



# The growing role of South-South Cooperation in combating child labour

- 2010 Edition -

The International Labour Office has the privilege to host the 3rd Global South-South Development Expo 2010. The event, organized by the United Nation's Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, aims at showcasing and exchanging successful South-South Development Solutions, initiatives where countries of the South cooperate with each other by sharing technical and/or economic knowledge and skills to facilitate development.

The International Labour Organization's (ILO) tripartite nature makes it a useful platform for consensus building and cooperation among social actors. Through social dialogue representatives of governments, employers and workers can share views on issues of common interest relating to economic and social policy. The orientations of South-South Cooperation, the respect for national autonomy and priorities, the diversity of circumstances and solutions and the solidarity among nations converge with the approach of the ILO's Decent Work Agenda.

The ILO has been facilitating experience sharing and technical advisory assistance among countries in the South for many decades. More formally, ILO's involvement in South-South Cooperation dates back to 1987, with the signing of an agreement between the Government of Brazil and the ILO to undertake technical cooperation with other countries in Latin America and Africa. Since 2005, the ILO has strengthened its role as a bridge between countries of the South in sharing Decent Work experience and helping countries to move towards achievement of the MDGs.

The ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) has undertaken some important South-South Cooperation initiatives to promote knowledge sharing and research on child labour and youth employment, education, health, social protection including conditional cash transfers, vocational training and labour inspection. The article "From South-South to new modes and momentum for cooperation" first published in IPEC news in November 2009 and included in the present brochure, gives a brief overview of South-South Cooperation promoted and supported by IPEC. IPEC projects have helped to create the ground for South-South Cooperation through training and technical exchange. Social partners and governments from different countries and different regions have shared experience on how policy and commitment can be turned into concrete actions. This collection of good practices captures and examines what is being done to combat child labour through South-South Cooperation around the world. It will hopefully encourage social actors to see more clearly what role they can play to expand and accelerate their action to tackle child labour at its root causes, particularly in its worst forms. This will assist us in reaching the 2016 goal of the elimination of all worst forms of child labour.

Those who would like a complete overview of what is being done at the country or regional level, should consult comprehensive studies of the respective countries' responses to child labour. IPEC will continue to validate good practices on South-South Cooperation with the aim of supplementing this publication in the near future.

I hope you find this brochure thought-provoking, and I encourage you to contact the web site or nearest ILO office for further information on projects and initiatives that may help respond to your needs.



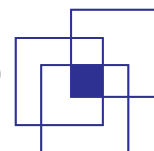
Exchange of experiences between Morocco and Mali.

Good practices

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# From South-South to new modes and momentum for cooperation

**Article 8 of Convention No. 182 calls for Member States to take appropriate steps to assist one another in addressing the worst forms of child labour “through enhanced international cooperation and/or assistance...”. This article highlights the increasingly influential role of South South cooperation as an engine for action against child labour.**

For the last several years, IPEC has been building a new strategy – “horizontal cooperation” – which emphasizes cooperation based on mutual respect, promoting partnerships for the exchange of knowledge and technology, and strengthening national capacity and initiatives. IPEC projects have helped to create the ground for horizontal cooperation through training and technical exchanges (e.g. study tours) where social partners and governments from different countries and different regions shared experience on how policy and commitment can be turned into concrete action. These efforts gained momentum with the global campaign against child labour. The result was innovative policies in many countries and new “South South” lines of action being drawn.

A landmark was achieved in 2007 when the ILO and the Government of Brazil signed a Memorandum of Understanding to promote South-South Cooperation. Brazil, a country with one of the most successful programmes against child labour, then drew up a “South-South” charter in collaboration with the ILO to foster the sharing of experience with other countries with similar goals.

In December 2007 in Brasilia, IPEC and the Brazilian Government organized a three-day seminar on this issue and IPEC colleagues from TBP projects in Brazil, India, South Africa and Latin America shared their experiences with social partners. This event launched a new worldwide initiative to promote specific South-South technical cooperation activities that show promise of contributing effectively to the prevention and elimination of child labour, particularly in its worst forms. On this occasion, the Brazilian Government presented its case example of the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) making a grant to IPEC to help other countries (among them Angola, Mozambique, and Haiti) to enhance their structure and coordination of programmes against child labour.

The South-South Cooperation initiative launched by Brazil is not only an opportunity for countries to benefit from the Brazilian experience in combating child labour, but also for Brazil to learn from other countries in the spirit of horizontal cooperation. This is why the MOU includes not only countries that would “need” the technical assistance of Brazil, but also countries such as India and South Africa, which can offer good practices in new methods for combating child labour, notably those that are based on social dialogue and on sound civil society coordination. This is an essential way



From left, front row: Ms. Maria Beatriz da Cunha, ILO Office in Brazil; Ms. Surina Rajan, ILO-IPEC in India; Ms. Anita Amorim, ILO-IPEC; Ms. Lais Abramo, ILO Office in Brazil; Ms. Cynthia Ramos, ILO-IPEC in Brazil; Mr. Renato Mendes, ILO-IPEC in Brazil; Mr. Geir Myrstad, ILO-IPEC; Mr. Severino Goes, ILO Office in Brazil. Back row: Mr. Lélío Bentes, Minister of Brazilian Labour Superior Court; Mr. Guillermo Dema, ILO-IPEC in Costa Rica; Mr. Dawie Bosch, ILO-IPEC in South Africa; Ms. Maria Claudia Falcao, ILO-IPEC in Brazil; Ms. Thais Fortuna, ILO-IPEC in Brazil; Mr. Pedro Américo Furtado de Oliveira, ILO-IPEC in Brazil; Ms. Jenna Down, ILO Office in Brazil. (ILO archive, December 2007.)

to improve social control over public policies in a way that stimulates consensus-building and keeps alive the focus of employers, workers and the government on the issue.

Since 1992, IPEC has collected and systematized a priceless number of good practices and lessons learned that can be adapted and replicated nearly anywhere. Governments and social partners can themselves be promoters of these practices and IPEC can facilitate this cooperation mechanism and foster the exchange of knowledge and experiences in diverse fields, from child labour/social protection policy development (e.g. conditional cash transfers) to the simple identification of children at risk. All this is based on principles of solidarity and mutual support which countries in similar stages of development all share.

## **South-South Cooperation has become more visible in recent years**

Although South-South Cooperation is not an entirely new modality, it has become more visible in recent years thanks to the intensification of technical, cultural, economic and political exchanges between Southern countries especially by UN agencies. This trend has been reinforced by profound expressions of solidarity from individuals and governments during the numerous natural disasters that occurred in various Southern regions. Moreover, South-South Cooperation has been the focus of a number of high-level international conferences in recent years (eg. the Tehran High Level Conference in 2001 which established a standard for Southern achievements; the Fourth World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference, held in Doha, Qatar, in November 2001, which launched a work programme that places the needs of developing countries at the heart of the multilateral trade negotiations; the International Conference

The systematic inclusion and development of South-South Cooperation in the international agenda and in the IPEC projects in particular, have drawn the attention of the traditional donor community, as well as the multilateral agencies. In general, donor countries have continued to support South-South Cooperation through triangular arrangements. In the case of the ILO, aware of the role of social partners in combating child labour, both the Norwegian and Irish governments have recently given emphasis to this mechanism in their current projects with IPEC. Some donors have also shown interest in making greater use of experts from the South in their programmes. For example, US Department of Labour (USDOL) has demonstrated how horizontal cooperation can be a powerful tool and has co-financed a tripartite study tour from Angola and Mozambique to Brazil. Likewise, the European Commission has recently (17 November 2009) endorsed an Operational Framework reaffirming the EU's commitment to aid effectiveness and support and the promotion of South-South Cooperation.

countries. It refers more specifically to cooperative activities between newly industrialized Southern countries and other, less developed nations of the South. In the context of IPEC, the goal in the promotion of this mechanism is to support Article 8 of the Convention No. 182 on the worst form of child labour and to strengthen economic ties among governments and social partners whose will to implement the Convention by means of social dialogue is real and genuine.

In short, ever since the idea of South-South Cooperation was first introduced in the Bandung Conference in 1955, the spirit continues, but has become reinvigorated to ensure a more effective participation of social partners in global affairs and seek to complement to extensive economic relationships between the developed and developing countries. The “movement” this time seems to be more aligned than ever and the importance of South-South Cooperation is growing. The emphasis on child labour issues has proved an excellent example of the way governmental institutions and social partners can help each other to accomplish much more than they can achieve individually. Achievements and lessons from one country can eliminate the need of trial and error in another, thereby reducing costs and enhancing efficiency.

In the context of Decent Work Country Programmes, IPEC has an array of opportunities to enhance horizontal cooperation. The Governments of India and Brazil have visited each other, fostered by workers' leaders in both countries. Employers' organizations in Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Latin America have gathered to share their experiences. Trade unions from Morocco have visited counterparts in Mali, while National Trade Union Centres from Uganda and Kenya have given technical inputs to the child labour policy document of their counterparts in Zambia. This represents a true way of learning and building sustainable global networks against child labour.

