

Combating Child Labour

IPEC Action Programmes

October 1996



International Labour Organisation

ILO

***International Programme on the Elimination
of Child Labour***

IPEC

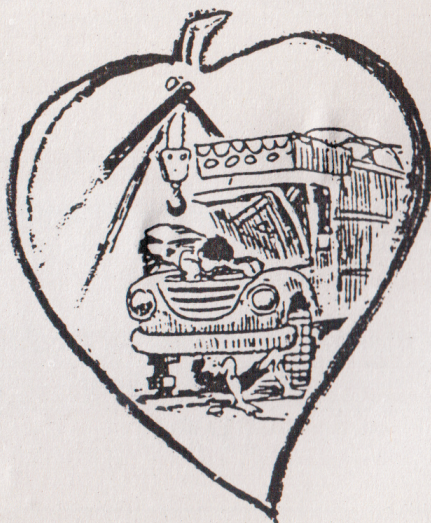
No. 3

***Assistance on the Elimination of Child
Labour to Government of NWFP***

Action Programme No. P.090.91.342.154

This awareness-raising programme is improving the general level of awareness about the problem of child labour and helping to form a broad-based consensus on the need for action. It is also collaborating and cooperating with workers' and employers' organisations and NGOs to combat child labour.

Implementing Agency:
Directorate of Labour Welfare
Government of North West Frontier Province (NWFP)

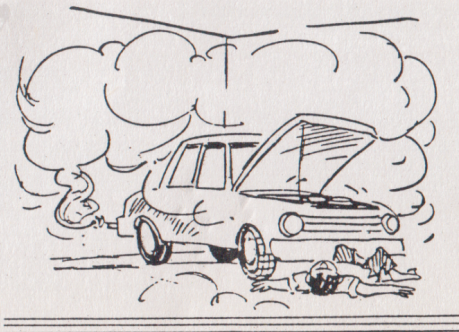


***Non-formal Education and Occupational
Safety and Health Project for Children
Working in the Automobile Workshops***

Action Programme No. P.090.91.342.155

Northwest Frontier Province (NWFP) is an area with a large transport industry, and therefore a large number of repair and service workshops. This Action Programme is using non-formal education as a point of intervention to sensitise both employers and the child workers to the hazards of child work in general and the specific hazards posed by the automobile workshops. The Programme is providing direct services, including non-formal education, health services and counselling to 250 children (boys) working in workshops. Additionally, 20 adult workers are being trained in making the working environment in the automobile workshops safe, and in provision of first-aid. Through participation of the local community in the project, greater compliance is expected to result on part of the employers and workshop owners in withdrawing the children from hazardous tasks and contact with hazardous substances. Since this model of intervention is workshop-based it is considered easily replicable.

Implementing Agency:
Pakistan Paediatrics Association (PPA)
(Child Abuse Committee)
(NGO)
Peshawar, NWFP



***Rehabilitation and Prevention Programme
for Children Working in Leather Tanneries***

Action Programme No. P.090.91.342.156

Leather tanning has been identified as one of the hazardous occupations in the Employment of Children's Act, 1991. Kasur is one of the major tanning areas in Punjab. Generally, children between eight-14 years are not employed directly by the tannery owners. They are hired by contractors either on daily wages or through the "peshgi" system which involves the advancement of a loan to parents/guardians. This rehabilitation and prevention Action Programme aims to remove children from hazardous tasks and contact with hazardous substances in the tanneries and to prevent children from entering hazardous occupations. It is providing integrated rehabilitation and prevention services (including non-formal education, health and safety, counselling) to 150 children working in the tanneries and 50 younger siblings (as a preventive measure). It is raising the consciousness of the children, the parents, the employers, and the community as a whole, on the issues of child labour.

Implementing Agency:

Sudhaar

(NGO)

Lahore, Punjab



***Non-formal Education and Skills
Enhancement Programme for Children
Working in Domestic Services***

Action Programme No. P.0900.91.342.157

Children working in domestic services, like other working children, are deprived of education and prone to mental and physical abuse. This Action Programme is providing non-formal education to such children between the ages of six and 14. It is also enhancing their skills, emphasising safety at work and helping build self-esteem. The programme will endeavour to mainstream some of these children into the formal school system. It will also raise awareness about the child labour problems, especially in regard to children working in domestic services.

