



International
Labour
Organization

ACCEL
Africa

Accelerating action for the elimination of child labour in supply chains in Africa (ACCEL Africa) project

Results Book

November 2018 – June 2023





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Table of Contents

WHY?

- Child labour in Africa's supply chains 4

HOW?

- The ILO ACCEL Africa project in a nutshell 6
- A snapshot of how we measure results 8

WHAT?

- Key results at the regional level 9
- Our work with supply chain actors 11
- Country-level results 12
- Success factors 36

THE ILO ACCEL AFRICA PROJECT, funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands, aims to accelerate the elimination of child labour in Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria and Uganda and five supply chains: cocoa, cotton, tea, coffee and gold mining.

In its target countries, the ILO ACCEL Africa project adopts a supply chain approach that fosters a continuous multi-stakeholder dialogue and promotes a harmonious balance between the achievement of business objectives, economic development goals, and respect for human rights. This is done through, among others,

the promotion of due diligence and responsible business practices, the development of public-private partnerships, and the mobilization of private financing to support public objectives.

The project is divided into four components, with gender cutting across all of them:

- ▶ addressing public policy and good governance,
- ▶ empowerment and representation,
- ▶ partnership and knowledge sharing,
- ▶ and continuous research to identify good practices.



Child labour in Africa's supply chains

The latest Child Labour Global Estimates 2020, published jointly by the ILO and UNICEF, show that in the whole Africa, there are 92 million girls and boys in child labour, representing one in five children; 86.6 million are found in Sub-Saharan Africa,¹ and 85% to 88% of child labour is mainly found in domestic supply chains.²

Why does child labour remain prevalent in Africa?



▶ High levels of informality

In African countries, 86% of jobs are still found in the informal economy and are therefore unregulated, making it easier to engage in child labour.



▶ Lack of social protection

Only 17% of the African population is covered by at least one social protection benefit, increasing the risk of families turning to child labour during times of illness or of financial distress.



▶ Exclusion from education

While regional government expenditure on education as a share of GDP has had an upward trend in recent years, the regional average in Sub-Saharan Africa (3.4% in 2020) remains below the global average (4.3%).³



▶ Weak linkages between actors in domestic and global supply chains

Within Africa, child labour is found in both domestic and global supply chains at the interplay of three critical dimensions: (a) gaps in statutory legislation, enforcement and access to justice; (b) socio-economic pressures facing individuals and workers; and (c) lack of compliance and due diligence in the business environment.



▶ Conflict and instability

Conflict and instability increase the potential for children already working to be involved in even more hazardous work.

At present, there are now more children in child labour in Africa than the rest of the world combined.¹

Without intervention, over 125 million African children could be affected by child labour by 2030.¹ Let's act now to protect their future!

¹ International Labour Office and United Nations Children's Fund, Child Labour: Global estimates 2020, trends and the road forward, ILO and UNICEF, New York, 2021.

² Ending child labour, forced labour and human trafficking in global supply chains, ILO, OECD, IOM, UNICEF - Geneva, 2019.

³ World Bank (2020), Government expenditure on education, total (% of GDP), <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SE.XPD.TOTL.GD.ZS?locations=ZG-1W>.

⁴ ILO and UNICEF, 2020 GLOBAL ESTIMATES ON CHILD LABOUR IN AFRICA: BRIEF FOR DIRECTORS, Regional Key Messages.

The ILO ACCEL Africa project in a nutshell

To combat the root causes of child labor in Africa, the ILO ACCEL Africa project adopts a comprehensive set of activities →



IMPACT: Elimination of child labour is accelerated in supply chains in Africa

ROOT CAUSES OF CHILD LABOUR IN AFRICA

- ▶ Poverty and socio-economic vulnerability
- ▶ Lack of access to quality education
- ▶ Informality
- ▶ Unpaid family work
- ▶ Gender-based discrimination
- ▶ Lack of strong governance (including regulatory framework and representation) against child labour

INFORMING AND IMPLEMENTING

Raising awareness and conducting advocacy	Building government and private sector capacity	Fostering partnerships and coordination
Facilitating children's access to schooling	Piloting innovative interventions	Consolidating and disseminating knowledge

Child labour in supply chains in Africa

STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE TO SET AND ENFORCE RULES

Facilitating social dialogue	Strengthening legal frameworks and formulating policies and strategies	Conducting advocacy for adoption, funding and implementation
Mainstreaming gender	Setting up child labour monitoring mechanisms	Increasing representation and empowerment

EXPECTED IMPROVEMENTS

- ▶ Mobilisation of communities against child labour
- ▶ Increased access to quality education among children
- ▶ Improved worker well-being
- ▶ Creation of sustainable livelihoods for families
- ▶ Adoption of and access to innovative financing mechanisms
- ▶ Improved social dialogue
- ▶ Buy-in from industry and improved transparency
- ▶ Implementation and enforcement of policies against child labour
- ▶ Robust data and knowledge on child labour in supply chains

A snapshot of how we measure results

ACCEL Africa supports* the following:



Communities

The indicator measures the communities that, through ACCEL Africa implementation, have addressed at least two major root causes of child labour. This includes both governance and livelihood level interventions.



Boys and girls that attend/reintegrate into schools due to influence of the project

The indicator measures the number of boys and girls who, through direct intervention of the project, have joined or re-joined basic education. It does not count children who joined or re-joined education as an indirect impact of the project.



