



Fair Trade coffee farmers of the Gumutindo Coffee Cooperative in Rwanda used Fair Trade funds to invest in educational opportunities for children in the community.  
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## Regional Trends in Government Actions to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

### Asia and the Pacific

#### Meaningful Efforts

- Strengthened legal frameworks to prohibit hazardous work for children and designate specific activities as hazardous.
- Improved sub-regional cooperation to combat child labor in South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific Islands.
- Provided cash transfers and food support programs for children of impoverished households.

#### Challenges and Existing Gaps

- Inadequate legal prohibitions against the worst forms of child labor, particularly commercial sexual exploitation.
- Insufficient number of labor inspectors to provide adequate coverage of labor forces.
- Persistent barriers to accessing education for child laborers, including lack of schools and prohibitive costs to attend school.

### Europe and Eurasia

#### Meaningful Efforts

- Strengthened legal frameworks to expand minimum age protections for children.
- Improved criminal law enforcement in sectors where children are most vulnerable.
- Implemented social programs to address poverty, including conditional cash transfer programs.

#### Challenges and Existing Gaps

- Weak legal frameworks in countries that do not specify the types of hazardous work prohibited for children.
- Insufficient human and financial resources allocated to the enforcement of child labor laws.
- Unequal access to education for minorities and other disadvantaged children.

### Latin America and the Caribbean

#### Meaningful Efforts

- Increased efforts to combat child labor in domestic work.
- Strengthened national policy frameworks to address child labor, including its worst forms.
- Enhanced social programs to address child labor that combine anti-poverty and educational measures.

#### Challenges and Existing Gaps

- Continued recruitment and use of children by gangs to commit illicit activities.
- Weak legal frameworks in countries that do not adequately prohibit hazardous work.
- Insufficient human and financial resources allocated to the enforcement of child labor laws.

### Middle East and North Africa

#### Meaningful Efforts

- Strengthened legal frameworks to address child labor.

#### Challenges and Existing Gaps

- Limited access to education and high dropout rates.
- Insufficient enforcement of child labor laws.
- Insufficient programs to combat child labor.

### Sub-Saharan Africa

#### Meaningful Efforts

- Strengthened anti-child trafficking legislation.
- Improved policy frameworks and coordination of government efforts.
- New social programs with the goal of preventing or eliminating child labor.

#### Challenges and Existing Gaps

- Continued recruitment and use of children in armed conflict.
- Prohibitions on hazardous occupations and activities for children do not meet international standards.
- Limited capacity to enforce child labor laws.
- Social protection programs are insufficient to address the scope of the problem.