

SAVE THE CHILDREN UK'S DONATION ACCEPTANCE & REFUSAL POLICY

How we act determines how many children's lives we save.

Save the Children is committed to making decisions that are in the best interest of the charity 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 UK 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 Trustees and Executive Directors.

This policy applies to the activities of Save the Children UK. For any information requests concerning another Save the Children member, or our implementing organisation Save the Children International, we endeavour to effectively redirect it and ensure co-operation.

Updated: October 2023

HOW WE ACCEPT & 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 & 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 change 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 a subcommittee of our Board – the Donation Acceptance Committee – which consists of up to three Trustees and three Executive Directors.

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 charity could have through its programming and advocacy by accepting the donation.

Multi-year partnerships are reviewed annually. However, the annual review period does not prevent a partnership being reviewed at other times, if it is apparent that the risk of a partnership has changed materially.

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.

WHAT IS A 'NO GO' DONATION?

Donations deriving from wealth creating activities that are incompatible with our charitable objects are classified as "No Go" donations. Our 'No-Go' areas are donations from any organisation or individual who has generated a material amount of their turnover or wealth through the following activities, as we believe these activities are inherently harmful to children:

- Pornography
- Tobacco
- Arms manufacturing and export
- Carbon intensive fossil fuels - thermal coal, oil shale and tar sands
- Manufacturers of Breast-Milk Substitutes (BMS) - Where there is evidence of a BMS company violating The International Code of Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes and subsequent resolutions (The Code).

We also do not accept donations from fossil fuel companies or corporate foundations that have direct involvement in the extraction and/or sale of coal, oil and gas, or distribute oil and gas whose emissions reductions pathways are not aligned with short, medium, and long-term 1.5-degree Celsius emissions targets.

LEGAL INFORMATION

This policy is for information only, and therefore is not a binding contract and does not confer legal rights on any person. Save the Children reserves all rights (including copyright) in any information and materials provided under this policy.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DONATION ACCEPTANCE POLICY?

Save the Children's Board of Trustees is ultimately responsible for compliance with this policy, with the support of Save the Children's Executive Directors and the Head of High Value Supporter Operations and Donation Acceptance Project Manager. Trustees delegate day-to-day responsibility for decisions on donation acceptance and refusal to the Donation Acceptance Committee, a subcommittee of our Board.

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