other activities. In 2013, we shift our efforts to the country's Hoima district, where we will address the social and economic factors that might cause tobacco farmers to employ children and youth in hazardous work.

## ALLEVIATING POVERTY

Poverty is one of the main reasons children are involved in child labour. Families in rural areas often have limited sources of income and rely on a few cash crops to buy food during the lean farming season.

Children miss school because they have to help their families with household chores, including fetching water and firewood for cooking and curing tobacco. They often have to walk long distances to look for wood fuel because of deforestation. They then have to carry heavy loads, which often causes immediate and long-term health and safety concerns.

The ECLT Foundation's projects provide families with vocational and business training as well as savings and loan opportunities to diversify their incomes and decrease their reliance on child labour.

### HOW WE ALLEVIATE POVERTY

**Model farm schools for agriculture practices and livestock keeping**

**Microloans, including conditional loans for mothers and cooperative loans**

**Mutual aid groups**

**Village savings and loans associations**

**Vocational education and training**

**Occupational safety and health improvements**

**Dams and small-scale irrigation schemes**

**Conservation farming**

## PROSPER Loans Change Lives

Yunis Patson and Upelly Ndibwa, both of the Songambe Village in Urambo, Tanzania, were two mothers struggling to provide for their families and keep their children in school. They were not able to get financial support to improve their situations, and they were caught in a cycle of poverty that contributed to the high incidence of child labour in the country. Through the PROSPER Project's mothers' conditional loan programme, Yunis and Upelly were able to earn enough money to meet basic needs such as buying school uniforms, learning materials, food, clothing, and other household items. The requirement for the loan: Ensure that their children are not engaged in child labour.

To date, the programme has provided loans and training to 510 mothers of the Urambo and Sikonge Districts and is on target to reach 1,530 mothers by 2015.

Yunis opted for creating two businesses: growing groundnuts, and making and selling pancakes. Through her pancake sales, which she focuses on after the groundnuts are harvested, she is able to repay the loan on the first business and save money for reinvesting, while making a profit.

Upelly used her microloan to start a food vending business. "I bought all the needed raw materials required for my business to take off including a table, two chairs, and cooking utensils."

Upelly soon reported that her business had grown fast and she was securing a regular profit. With her proceeds, she expanded operations with eight additional chairs and two tables. She is also saving the money required to reinvest, and—because she can afford supplies and uniforms—she is ensuring her child goes to school.

IN MALAWI ALONE, THE ECLT FOUNDATION CLEAR PROJECT **FORMED AND TRAINED 287 VILLAGE SAVINGS AND LOANS ASSOCIATIONS, HELPING MORE THAN 5,548 FAMILIES FIND WAYS TO EARN INCOME.**

### **Village Savings and Loans Association Makes Single Mom's Dream Come True**

16-year-old Chasalino (Chasa), who is from the Kwayera village in Malawi's Ntchisi District, dropped out of school early last year. Chasa's mother is Naomi Kachuma, a widow with two children. Early last year she got sick, and nobody was there to provide basic needs for the family. This forced Chasa to drop out of Gwangwa Primary in class 5 and look for piece jobs.

"I was waking up early in the morning going around villages looking for piece jobs, and the only immediate work at that time was found in tobacco farms," said Chasa. "I was involved in transplanting tobacco from the nursery to the main farm. Most of times I preferred to be paid with maize so that we could have something to eat at home. Life was not easy for me. My heart was burning when I thought about school; I had no time to interact with my friends."

Thanks to CLEAR Project, Chasa is now back to school and in class 6. The CLEAR Project reached out to Chasa's mother to offer her membership in mkhonde, the village savings and loans association. With a loan, she was able to start a small business selling tomatoes and making traditional table mats. The extra revenue allows the family to meet its needs without Chasa working on tobacco farms. "With proceeds from her small business, she bought school uniforms for me and my sister, a thing that was hard before the project," said Chasa, who is now looking happy and energetic.

Naomi added, "I am happy that my child is back to school, I never dreamt that one day I will be what I am today. After the share-out that we had in our group last December, I bought a goat that I will sell and pay fees for my children when they reach secondary level, and my plans for this year are to mold bricks for building a decent house for the family," she said.



Thank you for your help eliminating child labour in tobacco growing in 2012. Together, we can make a better life for children in tobacco-growing communities.

## ECLT FOUNDATION BOARD

Since 2001, the ECLT Foundation has attracted board members that invest efforts and resources in improving the lives of children in tobacco-growing communities. Their combined knowledge and expertise guide our strategic direction and make it possible for us to make a better life for children.

