



International
Labour
Organization

► IPEC+ Global Flagship Programme Implementation

Towards a world free from child labour and forced labour





► COVID-19 impact on child labour and forced labour: The response of the IPEC+ Flagship Programme

COVID-19 has plunged the world into a crisis of unprecedented scope and scale. Undoubtedly, restoring global health remains the first priority, but the strict measures required are resulting in massive economic and social shocks.

The root causes of child labour and forced labour – including poverty, limited access to decent work opportunities for those of legal working age, social marginalization, discrimination, the lack of universal quality education, the prevalence of the informal economy and weak social dialogue – are likely to be exacerbated.

IPEC+ has developed business continuity plans to mitigate the risks and to repurpose its strategy and is seeking to monitor the impact of COVID-19 on child labour and forced labour, particularly in relation to school closures, business shut downs, unemployment, the loss of livelihoods in affected communities and a lack of social protection systems.

In line with the [ILO Policy Framework to Fight COVID-19](#) and the [ILO Monitor: COVID-19 and the World of Work](#), the ILO produced the briefing note, [COVID-19 impact on child labour and forced labour: The response of the IPEC+ Flagship Programme](#), providing an initial framework for the response of IPEC+ to the crisis. Services provided by IPEC+ will be part of a holistic ILO response to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 and to rebuild better after the crisis.

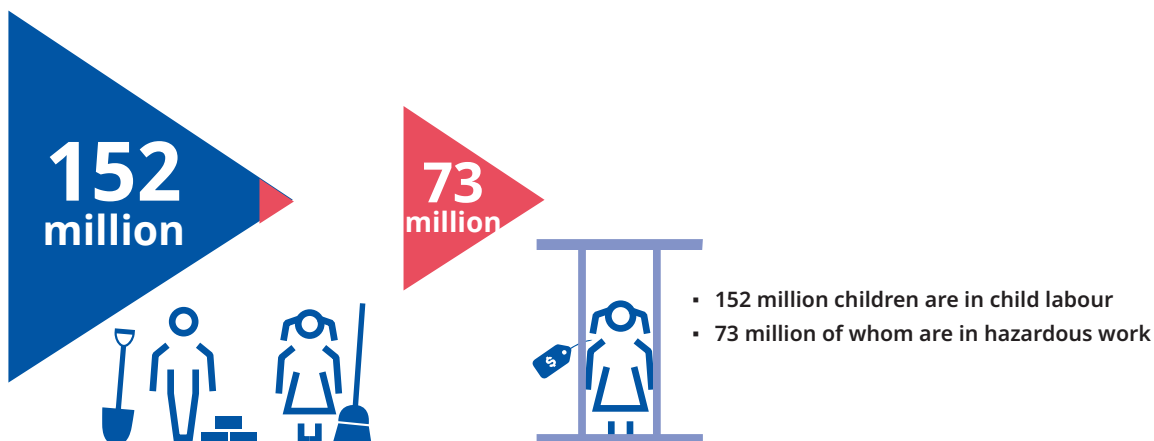
The response of IPEC+ is situated under pillar 3 “Protecting workers in the workplace” of the ILO’s Policy Framework on COVID-19.

The briefing note also builds on [UN Secretary-General’s Global Humanitarian Response Plan](#) and the [UN Policy Brief on the Impact of COVID-19 on Children](#).

With a human-centred approach, IPEC+ is addressing the impact of COVID-19 on the most vulnerable through the following:

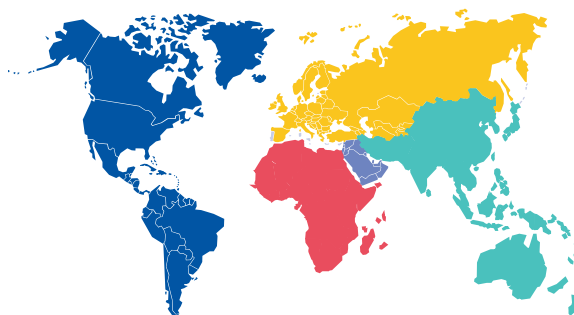
1. Leveraging its field presence in over 62 countries worldwide and the political commitment of Pathfinder Countries of the Alliance 8.7.
2. Mobilizing global and regional networks including partnerships such as Alliance 8.7, UN bodies and inter-agency working groups, and regional initiatives and organizations.
3. Producing knowledge and data to shed light on the impact of COVID-19 on child labour and on forced labour and other fundamental principles and rights at work.
4. Investing in gender-sensitive monitoring solutions, including the strengthening of the labour inspectorate, social partners’ participation in monitoring, and community-based structures.
5. Promoting social dialogue and the active participation of employers’ and workers’ organizations in planning, implementing and monitoring measures for recovery and resilience.
6. Repurposing and innovating its operations to face an unprecedented crisis like COVID-19 that lends a renewed urgency and importance to the core IPEC+ agenda at the country level. Innovation and research, while building on good practices and evidence-based solutions such as cash transfer programmes, will be a priority. By building on knowledge and experience of over 20 years, IPEC+ will look at short, medium and long-term responses to the impact of COVID-19 on child labour and forced labour from the initial phase of lockdown until the progressive return to work.

► Today, 152 million children are in child labour

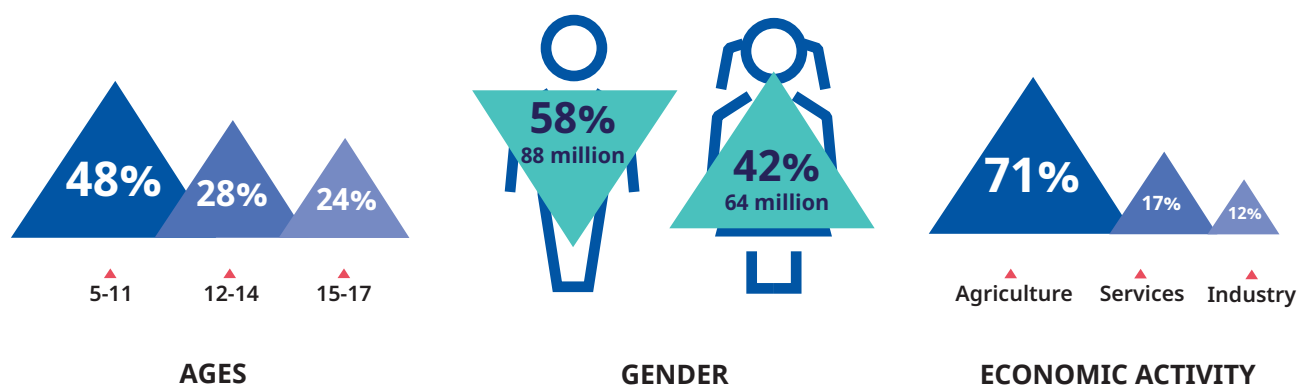


REGIONAL PREVALENCE OF CHILD LABOUR

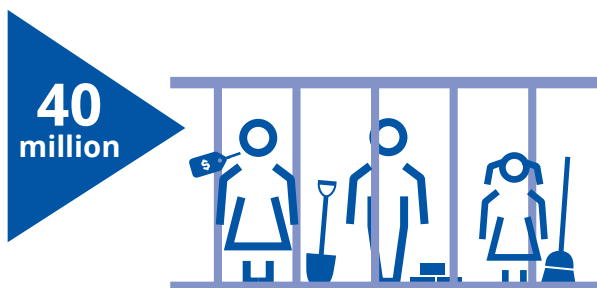
Africa	19.6%
Americas	5.3%
Arab States	2.9%
Asia and the Pacific	7.4%
Europe and Central Asia	4.1%



Of the 152 million children in child labour...



► and 40 million people are in modern slavery of whom 25 million are in forced labour



40 million people are victims of modern slavery.

