



LAUNCH OF THE PROJECT FOR THE PROTECTION OF MIGRANT CHILDREN ALONG THE CORRIDOR ABIDJAN-LAGOS (CORAL)

Date: April 14, 2017

Venue: Sun Beach Hotel, Cotonou- Benin

PRESS RELEASE

At the start of their Project on the Protection of migrant children along the Corridor Abidjan-Lagos (**CORAL**), Terre des hommes- Lausanne, the African Movement of Working Children and Youth (AMWCY) and ENDA Youth in Action, organize their workshop on operational planning and the official launch of the project, from 10th to 14th April 2017 in Sun Beach hotel, Cotonou.

Funded by the European Union, for an amount of **2.211.469 euros**, the CORAL project aims to improve the protection of migrant children along the Abidjan-Lagos Corridor in order to reduce their vulnerability and improve their access to development opportunities.

The achievement of this global objective requires a work in synergy, hence the slogan:
"For a better protection of migrant children, let's work in synergy".

The project is planned for a period of three years (2017 - 2020) and is implemented in five countries along the Corridor Abidjan-Lagos, namely **Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin and Nigeria**. It covers a total of 22 intervention zones.

Indeed, the main cities along the coast are characterized by a strong urbanization which attract children and youth, thereby causing wide-spread internal and cross-border migratory movements with enormous risk factors for children affected by mobility. Also, there are various development opportunities for an improved well-being in those cities.

The CORAL project is a logical continuation of efforts undertaken by Tdh in the West african region since many years on the protection of children affected by mobility. It consolidates the achievements of Tdh's previous regional project on Mobility (2013-2016) also funded by the EU and implemented in Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea Conakry, Mali and Togo.

The project is also in line with the core activities of the AMWCY and ENDA Youth in Action in the field of the protection of children affected by mobility. For more than 22 years, these two partner organizations have been working in synergy for the realization of the 12 rights of working children and youth, including the right to stay in the village instead of having to migrate. These rights form the basis of actions for the protection of children on the move in the 27 member countries that compose the AMWCY.

The three organisations are also members of the former Mobility Platform, currently transformed in the RCPG (Interagency Regional Group on the Protection of Children in West Africa).

To ensure full ownership of the project, participants in this workshop focused their work on:

- the overall operational planning of the project;
- country planning;
- development of the monitoring and evaluation plan

The objective of this launch is not only to inform the population in the subregion about the actions of this project but also and above all to mobilise all the actors (institutional, political, administrative, community, civil society, media, children and youth) to support its implementation by working in synergy to ensure a better protection for migrant children along the corridor. In addition to the media, representatives of NGOs, the relevant departments of the Ministry of Social Action, including the Minister of Labor, Public Service and Social Affairs of Benin, technical and financial partners will take part in this important launch.

Contacts :

Alfred Santos Coordinateur du Projet CORAL

Mail : alfred.santos@tdh.ch

Tel : +229 97 05 27 21