

Drawing: Akello Jacky



AN ESTIMATED 1.76 MILLION 5-17 YEAR OLDS IN UGANDA ARE ENGAGED IN CHILD LABOUR

Background

Child labour is a significant social and economic problem in Uganda. It constitutes a grave violation of children's right to education and protection and is putting at risk the Republic's progress by limiting the potential of its future workforce. An estimated 1.76 million 5-17 year olds in Uganda are engaged in child labour. The educational achievement of these children is at risk because they either do not attend school or their schooling suffers from long hours dedicated to work. Child labour is found in agriculture, transport, mining and related sectors, fishing, construction, the urban informal sector, domestic service and commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC). Other activities include illegal cross border trade (smuggling) and trafficking of children within and outside the country for employment and other purposes. The most affected groups are HIV/AIDS affected and infected children, children from very poor families, orphans, children with disabilities as well as children caught up in armed conflict.



Drawing: Koesiliwye Betty

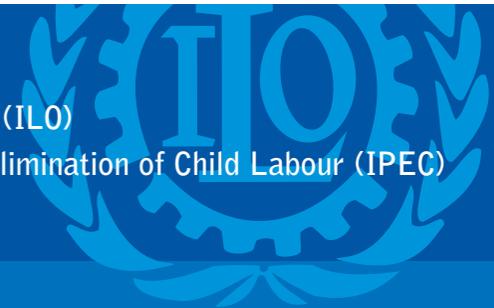


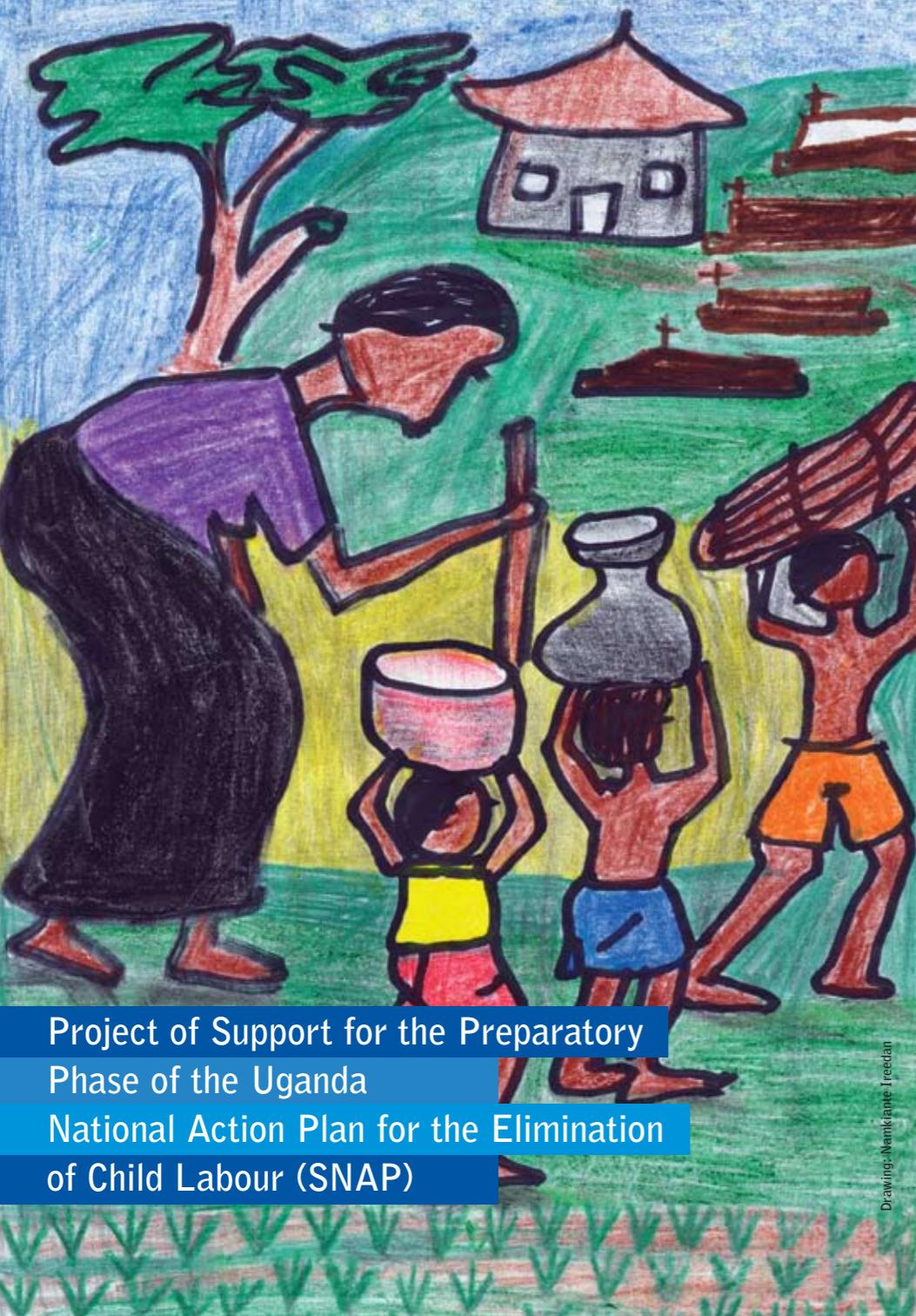
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ILO – IPEC

