

In 2015, Uganda made a significant advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The Government introduced a bill to prohibit hazardous work for children and establish a minimum age for work of 16. The Government also trained more than 1,000 criminal law enforcement officers on issues related to the worst forms of child labor, approved a National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking, and expanded its cash transfer program to allow more children to stay in school. However, children are engaged in the worst forms of child labor, including in the harvesting of tea and commercial sexual exploitation. Law enforcement agencies lack adequate funding, training, and resources to adequately enforce child labor laws. In addition, gaps in the legal framework persist, including the gap between the ages for compulsory education and minimum age for employment.



I. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR

Children in Uganda are engaged in the worst forms of child labor, including in the harvesting of tea and commercial sexual exploitation.(1-10) Table 1 provides key indicators on children's work and education in Uganda.

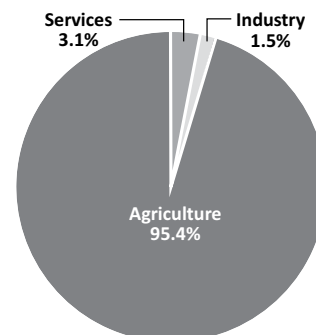
Table 1. Statistics on Children's Work and Education

Children	Age	Percent
Working (% and population)	5-14 yrs.	30.9 (3,034,126)
Attending School (%)	5-14 yrs.	88.7
Combining Work and School (%)	7-14 yrs.	34.4
Primary Completion Rate (%)		55.6

Source for primary completion rate: Data from 2013, published by UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2015.(11)

Source for all other data: Understanding Children's Work Project's analysis of statistics from Labor Force Survey, 2010.(12)

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	Cultivating and harvesting cocoa,* coffee, corn,* tea,† tobacco,† and rice,† and acting as scarecrows in rice fields* (3, 4, 9, 13, 14)
	Production of vanilla and palm oil* (5, 14)
	Cutting, collecting,* and carrying* sugarcane† (9, 15-17)
	Herding cattle (3, 9, 18)
	Fishing,† including catching, smoking, and selling fish; loading boats† with equipment and offloading fish; using spears and diving under water to catch fish; and scaling, cleaning, and cutting fish (2, 3, 9, 19)
	Producing and carrying charcoal (9, 20)
Industry	Making bricks (3, 14, 21)
	Quarrying stone† and mining† gold and sand* (2, 3, 5, 9, 22-29)
	Manufacturing, including in steel rolling mills and carpentry workshops* (9)

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Table 2. Overview of Children’s Work by Sector and Activity (cont)

Sector/Industry	Activity
Services	Domestic work (1-3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 30)
	Street work, including vending,† begging,† working as porters,† scavenging,† and collecting and selling scrap metal (5-7, 9, 14, 18, 20, 31)
	Cross-border trading* (32)
	Working in hotels,*† restaurants,*† bars,*† and video halls* (3, 7, 9, 10)
	Collecting firewood for sale* (31)
Categorical Worst Forms of Child Labor‡	Commercial sexual exploitation, sometimes as a result of human trafficking (6-10)
	Forced labor in agriculture, begging, brick making,* cattle herding,* mining,* stone quarrying,* and domestic work, each sometimes as a result of human trafficking (8, 33-35)
	Use in the production of pornography* (9)
	Use in illicit activities, including smuggling* and stealing,* sometimes as a result of human trafficking (5, 9, 10, 31)

* Evidence of this activity is limited and/or the extent of the problem is unknown.

† 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.

Child trafficking is particularly common in the impoverished Karamoja region.(6, 29) These children are trafficked to towns in Eastern Uganda for animal herding and domestic work.(36) They are also trafficked and willingly migrate to Kampala where they engage in domestic work and begging, sometimes by force, and in commercial sexual exploitation and illicit activities.(5, 6, 20, 36) In some cases, Ugandan children have been trafficked to East African countries for commercial sexual exploitation and use in illicit activities. Children from Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and South Sudan are subject to forced agricultural labor and commercial sexual exploitation in Uganda.(8)




Although the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) has not abducted children in Uganda to serve as soldiers since 2006, some Ugandan children remain captive with LRA elements in the DRC, Central African Republic, and South Sudan.(8)

Section 10(3)(a) of the Education Act calls for 7 years of free, compulsory education; however, school fees and the cost of school supplies are often prohibitive for families.(2, 37-39)

II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

Uganda has ratified most key international conventions concerning child labor (Table 3).

