



*The International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour*

# **Mainstreaming & Monitoring Child Labour: A case study for South Africa: TECL II Project**

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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 policy;***
  - ***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 mobilization***
  - ***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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1. The mainstreaming process requires the highest level political support to formulate proactive national policies and programmes for integrating child labour issues into relevant laws, development policies and programmes & for mobilization of national resources.
2. it is initiated, led & owned by the country in terms of planning, implementation and resource mobilization;
3. ILO's role through IPEC is a catalyst, facilitator and provider of technical/policy assistance
4. National frameworks to combat child labour are revised and aligned to achieve national and ILO targets to reduce child labour through comprehensive & scaled-up programmes that combine upstream policy oriented interventions covering awareness raising, legislation and enforcement, education, employment and social protection with withdrawal and rehabilitation interventions;
5. Knowledge on child labour of stakeholders and partners is strengthened underpinned by extensive data collection & analysis;
6. Involvement of tripartite and as many stakeholders to adapt country specific needs as well as develop partners' capacities to address exploitive child labour on a sustainable basis through effective and sustainable community-based pilot initiatives to serve as replicable models for the country.
7. Systematic monitoring and evaluation to ensure effective and timely attainment of the goal of eliminating WFCL.
8. ILO's Global Action Plan (GAP) against child labour endorsed by the Governing Body in 2006 set a target of 2016 for the effective abolition of all worst forms of child labour.
9. The GAP calls for the ILO to support national response to child labour in particular through more effective mainstreaming of child labour in national development and policy frameworks3 and



# TECL II Project – South Africa

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## ***Development Goal:***

- The TECL II Regional project builds on the achievements of the first phase (ILO / IPEC project: *Towards the Elimination of the worst forms of Child Labour* (TECL)).
- TECL I supported the implementation of the Child Labour Programme of Action (CLPA) in South Africa and laid the basis for concerted action against child labour in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland, by putting into place National Action Plans (NAPs) on the elimination of child labour in the latter four countries.
- Botswana and Namibia are the main target countries for TECL II (a) they have drafted and endorsed NAPs, (b) had concluded memoranda of understanding with the ILO on steps to eliminate child labour; and (c) the good chances of success for the TECL II interventions.
- Both countries have a relatively well-developed system of social services that could easily reach vulnerable children and their families, and are close to achieving the MDG objective on education.
- South Africa has been included in TECL II to ensure that government-driven action under the national child labour action – developed under TECL I – is effective and sustainable.
- The project aims to ensure that the South Africa experience becomes a source of learning and good practice in the sub region and beyond.



# Strategies for Mainstreaming in TECL Project – South Africa

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- In South Africa, the Labour Force survey indicates that about 847,000 children between ages 10- 17 yrs are involved in child labour. There is also clear evidence of child trafficking, Commercial sex exploitation of children and use of children in illicit activities.
- Child labour was mainstreamed in the Child Labour Plan of Action (CLPA) first adopted in 2003 as South Africa's roadmap to the prevention, reduction and eventual elimination of child labour.
- The CLPA is a key reference point for priorities of key government work plans.
- In 2007 the CLPA was updated and the new plan has set implementation for the period 2008 – 2012.
- Reviewing existing national policies, legislative and enforcement frameworks and putting in place revised and/or new frameworks as appropriate.
- The focus of the plan is government-driven action guided by national priorities to the eradicate socio-economic problems which cause poverty and put children at the risk of going into child labour.



# Achievements in Mainstreaming Child Labour concerns in Policies & Legislation

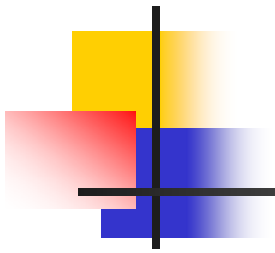
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- Expansion of measures to relieve household poverty which is the main driver of child labour;
- Number of child labour support grants increased from 3.6 million beneficiaries in 2003 to 8.1 million in 2008;
- From 2009 upper limit was increased for children to benefit until they are 15yrs – bringing the upper age limit close to the minimum age for legal employment;
- School fees have been abolished in a significant percentage of schools in the countries poorest communities;
- Comprehensive HIV/AIDS care and treatment are steadily becoming available to prolong life & slow the growth in the number of orphans and child – headed households;
- Legislation to address child labour has been strengthened substantially; e.g. the Children’s Act;
- Key ministries are pioneering strategies to address child labour; pilot projects were developed to test methodologies to prevent and stop child labour; many should be scaled up and applied nationally e.g
- Procedures were developed to help police and justice officials to recognize when child offenders were exploited by adults;
- A tool was developed by municipalities to provide water to areas where children were fetching water as a form of child labour; the department of water & forestry has introduced the tool nationally and they monitor its impact;
- A study of scavenging at landfills and dumping sites help to recommend on how to remove children from this hazardous activity.

# What remains to be Achieved

Target Areas	Adopted Approaches
<b>Strengthening the legislative framework</b>	Law enforcement by putting the Children's Act effectively to work, tightening the controls on hazardous work
<b>Intensifying efforts to effective implementation of the CLPA on a national scale</b>	building capacity to further mainstream the national action, technical advice in monitoring operations of the NAP and especially the education sector.
<b>Monitor the impact of mainstreaming child labour into government policies and programs in direct interventions with child beneficiaries</b>	Provide information on some of the mainstreaming impact that the NAP has had on child labour in South Africa.
<b>Monitor withdrawal of 1,400 children from child labour and prevent 2,800 from going into child labour</b>	Support departments to develop effective monitoring tools as well as facilitate the documentation and dissemination of good practices and lessons learnt for replication.





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**THANK YOU**

**FOR**

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