



Evaluation Summary



International
Labour
Office

Evaluation
Office

Combat child labour in domestic work and the worst forms in Haiti – Final independent evaluation

Quick Facts

Countries:	<i>Haiti</i>
Final Evaluation:	<i>May-June 2017</i>
Evaluation Mode:	<i>Independent</i>
Administrative Office:	<i>DWT/CO-San Jose</i>
Technical Office:	<i>IPEC</i>
Evaluation Manager:	<i>Cybele Burga</i>
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Project Code:	<i>HAI/14/04/NOR</i>
Donor(s) & Budget:	<i>Norwegian government (US\$ 1,080,570.00)</i>
Keywords:	<i>child labour, domestic work, youth employment</i>

Background & Context

Summary of the project purpose, logic and structure

The Project is part of IPEC and was funded by the Norwegian government. Its budget totalled USD 1,080,570.

The Project aims at implementing an integrated and mutually supportive approach to Combat Child labour at the Policy, Institutional, and Community levels.

Through its tripartite structure, the project aims to ensure at the Policy level that the priorities of governments, the private sector and workers are reflected in policies to combat child Labour (mainly the National Tripartite Committee to Combat Child Labour, the national plan to combat child Labour and the list of hazardous jobs).

At the institutional level, the project aims to strengthen national institutions (such as the MAST, the national vocational training institute and the Labour inspectorate) so that they can then offer better services to the local population (for example Train young people at risk or take children out of the worst forms of child Labour).

At the community level, this project aims to contribute to the elimination of child Labour in domestic work and the socio-economic integration of children at risk in relation to child Labour by filling gaps in education and skills in the employment of young domestic workers of working age in the South (Les Cayes). The project aims to support the prevention and withdrawal of child Labourers in domestic work and the worst forms of child Labour and facilitating access to accelerated vocational training, certified educational programs in agricultural curricula and entrepreneurship. Downstream, these young people are oriented towards an employment service to accompany them in their search for employment, learning or business creation)

Present Situation of the Project

The project's timeline was initially spread over 2 years (January 2015 – January 2017) and was extended twice at no cost. The expected end of project is September 30, 2017

Purpose, scope and clients of the evaluation

This final independent evaluation of the Project was carried out in line with the requirements of the ILO Evaluation Policy. ILO project evaluations are conducted to provide an opportunity for the Office and its funding partners to assess the appropriateness of design as it relates to the ILO's strategic and national policy framework and consider the effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of project outcomes.

Clients of this report includes the ILO at the subregional, national, regional and Headquarters level (FUNDAMENTALS, EVAL and PARDEV) as well as all project stakeholders (including the donor, project implementers and constituents).

Main Findings & Conclusions

Evaluation findings were positive in terms of the relevance of addressing the child labour issue in Haiti. The project demonstrated various notable efforts to meet the national needs in addressing child labour issues, both at the institutional and the community levels. The Project is also aligned with the ILO Decent Work Country Programme (2015-2020). Also, in the absence of a baseline study per se, the Project has successfully leveraged its previous experience, existing research and networks to identify needs of beneficiaries.

In terms of validity of design, findings are mixed. The Project overall aims at being coherent by combining four interlinked components:

-Awareness raising on child labour in domestic work and on the need to protect young domestic workers of legal working age

-National Institutions' capacity strengthening

-Coordination between national institutions and social actors

-Socio-economic integration of vulnerable youth, by withdrawing children from child labour in domestic work and providing access to accelerated educational training programs and job placement services.

However, design was stronger for some components than for others. Evidence generally supports the appropriateness of the Project design for the awareness raising and the coordination components. The coherence of the other two components, national institutions' capacity strengthening and socio-economic integration of vulnerable youth, could be improved. In addition, the evaluation observed that the non-comprehensiveness of the risk mitigation strategy represented a weakness in the project design which caused serious obstacles during project implementation and led to delays in project delivery.

Based on all data collected and analysed, the Project was effective in terms of awareness-raising on child labour issues. However, without the further engagement of focal points, the effectiveness of sensitization efforts runs the risk of being diluted; Capacity strengthening activities were also effective in building capacity of national institutions' staff individually. However, capacity building efforts at the institutional level faced roadblocks that limited their effectiveness (mainly relating to political changes, high staff rotation rates within ministries, and the absence of a robust institutional development plan); The project was effective in enhancing coordination with some project stakeholders but did little coordination with other agencies at the national level and other regional initiatives. The establishment of a Child Labour Focal Points Network is a good practise that emerged from the project.; The project activities relating to socio-economic integration of vulnerable child were effective in producing and delivering a certified accelerated training.

However, additional actions are required to attain effectiveness in terms of employability

In terms of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), the evaluation observed that the project team leader was active in the monitoring of project activities and achievements. Lessons learned throughout the project and their corresponding adjustments, such as the shift of focus from the Tripartite Committee to Focal Points (see Finding #5), provide evidence that there has been a degree of “informal” monitoring and learning. However, there is no clear evidence of project internal evaluation processes that would allow the ILO to assess any potential outcomes generated by the project.

While Project Financial statements did not allow for a proper cost/efficiency analysis, it was noted that several internal and external factors negatively affected the Project’s time efficiency (external factors such as political changes and natural disasters, internal factors relating to project staff rotation, and the willingness to create linkages with other projects that were also delayed). On the other hand, the SCREAM training of trainers’ design is a contributing factor to efficiency.

Regarding the extent to which cross-cutting issues of gender mainstreaming and the mainstreaming of child labour issues are taken into consideration in project design and delivery, the evaluation noted that the Project has successfully mainstreamed child labour issues by adopting a two-pronged approach by targeting policies and communities. Mainstreaming at the policy level could involve a larger diversity of actors. As for gender mainstreaming, apart from quotas for training, there is limited evidence that specific actions were adopted to ensure that the trainings are gender balanced.

In terms of sustainability of results, the project does not have an explicit exit and sustainability strategy that ensures that project achievements are

taken forward and built upon by project partners. Therefore, potential for sustainability is mixed.

In the absence of M&E data, assessing the project’s contributions to the long-term objectives is not possible.

Recommendations

Main recommendations and follow-up

Recommendations to ILO and implementation partners:

- 1:** Further phases of the project should see to an increased and demonstrated involvement of Youth in the planning phase.
- 2:** Longer, more focused capacity building activities at the policy and institutional level are needed.
- 3:** Increase the focus on the employability and entrepreneurship interventions in order to enhance their potential for impact and sustainability.
- 4:** M&E is a key function that has been completely absent from the measurement of outcomes achievements of the project. Targeted improvements in this function could better inform on possible project’s outcomes.
- 5:** Gender Mainstreaming: Prior to the duplication of the project, ILO should conduct a gender assessment and assess whether the trainings are creating (or present the risk of creating) unintended negative results for targeted girls and, if so, a strategy should be developed to mitigate these issues.

Recommendations to constituents:

- 6:** Political and Institutional Stability: In order for the project to have sustainable results, institutional stability is a prerequisite. In addition to government buy-in, it is recommended that the Government appoints appropriate resources in order to ensure that the child labour issue is taken seriously. It is also recommended that the Government adopts regulations against child

labour and ensures that these regulations are enforced

7: Sensitization, Incentives and Punishments: Sensitization efforts should be duplicated by labour union and employers' unions and incentives and penalties should be adopted in order to ensure that employers do not resort to child labour.)