

Overview of the 180° Alliance Five-Year Strategy

1. Background

Our Story

- As 6 individual organisations we realised we could only reach just a few hundred street children directly.
- But there were millions and millions of children we couldn't help directly.
- We thought there had to be a way to make a bigger impact, to deploy our knowledge and skills to benefit many more of these suffering children

The Eureka Moment

- There are hundreds of 'projects' in the cities where there are street children
- Many of these projects are small and run by deeply committed, passionate people.
- Many are having a profound impact on hundreds of children's lives
- However, most are informal, unconnected, unregulated and under-resourced
- By using our expertise and experience we could start to bring these 'projects' together, to train, evaluate, accredit and support them
- We've been doing this for a while now AND IT WORKS By pulling together the existing people and helping them to transform their effectiveness, we can make a difference to literally millions of children

WHAT WE BELIEVE

We believe that no child should have to live on the streets; that no child should have to work; that each child is precious in God's sight; that we can create a world where all children can reach their God-given potential.

We believe that as organisations with a track record for effectively working among street children, we have the responsibility to give away what we have learnt. We believe that we should resource others who are trying to reach out to street children. We believe that by bringing small projects together we can effectively transform not just children's lives, but also address the issue of street children at a city-wide level too.

WHAT WE DO

We've started in Brazil and the Philippines. We've focused on specific cities where we know there are many children living on the streets but where projects set up to work with them are not working in collaboration nor have the resources to work effectively.

We work to strengthen the capacity of existing projects and organisations through training, resourcing and a system of accreditation. We assist existing projects to be more effective and adhere to best practice in areas such as child protection and child participation.

We build collaboration between small projects in a given city ensuring that children do not fall through the net. Where gaps in service delivery exist we help start new initiatives. We work with existing organisations and projects to create a city-wide approach.

We advocate on behalf of street children both at a local level and among political leaders in key positions of influence.

2. Overall Strategy

Over the next 5 years, the 180° Alliance aims to consolidate the achievements of the current hubs and establish 12-15 new hubs in strategic locations throughout the world. This will include multiplying current hubs within their regions and also developing hubs in the continents of Africa and India. Each of these hubs will be developed within a consistent strategic framework, but specific workplans and priority areas will be determined by local needs.

3. Expected Outcomes of Overall Strategy

180° will provide support to the thousands of small projects and start ups working among street children to help improve the impact of these projects both through raising the standards of individual projects and also increasing networking and collaborative working within cities.

4. The Process

Global Coordinator:

- The Global Coordinator will oversee the working out of the strategic and fundraising plan, liaising with and supporting the hub facilitators, working group leaders and the steering committee.

Working Groups:

The structure of the working groups will change to reflect the growing demands of the work as the Alliance grows:

- **Accreditation:** Oversight will become a role in the central 180° secretariat, although the secretariat will still work with individual members for consultation, implementation will be carried out through hubs.
- **Innovation/ city-wide strategies:** This will also become a hub function, with oversight from the central secretariat. The element of researching and assessing effectiveness of these strategies will be carried out by the research and advocacy working group.
- **Resource development:** This function will now be co-ordinated by the central function in partnership with hub facilitators to expand the cultural and linguistic diversity on the website.
- **Research and Advocacy:** This working group is functioning effectively with a committed global membership, therefore this working group will continue in its current form.

Hub Strategy:

The functions of a hub can be summarised as follows:

- Ensure that each member project protects children
- Encourage child (and community) participation at project and local alliance level in order to ensure relevant, effective and sustainable programming
- Support existing projects within the hub locality with coaching, capacity building (through accreditation, QIS in a number of locations, and training) and materials
- Recommend accredited projects for funding to the central hub, and to verify and assess effective use of funding provided to the projects
- Encourage networking between projects, for the purpose of developing trust and enabling joint action to address the critical issues and causes of street children in the hub location
- To identify advocacy issues, mobilize local advocacy efforts, and liaise with R&A working group for wider advocacy and lobbying
- Facilitate research that documents best practice and local innovation with potential for replication, and contributes towards wider understanding of the issues faced by street children
- Provide input into the expansion of the cultural and linguistic diversity on the website
- The Facilitator will work to build trust among network that leads to advocacy and city-wide strategies

All hubs will be supported to undertake the following:

- 180° facilitators (180 hub leaders) will be trained in networking and facilitation skills
- An assessment (accreditation) of the current strengths and challenges of project as an initial means of bringing local workers together and identifies gaps
- Local assessment (Situational Mapping): identify what projects are doing currently, where there are gaps in provision and what needs to be done to fill those gaps
- Provide input to the advocacy group that can be used at a global level
- Ongoing training for members

The Hubs are supported globally by:

- The Global Coordinator
- A Global Research & Advocacy working group – whose work includes the documentation of work of hubs, and the provision of research to the hubs which will help develop improved strategies for action with Street Children
- An Accreditation Programme Manager (central function)
- Resource development (central function)

Governance and Partnership:

Key activities over the next five years will be to establish a board and Memorandums of Understanding with strategic partners