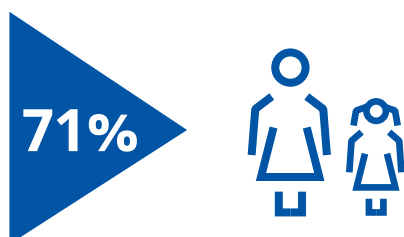
This includes:

- 25 million people in forced labour
- 15 million people in forced marriage
- 25 per cent of all victims of forced labour were exploited outside their country of origin

PREVALENCE

In the world, there are:

- 5.4 victims of modern slavery for every thousand people
- 5.9 adult victims of modern slavery for every 1,000 adults
- 4.4 child victims of modern slavery for every 1,000 children

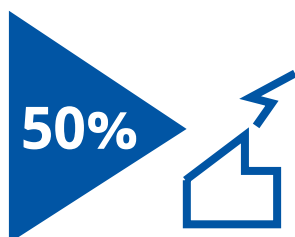


GENDER

Women and girls account for 71 per cent of modern slavery victims

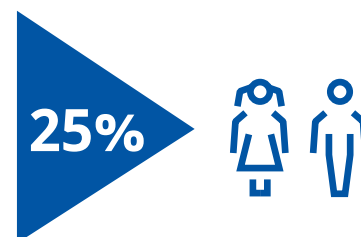
DEBT BONDAGE

Debt bondage affects half of all victims of forced labour imposed by private actors



CHILDREN

One in four victims of modern slavery is a child



► Who we are

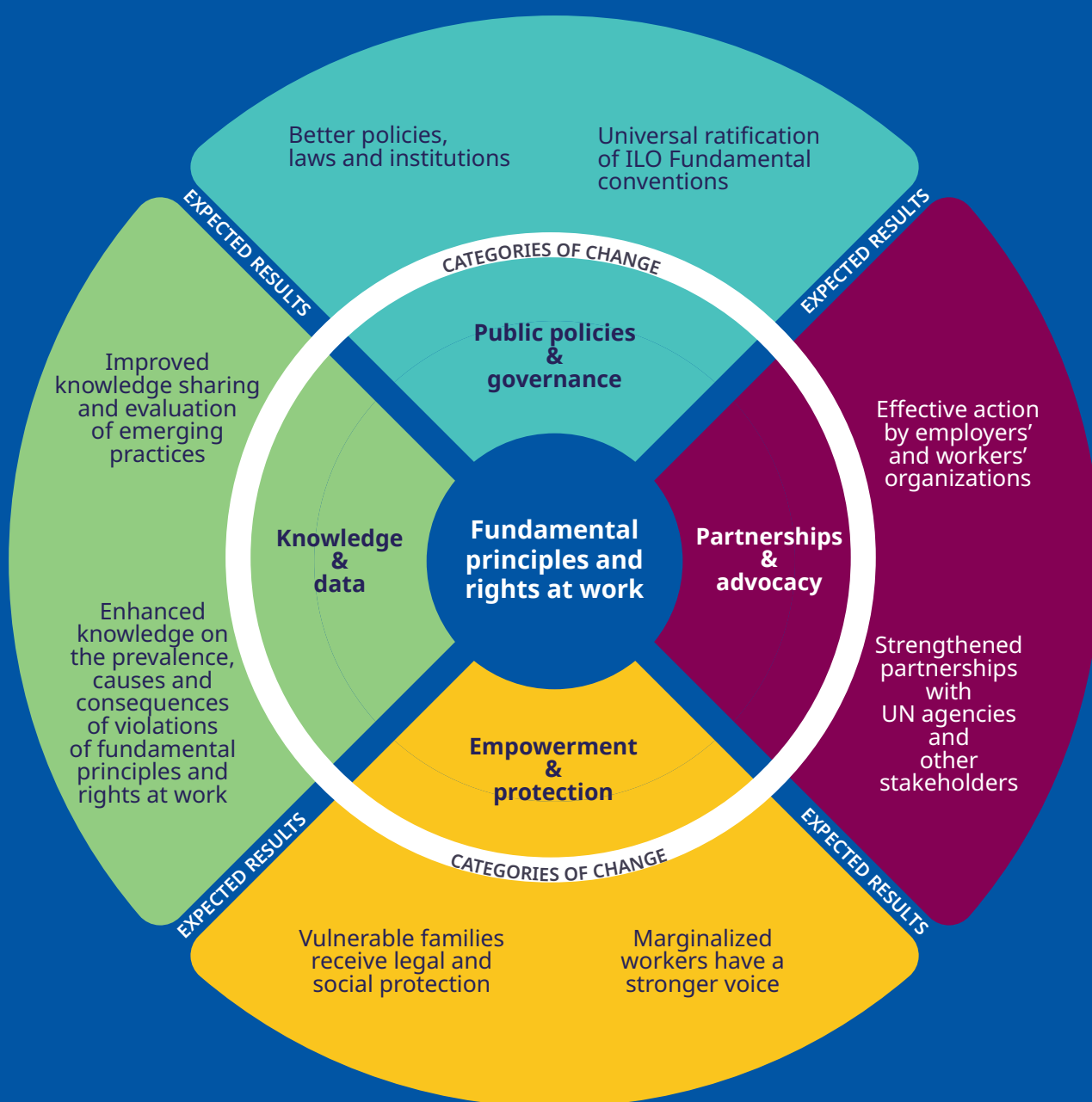
The International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour and Forced Labour (IPEC+) brings together two leading ILO technical cooperation programmes – the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) and the Special Action Programme to combat Forced Labour (SAP/FL) – to establish a major new force in the fight against child labour, forced labour and human trafficking. It recognizes that these unacceptable forms of work deny workers their basic human rights at work and that, while their overlap concerns 4.5 million children trapped in contemporary forms of slavery, they share root causes of poor governance, discrimination and social exclusion, family and community poverty and lack of access to decent work and to the rights of freedom of association and collective bargaining.

The objective of the IPEC+ Global Flagship Programme – in line with Target 8.7 of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, adopted by the United Nations in 2015 – is to provide ILO leadership in global efforts to eradicate all forms of child labour by 2025 and all forms of contemporary slavery and human trafficking by 2030. It also aims to ensure that all people are protected from – and can protect themselves against – these gross human rights violations.

IPEC+ Global Flagship Programme works from the village to the global stage with the ILO's constituents (governments, employers' and workers' organizations), as well as with enterprises and small producers' organizations, NGOs and civil society organizations, to promote the eradication of child labour and forced labour and the realization of all fundamental rights at work, with a focus on:

- the rural and informal economies;
- enterprises and global supply chains;
- countries in crisis and fragile situations.

► The IPEC+ Global Flagship Programme will pursue those aims by supporting the constituents in:



► The ILO's normative framework on child labour and forced labour

The IPEC+ Global Flagship Programme is built on the foundations of Target 8.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the ILO Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and the corresponding instruments dealing with child labour and forced labour.

IPEC+ Fundamental Conventions

- **Convention No. 138** on the minimum age (1973), 173 ratifications
- **Convention No. 182** on the worst forms of child labour (1999), 186 ratifications
- **Convention No. 29** on forced labour (1930), 178 ratifications
- **Convention No. 105** on the abolition of forced labour (1957), 175 ratifications
- **Protocol No. 29** to the Forced Labour Convention No. 29 (2014), 44 ratifications

(Conventions No. 138 and No. 182 and Convention No. 29 and its Protocol have accompanying recommendations)

Together, these instruments provide members States with the necessary policy framework to understand and fight child labour and forced labour. Regardless of ratification of the Conventions and the Protocol, all ILO member States, simply by virtue of membership, are obliged to respect, promote and realize, in good faith, the rights contained in these instruments.



► Our impact

Public policies and governance

The ILO has helped some 115 countries to combat child labour. Hundreds of laws, action plans and policies have been enacted and implemented.

Employers' and workers' organizations and enterprises have played a critical role by integrating child labour in their policies, actions and business practices and by contributing to the implementation of action plans.

Significant reduction in child labour

The results have been significant. The 16-year period starting in 2000 saw a net reduction of 94 million children in child labour.

Prevention, prosecution and awareness raising on forced labour and human trafficking

The ILO has also provided technical support on forced labour through a significant number of field projects, thereby developing effective ways to prevent and prosecute forced labour and human trafficking, assist victims, raise awareness and support the development, strengthening or implementation of new laws, including actions to promote fair recruitment practices. This has led to many governments adopting new legislation and policies outlawing forced labour, and efforts are being made to increase prosecutions of traffickers and unscrupulous recruiters and employers who use forced labour.

Knowledge and data

A range of practical products on child labour and forced labour have also been developed, including handbooks and training tools for business, legislators, judges and labour inspectors, and e-learning modules for law enforcement on the identification and investigation of forced labour cases. In 2002, 2006, 2010, 2013 and 2017 the ILO produced global estimates of child labour, and in 2012 and 2017 global estimates of forced labour and modern slavery. Through this process, the ILO developed and implemented a methodology using indicators to measure child labour and forced labour at the national level. In 2019, the ILO published the *General Principles and Operational Guidelines on Fair Recruitment and Definitions of Recruitment Fees and Related Costs*.

► Partnerships

Strong engagement of all relevant actors will ensure their respective constituencies bring their weight to bear in the pursuit of fundamental principles and rights at work. This effort starts with and gives primacy to the economic actors – workers’ and employers’ organizations, enterprises and public authorities – and must reach out more broadly to partners who support the objectives of the ILO.

Alliance 8.7

Alliance 8.7 is an inclusive global partnership committed to achieve SDG Target 8.7: “Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.”

