Round the globe for the Global Goals!

The countries of the world have agreed to achieve three extraordinary things by the year 2030: end extreme poverty, reduce inequalities and injustice and stop climate change. In order to achieve this, the countries have set up 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development. All the goals are important and interlinked.

The governments of each country are mainly responsible for achieving the goals and for making changes that help achieve the goals. But if the world is to have any chance of achieving them, then everyone, including you, has to be aware of the goals and get involved and fight for change! That means both adults and children. Even small actions can make a big difference.

You can find out about the Global Goals and share your knowledge through the WCP Program. In The Globe you will meet Child Rights Heroes and many children who are fighting for a better world. They are helping to achieve many of the Global Goals, for example:

• Goal 5 – gender equality and equal rights for girls
• Goal 10 – reduced inequalities
• Goal 16 – justice and peaceful societies.

The Round the Globe Run strengthens Goal 3 (good health and well-being) and all children’s right to play, sport and leisure time. No Litter Generation is about stopping littering and climate change (Goal 13). And in the section about Limpopo in southern Africa (page 108–132), you’ll get to know children who are growing up in a place where nature and animal life are under threat (Goal 15).

The rights of the child

The Global Goals are linked to the rights of the child. If the goals are achieved, then the situation for children around the world will improve. If they are not achieved, it will mean that children are being treated badly and that children’s rights are not being respected. That must not happen!

Here are some examples of how the goals are linked to your rights and the rights of other children.

NO POVERTY

No child should grow up in poverty. No child should be treated differently or not be allowed the same opportunities as other children because of how much money they or their family have.

ZERO HUNGER

No child should have to go hungry or be undernourished. All children should have access to nutritious and safe food.

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

All children should have the chance to be healthy, receive good health care and medical treatment and be vaccinated. Abuse of alcohol/drugs must be reduced, as well as road accidents and air pollution.

QUALITY EDUCATION

All children should receive an education and all children should have the opportunity to learn to read and write. Primary and secondary schooling should be free. No child should be discriminated against in school.

GENDER EQUALITY

Girls and boys should have equal rights and opportunities in all respects. No girl should be discriminated against. Child marriage and violence against girls, such as FGM and sexual assault, must be stopped.
AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
All children should have access to safe and sustainable energy that makes their lives easier, without ruining the environment.

SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
Industries, roads and other infrastructure should be built in a way that means they are not dangerous or harmful to children. All children should have access to information and communication technology that improves their lives.

REDUCED INEQUALITIES
All children should have equal opportunities regardless of background, gender, belief, sexual identity or orientation, disability or the fact that they have been forced to leave their home.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
All children should have good living conditions close to play areas and green spaces, with effective public transport links. Growing big cities should be built in an environmentally sustainable way while preserving culture and traditions.

CLIMATE ACTION
Children should learn how to combat climate change, and be able to demand that adults, e.g. decision-makers, do the same.

PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
No child should be subjected to violence, assault or exploitation. All children should be able to grow up in peaceful communities where everyone is treated justly, for example, by authorities, the police and courts.