*Implementing Agency:
Working Women Association (WWA)
(NGO)
Islamabad*



***Network of Employers for Protection of
Working Children***

Action Programme No. P.090.91.342.158

The Government of Pakistan has promulgated laws regarding the protection of working children and the elimination of child labour. Employers have an important role to play in raising general awareness of the problem of child labour. This Action Programme aims to enhance the capacity of EFP to take action to protect working children through establishing a Network of Employers for Protection of Working Children (NEPWOC), comprising of a nucleus on child labour at the EFP secretariat (Karachi) and 20 focal points nationwide. The programme is also creating/enhancing employers' awareness of the exploitative and hazardous child labour practices and alternatives, national legislation and international standards related to child labour. Employment of Children Act, 1991; Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1992; International Labour Convention on Minimum Age, No. 138 and its accompanying Recommendation No. 146 were translated into local languages (Urdu and Sindhi) under the previous phase of the AP.

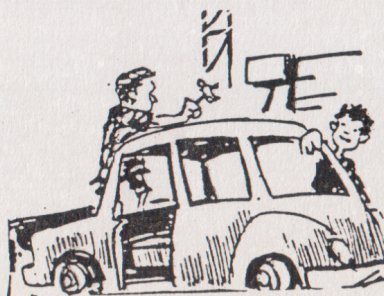
*Implementing Agency:
Employers' Federation of Pakistan (EFP)
(Employers' Organisation)
Karachi, Sindh*

***Apprenticeship Monitoring and Education
Programme for Working Children***

Action Programme No. P.090.91.342.159

Many families send their children to work as a way to learn vocational skills. However, many times these "apprenticeships" often turn out to be hard labour in dangerous conditions and for minimal pay. This Action Programme is operationalising a model for the "ustad-shagird" (apprenticeship) programmes for working children and the monitoring of such programmes. It is providing integrated rehabilitation and prevention services (including pre-vocational training, non-formal education, health and safety, counselling) to 50 children working as apprentices and 30 younger siblings (as preventive measures). It aims to remove these children from hazardous substances in the repair workshops. Awareness is being created within the families and the communities and they are being mobilised to address issues. Workshop owners, mechanics, parents and working children are cooperating with the programme.

*Implementing Agency:
Islamic Welfare Society (IWS)
(NGO)
Lahore, Punjab*



***Education and Awareness Programme for
Street and Beggar Children***

Action Programme No. P.090.91.342.160

Children who are forced into begging as an occupation feel degraded and are often victims of physical abuse. They are deprived of educational and other developmental opportunities. The model developed during the first phase project (1995-96) will continue to be used. The effectiveness of the religious structure (mosques, teachers) in advocacy and awareness raising in addressing the issue of child beggars was tested and will be used more systematically in this second phase project. The programme provides rehabilitation services (non-formal education, recreation, counselling and health services) to the target group children. It also creates awareness amongst partners and families and the community at large which unwittingly sustains child beggary by responding to their acts of begging. A casual survey conducted under the first phase programme showed that many of the families of child beggars would willingly receive training in income-generating skills. The NGO implementing this Action Programme, will link the families of the children participating in this programme to its existing programme of training in income-generation activities. If this link of the families with the NGO's other activities is successful it will eventually shift the economic burden from the child to the adult in the family

*Implementing Agency:
De Laas Gul (DLG)
(NGO)
Peshawar, NWFP*



***Participatory Programme on Awareness for
the Elimination of Child Labour***

Action Programme No. P.090.91.342.161

The mind set of entire communities has to be gradually changed before any measure to combat child labour can be successful and sustainable. Components of this programme include street theatre/skits, speech contests and recreational activities; it also involves one-to-one and group meetings and counselling with working children and their families and employers. They are being made aware of the health consequences of premature labour, of the occupational safety and health issues, of the relevant legislation and the provision for protection of working children within the legislation. IFP will establish a resource centre under the proposed programme. The target group for the participatory awareness activities include IPEC action programmes in Punjab. Older children (11-14 years) are encouraged to form self-help groups, who after developing a good understanding of the issues involved, will bring other working children into dialogue and discussion on the issue of child labour; their developmental needs; educational and other alternatives. Children of 5 to 10 years of age are targeted for active participation in the activities.

