

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Mobilisation campaign against child labour in Rwanda

RWANDA

ITSCI continues to take action against child labour by encouraging students to stay in school.

In 2015, the United Nations established the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), composed of 17 goals aimed to be achieved by 2030. Under Goal 8, which promotes decent work and economic growth for all, target 8.7 calls for an end to child labour worldwide by 2025.

ITSCI and RMB are firmly on track toward eliminating child labour in Rwanda through their awareness campaign. RMB Mineral Field Officer Mr. Niyimpa Olivier stated that children between 8 and 16 have been found at abandoned sites. Children's activities in the mines can be mentally, socially, and physically harmful.

In March 2019, ITSCI and RMB held an awareness raising day at Groupe Scolaire Kamwambi under the auspice of the director of the school. Nine hundred primary and secondary students and 40 teachers attended. During the event, ITSCI field officer Mr. Muhire Fabrice explained to students ITSCI's contribution to the fight against child labour and its partnership with the Rwandan government to provide support to companies in their due diligence for 3T mineral.

“ Illegal mining activities are done in disorganised ways without protective equipment and cause injuries and deaths and no compensation expected ”

Mr. Niyimpa Olivier, RMB Mineral Field Office



ITSCI staff Fabrice Muhire explains the dangers of child labour to students.

Nine hundred copies of a booklet designed by ITSCI's field officers encouraging students to stay in school were distributed. After the session, many students made commitments to focus on education.

Although more needs to be done to eradicate child labour, such school programs constitute a strong starting point. More sensitisation, including for parents, is planned for the future.

