The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) leads international efforts to defeat hunger by helping member nations to raise levels of nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, reduce rural poverty, and increase the contribution of the rural economy. Since its founding in 1945, FAO has provided information, knowledge, policy assistance, and a working forum for nations to help develop policies and strategies in transition to improved agriculture, forestry and fisheries practices and ensure good nutrition for all.

FAO recognizes that the causes of child labor in agriculture are rooted in poverty and that generating alternative income sources for rural households is critical to reduce the need for child labor. Most of FAO’s work has an indirect effect on child labor. FAO works with children to work in agriculture through livelihood diversification, enterprise and agribusiness development, improved access to land and other livelihood assets especially by the landless, employment generation programs, improvement of labor productivity and adult wages, and strengthened participation of smallholders and workers not only in the national economy, but also in policy formulation.

IFAD aims member governments to recognize the different needs and constraints that boys and girls face and to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in agriculture through policy and technical assistance, information, research, and good practices related to rural employment and decent work.

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is an international financial institution and a specialized United Nations agency dedicated to eradicating poverty and hunger in rural areas of developing countries. Through low-interest loans and grants, IFAD develops and finances programmes that fit within national systems and constraints that boys and girls face and to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in agriculture.

IFAD’s goal is the progressive elimination of child labor by strengthening rural capacity to address child labor problems and by creating a world-wide movement to combat child labor. Child labor involves the worst forms of child labor, as per ILO Convention No. 182, which include hazardous work, commercial sexual exploitation, trafficking of children and other forms of slavery. The ILO seeks to strategically position child labor elimination at the mainstream of development and poverty reduction strategies of its member countries in order to encourage and integrate child labor issues and concerns. In closing, the ILO through its International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (ECLP) – emphasizes the need for assessing and monitoring the extent and nature of the problem, the strengthening of institutional capacities and the prevention of the development and implementation of child labor policies.

For IFAP, the causes of child labor are rooted in the livelihood systems of rural areas. Child labor could be described as a function of the myriad of agricultural, along with other issues such as, for example, hunger, lack of education and so on. For IFAP, the right to food – a fundamental human right which is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights – is inalienable and inalienable from other human rights that protect the environment.

The International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IUF) is a world farmers’ organization which, currently represents more than 13 million family farmers with a membership of 115 national farmers’ organizations representing 12 million workers in 128 countries. Members are categorized as the world’s largest workforce - often live in poverty and are frequently excluded from social security systems and legal rights enjoyed by other categories of workers. The IUF believes that adult poverty is the major cause of child labor and that seeking to improve living and working conditions of adult workers in agriculture is key to the elimination of child labor. As a global union of farmers representing workers throughout the food chain, the IUF has been able to influence major transnational companies in the food and tobacco sectors to raise standards along the food chain, including eliminating child labor in agriculture.
A strong and sustained global effort is underway to eliminate child labour in agriculture, especially what is termed hazardous child labour. Cooperation on elimi-
nation of hazardous child labour in agriculture is acti-
vitely being developed between the International Labour Organiza-
tion (ILO) and international agricultural or-
ganizations, notably the Food and Agriculture Organiza-
tion (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP - representing farmers/employers and their organizations), and the International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hospital, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers’ Associations (IUF - representing wor-
kers and their organization).

World Day Against Child Labour 12 June 2007 repre-
sents a significant landmark in this global effort. The World Day Against Child Labour (WDACL), 12 June 2007, is on elimination of child labour in agriculture, especially hazardous child labour. Since agricultural child labour is rooted in the culture is the sector where by far the largest share of working children is found — nearly 70 percent. Over 132 million girls and boys, aged 5 to 14 years old, work in agriculture and other sectors of the informal economy. This figure includes working children in fisheries and forestry. In many developing countries, farmers and waged workers are among the poorest groups in society, whose lack of experience or training and still-de-
volving hazards and risk associated with it. Elimination of child labour also means dealing with issues affecting adult agricultural workers as child labour is linked to adult poverty. Policy coherency on child labour must centre on the concept of promoting decent work. Poverty reduc-
tion strategies at country level should support the elimination of hazardous child labour. Child labour concerns should be integrated into the leading practices and conditions for loans of development banks.