## A new momentum

This is a new route for development cooperation where assistance on child labour can be channelled through institutions in all countries where IPEC operates in order to support child labour-related development projects. It is relatively new and different because activities under

The growing role of South-South Cooperation in combating child labour - 2010 Edition



this scheme can be the initiative of one or more Southern countries (and social partners) that wish to cooperate with one another with the support of a Northern donor as a third partner. In this context, the ILO is important not only to be a support channel but also to maximize financial, logistical and technical resources. A good example is Brazil and USDOL joining efforts to finance two complementary projects in Bolivia, Ecuador and Paraguay to combat child labour and meet the goals of the Hemispheric Agenda for

Decent Work.

As good practices to combat child labour are more and more coming from the South, it would be natural that the ILO and IPEC are eager to join this movement and endeavour to enhance the pace of horizontal cooperation in which traditional donors will continue to have an important role to play.

## Good practices: Overview of IPEC's experiences in the field

A good practice is something that actually has been tried and shown to work, distinct from what may be a potentially good idea but has not been tested in practice. IPEC's main criteria for identifying an initiative as a good practice are an innovative and creative approach, replicability and sustainability and relevance to direct or indirect actions against child labour. Furthermore, the good practice is expected to be responsive and ethical, using in its implementation efficiently different resources, such as human, financial or material.

### IPEC Projects in IBSA countries and Latin America get together to discuss South-South Cooperation

#### Background

The very first south-south cooperation initiative in combating child labour in Brazil took place in 1995. It was then that Brazilian social actors started exchanging experiences with other governmental and non-governmental organizations, based upon the outputs of the "Bolsa Escola", a conditional cash transfer programme linked to schooling.

Since then, several technical cooperation activities have been implemented by different Ministries (Labour, Education, Social Development and Foreign Affairs). Seminars, study tours, fellowships, workshops, training and technical meetings have taken place, with the participation of tripartite constituents from developing countries.

In 2003, India, Brazil and South Africa established a coordinating mechanism between the three countries, known as IBSA, so as to contribute to the construction of a new international architecture and to fund concrete projects of cooperation and partnerships with other developing countries. Considering that IPEC has undertaken a series of projects and activities on child labour in many countries, it was decided to enlarge the scope of the cooperation and organize an academic forum for the discussion on good practices involving IBSA, PALOP and Latin America countries, including Haiti.

Moreover, as a consequence of these activities in the past years, a new South-South Initiative was launched in Brazil, with support from the Brazilian Government through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC).

In this context, the Government of Brazil requested IPEC to provide and coordinate the contacts between representatives from selected countries in Africa and the

Caribbean. The idea was to mark the celebration of the United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation in Brasilia by organizing an international event on child labour. For this, the participation of representatives from Angola, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau and Haiti was important.

#### Action

In partnership with the Brazilian Government, ABC, the National Tripartite Committee on Child Labour of the Ministry of Labour (CONAETI) and the National Forum for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labour (FPETI) IPEC organized an interregional technical workshop involving programme staff from Brazil, India, South Africa and Latin America in a "South-South Initiative" launching event that took place in Brasilia, from the 12 to 14 December 2007.

The two-day technical workshop consisted of discussions and panels on the role of international and South-South Cooperation based on the Brazilian experience, focusing on the following issues: 1) Decent Work Agenda 2) Portuguese Speaking Countries in Africa, 3) Cooperation with MERCOSUR and Central America, as well as the exchange of experiences between IBSA countries.

In addition to this, workers and employers organizations from the Industrial Vocational Training Sector (SENAI), as well as from the tourism and transport sectors expressed their views on horizontal cooperation and listed a series of projects in Portuguese Speaking countries in Africa and Latin America, in particular Mozambique, Angola and Haiti.

Moreover, there were panels with IPEC staff from Central America and the HQ, as well as a Round table on good practices from IPEC and IBSA countries, with the presence of the Chief Technical Advisors of the IPEC Programmes in Brazil, South Africa and India. A special panel concentrated on Haiti. Social movements and dialogue were cross-cutting issues in all discussions.

On the last day, the foreign visitors were able to participate in a bilateral meeting with their Brazilian IPEC counterparts

to discuss specific experiences in the combat child labour, as well as to prepare the ground for future cooperation amongst IPEC projects in India, South Africa and Latin America.

Closing the three-day event, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the ILO in order to create a platform for South-South Initiatives to combat child labour. On the same occasion, the ABC funded Project for Haiti was signed to contribute to the fight against child labour in the country.

This high level meeting included statements by the Brazilian Minister of External Relations, minister of Labour and his Chief of Cabinet, the Minister of Labour of Guinea Bissau and the Director of the ILO office in Brasilia. The Ambassadors of Angola, Mozambique and Haiti were also representing the Community of Portuguese speaking countries (CPLP). In addition to that, the Diplomatic Corps of Brazil was represented at the highest level with over 30 Ambassadors and 50 representatives of embassies and consular staff. Representative of the IPEC Director, ILO colleagues from HQ and the field and many Brazilian authorities, including the General Attorney for Labour also attended the event.

The Memorandum officially set up a platform to open the discussion between Brazil and regional/political groups, such as the Andean Pact, MERCOSUR, CPLP and IBSA on horizontal cooperation amongst countries that have had successful experiences in the domain of child labour elimination. This strategy for sharing good practices, experiences and lessons learned is based on the replication of models (pilot-programmes) that worked well in a given country, and their adaptation to the local context of another country. This learning and cross-fertilization experience is done in a spirit of promoting equality, sharing knowledge, supporting mutual assistance and building-up solidarity, involving active participation of employers' and workers' organizations, as well as the private sector in the context of corporate social responsibility.

## Achievements/Accomplishments

This event was also announced by the ILO during the 62nd Session of the UN. General Assembly in New York on 11 December 2007 in the framework of the High-level Plenary Meeting Devoted to the Follow-up to the Outcome of the Special Session on Children.

The first IBSA and Latin America event on child labour took place successfully and the ministerial launch of the South-South initiative to combat child labour generated a very positive response and growing momentum within IPEC, the ILO and donor countries.

It was possible to mobilize technical and financial resources for implementing projects and activities in the framework of horizontal cooperation on issues related to the South-South initiative with the groups of countries identified in the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Government of Brazil and the ILO.

A project was launched to combat child labour in Haiti on 14 December 2007, funded by the Brazilian Government in the South-South spirit.

It was also possible to foster the exchange of experiences and good practices in combating child labour among developing countries, including conditional cash transfer systems, such as Brazil's Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (PETI), and "Bolsa Familia".

The platform for open discussion between Brazil and other Latin American and African countries was created through regional and sub-regional groupings and fora, including the Andean Pact, CPLP, and IBSA.

Support for the implementation and coordination of technical cooperation activities among developing countries comes from other UN agencies under the "One UN" approach.

The National Tripartite Committee on Child Labour (CONAETI) in Brazil, coordinated by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, also established an under-committee in charge of South-South cooperation.

## Sustainability

The sustainability of this initiative can be witnessed from different perspectives. The first one is the development that took place after the signing of the Memorandum between the Brazilian Government and the ILO. Following the signature, Brazilian contributions to South-South activities in Lusophone countries have increased as well as in Haiti.

Likewise, from the ILO's perspective, possibilities of enhancing actions within IPEC projects have increased ever since and more and more South-South components are parts of projects funded by several donors. The Governments of Norway and Ireland, as well as of the US, have in recent years responded positively to this modality and funded activities that include a great deal of exchange of experiences and good practices, involving countries and social partners from the South. A matrix of possible areas of cooperation between IPEC projects and ILO constituents in different countries was elaborated and comprised ideas that have already been implemented and others that may still happen, such as:

- drafting document for South-South Cooperation projects;
- sharing of current knowledge base – good practices, strategies, tools;
- collaborative work for future research, documentation and strategy development;
- study tours by Government Officials;
- trade union delegations exchange visits or study tours to India (South Africa or Brazil);
- employers delegation study visit;
- signing Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) for collaboration from different countries (for example Maharashtra, India and Bahia, Brazil);
- inter-university collaboration;
- sharing materials and translation of key materials for knowledge-sharing on developed tools;
- sessions on Conditional Cash Transfer Programmes;
- technical consultation on good practices in IBSA

countries (formal and non-formal education);

- planning for knowledge-sharing by India in the sub-region.

Additionally, bilateral initiatives have taken place between the Indian and the Brazilian Government. During the International Labour Conference (ILC) in 2008, the Ministries of Labour from both countries, encouraged by their trade unions, held a meeting and agreed to strengthen their ties in the fight against child labour. As a follow-up and upon invitation from the Indian Ministry, labour inspectors from Brazil visited India, and participated in a seminar entitled “Seminar on comparative systems for labour law enforcement” (October 2008) that was organized by the ILO in India in partnership with the Indian Government. On the occasion, the Brazilian on-line labour inspection system that covers child labour became an interesting aspect for future cooperation.

## Lessons learned

There is a great potential of inter-regional work within the ILO and for this, South-South Cooperation has to gain greater priority in IPEC’s strategy and activities. It is necessary to liaise more with other ILO offices in order to assess ways to promote increased exchange of experiences.