The Alliance 8.7 currently has over 250 Partner Organizations including government institutions, UN agencies, civil society organizations, workers’ and employers’ organizations, academic institutions and survivor networks, all of whom recognize the urgent need to accelerate action to reach SDG Target 8.7 and all of whom have specific expertise to share. While many countries and organizations are taking active steps to achieve SDG Target 8.7, there is an urgent need for coordinated global action. The Alliance 8.7 brings together actors at all levels to collaborate, strategize, share knowledge and ultimately accelerate progress so we can deliver on this commitment by 2030. The strength of Alliance 8.7 lies in the diversity of its partners and their commitment to reaching across borders and meeting the challenges together. The ILO currently serves as Secretariat for Alliance 8.7.

In order to reach the ambitious deadlines of SDG Target 8.7, a global effort is needed to align national strategies, fill data gaps and leverage resources to better support governments in driving innovation at home. Alliance 8.7 partner organizations have come together to collaborate through four thematic action groups focusing on supply chains, migration, rule of law and conflict and humanitarian settings. These Action Groups reflect the thematic priorities of Alliance 8.7 and bring together organizations and initiatives working on these areas to maximize impact. Via Action Groups, partners coordinate research and advocacy and drive implementation efforts on these urgent issues.

An integral part of Alliance 8.7 is the Pathfinder Country Strategy through which governments commit to doing more at the national level, leading the way in finding innovative solutions to these complex issues that can be tested, measured and shared with other countries facing similar challenges. A promising number of countries have already put themselves forward to be Alliance 8.7 Pathfinder Countries and have successfully gathered a broad range of stakeholders to develop national action plans with specific priorities, budgets and progress indicators. These countries present their objectives, updates on action taken and progress through different Alliance 8.7 communication platforms to encourage others to take steps to foster the collaboration needed to finally end child labour and modern slavery.

► Alliance 8.7 Pathfinder Countries

Which are the pathfinder countries?

Pathfinder countries are those that commit to going further and faster to achieve SDG Target 8.7. They are committed to accelerate efforts with new action and willing to try new approaches from which others can learn to support SDG Target 8.7's urgent deadlines. All UN Member States have committed to do more, and pathfinder status is open to any country, regardless of development level. Pathfinder countries commit to new action to:

- adopt, implement or enhance national action plans or policies, including strengthened legal frameworks and enforcement mechanisms, covering the topics enshrined in SDG Target 8.7, as relevant: forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour. National action plans or policies should be adopted/implemented in consultations with social partners at country level;
- translate public commitments into concrete actions;
- provide support needed to facilitate accelerated action in another country;
- promote and work towards the ratification and full implementation of recognized international human rights standards and obligations, including applicable international labour standards.

What are the opportunities for a pathfinder country?

Participation in Alliance 8.7 as a pathfinder country is an opportunity to:

- gain development and economic benefits that come from reduced forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour;
- harness new resources through the attractive power of a demonstrated willingness to act;
- leverage reputational benefits that come from implementing applicable international standards and being a leader in the field;
- showcase progress and successful interventions and serve as a catalyst for wider change;
- benefit from access to knowledge and expertise;
- benefit from technical support to prepare reports under the Voluntary National Review (VNR) of the SDGs.

What are the implications of becoming a pathfinder country?

Pathfinder countries have various options to turn commitments into action on the ground:

- develop a roadmap to achieve SDG Target 8.7 with all interested Alliance 8.7 partners at the country level with measurable actions to achieve accelerated deadlines;
- report against agreed indicators on a yearly basis to showcase progress and to provide visibility to those countries achieving success. Pathfinder countries will also collect data to measure results and to make them available to the Alliance 8.7 Knowledge Platform so that efforts everywhere are continuously improved and lessons learned are shared as widely as possible;
- support Alliance 8.7 outside its own country context for which a range of options exists, including by:
 - ▷ providing political support to subregional, regional and global level efforts, for example by sponsoring, convening or chairing initiatives and events to accelerate action;
 - ▷ scaling up or testing multi-stakeholder and innovative approaches in countries and sectors through the provision of financial and/or technical support;
 - ▷ contributing to the Alliance 8.7 Knowledge Platform that others can draw on to improve results;
 - ▷ participating in one or more of the Alliance 8.7 Action Groups by providing technical and/or financial support.

Regional Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean free of Child Labour

The Regional Initiative is an intergovernmental cooperation platform, with 30 member countries, and with active participation of employers' and workers' organizations that seeks to accelerate the eradication of child labour to declare Latin America and the Caribbean free of child labour in 2025. In 2014, during the 18th ILO Regional Meeting of the Americas (Lima, Peru), the Declaration on the Establishment of the Regional Initiative was signed. The scope of the Regional Initiative covers the period 2014-2025 in line with SDG Target 8.7. The Regional Initiative's main results are:

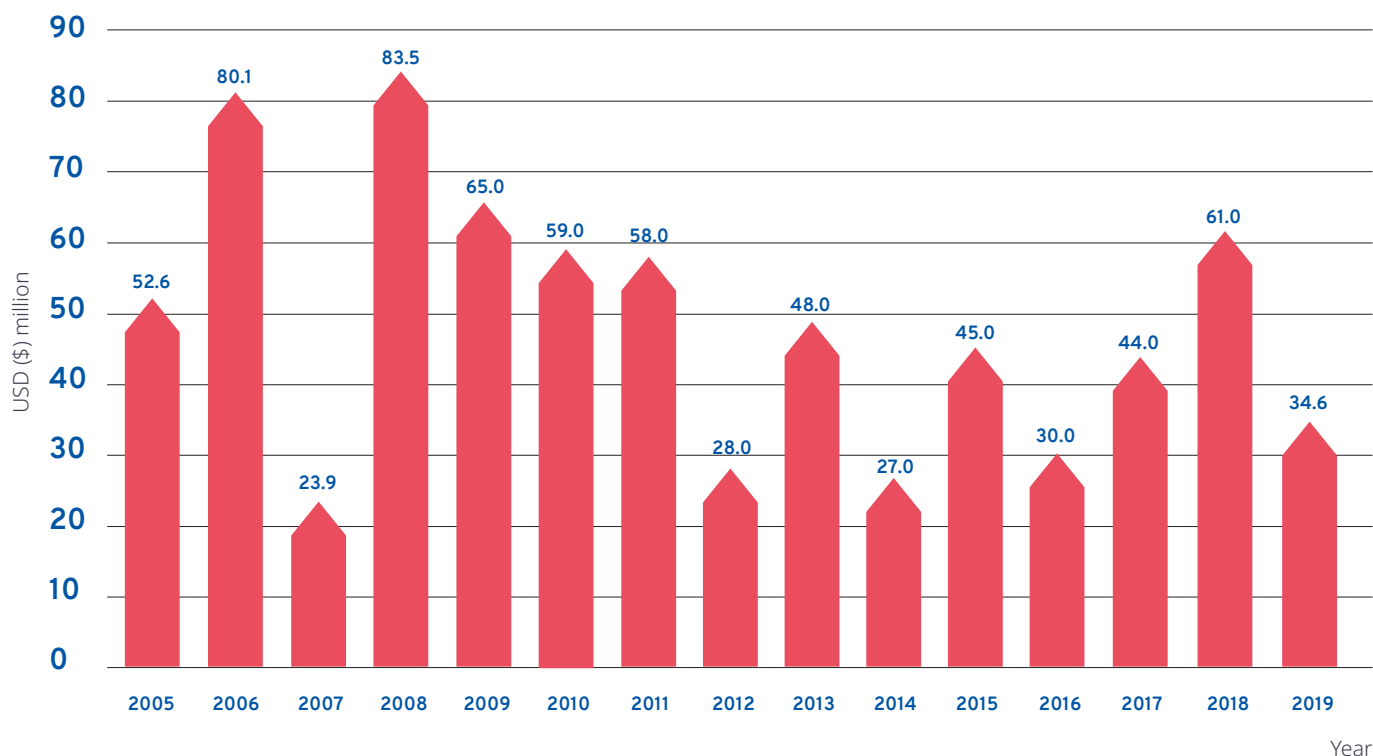
1. The goal of eradicating child labour has remained a political priority, reflected in a general reduction of 17 per cent in child labour and 35 per cent in hazardous child labour between 2012 and 2016.
2. South-South and Triangular Cooperation has been strengthened, demonstrating that the region and the social partners have the capacity, knowledge and experience to accelerate the rate of eradication of child labour and reach SDG Target 8.7 in 2025.
3. The English-speaking Caribbean countries have been integrated in the Regional Initiative and a regional collective voice and vision against child labour has been strengthened.
4. The Child Labour Risk Identification Model (implemented in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico and Peru) has been created together with the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to prevent child labour in vulnerable territories and productive sectors, based on the supply of public services and the promotion of public-private partnerships.
5. A working approach adapted to the principles of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has been achieved: focused on people, so as not to leave any country behind and based on alliances, innovation and mutual cooperation.