International Labour Organization (ILO)
International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)





Project of Support for the Preparatory Phase of the Uganda National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour (SNAP)

Project Objective



Drawing: Kasasa Edrine

- By the end of the project, social and economic policies and legal and regulatory frameworks that form the foundation for actions to combat the WFCL will be reinforced.
- By the end of the project, people and institutions at all levels of Ugandan society will be supported to mobilize against child labour through heightened awareness of its negative consequences and increased knowledge of the ways and means to combat the problem.
- By the end of the project, a multidisciplinary and integrated area-based model of intervention laying the foundation for the establishment of "child labour free zones" at the district level (The selected three districts are Wakiso, Mbale and Rakai) will be created and available for replication throughout the country.

Project at a Glance

This 44 month Project of Support for the preparatory phase of the Uganda National Action Plan is being funded by the US Department of Labor and, it aims to assist the Government to further strengthen its legal, policy, institutional and social foundations for timely, large-scale action against the Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL). To achieve this, interventions will be designed to tap into components of the Ugandan Decent Work Country Program (UDWCP) as well as the opportunities offered by other current political, social and economic development programmes and policies in Uganda. Most important strategically, this project will seek closer linkages to the Orphans and other Vulnerable Children (OVC) Policy and Action Plan which targets children engaged in child labour among other vulnerable groups

and supports; integrated programs at the district level in the areas of education, social protection and livelihood development.

The project will contribute to the finalization and support for the implementation of a five year National Action Plan (NAP) to combat the WFCL, currently in draft form. This Project of Support (PoS) will facilitate the process of translation of the National Child Labour Policy (NCLP) into a finalized NAP and will contribute to the implementation of the Plan by strengthening the legal framework and enforcement mechanisms for protecting children from exploitative work and abuse, reinforcing the knowledge base, awareness raising and the piloting of an integrated area-based approach (IABA) in support of vulnerable families and children in three

districts for later replication in other districts. Activities that address three cross-cutting concerns will be weaved into all components of the project: preventing the spread and mitigating the effects of HIV/AIDS on children; assuring that gender concerns, in particular the special concerns of the girl child, are addressed, and; providing forums and opportunities for children's participation in project interventions.

The IABA will aim to create good-practice models that lay the groundwork for the establishment of child-labour free zones that can be scaled-up throughout the country. Project interventions will strengthen community capacity to manage risk and address the needs of its most vulnerable members, enhance local governments' capacity for social service provision and coordination and create an enabling environment at the district level for combating child labour through awareness raising, training, as well as support for child labour bylaws and their enforcement. The

project will leverage expertise and resources from other ILO technical units in the areas of cooperative development, youth employment and entrepreneurship training and local economic development to pilot innovative and multidisciplinary approaches to combating child labour in targeted districts. Within the direct action component of the program, a total of about 8,000 children will be targeted for withdrawal and prevention from child labour through the provision of educational and non-educational services following direct action from the project. 1,100 parents/adult caregivers of targeted children will be supported to improve their livelihoods and referred to existing social protection mechanisms in their community to enable them to support their children in school.

The Project of Support will be firmly anchored in the most solid structures that the Government of Uganda has for outreach to the districts – those for reaching out to OVCs and preventing HIV/AIDS.



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THE DEATH OF PARENTS IS A BIG LOSS TO A CHILD. IT MAKES THE CHILDREN HELPLESS AND FORCES THEM INTO CHILD LABOUR