The donor community is very keen on optimizing resource allocation and has responded very positively to the activities that have been undertaken in spirit. Countries from the South have an important role to play as donors, despite still being ILO’s beneficiary countries.

## Necessary conditions

It is necessary that there is political will from the Governments of the South to allocate resources and technical expertise to contribute to joint actions in other developing countries. Strong, experienced and committed social partners, notably those who have had concrete experiences in actions against child labour can be crucial. Moreover, a robust civil society as well as a sound culture of social dialogue can make a difference.

# Africa

## Morocco and Mali: Strengthening of institutional coordination mechanisms

### Background

With the support of IPEC, Mali and Morocco have undertaken various actions to fight child labour. These activities range from the adoption of legal instruments and devices for performing operational activities on the ground, including capacity building of stakeholders, to improving knowledge about the phenomenon and information campaigns and awareness-raising. This was made possible through the support of technical and financial partners and the involvement of central and decentralized government

agencies, projects and programmes, employers and workers representatives, civil society organizations, the private sector, international NGOs and decentralized local governments. Actions contributed to strengthening the political commitment of both countries in the fight against child labour and particular its worst forms.

Under the impetus of IPEC, a national steering committee (NSC) was set up at the Ministry of Labour in both countries to monitor, supervise and coordinate the fight against child labour at national level. Made up of different key actors in the fight against child labour, the NSC is chaired in each country by the Director of Labour. In support of the NSC, a child labour unit (CLU) has been created within the Ministry of Labour in both countries, with the mission of coordinating, monitoring and evaluating nationwide projects and programmes against child labour.

## Action

As part of the implementation of the ILO Regular Budget Supplementary Account (RBSA) Project in Morocco and its objective to “strengthen the Department of Employment’s institutional coordination mechanisms,” IPEC organized from 8 to 12 November 2009, in close collaboration with the Ministries of Labour of Mali and Morocco, a visit to Mali to exchange experiences.

This exchange visit has helped to share experiences and good practices between Morocco and Mali in the field of institutional mechanisms for coordination as well as identifying ways to improve these mechanisms. This was achieved through:

- The organization of a workshop on sharing experiences between Mali and Morocco in strengthening institutional mechanisms for coordinating the fight against child labour. During this workshop different presentations by both countries were made highlighting good practices identified in this area, including the mobilization of resources and collaboration with social partners.
- Study tours were made by members of the tripartite Moroccan Delegation. The visits focused on Action Programmes implemented by IPEC and targeting prevention, withdrawal of working children and improving working conditions.
- A dinner discussion in Mopti (MALI) between the delegation and the regional committee for consultation on the protection and promotion of children’s rights.
- A review meeting between the delegations of Mali and Morocco, which focused on lessons learned from this experience and on the commitments and recommendations of both parties.

## Achievements/Accomplishments

This mission was more than a visit to exchange experiences; it was an exchange of expertise that has been advantageous for both countries with field visits as well as workshops through intense discussions and reflections on institutional mechanisms to fight child labour.

The mission in itself was experienced by all members of the



delegations as a milestone that has enabled both countries to acquire new knowledge, to visit field experiments and to exchange points of view on the issue of worst forms of child labour. However, the moment that has influenced the Moroccan delegation members the most was without a doubt the meeting with IPEC project beneficiaries.

## **Sustainability**

After this visit, several commitments were made by members of both delegations to strengthen forces to fight child labour. In parallel, it was planned to strengthen collaboration between the two countries, particularly through the establishment of an ad-hoc committee to follow up recommendations of the exchange visit; the organization of an exchange visit of the Malian NSC in Morocco, the strengthening of South - South Cooperation to increase exchange of experiences with other similar countries; the creation of a web site for collaboration between focal points of the two countries on child labour and, the strengthening of coordination mechanisms in Morocco taking into account the example of Mali NSC and CLU.

## **Lessons learned**

These various initiatives have contributed largely to strengthening the political commitment and the achievement of significant progress in the fight against child labour in the two countries. Despite the lessons learned in Mali and Morocco and the achievements obtained, it is clear that the worst forms of child labour still exist and therefore the two countries still need to strengthen their national response capacities and strengthen their coordination mechanisms.

## **Angola and Mozambique: Trade Union Partnership helps the implementation of SCREAM**

### **Background**

Colonization, civil wars, natural disasters, poverty and the HIV/AIDS epidemic are part of the common history shared by Angola and Mozambique. These factors are usually identified as causes that accentuate the worst forms of child labour. Many children have no access to schools because they must work to support their own need and that of their family.

In the context of IPEC's South-South Cooperation project, funded by the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), an awareness-raising seminar for 18 teachers at the "Nzinga Mbande school" on SCREAM (Supporting Children's Rights through Education, the Arts and the Media) took place in May 2008 in Luanda. It was the first of its kind in Lusophone Africa (PALOP). The project received interest from local education authorities and the Union of Angolan Workers (UNTA).

The key element of the strategy was to apply the "multiplier" effect of SCREAM programme and promote training geared to child labour in all PALOP schools.

## **Action**

### **Angola**

Based on the successful outcomes of the session with the teachers and authorities of Luanda, a second group of teachers have been trained on the SCREAM methodology. In June 2009, with the coordination of UNTA and Teachers Trade Unions, 40 teachers from different schools in Luanda attended a training on child labour and SCREAM. Two teachers sensitised back in May 2008, organized group work and plenary sessions. Following the training, the new "trainers" then after initiated their work with children within their schools.

Tripartite meetings with Angola, Mozambique and Brazil in the context of the project took place during the 2008 ILO International Labour Conference and provided a fertile ground for further joint activities between UNTA and the Organization of Mozambican Workers (OTM) in the context of SCREAM in Mozambique, where OTM would be the implementing agency.

### **Mozambique**

It was agreed that from 10 to 12 February 2010 OTM would hold training seminars for "trainers" on SCREAM in Maputo and Xai-Xai, Mozambique. Based on the cooperation and good agreements between OTM and UNTA, the training seminar on the worst forms of child labour mobilized 45 teachers and educators all affiliated to the National Union of Teachers in Mozambique. The training was under the responsibility of two Angolan teachers who participated previously in the UNTA training. These two teachers, chosen by the quality of their reporting and work during the 2009 training, were sent to Mozambique by UNTA with the support of IPEC project and ABC.

The agenda of the training followed a similar structure from the one in Angola and it was supplemented by a demonstration of key players and issues related to the fight against child labour, its worst forms, the progress noted, the causes of its reduction and complementary efforts to combat it. The training was concluded by a working group and a bus field visit of all participants and OTM members in areas where there were child labourers.

## **Achievements/Accomplishments**

### **Angola**

The seminar discussed child labour at a local and international level and of necessity of organizing an international platform with the teachers union in the country. All training sessions were recorded and photographed.

### **Mozambique**

The teachers recognized the two-fold benefit of training of the community level, namely, better quality education and fighting poverty. Participants encouraged a strong commitment of civil society and community leaders in awareness raising campaign and development of action plans in the fight against child labour; as well as in the

establishing mechanisms to support legislations for child labour prevention.

In April 2010, a second seminar on the SCREAM “Training of Trainers” module took place in Maputo. The seminar counted 20 secondary school teachers from the various districts of Maputo.

It should be emphasized that this exchange of experience between labour unions – UNTA/OTM – gave birth to a new relationship between teachers’ unions in Angola and Mozambique and has strengthened the friendship between the two countries.

## **Sustainability**

At the seminar between the unions of PALOP in Luanda in July 2007, trade union officials agreed to continue the implementation of the SCREAM “Training of Trainers” module in schools in both countries. At this meeting, Cape Verde showed interest to be the next country in the group of PALOP countries to adopt the SCREAM programme in its schools.

## **Lessons learned**

The training in Angola has identified the need to reorganize the Union of Education Workers. The commitment of unions was crucial to the sustainability of results and actions.

## **Necessary conditions**

Training on the topic of SCREAM programme was feasible thanks to good agreements between labour unions in both countries, IPEC technical support and ABC funding.

## **Kenya, Uganda and Zambia: Development of a Trade Union Policy on child labour**

### **Background**

The IPEC project “Support to development and implementation of time bound measures against the worst forms of child labour (WFCL) in Zambia” started in 2006 with the objective to strengthen the implementation and enforcement of relevant policies and legislation and to forge greater policy coherence through facilitating the formulation of a National Action Plan (NAP) for the elimination of the WFCL. The formulation of the NAP contributed to an increased collaboration and coordination among the different stakeholders and was backed up with capacity-building initiatives.

### **Action**

At the beginning of the project (19-23 February 2007), IPEC organized an initial study tour to Kenya as part of the consultative process. The purpose of the study tour was to expand the knowledge base of the tripartite partners and key NGOs, who during the course of the study tour had the opportunity to study intervention strategies under the Kenyan TBP and previous IPEC projects in Kenya. Kenya was chosen as host country for the study tour since the

country has a long experience in fighting child labour, has embarked on implementing a TBP and has piloted a number of innovative approaches to fight child labour. Moreover, the child labour situation in the two countries is similar in many ways with respect to the nature and root causes. Therefore, sharing experience and strategies for replication between the two countries has great potential.