► Financing IPEC+:

Using resources strategically to reach our goal

► Evolution of approvals for child labour and forced labour projects, 2005-2019



Meeting the objectives of IPEC+ and SDG Target 8.7 requires significant acceleration of past progress towards the elimination of all forms of child labour by 2025 and the eradication of forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking by 2030.

Strong political will, better designed and integrated policies and more concerted action have already led to a marked acceleration of progress against child labour, especially from 2008-2012. But the pace of change must be faster still if the global community is to live up to these commitments.

The ILO will need to raise additional resources to fulfil its technical and leadership role in these endeavours.

► Business networks

Child Labour Platform

The Child Labour Platform (CLP) is the leading business initiative to eradicate child labour in supply chains. It provides concrete solutions for buyers, factory owners and suppliers by supporting member companies through a comprehensive process of due diligence across tiers. This includes support for embedding strong policies and good business practice, measuring impact and addressing root causes through meaningful local and global dialogue with governments, employers' and workers' organizations and other stakeholders.

The Platform is co-chaired by the International Organisation of Employers and the International Trade Union Confederation, with affiliates in 150 and 156 countries respectively. With the International Labour Organization serving as its Secretariat, the Platform benefits from its expertise on International Labour Standards and a global network of governments, employers' and workers' organizations active in 187 member States.

The ILO also brings hard-to-find intelligence on emerging trends on child labour and decent work, allowing businesses to anticipate and adapt to fast moving circumstances in sourcing countries, such as the impact of COVID-19 on child labour. The Platform also gives businesses the opportunity to make a practical contribution to SDG Target 8.7 through its direct linkage and coordination with Alliance 8.7.

In 2020, the Platform includes companies from the automobile, cosmetics, food and beverage, telecommunications, trading and mining sectors. During the same period, the Platform started consultations on cross sectoral efforts for the elimination of child labour in supply chains in India, Morocco and Mexico. Other countries will be included for pilot initiatives in 2021. Find out more at www.childlabourplatform.org.

Global Business Network on Forced Labour

The ILO's Global Business Network on Forced Labour (GBNFL) brings together the ILO with businesses of all sizes and sectors, and their networks, from around the globe to eradicate forced labour.

Operating across all sectors, and geographies, ILO GBNFL members work to engage smaller enterprises, develop actionable resources and tools, and devise local solutions that help shape national frameworks to create lasting change. The network is aligned with, and contributes to, other relevant international initiatives, in particular Alliance 8.7.

Key focus areas:

- **Connect:** Break silos by linking up business actors from across sectors and geographies to eradicate forced labour.
- **Convene:** Support businesses to engage with other relevant stakeholders, including government bodies, to find sustainable solutions to the structural drivers of forced labour.
- **Innovate:** Create spaces where members identify gaps, develop new ways of tackling forced labour, and devise methods to scale up solutions.
- **Support:** Share clear-cut data, information and resources to help busy businesses take steps to tackle forced labour.

Since opening for membership in June 2018, the ILO GBNFL has focussed on developing resources for members, building capacity of smaller enterprises, and convening business and business networks to work collectively on eradicating forced labour. Find out more at flbusiness.network.

► IPEC+ projects: Workers' and employers' organizations engagement

Social dialogue and tripartism are paramount in eradicating child labour and forced labour. Social partners always play an active role in this effort, through, among other things, advocacy, awareness raising campaigns, capacity building activities, and monitoring actions. Examples from across the world show how their commitment and intervention have been key to achieving projects' results, therefore advancing towards the eradication of child labour and forced labour.

- The Regional Initiative **Latin America and the Caribbean** Free of Child Labour is a tripartite cooperation platform committed to achieving SDG Target 8.7 in the region, with over 30 member countries and 14 representatives of employers' and workers' organizations. This network shares knowledge, articulates efforts and coordinates actions for the eradication of child labour in a framework of social dialogue that favours decision-making by consensus. In the context of COVID-19, this network has also been instrumental in monitoring the child labour situation in member countries and in adapting existing knowledge resources to the context of crisis and resilience.
- In **Brazil**, rural workers' organizations are supporting the coordination and implementation of a project to protect communities from labour exploitation, namely from forced labour and child labour. Employers' organizations provide financial support and technical assistance with the support of a local university. Training on farming technologies and practices to improve land production has significantly increased the target families' income.
- In **Haiti**, the social partners are actively participating in a project to combat child labour in domestic work. Employers' and workers' organizations are part of a Tripartite Committee to review the labour code in line with ILO Conventions Nos. 138 and 182. They are also participating in the review of the hazardous work list for children and in the promotion of relevant ILO Conventions among their members, and are involved in campaigns to promote the ratification of Convention No. 189 on domestic workers. Employers launched an Employers Network against Child Labour.
- In **Honduras**, employers' organizations have a key role in the «Addressing Child Labour in the Coffee Supply Chain» Project. The Honduran Private Business Council (COHEP) and the Honduran Coffee Institute (IHCAFE) participated in the project design and are actively implementing it. This includes the adaptation of a social compliance system for the prevention and eradication of child labour, as well as field activities for the promotion of better working conditions in the coffee supply chain.
- In **Madagascar**, trade unions in the Sava region have received training on child rights, child labour and fundamental principles and rights at work. It was an opportunity for trade unionists to set up the union federation in the Sava region and, subsequently, to carry out awareness-raising activities targeting their members on the fight against child labour in the vanilla sector.
- In **Myanmar**, the Agriculture and Farmer Federation of Myanmar (AFFM) and the International Union of Food Agriculture, Hotel and Restaurant (IUF) were supported by the ILO MyPEC project on the elimination of child labour in the country, through advocacy, capacity building and the provision of financial support. AFFM-IUF organized several training activities for parents of adolescents of legal working age or of vulnerable children at risk of or withdrawn from child labour. These trainings allowed families to start their own business or find better job alternatives, instead of migrating as they usually do during the summer to work on road construction projects in the country.
- In **Bangladesh, India, and Nepal**, within the framework of the ILO Work in Freedom project, workers have a catalytic and pivotal role in transforming communities, and educate and mobilize workers on issues related to women's safe migration. Community workers also play a significant role in promoting women's rights and leadership, in addressing violence against women and in improving conditions for women and girls at the community level.

Find out more at www.ilo.org/ipec-plus.

Africa	Americas	Arab States	Asia and the Pacific	Europe and Central Asia
Burkina Faso	Argentina	Iraq	Afghanistan	Kosovo*
Côte d'Ivoire	Bahamas	Jordan	Bangladesh	Kyrgyzstan
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Bolivia	Lebanon	Fiji	Montenegro
Egypt	Brazil	Oman	India	Serbia
Ghana	Chile	Qatar	Indonesia	Turkey
Kenya	Colombia	Saudi Arabia	Lao PDR	Uzbekistan
Madagascar	Costa Rica	Syria	Malaysia	
Malawi	Dominican Republic	Yemen	Mongolia	
Mali	Guatemala		Myanmar	
Mauritania	Guyana		Nepal	
Mauritius	Haiti		Pakistan	
Morocco	Honduras		Philippines	
Niger	Jamaica		Sri Lanka	
Nigeria	Mexico		Thailand	
Tanzania	Panama		Timor-Leste	
Tunisia	Paraguay		Viet Nam	
Uganda	Peru			
Zambia	Suriname			

▶ IPEC+ is operating in 66 countries



* As defined in UN Security Council resolution 1244 of 1999.

► IPEC+ is currently working in 66 countries with governments, social partners and a variety of actors to promote the eradication of child labour and forced labour

► Afghanistan

Support the implementation of the National Action Plan on Child Labour, including its worst forms, adopted in 2018.

► Argentina

Development of local child labour vulnerability maps at the municipality level through the application of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model. Addressing child labour in the agricultural sector by generating information and strengthening the capacity of stakeholders in the sector. Increasing the impact of research to mobilize efforts against forced labour in the garment sector.

► Bahamas

Capacity building and training on child labour inspection for officials within the Ministry of Labour. Technical support and advice to the Ministry and National Tripartite Committee in taking action for the development of a National Child Labour Policy (2019-2020).

► Bangladesh

Building institutional capacity of national stakeholders, supporting the implementation of the National Child Labour Elimination Policy 2010 and the National Action Plan (2012-2016), with a view to eliminating hazardous child labour by 2021 and all forms of child labour by 2025.

► Bolivia

Strengthening strategies on child labour prevention and on the protection of permitted adolescent work through labour law compliance and the development of a National Action Plan.

► Brazil

Establishment of a Child and Forced Labour Digital Observatory with information on 5,570 municipalities to contribute to the implementation of public policies for the prevention and eradication of child and forced labour. Development of a monitoring system and technical assistance to the government to monitor the National Action Plan on Forced Labour.

