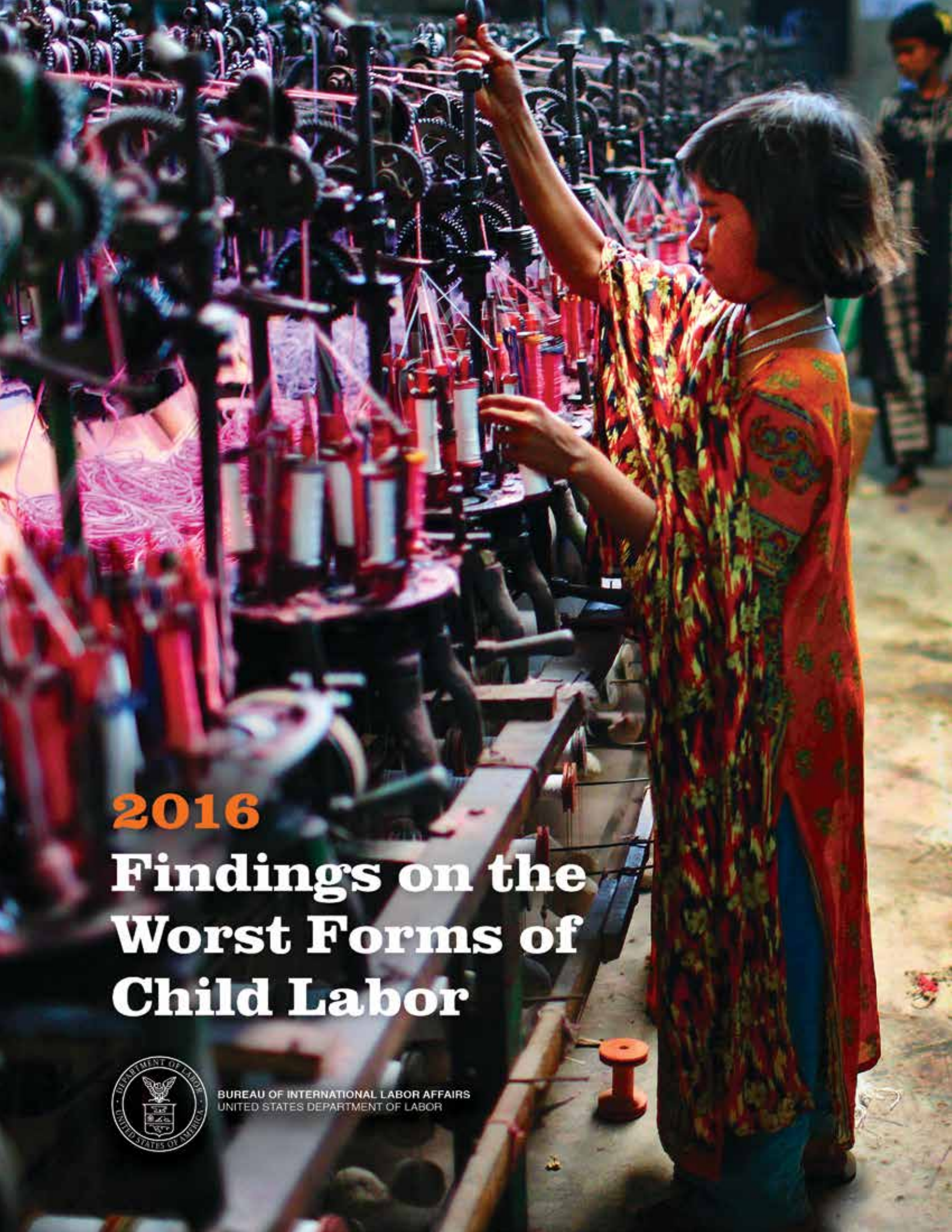

2016 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor

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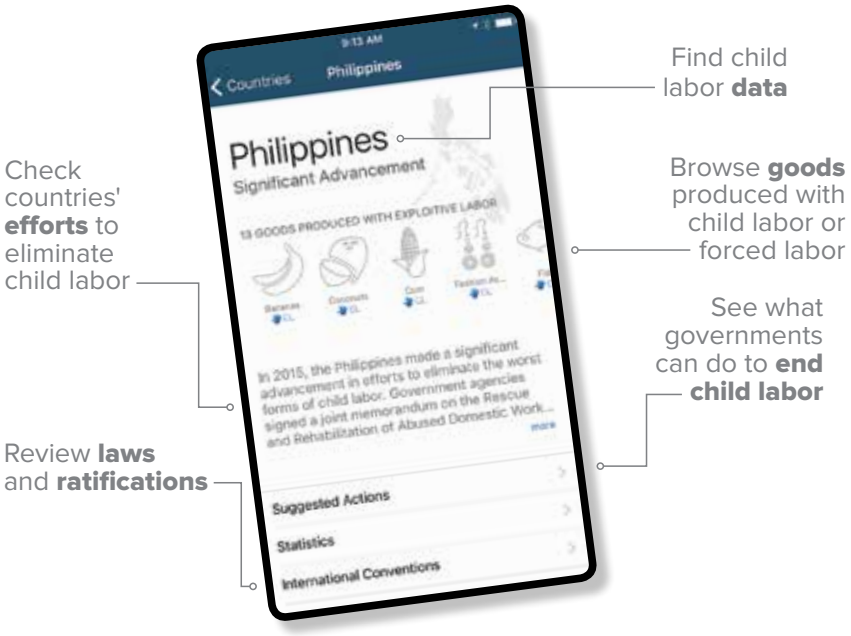

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On the front cover: © GMB Akash
A girl child is working in a textile factory in Dhaka. It is common in Bangladesh for children of poor parents to work in various hazardous and labor intensive workplaces to support their families. 17.5 percent of all children aged between 5-15 are engaged in economic activities. The average child labourer earns between 400 to 700 taka (1 USD = 70 taka) per month, while an adult worker earns up to 5,000 taka per month.

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Children fill up empty cigarettes manually with locally grown tobacco in a small bidi (cigarette) factory at Haragach in Rangpur district, Bangladesh July 11, 2013.

R. Alexander Acosta
U.S. Secretary of Labor

Foreword

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2016, the United States imported $124 billion in clothing and footwear. Before goods make their way to store shelves, they follow a long and winding path through a supply chain – the complexity of which no collar tag can capture. The journey begins in fields that grow cotton and on the cattle farms that provide the hides, proceeds through spinning mills and tanneries, and ends on the floors of factories or homes where the shoes are cut and assembled or the garments are sewn. Sometimes work produced for major international brands is subcontracted out, at times without the brand's knowledge, to medium-sized factories and home-based workshops.

Unfortunately, there are sometimes hidden, non-monetary costs associated with the goods Americans purchase. Abusive labor practices, such as forced labor and child labor, harm millions of children, women, and men by enabling goods to be produced at artificially low prices. These practices create not only human rights abuses, but they create an uneven playing field, making it hard for businesses that play by the rules to compete. A country's failure to stop the exploitation of its labor force undermines the well-being of American workers and other workers around the world. This reality impacts us as consumers, as we all run the risk of indirectly and unwittingly contributing to the perpetuation of shadow industries, where goods are made on the backs of children and modern-day slaves. The complexity of many global supply chains makes it challenging for consumers to know where to buy untainted goods or what they can do to help address the problem.

All this raises the question: What can be done to stop these abuses?

The primary mission of the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Bureau of International Labor Affairs is to promote a fair global playing field for workers in the United States and around the world by enforcing trade commitments, strengthening labor standards, and combating international child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking. There are an estimated 152 million child laborers, roughly 10 percent of the world's child population and almost half – 73 million children – are used in hazardous work, such as spraying pesticides, descending into mineshafts, or diving underwater to untangle fishing nets.[1] Millions of children are used in prostitution, the production of pornography, domestic servitude, forced begging, drug trafficking, or are forcibly recruited for use in armed conflict. Worldwide, there are also 25 million adults and children in forced labor.[1] These newly released 2016 global estimates from the International Labor Organization underscore the urgency of our response.

President Trump's 2017 National Trade Policy Agenda includes "enforcing labor provisions in existing [trade] agreements and enforcing the prohibition against the importation and sale of goods made with forced labor." The Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act also strengthens the U.S. government's ability to prevent goods made by forced labor from entering the United States. DOL remains committed to contributing our expertise in this area by working collaboratively with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) as they enforce this prohibition.

This month, we release the 16th edition of the annual *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, a report born from the idea that trade should be fairer for all. Mandated by the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (TDA), which expanded eligibility criteria for the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program, this report shines a spotlight on specific sectors in which child labor, including forced labor and trafficking, persists, and describes the progress some countries have made in upholding their international commitments to eliminate these practices. The report offers recommendations to address these injustices and protect children through improved laws, policies, and practices. Unfortunately, the report also demonstrates how much work is needed to end child labor.

This report provides specific, actionable information to the governments of GSP-beneficiary countries regarding how best to combat labor abuses. Companies also use the report as a critical input into risk assessments, to conduct due diligence on their supply chains, and to develop strategies to address the problem. Our own federal government agencies use the report to safeguard federal procurement by informing procurement officers of risks in sourcing products and services. DOL uses this report to reveal hidden exploitation and partner with countries working to end labor abuses. Through these partnerships, we have rescued and provided educational opportunities to nearly two million children, helped almost 170,000 families meet their basic needs without relying on child labor, and contributed to reducing child labor by more than 94 million worldwide. This month, we are releasing an updated version of our *Sweat & Toil* app, which puts more than 1,000 pages of this report and other DOL research on child labor and forced labor in the palm of your hand.

DOL offers another free, comprehensive online toolkit for businesses seeking to develop robust social compliance systems for their global production. DOL also released a new mobile version of this toolkit – *Comply Chain: Business Tools for Labor Compliance in Global Supply Chains*, making this information more accessible to companies and the public. The power of digital technology is increasingly harnessed to combat labor abuses in supply chains through data collection, supply chain tracing, grievance reporting, and other mechanisms, and DOL is part of that trend. Because of our ongoing commitment to help business develop new tools and test new models to address abuses, we are funding a new initiative to support robust social compliance systems in coffee supply chains that help raise labor standards and safeguard against abusive working conditions. Together, we can ensure that the products we buy are made in a way that is consistent with American values.

Producing goods with exploited labor is simply wrong and gives countries and businesses an unfair competitive advantage. We must do our part to end exploitation and expose those who engage in abusive labor practices. The challenge is immense, but so are the opportunities for progress. The information in this report can help us all take concrete steps to make these injustices a relic of the past.

R. ALEXANDER ACOSTA
Secretary of Labor
September 2017

© Larry C. Price
Bahadur, 12, removes goat skins from a chemical bath at the Mizan Leather Tannery in Hazaribagh, Dhaka, Bandgladesh, 2016.

From Seed to Shirt:
Child Labor in the Cotton Supply Chain

How much do you know about your favorite cotton t-shirt's journey to your closet?

Child labor can begin in the earliest stages of cotton production exposing children to hazardous work. In India, for example, between 400,000 and 450,000 children work long hours in the production of hybrid cottonseed, many as forced or bonded laborers.

Children are involved in the cultivation of cotton plants, by plowing, weeding, and removing pests by hand, as well as by spraying pesticides that present significant health hazards.

Although some progress has been made in reducing the number of forced child laborers in the cotton harvest, some children in countries such as Uzbekistan and Tajikistan are mobilized by local governments for forced labor in the cotton harvest.

Child labor has also been documented in ginning factories, where children work with hazardous machinery and inhale cotton dust as raw cotton is processed.

Children work long hours in hazardous conditions for very little pay as they produce garments that are sold commercially around the world.

Sources: Global March Against Child Labour. *Dirty Cotton: A Research on Child Labour, Slavery, Trafficking and Exploitation in Cotton and Cotton Seed Farming in India*. New Delhi, 2012; available from http://www.globalmarch.org/sites/default/files/Dirty-Cotton-Report.pdf. Josephine Moulds. "Child Labour in the Fashion Supply Chain: Where, Why, And What Can Be Done." theguardian.com [online] [cited 2015]; available from https://labs.theguardian.com/unicef-child-labour/. U.S. Department of State. "Tajikistan." In *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2016*. Washington, D.C., July 27, 2016; available from https://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/countries/2016/258874.htm. Uzbek-German Forum for Human Rights. *Forced Labor in Uzbekistan's Cotton Sector: Preliminary Findings from the 2016 Harvest*. December 2016.

© M. Crozet
Child tinsmith working in
Soukounicoura area, Bamako, Mali.

Acknowledgements

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Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking
Bureau of International Labor Affairs
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Room S-5315
Washington, DC 20210

Telephone: (202) 693-4843
Fax: (202) 693-4830
e-mail: GlobalKids@dol.gov

The reports are also available on the Internet at: http://www.dol.gov/endchildlabor.
Comments on the reports are also welcomed and may be submitted to GlobalKids@dol.gov.

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Shilu works separating sand and stone. At least 10,000 people, including 2,500 women and over 1,000 children, are engaged in stone and sand collection from the Bhollar Ghat on the banks of the Piyain river. Building materials such as stone and sand, and the cement which is made from it, are in short supply in Bangladesh, and commands a high price from building contractors. The average income is around 150 taka (less than 2 USD) a day, 2011.

Table of Contents

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A young girl in Jharia Coalfields, India, brings a basket of scavenged coal to a pile for burning into charcoal, 2016.

Acronyms

AF	Sub-Saharan Africa
AGOA	African Growth and Opportunity Act
ATPA	Andean Trade Preference Act
ATPDEA	Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act
AP	Asia and the Pacific
CBTPA	Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act
CEACR	International Labor Organization Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
EAPCCO	Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
ECPAT	End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography, and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes
EFA	Education for All
EUR	Europe and Eurasia
EU	European Union
FLSA	Fair Labor Standards Act
ILO-FUNDAMENTALS	International Labor Organization's Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GSP	Generalized System of Preferences
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
ILAB	Bureau of International Labor Affairs
ILO	International Labor Organization
ILO C. 29	International Labor Organization, Convention No. 29: Convention Concerning Forced or Compulsory Labor, commonly referred to as the "Forced Labor Convention"
ILO C. 138	International Labor Organization, Convention No. 138: Convention Concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, commonly referred to as the "Minimum Age Convention"
ILO C. 182	International Labor Organization, Convention No. 182: Convention Concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, commonly referred to as the "Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention"
ILO R. 190	International Labor Organization, Recommendation No. 190: Recommendation Concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, commonly referred to as the "Worst Forms of Child Labor Recommendation"

© George Osodi/Panos
A young boy on a gold mining site in Obuasi. He is the child of one of many unemployed young people who have taken to working as illegal artisanal gold miners known as *galamseys* in Ghana, Obuasi, Ashanti Region.

IMF	International Monetary Fund
INTERPOL	ICPO–INTERPOL/International Criminal Police Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LAC	Latin American and the Caribbean
LFS	Labor Force Survey
LGBTI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex
LSMS	Living Standards Measurement Survey
MERCOSUR	Common Market of the South (America); full members include Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay, and Venezuela (membership currently suspended)
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OAS	Organization of American States
OCFT	Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Palermo Protocol	Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
SIMPOC	Statistical Information and Monitoring Program on Child Labor
TDA	Trade and Development Act
TVPRA	Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act
UCW	Understanding Children's Work
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UN CRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
USDOJ	U.S. Department of Justice
USDOL	U.S. Department of Labor
USDOS	U.S. Department of State
USHHS	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
WFP	World Food Program
WHD	Wage and Hour Division
WHO	World Health Organization

© Joerg Boethling/Alamy Stock Photo
SIERRA LEONE Tombo, young girl carries a plate with cashew nut and fruits on her head for selling.

Purpose of this Report

The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) has prepared this 16th annual report on *2016 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor* in accordance with the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (TDA).[39] The TDA set forth the requirement that a country implement its commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in order for the President to consider designating the country a beneficiary developing country under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program.[40, 41] The TDA also mandated the President to submit to Congress the Secretary of Labor's findings with respect to each "beneficiary country's implementation of its international commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor."[39] ILAB carries out this responsibility on behalf of the Secretary.

Research Focus

Country Coverage

This report covers 121 independent countries and 14 non-independent countries and territories designated as GSP beneficiaries. This includes former GSP recipients who have negotiated free-trade agreements with the United States. Although designated as GSP recipients, the report does not contain a discussion of the British Indian Ocean Territory, Heard Island and McDonald Islands, and the Pitcairn Islands, due to their population of children being extremely small (less than 50) or non-existent. A regional breakdown of the countries and non-independent countries and territories discussed in this report is as follows: Sub-Saharan Africa: 47, Asia and the Pacific: 32, Europe and Eurasia: 18, Latin America and the Caribbean: 26, and the Middle East and North Africa: 12. Because the report focuses on government efforts, non-independent countries and territories are classified by the region of the country with which each non-independent country and territory is associated, as appropriate. Hereinafter, the use of "countries" in the report will also include territories.

Population Covered

In undertaking research on the "worst forms of child labor," ILAB relied on the definition of a child provided in the TDA, which is the same definition contained in ILO C. 182. The TDA and ILO C. 182 define a "child" to be a person under age 18.

Reporting Period

The reporting period for this year's report is January 2016 through December 2016.

Type of Employment

This report focuses on the worst forms of child labor. The definition of the "worst forms of child labor" is found in the TDA and is the same as that included in ILO C. 182. It includes (a) all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale or trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom, or forced or compulsory labor, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; (b) the use, procuring, or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography, or for pornographic purposes; (c) the use, procuring, or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs; and (d) work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety, or morals of children.[43] Similar to ILO C. 182, the TDA states that the work described in subparagraph (d) should be "determined by the laws, regulations, or competent authority of the country involved."[39, 43]

Children, 5-17 years old

73
million* children
engaged in hazardous labor

152
million children in child labor

*Global estimates on the number of children engaged in categorical worst forms of child labor do not exist. See the International Labor Organization. *Global estimation of child labour 2016: Main results and methodology.* Geneva, September 2017.

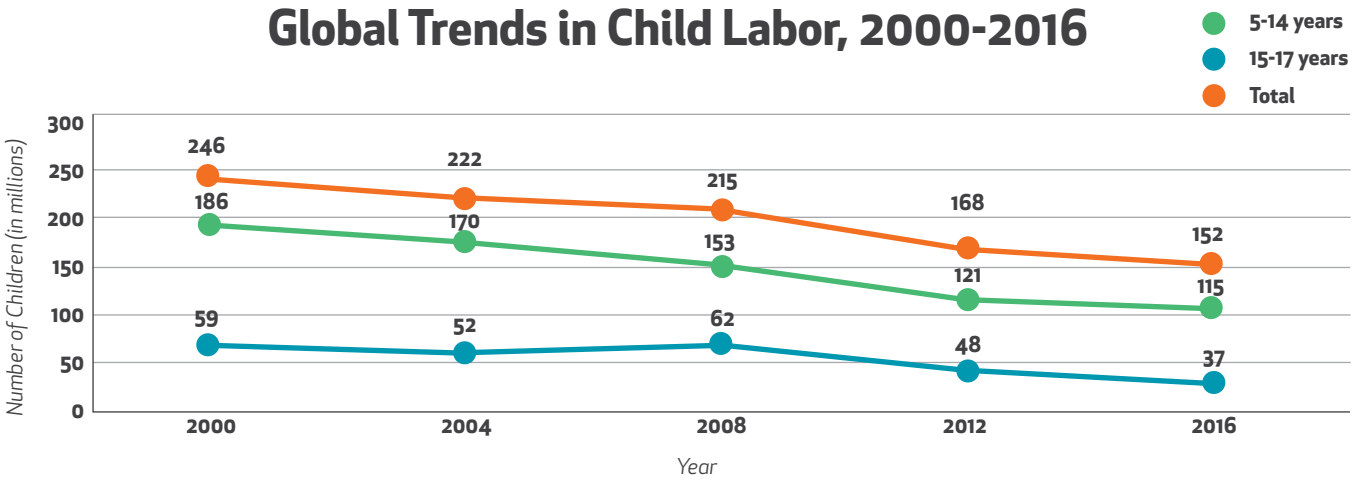
© Justin Kenny/Small Footprint Films
Ten year-old boy pulls hide from pressing machine at a tannery in Dhaka, Bangladesh, 2016.

The Year in Review

A Race Against the Clock: Action Needed to End Child Labor by 2025

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs' (ILAB) efforts to protect worker rights around the world. Within this time, the Bureau has worked for almost 25 years to combat the worst forms of child labor. These targeted and sustained efforts have contributed to an unprecedented global reduction in child labor–by 94 million since 2000.[1] ILAB's use of systematic and rigorous research to shine a light on child labor abuses has been a cornerstone of our approach when engaging with governments, businesses, and civil society actors to spur action to make these abusive practices a relic of the past. In over 95 countries, ILAB has helped countries collect information on and measure the prevalence of child labor, translated these findings into focused national action plans, and supported innovative approaches to help families meet basic needs without relying on child labor.

However, as new global estimates from the ILO and this year's report clearly show, global efforts to date, while substantial, are not keeping pace with what is required to rapidly end child labor in the next decade. The following three takeaways from this year's TDA report summarize: progress has been made, but gaps still remain; exploiters are innovating to profit while evading accountability for



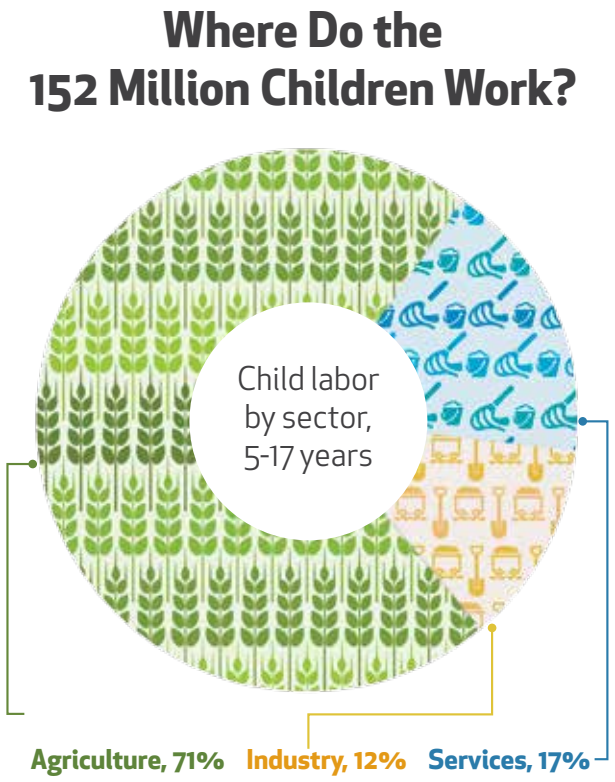
Source: International Labor Organization. *Global estimation of child labour 2016: Main results and methodology*. Geneva, September 2017.

their actions; and there is need to ensure that all hands are on deck to accelerate progress over the coming decade.

Child labor continues to decrease, but the pace of progress has slowed

Today, millions of children around the world remain trapped in the worst forms of child labor, carrying out virtually every type of work under a wide range of conditions. The newly released 2016 global estimates from the ILO indicate that there are an estimated 152 million child laborers between the ages of 5 and 17 years old, including 73 million involved in work that is hazardous to their health and well-being. Overall, since the ILO first began measuring the global prevalence of child labor, we have seen a nearly 40 percent reduction in the number of child laborers from 246 million in 2000 to 152 million in 2016.[1] While 2016 saw a continuation of this positive downward trend, the marked decline in the pace of change in recent years is cause for concern. Still today, nearly 1 in 10 children in the world is in child labor. Even more concerning is that the proportion of children in child labor in Sub-Saharan Africa continues to increase, with one in five children in child labor.[1]

Over the past year, we observed another troubling trend: as new forms of illicit activities arise, children are being pulled in and exploited. In 2016, for instance, newspapers in Ecuador and Uruguay began covering reports of the use of young children to transport and sell narcotics as part of a new form of drug trafficking;



Source: International Labor Organization. *Global estimation of child labour 2016: Main results and methodology*. Geneva, September 2017.

rather than cross-border trafficking of large quantities of narcotics for international consumption, this new form of child labor involves the "micro-trafficking" of small quantities of drugs, which children rapidly sell for domestic consumption.

As the nature of the global marketplace shifts from storefronts to e-commerce, exploiters are also adapting their business models. In an increasingly mobile, connected world, internet-facilitated commercial sexual exploitation of children is a growing problem. Children in the Philippines, for example, are being coerced into performing sex acts for live internet broadcasts to foreign customers and local Filipinos in small internet cafes, private homes, or windowless dungeon-like buildings known as "cybersex dens." And in Colombia, press reports during the year documented a trend away from the use of commercial establishments for the sexual exploitation of children and the production of child pornography; instead, private homes are now being rented via the internet to conduct such activities.

Also in 2016, a variety of new studies, some employing new methods of investigative reporting, were released. These studies deepened our understanding of the ongoing exploitation of children in certain sectors. For example, recent investigative research by Transparentem, an NGO seeking increased transparency and ethical behavior in supply chains, brought into greater focus the extremely toxic environment of Bangladesh's leather tanneries, in which children use hazardous chemicals and machines without any sort of protective equipment. Recent reports by international organizations and news outlets also shined a brighter spotlight on the thousands of children as young as age 6 mining mica, a mineral used in thermal or electrical insulation and as a pigment extender, in India, under dangerous and unhealthy conditions. And Ukrainian news media and local observers began reporting an emerging trend of child labor in illegal amber extraction in the western part of the country.

It is encouraging news that 94 million fewer children are engaged in child labor compared to over 15 years

© UNICEF/UN019128/Hyams
On July 1, 2016, a young girl stands at a blackboard in a school in Guinea. Thanks to the support of the EU, children and adolescents in Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia can go back to school after the Ebola outbreak.

From Research to Action: The Importance of National Child Labor Surveys

The collection and dissemination of child labor data are fundamental to understanding the breadth and scale of issues affecting working children, as well as risk factors that increase children's vulnerability to exploitative labor.