The study tour to Kenya aimed at sharing knowledge and experience on viable strategies towards putting in place national time bound measures against WFCL and support sustainable action undertaken by tripartite partners for possible replication in Zambia.

Representatives from the Zambia Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) had the opportunity to come together with their Kenyan counterparts, the Central Organisation of Trade Unions (COTU), to review strategies for trade union action against child labour. COTU had put in place a very effective policy on child labour and could therefore provide useful information and recommendations to ZCTU.

Moreover, COTU facilitated the contact between ZCTU and relevant colleagues from the National Organisation of Trade Unions of Uganda (NOTU), which also had been developing effective strategies to combat the WFCL. NOTU shared its experiences in building capacity among the confederation members in conducting surveys on child labour and in raising awareness among workers on the consequences of child labour. NOTU has been involved in the monitoring of the enforcement of labour legislation and promoted improved working conditions for adolescents through collective bargaining. Furthermore, NOTU has created linkages with NGOs, local governments and other workers’ organisations.

## **Achievements/Accomplishments**

After its exchange with COTU and NOTU, ZCTU drafted an Action Programme with the objective to formulate a union policy on child labour. A good quality policy and an important learning experience resulted from this process not only for ZCTU, but for all three trade union bodies included in the process. ZCTU has a coherent institutional policy framework in place for accelerated action against child labour.

## **Sustainability**

By establishing its own policy on child labour, ZCTU guarantees continuative and sustainable efforts against child labour even after the end of the project. Sectoral policies will be developed based on ZCTU policy and the awareness created among trade union leaders ensures that child labour issues will be mainstreamed into trade unionism in the country.

## **Lessons learned**

In general, participants found the study tour useful for the establishment of a TBP in Zambia as it provided important insights into how local level structures can be established, strengthened and used and how different partners can contribute to this.



It is important to involve trade union leaders from the very beginning of the programme. Furthermore, the wide consultations conducted during data collection and analysis contributed to the success of the Action Programme. The main risk factor was that the project had to close before the adoption of the ZCTU policy.

## **Necessary conditions**

National union leaders need to be strongly involved in the process of creating and raising awareness on the trade union policy on child labour. This enables them to clearly understand their role as policy formulators, to supervise the formulation of sector policies and to monitor their implementation. Intensified capacity building on child labour concerns among congress affiliates is very important.

Activities aiming at the elimination of child labour need to be linked with activities of other stakeholders. District child labour committees, which include social dialogue, need the support of cooperating partners.

## **Asia and the Pacific**

### **Timor-Leste and Brazil: Development of a tripartite child labour commission and the list of hazardous child labour**

#### **Background**

The IPEC project “Timor-Leste’s project for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour” started in November 2009 and is an ILO/Brazil partnership programme for the promotion of South-South Cooperation. The project seeks to contribute to the implementation of Convention No. 182 through (1) the set up of a tripartite child labour commission capable of strengthening the social dialogue mechanism and enhance consultation processes in the implementation of child labour policies and (2) the development of a national list of hazardous child labour.

The child labour commission will be modelled on the National Action Committees existing in many countries, including for example Brazil and will serve as the forum for proposing and negotiating laws and programmes for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour (WFCL).

#### **Action**

From 25 to 29 October 2010, IPEC held a training session on social dialogue and child labour for Lusophone countries in Maputo (Mozambique). Tripartite Delegations from the following Lusophone countries were present: Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, Sao Tome and Principe and Timor-Leste.

The agenda of the training session was built on two themes, social dialogue and child labour conventions reporting (C.138 and C.182). The main objective of the session was to share experiences and to develop strategies for combating child labour. During part of the training, a

bilateral meeting between Timor-Leste and Brazil was held.

During the bilateral meeting, tripartite representatives from both countries discussed and shared their respective country’s context in relation to child labour, which action were taken and what has been achieved. Timorese representatives outlined the need to engage in preventive action against child labour. Brazilian representatives shared the country’s long experience of combating child labour and provided key knowledge for setting up a Tripartite Child Labour Commission as well as for drafting a list of hazardous child labour.

## **Achievements/Accomplishments**

During the bilateral meeting, the exercise set up and facilitated by IPEC allowed the Brazilian delegation (Ministry of Labour and Employment; Worker’s and Employer’s Organisations; National Forum for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labour and the Labour Attorney’s Office) to act as advisors to the Timorese counterpart. This proved to be very useful as it resulted in the definition of a responsible group and process to be followed for the drafting of a list of hazardous child labour, as well as the drafting of Terms of Reference (TORs) of the Tripartite Child Labour Commission.

## **Sustainability**

The establishment of the TORs of the Tripartite Child Labour Commission and the setting up of a responsible group for the development of the list of hazardous child labour guarantees continuative and sustainable efforts against child labour even after the end of the project. Once this is achieved, it opens up the opportunity for Timor-Leste to develop its own National Action Plan (NAP) on the elimination of child labour.

## **Lessons learned**

In general, Timorese participants found the training session in Maputo very useful as it brought to their attention that child labour is an essential concern for many countries and that there are mechanisms, methodologies and toolkits developed by IPEC to facilitate the prevention and the elimination of child labour. In addition, the bilateral meeting provided concrete insights on the types of support and structures that can be established to guarantee that Timor-Leste will be able to eliminate the existing forms of child labour and to prevent the development of new forms as the country moves towards development and industrialisation.

However, due to gaps of knowledge and capacity in the country’s institutions, it is important to organize further training, capacity building and knowledge sharing activities involving Government, Employers’ and Workers’ Organizations in order to support the country in strengthening its capacity in mainstreaming child labour.

Finally, concrete and updated data on the forms of child labour in the country is necessary for a full understanding of the state of child labour in order to establish more targeted actions and strategies for the prevention and elimination of child labour in Timor-Leste.

## Necessary conditions

Through the training session, IPEC provided space and facilitated the sharing of experience through progressive learning. This allowed the participants to obtain the basis for understanding the issue of child labour, as well as the methodologies and tools available. In addition, the sharing of experience from the perspective of a different country that shares the same language and in a certain way the recent history consolidated the necessary conditions.

In the specific case of Timor-Leste, this initial exposure allowed to grasp the different mechanisms available from the ILO as well as what has been established by other countries and their current status to the fight against child labour. Moreover, Timor-Leste as a recent independent nation, with only 8 years of self-government, is continuously building its institutions and therefore gaps in the capacity and institutional infrastructure are still present (although not all identified yet). South-South Cooperation allows for the sharing of knowledge, know-how and good practices from other countries such as Brazil.

## India, Ethiopia, Ghana, Morocco, Nepal, Uganda and Zimbabwe: Exchange of experience on child labour free zones

### Background

In 2008, the “Stop Child Labour Africa Tour”, a delegation of child right defenders from India, Nepal and Morocco, toured across five African countries to discuss and find ways to eliminate child labour. The Indian Mamidipudi Venkatarangaiya Fountion (MVF) lead the tour and interacted with local NGOs, trade unions, international and government agencies on the area-based approach to establish child labour free zones, villages without any child labourers where every child goes to school. MVF was established in 1981 in memory of educationist and historian Prof. Mamidipudi Venkatarangaiya and began as a research institution on issues relating to social transformation. Today, MVF is building the capacities of communities in rural and urban areas with the aim to eliminate child labour by universalizing education and acts as an implementing agency in various IPEC projects.

Inspired by the experiences from the “Stop Child Labour Africa Tour”, MVF organized a study tour in August 2010 with the technical support from IPEC. Delegations from Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Nepal, with representatives from NGOs, trade unions and teachers’ unions visited the MVF programmes in Andhra Pradesh (India) and expressed their interest in and commitment to eliminating child labour.

### Action

The participants came together for a 6-day programme comprised of three days of input and experience exchange and three days of field visits from 21 to 26 August 2010.

The programme was inaugurated by the Minister for

Secondary Education of the Government of Andhra Pradesh. All the speakers in the inaugural session emphasized the desirability and feasibility of establishing child labour free zones. Presentations from the visiting organizations focused on the work they were doing in their countries and also established the tone for the visit by articulating a common commitment to eliminating child labour. Speakers represented trade unions, teachers’ unions and NGOs from the different countries. Following the presentations, discussions focused on how one can take the learning forward and ensure there is continued discussion and knowledge sharing among the groups.

The field visits were to MVF project locations in several districts of Andhra Pradesh. Participants received an overview of the different strategies used by MVF to create child labour free zones and got in direct contact with national and local government officials, trade unions, teachers, NGOs, parents and children taking part in the MVF projects. MVF presented its area based approach that seeks to address the rights of all children- both in school and out of school. MVF’s approach has the twin responsibility of organizing communities for public action and of putting pressure on the system to deliver public services. Simultaneously, it seeks to prepare public institutions to take care of children and their education.