International agricultural agencies and organizations can play important roles in eliminating child labour in agriculture, especially hazardous work. These organi-
zations represent an important conduit to the national level because of their close contacts with national ministries or departments of agriculture, agricultural extension services, farmers’ organizations and coopera-
tive networks, agricultural producer organizations, agricul-
tural research bodies and other organizations.

Children’s participation in family farm activities helps them learn valuable skills, build self-esteem and contribute to the generation of household in-
come, which has a positive impact on their own livelihoods. However, children should not be working, especially in agriculture, especially hazardous work. These organi-
zations represent an important conduit to the national level because of their close contacts with national ministries or departments of agriculture, agricultural extension services, farmers’ organizations and coopera-
tive networks, agricultural producer organizations, agricul-
tural research bodies and other organizations.

1. Apply laws on child labour

Actions in this regard should include:
- Effective application of the minimum legal working age in agriculture
- Prohibition of hazardous work in agriculture for girls and boys under 18 years of age and effective prevention of children entering such work
- Protection of children who have reached the minimum legal age to work by improving health and safety standards in the agricul-
tural sector.

2. Take action to ensure children do not carry out hazardous work in agriculture

Agriculture is one of the three most hazardous work sectors — along with mining and construction. In agriculture, work is in terms of work-related deaths and injuries and health, and it is this especially true for children, whose lack of experience or training and still-de-
volving hazards and risk associated with it. Elimination of child labour also means dealing with issues affecting adult agricultural workers as child labour is linked to adult poverty. Policy coherency on child labour must centre on the concept of promoting decent work. Poverty reduc-
tion strategies at country level should support the elimination of hazardous child labour. Child labour concerns should be integrated into the leading practices and conditions for loans of development banks.

Elimination of child labour also means dealing with issues affecting adult agricultural workers as child labour is linked to adult poverty. Policy coherency on child labour must centre on the concept of promoting decent work. Poverty reduc-
tion strategies at country level should support the elimination of hazardous child labour. A key to reducing child labour in agriculture is building strong rural institutions, which include farmers’ organizations and trade unions that send children to school and meet other conditions can help sig-
ificantly reduce child labour and increase school enrolment.

Education is an essential prerequisite for reducing poverty, improving agriculture and the living con-
ditions of rural people and building a food-secure world. But rural children generally have poor access to quality education due to lack of schools, lack of or poorly trained teachers, and irrelevant curricula, or because their families cannot afford the school fees. Many are urgently needed to overcome the agricultural and gender gap in education and to improve the quality of basic rural education and access to it.

3. Promote youth employment opportunities in agriculture and rural areas

Children’s participation in family farm activities helps them learn valuable skills, build self-esteem and contribute to the generation of household income, which has a positive impact on their own livelihoods. However, children should not be working, especially in agriculture, especially hazardous work. These organi-
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ers and their organizations).

**World Day Against Child Labour**

**Key Messages**

1. **Apply laws on child labour**
   - Actions in this regard should include:
     - Effective application of the minimum legal working age in jobs to agriculture
     - Prohibition of hazardous work in agriculture for girls and boys under 18 years of age and effective prevention of children entering such work
     - Protection of children who have reached the minimum legal age to work by improving health and safety standards in the agricul-
tural sector.

2. **Take action to ensure children do not carry out hazardous work in agriculture**
   - Agriculture is one of the three most hazardous work sectors — along with mining and construction — in terms of workers' deaths and injuries and ill health, and it is especially true for children, whose lack of experience and training and still-de-
veloping bodies make them particularly vulnerable.

