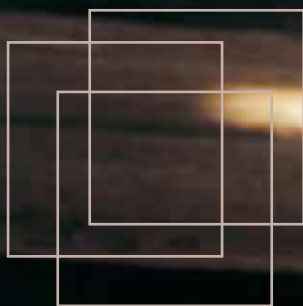




International  
Labour  
Office



# Combating trafficking in children for labour exploitation

A resource kit for policy-makers and practitioners

## Contents

International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour



# Combating trafficking in children for labour exploitation

**A resource kit for policy-makers and practitioners**

## Contents

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IPEC

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## Foreword

Trafficking in human beings and, more especially, trafficking in children has been high on the international agenda for more than a decade. Only recently, however, has the international community more fully appreciated that, in addition to being a serious violation of children's rights and a criminal act, the trafficking of children is undeniably a labour issue.

While the trafficking of adults is defined in international law by the coercion, abuse of power, force or threats that initiate the movement into exploitation, child trafficking is defined by the exploitation itself. Regardless of how the child comes to move, the very fact that this relocation through a third person results in exploitation is considered to be child trafficking.

While most people are now aware that children and women are trafficked into the world's commercial sex trade, children's labour is also exploited in many other ways. Children are frequently trafficked into exploitation in agriculture, both long-term and on a seasonal basis. They may labour in a variety of manufacturing industries, from large-scale sweatshops to small craft workshops. In some parts of the world, children are exploited in mining or in fisheries. Girls in particular are trafficked into child domestic labour.

Many children are moved away from their homes and are exploited in the informal economy, where they are difficult to trace and at high risk of many forms of violence. Criminal networks and individuals exploit children in begging, street hawking, car window cleaning and other street-based activities. Some children are exploited as drug couriers or dealers or in petty crime such as pick-pocketing or burglary.

Some of these activities may not immediately be seen to be labour. However, the reality is that they have a commercial motive and the child is seen as exploitable labour by those seeking to make a profit from trafficking.

The ILO has thorough experience in the world of work. Its unique tripartite structure facilitates analysis and action that is anchored in the realities of labour markets and structures. For more than a decade, ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child labour (IPEC) and its partner organizations have worked to combat the trafficking of children and have built up considerable expertise in the vital links between child trafficking and labour exploitation. Since the adoption of the ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (No.182) in 1999, the trafficking of children is considered a worst form of child labour in international law and has been a part of ILO-IPEC's work at national, subregional and international levels.

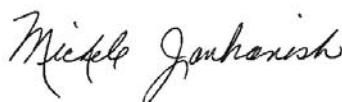
This resource kit captures this work and makes the Programme's experiences and knowledge available to those who design, implement and improve policy and programming to fight child trafficking.

The resource kit is composed of five independent, but interrelated books that each cover a particular set of themes: Book 1 is designed to help users to understand human trafficking, particularly trafficking that involves children (people under the age of 18 years); Book 2 is about acquiring knowledge prior to designing responses to child trafficking; Book 3 is about building a legal and policy framework within which to address trafficking, and also pays attention to mobilization and building of partnerships; Book 4 is about the actual remedial action to address child trafficking and provides insight into the initiatives that have been and can be taken to prevent such trafficking, protect children from becoming victims of trafficking, respond where trafficking exists and provide support and services to those who have been trafficked; Book 5 is about effective processes that may contribute to effective remedial action, and highlights amongst others the value of child participation, monitoring and documentation of learning.

Accompanying the text are more than 150 resources that range from publications to protocols, and from 'how-to' manuals to copies of relevant international instruments. They also include complementary resources from ILO projects, partners and other agencies working to combat child trafficking, and links to web-based resources.

Although the resource kit is comprehensive in nature it recognizes the dynamic and evolving nature of trafficking (and its responses). The intention is to update it regularly to capture new knowledge and learning points.

ILO Convention No. 182 requires immediate measures to prohibit, prevent and end trafficking of children as a matter of urgency. In bringing these various resources together, we aim to make a valuable contribution to the work of governments, workers' and employers' organizations, international agencies, NGOs, youth groups, researchers and advocates, and indeed all those who work to end the trafficking of children.



Michele Jankanish  
Director

International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour  
ILO

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■ 40 downloadable resources

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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