### Achievements/Accomplishments

The delegations benefited in different ways from the exchange visit and returned to their countries with a new repertoire of strategies to establish child labour free zones. The strategies proposed by MVF include area based rural models, urban models and partnership and skills development models. Furthermore, new lines of cooperation were built up between actors from different countries. Participants agreed upon the need to strengthen the information exchange and to build up discussions forums and suggested therefore the creation of a platform easily accessible for everyone. The sharing of the different organizations’ focuses and believes made the meeting fruitful. There were both similarities and different challenges based on specific situations. HIV/AIDS was for example presented as a major challenge to ensuring that children stay in school.

The need for common monitoring systems also emerged – different organizations are using different monitoring tools. In this context, Uganda presented the IPEC child labour monitoring system established in the country as a good practice.

### Sustainability

All the participating countries analysed their own situation and worked on new strategies to combat child labour. The way forward consists of National Action Plans that are based on the premise that child labour free zones are not just desirable but feasible. The delegations expressed their commitment to create child labour free zones in their own countries. The new cooperation built up during the meeting will help countries to exchange the necessary advice and information.

## Lessons learned

Strategies implemented by MVF in India can be replicated in other countries when adapted to the respective reality. The countries felt motivated in realising this replication after having learned about the successes in India.

IPEC's strategy of including theoretical and practical approaches into the experience exchange meeting proved to be very beneficial as it allowed the participants to get a holistic overview of child labour and ways to combat it.

## Bangladesh and Indonesia: Broadening the understanding of child labour

### Background

Under IPEC's "Urban Informal Economy" (UIE) support project to the "Time-Bound Programme towards the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Bangladesh", IPEC provided technical and financial assistance to the Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE). The Action Programme (AP) "Enhancing the capacity of the Child Labour Unit (CLU) of MoLE" aimed at ensuring the systematic and sustained implementation of child labour related activities and a more institutionalized approach to the problem of child labour in the country.

In the framework of this AP, different activities were realized to enhance the capacity of the Bangladeshi CLU, including an assessment on capacity building needs, the organization of national trainings and advisory missions and a study tour to share experiences on the elimination of child labour with another, more experienced country.

The study tour aimed at sharing experiences concerning policies and programmes on child labour, child labour monitoring systems (CLMS) and generally lessons learned regarding the implementation of different APs, the cooperation with social partners and the mobilization of civil society. Indonesia was identified as the ideal country to visit. It has a similar social and religious context, institutional arrangements and government mechanisms. Furthermore, Indonesia had had a similar type of TBP framework arrangement.

### Action

Ten key stakeholders from Bangladesh, representing the MoLE, the Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Children and Women's Affairs, the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, the Economic Relations Division of the Ministry of Finance, the Dhaka City Corporation and, workers' organizations, participated in a one-week study tour to Indonesia, from 27 September to 2 October 2010.

During the first two days, the participants had the opportunity to get to know the ILO Jakarta Country Programme and the different phases of the IPEC Project in the country. National and local policies and capacity building and cooperation between stakeholders were discussed. Indonesia presented its National Steering Committee for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour (WFCL) and

the process of formulating and implementing a National Action Plan (NAP).

The Bangladeshi Delegation learned about the Indonesian conditional cash transfer (CCT) programme, implemented in 13 provinces and considered as an important tool to combat child labour by providing assistance to very poor families. The team also visited Social Protection Homes for Children and Social Development Centres, run by the Department of Social Welfare and set up to provide protection for former child domestic workers or victims of child trafficking. During a meeting with representatives of the Indonesian Employers Association (APINDO), the role of employers in addressing child labour and their participation in the National Steering Committee was discussed. The participants agreed on the importance to promote corporate social responsibility (CSR) among employers' organizations.

In the final meeting, the delegation from Bangladesh met with the Ministry of National Education, teachers' associations and the Jakarta National Network of NGOs to share experiences and to discuss challenges related to the implementation of the national education policies, including various programmes that promote access to relevant and quality education.

### Achievements/Accomplishments

The delegation gained a better understanding of the different strategies to combat child labour. The functioning and tasks of the child labour unit and the action committees at provincial levels were widely discussed during the study tour. Strategies for the provision of direct services, particularly educational and social services, the monitoring of child labour and the facilitation of community participation were shared. The immediate follow up actions in Bangladesh aimed at strengthening child labour policies, adopting the list of hazardous occupations for children, ratifying the ILO Convention No. 138, formulating and implementing a NAP, promoting CSR and setting up of a permanent child labour unit within MoLE.

### Sustainability

The follow-up actions implemented by the Bangladeshi delegation resulted directly from the study tour. The contact between the Indonesian and Bangladeshi stakeholders will continue and IPEC will further strengthen the cooperation between the two countries.

### Lessons learned

On the one hand, Bangladesh had the opportunity to learn from the experiences of Indonesia. On the other hand, Indonesia could also reflect and evaluate the own achievements. Despite of all substantive efforts undertaken in Indonesia, the country is still facing genuine challenges in terms of eliminating WFCL. Some of the challenges and constraints that need immediate responses include improving coordination and cooperation at national and regional levels and strengthening capacity and resource allocation for the implementation of the NAP. Bangladesh has also made remarkable progress in the area of child rights'



promotion and the elimination of child labour. Nevertheless, the general situation of children in Bangladesh needs to improve: malnutrition, disease, poverty, illiteracy and exploitation of children remain a great concern.

## **Necessary conditions**

Sustained commitment and financial allocation by the Government of Bangladesh were necessary conditions for the success of the study tour and the proposed follow up actions. The close cooperation between the two IPEC offices and the Ministry of Labour and Employment of the Government of Bangladesh made the study tour a successful experience. The need and objectives were initially identified by MoLE and subsequently refined by the UIE Project in close consultation with IPEC Jakarta. A briefing session and key documents were arranged and shared before the study tour started. The study tour team was asked to prepare a report on the experience.

## **Mongolia and Indonesia: Learning from practical stakeholders experiences**

### **Background**

The IPEC project “Support to the Proposed Sub Programme to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour” was implemented in Mongolia, from 1 October 2005 to 31 May 2010. The objectives of the project were to strengthen the enabling environment for national action against WFCL and to develop an area-based intervention model at local level to prevent and remove children from WFCL.

One of the important challenges in policy and practice was the development of an effective approach to address the needs of the 15 to 17 year old children engaged in WFCL. The IPEC project therefore aimed at promoting policy and programming linkages between the elimination of WFCL and the provision of decent work for youth. IPEC partners expressed their interest in learning from practical experiences in this regard including from successful youth employment programmes elsewhere. Upon consultation with the ILO sub-regional and HQ specialists, it was considered that Indonesia could be the most suitable country to visit for this purpose.

### **Action**

From 16 to 20 February 2009, IPEC’s Mongolian stakeholders undertook a study tour to Indonesia. The stakeholders included representatives of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MSWL), the Labour and Welfare Service Agency, the Mongolian Employers’ Federation, the Ulaanbaatar City Governor’s Office and the Uvurkhanga Province Governor’s Office.

The study tour included several topics: policies aiming at the elimination of child labour and the promotion of youth employment were presented and discussed; the Indonesian Government presented different activities undertaken in these areas and shared its experiences regarding coordination mechanisms and policy linkages. Furthermore stakeholders of both countries exchanged their field experiences in

tackling hazardous child labour and in implementing youth employment programmes.

## **Achievements/Accomplishments**

The study tour raised the awareness of the stakeholders on the need to ensure that policies and programmes link the elimination of child labour and the promotion of youth employment. Furthermore, due to IPEC’s support, stakeholders improved their capacities on providing career counselling for young people.

## **Sustainability**

After the study tour, the participants from Mongolia were engaged in designing strategies for developing career counselling services at local employment service centres. These counselling services were successfully piloted at the Municipal Employment Department of Ulaanbaatar City. Also, some participants were engaged in the taskforce for overseeing the implementation of this pilot activity and analysing its outcomes.

The project outcomes for sustainability within the policy framework were promoted. As a result, a revision of the Mongolian Employment Promotion Law emphasized the importance of career counselling for youth as an integral part of employment promotion services.

## **Lessons learned**

Learning from the Indonesian experiences in the area of child labour elimination and youth employment promotion broadened the views of stakeholders in Mongolia. It manifested that such learning can contribute significantly to yielding sustained outcomes.

## **Necessary conditions**

The combination of the participants was important; from both countries representatives of relevant government agencies, employers’ organisations and local authorities took part. Particularly, the Mongolian participants were expected to be engaged in the follow up activities according to their mandates.

## **Mekong Sub-region: “Voices of children”, Youth Forum on human trafficking**

### **Background**

Over recent years, children and youth across the Mekong sub-region have been working alongside adults to combat trafficking in their communities. They have helped with research and data collection, project design and implementation, as well as with more traditional awareness-raising and advocacy activities. However, at the policy level, decision makers rarely have had a chance to hear the views of these children and youth first-hand. These young people, who were among the most vulnerable to trafficking, quite often had, and continue to have, a different perspective about what works, what doesn’t work and what could, or should, be done in the development of anti-trafficking

policies and programme activities.

