



Evaluation Summaries

Combating child labour in the carpet industry in Pakistan (Phase II)

Quick Facts

Countries: *Pakistan*

Final Evaluation: *October 2007*

Mode of Evaluation: *independent*

Technical Area: *Child Labour*

Evaluation Management: *IPEC*

Evaluation Team: *Samia Raoof Ali*

Project Code: *PAK/02/50/USA*

Donor: *United States*

Keywords: *Child labour, carpet industry*

Background & Context

The Government of Pakistan has paid considerable attention to the issue of Child Labour, as shown in the signing and ratification of International Agreements and Conventions as well as measures to counter this menace at the national level. Presently, the Government of Pakistan and the ILO have a Memorandum of Understanding to implement the present carpet project through the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) till 31 December 2009.

Moreover, ILO is also providing technical assistance to Government of Pakistan for the development of a National Time-bound Programme (TBP) on the "Worst Forms of Child Labour". All ILO-IPEC child labour programmes, including the Carpet Project comes under the TBP frame work.

Since 1999, ILO under a Partners Agreement with the Pakistan Carpet Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PCMEA) has been implementing two phases of a project titled, 'Combating Child Labour in the Carpet Industry in Pakistan'. The Phase-II of the Project was for five years and completed on 30 September 2007 and had the same two donors, US Department of Labor (US \$ 3.5 m) and the PCMEA (US \$ 900,000). The second phase focused on 4 districts in Punjab Province to withdraw and rehabilitate child carpet weavers through education and establish a child labour monitoring system.

As part of ILO and donor requirements, ILO-IPEC has commissioned this independent external evaluation to assess the performance of the Phase-II of the project co-funded by USDOL. The one person team carried out extensive desk review, field visits to the project sites in four districts, and extensive meetings with various stakeholders and project partners. (Terms of Reference are placed in the annexes of the report)

1.1 Evaluation Methodology

The Design, Evaluation and Documentation Section of IPEC Geneva has commissioned the final independent evaluation of Carpet Project Phase-II. The period of evaluation consisted of 21 days including field work of eight days. The evaluation mission consisted of one external consultant. On September 5, 2007, the evaluation process commenced with a detailed briefing from ILO/IPEC DED Geneva. The donor of the project, US Department of Labor, also held a detailed telephone interview with the consultant. A comprehensive desk review of

various documents including, Project Document, Technical Progress Reports (TPR), Action Programme Documents, and the Mid-Term Evaluation Report and other relevant documents, was undertaken during September 6 to 9, 2007. In light of the desk review and before the field visits the consultant prepared a set of evaluation instruments outlining the key questions for the evaluation. The field mission was carried from 10-17 September 2007.

Detailed discussions were held with the Director of the ILO Islamabad Office, Chief Technical Advisor, IPEC Pakistan, Project Manager, and various other project staff at Lahore and the three field offices in Sheikhupura, Faisalabad and Multan. The consultant also held numerous meetings with project partners/stakeholder and direct beneficiaries. The consultant visited project sites in four districts (Sheikhupura, Faisalabad, Toba Tek Singh, Khanewal) in the province of Punjab.

During field mission to the project sites, the consultant visited the Non-Formal Education (NFE) centers established by the project, held discussions with former child workers and their siblings at NFE centers, NFE teachers, mothers groups, members of the Village Education Committees (VEC), community groups, district government officials, local councilors, activists, contractors and sub-contractors of carpet sectors, and staff of collaborating organizations.

Moreover, the consultant held detailed discussion with the Provincial Secretary Labour, Government of Punjab, Secretary General, Pakistan Workers Federation, Representative of Pakistan Carpet Manufacturer and Exporters Association (PCMEA), and the heads of three participating NGOs (Sudhaar, BLCC, and Child Care Foundation). This report is based on the above mentioned desk review, meetings, field visits and group discussions.