



# SCREAM

Stop Child Labour



International  
Labour  
Organization

Supporting Children's Rights through Education, the Arts and the Media

## Teachers' trade unions mainstream the topic of child labour in education curricula for children and teachers (Tajikistan)

### BACKGROUND

The Trade Union of Education and Science Workers of Tajikistan (TUESWT) is an active partner in the elimination of child labour in Tajikistan and the largest trade union organization in Tajikistan. Since 2009, TUESWT has been an active partner in the elimination of child labour in Tajikistan, participating in various trainings and workshops and implementing a number of programs to address child labour.

In 2013, TUESWT initiated the process of developing a curriculum (four sessions) on "The role of education workers in the elimination of child labour", drawn up by the National Institute for the Professional Development of Teachers (NIPDT), and an extra-curricular item (five sessions) on "Child labour and its consequences" in both Tajik and Russian for children in grades 5-11, drawn up by the National Training and Methodology Centre (NTMC). The teaching resources were approved by the Ministry of Education and Science (MES) under Regulation #18/64 (30.10.2014). The resources were subsequently integrated into the NIPDT's training sessions and into the extra-curricular programme of the education system of Tajikistan for grades 5-9.

### WHY IS THIS A GOOD PRACTICE?

This good practice demonstrates the leading role education trade unions can play in mainstreaming child labour issues into the national curriculum. The Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On agreements and collective bargaining in the Republic of Tajikistan" provided the entry point for TUESWT to work with the MES on this issue. The TUESWT and the MES subsequently signed an agreement which created the legal framework for cooperation and mutual trust.

### ACTION AND ACHIEVEMENTS

To raise awareness about child labour and reinforce the capacity of TUESWT members and education trade union activists to address the problem, a three-day training workshop was held for 30 participants on ILO-IPEC's Non-Formal Education manual for teachers and the Supporting Children's Rights through Education, the Arts and the Media (SCREAM) Education Pack. The training workshop also aimed at



TUESWT Chairman and consultant review the curriculum for education workers and the extra-curricular item for children. Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 2013.

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Good practice

strengthening the skills and abilities of teachers to improve access to education for children who are not attending school and/or who have gaps in their education by the use of training programs developed for evening schools, the SCREAM pack and the Non-Formal Education manual. The Trade Union of Education and Science Workers of Kyrgyzstan (TUESWK) was invited to conduct the workshop, so as to benefit from their experience in mobilizing the Ministry of Education and other parties in Kyrgyzstan and to promote the exchange of knowledge and experience on the role of teachers' trade unions in combating child labour.



A teacher and TUESWT specialist present to the group during a workshop on ILO-IPEC's Non-Formal Education manual for teachers and the SCREAM education pack, Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 2013.

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In 2013, as a follow up to this training, as well as to the National Workshop on Child Labour and Education in 2010 and the regional workshop on Child Labour and Education in 2011, the TUESWT initiated the process of developing a curriculum of four sessions on the "Role of education workers in the elimination of child labour" and an extra-curricular item of five sessions on "Child labour and its consequences" in Tajik and Russian for children in grades 5-11. A MoU was first signed between the NIPDT, NTMC and TUESWT on developing these teaching resources. In addition, curricula specialists from both institutions were hired to develop the teaching resources, under TUESWT's guidance.

## SUSTAINABILITY

To ensure sustainability, the curriculum on "The role of education workers in the elimination of child labour" for teachers will be used by NIPDT branches during their professional development training sessions with school directors and their deputies and with teachers and other education workers. In this way, it is expected that more than 10,000 teachers per year will be trained on the resources and thus be better equipped to address child labour. As far as the extra-curricular item is concerned, it will be used in 3,000 schools throughout the country and will increase children's knowledge about child labour and its consequences. Both the curriculum and extra-curricular item were approved by the Ministry of Education and Science under Regulation #18/64 (30.10.2014).

## LESSONS LEARNED

The collaboration of partners at different levels is essential to ensure sustainable outcomes in the long term. The cooperation between the teachers' trade union and the MES allowed for child labour issues to be mainstreamed into the curriculum of the national education system. The successful mobilization of national institutions by teachers' trade unions on child labour issues will help support teachers in their role in combating the problem and ensure systematic awareness raising activities by schoolchildren and teachers.

## REFERENCES

- Extracted from ILO-IPEC: *Good Practices on the Elimination of Child Labour in Central Asia*. ILO, Geneva, 2014.

## CONTACT

Muhayo Khosabekova, ILO Tajikistan (khosabekova@ilo.org)  
Snezhi Bedalli, ILO Geneva (bedalli@ilo.org)

ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)  
ILO - 4 route des Morillons - CH-1211 Geneva 22 - Switzerland (www.ilo.org/ipec – ipec@ilo.org)

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