Table 3. Ratification of International Conventions on Child Labor

Convention	Ratification
 ILO C. 138, Minimum Age	✓
ILO C. 182, Worst Forms of Child Labor	✓
 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	

Uganda has ratified the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention).(40) The Convention prohibits armed groups from recruiting children or allowing them to participate in conflict in any manner.(41)

The Government has established laws and regulations related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 4).

Table 4. Laws and Regulations Related to Child Labor

Standard	Yes/No	Age	Related Legislation
Minimum Age for Work	Yes	14	Section 32(2) of the Employment Act; Regulation 3 of the Employment (Employment of Children) Regulations (42, 43)
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	Yes	18	Section 32(4) of the Employment Act; Regulation 5 of the Employment (Employment of Children) Regulations (42, 43)
Prohibition of Hazardous Occupations or Activities for Children	Yes		Regulation 6 and the First Schedule of the Employment (Employment of Children) Regulations (43)
Prohibition of Forced Labor	Yes		Section 5 of the Employment Act; Sections 3–5 of the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act (42, 44)
Prohibition of Child Trafficking	Yes		Sections 3–5 of the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act (44)
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	Yes		Section 3 of the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act; Sections 131, 136, 137, and 139 of the Penal Code; Section 14 of the Anti-Pornography Act (44-46)
Prohibition of Using Children in Illicit Activities	Yes		Article 5(d) of the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act (44)
Minimum Age for Compulsory Military Recruitment	N/A*		
Minimum Age for Voluntary Military Service	Yes	18	Article 52(2)(c) of the Defence Forces Act (47)
Compulsory Education Age	Yes	12‡	Section 10(3)(a) of the Education Act (37)
Free Public Education	Yes		Section 10(3)(a) of the Education Act (37)

* No conscription (47)

‡ Age calculated based on available information (37)

In 2015, the Government introduced a bill to align the Children Act with existing laws that relate to child protection. The bill prohibits employment of a child in any activity harmful or hazardous to health, or physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development; and establishes a minimum age for work of 16.(48)

The law does not sufficiently prohibit commercial sexual exploitation because the offering of a child for prostitution and the use, offering, and benefitting from a monetary or in-kind transaction involving the sexual exploitation of a child for the production of pornography and pornographic performances are not criminally prohibited.(49)

Section 10(3)(a) of the Education Act states that education is compulsory for children ages 6 and above and lasts for 7 years; however, the law leaves children age 13 particularly vulnerable to the worst forms of child labor, as children are not required to be in school nor are they legally permitted to work in areas other than light work.(37)

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).

Table 5. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement

Organization/Agency	Role
Ministry of Gender, Labor, and Social Development (MGLSD)	Enforce labor laws throughout the country.(31) The Child Labor Unit works with partners to implement national awareness campaigns and serves as a resource to labor inspectors, including occupational safety and health inspectors.(50) The Industrial Court makes judgments on labor dispute cases, which are referred to the court by labor officers.(9)
Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA)	Enforce criminal laws on the worst forms of child labor.(51) The Uganda Police Force's Child and Family Protection Unit (CFPU) investigates forced labor cases, the Special Investigations Division and the Anti-Human Trafficking Desk investigate cases related to human trafficking and the use of children in illicit activities, and the Sexual Offenses Desk investigates commercial sexual exploitation.(9) Liaison officers handle child labor complaints and overall child protection issues at police posts that do not have a CFPU officer.(51) The Immigration Department assists in identifying potential human trafficking victims.(52)

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Table 5. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement (cont)

Organization/Agency	Role
Ministry of Local Government	Oversee district labor officers who refer cases to the Industrial Court.(9) Deploy community development officers at the district level when district labor officers are not available.(31)
Directorate of Public Prosecutions in the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs	Prosecute criminal cases related to the worst forms of child labor that are referred by the Uganda Police Force.(50)

A report indicates that due to weak coordination among the various agencies responsible for child labor law enforcement, the Industrial Court heard few child labor cases during the reporting period. The Industrial Court, however, is advocating for the Ministry of Gender, Labor, and Social Development (MGLSD) to supervise district labor officers with the hope that it will increase the number of child labor case referrals.(9) A report notes that there are not enough judges in the Industrial Court. As a result, the High Court and the Magistrates' Courts heard labor dispute cases.(5, 31)

Labor Law Enforcement

In 2015, labor law enforcement agencies in Uganda took actions to combat child labor, including its worst forms (Table 6).