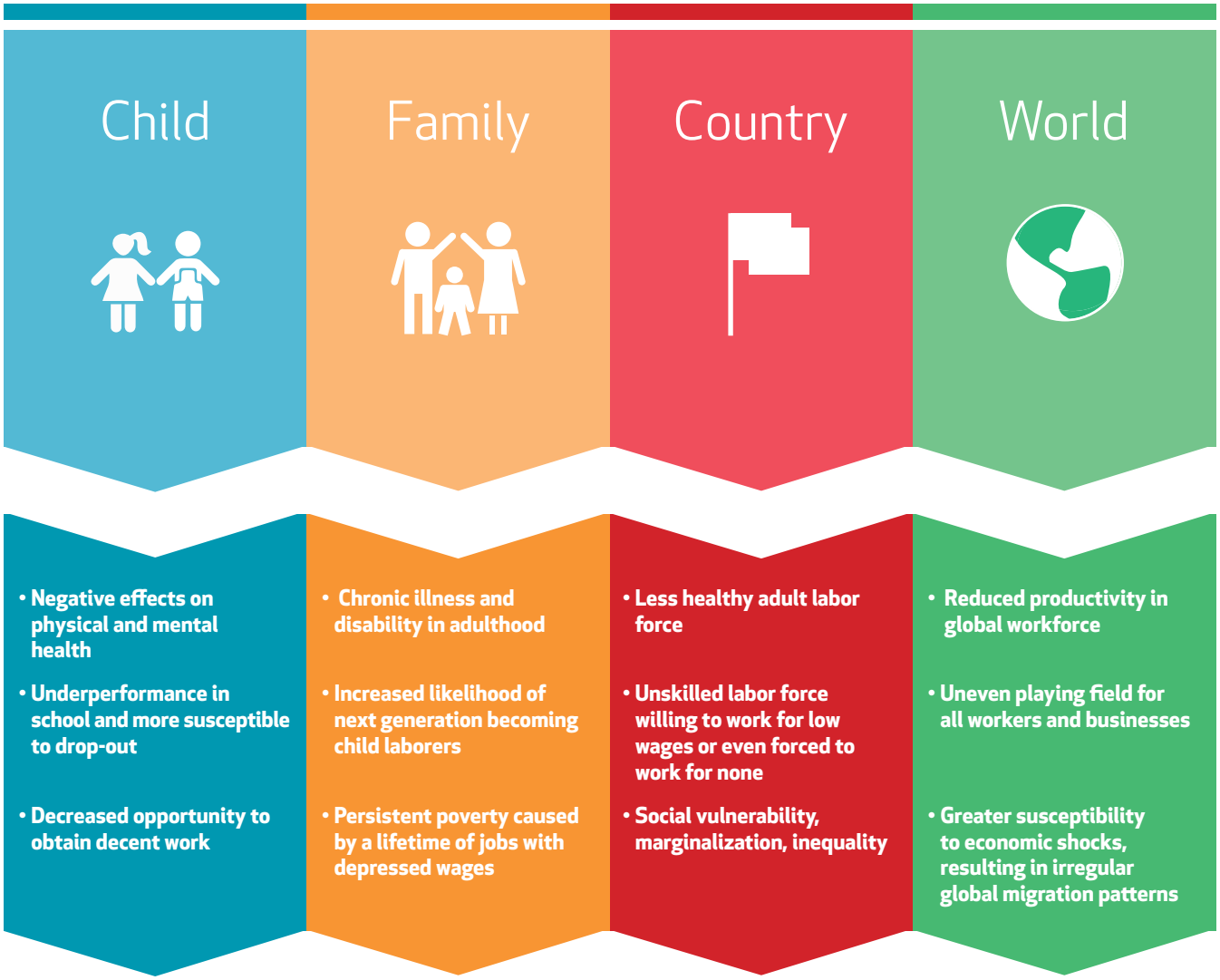
Children who are engaged in child labor or hazardous work are more likely to drop out of school, get hurt on the job, and suffer from poor health. These children's development is impeded and they are more likely to experience livelihood insecurity as adults.

National child labor surveys are a key mechanism for collecting much-needed data. These surveys –whether conducted as a stand-alone or integrated into pre-existing national research efforts, such as labor force, household, or demographic surveys – provide a powerful window into the lives of children, including their health, well-being, education, work activities, and working conditions.

Such research can inform policymakers by illuminating the areas where programs, policies, or legislation are most needed. It can also galvanize support or serve as the basis for targeted programs for addressing child labor. When data are used to their fullest potential, they can become a roadmap for policy action. Identifying an issue and monitoring it through timely data collection are the only ways to know whether progress is being made.

Outcomes of Child Labor

How the Plight of an Individual Child Becomes a Global Burden



Sources: Edmonds, E. *GLM-LIC Working Paper No. 11: Economic Growth and Child Labour in Low Income Economies*; April 2016. http://glm-lic.iza.org/publications/synthesis_papers/21/economic-growth-and-child-labour-in-low-income-economies. ILO. *Children in Hazardous Work*. Geneva; 2011. http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_155428.pdf.

ago. Even so, **child labor around the world persists and is, in many places, deeply entrenched and continuing to evolve**. The rate of the decline has progressively slowed over the past four years, as the efforts made by governments and other stakeholders have not expanded in quantity or quality. The findings of the 16th edition of this report reveal that the level of governments' efforts to address this problem has remained fairly consistent over the past several years. For instance, the percentage of countries achieving the top two assessment levels – Significant Advancement and Moderate Advancement – has leveled off, hovering around 59 percent of the countries included in the report (see Figures 1-2).

Two years ago, the member states of the United Nations adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), a roadmap for ending poverty, protecting the environment, and promoting peaceful, inclusive, and just societies by 2030. The eighth among these 17 goals is the promotion of "inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all." Goal 8 contains a specific target, known as Target 8.7, which calls for taking "immediate and effective measures to... by 2025 end child labor in all its forms." While many countries and their partners are making efforts, realizing this goal will require all countries and other stakeholders to expand and accelerate action. The number and effectiveness of our collective efforts needs to increase. Otherwise, we will fall short of our goal of eliminating child labor by 2025, as is envisioned by Target 8.7 and agreed to by the international community.

The mission of USDOL's Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) aligns with SDG Goal 8 and Target 8.7 as we seek to improve global working conditions, raise living standards, protect workers' ability to exercise their rights, and address the workplace exploitation of children and other vulnerable populations, helping to ensure that workers around the world are treated fairly and able to share more fully in the benefits of the global economy.

Many governments are stepping up; others have yet to do so

Greater awareness of child labor and a resulting commitment to address it have undoubtedly led to change. As this report indicates, many governments continue to improve their responses to these abuses, including through enacting and enforcing laws, coordinating more effectively among stakeholders, establishing policy frameworks, and implementing economic development, education, and social protection programs that invest in and safeguard children.

This report reveals that almost all countries made at least one effort to combat child labor during the year. Many have ratified all of the relevant international conventions and established good legal frameworks that are aligned with international standards. They have done the hard work of putting into place a solid basis from which to address child labor.

Several countries also made important advances in the areas of law enforcement relevant to child labor. For example, Albania increased funding for its

Marking 15 Years of Protecting the Most Vulnerable: Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child

Fifteen years ago, two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child adopted by the United Nations General Assembly first entered into force, working alongside ILO C. 182's requirement that countries criminalize the forced recruitment of children for armed services and the use, procuring, and offering of children for commercial sexual exploitation. Yet this anniversary can hardly be called a celebration. The brutality of armed conflict and commercial sexual exploitation continue to ensnare hundreds of thousands of boys and girls globally. These children are victims, whose abhorrent involvement in such activities can put them in an early grave or leave enduring scars, both physical and psychological.

The **Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict**, which has been ratified by 166 countries, is a commitment that States will:

- neither conscript nor send children under the age of 18 to the battlefield;
- prevent such recruitment, including by enacting legislation; and
- demobilize children and provide physical and psychological services to support their recovery and reintegration.

The **Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography**, ratified by 173 member states, obligates governments to criminalize and punish a wide range of activities related to the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The rights and best interests of child victims must be paramount, particularly in interactions with the criminal justice system. Survivors should receive legal, medical, psychological, logistical, and financial support to aid their rehabilitation and reintegration.

These protocols matter. Standing united against these abuses is a matter of great urgency and the collective responsibility of every government and citizen. We urge the member states of the United Nations who have not yet ratified these protocols to join those who have.

© M. Crozet
Young girl cleaning a sty in Lima, Peru.

FIGURE 1

Global Breakdown of Country Assessments

135 countries

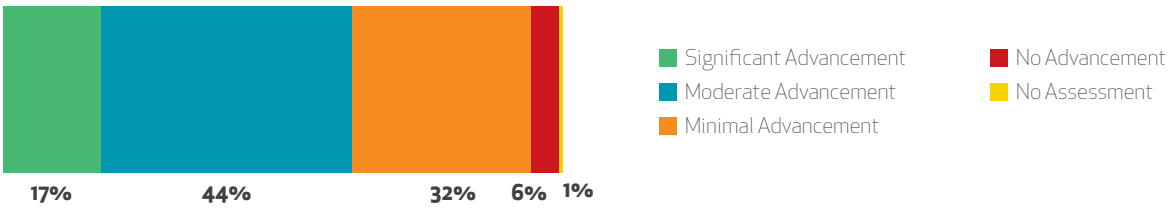


FIGURE 2

Country Assessment by Advancement Level

Significant Advancement 23

Albania
Argentina
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Congo, Democratic Republic of the
Costa Rica
Côte d'Ivoire
Ecuador
Ethiopia
Ghana
Guatemala
Kosovo
Mali
Morocco
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Thailand
Tunisia
Uganda
Western Sahara

Moderate Advancement 59

Afghanistan
Algeria
Angola
Bahrain
Bhutan
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Botswana
Burkina Faso
Cabo Verde
Cambodia
Cameroon
Central African Republic
Chad
Comoros
Egypt
El Salvador
Fiji
Gambia
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Guyana
Haiti
Honduras
India
Indonesia
Jamaica
Jordan
Kazakhstan
Kenya
Kyrgyz Republic
Lebanon
Liberia
Macedonia
Madagascar
Malawi
Maldives
Mauritius
Moldova
Mongolia
Montenegro
Namibia
Nepal
Nicaragua
Niger
Nigeria
Oman
Pakistan
Rwanda
Samoa
Serbia
South Africa
Sri Lanka
St Lucia
St Vincent and the Grenadines
Timor-Leste
Togo
Turkey
Zambia
Zimbabwe

Minimal Advancement 43

Anguilla
Armenia
Azerbaijan
Bangladesh
Belize
Benin
Bolivia
British Virgin Islands
Burundi
Congo, Republic of the
Cook Islands
Djibouti
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Falkland Islands
Gabon
Georgia
Grenada
Iraq
Kiribati
Lesotho
Mauritania
Montserrat
Mozambique
Norfolk Island
Papua New Guinea
Saint Helena, Ascensión, and Tristán da Cunha
São Tomé and Príncipe
Senegal
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Solomon Islands
Somalia
Suriname
Tanzania
Tonga
Tuvalu
Ukraine
Uruguay
Vanuatu
Venezuela
West Bank and the Gaza Strip
Yemen

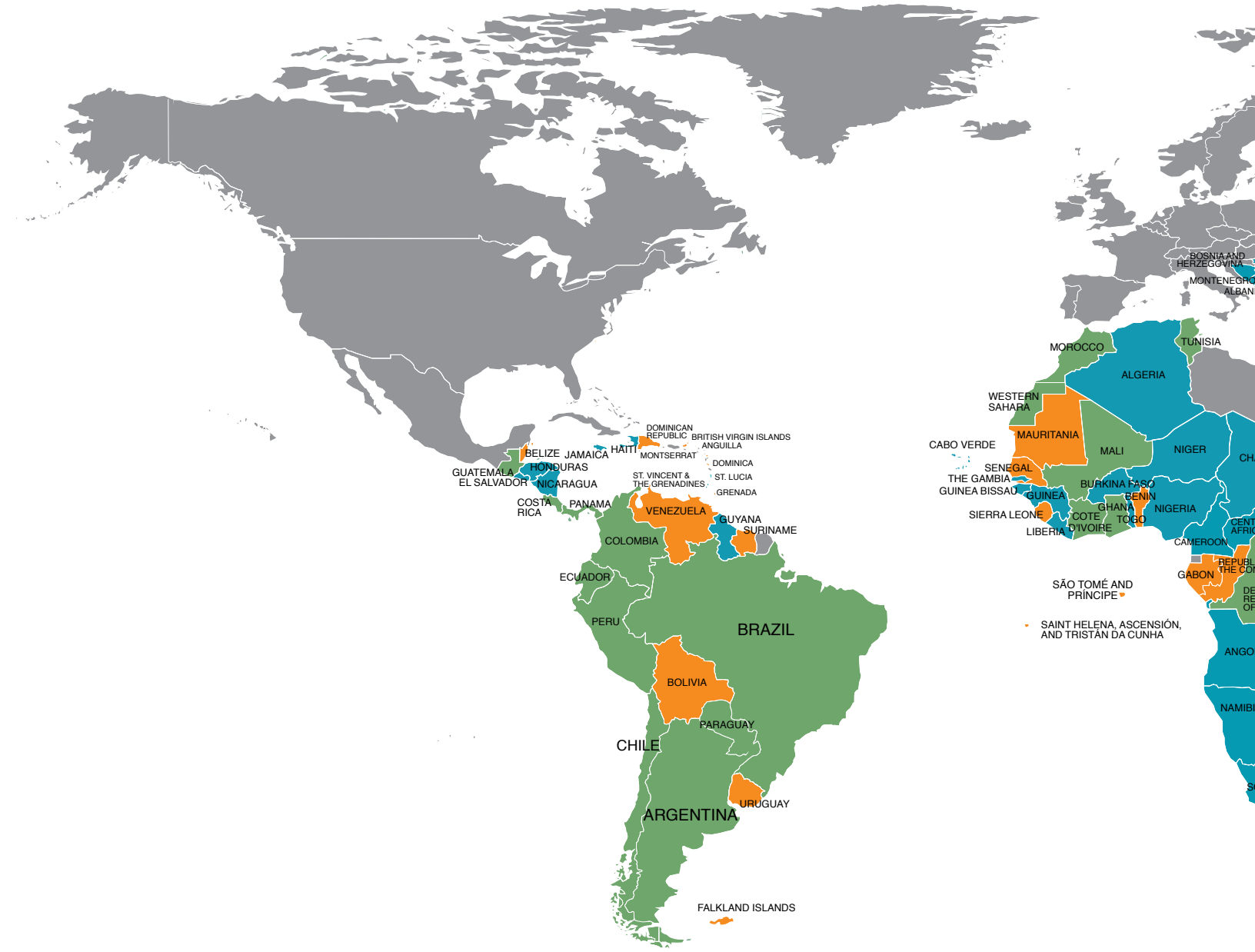
No Advancement 8

Christmas Island
Cocos (Keeling) Islands
Eritrea
Niue
South Sudan
Swaziland
Tokelau
Uzbekistan

No Assessment 2

Burma
Wallis and Futuna

2016 Assessment of Country Efforts to

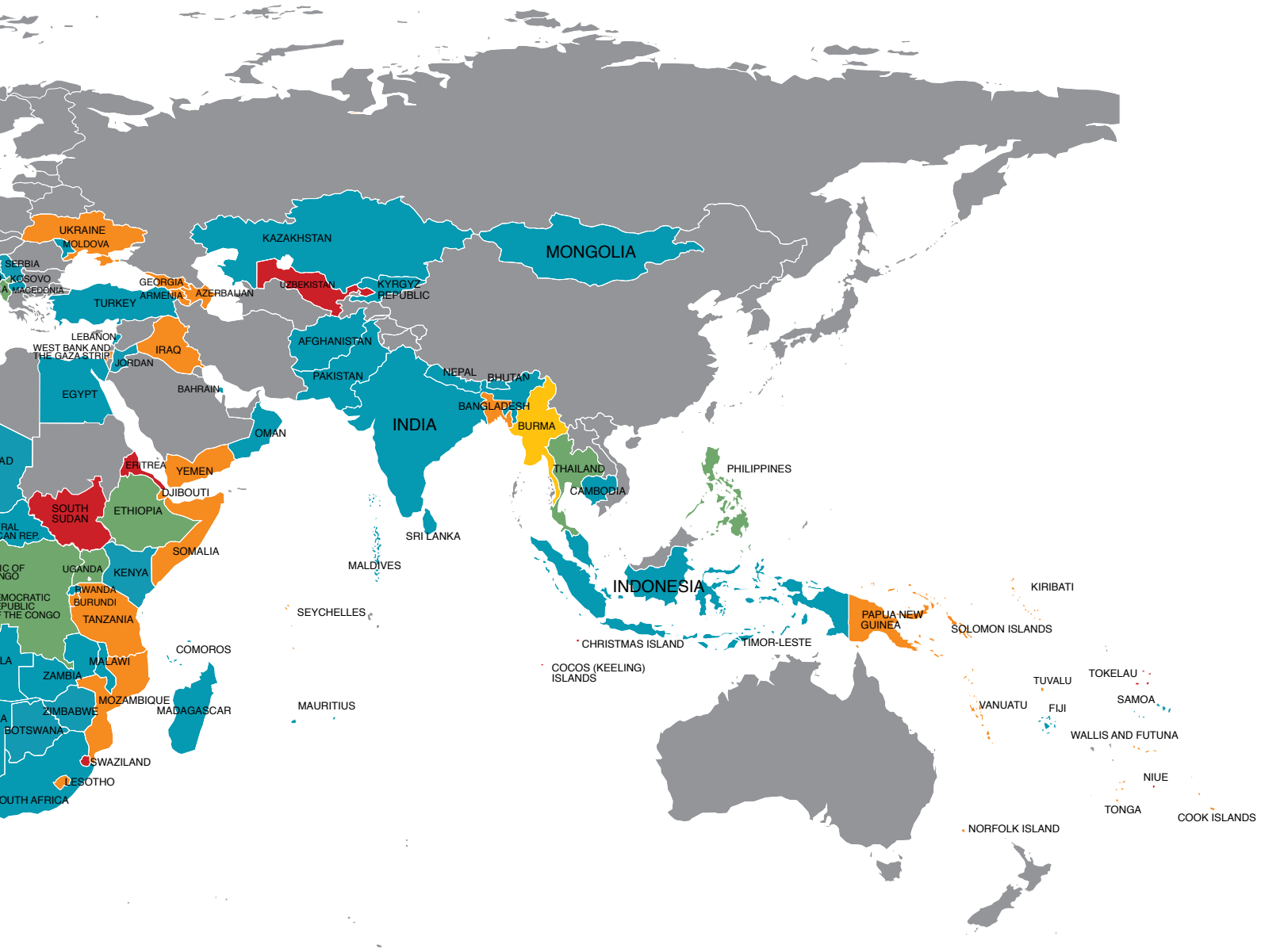


Key

- Significant Advancement
- Moderate Advancement
- Minimal Advancement
- No Advancement
- No Assessment

Map not drawn to scale.

Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor



labor inspectorate in 2016, Ecuador increased its number of labor inspectors by 67 percent, and Togo hired additional labor inspectors for the third year in a row. In Kazakhstan, the Ministry of Education and Science, in cooperation with other government agencies, conducted 45,000 targeted raids in areas where children were likely to be engaged in child labor. Brazilian law enforcement initiated 950 cyber investigations into the commercial sexual exploitation of children, while Burma sanctioned 13 officers and 23 noncommissioned personnel for complicity in the recruitment or use of children in its military, and Belize secured its first ever human trafficking conviction. The Philippine government established an Internet Crimes Against Children Office to combat internet-facilitated commercial sexual exploitation of children and other forms of internet-facilitated sex trafficking.

Many countries covered in this report also recognize that education is critical to the effective prevention and elimination of child labor, taking positive steps forward during the year. In Honduras, for example, the Ministry of Education invested $3.5 million to build schools in some of the poorest municipalities, while Nicaragua's Ministry of Education provided more than 700,000 packages of school supplies and 3.9 million textbooks to children in need. The Government of Egypt participated in programs to feed 13.3 million students and expanded access to education to 36,000 children. Burundi, with UNICEF, launched and completed a campaign to provide

Power in Photography: The Role of the Image in Fighting Child Labor

© David Parker
Tailor, Kono district, Sierra Leone, 2017.

When David Parker packed up his camera and headed to Mexico for his first expedition to document child labor in 1992, he said he had little understanding of how big the problem was and the conditions children faced. "I was surprised what lay just beyond the surface of everyday activity," Parker says.

This was not for a lack of scholarship: Parker had spent years viewing the hazards faced at work through a different lens – in his role running occupational state health programs in his native Minnesota. "Even those of us who study work have often spent little time observing work, and our vision is often sanitized by numbers."

While data may drive policy, Parker sees the image as just as essential. At its best, he believes, it "presents a reality uncluttered by ideas… and forces us to understand what is basic." It is from this understanding that a will to act is often stirred. "No one is convinced of something by a p-value," Parker says.

Parker has been training his camera on this global scourge for 25 years, or about as long as ILAB has been working to combat child labor worldwide through its research, policy engagement, and programs. In that time, he has amassed a vast catalogue of images of working children, from the garbage dumps in Cambodia to the brick kilns of Nepal.

When he captured this photograph, Parker had been wandering through the chiefdoms of Sierra Leone and happened upon a boy in a small workshop. The resulting image offers a window into the life of just one of the millions of children upon whose backs the global economy remains partly built.

Parker's body of work on a global scale has been compared to that of Lewis Hine, who illuminated the plight of child laborers in the United States in the early 20th century by documenting the work of children in the nation's factories and coal mines. For his part, Parker is a bit more modest: "Standing alone, a photograph may stir us to action but it may fail to provide a coherent direction." For this reason, Parker continues to straddle two worlds, as both an empirical researcher and a documentarian.

While change has been frustratingly slow, Parker does take heart in the progress being made. "It's from the actions of a lot of different people doing a lot of different things," Parker says. "On a good day, I like to think I'm a part of that."

teaching and learning materials to 32,000 teachers and promote equitable access to and retention in school for 2.6 million students.

Although we are encouraged by these and the many other accomplishments governments have made, much more needs to be done in most countries—both in terms of quantity and quality of efforts—to ensure effective labor and criminal law enforcement, as well as coordinating mechanisms and social programs, that offer the protection that children deserve. **While passing good laws and ratifying established conventions are rarely easy and always commendable, many countries are failing to implement those laws and commitments in practice**. Child labor laws are established to ensure that when young people work, the work is safe and does not jeopardize their health, well-being, or educational opportunities. Criminal laws prohibiting the worst forms of child labor are established to ensure that no child is exploited as a modern-day slave. The enforcement of both is critical to preventing and eliminating this problem. However, **laws—even the most perfectly crafted statutes—are meaningless if they are not enforced**.

In 2016, 55 of the 135 governments included in this report made no meaningful efforts to enforce laws related to child labor, including 30 governments that made no known law enforcement efforts whatsoever related to child labor (see Figure 3). Labor law and criminal law enforcement efforts related to child labor issues around the world remained particularly inadequate in rural areas where child labor is prevalent, as well as in the informal sector. At least 70 governments did not meet the ILO's recommended benchmarks for an adequate number of inspectors, and in 4 countries—Armenia, Cambodia, Kyrgyz Republic, and Mongolia—unannounced inspections were not permitted. Forty-one governments have not given their inspectors the authority to assess penalties for labor violations, 10 lacked a mechanism to receive child labor complaints, and 3—Armenia, Georgia, and Somalia—lacked labor inspectorates entirely. **The failure to adequately sanction violations of child labor laws, and secure remediation, maintains a culture of impunity that fails to effectively deter child labor**.

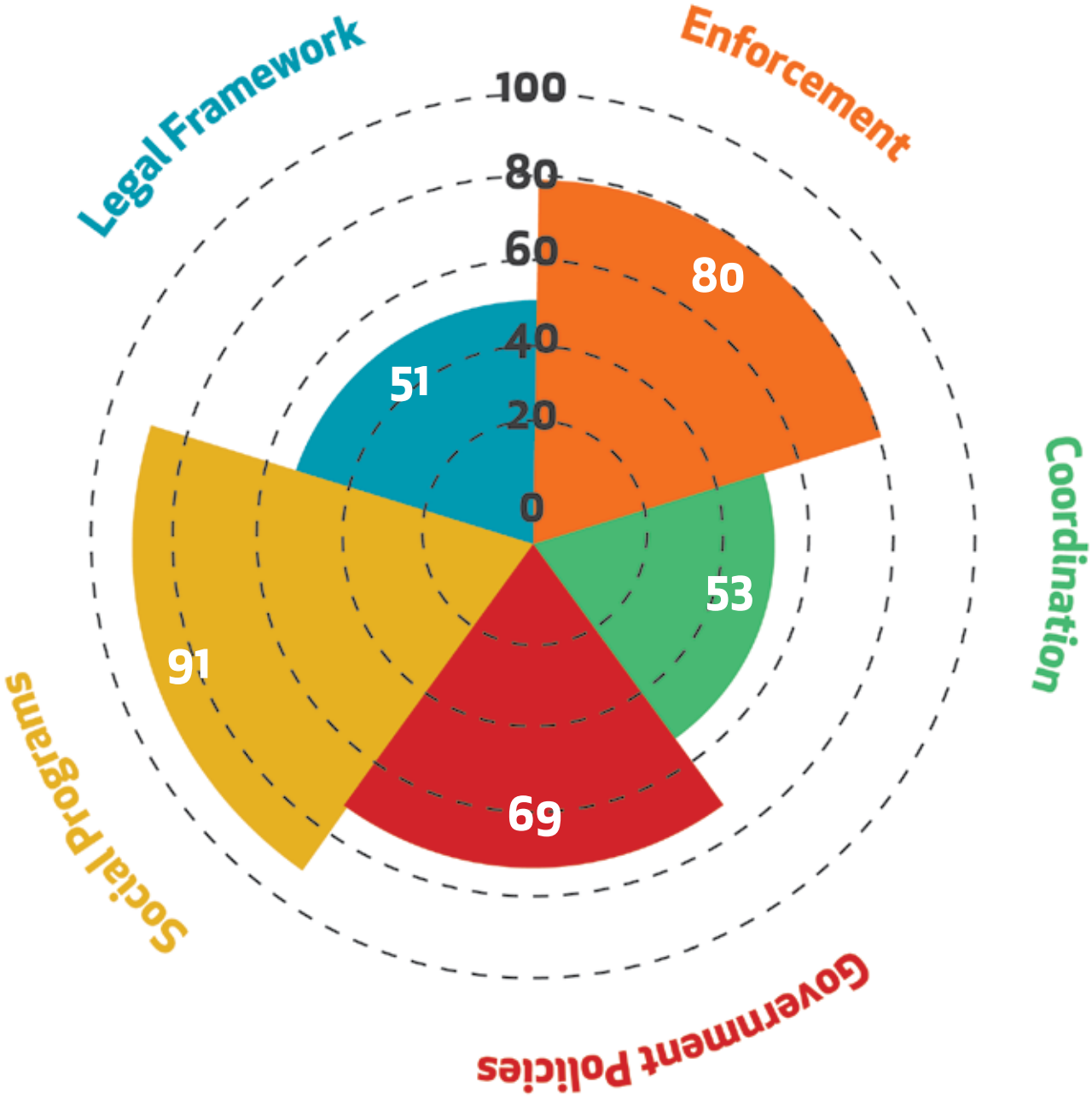
We also see significant gaps around the world in interagency coordination and policy implementation. In 2016, for example, 82 governments made no meaningful efforts to improve their inter-ministerial coordination on child labor issues and 66 countries took no meaningful steps to enact or implement polices related to child labor (see Figure 3).

Some governments made positive efforts to address their country's child labor situation during the year, but simultaneously began or continued to take actions that negatively impacted their overall effectiveness. Eleven countries—Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Georgia, Iraq, Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Tanzania, and Ukraine—implemented or maintained a law, policy, or practice related to education access, minimum age for work, labor inspection, or the recruitment and use of child soldiers that reversed their advancements in eliminating the worst forms of child labor. Four governments—Eritrea, South Sudan, Swaziland, and Uzbekistan—were complicit in the use of forced child labor during the reporting period, whether it be for agricultural or domestic work, public works projects, or participation in armed conflict. The U.S. government joins in with many others to continue to advocate for the speedy resolution of these situations for the well-being of all affected children.

© David Parker
Brick worker, Kathmandu, Nepal, 2015.

FIGURE 3

Total Number of Countries that Undertook Meaningful Efforts to Combat the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Relevant Areas



Total Number of Countries=135

International Days Related to Child Labor

National Slavery and HumanTrafficking Awareness Day

JANUARY 11

Calls on businesses, local and national organizations, and all Americans to recognize the vital role we can play in ending all forms of slavery.

International Day against the Use of Child Soldiers

FEBRUARY 12

Raises awareness on the many children around the world that engage in armed conflict. Promotes the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the UN CRC on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict.

World Day Against Child Labor

JUNE 12

Raises awareness of the plight of hundreds of millions of girls and boys engaged in child labor worldwide.

World DayAgainst Trafficking in Persons

JULY 30

Promotes the rights and protection of victims of human trafficking.

International Day of the Girl Child

OCTOBER 11

Incites worldwide support for the betterment of girls' lives, encouraging them to become leaders and reach their full potential.

Universal Children's Day

NOVEMBER 20

Celebrates children worldwide and calls attention to the need to improve children's welfare.

