



International
Labour
Organization

8.7

Accelerator Lab

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



Focus areas



Child labour



Forced labour



Data collection



Fisheries



Lake Volta



Social protection



Technical assistance



Trade unions



Vocational training

► Key activities

- **Stakeholder mapping and training:** Map the roles and responsibilities of government actors at district and regional levels, and train them on integrating child labour and forced labour issues into district/regional action plans and development programmes.
- **Capacity building for the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS):** Train GSS and Labour Department staff on child labour and forced labour concepts, indicators, and monitoring strategies.
- **Training in child labour and forced labour monitoring systems:** Provide training on the Ghana Child Labour Monitoring System (GCLMS) and Social Welfare Information Management System (SWIMS) to enhance data collection on child labour and forced labour.
- **Community outreach:** Use public address systems, radios, and durbars to educate fishers about child labour and forced labour.
- **Awareness campaign:** Conduct a campaign to raise awareness and improve membership in the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS).
- **Vocational and financial support:** Identify vocational opportunities and create a savings platform for community participants, focusing on improving livelihoods and financing health insurance.
- **Basic education for vulnerable children:** Provide basic education classes in project areas to support literacy and numeracy for children not enrolled in school.
- **Social protection policies:** Integrate child labour and forced labour issues into national, regional, and district-level socio-economic development plans, enhancing Ghana's efforts to meet national child labour targets.
- **Strengthened partnerships:** Enhance collaboration between the Trades Union Congress (TUC)/ General Agricultural Workers' Union (GAWU) and fisheries stakeholders to combat child labour and forced labour, resulting in actionable plans and increased awareness among fishers along Lake Volta.

Context

Child labour prevalence

▶ 2.5 million children

are victims of child labour, representing 28% of all children aged 5-17 years in Ghana.

▶ 1.2 million children

are in hazardous work, equivalent to 20,7% of all children in child labour.

▶ 1 out of 6 children

aged 6-14 years work in abusive conditions on Lake Volta and are often victims of forced labour and child trafficking.



Ghana's commitment to eradicating child labour and forced labour

- ▶ Ghana has ratified 11 ILO Conventions but has yet to ratify the 2014 Forced Labour Protocol (P029), which could improve protection for children. In 2024, Ghana ratified ILO Convention No. 188 on labour conditions in the fishing sector.

▶ Expected achievements

- ▶ **Data enhancement:** Improve data collection on child labour and forced labour at regional and district levels, supporting national decision-making.
- ▶ **Health insurance accessibility:** Increase health insurance registration through targeted campaigns and remove barriers to healthcare access for vulnerable populations.
- ▶ **Enhanced access to healthcare:** Develop guidelines to address barriers to healthcare.
- ▶ **Improved vocational opportunities:** Report on labour market assessment and vocational opportunities, including the development of training manuals to support livelihood improvements in the fisheries sector.
- ▶ **Capacity building in child labour prevention:** Enhance knowledge and skills among stakeholders, leading to concrete actions to prevent and address child labour and forced labour in target communities.
- ▶ **Labour market assessment:** Identify livelihood options and labour demand through a comprehensive labour market assessment.

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.