Children of working age supported to access TVET education

The indicator measures the number of children of working age (defined by national legislation) who received skills training.



Adults

The indicator measures the number of women and men who have: developed additional income generating activities, increased their income, received financial education, received improved financial services, sent their kids to school, improved their occupational safety and health, organized into community level governance groups, and/or challenged traditional perceptions regarding child labour. This includes only community-based end-beneficiaries. It excludes the number of trained constituents and other stakeholders.

*This results book presents a selection of results that directly impact vulnerable end-beneficiary populations. Other results, such as capacity development activities or policy developments, are summarized on a qualitative basis in the following sections of the results book. For additional information on our results, visit www.ilo.org/accel-africa.

Key results at the regional level

Across the six countries covered by the project, ILO ACCEL Africa has reached, as of June 2023, around:

187

Communities

15,056

Boys and girls

7,639 (51%)
of which are girls

7,417 (49%)
of which are boys

11,414

Boys and girls that attend/reintegrate into schools due to influence of the project

5,755 (50%)
of which are girls

5,659 (50%)
of which are boys

3,642

Children of working age supported to access TVET education

1,884 (52%)
of which are girls

1,758 (48%)
of which are boys

8,567

Adults

4,707 (55%)
of which are women

3,865 (45%)
of which are men

6

National knowledge needs assessments and knowledge sharing events

1

Regional knowledge-sharing conference



Take a closer look into our work on knowledge sharing:



Regional Conference on Knowledge Sharing

This event brought together more than 40 tripartite stakeholders from 11 African countries to discuss what has worked to advance national and regional agendas on the elimination of child labour.



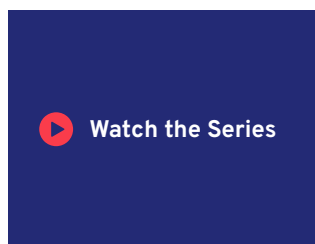
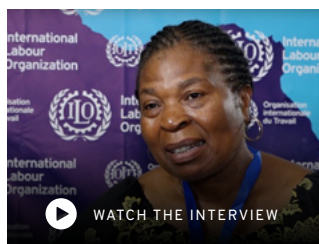
Collection of good practices

This collection serves as a key component of the project's knowledge sharing strategy, helping to institutionalize and replicate successful initiatives in the fight against child labour.



Interview Series on Uniting for a Common Goal: Fighting Child Labour Across Africa

This interview series goes behind the scenes of the ACCEL Africa knowledge-sharing workshop, where project partners discussed their contributions to the fight against child labour across Africa.



Our work with supply chain actors

WHAT

► Nigeria

Cocoa and gold mining



In collaboration with the Nigeria Employers' Consultative Association (NECA), private sector companies in the cocoa and gold mining sector were trained on eliminating child labour in the workplace. In addition, a comprehensive Code of Conduct and Guidance Tool for Businesses was developed to guide enterprises to address child labour in their supply chains, and an advocacy campaign was launched towards promoting an increased allocation of corporate social responsibility initiatives on child labour elimination.

► Egypt

Cotton



In Egypt, the project, in collaboration with GIZ, worked on enhancing the PPP Egyptian Dual Education system. Among others, the project worked closely with companies in the garments industry to equip in-company training coaches on topics such as OSH, coaching techniques, child protection measures and relevant legislation of the DES in-company training. In addition, in cooperation with the Federation of Egyptian Industries (FEI), the project worked on improving private sector compliance on child labour by fostering capacity building on responsible business conduct and international labour standards.

► Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Mali

Gold mining



Through the implementation of the CRAFT Code (Code of Risk mitigation for Artisanal and small-scale miners engaging in Formal Trade), key stakeholders from governmental institutions, workers' and employers' organizations, mining communities, cooperatives and businesses were empowered to assess and manage critical social and environmental risks such as illicit trade, uncontrolled use of chemicals, child labour and forced labour.

This initiative aims to promote the sustainable social, environmental, and economic development of the artisanal small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector by implementing due diligence practices targeting upstream and downstream players of the value chain. Its ultimate objective is to create better working environments, facilitate workers' access to global markets and enhance the formalization of the sector.

► Malawi and Uganda

Coffee and tea



In Malawi, a collaboration has been established between the Ministry of Education, the Employers Consultative Association of Malawi (ECAM), the Teachers Union of Malawi (TUM), and private sector companies in the tea and coffee supply chains to improve school learning environments and enhance educational opportunities for children at risk of child labour, including through the "Adopt a School" programme.

In Uganda, the Federation of Uganda Employers (FUE) conducted a needs assessment of member companies to promote child labour due diligence in the tea and coffee supply chains. Based on that, FUE developed a set of tailor-made tools to train companies and farming communities on key practices to identify, prevent, mitigate risks, and remedy cases of child labour within their operations. In addition, it signed two MOUs with the Bugishu Cooperative Union and McLeod Russel Uganda Limited to accelerate the elimination of child labour in coffee and tea growing communities, respectively, through the promotion of social dialogue, awareness raising and advocacy, capacity building, and public-private partnership.