► Burkina Faso

Building the capacity of national and local stakeholders along the cotton, textile, and garments value chains, to address child labour and forced labour through a strengthened legal and regulatory framework, increased awareness and actions from cotton producers, cotton ginning companies and local authorities, and innovative approaches to attract out-of-school children to school in cotton producing areas.

► Chile

Development of local maps of child labour vulnerability at the municipal level for each of the 16 regions through the application of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model. Design of a second National Child Labour Survey. Implementation of Child Labour Strategy «Crecer Felices» with tripartite constituents and civil society. Chile is a pathfinder country of the Alliance 8.7.

► Colombia

Development of local child labour vulnerability maps for each of the 23 departments at the municipality level through the application of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model.

► Costa Rica

Development of a local pilot strategy in Limon Province.

► Côte d'Ivoire

Capacity building of constituents to better contribute to national efforts to combat child labour. Promotion of access to social protection mechanisms including Universal Health Coverage to reduce household vulnerability. Development of innovative solutions at local level to tackle the root causes of child labour. Contribution to the implementation of the National Action Plan to Combat Child Labour.

► Democratic Republic of the Congo

Building the capacity of national stakeholders to eradicate child labour in the cobalt sector. Developing communication and advocacy strategies to raise awareness at national, provincial and local levels. Coordinating stakeholders' efforts and supporting the private sector's monitoring and remediation systems to promote a responsible cobalt supply chain in the country.

► Dominican Republic

The country is carrying out actions to combat child labour and to improve working conditions in the agricultural sector, in particular through the application of labour legislation and the strengthening of the capacities of the Ministry of Labour for this purpose.

► Egypt

Strengthening the capacity of constituents to combat child labour, and assisting them in the implementation of the National Action Plan for Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Egypt and Supporting the Family (2018-2025). Contributing to the elimination of child labour in the cotton supply chain specifically.

► Fiji 🌐

Support the development and implementation of a National Policy and a National Action Plan to Eliminate Child Labour and its worst forms, through the revision of legislation and awareness raising. Conducting research on child labour, forced labour and human trafficking. Support the establishment of the Pacific Pathfinder Resource Hub for testing innovative labour inspection, research and data management systems, policies and programmes to eradicate child labour, forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking. Fiji is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► Ghana 🌐

Building the capacity of national and local stakeholders to reduce child labour and improve working conditions in artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), through strengthening the enforcement of laws and policies on ASGM, linking vulnerable ASGM populations with social services and establishing monitoring systems in ASGM supply chains. Ghana is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► Guatemala 🌐

Development of local child labour vulnerability maps at the municipality level for each of the 22 departments through the application of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model. Guatemala is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► Guyana

Capacity building for officials within the Department of Labour, Occupational Safety and Health (Ministry of Social Protection), for child labour inspection, including development of a country-specific training curriculum, manuals, evaluation and other organizational assets for replication of national training. Support for the launch and dissemination of the National Child Labour Policy; support for national-level training on child labour inspection.

► Haiti

Actions towards the adoption of the National Action Plan on Child Labour and the hazardous child labour list such as the empowerment of 70 young boys and girls who took the lead to elaborate their own hazardous child labour list and advocated to the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs for its validation.

► Honduras 🌐

Implementation of a strategy to prevent and eradicate child labour in the coffee supply chain together with the employers' organization and the Honduras National Coffee Institute. Honduras is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► India

Strengthening the institutional capacity to implement the National Child Labour Project, through state action plans and research, survey and mapping on child labour analysis and tools. Promote fundamental principles and rights at work in cotton supply chains. Integrated approach to reduce vulnerability to trafficking of women and girls in South Asian countries of origin (Bangladesh, India and Nepal) and in selected destination countries (India, Jordan and Lebanon); and improving regulations and practices of recruitment with the Ministry of Labour and Employment, trade unions and recruitment agencies.

► Indonesia

Strengthening the institutional capacity at national and local levels to develop and implement the National Action Plan for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour

2002, which has been transformed into a "Roadmap towards Indonesia Free of Child Labour by 2022". Implementation of programmes to enhance the knowledge base and raise awareness on child labour.

► Iraq

In partnership with and funding from the European Regional Development and Protection Programme (RDPP), the ILO will implement activities aimed at targeting the worst forms of child labour amongst internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, and vulnerable host communities in Iraq.

► Jamaica

Capacity building within the Ministry of Labour and Social Security through training of trainers on child labour inspection, and development of country-specific training curricula, manuals, evaluation and other organizational assets for replication of national training. Implementation of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model.

► Jordan

Roll out of the National Framework on Eliminating Child Labour to municipality level, focusing on Syrian refugees and host communities and bringing government and civil society actors to work together in addressing child labour. Focused strategy on the promotion of measures preventing unacceptable forms of work for both Syrian refugees and host communities. Working with trade unions, factories and international brands in the garment sector to strengthen the rights of migrant workers and ensure the implementation of fair recruitment practices.

► Kenya

Strengthening capacity of government to address child labour and forced labour, violations of acceptable conditions of work with a multi-sectoral approach and revamping the National Steering Committee on Child Labour and the County Child Labour Committees.

► Kosovo*

Supporting the implementation of the Action Plan 2019-2021 of the Strategy on Child Rights 2019-2023. It focuses on improving the monitoring of the prevalence of child labour, the role of social protection and education in the prevention and protection of children against child labour and improvement of the enforcement of laws and policies on child labour.

► Kyrgyzstan

Mainstreaming child labour concerns into policy development frameworks has facilitated a move towards a child protection system which addresses child labour. Development and strengthening of a comprehensive legal child protection system, laying the foundation for an effective response to children's issues including to child labour.

► Lao PDR

Support to the review and revision of the National Action Plan on Child Labour.

► Lebanon

Art and culture initiatives to raise awareness and advocate against child labour; launch of the National Choir against Child Labour. Focused strategy on promotion of measures preventing unacceptable forms of work for both Syrian refugees and host communities.

* As defined in UN Security Council resolution 1244 of 1999.

► Madagascar 🇲🇵

Reduce the prevalence of child labour in the vanilla growing areas of the Sava region. Madagascar is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► Malawi 🇲🇼

Reduce child labour and decent work deficits through improvements in education, economic empowerment and social mobilization of tobacco growing communities, and through an improved regulatory framework, capacity building and the promotion of social dialogue among workers', employers' and farmers' organizations. Malawi is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► Malaysia

Increase awareness of the Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention (P29) and Recommendation No. 203 and strengthen government capacity to regulate the recruitment procedures and fees to reduce vulnerabilities of forced labour; develop National Action Plans on child labour and forced labour.

► Mali

Building the capacity of national and local stakeholders along the cotton, textile, and garments value chains, to address child labour and forced labour through a strengthened legal and regulatory framework, increased awareness and actions from cotton producers, cotton ginning companies and local authorities, and innovative approaches to attract out-of-school children to school in cotton producing areas.

► Mauritania 🇲🇷

Support for the implementation of Law 2015-31 on the criminalization of slavery and the punishment of slavery practices. Provide protection and appeal procedures to the identified victims by strengthening institutions, employers' and workers' organizations, and civil society. Setting up a digital multimedia platform on child labour. Mauritania is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► Mauritius

Increasing the impact of research to mobilize efforts against forced labour in the garment sector.

► Mexico 🇲🇽

Implementation of follow-up phase based on the results of the child labour risk maps for the design of local prevention policy at the municipality level in Tuxtla Gutierrez, in the State of Chiapas. Implementation of a national child labour survey. Mexico is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► Mongolia

Capacity building on forced labour and child labour. Support to a gap analysis for the Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention (P29).

► Montenegro

Assessment of the current legal framework on child labour in the country; development and adoption of the list of hazardous occupations for children; capacity building of those involved in identifying, referring and combatting child labour and those offering supporting services to those affected by child labour; and preparation of the Roadmap to Eliminate Child Labour in the country.

► Morocco 🇲🇦

Awareness raising on the child component of the Law 19-12 on domestic work and social mobilization for the fight against child domestic labour. Building the national capacity

for intervention and coordination against child domestic labour. Technical assistance to reinforce protection and prevention against child domestic labour. Morocco is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► Myanmar

Building the capacity and supporting the country to develop and implement a National Action Plan on the Elimination of Child Labour and hazardous work, and to work towards ratification of Convention No. 138 on the minimum age. Supporting the country develop a National Complaint Mechanism on forced labour.

► Nepal 🇳🇵

Support the development of a new Labour Act 2017 defining forced labour as a criminal offence and including provisions to protect the victims as well as to punish the perpetrators. Drafting of the second National Master Plan on Child Labour (2018-2028). Establishing fair recruitment corridors to Qatar and Jordan to reduce vulnerabilities to forced labour. Strengthen the capacity of private employment agencies and other actors to implement fair recruitment practices. Nepal is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► Niger

Strengthen the communication around the initiatives to tackle traditional slavery through media and academia.

