



International  
Labour  
Organization

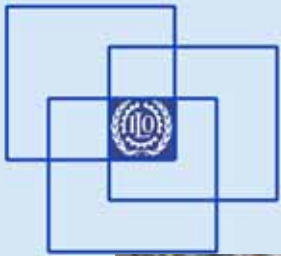
## APEC and ILO Activities on Child Labour

Three overlapping squares are arranged in a cross pattern in the center of the slide. The top square overlaps the middle square, and the bottom square overlaps the middle square. The middle square overlaps both the top and bottom squares.

**Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour and  
Providing Educational Opportunities**

**Urmila Sarkar**

**22 June 2005, Thailand**



## Child Labour a Worldwide problem



8%  
Latin America  
and Caribbean

17.4 million



29%  
Africa and  
M.East

61.4 million



60%  
Asia  
and Oceania

127.3 million



Lindel Caine



Tom Kelly



Mari Lama



UNICEF

# Worst Forms of Child Labour



Tom Kelly



UNICEF



Lindel Caine



Tom Kelly



## The International Labour Organization

**Founded in 1919 following World War I**

**Built a social framework for peace and stability**

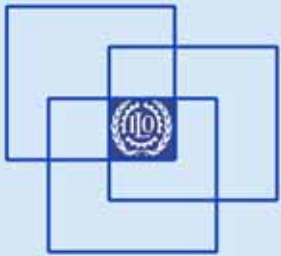
**Aims at achieving social justice  
through:**

- Tripartite structure: governments, employers and workers**
- Institution building, public policies and international labour standards**



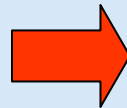
### **The ILO mandate:**

- Its Constitution 1919**
- Declaration of Philadelphia, 1944**
- ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, 1998**
- Its International Labour Standards**



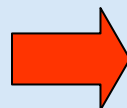
## International Principles and Rights

### UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

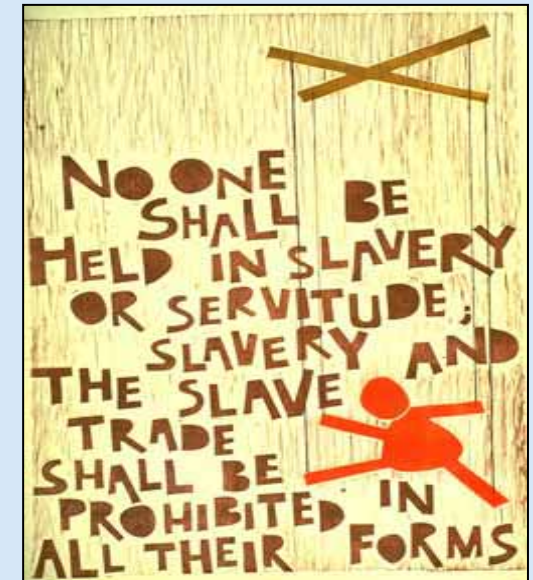


Provides that children be protected from economic exploitation and work that threatens their health education and development

### ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work

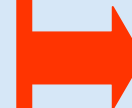


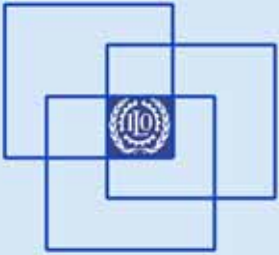
Declares the effective abolition of child labour as a social pillar of the global economy