CREDITS: PHOTO BY PHAWAT ON ADOBE STOCK | PHOTO BY ETTY FIDELI ON UNSPLASH
PHOTO BY MEHMETOZB ON ADOBE STOCK



WHAT

Country-level results in CÔTE D'IVOIRE

In Côte d'Ivoire, ILO ACCEL Africa has reached, as of June 2023, around:

27

Communities

1,078

Boys and girls

526 (49%)
of which are girls

1,030

Adults

514 (50%)
of which are women

Voices from our partners



“The parent who can take care of himself, when he falls ill, he will not allow his children to work. Today, with ACCEL Africa, we have been able to approach these populations to understand their difficulties. Before, we had the sites and we asked them to move to these sites. With ACCEL Africa, we had the innovation of dedicating operators to the cooperatives. They were responsible for criss-crossing all the sections with operators to enroll their members. We had never done that elsewhere.”

– MAURICE AKA, Social Security Framework, CNAM



“I was not feeling well so I presented the card, and they received me with the card. The doctor told me that I had to pay 3000 francs, but because of the card, I only paid 1000 francs. So I saw that the card is good for us planters and Ivoirians.”

– KOUAMÉ K. EDMOND, Member of the CSPA cooperative



“Today, we really need to monitor child labour, and the key actors who must be able to monitor are work inspectors... The big challenge was control in the informal sector. The ILO helped us to develop a strategy for the intervention of labour inspectors in the informal sector, particularly in agriculture and in cocoa farming.”

– DR. MARTIN N'GUETTIA, Director of the fight against child labour

Exploring innovations

► The ITEF platform: A private sector initiative for the fight against child labour and forced labour

ACCEL Africa launched a dynamic instrument designed to change corporate practices towards responsible sourcing and global recognition. By providing a prominent stage for showcasing corporate initiatives (from multinationals and small and medium-sized enterprises) aimed at combating child labor, the platform amplifies their visibility and impact. Furthermore, it acts as a powerful advocate, engaging with public authorities to convey the private sector's expectations and contribute to the reporting system.

► Expansion of health insurance coverage

ACCEL Africa supported the expansion of health insurance coverage to cocoa farming communities in Côte d'Ivoire. The project took a unique approach by collaborating with the government and private sector to identify and leverage existing programs and services. At the same time, private sector resources were identified to reduce the financial burden for cocoa farmers. As a result of this initiative, the National Health Insurance Fund (CNAM) of Côte d'Ivoire has enrolled 6,091 cocoa producers, who are members of cooperatives, and distributed CMU cards as of April 2023.



Implementing impactful activities

► Promoting occupational health and safety (OHS) through the WIND approach

The ILO strengthened the capacity of 40 agricultural and labour administration experts through the [WIND approach](#). This approach aims to facilitate the adoption of new practices for the prevention of occupational health and safety risks by cocoa producers and their households. The training took place in 2021 and 2023 in Soubré. Afterwards, these WIND trainers trained 144 peer trainers from 20 communities and 8 cocoa producing cooperatives in the sub-prefectures of Grand-Zattry and M'Batto.



**“We too have become like civil servants.
We have insurance cards, like them.”**

– SOULEYMANE OUEDRAOGO
Cocoa farmer and member of NECAB cooperative



Some of our knowledge products from CÔTE D'IVOIRE

► VIDEO

ACCEL Africa on the elimination of child labor in Côte d'Ivoire (French)

[WATCH](#)

► GOOD PRACTICE

Extending Universal Health Insurance coverage to cocoa farmer communities

[READ REPORT](#)

► GOOD PRACTICE

The WIND approach and strategic interventions on labour inspection: Improving working and living conditions through local solutions

[READ REPORT](#)

► GUIDANCE NOTE

The effective abolition of child labor in Côte d'Ivoire: The guidance offered by the ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (French)

[READ GUIDE](#)

Country-level results in EGYPT

In Egypt, ILO ACCEL Africa has reached, as of June 2023, around:

5

Governorates

2,688

Boys and girls

1,503 (56%)

of which are girls

1,588

Boys and girls that attend/
reintegrate into schools due to the
influence of the project

772 (49%)

of which are girls

495

Adults

340 (69%)

of which are women

1,100

Children of working age supported to
access TVET education

731 (66%)

of which are girls



Voices from our partners

"The importance of combating the worst forms of child labour is increasing day after day in light of the world crises that put new generation of children in danger. Accordingly, the Egyptian Government was encouraged to prioritize reducing child labour through close cooperation with the International Labour Organization's ACCEL Africa Project. The cooperation aimed to provide necessary support to keep children in school and protect them from being engaged as child labourers... [and] enhance working and training conditions for children from 14 to 18 years."

— HIS EXCELLENCY MINISTER HASSAN SHEHATA
Minister of Manpower

"We are very pleased to partner with ACCEL Africa project to implement the role of the MOETE in the National Action Plan for Combatting the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Egypt. This is done through supporting Dual Education System (DES) students to enjoy decent apprenticeship opportunities, and through introducing the DES in the SCREAM graduation ceremonies for 1800 children and their parents."

— TAMER NEGM ELDIN
Director of the General Department of Dual Education and Training and Applied Technology, Ministry of Education and Technical Education (MOETE)

"The partnership between Banque Misr and ACCEL Africa project aims to facilitate access to finance and contribute to financial inclusion awareness for the farmers who received GET Ahead support and parents of children who received SCREAM training to protect their children from dropping out of schools and becoming child labourers. We created an integrated business model and provided financial services for parents. Services included prepaid Meeza Cards, the opening of bank accounts, and the provision of microloans to enable families to start their own income generating activities."

