



International
Labour
Organization

Nigeria

2013 World Day Against Child Labour

Activities Report

International
Programme on
the Elimination
of Child Labour
(IPEC)

1. RADIO INTERVIEW

The commemoration of the WDACL in Nigeria started with two live interviews of Mr Krishnamoorthy Kukkikatte Technical Adviser of ILO – IPEC Abuja by the Radio Wazobia (in pidgin English) at 9Am to 10 Am and another by Cool FM (English) between 10 – 11 AM. In this, he spoke about the urgent need for elimination of child labour in Nigeria and its impact on the growth and employability in the countries, what ILO is doing on the issue of Child labour in Nigeria and how Government of Nigeria is seriously working on the issue.

He stressed on the issue that the child Labour should not be taken as the responsibility of the Government or a few NGOs working on that, it is the responsibility of each and every citizen to do the possible bit for the rights of the next generation. Both the Radios have extensive audience all over Nigeria.

2. ADVOCACY VISITS

At the states, the first set of activities implemented to commemorate the 2013 WDACL were advocacy visits by the States Steering Committees (SSC) of Abeokuta and Ibadan. At Abeokuta, the visits which also included ILO IPEC NPO were to the Head of Service and Chief Judge of Ogun state. At Ibadan the SSC visited the Controller of Immigration, The Commissioner of Police, The Federal Radio Cooperation of Nigeria (FRCN) and BCOS though letters were sent to more stakeholders. The visits were successful as all the dignitaries visited, pledged their support to combat child labour in their various capacities. FRCN identified a contact person for interaction with the SSC and agreed to air the activities of the rally, which was fulfilled.

The Visit to the Chief Judge Ogun was enlightening and encouraging. The visit was to discuss the issue of the family court which is expected to sit on child right issues- the team was informed by the Chief Judge that a family court is under construction within the high court and that a Judge will be appointed though it will be an additional responsibility for the judge. The CJ implored the team to

advocate for the support of the completion of the Family court.



Ogun state Family Court under construction



Some member of the SSC and the Chief Judge during the visit

The head of service Ogun also received the team and revealed that she never believed there would be children in Ogun state who do not go to school until she visited a community in Aberuagba and saw these children there; though it was reported that an NGO is providing free education to the children within the community.





Cross session with Ogun state Head of Service

3. ESSAY AND ART WORK COMPETITION

To promote child participation in the campaign against child Labour, an essay and art work competition was organized amongst students in Ogun and Oyo states based on the theme for this year's World Day against Child Labour (WDACL): **'No to child labour in domestic work'**. The children from the various schools, especially public schools, were requested to: 1. Write essays on the "challenges faced by a child domestic labourer and what can be done to stop it" 2. Art works (drawings) depicting the challenges faced by a child labourer. These entries were submitted to the Ministry for Education through their various schools. A consultant, from the English department at the University of Ibadan, marked the scripts and identified 13 winners, as stated below:

- **Overall 1st – 3rd Positions (Essay Test)**

1. Alesinloye Adeyemi - Mt. Olivet Senior Grammar School Bodija, Oyo State (60%)
2. Lamidi Damilola - Rosebud College, Ibadan, Oyo State (60%)
3. Aliyu Adeiza Emmanuel - Mercyland international College, Abeokuta, Ogun State (58%)

- **Overall 1st – 3rd Positions (Art Works)**

1. George Favour - Bashorun High School, Ibadan (90%)
2. Sanusi akeem - Sankore College, Ibadan, Oyo State (74%)
3. Bethel Comprehensive College, Ibadan-Egbeda (68%)

- **Oyo State (Essays) 1st – 3rd Positions**

1. Alesinloye Adeyemi - Mt. Olivet Senior Grammar School Bodija, Oyo State (60%)
2. Lamidi Damilola - Rosebud College, Ibadan, Oyo State (60%)
3. Oloyede Rachel - Ogunsanya Girl's Science, Academy, Akinyele, Ibadan (55%)
4. Ojebiyi Favour Oluwadunni - Bethel Comprehensive College, Egbeda (55%)