Ending child labor will require "all hands on deck"

How can the international community accelerate the pace of progress against child labor? To help us achieve Target 8.7's goal, as well as the related objectives of ridding the world of forced labor and human trafficking, Alliance 8.7 was launched in September 2016. This is an inclusive and targeted partnership involving governments, workers' and employers' organizations, UN agencies, regional bodies, the private sector, civil society, academia, and other actors. Its mission is to assist all

A Day to Mark on Your Calendar: World Day Against Child Labor, June 12

Hurricane. War. Drought. To many of us, these appear as mere headlines in our newsfeeds. To the people who have experienced them firsthand, events like these can traumatize and permanently alter lives, even of adults. Imagine, then, the effect of such natural disasters and conflicts on children. While the news stories may focus on damage to infrastructure and the financial burden caused by natural disasters or conflict, the physical and psychological damage and burden borne by children is often overlooked. Many of these children lose their families. In the ensuing chaos, some are swept up by opportunists who exploit them for their labor. Likewise, in times of conflict, the collapse of government social services networks can place already at-risk children in more precarious situations, cut off from the help that they need. The ILO is actively working to address these issues and has developed a draft Inter-Agency Toolkit to help humanitarian groups tackle child labor in emergencies.

Every year on June 12th, the ILO seeks to raise awareness about the global plight of child laborers through the World Day Against Child Labor, a worldwide event to foster the global movement against child labor. On June 12th, 2017, the ILO underscored the crippling effects of natural disasters and conflicts on the world's most vulnerable children. Across the world, people came together to commemorate this important day with rallies in India, televised debates in Ghana, and other events with communities, ensuring that the plight of children faced with natural disaster and conflict is not blurred by the next headline.

UN member states in taking immediate and effective measures to eradicate the problems of child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking by increasing awareness of the problems, advocating for high-level commitment to tangible action, establishing more effective policies and action plans, promoting better information-sharing, and initiating other capacity-building activities. This type of concurrent forward movement on multiple fronts will create momentum on several Sustainable Development Goals, as it generates inclusive economic growth, produces opportunities for decent work, increases gender equality, improves access to education, and fosters peace and stability within societies.

The Ministerial Declaration released after the May 2017 G20 Labor and Employment Ministers' Meeting called for "proposals on how to accelerate action to eliminate the worst forms of child labor, forced labor, and modern slavery in global supply chains including identifying high risk sectors, and how to support capacity building in the countries most affected." In November 2017, government officials and civil society representatives from around the world will convene in Argentina to further strategize a way forward. The main objective of the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labor is to increasingly consolidate and accelerate global efforts under Target 8.7. The United States will be an active participant in this gathering, joining with other like-minded stakeholders to more effectively and efficiently translate our knowledge of the problem into action.

This report serves as a key input for Alliance 8.7, the G20 Ministers of Labor, and the Global Conference in Argentina, as it offers an annual snapshot of where child labor can be found, the advances some countries have made in upholding their commitments to abolish it, and where gaps in efforts exist and work remains to be done. It provides a factual base from which to push for the laws, policies, and practices that will bring to reality the goal of allowing all children to achieve their

Alliance 8.7: Building a Coalition to Eradicate Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking

In September 2015, the United States and 192 other countries rallied together to support the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Through SDG Target 8.7, the global community made a renewed commitment to take "immediate and effective measures" to eradicate forced labor, modern day slavery, human trafficking, and child labor in all its forms.

The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) has long been at the forefront of this fight. Since 1995, ILAB has invested in more than 300 projects that make a meaningful difference in the lives of those vulnerable to forced labor and child labor in more than 90 countries. Our experience has taught us that the best way to tackle this challenge is through a strategic, "all-hands-on deck" approach.

That is why ILAB is supporting Alliance 8.7, a coalition, led by the International Labor Organization, of governments, civil society groups, workers' and employers' organizations, and businesses dedicated to putting an end to child labor, forced labor, and modern-day slavery. To this end, Alliance 8.7 will develop a global data hub to spur data-driven efforts, harness new technologies and foster innovation for enhanced impact, and increase and leverage the resources required to tackle a problem of this magnitude.

Alliance 8.7 is taking off quickly. Already key players in Latin America, North and West Africa, and Asia have convened to identify regional child labor and forced labor concerns and develop actionable strategies for addressing these issues. The momentum will continue to build heading into the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labor in Argentina, where the United States and other Alliance members will use new global estimates on child and forced labor to evaluate progress made over the past 4 years, and consider the road still ahead.

The road to eradicating child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking has never been easy; however, the United States, bolstered by the partnership of Alliance 8.7, will continue pushing ahead. We have set our sights on a horizon in which unscrupulous actors no longer prosper at the expense of exploited workers abroad and American workers at home.

Cost of Education

Worldwide, 124 million children and adolescents are unable to enter and complete school. Although countries may offer primary education that is tuition-free, families are often unable to afford the cost of meals, uniforms, school supplies, and transportation.

Source: UNICEF. *The State of the World's Children*; 2016. https://www.unicef.org/sowc2016/index_91478.html.

full potential. Equally as important, it also suggests more than 1,700 country-specific actions that governments could implement in order to progress in their fight against child labor. Of these recommendations, 1,100 relate to improvements in laws and the enforcement of legal statutes, indicating the urgent need for additional progress in these areas.

Governments are key players in this fight, but they cannot end child labor alone. Nor can the private sector or civil society organizations. We know for certain that continued fragmentation of efforts will not achieve the results that we are seeking. Any entity acting in isolation—be it a government, business, or individual citizen—will face limitations. **To be successful, progress must come from actions taken by the full set of actors that have a role to play in this effort**.

Ending child labor requires working together across sectors and regions through sustained dialogue and active partnership among governments, international organizations, businesses, workers' and employers' organizations, civil society, and others. An energized and more strategic global movement, and one that is grounded in targeted partnerships, is the recipe needed for success. Such partnerships, through Alliance 8.7 and beyond, are critical to breaking down information and expertise silos in order to address the root causes of child labor; to lift vulnerable populations out of poverty and social exclusion; and to help them gain access to education and training, stable livelihoods, and decent work.

We believe that these types of partnerships are not simply aspirational, but actually possible. We see many stakeholders collaborating with governments, leveraging resources and competencies to eliminate child labor in supply chains. The Government of Thailand, for example, collaborated in 2016 with multiple stakeholders to implement a new project to prevent and reduce child labor in the fishing and seafood industry. Cambodia approved guidelines to address child labor in the country's fishing industry and Madagascar participated in a new program to reduce child labor in vanilla production. In addition, Malawi expanded social programs to address child labor and Colombia continued to fund programs to address child labor in mining.

Businesses at all stages of the supply chain are playing a critical role in ensuring that consumer goods are not tainted with child or forced labor. Many businesses are voluntarily pursuing a wide variety of risk mitigation strategies—robust voluntary standards, due diligence, remediation, transparency, and engagement with stakeholders—to ensure that they and their supply chain partners respect national laws and fundamental labor rights. In response to newly released reports, for example, several cosmetics companies and pigment producers, in partnership with the Indian government and NGOs, formed the Responsible Mica Initiative in early 2017 to ensure a clean supply chain, solid legal framework, and healthy living environment for mica-mining communities.

We are also supporting business efforts to address child labor through the launch of a new Global Business Network Against Forced Labor and Human Trafficking by the ILO, which will provide a forum for businesses to collaborate and share good practices to address the complex challenges presented by these often-hidden abuses. Businesses seeking to develop robust social compliance systems for their global production can now

also make use of our newly released comprehensive online resource and complementary mobile application—*Comply Chain: Business Tools for Labor Compliance in Global Supply Chains*—that makes information about voluntary social compliance systems more accessible and user-friendly.

Consumers also have an important role to play by becoming more informed. As consumers, we often have very little information on the origin of the things we buy and the people who produced them. This year's report and its accompanying *Sweat & Toil* mobile application puts detailed and accessible information at consumers' fingertips, so they can start asking questions, taking action, and demanding change. Moreover, the app serves as a resource for consumers to better understand the challenges, opportunities, and complexities inherent in the struggle to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. We will need many champions to meet Target 8.7 and to end child labor. Every sector of society needs to step up and play its part. This includes individuals letting governments and companies know that meaningful action is important, recognized, and valued—and that inaction is unacceptable.

The clock is ticking. We will not end child labor in the next decade by maintaining the status quo or relying exclusively on current methods of intervention. To achieve this ambitious goal, to gain ground on the problem, the pace of advancement against child labor needs to sharply accelerate. **This year's report provides a detailed roadmap for getting to a world where the dignity of work is respected and the rights of children are protected—for their sake and for ours**.

The Worst of the Worst Forms of Child Labor: Spotlight on Child Trafficking and Forced Child Labor

Addressing issues of child trafficking and child forced labor has grown to be of great international concern. New global estimates from the ILO and WalkFree indicate that approximately 25 million men, women, and children are in forced labor, meaning they are trafficked, held in debt bondage, forced into commercial sexual exploitation, or working under slave-like conditions. For more than 20 years, ILAB has been recognized as a global leader in combatting the trafficking of adults and children for labor and commercial sexual exploitation through our technical assistance programs and policy engagement. In 1995, for example, ILAB became the first U.S. Government agency to fund a project specifically aimed at tackling the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Thailand. Since then, ILAB's programming to combat trafficking and forced child labor has expanded to some of the most challenging environments and sectors in the world – from deep sea fishing in Indonesia and brick kilns in Nepal to cocoa farming in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana.

In the wake of the devastating 2015 earthquake in Nepal, for example, the USDOL-funded Country Level Engagement and Assistance to Reduce Child Labor II (CLEAR II) project has been working with local government officials in the municipality of Panauti to incorporate child labor and child trafficking prevention into its Disaster Management Plan to ensure that children are safe from traffickers and those who would exploit them for labor or commercial sexual purposes. The CLEAR II project, implemented by Winrock International and partners Verité and Lawyers Without Borders, aims to work with governments in seven countries to build their capacity to address child labor in the areas of legislation and regulations, monitoring and enforcement, national plans of action, and social policies and programs.

ILAB also contributed directly to the ILO's development of the groundbreaking Forced Labor Protocol and Recommendation to ILO C. 29 on Forced Labor, which aims to advance forced labor prevention, protection, and compensation measures around the world. ILAB then helped turn policy into action by funding a project — *From Protocol to Practice: A Bridge to Global Action on Forced Labor* — that will help countries implement this new protocol and more effectively fight trafficking and forced labor. As of the end of 2016, the project has supported work that has contributed to 10 countries ratifying the protocol. Among these ratifications is Mauritania – the last country in the world to have abolished slavery. The project has also developed a Web platform and new content for the 50 for Freedom campaign in order to increase awareness of the protocol and recommendation, and to support countries seeking to ratify the protocol. Take a stand to End Modern Slavery at http://50forfreedom.org/.

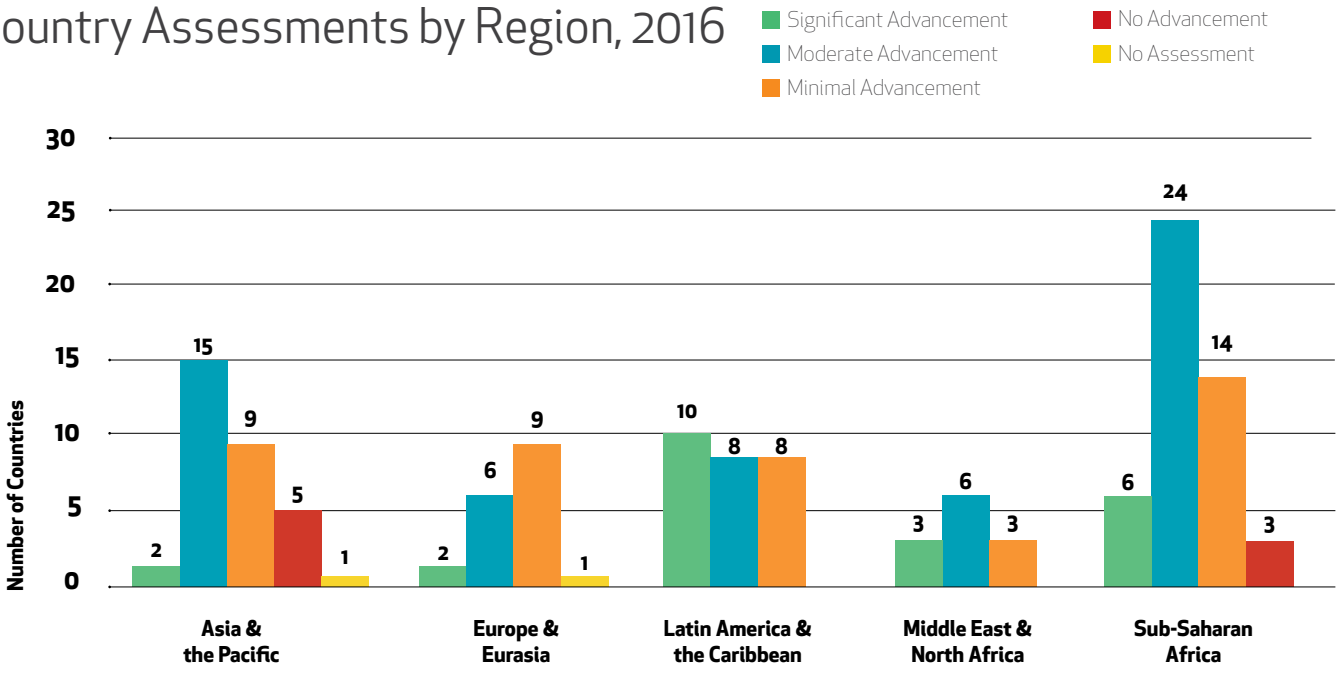
© David Parker
Garbage Picker, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 2016.

Regional Analysis of Government Efforts and Country Assessments

This 2016 report includes a regional analysis of country assessments, as well as regional trends in government actions to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. Figure 4 provides a regional breakdown of the country assessments. All five regions had at least two countries receive an assessment of Significant Advancement, with Latin America and the Caribbean with **ten** countries, followed by Sub-Saharan Africa with **six** countries, the Middle East and North Africa with **three** countries; Asia and the Pacific with **two** countries; and Europe and Eurasia with **two** countries. The remaining portion of this discussion reviews trends and gaps in efforts to eliminate child labor, including its worst forms, by region.

FIGURE 4

Country Assessments by Region, 2016



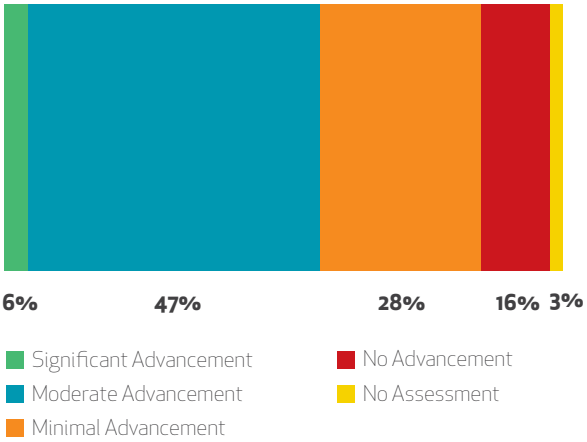
Asia and the Pacific

FIGURE 5
2016 Regional Outlook

62.1 million children ages 5-17 are engaged in child labor

KEY = 1,000,000 children

32 countries



Meaningful Efforts

- Adopted laws that establish a minimum age for work and a minimum age for hazardous work.
- Removed children from child labor as a result of labor inspections.
- Launched national action plans to combat the worst forms of child labor.

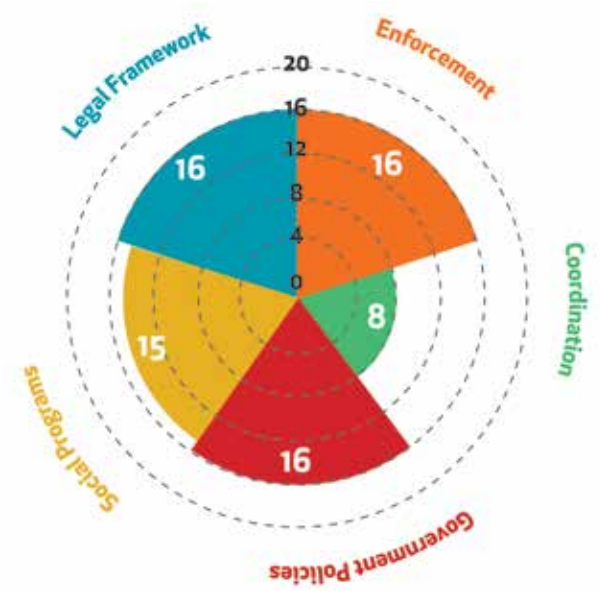
Challenges and Existing Gaps

- Laws do not adequately prohibit the use of children in illicit activities, including for the production and trafficking of drugs.
- Labor inspectors lack the authority to conduct inspections at informal workplaces and to assess penalties.
- Children face persistent obstacles to access education, including lack of schools and prohibitive costs to attend school.

In Asia and the Pacific, 62.1 million children ages 5 to 17, or 7.4 percent of all children in the region, are engaged in child labor.[1] Figure 5 provides an overview of the regional outlook. This is close to 16 million fewer child laborers in 2016 compared with 2012. In addition, this is the first time since the ILO released its global estimates on child labor that Asia and the Pacific does not have the highest absolute numbers of child laborers.[1] Children perform dangerous tasks in agriculture and as domestic workers in third-party households. Children also engage in the worst forms of child labor, including in commercial sexual exploitation. In 2016, while only 2 of the 32 Asian and Pacific countries covered in this report received an assessment of Significant Advancement (the Philippines and Thailand), countries across Asia and the Pacific made meaningful efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. These efforts included adopting laws that establish a minimum age for work and a minimum age for hazardous work, identifying and removing children from child labor as a result of labor inspections, and launching national action plans to combat the worst forms of child labor. However, additional efforts need to be undertaken to prevent and eliminate child labor, including ensuring that laws adequately prohibit the use of children in illicit activities, authorizing labor inspectors to conduct inspections at informal workplaces, and eliminating barriers to education.

In 2016, one country made meaningful efforts, but had a practice of being complicit in the use of forced child labor: Uzbekistan, where forced child labor occurred in more than an isolated incident during the 2016 cotton harvest. In addition, Burma received no assessment in 2016 because this is the first year that efforts have been

Number of Countries in Asia & the Pacific that Undertook Meaningful Efforts to Combat the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Relevant Areas



Number of Countries=32

assessed and suggested actions provided for Burma. While Burma made meaningful efforts, its national army continued to use some children as combatants, porters and cooks in conflict areas.

In 2016, several governments in Asia and the Pacific adopted laws related to child labor, including its worst forms. Burma, India, and Pakistan's Punjab and Sindh provinces passed legislation that established minimum ages for work and hazardous work. The Philippines revised and expanded its list of hazardous work prohibited for children under age 18, and Thailand adopted a ministerial regulation to protect children under age 18 from hazardous work in seafood processing establishments. Afghanistan passed legislation to prohibit child trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation, the Solomon Islands criminalized commercial sexual exploitation broadly, and Cambodia adopted a law that prohibits the use of minors for forced labor while they are held in juvenile detention facilities.

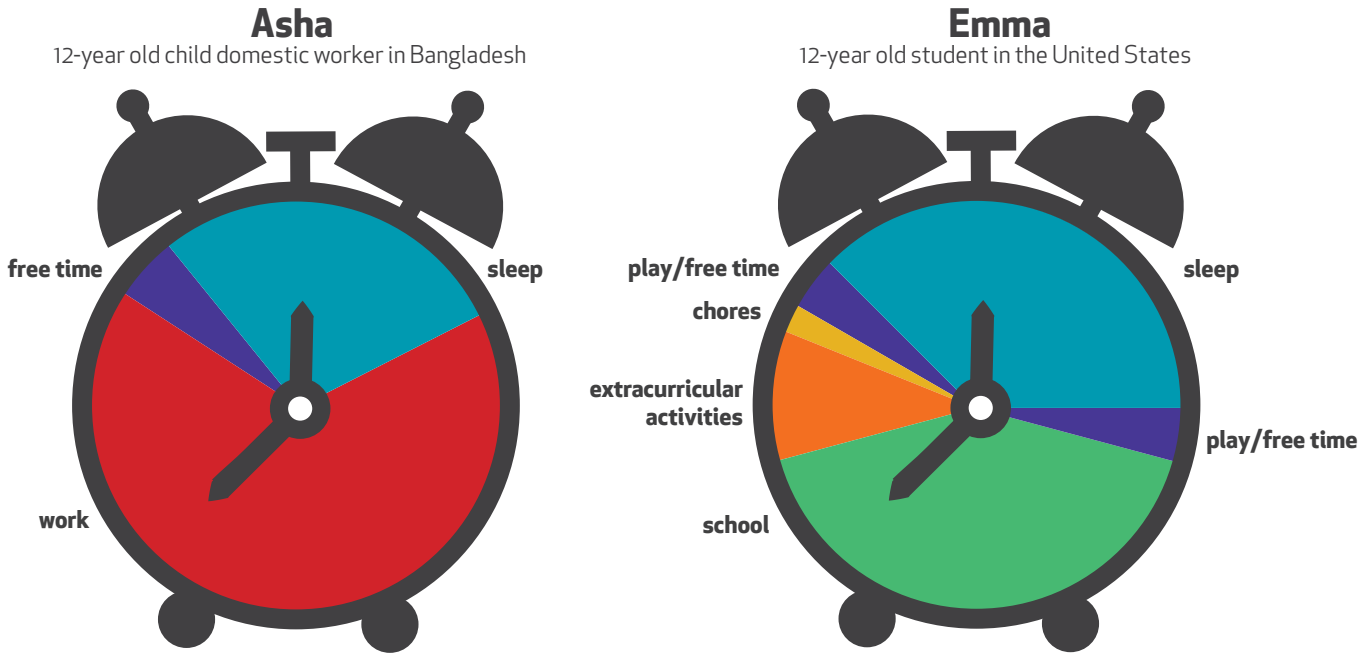
Countries in the region also increased the capacity of law enforcement agencies to combat child labor, including its worst forms. Afghanistan, Bhutan, Fiji, the Philippines, and Thailand increased their numbers of labor inspectors and Cambodia issued standardized guidance on how to conduct child labor inspections. Of the 32 countries in Asia and the Pacific covered in this report, 17 provided training to labor inspectors and 15 provided training to criminal law enforcement officials. Both the Philippines and Thailand established law enforcement agencies to combat Internet-facilitated commercial sexual exploitation of children. Nepal's police also developed a training curriculum that addresses child labor issues and trained officers with this new curriculum. In addition, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Pakistan's Punjab Province, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka conducted targeted inspections of workplaces with a high risk of child labor and removed children engaged in prohibited work.

Several governments improved policy frameworks and established social programs to protect children from the worst forms of child labor. Cambodia, Kazakhstan, and the Kyrgyz Republic launched national action plans to combat the worst forms of child labor, and Afghanistan adopted a policy to incentivize families to prevent their children from working in carpet weaving and enroll them in school. The Philippines set a new goal of withdrawing one million child laborers by 2022. Several countries designated additional geographic areas as child labor free, including industrial zones in Indonesia, 5 additional municipalities in Nepal, 79 additional districts in the Philippines, and 19 additional districts in Sri Lanka.

In addition, countries in East Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific Islands attended a sub-regional consultation workshop in Thailand on achieving UN Sustainable Development Goal 8.7 that focuses on ending child labor, forced labor, modern slavery, and human trafficking. Furthermore, the South Asia Initiative to End Violence Against Children held a sub-regional consultation on Goal 8.7 in Bhutan. Both consultations were held in preparation for the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labor, which will be hosted by Argentina in November 2017. During the year, many countries in the region also supported regional policies (Table 1) and participated in programs (Table 2) to address child labor, including its worst forms.

Despite efforts in addressing child labor in the region, many countries lack adequate legal protection against the worst forms of child labor, especially with regard to hazardous work. For example, 7 countries have a minimum age for hazardous work below the international

A Day in the Lives of Two Children*



*__Note__: Estimates of time based on [Emadul Islam, Khaled Mahmud, Naziza Rahman. "Situation of Child Domestic Workers in Bangladesh." *Global Journal of Management and Business Research Finance*, 13(7)(2013); https://globaljournals.org/GJMBR_Volume13/4-Situation-of-Child-Domestic-Workers-in-Bangladesh.pdf] and [United States Census Bureau. *Measuring America: A Child's Day: At a Glance*. March 17, 2015. https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/2015/comm/childs_day_2015.html.]

Table 1: Key Regional Policies Related to Child Labor in Asia and the Pacific

Policy	Description
Regional Action Plan for the Prevention and Elimination of All Forms of Child Labor in South Asia (2016–2021)†	Seeks to prevent and eliminate all forms of child labor in South Asia by strengthening the institutional capacity of the South Asia Initiative to End Violence Against Children and increasing collaboration among its members, which include Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.[2]
Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Convention Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children	Establishes a regional anti-human trafficking framework among 10 ASEAN member states to improve coordination on the investigation and prosecution of trafficking in persons cases and enhance assistance for victims. In 2016, Thailand and Cambodia ratified the convention.[3, 4]
Beijing Declaration on South-South Cooperation for Child Rights in the Asia Pacific Region	Commits signatories to advancing efforts to protect children's rights, including pertaining to child labor, child trafficking, and child pornography. Includes 29 signatories, including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, Cambodia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Kiribati, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vanuatu.[5]
United Nations Development Assistance Framework for the Pacific Region (2013–2017)	Promotes sustainable development and economic growth for vulnerable groups in 14 Pacific Island countries and territories: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.[6]

† Policy was approved during the reporting period.

Table 2: Key Regional Social Programs to Address Child Labor in Asia and the Pacific

Program	Description
Pacific Sub-Regional Child Labor and Trafficking Program	ILO-supported program that expands the work and lessons learned from the TACKLE program in Fiji to Kiribati, Samoa, and Solomon Islands.[7] Activities include conducting research, raising awareness, and building government capacity to address child labor.[8]
Asia-Australia Program to Combat Trafficking in Persons (2013–2018)	$45 million Australian Aid-funded, 5-year regional and national-level project implemented in ASEAN countries, including Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. Seeks to build the capacity of regional and national stakeholders to improve the investigation, prosecution, and adjudication of human trafficking cases and to enhance coordination at the regional level.[9]

standard of 18 years; 9 countries only provide a general prohibition and do not identify specific hazardous occupations or activities prohibited for children; and 9 countries' hazardous work prohibitions are not comprehensive. Laws prohibiting the commercial sexual exploitation of children do not adequately criminalize the use, procuring, and offering of children for prostitution, pornography, and pornographic performance in Bangladesh, Burma, Cambodia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, and seven Pacific Island countries. Furthermore, 19 countries in the region have not adequately prohibited the use of children in illicit activities because the use, procuring, and offering of children for both the production and trafficking of drugs are not criminalized.

Many countries in the Asia and Pacific region lacked the authority and resources necessary to enforce laws related to child labor, including its worst forms. Labor inspectorates in 6 countries lack the authority to conduct inspections in the informal sector, particularly domestic work in private homes where many children work. Labor inspectorates also do not have the authority to assess penalties in 9 countries and unannounced inspections are not permitted in Cambodia, Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Mongolia. In addition, 14 countries in the region did not have a sufficient number of labor inspectors according to the ILO's recommendation.[10]

Children in the Asia and Pacific region face significant obstacles to accessing education. Five countries have not established an age up to which education is compulsory and 5 countries have compulsory education ages that are below the minimum age for work, which increases children's vulnerability to child labor because they are not required to be in school but are also not legally permitted to work. Free primary education has also not been established by law in 7 Pacific Island countries. In addition, prohibitive costs associated with education, such as books, uniforms, and teacher fees, prevent children from attending school in 11 countries.