— MR. AHMED ADEL
Head of Business Development and Financial Inclusion Unit, Banque Misr

"Based on the collaboration with the ILO ACCEL Africa project, an implementation plan has been set for the Ministry of Agriculture and coordination was done among all relevant executives in the Ministry. Accordingly, we have concrete operational steps on the ground to be followed to achieve positive results in economically empowering female and male farmers. [This is so they can] start or improve their income-generating activities, as well as learn about occupational safety and health in cotton agriculture, and child labour risks."

— DR. HISHAM MOSAAD
Previous Director of the Cotton Research Institute, Ministry of Agriculture

Implementing impactful activities



► Partnering with the financial sector

A public-private partnership (PPP) agreement was developed with Banque Misr to provide financial inclusion products to parents.

► National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) – Child Labour Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

The Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) manual aims to provide guidance on handling case management procedures, monitoring, intervention, and referral mechanisms for the different groups of children involved in child labour.

► Graduation ceremonies for SCREAM training participants

Egypt's [SCREAM](#) program has successfully trained over 1,700 boys and girls. Through expressive arts and media, these children were empowered to speak out about the dangers of child labor in their communities. To celebrate their achievements, graduation ceremonies co-hosted by the Ministries of Social Solidarity and of Education, were held, featuring live theater performances and a gallery showcasing the children's artwork.

Some of our knowledge products from EGYPT

► VIDEO

List of hazardous work and professions prohibited for children

[WATCH](#)

► VIDEO

Decent apprenticeship training for children of working age in Egypt

[WATCH](#)

► VIDEO

Education versus child labour

[WATCH](#)

► VIDEO

COVID-19: Protect children, now more than ever

[WATCH](#)

► GUIDANCE NOTE

Guide for occupational safety and health and securing the work environment regarding prevention and coexistence with the emerging coronavirus (Arabic)

[READ GUIDE](#)

► PUBLICATION

Public service manual for child protection and family support (Arabic)

[READ PUBLICATION](#)

Country-level results in MALAWI

In Malawi, ILO ACCEL Africa has reached, as of June 2023, around::

15

Communities

1,310

Boys and girls

629 (48%)
of which are girls

1,010

Boys and girls that attend/reintegrate into schools due to the influence of the project

534 (53%)
of which are girls

300

Children of working age supported to access TVET education

95 (32%)
of which are girls

4,483

Children participating in anti-child labour clubs

2,442 (54%)
of which are girls

500

Adults

295 (59%)
of which are women



Voices from our partners



“Workers, if they organize into trade unions, [can] advocate and lobby for decent work, and in decent work, we do not want child labour. All children should be in school.”

— MARY DZINYEMBA
Deputy Secretary General of the Malawi Congress of Trade Unions (MCTU)



“Sectoral approaches localise the intervention within a particular sector and therefore they’re more effective at addressing the specific issues that are particular to that sector. This is opposed to generic national initiatives that apply across without addressing specific root causes that a particular sector might have, and that others might not have.”

— TONDA CHINANGWA
Chief Executive Officer, Tea Association of Malawi

Exploring innovations

The ILO ACCEL Africa project partnered with the Malawi Congress of Trade Unions (MCTU) to support the unionization of workers in the tea and coffee supply chains. The project organized and mobilized workers in the informal economy, while MCTU raised community awareness through campaigns promoting the benefits of membership in MCTU and the Plantation and Allied Workers Union (PAWU). The campaigns raised awareness about child labor, resulting in 3,983 new members (as of October 2022). This innovative practice has resulted in increased union membership and improved working conditions for workers.

Implementing impactful activities

► Malawi Alliance 8.7 Strategic Planning Workshop

Malawi agreed to become an Alliance 8.7 Pathfinder country. To operationalize this commitment, Malawi has drafted a National Alliance 8.7 roadmap, which aims to guide the acceleration of the elimination of child labour in the country.

► Child labour survey in Malawi's tea and coffee sectors

The National Statistical Office (NSO) of Malawi, with support from the ILO ACCEL Africa project, conducted a child labour survey in December 2022. The survey targeted the country's tea and coffee sectors, and data was collected from 14 984 households from five districts: Chitipa, Mzimba, Ntchisi, Thyolo and Mulanje.

► Training and certification of 283 vulnerable boys and girls in various vocational skills and trades

283 children of working age graduated in various market-based vocational skills that included tailoring, fashion design, bricklaying, carpentry, and solar and electrical installation.



“The training is going well and my plan after I graduate from this program is to use the knowledge and skills I have acquired to start a tailoring business.”

– GRACE MOSES, former child labourer in Kamuzu

Some of our knowledge products from Malawi

► REPORT

Child labour and the impact of financial services on smallholder tea households in Malawi

[READ](#)

► VIDEO

Malawi Congress of Trade Unions: Empowering workers to combat child labor in Malawi's informal economy

[WATCH](#)

► VIDEO

Tea Association of Malawi: Taking sectoral approaches to combat specific enablers of child labour across the tea value chain

[WATCH](#)

► ARTICLE

ACCEL project partners unite to combat child labour in Malawi: Sharing knowledge and results for a better future

[WATCH](#)



CREDIT: PHOTO BY PRECIOUS MAKOCHEA ON UNSPLASH

Country-level results in MALI

In Mali, ILO ACCEL Africa has reached, as of June 2023, around:

109

Communities

2,203

Boys and girls

885 (40%)
of which are girls

1,583

Boys and girls that attend/reintegrate into schools due to the influence of the project

674 (43%)
of which are girls

620

Children of working age supported to access TVET education

211 (34%)
of which are girls

1,359

Adults

784 (58%)
of which are women

150

Artisanal gold mining cooperatives created (100) and regulated (50)



Voices from our partners



“Thanks to ACCEL Africa we were able to create 100 new cooperatives and regularize 50 existing cooperatives. We were also able to equip cooperatives with adapted materials and work plans. Creation, regularization and equipment of cooperatives are important to fight child labour in the mining sector.”