Table 6. Labor Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor

Overview of Labor Law Enforcement	2014	2015
Labor Inspectorate Funding	Unknown (31)	Unknown
Number of Labor Inspectors	40 (31)	55 (9)
Inspectorate Authorized to Assess Penalties	Yes (31)	Yes (9)
Training for Labor Inspectors		
■ Initial Training for New Employees	Unknown (31)	Unknown
■ Training on New Laws Related to Child Labor	Unknown (31)	N/A
■ Refresher Courses Provided	Unknown (31)	Yes (9)
Number of Labor Inspections	300 (31)	45 (53)
■ Number Conducted at Worksite	Unknown (31)	Unknown
■ Number Conducted by Desk Reviews	Unknown (31)	Unknown
Number of Child Labor Violations Found	Unknown (31)	Unknown (9)
Number of Child Labor Violations for Which Penalties Were Imposed	Unknown (31)	Unknown (9)
■ Number of Penalties Imposed That Were Collected	Unknown (31)	Unknown (9)
Routine Inspections Conducted	Yes (53)	Yes (9)
■ Routine Inspections Targeted	Unknown (31)	Unknown
Unannounced Inspections Permitted	Yes (31)	Yes (9)
Unannounced Inspections Conducted	Unknown (31)	Unknown (9)
Complaint Mechanism Exists	Yes (31)	Yes (5)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Labor Authorities and Social Services	Yes (31)	Yes (9)

The Labor Inspectorate lacks office resources, transportation, and fuel to conduct labor inspections. Although the number of labor inspectors increased to 55 in 2015, each of Uganda's 112 districts is supposed to have at least 1 district labor officer responsible for addressing all labor issues, including child labor.(9) According to the ILO's recommendation of 1 inspector for every 40,000 workers in less developed countries, Uganda should employ roughly 464 inspectors in order to adequately enforce labor laws throughout the country.(9, 54-56) In November 2015, the ILO sponsored a 5-day training for 28 district labor officers on child labor inspection skills and the legal framework for child labor. However, the Government found training for labor law enforcement officials to be inadequate.(9)

In 2015, inspections were conducted in 60 districts in the mining, agriculture, processing, services, and construction sectors; however, there were no inspections conducted during the last quarter of the year and the Government found the overall number of inspections conducted to be inadequate.(9)

During the reporting period, the National Child Helpline registered 108 child labor complaints. District labor officers also receive walk-in complaints from community members, NGOs, and police officers.(53)

Criminal Law Enforcement

In 2015, criminal law enforcement agencies in Uganda took actions to combat the worst forms of child labor (Table 7).

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

Overview of Criminal Law Enforcement	2014	2015
Training for Investigators		
■ Initial Training for New Employees	Unknown (31)	Yes (9)
■ Training on New Laws Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor	Yes (36)	N/A
■ Refresher Courses Provided	Yes (36)	Yes (9)
Number of Investigations	Unknown (31)	76 (9)
Number of Violations Found	139 (36)	66 (53)
Number of Prosecutions Initiated	Unknown (31)	Unknown (53)
Number of Convictions	3 (36)	0 (9)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Criminal Authorities and Social Services	Yes (31)	Yes (8)

According to the Government, the number of criminal law enforcement officials responsible for investigating child labor, including its worst forms, is inadequate. The Uganda Police Force lacks vital resources to carry out investigations, such as transportation and fuel.(9)