   Some agricultural activities — mining and apply-
ing pesticides, using certain types of machinery — are so dangerous that children should be clearly prohibited from engaging in them.

   In many developing countries, farmers and waged workers are among the poorest groups in society, who often lack knowledge and protection from hazards and risks, with implications for child labourers.

   3. **Promote rural strategies and programmes aimed at improving rural livelihoods, and bring child labour concerns into the mainstream of rural development policies**
   - A key to reducing child labour in agriculture is building strong rural institutions, which include farmers’ organizations and trade unions that can collectively bargain to improve adult incomes, wages and labour standards.

   Without strong institutions that can bargain effectively, child labour will continue to be a problem. Measures are urgently needed to overcome the structural and gender gap in education and to improve the quality of basic rural education and access to it.

   4. **Overcome the urban-rural and gender gap in education**
   - Child labour is part of the survival strategy in many rural areas. In most cases parents would prefer to send their children to school, but two-thirds of the world’s poor people live in rural areas, and many rural parents are too poor to pay school fees. Even if schooling is free, costs such as books and other school materials, clothing, shoes, and transporta-
tion can be a heavy economic burden. In many cul-
tures, girls are even more disadvantaged as there is a preference to invest in the education of boys when money is limited.

   Parents value education. They see it as an avenue for social advancement. They want their children to learn and work to earn a living. So, if schools are able to obtain fair prices for their products.

   National governments, international organizations, donor agencies and civil society organizations should give particular attention to their agricultural policies and work to eliminate the hazardous child labour.

   Child labour concerns should be integrated into the leading practices and conditions for farms of development banks.

   Elimination of child labour also means dealing with issues affecting adult agricultural workers as child labour is linked to adult poverty. Policy coherence on child labour must centre on the concept of promoting decent work. Poverty reduc-
tion strategies at country level should support the elimination of child labour.

   A key to reducing child labour in agriculture is building strong rural institutions, which include farmers’ organizations and trade unions that can collec-
tively bargain to improve adult incomes, wages and labour standards.

   Without strong institutions change cannot be brought about.

**Introduction**

The World Day Against Child Labour (WDACL), 12 June 2007, is an elimination of child labour in agri-
culture, especially the worst forms. Worldwide, agricul-
ture is the sector where by far the largest share of working children is found — nearly 70 percent. Over 132 million girls and boys, aged 5 to 14 years old, work in crop and livestock production, helping supply some of the food and drink we consume and the fibres and raw materials we use to make other products. Children, according to International Labour Or-
ganization conventions, is work that harms children’s well-being, hinders their education, development, and future livelihood. When children are forced to work long hours in the fields, that ability to attend school or take care of younger brothers and sisters is limited, preventing them from gaining knowledge that could help lift them out of poverty in the future. Girls are particularly dead-
end when it comes to undernourished household chores and farm work.

It must be pointed out that all work, that children un-
dergo as a matter of course or that they would or could be made to do, is eliminated from the ILO Minimum Age Convention No. 138; the ILO Minimum Age Convention No. 182. Agriculture-specific tasks such as the work they do and the risks with which they are confronted. Nevertheless, the main issues in child work are: hard work, long hours, and the risks with which children can be confronted, providing them with both re-
wards and social skills for work as adults. Employed self-
sufficiently, the children work, and work conditions lead them into young people, aged in some areas 20 years or more.

In agriculture, many children — up to 80 percent in some countries — are working in hazardous conditions. Children in many developing countries need to attend school. In many developing countries, however, children should not be working from participating in work that is harmful to health, safety, development and well-being. Young persons who attain the minimum age for work should be encouraged to enter agricultural work as a means of promoting youth employment. It is important to note that young persons who obtain formal training and work under safe and decent conditions.

*This figure includes working children in fisheries and forestry.*
of the food and drink we consume and the fibres and fabrics that we use to make our homes comfortable.