– **BAKARY GUINDO**

Responsible for partnerships, Chamber of Mines of Mali



“Thanks to ACCEL Africa, Mali has now a new Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour (PANETEM), which will guide our work for the next five years.”

– **AMADOU THIAM**

Director, National Unit to Combat Child Labour

Exploring innovations

In Mali, [the ILO ACCEL Africa project has partnered with Viamo](#), a mobile service provider, to pilot an innovative mobile phone technology approach for raising awareness on child labour and microfinance. The project utilized Interactive Voice Response (IVR) technology, allowing Viamo to effectively reach remote communities and disseminate training modules on child labour and the importance of microfinance in reducing it.

Through this initiative, participants who listened to the messages became active agents in sharing the acquired information with their family and friends, showcasing the positive impact of the program. The partnership between ILO ACCEL Africa and Viamo represents an innovative and cost-effective method of raising awareness, tailored to the capacities and preferences of communities in Mali.

Implementing impactful activities

► Organization of artisanal gold miners

Through the expansion of the cooperative movement to the artisanal gold mining sector, 100 gold mining cooperatives were created in the regions of Kayes, Koulikoro and Sikasso and 50 more were regularized. In this manner, the governance of gold mining sites was strengthened, including through the development of a monitoring system for the application of site protection and security measures with the participation of community authorities (Tombolomas and Donsos). Along with that, gold miners were trained on the dangers associated with the use of chemicals (cyanide and mercury) and were provided with OSH equipment.

► Validation workshop of the National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labor in Mali (PANETEM) 2023-2027

The action plan is the result of an inclusive social dialogue, ensuring that diverse perspectives were considered. Led by the Ministry of Labour, the inter-ministerial coordination played a pivotal role in its development. The plan reflects the government's unwavering commitment to eradicating child labor by addressing its underlying causes and enhancing the capabilities of key stakeholders in Mali.

► Validation workshop for the Modular and Permanent Survey with Households (EMOP) and the presentation of the 2020 National Report on the Work of Children in Mali

In 2020, the National Institute of Statistics undertook a comprehensive national survey on child labor in Mali. The survey findings, which provided valuable insights, were subsequently validated during a national workshop held in May 2022. Remarkably, this survey marked the first time in Mali that the prevalence and scale of child labour were measured in accordance with the new resolution on child labour statistics. Covering approximately 7,200 households with children aged 5 to 17 across Mali, the survey played a pivotal role in providing a comprehensive understanding of the issue at hand.



“The messages you have sent help me a lot in my activities. I listen to the program well and it guides me towards a better future. I manage to save and withdraw my money myself, and also to invest in my activities. It’s very useful for me, it helps me a lot.”



– BENEFICIARY
Viamo micro-finance
campaign in Kayes

Some of our knowledge products from MALI

► VIDEO

Accelerated schooling strategy in Mali

[WATCH](#)

► VIDEO

Elimination of child labour and forced labour in cotton, textile and clothing value chains: An integrated approach (French)

[WATCH](#)

Country-level results in NIGERIA

In Nigeria, ILO ACCEL Africa has reached, as of June 2023, around:

12

Communities

1,801

Boys and girls

889 (49%)
of which are girls

1,400

Boys and girls that attend/reintegrate into schools due to the influence of the project

678 (48%)
of which are girls

401

Children of working age supported to access TVET education

211 (53%)
of which are girls

1,083

Adults

382 (35%)
of which are women

Voices from our partners



“The first time I went to that community I could not overcome my tears. The rain was falling on these children. But we thank ACCEL Africa [since] they have rehabilitated that school... Every child has the right to education.”

– **SABAINAH OMOLONA**

Chief Executive Officer of the Restoration of the Dignity of Womanhood (ROTDOW) Nigeria



“The NLC congratulates ACCEL Africa on its work in ensuring...the effective abolition of child labour, the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour, freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining, and the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation. The gains of ACCEL Africa, which NLC actively participated in, will be sustained through the active participation of the NLC affiliates and the State councils in Nigeria.”

– **NIGERIA LABOUR CONGRESS**



“The chairman of the board and the Education Secretary, Local Government Education Authority (LGEA) in Akure would like to appreciate ACCEL Africa for its efforts to the state towards the elimination of child labour and increasing the zeal of both parents and pupils to learn in a conducive environment.”

– **ONDO STATE UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION BOARD (SUPERB)**



Exploring innovations

In partnership with Riby, ACCEL Nigeria provided digital solutions to vulnerable populations. Activities under this initiative included: (1) the recruitment of field agents to train beneficiaries in digital skills and assist with carrying out financial activities; (2) the creation of a platform to manage operational and financial activities, onboarding of beneficiaries into existing cooperatives, and establishment of new cooperatives and savings associations; and (3) improvement of financial inclusion through account opening, bank verification number (BVN) registration, and installation of agent banking services.