### The ECLT Foundation Board includes

International Tobacco Growers' Association  
 International Union of Food, Agriculture,  
 Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and  
 Allied Workers Associations  
 Alliance One International  
 Altria Tobacco Companies  
 British American Tobacco  
 Contraf-Nicotex-Tobacco GmbH  
 Hail & Cotton International Group  
 Imperial Tobacco  
 Japan Tobacco Inc.  
 Philip Morris International  
 Premium Tobacco Holdings Limited  
 Scandinavian Tobacco Group  
 Sunel Ticaret Turk A.S.  
 Swedish Match A.B.  
 Universal Leaf Tobacco Company

### Board Advisors

International Labour Organization  
 Save the Children Switzerland



**Save the Children**

### WELCOME SAVE THE CHILDREN

We're pleased to announce that Save the Children Switzerland joined the ECLT Foundation as an Honorary Advisor to the Board. Save the Children has been an ECLT Foundation implementing partner for projects in Malawi and now Mozambique. Save the Children joins the board of the ECLT Foundation and, together with the International Labour Organization, will serve as a board advisor. We are thankful for the help of these experienced organizations in continually refining and improving our approach to programmes.

### ECLT Foundation Staff

Sonia C. Velázquez – Executive Director  
 Chris Burton – Head of Operations  
 Innocent Mugwagwa – Senior Programme Manager  
 Nicholas C. McCoy – Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer  
 Cindy Serre – Programme Manager  
 Stéphanie Garde – Project Coordinator

Communications Consultants  
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 Amy Jakober

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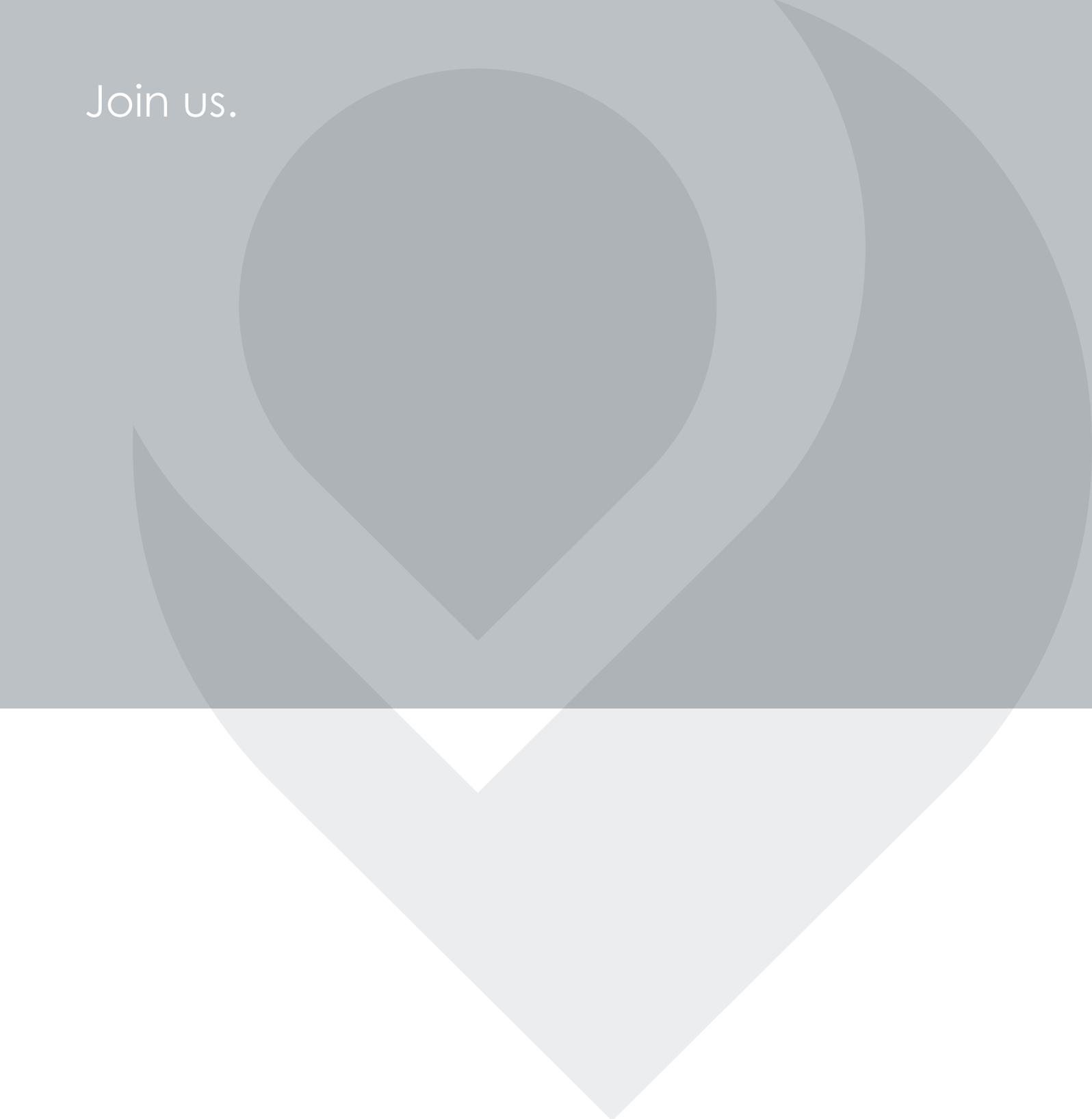
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