*Implementing Agency:
Insan Foundation Pakistan (IFP)
(NGO)
Lahore, Punjab*

***Non-formal Education and Awareness
Programme for Children Working in Textile,
Garment and Leather Sectors***

Action Programme No. P.090.1.342...

Children generally work long hours in unhygienic environment, without legal, economic or social security protection in the various stages and processes in textile sectors. This Action Programme will aim to remove children from exploitative employment relations, hazardous work or hazardous working environment and conditions through integrated rehabilitation and prevention services (non-formal education, health and safety, and counselling) to working children and as a preventive measure to younger children. The programme will also increase awareness of the issues among members of the trade unions, the working children and their families, employers and the general public. Seminars will be organised for PNTLGWF members; group discussions and meetings will also be organised to create awareness and mobilise community action.

*Implementing Agency:
Pakistan National Textile, Leather & Garments Workers
Federation (PNTLGWF)
(Workers' Organisation)
Multan, Punjab*

***Child Labour Information, Awareness and
Rehabilitation Programme***

Action Programme No. P.0907.1.342...

As is the case in most developing economies, the informal sector has grown at an extremely rapid pace in urban Pakistan and the populous city of Karachi is no exception, particularly in its squatter settlements. Home-based work abounds here for both adults and children. Through this Action Programme, the implementing agency, PILER, will establish two rehabilitation centres in Karachi Central and Karachi West. Through the centres an integrated programme of non-formal education, counselling, health services and recreation will be provided to 180 working children and 60 younger siblings. The programme will also include awareness-raising and counselling for the families and employers of these working children. A resource centre will be established, which will house documents and material on child labour and related subjects and provide a venue for various activities under the programme. The strategies identified and tried will be replicated in other centres that have been established by PILER.

Implementing Agency:

***Pakistan Institute of Labour Education and Research (PILER)
(NGO)
Karachi***

***Strengthening Government Capacity to Plan
and Coordinate Action on Child Labour***

Action Programme No. P.0907.1.342.301

In the absence of systematic planning, agencies are undertaking projects with little interaction, or even knowledge, of each other, which often leads to duplication and wastage of scarce resources. This is in part due to the absence of an ongoing mechanism for planning and coordinating child labour action. This Action Programme aims to strengthen the capability of the Ministry of Labour, Manpower and Overseas Pakistanis to initiate, coordinate, and ultimately sustain a comprehensive national programme on child labour. As a result of this programme, the Ministry will be able to use situation analysis in programme planning and prioritisation at the federal and provincial levels. Information is disseminated in non-technical form to relevant local, national and international agencies.

Implementing Agency:

*Ministry of Labour, Manpower and Overseas Pakistanis
(Government)
Islamabad*



National Rapid Assessment of Child Labour

Action Programme No. P.0907.1.342.302

There is little systematic planning on how to deal with the problem of child labour. This in part is due to lack of information, which currently is limited to a handful of studies on the more prominent occupations, such as carpet-making and brick kiln work. Almost nothing is known about child labour in small industries, particularly those of a hazardous nature, and of the "invisible" child labour. This Action Programme has provided background information in qualitative terms on the problem of child labour to enable agencies and organisations to plan their interventions more effectively.

Implementing Agency:

*Ministry of Labour, Manpower and Overseas Pakistanis
(in collaboration with SEBCON and provincial research teams)*

(Government)