Implementing impactful activities



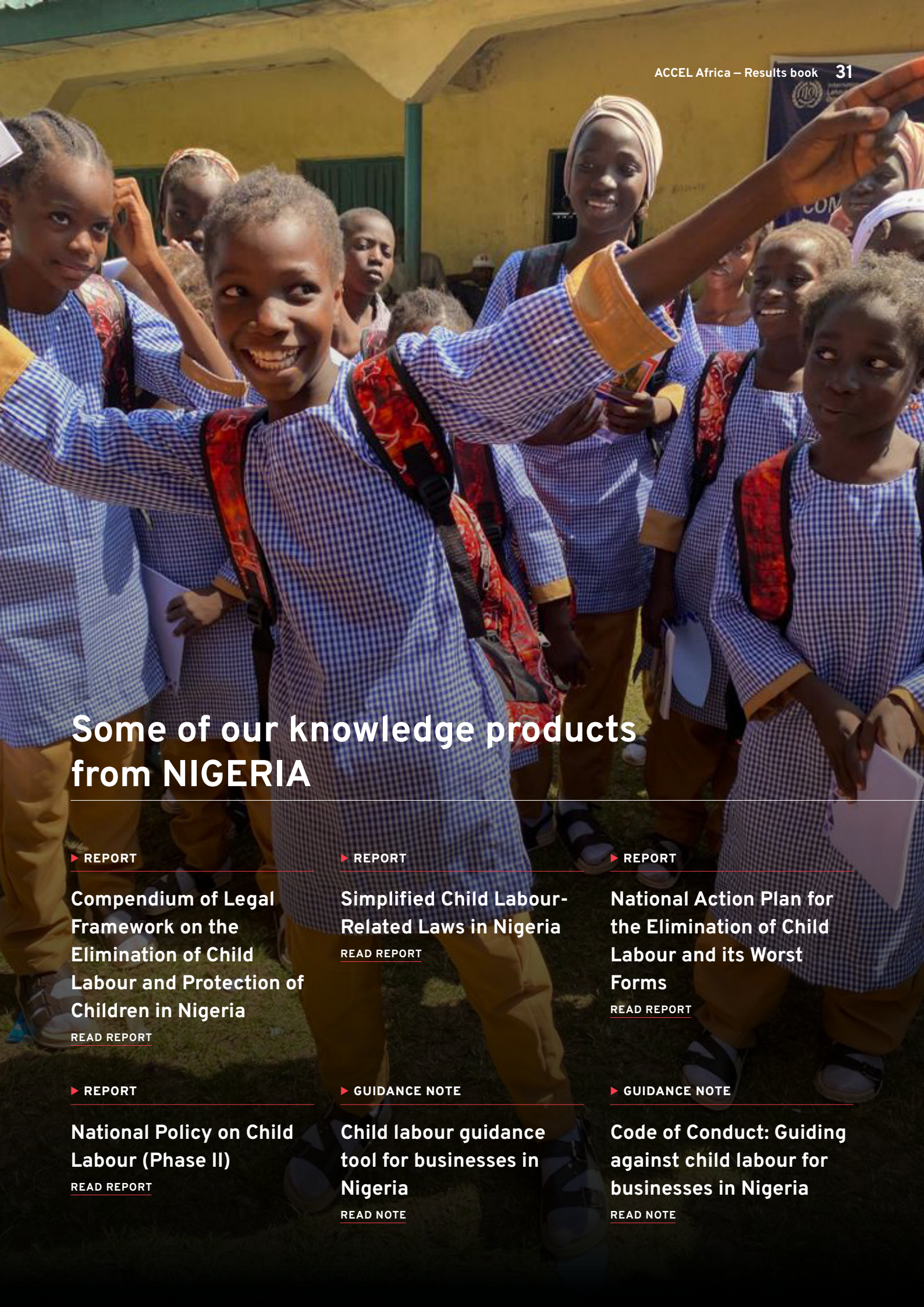
CREDIT: PHOTO BY CONFIDENCE ON ADOBE STOCK

► **Empowerment of 879 young people and adults with start-up equipment**

To sustain education in Ondo, Osun and Niger States, the ILO ACCEL Africa project empowered 478 parents and caregivers and 401 young people of legal working age improved their businesses. The 401 young people were also trained in viable vocations and provided with start-up equipment such as sewing machines, welding equipment, ovens, glass cylinders, insecticide sprayers, clippers, sterilizers, wheelbarrows, generators, industrial cooking gas, laptops, drums, hairdryers, washbasins, charging boxes, vulcanizing equipment, mechanic toolboxes, and computers.

► **Phases 1 and 2 of the certified SCREAM training in collaboration with the University of Ibadan**

The ILO ACCEL Africa project supported the development of the SCREAM module for the artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector, as well as the adaptation of the SCREAM module for the agricultural sector. The University of Ibadan, as an institution, now has a general studies course on child labour and decent work.



Some of our knowledge products from NIGERIA

► **REPORT**

Compendium of Legal Framework on the Elimination of Child Labour and Protection of Children in Nigeria

[READ REPORT](#)

► **REPORT**

Simplified Child Labour-Related Laws in Nigeria

[READ REPORT](#)

► **REPORT**

National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour and its Worst Forms

[READ REPORT](#)

► **REPORT**

National Policy on Child Labour (Phase II)

[READ REPORT](#)

► **GUIDANCE NOTE**

Child labour guidance tool for businesses in Nigeria

[READ NOTE](#)

► **GUIDANCE NOTE**

Code of Conduct: Guiding against child labour for businesses in Nigeria

[READ NOTE](#)

Country-level results in **UGANDA**

In Uganda, ILO ACCEL Africa has reached, as of June 2023, around::

19

Communities

5,976

Boys and girls

3,207 (54%)
of which are girls

4,758

Boys and girls that attend/reintegrate into schools due to the influence of the project

2,572 (54%)
of which are girls

4,100

Adults

2,389 (58%)
of which are women

1,218

Children of working age supported to access TVET education

635 (52%)
of which are girls

Voices from our partners



“Child labour increased substantially during COVID-19, and the problem is mainly concentrated in rural areas and in the agricultural sector, including in commercial farming, the mining and the domestic sector. For these reasons the third National Development Plan has prioritised the fight against child labour in the agricultural and mining sector.”