► Nigeria 🇳🇮

Support the National Child Labour Survey and the development of a new National Action Plan on the Elimination of Child Labour to cover the global supply chains. Mainstreaming of child labour provisions into the legal frameworks of the Ministry of Mines and Steel Development and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Strengthening of a child labour monitoring mechanism at the states and community level. Capacity building of the National Child Labour Unit staff, child labour desk of the Ministries of Mines and Steel Development and Agriculture and Rural Development. Nigeria is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► Oman

Fair recruitment and decent work for women migrant workers. Improved labour governance in accordance with international labour standards, with a particular focus on fundamental principles and rights at work.

► Pakistan

Since 1994, strengthening institutional and technical capacities to prevent and eliminate child labour at federal, provincial and district levels in sectors such as soccer ball, carpet weaving, deep sea fishing, domestic work, coalmining and rag-picking, and in earthquake-affected areas. Eliminating child labour and bonded labour through integrated programmes in the brick kiln sector at provincial and district levels. Eliminating child labour and forced labour in the cotton value chain.

► Panama

Implementation of innovative methodologies to promote the transition from permitted adolescent work to youth employment.

► Paraguay

Implementation of actions to address decent work deficits in the cotton supply chain, with emphasis on the respect for fundamental principles and rights at work. Implementation of the Child Labour Strategy at local level.

► Peru 🌐

Development of local child labour vulnerability maps at the municipality level for each of the 25 departments through the application of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model. Development of National Policy on Human Trafficking and implementation of the National and Regional Action Plans on Human Trafficking through enhanced capacity of the criminal justice system. Peru is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► Philippines

Capacity building of local, national and inter-regional stakeholders to reduce child labour and improve working conditions in Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining operations at legislative and policy levels, in the supply chain as well as in rural mining communities. Establishing fair recruitment corridors to Qatar and Hong Kong SAR to reduce vulnerabilities to forced labour. Working with key stakeholders in ensuring fair recruitment practices are effectively implemented.

► Qatar

Implementation of a dedicated pillar on forced labour and human trafficking, as part of the first technical cooperation programme on labour related matters.

► Saudi Arabia (Kingdom of)

Technical assistance and support and capacity building to support the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Vision 2030. This includes assessment on the current state of child labour within the country and developing strategies and actions towards the elimination of child labour.

► Serbia

Creation of the first National Roadmap for the Elimination of Child Labour (2018-2022). Development of a hazardous child labour list.

► Sri Lanka 🌐

Revision of the hazardous work list; support to the implementation of the National Child Labour Policy; and development and dissemination of a methodology for local coordination for child labour-free zones, based on an existing model for child labour-free districts. Equipping Sri Lanka to counter trafficking in persons. Sri Lanka is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► Suriname

Completion and launch of the Suriname Child Labour Survey 2017 Report (with focus on coastal and rural areas). Development and approval of a National Action Plan. Provision of information and advisory to the re-constituted National Commission for the Elimination of Child Labour.

► Syria

Protecting children affected by the conflict from the worst forms of child labour through the integration of child labour concepts into Child Friendly Spaces, by training government officials and child protection actors and by providing vocational training opportunities to adolescents.

► Tanzania

Policy support and technical assistance to ILO tripartite constituents and other key stakeholders to address child labour and other decent work deficits in the tobacco sector, through the implementation of the National Strategy on the Elimination of Child Labour and the National Plan of Action on Violence Against Women and Children (NPA VAWC).

► Thailand

Technical assistance to combat forced labour and child labour in Thai fishing and work towards the ratification of the Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention (P29), which was ratified in 2018. Development and implementation of policies to manage migration, protect migrant workers and combat human trafficking. Institutional capacity building at the national and provincial levels for the first national child labour survey in 2018.

► Timor-Leste

Strengthening national and institutional capacities to eliminate child labour through conducting studies and a national survey on child labour, reviewing legislation and developing a list of hazardous work prohibited to children, and strengthening the capacity of the National Commission Against Child Labour (CNTI) and law enforcement agencies to implement child labour elimination programmes.

► Tunisia 🌐

Revising the legal framework and improving institutional coordination mechanisms in the framework of the National Action Plan for the Fight against Child Labour. Support to constituents, mainly public employment services and trade unions, for better protection of the rights of migrant workers, from and to Tunisia, throughout the migratory process. Support the Institute of Journalism and Information Sciences (IPSI) with awareness and capacity building for quality reporting on forced labour issues. Tunisia has adopted new legislation and building capacities to reinforce regulation of recruitment and employment services in line with ILO guidance on fair recruitment. Tunisia is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► Turkey

Implementing public-private partnership project in collaboration with the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services to contribute to the elimination of child labour in seasonal agriculture in hazelnut harvesting through strengthening capacities at national and local level for efficient implementation of relevant policies.

► Uganda 🌐

Raising country level engagement and strengthening social dialogue to combat hazardous child Labour and other decent work deficits in selected tobacco growing districts (Hoima, Arua, Gulu). Uganda is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► Uzbekistan

Leveraging rights for development: assured monitoring of child labour and forced labour during the cotton harvest. Strengthening social partnership for the realization of fundamental principles and rights at work in agriculture.

► Viet Nam 🌐

Building the capacity and supporting the country to implement the National Action Plan on the Prevention and Reduction of Child Labour (2016-2020), through raising awareness, building partnerships, supporting the second national child labour survey, reviewing national legislation, and providing direct services to families and vulnerable children. Viet Nam is a pathfinder country of Alliance 8.7.

► Yemen

Prevention of the recruitment of children and youth in armed conflict and reintegration of children formally associated with the conflict in Sana'a, Hajjah and Lahj

governorates of Yemen to contribute to stabilization and security. Increase access to services and facilities for social and economic integration. Children formerly associated with armed forces and armed groups and other children at risk of recruitment and above the minimum working age will be reintegrated through access to employable skills to improve access to jobs with decent working conditions and salaries.

► Zambia

Reducing child labour through improvements in education services and opportunities, economic empowerment and social mobilization of tobacco growing communities, and through an improved regulatory framework, capacity building and institutional development in support of the National Action Plan on the Elimination of Child Labour.

Regional

► Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

The ECOWAS 2009 Child Policy reviewed and adopted by the council of Ministers on January 2019 covers four clusters of children's rights: survival, development, protection and participation. ECOWAS is to operationalize its Strategic Framework for strengthening National Child Protection Systems to prevent and respond to violence, abuse and exploitation against children in West Africa, covering the period 2018-2030 by training member States on the implementation of the framework using the developed guidelines. The 2012 Regional Action Plan on the elimination of child labour is to be reviewed, and dissemination of the developed training modules on trafficking in persons, child labour and forced labour for use in the region in envisaged.

► South Asia Initiative to End Violence Against Children (SAIEVAC)

Strengthening regional coordination and learning on child labour through the Regional Action Plan on Child Labour and Alliance 8.7, with a focus on particularly affected sectors such as brick kilns.

► Regional Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean free of child labour

(Tripartite cooperation platform of 30 countries)

Implementation of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model, a statistical tool that identifies territories vulnerable to child labour and estimates the relevance of risk factors, in 13 countries, in cooperation with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). Start of second phase on design of local prevention policies based on the results of the risk maps in Argentina, Costa Rica and Mexico. Development of a regional study on child labour in agriculture (ILO/FAO), and a regional study on inequality and child labour (ILO/ECLAC). In the Caribbean, institutional capacity building through online thematic webinars on gender and child labour.



Results from Thailand: Empowering workers to stand up for their rights

Proactive and bottom-up approach to empower workers to stand up for their rights

Under international pressure and attention from global media on labour abuses and systematic exploitation in Thailand's fishing industry, the Thai Government went through several labour reforms to end serious abuses in the sector, including the ratification of the ILO's Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention (P29) and the ILO's Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No.188).

Although the Thai Government has made significant strides, many challenges still remain, especially in the protection of migrant workers' rights. Further exacerbating the issue is Thailand's 1975 Labour Relations Act which prohibits migrant workers from forming labour unions, suppressing their rights to organize and bargain collectively. The country has also yet to ratify ILO Conventions No. 87 and No. 98 on the right to organize and collective bargaining, both vital in protecting workers' rights.

Nearly 90 per cent of the industry's 60,000 fishers are migrants from Myanmar and Cambodia, most with little to no knowledge about their workers' rights and vulnerable to various forms of abuses and exploitations, including forced labour and debt bondage. Without the fundamental rights to freedom of association and collective bargaining, the labour issues amongst migrant workers in the Thai fishing industry will continue to persist.

With the support of the ILO Ship to Shore Rights project, the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) established the Fishers Rights' Network (FRN) to build a democratic, representative union of fishers in Thailand to combat abuse and exploitation in the Thai fishing industry.