© Steve McCurry/Magnum Photos
AFGHANISTAN. Badakhshan. 1992.
Children work in an opium field in northern Afghanistan.

Child Labor in Palm Oil Production: Everyday Products At Your Local Store

What makes ice cream smooth and creamy and keeps chocolate from melting? What makes laundry detergents tough on stains? The answer is palm oil, which is in approximately half of the packaged products we buy at the supermarket. Palm oil is in everything from lipstick to pizza dough, from non-dairy creamers to automotive cleaners. It is even used to make biodiesel fuels. While the cultivation of palm has been an important motor of economic development around the globe, including in Southeast Asia, which accounts for more than 85 percent of the world's product, the supply is often tainted by child labor. In Indonesia and Malaysia, for example, children are compelled to work alongside their parents, who often must meet harvest quotas to avoid wage deductions and other penalties. On the plantations, they are exposed to toxic chemicals and risk injury from carrying heavy loads. Children toiling in the palm oil industry– whether in Southeast Asia, Africa, or Latin America– often work long hours and miss school.

What are leading producers and retailers doing to combat child labor in the global palm supply, and how can consumers make informed decisions at the supermarket? Since 2013, palm oil producers Agropalma (Brazil), DAABON (Colombia), and Musim Mas (Singapore) have partnered with a set of global brands that includes Danone, Ferrero, and L'Oréal to form the Palm Oil Innovation Group (POIG), a group that also includes the labor rights NGOs Verité and the International Labor Rights Forum, as well as key environmental watchdogs. Its mission is to build on the advances that the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) has made to combat child labor. Companies signing the POIG Charter must certify that all of their palm production confirms to the RSPO standard, as well as that of subsidiaries and third-party suppliers, within 2 years. In addition, POIG members must demonstrate, through published and independent, third-party verification, additional social and environmental standards across all operations. This means maintaining a clear policy and compliance system that prohibits child labor, including its worst forms, throughout a member's supply chain. By certifying that operations conform to rigorous standards, POIG creates market recognition for the leading companies in the RSPO, and encourages a race to the top. This could not be timelier, given that the global production of palm oil has doubled in the past decade and is expected to continue to increase rapidly.

- Chocolate
- Cookies
- Detergent
- Instant noodles
- Lipstick
- Margarine
- Non-dairy creamer
- Packaged bread
- Pizza dough
- Shampoo

Did you know that nearly 50% of packaged supermarket products contain palm oil?

Based on DOL's research, the listed 13 countries have limited to significant evidence of child labor in the production of palm oil:

• Burundi • Cameroon • Côte d'Ivoire • Ecuador • Ghana • Guatemala • Indonesia • Malaysia • Papua New Guinea • Philippines Sierra Leone • Solomon Islands • Uganda

Sources: Palm Oil Innovation Group. *Palm Oil Innovations Labour Rights;* 2016. http://poig.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/POIG-Innovations-Publication-Labour-Rights-November-2016.pdf. Palm Oil Innovation Group. *POIC Members*, [cited August 11, 2017]; http://poig.org/poig-members/. Palm Oil Innovation Group. *Palm Oil Innovations Group Charter*; November 2013. http://poig.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/POIG-Charter-v1.pdf. Amnesty International. *The Great Palm Oil Scandal: Labor Abuses Behind Big Brand Names;* November 2016. https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa21/5243/2016/en/. UNICEF. *Palm Oil and Children in Indonesia;* October 2016. https://www.unicef.org/indonesia/Palm_Oil_and_Children_in_Indonesia.pdf. World Wildlife Fund. Which Everyday Products Contain Palm Oil?, [cited August 11, 2017]; https://www.worldwildlife.org/pages/which-everyday-products-contain-palm-oil.

Europe and Eurasia

FIGURE 6

2016 Regional Outlook

5.5 million children ages 5-17 are engaged in child labor

KEY = 1,000,000 children

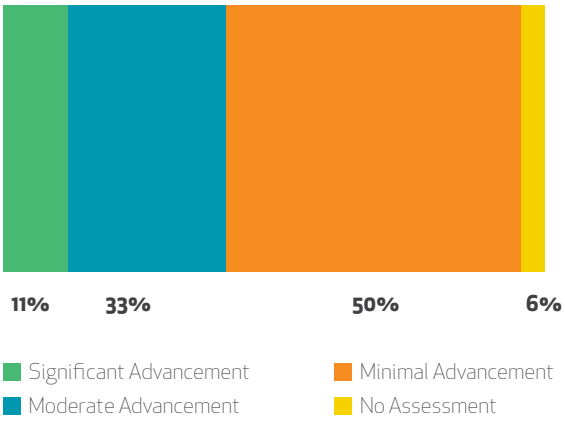
Meaningful Efforts

- Adopted laws prohibiting the worst forms of child labor.
- Trained law enforcement personnel to combat child labor, including its worst forms.
- Conducted and published research on child labor, including national child labor surveys.

Challenges and Existing Gaps

- Countries lacked fully functioning labor inspectorates.
- Prohibitions on the use of children in illicit activities, including for the production and trafficking of drugs, are insufficient.
- Minorities and other disadvantaged children face barriers to accessing education.

18 countries



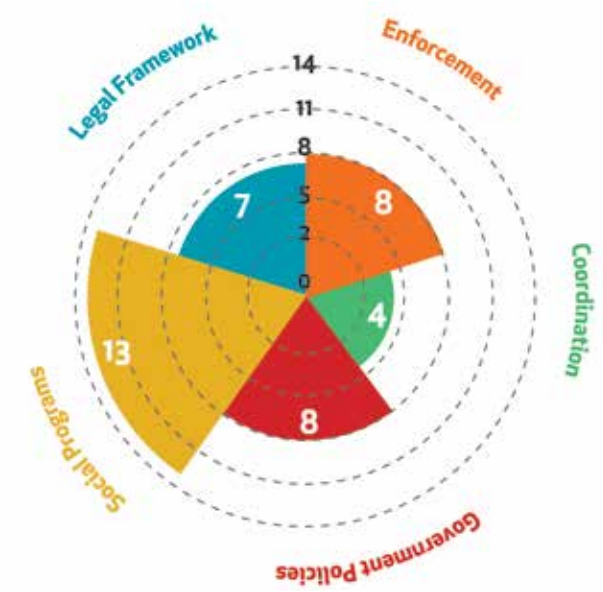
Regional statistics on child labor for Europe and Eurasia are available for the first time. Figure 6 provides an overview of the regional outlook. In 2016, 5.5 million children ages 5 to 17, or 4.1 percent of all children in the region, are engaged in child labor. [1] Children in this region perform dangerous tasks in agriculture and street work. Children also engage in the worst forms of child labor, including in commercial sexual exploitation and forced begging, each sometimes as a result of human trafficking. In 2016, only 2 of the 18 countries covered in this report received an assessment of Significant Advancement: Albania and Kosovo. However, countries in Europe and Eurasia did make meaningful efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor, including by adopting laws that prohibit the worst forms of child labor; training law enforcement personnel to combat child labor, including its worst forms; and conducting and publishing research on child labor. Despite these gains, countries in the region need to undertake additional efforts to prevent and eliminate child labor, including by establishing fully functioning labor inspectorates; ensuring that the use of children for illicit activities, including for the production and trafficking of drugs, is prohibited; and eliminating barriers to education for minorities and other disadvantaged children.

In 2016, three countries made meaningful efforts, but failed to remedy a regressive or significantly detrimental law that was established in previous years that delayed advancement in eliminating the worst forms of child labor: Armenia lacked a functioning labor inspectorate to enforce child labor laws due to a continued moratorium on inspections, and Georgia lacked a functioning labor inspectorate to enforce child labor laws since its labor inspectorate was abolished in 2006. Ukraine also failed to fully lift bureaucratic restrictions on the State Labor Service's ability to conduct inspections, including for child labor, and Azerbaijan made meaningful efforts, but introduced a regressive practice during the reporting period that imposed a moratorium on all labor inspections not initiated by a formal complaint, which effectively curtailed labor inspections in 2016.

In 2016, several countries adopted laws prohibiting the worst forms of child labor. Moldova passed a law increasing penalties for involving children in the worst forms of child labor, including for forced labor, illicit

activities, and the production of pornography. Ukraine amended the Law on the Protection of Childhood to establish a criminal penalty for the use of children in armed conflict, and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina criminalized all forms of human trafficking, including child trafficking for forced labor and sexual exploitation, within its jurisdiction. Armenia also passed legislation that requires the Government to provide financial restitution to victims of human trafficking, including child trafficking victims.

Number of Countries in Europe & Eurasia that Undertook Meaningful Efforts to Combat the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Relevant Areas



Number of Countries=18

Countries in the region also improved their capacity to enforce laws related to child labor, including its worst forms. For example, both Kosovo and Albania increased funding to their labor inspectorates; Azerbaijan provided all labor inspectors with training on international conventions and national legislation regarding child labor; and labor inspectors in Azerbaijan and Bosnia and Herzegovina received training on identifying victims of human trafficking, including children. In Turkey, local law enforcement established and trained 33 units to combat crimes against woman and children, including child trafficking. Kosovo also provided criminal investigators with training on legislation related to the commercial sexual exploitation of children and the use of children in the production of pornography. In addition, 6 of the 18 countries in the region–Albania, Armenia, Georgia, Kosovo, Montenegro, and Ukraine–trained criminal investigators and other law enforcement personnel on enforcing laws against human trafficking.

During the year, European and Eurasian countries conducted and published research on child labor. Azerbaijan conducted sectoral research on child labor in high-risk sectors of the service industry, and Armenia and Georgia published national child labor surveys. The Government of Moldova also committed to strengthening statistics on child labor through the adoption of a Decent Work Country Program. In addition, countries funded and participated in programs that include the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, including its worst forms. Turkey provided social services and enrolled approximately 300,000 Syrian refugee children in school, many of whom were involved in child labor in Turkey. Kosovo and Serbia took steps to improve the inclusion of vulnerable populations, including Roma children, in the education system. Macedonia also nearly doubled funding for programs dedicated to combating human trafficking, including child trafficking, and Albania increased the amount of cash transfers its social assistance program provides to vulnerable families by 25 percent.

However, there are a number of challenges that impede progress in addressing child labor in the region. Six countries, including Anguilla; the British Virgin Islands; Kosovo; Montserrat; Falkland Islands; and Saint Helena, Ascensión, and Tristán da Cunha lack sufficient prohibitions on the use of children in illicit activities, including for the production and trafficking of drugs. Bosnia and Herzegovina, the British Virgin Islands, and Georgia do not have comprehensive hazardous work prohibitions, which limits the capacity of labor inspectors to identify and remove children from dangerous labor situations. In Azerbaijan, children without written labor contracts are excluded from protection by the Labor Code, and similarly, Turkey

lacks legal protections for children working in small agricultural enterprises.

Gaps in labor law enforcement remain in the region. The number of labor inspectors in Armenia, Turkey, and Ukraine is insufficient for the size of the workforce according to the ILO's recommendation. Labor inspectorates in Albania, Kosovo, Moldova, Serbia, and Ukraine also lack funding for training, equipment, and/or transportation for inspectors, which compromises the quality of inspections.

Across the region, refugee and migrant children, children who have been internally displaced, and children who belong to ethnic minority groups, such as the Roma, continued to experience challenges in accessing education. Despite Turkey's significant efforts to expand access to education for school-aged Syrian refugees, many refugee children living in urban areas remained unable to access education due to language barriers or an inability to pay for tuition and transportation to school. Migrant children, many of whom are Syrian, also faced difficulties enrolling in schools in Serbia. Other common barriers to education in Europe and Eurasia include discrimination, lack of support for Roma children and children with disabilities, and distance to schools. Out-of-school children are particularly vulnerable to the worst forms of child labor.

Child Labor Enforcement: How Many Labor Inspectors Is Enough?

Labor inspectors are on the front lines of defense against children's work that is dangerous, exploitative, and jeopardizes their future. Simply put, countries need a properly functioning labor inspectorate with a sufficient number of labor inspectors if they hope to effectively enforce existing labor laws, including those related to child labor. But how can countries determine this "sufficient number?" To answer this question, the International Labor Organization (ILO) has indicated that governments should take into account two important variables: the number of workers employed in workplaces liable to inspection and the country's level of economic development.

This reasonable benchmark should approach:

- **One inspector for every 10,000 workers in industrial market economies;**
- **One inspector for every 15,000 workers in industrializing economies;**
- **One inspector for every 20,000 workers in transition economies; and**
- **One inspector for every 40,000 workers in less developed countries.**

For example, an economy in transition such as Serbia, with a total workforce of approximately 3,141,000 should employ at least 157 inspectors to provide adequate coverage of its workforce. In Serbia's case, the Government exceeded this standard in 2016, employing 240 labor inspectors. However, Serbia is in the minority. Only 39 of the 135 countries covered in this report met the ILO benchmark in 2016, highlighting a concrete area for improvement among many of the countries analyzed. For more information on these standards, see the ILO's Strategies and Practice for Labour Inspection, Geneva, Committee on Employment and Social Policy, November 2006.

Latin America and the Caribbean

FIGURE 7
2016 Regional Outlook

10.5 million children ages 5-17 are engaged in child labor

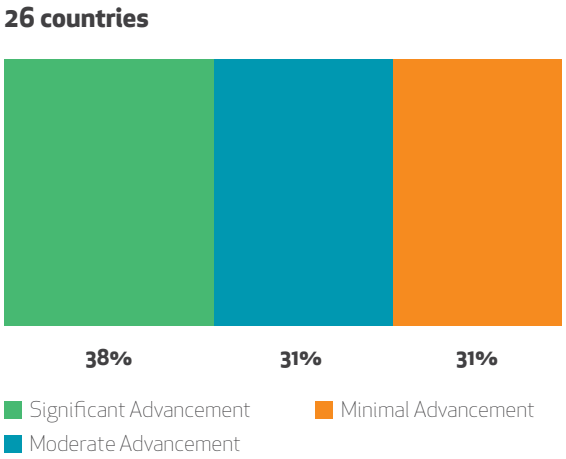
KEY = 1,000,000 children

Meaningful Efforts

- Adopted laws prohibiting the use of children in the worst forms of child labor.
- Increased efforts to enforce criminal laws related to the worst forms of child labor, including child trafficking and forced labor.
- Conducted and published research on child labor.

Challenges and Existing Gaps

- Failure to identify the types of hazardous work prohibited for children.
- Insufficient number of labor inspectors for the size of the workforce to effectively enforce child labor laws.
- Social programs do not have adequate funding to address child labor in key sectors and among vulnerable populations.

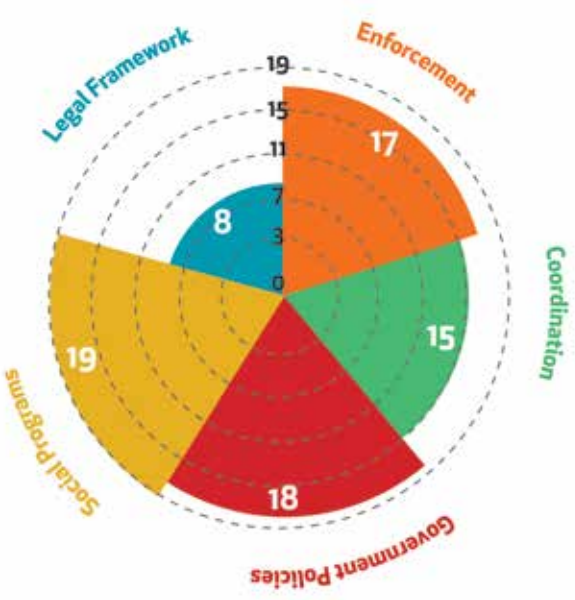


In Latin America and the Caribbean, the number of children in child labor continues to decrease. Figure 7 provides an overview of the regional outlook. In 2016, 10.5 million children ages 5 to 17, or 7 percent of all children in the region, were engaged in child labor.[1] This is 2 million fewer children in 2016 compared with 2012. However, children in Latin America and the Caribbean perform dangerous tasks in agriculture and domestic work. Children also engage in the worst forms of child labor, including in commercial sexual exploitation, sometimes as a result of human trafficking. In addition, many migrant children, as well as children of indigenous and African descent, remain particularly vulnerable to the worst forms of child labor.[11-13] In 2016, 10 of the 26 countries covered in this report received an assessment of Significant Advancement: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, and Peru. Countries throughout the region made meaningful efforts, including by adopting laws that prohibit the worst forms of child labor, increasing efforts to enforce criminal laws related to child trafficking and forced labor, and conducting and publishing research on child labor. Despite these achievements, additional efforts are needed to prevent and eliminate child labor in Latin America and the Caribbean, including identifying the types of hazardous work prohibited for children, employing a sufficient number of labor inspectors for the size of the workforce to effectively enforce child labor laws, and providing adequate funding for social programs to address child labor in key sectors and among vulnerable populations.

In 2016, two countries made meaningful efforts in relevant areas but failed to remedy a regressive or significantly detrimental law or practice that was established in previous years that delayed advancement in eliminating the worst forms of child labor: Bolivia, where children as young as 10 years old are permitted to be self-employed under certain conditions, and the Dominican Republic, where some children are vulnerable to labor exploitation due to limitations on educational opportunities.

During the year, countries in Latin America and the Caribbean continued to develop comprehensive legal protections to prevent and eliminate child labor, including its worst forms. For example, Argentina passed a law defining the types of hazardous work prohibited

Number of Countries in Latin America & the Caribbean that Undertook Meaningful Efforts to Combat the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Relevant Areas



Number of Countries=26

for children under age 18. Panama updated its existing list of hazardous work for children and established a minimum age for hazardous work within training establishments. Dominica also continued efforts to develop a hazardous work list for children, while Chile began the process of updating its own list. In addition, Panama and Argentina became the first two countries in the region to ratify the Protocol of 2014 to ILO C. 29 on Forced Labor, which commits governments to prevent and eliminate forced labor, including of children, and provide victims with protection and compensation.[14] Furthermore, Brazil passed a new law that criminalizes human trafficking for labor and commercial sexual exploitation, and El Salvador approved regulations to strengthen enforcement of the Special Law Against Trafficking in Persons, including the referral of criminal child labor cases between law enforcement and social services agencies.

Several countries increased efforts to enforce criminal laws related to the worst forms of child labor in 2016. Belize and Haiti achieved their first child trafficking convictions under recently passed anti-trafficking in persons laws. Brazil trained 120 state police officers on the investigation of child sexual exploitation on the Web, leading to the initiation of 950 cyber-investigations on the commercial sexual exploitation of children. Argentina also opened two regional offices dedicated to the rescue and care of trafficking victims, and Paraguay's Office of the Attorney General rescued 35 indigenous workers, including 7 children, who were victims of forced labor on a farm in the Chaco region.

Throughout the region, many countries funded and participated in programs that include the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, including its worst forms. In 2016, more than half of the Latin American and Caribbean countries covered in this report implemented cash transfer programs in which assistance was conditioned on families sending their children to school. A prominent example is Brazil's *Bolsa Família* program, which was expanded for the fifth consecutive year. In addition, Costa Rica's Ministry of Labor and Social Security launched a scholarship program with the Joint Institute for Social Aid to cover educational expenses for children engaged in child labor. Jamaica also introduced a Transportation Allowance Grant to subsidize the cost of school transportation for vulnerable children. Furthermore, many countries made schooling more accessible to impoverished children who might otherwise engage in child labor by providing meals and supplies. Notable examples include the continued expansion of the School Meals Program in Honduras, which now reaches more than 1.3 million students, and the National School Supplies Program in Nicaragua, which provided more than 700,000 packages of school supplies and 3.9 million textbooks to children in need. Many countries in the region also supported regional policies (Table 3) and participated in a regional program (Table 4) to address child labor, including its worst forms. Of particular note is the Regional Initiative, which unites governments, employers, and workers from 26 countries throughout the Latin America and Caribbean region in their efforts to combat child labor in support of Target 8.7 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2016, several countries in the region conducted or published research on the nature and prevalence of child labor. Costa Rica, Jamaica, and Panama conducted national child labor surveys during the year, while Chile conducted two qualitative studies on child labor in the agricultural and commercial sectors. Also in 2016, Peru published results from the 2015 National Child Labor

Table 3: Key Regional Policies Related to Child Labor in Latin America and the Caribbean

Policy	Description
Regional Initiative: Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labor	Aims to accelerate efforts to eliminate child labor in the region by 2025, in line with Target 8.7 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.[15] Commits the 27 member states to combat child labor through increased regional and intergovernmental cooperation; participation from workers' and employers organizations; and efforts to strengthen monitoring and coordination mechanisms, government programs, and South-South exchanges.[15-18] In 2016, promoted the adoption of a policy framework focused on prevention efforts and leveraging existing social protection and education policies and services to combat child labor.[15]
MERCOSUR Child Labor and Forced Labor Policy Initiatives	Aims to prevent and eliminate child and forced labor, including by raising public awareness and increasing coordination among member states. These policies include the Social Labor Declaration of 2015, the United Against Child Labor Campaign, and the Southern Child Initiative. Additional information is available on the MERCOSUR Web site.
XIX Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor	Promotes decent work with social inclusion throughout the Americas. Held in Cancún, México, in December 2015, participating countries adopted the Declaration of Cancún 2015, which aims, in part, to foster policies to eliminate labor exploitation, including child labor, and to promote education and vocational training for youth.[19, 21] Participating countries also adopted a Plan of Action that prioritizes the elimination of child labor, including through data collection, enforcement of labor laws, and the development of social protection policies for children and families.[19, 21]

© M. Crozet
Young girl carrying bricks in La Paz (Alto), Bolivia.

Survey, El Salvador published results from the child labor module of the 2015 Multipurpose Household Survey, and Paraguay published results from the 2015 Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents. Gathering such data and making it publicly available allows stakeholders to generate recommendations and implement targeted policies and programs to address child labor.

Despite substantive efforts made during the reporting period, several countries in the region have gaps in their legal framework to adequately protect children from child labor. For example, the minimum age for work in Belize and Bolivia does not conform to international standards as it is set below the age of 14. In addition, 8 of the 26 countries lack prohibitions on hazardous work that conform to ILO C. 182. For example, laws in Belize, Dominica, Guyana, Panama, and Peru provide exceptions to the minimum age for hazardous work that do not fully protect all children under age 18. In addition, Grenada has not established legal provisions identifying hazardous work prohibited for children. Furthermore, prohibitions on child commercial sexual exploitation are inadequate in Belize, Dominica, Grenada, and Guyana. These same countries, as well as Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, also lack prohibitions on using children in illicit activities, including in the production and trafficking of drugs.

YouthBuild: Building Pathways Out of Violence for At-Risk Youth

© Stephany Rodriguez, CRS El Salvador
Axel Morales, a participant in a USDOL-funded program for youth in high-crime areas of El Salvador, 2017.

At age 16, Axel Morales knew a lot about fending for himself. His father was dead, his mother had abandoned him, and his older brother was at the violent and crime-ridden epicenter of El Salvador's ongoing gang crisis. He wasn't attending school because he couldn't afford the cost of school supplies, and the future looked bleak. He started spending his time on the rough streets around his home in Soyapango, El Salvador, where he was one of the many young people at risk of being recruited into illicit activities – one of the worst forms of child labor. Then Axel's life changed. He met an educator named Carlos, who works for the organization *Fe y Alegría* (Faith and Joy). Carlos invited Axel to join a program called YouthBuild, which helps at-risk youth like him develop life and technical skills, and supports them in transitioning into their first job. Axel began a sewing course and re-enrolled in the seventh grade through an alternative education program. Through YouthBuild's partnerships with local employers, he is learning how to write a resume and excel at job interviews. His self-esteem and his outlook have improved as a result. "I'm proud to have changed the direction of my life," he said, "I like doing homework and having the opportunity to study again. If I hadn't enrolled in YouthBuild, I would surely have fallen in with the wrong crowd."

The YouthBuild program is supported by a USDOL-funded project in El Salvador and Honduras called Youth Pathways–Central America, implemented by Catholic Relief Services in partnership with *Fe y Alegría* and Glasswing.

Table 4: Key Regional Social Programs to Address Child Labor in Latin America and the Caribbean

Program	Description
Regional Action Group for the Americas (*Grupo de Acción Regional para las Américas*)	Prevention and awareness-raising campaigns conducted to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Latin America. Members include Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay.[22]

Gaps in labor law enforcement remain in many countries in the region. Eighteen of the 26 Latin American and Caribbean countries covered in this report did not have a sufficient number of labor inspectors for the size of the workforce according to the ILO's recommendation. Fifteen countries also decreased their number of labor inspectors in 2016. A shortage of labor inspectors impedes governmental efforts to identify and sanction child labor violations, including in remote areas. The majority of labor inspectorates in the region also lack the necessary resources to carry out their mandates, and labor inspectors in 7 countries do not receive sufficient training. In addition, labor inspectorates in 12 countries are not authorized to assess penalties and 5 countries' labor inspectorates did not conduct targeted labor inspections.

Many countries in the region also need to allocate additional resources for social programs to address child labor. For example, 14 countries in the region need more programming targeting child labor in agriculture; 5 countries — Bolivia, Guyana, Honduras, Peru, and Suriname — need to strengthen programs to address child labor in mining; and 4 countries — Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, and Jamaica — need additional programs to assist children engaged in street work. More programs are also needed for children from rural, indigenous, and Afro-descendant communities to improve access to education and to reduce their vulnerability to child labor, including its worst forms.

Middle East and North Africa

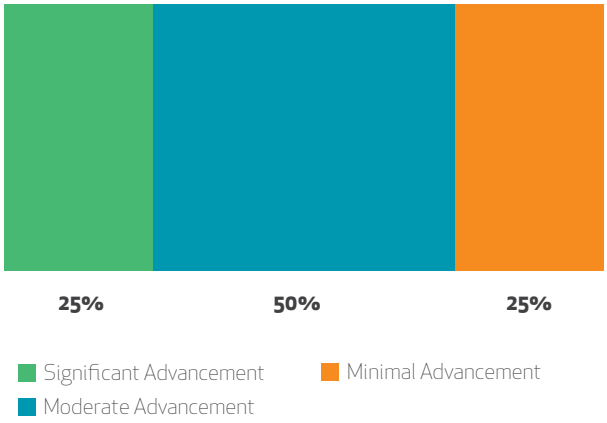
FIGURE 8

2016 Regional Outlook

3.3 million children ages 5-17 are engaged in child labor

KEY = 1,000,000 children

12 countries



Meaningful Efforts

- Adopted laws prohibiting the worst forms of child labor, particularly child trafficking.
- Increased access to education for refugee children.
- Conducted and published research on child labor.

Challenges and Existing Gaps

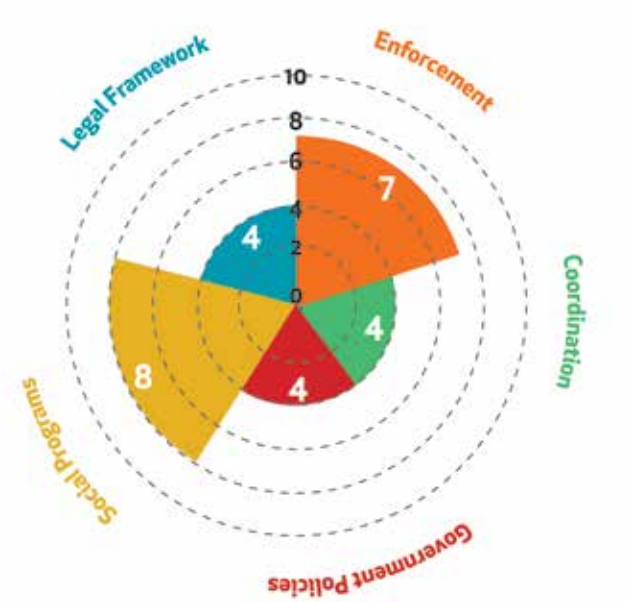
- Hazardous work prohibitions do not adequately protect children.
- Limited capacity to enforce child labor laws due to inadequate resources, including an insufficient number of labor inspectors.
- Insufficient social programs to prevent and eliminate child labor, particularly to assist children recruited and used for armed conflict.