– **HON. AMONGI BETTY ONGOM**
Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development



“One of the things we have done is child monitoring on our platform... We profile the farmers under the ACCEL programme and their partners. We map the children to the schools that the parents report that they go to, and we create an inspection module so that an agent can go to the school anytime and find out if the child is there... We use technology to identify the problem and raise the red flags and work with relevant authorities to ensure that we can reduce this in our system.”

– **ERIC NANA KWABENA AGYEI**
Managing Director, MobiPay



“We developed an employer’s day on the elimination of child labour. We use it to train our member companies. We also developed the multinational enterprise declaration tool to guide our member companies on what procedures they should follow in their workplaces in order to eliminate child labour.”

– **HARRIET AUMA**
Northern Region Coordinator/Coordinator Child Labour Project, Federation of Ugandan Employers (FUE)

Exploring innovations

To allow VSLAs in Uganda to obtain access to complementary formal services, ACCEL Africa linked them to formal service providers such as Equity Bank through a digital platform offered by MobiPay. MobiPay offers high-tech solutions and innovations for agriculture to create linkages among distinct value-chain actors through a cloud-based technology. MobiPay’s digital platform enables the exchange of information among clients (such as on products, needs, and production capacity) and service providers (characteristics of services and products on offer). The platform can be accessed through basic mobile phones. As farmers and workers may not have strong digital capabilities, MobiPay has deployed a hybrid system which involves field agents, usually youth, to help farmers use and navigate the platform. Moreover, through the same MobiPay platform, farmers can also access e-learning resources in the areas of financial education, good agricultural practices and life skills, among others.

Implementing impactful activities



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- **Launch of the ILO social finance model**
The ACCEL project launched the social finance model on 23 November, 2023 through an event that targeted financial sector players and value chain actors. The event focused on the role financial institutions can play in preventing the unintended consequences the sector has on child labour, and helped enlist potential partners who could replicate the social finance model.
- **Training of private sector companies on child labour due diligence**
In collaboration with the Federation of Uganda Employers (FUE), the ILO ACCEL Africa project conducted extensive training sessions on child labour due diligence in Mbale and Kabarole. These initiatives align with global efforts to eliminate child labour and promote corporate social responsibility. A specialized resource, the “Child Labour Due Diligence Training Package for the Tea and Coffee supply chains in Uganda,” was developed to enhance business understanding, guide implementation of the ILO-IOE Child Labour Guidance Tool, and provide practical recommendations for identifying and addressing child labour risks.
- **Training with the Uganda Cooperative Alliance (UCA)**
With the support of the ACCEL Africa project, the alliance trained a total of 1,212 farmer group members (710 women and 502 men). They first conducted a needs assessment, whose findings informed the adaptation of a trainer’s manual that the UCA used.



Some of our knowledge products from UGANDA

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| ► VIDEO

ILO ACCEL Africa interview with Harriet Auma, Northern Region Coordinator, Federation of Uganda Employers (FUE) Uganda
WATCH VIDEO | ► GOOD PRACTICE

Leveraging the power of digital platforms to increase access to financial services for member-based organizations
READ REPORT | ► GUIDANCE NOTE

FUE MNE Elimination of Child Labour Tool for Employers
READ NOTE |
| ► GUIDANCE NOTE

FUE Guide to Employers on the Policy, Legal and Regulatory Frameworks and Best Practices for the Elimination of Child labour in Tea and Coffee Supply Chains
READ NOTE | ► TRAINING MANUAL

A training handbook for employers on child labour
READ MANUAL | |

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CREDIT: PHOTO BY YAROSLAV ASTAKHOV ON ADOBE STOCK



Success Factors

Success factors are resources and support mechanisms that make it possible for communities and individuals to change their perceptions and behaviors. Several success factors facilitated ILO Africa’s achievement of results at the country level. Listed below are selected examples:



Strong political commitment



Côte d'Ivoire

The existence of policy documents mandating social protection and the extension of health insurance to vulnerable groups



Nigeria

The allotment of budget lines for activities against child labour across ministries

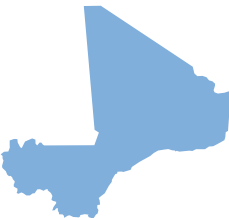


Available technical expertise at the national level



Egypt

The existence of an already-established Egyptian Dual Education and Training System



Mali

The use of well-established educational structures to accredit and supervise learning organized through the Accelerated Schooling Strategy (SSA/P)



Uganda

Use of the existing National Financial Inclusion Strategy (NFIS) 2017 – 2022 to support social finance interventions



Côte d'Ivoire

Work hand in hand with CNAM, on the expansion of the health insurance system for cocoa growers



Prioritisation of knowledge sharing activities among project beneficiary countries

Regional

Identification of knowledge needs at country level and matching these with innovative solutions

Regional

Identification, documentation and promotion of good practices, with the potential to be replicated and accelerated in other countries beyond ACCEL Africa implementation

Regional

Promotion of knowledge sharing at national and regional levels through engaging methodologies

Regional/Bilateral

Promotion and development of intra-African and South-South partnerships among countries for the replication and acceleration of good practices



Ownership at the community level of project results



Malawi

Close links between school environments and community life and culture, enriching the role of anti-child labour clubs



Mali

Partnership with existing women’s VSLA groups, who play a self-organized financial role at the local community level, in order to connect more closely with rural women farmers and increase access to financial services



Uganda

The use of relevant, already-established digital products from MobiPay, which are user-friendly and tailored to the needs of agricultural value chain actors, in order to ensure access to financial services

Success Factors (cont.)