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The World Day Against Child Labour (WDACL), 12 June 2007, is an elimination of child labour in agriculture, especially the worst forms. Worldwide, agriculture is the sector where by far the largest share of child labour is found. Ninety percent, 132 million girls and boys, aged 5 to 14 years old, work in the agricultural sector. Especially the worst forms of child labour are found in agriculture. Worldwide, agricultural organizations, notably the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP - representing farmers/employers and their organizations), and the International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers’ Associations (IUF - representing workers and their organizations).

Introduction

Children’s participation in family activities helps them learn valuable skills, build self-esteem and contribute to the generation of household incomes, which has a positive impact on their own well-being. However, children should not be participating in work that is harmful to poor families or poorly trained teachers, and irrelevant curricula, which has a positive impact on their own well-being. However, children should not be participating in work that is harmful to their health, safety, development and well-being. Young people who attain the minimum legal age for work should be encouraged to enter agricultural work as a means of promoting youth employment. It is important to remember that these are just estimates, and real conditions can be significantly worse.

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The partner organizations

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) leads international efforts to defeat hunger by helping member nations to raise levels of nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, reduce the levels of rural poverty and contribute to the growth of the world economy. Since its founding in 1945, FAO has provided information, knowledge, policy assistance, and a meeting place for members to help develop policies and strategies in transition to improve agriculture, forestry and fisheries practices and ensure good nutrition for all.

FAO recognizes that the causes of child labor in agriculture are rooted in poverty and that generating alternative income sources for rural households is critical to reduce the risk of child labor for women and children. Most of FAO’s work has an indirect effect on child labor. FAO works to help countries to shift from agriculture through food insecurity, enterprises and agribusiness development, improved access to land and other livelihood assets especially for the landless, employment generation programmes, improvement of labor productivity and adult wages, and strengthen participation of smallholders and workers not only in the market economy, but also in policy formulation.

FAO assists member governments to recognize the different needs and constraints that boys and girls face and to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. FAO will increase assistance and resources allocated to rural development.

Poverty reduction: IFAD’s work to improve access to resources can help break the cycle of rural poverty.

Promoting market access and income generation for farmers. With increased incomes, farming households are less likely to need to supplement household incomes by sending their children to work.

Reducing the incidence of child labor by strengthening national capacities to address child labor problems, and by creating a movement to combat it.

A priority is to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. An ILO Convention, No. 182, which includes labor渭he work, commercial sexual exploitation, trafficking of children and all forms of slavery.

The ILO seeks to strategically position child labor elimination at the center of human resources development and poverty reduction strategies of its member countries in order to encourage and integrate child labor issues. In doing so, the ILO – through its International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) – emphasizes the need for assessing and monitoring the extent and nature of the problem, the strengthening of institutional capacities and the provision of assistance for the development and implementation of policies and strategies to eliminate child labor.

IPEC is an alliance of organizations representing 12 million workers in 128 countries. Members are employed in agriculture, the preparation and manufacture of food and beverages, hotels, restaurants and catering services, and all stages of tobacco processing.

The partner organizations

The International Labour Organization (ILO) leads international efforts to defeat hunger, lack of education and so on. Of the neglect of agriculture, along with issues such as, for example, child labor.

IPEC also works to end trade union rights, eliminate child labor (ILO’s 182) and eliminate it.

For the ILO, the right to food - a fundamental human right which is mediated by the persistence of massive hunger - is inseparable from rights for those who produce the world’s food. Agricultural workers - the world’s largest workforce - often live in poverty and are frequently excluded from social security systems and legal rights enjoyed by other categories of workers. The IUF believes that adult poverty is the major cause of child labor and that working to improve the living and working conditions of adult workers in agriculture is key to the elimination of child labor.

As a global trade union representing workers throughout the food chain, the IUF has been able to influence many transnational companies in the food and tobacco sectors to raise standards along the food chain, including eliminating child labor in agriculture.