- **1st – 3rd Positions (Art Works)**

1. George Favour - Bashorun High School, Ibadan (90%)
2. Sanusi akeem - Sankore College, Ibadan, Oyo State (74%)
3. Bethel Comprehensive College, Ibadan-Egbeda (68%)

- **Ogun State (Essays) 1st – 3rd Positions**

1. Aliyu Adeiza Emmanuel - Mercyland international College, Abeokuta, Ogun State (58%)
2. Sesimi Oluwadamilola Elizabeth - Maryland International College, Abeokuta (57%)
3. Babade Temitope Abigael - Abeokuta Grammar School (48%)

- **1st – 3rd Positions (Art Works)**

1. Adebayo Ademola - Sharon Rose Schools and College (60%)
2. Jolaosho Kehinde - Lisabi Grammar School (56%)
3. Babatunde Adebayo – Mercy Land International College (52%)

Gifts were provided to winners by ILO through the Ministry of Education.

4. COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL BASED ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE ILO's SUPPORT

The NPO sent mails to all stakeholders informing them of the June 12 WDACL programme and the need for increase participation and collaboration. Partners, especially Non-governmental organizations were encouraged to visit schools within their

community and campaign against child labour in Domestic work. The Network of Civil Society Organisations Against Child Trafficking Abuse and labour (NACTAL) North Central Zone also encouraged their members following the mails received from ILO. In line with three NGOs sent in the report of their activities, these are:

1. The Initiative for Social Development and Human Dignity in Nigeria (ISDEHDIN), Suleja, Niger State.
2. Child and Youth Protection Foundation (CYPF) the coordinating office for NACTAL North Central Zone, Lugbe, FCT, Abuja.
3. Comfort Human Right Foundation, Jalingo Taraba state.
4. Committee for the Support of Women (COSUDOW).

The Initiative for Social Development and Human Dignity in Nigeria (ISDEHDIN), marked the day by taking their advocacy campaign to the grass-root and sensitized the populace on the dangers children face when they are subjected to hazardous conditions by parents and guidance that use their wards for economic purpose. The campaign was tagged 'OPERATION REMAIN IN SCHOOL' and it was taken to the Angwuan Rimi community in Suleja, Niger state. The community leader and his members stated that poverty is the major impediment to their wards going to school. The Initiative then promised to extend their scholarship scheme to some pupils of school age in the community. This includes payments of all fees, provision of uniforms, sandals, books and school bag. The walk eventually ended at the Angwuan Rimi Primary school where the team was received by the school Head Teacher and the PTA Chairman. The Head Teacher decried the poor state of learning environment in her school, coupled with the unwillingness of parents in the community to send their wards to school. Thereafter, the Organization donated books, pencils and erasers to each pupil alongside chalks and teachers guide to the school.



A cross session of ISDEHDIN's activities

Child and Youth Protection Foundation (CYPF) carried out a school based awareness campaign against child labour, especially in domestic work as the theme of the year connotes. The awareness creation was at the

two Government secondary schools in Lugbe community of AMAC Local Government Area. The first visit was to Junior Secondary School (JSS) Lugbe, Abuja, with about 2000 students in attendance. The activity was a motivational talk given by the Coordinator of CYPF which lasted for about twelve minutes during their assembly time. The Coordinator spoke to the students about the WDACL, their right to education, and their right to dignity. The students were told to report to their teachers if they are victims or know any child being exploited as domestic servants. He also told the students that CYPF believes every child could have a life of dignity, a life of peace and a life of love. At the close of the Assembly, the Principal invited the Coordinator to have a chart with the teachers, this was done and CYPF appreciated the school principal and the teachers and pledge allegiance to responding to child labour issues or any child protection issues identified in the school. CYPF also visited Government Secondary school Lugbe on the same issue and both the teachers and students responded positively.



A cross session of the sensitization at JSS Lugbe by CYPF





A cross session with the teachers at JSS Lugbe

Comfort Human Right Foundation also organized a school based sensitization campaign at Salihu Dogo Government Day Secondary school Jalingo, Taraba state on the 14th of June 2013. The organization organized a debate competition on the topic –NO TO CHILD LABOUR IN DOMESTIC LIFE. The students who spoke against child labour in domestic work enumerated some consequences of child labour to include ; deprivation of education, rest, exposure to danger, deprivation of right to live with own parents, earning a living through hard labour, hawking, slavery, child marriage, battering, torture and deprivation of food. Gifts were presented to the winners afterwards the principal of the School appreciated the organization for organizing the debate and the provision of gifts to the winners.