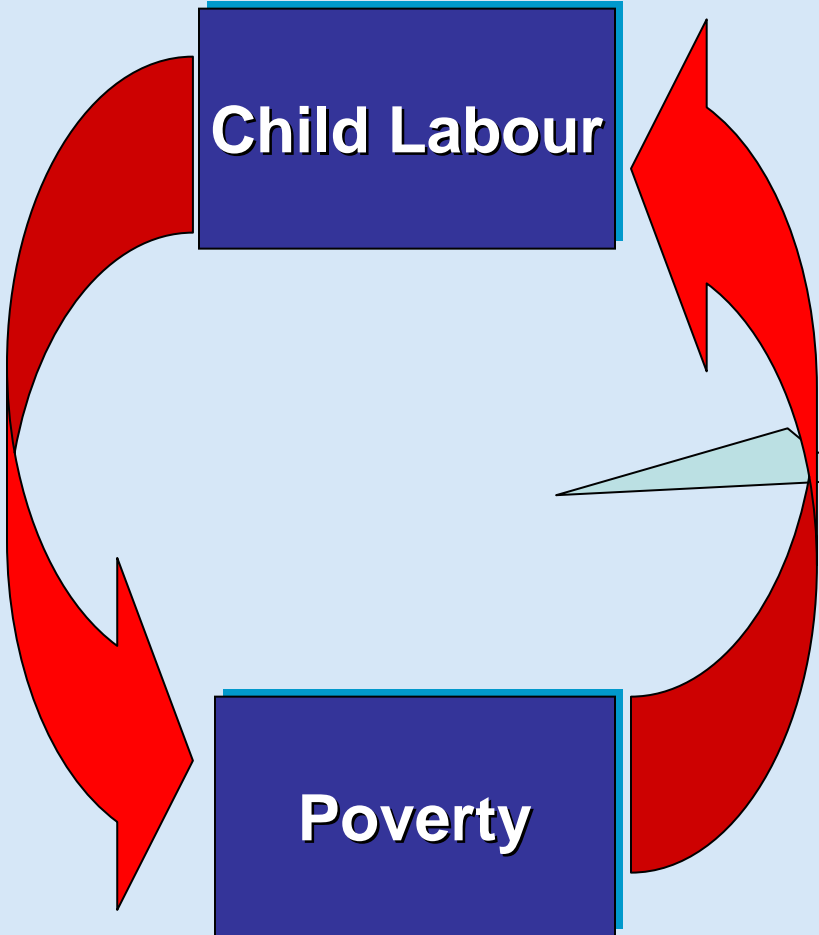
**ILO Minimum Age Convention, No. 138**

**ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, No. 182**





# Causes of Child Labour

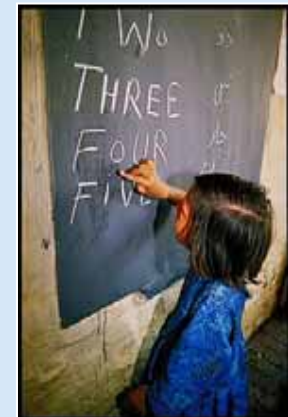


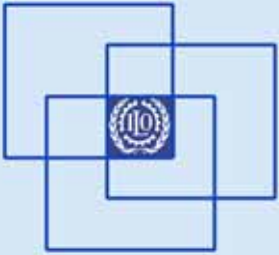
Poverty causes child labour and child labour causes poverty



**EDUCATION**

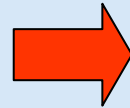
To break the cycle!



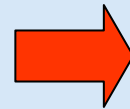


## International Principles and Rights

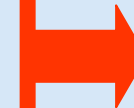
**Action  
against  
Child  
Labour  
through  
Education  
and  
Training**



**Poverty  
Reduction**



**Education  
For All**



**Millennium  
Development  
Goals**



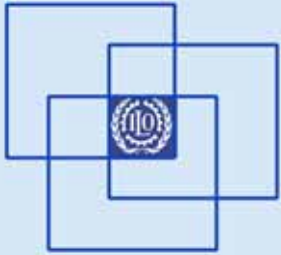


## APEC Awareness Raising Campaign

Using Basic Education and Skills Development to Combat the Worst Forms of Child Labour

Indonesia  
Mexico  
Peru  
Philippines  
Thailand  
Vietnam





## Project History

- ❖ Joint Ministerial Statement and *Plan of Action*, APEC HRD Working Group
- ❖ Conference on Best Practices for Eliminating Child Labour and Providing Educational Opportunities
- ❖ 23rd APEC HRD Working Group Meeting, Mexico City