International Labour Organization (ILO) - Tel.: +41 (0) 22 799 81 81
E-mail: ipec@ilo.org
http://www.ilo.org/childlabour
Photos: FAO, ILO, Panos UK.
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The International Labour Organization (ILO) leads international efforts to defeat hunger by helping member nations to raise levels of nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, better the lives of rural populations and contribute to the growth of the world economy. Since its founding in 1919, ILO has provided information, knowledge, policy assistance, and a meeting place for nations to help develop policies and strategies to improve agriculture, forestry and fisheries practices and ensure good nutrition for all.

IMF recognizes that the cause of child labor in agriculture is rooted in poverty and that generating alternative income sources for rural households is critical to reduce the need for children to work. Most of IMF's work has an indirect effect on child labor. IMF's work is needed for children to work in agriculture through food price volatility, which increases food poverty and child labor requirements associated with annual cropping in order to reduce the pressure on child labor.

The International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labor (IPEC) is an initiative of the United Nations and the International Labour Organization. IPEC's mission is to help break the cycle of rural poverty by eliminating the worst forms of child labor, and promoting acceptable types of farm work. A priority is to eliminate the worst forms of child labor, as per ILO Convention No. 182, which includes forced labor, commercial sexual exploitation, trafficking of children and all forms of slavery.

The IIED works to strengthen policy analysis and development of agricultural policies and related social policies so that children of vulnerable rural households will work as child laborers.

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is an international financial institution owned by 68 member states and established with the support of the United Nations. IFAD is an agency dedicated to eradicating poverty and hunger in rural areas of developing countries. Through low-interest loans and grants, IFAD develops projects that help increase agricultural productivity and allow families to raise their living standards.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) leads international efforts to defeat hunger by helping member nations to raise levels of nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, better the lives of rural populations and contribute to the growth of the world economy. Since its founding in 1919, ILO has provided information, knowledge, policy assistance, and a meeting place for nations to help develop policies and strategies to improve agriculture, forestry and fisheries practices and ensure good nutrition for all.

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IFAP, a key need is to help farm families move out of the poverty trap and break the cycle of rural poverty. Unless the poor are organized they will remain politically powerless and economically disadvantaged. Thus for IFAP, a successful fight against hunger and poverty requires well-organized partners to work with. Farm organizations are a crucial link in rural development as partners with governments.

The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) is a world leader in agricultural research aimed at improving the welfare of the world's poor. IFPRI conducts cutting-edge research to develop evidence-based solutions to tough development issues and to improve the nutritional status and food security of the world’s poor in developing countries. IFPRI’s research is focused on improving agricultural productivity and efficiency, developing sustainable agricultural policies and practices, and strengthening livelihoods and food security.

ILO’s strategies have put increasing emphasis on poverty alleviation as – the world’s largest workforce - often live in poverty and are frequently excluded from social security systems and legal rights enjoyed by other categories of workers. The IUF believes that adult poverty is the major cause of child labour and that working to improve living and working conditions of adult workers will decrease as more attention and resources are allocated to rural development.

The World Bank Group is an international organization of five financial institutions that work together to achieve sustainable development outcomes in economies around the world. The World Bank Group has three main units: the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Development Association (IDA), and the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

The World Food Programme (WFP) is a United Nations agency leading the global fight against hunger since it was created in 1963. WFP uses food and other aid to help the world’s most vulnerable people recover from灾害, and to develop the resilience that will end hunger once and for all. This year in 2022, WFP is working to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are a set of 17 goals to end poverty, hunger, and inequality, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all.

The World Food Programme (WFP) is an agency of the United Nations that is led by the United States. WFP works with about 150 member states and other international organizations to help the world’s most vulnerable people recover from disaster and to develop the resilience that will end hunger once and for all. WFP uses food and other aid to help the world’s most vulnerable people recover from 2022 disasters, and to develop the resilience that will end hunger once and for all.

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