



Partner with GoodWeave to End Child and Forced Labor in Global Supply Chains

Photo by Selvaprakash Lakshmanan

GoodWeave International — founded in 1994 by [Nobel laureate Kailash Satyarthi](#) — is a leading non-profit organization working to stop child and forced labor in global supply chains. In partnership with international companies and producer communities, we bring visibility to hidden, outsourced tiers of textile and other supply chains; provide assurance that certified products are free of child, forced, and bonded labor; offer remedy to survivors when exploitation occurs; address root causes of vulnerability through preventative social programs in at-risk worker communities; and engage in research, advocacy, and capacity building informed by community leaders.

The Problem We Solve

According to recent United Nations estimates, there are [138 million children](#) engaged in child labor in the global economy, 54 million of which are engaged in hazardous sectors. The number for those trapped in forced labor stands at [28 million](#). One reason that child labor and forced labor remain unaddressed is their hiddenness. Most brands believe that when they visit their suppliers around the world, they see who makes their goods. But most cases of child and forced labor happen elsewhere: in informal workshops, homes, farms, and artisanal mining sites. The problem is deeply entrenched in the countries where GoodWeave works — India, Nepal, and Bangladesh — where a staggering [47 products](#) are made with child or forced labor and purchased unknowingly by consumers worldwide. In addition to income poverty and lack of education access, the climate crisis and gender inequity worsen the situation for marginalized communities, threatening the livelihoods of workers and producers and exacerbating their vulnerability to exploitation.

GoodWeave's Impact

GoodWeave aims to achieve a large-scale reduction in child and forced labor in global supply chains through:

1. Identifying and remediating child and forced labor — from the factory floor to the outsourced home-based worker
2. Preventing child labor from occurring in the first place through community-based programs
3. Amplifying and scaling impact through systems-change partnerships to tackle key structural drivers of child and forced labor

GoodWeave's Rights-based, Market-driven Solutions

For over 30 years, we have protected and empowered vulnerable groups such as children, women, migrants, informal workers, scheduled castes, and indigenous and religious minorities. Our model catalyzes private sector partnerships to safeguard the rights of workers and children and provides assurance to companies and consumers that nobody was exploited in the production of their goods. We create measurable and tangible change by reaching children and workers in supply chains across India, Nepal, and Bangladesh, where labor exploitation is endemic.

We implement our rigorous GoodWeave [standard](#) to address child and forced labor in supply chains and the structural issues that enable them. We influence and support our 450+ partners — importer and retailer brands in 23 countries and their exporters in South Asia — to embed measurable human rights commitments in their supply chains, anchored in stakeholder engagement and shared responsibility.

Our model has three inter-related elements:

Identify and Remediate Child and Forced Labor

- Carry out random, unannounced inspections to map and monitor more than 13,000 worksites, from factories to remote subcontractors
- Innovate forced labor risk identification approaches and build buyers' and suppliers' capacity to conduct effective human rights due diligence in their extended supply chains
- Deliver remedy for vulnerable girls and boys found at work through community-based rehabilitation

Prevent Child and Forced Labor by Tackling Root Causes

- Work through local teams embedded in our Child Friendly Communities to deliver educational support and increase school attendance and retention among vulnerable children
- Enhance youth participation in decision and policy-making processes and empower girls to advocate for their rights
- Mobilize teachers, parents, local officials, and employers to drive and sustain child protection measures for the long term
- Develop worker-driven programs to boost rights, protections, wages, resilience, health, and safety

Amplify and Scale Impact through Systems-Change Partnerships

- Undertake community-based action research to understand the drivers of child and forced labor and co-design sustainable solutions
- Demonstrate what works through capacity building projects at the local level that center workers and communities in due diligence processes on child and forced labor risks
- Tackle key structural drivers through policy advocacy and human rights due diligence to increase actions by governments and companies to address and prevent labor abuses

GoodWeave brings a holistic, intersectional approach to addressing the drivers of child and forced labor globally. We recognize that factors such as climate impacts and gender inequality increase communities' vulnerability to labor exploitation. GoodWeave works in partnership with grassroots and global organizations alike to conduct research, share knowledge, and apply climate, gender, worker empowerment, and other lenses across all of our programming to foster even greater impact.



Sumitra Basnet speaks at the Festa Center for Sustainability conference in Iceland (January 2025). Photo by Festa Center for Sustainability

Sumitra Basnet's Story

GoodWeave is committed to gender equality – to educated girls becoming empowered women. Sumitra's parents wanted to enroll her in school in Kathmandu, but they were unable to bear the cost of admission and other expenses. Instead of going to school, Sumitra began to do some household work and soon she was weaving alongside relatives in a carpet factory.

With GoodWeave's support, Sumitra was removed from the factory and enrolled in school, where she completed her secondary education. She has since emerged as a leading youth advocate, speaking at national and international forums, including the United Nations and a global sustainability conference, to advance child rights and advocate for an end to child labor.

Learn more about GoodWeave's work:

- [Child labor elimination best practice briefs](#)
- [Impact stories](#)
- Videos: [What makes GoodWeave unique](#) and [survivor-led programming](#)
- Reports: [Modern Slavery and Child Labour in Bangladesh's Garment Sector](#) and [How Climate Change is Deepening Child and Forced Labor in Nepal](#)



Contact:

Jon Jacoby, Chief Executive Officer, Jon@GoodWeave.org
Manoli Strecker, Senior Development Director, Manoli@GoodWeave.org
Sadikshya Nepal, Director of Advocacy and Communications, Sadikshya@GoodWeave.org

GoodWeave.org | 1140 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 1200, Washington, DC 20036, USA