In the Middle East and North Africa, 3.3 million children are engaged in child labor, which is 3.4 percent of all children in the region.[1] Figure 8 provides an overview of the regional outlook. Children perform dangerous tasks in agriculture and street work. Children also engage in the worst forms of child labor, including commercial sexual exploitation and armed conflict. In 2016, 3 of the 12 countries and territories covered in the region received an assessment of Significant Advancement: Morocco, Tunisia, and Western Sahara. Countries in the Middle East and North Africa made meaningful efforts by adopting laws prohibiting the worst forms of child labor, increasing access to education for refugee children, and conducting and publishing research on child labor. Despite these efforts, additional actions are needed to prevent and eliminate child labor in the region, including by ensuring that hazardous work prohibitions adequately protect children, strengthening the labor inspectorate's capacity to enforce child labor laws, and supporting additional social programs to assist children recruited and used for armed conflict. In addition, Iraq made efforts during the reporting period, but implemented a regressive practice that delayed advancement in eliminating the worst forms of child labor as some Popular Mobilization Forces used children to engage in armed conflict.

In 2016, countries in the region adopted laws and regulations on child labor, including its worst forms. Tunisia passed legislation that for the first time provides a comprehensive definition for human trafficking crimes, addresses child trafficking, strengthens punishments for offenders, and contains provisions for providing support to victims. Morocco also passed legislation to improve protections for children against child trafficking, as well as legislation to limit the employment of children between the ages of 16 and 18 in domestic work. In addition, Oman issued regulations outlining the occupations in which children can safely work.

During the year, countries also conducted and published research on child labor, and launched and implemented programs to improve access to education and eliminate child labor. For example, Jordan released a summary report of its National Child Labor Survey, while Oman released the country's first major report on child labor.

Number of Countries in the Middle East & North Africa that Undertook Meaningful Efforts to Combat the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Relevant Areas



Number of Countries=12

Lebanon conducted a study on child labor and Tunisia agreed to conduct a national child labor survey with the ILO's assistance. Tunisia also launched a project to build the capacity of government institutions to support the implementation of the Child Labor National Action Plan. Egypt enrolled Syrian refugee children in formal or non-formal education, and Lebanon and Jordan expanded programs to enroll more refugee children into schools.

Despite efforts made to address child labor, some countries have weak legal protections for children engaged in hazardous work. Algeria has not determined by national law or regulation the types of hazardous work that are prohibited for children. In Morocco, hazardous work prohibitions do not cover all sectors that may be dangerous and where child labor is known to occur. In addition, Tunisia's hazardous work prohibitions are not comprehensive.

In 2016, inadequate resources hampered the labor inspectorate's capacity to enforce child labor laws in the region. Three countries lacked a sufficient number of labor inspectors for the enforcement of child labor laws given the size of the workforce: Iraq, Lebanon, and Morocco. Seven countries lacked financial resources to enforce child labor laws, and only 7 countries carried out routine child labor inspections. In addition, information on child labor law violations and crimes related to the worst forms of child labor was not publicly available for most countries.

Children in the region were also recruited and used for armed conflict. In Iraq, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS also known as ISIL), and

Displaced Children: The Impact of Conflict on Access to Education

More than 75 million children are currently out of school in 35 crisis-affected countries, with girls being 2.5 times more likely to be out of school than boys.[23] Although half of the world's 3.5 million refugee children of primary school age attend classes, less than one-quarter of the nearly 1.95 million secondary school-age refugees are enrolled.[24] For many displaced children, poverty and policies that prevent parents from obtaining legal work push school out of reach and make child labor more likely. In Lebanon, for example, humanitarian agencies documented a sharp increase in the worst forms of child labor among children in 2015.[24] Often children who do not work cannot afford school-related costs, such as fees, uniforms, and notebooks.

Physical, social, economic, policy, and linguistic barriers to education dim children's hope for the future and prevent them from acquiring the tools and skills they need to contribute to their host and home communities. This carries repercussions for the security, stability, and economic well-being of all countries in which these children reside.[24] For instance, UNICEF calculated the "total economic loss" from lower lifetime earnings for the 1.9 million Syrian children who dropped out of school within the country over the course of a year due to the conflict to be $10.7 billion. These children's lowered earning potential will also drive up the cost of the aid and government assistance they need in order to survive.[25]

In May 2016, humanitarian donors and UN agencies launched Education Cannot Wait, a global fund that aims to support education for 75 million children and young people affected by emergencies each year by raising $3.85 billion by 2020.[23]

© Bridgetter Auger, 2013:
Safa'a, 12, from Idlib, Syria, picks zucchini next to Abu Hussein Derobi tent settlement in Al Dalhamaya, home to about 450 people, most of whom are children. She has been working in the fields for five months. She spends six hours in the morning earning 6,000LL and three hours in the afternoon making 3,000LL. Her mother works in the refrigeration section of a potato chip plant and also makes 6,000LL per day. Her father does not have a job. She is one of seven girls and one boy. "I'd like to go to school and become a doctor, but nothing comes the easy way."

groups fighting ISIS, recruited and used children as informants and suicide bombers, and to oversee checkpoints. In Yemen, the Houthis, *Al Qaeda* in the Arabian Peninsula, the Houthi-affiliated Popular Committees, tribal militias, and forces affiliated with the Republic of Yemen Government recruited and used children as checkpoint guards and soldiers. Children in Lebanon were also involved in armed violence.

Iraq and Yemen did not have programs to rehabilitate and reintegrate child soldiers back into their communities. Iraqi children, internally displaced due to the armed conflict, also had insufficient access to education. Furthermore, 9 of the 12 countries in the region lacked the programs necessary to adequately address other worst forms of child labor, including child trafficking. Countries in the region also did not establish regional policies or participate in regional programs during the reporting period.

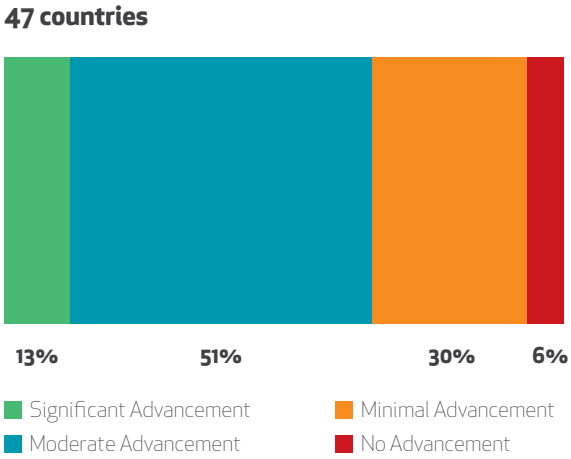
Sub-Saharan Africa

FIGURE 9

2016 Regional Outlook

70 million children ages 5-17 are engaged in child labor

KEY = 1,000,000 children



Meaningful Efforts

- Increased resources for criminal law enforcement agencies to combat the worst forms of child labor.
- Adopted policies that aim to increase the capacity of law enforcement.
- Launched new and expanded existing social programs to prevent or eliminate child labor.

Challenges and Existing Gaps

- Children continue to be recruited and used in armed conflict.
- Key international conventions on child labor have not been ratified.
- Labor inspectors lack the resources necessary to enforce child labor laws.
- Social protection programs are insufficient to address the scope of the problem.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, 70 million children, or 22 percent of all children in the region, are engaged in child labor. Figure 9 provides an overview of the regional outlook. This is the first time since global estimates were released in 2000 that Sub-Saharan Africa has surpassed all other regions in terms of the absolute numbers of children in child labor.[1] Children perform dangerous tasks in agriculture, mining, and domestic work. In 2016, 6 of the 47 countries covered in the region received an assessment of Significant Advancement: the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, and Uganda. Other countries in the region also made meaningful efforts to address child labor by providing additional resources for criminal law enforcement agencies to combat the worst forms of child labor, adopting policies that aim to increase the capacity of law enforcement, and launching new and expanding existing social programs to prevent or eliminate child labor. Nevertheless, more work remains to be done to prevent and eliminate child labor in Sub-Saharan Africa, including by addressing the continued recruitment and use of children in armed conflict, ratifying international conventions on child labor, increasing resources for labor inspectors to enforce child labor laws, and adopting social protection programs to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labor.

In 2016, 4 countries made meaningful efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor, but also continued a regressive or significantly detrimental policy or practice during the reporting period that delayed advancement in eliminating the worst forms of child labor. Mauritania required proof of marriage

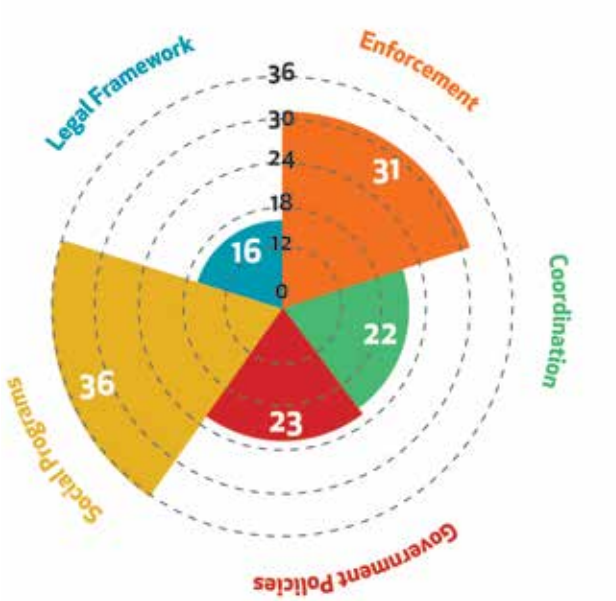
and biological parents' citizenship in order to get a birth certificate, preventing many children from being registered at birth and accessing secondary education. Sierra Leone did not permit pregnant girls to attend school or take national exams. Somalia recruited and used children in armed conflict in violation of its own law, which sets the minimum age for military recruitment at 18. Tanzania regulated access to secondary education through successful completion of the Primary School Leaving Exam, which students may take just once; however, as students complete primary education at the average age of 14, children in Zanzibar who fail the exam are both barred from formal education and unable to legally work, as Zanzibar's minimum age for work is 15 years.

Three countries also had a policy or demonstrated a practice of being complicit in the use of forced child labor in more than an isolated incident in 2016: South Sudan's national army forcibly recruited and used children in armed conflict; local chiefs in Swaziland forced children to engage in agricultural and domestic work; and Eritrea forced children to participate in agricultural, environmental, or hygiene-related public works projects during the annual summer holidays from school.

Countries increased resources for criminal law enforcement agencies to combat the worst forms of child labor. The Government of Mauritania created new Regional Anti-Slavery Courts to prosecute crimes related to slavery and provide free legal assistance to victims, including children. Niger trained district and magistrate courts on trafficking in persons and illicit migrant smuggling, and conducted awareness campaigns about the forced begging of children. The Government of Nigeria established an anti-human trafficking training center to increase the capacity of law enforcement officials to combat child trafficking for labor and sexual exploitation. The Kenyan police also developed a Child Protection Unit to investigate cases of child exploitation, including commercial sexual exploitation of children. In addition, Botswana sponsored a human trafficking training that included judges, prosecutors, and police officers from 10 Sub-Saharan African countries, and Mali trained child protection officials on best practices for child soldier referrals.

During the year, countries adopted new policies that aim to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child

Number of Countries in Sub-Saharan Africa that Undertook Meaningful Efforts to Combat the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Relevant Areas



Number of Countries=47

labor, including several policies that aim to increase the capacity of law enforcement. Gabon adopted an action plan that aims to increase prosecutions for child trafficking crimes and shorten the length of time that victims spend in shelters awaiting trial. Chad approved a national policy that aims to strengthen the capacity of their labor inspectorate to combat the worst forms of child labor. The Central African Republic also launched a National Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan that aims to disarm and reintegrate children associated with armed groups, and Guinea-Bissau adopted a Code of Conduct Against Sexual Exploitation in Tourism. In addition, countries in the region also supported regional policies to address child labor, including its worst forms (Table 5).

During the reporting period, countries also launched new and expanded existing social programs with

Table 5: Key Regional Policies Related to Child Labor in Sub-Saharan Africa

Policy	Description
Bilateral Agreements to Combat Child Trafficking	Agreements between Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, and Mali that call for increased cooperation against cross-border trafficking in persons.[26-30] The Government of Burkina Faso has established monitoring committees to review the agreement with Côte d'Ivoire and Mali.[30] Burkina Faso's National Training Institute of Social Workers partners with its counterpart in Chad to share experiences and best practices in combating human trafficking.[27]
Treaty of Amity and Cooperation	Framework to strengthen cooperation between Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso to combat child trafficking and prevent child labor in artisanal gold mines.[29]

the goal of preventing or eliminating child labor. Mali launched the National Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration Program for former combatants, including children. Niger started a program to reduce child labor in agriculture, and Madagascar launched a program with the ILO to reduce child labor in vanilla-producing areas. Many governments in the region also conducted awareness-raising campaigns for targeted sectors, including Sierra Leone's anti-child labor campaigns in fishing and quarrying communities, and Liberia's program to prevent children from street vending in urban areas. In addition, five governments — Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Nigeria, and Uganda — adopted or expanded cash transfer programs to ensure that vulnerable children are able to attend school. Countries also participated in a regional program to combat child labor (Table 6).

Despite the gains made in addressing child labor during the year, Sub-Saharan Africa faced many challenges. In 2016, terrorist activity and civil conflict impeded governments' ability to address the worst forms of child labor. The terrorist group Boko Haram recruited nearly 2,000 children in Nigeria and neighboring countries for use in armed conflict.[33] As a consequence, more than 1.4 million children in Nigeria and the Lake Chad region have been displaced from their homes, and some children have been forced to drop out of school.[34, 35] In addition, children in Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Somalia, and South Sudan were forcibly recruited and used for armed conflict by non-state armed groups; children were recruited and used for armed conflict by state armed groups in Somalia; and children were recruited, sometimes by force, by South Sudan's national army.

Although the governments of Mali and Mauritania ratified the ILO Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labor Convention in 2016, there is still an urgent need for governments to ratify international conventions on child labor. Nine countries — Central African Republic, Comoros, Gambia, Liberia, Mauritania, São Tomé and Príncipe, Somalia, South Sudan, and Zambia — have not yet ratified the UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict. Eight countries — Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, São Tomé and Príncipe, Somalia, South Sudan, and Zambia — have not ratified the UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography. In addition, five countries have not ratified the Palermo Protocol, including Comoros, Republic of the Congo, Somalia, South Sudan, and Uganda.

Gaps in labor law enforcement remain in many countries in the region. Twenty-nine countries did not have a sufficient number of labor inspectors for the size of the workforce according to the ILO's recommendation, and 41 labor inspectorates had inadequate financial resources to effectively enforce child labor laws. Labor inspectorates in 14 countries also are not authorized to assess penalties for child labor violations. In addition, most countries' law enforcement bodies did not collect comprehensive statistics on child labor and lacked resources and trained personnel.

During the reporting period, 6 countries lacked a national policy to guide efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. Most countries in Sub-Saharan Africa also do not have national social protection programs to cope with the effects of poverty and to provide vulnerable children with access to education. Furthermore, many countries in the region do not have social programs that target sectors with a high prevalence of child labor and did not participate in regional programs to combat child labor during the reporting period.

Table 6: Key Regional Social Programs to Address Child Labor in Sub-Saharan Africa

Program	Description
Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP) Against Child Labor	South-South cooperation project supported by the ILO. In January 2016, government officials from Angola, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Timor-Leste met and developed a Plan of Activities for 2016: CPLP's Year Against Child Labor. In August, the group reviewed the results achieved under the Plan, and began developing a system to monitor and evaluate activities.[31, 32]

Innovation in the Face of Crisis: Responding to the Needs of Children During the Ebola Outbreak

The USDOL-funded Actions to Reduce Child Labor (ARCH) project in Liberia demonstrated a unique approach to reducing child labor in a challenging environment through innovation and holistic design. Amid generational cycles of poverty and exploitative working conditions – and in the throes of the worst Ebola crisis the country had ever experienced – the $6.2 million dollar project, implemented by Winrock International, managed to withdraw 6,100 children and youth engaged in child labor in rubber plantations, prevent 4,000 children at high risk of engaging in child labor, and provide 3,700 families with village savings and loans programs. ARCH also instituted school feeding programs to fight the subsequent rise in food insecurity. These efforts dramatically increased attendance rates for the children enrolled in the program and deterred them from engaging in hazardous work. Critically, ARCH focused on shared community-based solutions by collaborating with the ministries of Agriculture and Education to unite educators, students, parent-teacher associations, and food producers to grow, store, and prepare food for students. To foster accountability and raise awareness, *Champion Communities* were selected for their success in increasing access to education and reducing child labor in their areas. This holistic best practice has prevented Liberian children from engaging in a cycle of hazardous work throughout their lives.

© Winrock International, ARCH Project Team, 2016.
Model Farm School Students display their produce at a local market in Karnwee village. The ARCH project introduced 80 young people in Karnwee to vegetable production as an alternative source of income.

The U.S. Experience

The Federal Government of the United States has several key responsibilities with regard to children and youth—namely, to help ensure that they are protected from harm, including from labor exploitation, and to provide them with opportunities to learn and prepare for decent, productive work. This responsibility begins with compulsory education for children enforced by state governments and the provision of social protection services to vulnerable children and families by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Within USDOL, the Wage and Hour Division (WHD) takes the lead in raising awareness about and enforcing federal child labor laws, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) protects the safety and health of minors in the workforce. WHD enforces the most sweeping federal law that regulates the employment of minors—the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). In addition, the Occupational Safety and Health Act and related regulations, enforced by OSHA, apply to all employees regardless of age. WHD and OSHA work together on investigations and have an active referral process in place for cases involving minors under age 18.

USDOL's Office of Apprenticeship, along with State Apprenticeship Agencies in certain states, administers apprenticeship programs. These programs give participants, including youth age 16 and over, access to 1,000 career areas, the opportunity to earn a paycheck, get hands-on career training, and receive an industry-recognized credential at the end of the program. Instead of being faced with a choice between education and work, these youth are able to participate in high-quality education and employment opportunities, which in turn, reduce their risk of involvement in the worst forms of child labor.

The Federal Minimum Ages for Work

The FLSA sets a minimum age of 14 for most employment in non-hazardous, non-agricultural industries, but limits the times of day and the number of hours that 14- and 15-year-olds may work and the tasks that they may perform.

There were 1,624,000 children ages 16–17 employed in the United States in 2015 and 1,747,000 employed in 2016.[36] Despite the restrictions and limitations placed on their work, in 2014, the most recent year for which data are available,

YouthRules!

What Jobs Can I Do?

When you are 13 or younger...
You can baby-sit, deliver newspapers, or work as an actor or performer.

When you are 14 or 15...
You can work in a variety of specified non-manufacturing and non-hazardous jobs under certain conditions.

When you are 16 or 17...
You can work in any job that has not been declared hazardous by the Secretary of Labor.

When Can I Work?

If you are 14 or 15, you can work...
- Outside school hours
- After 7 a.m. and until 7 p.m. (until 9 p.m. from June 1st — Labor Day)
- 3 hours on a school day, including Fridays
- 18 hours in a school week
- 8 hours on a non-school day
- 40 hours in a non-school week

If you are 16 or older, you can work any hours.

Different rules apply to farms and State laws may have stricter rules. For more information on the specific jobs you can and can't do, visit www.youthrules.gov/know-the-limits.

there were 14 fatal occupational injuries among children ages 16–17, and 8 fatal occupational injuries among children below age 16 in the United States.[37]

WHD's Outreach and Education Efforts to Prevent Child Labor in Agriculture and Other Sectors

WHD conducts extensive outreach and education to workers' and employers' organizations at the national level.

The WHD maintains the YouthRules! website, a child labor information portal that targets all teenage workers with a user-friendly design, multimedia content, social media links, and a Young Worker Toolkit of teen-friendly resources.[38] The site links to compliance assistance materials for employers, parents, and educators. It also links to important worker resources, including information on filing complaints, federal and state child labor laws, federal and state labor offices, and links to other USDOL and government sites with information for children and young workers. WHD maintains a toll-free helpline (1–866–4US–WAGE or 1–866–487–9243) that provides information about child labor laws.

Enforcement of the Fair Labor Standards Act in Fiscal Year 2016*

633

Number of Cases Where Child Labor Violations Were Found

222

Number of Cases where Hazardous Order Violations Were Found

486

Number of Minors Employed in Violation of Hazardous Orders

*Data are from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016. More specific information about each of these cases can be found in the WHD's enforcement database at http://ogesdw.dol.gov/views/search.php.

© REUTERS
Afghan children walk out of a field as they carry cotton clumps in containers balanced on their heads on the outskirts of Jalalabad, Nangarhar province, November 5, 2012.

Country Assessments

Each country in the report receives an assessment to indicate clearly the Secretary of Labor's findings on each country's level of advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor during the reporting period. Each country receives one of five possible assessments: *Significant Advancement, Moderate Advancement, Minimal Advancement, No Advancement,* or *No Assessment.* [53]

1. Significant Advancement. Compared with the suggested actions reported in 2015, a country significantly advanced efforts in eliminating the worst forms of child labor in 2016 if it took suggested actions or made other meaningful efforts during the reporting period in **all relevant areas** covering laws and regulations, enforcement, coordination, policies, and social programs.

2. Moderate Advancement. Compared with the suggested actions reported in 2015, a country moderately advanced efforts in eliminating the worst forms of child labor in 2016 if it took suggested actions or made other meaningful efforts during the reporting period in **some relevant areas** covering laws and regulations, enforcement, coordination, policies, and social programs.

3. Minimal Advancement. There are three types of countries that minimally advanced efforts in eliminating the worst forms of child labor in 2016. The first is a country that, compared with the suggested actions reported in 2015, took suggested actions or made other meaningful efforts during the reporting period in a **few relevant areas** covering laws and regulations, enforcement, coordination, policies, and social programs.

The other two types of countries are those that, regardless of meaningful efforts made in relevant areas, minimally advanced as a result of **establishing or failing to remedy regressive or significantly detrimental laws, policies, or practices that delayed advancement** in the elimination of the worst forms of child labor. Examples of regressive or significantly detrimental laws, policies, or practices include lowering the minimum age for work below international standards, recruiting and/or using children in armed conflict, and continuing to impose administrative barriers to child labor inspections.

- ***Regression in Law, Policy, or Practice that Delayed Advancement***. This type of country made meaningful efforts in a few or more relevant areas but **established** a regressive or significantly detrimental law, policy, or practice **during the reporting period** that delayed advancement in eliminating the worst forms of child labor.

- ***Continued Law, Policy, or Practice that Delayed Advancement.*** This type of country made meaningful efforts in a few or more relevant areas but **failed to remedy** a regressive or significantly detrimental law, policy, or practice established in **previous years**, which delayed advancement in eliminating the worst forms of child labor.

4. No Advancement. There are three types of countries that made no advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in 2016. The first is a country that, compared with the suggested actions reported in 2015, took **no suggested actions and made no other meaningful efforts** to advance the elimination of the worst forms of child labor during the reporting period.

The other two types of countries are those that, regardless of whether meaningful efforts in relevant areas were made or not, had a policy or demonstrated a practice of being **complicit in the use of forced child labor in more than an isolated incident**, which is considered an egregious form of exploitation.

Complicity can occur when a government is involved in forced child labor at any level of government, including at the local, regional, or national level. Such involvement is "direct" or proactive government action to compel children under age 18 to work.

- ***No Efforts and Complicit in Forced Child Labor***. This type of country **made no meaningful efforts**, took no suggested actions reported in 2015, and had a policy or demonstrated a practice of being **complicit in the use of forced child labor** in more than an isolated incident in 2016.

- ***Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor***. This type of country **made meaningful efforts**, which may have included taking suggested actions reported in 2015, but had a policy or demonstrated a practice of being **complicit in the use of forced child labor** in more than an isolated incident in 2016.

5. No Assessment. This assessment is reserved for countries in which the population of children is either non-existent or extremely small (fewer than 50), there is no evidence of worst forms of child labor and the country appears to have an adequate preventive legal and enforcement framework on child labor, or when a country is included in the report for the first time or receives a suggested action for the first time. Currently, Burma and certain territories and non-independent countries fall into this category.

How to Read a Country Profile

Country Overview. Each country profile begins with an overview for 2016 in a single paragraph, beginning with a statement identifying the assessment level assigned to the country for 2016. Following the statement of assessment, the paragraph offers a summary of key findings in the country profile. The narrative includes any meaningful efforts taken by a government, defined as efforts in key areas where the government advanced its commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The narrative also notes the most common or egregious forms of child labor found in the country and highlights areas in which key gaps in government efforts remain.

Section I: Prevalence and Sectoral Distribution of Child Labor The first section of each country profile attempts to provide, to the extent that information is available, a comprehensive picture of the worst forms of child labor in the country.

Table 1, ***Statistics on Children's Work and Education***, contains at least four variables: percentage of working children, school attendance rate, percentage of children combining work and school, and primary completion rate. The majority of the country profiles have data for at least one of these variables. A smaller set of profiles contain data on children's work by sector. The age and methodologies of the original surveys that provide the underlying data vary, and in some cases, the surveys may not reflect the true magnitude of the child labor problem in a country. For some countries, data are unavailable from the sources used in this report.

Table 2, ***Overview of Children's Work by Sector and Activity***, groups types of children's work by sector, using categories established by the ILO and Understanding Children's Work for national child labor surveys (Agriculture, Industry, and Services), as well as a category intended to capture work understood as the worst forms of child labor per se under Article 3 (a) – (c) of ILO C. 182 (referred to by the report as "Categorical Worst Forms of Child Labor"). Sectors and specific activities performed by children are sorted into these categories according to internationally accepted industry and occupational codes.

Footnote (1) identifies sectors or activities determined to be hazardous by national law or regulation as understood under Article 3(d) of ILO C. 182, and footnote (2) provides the definition of "Categorical Worst Forms of Child Labor."

The table is followed by a narrative highlighting additional sector-specific information and social, economic, or political issues that impact the prevalence of child labor, such as barriers to accessing education, or major socioeconomic shocks to the country that may inhibit the government's ability to address child labor, such as a natural disaster or armed conflict.

Philippines

SIGNIFICANT ADVANCEMENT

In 2016, the Philippines made a significant advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The Government released a revised and expanded list of hazardous occupations and activities prohibited for children, and passed the Children's Emergency Relief and Protection Act, which increased measures to monitor and prevent child trafficking and child labor, including its worst forms, during national disasters. The Government also established the Internet Crimes Against Children office under the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Division to combat the Internet-facilitated commercial sexual exploitation of children. In addition, the Government updated the Philippine Program against Child Labor, and published the Revised Rules on Labor Laws Compliance System, which prioritizes establishments and workplaces that employ children for joint labor inspections. However, children in the Philippines perform dangerous tasks in the production of sugarcane. Children also engage in the worst forms of child labor, including in forced domestic work and commercial sexual exploitation. Despite the existence of strong mechanisms to respond to cases of child labor, enforcement of child labor laws remains challenging due to the limited number of inspectors, lack of resources for inspections, and inspectors' inability to enter private homes.

I. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR

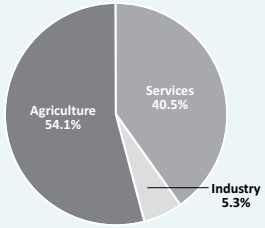
Children in the Philippines engage in the worst forms of child labor, including in forced domestic work and commercial sexual exploitation. Children also engage in the production of sugarcane, an industry that is considered dangerous for children in the Philippines.(1-8) The 2011 National Survey on Children indicated that 3.2 million children aged 5 to 17 years old engage in child labor, of which approximately 3 million work in hazardous labor.(9) Table 1 provides key indicators on children's work and education in the Philippines.

Table 1. Statistics on Children's Work and Education

Children	Age	Percent
Working (% and population)	5 to 14	7.5 (1,549,677)
Attending School (%)	5 to 14	93.7
Combining Work and School (%)	7 to 14	7.8
Primary Completion Rate (%)		101

Source for primary completion rate: Data from 2013, published by UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2016.(10)
Source for all other data: Understanding Children's Work Project's analysis of statistics from Survey on Children, 2011.(11)

Figure 1. Working Children by Sector, Ages 5-14



Based on a review of available information, Table 2 provides an overview of children's work by sector and activity.

Table 2. Overview of Children's Work by Sector and Activity

Sector/Industry	Activity
Agriculture	Production of sugarcane, including growing, weeding, harvesting,† cutting,† and carrying sugarcane bundles† (1, 3-6, 12, 13)
	Growing bananas, coconuts, corn, rice, rubber, and tobacco (3, 4, 13, 14)
	Hog farming (4, 13)
	Production of palm oil, including harvesting,† hauling,† and loading palm oil fruits (2-4)
	Deep-sea fishing† (4, 15, 16)

† Determined by national law or regulation as hazardous and, as such, relevant to Article 3(d) of ILO C. 182.
‡ Child labor understood as the worst forms of child labor *per se* under Article 3(a)–(c) of ILO C. 182.

Children, primarily girls, are trafficked domestically from rural communities to urban centers and tourist destinations for the purpose of domestic work and commercial sexual exploitation.(26, 37) In addition, children are coerced into performing sex acts for live Internet broadcast to paying foreigners and local Filipinos, which usually take place in small internet cafes, private homes, or windowless dungeon-like buildings commonly known as "cybersex dens."(8, 37, 40-43) Research indicates that the Philippines is the top global Internet source of commercial sexual exploitation of children in which exploiters pay between $20 to $150 for a live "sex show."(44-46)

How to Read a Country Profile (Continued)

Section II: Legal Framework for the Worst Forms of Child Labor The second section indicates whether a country has ratified key international instruments related to child labor, including its worst forms. This section also describes a country's legal framework with regard to child labor, including its worst forms, and assesses the adequacy of that legal framework. It begins with a statement about the extent to which the government has ratified key international conventions concerning child labor.

Table 3, ***Ratification of International Conventions on Child Labor***, lists the relevant UN conventions concerning child labor. A checkmark indicates the country's ratification, acceptance, accession, or succession to the instrument, given that these actions have the same practical legal effect regarding the substantive obligations of the instruments as ratification. If other relevant international instruments (beyond those listed in the table) were ratified during the reporting period, this may be recognized in a short narrative following the table.

Above **Table 4**, ***Laws and Regulations on Child Labor***, there is a statement indicating whether the government has established laws and regulations related to child labor, including its worst forms, and notes whether gaps remain in the country's legal framework.

Table 4 lists a set of standards that should be established through national legislation in order to fully implement ILO C. 182. Please note that, this year, Table 4 indicates where the legal framework met international standards and where it did not, whereas last year the chart indicated the existence of relevant laws.

Footnotes identify (1) if a government does not use conscription for military service, (2) if a government does not have a standing military, and (3) whether an age is calculated based on available information.

Section III: Enforcement of Laws on the Worst Forms of Child Labor The third section describes the roles of government agencies in enforcing laws related to child labor, including its worst forms, and reports on efforts made during the reporting period. It begins with a statement about whether the government has established institutional mechanisms to enforce laws and regulations related to child labor, including its worst forms, and notes whether there were gaps in enforcement, or if enforcement data were missing. Table 6 and Table 7 provide data on labor law and criminal law enforcement efforts, respectively, in 2015 and 2016.

Table 5, ***Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement***, lists the agencies charged with enforcing such laws and identifies each agency's role.

A footnote identifies whether an agency responsible for child labor enforcement was created during the reporting period. A subsequent narrative describes gaps in agency responsibilities and/or new information during the reporting period.

II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

The Philippines has ratified all key international conventions concerning child labor (Table 3).

Table 3. Ratification of International Conventions on Child Labor

Convention	Ratification
UN CRC	✓
UN CRC Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict	✓
UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography	✓
Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons	✓

The Government has established laws and regulations related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 4). However, gaps exist in the Philippines's legal framework to adequately protect children from child labor.

Table 4. Laws and Regulations on Child Labor

Standard	Meets International Standards: Yes/No	Age	Legislation
Minimum Age for Work	Yes	15	Article 139 of the Labor Code; Section 16 of the Act Instituting Policies for the Protection and Welfare of Domestic Workers (54, 55)
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	Yes	18	Article 139 of the Labor Code (55)
Identification of Hazardous Occupations or Activities Prohibited for Children	Yes		Department Order 149 on Guidelines in Assessing and Determining Hazardous Work in the Employment of Persons Below 18 Years of Age; Sections 12-D and 16 of the Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation, and Discrimination Act (56, 57)
Prohibition of Forced Labor	Yes		Sections 4-5 of the Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act; Sections 12-D and 16 of the Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation, and Discrimination Act (56, 58)

* No conscription
† No standing military
‡ Age calculated based on available information

III. ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

The Government has established institutional mechanisms for the enforcement of laws and regulations on child labor, including its worst forms (Table 5). However, gaps in labor law and criminal law enforcement remain and some enforcement information is not available.

Table 5. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement

Organization/Agency	Role
Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Bureau of Working Conditions	Enforce child labor laws; regularly train inspectors and regional personnel. Inspect establishments and monitor compliance with labor laws in all sectors, including in the informal sector and agricultural and mining operations.(1) Register DOLE enforcement activities using the Labor Law Compliance System Management Information System.(70)
Rescue the Child Laborers Quick Action Teams (Sagip Batang Manggagawa – SBM QAT)	Lead the regional mechanism for rescuing children who work in exploitative situations.(25) Detect, monitor, and respond to incidents of child labor using a cooperative and interagency approach.(37, 71) In 2016, rescued 65 children engaged in child labor.(42)
Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)	Rehabilitate and reintegrate child laborers.(25, 72) Coordinate regional Special Action Units, with at least one dedicated staff member per region to conduct rescue operations for child laborers and cooperate with social workers to manage ongoing cases. Maintain 16 Crisis Intervention Units and 30 residential facilities nationwide, as well as social media accounts, to address cases of child abuse and support child abuse victims, including children exploited in hazardous labor.(16, 37)
Philippine National Police (PNP)	Investigate and prosecute cases related to the worst forms of child labor.(33, 73) The PNP's Women and Children's Protection Center leads the enforcement of laws on child trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children as well as other tasks related to the protection of children.(1)

* Agency responsible for child labor enforcement was created during the reporting period.

In May 2016, DOLE issued the Revised Rules on Labor Laws Compliance System, which prioritizes establishments and workplaces that employ children for joint assessments that would involve the labor inspector, the employer's representatives, and the employees. If the complaint on an employer involves a violation of the Special Protection of Children against Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act, the *Manual on Conduct of Inspection, Rescue and Enforcement Proceedings in Child Labor Cases* pursuant to Department Circular No. 02, Series of 2010, will apply. (37, 75)

How to Read a Country Profile (Continued)

Table 6, ***Labor Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor***, provides information on labor law enforcement data, including information about the labor inspectorate's financial and human resources; authority to conduct inspections and assess penalties; and actions and mechanisms to enforce labor laws, including those related to child labor.

Table 7, ***Criminal Law Enforcement Efforts Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor***, provides information on criminal law enforcement data, including information about actions and mechanisms to enforce laws related to the worst forms of child labor.

Both tables are footnoted to identify whether the government makes enforcement information publicly available and if these data from 2015 and 2016 fall outside of the calendar year. A narrative also follows each of these tables with more specific information on government mechanisms and efforts, and includes findings where ILAB has concluded that government efforts fall short.

Section IV: Coordination of Government Efforts on the Worst Forms of Child Labor The fourth section provides information on institutions charged with coordinating efforts related to child labor, including its worst forms. It begins with a statement as to whether the government has established mechanisms to coordinate its efforts to address child labor, including its worst forms.

Table 8, ***Key Mechanisms to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor***, lists the country's key coordinating bodies, their composition (if known), and their respective mandates, as well as their efforts during the reporting period.

A footnote states whether a mechanism to coordinate efforts to address child labor was created during the reporting period. A subsequent narrative may include findings on gaps in their efforts.

Table 6. Labor Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor

Overview of Labor Law Enforcement	2015	2016
Training for Labor Inspectors		
Initial Training for New Employees	Yes (16)	Yes (77)
Training on New Laws Related to Child Labor	N/A	Yes (37)
Refresher Courses Provided	Yes (16)	Unknown
Number of Labor Inspections	44,524 (76)	60,374 (37)
Number Conducted at Worksite	Unknown (76)	Unknown
Number Conducted by Desk Reviews	Unknown (76)	Unknown
Number of Child Labor Violations Found	Unknown	22 (37)
Number of Child Labor Violations for Which Penalties Were Imposed	N/A	Unknown
Number of Penalties Imposed that Were Collected	N/A	Unknown

* The Government does not publish this information.
† Data are from [Month Day, Year] to [Month Day, Year].
‡ Data are from [Month Day, Year] to [Month Day, Year].

In 2016, DOLE hired 41 additional Labor Laws Compliance Officers and conducted a Training of Labor Laws Compliance Officers on Child Labor Assessment to enhance personnel's capacity to detect and assess child labor incidents. However, enforcement of child labor laws remains challenging due to the lack of resources for inspections.(16, 37, 70) The number of labor inspectors is insufficient for the size of the Philippines's workforce, which includes over 42 million workers. According to the ILO's recommendation of one inspector for every 15,000 workers in developing economies, the Philippines should employ roughly 2,783 labor inspectors in order to adequately enforce labor laws throughout the country.(37, 80-82) While the Inspectorate's funding increased in 2016, the Government noted that DOLE's funding for maintenance and operating expenses was insufficient to carry out inspections across the country's 16 regions, particularly in more rural areas.(37, 77)

Table 7. Criminal Law Enforcement Efforts Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Overview of Criminal Law Enforcement	2015	2016
Training for Investigators		
Initial Training for New Employees	Yes (76)	Unknown
Training on New Laws Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor	N/A	Yes (37)

* The Government does not publish this information.
† Data are from [Month Day, Year] to [Month Day, Year].
‡ Data are from [Month Day, Year] to [Month Day, Year].

IV. COORDINATION OF GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

The Government has established mechanisms to coordinate its efforts to address child labor, including its worst forms (Table 8).

Table 8. Key Mechanisms to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor

Coordinating Body	Role & Description
National Child Labor Committee (NCLC)	Coordinate national efforts to combat child labor under DOLE.(25) Promote information-sharing at the national, regional, and provincial levels.(72) Composed of more than 25 government agencies, international organizations, and trade unions.(13)
Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (IACAT)	Coordinate, monitor, and oversee efforts to combat human trafficking, including child trafficking. Co-chaired by the Department of Justice and the DSWD.(1, 74) Composed of 24 anti-human trafficking task forces established in eight regions and seven interagency task forces in major seaports and airports. (1, 16, 70). In 2016, established a Memorandum of Understanding to coordinate efforts to combat the trafficking of children.(37)
Inter-Agency Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC)	Operate a monitoring and response system to assist children engaged in armed conflict, including recruitment and use of child soldiers.(33)
Inter-Agency Committee on Children Involved in Armed Conflict	Advocate for protecting children and preventing the involvement of children in armed conflict. Chaired by the CWC.(70) Coordinate and monitor the implementation of the Children in Armed Conflict Program Framework.(1)
Inter-Agency Council Against Child Pornography	Monitor and implement the Anti-Child Pornography Act of 2009.(84) Chaired by the DSWD.(76)

* Mechanism to coordinate efforts to address child labor was created during the reporting period.

In 2016, the Government proposed an executive order that aims to restructure the role of the National Child Labor Committee (NCLC) and allocate funds to support its projects and activities, which would enhance the NCLC's role as the lead coordination mechanism on child labor policy and programming.(37, 85)

How to Read a Country Profile (Continued)

Section V: Government Policies on the Worst Forms of Child Labor The fifth section describes a country's policies and plans to combat child labor, including its worst forms, and development policies that explicitly incorporate the issue of child labor. It begins with a statement indicating whether the government has established policies related to child labor, including its worst forms.

Table 9, ***Key Policies Related to Child Labor***, lists the country's key policies, providing a description of each policy's objectives and any developments in implementation that occurred during the reporting period.

Footnotes identify (1) if a policy was approved during the reporting period and (2) whether the Government had other policies that may have addressed child labor issues or had an impact on child labor.

The narrative following the table includes findings related to whether existing policies sufficiently address child labor issues, including its worst forms, in the country.

Section VI: Social Programs to Address Child Labor The sixth section describes social programs launched or implemented during the reporting period that focus on child labor, including its worst forms, and programs that address poverty, education, and other related matters that could have a beneficial impact on child labor. It begins with a statement as to whether the government funded and/or participated in social programs that include the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, including its worst forms.

Table 10, ***Key Social Programs to Address Child Labor***, lists the country's key social programs and provides a description of each social program, including its activities and accomplishments, to the extent known, during the reporting period. Where possible, programs are hyperlinked to project Web sites for additional information.

Footnotes identify (1) social programs that are funded by the government; (2) social programs that were launched during the reporting period, or (3) whether the government had small-scale social programs with the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, including its worst forms.

The narrative following the table includes an analysis of the extent to which social programs were sufficient to address the scope of the problem and/or covered the key sectors in which children are known to work in the country.

Section VII: Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor, Including its Worst Forms The last section of each country profile includes a set of suggested actions in Table 11. These suggested actions serve as a roadmap of efforts that individual countries can follow to more fully address the worst forms of child labor. The year in which a suggested action was first provided is listed in the table followed by every year the action was included in the report and not taken.

V. GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

The Government of the Philippines has established policies related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 9).

Table 9. Key Policies Related to Child Labor

Policy	Description
Inter-Agency Council Against Child Pornography Three-Year Strategic Plan†	Aims to eradicate child pornography in the Philippines by focusing efforts in five strategic areas: (1) advocacy and prevention; (2) law enforcement and prosecution; (3) protection, recovery, and reintegration; (4) research, monitoring, and management of information systems; and (5) partnerships and networking.(86)

† Policy was approved during the reporting period.
‡ The Government had other policies that may have addressed child labor issues or had an impact on child labor. (REF)

In December 2016, the NCLC announced that it will launch three anti-child labor programs in early 2017 to support the Philippine Program against Child Labor 2016-2022.These programs will establish helpdesks and a local registry on child labor for referral to social services, integrate a new module on child labor with a conditional cash transfer program that will raise awareness of child labor and involve families in preventing and combating child labor, and provide interventions to address child labor in gold mines and improving these children's working conditions.(89)

VI. SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS CHILD LABOR

In 2016, the Government funded and participated in programs that include the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, including its worst forms (Table 10).

Table 10. Key Social Programs to Address Child Labor‡

Program	Description
Child Labor Prevention and Elimination Program (*Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino* Program)	DSWD program that provides conditional grants to poor families with children to improve their access to health care, adequate nutrition, and education; implements local awareness-raising campaigns; institutes child labor-monitoring mechanisms; and requires *barangays* to develop child labor elimination plans. (91-93) Covers 1,627 cities and municipalities in 79 provinces and all 17 regions.(70) As of November 2016, there were 4,389,863 active household beneficiaries who received education and health services. Program will include a child labor module that will impart information on the effects of child labor to project participants and the family's role to combat child labor.(37, 94)
Campaign for Child-Labor Free *Barangays*†	DOLE program that aims to eliminate child labor in villages through community awareness-raising on child labor and anti-human trafficking laws, and through government livelihood programs and guidelines.(95) In 2016, DOLE declared 79 barangays child labor free, bringing the total number to 292 since 2014.(37) DOLE regional offices certified 28 establishments child labor free, bringing the total up to 210 since 2013.(37)
Livelihood for Parents of Child Laborers (*Kabuhayan para sa Magulang ng Batang Manggagawa*)†	DOLE program that provides livelihood assistance to parents, guardians or other family members of child laborers. (73, 96, 97) In 2016, prevented or removed a total of 2,108 child laborers or children at risk for child labor.(37)

* Program was launched during the reporting period.
† Program is funded by the Government of the Phillippines.
‡ The Government had other social programs that may have included the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, including its worst forms.(25, 73, 96, 103, 104)

VII. SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

Based on the reporting above, suggested actions are identified that would advance the elimination of child labor, including its worst forms, in the Philippines (Table 11).

Table 11. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor, Including its Worst Forms

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Enforcement	Authorize the labor inspectorate to assess penalties.	2015 – 2016
	Increase the number of labor inspectors responsible for enforcing laws related to child labor as well as resources available in order to provide adequate coverage of the workforce.	2014 – 2016
	Authorize SBM QATs to conduct compliance visits in private homes to search for underage child domestic workers.	2014 – 2016
	Publish information about the training system for labor inspectors, the number of labor inspections conducted at worksites and by desk review, whether routine inspections are conducted and targeted, and the number of child labor law violations found; and ensure that the total number of criminal investigations, violations, prosecutions, and convictions related to the worst forms of child labor are disaggregated by age.	2015 – 2016
Coordination	Pass the proposed executive order to restructure the National Child Labor Committee and ensure it has the legal mandate and resources necessary to effectively coordinate national efforts to combat child labor including its worst forms.	2015 – 2016
Government Policies	Ensure that all children are able to safely access and attend school and do not face prohibitive costs for education-related expenses.	2010 – 2016
Social Programs	Provide necessary resources to help more out-of-school youth access the Alternative Learning System program so they can complete their basic education.	2011 – 2016

REFERENCES

Definitions Related to Child Labor

Definitions related to child labor are guided by ILO C. 138 on Minimum Age and ILO C. 182 on Worst Forms of Child Labor. ILO's Resolution Concerning Statistics on Child Labor developed during the 18th Conference of Labor Statisticians provides the international framework for measuring children's work. Below see definitions of key terms discussed in our report.

Working Children

Working children (children in employment) are those engaged in any economic activity for at least 1 hour during the reference period. Economic activity includes market production and certain types of non-market production (principally the production of goods and services for own use). The work children perform may be in the formal or informal economy, inside or outside family settings, and for pay or profit. This includes children working in domestic service outside the child's own household for an employer (paid or unpaid).[11, 44]

Child Labor

Children in child labor are a subset of working children. Child labor includes employment below the minimum age as established in national legislation (excluding permissible light work), the worst forms of child labor, and hazardous unpaid household services. Child labor is thus a narrower concept than children in employment because child labor excludes children who work only a few hours a week in permitted light work and those who are above the minimum age who engage in work not classified as a worst form of child labor.[11, 45]

Forced Child Labor

Forced labor under international standards, means all work or service for which the worker does not offer himself voluntarily and which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty for its non-performance.[46] Forced labor includes work provided or obtained by force, fraud, or coercion, including [1] by threat of serious harm to, or physical restraint against, any person; [2] by means of any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause the person to believe that, if the person did not perform such labor or services, that person or another person would suffer serious harm or physical restraint; or [3] by means of the abuse or threatened abuse of law or the legal process.[47] It occurs during any of three dimensions of employment, which the ILO characterizes as unfree recruitment, work or life under duress, or the inability to leave the employer.[48]

Forced child labor is a categorical worst form of child labor under ILO C. 182.[43] Children older than the minimum age for work are in forced child labor if work is involuntary and under the menace of threat or penalty to themselves or their parents. For children below the minimum age, voluntariness does not need to be established, as children cannot legally consent to work. All children who are made to work as a result of parental forced labor are engaged in forced child labor.[48]

Worst Forms of Child Labor

Worst forms of child labor refers to those activities described and as understood in ILO C. 182: Worst Forms of Child Labor, 1999.[43] Under Article 3 of the Convention, the worst forms of child labor comprise:

(a) All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom, and forced or compulsory labor, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;
(b) The use, procuring, or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography, or for pornographic purposes;
(c) The use, procuring, or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties; and
(d) Work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety, or morals of children.

Categorical Worst Forms of Child Labor

For the purposes of this report, categorical worst forms of child labor refers to child labor understood as the worst forms of child labor *per se* under Article 3(a) – (c) of ILO C. 182. This category does not include the worst forms of child labor identified under Article 3(d) "hazardous work." See also "ILO C. 182: Worst Forms of Child Labor, 1999."[43]

Hazardous Work

Hazardous work refers to the worst form of child labor identified in ILO C. 182 Article 3(d) "work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children." ILO C. 182 Article 4 directs countries to consult with employers and workers to identify the types of hazardous work that should be prohibited by law or regulation. Hazardous work lists may describe specific activities, occupations, or industries.[44]

Child Trafficking

According to the 2000 Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, child trafficking refers to the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation. There does not need to be abuse of power, control, coercion, or fraud present in order to constitute child trafficking, as the definition for adults requires. Child trafficking is also a categorical worst form of child labor under ILO C. 182.

What is Hazardous Child Labor?

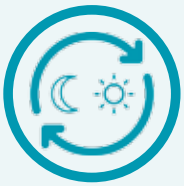
ILO Recommendation 190[1] calls on governments to consider the following when determining work that is prohibited for children.

Work which exposes children to physical, psychological or sexual abuse

Work underground, under water, at dangerous heights or in confined spaces

Work with dangerous machinery, equipment and tools, or which involves the manual handling or transport of heavy loads

Work in an unhealthy environment which may, for example, expose children to hazardous substances, agents or processes, or to temperatures, noise levels, or vibrations damaging to their health



Work under particularly difficult conditions such as work for long hours or during the night or work where the child is unreasonably confined to the premises of the employer

[1] International Labor Organization. Recommendation 190. Geneva: June 1999 http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/ilc/ilc87/com-chir.htm.

ILO Conventions Related to Child Labor

The International Labor Organization (ILO) brings together governments, employers, and workers' representatives of member states to establish international labor standards, develop policies, and implement programs to advance decent work.[15] International labor standards are legal instruments drawn up by these ILO constituents that set out basic principles and rights at work. They take the form of either Conventions or Recommendations. Conventions are legally binding international treaties that may be ratified by member states. Ratifying countries commit themselves to applying the convention in national law and practice and reporting on its application at regular intervals. Key ILO Conventions related to children's work are listed below, along with the minimum ages set by countries related to these conventions. Also listed are countries that have not ratified key conventions or did not establish a compulsory education age that extends to the minimum age for work.

ILO Convention 138: Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, 1973

ILO Convention 138 (ILO C. 138) serves as the principal ILO standard on child labor. Under Article 2(3) of ILO C. 138, Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, the minimum age of admission into employment or work in any occupation "shall not be less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling, and, in any case, shall not be less than fifteen." Countries whose economy and educational facilities are insufficiently developed may initially specify a minimum legal working age of 14 when ratifying the convention. Additionally, under Article 7(1), "National laws or regulations may permit the employment or work of persons 13 to 15 years of age on light work...." Countries that specify a minimum legal working age of 14 years may permit light work for persons ages 12 to 14 years.[50]

ILO Convention 182: Worst Forms of Child Labor, 1999

ILO Convention 182 (ILO C. 182) commits ratifying nations to take immediate action to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labor. Among other actions, ILO C. 182 requires ratifying nations to remove children from the worst forms of child labor and provide them with rehabilitation, social reintegration, and access to free basic education and vocational training; consult with employer and worker organizations to create appropriate mechanisms to monitor implementation of the Convention; take into account the special vulnerability of girls; and provide assistance and/or cooperate with efforts of other members to implement the Convention.[43] Recommendation 190 also provides more guidance on how to implement the ILO C.182.

ILO Convention 29: Forced Labor, 1930

ILO Convention 29 is the fundamental convention on forced labor. The convention includes some exceptions for compulsory military service, work as part of normal civic obligations, work as a consequence of convictions, working during emergencies, and minor community services.[46]

ILO Convention 105: Abolition of Forced Labor Convention, 1957

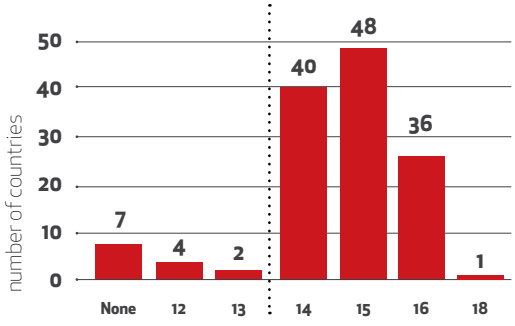
ILO Convention 105 further clarifies Convention 29 as it relates to forced or compulsory labor as a means of political coercion or education or as a punishment for holding or expressing political views or views ideologically opposed to the established political, social or economic system; as a method of mobilizing and using labor for purposes of economic development; as a means of labor discipline; as a punishment for having participated in strikes; and as a means of racial, social, national or religious discrimination.[51]

Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labor Convention, 1930

The Forced Labor Protocol supplements existing ILO Convention 29 and requires countries to take effective measures to prevent and eliminate forced and compulsory labor, to sanction perpetrators and to provide protections and appropriate remedies, such as compensation. It also requires countries to develop a national policy and plan of action to address forced or compulsory labor in consultation with employers' and workers' organizations.[52] Recommendation 203 supplements the Protocol and ILO Convention 29 by providing non-binding guidance on forced labor prevention, victim protection, including access to justice and compensation for personal and material damages, enforcement of laws, and international cooperation.

Minimum Age* for **Work**

15 years



minimum age for work

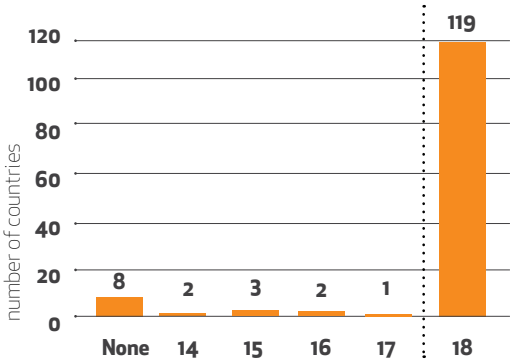
Countries that do not have a minimum age for work at 14 years

Anguilla
Belize
Bhutan
Cook Islands
Falkland Islands
Nigeria
Niue
Norfolk Island
Saint Helena, Ascensión, and Tristán da Cunha
Solomon Islands
Tokelau
Tonga
Vanatu

*Countries whose economy and educational facilities are insufficiently developed may initially specify a minimum legal working age of 14 when ratifying the convention.