In January 2015, the Anti-Human Trafficking National Taskforce trained 50 police officers on anti-human trafficking measures; an additional 392 officials, including police officers and magistrates, were trained on the identification and management of trafficking victims and investigation procedures.(8) In July 2015, the Child and Family Protection Unit (CFPU) trained more than 800 police officers on case management regarding violence against children.(9) The Coordination Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons (COCTIP) trained 144 police officers, Immigration Department officials, and members of the Directorate for Public Prosecutions on investigation, prosecution, and child offense cases.(9) However, training is inadequate as some criminal law enforcement officials were not aware of key human trafficking laws, and police officers do not understand the evidence needed to prosecute child labor cases.(8, 9, 35, 57)

During the reporting period, criminal law enforcement officials removed 119 children from child labor in fishing, stone quarrying, and agriculture; some of these children were reunited with their families.(9) In 40 cases, children were removed from households, bars, and farms where they worked.(9) There were 11 girls who worked in bars who were reunited with their families, including two foreign nationals who were repatriated. A total of 21 children who were removed from child labor were enrolled in school.(9)

Research found that street children, including potential human trafficking victims, are routinely arrested and detained by police. Some of these children are held for up to 3 months at a MGLSD juvenile detention center.(8, 10) Although children received food, medical treatment, and other services, some children were required to clean the detention facilities.(8)

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. Mechanisms to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor

Coordinating Body	Role & Description
National Steering Committee on the Elimination of Child Labor	Coordinate child labor issues and implement the National Action Plan on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor (2012/2013–2016/2017). Led by the MGLSD and includes members from several ministries, trade unions, development organizations, civil society, and media agencies.(38) In 2015, the Committee started planning for the next phase of the National Action Plan on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor.(9)
Stop Child Labor Partners Forum	Coordinate, monitor, and evaluate child labor-related programs and policies in Uganda. Led by the National Council for Children (NCC), with representatives from several ministries, CFPU, and civil society groups.(38) In 2015, held four meetings to discuss the elimination and prevention of child labor and establishing Child Labor-Free Zones in Entebbe, Hoima, and Kabale.(9, 53)

Table 8. Mechanisms to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor (cont)

Coordinating Body	Role & Description
Coordination Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons (COCTIP)	Coordinate, monitor, and oversee implementation of the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act.(31) Through June 2015, COCTIP assisted 61 child trafficking victims, most of whom had been trafficked for use in illicit activities. Officials located victims' families and provided food and medical treatment before referring children to NGOs for additional services.(9, 53)
Anti-Human Trafficking National Taskforce	Coordinate anti-trafficking efforts among government ministries, draft policy, implement public information campaigns, and establish a database to track human trafficking cases. Led by MIA's Counter-Trafficking in Persons Office, and includes 30 members from several ministries and government directorates, police, INTERPOL, and other security organizations.(36, 38) In 2015, the Taskforce developed regulations for the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act and coordinated an awareness campaign targeting potential victims through broadcast media, billboards, and community outreach to schools.(9, 35)
National Child Protection Working Group	Monitor the quality of services provided to orphans and vulnerable children, and coordinate the Alternative Care Framework, which aims to reunite vulnerable children with their families. MGLSD leads the working group and members include the ministries of Education and Sports, Health, and Justice and Constitutional Affairs; the CFPU; the NCC; and a number of local civil society organizations.(9) Met regularly in 2015.(9)
NCC's Inter-Ministerial Coordination Mechanism	Ensure effective inter-departmental coordination on children's issues, including child labor. Work to ensure that member organizations integrate child labor concerns into their policies and budgets. Members include MGLSD; MIA; the Ministries of Education and Sports, Health, Local Government, Agriculture, Defense, and Water and Sanitation; the Office of the Prime Minister; and the Justice Law and Order Sector.(9) Met regularly in 2015.(9)

V. GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

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

Table 9. Policies Related to Child Labor

Policy	Description
National Action Plan on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor (2012/2013–2016/2017)	Aims to reduce the worst forms of child labor in Uganda by 2017, by increasing enrollment and completion of primary education; increasing households' access to social protection and assistance; increasing public awareness; strengthening the legal and policy framework; withdrawing children from the worst forms of child labor and providing them with rehabilitation services; and enhancing tripartite collaboration among the Government, employers, and labor unions.(4)
National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking†	Aims to align the legal framework to address both domestic and international trafficking in persons, enhance institutional capacity to counter human trafficking, provide protection and assistance to victims, and prevent human trafficking through awareness-raising campaigns.(58)
National Development Plan (2015/2016–2019/2020)†	Aims to eradicate all forms of child labor by 2025, by promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth, productive employment, and decent work for all. In 2015, a review of the National Development Plan (2010/2011–2014/2015) indicated that absolute poverty was reduced from 24.5 percent in 2009 to 19.7 percent by the end of 2013, while per capita income increased from \$665 to \$788 over the same period.(59)
UNDAF (2016–2020)†	Outlines actions and strategies of the UN that align with the Government's National Development Plan. Plans to conduct a child labor survey.(60)
Education Sector Strategic Plan (2004–2015)*	Supported expansion of the basic education system to include programs for disadvantaged children and youth.(61) During the reporting period, the Government began drafting a new plan.(9)
National Strategy for Girls' Education in Uganda (2015–2019)	Establishes a framework for the identification, implementation, and coordination of interventions to promote girls' education.(62) Identifies child labor, particularly domestic work, as a key barrier to girls' participation in education and calls for action to address such barriers.(62, 63)
Skilling Uganda Strategic Plan (2011–2020)*	Provides a strategic plan for business, technical, and vocational education and training, including for youth who drop out of school.(64)
National Strategic Program Plan of Interventions for Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children (2011/2012–2015/2016)	Aims to monitor and protect children from child labor.(65)

* Child labor elimination and prevention strategies do not appear to have been integrated into this policy.

† Policy was approved during the reporting period.

Research found that the Government has contributed limited funding to the National Action Plan on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, which may have resulted in its limited implementation during the reporting period.(9)

VI. SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS CHILD LABOR

In 2015, the Government of Uganda funded and participated in programs that include the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, including its worst forms (Table 10).

Table 10. Social Programs to Address Child Labor

Program	Description
Global Action Program on Child Labor Issues Project (2011–2015)	USDOL-funded project implemented by the ILO in approximately 40 countries to support the priorities of the <i>Roadmap for Achieving the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor</i> by 2016 established by The Hague Global Child Labor Conference in 2010. Aimed to improve the evidence base on child labor through data collection and research in Uganda.(66) During the reporting period, the program assisted in the development of a report that focuses on vulnerable youth in need of second-chance opportunities.(67) The report also includes reasons for early school dropout, including child labor.(68)
Country-Level Engagement and Assistance to Reduce Child Labor Project (CLEAR) (2013–2017)	USDOL-funded capacity-building project implemented by the ILO in at least 10 countries to build local and national capacity of the Government to address child labor. Aims to improve legislation addressing child labor issues, including by bringing local or national laws into compliance with international standards; improve monitoring and enforcement of laws and policies related to child labor; and develop, validate, adopt, and implement a national action plan on the elimination of child labor in Uganda.(69)
African Youth Empowerment and Development Initiative (AYEDI) (2013–2017)	\$3 million, USDOL-funded, 4-year project implemented by World Education, Inc. that promotes education, vocational training, and decent work opportunities for youth ages 15–17. The program also provides livelihood support to youth and their families, and encourages youth to take on leadership roles in their communities.(70) In 2015, the project provided 1,453 children engaged in or at risk of entering child labor with education services; 3,099 households with livelihood services; and enrolled 2,090 youth, of which 43 percent were female, in 64 AYEDI Clubs.(71)
Decent Work Country Program (2013–2017)	ILO-implemented program that outlines strategies for promoting decent work in Uganda. Priorities include youth employment and improved social protection for both formal and informal workers; also includes a focus on prevention and elimination of the worst forms of child labor.(72)
Hazardous Child Labor in Tobacco Growing Project (2015–2017)*	\$3 million, Elimination of Child Labor in Tobacco Foundation-funded project implemented by the ILO that aims to develop global guidance on hazardous child labor and occupational safety and health in tobacco growing, and strengthen social dialogue in Malawi, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Uganda to combat child labor in agriculture.(73)
Strategic Plan for the Implementation of the Amnesty Act of 2000 (2013–2015)	Continues activities to disarm, demobilize, and reintegrate former Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels, including child soldiers. Implemented by MIA, along with other government agencies.(9, 36) Between January and June 2015, MIA processed 28 cases, 17 of which were for LRA returnees. In June 2015, the Government extended parts of the Act for 2 years.(9)
National Awareness Strategy on Trafficking	Focuses on the prevention of human trafficking.(52) During the reporting period, the Anti-Human Trafficking National Taskforce and IOM coordinated to raise public awareness about the dangers of human trafficking through radio and television, press conferences, and posters at immigration points.(9)
Coordinated Response to Human Trafficking in Uganda	IOM project providing support to children trafficked from the Karamoja region for exploitive street work in urban areas of Uganda; builds capacity of service providers in Karamoja and elsewhere in Uganda.(74)
Uganda Youth Development Link	NGO-implemented program in coordination with the Government that focuses on protecting the rights of children, including from the worst forms of child labor. The program provides rehabilitation and livelihood skills training to victims through five drop-in centers and outreach posts in a Kampala slum; one drop-in center in Kitega, Mukono District; and one rehabilitation transit center at Masooli in Wakiso District.(75)
Realizing Livelihood Improvement Through Savings and Education	NGO-implemented program with technical assistance from the Government that provides assistance to victims of child labor. In 2015, Uganda Women's Efforts to Save Orphans, the implementing NGO, conducted a mid-term review of the program.(9) They found that since 2013, the program has removed 5,940 children from child labor, of which 240 were trained in vocational skills.(9)
Skilling Uganda Program	Donor-funded program implemented by the Ministry of Education and Sports that provides vocational training to youth who drop out of school.(64) The program has established 26 vocational training institutions.(9)
Youth Venture Capital Fund†	Government program that aims to reduce youth unemployment through enterprise development, job creation, and business skills training.(9)
Uganda Social Assistance Grants for Empowerment†	\$49 million, donor and Government-funded project implemented by MGLSD that provides direct income support of approximately \$8 per month to poor and vulnerable households in 19 districts to allow children to stay in school.(9, 38) In 2015, the program assisted 123,153 beneficiaries and in December, the Government announced that it would expand the program to 40 districts by 2020.(9)
Combating Child Labor Through Education (2010–2015)	Government of the Netherlands-funded program implemented by the Ministry of Education and Sports that operated a 3-hour afterschool education program in areas where children are unable to attend school for a full day.(38, 76)

