

# the very short film FESTIVAL

create a poster or a film, of up to five minutes, that raises awareness of child labour and slavery in the cocoa industry, and/or tells us what we can do about it.

43% of the world's cocoa starts out in Cote d'Ivoire, mostly on small farms. These are small family businesses, with a good market for their product – despite which most of them live below the poverty line on less than two dollars a day.

These underpaid farmers get the cheapest labour they can find. In Cote d'Ivoire this means an estimated 200,000 children are cocoa labourers. Worse, about 12,000 children are slaves, taken from surrounding nations. These children work long hours, in humid conditions often using heavy machetes.

So, usually, when you eat chocolate, you support & encourage **both** child labour and slavery.

In response to this in 2001 the major cocoa importers and chocolate makers in the USA signed an agreement, under the umbrella of the UN, which is now called the “Harkin-Engel protocol”. The agreement aimed to end the worst of these child labour practices by 2005

Since the agreement little has changed. Children are still slaves, farmers are still paid poorly. The commonest chocolate you can be sure is slave free has the Fairtrade label.



There are four category prizes each of A\$200. These are Primary School (under age 12 with adult help), High School, Celebrity (included in film) and One Take (no editing of film). There is an overall winner prize of A\$2,000, and a Best Poster prize of A\$200.

Entries close on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2009. At 7pm on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2009 at St Paul's Castle Hill NSW, Australia. there will be a festival of the short films and presentation of prizes.

**Mail entries to:**

theveryshortfilmfestival  
St Paul's Anglican Church  
PO Box 1226  
Castle Hill 1765 Australia

**Or email entries & queries to:**

[theveryshortfilmfestival@gmail.com](mailto:theveryshortfilmfestival@gmail.com)

all entries become public domain for use against child slavery. No entries will be returned.