In 2003, the IPEC Mekong sub-regional project to combat trafficking in children and women (TICW), teamed with Save the Children UK's Cross-Border Anti-Trafficking Project (SCUK), to pursue an advocacy initiative called "Voices of Children". The primary activity was to organize a series of provincial and national children's forums. The main aim of these forums was to provide venues for children to meet, discuss the issues they faced, formulate recommendations and discuss them with senior government policy advisers from their respective countries. Altogether hundreds of children and dozens of senior government officials took part in the national forums. The provincial and national children's forums led to a first regional forum, the Mekong Children's Forum on Human Trafficking, held in October 2004.

## Action

In 2007, and following up on their pledge to the participants in the first sub-regional forum, the TICW and SCUK re-united to carry forward on their promise for more advocacy on children's consultations. Because research has shown that teens and young adults are at the greatest risk of being trafficked, the 2007 initiative broadened its focus to include both children and youth participants. The need to institutionalize dialogue between young people and members of leading government committees involved in anti-trafficking efforts, including the national task forces for the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT) was emphasized. The COMMIT, which is a government agency, aims to develop coordinated and comprehensive policies and programme interventions to end trafficking across the six countries (Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam).

In national meetings each country prepared their delegates for the 2007 Mekong Youth Forum on Human Trafficking. Young people prepared advocacy statements that summarized their exposure to and experiences in human trafficking, their analysis of national actions in addressing trafficking and their recommendations for government and civil society actions. The 30 representatives from the six national forums met in the week-long sub-regional gathering in Bangkok to produce an "agenda for action" – a final statement and a set of recommendations in six areas like participation of young people, victim protection, education and others.

The sub-regional forum included activities for sharing experiences, an informal session to answer questions of government or UN agencies and influential individuals and then a more formal meeting with high-level government officials from all six countries.

## Achievements/Accomplishments

The Government Ministries committed in a COMMIT joint Declaration to strengthen the regional cooperation with civil society groups, victim support agencies, international organisations and trafficked persons to implement successfully anti-trafficking programmes. Hundreds of children and youth participated in national forums in their

countries, 30 attended the sub-regional forum in 2007. After returning to their home communities, many of them became effective advocates of trafficking issues. After the 2007 sub-regional forum, senior government officials were reported as "extremely impressed" by the ideas of the youth delegates. The sub-regional forum served as a challenge for participants to become leaders in their local areas.

Ways recommended to improve anti-trafficking measures within countries and across borders ranged from increased protection of migrant children, better access to quality education, recognition of the right to a birth certificate for any child within a Mekong sub-regional country, improved methods to support young victims and prevent further abuse and exploitation and more outreach and advocacy networks to help raise awareness about the dangers of trafficking.

## Sustainability

The recommendations and documentation of the participants' perspectives and experiences have served as key advocacy materials and have been distributed in other forums and among organizations to help them refine and better target their programmes focusing the needs of children and youth in the sub-region. The material has also been used to guide future advocacy, capacity building and the development of partnerships with children.

Examples from Thailand and Viet Nam have shown that the recommendations from the national and sub-regional children and youth forums are being taken into consideration by high-level government officials.

## Lessons learned

Documentation of the children's and young people's assessment of policies, programmes and activities addressing human trafficking can act as template for others seeking to advocate effectively for direct engagement with vulnerable groups.

Timing of a participatory event is critical for strategic purposes. One of the main objectives of the Mekong Youth Forum was to encourage senior government officials to advocate for the systematic inclusion of child and youth participation and consultation in their anti-trafficking work plans. The timing of the first forum and the dialogues with officials were scheduled too close to the date for a ministerial meeting and the outcomes were therefore not included in their first Joint Declaration of the COMMIT Ministers at Beijing.

Media attention carefully timed with the run-up to the forums, helped place the issue of child participation on the agenda of policy makers.

# Europe and Central Asia

## Kosovo and Romania: Exchange of experience on child labour monitoring system

### Background

Poverty pushes a high number of children to enter child labour to support their families, some as young as 10 years. Statistical data is poor, but child labour in Kosovo is visibly widespread. The 2005 World Bank Poverty Assessment showed poverty rates remaining high and pervasive with 45% of the population living below the poverty line of 1.42 € per day and 17 % living in extreme poverty, on less than 93 € cents per day. Child labour is mainly concentrated in agriculture and forestry, street work, scavenging and the exploitation of natural assets. Most of the child labourers work in the street or farms, live with their families and do go to school.

Since April 2009, IPEC is implementing the ILO's Regular Budget Supplementary Account (RBSA) Project in Kosovo. Under this project, IPEC supports the drafting process of a gender-sensitive Kosovo Action Plan (KAP) for prevention and elimination of WFCL based on consultations with key stakeholders. In addition, IPEC is working to equip the public authorities and workers' and employers' organizations with a firm knowledge on ILO core Conventions, including child labour, and build their capacity to participate in the formulation and implementation of the KAP, to mobilize resources and to raise awareness on ILO Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, including prevention and elimination of child labour. The project includes the creation and implementation of a child labour monitoring system (CLMS).

### Action

A Committee on Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour (KCPECL) is in place and working since December 2005 to oversee the activities for the prevention and elimination of child labour in Kosovo, as well as provide policy guidance for activities aimed at eliminating child labour and advise on the priority areas for intervention.

In June 2006, KCPECL set up a technical working group on CLMS to prepare the CLMS profile describing the standard operating procedures, at central and local level, for the protection and support of children involved in hazardous child labour and for collecting and managing data.

To better fulfil this task, six representatives of the technical working group went together with IPEC Kosovo staff on a study tour to Romania from 29 June to 3 July 2009. IPEC Romania and IPEC Sub Regional Team in Bucharest facilitated the experience exchange meeting in which key stakeholders shared experiences on CLMS implementation at local and national levels.

During the study tour, the structure and functioning of CLMS in Romania, the interaction between the different

stakeholders and particularly the cooperation between IPEC and the Government of Romania were presented.

### Achievements/Accomplishments

Significant amounts of knowledge were shared during the meetings with key institutions and service providers involved in CLMS in Romania. The participants obtained information on the development of programmes and policies on child labour in Romania including:

- national programmes and policies for children;
- infrastructure and institutional arrangements;
- legal and legislative measures for the elimination of child labour;
- educational and other services provided to children and
- CLMS and the key stakeholders involved in the process, including the challenges and lessons learned during establishment of the system.

### Sustainability

The experience of Romania was taken into consideration during the process of planning the up-scaling of CLMS in Kosovo and contributed therefore to its successful functioning.

### Lessons learned

National contexts should be taken into account for setting up and implementation of CLMS.

### Necessary conditions

This good practice was possible due to a common programming framework of ILO and IPEC in the region. Furthermore, IPEC and stakeholders of both countries were interested in and open for cooperation and contributed in a very active way to the exchange.

## Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Romania, Tajikistan and Ukraine: Exchange of experience on child labour monitoring systems

### Background

Since 2000, IPEC has been working in Central and Eastern Europe to provide technical and financial assistance to eliminate the worst forms of child labour and to implement ILO Conventions. Since 2004, the projects in Central and Eastern Europe have been implemented under a common programming framework, IPEC's "Combating the worst forms of child labour in countries of Central and Eastern Europe (PROTECT CEE)" (Albania, Bulgaria, Kosovo (UNMIK), Moldova, Romania and Ukraine). The putting in place of child labour monitoring systems (CLMS) has been one of the objectives of PROTECT CEE.

Child labour monitoring systems (CLMS) have been developed in all PROTECT CEE countries to identify child labourers and children at risk to enter in WFCL, to refer



them to services and to track them to ensure that they have satisfactory alternatives. CLMS is based on a coordinated multidisciplinary approach and related to the respective national/local framework involving key institutions that work effectively for the prevention and elimination of child labour. All the PROTECT CEE countries established well functioning CLMS.

## Action

In 2010, the Central Asia Region started to test pilot CLMS in the framework of several Action Programmes. The respective countries communicated the interest in building up cooperation with other countries where the CLMS was in a more advanced stage of implementation. For example the CLMS history in Ukraine goes back to 2005 and the country has since been able to collect many good practices and lessons learned. Albania, Moldova and Romania, also have advanced records CLMS.

In September 2010, a two-day sub-regional workshop on sharing good practices on CLMS implementation was organized with the technical support from IPEC Ukraine. Key stakeholders from Central Asia and Central and Eastern Europe exchanged information and enhanced organisational learning. The experience of the PROTECT CEE countries was shared with Central Asian countries (Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan) that were piloting their CLMS. During the workshop, CLMS was presented as an inter-agency mechanism and the roles of the various actors were identified, i.e. the role of labour inspectors, social workers, teachers, workers' and employers' organizations.

## Achievements/Accomplishments

The Ukrainian "National Action Plan to Implement the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) until 2016" particularly refers to CLMS and defines it as one key objective. Ukraine will implement CLMS nationwide in order to effectively combat child labour. Participants of the workshop developed recommendations to be introduced into the relevant Ukrainian policies for up-scaling the CLMS model. This new policy will ensure sustainability of IPEC interventions. Also, Central Asian countries will be able to further adapt and apply the good practices and positive experiences on CLMS and upscale the CLMS in the framework of Action Programmes to be implemented in 2011-2012 in these countries.

## Sustainability

The workshop contributed significantly to the sustainability of CLMS in the participating countries. Participants took ownership of the systems and built up knowledge and improved the capacities regarding the implementation of CLMS.