* Program was launched during the reporting period.

† Program is funded by the Government of Uganda.

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During the reporting period, the Government funded a study which identified existing gaps and issues to be addressed by amending the Employment Act.(9, 77) Some of the issues include coordination problems in labor administration, and the need to regulate the employment of domestic workers.(77)

Although Uganda has programs that address child labor, the scope of these programs is insufficient to fully address the extent of the problem, particularly in agriculture and commercial sexual exploitation.

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 Uganda (Table 11).

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

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Legal Framework	Ratify the Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons.	2013 – 2015
	Ensure that the offering of a child for prostitution and the use, offering, and benefitting from a monetary or in-kind transaction involving the sexual exploitation of a child for the production of pornography and pornographic performances are criminally prohibited.	2015
	Ensure that the law requires free, compulsory education to age 14 so that it is commensurate with the minimum age for work.	2009 – 2015
Enforcement	Ensure coordination between MGLSD and the Ministry of Local Government so that labor dispute cases are referred to the Industrial Court. Also ensure that the Industrial Court has a sufficient number of judges.	2015
	Make information on the Labor Inspectorate funding, training for new labor inspectors, number of labor inspections conducted at worksites and by desk review, number of child labor violations found, and the type of labor inspections conducted publicly available.	2013 – 2015
	Ensure adequate funding, training, and resources for law enforcement agencies so that child labor inspections and investigations can be properly conducted.	2013 – 2015
	Develop mechanisms for referring street children, including potential human trafficking victims, to social services, and prevent these children from being detained by the police.	2015
Government Policies	Integrate child labor elimination and prevention strategies into the Education Sector Strategic Plan and the Skilling Uganda Strategic Plan.	2014 – 2015
	Ensure that sufficient resources are provided to the National Action Plan on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor to allow adequate implementation.	2015
Social Programs	Ensure that all children are able to attend school regardless of their ability to pay school fees and other related costs.	2012 – 2015
	Expand existing social programs to address the scope of the child labor problem, particularly in agriculture and commercial sexual exploitation.	2009 – 2015

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