Cross session at the Salihu Dogo Government Day Secondary school debate

Committee for the Support of Women (COSUDOW) took her campaign to Anglican Girls Grammar School Adesuwa Road, GRA in Benin City. The organization gave a talk on the Child Domestic Labour and the need for students to take their studies serious. COSUDOW also campaigned against child labour, especially in domestic work at the St. Mary's Catholic Church Uvbe in Edo State. At the church, there was a drama presentation and also a talk on the consequences of child labour COSUDOW's team also went to Abia State Mother of Mercy Nursery and Primary school and Madonna Secondary School, Arochukwu due to the prevalence of child labour in the communities. COSUDOW organized a week long programme and the activities include debate, drama and talk all on the Childs labour and its consequences. To round up the programme at the church within the community, a talk on the risk involved in giving children out to strangers for fostering without following the legal procedures.





Cross sessions of COSUDOW's activities

5. WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR SENSITIZATION RALLY

The Rally was scheduled to have taken place on the 12th of June 2013 but for unavoidable reasons it was postponed to the 20th of June 2013.



Controller FMOL and Director of Schools, Ministry of Education

At Ibadan, the Rally started at 9am with the Steering Committee Members converging at the Agbaje Memorial Primary School, Agbaje Market for a pre rally meeting. Present at the Pre Rally Meeting were representatives from

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the Nigeria Police, Nigeria Immigration, Child Protection Network, Ministry of Education, Trade Union Congress, Radio Nigeria, Federal Ministry of Labour, ILO Representative and NAPTIP.

The Controller Federal Ministry of Labour gave a brief speech on the purpose of the rally, stressing that the ILO/IPEC project currently implemented by Galilee Foundation is targeting 50 children to be rescued or to be supported to get education during the rally if identified.

This was closely followed by a speech from the Director of Schools, Oyo State Ministry of Education. She corroborated the comments of the Chairman of the Steering Committee and enjoined all stakeholders to actively work towards the elimination of child labour through education in the state and at the Agbaje market community, in particular. The ILO IPEC NPO also gave her speech and these all settled on the need to say No to Child Labour in domestic work. The team thereafter went to the public school in Agbaje community.



Cross session at the pre-rally meeting.



Front Left: Director of Schools, Ministry of Education and the School Headmistress with the team to address the children

At the School, the (children) and their teachers were adequately sensitized and encouraged to say no to child labour in domestic work while they are to report cases whenever it is identified.



Representatives of the Nigeria Police, NAPTIP, Ministry of Education and FMOL





After the sensitization at the school, the team went into the market place to create awareness against child labour, especially as domestic workers.



CPN/Steering Committee member engaging a child who has been granted support on the ILO/IPEC/Galilee Child Labour Eradication Project



Sober reflection of child identified during rally who wishes to be in school but engaged in child labour activities around a school premises against her wish



Galilee Foundation registering the child while ILO Rep: Agatha standby



ILO Rep: Agatha in a chit-chat with a non-Nigerian child labour victim. Child has been rescued



Rescued Children after the Rally

Actual Rescue of Children at the Rally ground

While the rally was going on, some victims of child labour were identified and rescued immediately. Victims of child trafficking were taken to Lagos by NAPTIP, while victims of other forms of child labour were handed over to Galilee Foundation. The names of the children identified at the rally are:

1. Kausara Yusuf - Female 16years
08159598024
2. Olamide Adesina – 15years male
3. Ramon Sikiru – Male 15years
4. Yekini Usman – Male 12year
5. Abdul Rasheed – Male
6. Ibrahim Mohammed – Male 13years
7. Habeeb Bello Male 13years
8. Olamilekan Taiwo Male 16years
9. Abubakar Usman – Male
10. Idowu
11. Barakat Iliyasu - Female 15years
12. Abbey Saheed - Male 08176246237
13. Fatimo Taiwo - 9years
Female 08034756688
14. Moses Tolani
15. Aisha Female
16. Latifat Yakub – Female 16years
08058917661
17. Habib Bello – Male 9years
18. Olarenwaju Precious – Male 13years
19. Adediran Afeez – Male 15years