## Lessons learned

Regional characteristics and national contexts should be taken into account for setting up and implementing of CLMS.

## Necessary conditions

Pilot testing of the IPEC mechanisms such as CLMS and good practices identification and collection is a precondition for organizing an exchange on CLMS between countries and regions.

## Albania and Kosovo: Building the capacity of Trade Unions to fight child labour

### Background

Under the IPEC project "Combating the worst forms of child labour in countries of Central and Eastern Europe" (PROTECT CEE) Project, the Action Programme (AP) "Supporting trade unions' engagement in activities on child labour in Kosovo" was elaborated and is currently being implemented.

Building on previous IPEC activities involving trade unions, the AP aims at mobilizing the Trade Union of Education, Science and Culture of Kosovo (SBASHK) and supporting its efforts to combat child labour. SBASHK municipal branches and school associations in six municipalities (Pristina, Mitrovica, Prizren, Gjiilan, Glogovc/Drenas and Obiliq) improve their capacity to better address the needs of children withdrawn from worst forms of child labour (WFCL). Furthermore, the AP also contributes to the active involvement of SBASHK in the implementation of the NAP for the prevention and elimination of child labour for 2010-2013.

### Action

In the framework of the AP, the General Secretary of SBASHK undertook from 20 to 21 September 2010 a study tour to Albania to meet with representatives of the Albanian Trade Union Federation of Education and Science (FSASH). The study tour was coordinated with IPEC Albania. Main purpose of the tour was to share experiences and lessons learned in combating child labour.

### Achievements/Accomplishments

After having returned to Kosovo, the General Secretary of SBASHK presented the outcomes and conclusions of the study tour in a two-day workshop to 18 representatives of the municipal branches of SBASHK. The FSASH experience helped SBASHK to determine concrete actions to address child labour at the branch level. Based on the workshop, the municipal branches and local school associations will draft work plans that include concrete actions to be taken by SBASHK to prevent and withdraw children from the WFCL and to guarantee their reintegration into the education system.

### Sustainability

Due to the contacts established between SBASHK and FSASH, cooperation will continue by sharing tools and experiences in combating child labour.

## Lessons learned

Exchange of experiences in combating child labour among the social partners in different countries has a positive impact in their mobilisation for further action.

## Necessary conditions

This exchange of experiences was possible due to a common programming framework of IPEC in the region, an active and open attitude of IPEC Teams and implementing partners towards cooperation and a common language.

## Moldova and Romania: Stakeholders scale-up actions against child labour

### Background

Romania, Ukraine and Albania were countries in the CEE region to cooperate with IPEC under the IPEC's PROTECT CEE Project. These countries served as practical examples for the project development in other CEE countries.

Under PROTECT CEE umbrella Project, the following main activities were implemented in all participating countries: mainstreaming child labour into legislation and policies; capacity building for public authorities, workers' and employers' organizations; establishment and piloting of child labour monitoring systems (CLMS); direct services for children at risk to enter in worst forms of child labour (WFCL) or involved in WFCL; awareness raising on child labour issues.

Documentation and sharing of experiences and good practices in preventing and combating child labour between partners at local, national and sub-regional level continues to be an important element of PROTECT CEE. The PROTECT CEE countries contributed to the compilation of two regional IPEC publications "Steps to the Elimination of Child Labour in Central and Eastern Europe" and "Psycho-Social Rehabilitation of Children Withdrawn from Trafficking and Other Worst Forms of Child Labour". Both publications were published, widely disseminated and used by child care givers and other relevant stakeholders from the sub-region.

### Action

Several sub-regional consultative meetings, staff exchange visits and training courses attended by IPEC's PROTECT CEE Project Staff and stakeholders served as an excellent opportunity for sharing experiences, lessons learned and good practices in preventing and combating child labour. In this context Romania and Moldova have established a particular successful cooperation. IPEC Teams in Romania and Moldova and their stakeholders successfully shared experiences and good practices in the following key areas:

- Creation and institutionalization of child labour units, defining their role and responsibilities;
- Social partners' involvement in prevention and combating of child labour;
- Research on child labour;

- Increasing the visibility of IPEC work;
- Collaboration with local action committees and community youth centres;
- Selection of implementing partners, monitoring and reporting on action programmes;
- Mainstreaming of child labour issues in national programmes and policies;
- Design of information materials and working tools for child care givers.

## Achievements/Accomplishments

IPEC stakeholders in Romania and Moldova cooperate in the following areas: child protection institutions in both countries continue their fruitful cooperation in replicating positive experience; training tools for partners involved in combating child labour will be shared; joint applications will be submitted for EU funds for cross-border projects aimed at preventing and combating child labour; study tours between representatives of implementing agencies continue.

## Sustainability

The cooperation proves to be sustainable as both countries remain interested in working together towards the elimination of child labour. In the future, the National Steering Committees on the Elimination of Child Labour in both countries will facilitate collaboration between relevant stakeholders involved in combating child labour in Moldova and Romania.

## Lessons Learned

IPEC acted as the main facilitator in bringing together the best professionals from different countries who shared knowledge on ways to better tackle child labour based on the experience of their respective countries

## Necessary conditions

The cooperation between Moldova and Romania has been possible due to the support of the IPEC HQ and the common programming framework. The two countries share the same language and are neighbours. Furthermore the stakeholders of both countries were interested in and open for cooperation and contributed in a very active way.

# Latin America

## Costa Rica and Guatemala: Technical assistance for the design of a CCT programme

### Background

Conditional Cash Transfer (CCTs) Programmes are, as implied by their name, social assistance programs which provide an amount of cash to poor households on a regular basis. The transfer is subject to whether recipients meet certain requirements aimed at human development, such as sending their children to school or participating in public health programmes (vaccination, regular doctor visits, etc.).

During the Sixteenth American Regional Meeting of the International Labour Organization (ILO), from 2 to 5 May 2006, the ILO constituents; governments, employers' and workers' organizations made a policy commitment to incorporate the elimination of child labour in social and economic policies and programs. Among other measures to improve access, retention and reintegration of children into the education system and/or vocational training, the development of CCTs was encouraged.

The successes recorded by a number large-scale CCTs, established in some Latin American countries, has led to considerable interest in these initiatives, particularly with a view to replicate them and in considering them a key instrument in fighting poverty and child labour in Latin America.

### Action

From 20 to 21 November 2007, in San José, Costa Rica the Latin American regional meeting: "Conditional Cash Transfer Programs and their impact on the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour from a Rights Viewpoint", was organized by the Government of Costa Rica, the International Labour Office (ILO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). This meeting was attended by technically and politically responsible officials of CCTs from 14 Latin American countries, as well as representatives from other Latin American countries and a delegation from Ghana (Africa) and experts from various international organizations. The objective of the meeting was twofold. Firstly, it sought to promote the exchange of experiences in the implementation of CCT programmes in Latin American countries; and, secondly, to analyze the impact of these programmes in reducing child labour. At the time, neither Belize, Guatemala nor Uruguay counted on CCT programmes, but representatives of these countries attended the meeting, during which, guidelines for the development of CCTs, subsequently adopted by the countries, were elaborated.

During the meeting, Costa Rica presented its CCT programme, called "Avancemos" ("Let's move forward"), established in 2006 with technical assistance from ILO/IPEC. "Avancemos" is a selective social program consisting of a cash transfer that is given to families in poverty, vulnerability and social exclusion with the conditionality of keeping adolescents in school with the aim to complete secondary education.

After participating in the Latin American Meeting, Guatemala addressed ILO/IPEC with a request for technical assistance for the development of a CCT. In order to benefit from the experience of Costa Rica, cooperation was established between the two countries.

### Achievements/Accomplishments

With the assistance from Costa Rica, Guatemala established the CCT: "Mi Familia Progresá (MiFaPro)" with own funds. The process of cooperation and the establishment of MiFaPro were completed in April 2008. The program targets extremely poor families with children up to 15 years and/or pregnant mothers. Families that benefited from the program have been selected from the poorest municipalities in Guatemala. The participation depends on the conditionality of the children attending the public schools of their community and regular medical checks.

### Sustainability

The CCTs of both countries are working and have contributed to the elimination of child labour in the respective countries.

### Lessons learned

When technical assistance to a country comes from, and is based on, experiences and good practices from a country in the same region and sharing other similarities, as well, this makes the adaptation of these experiences easier and quicker in the receiving country, and it also facilitates the understanding of the consequences and implications of adopting the practices, as well as to relate to and learn from the problems encountered where the good practice was developed, and the results achieved through its implementation.

### Necessary conditions

A vision of child labour, and particularly its worst forms, as a problem which affects society as a whole and which is a serious hindrance to the country's development possibilities, and, particularly, the possibilities of development of children from families in a vulnerable situation and poverty – in itself a hindrance to reduce the levels of poverty. Existence of a clear political commitment, at the highest level, to address the problem of child labour is necessary. All institutions with competence and responsibilities in the various areas covered have to be fully involved.