«Formerly, I did not know my rights as a worker or other laws related to my job. With FRN's help, I learned more about my rights, and I am able to have my right. I would like to tell my brothers who are working or coming to Thailand to join FRN so that we all have the rights we should have.»
(Mr Chan Myae Aung, former fisher and current FRN organizer.)

Launched in 2017, ITF/FRN has slowly built relationships and gained trust from the migrant fishers through training and workshop activities and by donating first-aid kits, while recruiting and empowering organizers and leaders amongst the fishers to be able to reach out to other migrant fishers. These bona fide fisher representatives attended several meetings and dialogues such as the ILO provincial tripartite+ platform and the Project Steering Committee meetings to share their stories, challenges, and to address concerns on behalf of migrant fishers. Mr Chan Myae Aung took part in some of these meetings to advocate decent work for migrant fishers.

ITF/FRN took a more proactive, bottom-up approach in empowering the workers to stand up for their rights. This has helped fishers gradually narrow down the power imbalance gap between workers and employers, vessel by vessel, and has built a strong network of fisher organizer/leaders to be able to keep an eye out for each other.

ITF/FRN now has over 3,000 migrant fishers as members and is constantly growing. With help from legal partners, ITF/FRN has helped many fishers fight in legal cases while continuing to educate fishers on their rights to advocate for better working conditions.



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The ILO project «Combating the Unacceptable Forms of Work in Thai Fishing and Seafood Industry» (Ship to Shore Rights project) aims to prevent and reduce forced labour, child labour and other unacceptable forms of work, and progressively eliminate the exploitation of workers, particularly migrant workers, in the Thai fishing and seafood processing sectors. The project is funded by the European Union under Grant Agreement number DCI-HUM/2015/371-801 (THA/15/03/EUR) with a total funding of €4,200,000.

► **Testimony** from the Philippines: Completing basic education through an alternative learning experience



Camarines Norte is a province in the Philippines at high risk of disasters due to the hazards of climate change. Annual typhoons with strong winds and heavy rains cause flooding and landslides, which fuel poverty and force people to shift from agriculture to small-scale gold mining.

One of these muddy and mercury-laden gold mines is Archie's 'playground'. At first Archie, who started working in a gold mine at age 11, thought the search for gold was all about having fun and playing with his friends.

While most children carried their backpacks to school, Archie used his back to haul a sack of ore, weighing almost 45 kilogrammes – more than his own weight. Archie earned Php 100 (less than USD 2) and worked between 8 to 12 hours a day.

One day, the mine was struck by a big landslide, caused by heavy rains; it killed and injured a number of miners. The gold mine is no longer about fun, but about "fear, pain and agony".

Children like Archie put their health and their lives at risk through a dangerous, and now illegal, practice, known as compressor mining. The children squeeze themselves into narrow entrances to dig blindly for gold in deep, underground pits, often underwater, breathing through hoses connected to diesel-powered compressors at ground level. The pits sometimes collapse, and the children are exposed to toxic chemicals.

The only son of three children, Archie had no choice but to help his family. Working in gold mining has been a way of life for his family, passed down from generation to generation due to poverty.

Archie, who is now 17, is currently enrolled in the Alternative Learning System, a parallel learning system in the Philippines that provides a practical option to complete his basic education. He finds

it a challenge because of the difficulties he has with writing and reading. Yet, Archie believes that getting a good education will help him find a decent job.

"I'm ready to embrace whatever comes my way, and to accept whatever opportunity is available. I realized that the more educated you are, the better career options you have. I just hope it is not too late for me," concludes Archie.

"I forgot about school when I started to earn money. At first, I thought working in the gold mine was fun. My friends and I played games and threw mud at each other," said Archie.



The ILO project "Convening stakeholders to develop and implement strategies to reduce child labour and improve working conditions in artisanal and small-scale gold mining" (CARING Gold Mining project) is implemented in partnerships with BAN Toxics. The project seeks to address the root causes of the problem, poverty, vulnerability and the lack of official recognition of this kind of work.

The CARING Gold Mining project is funded by United States Department of Labor (USDOL) under cooperative agreement number IL-28105-15-75-K-11 (GLO/15/30/USA). One hundred per cent of the total costs of the CARING Gold Mining project is financed with federal funds, for a total of USD 5,000,000. This publication does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of USDOL nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the United States Government.

Results from Uzbekistan: Elimination of Child Labour and forced labour in the cotton sector

Most child labour and forced labour has been eliminated from cotton fields.

Thanks to two ILO projects working in the country, in 2018, 93 per cent of those involved in the cotton harvest worked voluntarily, with better conditions and wages.

The cotton harvest in Uzbekistan is the world's largest recruitment operation, with some 2.6 million people temporarily picking cotton every year. The land allocated for cotton growing has been reduced but the crop still provides an important source of income for many in the country, especially for women in rural areas. However, there were concerns that this operation involved forced labour and child labour.

In 2018, 93 per cent of those involved in cotton harvest worked voluntarily. While the systematic recruitment of students, teachers, doctors and nurses has practically ended, the recruitment of staff from state institutions, agencies and enterprises still occurs in some places. Among them, some reported that they would have preferred not to have participated in the harvest but did not want trouble from their employer. Others reported that they picked cotton voluntarily because of improved rates and bonuses.

► The Implementation of the Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) in Uzbekistan

The Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) commenced in 2015, strengthening social partnership in Uzbekistan for the realization of fundamental principles and rights at work, fostering decent employment opportunities and improving working conditions and social protection. The detailed analysis and recommendations based on its research on forced labour have been followed by advocacy and training on measures needed to eradicate forced labour in the cotton industry, including the issue of wages, working conditions and labour relations. It facilitated the ratification of Convention No. 87 on Freedom of Association by Uzbekistan in December 2017.

► Third-Party Monitoring

The ILO has been monitoring the cotton harvest for child labour since 2013, through an agreement with the Uzbek Government, employers' and workers' organizations. In 2015, it started monitoring both forced and child labour as part of

an agreement with the World Bank. In 2018, ILO experts carried out 11,000 unaccompanied and unannounced interviews with cotton pickers and others involved in the harvest in all provinces of the country, to create a picture of the situation on the ground.

► Wage increase for cotton pickers

The Uzbek Government undertook a number of reforms, including an increase of wages for cotton pickers and introduced a differentiated pay scale - pickers are paid more per kilogramme of cotton towards the end of the harvest, when conditions are less favourable. The wage structure was further refined in 2018 to encourage mobility by rewarding those who were willing to pick in less densely populated districts with lower yields.

► Government hotlines

In 2018, the Uzbek Government dealt with more than 2,500 cases reported through its hotlines. In some cases, hokims (mayors) and heads of institutions were disciplined for violating people's labour rights; sanctions included dismissals, demotions and fines.

► Way forward

Since 2015, the ILO has been implementing a comprehensive DWCP with the Uzbek Government, which aims at strengthening employment and recruitment policies, labour inspection and administration, labour law, occupational safety and health, social dialogue and independent employers' and workers' organizations.



► Testimony from Jordan: From unpaid domestic worker to university student

Born to a poor family of eight, Raghda dropped out of school before she had completed her primary education. Luckily, a couple of years later, she joined a local ILO programme, which provided services for school dropouts at the same time as counselling parents to open up their cultural perspective.

My parents don't believe in education for girls. That's the way it is here. So when I was 12, in 2008, they pulled me out of school. I was expected to do chores around the house, get married and have children. I pleaded with them to stay in school, to no avail.

In 2010, I heard of a local ILO programme named SCREAM supporting children in child labour and school dropouts; I decided to join and participated in all the educational and recreational activities: educational trips, fitness courses, artistic performances. I even participated in conferences on child labour: I learnt so much!

In 2013, I completed all the requirements of the education programme and passed the 10th-grade equivalency exam. I enrolled in the Vocational Training Centre where I took 2 hairdressing courses – basic and advanced.

In 2014, to add to my skills, I took the Cambridge International Computer Driving License (ICDL).

And I didn't stop there: with encouragement from my mother, who, with support from the programme, had finally come round to my way of thinking and that of my teachers, I decided to study at home to get my high school diploma.

In 2018, I passed the national high school exam in the literary stream. I then got a contract as a social worker with the Child Labour Initiative to support the Syrian Refugees Programme.

That same year, with the money I earned, I was able to apply to the Social Studies Department of Balqa' University. I'm doing very well so far!

With ILO's support, I hope to graduate in 2022. I want to become a social worker and help other children trapped in child labour to look forward to a brighter future.

Through the ILO "MAP 16 project", working in the region, Raghda is on her way to securing a full scholarship to continue her university education.

"This programme had a huge impact on my life, and that of my family, and opened our eyes to the importance and the role of children in society," says Raghda.



