



*The International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour*

# **Mainstreaming & Monitoring Child Labour: TACKLE Project**

*EC/EuropeAid – EC/ILO Joint Seminar on Employment & Social Protection & Decent Work in ACP countries*

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# Mainstreaming Child Labour in National Policy & Legislative Frameworks.

## ***Introduction to Mainstreaming Concept:***

- ***ILO Convention No. 182 calls for ILO member states to put in place time bound measures to secure prohibition & elimination of the worst forms of child labour ; (to date 169 countries have ratified the Convention)***
- ***Countries that ratify this Convention have obligations to ensure access to free basic education and appropriate vocational training for all children removed from WFCL;***
- ***Member states must ensure child labour concerns are mainstreamed in coordinated policies and interventions with clear goals, specific targets while addressing the root causes of child labour and linking action to:***
  - ***National development policies (PRSPs, NDFs, UNDAFs) & relevant legislation e.g. children's laws, sexual offences laws, labour laws, education Acts , trafficking laws***
  - ***Macro-economic trends strategies;***
  - ***demographic and labour market processes and outcomes with emphasis on social policies to combat poverty and promote universal basic education and social protection***
  - ***The ILO seeks to strategically position child labour elimination at the macro-level in socio-economic development and poverty reduction strategies in order to encourage mainstreaming and integration of child labour issues and concerns.***



## Cont.....Child Labour Mainstreaming Concept – Main Tenets:

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### **Mainstreaming:**

- Mainstreaming of child labour refers to analysing and responding to child labour issues at policy, organizational and programming levels.
- Child labour mainstreaming is aimed at promoting a comprehensive strategy towards eventual elimination of child labour.
- In essence: Child labour mainstreaming is about developing and implementing measures that prevent or alleviate child labour within core areas of existing policies and programs.
- Mainstreaming does not in any way mitigate against specific actions to withdraw children from hazardous work and is not a substitute for such action.
- Approaches to mainstreaming child labour in national policy agenda are contingent on national circumstances – are largely informed by empirical evidence of the nature and extent of child labour as well adequate data to back action.
- To develop preventative strategies, child labour has to be understood as a violation of children's rights

# TACKLE Project : Tackling Child Labour through education

- Causes of child labour are complex; but it is clear that child labour diminishes children's health, affects their prospects later in life; child labour perpetuates poverty and poverty perpetuates child labour.
- Elimination of child labour contributes to achievement of the major development targets i.e. MDGS especially the one on Universal education.
- **QUALITY ACCESSIBLE EDUCATION FOR ALL CHILDREN SHOULD BE A RIGHT FOR ALL CHILDREN : Main focus of TACKLE project.**
- **TACKLE project** : A true partnership between EC and ILO. TACKLE supports Ministries of labour & Education with mainly technical assistance.
- 11 Country Project covering: Kenya, Angola, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Zambia, Mali, Madagascar, Guyana, Jamaica Papua New Guinea and Fiji)
- TACKLE project is implemented in a strategic partnership signed between ILO and the EC in 2004. It aims at reinforcing ILO and EC efforts to reduce poverty and improve labour conditions in developing countries.
- Funding: 15 million Euros for a 4 year project



# Strategies for Child labour Mainstreaming in TACKLE Project

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- **Overall Project Objective:**

To reduce poverty by providing access to basic education and skills training for disadvantaged children and youth.

- **Purpose:** To strengthen the capacity of national and local authorities in the formulation, implementation and enforcement of policies to tackle child labour in coordination with the constituents and civil society.

- **Project Result Areas**

- Legal framework strengthened
- Institutional capacity improved
- Design of targeted actions to combat child labour
- Enhanced advocacy and dissemination of good practices to enhance knowledge base and networks on child labour and education

The project has to date been launched with project start up activities underway in Kenya, Mali, Zambia and will soon be launched in Sudan.



# Progress in Implementing TACKLE Project: Kenya

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- Partnership Protocol was signed in July 2008 with MOL, MOE, EU and ILO and launched, staff hired and project office in place;
- Working with the Ministry of Education, the project is in the last stage of completing the draft Non-Formal Education Policy which has incorporated adult education component;
- A study on “factors inhibiting education access, retention and completion by children from vulnerable communities ”was commissioned – joint effort between MOE and UNICEF & TACKLE;
- A study on market oriented skills training is underway to inform design of a skills/apprenticeship training program
- 7 government officers sponsored to attend different courses at the ILO Turin Centre; 2 MOE, 4 MOL & 1 Ministry of Gender & Children Affairs.
- 2 direct action proposals have been developed : Ministry of Agriculture working in 4 districts to remove 900 children from WFCL and prevent 300 from joining Child labour.
- Second direct action program is focused on skills training and basic literacy for slum dwelling children in Nairobi and Kisumu.
- Ongoing awareness raising/advocacy events targeting Kenya National Union of teachers, media and other NGOs.



# Conclusion

- **Mainstreaming** is everybody's business and requires partnership with many actors at all levels;
- **All actors** require a sound knowledge base on child labour prevalence to initiate action;
- **Addressing child labour concerns** requires capacity building of essential actors as well as relevant institutions to understand how child labour links with other development priorities;
- **The most effective strategy to tackle child labour** is to recognize that although action is required at all fronts, focus should be more on linking the causes of child labour with the main national policy agenda to ensure adequate resources go to where the needs are and make more impact on the lives of many child labourers.
- **Child labour monitoring should be a bottom up community driven process** with strong support at the district and household level.



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**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION  
ASANTENI SANA**