



International
Labour
Organization

8.7  Accelerator Lab

► The GALAB project: Intensifying action against child labour and forced labour in Africa



Focus areas



Child labour



Forced labour



Civil society cocoa platforms



Data collection



Policy



Social protection



Trade unions

► Key activities

- **Capacity-building workshops:** Conduct two national workshops to strengthen the capacity of National Statistical Offices (NSOs) in child labour data collection and analysis.
- **Social protection workshops:** Organize workshops to disseminate a report on replicable good practices for extending social protection to high-risk communities.
- **Trade union and stakeholder collaboration:** In the cocoa sector, support networking between trade unions, employers' organizations, cooperatives, farmers' organizations, and civil society, including the Ghana Cocoa Civil Society Platform and the Ivorian Platform for Sustainable Cocoa and encourage the sharing of experiences.
- **Documenting good practices:** Identify and document successful strategies for eliminating child labour, making them available to trade unions.
- **Knowledge sharing forum:** Organize forums with trade unions to share good practices for eliminating child labour.

Context

Child labour prevalence

▶ 92 million

children are victims of child labour. More than half of all children in child labour in the world are in Africa.

▶ +46% of children

in child labour in Sub-Saharan Africa between 2012 and 2020, rising from 59 million to 86.6 million children.

Forced labour prevalence

▶ 2.8 out of every 1,000

people are affected by forced labour in Africa, over 3 million victims.



Social protection coverage

- ▶ Africa has the lowest social protection coverage globally, with only 17.4% of the total population covered, compared to the global average of 46.9%.

South-South Cooperation

- ▶ The African Union promotes South-South Cooperation to address child labour and forced labour.

Regional collaboration

- ▶ The GALAB project supports the [African Union](#) and its regional frameworks such as the "Ten-Year Action Plan on Eradication of Child Labour, Forced Labour, Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery in Africa (2020-2030)"¹ and the "Social Protection Plan for the Informal Economy and Rural Workers (SPIREWORK)"² as well as the "Abidjan Declaration"³ to extend social protection and reduce child labour and forced labour.



▶ Expected achievements

- ▶ **Improved data systems:** Enhance child labour and forced labour data collection, analysis, reporting, and knowledge sharing by national stakeholders.
- ▶ **Social protection report:** Publish a report with replicable good practices from five African subregions on extending social protection to high-risk communities.
- ▶ **South-South trade union networks:** Create a strong network of trade unions in Africa working together to eliminate child labour and forced labour in agriculture.
- ▶ **Partnerships development:** Develop at least two strategic partnerships among trade unions and other stakeholders to eliminate child labour.

1 Available at: https://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/wcmsp5/groups/public/%40africa/%40ro-abidjan/documents/publication/wcms_778563.pdf.

2 Available at: <https://au.int/sites/default/files/pages/32899-file-spirework-com.english.pdf>.

3 Available at: https://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/wcmsp5/groups/public/%40ed_norm/%40relconf/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_731646.pdf.

What is GALAB project

The Global Accelerator Lab (GALAB) project, funded by the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) with a total budget of US\$15 million, is a major component of the ILO's [8.7 Accelerator Lab](#) initiative. It addresses the critical issues of child labour and forced labour, which are key barriers to achieving Target 8.7 of the SDG on decent work and economic growth.

Operating in a global scale, the GALAB project fosters collaboration and knowledge sharing across regions. Through targeted interventions in several countries (Brazil, The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Malaysia, Mauritania, Nigeria and Somalia) and regions (Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean), the project delivers impactful results at the global, regional and national levels.

GALAB project markers



Innovation: Conduct research on key issues and establish a knowledge management system to share good practices and promote innovative solutions for eliminating child labour and forced labour globally, regionally and nationally.



Strengthening workers' voice: Empower workers, especially in the informal economy, by supporting their organization and enhancing trade unions' capacity to combat child labour and forced labour through awareness campaigns, access to information, and complaint mechanisms.



Social protection: Expand social protection coverage to vulnerable households, helping to keep girls and boys in school and out of work.



Due diligence and transparency in supply chains: Support businesses in addressing child labour and forced labour risks by promoting due diligence frameworks and collaborating with key stakeholders such as the ILO's [Child Labour Platform \(CLP\)](#) and the ILO's [Global Business Network on Forced Labour \(GBNFL\)](#).

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GALAB project outcomes



Globally (Outcome 1): The GALAB project collaborates with the Alliance 8.7 multi-stakeholder partnership to eradicate child labour and forced labour. This collaboration strengthens global efforts and facilitates the development of innovative solutions with far-reaching impact.



Regionally (Outcome 2): The GALAB project collaborates with regional organizations and stakeholders to build capacity to address child labour and forced labour through knowledge-sharing platforms and the development of targeted regional strategies.



Nationally (Outcome 3): The GALAB project collaborates with national governments and local stakeholders to enhance national policies and develop effective strategies to eradicate child labour and forced labour.