The ILO programme "Supporting Children's Rights through Education, the Arts and the Media" (SCREAM programme), is an education and social mobilization programme implemented through an education package, which has been translated into 25 languages and used in more than 70 countries – in some cases integrated fully into the school curriculum. Since its launch in 2002, over a hundred thousand children have been involved in SCREAM activities through ILO projects, with thousands more engaged through broader SCREAM programmes following or not linked to specific projects.

The ILO project "Measurement, awareness-raising and policy engagement project on child labour and forced labour" (MAP 16 project), is funded by the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) (GLO/18/29/USA). One hundred per cent of the total costs of the MAP 16 project is financed with federal funds, for a total of USD 22,400,000. This material does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the United States Department of Labor, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the United States Government.

Results from Southeast Asia: Regional coordination body to end trafficking and forced labour in the fishing sector established

The SEA Forum for Fishers (the Southeast Asian Forum to End Trafficking in Persons and Forced Labour of Fishers) has been established as the regional coordination body to address the unique challenges of trafficking and forced labour to protect Southeast Asia's fishers.

There are 32 million fishers in Asia, and an estimated 7 million fishers from Southeast Asian countries working on their national fishing fleets within the territorial sea and internal waters of the subregion. At the same time, although figures are not clear, there are potentially hundreds of thousands of fishers from Southeast Asia on vessels flagged to countries outside of the region and working on high seas. Work in fishing is inherently hazardous, and migrant fishers in and from Southeast Asia face additional vulnerabilities while onboard vessels and in the recruitment and placement process.

► The implementation of the SEA Fisheries Project

The ILO SEA Fisheries Project began in 2017. Through a series of national and regional consultations, it has built consensus among Southeast Asian countries and stakeholders that recognized the need for a regional coordination body to end trafficking and forced labour in the fishing sector. The SEA Forum for Fishers was established in November 2018 and is designed to target the unique challenges of the fishing sector

through five Working Groups, which together tackle the issues through an integrated, holistic, human rights-based and action-led approach.

Through the five Working Groups, the Forum aims for a better understanding of maritime jurisdiction and the enforcement of labour laws in the fishing sector. It leverages the use of maritime domain awareness data for the detection of human trafficking and monitoring of working conditions on vessels. It also addresses the unique challenges of labour migration in sea-based work, and seeks to increase access to remedies for survivors and victims by going beyond prosecution.

► Unified position from Southeast Asia

At the Inaugural Plenary of the SEA Forum for Fishers in September 2019, the Forum passed two vital recommendations in relation to flag and coastal State responsibilities and market State responsibilities. The Forum is also developing guidelines to improve port State control and the inspection of vessels for working conditions, and recruitment principles to end fraudulent, deceptive, and unfair practices.



The ILO project «Strengthened Coordination to Combat Labour Exploitation and Trafficking in Fisheries in Southeast Asia» (SEA Fisheries project) is funded by US Department of State (Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons) under cooperative agreement number S-SJTIP-17-CA-1011 (RAS/16/11/USA). One hundred per cent of the total costs of the project is financed with Federal funds, for a total of US \$1,650,000. This material does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the United States Department of State, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the United States Government.

► **Testimony** from Nepal: New lives, new freedoms – how labour migration empowers Nepali women

Fairly recruited Nepali women migrant workers find avenues to support their families while contributing to the economy

When I first met her, Ram Kumari Chaudhary was a shy 19-year-old. She wanted to work in Jordan to support her parents, explaining there were few opportunities to find a decent job in Nepal. Soon afterwards, I learned that she'd found a job in Jordan's booming garment industry, earning around USD 350 a month. Every few months she sent back about three-quarters of her salary to her parents in Nepal.

About 18 months, her father's poor health forced her to return home. She brought with her a refund of her social security contributions worth about USD 500, and other savings. When we met again she had metamorphosed into a confident young woman, emboldened by her worldly experience and achievements. "I supported building a small home for my parents," she said. "I've been supporting my father's treatment. I brought back a flat screen TV. I have modest savings, and I've already been offered a job in a factory here. Given my international experience, the salary is good. Had I stayed in Nepal, I would not have earned that much."

Chaudhary's household is one of 57 per cent in Nepal receiving remittances from migrant workers. These financial flows contribute some 26 per cent of the country's GDP, and are growing. In fiscal year 2018/19 alone the country received remittances of NPR 879.26 billion (USD 7.76 billion), up from NPR 231.72 billion (USD 2.05 billion) in the 2009/10.

25-year-old Maya Chepang Praja, from Chitwan, south-west of Kathmandu, opted to work abroad to support the upbringing of her son, then aged three, after her husband abandoned them. In Jordan, she earned an average of USD 275 per month – more than double the USD 130 she was paid working at a factory in Nepal – she sent most of this back for her son.

She was forced to return to Nepal after nine months when her son, cared for by his grandmother, had his leg crushed in an accident. "Whatever I earned in nine months helped me get his leg back. I will always be grateful for that", she said. She is now looking for another job abroad.

While 500,000 individuals enter the Nepali labour market annually, only one in 10 find jobs. These young women's stories show that decent jobs overseas contribute not only to supporting their families' economic wellbeing, but also their own empowerment as Nepali women.

"Whatever I earned in nine months helped me get his leg back. I will always be grateful for that", says Ram Kumari Chaudhary.



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Results from the Asia Region: Reduction of vulnerability to child labour and enhancement of protection of children from exploitation

The Asia Regional Child Labour Programme (ARC) supports the reduction of vulnerability to child labour and the enhancement of protection of children from exploitation in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Myanmar and Pakistan with a view to achieving SDG Target 8.7.

The ILO will work with its constituents, and with the project's partners DFID, UNICEF and the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), in the six countries towards:

- ▶ building a credible knowledge base on the causes and drivers of child labour and effective interventions to address them;
- ▶ aligning legislation and policies with international conventions on child labour, forced labour and trafficking in persons and enforcing and implementing them; and
- ▶ developing and applying a holistic approach to eradicating the worst forms of child labour in selected regions of each country.

It will focus on prevention with indirect facilitation of rescue and rehabilitation of child labourers identified in the target areas. The strategy combines sector-specific research and action into an integrated area-based approach to make target areas child labour free.

Given the expected increase in natural disasters, mostly linked to climate change, and the resulting risk for children being displaced and obliged to make up for loss of land and livelihood of the family, the programme will also target

regions having experienced or being prone to earthquakes, floods or drought.

Other vulnerable groups that need special focus are female-headed households, seasonal migrants, religious minorities, indigenous people, dalits, internally displaced persons, refugees and returnees. Special attention is to be given to children working away from home as they face greater risk of exploitation.

Previous ILO projects have assisted the governments in adopting National Action Plans to eliminate child labour. The programme will build the capacity for implementing these plans and provide policy guidance to ensure that results are sustainable. Periodic exchange between the six countries should allow successful strategies in one to guide implementation in the others and allow acceleration of the pace of elimination of child labour.

Regular monitoring and evaluation of processes and interventions at national, provincial and local levels will help build an evidence base of what works and what doesn't and reorient action when necessary.



► Testimony from Madagascar: “I want a brighter future for my children”

My name is Francine and I am one of the beneficiaries of the OIT / SAVABE project. I am 41 and live in Marovato with my 2 children, who are 13 and 15.

Before I joined the project, I was growing vegetable and fruit, vanilla in particular, and I also planted tomatoes, but the production was very low. Because I was earning so little, I could not afford to send my children to school and they always had to help me in the fields. I saw no future for them or for me.

One day, an awareness-raising event on the initiatives of the SAVABE project took place where I live. I was immediately interested and attended all the information and training sessions. Convinced that this project could help me improve the living conditions of my little family, I decided to register.

The first training session I attended was on preventing and combating child labour: as I could not afford to send my children to school, I asked the trainers for advice on ways to improve my sources of income so that they could go to school.

After that, I attended all the training sessions provided by the project on good agricultural practices: improvement of the vanilla crop as a priority, and advice on other sources of income, still in the agriculture sector, particularly vegetable gardening, short cycle farming, ginger cultivation, etc. I also took financial education training. Armed with this new knowledge, I therefore decided to extend my tomato crop, in addition to my vanilla field, which brings me my basic income.

Thanks to the new techniques the project taught me, as well as the technical and material support it offered, I can now see a clear increase in my tomato production (4 times more than the previous season). My income has improved. In addition, I have practiced what I learnt in the financial management training course, and I can now pay the school fees for my two children. I am very happy and I am grateful to the ILO-SAVABE project for the change it has brought to my life and that of my family.

And I don't want to stop there.... I would like to continue to expand my vanilla and tomato crops, and to put into practice all the training I have received, especially short cycle farming. I could thus ensure a bright future for my children.

“I am very happy and I am grateful to the ILO-SAVABE project for the change it has brought to my life and that of my family”, says Francine.



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The ILO wishes to acknowledge contributions received for the elimination of child labour and forced labour from:



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