Minimum Age for **Hazardous Work**

18 years



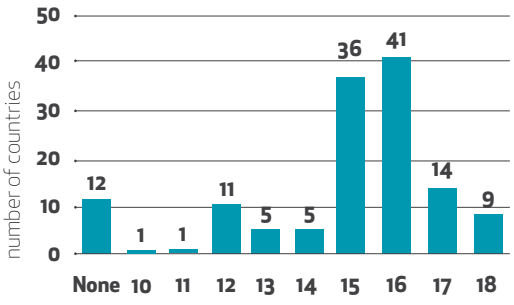
minimum age for hazardous work

Countries that do not have a minimum age for hazardous work at 18 years

Belize
Eritrea
Falkland Islands
Grenada
Nepal
Niger
Niue
Norfolk Island
Pakistan (Federal, Balochistan)
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Solomon Islands
Timor-Leste
Tokelau
Tonga
Tuvalu
Vanuatu

Minimum Age for **Compulsory** Education**

15 years



minimum age for compulsory education

Countries that do not have a compulsory education age that extends to the minimum age for work

Angola
Bangladesh
Bhutan
Botswana
Burma
Burundi
Cambodia
Cameroon
Comoros
Congo, Democratic Republic of the
Eritrea
Ethiopia
Gambia, The
Georgia
Iraq (non-Kurdistan Region)
Kenya
Kyrgyz Republic
Lesotho
Liberia
Mozambique
Nepal
Nicaragua
Niger
Papua New Guinea
Samoa
São Tomé and Príncipe
Solomon Islands
Somalia
South Sudan
Suriname
Swaziland
Uganda
Vanuatu
Zambia
Zimbabwe

**There is no international standard for compulsory education.

About the Iqbal Masih Award

The United States Congress established the Iqbal Masih Award for the Elimination of Child Labor in 2008 to recognize exceptional efforts by an individual, company, organization or national government to end the worst forms of child labor.

The award reflects the spirit of Iqbal Masih, a Pakistani child sold into bonded labor as a carpet weaver at age 4. He escaped his servitude at age 10 and became an outspoken advocate of children's rights, drawing international attention in his fight against child labor. Masih was killed in Pakistan at age 13 in 1995.

To learn more about the Iqbal Masih Award and USDOL's efforts to combat child labor, visit our Web site at www.dol.gov/ilab.

2016 Iqbal Masih Award Recipient: Sonia Pierre

At 13, Sonia Pierre began her stand for workers' rights in the Dominican Republic, leading a march to demand humane working conditions for sugar cane harvesters in the "batey" – the worker settlement in which she grew up.

From the single-room, dirt-floor barrack she shared with 12 siblings and her mother, Pierre's journey took her to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, where her powerful testimony helped lead to a landmark decision protecting children whose lack of legal status in their country of birth left them vulnerable to exploitation, known as the Yean and Bosico v. Dominican Republic case. The case was aimed at reforming the country's birth registration system, and set a precedent regarding the legal status of migrant-descendant children.

Pierre led the struggle against violence and discrimination against Haitians and Dominican children of Haitian descent. Despite threats and intimidation, Pierre fought for children's access to educational opportunities and nationality. She founded an NGO, Movement for Dominican Women of Haitian Descent (MUDHA), to help empower these women and their communities. To help address persistent barriers to education, MUDHA established a school that has served thousands of children. Sonia Pierre's efforts highlighted the link between a lack of nationality and increased vulnerability to child labor and labor exploitation. She continued her work until her death in 2011, at age 48. Her legacy has inspired a generation of youth to continue her work to secure legal identity documentation and educational opportunities for the most vulnerable children in the Dominican Republic.

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Boy mending nets in Halong Bay, Vietnam.

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ON YOUR COMPUTER

All three of USDOL's flagship reports on international child labor and forced labor are available on our Web site in HTML and PDF formats, at www.dol.gov/endchildlabor. These reports include the *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor* required by the Trade and Development Act of 2000, the *List of Products Produced by Forced or Indentured Child Labor* required by Executive Order 13126, and the *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor and Forced Labor* required by the Trafficking Victims Protection and Reauthorization Act of 2005. On our Web site, you can navigate to individual country pages, where you can find information on the prevalence and sectoral distribution of the worst forms of child labor in the country, specific goods produced by child labor or forced labor in the country, the legal framework on child labor, enforcement of laws related to child labor, coordination of government efforts on child labor, government policies related to child labor, social programs to address child labor, and specific suggestions for government action to address the issue.

Easy to slip into your pocket, our USB stores all three reports, as well as fact sheets about ILAB's work, frequently asked questions about each report, and other report-related materials translated into French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, and Russian.

ON YOUR PHONE

Our *Sweat & Toil* mobile application contains more than 1,000 pages of research from all three reports. *Sweat & Toil* helps you easily sort data by region, country, assessment level, good, and type of exploitation – all without needing an Internet connection! You can download the free App from the iTunes or Google Play store and access the data behind the App on our Web site: http://developer.dol.gov/others/sweat-and-toil.

ON PAPER

Our *Findings* report is available in a hard-copy magazine format, which provides an overall summary of the report, regional findings related to meaningful efforts made and gaps for countries to address, and the assessment levels of each of the 135 countries. In addition, both *Lists* are also available in hard-copy format. Send an e-mail to GlobalKids@dol.gov to request hard copies or download them from our Web site: https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/resources/reports/child-labor/findings/.

BONUS APP!

Our *Comply Chain: Business Tools for Labor Compliance in Global Supply Chains* mobile application contains best practices guidance for companies on developing strong social compliance systems to reduce child labor and forced labor in their supply chains. The App includes eight modules ranging from stakeholder engagement to code of conduct provisions, and from auditing to remediation to reporting. Companies that are new to social compliance can work through the modules in order, and more experienced companies can select modules based on their continuous improvement goals. You can download the free App from the iTunes or Google Play store, or access it on our Web site: https://www.dol.gov/complychain.

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Appendix 1.

Country Assessments, *by Assessment*

COUNTRY	REGION	ASSESSMENT
SIGNIFICANT ADVANCEMENT		
Albania	EUR	Significant Advancement
Argentina	LAC	Significant Advancement
Brazil	LAC	Significant Advancement
Chile	LAC	Significant Advancement
Colombia	LAC	Significant Advancement
Congo, Democratic Republic of	AF	Significant Advancement
Costa Rica	LAC	Significant Advancement
Côte d'Ivoire	AF	Significant Advancement
Ecuador	LAC	Significant Advancement
Ethiopia	AF	Significant Advancement
Ghana	AF	Significant Advancement
Guatemala	LAC	Significant Advancement
Kosovo	EUR	Significant Advancement
Mali	AF	Significant Advancement
Morocco	MENA	Significant Advancement
Panama	LAC	Significant Advancement
Paraguay	LAC	Significant Advancement
Peru	LAC	Significant Advancement
Philippines	AP	Significant Advancement
Thailand	AP	Significant Advancement
Tunisia	MENA	Significant Advancement
Uganda	AF	Significant Advancement
Western Sahara	MENA	Significant Advancement
MODERATE ADVANCEMENT		
Afghanistan	AP	Moderate Advancement
Algeria	MENA	Moderate Advancement
Angola	AF	Moderate Advancement
Bahrain	MENA	Moderate Advancement
Bhutan	AP	Moderate Advancement
Bosnia and Herzegovina	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Botswana	AF	Moderate Advancement
Burkina Faso	AF	Moderate Advancement
Cabo Verde	AF	Moderate Advancement
Cambodia	AP	Moderate Advancement
Cameroon	AF	Moderate Advancement
Central African Republic	AF	Moderate Advancement
Chad	AF	Moderate Advancement
Comoros	AF	Moderate Advancement
Egypt	MENA	Moderate Advancement

Appendix 1.

Country Assessments, *by Assessment (Continued)*

COUNTRY	REGION	ASSESSMENT
El Salvador	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Fiji	AP	Moderate Advancement
Gambia, The	AF	Moderate Advancement
Guinea	AF	Moderate Advancement
Guinea-Bissau	AF	Moderate Advancement
Guyana	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Haiti	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Honduras	LAC	Moderate Advancement
India	AP	Moderate Advancement
Indonesia	AP	Moderate Advancement
Jamaica	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Jordan	MENA	Moderate Advancement
Kazakhstan	AP	Moderate Advancement
Kenya	AF	Moderate Advancement
Kyrgyz Republic	AP	Moderate Advancement
Lebanon	MENA	Moderate Advancement
Liberia	AF	Moderate Advancement
Macedonia	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Madagascar	AF	Moderate Advancement
Malawi	AF	Moderate Advancement
Maldives	AP	Moderate Advancement
Mauritius	AF	Moderate Advancement
Moldova	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Mongolia	AP	Moderate Advancement
Montenegro	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Namibia	AF	Moderate Advancement
Nepal	AP	Moderate Advancement
Nicaragua	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Niger	AF	Moderate Advancement
Nigeria	AF	Moderate Advancement
Oman	MENA	Moderate Advancement
Pakistan	AP	Moderate Advancement
Rwanda	AF	Moderate Advancement
Saint Lucia	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Samoa	AP	Moderate Advancement
Serbia	EUR	Moderate Advancement
South Africa	AF	Moderate Advancement
Sri Lanka	AP	Moderate Advancement
Timor-Leste	AP	Moderate Advancement

Appendix 1.

Country Assessments, *by Assessment (Continued)*

COUNTRY	REGION	ASSESSMENT
Togo	AF	Moderate Advancement
Turkey	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Zambia	AF	Moderate Advancement
Zimbabwe	AF	Moderate Advancement
MINIMAL ADVANCEMENT		
Anguilla	EUR	Minimal Advancement
Bangladesh	AP	Minimal Advancement
Belize	LAC	Minimal Advancement
Benin	AF	Minimal Advancement
British Virgin Islands	EUR	Minimal Advancement
Burundi	AF	Minimal Advancement
Congo, Republic of the	AF	Minimal Advancement
Cook Islands	AP	Minimal Advancement
Djibouti	AF	Minimal Advancement
Dominica	LAC	Minimal Advancement
Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)	EUR	Minimal Advancement
Gabon	AF	Minimal Advancement
Grenada	LAC	Minimal Advancement
Kiribati	AP	Minimal Advancement
Lesotho	AF	Minimal Advancement
Montserrat	EUR	Minimal Advancement
Mozambique	AF	Minimal Advancement
Norfolk Island	AP	Minimal Advancement
Papua New Guinea	AP	Minimal Advancement
São Tomé and Príncipe	AF	Minimal Advancement
Senegal	AF	Minimal Advancement
Seychelles	AF	Minimal Advancement
Solomon Islands	AP	Minimal Advancement
Saint Helena, Ascensión, and Tristán da Cunha	EUR	Minimal Advancement
Suriname	LAC	Minimal Advancement
Tonga	AP	Minimal Advancement
Tuvalu	AP	Minimal Advancement
Uruguay	LAC	Minimal Advancement
Vanuatu	AP	Minimal Advancement
Venezuela	LAC	Minimal Advancement
West Bank and the Gaza Strip	MENA	Minimal Advancement
Yemen	MENA	Minimal Advancement

Appendix 1.

Country Assessments, *by Assessment (Continued)*

COUNTRY	REGION	ASSESSMENT
MINIMAL ADVANCEMENT – EFFORTS MADE BUT CONTINUED LAW, POLICY OR PRACTICE THAT DELAYED ADVANCEMENT		
Armenia	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Bolivia	LAC	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Dominican Republic	LAC	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement
Georgia	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Mauritania	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy that Delayed Advancement
Sierra Leone	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy that Delayed Advancement
Somalia	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement
Tanzania	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy that Delayed Advancement
Ukraine	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
MINIMAL ADVANCEMENT – EFFORTS MADE BUT REGRESSION IN LAW, POLICY OR PRACTICE THAT DELAYED ADVANCEMENT		
Azerbaijan	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement
Iraq	MENA	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement
NO ADVANCEMENT		
Christmas Island	AP	No Advancement
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	AP	No Advancement
Niue	AP	No Advancement
Tokelau	AP	No Advancement
NO ADVANCEMENT – EFFORTS MADE BUT COMPLICIT IN FORCED CHILD LABOR		
South Sudan	AF	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Swaziland	AF	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Uzbekistan	AP	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
NO ADVANCEMENT – NO EFFORTS MADE AND COMPLICIT IN FORCED CHILD LABOR		
Eritrea	AF	No Advancement – No Efforts Made and Complicit in Forced Child Labor
NO ASSESSMENT		
Burma	AP	No Assessment
Wallis and Futuna	EUR	No Assessment

Appendix 1.

Country Assessments, *by Country*

COUNTRY	REGION	ASSESSMENT
Afghanistan	AP	Moderate Advancement
Albania	EUR	Significant Advancement
Algeria	MENA	Moderate Advancement
Angola	AF	Moderate Advancement
Anguilla	EUR	Minimal Advancement
Argentina	LAC	Significant Advancement
Armenia	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Azerbaijan	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement
Bahrain	MENA	Moderate Advancement
Bangladesh	AP	Minimal Advancement
Belize	LAC	Minimal Advancement
Benin	AF	Minimal Advancement
Bhutan	AP	Moderate Advancement
Bolivia	LAC	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Bosnia and Herzegovina	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Botswana	AF	Moderate Advancement
Brazil	LAC	Significant Advancement
British Virgin Islands	EUR	Minimal Advancement
Burkina Faso	AF	Moderate Advancement
Burma	AP	No Assessment
Burundi	AF	Minimal Advancement
Cabo Verde	AF	Moderate Advancement
Cambodia	AP	Moderate Advancement
Cameroon	AF	Moderate Advancement
Central African Republic	AF	Moderate Advancement
Chad	AF	Moderate Advancement
Chile	LAC	Significant Advancement
Christmas Island	AP	No Advancement
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	AP	No Advancement
Colombia	LAC	Significant Advancement
Comoros	AF	Moderate Advancement
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	AF	Significant Advancement
Congo, Republic of the	AF	Minimal Advancement
Cook Islands	AP	Minimal Advancement
Costa Rica	LAC	Significant Advancement
Côte d'Ivoire	AF	Significant Advancement
Djibouti	AF	Minimal Advancement
Dominica	LAC	Minimal Advancement
Dominican Republic	LAC	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement

Appendix 1.

Country Assessments, *by Country (Continued)*

COUNTRY	REGION	ASSESSMENT
Ecuador	LAC	Significant Advancement
Egypt	MENA	Moderate Advancement
El Salvador	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Eritrea	AF	No Advancement – No Efforts Made and Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Ethiopia	AF	Significant Advancement
Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)	EUR	Minimal Advancement
Fiji	AP	Moderate Advancement
Gabon	AF	Minimal Advancement
Gambia, The	AF	Moderate Advancement
Georgia	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Ghana	AF	Significant Advancement
Grenada	LAC	Minimal Advancement
Guatemala	LAC	Significant Advancement
Guinea	AF	Moderate Advancement
Guinea-Bissau	AF	Moderate Advancement
Guyana	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Haiti	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Honduras	LAC	Moderate Advancement
India	AP	Moderate Advancement
Indonesia	AP	Moderate Advancement
Iraq	MENA	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement
Jamaica	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Jordan	MENA	Moderate Advancement
Kazakhstan	AP	Moderate Advancement
Kenya	AF	Moderate Advancement
Kiribati	AP	Minimal Advancement
Kosovo	EUR	Significant Advancement
Kyrgyz Republic	AP	Moderate Advancement
Lebanon	MENA	Moderate Advancement
Lesotho	AF	Minimal Advancement
Liberia	AF	Moderate Advancement
Macedonia	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Madagascar	AF	Moderate Advancement
Malawi	AF	Moderate Advancement
Maldives	AP	Moderate Advancement
Mali	AF	Significant Advancement
Mauritania	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy that Delayed Advancement
Mauritius	AF	Moderate Advancement
Moldova	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Mongolia	AP	Moderate Advancement

Appendix 1.

Country Assessments, *by Country (Continued)*

COUNTRY	REGION	ASSESSMENT
Montenegro	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Montserrat	EUR	Minimal Advancement
Morocco	MENA	Significant Advancement
Mozambique	AF	Minimal Advancement
Namibia	AF	Moderate Advancement
Nepal	AP	Moderate Advancement
Nicaragua	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Niger	AF	Moderate Advancement
Nigeria	AF	Moderate Advancement
Niue	AP	No Advancement
Norfolk Island	AP	Minimal Advancement
Oman	MENA	Moderate Advancement
Pakistan	AP	Moderate Advancement
Panama	LAC	Significant Advancement
Papua New Guinea	AP	Minimal Advancement
Paraguay	LAC	Significant Advancement
Peru	LAC	Significant Advancement
Philippines	AP	Significant Advancement
Rwanda	AF	Moderate Advancement
Saint Helena, Ascensión, and Tristán da Cunha	EUR	Minimal Advancement
Saint Lucia	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Samoa	AP	Moderate Advancement
São Tomé and Príncipe	AF	Minimal Advancement
Senegal	AF	Minimal Advancement
Serbia	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Seychelles	AF	Minimal Advancement
Sierra Leone	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy that Delayed Advancement
Solomon Islands	AP	Minimal Advancement
Somalia	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement
South Africa	AF	Moderate Advancement
South Sudan	AF	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Sri Lanka	AP	Moderate Advancement
Suriname	LAC	Minimal Advancement
Swaziland	AF	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Tanzania	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy that Delayed Advancement
Thailand	AP	Significant Advancement
Timor-Leste	AP	Moderate Advancement

Appendix 1.

Country Assessments, *by Country (Continued)*

COUNTRY	REGION	ASSESSMENT
Togo	AF	Moderate Advancement
Tokelau	AP	No Advancement
Tonga	AP	Minimal Advancement
Tunisia	MENA	Significant Advancement
Turkey	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Tuvalu	AP	Minimal Advancement
Uganda	AF	Significant Advancement
Ukraine	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Uruguay	LAC	Minimal Advancement
Uzbekistan	AP	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Vanuatu	AP	Minimal Advancement
Venezuela	LAC	Minimal Advancement
Wallis and Futuna	EUR	No Assessment
West Bank and the Gaza Strip	MENA	Minimal Advancement
Western Sahara	MENA	Significant Advancement
Yemen	MENA	Minimal Advancement
Zambia	AF	Moderate Advancement
Zimbabwe	AF	Moderate Advancement

Appendix 1.

Comparisons in Assessments from 2015 to 2016, *by Country*

COUNTRY	REGION	2015 ASSESSMENT	2016 ASSESSMENT
Afghanistan	AP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Albania	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Significant Advancement
Algeria	MENA	Significant Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Angola	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Anguilla	EUR	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Argentina	LAC	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement
Armenia	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Azerbaijan	EUR	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Policy that Delayed Advancement
Bahrain	MENA	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Bangladesh	AP	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Belize	LAC	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Benin	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Bhutan	AP	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Bolivia	LAC	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Bosnia and Herzegovina	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Botswana	AF	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Brazil	LAC	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement
British Virgin Islands	EUR	No Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Burkina Faso	AF	Significant Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Burma	AP		No Assessment
Burundi	AF	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Cabo Verde	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Cambodia	AP	Significant Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Cameroon	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Central African Republic	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Chad	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Chile	LAC	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement
Christmas Island	AP	No Advancement	No Advancement
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	AP	No Advancement	No Advancement
Colombia	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Significant Advancement
Comoros	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	AF	Moderate Advancement	Significant Advancement
Congo, Republic of the	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Cook Islands	AP	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Costa Rica	LAC	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement

Appendix 1.

Comparisons in Assessments from 2015 to 2016, *by Country (Continued)*

COUNTRY	REGION	2015 ASSESSMENT	2016 ASSESSMENT
Côte d'Ivoire	AF	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement
Djibouti	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Dominica	LAC	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Dominican Republic	LAC	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement
Ecuador	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Significant Advancement
Egypt	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
El Salvador	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Eritrea	AF	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor	No Advancement – No Efforts Made and Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Ethiopia	AF	Moderate Advancement	Significant Advancement
Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)	EUR	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Fiji	AP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Gabon	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Gambia, The	AF	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Georgia	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Ghana	AF	Moderate Advancement	Significant Advancement
Grenada	LAC	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Guatemala	LAC	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement
Guinea	AF	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Guinea-Bissau	AF	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Guyana	LAC	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Haiti	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Honduras	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
India	AP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Indonesia	AP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Iraq	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement
Jamaica	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Jordan	MENA	Significant Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Kazakhstan	AP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Kenya	AF	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Kiribati	AP	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Kosovo	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Significant Advancement
Kyrgyz Republic	AP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Lebanon	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Lesotho	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement

Appendix 1.

Comparisons in Assessments from 2015 to 2016, *by Country (Continued)*

COUNTRY	REGION	2015 ASSESSMENT	2016 ASSESSMENT
Liberia	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Macedonia	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Madagascar	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Malawi	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Maldives	AP	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Mali	AF	Moderate Advancement	Significant Advancement
Mauritania	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy that Delayed Advancement
Mauritius	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Moldova	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Mongolia	AP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Montenegro	EUR	Significant Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Montserrat	EUR	No Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Morocco	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Significant Advancement
Mozambique	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Namibia	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Nepal	AP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Nicaragua	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Niger	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Nigeria	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Niue	AP	No Advancement	No Advancement
Norfolk Island	AP	No Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Oman	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Pakistan	AP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Panama	LAC	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement
Papua New Guinea	AP	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Paraguay	LAC	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement
Peru	LAC	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement
Philippines	AP	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement
Rwanda	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Saint Helena, Ascensión, and Tristán da Cunha	EUR	No Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Saint Lucia	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	LAC	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Samoa	AP	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
São Tomé and Príncipe	AF	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Senegal	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Serbia	EUR	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Seychelles	AF	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement

Appendix 1.

Comparisons in Assessments from 2015 to 2016, *by Country (Continued)*

COUNTRY	REGION	2015 ASSESSMENT	2016 ASSESSMENT
Sierra Leone	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Policy that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy that Delayed Advancement
Solomon Islands	AP	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Somalia	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement
South Africa	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
South Sudan	AF	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Sri Lanka	AP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Suriname	LAC	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Swaziland	AF	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Tanzania	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy that Delayed Advancement
Thailand	AP	Moderate Advancement	Significant Advancement
Timor-Leste	AP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Togo	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Tokelau	AP	No Advancement	No Advancement
Tonga	AP	No Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Tunisia	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Significant Advancement
Turkey	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Tuvalu	AP	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Uganda	AF	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement
Ukraine	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Uruguay	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Uzbekistan	AP	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Vanuatu	AP	No Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Venezuela	LAC	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Wallis and Futuna	EUR	No Assessment	No Assessment
West Bank and the Gaza Strip	MENA	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Western Sahara	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Significant Advancement
Yemen	MENA	No Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Zambia	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Zimbabwe	AF	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement

Appendix 2.

Laws and Ratifications, *by Country*

Country	Region	2016 Assessment	ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC	CRC Optional Protocols		Palermo Protocol	Minimum Ages for Work		Education	
						CRC- CSEC	CRC- AC		Min Age/ Work	Min Age/ Haz Work	Compulsory Education Age	Free Public Education
Afghanistan	AP	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
Albania	EUR	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
Algeria	MENA	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
Angola	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	12	X
Anguilla	EUR	Minimal Advancement			X				12	14	17	X
Argentina	LAC	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	18	X
Armenia	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
Azerbaijan	EUR	Minimal Advancement– Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
Bahrain	MENA	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
Bangladesh	AP	Minimal Advancement		X	X	X	X		14	18	11	X
Belize	LAC	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	12	14	14	X
Benin	AF	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	16	X
Bhutan	AP	Moderate Advancement	N/A	N/A	X	X	X		13	18	N/A	X
Bolivia	LAC	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	17	X
Bosnia and Herzegovina	EUR	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
Botswana	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	N/A	X
Brazil	LAC	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	17	X
British Virgin Islands	EUR	Minimal Advancement			X				16	18	17	X
Burkina Faso	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X		X	16	18	16	X
Burma	AP	No Assessment		X	X	X		X	14	18	10	X

Appendix 2.

Laws and Ratifications, *by Country (Continued)*

Country	Region	2016 Assessment	ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC	CRC Optional Protocols		Palermo Protocol	Minimum Ages for Work		Education	
						CRC- CSEC	CRC- AC		Min Age/ Work	Min Age/ Haz Work	Compulsory Education Age	Free Public Education
Burundi	AF	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	12	X
Cabo Verde	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
Cambodia	AP	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	N/A	X
Cameroon	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X		X	X	14	18	12	X
Central African Republic	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X		X	14	18	15	X
Chad	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	16	X
Chile	LAC	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	18	X
Christmas Island	AP	No Advancement		X	X	X	X	X	15	18	17.5	X
Cocos (Keeling) Island	AP	No Advancement		X	X	X	X	X	15	18	17.5	X
Colombia	LAC	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	18	X
Comoros	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X			15	18	12	X
Congo, Dem Rep of	AF	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	18	18	12	X
Congo, Rep of	AF	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X		16	18	16	X
Cook Islands	AP	Minimal Advancement			X				13	18	16	X
Costa Rica	LAC	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	17	X
Côte d'Ivoire	AF	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
Djibouti	AF	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
Dominica	LAC	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
Dominican Republic	LAC	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	18	X
Ecuador	LAC	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
Egypt	MENA	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X

Appendix 2.

Laws and Ratifications, *by Country (Continued)*

Country	Region	2016 Assessment	ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC	CRC Optional Protocols		Palermo Protocol	Minimum Ages for Work		Education	
						CRC- CSEC	CRC- AC		Min Age/ Work	Min Age/ Haz Work	Compulsory Education Age	Free Public Education
El Salvador	LAC	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	18	X
Eritrea	AF	No Advancement – No Efforts Made and Complicit in Forced Child Labor	X		X	X	X	X	14	N/A	N/A	
Ethiopia	AF	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	N/A	
Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)	EUR	Minimal Advancement		X	X				14	15	16	X
Fiji	AP	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X				15	18	15	
Gabon	AF	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
Gambia, The	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X		X	16	18	12	X
Georgia	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	15	X
Ghana	AF	Significant Advancement	X	X	X		X	X	15	18	15	X
Grenada	LAC	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	N/A	16	X
Guatemala	LAC	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	15	X
Guinea	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
Guinea-Bissau	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	15	
Guyana	LAC	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
Haiti	LAC	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
Honduras	LAC	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	17	X
India	AP	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	15	X
Indonesia	AP	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X

Appendix 2.

Laws and Ratifications, *by Country (Continued)*

Country	Region	2016 Assessment	ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC	CRC Optional Protocols		Palermo Protocol	Minimum Ages for Work		Education	
						CRC- CSEC	CRC- AC		Min Age/ Work	Min Age/ Haz Work	Compulsory Education Age	Free Public Education
Iraq	MENA	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	12/15	X
Jamaica	LAC	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	16	X
Jordan	MENA	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
Kazakhstan	AP	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	17	X
Kenya	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X		X	X	16	18	14	X
Kiribati	AP	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	16	X
Kosovo	EUR	Significant Advancement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15	18	15	X
Kyrgyz Republic	AP	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	15	X
Lebanon	MENA	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X		X	14	18	15	X
Lesotho	AF	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	13	X
Liberia	AF	Moderate Advancement		X	X			X	16	18	15	X
Macedonia	EUR	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	16	X
Madagascar	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	16	X
Malawi	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	18	X
Maldives	AP	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
Mali	AF	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	15	X
Mauritania	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy that Delayed Advancement	X	X	X	X		X	14	18	14	X
Mauritius	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
Moldova	EUR	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
Mongolia	AP	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X

Appendix 2.

Laws and Ratifications, *by Country (Continued)*

Country	Region	2016 Assessment	ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC	CRC Optional Protocols		Palermo Protocol	Minimum Ages for Work		Education	
						CRC- CSEC	CRC- AC		Min Age/ Work	Min Age/ Haz Work	Compulsory Education Age	Free Public Education
Montenegro	EUR	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
Montserrat	EUR	Minimal Advancement							16	18	16	X
Morocco	MENA	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
Mozambique	AF	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	13	X
Namibia	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	16	X
Nepal	AP	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X		14	16	13	X
Nicaragua	LAC	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	12	X
Niger	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	16	N/A	X
Nigeria	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	12	18	15	X
Niue	AP	No Advancement			X				N/A	N/A	16	X
Norfolk Island	AP	Minimal Advancement		X	X	X	X	X	N/A	N/A	17	X
Oman	MENA	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
Pakistan	AP	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X		15	15	16	X
Panama	LAC	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	15	X
Papua New Guinea	AP	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X				16	18	N/A	
Paraguay	LAC	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	15	X
Peru	LAC	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	17	X
Philippines	AP	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	18	X
Rwanda	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
Saint Helena, Ascensión, and Tristán da Cunha	EUR	Minimal Advancement		X	X				N/A	18	16	X
Saint Lucia	LAC	Moderate Advancement		X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	LAC	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	14	16	X

Appendix 2.

