

In their own words....

Senegal: Crushing stones from age 7

12-year-old boy: “I am 12 years old and I live in Darou (Bargny). I started crushing stones when I was 7. At first I worked with my mother, but now I go by myself to the quarry to gather blocks and I work alone crushing them with my 2 kg hammer. When I go to school, I work from 12.00 to 14.00 and the evenings from 17.00 to dusk. On school holidays, I get up at 7.00 and I work all day. I can make up to three tubs a day on average when earns me from 500 to 1500 (F cfa). I give this money to my mother to keep and she buys me clothes. “

“It’s really hard work because the hammer is heavy and you can get hurt. There is also a lot of dust when you crush rocks and it gets in your eyes and makes little cuts. I would like to quit working here, but we do not have enough money otherwise because my father is dead. “

