

Editor Daily Telegraph

I write in response to Caroline Boin's article (18 May – Cutting waste at DFID has only just begun).

The Prime Minister has emphasised the value and importance of civil society working to improve the quality of life for all. That is exactly what Prospect's Development Awareness project is doing.

We are working not only with our own members but also employers in the public and private sectors to contribute to the Millennium Development Goals. Specifically we are working to try and improve employment conditions in the developing world through responsible procurement and engaging with supply chains to improve their practices. This work makes a real difference to people's lives.

Prospect members are also supporting a water and irrigation farming project in Zimbabwe to give 25,000 people in the rural Gutu district of Masvingo province a steady supply of food throughout the year. Support has also been provided so that 700 Mayan girl children forced into domestic work can access health care and education in Guatemala City.

This work is core to my union because it springs from the values of fairness and equality that underpin everything we do. I am proud that Prospect members choose to contribute to civic society in this way, and only sorry that Caroline Boin decides to pour scorn on it without having any understanding of what is being done.

Yours sincerely

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