## Central America: Exchange of experience on trafficking and CSEC initiatives

### Background

The ILO Convention No. 182 defines Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) as one of the worst forms of child labour. By ratifying this Convention, countries make the commitment to urgently prohibit and eliminate these forms of exploitation. The goal is that the countries fully prevent and withdraw children and adolescents from commercial sexual exploitation. For this to take place, victims need support and a range of services to ensure their full rehabilitation and social integration.

In 2002, IPEC started implementing the sub-regional project "Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents in Central America, Panama and Dominican Republic."

### Action

During the second phase of the project, between 2006 and 2009, the participating countries established horizontal cooperation by signing an agreement. The agreement defined the key areas for reforming the national penal codes aiming at the establishment of more effective measures to combat CSEC and based on the understanding that CSEC does not affect only one country, but the entire region, where criminal networks expand. The experiences of the country which had advanced furthest in dealing with this issue, Costa Rica, started to be replicated by a number of other countries, especially through a process of awareness-raising and dissemination of information on the subject.

As a result of this good practice, the public prosecutors offices of the Central American countries requested broader cooperation. A first Central American workshop was organized to discuss and enable a joint process to combat CSEC in the region. As a result of the workshop, information was shared among countries and a series of visits were organized where officials of attorney general's offices and police were given the opportunity to learn from the Costa Rican experience.

### Achievements/Accomplishments

The public prosecutors of the different countries felt more empowered and strengthened in their technical capabilities to influence the processes of penal code reforms taking place in all the countries of the sub-region. These culminated, in all cases, in specific CSEC reform policies (definitions of crimes, procedural norms and protection of victims). Visits of parliamentarians among Central American countries were also carried out as part of this exchange, which – in turn – resulted in new processes of cooperation, i.e. in the field of coordination between the respective police forces.

### Sustainability

Horizontal cooperation among Central American countries has led to the strengthening of prosecutors'

technical capacities in combating CSEC. The networks of cooperation developed during the second phase of the project remain to this day. With respect to the subject of CSEC, Central America is one of the regions with the greatest progress and levels of integration of the issue in the relevant public institutions. The horizontal cooperation established in the framework of this dynamic, has also served as a basis for other projects to expand their activities in several countries in the region.

### Lessons learned

Cooperation is particularly effective between countries or regions that share similar contexts. Seeing the success of Costa Rica, the other Central American countries were motivated by to achieve the same progress. In addition, processes that require frequent contact between officials of different countries developed more successfully through horizontal cooperation, after making it possible for the officials in question to get to know each other personally.

### Necessary conditions

A clearly expressed political will, at the highest level, to address CSEC is a necessity. Furthermore, it is necessary to set targets that fall within the mandate of the participating institutions.

## Latin America: Cooperation in strengthening Labour Inspection

### Background

In the Latin American region the ILO has developed, over the last few years, a process aiming at building the capacity of officials which, in their daily work, have in their mandate and capability, the detection and addressing cases of child labour. Through support to Labour Inspectorates training programmes have been implemented aiming at increasing the awareness of the officials on child labour as an issue, and national and international legislation regulating it. The programmes aims at increasing the capacity to implement the legislation.

Overall, Labour Inspectorates of all the countries in the region now have significant experience in the field of child labour. It is an experience gained over several years, which has generated numerous lessons learned. As required under ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour, most of the countries have established a list of hazardous work prohibited for children, a key instrument for labour inspection.

With a view to strengthen horizontal cooperation and facilitate exchanges between the staff of the Ministries of Labour, workshops for labour inspectors were organized in the two sub-regions, Central America and South America. The aim of the workshops was to facilitate the exchange of lessons learned and best practices developed, discuss obstacles identified with respect to the effective implementation of the list of hazardous work, and to learn from the experiences of countries, like Brazil, which have

advanced more quickly in various areas related to labour inspection, including child labour.

## Action

In Central America, the workshop was organized under the auspices of the sub-regional project "Prevention and Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala and Costa Rica" and it took place in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, 12 and 13 March 2008. In addition to the countries included in the project, Brazil, Chile, El Salvador, Panama and Dominican Republic participated.

Following the example of Central America, the workshop for the South American countries was held in Quito, Ecuador with the participation of Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.

In both workshops, Chile presented their experiences on the construction of a system for the registration of the Worst Forms of Child Labour and the Ministry of Labour of Brazil shared their experience in constituting a unitary labour inspection service.

Previously, Brazil, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic had already established a line of cooperation. In reciprocal visits, Brazil offered its assistance to the two countries in the development of labour inspection services suited to effectively detecting and addressing cases of child labour.

## Achievements/Accomplishments

In both workshops, the labour inspectors set out to develop a model of labour inspection that would be applicable in all the countries. Additionally agreement was reached on the need to develop protocols within each Labour Ministry, clarifying roles and responsibilities of the different units and services of the ministry. It was also deemed necessary to develop an intra-institutional protocol in order to clarify the lines of communication and cooperation with other ministries, such as the Ministry of Social Protection, and Ministries of Childhood. The underlying idea was to develop and implement a comprehensive system of integral protection for children victims of child labour.

The contact between the different ministries has remained after the workshop and continuing cooperation was established. Recently, in 2010, Argentina responded to a request from the government of Colombia, offering assistance in the field of labour inspections providing training workshops for Colombian officials.

## Sustainability

Horizontal cooperation among countries in Latin America on the lists of hazardous work has strengthened the technical capabilities of labour inspection in this field. The dynamics of horizontal cooperation initiated through the mentioned workshops, continues to this day, as evidenced by recent exchanges of experience, and the fact that future exchanges between other countries in the region are currently being planned.

## Lessons learned

The exchange of experiences has given labour inspectors a chance to learn about the situations and problems of other countries in the region, thus recognizing that all struggle with similar issues and difficulties, several of which can find their solution through joint efforts, partly, by way of horizontal cooperation. The exchange of experience has also shown that there is already a solid body of experience gained on labour inspection. This has led to the labour inspectors in the region feeling more capable of addressing the issue of child labour and to have ownership of the processes of improvement of labour inspectorates.

## Necessary conditions

It is necessary to have a vision of child labour, and in particular hazardous child labour, as a problem which affects society as a whole and which poses a serious threat to the development prospects of the countries in the region. Following this, a political commitment at the highest level, in the respective ministries of labour is needed, together with an understanding of the importance of labour inspectorates capable of fully addressing the problem of child labour.

## Central America: Launch of roadmaps against child labour

### Background

In the Sixteenth American Regional Meeting of the ILO held in Brasilia in 2006, the Hemispheric Agenda for Decent Work (HADW) was presented and adopted on a tripartite basis by governments and organizations of workers and employers. Among policy measures to boost enforcement of the fundamental principles and rights at work, the constituents decided to aim towards the progressive elimination of child labour. The goals adopted in the Agenda are (i) elimination of the worst forms of child labour in the region by 2015 and (ii) elimination of all forms of child labour by 2020.

As a result of the adoption of the HADW, and the need to intensify efforts to meet the goals outlined in it, the Ministries of Labour of the Central American countries (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, and Dominican Republic) requested IPEC's assistance in developing roadmaps towards the achievement of these goals.

### Action

In March 2008, IPEC convened in San José, Costa Rica, a first sub-regional strategic planning meeting of the National Commissions on Child Labour of the respective countries. During this first meeting, the ILO constituents developed a joint strategy including terms of reference for national assessments and a guideline defining the key areas to be covered in the roadmaps.

The national assessments identified the situation of child labour and its worst forms and the current status of public policies aimed at addressing this problem in each country. Upon completion of the national assessments, the process of designing the roadmaps in accordance with the guidelines determined during the strategic planning meeting was initiated.

### **Achievements/Accomplishments**

The roadmaps for all of the Central American countries follow the same outline and include homogenised strategies aiming towards the elimination of the worst forms of child labour in Central America by 2015. During the process, officials from different countries exchanged experiences and established a strong partnership that contributed to the development of the roadmaps. Guatemala was the first country that managed to finalize the national roadmap through a tripartite process and the experience proved useful for the other countries.

The process of developing national roadmaps led to the development of a sub-regional roadmap, designed by IPEC and validated by the Ministries of Labour in November 2009. It is expected that this roadmap will be approved shortly at the sub-regional level.

### **Sustainability**

In March 2010, with technical assistance from IPEC, a first review of the roadmaps was conducted. Each country discussed and planned the implementation of

the roadmaps and designed a monitoring and evaluation system to improve the capacities of ministries, public agencies, organizations of workers and employers, as well as civil society in general.

### **Lessons learned**

Countries that have already a system to gather information on child labour, must coordinate it with the monitoring and evaluation system of the roadmap.

To be able to count on a supranational roadmap makes it easier for regional actors as well as donors and cooperation agencies to identify priority areas. It also serves as a tool for the coordination of resource allocation in donor meetings and commissions. It also serves to identify areas where horizontal cooperation can be effective or where mechanisms of cooperation among countries serve to maximize the effect of the actions undertaken.

### **Necessary conditions**

An understanding of child labour as a problem which affects society as a whole and which is a serious hindrance to the country's development is necessary. A clear political commitment, at the highest level, to address the problem of child labour must exist. All institutions with competence and responsibilities in the various areas covered have to be fully involved.



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