## Project Framework

**To contribute to the increased public awareness and increased capacity for action in selected APEC economies on the importance of moving children out of hazardous work and into education**

- ❖ At the end of the project, alliances will be built and strengthened at the national and regional level against child labour and in favour of promoting universal access to free, quality education**
- ❖ At the end of the project, key stakeholders will undertake relevant initiatives against child labour and in favour of education in the target countries**



## Evaluation of first phase

- ✓ Innovative due to collaboration with APEC to use education to combat WFCL as part of overall growth and development strategy
- ✓ Efficient due to wide variety and number of achievements, activities and materials developed on a relatively limited resource base
- ✓ Instrumental in building local and national alliances to promote awareness and action in the project's target countries
- ✓ Emergence of a regional network within APEC to promote the sharing of good practices and lessons learned
- ❖ Still a crucial need to seek closer collaboration with APEC member economies so that the main message and project activities can be undertaken by APEC in the future



## Country Level Achievements

**National and local alliance building and materials development (i.e. policy memorandum, teacher training materials, video, media kits, informational CD-ROM, musical CD-ROM, posters, leaflets, t-shirts)**

- **Indonesia: supporting integration of child labour concerns into 9 years basic education and poverty alleviation including Indonesia**
- **Mexico and Vietnam: for the first time, key stakeholders sensitized to risks of WFCL and importance of basic education and skills development through the media, forums and informational resources**
- **Peru: production of musical CD featuring 30 popular Peruvian singers to also reach non-literature communities where WFCL prevalent and mayoral debate organized around this issue for candidates in Lima**
- **Philippines: building on previous work on using education to combat child labour at national level, efforts made to reach local communities and affected districts**
- **Thailand: greater tripartite involvement in promoting youth training and employment to lead to Decent Work**



## Inter-regional Planning Workshop, Bangkok, Feb 2005

Objective was to articulate the project framework in detail at regional, national and local levels with an implementation schedule

Participants included APEC government focal points, officials of labour, education, foreign affairs and social development ministries, teachers' unions, employer organizations, civil society organizations, and ILO staff from the project countries

Special session on working with APEC led by Dr. Chira Hongladarom, Lead Shepherd, APEC HRDWG with contribution from APEC government focal points

Participants agreed that the added value of this initiative is in its efforts to bridge the human rights and economic development perspectives by bringing together organizations using education to combat WFCL with APEC



## Second Phase – Regional Level

**Building on first phase of activities, focus on strengthening the regional alliance and links with APEC**

- Regional Communication Mechanism and Web Site
- Regional activities organized with APEC
- Documentation and sharing of good practices





## Second Phase – National Level

### Indonesia

- Building linkages between Provincial/District Action Committees on the Worst Forms of Child Labour and local Education Councils as well as promoting youth training and employment as a strategy against WFCL

### Mexico

- Working with trade and teacher unions to combat WFCL and promote educational opportunity

### Peru

- Organizing awareness raising and training programmes for the local authorities, teachers and other key stakeholders on the risks of WFCL and importance of education with a focus on street working children who are among the most vulnerable



## National level activities

### Philippines

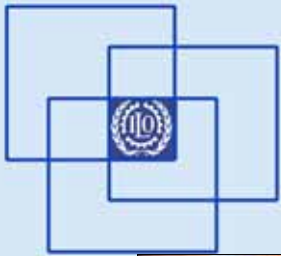
➤ Government, employers, workers and non-governmental organizations working together to ensure that educational sectoral planning and programmes reach working children at local and national levels

### Thailand

➤ Conducting research to feed into education policy reform on how and what kind of education and skills training can best reach out of school children who are vulnerable to WFCL, including ethnic minorities, migrant children and children in poverty

### Vietnam

➤ Promoting universalization of lower secondary education to prevent school drop out and WFCL through teacher training and community based advocacy and awareness raising activities



**THANK YOU**

