



IPEC at a glance



April 2007

IPEC's aim is the progressive elimination of child labour worldwide, emphasizing the eradication of the worst forms as a priority. Guided by the principles enshrined in the ILO's Minimum Age Convention No. 138 and Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention No. 182, IPEC works to achieve this in several ways, for example through traditional country programmes, regional capacity-building programmes, and comprehensive support projects for national time-bound programmes. Other measures include international and national campaigning intended to change social attitudes and promote ratification and effective implementation of the two child labour Conventions. These efforts are complemented by in-depth research, legal expertise, policy analysis and programme evaluation carried out in the field and at the regional and international levels. IPEC's statistical research programme SIMPOC has provided technical assistance to over 50 countries since its inception in 1998.

With the rapid rates of ratification of both Conventions No. 138 and No. 182, IPEC has been faced with increasing demands for assistance from ILO member States in implementing these instruments. This has led IPEC to reorient its strategy towards a greater emphasis on upstream work, involving intensified support to the development of national plans of action, the updating and enforcement of national legislation, as well as the strengthening of capacities of key players at the policy, planning, and implementation levels.

The political will and commitment of individual governments to address child labour – in alliance with employers' and workers' organizations, non-governmental organizations, and other civil society actors – is the foundation for IPEC action. Since its inception in 1992, IPEC programmes have had considerable impact in both removing hundreds of thousands of children from the workplace and raising general awareness of the scourge of child labour. IPEC currently has operations in 88 countries in five regions of the world. Sixty-one of these countries have signed a memorandum of understanding with the ILO. Over the course of the biennium 2006-07, so far approximately 250 projects have been active. Most projects have components directed at creating an enabling environment for child labour action. Such components focus on legal reform, national planning, capacity building and awareness raising, although the relative importance of each varies from project to project. Some of the large subregional projects have a thematic focus, such as trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, commercial agriculture, vocational training through apprenticeships, etc.

IPEC also cooperates with many other international agencies, both in the field and at the international level. The ILO is providing the Secretariat for a recently established Global Task Force on Child Labour and Education For All. The members of this new partnership from the UN family are the ILO, UNICEF, UNESCO, the World Bank, and UNDP. Also participating are the Global March against Child Labour and Education International, a global organization

of teachers trade unions. A second interesting initiative is the inter agency Understanding Children's Work project, supported by the ILO, World Bank and UNICEF. Based at the University of Rome, UCW undertakes child labour research based on analysis of data collected through field surveys by ILO, UNICEF and the World Bank.

IPEC is almost entirely supported by voluntary contributions by member States and some non-governmental donors. From a figure of about US\$ 45 million in 2000, approvals for each of the last six years have exceeded US\$ 60 million. In 2006 IPEC's donors pledged US\$ 72.5 million. Following the United States, the next largest donors in 2006 were the Netherlands, France, Norway and Denmark.

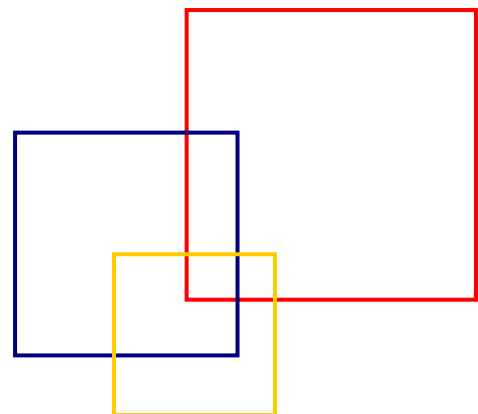
Child labour worldwide

The ILO's second Global Report on Child Labour, *The end of child labour: Within reach*, published in May 2006 summarized the results of IPEC's analysis of trends in child labour worldwide from 2000 to 2004. According to the new estimates, the number of child labourers fell by 11 per cent from 2000 to 2004 to about 218 million. The 26 per cent decline in the number of children involved in hazardous work was cited as a particularly hopeful sign of progress. The impressive decline recorded in Latin America and the Caribbean is in large part behind the overall fall in child labour, as the reduction for Asia and the Pacific was more restrained and the number of child labourers in Africa actually increased. In terms of sectors, agriculture employs the largest number of children; nearly 70 per cent of all child workers are found in this category.

