

# Save the Children Australia

## Donation Acceptance and Refusal Policy

### **HOW WE ACT DETERMINES HOW MANY CHILDREN'S LIVES WE SAVE.**

Save the Children Australia is committed to making decisions that are in the best interest of the organisation but ultimately in the best interests of children. This policy ensures that we do not compromise on our mission and values when it comes to raising income.

This policy governs the acceptance and refusal of donations by Save the Children Australia where there is perceived risk to our programming, staff, reputation, independent advocacy, financial position or brand in accepting the donation. By implementing this policy, we have a robust and informed decision-making process for all donations/partnerships/opportunities that are deemed high-risk. This policy is reviewed regularly by our Board of Directors and Executive Directors.

### **HOW WE ACCEPT AND REFUSE DONATIONS**

Save the Children believes that harnessing the power of the private sector and philanthropists is crucial if we are to realise our vision and achieve greatest impact for children. Children and their wellbeing are at the heart of everything we do. Therefore, we are rigorous when deciding whether or not to accept a donation from any source and follow our Donation Acceptance and Refusal Policy, which outlines our 'No Go' and high-risk areas for donations.

We have a number of high-risk indicators, where we assess the opportunity/donation on an individual basis to balance the chance we can create for children versus the risks. For all high-risk donations we follow a robust Donation Acceptance Process where the decision as to whether we accept the donation or not is made by our Donation Acceptance and Refusal Committee.

We ensure that we make decisions that are in the best interests of children: this means assessing potential risks to children, our staff and Save the Children's reputation and effectiveness whilst taking into consideration the impact the organisation could have through its programming and advocacy by accepting the donation.

We reserve the right to refuse donations or terminate partnerships where the activities of the organisation or individual conflict with our goal of achieving lasting change for children.

### **WHEN WE CANNOT ACCEPT DONATIONS**

Donations deriving from wealth creating activities that are incompatible with our organisational goals are classified as "No Go" donations. Our 'No-Go' areas are donations from any organisation

which has generated a material amount of their turnover or wealth through the following activities, as we believe these activities are inherently harmful to children:

- Tobacco production or sales
- Weapons and armaments manufacturing or exporting
- Adult entertainment (pornography, prostitution, men's clubs)
- High-intensity gambling (e.g. online gaming, poker machines)
- Breast-milk substitutes (infant formula or related products)
- Fossil fuels (coal, oil, natural gas) unless the company demonstrates a clear commitment to global decarbonisation
- Any organisation that violates Australian laws such as the Modern Slavery Act, Proceeds of Crime Act, or appears on the DFAT Consolidated List.

## **OUR COMMITMENT TO DONORS**

Save the Children values the generosity of our supporters. This policy ensures that every donation strengthens our mission without compromising our ethical standards. By adhering to these principles, we maintain transparency, accountability and trust with our donors and the communities we serve.

If you have questions about our Donation Acceptance Policy, please contact:  
[DARP@savethechildren.org.au](mailto:DARP@savethechildren.org.au)