Islamabad



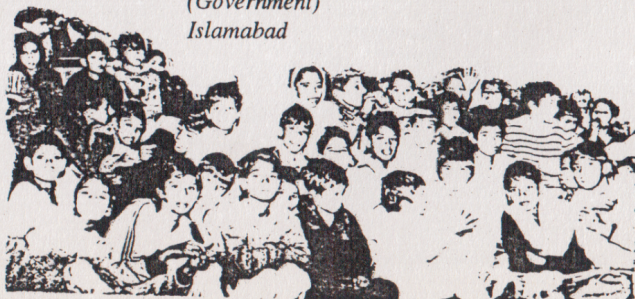
National Sample Survey of Child Labour

Action Programme No. P.0907.1.342.303

Child labour in Pakistan is hampered by lack of reliable and comprehensive information about the problem. Without better quality statistics on the magnitude of child labour, it is extremely difficult for the Government to allocate the necessary resources. In Pakistan the main source of statistical data on the labour force is the annual Labour Force Survey conducted by the Federal Bureau of Statistics, but this includes information only on young people above the age of 10 years and primarily in the formal sector. Many children may be working outside those categories. The survey conducted under this Action Programme will provide baseline information on the magnitude of child labour, including children working in the household and informal sectors. After this survey, a module on child labour will be developed and attached to the LFS on an ongoing basis. This will enable the Government to monitor the situation of child labour and to formulate and implement a realistic and comprehensive plan of action for the ultimate elimination of child labour.

Implementing Agency:

*Ministry of Labour, Manpower and Overseas Pakistanis
(in collaboration with Federal Bureau of Statistics (FBS))
(Government)
Islamabad*



Education and Training Centre for Carpet Weaving Children

Action Programme No. P.0907.3.342.306

This is a pilot programme to develop and test new methods of addressing child labour in the carpet industry. Since sending children into carpet-weaving has become accepted as standard practice in many small villages in recent years, one way of intervening to remove young children from the industry and prevent new children from entering is to work with the community as a whole: raising its awareness of the liabilities of the practice for the families as well as the children, ensuring that there are adequate school facilities in the community for the children, and undertaking any other activities that would address the causal factors of child labour and enable the community to substitute adults workers for the children.

Implementing Agency:

Pakistan Carpet Manufacturers & Exporters Association

(PCMEA) - (Employers' Organisation)

(in collaboration with Bunyad Literacy Community Council

(BLCC) - (NGO)

(Employers/NGO)

Lahore, Punjab

***All Pakistan Federation of Trade Unions
Project on the Elimination of Child Labour
in Pakistan***

Action Programme No. P.0907.1.342.309

This is an awareness and advocacy programme for workers in all the four provinces. The Action Programme has enabled APFTU, the largest national Trade Union in Pakistan, to advocate for the elimination of child labour, particularly in hazardous occupations, with the press, and the Government, in addition to its constituents. Awareness-raising workshops and seminars have been organised in all four provinces.

Implementing Agency:

*All Pakistan Federation of Trade Unions (APFTU)
(Workers' Organisation)
Lahore, Punjab*



Training in Labour Legislation

Action Programme No. P.0907.2.342.310

Through this Action Programme, steps were taken toward developing a systematic training programme for those involved in labour inspection. The ILO Training Guide on Labour Inspection has been adapted to the local context following consultations with those concerned at the provincial level. The adapted version will be used in a national training programme with support from IPEC.

Implementing Agency:

Directorate of Workers' Education

Ministry of Labour, Manpower and Overseas Pakistanis

(Government)

Islamabad

***Children in Bondage: Workshop on the
Social Phenomenon of Peshgi' -
Debt Bondage***

Action Programme No. P.0907.1.342.311

A technical seminar will be organised in Karachi to facilitate the analysis of the social phenomenon summarised in the word "pesghi" (loan/advance) through an exchange of views among various groups. The seminar also will create awareness of the issues involved in debt bondage system, especially those related to child bonded labour; educate on the prevailing labour laws on child and bonded labour and discuss methods of implementation and problems encountered; and identify actions to combat child bonded labour in Pakistan.

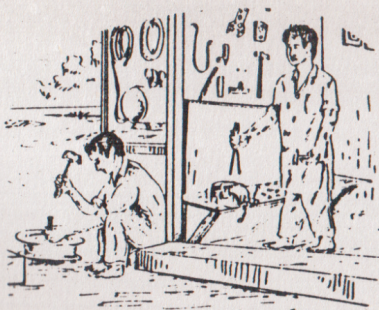
*Implementing Agency:
Directorate of Labour Welfare
Government of Sindh
Sindh*

*National Seminar on Child Labour: Issues
of Concern to Workers*

Action Programme No. P.0907.1.342.312

Through this Action Programme a three-day national seminar was organised to explore child labour issues of concern to workers. The seminar identified actions to be undertaken by workers to protect child workers and to work for the elimination of child labour.

Implementing Agency:
Pakistan Workers' Confederation (PWC)
(Workers' Organisation)
Lahore, Punjab





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