At the second day after the rally, a case of some children scavengers rescued was to be discussed with the Juvenile welfare centre of the Oyo state Nigeria Police Command, Iyaganku. The Seven children were handed over to Galilee foundation and a request was

made by the steering committee in company of the ILO Rep and Galilee Foundation that a raid is carried out in and around the Agbaje Market to rescue victims of child labour. In her response, the OC, (JVC) Dsp Adeyeri Omolade, who has always been responsive to child labour issues, promised to convey the message to her superiors and that efforts would be geared towards collaborating with the steering committee to rescue identified victims.



Discussion at JWC Ibadan

Rally at Abeokuta (Kuto and Lafenwa Community)

The Rally at Abeokuta was held on the 19th of June 2013. It covered Kuto and Lafenwa Communities.



A cross section of participants during the rally at Abeokuta (Kuto and Lafenwa communities)

The Rally started at 10am with the Steering Committee and Child Protection Network members converging at the Gateway Hotel wing of Kuto Road about.

The Chairman of the State Steering

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Committee addressed the participants before the rally began. He stated the purpose of the rally as a campaign against Child labour especially in domestic work.

At Kuto market, a child labour victim was identified and rescued by the team. This child was handed to WOCON for proper provision of services.



In the picture above, the man in white pointing was a butcher who decided to join in the campaign at Lafenwa market



Observation at the rallies

It was realized during the rallies at Abeokuta and Ibadan that the rate of child labour activities in the market was very alarming. Children – Male and Female ranging from age 9 – 16 were seen to be engaged in child labour activities while their contemporaries were in nearby schools studying. These children in

child labour activities were also said to be working with their masters at home as domestic workers. Thus, NAPTIP also confirmed this and agreed that a raid is necessary for the actual rescue of these children.

6. MEDIA COVERAGE

At Abeokuta, Five Journalists covered the event; these were from Compass, the Punch, National Mirrow, Tribune Newspapers and Radio Nigeria's Paramount FM. There were three newspapers publications on the rally, and paramount FM aired the programme severally.



At Ibadan, Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria(a national radio station), BCOS and Nigerian Tribune covered the rally; BCOS who was paid by the state steering Committee aired the programme on their TV and radio station while FRCN gave it a national coverage, free of charge, as there were feed backs from stakeholders all around the country on the airing.

7. ACTIVITIES IN THE FCT THROUGH ILO'S SUPPORT

Save The Child Initiative (STCI) in collaboration with Labour watch magazine implemented a campaign through the support of ILO. The activity was aimed at bridging the knowledge gap between residents of hinterlands (communities outside the city centres) with high illiterate population and the literate city dwellers. The march included children and the visit were to: the Chairman, Bwari Local Government Headquarter and his Counsellors, the Emir's palace where the team met with the Chief & council, and religious leaders and the Esu Palace (Meeting with the Chief & Council and Religious Leaders). The ILO Technical Adviser and Finance assistant participated in the march which was a huge success. The community and religious leaders visited agreed to support the fight against child labour, though poor capacity and poverty were identified as issues propelling the increase of child labour within the community.



At the Bwari Area Council, Victoria Ibi, Political Specialist, U. S. Embassy Abuja, gave a good will message by appreciating the organizers, ILO and Bwari Area Council for their cooperation in making the rally a success. Mr Krishnamoorthy Kukkikatte, Technical Adviser, ILO Abuja in his remark reiterated the importance of education stating that it is only through education children have hope for a better life. Thereafter, two students' had presentation on child marriage and child labour respectively. And a group song was presented by the school students soliciting for harmless environment for their development.



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The sensitization visits was a huge success as the community gatekeepers and stakeholders pledged their support to the eradication of child labour in Bwari.

Report Prepared by Agatha Kolawole, National Programme Officer, ILO IPEC, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria.