

**Child labour book series:
Corporate social responsibility
for farmers, No. 2.**



NATIONAL POLICIES LEGISLATION AND STRATEGIES



**International
Programme on
the Elimination
of Child Labour
(IPEC)**

Child labour book series: Corporate social responsibility for farmers, No. 2:



National policies, legislation and strategies

**International
Programme
on the Elimination
of Child Labour (IPEC)**

International Labour Organization (ILO)

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INTRODUCTION

Eliminating Child Labour in Tobacco Growing (ECLT) Foundation is an initiative by the tobacco corporate sector launched in Geneva in 2002 (office was officially opened in 2001) to address child labour in commercial agriculture. The Foundation believes that needs of each country are unique, needing the full engagement, participation and pro activeness of local populations. The foundation promotes rights of children to schooling, family life, security, safety and healthy upbringing. The ECLT works in close partnership with key national actors such as government, employers associations, trade union, tobacco growers, community, civil society and the corporate sector to comprehensively and sustainably address child labour in agriculture.

In principle, the ECLT supports the ILO Conventions which prohibit hazardous work for children under the minimum age of employment and therefore advocates against use of child labour in hazardous commercial agriculture, particularly the use of machinery and agrochemicals by children in tobacco farming or activities that hamper school enrolment, attendance, performance and retention. The approach emphasized by the foundation is multi sectoral due to the complex and multi dimensional nature of the child labour problem and therefore common strategies include prevention, withdrawal, protection, capacity building and improving livelihood of communities. The foundation has supported activities such as integration of child labourers into formal education or skills training, strengthening education infrastructure, support to non formal education, income generation grants to families and youths, improving access to markets, provision of basic health services, strengthening agricultural methods and increasing awareness.

Tanzania began taking action against child labour in 1994 when a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the ILO and the Government of Tanzania aiming to tackle the child labour problem. International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) which begun in 1995 supported the implementation of activities that targeted capacity building, direct action (prevention, withdrawal and protection), provision of educational opportunities and improving livelihoods. Although specific interventions to eliminate child labour in tobacco agriculture begun when the nation identified commercial agriculture as one of the worst forms of child labour sectors and therefore needing immediate interventions, the national and international commitment to take action against hazardous child labour in agriculture had begun through international conventions. The ECLT Foundation is supporting the production of the booklet through the project called "Towards sustainable action for prevention and elimination of child labour in tobacco farming in Urambo district, Tanzania."

This booklet is one in a set of three booklets that aims at educating stakeholders about the problem of child labour, the national policies, legislation and strategies and the specific hazards of engagement of children in tobacco farming. Readers are encouraged to read the full set in order to get a full understanding of the problem and interventions at both a national and global levels.

HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR

Introduction

The ILO in collaboration with various institutions and partners in different countries has been struggling to push the elimination of child labour agenda forward and evidence reveals that this struggle is beginning to reap fruits. The Follow up Report on the Declaration of ILO on Labour Standards at the Workplace (2006), highlights some of the achievements made to date. The report states that the number of working children has been reduced to 11% since 2002. The report further reveals that the number of children in worst forms of labour has been reduced to 26%. This reduction is significant but more needs to be done to address this problem given that by the end of 1980, there was still resistance against issues of child labour. The ILO in collaboration with its partners has to invest in awareness raising, research and capacity building with the aim of revealing this problem to the world.

In 1989 after the enactment of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the ILO decided to aggressively address the child labour problem. In 1992 the ILO International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) started with funding from the government of Germany. Implementation started in six countries, Brazil, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Turkey and Thailand. To date, IPEC programmes are implemented in numerous countries and funded by over 30 donors' worldwide. Two people that distinguishly supported this cause include Minister Norbert Blum of Germany who gave the ILO the permission to launch IPEC as an international programme and Senator Tom Harkin, an American Senator who is an advocate of the ILO and IPEC programmes in the American Parliament.

In 1995, there was a strong push for national commitment to eliminate child labour. This was discussed at the Social Summit at Copenhagen. The Summit emphasized that national states should increase their commitment in implementing all ILO core conventions. In 1998, the ILO Declaration on Rights and Principles at Work was passed. The Declaration further emphasized the implementation of ILO Conventions by all ILO members, irrespective of whether they had ratified the conventions. In 1999, ILO Convention No. 182 on Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour was passed. This convention was a breakthrough for the campaign against child labour as it was unanimously passed and ratified by member states in greater numbers than before (with any other convention).

In 2002, a special conference for children called by the United Nations assisted to increase attention to issues facing children raise the political profile of the agenda to eliminate child labour. It was important to raise the level of political commitment to the issue of children's rights. This was followed by the September 2005 global conference organized by the United Nations that involved heads of state from 150 countries world wide to give a declaration regarding issues of youth and women employment, fair globalization, and

gender equality. Since 2002, IPEC programmes have reached more than 5 million children. However, two sectors still pose a great challenge, child labour in agriculture and domestic work sector. Likewise, in the same year, the ILO in collaboration with UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank and Global Movement against child labour met and has been meeting every year to discuss the progress of elimination of child labour and education. So progress has been made and evidence shows that international cooperation has contributed significantly to this achievement, although there are opportunities to strengthen interventions in many areas. These have been mentioned in the Follow up Report (2006) to be integrating child labour in national development strategies, plans and policies; increasing international collaboration; paying more attention to issues of child labour when creating decent work opportunities for youth.

One of the lessons learned from ILO experience is that national and community processes are central to the achievement of the elimination of child labour. An effective and committed local government can make the campaign go a long way in terms of mobilization of community support and response on issues of child labour.

Disappointingly, Africa South of Sahara is posing great challenges in terms of reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which have a direct impact on the status of child labour. Consequently, the prevalence of child labour is still quite high.

Links between elimination of child labour, poverty reduction and MDGs

The ILO and all its partners acknowledge that economic growth and development is pertinent but not sufficient for the elimination of child labour. Economic growth and development should underline respect for human rights, equality, decent work and education. The elimination of child labour depends on the successful implementation and achievement of social development policies, particularly in ensuring that all children have free access to education and that the young people have access to decent employment.

IPEC contributes to the ILO's work on the MDGs because it establishes the link between poverty eradication and elimination of child labour. Universal primary education (MDG 2) cannot be possible without ensuring that all children of school going age are attending school. At the same time, without elimination of child labour, poverty cannot be eradicated and without eradication of poverty, child labour cannot be eliminated. This means that in designing economic development strategies, policies and plans, effective links with other important sectors for the elimination of child labour must be established. Likewise, policies and strategies must aim at poverty reduction and enhanced economic opportunities for the poor.

Additionally, by working, the young children reduce their present economic welfare or future income earning capacity. The overall aim is to contribute to conditions that will enhance and ensure decent work for the current and future generation.

SUMMARY

The elimination of child labour is a process that started many years back and it was intensified towards the end of 1980s. Evidence from reports show that progress has been made and there is a reduction of the number of children entering into child labour globally, though there are many challenges and there remains a lot to embark on in order to completely eliminate child labour and its worst forms in various sectors. Commercial agriculture and domestic work are the sectors that still pose a challenge; elimination of child labour in these sectors needs immediate and intensified attention, particularly in sub Sahara Africa where the prevalence of child labour is high. Indeed, understanding the concept of child labour, its causes and searching for solutions in collaboration with communities and all other stakeholders is of utmost importance and must be a continuous process.

KEY IPEC STRATEGIES FOR THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR

Introduction

IPEC employs a number of strategies in addressing the problem of child labour. Over the years, it has become clear that a multi dimensional approach to addressing child labour is necessary in order to ensure that the problem is addressed in a holistic and sustainable manner. The following are some of the common strategies that IPEC employs in eliminating child labour.

Key strategies

- ***Building a knowledge base***

IPEC is a programme that highly depends on evidence based planning and strategizing. This means that studies and researches that reveal the context specific push and pull factors, existing attitudes and responses towards the phenomenon of child labour and existing threats and opportunities must be well understood before any action is taken to address child labour. As a result, IPEC has undertaken a series of sector specific studies as well as international and national surveys to determine the estimates, magnitude of the problem and ways of dealing with it. Including studies that highlight relationships between wages paid to children and productivity, the measurement of children's non economic activities and impact of economic activities on children's future.

Tanzania has done a series of studies, ranging from child labour specific surveys in the areas of commercial agriculture (in tea, tobacco and other sectors), child prostitution, mining, domestic work and fishing. Studies have mainstreamed some of the most crucial issues such as HIV and AIDS, decent work, gender, education, health and policy development.

- ***Withdrawal, prevention and rehabilitation of children***

The foremost IPEC agenda is to ensure that children who are working in worst forms of child labour are immediately removed from such situations. Progressively, IPEC's goal is to remove all children from child labour. This strategy is complemented by a prevention strategy aimed at preventing other children from entering child labour. In doing so, children are provided with a range of basic and compulsory services ranging from provision of education (primary, secondary and vocational), health services, counselling, rehabilitation, family placements (returning trafficked children to their families), provision of grants/income generation training to families and older children and providing them with other basic needs as the situation demands.

- ***Tracing and tracking impact of child labour interventions***

Through implementation experience, IPEC has developed a number of methodologies for measuring impact of IPEC and partner activities. These methodologies provide information of how and where IPEC is making the most impact as well as the needed investments levels for future IPEC action. The methodologies are also aimed at identifying the broader and longer term changes in the lives of beneficiary children and their families, tracer studies have been undertaken and tracking systems developed to support this process. Methodologies are also being designed to track impact from policy and institutional development activities that will provide information on sustainability of current and future interventions.

- ***Documenting good practices and learning from past experiences***

The number of interventions that have been supported over the years through IPEC programmes have yielded numerous lessons that future interventions can learn from. IPEC and national partners make it a point to document lessons and good practices in programme implementation. The aim is to replicate good practices, sustain activities/practices that are making an impact on the lives of beneficiaries and disseminate information to interested stakeholders so that they could learn and apply the strategies that have proved to work efficiently.

- ***Multi-dimensional capacity building and technical assistance to national and regional projects***

IPEC support to countries is multidimensional and aimed as supporting the establishment of mechanisms and structures that will eventually and continuously monitor child labour trends and take action to address the problem. In doing so, national time-bound programmes and regional and sub regional projects are initiated to support national governments create a conducive environment for the sustainable elimination of child labour. These programmes are often aimed at changes in policy, attitudes, practices that exploit children, strengthening collaboration and joint action and the enhancing the respect for the rights of children. they are also aimed at promoting the ILO decent work agenda particularly for youth (ages 15 -24) and women in both the formal and informal sectors.

- ***Mainstreaming gender and HIV and AIDS***

Linkages are continuously made with key issues such as gender, HIV and AIDS, poverty eradication, capacity building and governance. Gender and HIV and AIDS are an important ingredient in all action against child labour as women, men, boys and girls have different roles to play in the process to eliminate child labour. Equally, evidence shows that boys and girls are affected differently in terms of participating in child labour as well as in benefiting from interventions. Similarly, the social economic impact of HIV and AIDS cannot be underestimated, particularly on how the epidemic has increased levels of vulnerabilities for families coping with it and children who are left orphaned and helpless.

SUMMARY

Experience shows that since child labour is a complex phenomenon caused by multiple factors, from poverty to weak educational and health infrastructures, poor policies and legislation to protect children, limited knowledge about laws and policies. The strategies to eliminate it must also be multidimensional, long and short term and sustainable. Strategies must comprise of action to remove children from child labour and prevent others from entering child labour, strengthening policies and legislation and designing effective strategies that adequately address the policy and legislative gaps, promoting partnerships and joint action, educating communities and building capacities of duty bearers and strengthening international and national collaboration on all issues regarding the elimination of child labour.

POVERTY AND CHILD LABOUR IN TANZANIA

Introduction

In Tanzania, over 36% of the population lives below the basic needs poverty line out of which 18% lives below the food poverty line. Women and children are the most vulnerable groups to poverty and household income insecurity. About 45 percent of all female-headed households and 49 percent of male-headed households are extremely poor, as their average daily income is less than 0.75 US Dollar per day. However, women are poorer than men owing to their vulnerability including lack of asset ownership (including land and livestock) and limited schooling opportunity. The PSRP report indicates that, rural poverty is associated with lack of economic opportunities, but more specifically with poor access and inadequate market information.

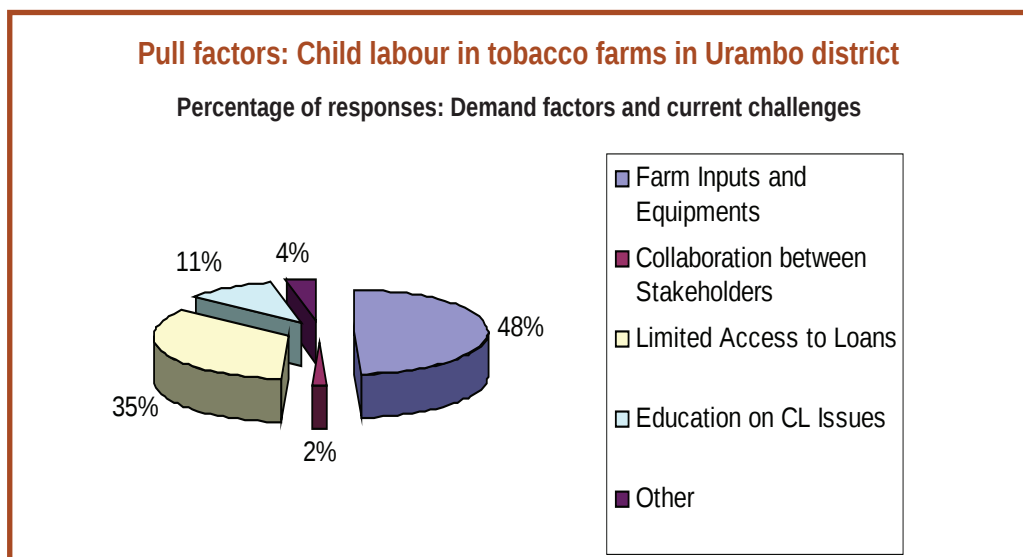
Studies and findings show that over 40% of the households in Tabora region live below the food poverty line (2001/2 Household Budget Survey). Urambo is ranked as among the 10 bottom regions in terms of total net enrolment and improved water supply. The district has 129 primary schools, 27 secondary schools and 2 vocational training institutions (Urambo district report 2007), school attendance is low and drop out rates are extremely high. The increase in the levels of poverty at household's levels is increasingly pushing children to contribute to family income and get their basic needs. The supply of working children in tobacco farms is therefore found primarily among poor.

Child labour features in the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (MKUKUTA). This is because poverty is recognized as a major cause of child labour in Tanzania. The overall target in the MKUKUTA is to reduce its incidence in the country from 25% to less than 10% by 2010 and avail working children with alternatives including primary education and marketable vocational skills training. Goal 4 of Cluster I of the National Strategy for Growth and the Reduction of Poverty (MKUKUTA) outlines the reduction of rural poverty as a key outcome indicator. **The elimination of child labour is a key sub category of the achievement of this key outcome indicator.** At the same time, goal 1 of cluster two focuses on increased access to primary and secondary education, including vocational training for children of school going age. The attainment of this goal includes increased enrolment rates for pre-primary and primary level children as well as increased enrolment rates in vocational education training institutions for young people. Tanzania is also in the process of developing a comprehensive social protection programme for most vulnerable children who include working children.

Rural poverty is one of the challenges in elimination of child labour in commercial agriculture. Despite the government's policy on universal primary education, i.e. free primary education for all, many families fail to meet education related costs such as uniforms, exercise books, textbooks, other school materials and other contributions as per school needs for example, contributions for security (school guard's salary) and school feeding programs. By and large, school enrolment is lower in the rural areas than in urban areas because

of various reasons including lack of sufficient teachers, distance from households to schools, low income of families and poor learning environments.

Extensive tobacco growing by families is associated poverty. At the same time, farmers extensively use children as workers in tobacco farms because of lack of capital for inputs and money to pay extra adult workers. There are also limited opportunities economic activities. Evidence from a recent study on training needs of tobacco farmers, children and parents indicates that the leading pull factors of child labour in tobacco farming include lack of inputs and equipments, limited access to loans and credit facilities and lack of knowledge on child labour issues (2007). Push factors include need for children to earn money for educational materials, contribute to family income and get basic needs such as food and shelter.



Commercial agriculture and child labour

Child labour in commercial agriculture is mainly found in tea coffee, tobacco plantations, and cashew nuts farms in Tanzania. Working children are found in tea estates in Mufindi and Iringa districts in Iringa region, and in coffee estates in Arusha and Arumeru districts in Arusha region. Urambo district in Tabora region is known for tobacco production which is consistently associated with hazardous child labour. Rapid assessments carried out in the five districts by IPEC (2002) found that children working in Tea, Coffee and Tobacco estates are between 3 and 17 years old. A study carried out by the Association of Tobacco Traders in Tabora region (2003) has shown that children make up 45% of the labour force in the tobacco farms in Urambo district, and that household poverty, compounded by large size families are the major push factors (Annual Report, Association of Tanzania Tobacco Traders, 2005).

Urambo is one of the districts of Tabora region and is the leading district in Tanzania in growing tobacco as the main cash crop; other cash crops are sunflower and groundnuts. It is a crop that is largely grown by

smallholder farmers. These smallholder farmers and the plantations have over the years used child labour as one of the main means of getting maximum outputs out of cheap labour. Children working in commercial farms come from Urambo, Kigoma, Singida, Dodoma and Rukwa regions, most of them poor. The district also grows food crops like cassava, maize, beans, millet and sweet potatoes.

Urambo is amongst the regions with the highest percentage of children stunted and the situation is worsening (URT, Poverty and Human Development Report, 2005). The net primary school attendance ratio and gross attendance ratio are amongst the poorest in Tanzania and the difference between the highest and lowest ratios are significant. The situation is worst for female children as compared to male children [ratio of 50.4 for male children where the highest ratio is 88.1 (Kilimanjaro) while for girls, the ratio is 44.1 where the highest is 91.0 Kilimanjaro)]. For secondary schools, the situation is not any better and in fact, it is worse. The net attendance ratio for boys is 0.7 and though this is the second lowest, the gap between this ratio and the highest ratio is significant, 33.2 – Zanzibar. The secondary school attendance ratio for female children is 0.0 and it is the lowest in Tanzania (National Bureau of Statistics, Demographic and Health Survey, 2005). This limited performance is highly linked to the engagement of children in commercial agriculture.

SUMMARY

It is clear that the major push factor for child labour in tobacco farming in Urambo district is poverty. Poverty is manifested in a number of ways, including lack of household income, lack of capital and farm inputs for farmers, lack of educational support for children coming from poor families and gender inequalities caused by negative social cultural practices. The high engagement of children in commercial agriculture directly affects their attendance and retention in schools.

NATIONAL POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND LEGISLATION TO ELIMINATE CHILD LABOUR

Background

Tanzania has ratified the key conventions on the elimination of child labour which are the ILO Convention (No. 138) on Minimum Age and the ILO Convention (No. 182) on Worst Forms of Child Labour in 2001. These two Conventions have been domesticated through the enactment of the national labour legislation, the Employment and Labour Relations Act No. 6 of 2004. There are also national guidelines aimed at promoting children's rights to education as well as right from abuse and exploitation. The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Development in consultation with stakeholders has developed and disseminated national Strategies for the Elimination of Child Labour. The goal is to eliminate these forms of child labour by year 2010.

The national campaign to eliminate child labour in Tanzania started in 1994 through the support of the ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). A time-bound programme was later launched (2001) as a demonstration of the government commitment to eliminate worst forms of child labour in the country.

Key national policies related to the elimination of child labour

- **Ministry of Education and Vocational Training: Education and Training Policy, 1995**

Specific objectives of the policy: The emphasis is on improvement of quality of education and training, the expansion of education and training opportunities to meet demand, increase average per capita education cost and increased resource flows to the sector. Girl's education is prioritized and their limited access to education recognized. Ministries responsible for education devolve their responsibilities of management and administration of education and training to lower organs and communities (regions, districts and communities). **Education and training boards** are established for every region, district, town, municipal and city council and are **responsible for management of education and training in their jurisdiction**.

Pre primary education: The policy states that infants and young children (0-6yrs) shall be cared for and receive initial education at **home** and in a few existing day care centres, kindergartens, nursery and other pre schools located mostly in **urban areas**. The policy takes **cognizance of children with special learning abilities or difficulties** and recommends the taking of appropriate measures by **designing special programmes for them**.

Primary education: The policy aims at enabling **every child** acquire basic education. Primary education is **compulsory in enrolment and attendance**. **Education for all is stated to be a human right**. After

primary education, pupils can go to secondary schools, vocational training **or enter the world of work.**

Secondary education: Is provided only to children who will have **successfully completed seven years of primary education and have met the requisite entry requirements.**

Vocational and technical education and training: Policy emphasizes on access to education and technical training where the context allows.

Non formal education and training: Aims at enabling **children out of formal school system** to improve the quality of their life through a variety of relevant educational and training programmes. The policy states that Government shall promote, strengthen, coordinate and integrate non formal education with formal education and training systems.

• **Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Development: Youth Development Policy, 2008**

Definition of youth: Policy uses the UN definition of youth – from the age of 15 -24 years. The policy recognizes that not all youths have access to education, although it is a guaranteed right in the constitution; access to justice is limited; access to formal and informal employment is limited; exploited in employment (work longer hours for less pay). Policy puts emphasis on role of youths in national development.

Goals (among others): to protect rights of youths such as right to employment, education, health and other services; to establish workable plans of employment aimed at solving the problem of employment; to formulate practical plans to provide youths with skills training and education; to establish systems that will enable youths to secure tools/equipment, capital, workplace and markets for self employment; to establish appropriate plans to provide youths with health services; to establish education plans for girls who drop out school because of pregnancy; to improve education environment and increase opportunities for education and training for youths.

• **Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Development: Social Security Policy, 2008**

General objective: The general objective of the policy is to ensure that every citizen **is protected against economic and social misery resulting from substantial loss in income.** The policy covers both the formal and non formal employment sectors. It also addresses needs of the elderly and children (as vulnerable groups). The policy is expected to (among other things), widen the scope and coverage of social security services to all the citizens; harmonize social security schemes in the country; reduce poverty through improved quality and quantity of benefits offered; and establish a social security structure that is consistent with the ILO standards but with due regard to the socio-economic situation in the country.

According to the policy, provision of social security services in the country shall be structured as follows.

- a) **Social assistance programmes:** through social assistance programmes that constitute services such as primary health; primary education, water, food security and social welfare services to vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, the elderly and children in difficult circumstances on a means tested basis.

- b) **Mandatory schemes:** Provides for all employees in the formal sector but extend coverage to the informal sector such as agricultural, mining, fishing and small businesses.
- c) **Supplementary schemes:** specific for different social services like health, pensions and other types of insurance over and above those provided by mandatory and social assistance programmes. These schemes shall be run by employers, private companies, professional bodies and community-based organizations (CBOs).

- ***Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Development: National Employment Policy, 2007***

Objectives of the policy: To involve various groups of people in all employment programmes including women, youths, people with disabilities, retired people and retrenches.

Employment promotion for special groups: Special groups include **women, youths, people living with HIV and AIDS, and people with disability**. The policy states that special programmes aimed at creating employment for this group be initiated at national and local government levels, focusing on employment in the informal sector.

Strategies for employment creation for special groups: Includes expanding vocational training; advising youths on how to secure loans from various sources; starting a special fund for purposes of training costs and loans for self employment to special groups; emphasizing appropriate counselling and education in schools aimed at preparing youths for employment.

Supervision and costs for implementing policy: A national employment council under the vice President's Office is in charge of supervising implementation of policy. Among the responsibilities of the council is the coordination of all employment issues in the country. Members of the council include (among others) Ministry of Labour, Prime Minister's Office, Education and Culture, Ministry of Community Development, women and Children, (Ministry of Health Missing).

- ***Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children: Child Development Policy, 1996***

Definition of a child: a child is a person below the age of eighteen years. The policy makes a distinction between rural and urban situation of children and the need to consider them as categories requiring different kinds of interventions. Children in rural areas: children face poverty related problems which include inadequate social services such as school, health and environmental services.

Objectives of the policy:

- To provide direction and guidance on child survival, protection and development. Measures to promote **child survival** include **strengthening primary health care services** with the aim of promoting immunization, medical checkups and treatment for children. Ensure provision of **essential nutrients** for children **in areas where there is a shortage of foods with nutrients**.

- Protection from: exploitation, tasks incompatible with their age, deprivation, oppression and neglect. **Protection of children living in difficult circumstances, such as orphans, children with disabilities, street children, children affected by natural disasters, children who cannot fend for themselves eg. adolescent mothers.**
- Provide directions on upbringing of children in difficult circumstances. Measures to promote protection of children living in difficult circumstances- include **identifying them** and recognizing their needs, **setting aside adequate resources for this purpose**, providing them with expertise and services which cater for their needs as well as providing them with guidance and counselling.

Role of children, parents, guardians, institutions and ministries: The Ministry responsible for **social welfare** is to ensure that children **in difficult circumstances receive their rights and basic services**; it should also ensure that the interests of children involved in criminal offences are protected. The policy states that the ministry responsible for **child development** in collaboration with the Ministry of Education is to ensure that **all children of school going age are enrolled and special arrangements made for children above the age of enrolment**. **Develop a system whereby children whose parents or guardians are unable to pay get an education**; ensure that those that dropped out of school and those that have never gone to a school get educated.

- **Prime Minister's Office: National Policy on HIV/AIDS, November 2001**

Definition of an orphan: Within the AIDS epidemic in Tanzania is a child between the age of 0-15 years who has lost both parents.

Principles to guide the national policy on HIV/AIDS: The policy recognizes that women and girls need extra consideration to protect them from the increased vulnerability to HIV infection in the various social, cultural and economic environments.

Prevention of HIV sexual transmission - Out of school children: Policy proposes that programmes on sexual and reproductive health should be developed for out of school youths.

Support Services for orphans and children affected by HIV and AIDS: The main objective of support services is to **provide a legal and social framework for the promotion of care and support to people affected by HIV and AIDS particularly widows and orphans**. Local government is to provide support and **sustain services to PLHAs, widows and orphans**; Support and protection from HIV/AIDS is to be provided **to orphans and children in special institutions including street children and those with disabilities at risk of HIV infection**; Orphans in sibling headed households are to receive support from both the central government and local councils and the community to minimize the impact of HIV/AIDS on their lives.

- **Ministry of Health and Social Welfare: National Policy on Disability, 2004**

Definition of a person with disability: A person with disability within the Disability policy of 2004, is defined as *"an individual whose prospects of obtaining and retaining an employment are greatly reduced due to*

known physical, mental or social factor". The policy emphasizes the need for early interventions to identify children with disability. It underscores the importance of participatory mechanisms for identifying people with disability. The policy prioritizes the following groups in the delivery of services, women, children and older people with disability.

The policy recognizes that education is essential for the development of a child's potentialities and notes that some parents perceive children with disabilities as a burden and opts not to send to school; however, the it states that children with disability have limited access to the educational system. Almost all school facilities at all levels are inaccessible. Teacher education and school curriculum do not incorporate the needs of disabled persons.

Key legislation

The legislation protects children from the worst forms of child labour. It states that **no one shall employ a child below the age of 14 years** and makes 15 years the minimum age of employment.

The Act states that work that places at risk the child's well-being, education, physical or mental health, or spiritual, moral or social development is prohibited.

Age of a child: Child means a person under the age of 14 years; provided that for the employment in hazardous sectors, child means a person under the age of 18 years.

- ***The Education Act, 1978***

The law perceives a basic parental duty to ensure that children are enrolled and attend formal school. The Education Act, 1978 provides for, compulsory enrolment and attendance of pupils in Primary Schools as per section 35 under which every child who is aged seven years but has not attained the age of thirteen years must be enrolled for primary education.

Under the primary school (Compulsory Enrolment and Attendance Rules 1979 (GN 129 of 1979), **parents may be guilty of an offence if they fail to take reasonable steps to ensure that a child is enrolled and regularly attends primary school until the completion of primary education**. This also applies to any other person who interferes with a child's attendance.

The local authorities are empowered to "grant some of its money towards the establishment, equipment or maintenance of schools and educational institutions"

Key national strategies related to the elimination of child labour

- ***Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children - Five Year Strategic Plan (2006 2011)***

The immediate objective accentuates the existence of a National mechanisms and socio-cultural practices that promote and protect rights of Tanzania children, women and men. The objective aims at achieving

equality, and equity. Special focus is on equal provision of opportunities, participation, education and resources distribution.

• ***Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Development: Strategies for Elimination of Child Labour in Tanzania***

Youth Employment Action Plan: Lays out the strategies for promoting youth employment in both the formal and informal sectors.

National Strategies for the Elimination of Child Labour: A comprehensive set of strategies were developed based on lessons learned between 1994 and 2001. The objectives of the study include to improve coordination against child labour and apply effective strategies for sustainable action against child labour and its worst forms.

Strategies include the following:

- Empowering vulnerable parents/guardians economically
- Key actors contribute effectively to the implementation of the MKUKUTA
- To improve the quality of primary education
- To strengthen the capacity and competence to teachers
- To strengthen the institutional arrangements through the education system in order to improve decentralization and accountability
- To promote environmental conservation
- To introduce alternative means of livelihood
- To strengthen the capacity and competence of teachers and other actors to deal the impact of HIV and AIDS
- To create a modern legislative framework which consolidates and articulates strategies in conformity with ILO standards
- To mainstream child rights in the constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania
- To mainstream child labour and its worst forms in pre and post qualification professional training in key professions such as teaching
- To make by laws prohibiting child labour and its worst forms
- To make laws prohibition absenteeism
- To raise levels of awareness

Time-bound programme for the elimination of worst forms of child labour in Tanzania: Aims at addressing the worst forms of child labour in Tanzania. The programme covers a number of districts and supports direct action interventions aimed at preventing and removing children from the worst forms of child labour; building capacities of local partners and communities and strengthening local structures that have the responsibility of supervising and monitoring the trends of child labour.

Elimination of child labour in tobacco farming: Programme aimed at eliminating child labour in commercial agriculture (tobacco sector). Activities under the programme include direct action interventions,

capacity building of local structures including communities, increasing awareness levels about hazards of tobacco farming for children and supporting the establishment of sustainable structures for the elimination of child labour.

Promoting gender equality and decent work throughout all stages of life in Tanzania, 2001-2006, (CCT): Promotes equality in employment for women and youth and at the same time puts emphasis on the elimination of child labour particularly in the informal sector.

- ***Ministry of Education and Culture***

PROGRAMMES

Complementary Basic Education in Tanzania (COBET): The programme targets children that have dropped out of school or have never been enrolled in primary education. It is a mechanism that aims at meeting MDGs that aim at ensuring access to primary education by every child. The COBET programme is implemented in various districts in Tanzania.

Education II Project - National Multisectoral Strategic Framework (08-12): Aims at improving access to primary and secondary education. Some of the activities include increasing the number of teachers and schools in all districts in Tanzania.

SUMMARY

The policies and strategies highlight the national commitment to eliminate child labour in all sectors. They provide a framework from which different actors, including communities can take action to address child labour. There is an emphasis on access to education highlighted in all the strategies and policies because education provides the means for children to have the opportunity to increase their knowledge and progressively move out of poverty.

NATIONAL AND LOCAL STRUCTURES

Child Labour Unit

The Child Labour Unit was established in 1994. District sub committees have been established in selected districts in Tanzania with the aim of extending support to districts. Their main role is coordinate various district interventions related to child labour and its worst forms and ensure that the child labour issues and activities are gradually integrated in to the district development plans.

Child Labour Committees

Child labour committees are established at various local government levels, from district to ward to village levels. The overall function of the child labour committees is to provide an oversight role, to guide implementation and action against child labour and monitor trends in terms of elimination of child labour at the local levels. Child labour committees at village level play a critical role in monitoring and checking trends of child labour.

National Intersectoral Coordinating Committee (NISCC)

This is the national body responsible for overseeing the implementation of child labour interventions. It has four sub committees to assist it coordinate information from district levels. The committee is responsible for building the capacity of social partners and other stakeholders and to assist the government and social partners to develop and implement short term strategic interventions for protection, prevention and withdrawal of working children from exploitative and hazardous workplaces.

National Steering Committee under the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare

The National Steering Committee is the overall authority in matters relating to policy, guidelines for quality control of the care, support and protection of orphans and vulnerable children– this committee is under the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare.

Inter Ministerial Committee for Vulnerable children

The Inter Ministerial Committee for Vulnerable Children is under the Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children; the committee oversees issues affecting all children in general and poor and vulnerable children as well. Every ministry dealing with children's issues participates in this committee.

SUMMARY

The national structures in existence are already doing great work in terms of setting standards, advocating for policy, guidelines and strategies and guiding and directing attention to child labour issues in Tanzania. A lot can be done at community level to further engage communities in increasing their contribution to this process and enhancing their knowledge on issues of child labour. All key actors need to take an active part, every stakeholder has a role to play and can make a difference in the campaign.

CONCLUSION

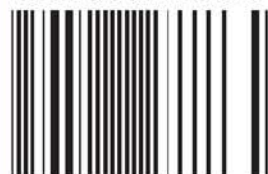
The process to eliminate child labour has been going on for a number of years, ever since the industrial revolution in Europe to the establishment of the ILO. The campaign has spread from developed countries to developing countries. Child labour is a worldwide phenomenon and affects a great number of children world wide, particularly poor and vulnerable children.

It is also evident that community participation in the elimination of child labour is at the heart of the success of this campaign. Community participation is critical because it ensures sustainability and commitment to sustainably eliminate child labour. Communities must own processes and actions and must participate in designing of programmes, policies, legislation, community action and all other processes relevant to the elimination of child labour. Communities have the opportunity to effectively participate by working closely with established structures, making sure that they hold them accountable, participate in all management activities, provide adequate support to the structures and commit time and resources to the campaign against child labour. Everyone has a role to play and that role is immensely critical to the process.

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