Laws and Ratifications, *by Country (Continued)*

Country	Region	2016 Assessment	ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC	CRC Optional Protocols		Palermo Protocol	Minimum Ages for Work		Education	
						CRC- CSEC	CRC- AC		Min Age/ Work	Min Age/ Haz Work	Compulsory Education Age	Free Public Education
Samoa	AP	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X		15	18	14	
São Tomé and Príncipe	AF	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X			X	14	18	12	X
Senegal	AF	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	16	X
Serbia	EUR	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
Seychelles	AF	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	16	X
Sierra Leone	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy that Delayed Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
Solomon Islands	AP	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X				12	N/A	N/A	
Somalia	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement		X	X				15	18	N/A	X
South Africa	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
South Sudan	AF	No Advancement – Efforts Made But Complicit in Forced Child Labor	X	X	X				14	18	13	X
Sri Lanka	AP	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	16	X
Suriname	LAC	Minimal Advancement		X	X	X		X	14	18	12	X
Swaziland	AF	No Advancement – Efforts Made But Complicit in Forced Child Labor	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	N/A	X
Tanzania	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy that Delayed Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14/15	18	14	

Appendix 2.

Laws and Ratifications, *by Country (Continued)*

Country	Region	2016 Assessment	ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC	CRC Optional Protocols		Palermo Protocol	Minimum Ages for Work		Education	
						CRC- CSEC	CRC- AC		Min Age/ Work	Min Age/ Haz Work	Compulsory Education Age	Free Public Education
Thailand	AP	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	16	X
Timor-Leste	AP	Moderate Advancement		X	X	X	X	X	15	17	16	X
Togo	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
Tokelau	AP	No Advancement							N/A	N/A	16	X
Tonga	AP	No Advancement			X				N/A	N/A	18	
Tunisia	MENA	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
Turkey	EUR	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	17	X
Tuvalu	AP	Minimal Advancement			X				14	15	15	
Uganda	AF	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X		16	18	13	X
Ukraine	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	17	X
Uruguay	LAC	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	17	X
Uzbekistan	AP	No Advancement – Efforts Made But Complicit in Forced Child Labor	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	18	X
Vanuatu	AP	Minimal Advancement		X	X	X	X		14	15	N/A	
Venezuela	LAC	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	14	18	15	X
Wallis and Futuna	EUR	No Assessment	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	16	X
West Bank and the Gaza Strip	MENA	Minimal Advancement	N/A	N/A	X	N/A	X	N/A	15	18	16	X
Western Sahara	MENA	Significant Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	15	18	15	X
Yemen	MENA	Minimal Advancement	X	X	X	X	X		14	18	15	X
Zambia	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X			X	15	18	N/A	X
Zimbabwe	AF	Moderate Advancement	X	X	X	X	X	X	16	18	12	

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On December 13, 2016, in Yemen, a smiling girl and her classmates are students at Huthaifa School, in Sana'a, the capital. Escalated conflict has exacerbated the already critical humanitarian situation in Yemen – where basic social services are on the verge of collapse, leaving millions of people without access to health care and safe water and adequate sanitation, as well as thousands of children out of school. An ongoing UNICEF Back to School campaign in coordination with the Ministry of Education and other education partners is helping to promote and facilitate children's access to protective learning environments, including through school repair, the establishment of temporary learning spaces and the provision of educational supplies.

Appendix 3.

Reference Materials

CHILDREN'S WORK AND EDUCATION STATISTICS: SOURCES AND DEFINITIONS

Approximately 121 countries in this report include a statistical table (Table 1. Statistics on Children's Work and Education) with data on the percentage of working children, school attendance rate, percentage of children who combine school and work, and/or primary completion rate. For a smaller set of profiles, the percentage of children who work by sector is provided in a chart in each profile.

This section provides definitions and describes the sources for these data. This section also discusses some of the strengths and weaknesses of these data. While in a few cases, more current sources of data may be available than those used here, this report uses the most reliable, standardized sources available to date to allow for cross-country comparisons. Because reliable child labor surveys are not available for many countries, in some cases, USDOL uses statistics from child labor surveys that are more than 10 years old (data from 2006) at the time of writing this report. In the event that data did not exist from the sources described below, no other reliable and publicly available source of data exists for a country, or data exists but has not been analyzed to allow for cross-country comparisons, the report concludes that the statistics are "unavailable."

Working Children (Children in Employment)

Many of the statistical tables in the country profiles in this report present data on the percentage and number of working children (children in employment) in the country in question. Data presented in the current report may differ from data that were presented in previous reports because more updated data have become available.

Definition

"Working children" or "children in employment" are those engaged in any economic activity for at least 1 hour during the reference period. Economic activity includes market production and certain types of non-market production (principally the production of goods and services for own use). The work children perform may be in the formal or informal economy, inside or outside family settings, or for pay or profit. This includes children working in domestic service outside the child's own household for an employer (paid or unpaid). This definition is in accordance with the *Resolution Concerning Statistics of Child Labour (Resolution II)* adopted by the 18th International Conference of Labour Statisticians in 2008, and the report *Marking Progress Against Child Labour*, published by the ILO in 2013.[1, 2]

Children in Employment Versus Child Labor

This report presents statistics on working children rather than children involved in child labor (for the precise definitions of these terms, please see the "Definitions Related to Child Labor" section). The definition of working children does not vary among countries. For this reason, statistics on working children are comparable across countries. In contrast, child labor statistics are based on national legislation, including, for example, the minimum age for work, which varies from country to country. As a result, child labor data are not comparable across countries.

Data Sources and Limitations

Data are from UCW project analysis of primarily four survey types: (1) the ILO's SIMPOC surveys; (2) UNICEF's Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS); (3) national Labor Force Surveys (LFS); and (4) other national and regional level household surveys, including Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS).[3]

According to the UCW researchers, typical surveys on children's work do not collect sufficient detailed information on children's activities to accurately measure economic activity.[4] This sentiment was echoed in December 2008 at the 18th International Conference of Labor Statisticians. A resolution was adopted at the conference that provides guidelines for governments on collecting child labor data. Specifically, the guidance indicates that countries may choose to use a broad framework to measure children's work and child labor that encompasses unpaid household

services or that countries may use a narrower definition of children's work that excludes such services, as long as the definition used is clearly specified.(5) This resolution is contributing to the collection of more comparable data on children's involvement in non-market activities.

In analyzing the data from the above-mentioned surveys, the UCW attempted to apply a standard definition of children's work. Although UNICEF MICS and ILO SIMPOC reports, for example, each use a different definition of work (as of the writing of this report, MICS reports include household chores in their definition of work, while SIMPOC reports do not), to the extent possible, the UCW applied a common definition of work to the micro-data described. To date, this has resulted in the individual analysis of more than 184 data sets. While every attempt was made to present a standardized child work statistic, there are differences across surveys that have the potential to affect the comparability of statistics across countries and across years. Some of these differences are explained in greater detail here but, in general, include differing age groups, questionnaire content and wording, purpose of the survey, sample design, non-sampling errors, and year of data collection.

In general, data are presented for children ages 5–14, but some of the profiles present a work statistic for children ages 6–14, 7–14, or 10–14, depending on the age categories used in the original survey. The wording of work-related questions may also impact the results. For example, the question on work in these surveys usually refers to work during the past 7 days; however, some surveys may refer to work activities during the past 12 months, and are therefore likely to capture a higher proportion of working children than surveys with 7-day timeframes. The purpose of the survey—whether the survey is designed specifically to measure children's work and child labor (SIMPOC surveys) or to measure the labor force participation of adults—may affect estimates of children's work.(6) In addition, sample design may impact survey results. For example, children's work is often geographically clustered, and SIMPOC surveys are designed to capture children's work in such geographic areas. As a result, estimates of working children will vary across surveys that do not use the same sample design.(7) The ILO, UNICEF, and the UCW continue to investigate the effects of these survey differences on estimates of children's work.

As noted, some country profiles also include the sector in which children reportedly work. For some surveys, sector of work was not reported by the entire sample of working children. Therefore, the distribution of children working by sector (i.e., agriculture, industry, and services) represents children with non-missing data for the sector of work. For more information on the sectors of work reported in the chart, see Table 1 in "Formats."

Percentage of Children Attending School

The percentage of children attending school is the share of all children within a specified age group that reported attending school. The UCW project data described above in the section "Working Children" are used to develop country-specific school attendance statistics. To be consistent with estimates of working children, the age group for which attendance statistics are calculated for children is generally ages 5–14. In some cases, however, different age categories are used, usually ages 6–14 or ages 7–14.

Percentage of Children Combining Work and School

The percentage of children who combine work and school is the share of all children within a specified age group reporting both working and attending school. The UCW project data described above in the section "Working Children" are used to develop country-specific statistics on children combining work and school. The age group for which these statistics are calculated is usually for children ages 7–14.

Primary Completion Rate

This report uses the "gross intake ratio to the last grade of primary education" as a proxy measure for primary completion. This ratio is the total number of new entrants in the last grade of primary education, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the population at the theoretical entrance age to the last grade of primary education. A high ratio indicates a high degree of current primary education completion. The calculation includes all new entrants to the last grade (regardless of age). Therefore, the ratio can exceed 100 percent, due to over-aged and under-aged children who enter primary school late/early and/or repeat grades.

Data Sources and Limitations

Unlike the other statistics presented in the country data tables, which are all based on the UCW analysis as described above, primary completion rate data are from the UNESCO Institute for Statistics. The data were downloaded on December 16, 2016, and are available at http://data.uis.unesco.org/. For more information on this statistic, please see the UNESCO Institute for Statistics Glossary at http://uis.unesco.org/en/glossary.

UNESCO uses population estimates from the United Nations Population Division (UNDP) to calculate some of the rates it publishes, including the gross intake ratio to last grade of primary education. These population estimates change over time. (The last revision that affected the statistics used in this report was in 2015.) All population-based indicators, including gross intake ratio to last grade of primary education, for all years are re-calculated using these latest estimates. For some countries/years, when the new UNDP population estimates are found to be inconsistent with education data, related indicators are removed. All updates made to UNESCO data on gross intake ratio to last grade of primary education are reflected in the primary completion rate statistic included in this report.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Basic Education

Article 7(c) of ILO C. 182 requires countries to "ensure access to free basic education." According to the International Standard Classification of Education, basic education corresponds to the first 9 years of formal schooling and is comprised of primary and lower secondary education. Primary education is considered to be the first stage of "basic education" and covers 6 years of full-time schooling, with the legal age of entrance normally being not younger than 5 years or older than 7 years. It is designed to give pupils a sound basis in reading, writing, and mathematics, along with an elementary understanding of other subjects, such as history, geography, natural science, social science, religion, art, and music. Lower secondary education is more subject-focused and requires specialized teachers. It corresponds to some 3 years of schooling and marks the end of compulsory education where it exists. Basic education can also include a wide variety of non-formal and informal public and private educational activities offered to meet the defined basic learning needs of groups of people of all ages.

Article 13 of the 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights indicates that primary education should be compulsory and free to all. Secondary education, including technical and vocational education, should be available and accessible to all, and free education should be progressively introduced. Article 28 of the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child affirms the right of the child to education and the state's duty to ensure that primary education is free and compulsory.

Sources: ILO Convention No. 182, *Worst Forms of Child Labor,* 1999; http://www.ilo.org/ipec/facts/ILOconventionsonchildlabour/lang–en/index.htm. See also UNESCO. Glossary. http://uis.unesco.org/en/glossary. See also UNESCO, Institute for Statistics. *Fixing the Broken Promise of Education for All*. 2015; 132; http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Documents/oosci-global-report-en.pdf. See also UNESCO, Institute for Statistics. *International Standard Classification of Education 2011*. 2012; http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Documents/isced-2011-en.pdf. See also UNESCO. *The Right to Education: Law and Policy Review Guidelines*. 2014; http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002284/228491e.pdf.

Bonded Labor

Bonded labor or debt bondage is "the status or condition arising from a pledge by a debtor of his personal services or those of a person under his control as security for a debt if the value of those services as reasonably assessed is not applied towards the liquidation of the debt or the length and nature of those services are not respectively limited and defined," as defined in the UN Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery (1956).

Bonded labor typically occurs when a person who needs a loan, and has no security to offer, pledges his/her labor, or that of someone under his/her control, as security for a loan. In some cases, the interest on the loan may be so high that it cannot be paid. In others, it may be deemed that the bonded individual's work repays the interest on the loan, but not the principal. Thus, the loan is inherited and perpetuated, and becomes an inter-generational debt.

Bonded labor is prohibited as one of the worst forms of child labor in ILO C. 182.

Sources: UN. *Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery*. September 7, 1956; http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/SupplementaryConventionAbolitionOfSlavery.aspx. See also U.S. Department of Labor. *By the Sweat and Toil of Children, Vol. I: The Use of Child Labor in U.S. Manufactured and Mined Imports*. Washington, DC; 1994; 18. See also ILO-IPEC. *Child Labour: A Textbook for University Students*, Appendix 2: Glossary. Geneva; 2004; 287. See also ILO Convention No. 182, *Worst Forms of Child Labor*, 1999; http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:1:0.

Child Domestic Worker

Child domestic workers are children who work in third-party private households under an employment relationship. Child domestic workers engage in a variety of tasks, including cleaning, cooking, gardening, collecting water, and caring for children and the elderly. Child domestic workers sometimes have live-in arrangements, whereby they live in their employer's household and work in exchange for room, board, and sometimes education. Child domestic workers are vulnerable to the worst forms of child labor, including sexual, physical, and verbal abuse, in large part because they often depend on their employers for basic needs and work in locations hidden from public view.

Sources: ILO Convention 189, *Decent Work for Domestic Workers*, 2011; http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:1:0. See also ILO. Ending Child Labour in Domestic Work and Protecting Young Workers from Abusive Working Conditions. Geneva; 2013; 1, 3.

Child Labor Elimination Projects

Since 1995, USDOL has funded more than 300 projects in 93 countries. ILAB currently oversees more than $270 million of active programming to combat exploitative child labor. To date, USDOL-funded child labor elimination projects have rescued approximately 1.9 million children from exploitative child labor and have improved livelihoods for more than 28,000 vulnerable families to reduce their reliance on child labor.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, Projects; https://www.dol.gov/ilab/projects/.

Child Trafficking

The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, provides a commonly accepted definition of "human trafficking." With regard to child trafficking, it states: "the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered 'trafficking in persons' even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) of this Article." Therefore, there does not need to be abuse of power, control, coercion, or fraud present in order to constitute child trafficking, as the definition for adults requires. It states: "(a) 'trafficking in persons' shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability, or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs."

The trafficking of children is prohibited as a worst form of child labor in ILO C. 182, Article 3(a).

Sources: UNODC. *United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto*. 2004; 41; http://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNTOC/Publications/TOC%20Convention/TOCebook-e.pdf. See also ILO Convention No. 182, *Worst Forms of Child Labor*, 1999; http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

Based on the 1996 Declaration and Agenda for Action of the First World Congress Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, "commercial sexual exploitation of children" (CSEC) is defined as "sexual abuse by the adult and remuneration in cash or kind to the child or third person or persons." The remuneration dynamic distinguishes CSEC from the sexual abuse of a child where commercial gain is absent, although sexual exploitation is also abuse. The CSEC includes:

- Prostitution in the streets or indoors, in such places as brothels, discotheques, massage parlors, bars, hotels, and restaurants, among others;

- Child sex tourism;
- The production, promotion, and distribution of pornography involving children; and
- The use of children in sex shows (public or private).

ILO C. 182 Article 3(a) prohibits the sale and trafficking of children and the use, procuring, or offering of a child for prostitution or for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances.

Sources: *Declaration and Agenda for Action of the First World Congress Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children*, Stockholm, August 27–31, 1996; http://www.unicef.org/lac/spbarbados/Planning/Global/Child%20protection/The%20Stockholm%20Declaration%20and%20Agenda%20for%20Action_1996.doc. See also UNICEF. *Child Protection Information Sheet: Commercial Sexual Exploitation*. May 2006; http://www.unicef.org/eapro/Fact_sheet_SexualExploitation.pdf. See also ECPAT International. "CSEC Terminology." http://resources.ecpat.net/EI/Csec_definition.asp. See also ILO Convention No. 182, *Worst Forms of Child Labor*, 1999; http://www.ilo.org/ipec/facts/ILOconventionsonchildlabour/lang–en/index.htm.

Compulsory Education Age

The age up to which children and youth are legally required to attend school.

Source: UNESCO. "Glossary." http://uis.unesco.org/en/glossary.

Convention on the Rights of the Child

The Convention on the Rights of the Child spells out the basic rights of children, such as the right to survival; to develop to the fullest; to be protected from harmful influences, abuse, and exploitation; and to participate fully in family, cultural, and social life. The Convention protects children's rights by setting standards in health care; education; and legal, civil, and social services. According to Article 32 of the Convention, children have the right "to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development."

Source: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. *Convention on the Rights of the Child*. Entered into force September 2, 1990; http://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx.

Hazardous Work

Article 3(d) of ILO C. 182 sets forth the following as a worst form of child labor: "work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children." This is referred to as "hazardous work" colloquially. Countries must determine what type of work is considered hazardous work by law or regulation. ILO Recommendation 190 (ILO R.190) includes items that countries may wish to consider in determining which types of work are hazardous.

Sources: ILO Convention No. 182, *Worst Forms of Child Labor*, 1999; http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:1:0. See also ILO Recommendation 190, *Recommendation Concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, 1999; http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm.

Illicit Activities

ILO C. 182, Article 3(c) prohibits "the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs." Illicit activities in this context can include crimes, but the activity need not be illegal in order to be considered illicit. According to ILO R. 190 and the General Survey on the Fundamental Conventions Concerning Rights at Work, illicit activities can include "activities which involve the unlawful carrying or use of firearms or other weapons," as well as "the use of children by criminal organizations for transporting weapons and carrying out arson attacks or destroying public or private property, illicit activities such as housebreaking and petty theft, and that there are reports of children being engaged by adults in car breaking, housebreaking, selling drugs and selling stolen goods, ...use of children for forced or organized begging, gambling, the unlawful carrying or use of firearms or other weapons, or for the commission of an offence or a crime using violence or the threat of violence."

Sources: ILO Convention No. 182, *Worst Forms of Child Labor,* 1999; http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:1:0.
See also ILO Recommendation 190, *Recommendation Concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, 1999; http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm. See also *General Survey on the Fundamental Conventions Concerning Rights at Work in Light of the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, 2008*. International Labor Conference, 101st Session, 2012; http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_norm/@relconf/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_174846.pdf.

ILO Recommendation 190 (ILO R.190): Worst Forms of Child Labor

ILO R. 190 supplements the provisions of ILO C. 182 and provides guidance to ratifying countries regarding its implementation. It provides guidelines to assist countries in determining what type of work should be considered hazardous work and thus what type of work countries should prohibit for all children as a worst form of child labor, in accordance with Article 4 of ILO C. 182. The Recommendation describes populations in need of specific attention regarding the worst forms of child labor, such as girls and children involved in hidden forms of work. Finally, ILO R. 190 provides guidance regarding specific steps countries that have ratified ILO C. 182 should take in order to combat the worst forms of child labor, such as the collection and exchange of data on both the problem and best practices to address it; passage and enforcement of laws that penalize violations with criminal penalties; awareness raising about the problem; establishment of policies against the worst forms of child labor; and international cooperation through technical, legal, and other forms of assistance.

Source: ILO Recommendation 190, *Recommendation Concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, 1999; http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm.

Informal Sector

While the concept of the informal sector was introduced into international usage in the 1970s, it was only in 1993 at the 15th International Conference of Labor Statisticians that an internationally-recognized definition for the purposes of data collection was established, delineating the "informal sector" as unincorporated, small and/or unregistered enterprises, and the employees of those enterprises. An enterprise is unincorporated if no complete set of accounts are available that would permit a financial separation of the activities of the enterprise from that of its owner(s), and it produces marketable goods or services. The registration and size criteria are determined according to national circumstances and legislation, which provides a degree of flexibility in identifying the informal sector from country to country. However, all interpretations of this sector share the notion of enterprises whose activities are not covered or are insufficiently covered by law or whose activities are not covered by law in practice, meaning that the relevant law is not applied or enforced. Workers in such enterprises often lack the benefits of regular, stable, and protected employment. Because employers in the informal sector are generally either not covered by labor laws or are not held accountable for complying with labor protections, including occupational safety measures, children who work in "hazardous" or "ultra-hazardous" informal settings likely face increased risk of exploitation, including injury. In addition, because businesses in the informal sector are not usually included in official statistics, children working in informal sector enterprises may not be counted in labor force activity rates.

Sources: ILO. *Women and Men in the Informal Economy: A Statistical Picture*. [online] 2002; http://www.ilo.org/dyn/infoecon/docs/441/F596332090/women%20and%20men%20stat%20picture.pdf. See also ILO. *Measuring informality: A statistical manual on the informal sector and informal employment*. [online] 2012; http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/ilo-bookstore/order-online/books/WCMS_222979/lang–en/index.htm.

Light Work

This report uses the definition of "light work" as established in ILO C. 138, Minimum Age for Admission to Employment. Under Article 7(1) of the Convention, "National laws or regulations may permit the employment or work of persons 13 to 15 years of age on light work which is—(a) not likely to be harmful to their health or development; and (b) not such as to prejudice their attendance at school, their participation in vocational orientation or training programmes approved by the competent authority or their capacity to benefit from the instruction received." Countries that have specified a minimum legal working age of 14 may permit the employment or work of persons ages 12–14 in light work as defined in Article 7(1), but should specify limitations on their hours of work, as well as activities and conditions in which light work may be undertaken.

Source: ILO Convention No. 138, *Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (Entry into force: 19 Jun 1976)*, Article 3; http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm.

Minimum Age for Work

The minimum age for work is the age at which a child can enter into work. ILO C. 138 states that the minimum age for admission to employment should not be less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling and should not be less than age 15 or age 14 for developing countries who specified a minimum legal age of 14 upon ratification of C. 138.

Source: ILO-IPEC. *Child Labour: A Textbook for University Students*, Appendix 2: Glossary, 290. Geneva; 2004; http://ilo.org/ipecinfo/product/viewProduct.do?productId=174.

Non-Formal Education

Any organized educational activity outside the established formal school system—whether operating separately or as an important feature of some broader activity—that is intended to serve identifiable learning objectives. Non-formal or transitional education programs can enable former child workers to "catch up" or be "mainstreamed" with their peers who began their schooling at the appropriate age.

Source: ILO-IPEC. *Child Labour: A Textbook for University Students*, Appendix 2: Glossary, 290. Geneva; 2004; http://ilo.org/ipecinfo/product/viewProduct.do?productId=174.

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict

This optional protocol, adopted in 2000, addresses and commits ratifying countries to take action against the involvement of children in armed conflict, which is a worst form of child labor per ILO C. 182, Article 3(a).

Source: UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights. *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict*. Entered into force February 12, 2002; http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/OPACCRC.aspx.

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

This optional protocol, adopted in 2000, addresses and commits ratifying countries to take action against the commercial sexual exploitation of children, which is a worst form of child labor per ILO C. 182, Article 3(b).

Source: UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights. *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography*. Entered into force January 18, 2002; http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/OPSCCRC.aspx.

Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)

This document is written by the government of a developing country with the participation of civil society to serve as the basis for concessional lending from the World Bank and IMF, as well as debt relief under the World Bank's Highly Indebted Poor Countries Initiative. A PRSP should measure poverty in the country, identify goals for reducing poverty, and create a spending and policy program for reaching those goals. A PRSP should also ensure that a country's macroeconomic, structural, and social policies are consistent with the objectives of poverty reduction and social development. A new PRSP must be written every 3 years in order to continue receiving assistance from international financial institutions such as the World Bank.

Source: World Bank. "What are PRSPs?" [online]; http://go.worldbank.org/CSTQBOF730.

Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Protocol)

The Palermo Protocol, as the protocol supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime is commonly known, covers the trafficking of children, also delineated as a worst form of child labor under ILO C. 182, Article 3(a). *See Child Trafficking above*.

Source: UNODC. *United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto*. 2004; http://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNTOC/Publications/TOC%20Convention/TOCebook-e.pdf.

Ratification

Ratification is a serious undertaking whereby a state formally accepts the terms of an international agreement, thus becoming legally bound to apply it. Other ways of becoming bound to an international agreement include acceptance, approval, accession, signature, or an exchange of notes.

In order to ratify an agreement, a country must, if necessary, adopt new laws and regulations or modify the existing legislation and practice to support the agreement, and formally deposit the instruments of ratification with the appropriate depositary. (In the case of ILO Conventions, ratifications must be registered with the Director-General of the ILO.)

For certain international agreements that require ratification, signing an agreement or enacting an agreement into domestic law by Congress, or a similar state organ, does not mean that the international agreement has been ratified. Signing an international agreement serves as a preliminary endorsement, albeit a formality, as signatories are not bound by the terms of the international agreement or in any way committed to proceed to the final step of ratification. However, a signatory is obliged to refrain from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the international agreement, unless it makes its intention not to become a party to the international agreement clear. Similarly, appropriate state entities may signal approval of an international agreement, but that is only one of the requisite steps on the path toward official ratification. The final step requires that the instruments of ratification be submitted to the depositary.

In the case of ILO Conventions, ILO procedures provide the option to ratify or not ratify a Convention, but do not include the option to sign a Convention as a preliminary endorsement. Generally, an ILO Convention comes into force in a ratifying country 12 months after the government has deposited the requisite instrument of ratification. This grace period provides ILO members time to enact or modify legislation to comply with the Convention before it comes into force.

Sources: ILO. "How International Labour Standards are Created." [online]; http://www.ilo.org/global/standards/introduction-to-international-labour-standards/international-labour-standards-creation/lang–en/index.htm. See also UNICEF. *Signature, Ratification and Accession: The Process of Creating Binding Obligations on Governments*. [online]; http://www.unicef.org/crc/index_30207.html.
See also ILO Convention No. 138, *Minimum Age for Admission to Employment* (Entry into force: 19 Jun 1976), Article 11; http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm. See also ILO Convention No. 182, *Worst Forms of Child Labor*, 1999, Article 9; http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp2.htm.

Unpaid Household Services

For the purposes of this report, the term "unpaid household services" by children refers to the domestic and personal services performed by a child within the child's own household under the following conditions: (a) for long hours; (b) in an unhealthy environment, including equipment or heavy loads; or (c) in dangerous locations.

Sources: ILO. *Resolution II: Resolution Concerning Statistics of Child Labour*. Geneva, 18th International Conference of Labor Statisticians; 2008; http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/—dgreports/—stat/documents/normativeinstrument/wcms_112458.pdf.

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Children play at the Save the Children "Rainbow Kindergarten" in Za'atari refugee camp. Please note that this image does not relate to child labor directly.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP ADDRESS CHILD LABOR?

Together we will make a difference.

© REUTERS
An Iraqi girl herds water buffaloes in the Euphrates river in Najaf, south of Baghdad, March 6, 2014.

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Matas Zawahir (7) with her brother Ziad (10) are refugee children from Yemen at Caritas Education Centre in Obock, Djibouti. July 13, 2015.

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