IPEC's Programmes and Projects in 2006/2007 – a brief overview

IPEC conducts specific international campaign activities to raise awareness among the general public both in industrial and developing countries, notably: World Day against Child Labour (12 June), Red Card to Child Labour, the 12 to 12 Partnership Initiative and SCREAM.

IPEC has a strong presence in the three regions most affected by child labour – Africa, Asia and Latin America, but is also increasingly present in Europe and Central Asia, and in the Arab Region. IPEC works with local partner organizations to develop and implement measures which aim at *preventing* child labour, *withdrawing* children from hazardous work, and providing *alternatives* to them and their families.



AFRICA

TBP support projects – 8: Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia

Country programmes – 7: Burkina Faso, Benin, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Togo

SIMPOC national surveys – 6: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, Senegal

Regional projects focusing on children in specific worst forms:

- Armed conflict – Burundi, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda
- Trafficking in children – Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, Togo
- Cocoa/commercial agriculture in West and Central Africa – Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Nigeria
- Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in Mining in West Africa – Burkina Faso, Niger
- Combating the worst forms of child labour in Lusophone countries in Africa – Mozambique, Angola

Other regional projects:

- Regional project on skills training and vocational education – Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania
- Regional project on vocational training and apprenticeship – Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Togo, Madagascar, Morocco, Senegal
- Subregional project on combating HIV/AIDS and child labour in sub-Saharan Africa (pilot projects in Uganda and Zambia)

Country sectoral or area-based projects focusing on children in specific worst forms:

- Morocco: Worst forms of child labour in rural areas
- Tanzania: Eliminating child labour in tobacco plantations in Urambo

ARAB STATES

TBP support projects – 2: Lebanon, Yemen

Country programmes – 3: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

TBP support projects – 7: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Nepal, Philippines, Indonesia (includes response to tsunami in Aceh province), Pakistan, Mongolia

SIMPOC national surveys – 2: *Completed:* Bangladesh, Mongolia

Country, sectoral or area-based projects focusing on children in specific worst forms:

- China (1): Trafficking in children and women in China
- Philippines (1): Child soldiers
- Pakistan (6): Carpet weaving, soccer ball stitching, surgical instruments, education and training, media project, earthquake response (coordinated with TBP project of support)
- India (3): Hazardous sectors covering four states, Andhra Pradesh State-based project, sericulture industry in Karnataka State
- Nepal (1): Bonded child labour
- Sri Lanka (2): Child soldiers, prevention of child labour in the tsunami affected areas
- Thailand (1): Support for national action to combat CL and its worst forms (targeting immigrant and migrant children)

Regional sectoral projects:

- APEC Awareness raising campaign on WFCL and educational opportunities – Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam
- Trafficking in children and women in the Mekong countries – Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, Viet Nam, and Yunnan province in China
- Economic and social empowerment of returned victims of trafficking – Thailand, Philippines

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

TBP support project – 1: Turkey

Country programmes – 3: Albania, Russia, Ukraine

SIMPOC national surveys – 2: Georgia, Azerbaijan

Country sectoral or area-based projects focusing on children in specific worst forms:

- Street children project, Phase II (St. Petersburg, Russia) (ended 9.06)
- Worst forms of child labour (Leningrad region, Russia)
- Worst forms of child labour (selected provinces in Turkey)

Regional sectoral projects:

- Trafficking in children in selected Balkan countries and the Ukraine – Albania, Moldova, Romania, Ukraine
- Worst Forms of Child Labour in Central Asian Republics – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan
- Child Labour and youth employment in Central Asia – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan
- Worst forms of child labour projects in selected Stability Pact countries of Central and Eastern Europe – Core countries: Albania, Bulgaria, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Ukraine

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

TBP support projects – 4 +1: Brazil, El Salvador, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Argentina (preparatory phase)

Country programmes – 3: Colombia, Panama, Haiti

SIMPOC national surveys and research – 3:
Ongoing: Argentina, Bolivia, Peru

Regional projects:

- Elimination of child labour in Latin America (AECI, Phase II & Phase III)

Country sectoral or area-based projects:

- Brazil: Combating trafficking and sexual exploitation
- Mexico: Commercial sexual exploitation of children

Regional sectoral projects:

- Commercial sexual exploitation of children and child domestic labour – Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru
- Commercial sexual exploitation of children in Central America and the Dominican Republic – Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama
- Prevention and elimination of the worst forms of child labour in Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala and Costa Rica



For additional information, please visit: <http://www.ilo.org/childlabour>