Success factors are resources and support mechanisms that make it possible for communities and individuals to change their perceptions and behaviors. Several success factors facilitated ILO Africa’s achievement of results at the country level. Listed below are selected examples:



Use of ILO expertise on the elimination of child labour



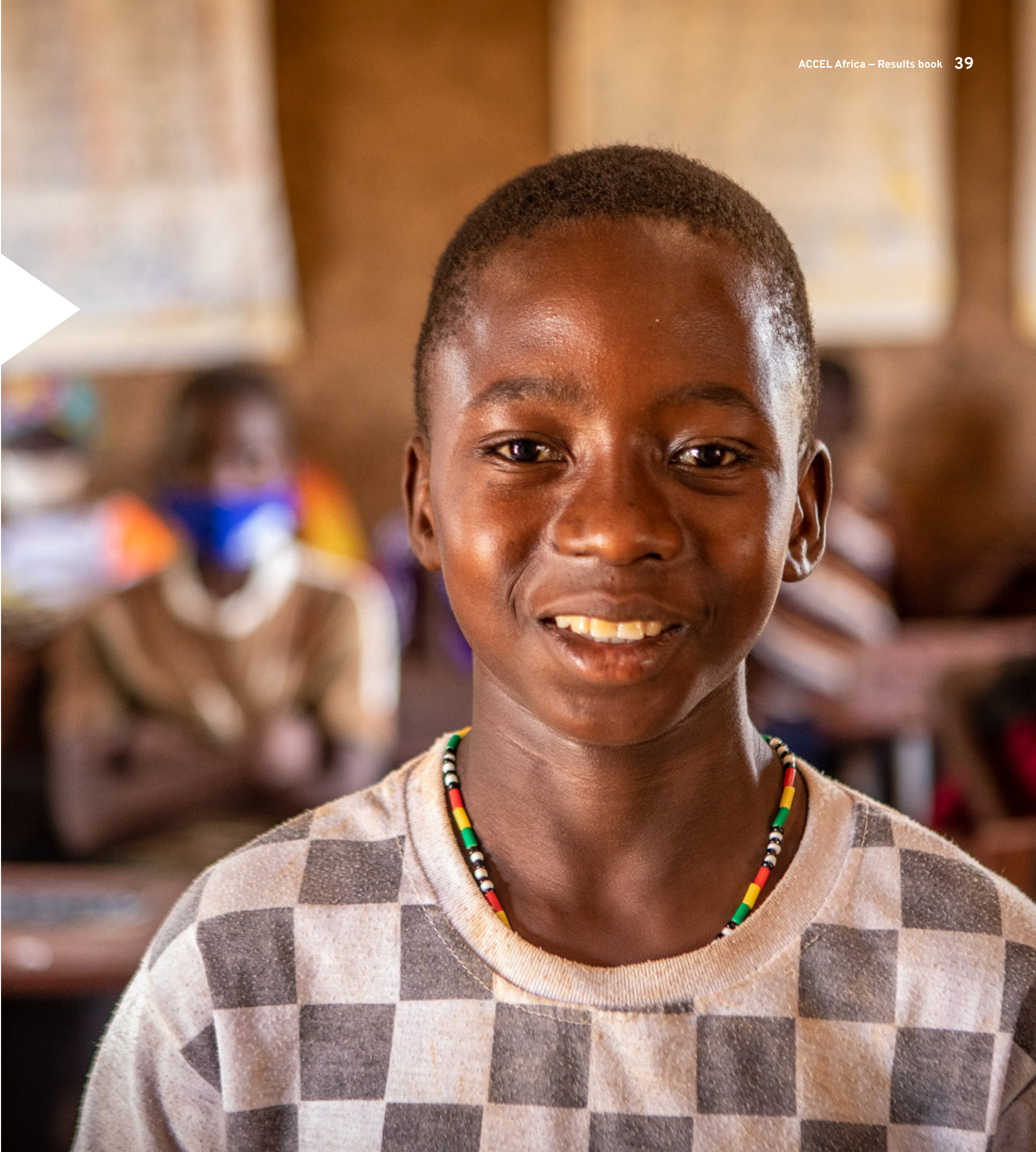
Egypt
Amendment of existing laws to incorporate ILO child labour standards



Malawi
Use of knowledge and experience on child labour monitoring mechanisms that were developed from previous ILO projects



Nigeria
Engagement with political actors initiated through previous child labour initiatives with ECOWAS





**“We must step up our fight against child labour
by supporting greater social justice.
If we do this, an end to child labour is not
just possible, it is within reach.”**

– GILBERT F. HOUNGBO
ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL



International
Labour
Organization

ACCEL
Africa



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
Netherlands