

MARCH, 2008

**TRAINING WORKSHOP BY INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME ON
ELIMINATING CHILD Labour (IPEC)**

A training workshop devoted to building the national capacity relating to Child Labour data collection and analysis, was undertaken by “Understanding Children’s Work” (UCW), a joint ILO, UNICEF and World Bank research project. The training was for 14 Central Statistics Office, (CSO) staff, as well as statistician from the Ministry of Labour and Social Security. It took place from 3rd to 7th March, 2008.

The UCW project carries out country level research activities designed to provide a common analytical understanding of child labour in specific national contexts, and to provide information to Child Labour related programmes of the Government and the three partner agencies (ILO, UNICEF, and WB).

Counterpart training is an important activity within the UCW project. In the course of developing country reviews and other joint research, officials from national statistics offices are equipped with hands-on training in areas such as definition and construction of child labour indicators, statistical software, and econometric techniques for analysing the determinants of child labour.

The training was centred on the key elements of child labour survey module; questionnaire design, child labour and youth employment. Participants were introduced to the latest version (10.0) of the statistical software, STATA; and got hands-on experience on how to analyse raw data, and build key indicators relating to child labour.

The participants expressed happiness at the initiative of holding such a workshop, saying that they were particularly keen to learn the latest version of STATA, a software for statistics, graphics and data management with econometric procedures. They also appreciated the logistic and probit analysis, and stated that they now feel better equipped for econometric analysis of micro data.

The statisticians now have a better understanding of the phenomenon of child labour and its links to youth employment. The CSO chief labour statistician expressed hope that with the help of UCW, they would be able to include more descriptive and statistical analysis in the child labour module of the Labour Force Survey.

The workshop was closed by the ILO Country Director, Mr Gerry Finnegan, who presented certificates to the participants. Speaking during the close of the workshop, Mr Finnegan emphasised the need for accurate and reliable statistics as a basis for informed decision making.

“The training should be on an on-going basis, in order to keep up with latest developments, and keep up with latest developments and to respond to merging user needs. Once trained, it is important to retain statisticians”, he stressed.